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1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

VOTES

AND

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

DURING THE SESSION

OF

1889,

WITH THE VARIOUS DOCUMENTS CONNECTED THEREWITH.

IN SIX VOLUMES.
VOL. VI.

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1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

R E P O R T

OF THE

MINISTER OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

FOR THE YEAR

1888.

Presented to Parliament, pursuant to Act 43 Vic. No. 23, sec. 36.

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1888.

REPORT OF THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

To His Excellency the Right Honorable CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

My Lord,

I have the honor to submit to your Excellency the Report of the Department of Public Instruction for the year 1888. The Report deals fully with the educational work carried on under the provisions of the "Public Instruction Act of 1880," and embraces summaries of similar work done in certain State-aided Institutions of an educational character.

I.—SCHOOLS.

2,271 schools, comprising 2,463 departments, were in operation, as compared with 2,236 schools or 2,424 departments open in 1887. During 1888, 114 schools, or 117 departments, were established, comprising 20 Public, 62 Provisional, 17 Half-time, 15 House-to-house, and 3 Evening Schools. Forty-seven Provisional Schools and 1 Half-time School were raised to the rank of Public Schools, and 5 Half-time and 4 House-to-house Schools to the rank of Provisional Schools; while 17 Public and 18 Provisional Schools were reduced to Half-time or to House-to-house Schools. Sixty-two of the schools open during the whole or some portion of 1887 do not appear on the list of schools for 1888, while of those actually in operation in 1888, 51 were closed before the last quarter. Hence, the number of schools open in the last quarter of 1888 was 2,237, or 2,428 departments. These comprised 5 High Schools, 51 Superior Public Schools, or 139 departments, 1,576 other Public Schools or departments, 303 Provisional Schools, 219 Half-time Schools, 78 House-to-house Schools, and 5 Evening Schools. The net increase for the last quarter of 1888, as compared with the last quarter of 1887, was 63 schools, or 67 departments, and the whole school accommodation available at the close of 1888 was equal to 181,357 places, 94 per cent. being provided in vested, and 6 per cent. in non-vested, premises.

The schools were organized and classified as follows :—

Schools :—

- 5 High Schools—2 for boys and 3 for girls.
- 1,509 Public Mixed Schools for boys and girls.
- 46 Public Schools of 2 departments each.
- 71 Public Schools of 3 departments each.
- 1 Public School of 4 departments—one a Practising School.
- 303 Provisional Mixed Schools for boys and girls.
- 219 Half-time Mixed Schools for boys and girls.
- 78 House-to-house Schools for boys and girls.
- 5 Evening Public Schools for boys only.

Or Departments :—

- 5 High Schools—2 for boys and 3 for girls.
- 1,509 Public Mixed Schools for boys and girls.
- 34 Separate Primary Departments for boys and girls.
- 106 Separate Infants' Departments.
- 85 Separate Departments for boys only.
- 84 Separate Departments for girls only.
- 303 Provisional Mixed Schools for boys and girls.
- 219 Half-time Mixed Schools for boys and girls.
- 78 House-to-house Mixed Schools for boys and girls.
- 5 Evening Public Schools for boys only.

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"	IX	689	...		689
"	X	212	...		212
Unclassed		68	...		68
3. Provisional Schools :—									
Class	I	}	303	...		303
"	II								
"	III								
4. House-to-house Schools :—									
Unclassed	78	...		78
5. Evening Public Schools :—									
Unclassed	5	...		5
Total...									
						2,237			2,428

207 applications for the establishment of new schools were received, namely, 48 for Public Schools, 109 for Provisional Schools, 21 for Half-time Schools, 18 for House-to-house Schools, and 11 for Evening Schools. Of these 118 were granted, and 33 were declined, while 56 remained under consideration at the close of the year. The total number of children to be accommodated in the new schools to be established

established was 4,478. Of this number accommodation was provided by local promoters for 412, while for the remainder buildings have been provided, or are being provided, by the Department.

The number of applications received and the action taken with regard to them are shown in the following table :—

Applications for the establishment of schools.

Schools.	Number received.	Number granted.	Number declined.	Number still under consideration.
Public Schools	48	27	11	10
Provisional Schools	109	58	15	36
Half-time Schools	21	15	0	6
House-to-house Schools	18	12	4	2
Evening Public Schools	11	6	3	2
Total	207	118	33	56

Full details respecting these applications will be found in Appendices I, II, III, IV, V.

The number of schools in operation, with the increases or decreases from 1881 to 1888 inclusive, are given in the following table :—

Schools in operation, 1881 to 1888 inclusive.

Schools.	Number of Schools or Departments in operation.								Increase or Decrease. 1881 to 1888
	In 1881.	In 1882.	In 1883.	In 1884.	In 1885.	In 1886.	In 1887.	In 1888.	
High Schools			6	8	8	8	6	5	Increase. 5
Superior Schools... ..	58	58	58	75	90	104	120	139	81
Ordinary Public Schools... ..	1,042	1,274	1,432	1,560	1,606	1,656	1,680	1,688	646
Provisional Schools	246	206	225	250	293	323	332	319	73
Half-time Schools	93	76	91	117	150	176	194	223	130
House-to-house Schools... ..			15	40	51	58	69	80	80
Evening Schools... ..	57	28	23	21	12	20	23	12	Decrease. 45
Total	1,496	1,642	1,850	2,071	2,210	2,345	2,424	2,466	970
Accommodation, 1881	98,721								82,636
„ 1888	181,357								

From the foregoing table it will be seen that, while High Schools, Provisional Schools, and Evening Schools show diminished numbers for the year, the number of all other kinds of schools have been considerably increased. In ordinary Public Schools the increase for the year is shown to be 8, and for the last seven years 646 ; in Superior Public Schools for the same periods similar increases are 19 and 81 ; and in Half-time Schools they are 29 and 130. House-to-house Schools were increased last year by 11, their total number being 80, as compared with 15 in 1883, the first year of their organization. Provisional Schools show a decrease of 13 for the year, but an increase of 73 for the seven years ; while Evening Schools have diminished by 11 as compared with their number in 1887, and by 45 as compared with their number in 1881. The number of High Schools was the same as for the latter half of 1887.

In addition to the schools established and maintained under the Public Instruction Act, the following State supported or aided schools are in active operation, namely:—The Sydney Grammar School, two Industrial Schools, and the School for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind.

II.—THE SCHOOL POPULATION OF THE COLONY.

The total population of the Colony on 31st December, 1888, was, according to the Government Statistician's estimate, 1,085,356. Assuming the proportions under the different ages to have been the same in 1888 as they were when the last census was taken in 1881, the ordinary school population in 1888 (4 to 15 years) was 295,316, and the statutory school population (6 to 14 years), 212,774. It would thus appear that in the $7\frac{3}{4}$ years which have elapsed since the census was taken the ordinary school population of 4 to 15 years has increased by 90,848, and the statutory school population of 6 to 14 years by 65,456.

Estimated total populations and school populations of the Colony for the years 1881 to 1888.

Ages.	April, 1881. (Census.)	December, 1881. (Estimated.)	December, 1888. (Estimated.)
Total population—All ages ...	751,468	781,265	1,085,356
Population—4 to 6 years ...	40,871	42,492	59,030
" 6 to 14 " ...	147,318	153,156	212,774
" 14 to 15 " ...	16,279	16,924	23,512
Total... ..	204,468	212,572	295,316

III.—SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

School returns show a gross aggregate enrolment of 212,150 for the year, as compared with 209,158, returned in 1887; and deducting 12 per cent. for multiple enrolments, it is found that the number of individual pupils on the rolls in the year was 186,692. This number equals 17·2 per cent. of the total population of the Colony.

The gross and corrected enrolments for the last seven years, taking 12 per cent. as representing the multiple enrolments in each year, are given in the following table:—

Years.	Apparent Gross Average Enrolment.	Corrected Aggregate Enrolment of Distinct Pupils.	Increase or Decrease.	
			Gross Enrolment.	Corrected Enrolment.
1882	189,141	166,611	Increase. 12,172	Increase. 10,175
1883	177,079	155,918	Decrease. 12,062	Decrease. 10,693
1884	189,852	167,134	Increase. 12,773	Increase. 11,216
1885	197,090	*173,440	Increase. 7,238	Increase. *6,306
1886	204,534	*179,990	Increase. 7,444	Increase. *6,550
1887	209,158	184,060	Increase. 4,624	Increase. 4,070
1888	212,150	186,692	Increase. 2,992	Increase. 2,632

* Numbers given in previous reports corrected by deducting 12 per cent. (for multiple enrolments.)

Besides

Besides the 186,692 pupils enrolled in schools under the Public Instruction Act, there were 1,149 in attendance at the other State-aided schools, namely:—

The Sydney Grammar School	514
The Industrial Schools	549
The School for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind ...	86

1,149

Thus, of the 295,316 children in the Colony between the ages of 4 and 15 years, 187,841, or 63·6 per cent., attended State schools in 1888, and 107,475, or 36·4 per cent., received instruction in private schools or at home, or else remained altogether untaught. The latest return of private school attendance, published by the Government Statistician, is that for 1887. From this return it appears that the total enrolment at such schools was 40,979, namely:—At Undenominational Private Schools, 9,777; at Church of England Private Schools, 3,329; at Roman Catholic Private Schools, 26,992; at Presbyterian, Wesleyan, and Lutheran Private Schools, 352; and at the Sydney Ragged Schools, 529. Hence, taking the returns available, it may be stated that, of the ordinary school population of 295,316, about 228,820, or 78 per cent., are enrolled at State and Private Schools, while 66,496, or 22 per cent., are taught at home or else remain untaught. Of the 186,692 children enrolled in schools under the Department, 737 were enrolled in High Schools, 626 in Evening Schools, and 185,329 in Ordinary Day Schools—the number from 4 to 6 years being 22,776; from 6 to 14 years, 151,594; and over 14 years, 12,322.

It will be observed that, of the estimated ordinary school population, only 78 per cent., as compared with 79 per cent. for 1887, were enrolled for school attendance. No doubt this small decrease was caused by the extreme drought, and consequent depression which prevailed during the year. Satisfactory improvement was, however, shown in the length of time pupils remain on the school rolls during the year.

The average quarterly enrolment was 160,919, and the average attendance 112,220·3, or increases respectively of 3,657 and 5,812·7. The regularity of attendance, as tested by comparing the average attendance with the enrolment, was more satisfactory than in any previous year. The percentage was 69·7, as compared with 67·6 in 1887, and it was nearly 1 per cent. higher than any previous record.

In the first half of the year 104,643 pupils, and in the second half 122,125 pupils, attended the Ordinary Day Schools 70 days or above, while the number who attended 140 days or above in the year was 103,680. These attendances show a very satisfactory improvement upon those of previous years. The percentages of the enrolment attending 70 days or above in each half-year, and 140 days or above in the year, were respectively 65·5, 76·1, and 64·8; while for 1887 the similar percentages were 56·9, 71·7, and 60·6; and for 1886 they were 64·2, 69, and 59·8.

The

The enrolment, average attendance, and attendance for the number of days required by statute, are shown and compared for the last eight years in the following tables:—

(a) *Quarterly Enrolment and Average Attendance for 1888.*

Quarters.	Number enrolled.	Average Attendance.	
		Number.	Percentage.
March quarter	161,821	110,412·5	68·2
June quarter	159,229	113,669·5	71·3
September quarter.....	163,443	112,892·7	69·07
December quarter	159,183	111,906·8	70·3
Year's average	160,919	112,220·3	69·7

(b) *Enrolment and Average Attendance for the last eight years.*

Years.	Year's Enrolment.	Quarterly Enrolment.	Average Attendance.		
			Number.	Percentage of Year's Enrolment.	Percentage of Quarterly Enrolment.
1881.....	146,106	125,506	82,890	56·04	66·04
1882.....	166,611	134,872	90,944	54·58	67·42
1883.....	153,918	130,205	88,546	56·79	68·00
1884.....	167,134	139,159	95,215	56·96	68·42
1885.....	173,440	146,570	100,462	57·92	68·54
1886.....	179,990	153,244	105,538	58·63	68·86
1887.....	184,060	157,262	106,408	57·81	67·66
1888.....	186,692	160,919	112,220	60·11	69·73
Increase. 1881 to 1888	40,586	35,413	29,330	4·07	3·69

(c) *Number of Pupils, under different ages, who, in 1886, attended School the statute periods.*

	Average Quarterly Enrolment for Half year.	Attended 70 days or above.	
		Number.	Percentage of Enrolment.
1st half-year: Under 6 years	20,122	8,595	44·2
1st half-year: 6 to 14 years	129,355	91,667	70·8
1st half-year: Over 14 years.....	10,221	4,081	40·0
Total.....	159,698	104,643	65·5
2nd half-year: Under 6 years	19,087	9,892	51·8
2nd half-year: 6 to 14 years.....	130,404	106,982	82·0
2nd half-year: Over 14 years	10,907	5,251	48·1
Total.....	160,398	122,125	76·1
	Average Quarterly Enrolment for year.	Attended 140 days or above.	
		Number.	Percentage of Enrolment.
The year: Under 6 years	19,520	8,398	43·0
The year: 6 to 14 years.....	129,921	90,824	69·9
The year: Over 14 years	10,560	4,458	42·2
Total.....	160,001	103,680	64·8

(d) *Numbers who attended ordinary Day Schools 140 days or above in 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, respectively.*

Year.	Year's Enrolment.	Quarterly Enrolment.	Attended 140 days or above.		
			Number.	Percentage of Year's Enrolment.	Percentage of Quarterly Enrolment.
1881.....	144,667	124,649	57,727	39·9	46·3
1882.....	165,236	134,303	73,835	44·6	54·9
1883.....	155,183	129,880	78,118	50·3	60·1
1884.....	166,601	138,929	83,541	50·1	60·1
1885.....	172,616	146,017	85,780	49·7	58·7
1886.....	178,761	152,510	91,323	51·0	59·8
1887.....	182,572	156,926	95,153	52·1	60·6
1888.....	185,329	160,001	103,680	55·9	64·8
Increase. 1881 to 1888.	40,662	35,352	45,953	16·0	18·5

In the following table the results as to average attendance in the principal Australian Colonies are compared for the last eight years :—

Years.	New South Wales.		Victoria.		South Australia.		Queensland	
	Average Quarterly Enrolment.	Percentage in average Attendance.	Average Quarterly Enrolment.	Percentage in average Attendance.	Average Quarterly Enrolment.	Percentage in average Attendance.	Average Quarterly Enrolment.	Percentage in average Attendance.
1881.....	125,506	66·04	176,782	68·58	30,629	67·42	30,958	70·26
1882.....	134,872	67·42	173,638	68·11	32,622	67·39	31,778	68·00
1883.....	130,205	68·00	172,419	68·62	33,688	70·28	34,727	69·8
1884.....	139,159	68·42	173,812	69·44	37,691	65·08	39,925	69·78
1885.....	146,570	68·54	173,709	68·78	37,823	71·49	42,643	70·62
1886.....	153,244	68·86	177,836	69·47	37,974	73·73	45,761	70·47
1887.....	157,262	67·66	180,147	67·89	38,947	72·99	49,418	71·46
1888.....	160,919	69·73	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Increase. 1881 to 1888.	35,413	3·69	Decrease. 3,365	Decrease. ·69	Decrease. 8,318	Decrease. 5·57	Decrease. 8,460	Decrease. 1·2

The main facts relative to school attendance may be summed up thus :—187,841 children, or 17·3 per cent. of the total population of the Colony, and 63·6 per cent. of the ordinary school population between 4 and 15 years, were in attendance at State Schools, 152,072 being of the statutory school age (6 to 14 years), 22,776 under, and 12,993 above, that age; 186,692 were enrolled in the Department's schools. The enrolment in the ordinary day schools was 185,329, while the length of time pupils remained on the rolls was more satisfactory than in previous years. The mean quarterly enrolment was 160,919, or 86·2 per cent. of the year's enrolment, and the average attendance was 69·7 of the mean quarterly enrolment. 64·8 per cent. of the mean quarterly enrolment attended school 140 days or above in the year, 90,824 being of the statutory age, and 12,856 under and over that age. Taking the enrolment of the statutory school age, 69·9 per cent. attended school 140 days or above.

Comparing last year's attendance with that of 1887, the following points may be noticed :—The year's enrolment was increased by 2,632, or 1·4 per cent., and the mean quarterly enrolment by 3,657, or 2·3 per cent. The percentage of the quarterly enrolment in average attendance for the year shows an increase of fully 2 per cent. as compared with that of 1887, and it is 1 per cent. higher than any previous

previous record. 103,680, or 61·8 per cent. of the quarterly enrolment, attended school 140 days or above in the year, as compared with 95,153, or 60·6 per cent., in 1887; 95,123, or 59·8 per cent., in 1886; 85,780, or 58·7 per cent., in 1885; and 78,118, or 60·1 per cent., in 1884. The length of time pupils have remained on the rolls shows satisfactory improvement. The percentage of the population enrolled quarterly and the corresponding percentage in average attendance in 1888 were, respectively, 14·8 per cent. and 10·3 per cent., as compared with 15 per cent. and 10·2 per cent. in 1887.

The arrangements which came into operation on 1st July, 1887, and by which the school attendance officers were placed under the control of the several district inspectors, were continued during 1888; and considering the drawbacks under which the Department labours, principally by reason of defects in the law, there are grounds for believing that the new system under which the clauses of the Public Instruction Act relating to attendance and fees are administered is working tolerably well.

As intimated in the last Report, teachers are now called upon to furnish the information upon which action is taken to enforce regular attendance and prompt payment of fees. This arrangement has been objected to, on the ground that the additional clerical work is calculated to withdraw a teacher's attention from his main function of imparting instruction. This cannot be acknowledged; but even were it so, the advantage of securing a generally increased regularity of attendance more than counterbalances the disadvantages. The teacher is also brought into closer touch with the residents, and thus acquires a knowledge of their habits and surroundings, without which no teacher can be really successful. The local teacher necessarily knows more of the circumstances of a case than a school attendance officer could ascertain by an occasional visit; and it is believed that the present arrangement has been the means, not only of preventing the Department from initiating legal proceedings which in some cases would have been futile, and which in others would have inflicted unmerited hardship upon the defendants, but of bringing under cognizance a number of children who would not otherwise have attended school. Moreover, it is found that the fees are paid with greater promptitude than when the responsibility of collecting them was divided between the teacher and the school attendance officer, and that a considerable saving of time is effected by teachers having direct communication with the administrative officers. This policy necessarily curtails the duties of school attendance officers, and it has been found practicable to further reduce the staff. Two officers retired during the year, two were reappointed to the charge of schools, and one died. The vacancies thus caused have not been filled, and it is anticipated that further reductions can be made as opportunities occur without impairing the efficiency of this portion of the Department's work.

All possible care is exercised in dealing with cases of default, and the law is put in motion only after full inquiry, and after all
other

other suitable means have failed. As stated in last year's Report, the prosecution of the parent or guardian for the short attendance of a child is not recommended except in the case of repeated infringement of the law, nor until after he has received warning of the consequences of default. These warnings are issued by the District Inspector at the end of each school quarter, and probably have done a great deal towards securing more regular attendance. It has been found necessary to give increased attention to the collection of arrears of fees. From various causes debts had been allowed to accumulate, until at the end of November, 1887, the aggregate amounted to £6,335 0s. 11½d. This sum included a large number of debts which were due by persons well able to pay, but which had accrued principally in consequence of indifference or neglect on the part of the teachers. This was the result of lax supervision, and of permitting teachers to rely too much upon help from the school attendance officers. A more vigorous policy was initiated; and now that the teachers are held mainly responsible for the collection of fees a marked diminution of the total indebtedness is noticeable. The amount due at the end of June, 1888, was £4,268 5s. 5½d., and at the end of December, 1888, £3,532 5s. 1d. Except in one or two districts, fees are now paid with fair regularity, and it is hoped that little difficulty will be experienced in future in keeping debts within reasonable bounds. It has been considered desirable to be somewhat lenient in the recovery by legal procedure of arrears of fees, it having been felt that, in a large number of cases, it would be cruel to intensify the distress caused by the prolonged drought from which the Colony has suffered. Acting upon the same principle, many debtors have been granted reasonable time in which to liquidate their liabilities, and in the cases of others, where, because of extreme poverty or of chronic sickness, there seemed no probability of obtaining the amounts, even by small instalments, the debts have been cancelled. It was found necessary, however, to appeal to the law in some instances, but that course was adopted only after other means had failed, and when it seemed that the debtors were attempting to evade their responsibility. As evidence of the increased activity in the collection of fees, it may be observed that the amount received during the year was £69,553 14s. 4d., an increase over that collected in 1887 of £5,657 16s. 11d. As illustrating another improvement noticeable under the new arrangements, it may be mentioned that, although probably on account of the general depression resulting from the severe drought, the enrolment has not kept pace with the population of the Colony, the average attendance has materially increased, both actually and in proportion to the augmentation of population. It is estimated that the increase of population amounted to about 4·1 per cent. The excess of the mean quarterly enrolment of 1888 over that of 1887 was 3,657, or only about 2·3 per cent., while the increase in the average attendance was 5,812, or nearly 5·5 per cent., and the proportion of attendance to enrolment was raised from 67·66 to 69·72.

But notwithstanding these satisfactory results, it is felt that the usefulness of the Public Instruction Act is somewhat marred for the

want of amendment in certain important particulars. As remarked in previous reports, the weak points in the law have become generally known, and one of the principal objects of the compulsory clauses is thereby unachieved. There are parents who, either from indifference to the blessings of education, or from the selfish motive of benefiting by the labour of their offspring, neglect to send their children to school, or to provide other means of instruction. The efforts of the Department's officers to bring such parents to punishment are to a great extent rendered nugatory, because of the many loopholes for escape afforded by the defects in the law. Until provision is made for ascertaining the number of children of statutory school age; until teachers of private schools are compelled to furnish accurate returns of attendance; and until it is made penal to employ during school hours children of school age (unless educated up to the standard, or specially exempted from attendance at school), it will be next to impossible to enforce compliance with the obligation imposed by section 20 of the Public Instruction Act. Considerable time and expense would be saved to the Department if the onus of proving that there is sufficient cause for default were thrown upon the parent or guardian; and further experience of the difficulties of obtaining conclusive evidence to rebut the mendacious statements of defaulters, show that, in the interest of the children, the law should be amended in that direction. The term "nearest road" in clause 3 of section 20 of the Act is ambiguous. It is generally found that Magistrates before whom cases of default are tried construe the phrase as meaning the nearest public road; but it seems reasonable to assume that the intention of the Legislature was that any child living within 2 miles of a State school by the nearest available road, track, or path, whether public or private, should come within the scope of the compulsory clauses. Another interference with the regularity of attendance arises from the fact that the penalties for default are so small as not to deter parents from wilfully breaking the law for the sake of the child's earnings. The hereinbefore proposed restriction upon employers of labour would only partially meet this case, and probably the only way out of the difficulty would be to require the child to attend school for a certain proportionate number of days in each quarter, and to give larger discretion to Magistrates in regard to punishment for cases of repeated default. At the same time provision could be made for cases of short attendance at Half-time and House-to-house Schools. These schools being part time are open for only half or less than half the period during which the other classes of schools are accessible, and therefore the obligation to attend seventy days in each half-year cannot apply to pupils attending them.

IV.—SCHOOL PREMISES.

School Sites.—108 new school sites were obtained in the year. Of these sixty-eight were Government grants, thirty were resumed under Act 44 Victoria No. 16, eight were purchased, and two were gifts

gifts from private individuals; nine of the resumed sites were also gifts. The cost of the sites purchased was £920, and the sum of £1,029 15s. 5d. was paid on account of those resumed. The balance still due for the resumed sites is £5,909. Full particulars will be found in Appendix 15.

School Buildings.—121 new school-houses and additions, to provide increased accommodation in 34 existing buildings, were completed during the year. 23 weathersheds were also completed, 7 residences for teachers were erected, and repairs and improvements were effected in 643 existing buildings. Places for 6,256 children were provided for in the new buildings and additions. 107 of the new school-houses, 17 of the additions, 7 residences for teachers, and 14 of the new weathersheds were erected under the supervision of Inspectors of Schools. Repairs to 371 buildings were also effected under the same supervision. The other works specified were carried out under the Department's architect. Of the total number of new places, 3,614 were provided by the architect's buildings, and 2,912 by buildings erected, or rented, under inspectors' supervision.

At the close of 1888 the existing school premises afforded room for 181,357, about 94 per cent. of such accommodation being in vested, and 6 per cent. in non-vested, premises. Of the school-places counted in 1887, about 2,382 were lost in 1888, by the closing of schools and by the giving up of old buildings, and hence the net increase for 1888 was 4,144.

Taking the building work done in the two last years, it may be observed that in 1888, 14 new school buildings were erected under the architect's supervision as compared with 23 erected in 1887, while the additions numbered 17 as compared with 37, the premises repaired 272 as compared with 274, and the places provided 3,614 as compared with 9,846 for the same periods. It may also be noticed that the number of small school buildings erected under the inspectors' supervision were 107, as compared with 109 in 1887; and the number of places provided, 2,642 as compared with 3,568. The total number of places provided in 1888 showed a decrease of 6,882 as compared with the number provided in 1887.

At the close of 1888 the following additional works were in progress:—21 new buildings, additions to 14 existing buildings, and 34 buildings for small country schools, the whole to provide accommodation for about 4,683 children. 3 new weathersheds were also in course of erection; and repairs and improvements were being carried out in 87 existing school buildings.

Full particulars respecting the building work completed in the year, and that in progress at its close, are given in the following tables:—

Works completed.

	Number.	Places provided.	Total cost, not including costs of sites.	Average cost per building.	Cost per place.			
<i>Works under Department's Architect:—</i>								
New buildings.....	14	1,745	£ s. d. 12,052 2 5	£ s. d. 859 0 0	£ s. d. 6 17 10			
Additions to existing buildings	17	1,869	5,484 0 0	322 11 2	2 18 8			
New weathersheds	9	.....	625 9 3	69 9 11	.....		
Additions and repairs to existing buildings	272	.....	17,991 12 11	66 3 8	.....		
<i>Works under Inspectors' supervision:—</i>								
Small country-school buildings	107	} 2,642	5,998 5 4	.....	2 5 5		
Additions to existing buildings	17							
Teachers' residences	7					764 0 3	109 2 10
New weathersheds	14					218 8 6	15 12 0
Repairs, &c., to existing buildings	371					5,442 11 0	14 13 5

Works in progress.

	Number.	Places provided.	Estimated cost, not including sites.	Average cost per building.	Cost per place.
<i>Works under Department's Architect:—</i>					
New buildings	21	2,821	£ s. d. 21,990 16 1	£ s. d. 1,047 3 7	£ s. d. 7 15 11
Additions to existing buildings	14	1,012	3,443 10 6	245 19 4	3 8 0
New weathersheds	3	.....	186 5 0	62 1 8	.....
Repairs to existing buildings	87	.....	7,306 10 9	91 3 9	.....
<i>Works under Inspectors' supervision:—</i>					
New buildings	34	850	.....	.....	.....

The total expenditure on Public School sites, buildings, furniture, repairs, and rents, in each of the last nine years, is stated in the next table:—

						£	s.	d.
In 1880	...	...	...	...	...	98,903	1	7
1881	...	...	...	...	...	102,688	9	3
1882	...	...	...	...	...	228,391	11	2
1883	...	...	...	...	...	395,961	2	2
1884	...	...	...	...	...	304,383	9	7
1885	...	...	...	...	...	178,001	15	7
1886	...	...	...	...	...	155,072	0	7
1887	...	...	...	...	...	119,957	3	10
1888	...	...	...	...	...	84,575	0	9
Total	...	...	...	...	...	£1,667,933	14	6

V.—INSPECTION.

No change has been made in the inspecting staff during the past year. A few interchanges of districts have, however, taken place amongst inspectors. These were rendered necessary by one cause or another, and have, on the whole, been productive of good. With the exception of sixteen, all schools underwent the usual regular inspection and as many as 1,017 or two-fifths of the whole were inspected a second time. The total number of inspections made was 3,516. This is the largest amount of inspection done in any year, and when the other very arduous duties of an inspector are duly considered, it will be admitted that great efforts have been made by these officers to perform this most important part of their work in a satisfactory manner. The present

present staff, consisting of a chief inspector, a deputy chief inspector, nine district inspectors, and twenty-three inspectors, is not sufficiently strong to ensure two inspections of all schools within the year; and the appointment of additional inspectors is therefore becoming urgently necessary. It is hoped that something may be done in this direction at no distant date.

Information respecting the apportionment of schools to the several district inspectors, and the amount of inspection done in each district, is given in the subjoined table :—

District.	No. of Inspectors.	No. of Schools.	No. of Schools inspected.	No. of Schools inspected twice.	Total No. of inspections.	No. of Schools not inspected.	No. of pupils examined.
Armidale	3	267	267	40	307	0	9,103
Bathurst	3	266	264	65	329	2	9,572
Goulburn	4	370	367	102	469	3	10,471
Grafton	3	242	241	113	354	1	8,898
Maitland	4	283	283	242	525	0	15,948
Metropolitan	4	184	183	130	313	1	31,407
Sub-Metropolitan	4	284	284	189	473	0	15,861
Wagga Wagga	4	330	322	41	363	8	10,446
Wellington	3	235	234	149	383	1	7,004
Totals	32	2,461	2,445	1,071	3,516	16	118,710

Course of Secular Instruction and Standards of Proficiency.—

In framing a course of secular instruction three important considerations have to be kept in view: (first) that the subjects selected for teaching are the most suitable and useful; (second) that the course is not overburdened with subjects; and (third) that the time for a child's stay in each class is judiciously regulated. It is believed that these conditions are fully recognised in the course sanctioned by the Department. In the lower classes of each school great prominence is given to the three R's, while other branches find a place in the routine as the higher classes are reached. Assuming a child to enter a Public School at the age of six years, and that his attendance has been reasonably constant, he will be expected to clear the class at 7, the second-class at $8\frac{1}{2}$, the third-class at 10, and the fourth at 11. The number of subjects embraced within the course ranges from six in the first-class to fifteen in the fifth or highest class. All these subjects are compulsory, and are estimated in accordance with their relative importance and the time required to teach them. It is just possible that the course may be regarded by those unacquainted with our school system as too ambitious; but it should be pointed out that the Superior Public School, for which the full course is alone prescribed, is intended to supply an education somewhat similar to that given in Secondary or High Schools.

The present standards of proficiency have been in force four years—ample time to test the fairness of their requirements and their general suitability. Compared with those formerly in use, it must be admitted that they impose increased work on both teachers and pupils. This is probably true of the subjects generally, but unquestionably so in respect of arithmetic. As applied to this branch,

branch, the standards are higher than in any other country, and the question of revising them is pressing on the attention of the Department. The whole subject of standards, as well as other matters of importance, will, it is hoped, receive careful consideration and treatment before the close of the year.

Estimated Proficiency of Pupils in 1888.

Subjects.	Estimated Proficiency.		
	Number of Pupils examined.	Number of Pupils passed.	Percentage up to or above Standard.
Reading—			
Alphabet	11,892	9,442	79
Monosyllables	25,156	20,760	82
Easy Narrative	32,541	27,503	84
Ordinary Prose	49,121	43,155	88
Totals	118,710	100,860	86
Writing—			
On Slates... ..	49,814	43,937	88
In Copy-books and on Paper ...	68,323	60,001	88
Totals	118,137	103,938	88
Arithmetic—			
Simple Rules	70,144	53,147	76
Compound Rules... ..	21,930	14,080	64
Higher Rules	23,165	14,018	60
Totals	115,239	81,245	75
Grammar—			
Elementary	12,031	9,249	77
Advanced... ..	33,844	25,497	76
Totals	45,875	34,746	76
Geography—			
Elementary	15,305	12,026	78
Advanced... ..	34,154	26,667	78
Totals	49,459	38,693	78
History—			
English	35,650	25,222	73
Australian	14,065	10,739	76
Scripture and Moral Lessons...	113,202	89,345	79
Object Lessons	91,115	76,334	84
Drawing	34,880	26,379	75
Music	100,247	82,328	82
French	1,364	990	73
Euclid	6,079	4,406	72
Algebra	1,816	1,340	74
Mensuration	8,299	4,848	58
Latin	1,508	1,120	74
Natural Science	3,820	3,331	87
Trigonometry	122	73	60
Needlework	37,787	34,113	90
Drill	99,395	84,077	84

Character of Pupils' Attainments and Progress in Learning.—

118,710 pupils were present at the examination of schools conducted by the inspectors, showing an increase of 4,912, or 4·3 per cent., on the number examined in 1887, while the increase in 1887 over the number for the year previous to it was 1,725, or 1½ per cent. All were examined in reading, 99½ per cent. in writing, 97 per cent. in arithmetic,

arithmetic, 38·6 per cent. in grammar, 41·7 per cent. in geography, 41·8 per cent. in history, 95·3 per cent. in Scripture lessons, 76·7 per cent. in object lessons, 29·4 per cent. in drawing, 84·4 per cent. in music, 1·1 per cent. in French, 5·1 per cent. in euclid, $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in algebra, 6·9 per cent. in mensuration, 1·2 per cent. in Latin, 3·2 per cent. in natural science, 0·1 per cent. in trigonometry, 71 per cent. (of girls) in needlework, and 83·7 per cent. in drill.

Of the 118,710 pupils examined in reading, 10 per cent. were examined in the alphabet, 21·2 per cent. in monosyllables, 27·4 per cent. in easy narrative, and 41·4 per cent. in ordinary prose. Of 118,137 pupils examined in writing, 42·2 per cent. wrote on slates, and 57·8 per cent. wrote on paper. Of 115,239 examined in arithmetic, 60·8 per cent. were examined in simple rules, 19·1 per cent. in compound rules, and 20·1 per cent. in the higher rules. Of 45,875 pupils examined in grammar, 26·2 per cent. were tested in the elementary part, and 73·8 per cent. in the advanced part of the subject. In geography, of 49,459 pupils examined, 31 per cent. were tried in the elementary, and 69 per cent. in the advanced, parts of that subject.

The following table gives a comparison of some of the percentages above-mentioned, with the results in corresponding subjects in 1887, viz. :—

		1887.	1888.	Increase per cent.	Decrease per cent.
Total number of pupils examined		113,798	118,710	4·3	.....
Percentage of pupils examined in	{ Reading, who were tested in ordinary prose	41·2	41·4	0·2	.....
	{ Writing, who wrote on paper	58	57·8	.....	0·2
	{ Arithmetic, who were tested in the higher rules ...	20	20·1	0·1	.....
	{ Grammar, who were tested in advanced portions ...	71·9	73·8	1·9	.....
	{ Geography, who were tested in advanced portions...	66·5	69	2·5	.....
Percentage of pupils examined in	{ History	41·5	41·8	0·3	.....
	{ Scripture.....	93·4	95·3	1·9	.....
	{ Drill.....	85·5	83·7	.....	1·8

It will be seen that the above percentages were nearly equal for the two years, there being a slight difference in favour of 1888 in all except two of the subjects—writing and drill. A comparison with earlier years will, however, show that progress has been continuous and steady. For instance, in 1885 a material increase over 1884 took place in the percentage of examinees in most of the above subjects; in 1886 there was a further increase in *all* those subjects; 1887 saw a still further advance in all but two; while, for 1888, this improvement has been maintained and even slightly added to. Ordinary
prose

prose reading has advanced from 33 per cent. of examinees in 1884 to 41·4 per cent. in 1888; writing on paper from 55 to 57·8 in the same period; arithmetic (higher rules), from 12 to 20·1 per cent.; history, from 14 to 41·8 per cent.; Scripture, from 39 to 25·3 per cent.; and drill, from 73 to 83·7 per cent. These figures prove that a good proportion has been reached of pupils receiving instruction in the higher parts of the subjects mentioned.

With regard to "passes," the results are as follows:—86 per cent. of the number examined passed in reading, 88 per cent. passed in writing, 75 per cent. in arithmetic, 76 per cent. in grammar, and 78 per cent. in geography. Arithmetic showed an increase of 7 over the percentage of passes in 1887; geography a decrease of 2 per cent.; the other results remained unaltered. Of other subjects, trigonometry showed the greatest falling off in passes, the number being 60 per cent., as against 78 in 1887. Object lessons, Latin, and French showed decreases of 4 and 5 per cent. Algebra and natural science had small increased percentages. The others remained much the same as for last year. It may therefore be stated that the most satisfactory progress was made in arithmetic; the least satisfactory in trigonometry. The lowest proportion of passes was in mensuration, 58 per cent.; the highest in needlework, 90 per cent.; with writing next, 88 per cent.

Of 1,824 Public Schools examined, 85 per cent. were up to or above the standard, and 15 per cent. were below it; of 313 Provisional Schools, 65 per cent. were up to or above the standard, 35 per cent. below it; of 222 Half-time Schools examined, 72 per cent. were up to or above the standard, and 28 per cent. below it; of 78 House-to-house Schools, 67 per cent. were up to or above the standard, and 33 per cent. below it; and of 8 Evening Schools examined, 87 per cent. were up to or above the standard, and 13 per cent. were below it.

The progress in efficiency made by the several classes of schools under the Department during the last five years is shown below:—

Class of Schools.	Percentage up to or above the Standard.				
	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
Public	80·9	80	82	84	85
Provisional	55·2	57	64	65	65
Half-time	60	63	65	74	72
House-to-house	36·6	50	65	75	67
Evening Schools	60	...	100	79	87
All Schools	75·8	75·6	78	80	80

This statement shows that the schools have continued to improve in efficiency, with the exception of House-to-house, and, to a very small extent, Half-time Schools, which class seems to have lost part of the advance made last year. When compared, however, with the first year mentioned in the table (1884), it will be noticed that a very decided improvement has taken place in the efficiency of all schools.

Subjects.	Estimated Proficiency of Pupils.																	
	1881.		1882.		1883.		1884.		1885.		1886.		1887.		1888.		Increase, 1891 to 1883.	
	Number examined.	Percentage passed.	Number examined.	Percentage passed.	Number examined.	Percentage passed.	Number examined.	Percentage passed.	Number examined.	Percentage passed.	Number examined.	Percentage passed.	Number examined.	Percentage passed.	Number examined.	Percentage passed.	In number examined.	In percentage passed.
<i>Reading—</i>																		
Alphabet	11,704	64.0	12,178	67.8	12,171	69	10,957	78	12,167	82	12,210	79	12,285	77	11,892	79	188	15.0
Monosyllables	27,509	71.7	30,046	75.1	27,295	74	26,827	87	24,908	85	25,392	83	22,895	83	25,156	82	.....	10.3
Easy Narrative	23,667	70.9	25,015	75.8	28,540	75	28,256	87	29,657	85	30,933	86	31,723	85	32,541	84	8,874	13.1
Ordinary Prose	22,311	78.7	24,746	80.9	20,854	80	32,500	91	39,033	90	43,538	89	46,895	88	49,121	88	26,810	9.3
Total	85,191		91,985		94,860		98,540		105,815		112,073		113,798		118,710		33,519	14.0
<i>Writing—</i>																		
On slates	40,186	78.2	43,260	80.4	46,962	75	43,902	89	46,504	90	47,577	88	47,570	87	49,814	88	9,628	9.8
On paper	45,137	82.5	46,904	84.9	50,828	83	53,533	92	58,097	91	63,599	90	65,361	88	68,323	88	23,186	5.5
<i>Arithmetic—</i>																		
Simple Rules	55,765	54.8	59,261	56.5	60,980	58	63,145	75	65,734	74	66,989	72	66,406	73	70,144	76	14,379	21.2
Compound Rules	15,256	46.0	16,879	48.6	18,001	50	18,170	66	20,005	60	20,951	60	21,426	63	21,930	64	6,674	18.0
Higher Rules	7,376	51.7	8,049	59.2	9,325	60	11,064	65	15,165	58	19,070	56	21,773	53	23,165	60	15,789	8.3
Total	78,397		84,189		88,306		92,379		100,904		107,010		109,605		115,239		36,842	22.2
<i>Grammar—</i>																		
Elementary	23,598	59.0	24,655	62.7	26,236	64	9,938	84	11,472	81	11,263	78	12,423	74	12,301	77	.....	17.1
Advanced	19,608	58.9	22,427	61.2	23,574	62	24,253	79	28,230	79	29,587	73	31,696	77	33,844	76	14,236	17.1
Total	43,206		47,112		49,810		34,191		39,702		40,850		44,119		45,875		2,669	16.6
<i>Geography—</i>																		
Elementary	28,413	61.3	22,930	67.3	33,372	70	13,281	88	14,616	85	14,400	80	16,323	80	15,305	78	.....	16.7
Advanced	19,549	64.2	23,660	70.4	24,312	70	24,582	81	26,643	81	30,467	76	32,302	80	34,154	78	14,605	13.8
Total	47,962		56,590		57,684		.....		41,259		44,867		48,625		49,459		1,497	15.5
<i>History—</i>																		
English .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,193	97	14,639	83	26,933	73	30,688	68	33,174	72	35,605	73	35,605	73.0
Australian .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	937	91	8,783	87	10,271	80	10,954	76	14,130	77	14,065	76	14,065	76.0
Scripture and Moral Lessons	22,645	72.9	27,750	74.3	33,658	71	39,440	85	77,825	80	101,752	77	106,274	78	113,202	79	90,557	6.1
Object Lessons	81,012	66.3	89,279	63.3	98,113	63	66,343	89	71,449	86	79,551	80	86,461	88	91,115	84	10,107	17.7
Drawing	41,662	65.5	45,737	66.8	48,947	68	26,518	85	28,139	83	31,099	76	33,635	77	34,880	75	.....	9.5
Music	58,394	73.6	66,576	73.8	63,332	74	73,266	88	75,569	85	89,903	82	97,846	81	100,247	82	41,353	8.4
French .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	464	90	590	87	727	82	924	80	1,267	78	1,364	73	1,364	73.0
Euclid	3,139	57.7	3,261	63.0	3,047	64	4,110	89	4,527	76	4,959	71	5,660	75	6,079	72	2,940	14.3
Algebra	2,172	57.2	1,956	68.5	3,042	61	1,945	82	1,632	72	1,411	72	1,510	72	1,816	74	.....	16.8
Mensuration	567	68.6	803	68.8	1,027	71	1,733	71	3,145	54	3,321	69	7,598	59	8,299	58	7,732	.....
Latin	1,126	62.5	916	78.8	1,174	81	911	85	1,045	83	1,002	75	1,214	78	1,508	74	382	11.5
Natural Science .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,179	85	2,598	83	2,145	86	2,565	85	3,820	87	3,820	87.0
Trigonometry .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	231	30	97	100	32	94	91	67	232	78	122	60	122	60.0
Needlework	26,615	79.7	27,722	82.0	29,549	85	30,214	92	34,662	92	35,405	91	36,556	89	37,737	90	11,172	10.3
Drill	48,950	66.1	67,405	67.1	70,563	64	72,964	85	85,665	85	91,603	84	97,401	83	99,395	84	51,345	17.9

Music and Drawing.—The standards of proficiency provide for a complete and systematic course of instruction in vocal music and drawing by the most approved methods. With regard to the former, the tonic-sol-fa method is employed as far as the Third Class, while the staff-notation is mainly used for classes beyond the Third. Not only is the teaching in both subjects compulsory, but special classes for imparting instruction therein to pupil-teachers have been many years in existence, and a pass in both branches is absolutely necessary to enable teachers and pupil-teachers to obtain grades of classification or promotion. In order to properly utilize the instruction in music given to the lower classes, the staff-notation is taught to the higher classes by the movable doh method, an application of the tonic-sol-fa principle.

Judging from the results elicited by the inspectors' examinations in music the subject would appear to be effectively taught. It is to be feared, however, that the tests ordinarily applied are of a partial and easy character, and that a more searching examination of the pupils' knowledge of the theory would disclose a less satisfactory state of things. Herr Alpen, who is employed to visit schools in the Metropolitan District in order to ascertain how music is taught therein, reports in the following terms:—"I am glad to be in a position to state that in a fair number of schools, notably the smaller ones, there is a decided advance in the knowledge of elementary theory; and, as a consequence, a steady improvement in reading at sight is observable. In almost every school the staff-notation is now taught in the upper classes,

classes. There are also now but very few infant schools where the children of the upper division cannot sing a scale or have some idea of its construction. In the actual singing of the children, however, I am unable to state that any improvement has taken place. In the boys' schools, particularly, more attention ought to be paid to voice production and greater refinement of style aimed at."

The results disclosed by the examinations in drawing were apparently little less satisfactory than those obtained in music, but there is reason to believe that a large number of teachers fail to follow the prescribed course. A remedy for this irregularity will, it is confidently expected, be found before long, as it has been decided to appoint a superintendent of drawing, whose chief duty will be to visit schools, examine the pupils in drawing, and see that the methods of teaching it are the most approved and the best.

With regard to the degree of proficiency shown by the teachers and pupil-teachers examined in drawing during the year, the following extracts from the Examiner's Report will convey a tolerably clear idea:—"In freehand drawing the work is very poor. No progress has been shown in that subject during 1888 * * * * Model drawing is unsatisfactory. Examinees are deficient in the general knowledge of the subject, and especially of proper proportion * * * * Geometrical drawing is creditable. Very fair progress has been made during the year. Perspective drawing has been attempted only by a few teachers. Some of the candidates' work is excellent. The average of passes is 50 per cent. General improvement has been shown * * * * The average number of passes in drawing amongst the students in training is very good."

Discipline.—The inspectors, without an exception, report very favourably of the general discipline of our schools. Regularity of attendance excepted, all the points commonly included under the head of discipline appear not only to receive due attention but to be well secured. Cases, no doubt, occur where the government is weak, and where other conditions essential to a well managed school are absent, but such cases are few. The ordinary type of school met with is one in which the pupils attend with fair punctuality, present a neat cheerful appearance, manifest a quiet respectful demeanour, and yield a prompt and willing obedience. There is reason to believe, however, that in a large number of instances, the means employed to establish a proper healthy school routine are open to adverse criticism, the documents that regulate the instruction being unskilfully arranged, and the use and value of systematic drill being but partially recognised.

Captain Mulholland continues to fill the office of superintendent of drill. He appears to have done a year's good work, and to have formed a favourable opinion as to the general progress made in this most important aid to school discipline. The following extracts from his report will afford a fair idea of what is being done under his teaching and directions:—

"I visited and examined in drill 81 schools, representing 175 departments. This year I have been able, in some instances, to make several visits, to which I will allude at greater length below.

"The

“The standard of drill, of which I was able to report so favourably in my last report, has been well maintained, and in many instances improvement is observable.

“My duties are as follow:—To give instruction in drill, gymnastics, and calisthenics, &c., to the Training Schools at Fort-street and Hurlstone; to give instruction in drill to the pupil-teachers at Fort-street on Saturdays; to give instruction in drill and calisthenics to the High Schools, on Mondays; to inspect the drill in every department of every school within the Metropolitan District. In addition to these duties, with a view to enlisting the sympathies of teachers of girls’ and infants’ schools, I have given instruction in calisthenics to the girls in several schools at regular intervals, and have exercised the infants in gallery exercises. In some schools the girls have provided themselves with wands, and I believe exercises with them are regularly given by the teachers.”

Public School Cadet Corps.—The Public School Cadet Corps still continues to make but moderate progress, the arrangements under which the corps is conducted being unsatisfactory. The causes which operated against the success of the corps were stated in a former Report, and may here be repeated. They are:—

1. The existing organization is defective.
2. The regulations are not enforced.
3. Target practice is neglected.
4. Teachers have no voice in the management of the corps.
5. Cost of uniform.

As formerly remarked, a committee, consisting largely of teachers of leading Public Schools, was appointed to report as to the best means for placing the corps on an efficient footing. After fully considering the whole question, the committee furnished an exhaustive report containing the following recommendations:—

1. That all boys who are not 12 years of age, who are not physically disqualified, should be drilled to the use of arms.
2. That, in order to carry out that principle, all male teachers should be put through a course of training in rifle exercises.
3. That the present Cadet Corps be disbanded, with the view to the introduction of a military system on a broader basis by the formation of a force to be called the “New South Wales Public School Cadet Force.”
4. That, in connection with this force, a Senior Cadet Corps be formed in order to continue the military training of the boys after they leave school until they are eligible for admission to the ranks of the Volunteer Force.
5. That a simple and inexpensive uniform be introduced, the cost to be borne by the parents.

6. That the Cadet Force be under the command of an officer (rank to be hereafter determined), who should be a teacher, and who should be responsible to the Minister of Public Instruction.
7. That a paid staff be appointed, consisting of an adjutant, a sergeant-major, and a sergeant-armourer, such officers to be directly responsible to the officer commanding.
8. That, as a preliminary step, a corps should be established in Sydney, to be called the "First Regiment of the New South Wales Public School Cadet Force," the movement to be extended to the country districts as soon as practicable.

The committee's report also deals with the necessary details for the efficient carrying out of these recommendations.

These and other matters embraced within this Report are now under consideration, and will be finally dealt with at an early date.

Major Strong reports that the increase in the number of cadets upon the roll for this year, over the number for last year, is 137 only. The smallness of this increase he attributes partly to the want of suitable carbines. This difficulty, however, will now be met, inasmuch as 2,000 light Snider carbines have recently been received from England. In connection with suggestions already made by the committee appointed to report upon the whole question of the corps, Major Strong states that it is his intention to take steps for the establishment of a corps of senior cadets, to be composed of youths who have left school but who are still too young for enrolment in the Volunteer Force. Major Strong hopes to make this senior corps a connecting link between the Public School Cadet Corps and the Defence Force of the Colony, with a view to the ranks of the latter being recruited in a great measure from the former.

High Schools.—These institutions are five in number, and are situated at Sydney, Maitland, and Bathurst. All are conducted in temporary premises which are very fairly suitable for the purpose; those in Sydney are becoming overcrowded, and are badly in need of additional playground space. New High Schools for the city, constructed on the latest and most approved plans, and occupying a central and spacious site, are much needed.

The attendance at High Schools continues to increase. In 1887 the enrolment was 710, and the average daily attendance was 498·9; whereas for 1888 the enrolment was 737, and the average daily attendance, 550·7. These schools are reported by the examining inspectors to be in a very healthy disciplinary condition, the pupils being orderly, well-behaved, and diligent in study. The boys receive regular instruction in drill, and the girls in calisthenics.

The course of instruction, although fixed by regulation, is arranged to harmonize with the programme of the University Examinations. The methods of teaching are suitable, and are applied with
vigour

vigour and effect. The percentage of passes in the several branches of learning are as follow:—Reading, 96; writing, 90; arithmetic, 89; mensuration, 90; history, 88; Latin, 94; French, 93; drawing, 88; geometry, 96; algebra, 92; trigonometry, 86; natural science, 100; Greek, 100; German, 100. At the examinations held in connection with the University the High Schools also appear to advantage, inasmuch as 70 pupils passed the Junior, 20 the Senior, and 11 the Matriculation, examination of the year.

The expenditure on High Schools during the year was £6,691 18s. 8d.; the amount of fees received for the same period was £4,326 12s. 7d.; so that the actual cost to the State was £2,365 6s. 1d., or less than £3 5s. for each pupil enrolled.

At this small cost the High Schools are doing excellent work for the State.

Superior Public Schools continue to gain in public favour. Besides affording all the educational advantages obtainable in the Ordinary Public Schools, provision is made in them for instruction being given in Latin, French, science, and mathematics. In many localities they supply, in a great measure, the place of High Schools. To warrant a school being declared a Superior Public School, it must have at least twenty children educated up to the standard that completes the course prescribed for a fourth class. The number of such schools in operation at the beginning of 1888 was 43, embracing 120 departments, with an attendance of 35,678 pupils. During the year the schools at Albury, Ashfield, Braidwood, Camperdown, Forbes, Marrickville, Parramatta, and Taree, comprising 19 departments, were raised to the rank of Superior Public Schools. The total number, therefore, of these schools at the close of the year was 51, consisting of 139 departments, and attended by 39,692 pupils.

The condition of this class of school, as disclosed by the inspectors' reports, is very satisfactory. They are efficiently organized, well disciplined, and well taught. Young (boys), Crown-street (boys), Blackfriars (boys), Lismore, and Cooma schools deserve special commendation for the success of their pupils at the late University examinations.

Evening Public Schools.—At the beginning of 1888 nine Evening Public Schools were in operation. During the year applications were made for eleven new schools. Of this number six were granted, but only three were opened in the year. Of the others three were declined, and two remained under consideration.

As pointed out in previous Reports, schools of this class are not popular institutions. So far they have been established for boys only, whose ages exceed 14 years. The course of instruction is confined to reading, writing, and arithmetic. None but classified teachers are appointed to conduct them; and everything is done to render the teaching skilful and attractive. The general results are nevertheless of a disappointing character.

House-to-house Schools.—The number of House-to-house Schools in operation in 1887 was 69. In 1888 this number increased to 79. These schools are usually started in remote and isolated localities where sufficient children cannot be found within a 4-mile radius to form a Provisional School of the lowest class, having a minimum average attendance of 12. They thus meet the wants of a large number of families who, without such provision, would be cut off from the means of school instruction. The subjects taught in House-to-house Schools are limited to reading, writing, dictation, and arithmetic. Every itinerant teacher is required to work by a programme approved by the inspector; and in this programme due provision is made for supplementing the school teaching by a systematic course of home lessons. House-to-house Schools occasionally merge into Half-time Schools or into Provisional Schools. Of the 80 in operation, 78 were inspected. In point of proficiency, although below the standard reached in 1887, they nevertheless compare favourably with Provisional Schools, and, having regard to the difficulties under which they are conducted, are doing very useful work.

Kindergarten.—The modification of the Kindergarten system which, as intimated in former reports, was some time ago introduced into the infants' schools at Riley-street, Sydney, and Wickham (Newcastle), has been continued in those schools with success. A further step towards the general incorporation of that system into the Infants' School teaching of the Colony has been made by its introduction into the schools at Fort-street and Waverley, and schools specially adapted for its exemplification are now being erected at Paddington, and Australia-street, Newtown. Systematic instruction has been given during the year to the students of the Hurlstone Training School, and the female pupil-teachers being required to familiarize themselves with its principles, it is fair to assume that many of the infants' schools of the country will shortly enjoy the advantages which may result from its judicious use in the instruction of very young children.

During 1888, as in former years, the method has been best exemplified in the Riley-street school, which is under the charge of Miss E. L. Banks, who in addition to being a certificated Kindergarten, has had the advantage of a course of training, and long Infants' School experience in England and Germany. The Riley-street school had an average attendance of 180 pupils, arranged in four classes. The time devoted to Kindergarten instruction throughout the school is 40 minutes daily.

The lower first class contained, at the date of inspection, sixty children whose average age was 5 years. These are occupied with the first gift, which consists of six rubber balls, crewelled over with wool, representing the three primary and the three secondary colours. An introductory lesson is given on the colour, shape, and other qualities of the ball, comparisons are made with familiar objects, and contrasts are shown; but the chief aim of the gift is to teach the children a number of movement plays by means of the balls attached to strings,

or

or loose. The games are commenced with a song, and during the play short lines of poetry are recited, appropriate to the exercises performed.

The occupations of the upper first class, containing forty pupils (average age, $6\frac{1}{3}$ years), are the second and third gifts. The third gift has three objects made of wood: a ball, a cube, and their connecting link, a cylinder. The bright colours and the softness of the first gift are gone, but there remains a link in the size of the ball which is the same. The balls of the first gift are identical in form, the colour only varied, whereas in the second there is variety of both form and properties. The sphere of wood feels cold, hard, and heavy in comparison with the ball of the first gift. The cylinder possesses the convexity of the ball, and the flatness of its two ends forms a connecting link with the cube. This law of connexion and contrast is found to be typified throughout Froebel's teaching. In the next occupation (third gift), a wooden cubical box containing eight cubes of equal size is used. The children are taught to separate these cubes into halves, quarters, eighths, and then to put the several pieces together again to make a whole. In this way they receive their first lesson in fractions. But the cubes are useful in other respects; they represent bricks, and the child's natural impulse to build can be gratified with them. He imitates his teacher, and rears his tiny edifice slowly, answering her questions at intervals, and listening to her instructive remarks in reference to the work being done. In this way the children are trained to accuracy of eye and hand, defects of construction are detected, and the objects built have not to be thrown down when finished, but one form follows the other with as little change as possible.

The second class numbering 36 pupils (average, age $6\frac{1}{2}$ years), are exercised with the fourth, seventh, and twelfth gifts. The fourth contains a wooden box, cubical in shape, in which are eight oblong pieces of wood of small size. The forms built with this and the preceding gift are:—1. Forms of knowledge: squares, oblongs, &c. 2. Life objects: castles, houses, tables, &c. 3. Forms of beauty: pretty forms, stars, &c. From solids an advance is made to plane surfaces, represented by a thin wooden tablet of square, oblong, or triangular shape (seventh gift). The tablets are laid on the scored surface of the Kindergarten desks to represent the plane surfaces of the life, objects, &c., built with cubes. Exercises in lines (straight and curved) are then gone through by means of sticks and rings (twelfth gift).

The occupations of the third class (32 pupils: average age, $8\frac{1}{8}$ years) are plaiting, paper-folding, drawing lines, pattern pricking, pattern sticking, paper-cutting, pea-work, interlacing, and clay-moulding. In plaiting, the child is called upon to use both his hands, and is afforded an opportunity for cultivating a taste for colour, as every pattern requires the combination of at least two colours. The child's faculty for number is also exercised in handling objects of different

different forms and colours. In paper-folding, pieces of paper, four inches square, and of different colours, are given to the children with directions for their manipulation into boats, boxes, and other objects and forms of beauty. As every fold made on the paper must be mathematically exact, the eye is trained to observe and the hand to produce. In drawing lines, slates are first used, then books ruled in small squares. The child's first effort is to follow the ruling with his pencil. Thence he proceeds to draw the square, oblong, triangle, and numbers of mathematical figures, thus apprehending the beauties of symmetry, combination, and opposition, always ended by the simple network of squares. Soon the pupil begins to draw the objects he sees around him, and this occupation becomes useful and interesting.

The examination of these pupils in the ordinary subjects of the prescribed course for infants' schools shows that the instruction is fully up to the requirements of the standard, and the discipline is reported to be excellent. The school may, therefore, be regarded as a successful experiment in the way of embodying the best parts of the Kindergarten system with the ordinary methods of infant school teaching.

Scientific and Technical Education.—In Great Britain and other European countries, in the United States, and in the larger British Colonies, much attention is still being devoted to the work of technical education, but, as regards provision for the preliminary part of such work being carried on in connection with State Primary Schools, France may be instanced as having taken the most advanced steps. In that country the work of primary education is organized as follows:—(a) Infants' Schools for children under 7 years; (b) Elementary Schools with three courses, viz.: An elementary course for children from 7 to 9 years, an intermediate course for children from 9 to 11 years, and a superior course for children from 11 to 13 years; and (c) Superior Primary Schools for a two years' additional course. The principles and methods of Froebel's Kindergarten are largely adopted in the French Infants' Schools; and in all the courses of the Elementary Schools, and in the Superior Primary Schools, industrial work, or a practical preparation for it, forms an important part of the programmes, both for boys and girls. In a large number of Primary Schools, situated in Paris and other important centres, regular instruction is also given in handicrafts.

In England, during 1888, a new Bill for the promotion of technical and manual instruction was prepared by the Government, but, as yet, it has not been passed by Parliament. By this Bill, "manual instruction" may be carried on in connection with all classes in Primary Schools, while "technical instruction" will be open only to children who have passed the sixth standard of the ordinary Primary School course. The Bill further defines the instruction as follows:—(a) "Manual Instruction": Instruction in the use of tools, and modelling in clay, wood, and other material; and (b) "Technical Instruction": Instruction in the principles of science
and

and Art applicable to industries, and instruction in the application of special branches of science and art to specific industries or employments. Teaching the practice of any trade, industry, or employment, is not to be included in the instruction thus defined.

In New South Wales, during 1888, no new arrangements affecting technical education in Primary Schools were brought into operation, but preliminary steps have been taken towards securing the services of a specially qualified and experienced organizer and superintendent of drawing instruction for Primary Schools and teachers. The question of rearranging the Primary School course of study, so that more systematic instruction introductory to agriculture might be given, has also been under careful consideration. This action has been taken with the view of ascertaining whether pupils could not be prepared, in some measure, for the wider curriculum and practical work of agricultural colleges and model farms which, it is expected, will shortly be established under Government control. At present, Primary School instruction bearing on agriculture is imparted thus:—

(a) to the infants' and lower classes, object lessons are given on common animals and vegetables; and (b) to the upper classes, similar lessons are continued, with fuller details, and elementary physiology is systematically introduced. In place of the foregoing, possibly the following course might be substituted for all schools in agricultural districts:—

- (a) Up to the third class the course to remain as at present, *i.e.*: Object lessons to be given on common animals and vegetables.
- (b) For the third class: Lessons on animals and plants, with special reference to agriculture.
- (c) For the fourth class: Lessons on animal and plant life, and on the chemical and physical principles involved in agriculture.
- (d) For the fifth class: The fourth class work continued, but with fuller details.

To carry on the above course, text-books of information for teachers might be prescribed, and the acquiring of a certain portion of the information such text-books contain might be allotted as the work of a class. As far as practicable, however, such information would have to be recast by the teacher to suit the climate, soil, and special circumstances of his particular school locality. Further, where facilities exist, such as available land of a proper kind and a qualified practical teacher, for working a small garden or "spade farm" in connection with a school, the teacher and his pupils might be encouraged in the establishing and working of such garden or farm. Workshops for the instruction of pupils in the use of ordinary tools might also be established, if deemed desirable, in connection with large schools, both in town and country.

As pointed out in the Report for 1886, three things must be carefully attended to in furnishing scholars with the preliminaries of a scientific industrial education: "First, they must be trained to systematic habits of industry, in order that a thoroughly industrial disposition may be cultivated in them; secondly, they must be instructed in general industrial knowledge, and in the outlines of science and technology; and, thirdly, there must be a development of their physical, intellectual, and artistic powers, such as will give them a consciousness of strength, and will lead them to devote themselves earnestly and successfully to some chosen employment." The systematic arrangements and methods under which all work is carried on in our Primary Schools are the best means of cultivating industrial habits among the pupils; and the general scientific and technical information imparted by the means of oral lessons, courses of which are carefully arranged for each class, will afterwards enable pupils to take up the subjects and work of technical education suitable to those who have completed the Primary School course. Moreover, drawing, as now being taught, not only trains the hand and eye and helps to develop the pupils' artistic powers, but it also forms the most important basis for the advanced instruction and training necessary to prepare our youth for nearly all industrial pursuits.

Beyond the preliminary scientific and technical instruction given in Primary Schools, the work of technical education continues to be carried on under the management of the Board of Technical Education, appointed in 1883. The contemplated changes affecting that Board, referred to in last year's Report, are, however, still under consideration. A detailed report of the Board's work for 1888 will be found in Appendix 17.

Public School Savings Banks.—In view of the large amount of good likely to result from school banks, it was considered advisable that the establishing and carrying on of these institutions should be recognised as a necessary part of the educational work of our Public Schools; and as a preliminary step it was decided that, from January 1887, all such schools ranking above class VII, should be eligible to have banks opened in connection with them. This decision was duly notified to the teachers of the schools concerned; and it was fully expected that, within reasonable time, nearly all of them would make application, and take the other steps necessary to have the banks brought into operation. At the close of 1887, however, the expectation had been but partially realized, the teachers of as many as 275 or more than one half of the schools or departments eligible to have banks, having failed to take effective action towards promoting their establishment. Under the circumstances, the teachers were requested to explain why the desired action had not been taken by them. The explanations furnished showed that, while nearly all teachers agreed as to the great advantages to be derived from the establishment and healthy operation of school banks, many of them feared to undertake the responsibilities, and, as they thought, the large amount of extra work likely to be necessary in connection with the carrying on of such institutions.

institutions. At the same time others at once sent in their preliminary applications, and acknowledged that they had always intended to take steps to have the banks established. By the end of 1888, banks had been established in connection with nearly 70 per cent. of the schools eligible to have them; and as it was found that the institutions could be successfully carried on by the teachers of so many schools, the other teachers, who are in all respects in similar positions and circumstances, were informed that steps would have to be taken without further delay to have banks brought into operation in connection with the schools under their charge.

At the close of 1887 the school banks in existence numbered 255, and during last year the number was increased to 389. Early in the current year (1889) 141 additional banks were brought into operation; so that now only 36 of the schools, or departments, eligible to have these institutions, have failed to secure their establishment. In 1887 there were about 40,000 depositors in the banks then established, and the total amount of deposits for that year was £9,446 15s. 9d. In 1888 the additional deposits received amounted to £8,368 1s. 2d. Thus the total amount of deposits received during the first two years of the banks' operations has been £17,814 16s. 11d. Of this amount the sum of £5,571 5s. 4d. was transferred to children's own separate accounts in the Government Savings Bank, and, at the close of 1888, £5,179 0s. 11d. remained as the credit balance of the "school banks'" account with the Government Bank. During the two years the amount withdrawn by the depositors, for current use, was £7,064 10s. 8d., or about 40 per cent. of the total amount deposited. It may be noted, however, that these withdrawals amounted to £4,979 13s. 3d. for 1888, while for 1887 they were only £2,084 17s. 5d. On the 31st December the following progress was shown as the nett result of the work done in connection with school banks in 1888:—134 additional banks had been opened; £2,840 15s. 9d. had been added to the sum transferred to children's own separate accounts in the Government Bank, and the "school banks'" account in the Government Bank had been increased by £547 12s. 2d.

As pointed out in last year's Report it is fully recognized that school banks can be established and carried on successfully only by teachers who are prepared to interest themselves warmly in the work, and act from professional devotion without any selfish motive; and, as these institutions are known to be eminently successful in European countries, in cultivating in the young the very desirable habits of self-restraint, self-reliance, and thrift, the teachers of New South Wales will not, it is hoped, be eventually found wanting in the zeal and self-sacrifice so necessary in connection with this important branch of Public School work.

VI.—TEACHERS.

Teachers enter the service of the Department in one of three ways, either as candidates who have passed through a complete course of training, as candidates who have undergone a preliminary course of training

training in a Public School, or as candidates who have gone through a course of training in the Training Colleges or Normal Schools of other countries. The requirements of the service are, on the whole, amply met from the first two sources. Very few teachers trained beyond the Colony have received appointments under the Department during the past year. At the same time it is proper to state that room can always be found for teachers of exceptional ability, large experience, and good character. Some difficulty is felt in obtaining suitable teachers for very small Provisional Schools and for House-to-house Schools. Schools of these classes are usually situated in remote, isolated places, where male teachers alone can be provided with accommodation; but the remuneration attached to such schools being necessarily small, little or no inducement is offered to male teachers to accept appointment to them. Vacancies in Public Schools are invariably filled by the appointment of properly trained and classified teachers, and no vacancy is filled without the claims of every teacher eligible for appointment to such being carefully considered. The grounds on which promotion is granted are seniority and classification combined with success in teaching.

Training of Teachers.—In last year's Report it was stated that the whole of the arrangements relating to the training of teachers were under consideration, with the view of having important modifications effected in them. The modifications have since been decided upon, and a scheme deemed calculated to secure increased efficiency and economy in the future management of our training institutions has been adopted, to come into operation from the 1st January, 1889.

Under the old arrangements the period of training was limited to twelve months, and the whole expenditure incurred, inclusive of that for students' maintenance, was borne by the department. These provisions, however, were acknowledged to be of a temporary and imperfect character, and the desirableness of a more extended term of training for teachers has long been recognised. Indeed, to provide a class of cultured and efficient teachers for the larger Public Schools, the Superior Public Schools, and the High Schools under the department, an extended term and a more comprehensive course of education and training were absolutely necessary. At the same time, however, it is a sound and just principle, and one thoroughly recognised in Great Britain, that the State is not bound to defray the whole cost of the training of pupil-teachers beyond the period for which the services of these young persons are first engaged. A pupil-teacher, who has successfully completed his four years' term of service, is qualified to act as an assistant, or to manage a small school; and, if he aspire to fill the higher positions in the service, he should, except under special circumstances, and he be possessed of marked ability, be required to pay, either wholly or in part, for any additional training that may be necessary to enable him to attain that object. Towards providing a class of teachers thoroughly qualified to carry on secondary education in our Superior Schools and High Schools, jointly already numbering over fifty, it is deemed very desirable that a few of the Training
School

School students among those showing marked ability should, before completing their course, become connected with the University. To effect this object, arrangements have been made under which three of the students most successful at the end of each course of two years will be permitted to remain in the Training School for a third year's course; and the University Senate has agreed to so modify its by-laws that such students may attend the third year's lectures for undergraduates and be admitted to the final examination for the B.A. degree.

The following is an outline of the new scheme adopted for the management of the Training Schools:—

Each Training School will be limited to an attendance of 53 students. Admissions will be annual, and may consist of three classes of candidates, namely:—First class or scholarship candidates, second class or half-scholarship candidates, and third class or non-scholarship candidates. The first class will consist of fifteen pupil-teachers whose term of service has expired, and who, in passing the entrance examination, obtain the highest marks; the second class will consist of ten pupil-teachers whose term of service has expired, who obtain the highest marks next to those obtained by the first fifteen in passing the entrance examination, and who are prepared to pay half the cost of their maintenance while in training; and the third class will consist of pupil-teachers whose term of service has expired, of untrained teachers who have had charge of schools, and of persons entering the teaching profession for the first time, who have passed the entrance examination successfully, and are prepared to pay the whole cost of their maintenance while in training. All Training School students will be examined at the close of each year's work. At the end of the first year those showing the necessary qualifications will be allowed to remain a second year in training, while those who, although passing successfully, show lower qualifications, will be awarded a third class certificate of grade A, B, or C, and will, as opportunity offers, be appointed to positions in the service for which their awarded classification renders them eligible. At the end of the second year the three students passing most successfully will be allowed to remain in training for a third year's course, while all others passing successfully will be awarded a second class certificate with honours, or of grade A or B, and will, as opportunity offers, be appointed to positions for which their awarded classification renders them eligible. In all cases, however, the classification awarded will be provisional only, and will be confirmed at the end of three years from the date of examination, if the inspector's report on the teacher's school work be fully satisfactory.

After gaining admission to the Training Schools as first-class candidates, the students who desire it will be admitted to the matriculation examination of the Sydney University. All who pass such examination successfully will, after passing the first examination in the Training School, be eligible for admission to the undergraduates' first year's examination, and, if that examination and also the Training School examination of the second year be passed successfully, in due course

course to the undergraduates' second year's examination. The three students who prove most successful in passing the second year's examinations will be allowed to remain for a third year's course of training, and will be admitted to the undergraduates' third years' lectures at the University, and to the final examination for the B.A. degree. The course of study hitherto followed in the Training Schools includes the principal subjects of the University course, and under the new arrangements; the Training School course for the different years will, as far as necessary or desirable, be made to correspond with that of the University. When this is done the few students of the three years' course, who will be the most intelligent and advanced of all the students admitted, should have no special difficulty to contend with in passing for the B.A. degree.

Ex-pupil-teachers not deemed eligible for admission to the Training Schools, and other candidates for employment possessing sufficient elementary qualifications as teachers, may be employed when required as assistants or to take charge of small schools. These will be deemed eligible for examination for a certificate of Class III after two years' service and upon receipt of favourable reports, and for one of Class II after three years' further satisfactory service.

From the foregoing statements it will be seen that, under the new arrangements, ex-pupil-teachers entering the Training Schools will be afforded the opportunity of obtaining Class II in two years either free of cost altogether, or by paying half or the whole cost of their maintenance while in training; while, by successful study and school work, those who do not enter the Training Schools may obtain Class II in five years, during which time they will receive as emoluments for the first two years sufficient to maintain them, and for the last three years the salaries allotted to third-class teachers. That is, if we assume pupil-teachers to be in their nineteenth year when their term of apprenticeship expires, those admitted to the Training Schools will have an opportunity of obtaining Class II in their twenty-first year, while those not admitted will not be able to obtain such classification before they reach their twenty-fifth year; and thus, on the one hand, the advantages to be obtained by gaining admission to the Training Schools will encourage pupil-teachers to study, and to endeavour, to the utmost of their abilities and opportunities, to qualify themselves to pass high in the examinations; while, on the other hand, those unsuccessful in obtaining admission to the Training Schools will not be debarred from eventually gaining high classifications and positions, provided their abilities and application to work prove them to be qualified for such.

The advantages to be secured under the new arrangements adopted for the management of the training institutions may be summarized as follows:—

1. The annual increase of second-class teachers, already much too numerous, will be very considerably reduced.

2.

2. The reduced number of new second-class teachers annually available will have received double the amount of special training second-class teachers hitherto have had; and hence they will be more highly cultured, and capable of superior work.
3. A supply of efficiently-trained second-class teachers, and of superior first-class teachers, will be available to carry on the secondary education in Superior Schools and High Schools, of which there are already over fifty in existence.
4. The total annual cost to the State for Training School students' maintenance will be lessened.

Fort-street Training School for Male Students.—The premises used as a Training School are commodious, well lighted, and well ventilated, and liberally provided with the best educational appliances. The institution is properly organized.

The number of students in training was twenty-four, divided into fourteen seniors and ten juniors. The seniors completed their course in June, and the juniors in December. In view of great and important changes in the arrangements for the training of teachers no admissions were permitted during the second half-year.

The Principal reports that the conduct of the students has almost without exception been highly satisfactory, and that their diligence and attention to duty have been equally praiseworthy.

The work of the Practising School has been continued without interruption, and appears to be of a satisfactory kind.

Hurlstone Training School for Female Students.—During the year a permanent water supply has been provided for the use of the inmates, new lavatories have been constructed, and the grounds have undergone improvement. The buildings are very fairly suitable, and are well appointed. The organization of the institution is complete and satisfactory.

Fifty-one students were in session. One retired through ill-health; the rest completed their course of training. They were reported as attentive to instruction, diligent in study, and well conducted.

The monthly reports on the working of the institution, furnished by the Visiting Inspectors, were of a uniformly favourable character.

The Practising School is efficiently managed and doing useful work.

Pupil Teachers.—Pupil teachers are appointed to schools ranking above the seventh class, provided the teachers of such hold classifications not lower than II.B. As the growth of schools keeps pace with the growth of settlement and increase of population, the number of schools eligible for pupil teachers is yearly becoming larger. For the year covered by this Report the total number employed was 990 as against 930 during the preceding year. The number

number of young persons seeking employment in this way is greatly in excess of the requirements of the service. Having regard to this fact great care is exercised in making selections. Every candidate has to prove his physical fitness to undertake the duties of the position by passing a rigorous medical examination, and he has further to satisfy the Examining Board that his attainments and aptitude for teaching are up to standard requirements. Those who succeed in passing these tests are employed on probation for three months, when, provided they afford evidence of becoming efficient teachers, their appointments are confirmed. Their term of service extends over four years, but those who fail to pass any of the yearly examinations have necessarily to serve for a longer period. The assistance rendered by these young persons is of a valuable kind; their intelligence, zeal, and attention to duty are very generally recognized.

The arrangements for supplementing the instruction given to pupil teachers by their teachers has undergone some modifications. Latin has been added to the list of subjects for female pupil teachers, and French for males of the first and second classes. As heretofore, the classes are held at Fort-street and Castlereagh-street schools, and are attended by 381 pupil-teachers. Their conduct is on the whole good, and they are reported as making satisfactory progress in learning.

The number of teachers on the list in the last quarter of 1888 was 3,913, showing an increase of 72 on the number for the corresponding quarter of 1887; 2,123 classified teachers, 665 teachers unclassified—but certificated for small schools, 31 classified Training School students, 990 pupil-teachers, 77 work-mistresses, and 27 High School teachers. Of the whole number, 50·4 per cent. are males, and 49·6 per cent. females; and of the teachers in charge of schools or departments, 63·4 per cent. are males and 36·6 per cent. females.

The following table will exhibit full information respecting the several classes into which teachers are divided:—

	I A.		I B.		II A.		II B.		III A.		III B.		III C.		Unclassified.		Totals.		Grand Total.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			
Principal Teachers ...	32	...	31	1	225	3	175	9	372	46	225	88	137	116	266	390	1,463	653	2,116		
Mistresses of Departments ...	...	12	...	33	...	102	...	39	...	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	191	191
Assistants ...	...	...	17	1	61	58	42	114	7	94	2	56	3	18	1	7	133	348	481
Students examined for classification, but unappointed for 1888 ...	...	...	...	...	6	8	4	7	...	2	...	3	...	1	...	...	10	21	31
Totals	32	12	48	35	292	171	221	169	379	146	227	147	140	135	267	393	1,606	1,213	2,819		
Pupil-teachers	Class I.		Class II.		Class III.		Class IV.		Probationers.										355	635	990
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.											
Work-mistresses	77	77
Total teachers of all ranks																	1,961	1,925	3,886		

NOTE.—The High School teachers, numbering 27, are not included in the above table.

Exclusive of High School teachers, workmistresses, and pupil-teachers, the number is 2,819. Of these, 57 per cent. are males and 43 per cent. females; while 76·4 per cent. are classified, and 23·6 per cent. unclassified. The unclassified teachers have passed the usual examination and been certified, and nearly all of them are in charge of small country schools. The number of classified teachers shows a net increase of 92 for the year; and of the total number of such teachers, 5·9 per cent. are in Class I, 39·6 per cent. are in Class II, and 54·5 per cent. are in Class III. In 1887, the percentage in the three classes were, respectively, 5, 38·3, and 56·7; and in 1886 they were 3·2, 37·4 and 59·4.

The next table shows the number of classed schools, the number of classified teachers required, and the number of such teachers actually in the Service at the close of 1888.

Classed Schools or departments in operation in the last quarter of 1888.				Classified Teachers, &c., required by regulation for the classed schools in operation in the last quarter of 1888.			Classified Teachers and Students actually in the Service on 31st December, 1888.										
Schools.	Departments.	Of Class.	Requiring Teachers of Class.	Principal Teachers.	Assistants.	Total.	Teachers.		Students.		Total.						
							Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.							
26	79	I.	I. A.	79, I. A.	78 of Class I, and 19 of Class III.	157 (19)	32, I. A.	12, I. A.	.....	.....	40, I. A.				
33	99	II.	I. B.	99, I. B.	384 of Class II.	99	48, I. B.	35, I. B.	.....	.....	83, I. B.				
20	53	III.	II. A.	53, II. A.								520	286, II. A.	163, II. A.	6, II. A.	8, II. A.	463, II. A.
47	83	IV.	II. A.	83, II. A.													
101	104	V.	II. B.	104, II. B.	189	104	217, II. B.	162, II. B.	4, II. B.	7, II. B.	390, II. B.						
189	178	VI.	II. B.	189, II. B.													
183	183	VII.	III. A.	183, III. A.	268	183	379, III. A.	144, III. A.	.....	2, III. A.	525, III. A.					
278	278	VIII.	III. B.	268, III. B.													
689	689	IX.	III. C.	615, III. C.	188	615	140, III. C.	134, III. C.	.....	1, III. C.	275, III. C.					
212	212	X.	III. C.	188, III. C.													
1778	1969	...	.....	1861.	481	2,342	1,329	794	10	21	2,154				

As regards the information exhibited in the last table the following points may be noticed. At the close of 1888 the number of classified teachers in the service was 2,154, showing a net increase of 92 as compared with 128 in 1887, and 94 in 1886. The total number of classified teachers required to fill positions in classed schools was 2,342, namely, 256 of Class I, 813 of Class II, and 1,273 of Class III; while the numbers actually in the service, of the different classes, were 127 of Class I, 853 of Class II, and 1,174 of Class III.

Teachers' Examinations.—The Examining Staff is composed of three permanent officers, assisted by occasional teachers, and its work is chiefly confined to framing questions for examination and revising papers.

The

The following table furnishes the results of the several examinations in detail :—

Persons examined.	Results.		
	Passed successfully.	Failed.	Total.
Teachers, including students of the Training Schools	375	304	679
For Class I. A., 7 passed			
" " I. B., 26 "			
" " II. A., 73 "			
" " II. B., 77 "			
" " III. A., 72 "			
" " III. B., 77 "			
" " III. C., 43 "			
Total..... 375			
Pupil Teachers	699	148	847
For Class III., 220 passed			
" " II., 180 "			
" " I., 182 "			
Training School, 117 "			
Total..... 699			
Applicants for office of Pupil-teacher	210	181	391
Applicants for office of Teacher	2	.....	2
For Class III. A., 1 passed			
" " III. C., 1 "			
	1,286	633	1,919

The total number of examinations, as compared with that for 1887, shows a decrease, but the papers are an improvement on those of previous years. The decline in the number of examinations may be attributed to the fact of a large proportion of old teachers having already gained the requisite classification, and to the changes recently introduced, which require that examinations shall be held yearly instead of half-yearly, and that a teacher shall possess the requisite degree of practical skill as a condition to being allowed to sit for examination.

The number of applicants for the office of pupil-teacher examined is not quite so large as that recorded for 1887, but the results of the examinations are, in point of efficiency, better.

In the case of pupil-teachers the per centage of passes is 82·5 as against 70·7 in 1887, the improvement being especially noticeable in first class pupil-teachers competing for admission to the Training Schools. A system of scholarships having recently been established in connection with those institutions, pupil-teachers have thereby been induced to study with increased diligence in order to obtain the benefits accruing from the change thus introduced. The per centage of passes in the case of pupil-teachers competing for training was 85·4, as against 72·9 in 1887.

Teachers'

The duties of Boards are clearly defined in clause 19 of the Public Instruction Act, and in regulations 104 to 113 inclusive; and were these faithfully carried out, markedly beneficial results must follow. Especially would this be the case if the members of Boards would "regularly visit, inspect, and report upon the schools under their supervision;" see that the teacher discharges his duties; protect him from vexatious and frivolous complaints; and "use every endeavour to induce parents to send their children to school regularly." If Boards would even, irrespective of the other matters specified in the regulations, perform these duties alone in a sympathetic spirit and in a kindly way, teachers and pupils would be encouraged in their work, parents roused up to a sense of their responsibilities, and, as a result, the efficiency and success of the schools would be ensured.

While indifference by Boards is manifested in so many instances, it is gladly recognised that several Boards are energetic in the performance of their duties, and, by intelligent and judicious supervision, exercise a very beneficial influence. These, however, are the exceptions. The sole object apparently, and the one idea of duty, in the case of a large number of the Boards is to have placed in their hands the control of the expenditure of public money. This, however, is neither expedient nor practicable. In countries where the cost of education is defrayed from rates specially imposed for the purpose, it is but right and just that Boards should be invested with the power to expend the money so raised. But in this Colony the amount expended annually upon education is paid out of the general revenue, and no such right exists.

It may be added that in a few instances, where on account of distance, it has been found impracticable for an inspector or other officer of the Department to supervise the erection of buildings and of additions and repairs, Boards have been entrusted with the work and have, in every case, performed the duty to the satisfaction of the Department.

VIII.--FINANCE.

The sum available in 1888 for expenditure under the Public Instruction Act was £601,994 17s., made up as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1887	5,295	0	7
Amount received from Treasury on account of Vote for 1887	24,960	19	9
Amount received from Treasury on account of Vote for 1888	571,738	16	8
	<u>601,994</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>0</u>

The total expenditure in the year was £600,603 10s. 11d., £84,568 10s. 9d. having been expended on school premises, and £516,035 0s. 2d. on the maintenance of schools, administration, &c. The balance at the close of the year was £1,391 6s. 1d.

GENERAL

GENERAL STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1888.

I. On School premises :—

	£	s.	d.
For sites, new buildings, additions, repairs, &c.	84,575	0	9

II. On Maintenance of Schools, &c. :—

	£	s.	d.
1. Teachers' salaries and allowances in Ordinary Schools	436,068	10	10
Other maintenance expenses in such schools ...	16,553	2	9
2. High School salaries, and maintenance expenses.	5,551	15	10
3. Administration expenses, including training Schools, and enforcement of school attendance	54,353	12	1
Refund to Treasury on account of 1886 and 1887.	3,501	8	8
	516,028 10 2		
	£600,603 10 11		

The amount of school fees collected and paid into the Consolidated Revenue was £69,553 14s. 4d.—namely, £65,227 1s. 9d. from ordinary day schools and £4,326 12s. 7d. from High Schools. Deducting this amount and the amount refunded to the Treasury from the total expenditure, there will remain £527,548 7s. 11d. as the net school expenditure derived from State funds, showing a decrease for the year of £33,538 11s. 5d. as compared with the like expenditure in 1887, of £63,608 0s. 5d. as compared with that of 1886, of £77,222 5s. 11d. as compared with that of 1885, and of £242,877 0s. 6d. as compared with that of 1883. These satisfactory reductions in the net State expenditure have been effected notwithstanding that there have been large annual increases in the numbers of both schools and pupils.

The total expenditure under the following heads in the last five years were :—

	1884. Expenditure.			Per- centage of total expen- diture.			1885. Expenditure.			Per- centage of total expen- diture.			1886. Expenditure.			Per- centage of total expen- diture.			1887. Expenditure.			Per- centage of total expen- diture.			1888. Expenditure.			Per- centage of total expen- diture.				
	£	s.	d.				£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.			
I. SCHOOL PREMISES AND ARCHITECT'S EXPENSES :																																
For sites, new buildings, additions, repairs, rent, &c.	304,383	9	7	30	30	30	178,001	15	7	26	82	155,072	0	7	23	71	119,957	3	10	19	20	84,575	0	9	14	16						
II. MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOLS, not including ad- ministration :—																																
1. Ordinary School—Salaries and allowances ..	374,774	13	0	48	40	391,192	9	4	58	95	403,222	1	4	61	62	421,552	17	8	67	45	436,068	10	10	73	03							
2. „ Other maintenance expenses	19,403	11	4	2	50	22,393	12	10	3	45	21,260	13	2	3	25	17,801	16	0	2	85	16,553	2	9	2	77							
3. High Schools—Salaries and allowances	5,644	6	6	7	3	5,241	17	9	7	9	5,327	19	1	8	1	5,313	1	6	8	5	5,343	0	8	3	89							
4. „ Other maintenance expenses	547	15	0	0	7	136	6	9	0	2	269	19	5	0	4	183	10	11	0	3	208	15	2	0	4							
5. Cookery instruction, materials, &c.	649	1	4	0	8	397	14	0	0	6	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....
III. ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES :—																																
1. General management	11,035	3	7	1	43	11,059	7	1	1	76	12,082	16	4	1	84	12,356	1	3	1	98	12,095	8	6	2	03							
2. Chief Inspector's Branch, including Training-Schools	35,064	17	5	4	54	37,024	18	11	5	57	38,831	19	7	5	94	38,008	18	5	6	08	39,364	14	1	6	68							
3. Chief Examiner's Branch	2,502	16	0	3	3	2,465	13	3	3	7	2,521	4	10	3	39	2,424	19	10	3	8	2,393	9	6	4	0							
4. School Attendance Branch	13,984	11	5	1	80	13,815	17	3	2	08	15,429	16	1	2	35	7,380	14	10	1	18	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....
IV. RETIRING ALLOWANCES :—																																
To certain Officers	3,234	0	0	3	1	.....	..	.....	..	.....	298	9	4	0	4	.....	..	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....
To certain late Teachers of Public Schools	3,036	15	10	4	0	866	19	0	1	13	93	19	2	0	1	.....	..	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....
To certain late Teachers of Provisional Schools	96	5	0	0	1	.....	..	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....
Refund to Treasury.	.....	..	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....	..	.....
Totals	774,357	6	0	100	00	663,696	11	9	100	00	654,410	18	11	100	00	624,982	16	9	100	00	600,603	10	11	100	00							

The foregoing statement shows that, of the total year's expenditure of £597,102 2s. 3d., about 14 per cent. was spent on school premises, nearly 76 per cent. on the maintenance of ordinary schools, 9 per cent. on administration—including training and examination of teachers, and the enforcement of school attendance,—and nearly 1 per cent. on High Schools. In 1887 the corresponding per centages were, premises, 19 per cent.; maintenance of ordinary schools, $70\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.; administration, &c., $9\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., and High Schools, nearly 1 per cent.; while in 1886 they were—premises, $23\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; maintenance of ordinary schools, 65 per cent.; administration, &c., $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and High Schools, 1 per cent.

The following table exhibits the number of schools, the number of pupils, and the State expenditure for each of the eight years elapsed since the passing of the Public Instruction Act of 1880:—

Years.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.	The State Expenditure				
			On School Premises.	On maintenance of Schools, including administration, &c.	Total.	Less School Fees.	Net State Expenditure.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1881.....	1,667	146,106	102,903 11 2	371,253 14 5	474,157 5 7	46,347 5 4	427,810 0 3
1882.....	1,795	166,611	228,401 11 2	390,398 17 7	618,800 8 9	51,812 5 11	567,488 2 10
1883.....	1,706	155,918	391,000 2 7	430,852 13 8	821,852 16 3	51,427 7 10	770,425 8 5
1884.....	1,912	167,184	304,383 9 7	469,973 16 5	774,357 6 0	56,766 13 1	717,590 12 11
1885.....	2,046	173,440	178,001 15 7	485,694 16 2	663,696 11 9	58,925 17 11	604,770 13 10
1886.....	2,170	179,990	155,072 0 7	499,338 13 4	654,410 18 11	63,164 10 7	591,246 8 4
1887.....	2,236	184,060	119,957 3 10	505,025 12 11	624,982 16 9	63,895 17 5	561,086 19 4
1888.....	2,271	186,692	84,575 0 9	512,527 1 6	597,102 2 3	69,553 14 4	527,548 7 11
Total 8 years' expenditure.....			1,564,294 15 3	3,665,065 11 0	5,229,360 6 3	461,393 12 5	4,767,966 13 10

It thus appears that the net State expenditure under the Public Instruction Act, for the eight years ending December, 1888, was £4,767,966 13s. 10d., or an average of £595,995 16s. 8d. per year; and that the expenditure in 1888 was less than in any other of the eight years, and even as much as £68,447 8s. 9d. less than the average yearly expenditure for the period. Of the total expenditure for the eight years, £1,564,294 15s. 3d., or nearly 30 per cent., was spent in providing school premises.

The next table will show the eight years' expenditure more in detail:—

Heads of Expenditure.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
SCHOOL PREMISES:								
1. Sites.....	9,538 4 8	65,831 13 11	51,579 15 1	22,719 6 1	26,525 10 2	21,359 8 2	12,101 10 6	5,135 11 7
2. Buildings and furniture.....	55,366 17 7	97,051 11 3	200,328 3 0	196,232 11 10	71,240 6 1	57,871 1 11	46,087 2 4	32,414 16 6
3. Tents.....	2,574 10 0	6,165 4 1	1,878 2 8	172 13 0	123 10 0	.....	.....	.....
4. Additions, repairs, &c.....	13,908 16 2	33,100 8 5	98,932 18 3	49,703 1 10	48,612 15 2	48,076 2 10	38,313 12 11	31,203 0 11
5. Weather-sheds.....	7,083 15 7	2,630 15 10	5,038 1 7	3,426 12 3	2,455 6 9	1,410 15 5	1,591 0 9	1,066 15 3
6. Architect's expenses.....	6,149 4 2	6,524 13 10	8,891 14 9	9,214 3 6	9,100 9 0	8,499 17 5	7,159 3 7	6,029 19 9
7. Rent.....	8,282 3 0	17,097 3 10	24,351 7 3	22,915 1 1	19,943 18 5	17,854 16 10	14,094 13 9	8,724 16 0
	102,903 11 2	228,401 11 2	391,000 2 7	304,383 9 7	178,001 15 7	155,072 0 7	119,957 3 10	84,575 0 0
MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOLS:								
1. Teachers' salaries and allowances	303,830 8 5	330,306 17 9	344,332 11 9	377,795 17 5	393,313 6 4	408,550 0 5	426,865 10 2	441,411 11 6
2. Teachers' travelling expenses...	1,054 8 6	1,351 17 6	2,279 13 3	1,892 0 2	2,097 12 1	2,981 7 9	4,132 4 10	5,307 4 11
3. Teachers' forage allowances...	380 17 8	338 18 0	412 10 4	672 0 5	1,023 8 8	1,212 5 7	1,336 2 3	1,642 7 10
4. School fuel allowances.....	448 9 3	449 0 0	730 17 0	789 6 6	804 13 0	905 4 6	2 10 0	4 0 0
5. School cleaning allowances.....	.....	.....	4,960 19 7	7,455 15 1	8,617 19 7	7,472 15 1	3,989 18 0	.....
6. School materials.....	5,576 4 6	7,940 17 6	7,995 9 4	9,971 2 7	12,725 1 10	8,247 0 11	7,819 8 6	9,054 10 2
7. Miscellaneous expenses (including advertising).....	637 9 4	956 2 1	1,853 6 10	1,814 3 8	882 5 1	711 18 0	708 15 10	853 15 0
	311,927 17 8	341,343 12 10	362,565 8 1	400,370 5 10	419,464 6 8	430,050 13 0	444,854 18 7	458,173 9 5

Heads of Expenditure.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
III. ADMINISTRATION, AND TRAINING SCHOOLS :								
1. General management	£ s. d. 9,312 6 1	£ s. d. 9,123 16 10	£ s. d. 10,724 7 11	£ s. d. 11,035 3 7	£ s. d. 11,650 7 1	£ s. d. 12,082 16 4	£ s. d. 12,016 1 3	£ s. d. 12,095 8 6
2. Chief Inspector's Branch—								
(a) Inspection	17,512 6 0	10,596 9 1	23,240 6 10	24,817 19 2	26,618 14 1	27,019 14 3	29,091 7 4	33,421 13 6
(b) Fort-street Training School				5,673 2 5	6,098 9 6	8,350 10 4	4,967 5 4	3,452 7 6
(c) Hurlstone Training School				4,573 15 10	4,307 15 4	3,461 15 0	3,433 11 5	2,990 13 1
3. Chief Examiner's Branch	27,170 2 3	9,104 4 5	10,961 3 0	2,502 10 0	2,405 13 3	2,521 4 10	2,424 19 10	2,393 9 6
4. School Attendance Branch	5,331 2 5	10,815 0 1	13,879 9 0	13,984 11 5	13,815 17 3	15,429 16 1	8,237 9 2	(Included under Inspection.)
	59,325 16 9	48,639 10 5	58,805 6 9	62,587 8 5	64,965 16 6	68,865 16 10	60,170 14 4	54,353 12 1
IV. COOKERY INSTRUCTION, &c. (including Kindergarten)		415 14 4	570 15 11	649 1 4	397 14 0	Nil		
V. RETIRING ALLOWANCES :								
1. To officers				3,234 0 0		298 9 4		
2. To Public School Teachers			8,514 15 10	3,036 15 10	866 19 0	93 19 2		
3. To Provisional School Teachers			396 7 1	96 5 0				
			8,911 2 11	6,367 0 10	866 19 0	392 8 6		
Total expenditure	474,157 5 7	618,800 8 9	821,852 16 3	774,357 6 0	663,696 11 9	654,410 18 11	624,982 16 9	597,102 2 3

The figures in the last table show that the total expenditure for the year was decreased by £27,880 14s. 6d. Teachers' salaries and travelling expenses show increases, but such increases were entirely due to corresponding increases in the number of schools, teachers, and pupils, these increases being respectively—schools, 35; teachers, 72; and pupils, 2,992.

The total average cost per child, and the average cost respectively for "School Premises," the "Maintenance of Schools," and administration, including inspection, the training and examining of teachers, and the enforcing of school attendance, are shown in the next tables.

(a) *Average cost per child of the Year's enrolment.*

Year.	For School premises.	For the maintenance of Schools.	For administration, including the amount paid for training and examining teachers, &c.	Total.
1881	£ s. d. 0 14 1	£ s. d. 2 2 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	£ s. d. 0 8 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	£ s. d. 3 4 10 $\frac{3}{4}$
1882	1 7 5	2 1 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 5 10	3 14 3 $\frac{1}{4}$
1883	2 10 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 6 7	0 8 8	5 5 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
1884	1 16 5	2 7 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 8 3	4 12 7 $\frac{3}{4}$
1885	1 0 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 8 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 7 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 16 6
1886	0 17 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 7 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 7 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 12 8 $\frac{1}{2}$
1887	0 13 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 8 4	0 6 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 7 10 $\frac{3}{4}$
1888	0 9 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 9 1	0 5 10	3 3 11 $\frac{1}{2}$

(b) *Average cost per child of the mean Quarterly enrolment.*

Year.	For School premises.	For the maintenance of Schools.	For administration, including the amount paid for training and examining teachers, &c.	Total.
1881	£ s. d. 0 16 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	£ s. d. 2 9 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	£ s. d. 0 9 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	£ s. d. 3 15 6
1882	1 13 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 10 8	0 7 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 11 8 $\frac{3}{4}$
1883	3 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 15 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 10 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	6 6 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
1884	2 3 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 17 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	5 11 3
1885	1 4 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 17 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9 0	4 10 6 $\frac{3}{4}$
1886	1 0 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 16 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 9 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 5 4 $\frac{3}{4}$
1887	0 15 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 16 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 7 7 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 19 5 $\frac{3}{4}$
1888	0 10 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 16 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 14 2 $\frac{1}{4}$

(c) *The average cost per child of the average attendance.*

Year.	For School premises.	For the maintenance of Schools.	For administration, including the amount paid for training and examining teachers, &c.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1881	1 4 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 15 3	0 14 3 $\frac{3}{4}$	5 14 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
1882	2 10 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 15 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 10 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	6 16 0 $\frac{3}{4}$
1883	4 8 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 2 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 15 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 5 7 $\frac{1}{4}$
1884	3 3 11	4 4 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 14 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	8 2 7 $\frac{3}{4}$
1885	1 15 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 3 7	0 13 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	6 12 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
1886	1 9 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 1 6	0 13 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 4 0
1887	1 2 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 3 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 11 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 17 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
1888	0 15 1	4 1 7 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 9 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 6 5

In the last three tables the total year's expenditure is dealt with in calculating the average cost per child, but in the succeeding tables the amount of school fees paid into the Treasury has been deducted; and the average cost per child has been calculated on the reduced amount as being the actual average cost to the State.

(a) *Average cost (to the State) of a child's education.*

	In 1881.	In 1882.	In 1883.	In 1884.	In 1885.	In 1886.	In 1887.	In 1888.	Average cost per child per year for 8 years.
Cost per child calculated upon the—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Year's enrolment of distinct children...	2 18 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 8 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 18 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 5 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 9 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 5 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 0 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 16 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 10 5 $\frac{3}{4}$
Mean quarterly enrolment	3 8 2	4 4 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 18 4	5 3 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 2 6 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 17 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 11 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 5 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 3 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Average attendance	5 3 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 4 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 14 0	7 10 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	6 0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 12 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 5 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 14 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	6 3 1

(b) *Average cost (to the State) of a child's education—exclusive of the cost of School premises.*

	In 1881.	In 1882.	In 1883.	In 1884.	In 1885.	In 1886.	In 1887.	In 1888.	Average cost per child per year for 8 years.
Cost per child calculated upon the—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Year's enrolment of distinct children...	2 4 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 8 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 9 5 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 9 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 8 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 7 11	2 7 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 6 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Mean quarterly enrolment	2 11 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 10 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 17 6	2 19 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 18 3	2 16 11	2 16 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 15 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 15 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Average attendance	3 18 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 14 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 4 7	4 6 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 4 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 2 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 2 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 18 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$

The cost per child for the State Schools in the Australian Colonies, and for the Board Schools in England and Wales, is given below:—

	Number of Schools.	Average quarterly enrolment for year.	Average attendance.	Average number of pupils per School.	Cost per head of mean enrolment.	Cost per head of average attendance.
New South Wales	2,271	160,919	112,220	71	£ s. d. 3 14 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	£ s. d. 5 6 5
Victoria	1,911	180,147	123,563	94	3 17 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 12 11 $\frac{1}{4}$
Queensland	527	49,418	35,319	93	4 2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 14 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
South Australia	554	38,947	28,430	70	3 4 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 8 9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Western Australia	89	4,363	3,344	50	3 1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 0 8 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cost per child in average attendance at Board Schools, England						3 5 5 $\frac{1}{2}$

The State expenditure in the different Colonies, the last year for which reports are yet available, was—

	£	s.	d.
New South Wales... ..	527,548	7	11
Victoria	697,722	14	5
Queensland... ..	202,946	16	5
South Australia	97,502	10	0
Western Australia... ..	8,000	0	0

In this Colony the cost per child has steadily decreased since 1883. For 1888, the cost per child in average attendance showed a reduction of 11s. 0½d. as compared with the rate for 1887; of 17s. 7d. as compared with that for 1886; of £1 5s. 8½d. as compared with that for 1885; of £2 16s. 2½d. as compared with that for 1884; and £3 19s. 2¼d. as compared with that for 1883. It has also showed a reduction of £1 9s. 7¾d. as compared with the rate for 1882.

SUMMARY.

THE year's work may be summed up as follows:—114 new schools, or 117 departments, were opened; 2,271 schools, or 2,463 departments, were in operation during the whole or some part of the year, and 2,237 schools, or 2,428 departments, were in existence at its close. The school accommodation was equal to 181,357 places. The net increase of schools from 1881 to 1888, exclusive of Certified Denominational Schools closed in 1882, was 970. The school population (4 to 15 years) was 295,316, and the statutory school population (6 to 14 years), 212,774, showing an increase since 1881, the date of the last Census, of 65,456, or 44 per cent.

186,692 pupils, showing, as compared with the return for 1887, an increase of 2,992, attended State Schools. 151,594, or 81·2 per cent., were of the statutory school age, and 35,980, or 18·8 per cent., under or over that age. 185,329 pupils were enrolled in the ordinary day schools; the length of time pupils remained on the rolls shows satisfactory improvement, and 55·9 per cent. attended school 140 days or more in the year. The per centage of pupils in average attendance (69·7) was higher than in any previous year. The work relating to school attendance has been carried on with increased success, notwithstanding that the number of officers has been further reduced. 108 school sites were obtained. 121 school-houses, and additions to 34 existing buildings, were completed, affording room for 6,256 pupils. At the close of the year the total number of places provided in school accommodation exceeded the enrolment of pupils by 22,174, and the average attendance by 69,411. Other buildings and additions for the accommodation of 4,683 pupils were in course of erection. Twenty-six weathersheds and repairs to 730 school buildings, were also completed or in progress. The total outlay for the year on school premises was reduced 29½ per cent. Schools are well supplied with furniture, books, and apparatus of approved kinds. 2,450 schools or departments, out of a total of 2,463 in operation, were inspected, and 119,293 pupils examined. Satisfactory progress was indicated. Five High Schools, and 51 Superior schools were in operation. The

High Schools show improvement in all essentials, and have been worked at a cost to the State of £3 5s. per head of the number of pupils enrolled. The Superior Schools (increased by eight during the year) continue to do good work. Night-schools are still but moderately successful. The modification of the Kindergarten, referred to in previous reports, was carried out during the year with good results. The importance of technical education is still fully recognized in carrying on primary school-work.

134 school banks were brought into operation, and additional deposits, amounting to £8,368 1s. 2d., were received.

2,819 teachers and assistants, 990 pupil-teachers, and 77 work-mistresses, were employed, being an increase of 124. 75 students attended the Training Schools; of these 1 withdrew, and 74 completed their course and were examined for classification. Important changes, to take effect from January, 1889, have been made in the arrangements for the training of teachers—the chief being an extension of the training course to two and, in some cases, to three years. 681 teachers and 847 pupil-teachers were examined with a view to classification or promotion. 391 pupil-teacher applicants were also examined. The numbers successful were, respectively, 377 teachers, 699 pupil-teachers, and 210 pupil-teacher applicants. The salaries of classified teachers in charge of schools range from under £100 up to £400 per annum. £597,102 2s. 3d., or £27,880 14s. 6d. less than in 1887, was expended, and towards this amount £69,553 14s. 4d. was paid into the Treasury as school fees. The total expenditure was 11s. 0½d. less per pupil in average attendance than in 1887, and was also less than in any previous year. The State expenditure per pupil of the year's enrolment was £2 16s. 2¼d., and, exclusive of the sum spent on school premises, it was £2 7s. 5½d., being a decrease on all previous years. The cost per pupil is now lower in New South Wales than it is in the adjoining colonies of Victoria and Queensland.

Information respecting educational institutions connected with the Department, but not carried on under the provisions of the Public Instruction Act, is furnished in the following summaries:—

THE SYDNEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE, AND BRANCH TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

The Board of Technical Education report an increased attendance of students at the various technical classes held during the year. 2,847 individual students attended the Sydney Technical College and branch Technical Schools, being an increase of 152 over the enrolment for 1887. It is thought that the scarcity of employment in the various trades prevented the increase from being greater. At the Sydney Technical College the individual students numbered 2,077, of whom 990 attended for one quarter only, 497 attended for two quarters, 286 for three quarters, and 304 for four quarters. The enrolments in each quarter were 835, 1,081, 1,133, and 1,007, making an average quarterly enrolment of 1,014. The average attendances were 621, 793·7, 749·3, and 698·4 in each quarter, or an average of 771·6 daily.

The

The suburban and country classes were attended by 770 individual students. The quarterly enrolments were respectively 537, 647, 720, and 709; and the average attendances were 254·6, 314·6, 343·9, and 385·6. The fees received from students and paid to the teachers of the different classes amounted to, Sydney Technical College, £1,869 8s.; suburban and country classes, £512 11s. Total, £2,381 19s.

The occupations of the students who attended the Sydney Technical College, were as follows:—Accountants, 6; architects, 34; artillerymen, 7; agents, 27; assayers, 2; baker, 1; blacksmiths, 11; booksellers, 7; bookbinder, 1; builders, 14; bricklayers, 25; box-maker, 1; bootmakers, 2; boilermakers, 18; brassfinishers, 2; brass-moulder, 1; carpenters and joiners, 128; chemists, 31; carters, 5; Civil servants, 10; clerks, 322; clergyman, 1; coachbuilders, 12; cement tester, 1; curators, 3; cabinetmakers, 4; decorators, 16; dentists, 8; drapers, 21; dressmakers, 33; draftsmen, 26; engineers, 126; engravers, 5; engine-drivers, 14; electricians, 6; farmers, 12; farriers, 3; feather-duster maker, 1; fitters, 29; french-polisher, 1; framemaker, 1; gardeners, 9; grocers, 9; ironmongers, 11; iron-moulders, 4; japanners, 2; jewellers, 9; labourers, 7; ladies, 362; lithographers, 8; masons, 31; mat-maker, 1; mariners, 7; messengers, 37; modellers, 8; nurses, 5; operators, 5; painters, 34; pattern-makers, 8; photographers, 6; plasterers, 16; plumbers, 34; printers, 22; policemen, 5; saddler, 1; scholars and students, 257; sign-writers, 14; shipwrights, 5; slater, 1; stationers, 6; storemen, 10; surgeon, 1; surveyors, 19; tailors, 37; teachers (male), 34; (female), 76; tinsmiths, 4; tobacco manufacturer, 1; typewriter, 1; warehousemen, 14; wood carvers, 3; wood turners, 2; and wool sorters, 3.

New classes were formed in the following subjects:—Technical College: Scientific dress-cutting, type-writing, and ladies' phonography. Newcastle: Mechanical drawing, metallurgy, and mathematics. Bathurst: Book-keeping. Parramatta: Model drawing. Glen Innes: Mineralogy; and Kogarah: Mechanical drawing. The following classes have been discontinued, namely:—Evening classes for primary subjects, which have been converted into an Evening Public School, and classes in Law, English History, English Literature, Greek, Italian, Singing, and Music.

The teachers' reports on the various classes are generally favourable. The usual annual examinations were held in December. One thousand examinees presented themselves, and the results were:—First year's students (838 entries), 74 obtained honors, 130 passed in first grade, and 394 in second grade; total percentage of passes 71·3. Second year's students (153 entries), 24 obtained honors, 35 passed in the first grade, 70 in second grade; total percentage of passes, 84·3. Third years' students (9 entries), 7 obtained honors, and 2 passed in first grade; percentage of passes, 100. The revision, in England, of the papers of students who attended the technological examinations showed that of 51 of the Board's students 34 passed, 2 obtaining first class honors, and 5 second class honors; 9 first class certificates in ordinary

ordinary grade, and 18 second class. At the South Kensington examinations the work of students obtained 14 prizes, namely, 9 in architectural drawing, 2 in design, 1 in mechanical drawing, and 2 in modelling.

The classes in mining, conducted at the Sydney Technical College, are reported by the Board to afford all the instruction required for a complete mining course, similar to that given at the Royal School of Mines, London. In addition, twenty-six lectures were given in country districts by the instructor in this subject. The classes in agriculture have been more largely attended than in any previous year, and the instructor speaks highly of the interest shown by the students. Thirty-eight lectures in country districts, and twenty-nine in the Technical Hall, were delivered by the instructor, in addition to conducting the classes. Analyses of grazing, farm, and garden soils have been made, and the information has been published in pamphlet form for the benefit of farmers and others.

The work of imparting manual training has obtained considerable development, especially in architecture, engineering, and art. The workshops in Kent-street contain a valuable plant for the above purpose, comprising machinery, science apparatus, statuary and models for the school of design, &c. Plaster models for drawing from the round have been sold to private teachers at cost price, and supplied to the Department of Public Instruction for use in schools.

A collection of the work of students was shown in a separate court at the Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition, and received a special prize and special mention.

181 popular science lectures were delivered in Sydney, attended by 43,308 persons, or an average of 239 per lecture. The teaching staff under the Board consisted of 67 persons, and the number of examiners engaged was 41. The Board held 35 meetings, with an average attendance of 5 members, 16 meetings of the Organizing Committee, and 12 meetings of the Finance Committee.

The Treasury advances to the Board, from the Parliamentary vote, amounted to £16,997 3s. 2d. The whole of this has been expended as follows:—Allowances to instructors and teachers, £7,354 10s. 9d. (exclusive of £2,381 19s., paid to them as fees for students); administration, salaries, £2,783 13s. 8d.; Sunday duty, £60 10s.; petty-cash, £92 18s. 11d.; rent, £3,336 1s. 2d.; apparatus, £651 11s. 6d.; printing, £193 4s. 6d.; advertising, £421 17s. 5d.; library, £37 18s. 7d.; fittings, £414 1s. 10d.; lectures, £529 17s. 3d.; prizes, £158 16s. 8d.; lighting, £390 5s.; stationery, £36 19s. 9d.; general expenses, £534 16s. 2d.

THE SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

The total number of pupils enrolled at this school during 1888 was 514, of whom 183 were under 14 years of age, and 331 over that age. The mean quarterly enrolment was 426, and the average daily attendance 405. 165 new pupils were admitted: 86 of these were under 14 years, and 79 were over that age. The University examinations were attended by 64 scholars, of whom 51 were successful as follows:—Junior Public (37 candidates), 30 passed; Senior Public (9 candidates), 7 passed; Matriculation (18 candidates), 14 passed. The total income for 1888 amounted to £10,594 7s. 9d., being as follows:—Balance from 1887, £1,261 5s. 9d.; State grants, £3,233 5s. 10d.; school fees and other sources, £6,099 16s. 2d. The total expenditure for the year was £9,794 0s. 11d. Compared with 1887 the enrolment has increased by 64, and the average attendance by 4; while the number of new pupils admitted was less by 18. The number of successful pupils at the University examinations has decreased by 11. Of the new pupils, 52 per cent. were under 14 years of age, as compared with 54 per cent. in 1887, and 60 per cent. in 1886. Calculated on the total expenditure the cost per pupil in average attendance was £24 3s. 7d., and the expense to the State was £7 19s. 8d. per head. For the previous year the figures were £26 3s. 4d., and £5 19s. 8d. respectively.

THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The total number of volumes in the Library at the end of the year was 82,343, being an increase of 6,381 over the number for 1887. The number of visitors to the Reading Room was 84,922, and the number of visits to the Lending Branch by persons borrowing books was 64,503. The total number of visits was therefore 149,425. The persons employed in the Institution numbered 22, being the same as for last year. The expenditure was as given below:—

	£	s.	d.
On buildings, repairs, &c. (from Public Works votes) ...	7,576	14	9
„ Books	2,086	2	2
„ Salaries and maintenance ...	4,856	7	0
Total	£14,519	3	11

THE AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM.

The number of visitors to this Museum in 1888 was 128,365, being on week-days 89,028, and on Sundays 39,337. The number of employés was 22, the same as for 1887. The expenditure was as under:—

	£	s.	d.
For Maintenance	739	5	6
„ Specimens, &c.	1,228	5	4
„ Books	463	9	11
„ Salaries	4,273	11	8
Total	£6,704	12	5

THE

THE TECHNOLOGICAL MUSEUM.

38,614 visits were paid to the Institution during the year. 11 persons were employed therein, 7 being permanent and 4 temporary. The expenditure amounted to £3,874 16s. 6d., as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
For Maintenance	1,541	10	8
„ Specimens, models, &c. ...	1,296	18	1
„ Salaries	1,036	7	9
Total	*£3,874	16	6

* (Including £474 16s. 6d., incurred in 1887.)

THE NATIONAL ART GALLERY.

This Institution was visited on week-days by 112,092 persons, and on Sundays by 82,958; making a total of 195,050 visits. This shows an increase of 17,708 on the visits in 1887. 5 persons were employed on the permanent staff. The total expenditure is shown below:—

	£	s.	d.
For Buildings	Nil.		
„ Works of art, &c.	4,060	6	9
„ Maintenance	186	16	1
„ Salaries	924	6	0
Total	£5,171	8	10

NEW SOUTH WALES INSTITUTION FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB AND THE BLIND.

The number of inmates in 1888 was 86, being 54 under 14 years of age and 32 over it. This is one inmate less than for 1887. The new admissions during the year were 14, 11 being under and 3 over the age of 14 years. The number discharged was 13, of whom 5 were under and 8 over the age already stated. The income of the Institution was, from State Grant, £450; from all other sources, £7,335 8s. 9d.; total income being £7,785 8s. 9d. The expenditure for the year was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
For buildings	1,289	5	0
For maintenance, &c.	2,312	19	8
For salaries... ..	1,810	4	8
	£5,412	9	4

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, PARRAMATTA.

The number of girls enrolled at this Institution for the year was 145, showing a decrease of 16 on the previous year's number. Of these inmates 42 were below the age of 14 and 103 were over it. There were 55 new admissions, of whom 22 had not reached 14 years, while 33 were beyond that age. Those discharged for apprenticeship, &c., numbered 52, 11 being under 14 and 41 over it. The total expense of the Institution was rather less than for 1887, being £2,667 11s. 8d. as against £2,900 16s. 6d. for the year named.

The

The Superintendent reports as follows :—

The working of the Institution during the year has been satisfactory, and good progress in the domestic departments has been made by the inmates, who gained several medals and certificates for needle and domestic work at the late Exhibition of Women's Industries. I have had good accounts of almost all the apprentices at service, who now number 76. There is still a great demand for the services of these girls—several families have had a succession of them, as many as four and five having served their term in one house. This shows that the conduct of the girls at service depends materially upon the character of the employers to whom they are bound. Upon regaining their freedom and returning to their parents I grieve to say that many of these unfortunate girls are again led astray by the bad example and influence of their relatives. Notwithstanding these failures I believe the greater number turn out well. Many marry, and all have a good knowledge of domestic work and enough schooling for ordinary purposes. The health and conduct of the girls have been good. Only one died. This was a half-caste girl, who died of rapid consumption. The daily average for the year was 94. The cost per head was £28 6s. 6d. The contributions from parents were much below the average, being only £7 10s.

THE NAUTICAL SCHOOL-SHIP "VERNON."

The total number of boys enrolled in 1888 was 404, of whom 199 were under 14 years of age, and 205 exceeded that age. The new admissions numbered 201, 89 being under and 112 over 14 years. The number discharged for apprenticeship was 195, of whom 76 were under and 119 were over the age stated. The total cost of the Institution for the year was £5,500.

The Superintendent reports as follows :—

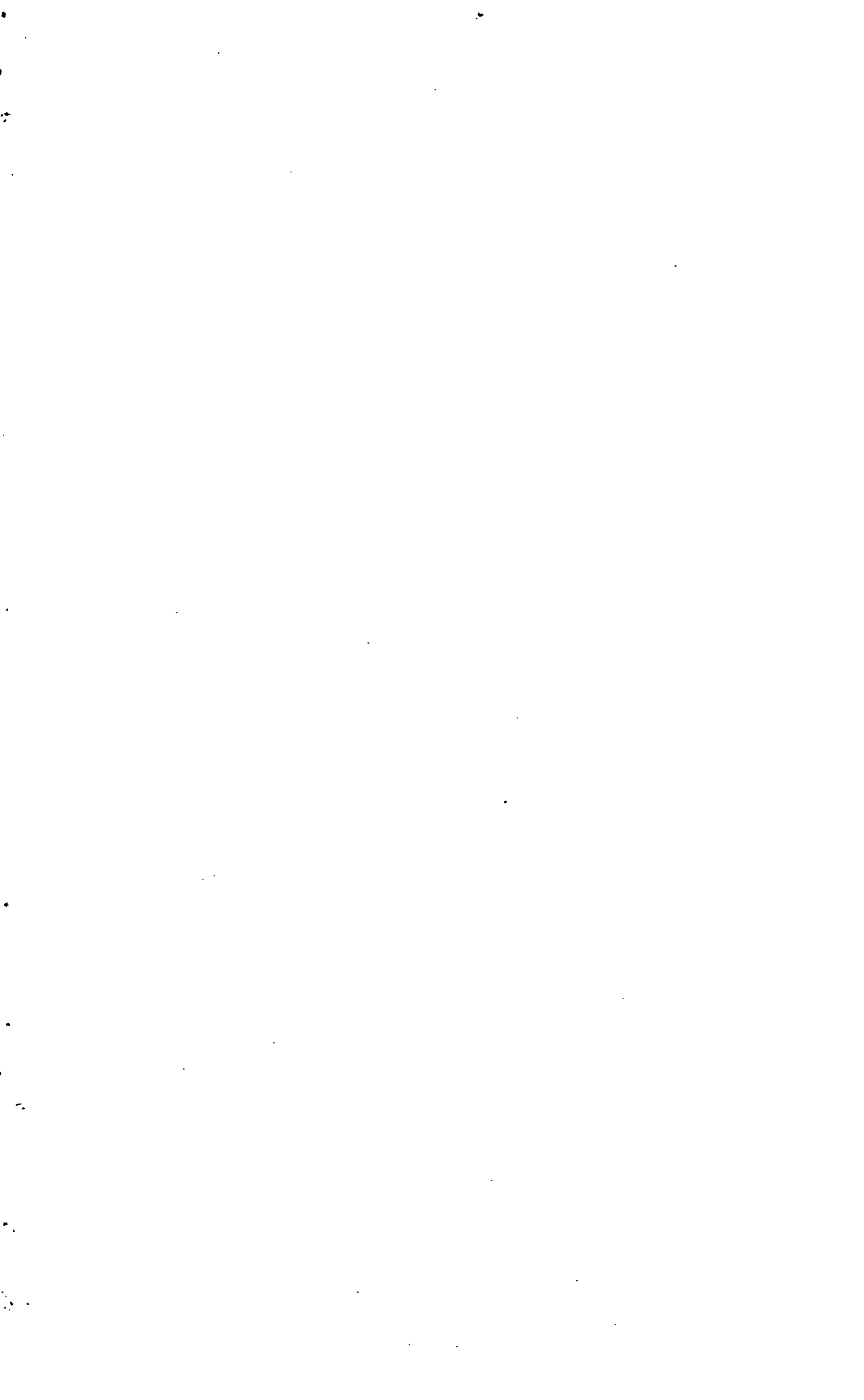
The institution has worked well during the year, although it has been overcrowded during most of the time. Sickness has been entirely confined to new comers, some of whom were sent on board in an advanced state of disease, and required hospital treatment. No deaths occurred. In addition to the boys on the ship, nearly 500 apprentices were under my charge, and over 90 per cent. of these received good characters. The ship now enters upon its fiftieth year, and is in a very bad condition; she gets worse as time goes on. The admissions were more numerous than in any former year.

J. H. CARRUTHERS,

Minister of Public Instruction.

Department of Public Instruction,

Sydney, 18th April, 1889.



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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APPENDIX I.

APPLICATIONS for the establishment of Public Schools, received during the year 1888

Name of Place	Distance of nearest School.	Number of Children Residing in the Locality								Number of Children promised to attend								Number of Parents or Guardians undertaking to send Children								Minister's Decision	
		Boys	Girls	Total	C E	R C	Pres	Wes.	Ois	Boys	Girls	Total	C E	R C	Pres	Wes	Ois	C E	R C	Pres	Wes	Ois	Total				
Acaia Dam	8			31						20	18	38													Information not given.	Under consideration.	
Alma	2	43	39	82	31	18	5	9	19	41	39	82	31	18	5	9	19	17	13	3	5	4	42	42	Granted, 28th December, 1888		
Armidale West	1			70								170													Granted, 17th December, 1888		
Australa-street, Newtown	1 1/2			300																					Granted, 29th December, 1888.		
Balgownie	1 1/2	73	91	164	85	29	7	20	23	74	91	165	86	29	7	20	23	20	10	4	6	8	57	57	Granted, 2nd May, 1888.		
Bellambi	2 1/2	70	60	130	11	14	60	20	25	18	25	44	6	7	5	4	22	2	3	1	1	6	13	13	Declined for the present, 13th July, 1888.		
Blakebrook	5	25	29	54	33	12	9			26	24	50	33	12	5			11	3	1			15	15	Declined, 5th May, 1888.		
Burradoo	2 1/2	28	14	42	38	4				24	11	35	30	1				4	12	1			14	14	Under consideration.		
Cordillera	2	31	39	70	40	18	10	2		31	39	70	40	18	10	2		14	6	5	2		27	27	Granted, 10th August, 1888.		
Corrimal	2 1/2	39	25	64	33	5	16	6	4	39	25	64	33	5	16	6	4	9	2	4	1	3	19	19	Granted, 31st December, 1888.		
Dobroyde	1																								Declined, 11th April, 1888		
Eaglehawk	5	30	20	50	42			8		21	23	47	40					7				2	16	16	Granted, 19th December, 1888.		
Forest, The	2 1/2	9	16	25						9	16	25												9	9	Declined, 13th December, 1888.	
George's Plains	3 1/2	11	21	32	21	6		5		11	21	32	21	6		5		6	3			1	10	10	Granted, 25th July, 1888.		
Granville South	1 1/2	19	29	48	15	5	6		22	19	29	48	15	5	6		22	7	2	2		7	18	18	Granted, 19th December, 1888.		
Greenhill	2			52								52													Granted, 1st September, 1888.		
Hillcrest	4 1/2	11	13	24	12	6	3	3		11	13	24	12	6	3	3		3	3	4	2	1	1	8	8	Declined, and offered to Provisional School, 12th March, 1888	
Horsby Junction	3			150								150													Granted, 19th October, 1888.		
Hoxton Park	4	19	13	32	8	6	11	7		29	17	46	10	14	15	7		5	6	5	2		18	18	Granted, 28th May, 1888.		
Llandilo	3 1/2	14	7	21	21					14	7	21	21					9					9	9	Declined for the present, 18th May, 1888.		
Major's Plains				45								45													13	13	Granted, 10th December, 1888.
Marsden Park	2 1/2			57								57													22	22	Granted, 3rd November, 1888.
Merewether	1			350																						Under consideration.	
Michelago Railway Station	1 1/2			59								59													25	25	Declined, 13th April, 1888.
Middle Falbrook	2 1/2	15	25	40	3	14	10	13		15	25	40	3	14	10	13		1	4	2	3		10	10	Granted, 4th October, 1888.		
Mill Hill	1			169	88	11	28	24	18			174	92	11	28	25	18	38	5	11	11	6	71	71	Under consideration.		
Mortdale	2	24	27	51	23	3	2	23		19	24	45	21	3	2	18	1	8	1	1	9	1	20	20	Granted, 26th March, 1888.		
Mount Costigan	4	16	14	30	27	3	3			16	14	30	27	3	3			11		1			12	12	Granted, 21st February, 1888		
Narara	2 1/2	27	20	47	32	3	3	9		27	20	47	32	3	3	9		10	1	2	3		16	16	Granted, 17th December, 1888.		
Peabody	3	15	16	31						16	14	30	19	11				5	4				9	9	Declined, and offered to Provisional School, 11th December, 1888		
Perry's Swamp	3	21	7	28	14	14				9	4	13	3	10				1	3				4	4	Declined, 10th October, 1888.		
Port Macquarie Road	2 1/2	29	19	48	12	14	2	15		10	12	22	5	8				1	3			4	8	8	Under consideration.		
Pott's Hill	4																									Declined, 4th September, 1888	
Redbank	4	12	12	24	10	14				13	13	26	10	16				3	6				9	9	Declined, Ironbong Public School to be removed to a central site for both places, 19th November, 1888.		
Red Rock	9	15	22	37	18	17	2			14	20	34	15	17	2			7	9	1			17	17	Granted, 9th June, 1888.		
Robbinsville	1	53	63	116	22	4		27	63	53	63	116	22	4		27	63	7	1		8	24	40	40	Granted, 4th July, 1888.		
Rockdale	1 1/2																									Granted, 26th February, 1888.	
Rossville	2	22	19	41	11	8	17	5		22	19	41	11	8	17	5		3	5	4	1		13	13	Under consideration.		
Sandhurst	3 1/2	22	12	34	29	5				21	12	33	28	5				8	1				9	9	Granted, 21st August, 1888		
Smithtown	2	39	32	71	36	31		4		39	32	71	36	31		4		12	10		1		23	23	Declined for the present, 21st December, 1888.		
Tea Gardens	1	8	20	28	14	14				7	18	25	13	11	1			5	5	1			11	11	Declined, and offered to Provisional School, 25th July, 1888		
Thirlmere	3 1/2	10	21	40	26	10	3	1		19	21	40	26	10	3	1		9	4	1	1		15	15	Granted, 23rd May, 1888		
Tubbul	4 1/2			40								39												13	13	Granted, 15th October, 1888.	
Tubbul North	4 1/2	14	6	20	14		6			18	8	26	14	3	6	3		4	1	1	1		7	7	Declined, 12th April, 1888.		
Wagonga Heads	6	13	14	27	18	9				13	14	27	18	9				7	4				11	11	Granted, 17th July, 1888.		
Wallsend West	1 1/2	31	24	55	18	11	18	2	6	31	24	55	18	11	18	2	6	7	4	7	1	3	22	22	Granted, 11th September, 1888.		
Woodstock	1 1/2	70	60	130	91	12	12	7	8	35	33	68	50	6	7	4	1	19	3	4	2	1	29	29	Under consideration.		
Wyong	3 1/2	24	16	40	32	5	2		1	24	16	40	32	5	2		1	9	4	1		1	15	15	Granted, 23rd June, 1888.		

APPENDIX II.

APPLICATIONS for the establishment of Provisional Schools, received during the year 1888.

Name of Place	Distance of nearest School.	Number of Children residing in the locality.								Number of Children promised to attend.								Number of Parents or Guardians undertaking to send Children.						Minister's Decision.
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	C.E.	R.C.	Pres.	Wes.	Ors.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	C.E.	R.C.	Pres.	Wes.	Ors.	C.E.	R.C.	Pres.	Wes.	Ors.	Total.	
Arthurville.....	6½	5	6	11	2	9	...	...	...	7	8	15	4	11	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	5	Aid granted, 2nd August, 1888.
Awaba.....	4	10	12	22	14	8	...	...	...	11	17	28	18	7	...	...	...	3	5	2	...	...	1	8 Aid granted, 17th January, 1888.
Balmoral.....	4¼	12	8	20	10	3	4	...	3	12	8	20	10	3	4	...	3	4	1	1	...	2	8 Declined; aid offered to Half-Time School, to be worked with Hill Top, 30th July, 1888.	
Barbagal.....	4½	7	8	15	...	15	...	...	...	7	8	15	...	15	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3	8 Declined; House-to-house teacher offered, to be worked with Piney Range, 29th October, 1888.
Barrengarry North.....	5	9	7	16	10	...	3	3	...	9	7	16	10	...	3	3	...	3	...	2	1	...	6	Declined, 17th September, 1888.
Belairingah.....	7	11	9	20	10	10	...	...	...	11	9	20	10	10	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	4	Aid granted, 23rd July, 1888.
Bellenger Heads.....	2¼	13	17	30	8	12	5	5	...	13	17	30	8	12	5	5	...	3	4	3	1	...	11	Public School granted, 10 December, 1888.
Belmore River (Upper).....	5	8	15	23	3	16	4	...	...	8	15	23	3	16	4	...	...	1	5	1	...	...	7	Aid granted, 22nd November, 1888.
Bendolba (Lower).....	2	21	14	35	5	14	16	...	...	21	14	35	5	14	16	...	...	1	3	5	...	...	9	Under consideration.
Bimbijong.....	4	4	12	16	12	...	4	...	...	4	12	16	12	...	4	...	...	5	...	1	...	...	6	Declined; aid offered to Half-Time School, to be worked with Mile Creek, 23rd July, 1888.
Blairmore.....	12	4	7	11	4	...	7	...	...	6	8	14	4	...	10	...	...	1	...	3	...	...	4	Declined, 17th September, 1888.
Boambolo.....	5½	16	11	27	17	10	...	...	...	16	11	27	17	10	...	...	...	6	4	...	...	...	10	Aid granted, 9th July, 1888.
Bubundarah.....	9	8	4	12	7	5	...	...	...	10	9	19	8	11	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	4	Under consideration.
Boggy Plain.....	6	9	5	14	6	8	...	...	...	9	5	14	6	8	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	...	5	Declined; House-to-house teacher offered, 4th September, 1888.
Boginderra.....	7	8	12	20	6	9	...	...	5	8	12	20	6	9	...	...	5	1	2	...	...	1	4	Aid granted, 21st March, 1888.
Boomerang Creek.....	5	4	12	16	6	2	4	1	3	4	12	16	6	2	4	1	3	4	1	2	1	1	9	Declined, 11th April, 1888.
Breakfast Creek.....	9	8	8	16	5	11	...	...	...	11	10	21	5	16	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	...	5	Declined; House-to-house teacher offered, 14th February, 1888.
Broken Dam.....	10	6	3	9	5	1	...	3	...	7	5	12	8	1	...	3	...	3	1	...	1	...	5	Declined; aid offered to Half-Time School, to be worked with Merool Creek, 23rd October, 1888.
Broula.....	6	9	9	18	5	9	4	...	...	9	9	18	5	9	4	...	...	2	4	1	...	...	7	Aid granted, 10th April, 1888.
Buccarumbi.....	13	10	6	16	5	1	10	...	...	10	6	16	5	1	10	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	4	Aid granted, 10th September, 1888.
Buckhobble.....	4½	14	11	25	14	4	...	7	...	14	11	25	14	4	...	7	...	7	5	2	...	2	9	Aid granted, 12th November, 1888.
Bullawa Creek.....	5	11	9	20	17	3	...	...	...	11	9	20	17	3	...	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	6	Declined for the present, 25th May, 1888.
Bunyip.....	5	4	6	10	...	10	...	...	...	5	7	12	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	3	Declined; House-to-house teacher offered, 17th September, 1888.
Burrumbuttock East.....	5	6	8	14	...	3	2	...	9	9	8	17	...	3	2	...	12	...	1	1	...	6	8	Aid granted, 3rd August, 1888.
Carinda.....	50	4	9	13	7	6	...	...	...	4	9	13	7	6	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2	Declined; House-to-house teacher offered, 27th November, 1888.
Cattle Creek.....	8	10	8	18	5	13	...	...	...	10	8	18	5	13	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	4	Declined; aid offered to Half-Time School, to be worked with Cooba Bulga, 26th November, 1888.
Caulderwood.....	6	2	6	8	5	3	...	...	...	6	9	15	8	7	...	...	...	4	3	...	...	...	7	Declined; House-to-house teacher offered, 6th September, 1888.
Cook's Creek.....	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	Declined, 4th September, 1888.
Coolootai Station.....	25	7	7	14	11	3	...	...	...	7	7	14	11	3	...	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	6	Declined; House-to-house teacher offered, to be worked with Wallangra, 2nd October, 1888.
Cooper's Creek.....	4	17	13	30	11	2	11	1	5	17	14	31	12	2	11	1	5	3	1	7	1	2	14	Aid granted, 17th September, 1888.
Corindah.....	5½	6	13	19	19	...	...	...	...	6	13	19	19	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	5	Under consideration.
Crackemback.....	4	7	10	17	1	16	...	...	...	8	10	18	2	16	...	...	...	2	5	...	...	...	7	Aid granted, 18th April, 1888.

APPENDIX II—continued.

Name of Place.	Distance of nearest School.	Number of Children Residing in the Locality.								Number of Children promised to attend.							Number of Parents or Guardians undertaking to send Children						Minister's Decision.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	C.E.	R.C.	Pics.	Wes.	O.s.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	C.E.	R.C.	Pics.	Wes.	O.s.	C.E.	R.C.	Pres.	Wes.	O.s.		Total.	
	miles.																								
Cudgen Wharf	2	6	10	16	1	8	7	...	...	6	10	16	1	8	7	...	...	1	2	2	...	...	5	Declined, 22nd May, 1888.
Cuthero Station	40	13	11	24	10	5	4	2	3	13	11	24	10	5	4	2	3	2	3	2	1	1	9	Aid granted, 27th March, 1888	
Dalgetty	2	17	18	35	15	18	2	...	...	17	18	35	15	18	2	...	...	4	4	1	...	...	9	Public School granted, 17th December, 1883.
Deep Lead	4½	15	15	30	25	5	...	...	...	13	17	30	25	5	...	...	11	3	...	...	...	...	14	Aid granted, 29th February, 1888.
Dumaresq Creek	3½	12	12	24	5	5	14	...	...	12	12	24	5	5	14	...	...	3	3	4	...	...	10	Aid granted on trial for 6 months, 21st July, 1888.
Ellerslie	4½	12	7	19	2	17	...	...	...	12	7	19	2	17	...	...	1	7	...	...	...	...	8	Under consideration.
Euabalong	18	16	12	28	...	...	...	...	...	9	6	15	9	...	6	...	2	2	...	4	...	...	6	Aid granted, 26th September, 1888.
Eumowie ...	30	14	20	34	7	14	2	10	1	14	20	34	7	14	2	10	1	4	6	1	5	1	17	Aid granted, 27th June, 1888.	
Firefly Creek (Upper) ...	4½	8	7	15	9	4	...	...	2	8	7	15	9	4	...	2	2	2	...	...	...	1	5	Under consideration.
Glen Hill	3½	9	8	17	11	6	...	...	...	9	8	17	11	6	...	...	4	2	...	...	...	...	6	Declined; aid offered to Half-Time School, to be worked with Lakelands, 8th March, 1888.
Glen Lee ..	4	8	6	14	8	6	...	...	...	9	7	16	8	8	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	3	Declined, 30th July, 1888.
Gloucester	8	6	12	18	18	...	...	...	...	7	13	20	20	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	8	Aid granted, 10th January, 1888.
Gobbagumbalm ..	6	11	9	20	13	2	5	...	...	11	9	20	13	2	5	...	...	3	1	1	...	...	5	Aid granted, 17th July, 1888.
Gosper's Downs ..	4	13	12	25	25	...	...	...	...	13	12	25	25	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	7	Aid granted, 30th July, 1888.
Gwynne ..	6	9	9	18	15	1	2	...	...	7	10	17	17	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	6	Aid granted, 10th April, 1888.
Hanging Rock ..	4½	8	7	15	15	...	...	...	...	8	7	15	15	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	5	Declined, 30th August, 1888.
Hanover	4½	9	13	22	...	15	...	7	...	9	13	22	...	15	...	7	...	5	...	2	...	...	7	Under consideration.
Hawarden	5	12	11	23	8	15	...	...	...	12	11	23	8	15	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	8	Declined; aid offered to Half-Time School, to be worked with Keepit, 1st May, 1888.
Jillyby Jillyby ..	4	22	22	22	22	5	Aid granted, 11th August, 1888.
Jubilee Downs ..	12	9	6	15	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	Aid granted, 6th January, 1888.
Junction Point ..	9	16	12	28	10	7	11	...	...	16	12	28	10	7	11	...	...	3	2	3	...	...	8	Aid granted, 10th August 1888.
Junction Reefs ..	...	15	10	25	4	17	4	...	...	15	10	25	4	17	4	...	...	2	4	1	...	...	7	Declined, 26th September, 1883.
Kadina ..	18	9	11	20	...	5	3	12	...	11	13	24	4	6	3	11	...	1	1	1	4	...	7	Existing House-to-house School to be converted into Half-Time, 26th November, 1888.	
Karuah River ..	6	3	10	13	5	...	5	3	...	3	10	13	5	...	5	3	...	1	...	1	1	...	3	Aid granted conditional y, 13th June, 1888.	
Kavendale	10	7	11	18	8	10	...	...	...	7	11	18	8	10	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	5	Declined, 17th March, 1883.
Killabakh	4	7	9	16	10	2	1	3	...	7	9	16	10	2	1	3	...	4	...	1	1	...	6	Declined, House-to-house teacher offered, 17th September, 1888.	
Kolkiertoo	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	8	17	14	3	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	4	Under consideration.
Kulki	5	15	11	26	7	7	10	...	2	15	11	26	7	7	10	...	2	2	4	2	1	...	9	Aid granted 11th December, 1888.	
Lansdowne (Upper) ..	...	7	12	19	1	9	...	6	3	7	12	19	1	9	...	6	3	1	4	...	...	...	8	Declined, 13th October, 1888.
Lawson ..	5	6	12	18	6	3	...	...	9	6	12	18	6	3	...	9	...	4	2	...	...	...	12	Aid granted, 31st May, 1888
Mickie's Plains	6	11	8	19	19	...	...	...	...	11	8	19	19	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	7	Aid granted, 22nd October, 1883.
Milong Run	2½	12	6	18	8	10	...	2	...	12	6	18	8	10	...	2	...	2	2	...	...	...	4	Declined, 12th April, 1888.
Mona Vale	3	14	12	26	24	...	...	...	...	14	12	26	24	...	2	...	...	6	...	...	1	...	7	Aid granted, 10th March, 1888
Mount Billygoe	20	7	12	19	13	6	...	...	...	7	12	19	13	6	...	...	6	2	...	...	...	...	8	Aid granted, 3rd December, 1888.
Munmura (Lower)	5	6	8	14	12	2	...	...	...	6	8	14	12	2	...	...	4	2	...	...	...	...	6	Declined; House-to-house teacher offered, 3rd February, 1888.
Narrallen	5	5	8	13	...	...	...	...	...	5	8	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	Declined; House-to-house teacher offered, 14th August, 1883.
Narrabeen Lake	5½	7	12	19	11	8	...	...	...	9	13	22	14	8	...	...	5	4	...	...	...	...	9	Under consideration.
Nowley	20	11	7	18	6	9	3	...	...	11	7	18	6	9	3	...	...	3	2	1	...	...	6	Aid granted, 17th August, 1883.
Overton	7	3	3	6	6	...	...	...	...	11	11	22	16	3	3	...	...	5	1	1	...	...	7	Aid granted, 19th June, 1888.
Phil's Creek	6	11	6	17	...	17	...	...	...	9	6	15	...	15	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	4	Declined; House-to-house teacher offered, 12th May, 1888.

APPENDIX II—continued.

Name of Place.	Distance of nearest School.	Number of Children Residing in the Locality.								Number of Children promised to attend.							Number of Parents or Guardians undertaking to send Children.						Minister's Decision.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	C.E.	R.C.	Pres.	Wes.	Ors.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	C.E.	R.C.	Pres.	Wes.	Ors.	C.E.	R.C.	Pres.	Wes.	Ors.		Total.	
Pleasant View	miles. 4	8	11	19	8	11	...	...	...	8	11	19	8	11	...	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	6	Declined; aid offered to Half-Time School, to be worked with Moonbah, 22nd November, 1888.
Purnamoota	20	11	12	23	17	...	...	...	6	11	12	23	17	...	...	...	6	7	...	...	...	3	10 Under consideration.	
Reinville	5	8	9	17	9	8	...	...	...	8	9	17	9	8	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	5	Aid granted, 25th May, 1888.
Riley	5	13	8	21	4	8	9	...	...	13	8	21	4	8	9	...	...	1	2	3	...	...	6	Aid granted, 23rd March, 1888.
Rosewood	16	12	5	17	9	8	...	...	...	12	5	17	9	8	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	5	Under consideration.
Round Waterhole	6	15	15	30	17	13	...	...	...	15	15	30	17	13	...	...	...	6	4	...	...	...	10	Aid granted, 6th September, 1888.
Stony Crossing	30	10	4	14	8	3	1	2	...	19	5	24	8	3	3	6	4	4	1	2	2	1	10	Under consideration.	
Stony Pinch	4½	8	10	18	8	10	...	...	...	8	11	19	8	11	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	5	Under consideration.
Telegraph Point	7	10	10	20	10	...	10	...	...	10	10	20	10	...	10	...	...	4	...	3	...	...	7	Aid granted, 18th April, 1888.
Ten Mile Ridges	17	8	9	17	5	...	2	9	1	8	9	17	5	...	2	9	1	3	...	1	2	1	7	Existing House-to-house School to be converted into Half-Time, 26th November, 1888.	
Terrible Vale	4	2	11	13	5	5	3	...	...	2	11	13	5	5	3	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	4	Declined, 5th July, 1888.
Thornleigh	3	21	18	39	19	13	...	7	...	21	18	39	19	13	...	7	...	5	5	...	3	...	13	Declined for the present, 17th September, 1888.	
Thubergal Lake	6	11	5	16	2	14	...	...	...	15	11	26	2	24	...	...	...	1	7	...	...	...	8	Aid granted, 30 June, 1888.
Tong Bong	6	11	8	19	9	2	3	5	...	11	8	19	9	2	3	5	...	3	1	1	1	...	6	Aid granted, 22nd August, 1888.	
Tooyal	4½	11	4	15	14	1	...	...	...	11	4	15	14	1	...	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	6	Under consideration.
Tori	20	8	4	12	5	...	7	...	...	8	4	12	5	...	7	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	3	Declined; House-to-house teacher offered, 23rd March, 1888.
Toual	5	7	5	12	5	...	7	...	...	8	7	15	8	...	7	...	...	3	...	...	2	...	5	Aid granted, 12th April, 1888.
Tuckurimba	3½	20	12	32	10	12	10	...	...	13	8	21	9	10	2	...	...	4	3	1	...	...	8	Declined, 26th November, 1888.
Uley	25	11	6	17	5	6	6	...	...	11	6	17	5	6	6	...	...	1	1	3	...	...	5	Aid granted, 11th December, 1888.
Wallaga Lake (Aboriginal)	2	23	23	Aid granted, 28th September, 1888.
Warrangong	5	11	17	28	5	23	...	...	...	11	16	27	5	22	...	...	...	2	6	...	...	...	8	Aid granted, 17th August, 1888.
Warrell Creek	13	10	13	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	18	2	...	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	6	Aid granted, 22nd October, 1888.
Wattleville	4	6	11	17	8	...	9	...	...	6	11	17	8	...	9	...	...	2	...	...	4	...	6	Aid granted, 30th August, 1888.
Webb's Creek	2½	7	10	17	13	2	...	2	...	7	10	17	13	2	...	2	...	6	2	...	1	...	9	Declined; aid offered to Half-Time School, to be worked with Lower M'Donald, 10th December, 1888.	
Wecan	4½	10	7	17	3	13	1	...	...	10	7	17	3	13	1	...	...	1	4	1	...	...	6	Declined; aid offered to Half-Time School, to be worked with Swanbrook, 19th April, 1888.
Wee Jasper	8½	5	6	11	7	...	4	...	...	8	11	19	10	6	3	...	...	3	3	1	...	...	7	Aid granted, 19th November, 1888.
Weetangerra	5	4	15	19	11	...	1	7	...	4	15	19	11	...	1	7	...	3	...	1	2	...	6	Aid granted, 28th November, 1888.	
White's Point	6½	15	8	23	...	23	...	...	...	15	9	24	...	24	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	5	Aid granted, 8th March, 1888.
Wilga	7	7	8	15	6	9	...	...	...	7	8	15	6	9	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	3	Declined; House-to-house Teacher offered, 3rd December, 1888.
Winchendon Vale	4½	13	7	20	12	8	...	...	...	13	7	20	12	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	Aid granted, 11th December, 1888.
Wollun	8	5	12	17	13	4	...	...	...	5	12	17	13	4	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	4	Aid granted, 17th September, 1888.
Wong Wauk	7	7	7	14	14	...	...	...	...	7	7	14	14	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	5	Declined; House-to-house teacher offered, 25th May, 1888.
Woodfield	4½	13	6	19	3	4	...	12	...	13	6	19	3	4	...	12	...	2	1	...	3	...	6	Aid granted, 27th June, 1888.	
Wooram	6	8	11	19	6	10	3	...	...	8	11	19	6	10	3	...	...	2	4	1	...	...	7	Aid granted, 3rd December, 1888.
Wooroooolgan	6	5	13	18	6	4	...	8	...	8	14	22	8	4	2	8	...	3	1	1	3	...	8	Aid granted, 25th April, 1888.	
Yarrawah	4	12	13	25	13	10	2	...	...	12	13	25	13	10	2	...	...	4	2	1	...	...	7	Aid granted, 19th June, 1888.
Yellow Water Holes	5	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	Aid granted, 6th September, 1888.

APPENDIX III.

APPLICATIONS for the establishment of Half-Time Schools, received during the year 1888.

Name of Place	Distance of nearest School	Number of Children Residing in the Locality								Number of Children promised to attend.								Number of Parents or Guardians undertaking to send Children						Minister's Decision.
		Boys	Girls	Total	C E	R C	Pres	Wes	Ors	Boys	Girls	Total	C E	R C	Pres	Wes	Ors	C E	R C	Pres	Wes	Ors	Total	
Benandarah and Durras Lake }	8	10	9	19	15	4				10	9	19	15	4				7	3	..	..	..	10	Existing House-to-house Schools converted into Half-Time, 10th April, 1888.
Cooba Bulga	7	6	10	16	4	4	8	..		6	10	16	4	4	8	..		2	1	1	4		Aid granted; to be worked with Cattle Creek, 26th November, 1888.
Cubbo and Cuttabi	30	8	4	12	6	6				8	4	12	6	6				1	1				2	Declined; House-to-house teacher to be appointed, 31st May, 1888.
Cullendalla	3	6	9	15	15	..				6	9	15	15	.				3					3		Aid granted; to be worked with Reedy Creek, 10th April, 1888.
Dippo Springs and Myall Camp }	7	6	5	11	9	2		..		7	5	12	10	2	..	..		2	1	..			3	Declined; House-to-house teacher to be appointed, 1st November, 1888.
Dwyer's Homestead	11	2	9	11	6	5		2	9	11	6	5		1	1	2		Aid granted; to be worked with Bluff River, 9th January, 1888.
Eraba and Kunopia }	5	7	7	14	2	12				7	3	10	1	9				1	4	..	..		5	Declined; House-to-house teacher to be appointed, 2nd October, 1888.
Eualdrac and Torwood }	5	8	13				5	8	13								3		Aid granted, 25th May, 1888.
Fashion's Mount .. . . . . .	.....	9	2	11			..	..		9	2	11				..	..						6	Aid granted, 25th May, 1888.
Fell Timber and Porter's Retreat }	7	9	5	14	5	4	5	9	5	14	5	4	5	1	1	1	3		Aid granted; to be worked with Burrendong, 3rd February, 1888.
Gunnary Creek	4	4	7	11	5	5	6	..	..	4	7	11	5	5	6	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	4	Aid granted; to be worked with Digger's Flat, 25th October, 1888.
Humula South and Mount Blanc }	8	4	9	13		9	4	4	9	13	..	9	4	4	1	..			5		Aid granted, 25th September, 1888.
Innescliff and Williamswood }	8	4	7	11		9	2	..	..	4	7	11	..	9	2	..	..	4	1	..			5	Aid granted; to be worked with Digger's Flat, 25th October, 1888.
Mangrove Central and Mangrove (Upper) }	6	6	8	14	8	6	6	8	14	8	6		2	2				4		Aid granted, 6th July, 1888.
Mile Creek	4	3	9	12	4	..	8	..	..	3	9	12	4		8	..		1		2	..	..	3	Aid granted, 6th August, 1888.
Mundaroo	8	12	7	19	12	7	12	7	19	12	7		5	2		7		Declined; House-to-house teacher to be appointed, 27th November, 1888.
Nandowra and Sandy Creek }	4	10	6	16	11	..	5	..	..	10	8	18	12	..	6	..		3	..	..	1	..	4	Aid granted; to be worked with Bimbijong, 23rd July, 1888.
New Country Flats	4	5	4	9			5	5	10	10		3	3		Aid granted; to be worked with Carrick, 30th August, 1888.
Swan Bay	8	5	8	13	18	6	..	..	..	5	8	13	18	6	..	..		7	2				9	Declined; House-to-house teacher to be appointed, 7th May, 1888.
Werriwa	5½	15				6	5	11	
Wollomombi	7	12	4	16	13	2		1		12	4	16	13	2	..	1		4	1		1		6	Declined; House-to-house teacher to be appointed, 27th December, 1888.
	6	6	4	10	10			7	5	12	12		5	..		3			3		Aid granted; to be worked with Chandler, 23rd July, 1888.
	7	5	2	7	2		5	..	..	6	3	9	4		..	..		2	..	1			3	Aid granted; to be worked with Chandler, 23rd July, 1888.
	7	7	6	13						7	6	13	6		Aid granted; to be worked with Chandler, 23rd July, 1888.
	3	8	5	13	13	..				8	4	12	12	..	..	..		3					3	Aid granted; to be worked with Chandler, 23rd July, 1888.
	3½	6	5	11	6	5	6	5	11	6	5		2	1	..			3		Aid granted; to be worked with Chandler, 23rd July, 1888.
	5	..	..	17	..	..				..	..	17	..	..	..	..		..	..	..			4	Aid granted; to be worked with Chandler, 23rd July, 1888.

APPENDIX IV.

APPLICATIONS for the appointment of Itinerant Teachers received during the year 1888.

Teaching Stations.	Number promised to attend.			Minister's Decision.
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	
Barnes' Creek.....	9	4	13	} Approved ; to be worked with Gibraltar, 23/10/88.
Ben Hall and	5	5	5	
Page's Creek	4	4	8	} Approved, 11/4/88.
Booth's Creek.....	9	5	14	
Brinbrie and	4	1	5	} Approved ; to be worked with Naas, 23/10/88.
Cryon	5	2	7	
Brolgan Tank	1	2	3	} Declined, 25/5/88.
Blow Clear, and.....	6	6	6	
Wilga	4	4	4	} Approved, 29/2/88.
Brungle Camp (Aboriginal)...	3	7	10	
Budgerabong	7	7	14	} Aid granted to Half Time School ; to be worked with Brungle, 30/8/88.
Colly Blue	3	5	8	
Trinke, and.....	6	3	9	} Declined, 25/9/88.
Spring Grove	4	2	6	
Crossing's Creek.....	3	.....	3	} Approved, 9/4/88.
Donald's Creek.....	1	3	4	
Waverley	2	3	5	} Approved, 23/7/88.
Forest, The.....	10	6	16	
Goran Lake.....	4	11	15	} Declined, 19/11/88.
Guineacore.....	10	6	16	
Hanging Rock Creek.....	6	7	13	} Declined, 27/4/88.
Milehomi	6	11	17	
Muscle Creek.....	7	5	12	} Under consideration.
Pandora's Pass and	7	3	10	
Turee Creek.....	3	1	4	} Aid granted to Provisional School, 3/12/88.
Windmill Farm.....	4	5	9	
Yarragren	6	2	8	} Approved, 11/12/88.
				} Approved, 26/11/88.
				} Under consideration.
				} Approved ; to be worked with Kerbin, &c , 27/9/88.

APPENDIX V.

APPLICATIONS for the establishment of Evening Public Schools received during the year 1888.

Name of School.	Period for which attendance is guaranteed.	Number of persons who will attend.			Minister's Decision.
		Males.	Females.	Total.	
Arable.....	6 months ...	16	.....	16	} Under consideration.
Attunga Springs	12 " ...	14	3	17	
Croydon	3 " ...	10	.....	10	} Declined, 6/6/88.
Eugowra.....	6 " ...	11	1	12	
Jindalee	6 " ...	18	.....	18	} Granted, 18/5/88.
Mount Macquarie	3 " ...	15	.....	15	
North Creek	12 " ...	17	.....	17	} Declined, 28/2/88.
Simpson's Ridge	12 " ...	19	.....	19	
Smith-street, Balmain	12 " ...	14	.....	14	} Granted, 6/11/88.
Tenterfield	4 " ...	10	.....	10	
Watson's Bay.....	Not given ...	19	.....	19	} Granted, 4/8/88.
					} Granted, 7/9/88.
					} Granted, 3/11/88.
					} Granted, 17/12/88.
					} Declined, 10/7/88.
					} Under consideration.

APPENDIX VI.

GENERAL ABSTRACT of School Attendance for each Quarter of the year 1888.

	Number of Children on the Rolls.									Average Daily Attendance.			Amount of School Fees paid.	Free Pupils.				
	Boys	Girls	Total	C.E.	R.C.	Pres.	Wcs.	Others.	Total	Boys.	Girls.	Total.		Boys.	Girls.	Total.		
														£	s.	d.		
MARCH QUARTER.																		
High Schools	315	272	587	338	23	77	66	83	587	294.6	253.6	548.2	1,042	16	10	4	.....	4
Public Schools	78,679	72,115	150,794	78,717	22,921	15,954	18,884	14,318	150,794	54,028.3	48,254.1	102,282.4	14,302	6	7	3,302	2,958	6,260
Provisional Schools	3,104	2,915	6,019	2,992	2,912	619	319	47	6,019	2,294.1	2,132.1	4,426.2	536	2	6½	184	140	324
Half-Time Schools	1,430	1,273	2,703	1,470	821	180	1-3	49	2,703	1,051.7	933.7	1,985.4	117	18	1	100	63	163
House-to-house Schools	715	709	1,415	698	5.4	93	71	29	1,415	511.1	493.3	1,004.4	66	17	8	22	17	39
Evening Public Schools	300	3	303	141	65	21	45	25	303	163.7	2.2	165.9	69	7	6	.....	.....	.....
Total	84,543	77,278	161,821	81,359	26,366	16,977	19,563	14,551	161,821	58,343.5	52,069.0	110,412.5	16,135	9	2½	3,612	3,178	6,790
JUNE QUARTER.																		
High Schools	317	291	611	359	22	83	63	84	611	290.3	263.6	553.9	1,101	19	5	5	.....	5
Public Schools	77,355	70,787	148,142	77,135	22,523	15,792	18,733	13,959	148,142	55,462.7	49,673.2	105,135.9	15,116	0	4	3,545	3,178	6,723
Provisional Schools	3,050	2,821	5,871	2,911	1,950	624	316	49	5,871	2,310.6	2,158.2	4,468.8	554	3	8	167	130	297
Half-Time Schools	1,506	1,335	2,841	1,521	878	200	177	65	2,841	1,135.8	1,034.2	2,170.0	141	19	0	112	100	212
House-to-house Schools	721	709	1,421	718	508	105	64	26	1,421	574.9	575.0	1,149.9	75	7	4½	27	19	46
Evening Public Schools	339	4	343	163	80	36	36	23	343	184.8	1.2	186.0	82	18	0	.....	.....	.....
Total	83,288	75,941	159,229	82,837	25,061	16,840	19,389	14,202	159,229	59,959.1	53,710.4	113,669.5	17,072	7	9½	3,856	3,427	7,283
SEPTEMBER QUARTER.																		
High Schools	323	307	630	366	23	81	78	82	630	297.0	276.4	573.4	1,139	7	3	3	.....	3
Public Schools	79,242	72,450	151,692	78,614	23,011	16,047	19,332	14,688	151,692	55,030.7	48,967.6	103,998.3	17,348	15	0	3,546	3,212	6,758
Provisional Schools	3,153	2,929	6,082	3,054	1,993	666	319	50	6,082	2,336.9	2,200.8	4,537.7	643	19	3	168	146	314
Half-Time Schools	1,591	1,464	3,055	1,598	1,009	217	161	70	3,055	1,187.1	1,118.4	2,305.5	173	14	1½	136	126	262
House-to-house Schools	819	772	1,591	833	516	121	80	8	1,591	610.4	635.5	1,275.9	89	10	0½	31	25	56
Evening Public Schools	379	14	393	191	96	36	33	32	393	193.6	8.3	201.9	108	7	0	1	.....	1
Total	85,507	77,936	163,443	81,659	26,678	17,168	20,068	14,930	163,443	59,685.7	53,207.0	112,892.7	19,508	12	8	3,885	3,509	7,394
DECEMBER QUARTER.																		
High Schools	296	284	580	340	23	71	78	63	580	266	256.7	522.7	1,034	11	0	5	.....	5
Public Schools	77,103	70,567	147,670	76,840	21,906	15,702	18,977	14,445	147,670	54,612.5	48,665.4	103,277.9	16,402	11	6	3,632	3,322	6,954
Provisional Schools	3,035	2,849	5,884	2,954	1,917	615	309	59	5,884	2,221.6	2,102.1	4,323.7	600	12	0	144	141	285
Half-Time Schools	1,679	1,528	3,207	1,711	1,335	235	162	64	3,207	1,216.5	1,140.1	2,356.6	165	9	11	153	114	267
House-to-house Schools	830	776	1,606	838	546	131	92	8	1,606	668.3	632.8	1,301.1	91	12	11½	29	16	45
Evening Public Schools	225	2	227	119	63	13	14	18	227	123.2	1.6	124.8	42	11	0	.....	.....	.....
Total	83,177	76,006	159,183	82,602	25,490	16,797	19,632	14,662	159,183	59,108.1	52,798.7	111,906.8	18,337	8	4½	3,963	3,593	7,556

APPENDIX VII.

ATTENDANCE of Children at Public Schools for the Quarter ended 31st December, 1888, or for the last Quarter of that year during which the Schools were in operation.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.								
	Boys	Girls	Total.	Boys	Girls	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.				
							£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Aberdeen	27	30	57	20.2	16.8	37.0	180	0	0	3	3	6			
Aberfoil	15	16	31	10.1	10.1	20.2	96	0	0				3	10	0
Aberglasslyn	29	23	52	19.3	16.7	36.0	156	0	0				30	0	0
Acacia Creek	15	17	32	12.0	12.1	24.1	132	0	0	2	18	6	25	4	0
Adaminaby	39	38	77	28.8	29.0	57.8	180	0	0	3	10	2			
Adamstown	232	288	570	216.2	215.1	431.3	1,247	10	0	21	5	7	30	0	0
Adelong	115	114	229	86.3	78.2	164.5	673	0	0	12	13	6	18	17	6
Adelong Crossing	43	31	74	24.5	16.8	41.3	254	6	0	3	19	9	13	4	6
Adelong (Upper)	17	13	30	12.3	9.6	21.9	153	0	0						
Albion Park	24	15	39	17.1	10.0	27.1	156	0	0	1	15	4	72	10	0
Albion-street	256	210	466	182.5	139.9	322.4	1,270	9	1	17	5	10	105	14	1
Albury	282	293	575	206.8	209.6	416.4	1,468	9	10	50	9	2	138	8	0
Aldavilla	24	17	41	16.6	12.8	29.4	156	0	0	1	13	9			
Alfred Town	15	12	27	11.7	8.6	20.3	132	0	0	1	13	10	13	5	0
Aliceton	7	17	24	5.3	9.7	15.0	80	15	0	0	16	2			
Allandale	18	16	34	14.0	12.2	26.2	120	0	0	1	7	3			
Alstonville	26	21	47	18.4	14.7	33.1	180	0	0	1	11	11			
Altcar	12	15	27	5.8	9.2	15.0	144	0	0	2	14	2	5	0	0
Alumny Creek	31	29	60	21.1	17.7	38.8	180	0	0	2	4	3	86	5	0
Amaroo	17	21	38	13.5	14.5	28.0	156	0	0	2	2	8	4	10	0
Amosfield	33	24	57	24.8	20.8	45.6	180	0	0	2	3	5			
Anarel	9	15	24	4.8	9.6	14.4	96	0	0	2	1	11			
Angledale	20	21	41	15.7	13.9	29.6	156	0	0	2	7	3	1	1	6
Angledool	12	18	30	8.8	9.9	18.7	102	10	0	2	12	11	5	0	0
Annandale	365	372	737	270.6	251.4	522.0	1,514	12	9	18	5	5	96	19	6
Anson	11	17	28	6.4	10.2	16.6	120	0	0	2	7	9			
Appin	33	20	53	19.0	11.3	30.3	210	0	0	1	8	10	2	2	0
Arable	14	13	27	10.9	10.4	21.3	102	0	0	3	0	3	4	9	5
Arakoon	14	19	33	10.8	12.3	23.1	120	0	0	1	11	10	5	10	3
Araluen	46	35	81	35.3	25.5	60.8	250	10	0	3	13	11	2	0	0
Araluen (Upper)	8	9	17	5.8	6.1	11.9	156	0	0				137	12	0
Araluen West	28	17	45	22.4	12.6	35.0	180	0	0						
Aramagong	13	12	25	10.3	8.2	18.5	63	15	0	7	5	10	1	7	6
Argent's Hill	7	19	26	6.2	17.7	23.9	120	0	0	3	13	2	62	1	1
Argyle	10	8	18	7.7	7.3	15.0	96	0	0	1	8	7	2	17	0
Arkstone	7	6	13	4.3	4.8	9.1	80	0	0				0	19	11
Armidale	273	252	525	185.1	160.8	345.9	852	11	11	25	3	8	116	11	3
Arncliffe	213	136	349	173.4	106.2	279.6	555	10	11	7	9	3	35	9	0
Ashfield	377	337	714	273.5	230.2	503.7	1,339	18	3	44	17	5	157	16	9
Ash Island	38	27	65	27.5	18.6	46.1	180	0	0	2	15	2	35	0	0
Ashlea	16	21	37	12.9	15.8	28.7	156	0	0	2	5	10	8	0	0
Attunga	24	12	36	14.4	8.6	23.0	156	0	0	2	10	2	26	13	9
Attunga Springs	25	20	45	17.7	13.0	30.7	180	0	0	1	11	7			
Auburn	224	195	419	164.9	134.0	298.9	824	5	3	16	7	1	20	18	0
Australian Farm	14	13	27	7.7	7.8	15.5	132	0	0	0	17	3	27	0	0
Avenel	19	16	35	13.1	11.9	25.0	120	0	0						
Avisford	10	8	18	7.4	6.1	13.5	62	11	3	1	19	11			
Avoca Vale	17	17	34	11.6	10.3	21.9	155	0	0	1	11	7			
Avondale	14	25	39	9.9	18.4	28.3	138	0	0	2	10	3			
Baan Baa	18	12	30	14.1	8.0	22.1	120	0	0	2	0	10	12	0	0
Bagdad	9	11	20	5.0	6.4	11.4	131	7	4	0	16	2	26	0	0
Baker's Swamp	19	14	33	10.3	7.5	17.8	156	0	0	1	2	11			
Balabla	24	9	33	15.5	6.3	21.8	96	0	0	1	14	6			
Balgowlah	19	27	46	12.8	19.7	32.5	144	0	0	1	10	1	30	5	0
Ballandean	15	9	24	5.1	5.1	10.2	136	6	5						
Ballarah	14	25	39	11.1	19.8	30.9	134	0	0	1	9	11			
Ballengarra	16	10	26	10.4	5.8	16.2	107	12	5	1	1	0	11	5	0
Ballina	105	108	213	84.1	82.7	166.8	454	0	0	9	19	11			
Balmain	520	521	1,041	387.3	366.3	753.6	2,174	3	5	28	13	7	232	11	10
Balranald	47	49	96	31.7	33.8	65.5	221	0	0	3	2	5	535	11	7
Bandon Grove	22	16	38	17.1	12.8	29.9	156	0	0	1	7	11			
Bangalore	7	8	15	5.6	6.6	12.2	75	0	0						
Bango	14	12	26	6.8	6.5	13.3	86	5	0						
Bank's Meadow	71	52	123	49.1	33.2	82.3	283	10	0	6	19	5	10	0	0
Bankstown	60	44	104	34.8	23.3	58.1	264	0	0	6	3	10	99	10	8
Bara Creek	7	14	21	4.8	10.7	15.5	71	6	1						
Baradine	13	19	32	10.9	14.5	25.4	131	0	0	1	13	0			
Barber's Creek	11	11	22	8.4	7.2	15.6	96	0	0	1	3	2			
Barmedman	31	30	61	21.3	20.2	41.5	241	10	0	2	18	11			
Barraba	50	33	83	34.1	21.8	55.9	246	0	0	4	11	7	0	13	0
Barrengarry	34	30	64	22.5	17.5	40.0	180	0	0	3	1	2	28	10	0
Barrenjoey	14	16	30	9.5	11.9	21.4	114	0	0						
Barrington	20	22	42	12.5	15.3	27.8	155	12	3	2	2	1			
Barrington	30	22	52	22.6	15.4	38.0	168	0	0	3	13	11	0	3	0
Bateman's Bay	26	31	57	18.4	20.9	39.3	180	0	0	2	16	2	34	0	0
Bathurst	566	477	1,043	418.0	359.5	777.5	2,280	13	0	39	15	2	301	14	6
Batlow	21	29	50	13.7	21.2	34.9	180	0	0	4	3	9	19	5	0
Baulkham Hills	32	31	63	22.9	21.9	44.8	180	0	0	2	11	9			
Baw Baw	30	28	58	21.5	19.3	40.8	135	0	0	3	4	2	3	1	8
Bayly	15	15	30	10.6	10.7	21.3	120	0	0	1	4	7			
Beardy	21	19	40	14.3	12.5	26.8	104	0	0	4	17	3			

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Beaufort.....	19	22	41	13·6	13·9	27·5	132 0 0	.....	.....	.....	132 0 0
Beaumont.....	11	12	23	8·6	8·1	16·7	96 0 0	2 1 6	.....	10 8 6	108 10 0
Bedelick.....	11	15	26	8·0	8·7	16·7	93 0 0	0 16 7	.....	15 11 6	109 8 1
Beechwood.....	16	16	32	11·3	11·9	23·2	132 0 0	2 16 5	6 2 3	.....	140 18 8
Bega.....	193	160	353	140·8	113·0	253·8	799 13 10	11 13 3	.....	20 9 6	831 16 7
Beggan Beggan.....	18	13	31	8·8	11·0	19·8	123 14 10	2 19 2	4 17 6	1 0 0	132 11 6
Belanglo.....	13	17	30	10·6	12·7	23·3	132 0 0	2 2 6	.....	8 13 9	142 16 3
Belar Creek.....	13	12	25	10·2	7·8	18·0	90 0 0	1 17 2	.....	.....	91 17 2
Belford.....	19	21	40	13·3	14·0	27·3	144 0 0	1 12 0	.....	11 10 0	157 2 0
Belgravia.....	16	11	27	11·6	7·9	19·5	120 0 0	0 15 1	.....	.....	120 15 1
Bellawongarah.....	17	21	38	11·9	11·7	23·6	154 0 0	.....	1 8 9	.....	155 8 9
Bellinger.....	28	25	53	21·8	17·9	39·7	180 0 0	2 14 8	.....	7 0 0	189 14 8
Bellinger South.....	12	14	26	6·4	7·4	13·8	81 5 0	1 14 3	.....	.....	82 19 3
Bell's Creek.....	17	16	33	9·5	11·4	20·9	132 0 0	2 0 4	.....	2 10 0	136 10 4
Belltrees.....	17	20	37	13·2	15·7	28·9	144 0 0	2 14 5	2 0 0	.....	148 14 5
Belmont.....	28	18	46	17·5	9·8	27·3	156 0 0	1 16 5	.....	99 19 0	257 15 5
Belmore.....	23	13	36	13·1	7·5	20·6	176 0 0	.....	.....	.....	176 0 0
Belmore River.....	8	22	30	5·1	13·2	18·3	180 0 0	2 16 9	.....	29 8 0	212 4 9
Belowra.....	14	20	34	11·2	14·7	25·9	132 0 0	1 13 2	.....	31 7 1	165 0 3
Ben Buckley.....	14	8	22	11·2	6·3	17·5	85 0 0	2 8 1	.....	.....	87 8 1
Ben Bullen.....	14	22	36	9·1	14·7	22·8	120 0 0	2 18 9	.....	.....	122 18 9
Bendeela.....	9	10	19	7·0	7·3	14·3	96 0 0	2 1 11	.....	.....	98 1 11
Bendemeter.....	41	29	70	29·5	22·7	52·2	198 0 0	3 6 7	.....	.....	201 6 7
Bendenine.....	33	23	56	24·3	15·4	39·7	179 0 0	1 11 7	.....	38 19 6	219 11 1
Bendick Murrell.....	7	11	18	5·4	9·2	14·6	83 15 0	2 0 9	.....	.....	85 15 9
Bendolba.....	32	17	49	21·2	10·8	32·0	156 0 0	.....	.....	.....	156 0 0
Beneree.....	40	28	68	27·0	21·4	48·4	258 0 0	2 10 8	.....	.....	260 10 8
Beni.....	11	16	27	8·1	9·5	17·6	92 10 0	2 4 10	.....	.....	94 14 10
Ben Lomond.....	11	11	22	9·0	9·2	18·2	120 0 0	1 15 8	1 11 0	.....	123 6 8
Berebangalo.....	8	15	23	5·4	9·4	14·8	120 0 0	1 3 7	.....	.....	121 3 7
Beresford.....	13	17	30	9·9	12·1	22·0	90 12 10	1 8 9	7 11 9	16 9 0	116 2 4
Bergalia.....	14	9	23	9·1	7·1	16·2	156 0 0	1 17 8	.....	1 1 0	158 18 8
Berkeley.....	11	14	25	7·0	10·0	17·0	156 0 0	1 6 10	.....	0 8 0	157 14 0
Bermagui.....	23	17	40	18·8	12·5	31·3	120 0 0	1 6 8	.....	0 11 9	121 18 5
Berridale.....	20	21	41	15·2	16·1	31·3	144 0 0	1 7 3	.....	.....	145 7 3
Berrigan.....	22	6	28	13·5	3·7	17·2	86 10 0	1 12 0	2 16 0	.....	90 18 0
Berrima.....	45	41	86	28·3	24·8	53·1	246 0 0	5 2 4	.....	1 7 6	252 9 10
Berrima Colliery.....	13	13	26	11·5	10·2	21·7	120 0 0	1 9 5	1 9 0	.....	122 18 5
Berry.....	99	94	193	70·3	63·0	133·3	413 0 0	5 2 0	.....	76 9 4	494 11 4
Berry Jerry.....	10	4	14	6·2	1·9	8·1	100 0 0	0 17 0	4 13 6	.....	105 10 6
Berry Jerry North (Lower).....	19	15	34	12·2	11·8	24·0	121 10 0	2 6 6	2 2 0	65 8 0	191 6 6
Beryl.....	16	5	21	11·8	4·2	16·0	81 5 0	1 15 9	.....	.....	83 0 9
Bethungra.....	20	10	30	14·1	6·9	21·0	132 0 0	1 3 4	.....	.....	133 3 4
Bettownd.....	4	8	12	3·4	6·4	9·8	54 13 6	.....	.....	.....	54 13 6
Bex Hill.....	27	17	44	17·3	8·9	26·2	120 0 0	2 10 8	.....	.....	122 10 8
Bexley.....	101	86	187	74·0	60·0	134·0	352 2 8	3 12 3	.....	790 10 0	1,146 4 11
Bibbenlake.....	30	13	43	22·0	8·9	30·9	164 0 0	.....	.....	.....	164 0 0
Big Hill.....	7	15	22	3·7	7·5	11·2	104 0 0	1 0 4	1 10 0	.....	106 10 4
Big Plain.....	7	11	18	5·2	7·1	12·3	83 5 0	.....	.....	.....	83 5 0
Big Ridge.....	13	9	22	10·9	6·7	17·6	80 0 0	1 19 5	2 2 0	.....	84 1 5
Binalong.....	19	22	41	14·5	16·1	30·6	156 0 0	2 5 2	.....	1 12 6	159 17 8
Binda.....	7	11	18	5·3	9·0	14·3	120 0 0	1 18 8	.....	.....	121 18 8
Bingera.....	75	67	142	48·5	46·9	95·4	304 0 0	3 6 1	.....	10 15 0	318 1 1
Binglebrah.....	10	9	19	9·2	7·4	16·6	139 0 0	.....	4 2 2	0 5 3	143 7 5
Binnaway.....	15	17	32	10·3	12·0	22·3	120 0 0	2 6 0	.....	.....	122 6 0
Binnegey.....	15	10	25	10·5	6·1	16·6	132 0 0	2 8 8	.....	26 0 0	160 8 8
Birch Grove.....	386	358	744	293·3	259·9	553·2	1,633 4 7	17 16 1	.....	425 4 7	2,076 5 3
Bishop's Bridge.....	31	20	51	24·4	15·7	40·1	180 0 0	4 7 3	.....	.....	184 7 3
Blackfriars.....	691	615	1,306	519·2	401·6	920·8	2,705 10 3	74 7 5	1 19 3	168 8 0	2,950 4 11
Blackgolar.....	10	19	29	6·8	12·9	19·7	94 9 11	1 12 9	.....	3 10 0	99 12 8
Blackheath.....	46	32	78	29·4	18·0	47·4	244 12 10	4 3 8	.....	44 1 9	292 18 3
Black Hill.....	14	17	31	11·3	13·8	25·1	120 0 0	2 7 7	.....	3 4 0	125 11 7
Blackman's Point.....	24	17	41	16·1	12·4	28·5	156 0 0	1 13 1	.....	1 3 2	158 16 3
Black Mountain.....	44	34	78	32·2	24·9	57·1	180 0 0	3 1 3	.....	56 5 0	239 6 3
Black Range.....	19	18	37	11·9	12·8	24·7	132 0 0	1 10 4	.....	39 0 0	172 10 4
Black Rock.....	24	32	56	13·8	16·6	30·4	68 15 0	1 2 1	.....	.....	69 17 1
Black Swamp.....	7	17	24	4·3	10·7	15·0	82 8 0	1 16 7	5 17 6	28 5 0	118 7 1
Blacktown.....	33	39	72	23·5	29·0	52·5	244 10 0	.....	.....	125 12 4	370 2 4
Blakehurst.....	22	27	49	18·5	22·7	41·2	180 0 0	2 15 6	.....	76 16 0	259 11 6
Blakney Creek.....	13	11	24	5·7	6·0	11·7	52 14 10	2 5 10	.....	.....	55 0 8
Blandford.....	9	16	25	8·2	13·3	21·5	120 0 0	1 11 4	.....	.....	121 11 4
Blayne.....	113	105	218	75·8	71·2	147·0	462 8 1	3 14 6	.....	12 8 3	478 10 10
Bloom Hill.....	18	20	38	12·0	12·9	24·9	156 0 0	2 6 5	.....	.....	158 6 5
Blowering.....	25	16	41	18·0	14·0	32·0	156 0 0	3 0 9	.....	.....	159 0 9
Bo Bo Creek.....	10	16	26	6·9	12·0	18·9	120 0 0	1 11 1	.....	.....	121 11 1
Bodalla.....	35	22	57	26·5	13·1	39·6	180 0 0	1 10 0	.....	1 8 0	182 18 0
Bogaldie.....	8	15	23	5·6	10·4	16·0	114 0 0	1 14 7	.....	.....	115 14 7
Boggabilla.....	24	18	42	14·8	11·2	26·0	120 0 0	1 9 11	.....	.....	121 9 11
Boggabri.....	58	64	122	42·1	46·9	89·0	276 0 0	11 4 10	.....	.....	287 4 10
Boggumbil.....	14	16	30	4·3	4·6	8·9	97 10 0	3 11 5	.....	138 10 0	239 11 5
Bogolong.....	15	19	34	7·9	12·4	20·3	136 0 0	2 19 10	1 2 6	.....	140 2 4
Bolivia.....	16	7	23	13·5	5·8	19·3	96 0 0	.....	.....	.....	96 0 0
Bomaderry.....	10	14	24	6·7	10·5	17·2	88 0 0	0 13 7	.....	.....	88 13 7
Bombala.....	74	60	134	53·6	40·8	94·4	319 10 0	4 5 5	.....	3 10 0	327 5 5

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.														
	Boys	Girls	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.			Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.								
							£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			
Bomballaway.....	8	15	23	7.0	12.7	19.7	120	0	0	1	6	8			13	0	8	134	7	4	
Bombowlee.....	16	14	30	11.2	12.0	23.2	128	0	0									128	0	0	
Bondi.....	139	88	227	90.9	56.7	147.6	407	10	0	4	10	3			17	18	6	429	18	9	
Bongolong.....	12	17	29	8.9	12.2	21.1	96	0	0									96	0	0	
Bookham.....	10	10	20	7.1	6.6	13.7	93	0	0	1	10	8	0	14	3			95	4	11	
Booligal.....	12	22	34	8.7	13.1	21.8	152	0	0	1	19	2			54	10	6	208	9	8	
Boolong.....	24	13	37	15.6	9.5	25.1	83	0	0	0	15	11	5	1	0	9	5	0	96	1	11
Boonoo Boonoo.....	19	19	38	14.0	14.4	28.4	94	10	0	4	0	8						98	10	8	
Booral.....	24	19	43	17.0	14.6	31.6	155	0	0									155	0	0	
Boorolong.....	14	11	25	11.2	6.7	17.9	63	15	0	1	8	3	4	17	0			70	0	3	
Borambil.....	16	13	29	11.2	8.9	20.1	132	0	0	1	17	8			20	8	11	154	3	6	
Border Saw-mills.....	12	8	20	10.6	6.1	16.7	96	0	0	3	9	2						99	9	2	
Boree.....	14	9	23	11.6	5.8	17.4	75	0	0									75	0	0	
Borenore.....	21	20	41	12.9	14.0	26.9	180	0	0	2	16	4			50	15	0	233	11	4	
Boro (Lower).....	11	12	23	8.3	9.1	17.4	96	0	0	1	9	11			4	10	0	101	19	11	
Botany.....	126	103	229	91.5	73.9	165.4	406	14	8	6	9	2						413	3	10	
Botany Heads.....	9	6	15	7.2	3.8	11.0	132	0	0	0	17	1			13	4	0	146	1	1	
Botobolar.....	8	21	29	4.8	15.5	20.3	132	0	0	1	11	5			1	10	0	135	1	5	
Bourke.....	166	157	323	109.9	90.2	200.1	582	4	6	26	11	0			29	1	9	637	17	3	
Bourke North.....	18	16	34	9.5	7.7	17.2	96	0	0	2	12	9			19	16	6	118	9	3	
Bowan.....	25	22	47	16.1	14.4	30.5	156	0	0	3	15	7			16	0	0	175	15	7	
Bowenfels.....	32	23	55	24.6	17.4	42.0	180	0	0	2	1	1						182	1	1	
Bowling Alley Point.....	26	37	63	21.0	30.9	51.9	225	0	0	3	2	4	9	6	0	135	10	6	372	18	10
Bowna.....	27	32	59	20.7	25.0	45.7	180	0	0						1	15	0	181	15	0	
Bowning.....	37	27	64	23.9	18.1	42.0	245	0	0	4	2	3			11	2	0	260	4	3	
Bowra.....	34	23	57	23.0	16.0	39.0	180	0	0	3	12	2			7	0	0	190	12	2	
Bowral.....	147	133	280	106.5	96.5	203.0	470	14	2	10	1	1	1	2	11	0	10	0	482	8	2
Braidwood.....	97	92	189	72.8	63.7	136.5	418	10	0	4	10	3						423	0	3	
Brandon Hill.....	15	7	22	9.6	4.9	14.5	140	0	0	1	16	8						141	16	8	
Braga.....	19	12	31	12.2	8.0	20.2	96	0	0	1	5	0						97	5	0	
Branxton.....	41	33	74	30.2	22.6	52.8	194	1	3	1	2	9			5	15	0	200	19	0	
Brawlin.....	12	17	29	7.3	11.7	19.0	132	0	0	1	5	11						133	5	11	
Breadalbane.....	27	28	55	14.8	20.7	35.5	180	0	0	2	12	11			1	5	0	183	17	11	
Bredbo.....	21	27	48	9.5	10.1	19.6	114	0	0	1	7	4						115	7	4	
Breeza.....	24	29	53	16.9	19.5	36.4	162	0	0	3	19	4			0	6	8	166	6	0	
Brewarrina.....	55	42	97	37.6	29.8	67.4	246	0	0	4	11	0						250	11	0	
Brewongle.....	30	14	44	21.9	8.1	30.0	144	0	0	1	4	5			19	17	6	165	1	11	
Bridgewater.....	8	15	23	2.4	6.5	8.9	96	0	0	1	15	0						97	15	0	
Brightling Park.....	13	10	23	11.8	9.6	21.4	120	0	0				1	10	0	12	0	0	133	10	0
Bringingly.....	22	9	31	14.2	6.8	21.0	132	0	0	1	0	4						133	0	4	
Brisbane Valley.....	9	13	22	5.6	10.3	15.9	120	0	0	0	3	8			18	0	0	138	3	8	
Broadwater.....	64	59	123	45.3	42.8	88.1	252	0	0	2	7	2			74	0	5	328	7	7	
Brocklehurst.....	15	10	25	8.1	6.3	14.4	114	0	0	2	16	7						116	16	7	
Brocklesby West.....	9	21	30	6.7	11.4	18.1	132	0	0	3	8	0						135	8	0	
Brodie's Plains.....	25	18	43	19.3	10.5	29.8	156	0	0	2	17	10			0	5	0	159	2	10	
Brogo.....	6	12	18	2.6	5.3	7.9	116	0	0	1	2	3						117	2	3	
Broke.....	23	14	37	12.3	7.1	19.4	148	0	0	2	7	5	1	18	9			152	6	2	
Brokenback.....	36	35	71	23.4	22.9	46.3	168	0	0	2	7	10			1	10	0	171	17	10	
Broken Hill.....	233	157	390	109.5	68.2	177.7	357	0	0	10	9	0	1,565	19	4	1,933	8	4	1,933	8	4
Brokenshaft Creek.....	13	8	21	8.0	5.2	13.2	108	0	0	1	13	2	1	13	9	0	17	6	112	4	5
Brolgan.....	25	37	62	19.9	26.0	45.9	180	0	0	2	8	1			1	10	0	183	18	1	
Brombin.....	19	23	42	11.8	14.7	26.5	155	0	0	3	6	3			24	5	11	182	12	2	
Brookfield.....	21	16	37	14.6	12.1	26.7	120	0	0	1	4	9			5	12	6	126	17	3	
Brooklyn.....	30	23	53	21.1	15.5	36.6	180	0	0	3	12	0			2	0	0	185	12	0	
Brooks' Creek.....	12	7	19	9.1	5.5	14.6	85	0	0	0	16	6	1	6	0			87	2	6	
Brookside.....	14	11	25	9.0	7.2	16.2	65	0	0	1	17	1			10	0	0	76	17	1	
Brookstead.....	17	12	29	10.5	7.1	17.6	120	0	0	2	13	0	2	2	6			124	15	6	
Brook Vale.....	12	16	28	8.8	11.8	20.6	120	0	0						14	2	6	134	2	6	
Broughtonsworth.....	14	15	29	8.9	11.3	20.2	120	0	0	1	11	8						121	11	8	
Broughton Vale.....	26	11	37	13.1	6.4	19.5	156	0	0	1	18	8	1	0	0			158	18	8	
Broughton Village.....	17	11	28	14.9	8.2	23.1	180	0	0	1	14	4						181	14	4	
Brownlea.....	19	14	33	11.6	9.2	20.8	120	0	0						26	7	6	146	7	6	
Brown Mountain.....	37	28	65	25.7	20.5	46.2	193	3	10						4	4	3	197	8	1	
Brownmuir.....	11	8	19	8.5	6.9	15.4	114	0	0	1	7	5	2	14	6	12	0	0	130	1	11
Brown's Creek.....	29	40	69	21.3	28.1	49.4	180	0	0	2	8	7			0	5	0	182	13	7	
Bruceale.....	11	11	22	8.5	7.5	16.0	132	0	0	2	3	6	1	10	0	20	0	0	155	13	6
Bryan's Gap.....	33	37	70	19.4	24.1	43.5	262	2	8	2	7	4			157	13	9	422	3	9	
Bucrabandini.....	11	15	26	7.9	10.7	18.6	96	0	0	2	5	6						98	5	6	
Buchanan.....	25	28	53	18.8	18.8	37.6	180	0	0	3	9	6			7	17	6	191	7	0	
Buckendoon.....	18	30	48	11.3	22.0	33.3	143	0	0	2	13	9			41	8	0	187	1	9	
Buckley's Crossing.....	14	6	20	10.1	4.6	14.7	75	0	0	1	7	4						76	7	4	
Budjong Vale.....	19	15	34	13.4	11.2	24.6	120	0	0	1	18	10			7	0	0	128	18	10	
Bulga.....	23	22	45	16.4	13.8	30.2	156	0	0	1	3	4						157	3	4	
Bulgo.....	22	19	41	12.9	12.0	24.9	144	0	0									144	0	0	
Bulladelah.....	32	25	57	22.1	16.1	38.2	180	0	0	1	5	6			0	5	0	181	10	6	
Bulli.....	139	116	255	94.6	76.1	170.7	420	0	0	5	13	5						425	13	5	
Bulli Mountain.....	14	13	27	11.2	9.9	21.1	96	0	0	0	10	1						96	10	1	
Bulli North.....	53	52	105	37.2	30.7	67.9	252	0	0	2	5	7			10	4	6	264	10	1	
Bumbury.....	16	17	33	10.1	10.6	20.7	114	0	0	1	12	6			8	8	0	124	0	6	
Bunaloo.....	5	14	19	1.8	10.4	12.2	124	0	0	0	18	2						124	18	2	
Bundanoon.....	42	42	84	32.9	29.7	62.6	241	10	0						1	15	0	243	5	0	
Bundarra.....	42	33	75	31.1	25.1	56.2	248	12	0	7	9	5			78	18	0	334	19	5	
Bungawalbyn.....	23	15	38	17.8	11.2	29.0	120	0	0	1	18	2			19						

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Furniture, &c.	Total
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Bunglegumbe	12	19	31	6.4	14.0	20.4	110 0 0	1 12 3	.....	.....	111 12 3
Bungonia	13	14	27	8.2	8.1	16.3	132 0 0	1 11 3	.....	5 1 6	138 12 9
Bungowanah	10	16	26	7.8	13.3	21.1	132 0 0	1 17 5	.....	3 8 0	137 5 5
Bungwall Flat	19	12	31	16.1	11.0	27.1	180 0 0	2 9 11	.....	57 0 0	239 9 11
Buninyong	28	10	38	18.4	6.3	24.7	156 0 0	1 12 10	.....	5 8 9	163 1 7
Bunnabunoo	10	12	22	7.5	8.4	15.9	96 0 0	2 0 1	.....	.....	98 0 1
Burkeville	24	22	46	17.8	15.9	33.7	156 0 0	0 13 6	.....	.....	156 13 6
Burnt Yards	15	9	24	12.6	7.2	19.8	88 15 0	.....	.....	.....	88 15 0
Burra Creek	9	7	16	4.8	4.9	9.7	120 0 0	.....	.....	.....	120 0 0
Burraduc	33	18	51	21.6	10.5	32.1	115 9 0	4 3 4	5 19 0	14 0 0	139 11 4
Burraga	62	47	109	48.3	33.7	82.0	218 14 0	7 11 9	.....	234 12 1	460 17 10
Burragan	21	30	51	17.2	24.7	41.9	180 0 0	3 13 7	.....	0 8 0	184 1 7
Burra Lake	13	16	29	7.7	9.8	17.5	96 0 0	1 9 11	.....	.....	97 9 11
Burrangong Heights	28	19	47	20.9	12.4	33.3	187 0 0	2 5 3	0 13 3	.....	189 18 6
Burrawang	44	45	89	32.2	33.0	65.2	243 0 0	2 13 9	.....	21 13 0	247 6 9
Burrembooka	13	10	23	7.2	5.8	13.0	90 0 0	1 4 11	2 14 0	.....	93 18 11
Burrier	17	13	30	11.0	10.3	21.3	132 0 0	1 6 3	.....	.....	133 6 3
Burrill	20	17	37	11.0	8.9	19.9	156 0 0	1 1 4	.....	5 0 0	162 1 4
Burrowa	53	33	86	36.3	25.6	61.9	252 0 0	2 10 3	.....	2 0 0	256 10 3
Burrumbuttock	23	24	47	14.0	13.5	27.5	126 0 0	2 10 4	.....	.....	128 10 4
Burrundulla	19	20	39	12.3	15.0	27.3	120 0 0	.....	.....	.....	120 0 0
Burry	14	17	31	11.5	12.2	23.7	148 1 3	1 13 5	6 1 6	6 5 0	162 1 2
Burwood	425	352	777	321.1	234.8	555.9	1,552 17 5	18 6 2	.....	1,075 0 1	2,646 3 8
Byangum	12	4	16	9.8	3.4	13.2	30 6 3	0 16 7	2 10 0	.....	33 12 10
Byerock	35	34	69	22.4	20.7	43.1	168 0 0	3 1 6	.....	2 17 6	173 19 0
Byng	21	12	33	17.1	9.9	27.0	120 0 0	1 6 7	1 14 0	0 13 0	123 13 7
Byron Creek	12	14	26	7.8	9.6	17.4	89 18 4	1 16 1	.....	.....	91 14 5
Caddigat	10	11	21	7.0	9.5	16.5	70 0 0	0 19 5	3 10 6	.....	74 9 11
Cadia	19	11	30	6.8	5.0	11.8	156 0 0	.....	.....	2 6 0	158 6 0
Caergurle	30	29	59	21.7	21.7	43.4	168 0 0	2 3 6	1 17 0	2 0 0	174 0 6
Callaghan's Creek	15	13	28	11.2	11.1	22.3	94 10 0	3 9 2	.....	.....	97 19 2
Caloola	11	12	23	6.8	7.5	14.3	122 0 0	0 16 11	.....	.....	122 16 11
Cambewarra	45	50	95	35.1	38.7	73.8	310 0 0	2 4 11	.....	5 0 0	317 4 11
Cambewarra West	27	12	39	20.8	10.1	30.9	144 0 0	2 2 3	0 15 0	.....	146 17 3
Camboon	15	15	30	9.5	8.8	18.3	134 0 0	2 17 1	2 15 0	.....	139 12 1
Camden	99	84	183	71.3	58.7	130.0	437 13 10	.....	.....	35 0 0	472 13 10
Camden Haven	23	22	45	16.9	16.3	33.2	156 0 0	1 2 1	.....	23 0 0	180 2 1
Camdenville	290	247	537	201.6	162.5	364.1	1,299 10 0	17 9 9	.....	70 18 0	1,387 17 9
Campbelltown	106	67	173	83.9	50.1	134.0	439 0 0	10 19 6	.....	24 15 0	474 14 6
Camperdown	361	324	685	245.1	222.5	467.6	1,622 10 3	21 14 3	.....	196 16 0	1,841 0 6
Canadian Lead	38	44	82	25.2	31.8	57.0	267 0 5	3 14 4	.....	6 2 0	276 16 9
Canberra	18	7	25	8.6	4.7	13.3	120 0 0	1 9 4	.....	20 0 0	141 9 4
Candelo	51	39	90	38.5	26.1	64.6	253 10 0	4 2 1	.....	.....	257 12 1
Canimbla	17	8	25	11.4	7.1	18.5	116 0 0	1 16 8	2 0 0	16 10 0	136 6 8
Canley Vale	44	30	74	31.0	14.8	45.8	156 0 0	3 13 8	.....	46 4 0	205 17 8
Canoblas	26	30	56	18.2	21.2	39.4	180 0 0	2 17 2	.....	36 5 0	219 2 2
Canowindra	50	46	96	32.8	27.6	60.4	242 14 0	2 16 2	3 0 0	127 3 0	375 13 2
Canterbury	179	147	326	131.8	101.6	233.4	784 5 8	14 17 8	.....	16 7 6	815 10 10
Caoura	10	8	18	6.1	3.1	9.2	68 15 0	1 16 9	.....	.....	70 11 9
Captee	5	13	18	3.7	9.8	13.5	71 5 0	.....	.....	.....	71 5 0
Captain's Flat	34	25	59	22.4	17.2	39.6	180 0 0	2 6 10	.....	26 5 0	208 11 10
Carcoar	44	38	82	33.6	24.6	58.2	258 0 0	4 8 5	.....	21 0 0	283 8 5
Cargo	32	32	64	21.8	20.0	41.8	180 0 0	1 7 11	.....	.....	181 7 11
Carlingford	109	107	216	78.6	76.6	155.2	445 0 0	7 7 10	.....	69 10 6	521 18 4
Carrathool	18	22	40	13.6	17.1	30.7	128 0 0	1 2 0	.....	.....	129 2 0
Carrwabity	16	11	27	10.5	7.2	17.7	71 5 0	1 5 3	.....	.....	72 10 3
Carroll	20	18	38	16.6	15.2	31.8	207 12 3	1 19 7	9 12 6	.....	219 4 6
Carroll Gap	12	15	27	9.5	12.4	21.9	114 0 0	2 0 6	4 9 0	.....	120 9 4
Carr's Creek	36	28	64	21.0	16.1	37.1	262 0 0	4 2 8	2 2 0	38 5 6	306 10 2
Casino	109	71	180	73.0	43.7	116.7	404 6 8	10 6 7	.....	9 12 9	424 6 0
Casino South	22	27	49	16.0	21.2	37.2	180 0 0	1 10 5	.....	13 0 11	194 11 4
Cassilis	21	12	33	15.7	8.7	24.4	132 0 0	1 7 0	2 12 0	1 5 0	137 4 0
Castle Doyle	24	15	39	15.5	9.3	24.8	156 0 0	.....	.....	13 15 0	169 15 0
Castle Hill	44	34	78	33.0	25.5	58.5	218 0 0	2 0 9	.....	110 13 9	330 14 6
Castle Mountain	18	22	40	14.0	14.2	28.2	180 0 0	2 1 5	2 14 6	.....	184 15 11
Castlereagh	21	27	48	14.9	20.0	34.9	180 0 0	1 2 6	.....	.....	181 2 6
Castlereagh-street	162	158	320	110.7	106.3	217.0	725 18 5	11 6 6	.....	85 4 0	822 8 11
Castlereagh (Upper)	24	13	37	15.1	10.4	25.5	132 0 0	1 1 10	.....	.....	133 1 10
Cathcart	28	26	54	20.6	17.0	37.6	216 0 0	.....	.....	2 2 0	218 2 0
Cattai Creek	13	18	31	9.1	12.3	21.4	120 0 0	1 6 9	.....	6 0 0	127 6 9
Cavan	14	8	22	11.6	6.3	17.9	94 10 0	2 10 11	.....	24 1 7	121 2 6
Cawdor	26	19	45	18.9	13.7	32.6	156 0 0	.....	.....	782 7 6	938 7 6
Cedar Party Creek	17	17	34	8.2	10.7	18.9	132 0 0	1 7 11	.....	.....	133 7 1
Cessnock	16	16	32	11.8	10.8	22.6	180 0 0	2 4 7	.....	25 0 0	207 4 7
Chain of Ponds	17	17	34	12.5	12.7	25.2	108 0 0	1 3 6	2 5 0	.....	111 8 6
Chalkerville	19	14	33	13.2	10.7	23.9	120 0 0	2 4 6	.....	.....	122 4 6
Charlestown	76	70	146	54.4	49.8	104.2	311 2 0	8 2 1	.....	42 0 0	361 4 6
Charleyong	21	10	31	15.6	7.7	23.3	156 0 0	0 18 7	.....	.....	156 18 7
Chatsbury	16	14	30	8.4	7.8	16.2	62 16 8	.....	3 10 5	.....	66 7 1
Chatswood	57	63	120	37.1	43.3	80.4	281 12 0	6 9 11	.....	3 5 1	291 7 0
Chatsworth Island	65	66	131	46.8	44.2	91.0	309 0 0	5 7 5	.....	48 8 0	362 15 0
Chichester	13	13	26	7.4	9.4	16.8	132 0 0	1 3 4	.....	.....	133 3 4
Chilcott Plains	7	8	15	5.6	5.8	11.4	120 0 0	0 19 9	.....	.....	120 19 9
Clairvaux	9	10	19	5.9	6.5	12.4	142 0 0	4 12 11	.....	.....	146 12 11
Clairwood	12	16	28	8.4	11.7	20.1	91 15 0	.....	.....	16 4 0	107 19 0

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.											
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Salaries.		Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.						
							£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Claremont	6	8	14	5.2	4.8	10.0	80	0	0	1	15	7				81	15	7
Clarence Town	69	67	136	49.3	45.2	94.5	407	12	6	5	9	9				413	2	3
Clarendon	13	13	26	9.5	10.7	20.2	128	0	0	2	8	9				130	8	9
Clareval	11	9	20	9.2	7.0	16.2	120	0	0				1	10	0	121	10	0
Clarkson's Crossing	27	30	57	15.2	12.2	27.4	156	0	0	3	17	7				159	17	7
Clearbank	7	10	17	5.0	7.7	12.7	80	0	0	0	6	2				80	6	2
Clevedon	18	9	27	13.3	4.3	17.6	83	11	4	2	6	4	8	9	6	3	0	0
Cleveland-street	724	666	1,390	542.8	465.6	1,008.4	2,910	16	1	57	7	3	1	0	6	132	4	6
Clifton	83	65	148	60.3	46.3	106.6	336	0	0	4	17	2				342	15	2
Clunes	19	17	36	16.2	14.1	30.3	147	0	0	2	13	0	8	0	0	62	3	10
Cobar	76	79	155	52.8	50.6	103.4	390	0	0	3	14	11				11	0	0
Cobargo	48	57	105	33.7	36.2	69.9	291	10	0	3	9	6				1	0	0
Cobbitty	20	7	27	14.7	3.0	17.7	132	0	0	1	17	5				45	0	0
Cobbobra	11	16	27	7.4	11.7	19.1	132	0	0	0	12	0				132	12	0
Cobborah	18	19	37	13.6	16.1	29.7	156	0	0	3	2	3				5	0	0
Cockatoo Flat	16	14	30	8.4	8.2	16.6	120	0	0	2	13	11				122	13	11
Cockburn River	30	20	50	23.9	16.8	40.7	156	0	0	1	17	4				7	2	6
Cockle Creek	14	13	27	11.1	10.8	21.9	152	0	0	1	13	1				20	0	6
Cocomingla	13	15	28	10.9	9.3	20.2	96	0	0	1	5	9				57	0	0
Codrington	15	10	25	10.3	7.7	18.0	107	0	0	0	16	7	1	12	0	5	10	0
Codrington North	9	10	19	6.5	7.2	13.7	81	5	0	0	15	5				82	0	5
Coffey Hill	16	14	30	12.2	11.0	23.2	113	16	1	0	15	6				114	11	7
Coldstream (Lower)	18	14	32	13.4	9.7	23.1	120	0	0	1	6	3				121	6	3
Coldstream (Upper)	14	15	29	9.6	10.4	20.0	96	0	0	1	14	8				30	2	0
Colinton	31	16	47	18.9	9.2	28.1	156	0	0	1	15	0				12	16	4
Collarenebri	13	11	24	9.7	9.7	19.4	94	10	0	1	19	8	3	0	0	25	0	0
Collector	25	36	61	18.2	24.2	42.4	180	0	0	2	10	6				17	18	6
Collengullie	15	13	28	6.4	7.2	13.6	132	0	0	1	14	11				133	14	11
Collie	13	7	20	3.8	2.5	6.3	96	0	0	2	1	0				98	1	0
Colo (Upper)	6	16	22	5.4	14.7	20.1	96	0	0	1	5	1				97	5	1
Colstoun	7	14	21	5.3	9.8	15.1	120	0	0	1	19	11				5	0	0
Colyton	19	24	43	12.9	15.5	28.4	156	0	0	2	3	10				13	16	4
Comarong	14	11	25	10.6	9.7	20.3	120	0	0	1	6	4				158	3	10
Comleroy Road	44	33	77	32.1	23.1	55.2	266	3	5				1	4	5	267	7	10
Conargo	12	8	20	7.5	5.5	13.0	96	0	0				3	3	0	1	0	9
Concord	66	66	132	48.4	46.2	94.6	383	4	11	5	16	4				26	11	5
Condobolin	67	53	120	45.9	35.5	81.4	291	0	0	7	3	5				298	3	5
Conjola	11	16	27	8.4	11.6	20.0	132	0	0	2	4	8				4	0	0
Cooba Creek	12	9	21	7.7	7.6	15.3	87	10	0	0	16	11				88	6	11
Coerwull	46	31	77	37.3	24.5	61.8	268	10	0	4	11	5				273	1	5
Coogee	59	32	91	38.4	20.0	58.4	246	0	0	2	8	7				1	6	9
Cookardinia	16	14	30	11.1	6.9	18.0	156	0	0	0	19	10				156	19	10
Cook's Hill	377	284	661	275.1	189.3	464.4	1,389	10	0	25	1	0				219	19	8
Coolac	24	26	50	17.5	19.3	36.8	180	0	0	3	8	5				183	8	5
Coolah	26	47	73	17.7	35.0	52.7	243	0	0	2	17	9				245	17	9
Coolaman	22	15	37	16.6	9.5	26.1	156	0	0	2	9	2				26	12	10
Coolangatta	30	41	71	20.4	29.6	50.0	180	0	0	3	3	5				183	3	5
Coolongolook	20	18	38	15.9	13.7	29.6	156	0	0	2	1	0				28	17	8
Cooma	120	106	226	92.8	78.6	171.4	721	10	0	10	11	5	4	9	6	84	12	7
Coomber	20	15	35	15.3	10.9	26.2	132	0	0	2	7	4				134	7	4
Coonabarabran	53	49	102	38.1	30.3	68.4	282	10	0	6	15	2	11	9	6	2	15	8
Coonamble	108	88	196	73.3	57.2	130.5	383	0	0	7	11	1				28	0	0
Coopersnook	43	29	72	30.3	20.4	50.7	226	0	0	10	3	9	2	0	0	195	11	2
Cooranbong	15	16	31	9.8	11.4	21.2	132	0	0	2	10	2	1	6	4	2	13	0
Coota	26	33	59	16.6	18.8	35.4	144	0	0	1	19	2				145	19	2
Cootamundra	116	90	206	66.5	46.3	112.8	438	0	0	7	4	9				115	17	0
Cootralantra	25	10	35	15.8	6.8	22.6	156	0	0	1	16	11				28	0	0
Cooyal	23	22	45	16.4	17.0	33.4	164	0	0	0	19	11				164	19	11
Copeland North	23	35	58	17.9	27.8	45.7	218	0	7	2	5	3				220	5	10
Coradgerie	11	10	21	7.7	5.9	13.6	103	0	0	2	14	10	2	12	0	3	0	0
Coraki	40	39	79	26.3	27.0	53.3	216	0	0							35	11	0
Cordeaux River	14	5	19	11.4	3.1	14.5	96	0	0	1	6	9				97	6	9
Cordillera	53	54	107	36.4	39.4	75.8	51	0	0	7	13	6				32	16	5
Cormick's Creek	15	10	25	12.6	8.2	20.8	90	0	0	1	5	1	1	2	0	9	2	0
Cornwallis	15	13	28	11.7	11.1	22.8	102	0	0				0	8	5	1	5	0
Corowa	62	49	111	46.9	34.7	81.6	279	0	0	7	18	2				2	12	0
Cottawalla	21	17	38	14.8	10.7	25.5	156	0	0	1	17	10				4	4	8
Courabyra	18	22	40	11.2	15.7	26.9	156	0	0	2	17	2	8	10	0	167	7	2
Cow Flat	17	22	39	12.8	13.2	26.0	132	0	0	3	3	8				135	3	8
Cowlong	9	14	23	7.1	11.2	18.3	93	0	0				2	1	8	60	0	0
Cowper	45	40	85	28.7	26.3	55.0	240	0	0	3	16	5				285	15	3
Cowra	119	125	244	92.0	89.6	181.6	435	0	0	10	0	11				445	0	11
Craigie	23	22	45	14.2	14.7	28.9	130	0	0	1	7	10				23	9	0
Cranbury	9	10	19	6.1	7.0	13.1	68	15	0	1	9	1				0	7	3
Cranebrook	43	29	72	29.7	19.8	49.5	180	0	0	2	9	7				182	9	7
Crawford River	16	14	30	8.8	7.1	15.9	120	0	0	1	16	4				12	1	6
Croki	40	27	67	29.0	20.7	49.7	180	0	0	3	18	5				1	12	6
Croobyar	29	28	57	16.4	15.8	32.2	180	0	0	1	11	6				2	0	0
Crookwell	84	60	144	50.7	33.2	83.9	285	3	7	4	9	5				28	10	6
Crookwell River	11	10	21	7.3	6.3	13.6	96	0	0							96	0	0
Croome	26	31	57	18.0	22.3	40.3	180	0	0	2	9	5				2	0	0
Croom Park	10	7	17	5.5	4.3	9.8	96	0	0							96	0	0
Crown-street	768	777	1,545	604.2	586.2	1,190.4	3,061	12	7	52	0	0				148	0	6
Croydon	201	191	392	146.2	131.0	277.2	1,085	10	6	13	17	4				26	10	3
Croydon Park	146	126	272	102.9	82.2	185.1	418	6	8	3	17	3				84	15	4

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Crudine	18	18	36	15.7	14.6	30.3	154 0 0	1 5 10			155 5 10
Cuan	8	5	13	6.2	4.9	11.1	82 0 0	1 5 1	6 3 0	20 0 0	109 8 1
Cucumbark	15	14	29	9.5	8.4	17.9	120 0 0	1 3 3			121 3 3
Cudal	68	44	112	44.2	30.4	74.6	313 10 0	4 7 1		7 13 6	325 10 7
Cuddell Siding	11	15	26	7.4	10.0	17.4	109 10 0				109 10 0
Cudgebegong	15	13	28	6.8	6.1	12.9	96 0 0				96 0 0
Cudgegong	25	24	49	17.5	17.1	34.6	180 0 0	2 3 1		28 13 6	210 16 7
Cudgell Creek	15	9	24	12.1	6.2	18.3	132 0 0	2 5 2			134 5 2
Cudgen	22	19	41	16.9	13.7	30.6	132 0 0	2 8 1	6 11 0	22 10 6	163 9 7
Cullarin	18	15	33	9.1	7.5	16.6	120 0 0	1 10 4			121 10 4
Cullen	25	12	37	15.4	7.9	23.3	144 0 0	1 15 8			145 15 8
Cullenbone	27	15	42	22.8	12.6	35.4	156 0 0	3 13 8		4 15 0	164 8 8
Cullinga	30	24	54	23.3	19.3	42.6	252 0 0	1 19 8			253 19 8
Cumnoock	37	34	71	22.6	20.1	42.7	165 0 0			81 4 10	246 4 10
Cundletown	58	40	98	44.2	26.5	70.7	270 0 0	3 8 2		9 15 0	283 3 2
Cundumbul	15	17	32	11.7	13.3	25.0	132 0 0	1 12 9			134 12 9
Cungegong	19	7	26	14.4	5.0	19.4	120 0 0	2 0 11		7 10 0	129 10 11
Cunninggar	27	17	44	19.3	10.1	29.4	144 0 0	2 3 4			146 3 4
Curban	20	15	35	13.1	9.7	22.8	105 10 0	1 16 6	1 5 0	95 6 8	203 18 2
Curlewis	17	6	23	13.9	4.4	18.3	104 0 0	2 1 2			106 1 2
Currabubula	52	38	90	35.4	23.2	58.6	237 17 5	4 17 6		32 18 1	275 13 0
Curra Creek	16	15	31	11.2	12.2	23.4	101 14 2	2 19 5		12 10 0	117 3 7
Currawang	29	26	55	16.7	17.3	34.0	176 0 0		3 3 6		179 3 6
Currawarna	13	9	22	8.3	6.0	14.3	96 0 0	0 18 4	3 8 9		100 7 1
Dabee	10	11	21	6.4	7.3	13.7	96 0 0	1 12 1			97 12 1
Dairyman's Plains	22	8	30	15.5	5.9	21.4	120 0 0	1 14 8		25 0 0	146 14 8
Daisydale	6	11	17	4.1	8.0	12.1	61 3 4	1 2 7			62 5 11
Dalton	35	27	62	26.4	21.5	47.9	180 0 0	2 5 0		3 0 0	185 5 0
Dangar's Lagoon	16	11	27	13.2	7.7	20.9	96 0 0	1 14 4		28 10 0	126 4 4
Dapper	17	11	28	12.6	8.0	20.6	114 0 0	2 3 10		10 10 0	126 13 10
Dapto	27	23	50	21.6	16.5	38.1	174 0 0	1 17 4			175 17 4
Dapto West	24	27	51	16.4	17.3	33.7	180 0 0	1 16 8		0 6 0	182 2 8
Darby's Falls	12	14	26	8.7	8.8	17.5	120 0 0	2 6 9		11 4 5	133 11 2
Dark Corner	10	5	15	5.2	3.4	8.6	50 19 2				50 19 2
Darlinghurst	331	296	627	236.3	204.3	440.6	1,670 10 0	21 6 2		7 4 3	1,699 0 5
Darling Road	582	502	1,084	437.8	363.6	801.4	2,116 16 7	32 18 6		157 4 6	2,306 19 7
Darlington	440	470	910	325.5	318.3	643.8	2,282 3 10	56 17 1		25 11 9	2,364 12 8
Darlington Point	8	16	24	6.8	11.5	18.3	92 0 0	1 0 4			93 0 4
Davis Creek	9	11	20	6.7	10.1	16.8	90 0 0	0 18 6		40 0 0	130 18 6
Deep Lead	13	19	32	8.9	15.2	24.1	55 0 0	5 1 2	2 19 9	56 0 0	119 0 11
Deepwater	42	41	83	29.9	28.8	58.7	192 15 0	6 15 8		676 4 8	875 15 4
Delegate	12	18	30	7.7	14.0	21.7	170 0 0				170 0 0
Demondrille	28	25	53	16.3	18.3	34.6	180 0 0	2 12 8			182 12 8
Demondrille Junction	20	26	46	12.4	16.8	29.2	132 0 0	3 18 3		16 0 0	151 18 3
Deniliquin	164	128	292	113.3	85.3	198.6	687 7 2	14 0 10		56 8 0	757 16 0
Denman	39	35	74	32.5	27.1	59.6	242 18 0	4 1 10		25 10 0	272 9 10
Derringullen	16	15	31	10.4	9.8	20.2	120 0 0	1 10 11		0 6 6	121 17 5
Digger's Flat	6	8	14	3.1	3.7	6.8	71 10 0	1 5 6	2 6 0		75 1 6
Dignam's Creek	8	10	18	6.1	8.3	14.4	132 0 0		2 0 0	23 11 9	157 11 9
Dinga Dingi	14	10	24	8.5	6.6	15.1	120 0 0		1 16 6		121 16 6
Dingo Creek	22	18	40	15.7	14.0	29.7	144 0 0	1 14 6	2 10 0	14 17 6	163 2 0
Donald	13	13	26	9.0	10.3	19.3	96 0 0	0 19 1			96 19 1
Dondingalong	11	11	22	8.3	7.7	16.0	108 18 4	2 0 7	4 3 0	15 0 0	130 1 11
Dondymun	18	19	37	13.8	15.8	29.6	102 10 0	1 4 11		0 13 10	104 8 9
Dora Creek	17	11	28	11.8	8.1	19.9	120 0 0	1 6 6			121 6 6
Double Bay	61	47	108	33.4	26.1	59.5	261 0 0	2 17 7		52 10 0	316 7 7
Doughboy Hollow	20	19	39	16.3	14.1	30.4	156 0 0	2 1 5		4 7 9	162 9 2
Douglas	16	14	30	9.7	9.5	19.2	116 0 0	1 10 11			117 10 11
Downside	21	20	41	15.4	13.2	28.6	156 0 0	2 6 3		0 10 0	158 16 3
Drake	83	72	155	60.2	49.4	109.6	237 6 8	8 18 3		65 0 0	311 4 11
Drofwal	17	22	39	10.0	15.3	25.3	156 0 0	1 4 11	0 9 0	30 0 0	187 13 11
Druitt Town	97	82	179	65.1	53.3	118.4	396 16 9	3 16 9			400 13 6
Drummoyne	69	69	138	48.2	46.5	94.7	281 0 0	5 1 8		385 2 6	671 4 2
Dubbo	287	268	555	196.4	178.7	375.1	1,381 11 11	17 17 3	3 6 6	151 17 7	1,554 13 3
Duckmaloi	13	14	27	7.7	9.4	17.1	85 0 0	1 12 4			86 12 4
Dudauman	13	13	26	7.1	8.9	16.0	88 15 0	1 6 7			90 1 7
Duddawarra	12	20	32	9.9	15.2	25.1	144 0 0	1 10 11		1 0 0	146 10 11
Dulwich	145	113	258	100.5	73.4	173.9	602 14 8	7 11 7		123 2 6	733 8 9
Dumaresq	16	9	25	12.3	7.5	19.8	130 16 6	1 15 8			132 12 2
Dumaresq Island	10	9	19	7.9	7.0	14.9	116 0 0				116 0 0
Dunbar's Creek	15	14	29	10.8	11.7	22.5	108 0 0	1 6 10	0 18 0	31 10 0	141 14 10
Dundas	31	39	70	22.7	26.5	49.2	240 0 0	2 11 9		215 14 5	458 6 2
Dundee	33	19	52	23.9	13.5	37.4	156 0 0			316 13 5	472 13 5
Dungaree	20	15	35	16.2	10.6	26.8	180 0 0	2 19 10			182 19 10
Dungarubba	18	22	40	11.2	15.4	26.6	170 0 0	1 10 3		4 10 6	176 0 9
Dungog	106	107	213	55.9	53.7	109.6	407 17 0	6 14 9		10 5 0	424 16 9
Dungowan (Lower)	26	25	51	17.1	14.6	31.7	155 0 0				155 0 0
Dungowan (Upper)	12	8	20	6.9	4.6	11.5	50 0 0	0 17 5	3 10 8		54 8 1
Dunkeld	24	19	43	17.0	12.9	29.9	180 0 0	1 7 10			181 7 10
Dunmore	56	48	104	35.6	29.8	65.4	270 18 8	5 1 3		5 18 6	281 18 5
Dunolly	21	34	55	13.5	26.5	40.0	180 0 0	3 14 6		37 1 0	220 15 6
Dunoon	20	18	38	14.7	14.2	28.9	120 0 0	2 7 11			122 7 11
Dural	38	36	74	27.5	24.9	52.4	180 0 0	2 5 6		50 10 6	232 16 0
Duramana	11	14	25	6.3	6.4	12.7	132 0 0	1 5 9		0 6 3	133 12 0
Dusodie	16	7	23	12.2	5.4	17.6	127 0 0			9 5 0	136 5 0

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.											
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.		Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.						
							£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Duval View	16	14	30	11.4	10.1	21.5	120	0	0	2	5	4	13	10	0	135	15	4
Eagleton	14	14	28	10.8	10.4	21.2	156	0	0	0	15	10	10	10	0	167	5	10
Eastgrove	80	65	145	55.4	46.4	101.8	273	8	7	23	16	8	49	8	1	346	13	4
Eastwood	24	24	48	16.0	16.5	32.5	110	0	0	2	8	6	2	1	6	114	10	0
Eatonville	16	18	34	11.9	14.7	26.6	156	0	0	1	7	6	102	6	1	259	13	6
Ebenezer	10	13	23	7.5	8.5	16.0	132	0	0	0	19	5	22	10	0	155	9	5
Eccleston	13	11	24	9.9	8.2	18.1	120	0	0	0	17	1	120	17	1	120	17	1
Eden	40	42	82	31.1	32.4	63.5	258	0	0	3	2	8	117	10	0	378	12	8
Eden Valley	23	25	48	15.0	16.5	31.5	120	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	120	0	0
Edith	13	16	29	8.2	9.8	18.0	96	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	96	0	0
Edwardstown	24	27	51	17.2	21.8	39.0	180	0	0	3	6	2	16	5	0	199	11	2
Eglinton	31	28	59	22.6	20.0	42.6	180	0	0	2	10	8	37	17	0	220	7	8
Elderslie	17	19	36	11.7	14.1	25.8	132	0	0	1	14	9	.....	.....	.....	133	14	9
Elizabethfield	12	11	23	5.0	5.4	10.4	71	5	0	0	16	7	.....	.....	.....	72	1	7
Ellalong	36	22	58	15.3	9.3	24.6	177	0	0	5	1	3	15	17	6	197	18	9
Elmwood	23	9	32	16.2	7.7	23.9	120	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	120	0	0
Elsmore	24	33	57	16.5	22.6	39.1	180	0	0	3	14	8	.....	.....	.....	183	14	8
Emmaville	142	126	268	101.5	80.1	181.6	480	0	0	6	10	4	5	9	3	497	0	4
Emu	64	53	117	44.8	37.3	82.1	301	6	11	2	19	4	.....	.....	.....	304	6	3
Enmore	379	321	700	256.9	204.2	461.1	1,293	10	9	29	9	2	5	0	0	190	6	2
Erina	13	16	29	7.4	11.6	19.0	120	0	0	1	5	0	22	0	0	143	5	0
Eringonia	14	11	25	10.5	7.4	17.9	120	0	0	2	11	3	.....	.....	.....	122	11	3
Ermington	38	41	79	27.4	27.3	54.7	180	0	0	17	19	0	.....	.....	.....	198	11	8
Erskine Park	18	18	36	12.5	10.6	23.1	132	0	0	.....	.....	.....	35	14	0	167	14	0
Eschol	19	8	27	16.4	5.6	22.0	106	0	0	1	16	1	1	1	6	108	17	7
Esk Bank	390	343	733	272.0	224.6	496.6	1,496	8	8	29	3	11	5	18	10	24	11	0
Essington	8	9	17	4.4	6.0	10.4	62	13	4	.....	.....	.....	5	0	0	70	13	4
Eugowra	32	21	53	23.8	17.3	41.1	180	0	0	2	14	4	.....	.....	.....	184	16	4
Eulah Creek	21	14	35	12.4	7.9	20.3	156	0	0	1	17	5	.....	.....	.....	157	17	5
Eulomogo	14	3	17	8.7	1.1	9.8	96	0	0	2	0	10	.....	.....	.....	98	0	10
Euralie	9	11	20	5.0	7.7	12.7	146	0	0	2	0	7	.....	.....	.....	149	0	7
Eurobodalla	15	12	27	10.6	10.7	21.3	128	0	0	1	14	6	.....	.....	.....	129	14	6
Euroka	49	27	76	36.8	19.4	56.2	250	2	3	2	1	5	3	7	0	255	10	8
Eurunderree	28	19	47	23.1	15.4	38.5	180	0	0	2	19	5	24	9	0	207	8	5
Euston	19	16	35	9.2	9.8	19.0	144	0	0	1	2	9	10	0	0	155	2	9
Evans Plains	16	17	33	12.0	11.4	23.4	120	0	0	.....	.....	.....	8	0	0	128	0	0
Eversleigh	17	19	36	13.4	16.3	29.7	93	10	0	0	10	4	10	15	0	104	15	4
Everton Vale	17	12	29	11.3	6.8	18.1	96	0	0	3	6	10	48	15	0	148	1	10
Failford	24	7	31	16.9	5.2	22.1	128	0	0	0	18	2	25	0	0	153	18	2
Fair Hill	25	15	40	15.0	10.9	25.9	122	0	0	4	1	10	9	4	0	135	5	10
Fairview	24	18	42	16.3	11.7	28.0	180	0	0	1	16	11	.....	.....	.....	181	16	11
Fairy Meadow	88	98	186	56.8	56.7	113.5	357	10	0	3	18	7	134	3	8	495	12	3
Falbrook	22	22	44	17.1	16.6	33.7	156	0	0	3	11	4	.....	.....	.....	159	11	4
Falbrook, Middle	11	23	34	9.4	19.3	28.7	20	0	0	6	15	11	.....	.....	.....	26	15	11
Falls, The	22	10	32	13.2	7.3	20.5	96	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	96	0	0
Farnham	24	9	33	15.5	4.2	19.7	120	0	0	2	0	4	.....	.....	.....	122	0	4
Felled Timber Creek	14	14	28	10.6	9.7	20.3	132	0	0	2	0	6	.....	.....	.....	134	0	6
Ferndale	13	21	34	9.2	16.4	25.6	120	0	0	2	5	4	.....	.....	.....	122	5	4
Fern Glen	12	14	26	8.7	10.6	19.3	120	0	0	1	15	10	4	0	0	128	15	10
Fernhill	21	18	39	14.2	13.8	28.0	132	0	0	1	16	9	37	18	0	171	14	9
Fernmount	40	36	76	26.1	18.7	44.8	180	0	0	2	12	2	.....	.....	.....	182	12	2
Fernmount South	13	11	24	6.3	6.9	13.2	75	7	1	0	10	8	.....	.....	.....	75	17	9
Fishery Creek	21	22	43	17.6	17.0	34.6	144	0	0	2	14	4	0	12	9	147	7	1
Fish River Creek	12	11	23	9.5	7.4	16.9	132	0	0	2	4	1	20	15	0	154	19	1
Fitzgerald's Valley	17	9	26	12.8	5.6	18.4	120	0	0	1	16	10	.....	.....	.....	121	16	10
Five Dock	59	47	106	41.0	29.9	70.9	240	0	0	4	1	5	9	2	0	253	3	5
Five Islands	13	16	29	8.4	11.7	20.1	120	0	0	1	9	10	.....	.....	.....	121	9	10
Fladbury	13	11	24	7.0	8.0	15.0	68	15	0	1	13	4	.....	.....	.....	70	8	4
Flowerburn	16	10	26	14.2	8.6	22.8	84	0	0	0	6	5	.....	.....	.....	84	6	5
Forbes	197	213	410	129.5	140.0	269.5	810	13	4	32	0	3	6	17	2	9	1	0
Forest Hill	14	19	33	11.8	15.3	27.1	120	0	0	2	4	7	.....	.....	.....	122	4	7
Forest Lodge	375	322	697	274.5	216.2	490.7	1,480	4	1	30	6	5	168	3	4	1,678	13	10
Forest, The	8	16	24	5.9	11.7	17.6	96	0	0	.....	.....	.....	9	10	0	105	10	0
Forster	25	34	59	20.1	26.3	46.4	180	0	0	1	12	10	26	0	0	207	12	10
Forster North	18	22	40	15.4	15.6	31.0	150	0	0	1	1	2	12	0	0	163	1	2
Fort-street	706	596	1,302	500.9	415.4	916.3	3,461	0	7	46	19	5	1,308	8	10	4,816	8	10
Fort-street (Lower)	153	120	273	108.1	81.5	189.6	643	3	9	10	0	8	160	0	0	813	4	5
Fountaindale	13	5	18	9.0	3.9	12.9	72	15	0	0	17	1	57	3	5	130	15	6
Four-mile Creek	27	13	40	16.8	10.1	26.9	132	0	0	2	16	9	39	4	2	174	0	11
Foxground	26	26	52	20.7	20.4	41.1	176	0	0	3	1	11	8	17	6	187	19	5
Frederickton	73	76	149	54.2	53.6	107.8	357	9	8	6	4	4	2	9	0	377	13	6
Freeman's Reach	36	38	74	25.3	23.2	48.5	264	0	0	3	4	11	75	0	3	342	5	2
Friday Hut	19	9	28	15.0	6.6	21.6	112	10	0	.....	.....	.....	9	10	0	122	0	0
Frogmoor	29	22	51	20.2	13.5	33.7	180	0	0	1	19	11	0	12	0	182	11	11
Frome's Creek	10	13	23	6.2	10.1	16.3	96	0	0	1	6	10	20	0	0	117	6	10
Fullerton Cove	21	22	43	18.0	17.5	35.5	156	0	0	1	10	6	.....	.....	.....	157	10	6
Gadara	10	7	17	8.9	6.4	15.3	96	7	5	1	12	2	6	3	0	104	2	7
Gainsborough	10	4	14	6.5	3.5	10.0	96	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	96	0	0
Galgabba	40	23	63	27.5	13.7	41.2	180	0	0	2	19	9	31	15	3	214	15	0
Galston	23	15	38	18.3	11.8	30.1	156	0	0	2	0	7	95	16	0	253	16	7
Galwadgerie	14	14	28	10.5	10.7	21.2	90	16	0	2	12	6	1	10	0	94	18	6
Ganbenang	10	6	16	6.5	4.2	10.7	71	5	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	71	5	0
Gardener's Road	121	117	238	85.1	82.6	167.7	513	15	5	10	11	10	1	0	0	537	16	6
Garfield	22	22	44	15.7	17.2	32.9	156	0	0	1	5	6	.....	.....	.....	157	5	6
Garra	37	24	61	24.7	17.2	41.9	180	0	0	.....	.....	.....	11	0	0	191	0	0

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Gaspard	13	13	26	8·5	7·6	16·1	100 0 0	1 19 10	2 0 0	9 0 0	112 19 10
Geegullalong	13	11	24	8·0	6·8	14·8	84 5 0	3 0 0	3 9 0	37 12 7	128 6 7
Gentleman's Halt	10	17	27	6·6	13·8	20·4	114 0 0	2 0 4	1 12 0	13 0 0	130 12 4
George's Creek	11	13	24	7·7	8·3	16·0	93 0 0	1 12 5	.....	5 0 0	99 12 5
Germanton	42	27	69	31·3	21·4	52·7	212 10 3	5 17 11	.....	9 12 0	228 0 2
Gerogery	16	16	32	10·6	11·4	22·0	98 0 0	0 15 2	0 19 10	.....	99 15 0
Gerogery Railway Stn.	11	10	21	7·3	6·2	13·5	55 0 0	.....	.....	.....	55 0 0
Gerringong	51	48	99	37·4	34·1	71·5	264 0 0	2 5 4	.....	30 9 9	296 15 1
Gerrymberryn	25	22	47	19·3	15·6	34·9	156 0 0	2 5 3	.....	.....	158 5 3
Geurie	14	19	33	9·0	13·4	22·4	120 0 0	2 6 10	.....	27 19 0	150 5 10
Ghinni Ghinni	13	11	24	10·9	10·0	20·9	132 0 0	1 3 11	.....	4 0 0	137 3 11
Giant's Creek	14	13	27	8·9	5·9	14·8	96 0 0	1 15 11	.....	1 15 6	99 11 5
Gilgai	35	30	65	23·4	18·3	41·7	175 18 5	4 0 11	10 6 0	22 13 0	212 18 4
Gilgandra	17	20	37	10·8	12·2	23·0	123 14 0	1 14 7	10 0 0	40 17 1	176 5 8
Ginninderra	12	11	23	6·7	6·3	13·0	156 0 0	2 7 8	.....	.....	158 7 8
Girilambone	25	17	42	14·6	9·5	24·1	120 0 0	0 18 1	.....	.....	120 18 1
Gladsville	76	70	146	55·6	49·5	105·1	309 12 4	6 18 8	.....	64 18 3	381 9 3
Gladstone	48	61	109	35·2	43·8	79·0	316 8 0	3 10 6	.....	53 10 0	373 8 6
Glanmire	16	18	34	13·8	15·2	29·0	132 0 0	2 14 8	.....	10 0 0	144 14 8
Glassville	12	15	27	9·5	13·5	23·0	108 0 0	1 17 9	1 5 6	.....	111 3 3
Glebe	576	579	1,155	404·4	396·1	800·5	2,398 1 0	55 18 10	.....	268 8 5	2,722 8 3
Gledswood	6	7	13	4·3	5·5	9·8	90 0 0	.....	.....	27 1 0	117 1 0
Glen	46	33	79	34·6	24·5	59·1	222 0 0	2 15 7	8 3 0	54 7 6	287 6 1
Glenbog	23	13	36	15·1	9·5	24·6	102 10 0	.....	.....	.....	102 10 0
Glenburn	13	12	25	10·4	7·8	18·2	132 0 0	1 4 5	.....	.....	133 4 5
Glencoe	10	12	22	8·0	8·0	16·0	96 0 0	1 19 5	.....	.....	97 19 5
Glendon Brook	27	25	52	16·4	15·4	31·8	156 0 0	2 19 10	.....	.....	158 19 10
Glenfield	34	18	52	23·3	11·1	34·4	144 0 0	2 12 8	.....	0 6 0	146 18 8
Glen Innes	179	156	335	114·3	91·2	205·5	768 6 6	19 5 4	7 3 0	19 13 6	814 8 4
Glenlogan	18	18	36	10·2	9·8	20·0	120 0 0	1 8 2	.....	16 0 0	137 8 2
Glenmore	17	16	33	14·6	11·5	26·1	132 0 0	1 13 3	1 19 4	4 2 6	139 15 1
Glenmore Road	223	194	417	160·3	125·7	286·0	948 18 4	10 3 2	.....	130 6 4	1,089 7 10
Glen Morrison	14	15	29	8·6	11·5	20·1	120 0 0	1 3 10	.....	104 10 0	225 13 10
Glenreagh	18	17	35	13·7	12·8	26·5	94 10 0	5 5 10	.....	25 0 0	124 15 10
Glenroy	16	14	30	10·6	9·7	20·3	120 0 0	2 10 5	.....	3 0 0	125 10 5
Glenthorne	16	20	36	11·5	14·2	25·7	120 0 0	1 14 1	.....	20 0 0	141 14 1
Glen William	26	19	45	19·5	15·2	34·7	156 0 0	1 13 10	.....	.....	157 13 10
Glenwood	22	4	26	18·0	2·3	20·3	120 0 0	0 16 8	.....	.....	120 16 8
Gobarralong	13	19	32	8·6	12·7	21·3	96 0 0	0 19 8	2 11 6	.....	99 11 2
Gocup	20	16	36	13·5	10·3	23·8	156 0 0	2 9 11	.....	31 2 6	189 12 5
Gospie	14	8	22	9·2	5·8	15·0	156 0 0	1 16 6	1 10 0	.....	159 6 6
Gondarin Creek	9	17	26	6·5	9·8	16·3	96 0 0	1 7 8	.....	.....	97 7 8
Gongolgon	13	10	23	9·6	6·2	15·8	132 0 0	1 12 9	.....	.....	133 12 9
Goobang	17	22	39	10·1	15·9	26·0	156 0 0	2 1 8	.....	.....	158 1 8
Good Forest	8	7	15	6·4	6·5	12·9	96 0 0	1 7 1	.....	2 15 0	100 2 1
Good Good	10	6	16	6·1	4·0	10·1	96 0 0	2 9 6	.....	.....	98 9 6
Good Hope	16	20	36	10·7	15·7	26·4	156 0 0	2 3 7	.....	.....	158 3 7
Goodooga	19	16	35	8·6	7·6	16·2	63 12 6	6 12 3	.....	.....	70 4 9
Googong	12	13	25	8·0	9·7	17·7	90 2 9	1 15 0	2 6 3	.....	94 4 0
Goolagong	21	44	65	14·0	34·7	48·7	180 0 0	3 5 11	.....	16 0 0	199 5 11
Goolma	15	12	27	10·8	9·8	20·6	108 0 0	6 10 0	.....	.....	114 10 0
Goolmangar	17	12	29	13·5	9·1	22·6	118 0 0	1 17 3	1 3 0	29 19 5	150 19 8
Goonellebah	33	34	67	23·6	22·2	45·8	180 0 0	2 7 10	.....	7 5 0	189 12 10
Goonoo Goonoo	8	14	22	6·1	9·9	16·0	96 0 0	1 17 8	.....	.....	97 17 8
Goonoowigal	39	32	71	25·5	21·2	46·7	177 0 0	2 17 4	.....	.....	179 17 4
Goorangoola	11	7	18	9·5	6·1	15·6	120 0 0	0 10 7	.....	.....	120 10 7
Gordon	43	43	86	18·5	20·2	38·7	349 7 9	6 10 1	.....	703 19 11	1,059 17 9
Gosford	106	78	184	70·9	50·1	121·0	330 0 0	6 19 9	.....	16 10 0	355 9 9
Gosforth	21	21	42	15·1	15·7	30·8	156 0 0	3 2 5	.....	2 12 6	161 14 11
Gosling Creek	17	18	35	8·8	9·2	18·0	120 0 0	1 8 0	.....	.....	121 8 0
Gostwyck	14	11	25	10·0	8·0	18·0	146 0 0	3 14 5	.....	1 0 0	150 14 5
Gough Town	30	24	54	19·8	16·1	35·9	145 0 0	2 17 10	.....	578 13 5	726 11 3
Goulburn	328	351	679	240·6	228·1	468·7	1,571 10 0	22 0 2	.....	1,849 16 1	3,443 6 3
Goulburn North	221	205	426	170·2	146·8	317·0	1,058 18 0	14 2 0	.....	80 17 0	1,153 17 0
Goulburn South	163	143	306	120·0	97·4	217·4	694 5 5	2 19 2	.....	99 11 11	796 16 6
Gourlay	20	8	28	13·8	5·9	19·7	127 6 8	2 3 10	3 11 0	7 6 4	140 7 10
Gowrie	16	21	37	10·7	14·0	24·7	156 0 0	0 2 4 0	.....	.....	158 4 0
Grace Mount	5	7	12	3·6	5·0	8·6	53 10 3	1 10 10	.....	.....	55 1 1
Grafton	379	364	743	277·8	271·5	549·3	1,702 18 7	51 8 2	.....	292 0 11	2,046 7 8
Grafton South	101	87	188	70·5	67·1	137·6	481 10 0	2 17 7	.....	19 1 8	503 9 3
Graham	11	12	23	9·7	10·4	20·1	96 0 0	1 13 5	.....	20 0 0	117 13 5
Graman	12	10	22	6·5	5·4	11·9	105 17 4	2 19 9	.....	70 0 0	178 17 1
Grantham	18	16	34	15·1	12·0	27·1	156 0 0	3 17 1	.....	.....	159 17 1
Granville	212	259	471	154·0	180·8	334·8	1,092 15 5	17 3 6	.....	21 1 0	1,130 19 11
Granville North	162	153	315	105·8	100·4	206·2	571 10 0	2 13 5	.....	1,210 13 3	1,784 16 8
Grattai	16	5	21	13·2	4·8	18·0	85 0 0	0 19 3	1 15 0	.....	87 14 3
Gravel Pits	88	69	157	51·2	41·3	92·5	271 0 0	4 12 4	.....	55 15 0	331 7 4
Great Central	35	22	57	24·2	13·7	37·9	120 0 0	1 5 11	3 10 0	39 4 3	164 0 2
Greenbank	4	4	8	2·9	3·3	6·2	61 5 0	0 14 8	.....	.....	61 19 8
Greendale	15	11	26	10·1	8·6	18·7	84 5 0	1 3 9	.....	4 15 0	90 3 9
Green Grove	9	10	19	6·5	7·3	13·8	120 0 0	0 11 1	3 10 0	.....	125 1 1
Green Hills	14	8	22	11·8	7·3	19·1	104 0 0	0 11 4	.....	.....	105 11 4
Green Valley	33	22	55	25·9	16·4	42·3	179 7 1	2 7 9	.....	.....	181 14 10
Greenwell Point	13	16	29	10·4	11·1	21·5	132 0 0	1 10 10	.....	.....	133 10 10
Greenwich	36	29	65	21·0	18·2	39·2	120 0 0	2 5 11	.....	9 5 0	131 10 11

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
Greenwich Park	10	11	21	8·9	8·5	17·4	£ 73 2 6	£ 1 2 3	£ 1 5 0	£ 6 10 0	£ 81 19 9
Greenwood.....	13	15	28	9·7	9·4	19·1	120 0 0	2 8 7	4 13 6	.....	127 2 1
Greghamstown	13	14	27	8·6	10·0	18·6	170 0 0	0 15 5	.....	.....	170 15 5
Gregra	19	12	31	13·8	8·0	21·8	127 14 10	0 3 1	.....	4 0 0	131 17 11
Grenfell	149	110	259	106·5	70·7	177·2	672 10 7	16 2 1	.....	18 7 3	706 19 11
Gresford	45	28	73	30·1	19·4	49·5	180 0 0	2 4 2	.....	.....	182 4 2
Greta	157	155	312	123·2	111·0	234·2	618 10 0	15 7 1	4 4 6	45 0 3	683 1 10
Grong Grong	21	19	40	13·2	11·5	24·7	128 0 0	0 16 2	.....	.....	128 16 2
Groombridge Swamp..	20	21	41	14·8	15·7	30·5	132 0 0	2 1 10	.....	3 10 0	137 11 10
Guildford	33	21	54	24·8	15·2	40·0	144 0 0	1 14 7	.....	68 12 6	214 7 1
Gulgambone	14	21	35	11·8	15·7	27·5	120 0 0	2 0 1	.....	.....	122 0 1
Gulgamree	17	20	37	12·7	15·9	28·6	120 0 0	3 0 8	1 15 0	8 0 0	132 15 8
Gulgong	101	91	192	77·4	68·7	146·1	396 0 0	13 0 10	.....	144 14 2	553 15 0
Gullen.....	23	24	47	17·0	15·7	32·7	190 0 0	2 5 7	1 18 6	.....	194 4 1
Gullen Flat	18	11	29	11·4	6·4	17·8	92 6 0	1 5 1	.....	.....	93 11 1
Gullen West	27	12	39	16·8	6·7	23·5	120 0 0	1 12 10	1 10 0	4 0 0	127 2 10
Gum Flat	27	26	53	18·1	15·9	34·0	180 0 0	4 11 4	.....	57 17 6	242 8 10
Gunbar	26	20	46	13·8	12·9	26·7	126 0 0	1 7 4	9 19 9	.....	137 7 1
Gundagai	71	59	130	56·2	47·6	103·8	372 19 11	8 10 6	.....	.....	381 10 5
Gundagai South	42	51	93	27·7	36·6	64·3	245 18 6	.....	.....	8 15 0	254 13 6
Gundaroo	19	16	35	11·5	10·5	22·0	132 0 0	1 7 3	.....	4 15 0	138 2 3
Gundurimba	33	24	57	23·8	17·6	41·4	180 0 0	1 15 4	.....	.....	181 15 4
Gundy	11	17	28	7·5	13·3	20·8	132 0 0	2 8 2	.....	34 12 0	169 0 2
Gungahleen	12	9	21	9·4	7·1	16·5	88 15 0	0 19 5	.....	6 7 0	96 1 5
Gunnedah	99	105	204	71·8	69·4	141·2	415 0 0	3 14 7	.....	14 6 4	433 0 11
Gunnenbene	11	14	25	6·1	10·1	16·2	96 0 0	2 8 6	.....	0 10 0	98 18 6
Gunning	65	61	126	48·5	44·7	93·2	315 0 0	7 17 9	.....	9 17 0	332 14 9
Guntawang	29	28	57	21·9	19·9	41·8	180 0 0	3 18 3	.....	.....	183 18 3
Gurrundah	12	10	22	7·6	5·9	13·5	96 0 0	.....	1 10 0	.....	97 10 0
Guyong	30	22	52	19·5	14·0	33·5	156 0 0	2 13 6	.....	.....	158 13 6
Hall's Creek	21	22	43	12·7	15·1	27·8	149 0 0	2 15 6	3 10 0	10 0 0	165 5 6
Halton	16	14	30	10·6	9·8	20·4	126 19 4	1 15 3	.....	.....	128 14 7
Hamilton	325	313	638	229·5	221·8	451·3	1,421 12 3	24 3 7	.....	117 4 0	1,562 19 10
Hanbury	151	160	311	107·0	108·3	215·3	729 18 2	14 0 9	.....	6 0 6	749 19 5
Hanging Rock	31	19	50	22·4	12·9	35·3	110 0 0	.....	.....	.....	110 0 0
Harben Vale	16	11	27	10·9	7·9	18·8	120 0 0	.....	.....	.....	120 0 0
Hargraves	14	15	29	11·4	10·0	21·4	180 0 0	1 6 5	.....	.....	181 6 5
Harley Hill	21	14	35	13·6	8·0	21·6	134 0 0	1 10 9	.....	0 15 3	136 6 0
Harparary	14	15	29	9·9	11·2	21·1	107 10 0	2 9 10	.....	72 1 0	182 0 10
Hartford.....	8	12	20	6·4	7·3	13·7	117 14 10	1 16 3	.....	.....	119 11 1
Hartley	23	13	36	12·7	7·1	19·8	154 2 8	1 2 4	.....	5 0 0	160 5 0
Hartley Vale.....	71	77	148	43·3	47·4	90·7	322 12 10	3 1 9	.....	18 0 0	343 14 7
Harwood Island	38	46	84	26·3	32·1	58·4	223 13 6	2 14 7	.....	47 0 0	273 8 1
Hatfield	12	11	23	8·9	9·5	18·4	58 15 0	1 18 9	5 0 0	.....	65 13 9
Hawkins' Creek	22	20	42	15·0	12·3	27·3	120 0 0	2 6 7	.....	0 9 0	122 15 7
Hay.....	171	158	329	120·0	104·3	224·3	630 0 8	8 2 2	.....	13 2 0	651 4 10
Heathcote	25	15	40	17·7	10·3	28·0	168 0 0	1 2 9	.....	27 0 0	196 2 9
Helensburgh	61	64	125	31·2	31·9	63·1	290 19 11	5 11 9	.....	205 7 0	601 18 8
Hexham	41	36	77	26·2	24·8	51·0	240 0 0	4 15 8	.....	26 16 10	271 12 6
Hill End.....	116	115	231	73·9	75·3	149·2	599 11 5	6 14 2	6 15 0	12 10 0	625 10 7
Hillgrove	51	62	113	32·5	32·7	65·2	121 14 8	2 7 9	.....	339 5 0	463 7 5
Hillston	38	30	68	28·2	24·6	52·8	373 0 0	4 15 0	.....	1 2 6	378 17 6
Hill View	11	12	23	7·9	9·1	17·0	75 0 0	1 8 10	.....	0 4 0	76 12 10
Hinton	70	64	134	52·7	47·7	100·4	387 0 0	9 1 11	.....	8 10 0	404 11 11
Hobby's Yards	21	27	48	12·7	19·0	31·7	157 5 2	.....	5 0 0	2 14 6	164 19 8
Holdsworthly.....	20	12	32	14·3	9·2	23·5	120 0 0	1 2 3	.....	6 13 0	127 15 3
Holey Flat.....	12	8	20	8·4	6·4	14·8	96 0 0	1 11 7	.....	8 10 0	106 1 7
Holt's Flat.....	11	16	27	6·2	10·5	16·7	120 0 0	.....	.....	26 0 0	146 0 0
Homebush	90	52	142	68·7	35·8	104·5	321 0 0	5 8 10	.....	208 7 0	534 15 10
Honeysuckle Springs.	12	11	23	8·7	9·5	18·2	96 0 0	1 13 9	.....	13 0 0	110 13 9
Hopfield	18	13	31	10·6	8·3	18·9	132 0 0	2 2 11	.....	.....	134 2 11
Hornsby	44	36	80	30·5	26·1	56·6	276 0 0	6 7 9	.....	32 8 6	314 16 3
Horseshoe Bend.....	54	54	108	38·5	37·4	75·9	213 0 0	2 9 4	.....	2 0 0	217 9 4
Hoskingtown.....	14	6	20	11·0	4·6	15·6	85 0 0	1 5 6	.....	.....	86 5 6
Hovell.....	16	20	36	6·7	9·5	16·2	132 0 0	.....	1 15 0	.....	133 15 0
Howe's Valley.....	14	15	29	11·0	12·2	23·2	120 0 0	1 13 10	.....	.....	121 13 10
Howlong	43	46	89	30·1	32·6	62·7	243 0 0	5 6 0	.....	21 0 0	269 6 0
Humula	14	7	21	8·3	5·2	13·5	103 13 4	1 14 9	.....	.....	105 8 1
Hunter's Hill.....	45	36	81	38·8	25·9	64·7	272 16 0	5 13 6	.....	26 19 0	305 8 6
Hunter (Upper).....	11	11	22	7·4	8·1	15·5	72 10 0	1 15 5	.....	.....	74 5 5
Huon	14	15	29	8·6	9·4	18·0	132 0 0	1 13 7	.....	26 2 10	159 16 5
Hurlstone .....	.....	134	134	.....	83·0	83·0	390 0 0	9 16 10	.....	.....	399 16 10
Hurstville.....	155	127	282	112·3	89·2	201·5	459 10 3	7 16 3	.....	6 0 0	473 6 6
Huskisson North	13	8	21	6·8	4·0	10·8	120 0 0	1 12 0	.....	.....	121 12 0
Iford.....	26	25	51	20·5	17·7	38·2	180 0 0	1 12 11	2 4 0	.....	183 16 11
Illabo	22	16	38	8·7	6·9	15·6	85 10 0	3 2 2	.....	.....	88 12 2
Illaroo.....	10	13	23	7·0	10·0	17·0	97 10 0	.....	.....	.....	97 10 0
Illilliwa	18	14	32	13·5	10·9	24·4	128 0 0	.....	.....	.....	128 0 0
Iuka	31	17	48	26·3	14·2	40·5	141 17 5	2 9 9	.....	10 5 0	154 12 2
Ingleburn	23	23	46	14·1	16·3	30·4	144 0 0	1 17 8	.....	11 15 0	157 12 8
Ingliswold	15	15	30	11·2	10·7	21·9	55 3 2	7 10 4	.....	154 5 0	216 18 6
Inverary Park.....	7	5	12	6·0	3·4	9·4	60 0 0	0 17 5	.....	.....	60 17 5
Inverell.....	159	149	308	110·9	105·5	216·4	690 0 4	.....	4 7 0	34 18 6	729 5 10
Iona.....	42	36	78	26·8	24·1	50·9	247 10 0	3 3 6	.....	40 0 0	290 13 6
Irene	15	14	29	11·7	7·8	19·5	96 0 0	2 1 0	.....	.....	98 1 0

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Iristown	15	14	29	10·2	8·4	18·6	92 13 4	.....	2 7 0	71 4 6	166 4 10
Ironbarks	33	53	86	23·3	35·0	58·3	267 0 0	2 7 5	.....	.....	269 7 5
Ironbong	13	11	24	3·4	3·9	7·3	85 0 0	0 14 9	.....	.....	85 14 9
Irvington	30	31	61	22·3	21·1	43·4	180 0 0	1 17 0	.....	150 14 6	332 11 6
Islington	86	108	194	60·1	68·8	128·9	434 11 2	15 15 11	.....	109 4 0	559 11 1
Jacob & Joseph Creek..	11	8	19	8·2	5·4	13·6	94 0 0	1 11 2	1 5 0	7 9 6	104 5 8
Jacqua	15	11	26	11·1	8·7	19·8	113 10 0	1 19 10	.....	13 10 0	128 19 10
Jamberoo	79	70	149	47·9	44·2	92·1	336 0 0	4 11 4	.....	17 14 0	358 5 4
Jannung	14	6	20	8·9	4·7	13·6	96 0 0	2 0 4	.....	.....	98 0 4
Janagarrah	11	2	13	7·7	1·9	9·6	68 15 0	0 17 7	.....	.....	69 12 7
Jasper's Brush	35	34	69	24·5	25·8	50·3	213 2 4	1 16 2	.....	228 14 11	443 13 5
Jeir	19	17	36	10·4	10·0	20·4	120 0 0	2 14 2	.....	.....	122 14 2
Jellat Jellat	19	25	44	13·3	17·7	31·0	142 0 0	0 16 4	.....	15 13 5	158 9 9
Jellingroo	7	12	19	5·0	7·8	12·8	89 5 0	.....	.....	.....	89 5 0
Jellore	8	12	20	6·8	11·0	17·8	102 0 0	1 11 4	.....	.....	103 11 4
Jembaicumbene	25	29	54	15·2	18·3	33·5	180 0 0	2 0 6	.....	91 16 1	273 16 7
Jerilderie	25	27	52	14·3	17·3	31·6	156 0 0	.....	.....	2 3 0	158 3 0
Jerrara	27	18	45	20·6	12·4	33·0	134 0 0	1 10 1	.....	.....	135 10 1
Jerrawa	22	13	35	19·0	11·3	30·3	150 0 0	0 18 0	.....	1 10 0	152 8 0
Jerrunga	15	22	37	10·0	14·3	24·3	120 0 0	2 19 5	.....	.....	122 19 5
Jerry's Plains	50	33	83	36·2	24·3	60·5	257 14 8	3 2 5	.....	31 16 0	292 13 1
Jesmond	108	108	216	78·9	79·3	158·2	406 10 0	5 12 8	.....	98 16 0	510 18 8
Jettiba	15	8	23	10·6	5·5	16·1	96 0 0	.....	.....	0 5 0	96 5 0
Jimenbuan	11	7	18	6·7	3·3	10·0	108 0 0	1 17 4	.....	.....	109 17 4
Jindabyne	15	12	27	7·9	6·8	14·7	120 0 0	.....	.....	25 8 0	145 8 0
Jindalee	17	8	25	13·3	6·0	19·3	103 10 0	1 5 5	.....	11 3 0	115 18 5
Jindalee West	25	19	44	16·4	13·9	30·3	156 0 0	4 14 9	.....	19 5 0	179 19 9
Jindera	25	19	44	16·5	13·1	29·6	152 0 0	.....	.....	.....	152 0 0
Jingellic	5	8	13	2·1	4·2	6·3	40 0 0	.....	3 4 0	.....	43 4 0
Jingellic East	11	8	19	9·2	7·1	16·3	43 15 0	.....	.....	.....	43 15 0
Joadja	60	58	118	44·5	40·3	84·8	270 0 0	4 19 6	.....	.....	274 19 6
Johnson's Creek	14	8	22	11·6	7·3	18·9	96 0 0	.....	.....	.....	96 0 0
John's River	18	15	33	13·8	11·5	25·3	120 0 0	3 17 1	.....	199 0 0	322 17 1
Jugiong	19	21	40	15·2	15·4	30·6	144 0 0	3 4 5	.....	.....	147 4 5
Junee	21	20	41	14·0	16·3	30·3	156 0 0	2 8 4	.....	0 7 0	158 15 4
Junee Junction	191	149	340	122·8	97·3	220·1	773 19 0	16 15 1	.....	10 0 0	800 14 1
Kameruka	14	14	28	11·6	11·5	23·1	120 0 0	.....	.....	.....	120 0 0
Kangaloon East	20	29	49	14·4	20·0	34·4	156 0 0	2 1 3	.....	2 2 0	160 3 3
Kangaloon West	24	29	53	17·4	22·3	39·7	158 0 0	2 6 4	1 5 0	315 10 9	477 2 1
Kangaroo River	9	10	19	6·6	6·0	12·6	132 0 0	1 12 7	.....	.....	133 12 7
Kangaroo Valley	36	33	69	23·5	23·4	46·9	180 0 0	2 6 2	.....	2 8 4	184 14 6
Kangyang	18	23	41	10·9	14·4	25·3	132 0 0	2 4 7	.....	2 10 0	136 14 7
Katoomba	58	68	126	38·4	40·5	78·9	284 12 0	2 15 0	.....	134 3 1	421 10 1
Kayuga	18	20	38	12·0	13·4	25·4	140 0 0	.....	.....	31 0 0	171 0 0
Keepit	6	9	15	2·3	4·1	6·4	60 0 0	.....	.....	.....	60 0 0
Kegworth	235	237	472	166·8	162·2	329·0	774 7 4	29 7 5	.....	108 19 6	912 14 3
Keirson	14	10	24	8·0	6·7	14·7	108 0 0	1 18 10	.....	.....	109 18 10
Kelly's Plains	23	14	37	15·7	9·5	25·2	132 0 0	1 14 11	.....	.....	133 14 11
Kellyville	18	21	39	15·1	17·7	32·8	144 0 0	1 7 3	3 0 0	0 1 6	148 8 9
Kelso	31	40	71	22·7	29·6	52·3	216 0 0	2 4 4	.....	1 13 6	219 17 10
Kempsey East	73	75	148	43·9	50·3	94·2	379 0 0	3 14 11	2 0 0	69 15 0	454 9 11
Kempsey West	109	84	193	73·3	60·4	133·7	479 10 0	4 15 8	.....	16 2 4	500 8 0
Kendale	15	15	30	8·7	9·8	18·5	122 10 0	.....	.....	.....	122 10 0
Kentgrove	22	22	44	17·3	13·5	30·8	120 0 0	1 15 3	.....	32 8 6	154 3 9
Kenthurst	23	14	37	15·9	9·7	25·6	144 0 0	2 4 10	.....	.....	146 4 10
Kentucky	16	27	43	10·5	17·7	28·2	120 0 0	3 3 0	1 14 0	7 17 0	132 14 0
Kerr's Creek	11	14	25	6·2	8·5	14·7	80 0 0	1 1 0	.....	.....	81 1 0
Khalangan	19	7	26	12·3	5·6	17·9	90 0 0	1 8 9	1 11 6	.....	93 0 3
Kiama	131	135	266	92·0	92·0	184·0	672 8 5	10 14 3	.....	54 15 0	737 17 8
Kiandra	16	24	40	10·1	16·8	26·9	120 0 0	2 10 0	.....	52 2 6	174 12 6
Killawarra	28	22	50	20·4	16·1	36·5	183 0 0	2 0 8	.....	396 6 0	581 6 8
Kilrush	17	14	31	11·6	8·1	19·7	126 0 0	1 0 5	4 7 2	1 0 0	132 7 7
Kimbriki	8	17	25	5·5	13·0	18·5	131 0 0	.....	.....	.....	131 0 0
Kincumber	24	24	48	18·3	21·0	39·3	154 0 0	1 13 3	.....	.....	165 13 3
Kindra	19	12	31	8·5	7·8	16·3	96 0 0	0 16 8	.....	50 0 0	146 16 8
Kingsdale	18	18	36	11·2	12·6	23·8	120 0 0	1 12 10	.....	4 10 0	126 2 10
King's Plains	33	22	55	14·7	10·0	24·7	180 0 0	2 1 3	.....	.....	182 1 3
Kingvale	10	15	25	4·9	9·7	14·6	87 15 0	2 0 11	6 0 0	.....	95 15 11
Kiara	9	18	27	6·3	14·0	20·3	96 0 0	2 15 3	.....	.....	98 15 3
Kiora	20	18	38	15·5	15·4	30·9	108 10 0	1 18 0	.....	8 0 0	118 8 0
Kirkconnell	15	19	34	10·4	16·3	26·7	144 0 0	2 6 7	.....	.....	146 6 7
Kirkdale	15	13	28	10·6	11·5	22·1	120 0 0	1 11 3	.....	52 10 0	174 1 3
Kirkton	35	18	53	23·9	11·5	35·4	156 0 0	.....	.....	96 17 0	252 17 0
Knockfin	4	7	11	2·2	4·9	7·1	62 10 0	1 9 1	1 8 0	38 16 0	104 3 1
Kogarah	197	205	402	149·5	147·6	297·1	548 16 6	18 16 1	.....	12 14 6	590 7 1
Koorawatha	25	23	48	18·8	15·6	34·4	144 0 0	2 15 1	.....	186 12 0	333 7 1
Koppin Yarrat	18	22	40	9·9	7·4	17·3	120 0 0	2 2 0	.....	.....	122 2 0
Koribahk	13	9	22	9·9	5·9	15·8	104 5 0	1 5 9	.....	38 0 0	143 10 9
Kowen	11	19	30	5·7	10·7	16·4	90 0 0	2 9 4	2 6 0	.....	94 15 4
Kurragong North	33	24	57	24·8	15·8	40·6	180 0 0	1 3 11	.....	2 0 0	183 3 11
Kurragong South	24	22	46	17·9	16·6	34·5	144 0 0	2 14 4	.....	17 12 0	164 6 4
Lacmalac	15	13	28	7·1	8·2	15·3	96 0 0	2 7 7	.....	.....	98 7 7
Laggan	9	19	28	4·8	11·9	16·7	96 0 0	1 10 4	.....	.....	97 10 4
Lagoons	33	20	53	19·2	11·0	30·2	144 0 0	1 18 10	.....	.....	145 18 10

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Laguna	28	26	54	22·9	19·3	42·2	180 0 0	2 3 3	.....	.....	182 3 3
Lake Albert	31	35	66	20·2	20·4	40·6	180 0 0	4 8 9	.....	76 12 0	261 0 9
Lake Cudgellico	42	38	60	33·2	28·2	61·4	216 0 0	5 16 0	.....	.....	221 16 0
Lambing Hill	18	14	32	12·3	9·0	21·3	140 11 7	1 0 8	.....	125 9 7	267 1 10
Lambton	272	300	572	200·3	212·0	412·3	1,548 10 0	7 14 4	.....	84 7 9	1,640 12 1
Lang's Creek	8	18	26	2·9	11·9	14·8	81 18 4	2 0 9	.....	.....	83 19 1
Larry's Flat	16	24	40	11·4	20·1	31·5	144 0 0	5 11 6	.....	17 0 0	166 11 6
Laurieton	31	24	55	23·3	17·5	40·8	180 0 0	2 9 0	.....	.....	182 9 0
Lavadia	13	16	29	6·8	9·4	16·2	108 0 0	.....	4 13 3	.....	112 13 3
Lawrence	50	44	94	34·0	28·5	62·5	258 0 0	2 18 5	.....	50 10 6	311 8 11
Lawrence (Lower)	16	18	34	13·4	15·1	28·5	115 1 3	1 14 5	.....	29 12 10	146 8 6
Lawson's Creek	13	18	31	9·8	14·3	24·1	120 0 0	.....	.....	7 10 0	127 10 0
Leech's Gully	24	19	43	18·3	14·4	32·7	144 0 0	1 12 8	.....	.....	145 12 8
Leichhardt	472	434	906	363·8	326·2	690·0	1,919 9 10	45 4 8	.....	65 10 9	2,030 5 3
Leichhardt West	173	146	319	119·1	99·0	218·1	630 11 0	4 14 1	.....	85 18 6	721 3 7
Leighwood	12	12	24	4·9	6·8	11·7	132 0 0	0 17 10	.....	.....	132 17 10
Lewis Ponds	45	47	92	22·1	18·0	40·1	113 1 4	10 16 2	.....	32 18 0	156 15 6
Limeburner's Creek	7	11	18	5·4	7·4	12·8	86 15 0	2 4 11	1 8 7	8 15 0	99 3 6
Limekilns	15	11	26	12·3	9·6	21·9	156 0 0	1 0 9	.....	.....	157 0 9
Linburn	40	29	69	29·1	21·8	50·9	215 16 1	3 5 5	.....	.....	219 1 6
Lismore	164	160	324	119·7	120·6	240·3	724 10 0	11 3 11	.....	53 11 3	789 5 2
Little Plain	14	22	36	8·2	13·7	21·9	180 0 0	2 4 11	.....	11 17 6	194 2 5
Little River	36	29	65	20·7	16·3	37·0	156 0 0	2 5 6	.....	.....	158 5 6
Liverpool	925	172	397	155·8	116·2	272·0	706 8 0	12 13 5	.....	1,467 1 8	2,186 3 1
Loch End	30	35	65	18·7	21·4	40·1	179 2 7	1 11 7	.....	.....	180 14 2
Lochiel	15	18	33	10·9	12·0	22·9	100 0 0	1 15 6	2 18 0	2 0 0	106 13 6
Lochinvar	35	29	64	26·7	21·0	47·7	252 0 0	.....	.....	12 0 0	264 0 0
Long Reach	25	16	41	16·4	10·1	26·5	120 0 0	1 17 7	.....	.....	121 17 7
Longueville	33	22	55	18·4	12·5	30·9	164 0 0	2 6 0	.....	2 0 0	168 6 0
Lord's Hill	18	17	35	12·8	12·4	25·2	144 0 0	1 15 5	.....	6 19 5	152 14 10
Lostock	27	21	48	16·9	14·3	31·2	156 0 0	.....	.....	.....	156 0 0
Lost River	20	10	30	14·2	6·6	20·8	128 0 0	2 9 3	.....	.....	130 9 3
Louth	10	10	20	6·9	5·5	12·4	121 10 0	1 7 11	10 9 6	18 9 11	151 17 4
Lowesdale	13	13	26	7·7	7·8	15·5	132 0 0	1 15 6	.....	.....	133 15 6
Lowther	7	13	20	3·8	7·6	11·4	96 0 0	1 0 4	.....	.....	97 0 4
Lucknow	54	39	93	32·4	24·1	56·5	252 0 0	4 9 7	.....	.....	256 9 7
Luddenham	39	23	62	27·4	15·1	42·5	173 6 8	2 19 11	0 10 11	85 10 0	262 7 6
M'Donald Central	13	13	26	9·7	10·7	20·4	132 0 0	1 5 0	.....	50 0 0	183 5 0
M'Donald (Lower)	7	12	19	4·5	7·7	12·2	96 0 0	2 10 5	.....	.....	98 10 5
M'Donald's Creek	14	21	35	8·1	15·9	24·0	144 0 0	1 11 8	.....	.....	145 11 8
M'Donald's Hole	8	8	16	5·8	6·6	12·4	67 10 0	.....	.....	.....	67 10 0
M'Donald (Upper)	15	21	36	10·8	15·2	26·0	120 0 0	.....	.....	8 5 0	128 5 0
M'Henry's Creek	18	19	37	13·7	14·3	28·0	144 0 0	2 12 6	.....	3 10 0	150 2 6
M'Lean's Ridges	30	32	62	21·8	21·6	43·4	185 0 0	4 0 9	3 18 6	5 10 0	148 9 3
Macdonaldtown	628	548	1,176	430·8	368·0	798·8	2,202 11 11	32 0 9	.....	29 8 3	2,264 0 11
Maclean	91	105	196	60·5	74·6	135·1	415 3 4	3 5 7	.....	32 12 6	451 1 5
Macquarie-st., South.	263	280	543	177·5	187·5	365·0	1,522 17 9	22 7 10	1 19 0	98 7 7	1,645 11 2
Maharatta	20	7	27	14·6	5·9	20·5	81 5 0	.....	.....	.....	81 5 0
Maitland East	181	167	348	130·3	115·7	246·0	825 10 0	14 1 7	.....	8 9 0	848 0 7
Maitland West	392	398	790	284·8	284·5	569·3	1,769 0 0	52 3 11	1 4 6	1,505 16 3	3,328 4 8
Major's Creek	55	48	103	38·1	29·7	67·8	274 11 0	3 16 7	.....	12 5 5	290 12 7
Malebo	17	14	31	11·3	7·4	18·7	120 0 0	3 3 11	.....	.....	123 3 11
Maloga	21	21	42	16·9	18·1	35·0	132 0 0	3 10 5	.....	142 10 9	278 1 2
Maluerindi	13	17	30	10·1	12·7	22·8	96 0 0	2 17 3	.....	68 0 0	166 17 3
Malvern	8	12	20	6·5	9·4	15·9	92 5 0	2 9 1	.....	1 17 0	96 11 1
Manchester Square	10	18	28	7·9	13·9	21·8	91 5 0	.....	.....	52 8 3	143 13 3
Mandurama	26	26	52	17·5	17·0	34·5	180 0 0	2 0 4	.....	.....	182 0 4
Mangamore	23	10	33	18·7	8·6	27·3	88 0 0	1 14 7	1 6 0	.....	91 0 7
Mangrove (Lower)	18	16	34	11·6	10·8	22·4	131 0 0	.....	1 5 0	.....	132 5 0
Manie's Creek	18	17	35	15·9	14·6	30·5	156 0 0	1 11 7	.....	2 10 0	160 1 7
Manildra	24	24	48	17·6	18·3	35·9	196 13 6	2 0 1	2 10 6	.....	201 4 1
Manilla	46	43	89	34·0	33·7	67·7	241 11 1	4 13 3	.....	8 18 9	255 3 1
Manilla (Upper)	11	12	23	5·9	7·2	13·1	132 0 0	1 19 6	.....	.....	133 19 6
Manly	144	121	265	86·4	74·0	160·4	439 10 0	7 9 10	.....	54 11 9	501 11 7
Mannafeld	29	19	48	24·6	15·6	40·2	134 0 0	2 0 7	0 19 9	.....	137 0 4
Manton	13	12	25	9·0	9·5	18·5	87 10 0	1 5 9	.....	.....	88 15 9
Marangaroo	15	16	31	11·3	11·1	22·4	132 0 0	2 6 8	.....	.....	134 6 8
Marangulla	16	18	34	11·7	11·9	23·6	156 0 0	1 19 3	.....	.....	157 19 3
March	23	19	42	10·2	11·2	21·4	156 0 0	.....	.....	17 10 0	173 10 0
Marengo	33	29	62	23·5	18·7	42·2	246 0 0	2 5 7	.....	1 17 6	250 3 1
Marina	14	14	28	9·2	9·4	18·6	76 17 5	1 11 10	.....	.....	78 9 3
Markwell	16	15	31	10·4	11·4	21·8	132 0 0	0 19 3	.....	.....	132 19 3
Marlee	18	14	32	13·3	9·3	22·6	120 0 0	1 6 1	.....	.....	121 6 1
Maroota	18	9	27	14·2	6·9	21·1	89 15 2	1 7 5	.....	.....	91 2 7
Marowie South	12	11	23	10·6	7·5	18·1	99 0 0	6 7 4	.....	6 10 0	111 17 4
Marrickville	315	270	585	225·1	194·2	419·3	1,463 5 4	47 11 7	.....	55 19 6	1,566 16 5
Marrickville West	252	186	438	180·3	131·9	312·2	666 16 8	8 12 1	.....	159 10 8	834 19 5
Marsden	11	19	30	7·9	11·7	19·6	132 0 0	1 6 8	.....	232 1 8	365 8 4
Marshall Mount	42	21	63	31·6	13·4	45·0	180 0 0	1 19 6	.....	5 0 0	186 19 6
Martindale	11	16	27	8·1	11·0	19·1	90 5 0	1 4 4	5 10 0	.....	96 19 4
Marulan	39	41	80	28·4	29·3	57·7	244 10 0	2 14 0	.....	23 15 6	270 19 6
Maryland	16	19	35	8·8	15·1	23·9	132 0 0	.....	.....	5 0 0	137 0 0
Maryvale	21	31	52	16·7	22·6	39·3	180 0 0	1 17 2	.....	2 12 4	184 9 6
Mathoura	27	22	49	17·6	14·7	32·3	144 0 0	3 7 3	.....	.....	147 7 3

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls			Average Weekly Attendance			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys	Girls	Total.	Boys	Girls	Total	Salaries	Books and Apparatus	Travelling Expenses and Forage	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Maude	12	7	19	7.0	4.3	11.3	94 0 0	1 2 9	2 15 0	5 17 0	103 14 9
Maybole	11	12	23	8.0	10.4	18.4	93 10 0	.....	.....	.....	93 10 0
Mayfield	11	19	30	8.3	11.5	19.8	132 0 0	1 12 7	.....	3 0 0	136 12 7
Meadow Flat.....	26	24	50	18.2	17.7	35.9	180 0 0	1 7 10	5 0 0	26 17 6	213 5 4
Meermaul	17	15	32	10.0	9.5	19.5	132 0 0	1 14 9	.....	.....	133 14 9
Meerschau Vale .	22	22	44	14.4	12.9	27.3	148 0 0	2 4 11	.....	3 8 9	153 13 8
Memundie	14	11	25	11.0	8.0	19.0	93 0 0	2 4 5	1 10 0	4 10 0	101 4 5
Menah	13	12	25	10.9	10.3	21.2	120 0 0	1 10 8	.....	.....	121 10 8
Menangle	28	12	40	17.9	9.4	27.3	168 0 0	0 19 9	.....	.....	168 19 9
Menndie	26	29	55	19.9	20.1	40.0	200 0 0	.....	.....	6 5 6	206 5 6
Meranburn	29	19	48	22.0	15.6	37.6	168 2 11	1 14 11	3 7 6	4 12 6	177 17 10
Merannie	22	14	36	16.5	11.3	27.8	155 0 0	3 1 1	.....	37 10 0	195 11 1
Merilla	16	23	39	12.0	16.0	28.0	156 0 0	2 0 1	.....	.....	158 0 1
Merimbula	16	14	30	13.3	9.5	22.8	156 0 0	1 8 4	.....	26 14 0	184 2 4
Meringlo.	25	19	44	16.9	13.4	30.3	146 0 0	.....	.....	14 13 1	160 13 1
Meroo	32	35	67	21.2	22.6	43.8	228 6 2	2 3 3	.....	0 15 0	231 4 5
Merrendee	14	13	27	12.6	9.9	22.5	132 0 0	1 0 7	.....	.....	133 0 7
Merrill Creek ..	5	15	20	2.6	9.1	11.7	60 0 0	1 8 6	.....	.....	61 8 6
Merriwa	25	18	43	21.0	13.4	34.4	180 0 0	3 8 1	.....	1 5 0	184 13 1
Merry Vale	8	8	16	5.7	5.2	10.9	62 10 0	1 12 6	.....	.....	64 2 6
Michelago	26	23	49	15.9	13.3	29.2	156 0 0	.....	.....	.....	156 0 0
Middle Creek ..	15	10	25	11.1	8.4	19.5	120 0 0	1 16 4	.....	.....	121 16 4
Middlingbank ..	19	13	32	14.9	9.2	24.1	120 0 0	1 11 0	.....	20 0 0	141 11 0
Mila	19	13	32	10.0	9.5	19.5	85 15 6	15 8	2 0 0	.....	88 11 2
Milburn Creek ..	11	18	29	4.8	9.9	14.7	140 0 0	1 9 9	.....	.....	141 9 9
Miller's Forest ..	48	24	72	34.6	18.4	53.0	180 0 0	2 8 7	.....	7 0 0	189 8 7
Millfield	23	16	39	14.3	10.9	25.2	156 0 0	2 5 5	1 12 6	28 10 5	188 8 4
Millingandi	18	10	28	12.4	7.9	20.3	103 4 0	1 10 1	.....	10 10 0	115 4 1
Millpost	23	19	42	15.8	11.2	27.0	156 0 0	.....	.....	.....	156 0 0
Millsville	16	12	28	11.2	8.9	20.1	120 0 0	2 0 10	.....	.....	122 0 10
Millthorpe	56	58	114	36.3	39.2	75.5	336 0 0	3 10 0	.....	2 10 0	342 0 0
Milltown	203	173	376	147.2	118.3	265.5	703 14 2	9 1 0	.....	44 0 9	756 15 11
Milong	16	7	23	12.0	4.9	16.9	64 0 0	7 14 0	3 9 7	24 9 1	99 12 8
Milparanka	21	9	30	13.7	5.8	19.5	74 0 3	2 10 6	15 4 0	.....	91 14 9
Milton	74	76	150	38.1	34.4	72.5	396 0 0	5 10 3	.....	21 6 6	422 16 9
Mimosa Dell	13	10	23	8.6	7.8	16.4	85 0 0	1 17 5	.....	.....	86 17 5
Mimosa East	7	12	19	4.8	7.3	12.1	104 0 0	2 1 5	.....	29 16 7	135 18 0
Mimosa Park	10	13	23	6.3	9.3	15.6	104 0 0	2 5 2	1 5 0	20 14 0	128 4 2
Minmi	249	274	523	188.4	190.2	378.6	1,184 12 0	17 5 6	1 18 10	90 3 0	1,293 19 4
Minnamurra	24	32	56	18.5	22.5	41.0	234 0 0	1 10 9	.....	17 0 0	252 10 9
Minore	13	11	24	10.4	8.6	19.0	77 1 1	0 11 11	2 7 0	6 0 0	86 0 0
Minto	19	29	48	9.5	15.5	25.0	156 0 0	1 13 5	.....	57 2 0	214 15 5
Mitchell	116	120	226	78.0	70.9	148.9	596 1 10	3 19 5	2 2 0	.....	602 3 3
Mitchell's Flat ..	20	24	44	13.5	19.8	33.3	132 0 0	1 10 2	.....	16 0 0	149 10 2
Mitchell's Island	39	31	70	28.0	22.1	50.1	180 0 0	1 11 9	.....	3 0 0	184 11 9
Mittagong	143	131	274	110.8	98.8	209.6	458 10 0	9 1 1	0 18 3	2 14 7	471 3 11
Mittagong (Lower)	16	22	38	9.6	15.2	24.8	128 0 0	.....	.....	.....	128 0 0
Mittagong (Upper)	17	18	35	14.1	12.0	26.1	156 0 0	1 0 11	.....	.....	157 0 11
Mitta Mitta	12	18	30	6.1	13.8	19.9	120 0 0	2 11 6	.....	2 10 0	125 1 6
Mitten's Creek ..	27	17	44	19.9	11.5	31.4	156 0 0	.....	.....	20 0 0	176 0 0
Moama	45	43	88	28.9	30.5	59.4	315 0 0	2 19 5	1 10 0	10 0 0	329 9 5
Mobellah	31	35	66	24.7	29.4	54.1	264 0 0	2 3 10	.....	0 11 0	266 14 10
Mogilla	14	20	34	11.2	14.5	25.7	156 0 0	0 17 10	.....	.....	156 17 10
Mozo	26	22	48	14.1	12.5	26.6	156 0 0	1 14 6	.....	15 0 0	172 14 6
Mona	9	10	19	5.9	7.3	13.2	75 0 0	1 11 4	.....	6 0 0	82 11 4
Molong	97	88	185	72.9	62.5	135.4	395 5 9	4 0 9	9 10 4	30 3 0	438 19 10
Mondrook	17	9	26	13.2	5.9	19.1	120 0 0	1 9 3	.....	6 12 0	128 1 3
Monkerai	15	11	26	10.3	8.1	18.4	140 0 0	3 5 8	.....	.....	143 5 8
Monteagle	27	21	48	15.3	14.4	29.7	156 0 0	2 15 5	.....	13 13 6	172 8 11
Mookerawa (Lower)	17	9	26	11.9	5.3	17.2	132 0 0	1 15 2	.....	13 0 0	146 15 2
Moona	14	15	29	10.0	9.9	19.9	102 10 0	3 1 4	.....	.....	105 11 4
Moona Brook	19	20	39	16.5	15.0	31.5	144 0 0	2 11 10	.....	11 15 0	158 6 10
Moona Flat	18	12	30	13.5	8.7	22.2	120 0 0	1 3 10	.....	.....	121 3 10
Moonbi	10	17	27	8.1	11.8	19.9	117 0 0	1 6 9	.....	3 0 0	121 6 9
Moor Creek	10	23	33	7.3	15.9	23.2	96 0 0	.....	.....	.....	96 0 0
Moorfields	37	30	67	27.4	21.9	49.3	200 0 0	1 8 11	2 0 0	7 2 0	210 10 11
Moorilda	28	28	56	18.5	18.4	36.9	180 0 0	.....	.....	.....	180 0 0
Moorwatha	13	25	38	7.9	17.1	25.0	132 0 0	2 0 10	2 0 0	.....	136 0 10
Moppitty	10	10	20	8.8	8.5	17.3	90 10 0	2 7 8	.....	.....	92 17 8
Moree	75	67	142	60.3	52.7	113.0	293 0 0	6 10 3	.....	988 1 6	1,287 11 9
Morongla Creek ..	19	18	37	12.1	13.0	25.1	144 0 0	0 16 6	.....	.....	144 16 6
Mororo	16	12	28	14.7	10.6	25.3	120 0 0	1 5 10	.....	0 14 6	122 0 4
Morpeth	98	84	182	63.5	59.2	122.7	422 10 0	5 9 0	0 18 3	1 1 8	429 18 11
Mortlake	37	51	88	27.9	33.1	61.0	318 9 0	6 19 2	3 8 5	19 0 6	347 17 1
Morungulan	14	12	26	9.3	8.4	17.7	120 0 0	1 11 8	.....	.....	121 11 8
Moruya	74	70	144	50.7	46.8	97.5	284 12 11	4 4 0	.....	17 10 0	306 6 11
Mosquito Island ..	30	32	62	21.5	24.3	45.8	180 0 0	3 11 3	.....	4 10 2	188 1 5
Mossman's Bay ..	58	42	100	43.9	29.0	72.9	221 13 4	3 16 6	.....	9 1 6	234 11 4
Moss Vale	68	74	142	47.4	55.2	102.6	366 0 0	3 16 5	.....	81 14 0	451 10 5
Moulamein	8	10	18	5.7	7.2	12.9	108 0 0	3 7 8	.....	2 0 0	113 7 8
Mount Adrah	13	8	21	7.9	6.2	14.1	73 15 0	1 4 7	.....	.....	74 19 7
Mountain Home ..	9	4	13	6.9	2.6	9.5	60 0 0	0 11 10	1 12 0	.....	62 3 10
Mount Butler	11	8	19	8.5	6.7	15.2	76 5 0	1 5 2	.....	.....	77 10 2
Mount Costigan ..	39	43	82	20.7	26.0	46.7	102 0 0	10 2 10	.....	129 14 0	241 16 10

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				Total.
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Mount George	19	9	28	11.0	5.9	16.9	98 0 0	1 1 3			99 1 3
Mount Hope	27	34	61	15.5	20.0	35.5	163 16 11	1 1 10	3 10 0	52 0 0	220 8 9
Mount Hunter	34	35	69	25.0	20.4	45.4	180 0 0	3 13 5		5 10 6	189 3 11
Mount Keira	131	128	259	91.3	85.0	176.3	417 10 0	10 18 1	1 16 0	8 16 3	439 0 4
Mount Kembla	82	86	168	59.2	59.2	118.4	405 0 0	7 2 5	1 10 0		413 12 5
Mount Lawson	11	15	26	5.7	8.9	14.6	132 0 0	1 3 6			133 3 6
Mount M'Donald	44	53	97	26.7	30.0	56.7	272 18 1	1 18 4		46 3 0	320 19 5
Mount Macquarie	36	30	66	27.4	20.0	47.4	183 0 0	3 2 4		2 16 0	188 18 4
Mount Mitchell	19	11	30	14.1	6.5	20.6	120 0 0	0 15 2			120 15 2
Mount Mooby	18	24	42	9.5	14.5	24.0	144 0 0			2 0 0	146 0 0
Mount Murray	9	11	20	5.8	7.8	13.6	96 0 0	1 15 7			97 15 7
Mount Pleasant	26	16	42	19.7	12.2	31.9	120 0 0	2 12 4			122 12 4
Mount Ranken	19	8	27	12.0	5.7	17.7	96 0 0	1 2 1			97 2 1
Mount Rivers	18	21	39	12.0	12.1	24.1	120 0 0	0 16 5		18 0 0	133 16 5
Mount Russell	6	10	16	4.7	8.3	13.0	71 5 0				71 5 0
Mount Tamar	20	18	38	14.6	12.5	27.1	120 0 0	2 0 9			122 0 9
Mount Tarana	25	36	61	18.3	26.8	45.1	180 0 0	1 11 9		20 6 0	201 17 9
Mount Thorley	6	12	18	4.5	9.3	13.8	104 0 0	1 1 6		5 0 0	110 1 6
Mount Victoria	46	41	87	32.1	26.8	58.9	252 0 0	1 8 7		12 3 0	265 11 7
Mount View	24	16	40	12.8	10.6	23.4	135 0 0	2 9 9		21 4 0	158 13 9
Mudgee	307	321	628	229.7	233.8	463.5	1,668 0 0	19 13 4	2 10 6		1,690 3 10
Mudgee South	35	16	51	25.5	9.5	35.0	161 16 2	1 13 8			173 9 10
Mugwill	18	16	34	12.2	12.6	24.8	132 0 0	1 6 9	12 5 0		145 11 9
Mulbring	41	25	66	32.8	16.9	49.7	255 0 0	1 10 7		44 15 0	301 5 7
Mulgoa	29	27	56	20.7	20.0	40.7	193 1 1	1 14 1		3 5 0	198 0 2
Mulgoa Forest	15	17	32	10.8	11.9	22.7	132 0 0	1 11 1			133 11 1
Mullamuddy	16	12	28	11.9	9.7	21.6	96 0 0	2 15 0		27 2 4	125 17 4
Mullengandra	16	10	26	12.6	6.9	19.5	132 0 0	4 1 5		3 0 0	139 1 5
Mullengrove	13	8	21	10.2	6.0	16.2	128 0 0				128 0 0
Mullengullenga	13	16	29	9.1	12.0	21.1	98 0 0		1 5 0		99 5 0
Mullet Creek	7	6	13	2.7	2.4	5.1	77 0 0			31 7 0	108 7 0
Mullion Creek	8	16	24	6.8	12.7	19.5	84 4 2	1 1 5	1 18 0		87 3 7
Mullumbimby	11	11	22	9.4	7.7	17.1	93 10 0	1 6 4			94 16 4
Mulwala	22	22	44	8.6	8.6	17.2	127 19 4			87 10 0	215 9 4
Mulyan	13	18	31	8.3	12.5	20.8	110 0 0	2 11 1		4 0 0	116 11 1
Mumbil	15	23	38	13.7	19.5	33.2	156 0 0	3 10 2	1 10 0	36 18 0	197 18 2
Mumbulla	12	20	32	8.8	14.5	23.3	120 0 0	1 16 4	3 10 6	9 14 2	135 1 0
Mummell	21	13	34	12.9	8.8	21.7	120 0 0	1 14 10			121 14 10
Mundawa	17	17	34	12.3	10.4	22.7	120 0 0	2 9 4			122 9 4
Mundongo	22	26	48	16.1	18.9	35.0	162 0 0	2 5 5			164 5 5
Mundoonen	9	9	18	6.9	6.1	13.0	108 0 0	1 16 4	1 0 0		110 16 4
Mundooran	23	24	47	16.0	18.4	34.4	128 0 0	2 8 11	1 12 0	117 0 0	249 0 11
Munghorn	16	19	35	11.8	13.4	25.2	156 0 0	1 16 1			157 16 1
Munni	14	12	26	10.7	9.3	20.0	80 10 0			59 5 0	139 15 0
Murray's Run	11	5	16	7.4	3.2	10.6	89 1 7	1 16 10	2 9 0	2 5 6	95 12 11
Murrinboola	12	10	22	6.9	6.8	13.7	81 5 0			0 5 0	82 0 0
Murroo	10	16	26	7.9	11.3	19.2	132 0 0	1 14 5			133 14 5
Murrumbateman	20	17	37	14.3	11.2	25.5	150 0 0	1 16 5		46 10 0	228 6 5
Murrumbidgee	14	15	29	11.4	10.3	21.7	120 0 0	1 12 1		9 15 0	131 7 1
Murrumburrrah	101	67	168	70.8	48.9	119.7	390 0 0	10 5 10		16 14 5	417 0 3
Murrurundi	34	66	100	62.8	49.0	111.8	376 12 0	7 1 2		1 2 6	384 15 8
Murwillumbah	38	31	69	28.9	23.3	52.2	223 14 0	1 15 4	2 17 6		228 6 10
Muscle Creek	5	7	12	4.0	5.7	9.7	20 0 0				20 0 0
Muswellbrook	118	83	201	83.5	54.3	137.8	424 2 2	7 4 8	1 14 3	42 9 3	475 10 4
Muttama	25	27	52	18.7	20.0	38.7	156 0 0	3 0 8	18 19 2	67 7 5	245 7 3
Myalla	9	18	27	5.9	12.8	18.8	94 3 9	1 5 8		50 0 0	145 9 5
Myall (Upper)	13	7	20	8.3	5.5	13.8	90 0 0	1 7 7		15 0 0	106 7 7
Myrtle Creek	12	17	29	9.3	12.3	21.6	120 0 0	1 2 4		9 13 6	130 15 10
Nambucca	34	21	55	24.5	12.9	37.4	168 9 7	2 4 11	5 0 0	0 4 7	175 19 1
Nambucca Heads	44	36	80	28.6	24.6	53.2	229 5 4	3 17 9	2 13 0	54 6 7	290 2 8
Nambucca (Lower)	8	9	17	6.1	7.3	13.4	68 0 0	1 16 6	5 0 0		75 16 6
Nangar	12	8	20	10.2	7.5	17.7	89 5 0	1 10 3		33 14 6	124 9 9
Nangunia	15	12	27	9.4	5.9	15.3	96 0 0	4 3 8		3 1 0	103 4 8
Nangus Creek	15	12	27	7.8	8.8	16.6	111 11 7	1 1 6	4 18 3		117 11 4
Narandera	161	118	279	109.4	75.5	184.9	473 1 0	11 13 4	4 14 9	2 0 0	491 9 1
Narani	13	23	36	10.7	16.4	27.1	120 0 0				120 0 0
Narellan	35	42	77	24.8	27.2	52.0	205 8 0	7 0 0		38 13 2	251 6 2
Naremburn	111	70	181	66.1	44.1	110.2	379 10 0	3 4 11		22 0 0	404 14 11
Narrabri	195	163	358	137.5	112.1	249.6	863 0 0	16 5 3		14 10 4	893 15 7
Narrabri Railway Stn.	49	38	87	34.6	28.8	63.4	250 10 0	3 13 11			254 3 11
Narrango	8	9	17	6.3	7.6	13.9	79 17 8				79 17 8
Narrawa	12	14	26	5.6	7.2	12.8	120 0 0	1 4 10		5 0 0	126 4 10
Narromine	24	16	40	15.7	10.3	26.0	154 0 0	1 9 4		86 15 0	242 4 4
Nelanglo	11	11	22	7.2	8.4	15.6	120 0 0	1 3 9			121 3 9
Nelbothery	13	7	20	10.3	4.2	14.5	76 5 0	0 19 1	4 10 0	5 10 0	87 4 1
Nelligen	32	25	57	24.8	18.0	42.8	180 0 0	2 13 1		19 10 0	202 3 1
Nelson	19	19	38	15.6	15.8	31.4	156 0 0			26 15 0	182 15 0
Nelson's Plains	20	31	51	15.2	23.8	39.0	156 0 0	3 17 10		35 9 0	195 6 10
Nemingha	30	27	57	30.6	28.5	59.1	168 0 0	2 1 2			170 1 2
Nerriga	9	14	23	6.4	12.0	18.4	132 0 0	1 7 9			133 7 9
Nerigundah	23	24	47	14.4	15.2	29.6	138 0 0	1 13 0			139 13 0
Neutral Bay	115	122	237	76.5	78.7	155.2	407 18 8	10 1 0		561 8 9	979 8 5
Nevertire	22	15	37	10.6	7.7	18.3	110 0 0	3 10 6			113 10 6
Newbridge	42	48	90	25.3	28.5	53.8	239 17 7	9 14 5		170 17 6	420 9 6
Newcastle	373	353	726	275.4	258.8	534.2	1,789 3 4	30 7 11		221 15 0	2,041 6 3

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls			Average Weekly Attendance			Expenditure from Public Funds				Total
	Boys.	Girls	Total.	Boys.	Girls	Total.	Salaries	Books and Apparatus	Travelling Expenses and Forage	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Newcastle East	188	136	324	134.5	88.4	222.9	760 6 8	10 12 8	0 13 0	195 10 0	967 2 4
Newcastle South	447	465	912	328.7	326.1	654.8	1,820 14 3	36 3 11	2 2 0	348 18 2	2,207 18 4
New Italy	21	16	37	15.1	10.8	25.9	120 0 0	1 14 11			121 14 11
New Lambton	192	193	385	147.9	148.3	296.2	847 10 0	14 3 3	6 6 6	100 15 0	968 14 9
Newport	22	19	41	12.0	11.0	23.0	120 0 0	1 3 8		20 0 0	141 3 8
Newstead	13	14	27	10.5	9.6	20.1	120 0 0	0 12 5		4 0 0	124 12 5
Newtown	636	626	1,262	443.6	422.7	866.3	2,675 16 11	41 3 8	2 1 10	130 2 0	2,849 4 5
Newtown North	265	255	520	183.5	160.2	343.7	1,249 18 5	15 17 4	0 10 0	96 18 0	1,363 3 9
New Valley	13	16	29	10.8	9.5	20.3	96 0 0	2 4 7			98 4 7
Nicholson-street	161	172	333	123.1	130.8	253.9	747 10 2	9 17 9	0 17 6	116 10 0	874 15 5
Nimitybelle	30	25	55	23.1	17.0	40.1	156 0 0	0 18 4		6 0 6	162 18 10
Nine Mile	19	17	36	14.1	10.6	24.7	79 13 6	8 18 1		88 0 0	176 11 7
Noorooma	21	14	35	17.0	10.9	27.9	120 0 0			16 12 0	136 12 0
Nora Creek	13	11	24	9.8	6.5	16.3	92 10 0				92 10 0
North Creek	29	24	53	18.4	15.5	33.9	132 0 0	1 6 10		8 6 0	141 12 10
North Rocks	15	12	27	12.8	10.3	23.1	113 6 8	1 6 3	3 14 11		118 7 10
Norton	18	18	36	10.9	11.8	22.7	132 0 0			50 0 0	182 0 0
Norway	8	11	19	5.2	6.8	12.0	132 0 0	1 1 2			133 1 2
Norwood	14	16	30	11.0	11.9	22.9	140 0 0	1 15 10			141 15 10
Nowra	135	98	233	99.6	70.9	170.5	465 6 1	8 9 4	1 13 9	40 12 10	516 2 0
Nowra Hill	24	18	42	16.6	11.8	28.4	144 0 0	2 2 1			146 2 1
Nubba	36	24	60	24.4	13.5	37.9	180 0 0			1 14 1	181 14 1
Nullabong	10	16	26	7.8	11.5	19.3	96 0 0	1 10 6			97 10 6
Nullamanna	12	9	21	9.1	6.2	15.3	87 14 2		10 0 0	200 0 0	297 14 2
Numba	20	15	35	15.2	9.8	25.0	126 0 0	1 8 3		33 7 0	160 15 3
Numbala	11	15	26	6.6	7.9	14.5	91 15 0	0 10 11			92 5 11
Nundle	45	42	87	30.6	28.5	59.1	241 10 0	5 2 4		3 0 0	149 12 4
Nurung	10	12	22	6.8	8.7	15.5	81 5 0	2 11 4	1 10 6	14 8 0	99 14 10
Nymagee	100	84	184	63.7	54.1	117.8	413 5 7	2 7 3			415 12 10
Nymboida	14	9	23	11.4	6.3	17.7	108 6 8	1 2 2		1 2 0	110 10 10
Nyngan	90	66	156	60.6	41.3	101.9	306 10 0	7 6 8		42 6 0	356 2 8
Nyrang Creek	18	14	32	8.7	9.8	18.5	134 0 0	1 17 6	2 7 6		138 5 0
Oakdale	16	18	34	12.5	12.3	24.8	120 0 0	1 18 2			121 18 2
Oakendale	11	16	27	9.8	12.5	22.3	110 0 0	2 4 11		26 5 0	138 9 11
Oakhampton	25	23	48	15.8	14.7	30.5	156 0 0	2 17 6		31 12 6	190 10 0
Oaklands	29	24	53	18.4	15.5	33.9	144 0 0	2 0 9		127 3 0	273 3 9
Oak Park	6	13	19	5.2	10.5	15.7	104 0 0	0 19 3		5 0 0	109 19 3
Oaks	21	25	46	14.9	20.9	35.8	180 0 0	2 9 4		63 19 0	246 8 4
Oakwood	19	10	29	13.1	7.6	20.7	120 0 0	2 12 1			122 12 1
Oberne	17	12	29	10.1	7.3	17.4	120 0 0	0 19 6			120 19 6
Oberon	51	34	85	37.0	23.0	60.0	255 0 0	1 15 9		172 12 0	429 7 9
O'Connell	22	12	34	16.3	9.8	26.1	169 0 0	1 6 2	1 3 6		171 9 8
Off Flat	11	13	24	6.5	8.3	14.8	72 10 0				72 10 0
Ollera	12	11	23	9.3	9.0	18.3	93 10 0	2 1 6			95 11 6
Omega Retreat	33	23	56	24.7	16.9	41.6	180 0 0	2 7 4		14 3 0	196 10 4
Onybigambah	133	110	243	90.5	72.8	163.3	504 0 0	12 12 11		521 5 11	1,037 18 10
Ophir	17	18	35	9.3	11.2	20.5	120 0 0	1 15 2	1 10 0	15 1 8	138 6 10
Orandelbinnia	14	10	24	8.5	10.6	19.1	96 0 0	2 5 3		60 10 0	158 15 3
Orange	384	355	739	265.2	244.6	509.8	1,534 0 6	30 16 7	5 10 0	154 3 10	1,724 10 11
Orundumbi	8	15	23	6.0	11.2	17.2	84 4 4	0 10 9	1 16 3		86 11 4
Osborne	21	14	35	12.0	7.6	19.6	110 0 0	1 3 3	3 15 0		114 18 3
Osborne Hill	24	9	33	14.6	8.0	22.6	96 0 0	2 7 11		20 0 0	118 7 11
Ourumbah	31	23	54	25.3	17.8	43.1	216 0 0				216 0 0
Ourme	8	8	16	6.5	6.7	13.2	89 0 0	1 0 6	3 9 0		93 9 6
Owen's Gap	11	11	22	8.8	9.2	18.0	96 0 0				96 0 0
Oxley	20	17	37	12.0	11.2	23.2	120 0 0	3 14 10			123 14 10
Oxley Island	35	36	71	23.0	26.8	49.8	275 0 0	3 3 6		61 15 0	339 18 6
Packwood	20	13	33	12.3	10.4	22.7	120 0 0	1 17 6			121 17 6
Paddington	573	523	1,096	425.0	364.2	789.2	2,436 3 4	34 4 9	1 14 6	126 13 0	2,598 15 7
Paika	10	9	19	7.5	5.8	13.3	70 0 0	1 4 6			71 4 6
Pallamallawa	16	24	40	10.4	15.9	26.3	120 0 0			49 8 0	169 8 0
Palmer's Island	40	39	79	26.2	23.9	50.1	250 2 3	4 15 8		236 16 3	491 14 2
Palmer's Island (Lower)	25	15	40	19.9	12.2	32.1	122 10 0	3 6 1			125 16 1
Panbula	34	32	66	26.2	24.4	50.6	216 0 0			0 7 6	216 7 6
Paradise Creek	16	13	29	11.5	8.0	19.5	108 0 0	3 17 0			111 17 0
Parkes	100	83	183	76.2	59.0	135.2	444 0 0	9 10 4		1 0 0	454 10 4
Parkesborough	13	10	23	9.7	6.6	16.3	134 0 0	1 13 8		13 6 4	149 0 8
Parkesbourne	14	10	24	10.5	7.5	18.0	98 0 0	1 10 2	1 0 6		100 10 8
Parkville	15	14	29	10.5	9.1	19.6	121 12 8				121 12 8
Parramatta, North	311	302	613	221.4	208.8	430.2	1,489 10 0	27 1 5		20 1 6	1,536 12 11
Parramatta South	395	355	750	274.3	234.8	509.1	1,939 10 0	35 16 1		1,220 8 10	3,195 14 11
Paterson	50	58	108	32.9	42.2	75.1	248 13 2	3 5 10			251 19 0
Paupong	14	12	26	10.4	9.4	19.8	78 0 0	1 13 7			79 13 7
Peakhurst	41	37	78	28.3	25.4	53.7	247 0 0	1 7 2		229 0 1	477 7 3
Peat's Ferry Road	44	44	88	32.8	33.4	66.2	180 0 0	5 14 2			185 14 2
Peel	23	17	40	17.2	10.8	30.0	166 0 0	1 16 3	1 4 9	31 12 0	200 13 0
Peelwood	19	17	36	13.1	7.7	20.8	108 0 0	1 11 1		5 17 6	115 8 7
Pejar	10	16	26	7.1	9.5	16.6	104 15 0	1 19 5	0 16 9	2 2 8	109 13 10
Pelican Island	35	52	87	21.9	32.6	54.5	253 10 0	5 2 11		0 2 6	258 15 5
Pennant Hills	52	49	101	36.4	36.2	72.6	247 10 0	5 3 7		9 13 1	262 6 8
Penrith	282	260	542	206.6	171.7	378.3	1,225 0 0	21 19 11	0 4 8	26 12 0	1,273 16 7
Penrice	13	7	20	8.9	5.5	14.4	85 5 0				85 5 0
Perth	29	33	62	18.0	23.3	41.3	180 0 0	2 17 4		26 8 6	209 5 10
Petersham	465	434	899	353.9	305.3	659.2	2,172 0 6	31 5 7		175 15 6	2,379 1 7
Pictou	115	73	188	85.5	51.7	137.2	448 0 0	5 7 2	2 14 6	31 13 0	487 14 8

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.													
	Boys	Girls	Total.	Boys	Girls.	Total.	Salaries		Books and Apparatus	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total								
							£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
Pilliga	16	9	25	12·4	7·1	19·5	108	0	0	...	6	4	1	6	11	5	120	15	6	
Pimlico	30	30	60	21·3	21·6	42·9	180	0	0	.....	114	15	0	114	15	0	294	15	0
Pimlico North	17	13	30	10·9	8·5	19·4	120	0	0	3 5 11	177	6	5	177	6	5	300	12	4	
Pinnacle	20	15	35	9·8	8·4	18·2	130	7	4	2 0 9	16	17	6	16	17	6	150	18	3	
Pipeclay Creek	27	19	46	20·2	12·9	33·1	126	18	0	1 9 5	31	11	0	31	11	0	159	18	5	
Pipeclay Spring	14	19	33	6·3	11·2	17·5	108	0	0	1 2 1	109	2	1	109	2	1	109	2	1	
Piper's Flat	18	27	45	12·2	18·9	31·1	138	0	0	.....	206	17	8	206	17	8	206	17	8
Pitt Row	111	99	210	82·6	72·9	155·5	363	2	1	25 4 2	873	0	0	873	0	0	1,261	6	3	
Pitt Town	61	48	109	47·3	37·1	84·4	291	14	2	0 18 0	1	9	2	1	9	2	303	13	0	
Pitt Water	18	20	38	14·9	15·9	30·8	156	0	0	2 14 5	423	8	3	423	8	3	582	2	8	
Plattsburg	351	342	693	265·0	242·2	507·2	1,462	12	11	28 19 7	0	9	0	88	15	4	1,600	16	10	
Plunkett-street	220	188	408	147·4	124·0	271·4	1,046	12	8	10 7 5	6	5	0	6	5	0	1,063	5	1	
Point Danger	17	14	31	12·5	9·4	21·9	94	10	0	2 19 9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	97	9	9
Pokolbin	23	23	46	17·7	16·3	34·0	156	0	0	1 18 7	.....	.....	.....	21	2	6	179	1	1
Pomeroy	15	14	29	9·5	9·7	19·2	120	0	0	1 13 11	.....	.....	.....	26	0	0	147	13	11
Ponds Creek	20	26	46	14·3	19·1	33·4	132	0	0	2 9 8	.....	.....	.....	10	0	0	144	9	8
Ponto	11	12	23	9·0	6·9	15·9	86	5	0	0 19 9	.....	.....	.....	7	0	0	94	4	9
Porter's Mount	11	11	22	8·6	8·5	17·1	131	5	0	1 11 11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	132	16	11
Portland (Lower)	23	17	40	16·5	11·7	28·2	144	0	0	1 15 11	.....	.....	.....	52	5	0	198	0	11
Port Macquarie	97	83	180	68·2	54·0	122·2	403	10	4	12 9 0	1 10 0	37	15	0	37	15	0	455	4	4
Prospect	54	50	104	34·1	32·5	66·6	231	8	0	6 1 0	0 15 0	13	4	1	13	4	1	251	8	1
Prospect Reservoir	25	45	70	15·3	23·8	39·1	217	10	0	4 19 3	.....	.....	.....	50	0	0	272	9	3
Puddledock	3	9	12	2·6	8·3	10·9	44	3	4	1 5 1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	45	8	5
Pudman Creek	9	13	22	5·3	6·4	11·7	132	0	0	2 7 4	2 8 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	136	15	4
Pyangle	16	12	28	13·0	8·8	21·8	120	0	0	2 15 2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	122	15	2
Pyramul	16	13	29	14·3	9·8	24·1	156	0	0	1 10 4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	157	10	4
Pyree	43	54	97	32·8	40·3	73·1	246	0	0	4 6 2	.....	.....	.....	3	15	0	254	1	2
Pymont	349	339	688	254·4	237·3	491·7	1,700	17	4	26 7 9	.....	.....	.....	4	1	9	1,731	6	10
Quaama	16	11	27	12·5	8·2	20·7	132	0	0	1 8 4	.....	.....	.....	18	7	10	151	16	2
Quandong	31	21	52	20·4	16·4	36·8	144	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	144	0	0
Queanbeyan	98	84	182	75·2	60·8	136·0	385	10	0	7 17 2	.....	.....	.....	26	2	0	419	9	2
Quinburra (Upper)	12	8	20	8·7	5·5	14·2	103	0	0	0 4 0	.....	.....	.....	12	10	0	115	14	0
Qupolly	14	19	33	8·9	14·5	23·4	156	0	0	1 16 4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	157	16	4
Quipolly Creek	27	12	39	20·2	8·7	28·9	144	0	0	2 7 8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	146	7	8
Qurindu	107	83	190	82·1	60·3	142·4	342	10	0	7 12 2	.....	.....	.....	51	5	0	401	7	2
Quorrobolong	9	14	23	5·4	7·3	12·7	62	10	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	62	10	0
Raglan	25	19	44	20·1	15·6	35·7	120	0	0	1 8 3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	121	8	3
Raleigh, Central	33	24	57	25·3	15·9	41·2	164	0	0	2 13 4	1 5 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	167	18	4
Ramorne	29	28	57	23·6	20·7	44·3	254	11	0	3 14 0	.....	.....	.....	39	16	0	298	1	0
Randwick	195	130	325	135·4	83·3	218·7	626	15	7	21 9 1	.....	.....	.....	290	14	0	938	18	8
Randwick Asylum	148	112	260	130·2	101·4	231·6	806	0	0	8 7 7	.....	.....	.....	78	0	0	892	7	7
Ravensworth	25	25	50	15·8	14·6	30·4	144	0	0	2 1 7	.....	.....	.....	16	0	0	162	1	7
Ravensworth North	17	7	24	14·1	5·4	19·5	108	10	0	2 9 9	.....	.....	.....	13	0	0	123	19	9
Rawdon Island	30	34	64	21·2	25·2	46·4	247	15	0	3 4 10	6 15 6	.....	.....	0	5	0	258	0	4
Raymond Terrace	76	79	155	56·0	57·9	113·9	294	11	6	6 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	300	11	6
Redbank	15	12	27	10·8	9·4	20·2	156	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	76	4	0	232	4	0
Redfern	652	574	1,226	498·8	432·0	930·8	2,690	15	3	42 13 11	.....	.....	.....	268	9	6	3,001	18	8
Redfern West	232	210	442	137·1	134·6	271·7	1,042	13	5	11 6 6	.....	.....	.....	86	4	1	1,140	4	0
Redlands	10	9	19	6·6	6·8	13·4	86	5	0	1 13 9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	87	18	9
Red Range	43	28	71	31·4	21·0	52·4	180	0	0	7 3 11	.....	.....	.....	25	0	0	212	3	11
Red Rock	11	15	26	9·1	12·1	21·2	60	0	0	10 4 1	6 2 6	.....	.....	15	3	0	91	9	7
Reedy Creek	13	17	30	9·8	8·4	18·2	132	0	0	2 13 1	.....	.....	.....	30	0	0	164	13	1
Regentville	24	20	44	18·1	13·9	32·0	132	0	0	2 9 5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	134	9	5
Reidsdale	11	18	29	7·9	12·4	20·3	127	0	0	1 5 6	2 5 3	.....	.....	45	0	0	175	10	9
Richmond	145	137	282	105·1	97·2	202·3	684	0	0	10 16 10	0 5 6	65	19	6	65	19	6	761	1	10
Richmond North	38	28	66	27·6	22·9	50·5	242	16	0	3 13 10	4 12 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	251	1	10
Richmond Vale	14	11	25	10·3	8·1	18·4	132	0	0	2 3 11	.....	.....	.....	36	0	0	170	3	11
Riley street	139	145	284	80·2	87·9	168·1	364	0	0	7 1 4	.....	.....	.....	8	7	6	379	8	10
Riverside	11	6	17	7·9	3·8	11·7	96	0	0	2 6 1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	98	6	1
Riverstone	70	53	123	39·2	29·4	68·6	277	10	0	7 6 7	.....	.....	.....	50	8	3	335	4	10
Rix Creek	26	22	48	17·9	14·9	32·8	144	0	0	0 18 3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	144	18	3
Robertson	46	38	84	30·7	25·3	56·0	235	0	0	2 12 1	.....	.....	.....	34	12	0	322	4	1
Rob Roy	15	20	35	8·0	12·7	20·7	134	0	0	2 1 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	136	1	0
Rock Flat	16	7	23	11·1	5·2	16·3	110	0	0	2 1 6	.....	.....	.....	125	2	7	237	4	1
Rockley	30	29	59	21·6	20·0	41·6	180	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	117	0	0	247	0	0
Rock, The	15	21	36	12·4	16·3	28·7	96	0	0	1 17 2	2 7 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100	4	2
Rock Villa	14	17	31	7·3	11·3	18·6	96	0	0	1 13 5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	97	13	5
Rocky Glen	9	7	16	5·3	3·0	8·3	96	0	0	2 12 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	98	12	0
Rocky Hall	21	8	29	11·4	5·0	16·4	170	0	0	1 17 7	.....	.....	.....	114	14	3	286	11	10
Rocky Plain	19	11	30	13·4	8·1	21·5	113	8	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	13	10	0	126	18	3
Rocky Ponds	15	23	38	11·0	14·8	25·8	146	0	0	2 19 5	.....	.....	.....	2	2	0	151	1	5
Rocky River	40	30	70	28·9	20·5	49·4	233	9	8	3 0 8	1 0 0	35	0	0	35	0	0	272	10	4
Rolland's Plains	22	19	41	13·1	15·7	28·8	132	0	0	1 14 1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	133	14	1
Rookwood	111	104	215	83·7	71·6	155·3	393	4	1	3 4 8	.....	.....	.....	93	0	0	489	8	9
Rooty Hill	24	21	45	16·0	16·1	32·1	156	0	0	2 1 3	.....	.....	.....	102	1	5	290	2	8
Rose Hill	21	23	44	15·6	15·0	30·6	154	0	0	1 19 6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	155	19	6
Rosenthal	25	19	44	19·4	14·4	33·8	132	0	0	3 2 0	2 6 0	14	0	0	14	0	0	151	8	0
Rose Vale	13	13																		

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rols.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.													
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.		Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.								
							£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
Stony Creek (Lower).....	20	6	26	12.1	5.3	17.4	120	0	0	2	1	4				122	1	4		
Strontian Park.....	16	19	35	11.1	15.7	26.8	132	0	0	2	2	4				134	2	4		
Stroud.....	48	48	96	34.5	34.5	69.0	258	0	0	4	12	2				262	12	2		
Stubbo.....	12	14	26	8.8	8.1	16.9	120	0	0	1	15	0				121	15	0		
Summer Hill.....	287	194	481	199.7	124.9	324.6	1,106	9	4	14	9	5			17	5	10	1,138	4	7
Summer Island.....	60	44	104	45.0	29.7	74.7	269	15	0	2	8	10			70	15	0	342	18	10
Summer Vale.....	9	15	24	6.0	10.1	16.1	96	0	0	1	19	10						97	19	10
Sunnyside.....	21	28	49	12.5	19.2	31.7	156	0	0						32	6	0	188	6	0
Surrey Hills South.....	654	552	1,206	444.6	362.3	806.9	2,348	11	0	42	1	6			275	4	2	2,665	16	8
Sussex-street.....	213	224	437	143.7	152.1	295.8	1,174	15	1	12	15	10			25	0	0	1,212	10	11
Sutherland.....	36	35	71	24.3	24.8	49.1	162	0	0	2	8	7			108	15	6	273	4	1
Sutton.....	18	18	36	13.9	11.4	25.3	156	0	0	2	5	11						153	5	11
Sutton Forest.....	40	36	76	28.9	27.1	56.0	254	4	0	3	17	4			97	16	0	355	17	4
Swallow's Nest.....	17	10	27	9.5	5.2	14.7	96	0	0	1	1	10						97	1	10
Swamp Oak.....	13	11	24	9.3	8.2	17.5	114	0	0	2	2	0			1	0	0	117	2	0
Swan Bay.....	19	32	51	13.3	20.1	33.4	168	0	0	1	8	4			2	10	0	174	4	4
Swan Creek.....	28	29	57	21.7	21.6	43.3	241	0	8	3	19	0			16	0	0	269	4	8
Swashfield.....	12	16	28	9.5	13.5	23.0	100	0	0	2	1	0						102	1	0
Sweetman's Creek.....	10	14	24	6.9	10.8	17.7	125	0	0	2	0	10			5	0	0	132	0	10
Sydney North.....	84	68	152	60.3	51.5	111.8	384	0	0	7	11	5			220	19	9	612	11	2
Sylvania.....	14	17	31	9.8	10.7	20.5	63	15	0	4	10	2			133	6	5	201	11	7
Tabrabucca.....	8	11	19	6.1	9.3	15.4	92	0	0	0	5	11			105	0	0	197	5	11
Tallagandra.....	18	10	28	14.3	6.8	21.1	120	0	0	2	0	5						122	0	5
Tallawang (Lower).....	18	11	29	11.0	8.3	19.3	120	0	0	1	10	8						121	10	8
Tallawang (Upper).....	23	23	46	15.9	14.6	30.5	156	0	0	2	5	9						158	5	9
Taloumbi.....	34	34	68	22.4	23.1	45.5	175	0	0	2	4	0			410	16	6	588	0	6
Tamar.....	8	6	14	6.9	5.2	12.1	60	0	0	1	12	10			13	0	0	74	12	10
Tambaroora.....	45	30	75	33.4	22.7	56.1	255	0	0	3	6	2			10	0	0	268	6	2
Tambar Springs.....	19	8	27	14.2	5.3	19.5	96	0	0	1	0	10						97	0	10
Tamworth.....	322	259	581	233.0	171.6	404.6	1,384	6	11	21	15	5			2	0	0	1,410	15	1
Tamworth West.....	136	124	260	100.3	96.4	196.7	492	0	0	8	5	9			12	10	0	512	15	9
Tangmangaroo.....	21	20	41	13.2	11.7	24.9	132	0	0	1	19	3						133	19	3
Tanja.....	24	12	36	17.8	8.8	26.6	156	0	0	2	4	2			34	0	0	192	4	2
Tantawanglo.....	18	21	39	14.0	14.4	28.4	156	0	0	2	6	8						158	6	8
Tara.....	10	5	15	7.8	3.4	11.2	60	0	0	0	2	0			1	0	0	61	2	0
Taradale.....	12	10	22	8.0	6.0	14.0	85	9	2	1	0	2						86	9	4
Tarago.....	21	20	41	16.0	14.6	30.6	125	18	8						1	1	9	127	0	5
Taralga.....	35	42	77	21.4	24.9	46.3	180	0	0	1	9	4			2	5	0	183	14	4
Tarcutta.....	32	23	55	22.4	17.7	40.1	174	0	0	2	18	11						176	18	11
Taree.....	81	74	155	56.5	52.5	109.0	342	0	0	2	5	10			19	10	0	363	15	10
Tarrabandra.....	12	8	20	6.9	5.3	12.2	104	0	0	1	8	0						105	8	0
Tarro.....	13	22	35	8.9	16.8	25.7	210	0	0						2	13	3	220	10	9
Tatham.....	17	28	45	12.0	20.5	32.5	134	0	0	3	13	7			2	10	0	361	6	3
Tattaila.....	28	19	47	20.7	17.5	38.2	156	0	0	2	15	11			1	10	0	164	18	2
Tea Gardens.....	10	17	27	8.7	13.2	21.9	157	0	0	1	5	2			1	0	0	159	5	2
Telegerry.....	18	15	33	13.7	11.7	25.4	132	0	0	1	15	1			30	0	0	163	15	1
Temora.....	64	66	130	42.8	44.8	87.6	411	0	0	5	7	7			0	15	0	417	2	7
Tempe.....	211	182	393	144.4	118.2	262.6	739	10	11	4	5	10			2	10	2	746	6	11
Tenterden.....	16	19	35	10.7	11.8	22.5	120	0	0	2	14	5			3	5	9	126	0	2
Tenterfield.....	187	142	329	145.9	115.1	261.0	799	10	0	33	6	4			17	1	7	942	13	11
Teralba.....	56	49	105	35.7	24.4	60.1	168	0	0	3	1	9			1	0	0	173	4	3
Terra Bella.....	15	21	36	11.2	16.5	27.7	120	0	0	2	8	1			5	0	0	127	8	1
Terrara.....	40	33	73	27.9	23.3	51.2	264	0	0	4	1	3			5	10	0	273	10	3
Teven Creek.....	10	13	23	5.9	10.0	15.9	83	0	0	1	2	3			1	15	0	85	17	3
Thalaba.....	39	33	72	24.1	27.2	51.3	270	0	0	4	6	0						274	6	0
Theresa Park.....	18	22	40	10.8	15.0	25.8	156	0	0	2	1	10			4	0	0	162	1	10
Third Creek.....	20	11	31	14.1	7.0	21.1	120	0	0	0	1	9			15	6	2	137	5	7
Thirlmere.....	30	19	49	18.7	14.4	33.1	78	0	0	9	15	8			1,057	8	7	1,145	4	3
Thommond.....	11	4	15	7.9	2.9	10.8	65	0	0	0	4	5						65	4	5
Thorpe's Pinch.....	24	16	40	18.1	11.2	29.3	156	0	0	1	11	9						157	11	9
Three-mile Waterhole.....	20	36	56	14.9	25.8	40.7	180	0	0	1	17	5			0	12	4	182	9	9
Thuddungra.....	14	14	28	7.7	10.3	18.0	106	7	8	2	5	2			8	10	0	117	2	10
Thurgoona.....	24	29	53	19.1	24.7	43.8	180	0	0	4	2	8			30	15	1	214	17	9
Tibooburra.....	18	10	28	13.1	8.0	21.1	119	10	0									119	10	0
Tighe's Hill.....	164	174	338	117.2	116.0	233.2	573	11	7	9	9	6			253	16	0	836	17	1
Tilbuster.....	9	13	22	5.7	9.8	15.5	112	0	0	2	8	5						114	8	5
Timbery Range.....	20	7	27	8.7	5.7	14.4	146	0	0	1	15	0			6	15	9	155	10	9
Timbriungie.....	11	11	22	4.9	5.6	10.5	80	0	0	1	2	10			1	5	0	82	7	10
Timor.....	11	7	18	7.8	5.3	13.1	96	0	0	1	9	0						97	9	0
Tingha.....	88	76	164	64.1	56.0	120.1	297	0	0	5	11	10			28	13	6	331	5	4
Tinonee.....	34	34	68	24.3	25.9	50.2	262	10	0	2	12	1			465	16	0	730	18	1
Tintenbar.....	26	21	47	20.0	13.8	33.8	156	0	0	2	4	0			211	12	0	369	16	0
Tintinhull.....	22	14	36	14.7	9.3	24.0	140	0	0	1	10	6						141	10	6
Tipperary Gully.....	17	16	33	12.5	11.1	23.6	140	0	0	1	5	3						141	5	3
Tipperreenah.....	23	13	36	16.4	7.0	23.4	132	0	0	3	9	4						135	9	4
Tirranra.....	19	16	35	11.3	9.9	21.2	88	0	0	1	11	9			15	0	0	104	11	9
Tirranra Creek.....	27	23	50	19.1	14.1	33.2	155	8	11	2	19	8			248	12	5	407	1	0
Tiverton.....	15	17	32	11.6	13.2	24.8	152	0	0	1	19	1			32	17	6	186	16	7
Tocumwall.....	26	29	55	18.0	23.2	41.2	156	0	0	4	14	10			19	7	6	180	2	4
Toganmain.....	5	4	9	3.8	3.4	7.2	45	0	0									45	0	0
Tollbar Creek.....	10	10	20	6.7	8.6	15.3	92	3	4									92	3	4
Tomago.....	10	18	28	7.6	14.1	21.7	120	0	0	2	2	1						122	2	1
Tomerong.....	30	27	57	20.9	18.7	39.6	180	0	0	1	18	11								

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.					
	Boys	Girls	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.		Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
							£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Tongarra	10	17	27	7.2	14.6	21.8	108	0 0	.....	.....	1 18 5	109 18 5
Toogong	27	17	44	23.3	13.2	36.5	180	0 0	5 0 4	.....	239 12 3	424 12 7
Toolejooa	26	23	49	18.5	16.4	34.9	180	0 0	3 0 6	.....	.....	183 0 6
Toooloom	19	6	25	15.0	4.1	19.1	132	0 0	2 0 7	.....	74 12 0	208 12 7
Tooma	13	12	25	9.9	5.9	15.8	85	8 0	1 12 9	3 10 0	.....	90 10 9
Toongabbie	29	17	46	21.3	12.9	34.2	172	0 0	3 14 11	.....	91 1 0	266 15 11
Tooraweenah	11	16	27	8.1	11.0	19.1	94	10 0	1 4 9	.....	.....	95 14 9
Toorooka	18	15	33	14.1	10.5	24.6	126	0 0	1 6 3	6 12 6	12 9 0	146 7 9
Toothdale	12	11	23	11.3	7.9	19.2	105	10 0	1 14 10	.....	33 12 4	140 17 2
Torrington	25	30	55	19.4	24.7	44.1	156	0 0	2 12 6	.....	38 10 0	197 2 6
Towac	10	14	24	5.3	8.8	14.1	132	0 0	0 14 1	.....	.....	132 14 1
Towamba	13	13	26	9.1	10.2	19.3	120	0 0	2 3 2	.....	6 4 0	128 7 2
Towrang	14	15	29	8.6	10.0	18.6	120	0 0	1 12 10	.....	.....	121 12 10
Trajere	10	14	24	7.1	10.2	17.3	97	7 11	.....	3 2 0	1 19 0	102 8 11
Trangie	35	35	70	20.6	20.0	40.6	120	0 0	2 6 10	.....	57 2 9	179 9 7
Trelowarren	17	16	33	11.8	10.0	21.8	135	10 0	2 0 10	9 2 9	26 0 0	172 13 7
Triangle Flat	15	17	32	10.6	11.3	21.9	132	0 0	1 11 5	.....	6 0 0	139 11 5
Trunkey	26	24	50	14.6	14.3	28.9	180	0 0	2 16 10	.....	20 13 0	203 9 10
Tucki Tucki	16	12	28	11.5	8.9	20.4	88	15 0	1 5 11	.....	.....	90 0 11
Tuckombil	12	10	22	8.4	6.2	14.6	75	0 0	1 4 10	.....	.....	76 4 10
Tuena	23	35	58	17.6	22.2	39.8	156	0 0	2 6 10	.....	20 18 4	179 5 2
Tuggranong	17	22	39	12.0	15.1	27.1	156	0 0	1 9 2	.....	.....	157 9 2
Tullimbar	30	30	60	20.5	24.0	44.5	180	0 0	3 16 10	.....	.....	183 16 10
Tumberumba	69	70	139	44.8	41.3	86.1	308	5 6	7 5 5	.....	214 12 6	530 3 5
Tumut	121	116	237	85.2	79.6	164.8	413	3 5	9 17 0	.....	149 0 0	572 0 5
Tumut Plains	30	33	63	20.9	24.1	45.0	273	0 0	4 9 4	.....	2 15 0	280 4 4
Tunnabutta	16	9	25	12.5	6.2	18.7	103	3 1	1 0 7	.....	.....	104 3 8
Turlinjah	12	15	27	9.4	9.1	18.5	134	0 0	1 9 4	3 6 9	30 18 0	169 14 1
Turner's Flat	14	17	31	8.1	12.6	20.7	120	0 0	0 8 7	.....	.....	120 8 7
Tweed Junction	19	17	36	12.6	11.8	24.4	132	0 0	1 14 8	.....	.....	133 14 8
Tyndale	17	26	43	12.9	20.6	33.5	156	0 0	2 6 1	.....	347 2 4	505 8 5
Uarbry	7	10	17	3.6	6.1	9.7	132	0 0	0 6 8	.....	.....	132 6 8
Ulamambri	12	10	22	8.6	5.8	14.4	96	0 0	1 6 10	2 10 0	1 0 0	100 16 10
Ulladulla	22	37	59	15.9	24.7	40.6	180	0 0	1 1 1	.....	.....	181 1 1
Ulmarra	64	58	122	44.5	40.7	85.2	320	16 9	6 12 4	.....	31 15 0	359 4 1
Ulmarra (Lower)	15	13	28	12.1	9.1	21.2	146	0 0	1 10 6	.....	3 0 0	150 10 6
Ultimo	412	414	826	293.3	285.0	578.3	1,806	10 0	17 12 7	.....	97 13 0	1,921 15 7
Umaralla	19	10	29	13.5	5.7	19.2	120	0 0	2 10 0	3 6 3	.....	125 16 3
Umbango	13	9	22	10.0	6.2	16.2	140	0 0	1 11 10	.....	5 10 0	147 1 10
Unanderra	39	41	80	24.9	26.5	51.4	276	0 0	2 7 8	.....	0 9 0	278 16 8
Uralla	57	75	132	43.9	57.6	101.5	342	0 0	4 7 8	.....	.....	346 7 8
Urana	54	43	97	37.6	32.0	69.6	276	4 6	6 4 1	.....	0 14 0	283 2 1
Uranquinty	8	12	20	4.3	7.6	11.9	130	0 0	.....	.....	.....	130 0 0
Vacy	22	23	45	12.6	14.6	27.2	128	0 0	2 15 3	.....	.....	130 15 3
Vere	15	15	30	12.5	12.0	24.5	180	0 0	.....	.....	.....	180 0 0
Vineyard	20	13	33	12.5	9.4	21.9	120	0 0	2 2 4	.....	.....	122 2 4
Waggallah	18	11	29	13.9	6.9	20.8	120	0 0	1 19 1	.....	.....	121 19 1
Wagga Wagga	311	286	597	229.4	199.4	428.8	1,463	9 8	36 9 11	6 15 5	68 14 3	1,575 9 3
Wagga Wagga North	44	38	82	32.0	26.7	58.7	248	0 8	5 19 10	.....	0 5 0	254 5 6
Wagonga	5	6	11	3.4	4.2	7.6	44	9 11	.....	.....	.....	44 9 11
Wagra	18	16	34	10.6	10.6	21.2	146	5 0	.....	.....	39 15 0	186 0 0
Wagragobilly	12	15	27	8.3	9.8	18.1	109	3 10	1 18 9	.....	18 4 0	129 6 7
Walang	9	12	21	7.8	9.9	17.7	108	0 0	.....	.....	4 10 0	112 10 0
Walbundrie	12	8	20	9.2	6.8	16.0	44	9 1	.....	6 10 5	.....	50 19 6
Walcha	80	52	132	59.8	38.7	98.5	292	0 0	6 11 9	.....	14 0 0	312 11 9
Walcha Road	10	16	26	8.3	12.8	21.1	120	0 0	1 6 5	.....	.....	121 6 5
Waldegrave	14	21	35	10.1	14.8	24.9	120	0 0	2 0 8	.....	.....	122 0 8
Walgett	73	43	116	52.5	33.4	85.9	300	0 0	4 4 0	.....	16 8 0	320 12 0
Walhallow Forest	10	14	24	6.3	9.2	15.5	95	0 0	1 17 0	.....	.....	96 17 0
Wallabadah	34	29	63	23.3	16.6	39.9	180	0 0	3 4 10	.....	.....	183 4 10
Wallaga Lake	20	10	30	14.7	5.9	19.9	80	5 0	.....	.....	.....	80 5 0
Wallagoot	15	10	25	12.9	7.4	20.3	120	0 0	1 15 9	.....	5 6 8	127 5 5
Wallalong	37	38	75	22.1	18.9	41.0	284	0 0	4 13 4	1 10 8	50 1 2	340 5 2
Wallamba (Lower)	18	15	33	14.3	12.5	26.8	102	0 0	0 11 5	.....	.....	102 11 5
Walleroo	18	19	37	12.0	14.6	26.6	156	0 0	1 11 11	.....	.....	157 11 11
Walla Walla	24	19	43	17.1	14.3	31.4	205	0 0	.....	.....	35 0 0	240 0 0
Wallaya	14	20	34	9.7	16.1	25.8	116	0 0	3 3 2	.....	175 4 0	294 7 2
Wallbrook	5	12	17	3.8	8.4	12.2	132	0 0	1 4 2	.....	13 1 4	146 5 6
Wallendbeen	25	28	53	18.9	16.8	35.7	180	0 0	1 15 9	.....	.....	181 15 9
Wallerawang	76	95	171	56.4	66.6	123.0	327	0 0	6 12 3	.....	1 16 6	335 8 9
Wallgrove	34	24	58	17.8	12.8	30.6	180	0 0	3 5 3	.....	.....	183 5 3
Walli	25	21	46	14.6	9.1	23.7	132	0 0	1 6 5	.....	.....	133 6 5
Wallsend	422	391	813	314.0	281.4	595.4	1,809	17 4	38 17 10	.....	130 12 6	1,979 7 8
Wambanumba	21	18	39	15.0	14.6	29.6	144	0 0	1 19 8	.....	28 15 9	174 15 5
Wamberal	13	7	20	9.2	5.3	14.5	71	5 0	1 0 8	.....	34 0 0	106 5 8
Wamboota	16	17	33	10.6	11.6	22.2	120	0 0	2 1 0	.....	.....	122 1 0
Wanaaring	28	22	50	23.0	17.1	40.1	94	2 8	2 12 0	.....	9 0 0	105 14 8
Wanganella	13	6	19	11.8	4.5	16.3	86	5 0	1 8 0	.....	13 12 6	101 5 6
Wapengo	10	11	21	5.5	4.5	10.0	93	0 0	1 14 2	1 11 0	19 6 8	115 11 10
Warangesda	7	22	29	4.6	17.3	21.9	91	14.8	1 8 10	13 4 10	.....	106 8 4
Waratah	69	58	127	48.0	40.8	88.8	282	0 0	2 16 11	.....	.....	284 16 11
Wardell	54	53	107	40.2	39.1	79.3	244	10 0	0 19 3	.....	81 6 0	326 15 3
Ward's River	14	11	25	11.3	9.3	20.6	94	0 0	2 0 4	.....	.....	96 0 4
Wargela	17	20	37	10.2	9.3	19.5	120	0 0	3 3 2	2 4 0	95 5 10	220 13 0
Warralda	54	52	106	36.5	33.7	70.2	242	6 8	6 2 11	.....	8 15 0	257 4 7

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.											
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.		Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.						
							£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Warkton	8	12	20	5.7	6.2	11.9	104	6	8	2	8	5	4	14	6	0	12	0
Warkworth	26	25	51	20.2	20.2	40.4	195	0	0	2	16	1	.....	.....	.....	0	18	0
Warne	20	20	40	16.1	13.9	30.0	156	0	0	1	17	4	.....	.....	.....	40	0	0
Warraderry	18	12	30	14.2	10.6	24.8	88	0	0	1	8	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Warren	55	29	84	35.1	16.7	51.8	233	10	0	4	15	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Warrowrie	11	9	20	7.1	6.8	13.9	121	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	0	0
Warrumbungul	4	5	9	3.2	4.2	7.4	72	0	0	1	10	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Watergumben	21	14	35	14.1	9.1	23.2	134	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Waterloo	338	288	626	242.5	192.3	434.8	1,487	17	2	14	9	6	.....	.....	.....	54	5	6
Watson's Bay	50	39	89	34.5	25.1	59.6	243	18	3	3	13	11	.....	.....	.....	6	6	0
Watson's Reef	19	24	43	10.0	13.2	23.2	120	0	0	3	13	6	.....	.....	.....	6	2	0
Wattagon	14	12	26	9.9	6.8	16.7	120	0	0	1	8	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wattamadara	19	9	28	13.6	6.9	20.5	120	0	0	2	2	10	2	0	0	15	0	0
Wattamolla	19	10	29	14.9	7.5	22.4	126	0	0	2	9	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wattle Flat	49	61	110	36.9	45.3	82.2	262	10	0	5	5	3	.....	.....	.....	2	0	0
Wauchopo	27	34	61	19.1	24.0	43.1	144	0	0	4	18	11	.....	.....	.....	0	6	8
Waugoola	29	37	66	16.6	21.8	38.4	236	7	2	3	15	11	.....	.....	.....	1	6	8
Waverley	339	421	760	229.7	268.8	498.5	1,782	12	0	22	11	7	.....	.....	.....	41	15	6
Weddin	23	11	34	14.3	7.5	21.8	156	0	0	2	7	1	.....	.....	.....	5	10	0
Weetalaba	14	12	26	9.5	8.6	18.1	132	0	0	1	10	6	.....	.....	.....	0	12	6
Wee Waa	25	23	48	16.5	15.6	32.1	156	0	0	2	10	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wellingrove	16	15	31	11.7	12.1	23.8	94	10	0	2	12	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wellington	141	101	242	96.4	70.3	166.7	478	0	0	10	18	10	1	14	6	1,098	4	2
Welshman's Creek	15	21	36	11.8	16.7	28.5	120	0	0	0	18	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wentworth	74	80	154	43.8	50.3	94.1	429	0	0	9	3	8	.....	.....	.....	19	3	8
Wentworth Falls	13	24	37	7.5	14.6	22.1	132	0	0	1	18	9	.....	.....	.....	60	14	11
Werombi	17	8	25	12.5	6.5	19.0	132	0	0	1	13	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Werriberri	17	3	20	14.1	2.5	16.6	114	10	0	1	11	1	.....	.....	.....	0	6	6
Werris Creek	29	24	53	20.0	17.4	37.4	180	0	0	2	18	6	5	17	4	.....	.....	.....
Whiteman's Creek	19	15	34	15.0	11.2	26.2	128	0	0	5	6	9	.....	.....	.....	40	16	4
White Rock	16	17	33	10.3	12.5	22.8	132	0	0	1	16	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whittingham	18	22	40	11.3	16.5	27.8	156	0	0	1	4	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whitton	31	29	60	23.4	20.9	44.3	150	0	0	2	13	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wickham	487	450	937	344.9	299.0	643.9	1,870	3	6	39	3	6	.....	.....	.....	313	19	6
Wilberforce	42	43	85	31.5	31.6	63.1	260	0	0	4	17	0	.....	.....	.....	8	12	3
Wilbertree	19	17	36	13.7	13.6	27.3	156	0	0	1	17	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wilcannia	120	93	213	84.7	58.3	143.0	471	0	0	5	1	0	.....	.....	.....	17	5	0
Wild's Meadow	22	22	44	15.1	15.3	30.4	168	0	0	1	17	10	.....	.....	.....	38	6	0
Willandra	14	10	24	10.7	7.8	18.5	114	0	0	2	11	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
William-street	400	368	768	282.5	240.8	523.3	1,858	0	0	29	15	2	.....	.....	.....	121	17	2
William Town	36	28	64	25.0	17.6	42.6	180	0	0	9	3	8	4	1	0	.....	.....	.....
Willow Tree	27	23	50	19.7	16.2	35.9	180	0	0	2	13	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wilpinjong	14	13	27	10.3	8.3	18.6	120	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wilson	8	12	20	4.5	10.7	15.2	70	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wilson's Downfall	22	13	35	16.6	10.4	27.0	120	0	0	2	1	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wilton	25	25	50	16.6	17.9	34.5	180	0	0	0	19	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Windeyer	29	22	51	22.3	15.8	38.1	243	0	0	2	17	1	.....	.....	.....	76	6	7
Windowie	12	20	32	7.9	13.1	21.0	128	0	0	1	1	5	.....	.....	.....	0	13	0
Windsor	204	202	406	139.7	137.2	276.9	1,043	15	6	17	14	2	.....	.....	.....	16	5	0
Winduella	19	10	29	12.9	7.9	20.8	98	15	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0	15	0
Wingen	19	20	39	11.6	13.3	24.9	144	0	0	2	15	0	.....	.....	.....	2	0	0
Wingham	59	80	139	43.2	58.5	101.7	300	0	0	3	16	8	4	10	0	12	3	0
Wiseman's Ferry	20	13	33	14.3	9.0	23.3	120	0	0	2	9	1	5	0	0	44	7	0
Wollar	17	12	29	11.0	9.6	20.6	114	0	0	1	6	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wolloman	14	11	25	10.9	8.2	19.1	96	0	0	2	5	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wollombi	43	36	79	26.9	21.0	47.9	247	10	0	4	7	9	.....	.....	.....	12	5	0
Wollongong	247	235	482	171.8	150.8	322.6	961	0	0	15	5	0	3	13	8	2	3	10
Wolumla North	15	11	26	9.0	9.0	18.0	120	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0	6	0
Wolumla South	23	26	49	15.6	14.4	30.0	132	0	0	2	8	10	.....	.....	.....	7	17	6
Wombah	24	36	60	16.0	22.4	38.4	180	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	0	0
Wombat	29	26	55	20.5	17.2	37.7	282	0	0	5	15	7	.....	.....	.....	50	1	2
Wombramurra	12	14	26	7.3	11.5	18.8	79	12	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	115	10	0
Wongan Creek	9	15	24	7.8	12.9	20.7	108	0	0	0	14	9	2	0	0	20	10	0
Wongy	7	6	13	3.1	4.9	8.0	108	0	0	2	8	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Woodburn	62	57	119	46.7	41.1	87.8	274	2	7	2	6	9	.....	.....	.....	50	0	0
Woodford Dale	21	30	51	16.9	20.0	36.9	180	0	0	2	19	9	.....	.....	.....	355	16	9
Woodford Leigh	40	26	66	28.4	18.0	46.4	258	0	0	1	12	8	.....	.....	.....	22	2	0
Woodhill	29	20	49	21.4	15.4	36.8	168	0	0	2	17	7	1	0	0	.....	.....	.....
Woodhouselee	8	11	19	7.3	8.1	15.4	138	0	0	1	4	1	1	5	0	.....	.....	.....
Woodlawn	11	8	19	5.6	4.3	9.9	110	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Woodonga	12	20	32	9.6	13.0	22.6	132	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	0	0
Woollahra	413	369	792	304.4	251.1	555.5	1,621	8	0	28	1	6	.....	.....	.....	139	14	10
Woolla Woolla	13	12	25	8.0	8.2	16.2	99	0	0	2	1	9	.....	.....	.....	7	0	0
Wooloban	12	14	26	10.3	10.6	20.9	113	10	0	1	14	5	0	15	0	2	10	0
Woolomol	22	18	40	16.9	12.6	29.5	132	0	0	1	7	0	.....	.....	.....	3	15	0
Wooloomin	16	19	35	8.7	13.5	22.2	120	0	0	2	10	8	.....	.....	.....	5	10	0
Woomargama	11	17	28	6.3	12.7	19.0	96	0	0	0	16	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Woonona	118	128	246	77.0	82.5	159.5	431	10	0	8	1	8	1	19	2	.....	.....	.....
Worragee	20	20	40	16.7	16.9	33.6	180	0	0	1	5	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wowagin	9	9	18	4.9	6.6	11.5	71	1	9	1	4	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Woy Woy	16	15	31	6.2	5.4	11.6	53	10	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wyagdon	5	14	19	3.5	10.0	13.5	96	0	0	2	6	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wybond	9	9	18	7.0	7.0	14.0	90	16	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	0	0
Wyndham	43	30	73	24.2	18.7	42.9	180	0	0	2	5	9	.....	.....	.....	52	0	0
Wyong	38	25	63	22.9	13.4	36.3	66	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	143	15	10

APPENDIX VII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wyong Creek	12	13	25	6.3	7.8	14.1	120 0 0	1 9 5	.....	.....	121 9 5
Wyrallah	55	36	91	34.1	22.6	56.7	249 0 0	1 19 4	.....	1 10 0	252 9 4
Yallaroi	11	14	25	9.0	10.5	19.5	120 0 0	1 5 7	.....	.....	121 5 7
Yalwal	17	12	29	14.4	9.4	23.8	104 0 0	1 6 4	.....	.....	105 6 4
Yamba	20	18	38	14.9	13.3	28.2	156 0 0	1 14 2	.....	25 8 0	183 2 2
Yambla	18	12	30	12.0	9.2	21.2	100 0 0	0 10 0	.....	.....	100 10 0
Yamma	15	18	33	7.9	12.4	20.3	120 0 0	2 6 7	.....	.....	122 6 7
Yarra	19	12	31	12.8	8.6	21.4	132 0 0	1 15 0	.....	.....	133 15 0
Yarraford	17	9	26	11.9	6.3	18.2	93 0 0	1 2 10	.....	.....	94 2 10
Yarragundry	21	11	32	15.7	8.3	24.0	156 0 0	2 3 7	.....	18 15 0	176 18 7
Yarrahappini	5	13	18	4.0	9.2	13.2	96 0 0	2 14 8	.....	.....	98 14 8
Yarralumla	17	13	30	9.0	9.0	18.0	110 0 0	1 14 6	.....	39 18 8	151 13 2
Yarramalong	17	25	42	12.6	16.0	28.6	144 0 0	3 6 2	.....	1 7 6	148 13 8
Yarramundi	30	31	61	23.3	22.0	45.3	180 0 0	2 15 6	.....	.....	182 15 6
Yarrowick	23	20	43	13.9	12.2	26.1	144 0 0	3 3 7	.....	0 18 6	148 2 1
Yarrunga	34	34	68	28.5	25.2	53.7	241 10 0	4 6 0	.....	17 2 6	262 18 6
Yass	90	65	155	65.0	45.6	110.6	385 10 0	5 6 6	.....	25 19 0	416 15 6
Yathella	9	18	27	5.6	11.7	17.3	110 0 0	1 6 10	1 15 0	.....	113 1 10
Yatheyattah	36	27	63	26.0	21.8	47.8	253 3 8	1 5 0	2 12 9	4 0 0	261 1 5
Yeoval	16	13	29	13.3	10.0	23.3	119 13 4	0 17 7	.....	7 0 0	127 10 11
Yeo Yeo	20	12	32	13.2	9.0	22.2	104 0 0	2 14 0	.....	1 0 0	107 14 0
Yerong Creek	24	10	34	17.4	7.3	24.7	156 0 0	2 8 8	.....	.....	158 8 8
Yerriyong	18	4	22	15.4	3.0	18.4	107 10 0	1 9 0	1 18 0	.....	110 17 0
Yetman	10	11	21	5.7	7.1	12.8	91 0 0	3 5 3	.....	110 0 0	204 5 3
Young	246	209	455	191.6	161.5	353.1	1,103 18 5	55 9 7	5 6 9	69 7 0	1,234 1 9
Yullundry	11	9	20	7.2	5.3	12.5	117 14 10	1 1 1	.....	1 10 0	120 5 11
Yumburra West	17	10	27	8.5	5.1	13.6	108 0 0	2 3 2	.....	.....	110 3 2
Yurramie	22	10	32	12.1	6.8	18.9	97 10 0	1 6 4	.....	13 0 0	111 16 4

APPENDIX VIII.

ATTENDANCE of Children at Provisional Schools for the Quarter ended 31st December, 1888, or for the last Quarter of that year during which the Schools were in operation.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Airlie Brake	10	5	15	8.1	3.7	11.8	60 0 0	0 13 11	.....	1 5 0	61 18 11
Aliwal	6	12	18	2.7	7.5	10.2	60 0 0	.....	.....	.....	60 0 0
Alum Creek	14	11	25	7.2	5.4	12.6	66 7 4	.....	2 2 0	.....	68 9 4
Armatree	10	11	21	8.4	10.5	18.9	88 15 0	1 14 7	.....	.....	90 9 7
Arthur's Seat	19	5	24	12.1	2.3	14.4	75 0 0	.....	.....	.....	75 0 0
Arthurville	9	10	19	8.7	9.1	17.8	27 15 9	.....	2 6 0	.....	30 1 9
Ashford	8	12	20	6.4	9.5	15.9	90 0 0	3 6 11	.....	.....	93 6 11
Awaba	7	15	22	6.2	10.1	16.3	29 5 0	5 6 2	.....	45 0 0	79 11 2
Bago	11	9	20	5.1	5.2	10.3	49 1 3	0 18 2	2 13 6	.....	52 12 11
Balladoran	5	6	11	4.7	5.8	10.5	47 3 10	0 18 1	.....	.....	48 1 11
Bando	8	6	14	6.6	5.1	11.7	57 18 10	4 2 2	1 15 3	1 8 0	65 4 3
Bargo	11	17	28	6.6	11.9	18.5	88 15 0	3 12 1	.....	.....	92 7 1
Bar Point	7	9	16	5.3	5.9	11.2	60 0 0	1 2 2	.....	11 10 0	72 12 2
Barwang	6	5	11	3.8	3.7	7.5	20 0 0	.....	.....	.....	20 0 0
Beaconsfield	10	8	18	8.8	5.2	14.0	73 15 0	3 5 2	.....	11 7 0	88 7 2
Beardy Bridge	9	11	20	5.2	6.1	11.3	73 15 0	0 4 2	.....	.....	73 19 2
Belairingah	10	8	18	10.2	8.6	18.8	5 16 11	.....	.....	.....	5 16 11
Bell's Lagoons	13	13	26	9.9	11.9	21.8	90 0 0	2 10 11	.....	.....	92 10 11
Beri	9	12	21	6.6	10.3	16.9	60 5 7	5 6 7	.....	45 0 0	110 12 2
Berlang	8	7	15	5.5	4.6	10.1	65 0 0	0 15 6	.....	.....	65 15 6
Berremangra	5	14	19	2.9	7.5	10.4	73 14 2	1 8 5	.....	.....	75 2 7
Berrigal Creek	8	6	14	6.0	4.6	10.6	70 12 6	1 16 10	.....	.....	72 9 4
Billabong	9	10	19	8.0	7.1	15.1	76 5 0	.....	.....	.....	76 5 0
Bimbi	6	7	13	5.2	6.2	11.4	62 10 0	2 15 4	.....	.....	65 5 4
Bimlow	10	11	21	7.3	8.1	15.4	75 0 0	2 16 7	.....	.....	77 16 7
Bindogundra	16	10	26	12.1	6.2	18.3	86 5 0	1 9 7	.....	0 10 0	88 4 7
Birrego	4	5	9	3.1	3.6	6.7	5 0 0	.....	.....	.....	5 0 0
Black Creek	7	3	10	5.1	2.1	7.2	48 0 10	1 13 8	.....	.....	49 14 6
Black Mount	15	8	23	8.5	3.7	12.2	83 15 0	.....	1 0 0	.....	84 15 0
Blaxland's Flat	7	6	13	6.1	4.8	10.9	61 5 0	1 2 9	.....	.....	62 7 9
Bloomfield	5	7	12	3.5	5.3	8.8	55 12 6	1 7 0	.....	.....	56 19 6
Blobin Flat	5	5	10	3.8	3.7	7.5	30 0 0	.....	.....	.....	30 0 0
Bocoble	9	6	15	7.2	5.7	12.9	61 5 0	1 16 4	.....	.....	63 1 4
Boginderra	8	13	21	6.9	11.6	18.5	37 10 0	4 2 0	.....	45 0 0	86 12 0
Bolairo	7	12	19	5.7	9.5	15.2	81 5 0	1 10 8	.....	.....	82 15 8
Bollol Creek	7	9	16	3.4	5.1	8.5	60 0 0	2 1 8	2 7 9	.....	64 9 5
Bolong	13	9	22	10.4	6.8	17.2	86 12 6	1 19 4	.....	.....	88 11 10
Bolton Vale	10	9	19	7.2	7.0	14.2	75 0 0	0 14 9	0 8 0	.....	76 2 9
Bonavista	11	11	22	9.6	8.9	18.5	39 7 6	.....	.....	40 0 0	79 7 6
Bone Bone	9	4	13	7.1	2.6	9.7	60 0 0	1 3 2	.....	.....	61 3 2

APPENDIX VIII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Bongongo	11	10	21	7·5	8·0	15·5	75 0 0	2 11 9	.....	1 1 0	78 12 9
Boolambayte	5	8	13	4·1	5·9	10·0	55 0 0	.....	.....	.....	55 0 0
Boonaldoon	6	7	13	5·3	6·2	11·5	60 0 0	.....	.....	.....	60 0 0
Boorooban	3	8	11	2·2	7·5	9·7	60 0 0	1 4 11	.....	.....	61 4 11
Boro	9	9	18	4·7	5·6	10·3	65 0 0	.....	.....	0 11 4	65 11 4
Bradshaw's Flat	11	6	17	10·7	5·5	16·2	88 15 0	.....	.....	.....	88 15 0
Brewer's Flat	20	7	27	9·7	4·1	13·8	80 12 1	2 6 10	1 12 0	1 5 0	85 15 11
Broula	12	11	23	10·1	9·0	19·1	30 0 0	4 1 3	.....	54 0 0	88 1 3
Brunswick River	4	9	13	3·4	8·1	11·5	28 7 4	3 7 8	.....	.....	31 15 0
Buccarumbi	10	7	17	8·7	5·8	14·5	10 4 2	.....	1 0 0	30 0 0	41 4 2
Budjong	9	11	20	7·9	7·7	15·6	63 15 0	1 11 4	.....	.....	65 6 4
Buggil	11	13	24	5·6	9·0	14·6	88 0 10	2 4 11	.....	41 0 0	131 5 9
Bulga Hut	9	11	20	6·8	8·2	15·0	63 13 4	1 9 6	2 1 0	.....	67 3 10
Bullockreek	6	17	23	5·1	13·1	18·2	87 10 0	7 10 6	.....	.....	95 0 6
Bull Plain	12	3	15	10·5	2·1	12·6	19 13 4	4 6 7	4 9 0	.....	28 8 11
Bundemar	3	13	16	2·2	10·3	12·5	73 6 11	0 12 8	1 0 0	38 19 7	113 19 2
Bungerellingong	9	4	13	6·6	3·9	10·2	60 0 0	1 3 8	1 9 6	38 10 0	101 3 2
Burgoon	7	10	17	4·3	6·4	10·7	78 15 0	.....	.....	.....	78 15 0
Burrendong	9	8	17	5·8	4·2	10·0	73 15 0	1 8 3	2 0 0	.....	77 3 3
Burrowa Flats	12	12	24	8·9	8·8	17·7	75 0 0	2 0 1	.....	.....	77 0 1
Buttsworth Swamp	12	8	20	9·9	6·1	16·0	87 10 0	0 13 6	.....	.....	88 3 6
Bylong	9	5	14	7·8	3·8	11·6	49 16 9	0 6 2	3 18 0	.....	54 0 11
Cadogan	12	9	21	7·8	5·1	12·9	60 0 0	0 13 5	.....	.....	60 13 5
Cainbill Creek	17	6	23	14·4	4·4	18·8	82 10 0	1 16 10	.....	.....	84 6 10
Calabash	14	7	21	10·9	4·9	15·8	68 15 0	1 2 5	.....	.....	69 17 5
Cal Lal	13	11	24	11·1	7·7	18·8	72 10 0	.....	7 4 9	.....	79 14 9
Camden Haven (Upper)	10	13	23	8·1	11·7	19·8	90 0 0	1 15 8	.....	.....	91 15 8
Cameron's Creek	9	10	19	7·3	7·9	15·2	75 0 0	1 19 10	.....	.....	76 19 10
Camphield	5	6	11	3·9	5·1	9·0	46 3 7	.....	.....	.....	46 3 7
Cannonbar	15	6	21	11·3	5·3	16·6	60 0 0	0 11 5	.....	.....	60 11 5
Carrow Brook	9	12	21	6·2	8·5	14·7	73 15 0	1 17 8	.....	.....	75 12 8
Chandler's Peak	8	12	20	5·8	10·0	15·8	67 10 0	1 12 7	.....	.....	69 2 7
Chandlerville	6	8	14	4·9	7·0	11·9	60 0 0	1 10 3	.....	.....	61 10 3
Charleville	13	14	27	8·1	10·9	19·0	86 5 0	0 15 11	.....	.....	87 0 11
Chatham Valley	12	9	21	7·0	5·5	12·5	64 14 0	1 3 8	.....	23 16 0	89 13 8
Cheetham's Flats	12	10	22	9·5	7·7	17·2	88 15 0	2 8 4	.....	5 0 0	96 3 4
Chidowla	8	13	21	6·4	8·4	14·8	71 5 0	1 8 5	.....	.....	72 13 5
Clear Hill	15	12	27	9·7	8·4	18·1	90 0 0	2 1 10	.....	.....	92 1 10
Coaldale	10	8	18	8·2	6·6	14·8	81 5 0	0 18 7	.....	.....	82 3 7
Cogo	10	13	23	8·8	11·7	20·5	37 10 0	4 18 4	4 10 0	60 0 0	106 18 4
Colo Vale	12	4	16	9·4	2·1	11·5	63 15 0	0 13 4	.....	.....	64 8 4
Colonna	18	7	25	12·9	5·2	18·1	80 0 0	1 5 6	.....	.....	81 5 6
Combo	7	8	15	5·7	3·9	9·6	60 0 0	1 11 2	.....	.....	61 11 2
Come-by-Chance	17	9	26	12·3	6·0	18·3	80 0 0	1 3 7	.....	.....	81 3 7
Condong	11	12	23	7·9	8·6	16·5	43 15 0	5 1 5	1 5 0	.....	50 1 5
Coolabah	10	21	31	4·7	12·3	17·0	68 15 0	1 14 7	.....	.....	70 9 7
Coolah Bridge	9	13	22	6·1	7·7	13·8	82 10 0	1 12 2	.....	.....	84 2 2
Cooney	13	9	22	8·6	6·9	15·5	83 15 0	2 18 4	.....	1 2 6	87 15 10
Coorangoorra	10	11	21	9·2	9·5	18·7	86 5 0	0 3 9	.....	.....	86 8 9
Coramba	17	4	21	12·8	2·8	15·6	37 10 0	6 0 2	.....	56 14 0	100 4 2
Corang River	9	4	13	4·3	2·0	6·3	46 9 5	1 15 11	.....	.....	48 5 4
Coreen	19	13	32	10·5	8·6	19·1	90 0 0	1 9 9	.....	.....	91 9 9
Countegany	7	13	20	4·5	9·2	13·7	71 5 0	1 7 3	.....	.....	72 12 3
Creekborough	4	6	10	3·3	5·1	8·4	60 0 0	1 9 4	.....	.....	61 9 4
Cubmurra	3	6	9	2·2	2·9	5·1	10 0 0	.....	.....	.....	10 0 0
Culcairn	13	13	26	8·4	9·2	17·6	90 0 0	1 6 5	.....	60 0 0	151 6 5
Cullagong	6	7	13	5·3	5·4	10·9	4 10 0	.....	0 15 0	.....	5 5 0
Cumbalum	7	11	18	5·8	8·9	14·7	58 19 2	1 7 11	.....	1 5 0	61 12 1
Cumbijowa	9	11	20	7·9	9·3	17·2	66 5 0	1 10 1	.....	.....	67 15 1
Curran's Creek	7	6	13	5·8	3·8	9·6	40 0 0	1 10 6	.....	.....	41 10 6
Curraweela	10	4	14	6·7	3·2	9·9	63 15 0	1 1 8	.....	.....	64 16 8
Currockbilly	10	10	20	7·3	7·5	14·8	21 5 0	.....	.....	.....	21 5 0
Dandaloo	7	8	15	5·8	7·2	13·0	72 5 10	1 3 9	2 4 0	.....	75 13 7
Denison Town	13	12	25	9·3	8·1	17·4	88 15 0	1 2 6	2 13 0	.....	92 10 6
Diamond	10	7	17	5·1	3·0	8·1	68 15 0	2 10 0	.....	.....	71 5 0
Doroughby Grass	11	7	18	8·7	5·3	14·0	82 10 0	0 17 9	.....	.....	83 7 9
Duncan's Creek	9	8	17	6·5	5·3	11·8	75 0 0	1 10 3	.....	.....	76 10 3
Dungarubba Creek	4	6	10	3·1	4·2	7·3	25 0 0	0 8 1	.....	.....	25 8 1
Dural (Upper)	17	9	26	15·6	6·7	22·3	67 10 0	6 19 1	.....	60 0 0	134 9 1
Duri	9	8	17	7·0	6·3	13·3	62 10 0	0 17 4	.....	.....	63 7 4
Eglinford	13	10	23	11·8	9·0	20·8	43 1 3	6 17 0	.....	60 0 0	109 18 3
Elong Elong	7	8	15	5·9	6·0	11·9	63 15 0	1 12 3	.....	.....	65 7 3
Emerald Hill	11	9	20	7·1	7·8	14·9	77 10 0	2 15 7	.....	.....	80 5 7
Emu Creek	7	5	12	4·6	4·0	8·6	45 14 11	1 7 3	1 19 6	.....	49 1 8
Eulowrie	12	6	18	4·6	3·1	7·7	59 18 3	2 11 1	1 10 0	.....	63 19 4
Euromedah	5	10	15	4·0	7·3	11·3	60 0 0	1 0 7	.....	.....	61 0 7
Everett	13	9	22	11·4	7·9	19·3	79 18 5	0 19 3	.....	.....	80 17 8
Exeter Farm	13	7	20	10·6	6·1	16·7	78 15 0	1 5 5	1 12 6	0 10 0	82 2 11
Farringdon	10	13	23	5·7	5·7	11·4	73 15 0	1 17 9	.....	.....	75 12 9
Fassifern	13	14	27	8·4	7·5	15·9	80 0 0	1 3 0	.....	3 19 0	85 2 0
Ferncliffe	6	18	24	2·0	9·9	11·9	52 19 3	2 1 11	.....	.....	55 1 2
Galathara Road	8	13	21	3·9	7·5	11·4	65 8 4	2 11 5	2 2 9	.....	70 2 6
German's Hill	14	17	31	9·2	12·5	21·7	23 5 0	6 18 4	.....	63 9 0	93 12 4
Gineroi	10	9	19	9·2	6·0	15·2	76 5 0	2 15 9	.....	.....	79 0 9
Girvan	9	10	19	8·0	9·3	17·3	86 5 0	2 0 8	.....	45 10 0	133 15 8

APPENDIX VIII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Glenarm	12	7	19	8.9	5.8	14.7	51 17 6	4 8 11	.....	45 0 0	101 6 5
Glenora	7	11	18	4.1	7.6	11.7	73 15 0	0 19 1	4 10 0	.....	79 4 1
Gloucester	5	12	17	4.6	9.2	13.8	23 15 0	4 2 6	.....	.....	27 17 6
Gobbagumblin	12	9	21	10.6	8.2	18.8	10 0 0	.....	3 14 3	45 0 0	58 14 3
Gol Gol	10	12	22	6.1	8.1	14.2	83 7 0	.....	.....	.....	83 7 0
Gollorowong	15	5	20	9.5	3.5	13.0	85 0 0	1 4 7	.....	11 15 3	97 19 10
Gordonville	10	7	17	7.8	5.8	13.6	55 16 8	1 15 8	2 0 0	11 0 0	70 12 4
Gosper's Downs	8	6	14	4.1	3.1	7.2	5 0 0	.....	.....	45 0 0	50 0 0
Grabham's Vineyard	11	5	16	8.7	2.7	11.4	51 18 8	4 12 0	.....	45 0 0	101 10 8
Graham's Valley	11	7	18	9.1	5.3	14.4	66 5 0	2 7 4	.....	.....	68 12 4
Gregadoo	14	12	26	11.3	7.9	19.2	73 15 0	6 13 11	1 16 0	.....	82 4 11
Greig's Flat	12	15	27	10.7	13.1	23.8	82 10 0	4 1 8	.....	45 12 0	132 3 8
Grove, The	8	9	17	6.6	6.6	13.2	75 0 0	1 15 5	2 0 0	.....	78 15 5
Gumble Flat	4	4	8	2.6	3.3	5.9	25 0 0	.....	.....	.....	25 0 0
Guy Fawkes	11	5	16	9.9	4.7	14.6	68 15 0	1 12 1	3 17 6	3 10 0	77 14 7
Gwynne	10	10	20	7.8	8.4	16.2	40 0 0	7 15 9	1 0 0	45 0 0	93 15 9
Hadsonville	7	7	14	5.5	4.2	9.7	65 0 0	1 8 5	.....	.....	66 8 5
Hampton	16	3	19	9.8	2.6	12.4	56 5 0	3 13 5	.....	0 6 6	60 4 11
Harrington	8	4	12	6.3	3.6	9.9	53 15 0	1 0 10	.....	.....	54 15 10
Haystack	7	10	17	5.8	7.6	13.4	61 5 0	0 17 10	.....	3 0 0	65 2 10
Hillcrest	6	15	21	3.1	13.0	16.1	30 0 0	6 3 9	.....	45 0 0	81 3 9
Hollybrook	8	8	16	5.8	6.1	11.9	45 0 0	6 15 7	0 10 0	45 0 0	97 5 7
Holmes' Creek	9	3	12	6.8	2.4	9.2	60 0 0	1 0 7	.....	12 0 0	73 0 7
Horton River (Upper)	7	10	17	5.7	8.4	14.1	71 5 0	1 12 0	.....	.....	72 17 0
Howick	5	8	13	4.1	6.3	10.4	60 0 0	1 4 8	.....	.....	61 4 8
Iandra	2	2	4	0.9	0.9	1.8	20 0 0	0 9 4	.....	.....	20 9 4
Ingalba	11	4	15	7.0	3.0	10.0	70 0 0	1 11 7	.....	.....	71 11 7
Ingebyra	7	9	16	6.2	6.0	12.6	60 0 0	0 14 8	.....	.....	60 14 8
Isis River	10	7	17	5.7	4.4	10.1	60 0 0	1 9 5	.....	.....	61 9 5
Ivor	10	12	22	7.6	9.2	16.8	88 15 0	1 13 8	.....	6 10 0	96 18 8
Jones' Creek	11	4	15	4.6	2.0	6.6	30 0 0	.....	.....	.....	30 0 0
Jubilee Downs	9	6	15	6.4	5.3	11.7	30 0 0	6 17 1	.....	7 0 0	43 17 1
Julong	10	12	22	6.5	8.5	15.0	67 10 0	1 18 5	.....	.....	69 8 5
Juneef Reefs	7	6	13	2.4	2.5	4.9	54 0 8	0 14 7	.....	.....	54 15 3
Kangaroo Flat	13	9	22	9.3	5.8	15.1	82 10 0	.....	.....	.....	82 10 0
Keajura Creek	7	16	23	6.2	9.0	15.2	67 7 6	.....	.....	20 0 0	87 7 6
Khancoban	8	5	13	7.2	2.7	9.9	57 3 4	.....	.....	.....	57 3 4
Kienbri	6	6	12	4.5	4.4	8.9	68 7 8	1 18 8	.....	.....	70 6 4
Kildary	7	13	20	5.6	11.0	16.6	63 15 0	6 15 2	3 11 0	45 0 0	119 1 2
Killeigh	17	8	25	12.2	5.7	17.9	86 5 0	1 1 7	1 7 0	45 0 0	133 13 7
Kybean	2	9	11	1.9	7.5	9.4	63 15 0	1 2 4	.....	.....	64 17 4
Kydra	6	12	18	4.4	9.2	13.6	72 10 0	.....	.....	.....	72 10 0
Lawson	11	12	23	6.3	8.0	14.3	20 0 0	.....	0 8 6	60 10 0	80 18 6
Leaning Oak	7	10	17	5.7	8.0	13.7	75 0 0	1 15 10	.....	.....	76 15 10
Leniston	12	8	20	8.7	6.5	15.2	66 19 10	0 15 11	.....	.....	67 15 9
Lerida	10	12	22	7.7	8.8	16.5	86 5 0	1 9 9	.....	4 5 0	51 19 9
Long Arm	6	5	11	4.4	3.9	8.3	54 13 6	.....	.....	.....	54 13 6
Lorimer Creek	13	9	22	8.9	5.3	14.2	73 15 0	2 6 6	.....	5 0 0	81 1 6
Lyston	7	15	22	6.2	11.6	17.8	83 15 0	1 1 1	.....	1 0 0	85 16 1
Majura	10	10	20	6.4	7.2	13.6	65 0 0	1 4 11	.....	.....	66 4 11
Manar	10	11	21	9.0	8.3	17.3	85 18 6	2 10 5	.....	.....	88 8 11
Mandalong	13	8	21	10.5	5.4	15.9	80 0 0	1 16 2	.....	.....	81 16 2
Manuka	19	8	27	10.8	5.7	16.5	81 5 0	.....	.....	.....	81 5 0
Manus	6	3	9	5.7	3.0	8.7	5 0 0	.....	.....	45 0 0	50 0 0
Mayview	9	13	22	5.2	6.2	11.4	70 0 0	3 7 9	3 17 0	.....	77 4 9
Meangora	13	7	20	9.9	5.1	15.0	67 10 0	.....	.....	.....	67 10 0
Memagong	10	12	22	6.9	9.4	16.3	86 5 0	4 1 1	.....	0 9 6	90 15 7
Merrigan Creek	8	11	19	5.5	8.3	13.8	61 5 0	.....	1 0 0	.....	62 5 0
Meryla	7	6	13	4.3	5.1	9.4	35 12 10	.....	.....	.....	35 12 10
Methul	16	6	22	12.6	4.9	17.5	85 0 0	2 2 8	.....	.....	87 2 8
Micalo Island	9	8	17	7.0	7.8	14.8	61 5 0	3 13 3	.....	25 0 0	89 18 3
Milbrulong	5	5	10	4.1	4.6	8.7	31 4 2	1 12 11	2 14 9	.....	35 11 10
Mogong	6	9	15	3.5	4.5	8.0	55 0 0	1 6 3	.....	.....	56 6 3
Molroy	7	12	19	6.2	8.8	15.0	75 0 0	2 9 0	.....	12 6 9	89 15 9
Mona Vale	9	10	19	8.2	7.9	16.1	56 5 0	4 17 11	.....	7 11 2	68 14 1
Monga	8	13	21	5.3	8.9	14.2	61 11 5	1 13 10	.....	.....	63 5 3
Mookerawa	8	7	15	4.4	6.0	10.4	60 0 0	2 11 2	.....	13 10 0	76 1 2
Moonbah	9	15	24	5.6	9.1	14.7	81 5 0	.....	.....	.....	81 5 0
Mooney Mooney	8	8	16	6.9	7.4	14.3	68 15 0	2 7 11	.....	.....	71 2 11
Moorong	9	16	25	5.0	9.2	14.2	72 10 0	1 1 2	.....	.....	73 11 2
Morebringer	13	9	22	9.2	6.8	16.0	81 5 0	1 14 7	.....	.....	82 19 7
Mossgiel	11	12	23	4.9	8.1	13.0	78 13 4	1 10 1	4 0 0	.....	84 3 5
Mountain Creek	5	3	8	3.8	1.9	5.7	25 0 0	.....	.....	.....	25 0 0
Mount Cooper	13	9	22	6.9	7.6	14.5	71 5 0	0 18 2	.....	.....	72 3 2
Mount Drummond	10	11	21	7.0	8.0	15.0	87 10 0	0 19 6	.....	.....	88 9 6
Mount Stromboli	8	9	17	5.8	7.2	13.0	71 5 0	1 9 8	.....	.....	72 14 8
Mowenbah (Lower)	12	10	22	8.0	6.8	14.8	80 0 0	1 4 7	.....	.....	81 4 7
Mudbury Creek	12	6	18	9.9	4.8	14.7	63 15 0	1 7 6	.....	.....	65 2 6
Munmurra	6	5	11	4.9	4.4	9.3	75 0 0	1 13 9	.....	5 4 0	81 17 9
Murga	9	13	22	6.5	9.6	16.1	83 15 0	6 14 8	.....	67 11 8	158 1 4
Murrulebale	8	11	19	6.3	9.1	15.4	70 0 0	4 16 5	1 14 1	0 19 0	77 9 6
Nanama	3	15	18	2.0	11.0	13.0	69 3 4	.....	.....	.....	69 3 4
Narraburra	9	13	22	6.9	9.8	16.7	90 0 0	1 12 10	.....	.....	91 12 10
Narrama	4	4	8	4.0	4.0	8.0	9 14 6	1 1 5	.....	.....	10 15 11
Neila Creek	10	14	24	7.2	8.7	15.9	75 0 0	0 19 8	.....	12 0 0	87 19 8

APPENDIX VIII—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys	Girls	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Neilson's Creek	5	12	17	4.0	9.4	13.4	60 0 0	2 3 9			62 3 9
Nerong	12	9	21	10.1	7.9	18.0	81 5 0	1 12 4			82 17 4
Nerrabunda	5	7	12	3.2	4.3	7.5	56 11 8	0 17 7			57 9 3
Nethercote	7	11	18	3.7	10.0	13.7	75 0 0	1 6 5			76 6 5
Never Never	10	13	23	7.5	11.1	18.6	90 0 0	2 0 6			92 0 6
New Bristol	12	6	18	9.5	4.6	14.1	69 11 8	2 7 4	1 0 0		72 19 0
Nimby	6	10	16	4.4	8.4	12.8	72 10 0				72 10 0
Noonbar Creek	7	14	21	4.7	10.1	14.8	90 0 0	2 17 2			92 17 2
Overton	11	8	19	8.1	5.5	13.6	5 16 8		6 4 0		12 0 8
Oxley's Peak	13	7	20	9.3	4.7	14.0	66 5 0	1 10 0	1 9 0		69 4 0
Pages's River	12	8	20	9.3	7.1	16.4	63 0 0				63 0 0
Pearce's Creek	6	12	18	4.8	8.5	13.3	70 10 0		2 1 8		72 11 8
Pelican Creek	9	10	19	7.4	9.5	16.9	93 15 0	1 6 4			95 1 4
Piambong	10	11	21	7.8	5.4	13.2	75 0 0	1 6 9			76 6 9
Pinch Flat	16	12	28	12.3	7.4	19.7	85 7 3		6 2 0	45 9 0	136 18 3
Pine Mount	5	10	15	3.8	7.5	11.3	62 10 0	0 10 8			63 0 8
Piney Range	7	12	19	5.7	8.7	14.4	62 18 1	2 7 2	0 19 6		66 4 9
Plain Creek	18	7	25	14.3	3.9	18.2	45 0 0	5 14 8		60 0 0	110 14 8
Pooncarie	13	7	20	7.7	5.8	13.5	85 10 0	7 18 9	10 0 0	86 0 0	189 8 9
Pretty Pine	6	7	13	3.6	4.7	8.3	61 5 0	0 18 5			62 3 5
Pulginbar Creek	6	6	12	4.6	5.0	9.6	45 0 0	0 14 3			45 14 3
Razorback	10	10	20	8.9	7.6	16.5	57 10 0	2 1 6	0 18 9	1 0 0	61 10 3
Reinville	8	11	19	7.5	7.5	15.0	23 6 1	5 10 3			28 16 4
Rhyanna	8	8	16	7.6	7.8	15.4	18 17 9				18 17 9
Riley	9	7	16	6.0	5.8	11.8	13 17 3	5 2 2		25 0 0	43 19 7
Ringwood	11	10	21	9.1	6.7	15.8	71 5 0				71 5 0
Rocky Gully	6	5	11	3.2	4.3	7.5	60 0 0	1 6 8			61 6 8
Rose Valley	15	6	21	12.0	5.2	17.2	88 15 0	1 11 2			90 6 2
Rochel Vale	8	5	13	5.0	4.1	9.1	68 15 0	1 5 6		3 0 0	73 0 6
Saddler's Flat	9	9	18	8.0	6.1	14.1	78 15 0				78 15 0
Sassafras	12	11	23	8.3	7.7	16.0	78 15 0	2 14 7	0 10 0		81 19 7
Seal Rocks	5	6	11	5.0	6.0	11.0	49 7 1				49 7 1
Sidebrook	12	7	19	11.3	5.7	17.0	13 15 0		4 14 0		18 9 0
Skinner's Creek	10	7	17	9.1	7.0	16.1	67 10 0	5 9 10		60 0 0	132 19 10
Slippery Creek	13	4	17	5.9	2.0	7.9	63 15 0	1 2 9			64 17 9
Smelley's Lagoons	14	8	22	9.0	6.2	15.2	79 9 3	1 17 7			81 6 10
Springbank	13	11	24	9.2	8.6	17.8	73 0 8	0 8 2	1 17 10		75 6 8
Springborough	13	11	24	9.5	8.9	18.4	73 15 0	0 4 3		15 0 0	88 19 3
Spring Ridge	5	7	12	4.3	6.4	10.7	60 0 0				60 0 0
St. Helena	9	11	20	6.1	7.5	13.6	90 0 0	1 14 10	10 0 0		101 14 10
Stewartsbrook	12	13	25	8.2	8.5	16.7	68 3 0	1 12 11		9 0 0	78 15 11
Stony Batter	10	12	22	8.4	8.9	17.3	21 5 0			60 0 0	81 5 0
Suntop	13	8	21	9.9	6.1	16.0	63 15 0	7 5 9	0 15 9	51 5 0	123 1 6
Swallow Creek	11	8	19	9.3	6.4	15.7	90 0 0			10 0 0	100 0 0
Swan Vale	9	13	22	6.6	8.2	14.8	61 5 0	1 18 8			63 3 8
Tahrabucca East	9	10	19	7.4	6.9	14.3	40 15 0	5 14 4			46 9 4
Tabulam	10	12	22	3.8	7.2	11.0	94 14 0	1 4 10		45 0 0	140 18 10
Talmalmo	12	19	31	7.0	9.9	16.9	88 15 0		2 12 0		91 7 0
Tanner's Mount	6	9	15	4.1	5.6	9.7	60 0 0	1 14 0			61 14 0
Tarcutta (Lower)	18	9	27	12.9	8.0	20.9	63 15 0		0 18 6		64 13 6
Tarlo Gap	11	9	20	8.7	7.8	16.5	73 15 0	3 11 0		37 0 0	114 6 0
Tarragandah	13	10	23	11.2	6.7	17.9	83 15 0	0 17 9		13 6 8	97 19 5
Taylor's Arm	8	13	21	5.0	10.6	15.6	65 0 0	0 18 7			65 18 7
Taylor's Flat	9	12	21	5.6	8.5	14.1	66 5 0	1 8 8			67 13 8
Tea Tree	14	6	20	8.5	3.5	12.0	88 15 0	3 0 2			91 15 2
Telegraph Point	11	9	20	9.0	7.1	16.1	37 10 0	4 4 9		7 0 0	48 14 9
Tenandra	16	12	28	9.1	7.0	16.1	56 5 0	1 0 9			57 5 9
Terneil	15	14	29	9.2	8.3	17.5	83 15 0	1 10 3			85 5 3
Terry-hie-hie	17	4	21	11.7	2.8	14.5	82 8 4	3 12 8			86 1 0
Thanowring	16	7	23	11.7	5.8	17.5	80 0 0			11 5 0	91 5 0
Thornhurst	16	10	26	9.6	6.4	16.0	77 10 0	0 14 4		35 16 0	114 0 4
Thubergal Lake	14	11	25	10.9	7.9	18.8	15 0 0			60 0 0	75 0 0
Thulabin	7	7	14	5.2	6.4	11.6	58 7 6	1 1 5			59 8 11
Tia	6	11	17	4.2	10.6	14.8	81 5 0	1 17 9			83 2 9
Tigrah	9	11	20	7.1	9.7	16.8	61 5 0	0 19 2			62 4 2
Tomanbil	6	13	19	4.1	8.6	12.7	77 10 0	2 2 4		62 17 0	142 9 4
Tongul	10	12	22	8.4	8.9	17.3	78 15 0	0 16 5	2 7 0		81 18 5
Tootal	8	7	15	6.2	5.6	11.8	60 0 0			1 5 0	61 5 0
Toual	9	4	13	8.3	3.3	11.6	25 0 0	5 4 3			30 4 3
Towalium	12	7	19	10.3	6.3	16.6	77 10 0	2 3 10			79 13 10
Townsend	7	14	21	4.0	8.4	12.4	54 9 6	1 11 9			56 1 3
Trickett	12	7	19	10.3	6.8	17.1	87 10 0	1 16 0			89 6 0
Trundle	8	9	17	6.0	6.6	12.6	77 10 0	1 15 8		60 0 0	139 5 8
Tumberumba (Upper)	9	9	18	6.7	7.0	13.7	47 15 0	0 17 9	2 11 6		51 4 3
Tarill	16	13	29	12.3	10.1	22.4	37 10 0			44 0 0	81 10 0
Turkey Creek	15	6	21	9.3	3.4	12.7	61 5 0	2 8 3		45 0 0	108 13 3
Ugly Range	8	10	18	6.5	7.4	13.9	67 10 0				67 10 0
Ukolan	11	9	20	10.8	7.7	18.5	40 14 6	6 9 10		45 0 0	92 4 4
Ulan	10	9	19	6.8	5.6	12.4	75 0 0	1 11 5			76 11 5
Valla	15	5	20	12.1	3.5	15.6	5 0 0			2 5 0	7 5 0
Vulcan	7	4	11	4.0	2.9	6.9	60 0 0	0 19 1			60 19 1
Wagoribil	5	11	16	4.8	7.2	12.0	20 0 0	2 15 9	2 14 6	32 3 6	57 13 9
Wandera	12	10	22	6.9	7.7	14.6	71 16 3	1 14 1			73 10 4
Wandook North	7	8	15	7.0	8.0	15.0	75 0 0	0 19 10			75 19 10
Wandsworth	15	10	25	11.1	7.3	18.4	72 10 0	1 15 0	3 10 0	15 0 0	92 15 0

APPENDIX VIII—continued.

Name of School	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
Wardry	8	8	16	6·7	6·8	13·5	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Warrah Ridge	5	1	6	3·9	0·3	4·2	66 5 0	0 18 0	3 10 0	.....	70 13 0
Warrigal	2	5	7	1·7	4·2	5·9	20 0 0	.....	.....	.....	20 0 0
Warroo	9	5	14	6·7	3·7	10·4	43 15 8	1 17 8	3 3 0	10 0 0	58 16 4
Wattle Grove	9	13	22	4·7	8·5	13·2	50 0 0	0 14 4	.....	.....	50 14 4
Weeta Waa	13	6	19	8·8	4·9	13·7	70 0 0	2 19 3	.....	1 5 0	74 4 3
Wellesley	16	9	25	11·1	6·8	17·9	60 0 0	2 12 8	.....	.....	62 12 8
Wheeny Creek	14	5	19	11·9	3·7	15·6	65 8 4	3 19 5	5 14 9	9 0 0	84 2 6
Whian Whian	16	10	26	11·4	6·3	17·7	83 15 0	1 16 0	.....	.....	85 11 0
White's Point	12	5	17	8·1	3·2	11·3	83 15 0	.....	.....	17 0 0	100 15 0
Willowdale	6	9	15	3·4	7·4	10·8	36 5 0	4 10 8	.....	45 0 0	85 15 8
Willow Grove	8	11	19	7·6	10·6	18·2	60 0 0	0 17 3	.....	.....	60 17 3
Wilson's Creek	5	13	18	3·8	10·9	14·7	63 15 0	4 11 6	.....	.....	68 6 6
Winegrove	10	8	18	7·8	6·5	14·3	30 0 9	5 3 4	2 7 0	2 0 0	39 11 1
Wingello	13	10	23	9·6	6·7	16·3	60 0 0	0 18 5	.....	38 10 5	99 8 10
Woodfield	11	10	21	7·7	7·6	15·3	72 10 0	1 3 0	2 7 6	.....	76 0 6
Woolshed	11	11	22	6·8	8·0	14·8	20 16 8	5 4 9	2 6 3	44 3 6	72 11 2
Wooroolgan	7	13	20	3·2	11·4	14·6	90 0 0	.....	.....	.....	90 0 0
Yango Creek	11	16	27	7·4	11·1	18·5	22 10 0	3 8 4	.....	.....	25 18 4
Yarrowah	14	15	29	12·3	11·1	23·4	89 5 0	2 2 1	.....	1 14 6	93 1 7
Yarrowitch	14	10	24	9·2	7·4	16·6	30 0 0	6 15 6	.....	45 0 0	81 15 6
							85 0 0	2 3 5	.....	.....	87 3 5

APPENDIX IX.

Attendance of Children at Half-Time Schools for the Quarter ended 31st December, 1888, or for the last Quarter of that year during which the Schools were in operation.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
Anembo	5	2	7	3·8	1·9	5·7	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Apple Tree Clump ..	7	3	10	6·0	2·3	8·8	56 12 3	0 9 2	2 10 0	0 17 6	60 8 11
Apsley Grange	9	5	14	6·3	3·9	10·2	54 0 0	.....	4 19 1	.....	58 19 1
Argyle East	10	3	13	7·5	2·1	9·6	66 0 0	0 10 7	5 0 0	.....	71 10 7
Atherton	2	4	6	1·9	2·3	4·2	47 4 10	1 0 5	1 13 4	.....	49 18 7
Avoca	17	5	22	6·6	3·6	10·2	58 0 0	0 12 7	4 19 10	.....	63 12 5
Back Creek	12	6	18	11·2	5·0	16·2	63 0 0	0 14 11	5 2 2	2 10 0	71 7 1
Ballimore	5	6	11	4·8	5·9	10·7	76 0 0	0 16 5	5 0 0	.....	81 16 5
Ballimore (Lower) ..	7	3	10	6·0	2·0	8·0	45 15 0	2 1 0	5 0 0	.....	52 16 0
Balmoral	8	8	16	7·4	5·1	12·5	5 0 0	.....	.....	7 5 5	12 5 5
Bamarang	6	11	17	3·9	8·6	12·5	66 0 0	0 18 5	5 0 0	.....	71 18 5
Belarbigill	15	6	21	9·3	2·9	12·2	48 0 0	0 16 11	12 8 11	.....	61 5 10
Bell Brook	6	8	14	2·6	4·9	7·5	47 16 3	2 1 8	5 8 7	2 0 0	57 6 6
Beil Flat	5	4	9	4·8	3·2	8·0	60 0 0	0 17 2	6 12 6	.....	67 9 8
Benandarah	9	8	17	7·0	7·4	14·4	54 13 4	1 12 5	5 0 0	.....	61 5 9
Big Creek	5	4	9	2·4	2·8	5·2	66 0 0	0 3 7	5 0 0	3 0 0	74 3 7
Bigga	8	6	14	5·1	4·5	9·6	65 0 0	1 19 1	5 13 4	.....	72 12 5
Blacks' Camp	9	10	19	5·8	9·1	14·9	52 0 0	1 13 6	5 0 0	.....	58 13 6
Blossom Vale	7	9	16	4·7	6·2	10·9	48 0 0	1 10 5	2 10 0	.....	52 0 5
Bluff River	3	5	8	1·7	3·3	5·0	45 0 0	1 19 8	5 10 3	.....	52 9 11
Bombay	8	4	12	7·0	3·4	10·4	66 0 0	1 0 8	5 0 0	.....	72 0 8
Bonville	7	5	12	6·6	4·5	11·1	36 0 0	2 7 8	3 15 0	5 0 0	47 2 8
Boomey	12	3	15	6·1	2·1	8·2	63 0 0	1 12 1	6 10 8	.....	71 2 9
Boree Cabonne	6	10	16	2·8	3·8	6·6	89 10 0	0 13 4	1 10 0	.....	91 13 4
Bournda North	16	8	24	12·9	7·3	20·2	66 0 0	.....	5 0 0	.....	71 0 0
Bournda South	1	5	6	0·8	4·7	5·5	66 0 0	.....	5 0 0	.....	71 0 0
Bowman's Creek	3	6	9	2·4	4·3	6·7	42 12 5	.....	5 13 7	.....	48 6 0
Bow Ridge	6	5	11	5·7	4·9	10·6	47 15 0	.....	4 16 8	.....	52 11 8
Broken Bridge	12	10	22	8·6	7·2	15·8	58 10 0	1 0 5	1 13 4	.....	61 3 9
Brooman	16	8	24	12·7	6·2	18·9	78 0 0	.....	4 19 10	.....	82 19 10
Brown's Camp	7	5	12	6·4	3·6	10·0	77 0 0	0 16 5	5 11 1	.....	83 7 6
Brungle	4	7	11	1·4	4·9	6·3	52 0 0	1 13 5	5 0 0	.....	58 13 5
Bucca Creek	4	9	13	2·2	6·4	8·6	71 16 5	1 11 9	6 5 0	.....	79 13 2
Budgerabong	5	7	12	4·0	6·6	10·6	66 0 0	0 4 2	5 0 0	.....	71 4 2
Bundarigo	5	9	14	2·6	5·6	8·2	55 0 0	0 9 3	1 17 7	.....	57 6 10
Bunnan	4	6	10	3·2	4·1	7·3	66 0 0	0 2 1	5 0 0	.....	71 2 1
Burraborang	14	10	24	8·1	6·5	14·6	66 0 0	1 15 9	5 0 0	0 12 6	73 8 3
Burragundra	10	9	19	4·2	5·7	9·9	52 0 0	.....	5 0 0	.....	57 0 0
Camden Haven Crossing	7	6	13	5·6	5·2	10·8	48 0 0	0 8 2	6 13 4	4 4 3	59 5 9
Campbell's Creek	7	3	10	7·0	3·	10·0	54 0 0	.....	5 0 0	.....	59 0 0
Campsie	8	6	14	6·1	5·	11·1	66 0 0	0 3 6	5 0 0	3 0 0	74 3 6
Carrabolla	7	5	12	4·7	4·1	8·8	48 0 0	0 17 4	5 0 0	.....	53 17 4
Carrarwell	6	4	10	5·3	3·6	8·9	66 0 0	0 18 5	5 0 0	.....	71 18 5
Carrick	9	7	16	7·3	6·	13·3	16 10 0	.....	1 5 0	.....	17 15 0
Carwell	10	16	26	3·4	5·1	8·5	73 0 0	1 7 5	5 0 0	3 0 0	82 7 5

APPENDIX IX—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Carwoola	8	6	14	5.0	3.2	8.2	34 0 0	0 16 1	7 16 1		42 12 2
Castle Rock	5	5	10	2.6	3.6	6.2	44 0 0	0 8 5	2 10 0		46 18 5
Catombal	10	5	15	7.3	4.6	11.9	48 0 0	1 15 1	7 1 6		56 16 7
Cave Creek	6	13	19	3.6	7.9	11.5	70 5 0	0 13 4			70 18 4
Chandler	11	8	19	8.2	5.7	13.9	22 14 8	2 10 1	2 5 0		27 9 9
Charleville	6	9	15	2.9	5.8	8.7	66 0 0	0 12 9	5 0 0		71 12 9
Chaucer	13	8	21	5.5	3.2	8.7	48 0 0	1 10 4	2 10 0		52 0 4
Clandulla	9	8	17	6.0	7.3	13.3	73 0 0	1 7 5	5 0 0	3 0 0	82 7 5
Clifton Hill	10	11	21	6.5	5.2	11.7	64 0 0	3 5 2	5 10 6	3 18 10	76 14 6
Clybuca	7	8	15	4.5	4.8	9.3	34 7 6		6 4 2		40 11 8
Clydesdale	7	7	14	5.8	5.0	10.8	78 0 0		4 19 10		82 19 10
Coff's Harbour	11	6	17	6.7	2.3	9.0	58 10 0	3 12 7	3 15 0	5 0 0	70 17 7
Coggan	6	8	14	5.7	7.6	13.3	46 0 0	1 3 4	6 10 4		53 13 8
Collaroy	6	5	11	2.7	3.1	5.8	57 0 0	1 6 0	6 0 0		64 6 0
Comobella	8	10	18	6.6	6.6	13.2	71 0 0	1 9 8	5 4 2		77 13 10
Coolagolite	6	6	12	5.5	5.4	10.9	70 1 0	0 15 4	4 10 2		75 6 6
Coolbaggie	4	7	11	2.7	5.5	8.2	48 0 0	0 16 10	12 8 11		61 5 9
Coolringdon	8	4	12	5.2	3.5	8.7	52 8 5	0 18 2	4 10 3		57 16 10
Corindi	4	12	16	2.1	9.3	11.4	66 0 0		9 12 0		75 12 0
Corrowong	2	8	10	1.3	3.5	4.8	48 0 0	0 16 11	5 0 0	2 10 0	56 6 11
Corrowong (Lower)	4	9	13	3.3	7.7	11.0	48 0 0	0 17 0	5 0 0	2 10 0	56 7 0
Cox's Gap	8	14	22	5.6	10.2	15.8	66 0 0		5 0 0		71 0 0
Cross Creek	4	3	7	3.7	2.8	6.5	42 12 4		5 13 7		48 5 11
Crudine	6	6	12	4.9	5.6	10.5	50 6 0	0 15 10	1 13 2	10 7 6	63 2 6
Cullendulla	6	12	18	5.0	11.1	16.1	49 6 8	2 13 7	5 0 0		57 0 3
Curra Creek	8	9	17	4.1	3.9	8.0	73 11 8		7 10 0		81 1 8
Currawan	5	13	18	3.7	9.1	12.8	61 15 0	0 15 10	2 18 4	2 10 0	67 19 2
Dairy Arm	15	7	22	12.9	5.3	18.2	66 0 0	1 18 7	5 0 0		72 18 7
Dangelong	1	4	5	1.0	3.4	4.4	52 0 0		5 0 0		57 0 0
Dena River	2	7	9	1.8	6.1	7.9	45 0 0	0 16 0			45 16 0
Diamond Swamp	16	9	25	10.7	6.4	17.1	48 0 0	1 1 8	5 0 0	0 10 0	54 11 8
Dirrenmulla	5	10	15	4.7	8.8	13.5	72 10 0	0 6 8	1 17 8		74 14 4
Doyle's Creek	6	3	9	3.5	1.8	5.3	56 0 0	0 2 2	5 0 0		61 2 2
Dullaberry	6	9	15	4.0	7.6	11.6	66 0 0	0 16 6	5 0 0		71 16 6
Dun Dun	5	5	10	4.2	4.3	8.5	54 0 0	0 12 7	5 15 0		60 7 7
Durrin Durrin	8	10	18	7.4	8.7	16.1	76 0 0	0 16 4	5 0 0		81 16 4
Durras	8	11	19	7.1	10.6	17.7	54 13 4	1 12 4	5 0 0		61 5 8
Dwyer's Homestead	5	1	6	3.1	0.7	3.8	45 0 0	1 19 8	5 10 2		52 9 10
Eaglehawk	8	10	18	4.9	4.7	9.6	74 15 0	0 16 11	3 12 0	11 3 5	90 7 4
Ellenborough	8	9	17	4.4	8.1	12.5	40 0 0	1 6 8	6 13 4		48 0 0
Eualdrie	9	6	15	7.0	5.9	12.9	21 16 8	3 7 7		1 12 6	26 16 9
Eurangarra	10	5	15	7.9	3.1	11.0	55 0 0	1 19 2	4 3 4		61 2 6
Fell Timber	4	7	11	3.3	5.6	8.9	20 0 0				20 0 0
Flatlands	12	5	17	8.1	2.7	10.8	53 5 0	1 18 8	5 15 1		60 18 9
Forbes' River	8	5	13	5.6	4.7	10.3	66 0 0	0 14 2	9 3 6	0 10 6	76 8 2
Foxlow	4	15	19	2.0	7.9	9.9	44 0 0	0 16 2	7 16 1		52 12 3
Galway Creek	7	10	17	3.8	6.4	10.2	60 0 0	0 15 11	2 0 3		62 16 2
Ginghi	6	7	13	3.8	6.2	10.0	46 0 0	1 3 3	6 10 4		53 13 7
Glen Hill	13	7	20	8.2	6.4	14.6	49 10 0	2 12 0	3 12 6	0 15 0	56 9 6
Glenroy	16	16	32	9.1	12.6	21.7	67 12 6	2 17 3	4 9 9		74 19 6
Goodrich	8	10	18	4.3	6.0	10.3	59 0 0		5 9 0	7 0 0	71 9 0
Gowing Run	5	6	11	4.3	4.9	9.2	56 0 0	0 10 3	7 14 11		64 5 2
Greenmantle	8	3	11	5.4	1.3	6.7	55 15 0		4 9 10		60 4 10
Gulgowra	8	8	16	6.7	5.5	12.2	66 0 0		5 0 0		71 0 0
Gundillion	5	4	9	3.7	3.5	7.2	66 0 0	0 15 4	5 0 0		71 15 4
Gungal	5	6	11	3.0	3.2	6.2	16 0 0		1 13 3	0 12 6	18 5 9
Hanging Rock	7	4	11	5.6	2.0	7.6	66 0 0	0 13 7	5 0 0		71 13 7
Hannah Bay	9	13	22	8.2	8.8	17.0	67 9 7	0 8 11	4 3 9		72 2 3
Harold's Cross	8	6	14	5.5	5.3	10.8	66 0 0	0 15 1	3 15 0		70 10 1
Hastings (Upper)	7	9	16	6.1	8.1	14.2	66 0 0	0 14 2	9 3 6	0 10 6	76 8 2
Havilah	8	2	10	5.6	1.2	6.8	66 0 0		5 0 0		71 0 0
Hawkesbury (Lower)	9	7	16	7.6	5.3	12.9	78 0 0	0 17 4	5 0 0		83 17 4
Hemsby	7	9	16	4.4	6.0	10.4	115 10 0	2 13 11		30 13 6	148 17 5
High Range	8	4	12	5.0	2.7	7.7	70 17 4	0 16 5	5 0 0		76 13 9
Hill Dyke	4	6	10	2.6	3.3	5.9	27 8 11	1 8 3	2 10 0		31 7 2
Hill Top	14	13	27	9.8	10.2	20.0	73 15 0	1 0 3	0 12 6	7 5 5	82 13 2
Inglewood Forest	9	12	21	6.2	9.6	15.8	66 0 0	1 1 8	5 0 0		72 1 8
Innescliff	7	5	12	6.6	4.8	11.4	16 10 0		1 2 6	2 1 9	19 4 3
Jerralong	7	4	11	5.3	3.5	8.8	24 0 0		2 10 0		26 10 0
Jillimatong	10	7	17	7.5	5.7	13.2	52 8 4	0 18 1	4 10 4		57 16 9
Jinden	9	6	15	6.1	4.8	10.9	66 0 0	0 15 4	5 0 0		71 15 4
Jinglemoney	9	5	14	7.6	3.8	11.4	66 0 0	1 0 7	5 0 0		72 0 7
Jooriland	4	10	14	2.4	6.4	8.8	64 0 0	3 5 1	5 10 6	3 18 11	76 14 6
Kangaroo Creek	9	7	16	6.3	5.3	11.6	48 0 0	0 10 5	5 0 0		53 10 5
Keewong	8	11	19	3.7	9.0	12.4	66 0 0	0 15 4	5 0 0		71 15 4
Kellick	11	7	18	7.5	4.5	12.0	44 0 0		4 16 8		48 16 8
Kinchela Creek	3	4	7	2.6	3.5	6.1	34 7 6		6 4 2		40 11 8
Lakelands	8	4	12	6.9	3.7	10.6	64 10 0	2 12 1	3 12 5	0 15 0	71 9 6
Lamb's Valley	5	7	12	4.1	5.9	10.0	58 0 0	0 12 7	4 19 9		63 12 4
Lansdowne	10	12	22	5.7	9.0	14.7	66 0 0	0 13 6	5 0 0		71 13 6
Larbert	5	6	11	3.8	5.1	8.9	66 0 0	0 10 4	5 0 0		71 10 4
Laughtondale	24	10	34	19.3	8.6	27.9	78 0 0	0 17 4	5 0 0		83 17 4
Limekilns	7	6	13	5.3	4.3	9.6	66 0 0	0 10 3	5 0 0		71 10 3
Lincoln	8	2	10	7.4	1.9	9.3	66 0 0	0 15 9	5 14 6		72 10 3
Lonely Point	5	4	9	4.6	2.4	7.0	40 0 0	1 6 7	6 13 5		48 0 0

APPENDIX IX—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.											
	Boys	Girls	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.		Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.						
							£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.		
Loombah	9	7	16	7.7	5.5	13.2	48	0	0	1	15	1	7	1	6	56	16	7
M'Donald (Higher)	7	7	14	6.6	6.2	12.8	70	0	0	0	6	7	5	0	0	75	6	7
Mahonga South	4	8	12	3.4	7.5	10.9	58	0	0	.....	6	10	0	0	0	64	10	0
Malundi	10	4	14	6.9	2.4	9.3	66	0	0	1	15	8	5	0	0	0	12	6
Mandagery Creek	6	10	16	3.9	7.1	11.0	60	0	0	0	15	11	2	0	3	62	16	2
Mandemar	12	4	16	6.4	2.8	8.8	70	17	4	0	16	4	5	0	0	76	13	8
Martindale	8	8	16	5.2	5.4	10.6	56	0	0	0	2	3	5	0	0	61	2	3
Meroo Flat	8	5	13	6.6	4.2	10.8	99	11	8	0	16	11	4	10	4	104	18	11
Meroo (Upper)	5	5	10	4.5	4.1	8.6	54	0	0	.....	5	0	0	0	0	59	0	0
Molarban	11	12	23	8.5	9.2	17.7	48	0	0	0	13	8	5	4	1	53	17	9
Molley	8	3	11	7.0	2.4	9.4	54	0	0	.....	4	19	1	0	0	58	19	1
Molonglo	6	10	16	5.5	9.2	14.7	66	0	0	1	1	8	5	0	0	72	1	8
Monkittee	9	7	16	6.0	5.1	11.1	64	11	8	0	17	0	4	10	4	69	19	0
Monwonga	5	8	13	4.8	5.1	9.9	66	0	0	0	4	1	5	0	0	71	4	1
Mooney Creek	6	7	13	5.6	6.0	11.6	71	16	5	1	11	9	6	5	0	79	13	2
Mount Finch	10	3	13	7.6	2.3	9.9	66	0	0	1	18	7	5	0	0	72	18	7
Mount Morris	8	4	12	6.5	3.0	9.5	63	0	0	.....	5	0	0	0	0	68	0	0
Mount Terrell	13	5	18	10.1	4.1	14.2	54	0	0	.....	5	0	0	0	0	59	0	0
Mudmelong	4	7	11	3.6	6.8	10.4	45	0	0	0	15	11	.....	.....	.....	45	15	11
Mulgoa Forest Mountain	11	11	22	6.8	7.6	14.4	66	0	0	0	12	8	5	0	0	71	12	8
Murragama	8	7	15	6.6	4.5	11.1	48	0	0	0	13	7	5	4	1	53	17	8
Murrang	2	7	9	1.3	5.9	7.2	60	15	0	.....	6	4	5	2	15	69	14	5
Murrumbago	4	8	12	4.0	6.3	10.3	78	15	4	.....	8	17	8	.....	.....	87	13	0
Myango Creek	9	5	14	7.0	2.7	9.7	66	0	0	0	10	6	5	0	0	71	10	6
Myrtleville	10	3	13	4.9	2.4	7.3	42	16	8	.....	3	10	4	.....	.....	46	7	0
Nandi	8	3	11	5.5	3.0	8.5	63	6	8	0	14	10	5	8	4	69	9	10
Nelson's Bay	7	6	13	6.4	5.1	11.5	67	9	6	0	8	11	4	3	9	72	2	2
New Country Flats	11	8	19	9.0	5.7	14.7	16	10	0	.....	1	5	0	0	0	17	15	0
New Line East	8	3	11	5.1	2.7	7.8	39	2	0	0	13	10	3	15	0	3	0	6
Newrea	5	4	9	4.6	3.5	8.1	56	0	0	0	10	3	7	15	0	64	5	3
Nithsdale	9	5	14	6.0	4.0	10.0	66	0	0	0	15	1	3	15	0	70	10	1
Norongo	6	7	13	4.3	5.1	9.4	56	12	3	0	9	2	2	10	0	0	17	6
Nubrygyn	19	19	.....	10.7	10.7	21.4	63	0	0	1	12	0	6	10	9	71	2	9
Obley	9	7	16	7.7	6.3	14.0	59	0	0	.....	5	9	0	7	0	71	9	0
O.B.X. Creek	8	9	17	6.5	8.3	14.8	66	0	0	1	15	0	5	0	0	2	15	0
Paling Yards	3	4	7	3.0	3.7	6.7	20	0	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	0	0
Palmer's Oakey	11	11	22	8.8	8.6	17.4	46	11	8	.....	6	5	0	.....	.....	52	16	8
Pee Dee	19	12	31	12.3	6.7	19.0	47	16	3	2	1	9	5	8	7	2	0	0
Pretty Gully	12	6	18	8.9	4.7	13.6	48	0	0	0	10	5	5	0	0	53	10	5
Primrose Valley	4	6	10	2.8	4.6	7.4	57	0	0	0	19	8	6	18	0	64	17	8
Pyramul (Lower)	5	3	8	3.2	2.6	5.8	54	0	0	0	12	6	5	15	0	60	7	6
Quat Quatta North	4	.....	4	2.0	.....	2.0	58	0	0	.....	6	10	0	0	0	64	10	0
Rawdon	8	5	13	6.7	3.7	10.4	63	0	0	.....	5	0	0	0	0	68	0	0
Redground	12	10	22	8.5	8.5	17.0	48	0	0	1	1	8	5	0	0	0	10	0
Redwell	11	5	16	8.6	3.9	12.5	57	0	0	1	5	11	6	0	0	64	5	11
Reedy Creek	2	5	7	1.0	3.5	4.5	49	6	8	2	13	7	5	0	0	57	0	3
Ridgelands	4	7	11	3.1	5.6	8.7	66	0	0	.....	5	0	0	0	0	71	0	0
Riley's Flat	7	3	10	5.7	2.7	8.4	54	0	0	1	16	8	5	10	0	61	6	8
Rob Roy	10	8	18	6.2	5.3	11.5	66	0	0	.....	5	0	0	0	0	71	0	0
Rosedale	6	2	8	5.0	1.7	6.7	58	0	0	0	1	7	5	0	0	63	1	7
Ryrie's Creek	6	4	10	4.9	3.3	8.2	27	9	0	1	8	2	2	10	0	31	7	2
Sally's Flat	11	7	18	7.2	5.7	12.9	56	0	0	0	15	10	1	13	2	0	7	6
Sam's Corner	7	11	18	4.7	8.1	12.8	63	0	0	1	13	5	5	2	3	69	15	8
Sandy Creek	6	6	12	3.8	4.5	8.3	44	0	0	0	8	5	2	10	0	46	18	5
Shallow Crossing	9	8	17	6.0	5.7	11.7	28	0	0	0	15	10	2	18	4	2	10	0
Sobraon	9	8	17	5.3	7.0	12.3	54	0	0	1	16	7	5	10	0	61	6	7
Spicer's Creek (Lower)	7	9	16	5.4	5.9	11.3	66	0	0	0	15	9	5	14	6	72	10	3
Stewart's River	5	8	13	4.8	7.0	11.8	48	0	0	0	8	2	6	13	4	4	4	3
Streamville	9	7	16	6.1	4.0	10.1	54	10	0	.....	4	9	11	.....	.....	58	19	11
Sugarloaf Creek	3	6	9	2.7	5.1	7.8	48	0	0	0	19	4	5	0	0	2	12	0
Tabule Creek	6	5	11	5.1	3.9	9.0	48	0	0	0	19	3	5	0	0	2	12	0
Tombong	11	7	18	8.4	5.5	13.9	67	12	6	2	17	2	4	9	9	74	19	5
Torwood	4	6	10	3.3	4.3	7.6	21	16	9	3	7	6	.....	.....	1	12	6	
Tulich	4	7	11	3.1	5.8	8.9	24	0	0	.....	3	7	2	.....	.....	27	7	2
Turon (Upper)	6	3	9	3.9	2.5	6.4	46	11	8	.....	6	5	0	.....	.....	52	16	8
Uplands	9	6	15	7.4	4.8	12.2	73	10	0	0	14	9	5	0	0	79	4	9
Urara	6	10	16	4.9	7.3	12.2	66	0	0	1	14	11	5	0	0	2	15	0
Urila	7	7	14	4.7	6.7	11.4	57	0	0	0	19	8	6	18	0	64	17	8
Vincent's Hole	11	7	18	7.3	5.7	13.0	53	5	0	1	18	7	5	15	1	60	18	8
Wallambine Creek	8	5	13	7.6	4.8	12.4	70	0	0	0	6	7	5	0	0	75	6	7
Wallendibby	6	4	10	3.0	3.5	6.5	77	0	0	0	16	5	5	11	1	83	7	6
Wandella	19	10	29	12.7	7.5	20.2	70	0	11	0	15	3	4	10	3	75	6	5
Warburton	5	7	12	4.2	4.8	9.0	48	0	0	0	15	0	5	0	0	53	15	0
Warwick	4	5	9	3.7	4.6	8.6	60	15	0	.....	6	4	4	2	15	69	14	4
Waterholes	10	5	15	5.6	3.5	9.1	66	0	0	0	15	4	5	0	0	71	15	4
Werriwa	11	6	17	7.6	5.6	13.2	39	2	0	0	13	10	3	15	0	3	0	6
Wheatfield	10	7	17	7.4	5.5	12.9	66	0	0	0	16	7	5	0	0	71	16	7
Wiadra	7	3	10	4.3	1.3	5.6	48	0	0	0	14	11	5	0	0	53	14	11
Williamsdale	8	6	14	7.0	5.5	12.5	66	0	0	.....	5	0	0	0	0	71	0	0
Williamswood	8	9	17	7.1	6.7	13.8	16	10	0	.....	1	2	5	2	1	19	4	2
Willy Wally	6	6	12	5.3	4.3	9.6	58	0	0	0	1	6	5	0	0	63	1	6
Windellama East	3	5	8	2.2	4.1	6.3	66	0	0	0	7	2	5	0	0	2	10	0
Windellama West	10	11	21	7.3	6.8	14.1	66	0	0	0	7	2	5	0	0	2	10	0
Windora	10	7	17	4.3	2.9	7.2	71	0	0	1	9	9	5	4	2	77	13	11
Wirrialpa	4	7	11	1.5	5.1	6.6	60	0	0	0	17	2	6	12	6	67	9	8

APPENDIX IX—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
Wollomombi	11	13	24	7.6	10.3	17.9	£ s. d. 22 14 8	£ s. d. 2 10 0	£ s. d. 2 5 0	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 27 9 8
Wombat Brush	11	13	24	8.4	8.1	16.5	63 6 8	0 14 10	5 8 4	.....	69 9 10
Wondalga	8	8	16	6.9	6.4	13.3	73 10 0	0 14 10	5 0 0	.....	79 4 10
Woodford	10	5	15	7.5	2.7	10.2	24 0 0	.....	3 7 3	.....	27 7 3
Woolgoolgah	10	17	27	7.7	12.8	20.5	66 0 0	.....	9 12 0	.....	75 12 0
Worrolong	5	7	12	4.9	6.5	11.4	16 0 0	.....	1 13 2	0 12 6	18 5 8
Wortwell	7	5	12	5.5	4.0	9.5	48 0 0	0 17 4	5 0 0	.....	53 17 4
Wybong (Middle)	4	6	10	3.0	4.8	7.8	66 0 0	0 2 0	5 0 0	.....	71 2 0
Wybong (Upper)	7	8	15	5.3	4.9	10.2	54 0 0	.....	5 0 0	.....	59 0 0

APPENDIX X.

ATTENDANCE of Children at House-to-house Schools for the Quarter ended 31st December, 1888, or for the last Quarter of that year during which the Schools were in operation.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
Abercrombie, &c.	10	11	21	9.5	10.2	19.7	£ s. d. 91 1 8	£ s. d. 1 11 6	£ s. d. 10 0 0	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 102 13 2
Apple Tree	14	9	23	11.3	8.3	19.6	99 10 10	1 13 2	10 0 0	.....	111 4 0
Arcadia	4	4	8	3.9	3.9	7.8	39 9 7	0 11 11	10 0 0	.....	50 1 6
Bangaroo North	11	14	25	6.5	9.2	15.7	95 17 6	1 3 9	10 0 0	.....	107 1 3
Bannaby	10	19	29	5.8	11.2	17.0	91 17 6	1 8 8	10 0 0	.....	103 6 2
Barbagal	11	10	21	10.9	10.0	20.9	62 18 1	2 7 2	0 19 6	.....	66 4 9
Bell's Mountain	12	12	24	10.8	10.9	21.7	56 5 4	4 5 4	6 13 0	.....	67 3 8
Bell's Swamp	14	15	29	11.0	12.6	23.6	100 0 0	1 7 1	10 0 0	.....	111 7 1
Biamble	12	11	23	11.1	8.7	19.8	97 1 10	1 4 6	11 9 4	.....	109 15 8
Billerooy	5	13	18	4.2	11.9	16.1	85 18 4	0 2 9	10 0 0	.....	96 1 1
Binda	9	12	21	8.3	11.7	20.0	89 3 4	.....	10 0 0	.....	99 3 4
Blackville	22	9	31	16.4	7.0	23.4	99 3 4	1 17 9	14 10 0	.....	115 11 1
Blow Clear	2	14	16	1.5	13.5	15.0	52 18 10	2 12 2	7 8 10	.....	62 19 10
Borambil	12	9	21	12.0	8.5	20.5	89 15 10	1 16 6	10 0 0	.....	101 12 4
Box Ridge	14	12	26	9.8	8.2	18.0	89 17 6	0 8 6	10 0 0	.....	100 6 0
Bredbo North	17	12	29	9.6	15.6	25.2	97 1 8	.....	10 0 0	.....	107 1 8
Bulgandra	6	6	12	5.8	5.8	11.6	56 18 3	.....	.....	.....	56 18 3
Bullerawa	11	5	16	10.6	5.0	15.6	80 6 3	0 19 0	10 0 0	.....	91 5 3
Bundella	9	14	23	6.5	12.3	18.8	93 15 4	1 13 6	9 19 4	.....	105 8 2
Campbell's Creek (Upper) ..	8	10	18	8.0	9.2	17.2	78 5 8	2 3 8	10 0 0	.....	90 9 4
Canangles	10	6	16	6.9	4.6	11.5	100 0 0	2 4 1	11 11 6	.....	113 15 7
Carabost West	16	16	32	9.5	13.6	23.1	95 1 8	.....	10 0 0	.....	105 1 8
Clonalton	6	15	21	4.4	11.4	15.8	73 10 0	1 10 7	.....	.....	75 0 7
Collendina	9	12	21	5.9	6.3	12.2	92 12 6	0 12 7	12 10 0	.....	105 15 1
Colly Blue	22	10	32	14.9	7.9	22.8	29 17 2	.....	6 0 0	13 1 5	48 18 7
Crowley's	21	15	36	14.4	10.9	25.3	100 0 0	2 1 11	10 0 0	.....	112 1 11
Cubbo	6	7	13	6.0	7.0	13.0	10 16 8	2 11 7	.....	.....	13 8 3
Cungegong North	14	3	17	14.0	2.2	16.2	69 16 8	1 15 1	3 3 9	.....	74 15 6
Currawananna Lagoon	12	8	20	8.2	6.6	14.8	67 10 3	2 9 8	1 11 6	.....	71 11 1
Currowan Creek	6	6	12	5.9	4.3	10.2	52 0 0	0 19 1	10 0 0	.....	62 19 5
Dawson's Springs	15	8	23	12.2	6.5	18.7	97 8 4	1 4 2	10 0 0	.....	108 12 6
Donald's Creek	8	7	15	6.6	6.9	13.5	21 8 9	2 17 2	4 4 4	.....	28 10 3
Edgeroi	13	7	20	10.8	7.0	17.8	85 8 4	.....	10 0 0	.....	95 8 4
Ellerston	13	13	26	10.2	9.8	20.0	93 12 6	1 2 5	13 5 0	.....	107 19 11
Flagstone Creek	12	12	24	9.8	9.6	19.4	94 3 4	1 10 2	10 0 0	.....	105 13 6
Glen Alice	7	16	23	5.1	14.7	19.8	95 19 7	1 15 4	9 18 1	.....	107 13 0
Glen Dhu	10	7	17	9.4	7.0	16.4	80 5 10	0 3 4	10 0 0	.....	90 9 2
Goorianawa	5	1	6	4.9	1.0	5.9	30 15 3	2 10 10	4 17 0	.....	38 3 1
Grabben Gullen	18	10	28	12.6	6.8	19.4	85 13 4	1 6 4	10 0 0	.....	96 19 8
Gragin	5	6	11	4.9	5.1	10.0	30 10 0	1 11 0	.....	.....	32 1 0
Gulf	11	7	18	10.3	7.0	17.3	59 11 8	.....	5 16 8	.....	65 7 4
Inglegar	6	6	12	2.9	2.9	5.8	21 10 0	.....	6 14 6	.....	28 4 6
Jerrabatgulla	8	8	16	6.9	7.6	14.5	47 6 2	1 18 11	1 3 4	.....	50 8 5
Kadina	16	18	34	9.5	13.5	23.0	81 15 1	4 12 6	4 0 5	52 0 0	142 8 0
Kalafat	13	19	32	10.2	14.9	25.1	100 0 0	2 18 0	10 0 0	.....	112 18 0
Kangaroo Creek	8	4	12	7.4	3.1	10.5	51 7 11	2 14 5	2 19 0	.....	57 1 4
Karrabee	14	11	25	12.0	8.9	20.9	98 9 2	.....	10 0 0	.....	108 9 2
Kerbin	17	11	28	14.6	9.5	24.1	87 7 3	.....	13 3 10	.....	100 11 1
Killabahk	7	7	14	6.4	5.8	12.2	10 1 8	2 7 9	.....	.....	12 9 5
Kyamba	7	7	14	4.6	4.8	9.4	36 12 6	2 15 5	.....	.....	39 7 11
Limestone	9	8	17	8.0	7.0	15.0	74 6 8	1 13 3	10 0 0	.....	85 19 11
Longswamp	7	7	14	6.4	6.9	13.3	72 18 4	1 9 0	10 0 0	.....	84 7 4
Medway	10	4	14	9.3	3.7	13.0	32 5 10	1 6 4	1 6 6	.....	34 18 8
Mia Mia	8	8	16	8.0	7.7	15.7	19 17 6	3 18 9	.....	.....	23 16 3
Mount Collins	5	9	14	4.9	8.2	13.1	49 17 6	.....	5 0 0	.....	54 17 6

APPENDIX X—continued.

Name of School.	Number of Children on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Mount Parnell	14	10	24	11.4	9.7	21.1	99 18 4	0 18 8	10 0 0	.....	110 17 0
Mullaly	13	12	25	10.3	7.7	18.0	96 5 0	2 15 7	10 0 0	.....	109 0 7
Munmurra (Lower) ...	8	9	17	5.7	7.8	13.5	23 13 0	2 2 7	.....	.....	25 15 7
Naas	11	11	22	8.1	10.6	18.7	94 11 3	1 19 10	10 0 0	.....	106 11 1
Narrangerie	10	11	21	8.8	9.8	18.6	44 16 2	4 5 0	.....	.....	49 1 2
New Berida	8	8	16	4.7	4.9	9.6	68 10 10	3 6 9	2 10 0	.....	74 7 7
Oak Creek	13	8	21	11.8	6.1	17.9	93 13 4	1 12 0	11 10 0	.....	106 15 4
Oak Vale	10	19	29	9.6	15.6	25.2	100 0 0	2 5 4	10 0 0	.....	112 5 4
Page's Creek	3	10	13	1.1	3.1	4.2	39 8 0	2 12 11	8 0 0	.....	50 2 11
Pandora's Pass	9	3	12	7.0	2.6	9.6	1 18 5	.....	.....	.....	1 18 5
Pine Ridge.....	13	10	23	14.1	10.7	24.8	94 16 6	0 15 8	10 0 0	.....	105 12 2
Putty	16	9	25	11.8	7.6	19.4	97 3 4	0 2 11	11 11 1	.....	108 17 4
Rawsonville	11	16	27	9.0	11.9	20.9	84 17 0	.....	10 0 0	.....	94 17 0
Redbank.....	5	10	15	4.1	8.9	13.0	49 10 4	2 2 2	.....	.....	51 12 6
Rockwell	9	5	14	7.3	4.2	11.5	59 5 2	.....	14 8 10	.....	73 14 0
Rosemount.....	2	8	10	1.8	6.6	8.4	40 2 6	2 4 11	.....	.....	42 7 5
Savernake	13	7	20	9.5	5.7	15.2	85 12 6	1 15 0	10 0 0	.....	97 7 6
Snaphook	8	6	14	5.7	5.5	11.2	79 10 5	.....	8 5 0	.....	87 15 5
Tamarang	19	17	36	13.9	12.4	26.3	95 3 4	2 1 0	10 0 0	.....	107 4 4
Tori	15	10	25	10.5	5.1	15.6	12 3 7	5 6 9	5 17 6	.....	23 7 10
Uley	11	13	24	8.1	11.9	20.0	94 12 4	.....	10 0 0	.....	104 12 4
Victoria Flat.....	14	17	31	8.7	14.7	23.4	86 7 1	2 14 7	8 14 8	.....	97 16 4
Whinstone Valley ...	17	12	29	10.8	7.3	18.1	89 13 4	.....	9 2 4	.....	98 15 8
World's End	12	8	20	11.0	7.6	18.6	77 6 8	2 2 11	12 8 11	.....	91 18 6

APPENDIX XI.

ATTENDANCE of Pupils at Evening Public Schools for the Quarter ended 31st December, 1888, or for the last Quarter of that year during which the Schools were in operation.

Name of School.	Number of Pupils on Rolls.			Average Weekly Attendance.			Expenditure from Public Funds.				
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Salaries.	Books and Apparatus.	Travelling Expenses and Forage.	Buildings, Rent, Furniture, &c.	Total.
							£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Blackfriars	27	...	27	9.9	...	9.9	15 0 0	.....	.....	.....	15 0 0
Castlereagh-street ...	87	2	89	44.8	1.6	46.4	38 0 0	.....	.....	.....	38 0 0
Cobar	9	...	9	4.9	...	4.9	2 15 0	.....	.....	.....	2 15 0
Croydon	12	...	12	8.3	...	8.3	8 6 8	.....	.....	.....	8 6 8
Cundletown	7	2	9	4.0	0.9	4.9	6 13 4	.....	.....	.....	6 13 4
Molong	22	12	34	12.7	7.8	20.5	22 13 4	.....	.....	.....	22 13 4
Mount Macquarie....	10	...	10	5.5	...	5.5	1 8 2	.....	.....	.....	1 8 2
Paddington	47	...	47	33.4	...	33.4	37 10 0	.....	.....	.....	37 10 0
Redfern	20	...	20	10.2	...	10.2	22 10 0	.....	.....	.....	22 10 0
St. Leonards East....	19	...	19	9.9	...	9.9	13 6 8	.....	.....	.....	13 6 8
Surrey Hills South ...	44	...	44	24.9	...	24.9	28 0 0	.....	.....	.....	28 0 0
Wyrallah	18	...	18	8.9	...	8.9	4 14 3	.....	.....	.....	4 14 3

APPENDIX XII.

APPENDIX XII.

THE CHIEF INSPECTOR'S REPORT, WITH ITS ANNEXES.

In 1887 there were in operation 2,230 schools. Of these 78 closed during that year, leaving 2,152 with which to begin the year 1888. During 1888, 114 new schools were opened, making a total for the year of 2,266. The number of schools of each kind is shown in the following table:—

Year	Public.	Provisional.	Half-time.	House-to-house.	Evening.	Total
1885	1,532	294	150	50	12	2,038
1886	1,585	323	176	58	20	2,162
1887	1,612	335	191	69	23	2,230
1888	1,635	316	224	79	12	2,266

Arranged according to classes, they stand:—

	Class I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.	X.	Small Unclassified	Total.
1885	23	26	18	35	91	196	161	285	583	191	429	2,038
1886	25	29	15	47	92	177	177	279	584	228	509	2,162
1887	26	30	18	51	95	178	184	307	534	239	518	2,230
1888	26	33	20	47	101	190	183	281	694	222	469	2,266

A few of the new schools were put up in the suburbs of Sydney, but the greater number were opened in thinly peopled places in the interior. Parents living too far from existing schools to be able to send their children to them, invariably apply for a school as soon as they can muster the minimum number of scholars requisite for its establishment. No pressure is needed to induce parents to guarantee support to new schools. The more isolated the place, the more difficult it is, except through the agency of the State, to provide education for children. Small schools in outlying districts with an average attendance ranging from 20 down to 10 are relatively more expensive to maintain than the larger schools. When it is considered, however, that there are more than 800 of these small schools supplying education to groups of families scattered all over the Colony who without them must in most cases go without education, the disproportionate cost seems a matter of insignificance.

The largest enrolment in any quarter of 1888 was 163,443. There was sitting accommodation in the schools at the end of the year for 176,992. In the aggregate, therefore, there is more than sufficient space for all comers. The following table shows the accommodation in each district:—

Districts.	Number of places provided at end of 1887.	Number of new places provided during 1888.	Number of places lost by closing schools and by giving up old buildings.	Increase or decrease in number of places.	Number of places provided at end of 1888.
Armidale	13,979	1,441	717	724, Increase.	14,703
Bathurst	15,260	738	275	463 "	15,723
Goulburn	17,226	624	221	403 "	17,629
Grafton	12,746	505	101	404 "	13,150
Maitland	22,189	903	170	733 "	22,922
Metropolitan	41,521	...	...	...	41,521
Sub-Metropolitan ...	22,449	1,475	340	1,135 "	23,584
Wagga Wagga	17,231	636	488	148 "	17,379
Wellington	10,247	204	70	134 "	10,381
Total.....	172,848	6,526	2,382	4,144 "	176,992

During the year, 121 new schools, 28 residences, and 21 weather-sheds were built, 23 existing schools were enlarged, and 405 repaired. As in previous years, the architect attended to the larger works and the local inspectors to the smaller. It is a great gain to the Department both in time and money to have small repairs made and small buildings put up promptly and cheaply by local officers. The work done by the inspectors in this way in 1888, consisted of:—

	£	s.	d.
107 new schools	}	to seat 2,642 pupils; total cost	5,998
17 additions to schools			5
7 new residences			764
14 weather-sheds			218
371 buildings repaired	5,442	11	0

The inspectors report that the schools, as a whole, are suitable, amply supplied with desks, forms, and materials, and kept in a fair state of repair. As only a limited amount of money is voted annually for school buildings, care is taken to spend it only on works that are certified by the inspectors to be absolutely necessary.

The gross enrolment of pupils in 1888 was 211,119. Deducting 12 per cent. for multiple enrolments, the number of individual pupils entered during the year was 185,785. The following table gives the enrolment and the average attendance for each quarter:—

Quarter.	Enrolment in 1887.	Enrolment in 1888.	Increase for 1888.	Average daily attendance for 1887.	Average daily attendance for 1888.	Increase in average attendance for 1888.	Percentage of increase of enrolment.	Percentage of increase of average attendance.
March	157,338	161,821	4,483	102,946·2	110,412·5	7,466·3	2·8	7·2
June	155,728	159,229	3,501	103,638·1	113,669·5	10,031·4	2·2	9·6
September	158,458	163,443	4,985	108,754·2	112,892·7	4,138·5	3·1	3·8
December..	157,525	159,183	1,658	110,292·0	111,906·8	1,614·8	1·05	1·4
Average ...	157,262	160,919	3,656	106,407·6	112,220·3	5,812·7	2·2	5·5

The percentage of attendance for each quarter was :—

Quarter.	Enrolment.	Average attendance.	
		Number.	Percentage.
March	161,821	110,412·5	68·2
June	159,229	113,669·5	71·3
September.....	163,443	112,892·7	69·07
December	159,183	111,906·8	70·3
Year's average	160,919	112,220·3	69·7

Compared with 1887, these figures show an increase of 1,725 individual pupils, of 3,657 on the average quarterly enrolment and of 5,873 on the average daily attendance. In the latter half of the year, sickness and drought greatly interfered with regularity; but notwithstanding this, the average attendance (69·7), as compared with the enrolment, was higher in 1888 than it was in any previous year since the passing of the Public Instruction Act. This satisfactory result may, in some measure, be fairly ascribed to the work of teachers in carrying out the provisions of the compulsory clauses of the Act. A timely notice from a teacher, that a child on account of irregularity is not likely to make his 70 days' attendance, wakes up many a parent who is only careless or over-indulgent to the necessity of securing himself against possible trouble. For the six months ending June, 1888, there was an average enrolment of 160,525; of this number, 8,946 or 5½ per cent. were defaulters in terms of the Act. No satisfactory reason could be given for their failure to attend 70 days in the half-year; and consequently, the parents of 1,357 were prosecuted, and the parents of 7,589 received the formal caution, which is always given before resorting to prosecution. For the half-year ending December, the average enrolment was 161,313, and the defaulters numbered 5,115 or 3·2 per cent. Of these the parents of 1,211 were recommended for prosecution, and the parents of 3,904 were cautioned.

The first, second, and third-class schools have usually three departments, one each for boys, girls, and infants; fourth-class schools have generally two departments, one for infants and one (mixed) for boys and girls above 7 or 8 years of age. So far as the internal management is concerned, departments are independent of each other, and for the purposes of inspection are treated as separate schools. The number of schools or departments open in 1888 was 2,461. With the exception of 16 small schools that were closed when the inspectors were in their neighbourhoods, all the schools were fully examined and reported on: 1,071 were inspected a second time, and incidental visits for various reasons were made to a great number. In no year have so many inspections been held, or so many pupils examined. There was, however, no increase in the staff of inspectors. The demands on these gentlemen's time and endurance have now become so great that it will be necessary even in the interests of schools and of the department to increase their number. The details of inspection during the last four years stand thus :—

Year.	No. of Schools.	No. of Schools inspected.	No. of Schools inspected twice.	Total number of inspections.	No. of Schools not inspected.	No. of pupils examined.	No. of Inspectors.
1885	2,202	2,167	919	3,086	35	105,815	32
1886	2,337	2,301	1,003	3,304	36	112,073	32
1887	2,418	2,387	970	3,357	31	113,798	32
1888	2,461	2,445	1,071	3,516	16	118,710	32

The following table shows the distribution of schools, and the number inspected in each district:—

District.	No. of Inspectors.	No. of Schools.	No. of Schools inspected.	No. of Schools inspected twice.	Total No. of inspections.	No. of Schools not inspected.	No. of pupils examined.
Armidale	3	267	267	40	307	...	9,103
Bathurst	3	266	264	65	329	2	9,572
Goulburn	4	370	367	102	469	3	10,471
Grafton	3	242	241	113	354	1	8,898
Maitland	4	283	283	242	525	...	15,948
Metropolitan	4	184	183	130	313	1	31,407
Sub-Metropolitan...	4	284	284	189	473	...	15,861
Wagga Wagga	4	330	322	41	363	8	10,446
Wellington	3	235	234	149	383	1	7,004
Totals.....	32	2,461	2,445	1,071	3,516	16	118,710

The inspected and the uninspected schools stand thus :—

	Public.	Provisional.	Half-time.	House-to-house.	Evening.	Total.
Inspected	1,824	313	222	78	8	2,445
Uninspected	3	6	1	2	4	16
Totals	1,827	319	223	80	12	2,461

The general results of inspection for the year are good. Of the Public Schools, 85 per cent. reached or exceeded the standard, and the percentage on all schools, large and small, was 80.5. In 1887 the numbers were respectively 84 and 80. The following table gives the details of inspection :—

	Public.		Prov.	Half-time.	House-to-house.	Evening.	Totals.
	Schools.	Depts.					
(a) No. of schools and departments open during 1888, or any portion thereof	1,635	1,827	319	223	80	12	2,461
(b) Number that received a regular or general inspection	1,632	1,824	313	222	78	8	2,445
(c) Number that did not receive a regular or general inspection.....	3	3	6	1	2	4	16
Totals of (b) and (c), which should agree with (a)	1,635	1,827	319	223	80	12	2,461
(d) Number that received an ordinary inspection	774	900	72	71	12	2	1,057
(e) New schools or departments opened	17	20	62	17	15	3	117

Proficiency of Schools and Departments inspected during 1888 :—

	Below Standard.	Up to Standard (50 per cent. of possible marks.	Above Standard	Totals.
Public—				
1. In operation a full year at time of inspection.....	269	266	1,253	1,788
2. Not " " " "	8	5	23	36
Provisional—				
1. In operation a full year at time of inspection.....	65	43	127	235
2. Not " " " "	45	13	20	78
Half-time—				
1. In operation a full year at time of inspection.....	47	48	100	195
2. Not " " " "	14	5	8	17
House-to-house—				
1. In operation a full year at time of inspection.....	19	13	29	61
2. Not " " " "	7	1	9	17
Evening—				
1. In operation a full year at time of inspection.....	1	1	3	5
2. Not " " " " .....	.....	1	2	3
Totals—				
1. In operation a full year at time of inspection.....	401	371	1,512	2,284
2. Not " " " "	74	25	62	161
Totals	475	396	1,574	2,445

The above table may be thus summarized :—

Class of School,	Above Standard.	Up to Standard.	Below Standard.	Total.	Percentage up to Standard in 1888.	Percentage up to Standard in 1887.
Public	1,276	271	277	1,824	85	84
Provisional	147	56	110	313	65	65
Half-time	108	53	61	222	72	74
House-to-house	38	14	26	78	67	75
Evening!	5	2	1	8	87	79
Totals	1,574	396	475	2,445	80	80

The number of pupils examined was 118,710, an increase of 4,912 on the previous year.

In reading, 118,710 were tested, 100,860, or 86 per cent., of whom satisfied the inspectors. In some schools, especially in the best girls' departments, the reading is excellent, and in the majority of schools, it is a subject that receives from the teachers a great amount of time and care. In schools where reading is badly taught, it is usually found that an attempt is made to push pupils through the prescribed books too fast. This is done either by rushing over large portions superficially, or by omitting them altogether. The standard of proficiency in this Colony is probably the highest in the world, and an average child needs all the allotted time to enable him to meet its demands. Yet in order

order to keep the upper classes well filled, some teachers crowd the work of three half-years into two in their second classes, and of two half-years into one in their third. This can only be done by sacrificing thoroughness and accuracy. In reading, the evil shows itself in the upper classes in bad spelling, and general slovenliness in regard to speed, articulation, and expression.

In writing, 118,137 were examined, and 103,938 or 88 per cent. satisfied the inspectors. The great majority of teachers appear to be satisfied with obtaining for their pupils a bare pass in this subject. In some schools, no care is taken to preserve uniformity of character in copies, and even a serious attempt to imitate them is not insisted on. A few schools could be mentioned where the writing from the lowest to the highest class is admirable, the whole secret being that the teachers adopt a uniform style of copy, carefully supervise the children, and never overlook carelessness in regard to imitation of head-lines.

In arithmetic 115,239 were examined, and 81,245 or 75 per cent. satisfied the inspectors. In 1887, the percentage was 68. This subject is much better taught than the percentage of passes would lead one to think. As in reading, teachers suffer in their results by making their second and third classes attempt to cover the prescribed quantity of arithmetic in less than the prescribed time. As there are several other subjects to be studied, it takes an ordinary child fully three half-years to become thorough in the arithmetic put down for a second-class, and, fully two half years that set for a third. Skipping a half year in each class tells against the teachers results, and is injurious intellectually to the children. If full time were taken for arithmetic in the lower classes, and greater attention given to mental work, the upper classes in schools would be much stronger than they are in this subject.

In the remaining subjects good work was done, the percentage of passes in some being slightly above, and in others slightly below that of the preceding year. The following table shows the number of pupils examined in each subject and the number of passes.—

Subjects	Estimated Proficiency.		
	Number examined	Number passed	Percentage up to or above Standard.
Reading—			
Alphabet	11,892	9,442	79
Monosyllables	25,156	20,760	82
Easy narrative	32,541	27,503	84
Ordinary prose	49,121	43,155	88
Totals	118,710	100,860	86
Writing—			
On slates	49,814	43,937	88
In copy-books and on paper	68,323	60,001	88
Totals	118,137	103,938	88
Arithmetic—			
Simple rules	70,144	53,147	76
Compound rules	21,930	14,080	64
Higher rules	23,165	14,018	60
Totals	115,239	81,245	75
Grammar—			
Elementary	12,031	9,249	77
Advanced	33,844	25,497	76
Totals	45,875	34,746	76
Geography—			
Elementary	15,305	12,026	78
Advanced	34,154	26,667	78
Totals	49,459	38,693	78
History—			
English	35,650	25,222	73
Australian	14,065	10,739	76
Scripture and moral lessons—	113,202	89,845	79
Object lessons	91,115	76,384	84
Drawing	34,880	26,379	75
Music	100,247	82,328	82
French	1,364	990	73
Euclid	6,079	4,406	72
Algebra	1,816	1,340	74
Mensuration	8,299	4,848	58
Latin	1,508	1,120	74
Natural science	3,820	3,331	87
Trigonometry	122	73	60
Needlework	37,787	34,113	90
Drill	99,395	84,077	84

All the inspectors report favourably of the discipline kept up in schools. Teachers differ as greatly in capacity for government as they do in force of character, and the same ends are, therefore, not always obtained by similar means. All aim, however, at securing personal cleanliness, respectful conduct, orderly habits, truthfulness, and becoming language, together with the class virtues of silence, attention, industry, and obedience. Drill continues to be taught with reasonable success, and as the students, both male and female, who have of late years left the Training School, all received very careful training in this subject, the schools throughout the Colony may be expected to gradually show improvement in it also.

The number of teachers in the Service at the end of the year was 3,864, an increase of 50 on 1887. The teachers as a body are good citizens, faithful workers in their schools, and very anxious about the progress of their pupils. Occasionally one is dismissed for misconduct, disgraced for idleness or inefficiency, or otherwise punished; but the number requiring to be thus dealt with is so small that the inspectors are always unanimous in testifying to the general respectability and trustworthiness of their

their teaching staffs. The pupil-teachers, numbering nearly 1,000, have, as usual, given satisfaction both to their teachers and to the Department. It is very seldom that a complaint is made respecting any of them. The following table shows the number of teachers in each class :—

	I A.		I B.		II A.		II B.		III A.		III B.		III C.		Examined and Certified for Small Schools.		Totals.		Grand Total.
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
Principal Teachers.....	32	..	31	1	223	32	175	8	309	42	222	91	141	116	262	387	1,455	648	2,103
Mistresses of Departments ..	..	12	..	33	..	93	..	39	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	183	133
Assistants.....	..	..	17	1	61	53	42	114	7	93	2	56	3	18	1	..	133	347	480
Students examined for classification, but unappointed for 1888.	..	..	..	..	6	8	4	7	..	2	..	3	..	1	..	..	10	21	31
	32	12	48	35	290	162	221	168	376	142	224	150	144	135	263	397	1,958	1,109	2,797
	Class I.		Class II.		Class III.		Class IV.		Probationers.										
Pupil-teachers.....	100	154	63	135	81	157	91	157	20	32							355	635	990
Work-mistresses.....																	..	77	
Total Teachers of all ranks.....																	1,953	1,911	3,864

NOTE.—The High School-teachers, numbering 27, are not included in the above table.

Except that there were no admissions in July, no change was made in the working of the two Training Schools. Fort-street had an enrolment of 24 and Hurlstone of 50 during the first half of the year, and of 10 and 21 respectively during the second half; 14 male and 29 female students were examined, classified, and placed out in schools at the end of June, and the remainder at the end of December. The officers of both Training Schools performed their duties with zeal and ability, and the conduct and work of the students gave satisfaction. From the 1st January, 1889, the course of study in the non-professional subjects will be so modified as to make it coincide with the University course for the B.A. degree. The term of training will be extended to two and, in some cases, to three years, instead of being restricted to one year as hitherto; and a limitation by competition will be placed on the numbers admitted. The new regulations bearing on these changes will be found elsewhere.

The High Schools continue to do the work expected of them, but, except in Sydney, the attendance is small. In a separate report full information respecting them is given.

In summing up, I may remark that the schools maintain their reputation for proficiency, that the discipline and general management are good, that schools increase in number as fast as the population needs them, and that, throughout the year, teachers and officers of all ranks have, with few exceptions, done their best to make the schools a success.

15th February, 1889.

J. C. MAYNARD,
Chief Inspector.

ANNEX A.

DISTRICT INSPECTOR JOHN M'CREIDIE'S REPORT.

At the beginning of the year there were 181 schools or departments in operation in the Metropolitan District, and during the year two new departments and one Evening School were added, thus making in all 184 schools or departments opened during the whole or a portion of 1888. The Croydon Evening School having been carried on for only a short period, 183 schools remained on the list at the close of the year. These consisted of 177 Public Schools or departments and six Evening Schools. Various repairs or improvements were made in connection with many schools, but no increase took place in the accommodation provided for the pupils in 1887. The buildings necessary for the new departments had been erected in 1887 in anticipation of their establishment in 1888. Two new infant rooms for the Fort-street Superior Public School were nearly ready for occupation at the end of the year; and steps had been taken for the erection of two school-rooms for the Paddington Superior Public School, and for the carrying out of extensive repairs and improvements to the old buildings. A residence was provided at Drummoyne, a new one was erected at Burwood, and it was decided to build another at Ashfield. The following schools may be mentioned as having received repairs or improvements of a more or less important character, viz. :—Ashfield, Balmain, Banks' Meadow, Bondi, Camdensville, Camperdown, Darling Road, Double Bay, Drummoyne, Five Dock, Fort-street, Kegworth, Leichhardt, Leichhardt West, Manly, Naremburn, Newtown North, Nicholson-street, Paddington, Randwick, Redfern, Smith-street, St. Leonards, St. Leonards North, Surry Hills South, Blackfriars, Burwood, Darlington, Dulwich Hill, Forest Lodge, Glebe, Marrickville West, and North Sydney. The erection of a residence at Neutral Bay was also in progress at the close of the year.

The material condition and organization of the schools are, as a whole, good. The schools are generally well furnished, and possess a suitable supply of apparatus, books, and other necessary working appliances.

The average quarterly enrolment for the year was 44,151, and the highest enrolment for any quarter was 44,968, for September, while the average attendance for the year was 30,261, and the greatest average for a quarter was 30,743, for the September quarter. For the accommodation of these pupils the buildings supply 332,169 square feet of floor space, which, at the usual allowance of 8 square feet for each child, furnishes places for 41,521 scholars. There is thus ample provision in the aggregate for the attendance of pupils in the district. In a good many cases the present educational wants are more than met, but in a few others there is need for further provision in view of the increasing population. Among the latter may be specified Newtown, and the locality lying between Waverley and Woollahra. The following table shows the enrolment, average, and percentage attendance in proportion to enrolment of each quarter during 1887 and 1888 :—

Quarters.	Enrolments.		Averages.		Percentage of Attendance.	
	1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.
March	43,164	44,517	28,611·5	29,568·3	66·3	65·9
June	42,068	43,624	27,647·5	30,404·4	66·0	69·7
September	43,982	44,968	30,140·9	30,743·4	68·5	68·3
December	43,718	43,495	29,785·5	30,529·8	68·1	70·2
Average of enrolments, &c.	43,233	44,151	29,046·3	30,261·5	67·2	68·5

From this table it appears that the percentage of attendance has risen by 2·3, and that the highest quarterly average (70·2) was for the December quarter. The latter is the highest average that has been reached for years.

The same staff employed in 1887 carried on the work of inspection in 1888. All schools but one underwent regular or general inspection. The one left out was a small evening school, which was opened during the year, and collapsed before inspection took place. Ordinary inspections of 128 schools and many incidental inspections, were also made in addition to those of the regular or general kind. But for the withdrawal of one of the staff for the inspection of the High Schools, and the employment of the whole staff in examining school exhibits for the Melbourne Exhibition, all schools would probably have undergone inspection twice. Altogether 31,407 children were examined during the year. Of the schools examined 24 are of superior rank, and 55 schools or departments have fifth classes. It is scarcely necessary to remark that by the increase in the number of schools with fifth classes the work of inspection becomes more laborious and requires more time. The subjoined table exhibits the condition of the schools in relation to the standard, 50 per cent. of possible marks being estimated "up to," and 60 or more "above the standard" :—

Proficiency of Schools in relation to the Standard.

	Below Standard.	Up to Standard.	Above Standard.	Totals.
Number of Schools	17	69	97	183

The schools are distributed into their various classes as under :—

Class.	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.	X.	Evening.	Schools.	Departments.
	18	18	9	11	8	13	...	2	1	1	7	88	148

The next table gives the total number of children examined in each subject with their estimated proficiency, and the percentages of those who reached or passed the standard. Those entered as "above standard" obtained not less than 60 per cent. of possible marks in the subject opposite which the numbers appear under the heading :—

ESTIMATED proficiency of the pupils in all Schools.

Subjects.	Estimated Proficiency.				
	Above Standard.	Up to Standard (50 p.c. of possible marks).	Below Standard.	Total Examined.	Percentage up to or above Standard.
Reading—					
Alphabet	924	1,032	737	2,693	72·6
Monosyllables	3,206	2,069	1,112	6,387	82·5
Easy narrative	3,975	2,348	1,338	7,661	82·5
Ordinary prose	8,061	4,579	2,026	14,666	86·3
Totals	16,166	10,028	5,213	31,407	83·4
Writing—					
On slates	8,190	3,489	1,648	13,327	87·6
In copy-books and on paper	8,960	5,439	3,681	18,080	80·0
Totals	17,150	8,928	5,329	31,407	83·0
Arithmetic—					
Simple rules	8,179	5,747	5,006	18,932	73·5
Compound rules	1,803	1,637	1,934	5,374	64·0
Higher rules	2,115	1,909	2,745	6,769	59·4
Totals	12,097	9,293	9,685	31,075	68·8
Grammar—					
Elementary	940	764	402	2,106	80·9
Advanced	4,076	2,944	2,121	9,141	76·8
Totals	5,016	3,708	2,523	11,247	77·5
Geography—					
Elementary	2,323	1,018	590	3,931	85·0
Advanced	4,056	2,934	2,151	9,141	76·4
Totals	6,379	3,952	2,741	13,072	79·0
History—					
English	3,706	2,731	2,704	9,141	70·4
Australian	1,382	1,011	670	3,063	78·1
Scripture and moral lessons	15,032	8,736	7,327	31,095	76·4
Object lessons	14,736	8,049	7,042	29,827	76·4
Drawing	4,085	2,730	2,434	9,249	73·7
Music	17,161	8,788	5,124	31,073	83·5
French	283	206	207	696	70·3
Euclid	775	703	703	2,181	67·7
Algebra	245	257	221	723	69·4
Mensuration	1,103	1,410	1,844	4,357	57·6
Latin	257	260	206	723	71·5
Natural science	666	471	261	1,398	81·4
Trigonometry	25	16	32	73	56·1
Needlework	4,613	2,653	1,325	8,591	84·5
Drill	18,300	8,990	3,823	31,113	87·7

Comparing the results in this table with those given in last year's report, it will be seen that the percentages in grammar, scripture, and music have decreased, and those of English history, object lessons, mensuration, needlework, and drill have increased by a fraction. Arithmetic, with an increase of 2.2 per cent., and Australian history, with 5.1 per cent., are the only subjects that have made decided advance; the others, ranging from 1 per cent. in reading, writing, and geography to 23.9 in trigonometry, have all lower percentages than those of 1887. This falling-off in proficiency may be attributed, in some degree, to Centennial celebrations in the early part of the year, and again, later on, to the time devoted to the preparation of articles for exhibitions in Melbourne and Sydney. Time was not only lost from these causes, but the minds of the pupils were distracted from their usual work, and the progress made was not likely to be so rapid or the proficiency so thorough as in ordinary circumstances. Schools inspected, therefore, about the time of, or soon after, the occasions referred to, would not reach such high proficiency as in previous years, when no such disturbing causes presented themselves. In arithmetic the highest proficiency was shown in simple rules, 13,926 out of 18,932 pupils examined having reached "up to" or "above" standard. In higher rules 4,024 out of 6,769 reached or exceeded the standard. The proficiency in this and other subjects is injuriously affected in some schools by too rapid promotions. Care should be taken that pupils are well grounded in the lower-class work before being moved to the higher. Injudicious promotions of this kind prevent progress in accordance with the standard, and cause worry and unnecessary trouble to both teacher and pupil. Although the results for 1888 are, on the whole, not so high as those for 1887, it is not to be understood that they are not reasonably satisfactory. The average proficiency in all subjects taught during the year stands at about 75 per cent., or very fair to good, while in the essential subjects for Primary Schools—reading, writing, and arithmetic—the percentage stands at 78, or nearly good. This result, considering the severity of the tests required by the standard, is satisfactory.

The discipline of the schools continues to be satisfactory. The government is, generally speaking, mild, but vigilant and firm. Talking is suppressed, attention to work is insisted upon, and prompt obedience to orders is secured, without fuss or noise, in all the best conducted schools. Occasionally a noisy school is met with, and the result is seen in the comparatively low proficiency. This is, however, the exception. Taken as a whole, the pupils are trained to orderly habits by the prevalent discipline, and to self-reliance and earnest application to duty.

The following table shows the numbers and classifications of teachers employed in the Metropolitan District:—

TABLE of Classification of Teachers.

	A.		I B.		II A.		II B.		III A.		III B.		II C.		Special Teachers, or exempted by age.		Totals.		Grand Total.
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
Principal Teachers (Males) ..	23	..	12	..	24	..	12	..	5	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	77	..	82
" " (Females) ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	
Mistresses of Departments ..	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	95	177
	23	13	12	23	24	34	12	20	5	7	..	1	1	..	..	2	77	100	
Assistant Teachers (Males) ..	..	..	13	..	35	..	24	..	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	77	..	265
" " (Females) ..	..	..	..	1	..	45	..	73	..	30	..	20	..	12	..	..	..	188	
	..	..	13	1	35	45	24	73	4	30	1	20	..	12	..	1	77	188	265
	Class I.		Class II.		Class III.		Class IV.		Probationers.										
Pupil-teachers	27	70	13	51	25	63	25	51	M. 15	F. 23							105	263	368
Work-mistresses .....																	..	42	42
Grand Total of Teachers																	105	305	410
																	..	..	852

As a body, the teachers are earnest, faithful, and diligent in the discharge of their duties, and deserve commendation.

Of the five School Attendance Officers employed in 1887, one was removed to take charge of a school. There are now, therefore, only four engaged in this work in Sydney and suburbs. These officers have performed their duties amid many difficulties and discouragements, with tact, intelligence, and zeal.

In conclusion, I have to remark that the general material condition of the schools is satisfactory, that the accommodation, except in some exceptional cases, is adequate; that the discipline is of a high order; and that the general proficiency in all subjects for the year is very fair to good.

J. M'CREIDIE,
District Inspector.

Ashfield, 11th January, 1889.

ANNEX B.

INSPECTOR THOMPSON'S REPORT.

DURING the year, I had under my immediate supervision, 29 schools, viz.—26 Public Schools, comprising 59 departments, and 3 Evening Public Schools. Of the Evening Schools, one at Croydon was only temporarily in operation.

The classification of these schools is as follows:—

Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Class V.	Class VI.	Class VII.	Class VIII.	Class IX.	Class X.	Evening.	Schools	Departments.
7	6	3	4	2	2	.....	2	...	...	3	29	62

Accommodation.

The provision made may, generally speaking, be regarded as adequate to the requirements of the several localities, with the exception of that section which lies between Woollahra and Waverley. Here, in all probability, further provision will be necessary in the course of next year, as the Public Schools of Waverley and Woollahra will be unable to furnish accommodation adequate to the rapidly increasing population in the section referred to.

The necessity for additional accommodation at Enmore was met at the beginning of the year.

As regards material organization, the accommodation provided may be considered as adequate to the requirements. The schools are commodious, in good repair, and well provided with working material.

The

The total enrolments on average attendance and percentages of attendance for each quarter are set forth in the following table :—

Quarter.	Total Enrolment.	Average Attendance.	Percentage.
March	15,663	10,292·2	65·7
June	15,329	10,642·2	69·4
September	15,851	10,709·1	67·0
December	15,336	10,742·4	70·0

The highest enrolment, therefore, was in the September quarter, the highest average attendance in the December quarter, and the highest percentage in the December quarter.

Inspection.

Croydon Evening Public School was in operation during a comparatively short period, and was closed somewhat abruptly, consequently this school was not inspected under any form of inspection; otherwise, all schools received regular or general inspection; twenty-three schools received ordinary inspection, and twenty-seven incidental visits were paid.

The Committee meetings necessary for adjudicating relative to school exhibits for the Melbourne Exhibition, prevented my making as many ordinary inspections on the reassembling of the schools at the end of the mid-winter vacation, as I otherwise might have found opportunity for.

Hereunder is shown the proficiency of the schools in relation to standard of 50 per cent. possible marks, as ascertained by regular or general inspection :—

	Below Standard.	Up to Standard.	Above Standard.	Total.
Public Schools or departments in operation a full year.	4	24	29	57
Not in operation a full year .....	..	..	2	2
Evening Public Schools in operation a full year	1	..	1	2
	5	24	32	61

Upon the computation of 50 per cent. of possible marks, a table showing the proficiency of the pupils in the various subjects of examination is subjoined :—

Subjects.	Number of Pupils examined	Percentage of marks up to or above Standard.	Subjects.	Number of Pupils examined.	Percentage of marks up to or above Standard.
Reading	10,866	80·0	Music.....	10,866	80·0
Writing	10,866	79·0	French	235	70·0
Arithmetic	10,866	59·0	Euclid	813	58·6
Grammar	4,056	74·4	Algebra	353	66·8
Geography	4,325	72·3	Mensuration	1,765	52·0
History—England	2,963	66·0	Latin	333	63·0
Australia	1,088	75·7	Natural Science	567	76·7
Scripture	10,866	69·2	Needlework	3,023	79·9
Object lessons	10,324	66·1	Drill	10,866	80·0
Drawing	2,963	65·2			

The table above shows that the proficiency in the several subjects is above the standard required. As a whole the percentages are slightly below those of last year, which may be accounted for by several inspections having taken place on inauspicious days. Improvement is, however, shown in grammar, geography, French, and natural science. The reading needs more careful individual working, and its want of evenness is frequently very marked. In the upper classes the fluency requisite is pretty generally acquired, but intelligent expression and emphasis are not sufficiently general.

The arithmetic still exhibits some weakness, and mensuration has the lowest percentage of all subjects.

The general proficiency, however, may be regarded as satisfactory, and the government is generally effective and judiciously administered.

The staff and classification of teachers and pupil-teachers is hereunder summarized :—

	I A.		I B.		II A.		II B.		III A.		III B.		III C.		Special or exempted by Age		Totals		Grand Total.
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
Principal Teachers (Male)	6	..	5	..	11	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25	1	26
(Female)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
Mistresses of Departments	..	4	..	8	..	14	..	5	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	33
(Male)	..	..	6	..	13	..	9	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33	
Assistants (Male)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	68	98
(Female)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	68	
	6	4	11	8	24	34	11	30	3	18	..	4	..	3	..	1	55	102	157
	Class I.		Class II.		Class III.		Class IV.		Probationers.										
Pupil-teachers	8	24	7	20	9	20	10	13	8	9	.....		.....		.....		42	86	128
Work mistresses ..	.....																..	15	15
	Total Teachers of all ranks																97	203	300

To sum up: the material organization is good, the government is effective, and the general efficiency satisfactory.

W. F. THOMPSON,
Inspector.

ANNEX

ANNEX C.

INSPECTOR MORRIS' REPORT.

WHEN the year 1887 closed there were under my supervision 27 Public Schools in 63 departments, and two Evening Schools; as soon as 1888 began, an Infants' department was opened at Randwick, making the total number of departments open during any portion of 1888 to be 66; but late in the year St. Leonards East Evening School was closed, leaving 65 in operation at the end of the year.

I regard the space provided as sufficient for present requirements.

No increase has been made in the sitting accommodation during the year, but repairs and improvements more or less extensive have been effected at Balmain, Camperdown, Darling Road, Double Bay, Naremburn, Newtown North, Nicholson-street, Randwick, Smith-street, St. Leonards, St. Leonards North, and Surry Hills South. At the time of writing, repairs are in progress at Birch Grove and Surry Hills South.

Of the schools under my charge, 5 are first-class, 9 second, 3 third, 5 fourth, 3 fifth, and 2 sixth; 9 of them are Superior Schools, and 20 departments have fifth classes.

All departments received general or regular inspection; 51 ordinary inspections were conducted, and a good many incidental visits were paid. I was only prevented from completing my programme of ordinary inspections through my absence during the examination of the High Schools.

The following table shows the relation to the standard of the 66 departments spoken of above:—

Standard, 50 per cent. of possible marks.

Above 38	Up to 21	Below 7	Total. 66
-------------	-------------	------------	--------------

The next table gives the total number of pupils examined in each subject and the percentage of these who satisfied or exceeded the standard in the several subjects.

Subject.	Numbers examined.	Percentages.	Subject.	Numbers examined.	Percentages.
Reading.....	10,918	83.5	Music	10,897	84.8
Writing	10,918	81.7	French	231	78.0
Arithmetic	10,918	78.2	Euclid	774	71.8
Grammar	3,694	78.8	Algebra	197	80.2
Geography	4,683	82.6	Mensuration	1,337	69.9
History—English	3,134	73.7	Latin	197	77.7
Australian	1,075	76.5	Natural science	428	83.9
Scripture	10,897	76.4	Trigonometry.....	40	40.0
Object lessons	10,419	78.3	Needlework	2,869	87.1
Drawing	3,134	71.0	Drill	10,897	89.1

Two or three of these subjects call for some remark. The reading, so far as the mechanical part of it is concerned, is satisfactory; but, in all that makes up the musical effect of reading, the results are disappointing.

Writing has not been taught with much success, the majority not obtaining a higher mark than tolerable. It appears to me that insufficient attention is paid to the principles of good writing, the children being allowed to practise in wrong methods.

The results in arithmetic show a considerable advance upon those of last year.

English history, drawing, euclid, and mensuration do not appear to advantage, and trigonometry is exceptionally low.

The schools viewed as a whole may be described as well organized, the supply of teaching appliances is sufficient, and the repair of buildings is generally good.

The enrolments, averages, and percentages of attendance for each quarter of 1888 is shown below:—

Quarter.	Enrolment.	Average.	Percentage.
March.....	15,767	10,309	65.3
June	15,437	10,770	69.7
September	15,938	10,943	68.6
December	15,474	10,828	69.9
Average	15,654	10,712.5	68.3

As a rule the manner, bearing, and general appearance of the pupils are becoming; the punctuality is very fairly satisfactory; and the regularity is fairly so. The government is generally firm, watchful, and effective.

A perusal of the subjoined schedule will show the number and respective ranks of the teachers and pupil-teachers under my supervision.

Staff.	I A.	I B.	II A.	II B.	III A.	III B.	III C.	Special Teachers, exempted by age.	Total.	Grand Total.							
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.				M. F.						
Principal teachers.	10	5	5	4	1	1		1	25	27							
Mistresses of Departments..	3	10	13	7	4				37	37							
Assistants.....	3	9	13	12	26	8	1	12	4	1	25	64	89				
Total.....	10	3	8	10	14	26	16	34	1	12	1	12	4	2	50	103	153
	Class I.		Class II.		Class III.		Class IV.		Probationers.		Total.						
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.					
Pupil-teachers ...	11	33	4	15	10	22	9	19	3	8	27	97	124				
Sewing-mistresses											17	17	17				
	Entire Staff.....											294					

In conclusion I would say that the schools are, for the most part, properly organized, well governed, and faithfully taught; and their present condition gives rise to a reasonable anticipation of satisfactory work in the future.

R. N. MORRIS,
Inspector.

ANNEX D.

DISTRICT-INSPECTOR M'INTYRE'S REPORT.

I HAVE the honor to submit my General Report upon the schools in the Sub-Metropolitan District for the year 1888.

At the close of the year 1887 there were 273 schools in operation. Now, there are 281, being an increase of 8.

During the year, new Public Schools at Ermington, Wyong, Thirlmere, and Pitt Row were opened, and Provisional Schools at Mona Vale, Yarrawah, Hillcrest, and Upper Dural. The Provisional School at Blackgolar became a Public School, and the Provisional School at Lakesland was made Half-time. New Half-time Schools were opened at Innescliff, Williamswood, Jooriland, and Glen Hill, and the Half-time School at Toonulli was closed from want of pupils. The Evening Schools at Meroo and Mount Murray were not reopened in 1888. Early in the year the Public Schools at Mullet Creek and Woy Woy were closed with the completion of the railway contracts, and Sylvania was reopened. Arrangements are in progress for the opening of new Public Schools at Rockdale, Mortdale, St. Ives, Narara, Balgownie, Robbinsville, Corrimal, Hoxton Park, Fairfield, Sandhurst, Woodstock, Marsden Park, and South Granville. Mullet Creek is to be reopened in a more central position, and Half-time Schools at Webb's Creek and Lower M'Donald have been sanctioned, and an itinerant teacher for Higher Mangrove.

Schools in the District.

At the close of the year 1888 there were in operation in the district 281 schools and departments, attended by 20,763 scholars for the last quarter, with an average attendance of 14,534, being 70 per cent. of the number enrolled.

The following statement shows the number of schools of each class, with the total attendance of scholars for the December quarter, and the average enrolment for each school:—

246 Public	Schools, attended by 20,073 pupils; average for each school, 81.
17 Provisional	„ „ 377 „ „ „ 22.
18 Half-time	„ „ 313 „ „ „ 17.

The school buildings are nearly all well situated on dry and healthy sites; their material condition has been considerably improved during the year, and it is fairly satisfactory in all respects. Generally speaking, the school-rooms are well ventilated, properly lighted, and afford better accommodation than formerly. The schools are all well supplied with suitable furniture, apparatus, and books. The school sites recently selected are excellent. The play-grounds are nearly all well fenced, and, with few exceptions, lavatories and weathersheds have been provided for the cleanliness and comfort of the scholars. The educational wants of the district are well supplied, and the new schools keep pace with the increase of population. There are no unnecessary schools, and few of the settlers are without the means of education.

New School Buildings.

During the year 17 school-rooms were erected at the following places:—Pittwater, Rockdale, Cawdor, Malumbi, Pitt Row, Rouse Hill, Fairfield, Goughtown, Upper Dural, Parramatta South, North Granville, Central M'Donald, Sandhurst, Wallaya, Yarrawah, and Hillcrest.

Residences for teachers have been built at Pittwater, Bexley, Cawdor, Helensburgh, Pitt Row, Rouse Hill, Fairfield, Rockdale, Mortdale, North Granville, Goughtown, and Jasper's Brush. Weathersheds were erected at Carlingford, Bexley, Gordon, Dapto West, Dural, Galston, and Lower Portland. Three school-rooms were enlarged and 116 school buildings were repaired or improved, including residences, fencing, and water supply. New school buildings are in progress at Wyong, St. Ives, Hornsby Junction, Narrara, Jiliby Jiliby, West Kangaloon, Liverpool, Thirlmere, Balgownie, Robbinsville, Woodstock, and Marsden Park.

At the close of the year 1887 there was accommodation for 22,449 scholars. With the new school-rooms and class-rooms, accommodation is now provided for 23,584 pupils, being 1,135 seats more than last year, and 2,821 seats in excess of the number of pupils enrolled for the last quarter of the year. From these facts it is clear that there is ample school accommodation provided for all the educable children in the district.

Condition of Schools inspected.

All the schools in the district were fully examined. 189 received a second inspection, and incidental visits were made as opportunities offered, to a considerable number.

The following statement shows the condition of the schools inspected:—

Summary return of Inspection for the Year 1888.

	Public.		Prov.	H. T.	House-to-house.	Evening.	Totals.
	Schools.	Depts.					
a) Number of Schools and Departments open during 1888, or any portion thereof.....	229	248	17	19	...	...	284
(b) Number that received a Regular or General Inspection.....	229	248	17	19	...	...	284
(c) Number that did not receive a Regular or General Inspection... Totals of (b) and (c), which should agree with (a) .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(d) Number that received an Ordinary Inspection.....	156	169	10	10	...	...	189
(e) New Schools or Departments opened	6	6	4	4	...	...	14

Proficiency of Schools and Departments inspected during 1888.

	Below Standard.	Up to Standard (50 per cent. of possible marks).	Above Standard	Totals.
PUBLIC :—				
1. In operation a full year at time of inspection	25	15	203	243
2. Not do. do.	...	1	4	5
PROVISIONAL :—				
1. In operation a full year at time of inspection	1	4	8	13
2. Not do. do.	2	1	1	4
HALF-TIME :—				
1. In operation a full year at time of inspection	...	3	12	15
2. Not do. do.	2	2	...	4
HOUSE-TO-HOUSE SCHOOLS :—				
1. In operation a full year at time of inspection	...	...	...	...
2. Not do. do.	...	...	...	...
EVENING :—				
1. In operation a full year at time of inspection	...	...	...	...
2. Not do. do.	...	...	...	...
TOTALS :—				
1. In operation a full year at time of inspection	26	22	223	271
2. Not do. do.	4	4	5	13
TOTALS.....	30	26	228	284

The following statement shows the number of pupils examined in the several subjects of instruction, and the percentage up to, above, and below the Standard :—

Estimated Proficiency of the Pupils in all the Schools inspected.

Subject.	Estimated Proficiency.				Percentage up to or above Standard.
	Above Standard.	Up to Standard (50 p.c. of possible Marks).	Below Standard.	Total Examined.	
Reading—					
Alphabet.....	1,068	324	278	1,670	83
Monosyllables.....	2,358	839	523	3,720	85
Easy narrative.....	3,723	715	428	4,866	91
Ordinary prose.....	4,648	613	344	5,605	93
Totals.....	11,797	2,491	1,573	15,861	90
Writing—					
On slates.....	4,941	848	829	6,618	87
In copy-books and on paper.....	7,393	1,080	680	9,153	92
Totals.....	12,334	1,928	1,509	15,771	90
Arithmetic—					
Simple rules.....	5,837	2,551	1,617	10,005	83
Compound rules.....	1,007	999	1,017	3,023	66
Higher rules.....	1,092	745	736	2,573	71
Totals.....	7,936	4,295	3,370	15,601	78
Grammar—					
Elementary.....	1,361	652	286	2,299	87
Advanced.....	2,798	1,074	543	4,415	87
Totals.....	4,159	1,726	829	6,714	87
Geography—					
Elementary.....	1,859	551	351	2,761	87
Advanced.....	3,253	680	512	4,445	88
Totals.....	5,112	1,231	863	7,206	88
History—					
English.....	2,780	1,217	1,136	5,133	77
Australian.....	1,289	559	533	2,381	77
Scripture and moral lessons.....	11,103	2,138	2,352	15,593	84
Object lessons.....	8,819	1,984	1,706	12,509	86
Drawing.....	2,468	1,274	996	4,738	78
Music.....	10,317	2,039	1,735	14,091	87
French.....	118	26	61	205	70
Euclid.....	513	124	232	869	73
Algebra.....	206	81	132	419	68
Mensuration.....	518	253	294	1,065	72
Latin.....	147	25	102	274	62
Natural science.....	349	42	104	495	78
Trigonometry.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Needlework.....	4,824	647	319	5,790	94
Drill.....	12,579	1,649	1,449	15,677	90

Comparing the proficiency in this table with the results for last year, it may be observed that an advance of 3 per cent. has been made in reading, writing, arithmetic, and several other subjects.

The

The new standards still continue to improve the instruction. The progress of the younger children in reading and writing is more satisfactory than it was formerly, and the more important branches receive greater attention. The classification of the pupils in many schools has improved, and the school work is more equally divided among the several teachers. In a few schools the classes are still too much subdivided, and in some of the large schools, the monthly examination of the classes by the principal teachers is not regularly observed. The work on the programme agrees with the course of instruction in nearly all schools. The time-tables generally agree with the Public Instruction Act and Regulations, and they usually provide for the regular and profitable occupation of the pupils.

Discipline.

The general discipline of the schools is very creditable, and it continues to constitute one of their most pleasing features. The pupils are generally clean, attentive, and well behaved. Drill is now taught with more or less success in all schools, and where it is well taught the scholars are more obedient and attentive to their school duties.

There are some cases where the play-ground supervision is still defective, where late scholars are not regularly inspected as to cleanliness, and where the school-rooms and premises are not so clean and nicely kept as they should be; but the teachers have promised to give more care and attention to these matters. Excessive punishment very seldom occurs, and the government is generally mild but firm and judicious.

Teachers employed.

The whole staff of teachers employed in the schools of the district at the close of the year included 312 teachers and 131 pupil-teachers classified as follows:—

Teachers.	Class I.		Class II.		Class III.			Un-classified.	Totals.
	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	C.		
Males	1	2	43	49	77	27	13	11	223
Females		2	11	12	20	19	14	19	97

Pupil-teachers.	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Totals.
Males	15	8	13	12	48
Females	26	14	25	18	83

There are also 9 work-mistresses employed to teach needlework in some of the more important schools, and in cases where schools are taught by unmarried men. With the exception of cutting out, which is not much practised the needlework is generally well taught.

The unclassified teachers are employed in the small schools where the attendance varies from 12 to 20 pupils. Many of them have been recently examined with a view to classification. Although they are unclassified they have all been trained for their work in some of the larger schools, and have passed a satisfactory examination in the subjects which they have to teach. The teachers of the district with but few exceptions, manifest a lively interest in the success and efficiency of their schools. They are in general attentive to their duties and exemplary in their conduct. The assistant teachers do good work. The pupil-teachers are studious, obedient, and attentive to their duties. With but few exceptions they pass their annual examinations.

School Attendance and Fees.

At the close of the year there were 20,763 schools enrolled with a regular average attendance of 14,534, being 70 per cent. of the enrolment. The number of cases of short attendance reported by the teachers for the June half-year was 3,930, and for the December half-year 2,529, showing a decrease of 1,401. The causes of short attendance are numerous, but the cases of actual default have recently been considerably decreased. Teachers now take a more active personal interest than formerly in the attendance of their pupils, and, as the result is beginning to be felt, it may fairly be expected that the necessity for prosecution will become gradually less.

Of 96 cases taken into Court, 9 were dismissed and 7 withdrawn. Convictions were obtained in 80 cases.

Teachers' monthly returns of school fees in arrear were carefully scrutinised by the Attendance Officers, and in every case requiring it the teachers were furnished with special instructions. In some cases it was found necessary to write to the parents as to their arrears. Wherever a debtor was unable to pay, cancellation of the debt was recommended; but in every case where the debtor was able to pay his arrears, payment was insisted upon. Legal action for recovery of fees was taken in 17 cases, and judgment was given for the amounts claimed.

The amount of school fees due in October, 1887, was £612 3s. 1d., and at the close of the year 1888 that sum was reduced to £143 0s. 8d., being a decrease of 75 per cent.

The present plan of working the compulsory clauses of the Public Instruction Act is economical, fairly effective, and has a beneficial effect upon teachers and parents.

The Attendance Officers under my direction have been industrious and attentive to their duties.

Summary.

During the year the material condition of the schools has been very much improved, the attendance of scholars has increased, the means of education have been extended, and the instruction is more efficient and satisfactory. Seventeen school-rooms and 14 residences for teachers have been built, 3 school-rooms were enlarged, 116 school buildings improved or repaired, 9 weathersheds were erected, and 12 new school buildings are in progress. The Savings Banks appear to give satisfaction to parents, but Evening Schools fail to secure permanent support.

In regard to the compulsory clause of the Public Instruction Act, the number of defaulting parents is decreasing. About 75 per cent. of the school fees in arrear have been collected during the year. All the schools in the district have been examined once, and 189 have been inspected a second time. In conclusion, I have to add that considerable progress has been made during the year, and the prospects and success of the schools are encouraging and satisfactory in most respects. The inspectors with me in the district have made all possible efforts to perform their duties in a satisfactory manner. Their reports are appended.

Glebe Road, Sydney.
12th January, 1889.

W. M'INTYRE,
District Inspector.

ANNEX E.

INSPECTOR HOOKINS' REPORT.

I HAVE the honor to submit this my general report on the condition of the schools under my immediate supervision, during the year 1888.

1. At the termination of the year 1887 there were in operation 57 Public Schools, 4 Provisional, and 4 Half-time. During the present year, 2 new schools, Pitt Row Public, and Upper Dural Provisional, were opened; and therefore, there are now in operation, 58 Public, 5 Provisional, and 4 Half-time Schools.

2. Two new Public Schools, Fairfield and Sandhurst, are ready for opening at the termination of the holidays; and schools are in progress at Woodstock, Marsden Park, and South Granville. The establishment of a Half-time school at Webb's Creek, to be worked in conjunction with the school at Lower McDonald, reduced, and the employment of an itinerant teacher at the Higher Mangrove have been sanctioned.

3. New school buildings have been erected under the architect's supervision at Pitt Row, Rouse Hill, Fairfield, North Granville, and Goughtown, and under the inspector's supervision at Upper Dural, Central M'Donald, and Sandhurst.

Weathersheds have been erected at Dural by the architect; and at Galston and Lower Portland under the inspector's care.

Additions and repairs have been made by the architect to the following schools:—

Blacktown	New kitchen and repairs.
Castle Hill	General renovation.
Erskine Park	General renovation.
Freeman's Reach	Enlargement and repair of weathershed.
Goughtown	Fencing site.
Pitt Row	Washhouse.
Pitt Tower	New bedroom.
Prospect	Supply of forms to class-room.
Rooty Hill	General repairs.
St. Alban's	New bedroom.
Wilberforce	Repairs to water systems.
Wiseman's Ferry	Supply of hat pegs.

and under inspectoral supervision, at:—

St. Mary's	Repairs to closets and gravelling.
Lower Portland	New closet and repairs.
Sackville Reach	Repairing tank.
Riverstone	Felling trees.
Prospect	New porch and lavatory.
M'Donald Upper	Boarding in basement.
Galston	" "
Mulgoa	" shed.
Penrith	" Infants' verandah and sundry minor repairs.

It has been decided to erect school-buildings at Woodstock and South Granville, important centres of population.

Comfortable accommodation for 4,871 pupils existed at the end of 1887. By the opening of the schools at Pitt Row and Upper Dural provision was made for 275 more. When the schools now in progress, are completed, there will be space to receive 230 pupils; so that, while at the termination of 1888 there were seats for 5,146 pupils, there will, in a few months, be seats for 5,426 pupils. The highest enrolment of pupils in 1888, was 4,852 pupils. The accommodation supplied and resolved upon is, therefore, more than equal to the demands of 1839.

The school-buildings are generally healthy and prettily situated, and, in all but a few cases, ample space for playgrounds is secured. The school-rooms are well lighted and ventilated, and amply provided with all the necessary educational appliances and furniture, and the arrangements for the convenience and comfort of the pupils are very complete and satisfactory. Nearly all the schools are properly fenced in.

Enrolment and Attendance.

The following tabular statement shows the enrolment and attendance of pupils in each successive quarter of the year:—

Quarters.	Enrolment.	Average Attendance.	Percentage.	
			1888.	1887.
March	4,605	3,120·1	67·7	64·4
June	4,738	3,445·4	72·7	64·7
September	4,852	3,232·4	66·6	71·6
December	4,703	3,338·6	70·9	70·4

Reckoning for the whole year, I estimate that there is an improvement in the attendance of about 4 per cent. In the September quarter very many children were employed the best part of the day in watering cattle, the supply often being 2 miles away. Sickness, due to drinking bad water and to the excessive heat and dryness of the weather, was very prevalent.

During the year, 6,166 pupils' names were entered on the rolls; 5,931 at Public Schools, 143 at Provisional Schools, and 92 at Half-time Schools. Many of these pupils, however, remained but a short time, their parents migrating to some other locality.

Inspection.

All the schools in this section received a full regular or general inspection: two schools were inspected a second time; 47 schools received an ordinary inspection, and incidental visits were paid wherever practicable.

A full regular inspection of the Girls' Reformatory and Industrial School, Parramatta, was also held, besides quarterly inspections of the management of the institution itself.

The following table shows the condition of the schools in relation to the Standard:—

Schools.	Below Standard.	Up to Standard.	Above Standard.	Totals.	Percentage above Standard.	
					1888.	1887.
Public	6	2	50	58	86·2	96·4
Provisional .....	...	1	4	5	80·0	100·0
Half-time .....	...	...	4	4	100·0	100·0
All Schools	6	3	58	67	86·5	93·8

All schools, with two exceptions, were in operation the whole year.

I examined 3,606 pupils during the year, and their proficiency in the subjects of instruction is shown in the following tables. The results are not, as a whole, quite so favourable as those obtained last year, although there is an advance in the enrolment and the average attendance. I attribute this chiefly to the enervating influence of the heat and dryness so long experienced during the past year, showing itself in diminished mental energy or disposition for work.

Subjects.	Estimated Proficiency.				1888.	1887.
	Above Standard.	Up to Standard.	Below Standard.	Total Examined.	Percentage above Standard.	Percentage below Standard.
Reading	2,833	621	150	3,604	95·6	94·3
Writing	3,020	437	102	3,559	97·1	97·6
Arithmetic	1,967	688	894	3,549	74·8	78·1
Grammar	1,120	263	118	1,501	92·1	92·9
Geography	1,066	285	192	1,543	94·0	87·4
English history	541	228	233	1,002	76·7	78·5
Australian history	356	183	146	685	78·0	75·3
Scripture	2,474	749	271	3,494	92·2	98·9
Object lessons	1,666	482	74	2,322	96·8	90·8
Music	2,187	355	164	2,706	93·9	93·0
Drawing	753	167	79	999	92·9	95·7
Euclid	129	3	4	126	97·0	81·1
Algebra	26	12	.....	38	100·0	89·7
French	40	.....	.....	40	100·0	100·0
Latin	36	.....	.....	36	100·0	100·0
Mensuration	82	32	36	150	76·0	72·0
Natural science	26	.....	.....	26	100·0	100·0
Needlework	815	41	4	860	98·3	99·5
Drill	2,907	613	60	3,580	98·2	98·0

The instructional arrangements are very fairly complete; the various lesson documents are drawn up with intelligence and attention to detail; the methods are improved, as regards penetrative power, and the teaching is diligent and intelligent. The pupils of the various schools with a few exceptions, are judiciously classified, and the more important standard subjects are taught throughout.

Organization.

This is in as satisfactory a condition as reported last year. Inconvenience has been suffered at a few schools, through the exhaustion of the water supply from the drought, but these cases have been remedied by the purchase of water from some neighbouring sources, at the expense of the Department.

Discipline.

On this point, I have to report as favourably as in my report for 1887; the enrolment has increased, and the percentage of attendance has also improved; the pupils generally are very fairly punctual, and most creditably neat and becoming in appearance.

Teaching Staff.

The following is a tabulated view of the teachers and pupil-teachers employed, and of their respective ranks in the service, in Public Schools.

Teachers.

Sex.	Class I.		Class II.		Class III.			Not Certificated	Totals.
	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	C.		
Male	8	17	18	4	4	1	52
Female	1	2	5	1	5	1	2	17
Total	1	10	22	19	9	5	3	69

Four other uncertificated teachers are employed in Provisional Schools.

Included in the list of female teachers, are 4 mistresses of departments.

Two paid sewing-mistresses are employed at Penrith and North Parramatta respectively. At all other schools where this subject is taught, the duty of teaching is undertaken by the teacher's wife, or some female relation.

Pupil-teachers.

Sex.	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Total.
Male	2	.....	2	4	8
Female	4	1	7	6	18
Total	6	1	9	10	26

Examinations of teachers and pupil-teachers were held at Parramatta, at Midwinter and Midsummer, and were largely attended by the teachers; a fair number passed the test.

Both teachers and pupil-teachers maintain their high character for sobriety and correctness of conduct.

In September last an examination of applicant pupil-teachers was held; 25 candidates presented themselves, and a large number of them succeeded in passing. The wants of the district in this respect therefore are satisfied for some time to come.

Evening Schools.

No applications for the establishment of these schools have been received during the year.

Itinerant Teachers.

The employment of an itinerant teacher at the Higher Mangrove, has been sanctioned.

Summary.

Summary.

During the past year the enrolment has increased by 371, and the average attendance by about 4 per cent. Upwards of 6,166 pupils passed through the schools during the same period.

Two new schools have been opened; two more open at the termination of the vacation, and two others are in progress. Eight new school-buildings, four of them with residences, have been built; and additions and repairs have been made to 20 other schools. Three schools have been provided with weathersheds.

Savings Banks have been opened at the more important schools with considerable success, and with satisfaction to the parents.

The condition of the schools is satisfactory, and the teaching staff is zealous and efficient.

All schools were fully inspected once, and 49 schools received a second inspection.

Accommodation now exists for more than 5,200 pupils, where at the end of 1887, 4,871 pupils only could be seated.

5th January, 1888.

C. HOOKINS,
Inspector.

ANNEX F.

INSPECTOR DAWSON'S REPORT.

I BEG to submit my report for the year 1888.

At the end of 1887 there were 77 schools in operation under my supervision, comprising—56 Public Schools in 66 departments, 5 Provisional Schools, and 6 Half-time Schools. All these are still in existence except one, Toonulli Half-time School, which from want of pupils was closed in the month of June. Five new schools have been started during the year,—a Public School at Thirlmere (near Picton) and Half-time schools at Jooriland (Upper Burragorang), Glen Hill, Innescliff, and Williamswood, (all near Picton). Two schools were converted during the year; Lakelands Provisional was made a Half-time School, and the Provisional School at Blackgolar (Cox's River), became a Public School. The year 1888, therefore, ended with 81 schools in operation, divided as follows:—

56 Public Schools in 68 departments.
3 Provisional Schools.
10 Half-time Schools.

In addition to the five new schools already mentioned as in operation, the establishment of Public Schools at Balgownie (near Wollongong), Robbinsville (near Bulli), Corrimal (near Wollongong), and Hoxton Park (near Liverpool), has been authorized after due inquiry. These new schools are situated on newly-formed settlements as at Thirlmere and Hoxton Park; amongst isolated families as at Glen Hill, Jooriland, Innescliff and Williamswood; or in the Wollongong District where the mining population has increased considerably of late.

With few exceptions the schools are well placed throughout the district both for present and prospective population. The schools in operation with those in progress will fairly meet for a time the wants of the various localities.

The following table shows (1) the names of the new school buildings completed during the year, (2) under whose supervision each was erected, (3) the object in view in each case, and (4) the accommodation provided:—

School.	Supervision.	Object in view.	Accommodation.
Parramatta South (Infants) ...	Architect	To provide additional accommodation.	241
Cawdor	Architect	To replace rented premises	50
Malumbi	Local Supervision	To replace old building	24

A residence at Helensburgh was erected under the architect's supervision; a weathershed at Dapto West, under local supervision. A new class-room was erected at Fairy Meadow under local supervision, and affords accommodation for 50 pupils.

Considerable improvement has been made in the material condition and equipment of 30 schools—10 under the supervision of the architect and 20 under local or inspectoral supervision. At present repairs and improvements to 9 schools are in progress.

Glenfield Public School is undergoing extension under my supervision at a probable cost to the Department of £48 10s. At Liverpool a new Primary School is nearing completion. At Thirlmere, Robbinsville, and Balgownie, new school buildings are in course of erection. Tenders have been invited for the provision of a class-room at Narellan.

At the end of 1887 there were places in the schools for 6,432 pupils. The new school buildings and class-room mentioned above as completed, accommodate 375. Five of the new schools opened in non-vested premises accommodate 156. By the closing of one school, the abandonment of another, and the replacing of a third by vested premises, 118 places were lost. So that in all 413 places were added during the year. The total number of places is now 6,845. As the highest average for all the schools in any quarter was under 4,800, the total number of places is quite adequate.

The following table shows side by side the enrolment and average at all the schools for each quarter of 1887 and 1888, and the percentage in each case:—

	Enrolled.		Average.		Percentage.	
	1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.
March	6,923	7,014	4,529·3	4,793·9	65·5	68·4
June	6,756	6,858	4,258·4	4,789·2	63·0	69·9
September	6,873	6,972	4,667·3	4,725·2	67·8	67·8
December	6,773	6,900	4,716·9	4,707·7	69·6	68·3

During 1887 the attendance was affected by wet weather and bad roads. In 1888 it has been affected considerably by outbreaks of measles in almost every locality.

Every one of the 82 schools and departments open during 1888 or some portion of it, underwent the annual inspection, called regular. Two received a second regular inspection, having been found defective at the first inspection, and 42 received a second inspection, called ordinary. It was not found possible to visit all the schools a second time. Incidental inspections were made of all schools convenient to the routes of travel during the year.

The

The general efficiency of the schools as disclosed by inspection and examination may be seen from the following table :—

	Below Standard.	Up to Standard.	Above Standard.	Total.
1. Schools in operation a full year at time of inspection—				
Public	13	10	44	67
Provisional	1	2	.....	3
Half-time .....	.....	2	5	7
2. Schools not in operation a full year—				
Public .....	.....	1	.....	1
Provisional .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Half-time	2	2	.....	4
Total	16	17	49	82

In 1887, 79 per cent. of the schools were up to or above standard; this year this percentage is 80. Of the 16 schools below standard efficiency, 11 come very close to it.

The organization of the schools is generally speaking very satisfactory. The rooms are kept clean, the material properly arranged, and the documents regulating the instruction are conspicuously placed. Each school has a time-table drawn up by the teacher and examined by the inspector. In but few cases did I find the time-table not followed. The lesson programmes are generally drawn out with fair skill in agreement with standard requirements.

The discipline in the schools is of a healthy kind. Mildness is its prevailing characteristic, and its effectiveness is not the less on that account. I have had no complaints as to severity on the part of the teachers. The pupils are well behaved, steady, and attentive under examination.

The subjects of examination have been invariably those prescribed, and the following table will show (1) the No. of pupils examined in each subject, and (2) the percentage of passes in each subject.

Subjects.	No. Examined.	Percentage of Passes.
Reading	5,084	86
Writing	5,039	89
Arithmetic.....	4,879	76
Grammar.....	1,962	85
Geography.....	2,163	86
English history	1,416	80
Australian history	414	75
Scripture and moral lessons	4,949	80
Object lessons	4,117	86
Drawing.....	1,465	70
Music.....	4,629	86
French.....	80	48
Euclid.....	259	62
Algebra.....	128	45
Mensuration.....	381	63
Latin	119	41
Natural science	190	69
Needlework	1,492	92
Drill.....	5,048	91

The schools are managed by 97 teachers and assistant teachers, and 49 pupil-teachers, classified as follows :—

Teachers and Assistant Teachers.

	Class I.		Class II.		Class III.			Not Classified.	Totals.
	A	B	A	B	A		C		
Males	2	15	7	16	11	4	4	59
Females	1	7	5	8	7	4	6	38

Pupil-teachers.

	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Totals.
Males.....	5	4	9	3	21
Females.....	12	4	9	3	28

Three work-mistresses are employed to teach sewing at the Public Schools at Granville, Windsor, and Parramatta South. In the other schools sewing is taught by the teacher's wife, or by the female teachers of the school.

The conduct of the Pupil-teachers has been, without exception, good. They have been favourably reported upon by all concerned in their training. With but few exceptions the teachers have shown themselves diligent, painstaking, and faithful servants. In their hands I have no doubt that the efficiency of the schools of the district will be maintained.

All statistics are appended.

J. DAWSON,
Inspector.

Campbelltown, 31st December, 1888.

ANNEX G.

INSPECTOR PITT'S REPORT.

HAVE the honor to submit to you my General Report upon the schools inspected and the official duties performed by me during the year ending the 31st December, 1888, in the Nowra Section of the Sub-Metropolitan District.

I.—Means of Education.

The total number of schools of all classes in operation in this section of the district at the commencement of the year, was eighty-three.

This number has been increased by the establishment of two new Provisional Schools at Yarrawah, near Robertson and at Hillcrest, near Kangaroo Valley. Both of these schools commenced active work in the last half-year, and have maintained a good average attendance since their opening.

At the end of the year, therefore, there were in full operation in this district 74 Public, 7 Provisional Schools, and 4 Half-time Schools.

With regard to the demand for new schools, I have to report that four applications for the establishment of Provisional Schools have been received. Of these, two have been favourably entertained, one declined, and the other, a very recent application, is now under consideration.

The following statement shows the localities from which these applications were received, and the Department's decision in each case :—

School.	Department's decision.
(a) Yarrawah.....	Provisional granted.
(b) Hillcrest.....	Provisional granted.
(c) North Barrengarry.....	Declined.
(d) Corindah.....	Under consideration.

II.—Organization.

The school buildings in this section are in the majority of cases kept in a satisfactory condition, clean, in good repair, and well equipped. The school records are better kept than formerly, and the requisite lesson documents have been compiled with increased ability and care.

The formation and cultivation of flower gardens, and the planting of trees and shrubs in the playgrounds do not yet receive the attention they deserve. In too many instances there is nothing done to give the schools and surroundings an attractive and cheerful appearance.

For neat, well-kept, and attractive gardens and playgrounds, the undermentioned schools deserve special praise :

(a) Pyree Public School,	(d) North Huskisson,
(b) Broughton Vale,	(e) Tomarong,
(c) Berry,	(f) Woodhill.

III.—School Accommodation.

There exists in this portion of the Submetropolitan District sufficient and suitable school accommodation for all requirements.

At the beginning of the year the accommodation provided by the existing schools was satisfactory in both amount and character for no less than 5,870 pupils.

The three new buildings, erected during the year at Wallaya, Yarrawah, and Hillcrest, provide additional room for 128 more, so that the school accommodation for the whole section is adequate for 5,626 pupils, being largely in excess of actual or prospective wants, as is evident from the yearly returns which give an average daily attendance of 3,080 pupils.

The following table sets forth the amount and character of the existing school accommodation :—

No.	Class of Schools.	No. of Schools.	No. of Departments.	Accommodation provided.	Gross enrolment, 1888.	Average attendance, 1888.
1	Public.....	74	75	5,465	} 5,413	3,079.5
2	Provisional.....	7	7	373		
3	Half-time.....	4	4	160		
	Total.....	.....	.....	5,998		

It may fairly be concluded from the foregoing observations, that so far as school accommodation is concerned, the progress made in this district during the past few years has been both substantial and satisfactory.

New Buildings.

(a) New school buildings erected under the supervision of the inspector.

(3.)

No.	Name of Schools.	Dimensions.			Accommodation.	Cost.	Object.
		Length.	Width.	Height.			
1	Wallaya (public).....	ft. 36	ft. 16	ft. 12	72	£ 170	To replace old premises.
2	Yarrawah (provisional) ...	30	16	12	50	45	New.
3	Hillcrest (do) ...	25	14	11	36	45	New.
						£260	

(b) New residences and kitchens.

(3.)

No.	Name of Schools.	Nature of work.	Supervision.	Cost.	Object.
1	Berry (public).....	Kitchen, brick and stone (14 × 14)	Inspector	£ 69	New.
2	Jasper's Brush (public).	Residence of 6 rooms and kitchen, &c.	"	200	New.
3	Robertson (public) ...	Kitchen, iron and stone (14 × 12).	"	35	New.
				£304	

(c) Works in progress.

No.	Name of Schools.	Nature of work.	Supervision.	Cost.	Object.
1	West Kangaloon	School and residence, &c., &c.	Architect..	£ s. d. 857 15 0	To supersede old premises.
2	Shellharbour.....	General repairs, &c., &c.	Inspector..	38 10 0	For improvement.
3	New Bristol	Removal of school and repairs.	"	38 0 0	" "
	Budjong	Removal of school ...	"	12 0 0	" "
	Budjong Vale	Erection of weather-shed.	"	15 0 0	New.
	Cambewarra	General repairs.....	"	26 17 6	For improvement.
				£988 2 6	

Repairs and Improvements.

Important repairs and improvements have been made—more or less extensive—to the buildings at the undermentioned schools, viz. :—

Albion Park	Fall's Creek	Mimosa Park
Beaumont	Foxground	Nowra
Berry	Gerringong	Osborne Hill
Boolong	Harley Hill	Omega Retreat
Budjong Vale	Jamberoo	Pyree
Burrill	Jasper's Brush	Robertson
Burrawang	Kangaroo Valley	Stockyard Mount
Cambewarra	Kiama	Terrara
Comarong	Marshall Mount	Tomarong
Coolangatta	Meroo	Tongarra
Conjola	Milton	Wild's Meadow
Croobyar	Minnamurra	Yarrunga.

The total cost of effecting the miscellaneous repairs and improvements to these 36 schools was £650, and in each case the work was carried out under my own supervision.

Attendance.

The following is a comparative statement of the total enrolment of pupils, the average attendance for each quarter of the year, and the fees received from the schools for the last two years :—

Quarters.	1887.					1888.				
	No. of Schools.	No. Enrolled.	Average attendance	Per-centage.	Fees.	No. of Schools.	No. Enrolled.	Average attendance	Per-centage.	Fees.
March	84	4,485	2,997·5	66·8	£ s. d. 378 2 3	83	4,319	3,020·9	69·9	£ s. d. 408 3 2½
June.....	84	4,388	2,803·7	63·9	351 10 9	83	4,248	3,193·5	75·4	427 14 9½
September ...	86	4,434	3,082·3	69·5	424 14 8½	85	4,396	3,145·3	71·0	488 2 8½
December ...	86	4,385	3,063·2	69·9	492 19 9	85	4,256	2,989·7	70·2	454 14 6

From this table it will be observed that while the number on the rolls is practically stationary the average attendance has increased by nearly 4 per cent., and the fees have considerably improved.

This is gratifying, and testifies in the strongest way that, if the compulsory clause of the Education Act be worked with perseverance, due activity, and some enthusiasm, it will certainly be productive of much benefit and improvement throughout the Colony.

The greatest obstacle to success in our schools is "irregularity of attendance," though I am glad to be able to report a prospect of continued improvement in school attendance in this section.

Discipline.

The discipline in the majority of the schools inspected continues to be of a sound healthy character ; in a few it is susceptible of improvement.

The regularity and punctuality of the pupils are sensibly better than formerly, and a decided improvement is perceptible in their morning attendance.

Habits of cleanliness and neatness are carefully observed in the working of the schools, and on the whole successfully cultivated.

The government secures obedience, good behaviour, and cheerfulness, and seldom or ever is undue severity resorted to.

Instruction in military drill is, with very few exceptions, given now in all the schools of my district ; in a considerable number it is very well carried out, and satisfactory improvement is noticeable in this respect.

Inspection.

All the schools that were in operation during the year were fully inspected.

Ordinary inspections have been made, and frequent incidental visits paid to every school under my supervision. These visits without notice are a most useful means for enabling an inspector to judge of the discipline of a school, of its whole character, and of the worth and efficiency of its teacher, and I am glad to say that in no instance during the year have I been unable to pay each school such a visit.

I have not altered the opinion I expressed in my last report of the value of these inspections, as from experience I see that they have been of great service in improving the character of the instruction and the general condition of the schools, and at the same time have been in nowise distasteful to the honest, earnest worker who has his heart and soul in his calling.

I may have at times to find fault, or to press for improvements, and to do so, perhaps, with considerable determination, but I never find it taken otherwise than in good part.

Throughout the district the teachers have in many cases made very creditable efforts to comply with the full requirements of the revised standards, and in consequence it is gratifying to be able to report that the elementary subjects—reading, writing, and arithmetic, are, on the whole, taught with creditable success.

The

The total number of inspections made in this section during the year was 170, viz., 9 general, 76 regular, and 85 ordinary.

The work of inspection for the year may be thus stated :—

85 general and regular inspections.
85 ordinary inspections.

The number of pupils present at the inspection of the 85 schools was 3,347.

Condition of Schools.

The general results of the inspection may be seen from the following table :—

Name of Schools.	Below Standard.	Up to Standard.	Above Standard.	Totals.
Public	7	3	64	74
Provisional	2	2	3	7
Half-time	0	1	3	4
Totals	9	6	70	85

This table shows that about 90 per cent. of the inspected schools either met or exceeded standard requirements, and that 10 per cent. failed to do so—a very creditable result of the condition of the schools,—and indicates a gradual and satisfactory improvement on former years.

Percentages.

The following statement shows the number of pupils examined in each subject, and the percentage who satisfied the standard for the years 1887 and 1888 :—

Subjects.	1887.		1888.	
	Number examined.	Percentage of Passes.	Number examined.	Percentage of Passes.
Reading	3,299	86	3,347	87
Writing	3,299	84	3,347	87
Arithmetic	3,299	74	3,347	78
Grammar	1,494	81	1,593	84
Geography	1,618	86	1,614	89
Object Lessons	2,265	84	2,582	81
Scripture	3,239	85	3,347	89
Drawing	1,040	77	1,074	81
Music	3,045	83	3,207	85
History	1,580	78	2,337	72
Geometry	206	79	250	82
Algebra	135	76	150	74
Mensuration	149	78	270	78
Latin	71	73	70	75
French	50	70	65	70
Natural Science			105	80
Needlework	1,384	85	1,962	95
Drill	3,299	81	3,347	80

The above table shows a steady progress in all the elementary subjects, and compared with last year, the results may be regarded as very satisfactory, and may be taken as a basis for future work and progress.

Teachers.

At the end of 1888, there were under my supervision 86 principal teachers, 4 assistant teachers and 22 pupil-teachers.

The principal teachers and assistants are thus classified :—

Teachers.	Class I.		Class II.		Class III.			Un-classified.	Total.
	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	C.		
Males	0	0	5	14	25	10	5	5	64
Females	0	0	1	0	7	4	5	9	26
									90

The Pupil-teachers rank as follows :—

Pupil-teachers.	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Total.
Males	5	3	0	2	10
Females	5	1	4	2	12
					22

As a body, the teachers are respectable, sober, and competent. The bulk of them are punctual and faithful, and discharge their duties with commendable zeal and intelligence.

All the pupil-teachers under my supervision have conducted themselves well and creditably, and have carried out their many duties promptly, cheerfully, and with satisfactory efficiency.

Summary

Summary.

1. The schools are well distributed ; the accommodation is good and sufficient.
2. The discipline of the schools continues a pleasing feature, and the school attendance has increased.
3. All schools have received two inspections, and been visited incidentally many times.
4. The efficiency of the schools have much improved, and the general results indicate steady sound progress.
5. In conclusion, I am glad to be able to report a year of satisfactory and material progress, and that the prospects for the incoming year are hopeful and encouraging.

All required statistics have been duly forwarded as directed.

Nowra, 31 December, 1888.

CHAS. JNO. PITT,
Inspector.

ANNEX H.

DISTRICT-INSPECTOR BRADLEY'S REPORT.

I.—*Schools and School Establishment.*

During the year 1887 there were in operation in the Armidale District, for the whole year, or part of it, 258 schools, viz. :—173 Public, 62 Provisional, 10 Half-time, and 13 groups of House-to-house Schools. Of these schools, 5—Milliwindi Public, Somerton Public, Swanbrook Public, and Glen Lee and Wallangra Half-time—were not working during 1888 owing to insufficient attendance ; and fourteen new schools were opened in the following localities :—Bando, Bonavista, Cobbadah, Cubbo, Dwyer's Homestead, Glenarm, Graham's Vineyard, Mannka, Nine-mile, Redbank, Ukolan, Willow Grove, Wilson's Creek, and Wollomombi. The school roll for the year 1888 will thus show a net increase of nine schools, classified as follows :—

Public.....	183
Provisional	56
Half-time	12
House-to-house	16
Total.....	267

Early in 1889 the opening of small schools at Coolootai, Kulki, Milchomi, Nowley, Oakey Creek, and Wollun will be effected ; and a few applications for other small schools are still under consideration. Applications for the establishment of Provisional Schools at Blairmore, Bullawa Creek, The Cedars, Eulah Creek Road, Hawarden, and Terrible Vale have been refused, in most cases on the ground that the educational wants of the several places were sufficiently well met by existing schools. I know now of no localities in which schools are or may be required, beyond those for which steps have already been initiated for school establishment. All the centres of population are fully supplied, and, under ordinary circumstances, any new schools that may be opened must be of the smallest kind—Provisional, Half-time, or House-to-house Schools.

II.—*School Buildings, Organization, &c.*

Under the Architect to the Department, new buildings or extensive alterations and improvements have been completed during 1888, at Deepwater, Dundee, Moree, and Tenterfield ; important additions are in progress at Warialda ; and a contract for the erection of new school premises at Quirindi, to cost over £2,000, has just been entered into. Minor repairs and improvements have also been effected under the same officer in various parts of the district. The inspectorial staff of the district has arranged for, and completed, the erection and furnishing of twelve of the smaller class of school buildings at a total cost of £866, and for the repair of forty school houses at a cost of £687. A teacher's residence has also been provided at Hillgrove for £145, and a Provisional School building, to cost £60, is approaching completion at Wollun. Expenditure throughout has been as economical as possible, consistent with effectiveness, and proved wants have been promptly met.

After deducting accommodation lost by the closing of schools, and the disuse of old buildings, an aggregate increase of 724 "places" has been effected during 1888, making now available a total sitting accommodation for 14,703 children. As the maximum enrolment of pupils (reached in the September quarter) was but 12,276, with an ordinary attendance estimated at 10,000, such accommodation must be regarded as ample. There are certainly cases in which the seating capacity of a school is taxed to its fullest extent ; and others where, from decadence of population or other causes, the attendance is small relatively to the size of the building available ; but, as a rule, it may be said that the schools of the district afford sufficient, and more than sufficient air space and floor space for the children ordinarily attending them.

In all schools, except those conducted under House-to-house teachers, and some few other small ones, the furniture in use is suitable and sufficient in quantity ; while in the case of every school a stock of books and working materials is obtainable yearly, which, though not granted on very liberal lines, is adequate for efficient conduct when ordinary care and economy are exercised by the teacher.

In general, the classification of the pupils is appropriate and in accord with the requirements of the standard, and improvement is apparent in the construction of the documents framed to regulate the teaching. Except in a few instances, the records of the school are accurately and punctually kept, although it too often happens that a want of neatness is displayed. Savings banks are worked in connection with most schools ranking from Class VI upwards ; and within a few weeks every school in the district that should have a bank will have one opened.

III.—*Inspection.*

In the beginning of the year a change was made in the inspectorial staff by the appointment of Mr. Walter Beavis to succeed Assistant-Inspector Nolan in the Inverell section of the district. Mr. Beavis entered on his duties on the 7th February, and the zeal and efficiency displayed in successfully compassing the work of a large section entirely new to him deserve commendation. Of the 257 schools which were in operation during either the whole or part of 1888, 67 were under my personal supervision ; 97 were in the Tamworth section, under Mr. Blumer, and 103 formed the Inverell section, under Mr. Beavis. Every school in the district received full inspection, and in the case of three very defective schools a second inspection was held ; 40 ordinary inspections have also been made, and numerous incidental visits and brief inspections have been made as opportunity offered. Fortunately for the work of inspection, travelling during 1888 was facilitated by the long continuance of dry weather ; but in many localities, the drought militated against regularity of attendance, and fewer pupils were present at examination than otherwise would have been the case. Notwithstanding, an increase of 791 in the number examined which took place as compared with the record of 1887—the numbers for the two years being respectively 8,312 and 9,103 ; and this latter number exceeds by nearly 300 the highest average attendance for any quarter of the year.

IV.—*Efficiency of Schools.*

In estimating the general efficiency of schools, the marks awarded for the organization, the discipline, and the instruction are taken into account, and the attainment of 50 per cent. of the total number of marks entitles a school to be rated as "up to the standard." In this light, out of the 267 schools inspected, 36 rate below the standard, 187 exceed the requirements, and 44 just satisfy them.

These

These results are in themselves very fairly creditable, and indicate steady, although not great progress. An opportunity for comparing the record of 1888 with those of the three previous years is afforded by the following tables:—

	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
No. of schools below standard	42	42	37	36
" " up to " 	62	30	29	44
" " above " 	92	161	191	187
Totals	196	233	257	267

Or having regard to percentages:—

	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.
No. of schools below standard	22%	18%	15%	13%
" " up to, and above standard.....	78%	82%	85%	87%

The following table deals simply with the matter of attainments as elicited at examination, and shows (1) the subjects, and to some extent, the range of the instruction; (2) the number of pupils examined in each subject; (3) the proficiency reached in relation to the standard; and (4) the relation of the results to those of 1887:—

Subjects.	Estimated Proficiency.					
	Above Standard.	Up to Standard (50 p.c. of possible marks).	Below Standard.	Total Examined.	Percentage up to or above Standard.	Relation to results of 1887.
Reading—						
Alphabet.....	111	197	107	415	74%	+ 4%
Monosyllables	1,084	620	501	2,205	77%	- 8%
Easy narrative	1,523	802	480	2,805	83%	- 7%
Ordinary prose	2,940	624	114	3,678	97%	- 1%
Totals	5,658	2,243	1,202	9,103	87%	- 3%
Writing—						
On slates.....	3,006	781	280	4,067	93%	- 1%
In copy-books and on paper.....	4,136	676	224	5,036	96%	=
Totals	7,142	1,457	504	9,103	94%	- 1%
Arithmetic—						
Simple rules	2,880	1,594	1,620	6,094	73%	- 5%
Compound rules.....	715	548	415	1,678	75%	+ 20%
Higher rules	498	239	494	1,331	63%	+ 1%
Totals	4,093	2,481	2,529	9,103	72%	- 1%
Grammar—						
Elementary	498	164	166	828	80%	+ 7%
Advanced	1,199	585	400	2,184	81%	- 3%
Totals	1,697	749	566	3,012	81%	+ 1%
Geography—						
Elementary	429	180	189	798	76%	- 2%
Advanced	1,556	315	368	2,239	84%	- 1%
Totals	1,985	495	557	3,037	82%	=
History—						
English	1,290	465	553	2,308	76%	- 12%
Australian	565	194	85	844	90%	- 2%
Scripture and moral lessons	6,191	1,543	1,020	8,754	88%	=
Object lessons	4,209	1,238	437	5,884	93%	+ 5%
Drawing	1,324	652	331	2,307	86%	+ 4%
Music	4,469	1,383	1,356	7,208	81%	- 4%
French.....	9	5	5	19	74%	+ 3%
Euclid	182	91	53	326	84%	- 11%
Algebra	45	4	0	49	100%	+ 30%
Mensuration	12	38	47	97	52%	- 36%
Latin	40	9	0	49	100%	=
Natural science	243	0	0	243	100%	=
Trigonometry.....	0	0	0	0	.....	.....
Needlework	2,298	583	82	2,963	97%	=
Drill.....	3,569	1,737	1,119	6,425	83%	+ 8%

Every pupil present at examination was tested in the three essential subjects of instruction—reading, writing, and arithmetic. In these subjects the results, viewed as a whole, show a slight falling off when compared with those of the previous year; but it is fair to note that, in the reading of easy narratives and ordinary prose, 6,483 pupils were examined during 1888 as against 5,597 in 1887; in writing on paper, 5,036 as against 4,371; and in compound and higher rules of arithmetic, 3,009 as against 2,389. In grammar and geography the results correspond closely with those of 1887, notwithstanding that the number of pupils tested in the more advanced parts of the subjects exceeds that of the previous

previous year by about 30 per cent. Considering, therefore, the severer tests to which the pupils have been subjected, it is creditable that no appreciable falling off in the number of passes has occurred.

No retrogression in the disciplinary conditions of the school is observable; and, as has been remarked in the previous reports, no other feature of school work is found to be so uniformly creditable.

V.—*Teachers.*

At the close of the year, the teaching strength of the district was represented by 252 principal teachers, 12 assistant teachers, and 49 pupil-teachers. Of the former, 119 have not obtained classification by examination, and these are employed in Provisional, House-to-house, and other small schools. The remainder, with the assistant teachers (145 in all) are classified as follows:—5, Class I, Section B; 32, Class II, Section A; 21, Class II, Section B; 47, Class III, Section A; 29, Class III, Section B; 11, Class III, Section C.

With rare exceptions the teachers have proved themselves worthy of the trust reposed in them, both on the score of efficiency in the discharge of their school duties, and as exemplars in their conduct to those around them. Not a few of the younger men are placed in circumstances of strong temptation, and it is much to their credit that they so well withstand the evil influences of their surroundings.

As a body the pupil-teachers are circumspect in their conduct, obedient, and very fairly diligent in their efforts towards self-improvement; while the seniors among them render service quite as effective as that of an ordinary assistant teacher. So far as I can ascertain the feeling in the matter, the recent regulation as to their admission to the Training Schools has had a depressing effect; and in country places it is not unlikely that some difficulty may be met in obtaining suitable applicants for the position.

VI.—*Summary.*

Summarizing the foregoing remarks, it may be said that the supply of schools throughout the district is well up to its requirements; and that, as regards their accommodation and equipment, the provision made is ample. So far as the teachers are concerned, the organization of the schools is, as a whole, satisfactory; while the discipline exercised is healthy, the appearance and demeanour of the pupils pleasing, and the order, with very few exceptions, good. Every school has been subjected to one thorough inspection, and ordinary and incidental inspections have been made as far as practicable. The proficiency of the pupils as elicited at examination shows some improvement on that of last and preceding years, and is creditable in its relation to standard requirements. Teachers, generally, have worked well and honestly. The suggestions offered for their guidance have been received in a cordial spirit, and with an evident desire for the improvement of their schools which promises well for the future.

J. D. BRADLEY,
District Inspector.

ANNEX I.

INSPECTOR BLUMER'S REPORT.

I.—*Adequacy of the Means of Education, as regards Amount and Distribution.*

At the close of last year, there were under my supervision 62 Public, 16 Provisional, 2 Half-time, and 8 House-to-house Schools. Total 88 schools.

Two Public Schools (Barraba and Hawkin's Creek), 1 Provisional (Colonna), and 1 House-to-house (Crowley's) were then transferred from the Inverell to the Tamworth section of the district. 2 Public Schools (Colly Blue and Millwindi) did not reopen after the vacation; and 2 Provisional Schools (Harparary and Wooloban) were converted into Public.

During 1888, 4 Provisional Schools (Bando, Bona Vista, Grabham's Vineyard, and Ukolan), and 2 House-to-house (Cobbadah and Cubbo) were established. The Colly Blue school was revived as House-to-house, instead of Public, and the Provisional School at Warrah Ridge was closed.

The present year therefore closes with the following schools in existence:—

64 Public; 18 Provisional; 2 Half-time; 12 House-to-house. Total, 96 schools.

A Provisional School will come into operation at Nowley early next year.

Applications for the establishment of Provisional Schools at Blairmore, Bullawa Creek, The Cedars, Eulah Creek Road, Hawarden, and Terrible Vale were refused, as were also requests for an Evening Public School at Attunga Springs, and for itinerant teachers at Cryon, and at Barry and Nagis Creek. The question of sending a House-to-house teacher to Milchomi is still under consideration.

The existing schools are properly distributed, and fully meet the present educational requirements of the district.

It is probable, however, that the decrease of population in some localities, and the settlement of families in others will necessitate the early closing of certain small schools and the establishment of others elsewhere.

II.—*The Actual Condition of the Schools as elicited by Inspection.*

Ninety-seven schools were open during the whole or some portion of the year. All were fully inspected, 1 received a second full inspection, and 8 ordinary inspections were held. It is to be regretted that time did not admit of more ordinary inspections, as such inspections cannot fail to prove of direct advantage to the teacher, and of proportionate benefit to the pupils.

(a) *Organization.*

No unnecessary outlay has been incurred for repairs and improvements; but nevertheless the school buildings are, as a whole, in good condition, afford suitable accommodation, and are well provided with furniture, apparatus, books, &c. In many cases, however, the water-supply, although sufficient under ordinary circumstances, failed to last throughout the long rainless period that occurred in many places.

Savings Banks are successfully conducted in all the more important schools except two or three; and from these latter applications have been received for the establishment of such banks.

The records are correctly and, with rare exceptions, neatly and carefully kept, and marked improvement in the construction and observance of Time-tables and Programmes still continues.

(b) *Discipline.*

The discipline continues to be a most satisfactory feature in the schools. The pupils are, as a rule, punctual and very fairly regular in their attendance, clean and tidy in appearance, obedient, and diligent. The government is kindly, yet vigilant and firm, and the moral tone of the schools healthy. Drill is now taught in nearly all but the smaller schools, and ranges from simply marching in file to the advanced company drill of the Tamworth Cadet Corps.

(c) *Instruction.*

Except in a few cases, the pupils are correctly classified, and receive instruction in accordance with the requirements of the Standard of Proficiency. In schools under the charge of trained or classified teachers the methods used are generally of approved type, and in nearly every instance the school work is conducted with intelligence and commendable zeal.

IV.—Teachers.

During the year two teachers resigned to avert dismissal, and it may now be said that, with scarcely an exception, the teachers are steady, industrious, efficient, and trustworthy. Their duties are faithfully and, in many cases, most zealously performed. Every school has a complete staff.

Considerable difficulty is sometimes experienced in obtaining suitable male teachers for House-to-house Schools, and it is expected that the number of applicants for the office of pupil-teacher will be much reduced by the new regulations with reference to admission to the Training School. The pupil-teachers are a hard-working efficient body, but many of them are much disheartened at the prospect of admission to training, after four years' service at comparatively low salaries, only provided they are prepared to do so without allowance of any kind for a period of two years.

Summary.

The means of education are considerably distributed and adequate.

The efficiency of the schools is more than satisfactory. There is no reason why the results of inspection for 1889 should not be quite as good as those of previous years.

L. BLUMER,
Inspector.

Tamworth, 28th December, 1888.

ANNEX J.

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR BEAVIS' REPORT.

At the close of 1887 there were in operation in this section 104 schools; viz., 69 Public, 28 Provisional, 2 Half-time, and 5 House-to-house: 4 of these, viz., 2 Public (Barraba and Hawkins Creek), 1 Provisional (Colonna), and 1 House-to-house (Crowley's, Rockmore, and Wood's Reef) were transferred to the Tamworth Section, and the Half-time Schools at Wallangra and Glen Lee were closed. There were thus 91 schools in the Inverell Section at the commencement of 1888.

During the year four schools have been established in new localities, viz., Nine-mile, Willow Grove, Redbank, and Dwyer's Homestead; and, worked in conjunction with the last named, Bluff River, formerly Public, was re-opened as an Half-time School. Altogether, therefore, there have been in operation under my supervision, during 1888, 103 schools, classified as under:—

75 Public
22 Provisional
2 Half-time
4 House-to-house.

Several schools have undergone modification of status consequent on increase or decrease of attendance; 8 Provisional Schools have become Public; and 1 House-to-house School was converted to Provisional. On the completion of new school-premises at Tenterfield in March last, that school was re-organized, separate Boys' and Girls' Departments being substituted for the original Primary and Infants.

The House-to-house School at Gragin has been temporarily discontinued, and it has been decided to close permanently on account of small attendance, the Half-time Schools at Bluff River and Dwyer's Homestead.

Several new schools will, however, be brought into operation at an early date. At Oakey Creek and Kulki, a commencement will be made as soon as suitable buildings are erected; the Swanbrook school is to be re-opened, and a House-to-house School will shortly be established at Coolootai and Wallangra. Two applications for schools are under consideration, and two or three more are expected from new localities. When provision for these has been made, the wants of the district should be well met, and very few if any children should be absolutely beyond reach of the means of education.

The accommodation provided in existing schools is in most cases adequate and of a satisfactory description, and wherever the prospects of settlement have demanded the erection of new and larger buildings, the provision has usually been of a superior kind. At Tenterfield, Moree, Deepwater, Dundee, Yetman, and Graman, the new buildings which have been occupied during the year, are in strong contrast both as regards appearance and suitability to the structures they have replaced.

The schools, excepting the very small ones, are well supplied with furniture, apparatus, and other requisites, so that there are sufficient facilities for successful work.

The disciplinary condition of the schools as a whole is fair, and in some of the larger schools, where military drill is successfully taught, a high standard of discipline is maintained.

The state of the schools as regards instruction may be best inferred from the results of inspection.

Every school in the section has been fully inspected (two schools twice); 31 received ordinary inspection, and incidental visits were paid as opportunity offered. Of the 103 schools inspected, 77 were above the standard in point of efficiency, 11 up to, and 15 below it; the sum of the former two numbers being 85 per cent., of the whole. The corresponding percentage for 1887 was 84.

3,610 pupils were examined as against 3,561 during the previous year. As may be seen from the subjoined table, the estimated proficiency of the pupils in the several subjects taught bears a satisfactory relation to the standard although the results are slightly lower than for 1887.

Subjects.	Percentage up to or above Standard.		Increase or decrease per cent.
	1887.	1888.	
Reading	96	86	- 10
Writing	97	96	- 1
Arithmetic	84	67	- 17
Grammar	90	79	- 11
Geography	90	79	- 11
History { English	92	69	- 23
{ Australian	94	85	- 9
Scripture	92	91	- 1
Object lessons	95	96	+ 1
Drawing	93	92	- 1
Music	85	87	+ 2
French .....	.....	.....	.....
Euclid	100	100	.....
Algebra	100	100	.....
Mensuration	100	100	.....
Latin	100	100	.....
Natural science	100	100	.....
Trigonometry .....	.....	.....	.....
Needlework	100	98	- 2
Drill	99	94	- 5

The following conditions observed in a number of schools will sufficiently account for the reduced percentages of passes .—

1. Deficiency in the quantity of work accomplished has necessitated reduction of the actual marks.
2. Lessons (more particularly reading lessons) have been skipped by teachers in the effort to bring class work into harmony with the standard
3. Class promotions have been too rapid. Teachers have injudiciously promoted unfit pupils on completion of their standard time in class under the impression that it was compulsory so to do

Arithmetic, grammar, and history, the weakest of the subjects, are in many of the smaller schools very imperfectly taught. The teachers, through inexperience, fail to adapt the instruction to the capacities of their pupils. This is particularly noticeable in the teaching of history; the pupils learn from text books, and the task is cast upon them of analysing the subject matter to select the vital facts.

In the larger schools the superior skill of trained teachers produce higher results. In the boys' departments, at Tenterfield and Glen Innes, instruction of fifth class range has been imparted. Pupils of the former school were successful at the University public examinations.

The teachers, as a body, are zealous and assiduous in the discharge of their duties. Where there has been non success in school-work, except in a few instances, the method has been at fault, not the will of the teacher. It is a matter for regret that more frequent opportunities are not available for ordinary inspections when direct aid might be given to the teacher in the shape of practical hints on school method.

The following lists show the teachers actually employed in the several schools at the close of the year —

<i>Teachers and Assistants</i>		
Class	I B	2
	II A	13
	II B	8
	III A	19
	III B	12
	III C	3
	Unclassed	49
		106

<i>Pupil teachers</i>		
Class	I	5
	II	5
	III	5
	IV	8
		23

The enrolment of pupils in the schools for the several quarters of the year, notwithstanding the loss by transference of schools to the Tamworth Section, has been about the same as for 1887, but the average attendance has been higher. See table subjoined —

Quarters Ending	Enrolment 1887	Enrolment 1888	Average Attendance, 1887	Average Attendance, 1888
March	4,798	4,813	3,022	3,218
June	4,855	4,772	3,280	3,476
September	4,894	4,871	3,236	3,442
December	4,901	4,719	3,413	3,322

In 1887 the weather was unfavourable to regular attendance, while in 1888 there was nothing to check regularity till the last quarter of the year, when owing to the protracted drought, sickness was unusually prevalent, and many children were kept from school to assist in watering stock.

The accommodation now provided in the schools is represented by 6,123 places, 577 places were lost during the year, and 824 gained, the net increase being 247.

New school buildings have been erected as shown hereunder —

(a) Under Supervision of Architect

Schools	Accommodation	Object
Deepwater Public	51	To replace old building
Dundee Public	60	Do
Moore Public	224	Do
Tenterfield Public	326	Do

(b) Under Supervision of Inspector

Schools	Accommodation	Object
Graman Public	25	To replace old building
Nine mile Public	33	New school
Yetman Public	38	To replace old building

At Willow Grove, Redbank, and Dwyer's Homestead, buildings with accommodation in all for 40 pupils, were provided free of cost to the Department.

In addition to the works already enumerated, improvements and repairs have been effected in connection with 27 schools.

Summary

The means of education is within the reach of nearly every group of children sufficient to constitute a school, the accommodation and appointments of the several schools are of a suitable description, the work of the past year may be regarded as a satisfactory standpoint for fresh effort, and there is every reason to regard the teaching staff with confidence. The prospect for 1889 is very encouraging.

Inverell, 12th January, 1889

W BEAVIS,
Assistant Inspector
ANNEX

ANNEX K.

DISTRICT INSPECTOR JAMES M'CREDIE'S REPORT.

THE number of schools and departments on my general list at the close of 1887 was 253, distributed in the three sections of the district as under :—

Class of School,	Central Section.	Eskbank Section.	Forbes Section.	Totals.
Public	58	75	62	195
Provisional .....	.....	13	24	37
Half-time .....	.....	4	4	8
House-to-house .....	.....	4	9	13
Totals	58	96	99	253

The attendance at Coate's Creek Provisional School was so low during the last quarter of 1887, that it was decided to close the school in January last. It was not therefore in operation during last year. Jandra Provisional School was also closed later in the year for the same reason.

The following 14 new schools were opened during the year. :—

Public.—Arramagong, Deep Lead, and Ingliswold.

Provisional.—Broula, German's Hill, Gosper Downs, Hampton, Hollybrook, Lawson, and Remville.

Half-time.—Eualdrie and Torwood.

House-to-house.—Brolgan Tank.

Evening Public.—Mount Macquarie.

The last-mentioned school, Mount Macquarie Evening Public, was closed through lack of support shortly after it was opened.

The Public Schools at Galwary Creek, Cave Creek, and Boree Cabonne, and the Provisional School at Mandagery, were worked during the latter part of the year on the Half-time system.

At the end of 1888, there were 264 schools in operation, the distribution of which is shown hereunder :—

Class of School.	Central Section.	Eskbank Section.	Forbes Section.	Totals.
Public	59	74	62	195
Provisional	2	14	22	38
Half-time .....	.....	6	10	16
House-to-house .....	.....	4	11	15
Totals	61	98	105	264

Public Schools have been sanctioned for Lyndhurst and George's Plains, and Provisional Schools for Warrangong, Euabalong, Mickie's Plains, and Wattleville. At Porter's Mount, a Half-time School has been granted, and will be worked in conjunction with Felled Timber Half-time when the necessary buildings are ready for occupation. Reports upon application for Provisional Schools at Genanguy (Rosewood), and Murrin (Windmill Farm), have been furnished, and are now under consideration.

The schools at Cumbijowa, Chatham Valley, Merton (now Neila Creek), and Monica Vale (now Koorawatha), were removed to more central sites. A new brick school building has been sanctioned for Raglan, and action has been taken to secure a larger and more suitable site on Crown land adjacent to the existing school buildings in that locality. At Bumbury, tenders have been accepted for a new school and teacher's residence at a reasonable cost. The school at Lewis Ponds, where a mining township is rapidly springing into existence, was removed to more central leased premises. An excellent site has been selected, and will be resumed if it be found necessary to erect new vested buildings. At East Orange, a suitable site has been chosen and recommended for resumption. The school buildings at South Lead were destroyed by fire in the beginning of the year, and the school was reopened in new premises in October last.

The majority of the new schools established during the year are in the Forbes or Western Section of the district where new settlements are from year to year being formed. Very few additional schools will for some time be required in the Central and Eastern Sections.

Sixteen new school buildings were erected during the year under the supervision of inspectors or local committees; six of these buildings replace old structures. Two school-rooms were enlarged, 67 others were improved and repaired, and 2 new residences and 3 weathersheds were provided.

The cost of the works executed under the inspectors or local supervision is subjoined :—

Cost of new schoolrooms	£1,089 7 0
Cost of repairs and improvements	1,011 18 7
Cost of one residence	57 0 0
Cost of two weathersheds	28 7 6

Total cost..... £2,186 13 1

There are at present seven new buildings in progress; six of these are under the supervision of inspectors, and one under that of the architect.

The educational requirements of the district are well met by existing schools, the sites of which have been chosen with good judgment. The buildings, with few exceptions, are in good repair, suitably furnished, and well supplied with books and teaching appliances. All provide adequate accommodation for the number of children of school age living within 2 miles of each school, and in no single instance to my knowledge is a school-room overcrowded, or in need of enlargement.

At the end of 1887, the State Schools of this district had sufficient accommodation for 15,260 pupils. Through the closing of a few schools and the giving up of old buildings, 275 places have been lost during the year. New and rented buildings and additions have, however, added 738 places, the net gain for the year being 463 places. The total accommodation at the end of 1888 was 15,723 places. The highest enrolment of pupils during any quarter of the year was 13,676, and the highest average attendance for a quarter 9,395.8.

The school records are generally punctually and correctly kept, and neglect to compile and suspend the lesson guides is of rare occurrence. To ensure a closer observance of the programmes, I have directed a number of teachers to copy from the programmes into the lesson registers at the beginning of each week the work to be done during the week in the several subjects of instruction. A teacher who does this can readily ascertain the errors in judgment, if any, made by him in apportioning the work in the several subjects for a quarter, and he can at a glance compare at the end of each day the work actually done with that set down in the programme. He will also, it is hoped, learn to appreciate

appreciate the value and importance of a good programme in conducting the work of his school, and will not regard it, as I fear is done in too many cases, as a document that must be drawn up and suspended in the school-room at the beginning of a quarter, but rarely to be looked at except to ascertain the object lesson for the week.

All school returns are now as a rule correctly compiled and promptly forwarded by teachers, although at the beginning of the year there was a considerable number of defaulters in these respects.

Few schoolrooms when visited were found in a dirty or untidy condition, and in point of cleanliness and neatness of dress, the appearance of the pupils was generally satisfactory. The discipline continues a good feature of the schools. Punctuality is firmly insisted upon, and regularity encouraged by every means in a teacher's power. In governing the pupils, harsh measures are seldom resorted to, and are rarely necessary in schools where the teacher makes good use of his eye and voice, and is uniformly firm and kind.

Some teachers lack patience and the power of self-control—two essentials in an instructor of youth—and, when they are annoyed or irritated by the incorrect answering or work of their pupils, they summarily dispose of the case by caning the offenders. Such persons evidently lose sight of the fact that all youthful minds are not cast in the same mould, and that while in a class a few pupils may be found who have little or no trouble in doing the work required of them, there may be some others who cannot grasp at once the instruction which the teacher desires to impart. To succeed with such slow and dull pupils, a teacher must exercise patience, have a thorough command of temper, and be sympathetic rather than harsh.

The attendance for several months of the year at many schools was very low, in consequence of epidemics of measles and scarlatina. The drought, also, towards the close of the year compelled some parents to keep their children at home to look after the sheep and cattle. The number of children present at inspection was small in a large number of schools through the same causes. At the end of each school quarter, cautions were sent to parents in all cases where no sufficient excuse was offered for their children's short attendance during the preceding six months. Many of these cautions had a salutary effect. At the end of June last, the School Attendance Officers prosecuted defaulters in 146 cases, with the following results:—Convictions, 110; dismissals, 11; withdrawals, 25; fines, £11 18s. 6d.; costs, £22 16s. 10d. The total amount owing for school fees on 31st December, 1887, was £431, the arrears in some cases having accumulated since 1882. The return of school fees in arrear for December last, shows that in 130 schools there are now no arrears, and that the total amount owing in the remaining schools is £100 13s. 9d. The clerical work connected with the recovery or cancellation of the arrears was very heavy, and impeded to some extent the work of inspection. The School Attendance Officers, and the teachers, with one or two exceptions, ably assisted me in reducing the debt by their prompt and careful attention to the instructions given them. One of the School Attendance Officers, Mr. J. Kealy, retired from the Service at the end of the year; and Mr. Cusack, the officer hitherto stationed at Cowra, was transferred to Bathurst. The whole district will in future be worked with Mr. Cusack's assistance.

Statistics of the attendance, compiled from the quarterly and annual returns furnished by the teachers, are appended:—

I.—Quarterly Returns.

School Quarters.	Enrolled.	Average Attendance.	Percentage for 1888.	Percentage for 1887.
March quarter.....	13,676	9,395·8	68·7	64·5
June quarter	13,278	9,032·7	68·2	66·3
September quarter	13,435	8,978·5	67·6	68·0
December quarter	13,319	9,182·9	69·0	70·5

II.—Annual Returns.

	1888.	1887.
Gross enrolment for the year	17,230	16,946
Multiple do do	2,340	2,054
Actual do do	14,890	14,892
Average attendance	9,204·8	9,040·2
Percentage of average attendance in relation to actual enrolment	62	60·1
Fees received	£5,502 3s. 1d.	£5,092 1s.

There were 266 schools open during the whole or a part of the year, and all except two received a regular inspection.

The two uninspected schools were:—

Jandra Provisional.—(No attendance on the day of the inspector's visit).

Mount Macquarie Evening Public.—(In operation only a few weeks).

Ten schools received a second regular inspection, and 55 schools one of the ordinary kind. Exclusive of incidental visits, the total number of inspections, regular and ordinary, was 329.

The efficiency of the schools inspected, and the proficiency of the pupils examined, are exhibited in the following tables:—

I.—Efficiency of Schools Inspected.

Class of School.	Below the Standard.	Up to the Standard.	Above the Standard.	Totals.
Public	18	13	164	195
Provisional	7	5	26	38
Half-time	5	3	8	16
House-to-house	9	2	4	15
Totals	39	23	202	264

The percentage of schools that were up to or exceeded the standard in general efficiency is 85. In 1887, the percentage was 86·8.

II.—Proficiency of Pupils examined.

Subjects.	Number of Pupils Examined.	Percentage up to or above Standard.	Percentages for 1887.
Reading.....	9,572	85	85
Writing.....	9,572	86	90
Arithmetic.....	8,741	71	66
Grammar.....	3,812	75	72
Geography.....	4,007	79	76
History.....	2,942	75	77
Scripture lessons.....	8,499	82	66
Object lessons.....	6,473	83	88
Drawing.....	2,944	81	83
Music.....	7,303	83	64
French.....	83	94	84
Euclid.....	387	83	74
Algebra.....	117	77	85
Mensuration.....	245	68	80
Latin.....	92	76	87
Natural science.....	229	89	85
Needlework.....	3,217	92	89
Drill.....	5,319	86	78

Compared with the results of inspection in 1887, the percentages of passes this year are higher in arithmetic, grammar, geography, scripture, music, French, euclid, natural science, needlework, and Drill. In one subject, reading, the percentage is the same as in the preceding year, and in all remaining branches it is lower. Taking into consideration the number of new schools brought into operation during the year, and the irregularity in the attendance for some months in a large number of schools, the results this year are, on the whole, satisfactory.

The teachers, as a body, maintain their reputation for the faithful and conscientious discharge of their duties, and their willingness and readiness on all occasions to carry out the suggestions and directions given by inspectors.

The pupil-teachers are receiving careful training, and are fully instructed in all specified branches of study. Comparatively few fail to pass the yearly examination.

A Savings Bank has been established in nearly all schools ranking above seventh class, and I feel satisfied that the success or failure of the bank in any school depends mainly upon the interest taken in it by the head teacher and his assistants.

*Summary Remarks.**

During the year, 17 new buildings were erected, and 14 new schools established, 2 schoolrooms were enlarged, 67 buildings were repaired and improved, and 2 residences and 3 weathersheds were provided. In seven localities the new buildings sanctioned are not completed. The discipline is healthy, and the condition of the schools in point of efficiency, is, on the whole, satisfactory. The accommodation provided exceeds the present requirements of the district. Under more favourable conditions, the schools will, it is expected, appear to better advantage in the year now entered upon than in that which has just closed.

JAMES M'CREDIE,
District Inspector.

ANNEX L.

INSPECTOR KEVIN'S REPORT.

I HAVE the honor to submit my report for the year 1888.

I took charge of this section of the Bathurst District on 8th of February, and found on my roll 75 Public Schools, 13 Provisional, 4 Half-time, and 4 House-to-house. This number has been augmented since by the opening of two Provisional Schools—Lawson and Hampton—and the fitful existence of one Evening Public School at Mount Macquarie. The Public Schools at Wheatfield and Dullaberry were changed into Half-time Schools on account of the small attendance. The numbers now on my list stand :—

Public Schools.....	74
Provisional Schools.....	14
Half-time Schools.....	6
House-to-house Schools.....	4
Total.....	98

Buildings.

One new building has been erected during the year at Lawson, while two others—Lyndhurst and Wattleville—are in progress. An application for a Half-time School at Porter's Retreat has been granted, and the school will be worked with Felled Timber so soon as the necessary buildings, &c., have been provided at the former. Lyndhurst and Wattleville are to be Public and Provisional respectively. Thirty-seven schools have been repaired in various ways during the year, and at a total outlay of £1,265 13s. 11d. Nine of these were carried out by the architect, while the remaining 28 were supervised by myself. Two weathersheds have been built, one at Meadow Flat and the other at Mount M'Donald. Residences, fencing, water supply, &c., have received due attention where necessary. Viewed as a whole, the schools are in a good state of repair, and fully meet the requirements of the district.

The highest enrolment for the year was 4,822, while the average daily attendance was 3,182. The total accommodation at the end of the year represents 4,794 places, or an increase of 54 over the previous year. The accommodation is, therefore, ample. The following table gives the enrolment, average daily attendance, and other information for each quarter of the year :—

Quarters.	Enrolment.		Average daily Attendance.		School Fees.	Free Pupils.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.		Boys.	Girls.
March.....	2,433	2,389	1,720·3	1,640·3	£ 453 6 6½	136	131
June.....	2,356	2,263	1,595·6	1,538·1	442 10 11	140	137
September.....	2,353	2,267	1,607·1	1,494·8	500 8 6	115	118
December.....	2,335	2,243	1,624·7	1,508·3	506 1 6	120	118

Inspection.

The end of the year showed 74 Public, 14 Provisional, 6 Half-time, 4 House-to-house, and 1 Evening School so far as the annual return goes. All these, except the last (which ceased to exist before it could be visited), were regularly inspected, 10 were reinspected, while 31 underwent an ordinary inspection. In addition, I assisted for a week in the regular inspection of Bathurst Superior Public, and inspected regularly Mount Tarana, Carcoar, and Wattle Grove outside of my own section. My work under this head for the year consists of 110 general or regular inspections (nine reinspections), thirty-two ordinary inspections (including Mount Tarana Public in central section), together with a large number of incidental visits.

Organization.

This continued satisfactory as a whole, and there is little to report beyond what has been said for last year. The buildings are adequate, and generally in good condition. The furniture, is as a rule, of modern pattern and suitable, while the supply of materials is sufficient and in fair order and condition. The records, as a whole, are satisfactory, and the lesson guides drawn with fair skill and intelligence. The circular instructions and duplicates of returns are not, however, always to be promptly found when asked for; the result of want of method and taste. There is one feature of the organization that I cannot allow to pass, as much has been said publicly and privately about fuel allowance and the hardship of withdrawing it. With this I have nothing to do, but what are we to think of a teacher who could see his scholars (some of them mere babies) shivering with cold in the depth of winter while wood lay in heaps all round, and might be had for the trouble of getting and lighting. I regret to say I have had this experience more than once in my inspections. This year I hope it will not be common.

Discipline.

This feature continues to give satisfaction, particularly in schools conducted by trained and experienced teachers. Drill is taught in most schools for a short time each week, and, in the better class, forms a part of the regular school course.

Instruction.

Taken as a whole, this has given satisfaction during the year, though there were some cases in which the schools were found below standard; but a reinspection in five or six months after showed, in almost every instance, a decided improvement. All the prescribed subjects have been taught in most schools, and the teachers and children work earnestly, and on the whole satisfactorily.

In connection with this subject I should be much pleased, if such could be done, to see school libraries established and aided by the Department. They could, I think, be successfully worked thus. When one school has read these books, these could be exchanged with a neighbouring school, and thus we might have a number of small circulating libraries doing an immense amount of good. I think the scheme is practicable, and ought to be encouraged. I make no recommendation, but simply say that it might be worth a trial, as the Savings Bank scheme was.

The following table shows the number of schools inspected in the year and immediately under my supervision, together with their condition, as gauged by the standards of proficiency :—

Class.	Below Standard.	Standard.	Above Standard.	Totals.
Public	5	9	60	74
Provisional	2	1	11	14
Half-time .....	.....	1	5	6
House-to-house	2	.....	2	4
Evening	Not inspected—closed before date.			98

The number of schools up to or above the standard must be regarded as satisfactory, especially when it is borne in mind that the attendance for a considerable time was irregular, on account of epidemic complaints—measles, &c. Many schools had but a small attendance on the day of inspection, owing to this.

The teachers of this section are, as a body, intelligent, conscientious, and of good character. The pupil-teachers give satisfaction.

Summary.

1. The means of education are ample, well distributed, and of a good kind.
2. The organization continues satisfactory, and the discipline may be viewed in the same light.
3. The instruction has been steady, earnest, and progressive, while the teachers, as a whole, have performed their duties faithfully and efficiently, and continue to hold the respect due to their responsible and delicate office.

South Bowenfels,
31st December, 1888.

JOHN KEVIN,
Inspector.

ANNEX M.

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR THOMAS' REPORT.

I.—*The Adequacy of the means of Education as regards Amount and Distribution.*

At the close of 1887 there were, in this section of the district, 99 schools, classified as follows :—

Public	62
Provisional	24
Half-time.....	4
House-to-house	9

Of these, one—Coates' Creek Provisional—did not reopen, and another—Marsden Provisional—reopened as a Public School.

Thus, there were, at the beginning of the present year, 98 schools under my supervision, viz. :—

Public	63
Provisional	22
Half-time.....	4
House-to-house	9

During the year the following schools have been established in localities previously without means of education :—

- 2 Public Schools (Aramagong and Deep Lead).
- 3 Provisional Schools (Broula, German's Hill, and Gosper's Downs).
- 2 Half-time Schools (Eualdrie and Torwood).
- 1 House-to-house School (Brolgan Tank).

One school—Iandra Provisional—was closed through small attendance.

Several changes were made in the classification of schools, in consequence of increased or diminished attendance.

The year closes with 105 schools in operation, viz. :—

Public	62
Provisional	22
Half-time.....	10
House-to-house	11

Steps have been taken to establish Provisional Schools at Warrangong, Euabalong, and Mickie's Plains, and it is expected that all three will open immediately after the Christmas vacation. The establishment of a Provisional School at Genanaguy is under consideration.

The schools already established, with those about to open, will very fairly meet the requirements of the district as at present settled. Land is, however, being rapidly selected and cut up into small holdings in certain parts of the district, and as soon as settlers erect their homesteads and bring their families on to the land, applications for new schools may be expected.

II.—Actual condition of Schools as elicited by Inspection.

Of the 106 schools open during the year, or any part of it, 105 were fully inspected, and 2,945 pupils were examined, as against 2,665 in 1887, an increase of 280. The school uninspected was Jandra Provisional, no children being in attendance on the day of my visit. It has since been permanently closed. As special work in outlying portions of my section had interfered with the ordinary work of inspection, 7 of my schools were inspected by the District Inspector, and one by Mr. Inspector Kevin. Three schools received a second full inspection, 8 received an ordinary inspection, and incidental visits were paid to a considerable number.

The condition of the schools in regard to general efficiency will be seen on reference to the subjoined :—

Class of School.	Below Standard.	Up to Standard.	Above Standard.	Total.	Percentage up to and above Standard.
Public	9	3	50	62	85.5
Provisional	5	3	14	22	77.2
Half-time	5	2	3	10	50.0
House-to-house	7	2	2	11	36.0
Total	26	10	69	105	75.2

Comparing the results with those of last year :—

Year.	Total No. of Schools inspected.	No. up to and above Standard.	Percentage.	Result of Comparison.
1887	101	82	81.1	Decrease of 5.9 per cent.
1888	105	79	75.2	

As accounting for the falling off in the percentage of schools satisfying the standard, it must be mentioned that no school under my supervision was considered fully organized, and therefore up to the standard, unless there were three classes under instruction. Few Half-time or House-to-house Schools had more than two classes. It will be seen that the efficiency of the full time schools, Public and Provisional, is over 83 per cent. The prevalence of measles and scarlatina in some localities had an injurious effect on the general proficiency of such schools.

Looking at the attainments of the pupils, subject by subject, it will be seen that an all-round improvement has been made on the percentages of 1887.

The following table will give the percentages of passes for 1887 and 1888 :—

Subject.	1887.	1888.	Result.
Reading	75.4	84.8	Increase of 9.4 per cent.
Writing	78.3	83.2	" 9.9 "
Arithmetic	44.3	70.9	" 26.6 "
Grammar	42.0	86.5	" 44.5 "
Geography.....	60.0	83.8	" 23.8 "
History	76.9	77.7	" 0.8 "
Scripture	59.8	86.2	" 26.4 "
Object Lessons.....	72.8	89.9	" 17.1 "
Drawing	62.6	85.1	" 22.5 "
Music.....	48.6	79.5	" 30.9 "
French	71.4	100.0	" 28.6 "
Euclid	59.7	92.9	" 33.2 "
Algebra	0.0	86.3	" 86.3 "
Mensuration.....	60.0	72.8	" 12.8 "
Latin	60.0	100.0	" 40.0 "
Natural science	64.5	97.4	" 32.9 "
Needlework	78.2	97.7	" 19.5 "
Drill	39.3	85.5	" 46.2 "

III.—Organization.

All the more important centres of population are provided with good buildings, but in some instances Public Schools are conducted in buildings originally erected for Provisional Schools. In such cases the accommodation is barely sufficient. Some schools are not provided with ceilings, and there being nothing between the iron roof and the pupils' heads, the heat in the summer is intense.

During the late extraordinarily dry season, complaints as to the want of water have been numerous. As a rule, however, nearly every Public School, and several Provisional Schools, have a water supply sufficient for ordinary seasons.

The schools are generally well supplied with furniture, books, and apparatus. The records are, on the whole, well kept. The instruction is regulated by properly constructed time-tables and programmes, and the classification of the pupils is based on sound lines.

School

School Savings Banks have been inaugurated in all the large schools in my section, and have become very popular institutions.

IV.—Discipline.

During the year only one complaint of using undue severity was lodged against a teacher, and it broke down upon investigation. The pupils are easily governed, and where only ordinary tact and judgment are displayed in dealing with them, the school work runs smoothly, and severe measures are rarely necessary. In many of the smaller schools too little attention is paid to military drill, and the ordinary school movements are not properly regulated.

V.—Teaching Staff.

Seven Public Schools are in charge of unclassified teachers, but four of these are paid at Provisional School rates, as the average attendance is below twenty.

Two Public Schools are in charge of teachers holding a lower classification than is required by the Regulations.

Eight Half-time Schools are under unclassified teachers.

All schools of Class VI and upwards are staffed in accordance with the Regulations, with the exception of Condobolin Public, where a vacancy for a pupil-teacher exists.

The teachers are classified as follows:—

	I A.	I B.	II A.	II B.	III A.	III B.	III C.	Unclassified.	Work-mistress.	I.	II.	III.	IV.	Probationer.	Total.
Teachers in charge	6	9	24	10	9	42	..	..	..	..	..	..	100
Assistants	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Work-mistress	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pupil-teachers	2	7	2	2	1	14

During the year one teacher was dismissed for falsifying the records of his school, and another for drunkenness. Complaints against teachers have been very rare. On the contrary, there are few teachers in the district who are not earnest, steady, industrious, and deserving of that support and encouragement which they should receive from parents who rightly estimate the difficulties a teacher often labours under, and the good he may achieve if backed up by efficient parental control.

Examinations are held in June and December of those teachers who desired to obtain classification or promotion.

All pupil-teachers in the district were, with one exception, examined, and in most cases they succeeded in gaining promotion.

VI.—Accommodation.

During the year school-buildings were erected under my supervision at Aramagong, Deep Lead, Broula, German's Hill, and Gosper's Downs. No schools had previously been in existence at any of these places.

The following buildings were erected under my supervision, to take the place of non-vested premises:—Murga, provisional; Bungerringong, provisional; Ten-mile Ridges, provisional; Kadina, provisional.

A building was erected, under local supervision, at Tomanbil, to take the place of a rented building.

A new school building was erected at Koorawatha, to take the place of the Monica Vale Public School, the latter site not being centrally situated. The old Monica Vale buildings have been removed to serve as a Provisional School building at Warrangong.

The South Lead Public School, which was burnt down early in the year, has been rebuilt under my supervision.

The buildings at Merton have been removed to a more central site.

Additional accommodation has been provided, under the supervision of the architect, at Toogong and Canowindra Public Schools.

Repairs and improvements (fencing, water supply, &c.), were effected at 22 schools.

New residences were provided at Cocomingla and at Toogong, the old residence at the latter school being converted into a weather-shed.

Tenders have been accepted for the erection of a schoolroom and attached residence at Bumbury, in lieu of non-vested premises and of Provisional School buildings at Euabalong, Mickie's Plains, and Warrangong. Notice of the completion of the latter has just come to hand.

Several minor repairs are in progress at various schools.

The school buildings, residences, &c.; are now in general good order, and should call for little outlay in the way of repairs during the coming year.

The subjoined will show the enrolment, average attendance, and accommodation provided:—

No. of pupils enrolled during December quarter, 1888	4,072
Average attendance	2,806
Highest quarterly average during 1888	2,816
Seats provided at close of 1887	4,870
Seats lost during year	275
Seats gained during year	616

Net gain	341
Seats provided at close of 1888	5,211

VII.—Summary.

105 schools, with an enrolment of 4,072, an average attendance of 2,806, and employing 118 teachers and pupil-teachers, are in operation.

All were fully inspected during the year.

The proficiency of the pupils has materially improved during the year.

The schools are well organized, and in good repair.

The educational requirements of the district are very well satisfied.

Forbes, 29th December, 1888.

W. GEO. THOMAS,
Assistant Inspector.

ANNEX N.

DISTRICT INSPECTOR W. DWYER'S REPORT.

At the close of 1887, there were 356 schools in operation, and at the end of last year the number was 370, being an increase of 14. They are distributed in the following classes :—

Public.....	221	with	228	departments.
Provisional	52	„	52	„
Half-time	76	„	76	„
House-to-house...	14	„	14	„
Total	363	„	370	„

Of these 348 were open the whole year; 367 were fully inspected; 115 were inspected twice; and 3 were not inspected, owing to the fact that two—a Provisional and a Half-time—were, through want of attendance, closed early in the year; and 1, a House-to-house School, was not opened until 10th December.

At the end of 1887, the accommodation available was equal to 17,226 places, for an enrolment of 15,228 pupils. During 1888, 403 additional places were provided, making the school space at its close equal to 17,629 places for 17,410 pupils. This extra room was secured by the erection of 14 new schools, under the supervision of inspectors and committees, and by the leasing of 4; 12 are in new localities and 6 are intended to replace old buildings. The accommodation, as a whole, is abundant, suitable, and properly distributed; and, for the year now entered upon, about 270 places more are, by the completion of Goulburn Superior Girls' new school, ready for occupation.

The number of pupils examined in 1887 was 9,718; last year it was 10,471.

The efficiency of the schools may be understood from the following statements :—

	Below Standard.	Up to Standard.	Above Standard.	Total.
Public Schools—				
Open a full year at inspection	63	52	111	226
Not „ „	2	.....	.....	2
Provisional Schools—				
Open a full year at inspection	12	12	17	41
Not „ „	6	2	2	10
Half-time Schools—				
Open a full year at inspection	13	20	35	68
Not „ „	6	1	.....	7
House-to-house Schools—				
Open a full year at inspection	3	3	7	13
Not „ „ .....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals	105	90	172	367

Of the schools open the whole year (348) the efficiency may be stated as follows :—

Below standard.....	26 per cent.
Up to and above standard	74 „

Subjects.	No. of Pupils examined.	Percentage up to and above Standard.
Reading	10,471	87
Writing	10,350	90
Arithmetic.....	9,667	62
Grammar	3,736	62
Geography.....	3,868	69
English history	3,547	50
Australian history	1,547	67
Scripture Lessons.....	9,269	70
Object lessons	6,679	74
Drawing.....	2,812	63
Vocal music	6,868	75
French	62	88
Euclid.....	375	77
Algebra	75	66
Mensuration	252	45
Latin	26	69
Natural science.....	58	95
Needlework	3,022	92
Drill	7,881	78

These results may be regarded as in the aggregate, fully satisfying the strict requirements of the standard; but the defects noticed last year in reading, grammar, and arithmetic still continue rather prominent features in the character of most of the schools under review.

Examinations are directed as far as practicable to expose and correct these faults; but one visit in the year is scarcely sufficient to enable an inspector to do this work well, and opportunities for more frequent visits are, owing to the pressure of other duties, very few.

The figures above quoted indicate that the schools of this district are in a state of reasonable efficiency, and the future prospects of the majority are fairly hopeful and encouraging.

The reports of the inspectors acting with me are forwarded herewith, together with all statistical information not already despatched.

Goulburn, 12th January, 1889.

WM. DWYER,
District Inspector.

ANNEX O.

INSPECTOR MURRAY'S REPORT.

At the beginning of the year there were in operation, under my supervision, 51 Public Schools, 1 Provisional, 6 Half-time, and 7 House-to-house Schools. In the course of the year new Public Schools were established at Mount Costigan and Cordillera, and a Half-time School at Balmoral. The Myrtleville school was closed, by reason of small attendance, and the change from one class to another, of some of the schools, owing to an increase or decrease in attendance, leaves now, at the close of the year, 54 Public Schools, 13 Provisional, 18 Half-time, and 5 House-to-house Schools.

School Buildings.

During the year new school-rooms have been erected at Burwood, near Binda, Manchester Square, Mount Costigan, Irishtown, and Balmoral. School buildings, including teacher's residence will shortly be completed at Tuena, and school-rooms are about being built at Bowral. The school buildings at ten places have been repaired and improved, and steps are being taken for the repair, enlargement, and improvement of nine other school buildings.

At the close of the year 1887 there was accommodation for 3,726 pupils. With the new school-rooms provided during the year, there is now accommodation for 3,901 scholars, being an increase of 175 seats. The total enrolment is 3,289; there is thus ample accommodation provided for all the educable children in the district, and it is properly distributed. There is but one school in the district, which is crowded, and it will soon be replaced by a new and sufficiently large building. As a whole, the schools are well found in necessary teaching appliances.

Inspection.

Every school in the district, in operation for the whole or any part of the year, received one regular or general inspection, except the Half-time school at Myrtleville, which, through small attendance, was closed early in the year, before arrangements could be made for visiting that locality. Seventeen of the schools received an ordinary or second inspection, and several received from one to four incidental inspections, as opportunity offered. The results of inspection show that 8 schools were below the standard, 7 were up to the standard, and 76 schools were above the standard.

Estimated proficiency of the pupils in all schools.

Subjects.	Estimated proficiency.				
	Above Standard.	Up to Standard (50 per cent. of possible marks).	Below Standard.	Total examined.	Percentage up to or above Standard.
Reading—					
Alphabet.....	166	61	11	238	95·3
Monosyllables.....	680	154	34	868	78·1
Easy Narrative.....	552	190	81	823	90·1
Ordinary prose.....	541	140	20	701	97·
Totals.....	1,939	545	146	2,630	94·4
Writing—					
On slates.....	651	259	100	1,010	90·
In copy books and on paper.....	1,168	372	80	1,633	94·9
Totals.....	1,819	631	180	2,630	92·6
Arithmetic—					
Simple rules.....	616	270	141	1,027	86·2
Compound rules.....	364	173	216	753	70·1
Higher rules.....	207	156	339	702	51·7
Totals.....	1,187	599	696	2,482	71·5
Grammar—					
Elementary.....	125	6	36	167	78·4
Advanced.....	377	144	127	648	86·4
Totals.....	502	150	163	815	80·
Geography—					
Elementary.....	131	12	17	160	89·3
Advanced.....	324	160	166	650	74·4
Totals.....	455	172	183	810	77·4
History—					
English.....	253	221	187	661	71·5
Australian.....	345	158	209	712	70·6
Scripture and moral lessons.....	1,287	541	432	2,260	80·8
Object lessons.....	702	265	706	1,673	63·7
Drawing.....	291	193	111	595	81·5
Music.....	687	718	414	1,819	77·2
French.....	28	.....	.....	28	100·
Euclid.....	28	28	6	62	90·3
Algebra.....	16	.....	.....	16	100·
Mensuration.....	21	10	19	50	42·
Needlework.....	583	133	50	766	93·4
Drill.....	1,267	603	669	2,539	73·2

This table shows that the efficiency of the schools, as a whole has been well maintained.

Teachers.

During the year many of the teachers have been examined, with a view to obtain or raise classification. As a body, they are correct in their habits, honest, and earnest in their work, and esteemed by the people.

Summary.

Summary.

1. The means of education are sufficient and properly distributed.
2. The schools as a whole are improving.
3. The supply of teachers is sufficient.
4. The inspection has been thorough and searching, and the supervision as complete as circumstances permitted.
5. Reasonable progress has been made, and the educational outlook is hopeful.

J. H. MURRAY,
Inspector.

Inspector's Office, Mittagong, 29th December, 1888.

ANNEX P.

INSPECTOR WILLIS' REPORT.

THIS portion of the Goulburn District was put under my supervision last January, and I commenced duty in it on the 10th of the following month.

There were 92 schools in this section at the close of last year, and they were classified thus :—

Public	44		Half-time	28
Provisional	15		House-to-house	5

Since last January new Half-time Schools have been established at Shallow Crossing, Cullendulla, Ryrie Creek, and Werriwa, and a new Provisional School has been established at Woodfield. Not only has the number of the schools been altered, but many changes have been effected amongst them by making alterations in their classification. The Public Schools at Carwoola, Currawan, and Meroo Flat have been converted to the rank of Half-time, as also the Provisional Schools at Foxlow and Hillydye, and the House-to-house Schools at Reedy Creek and Binanderah. The Jerrabatgulla School, formerly Provisional, is now classed as House-to-house; and the Currockbilly School has been converted from Half-time to the rank of Provisional. These alterations in the number and classification of the schools during the year now closing may be summarized thus :—

Schools existing at the beginning of the year	92
School closed during the year	1
Schools converted from Provisional to Half-time	2
" " Provisional to House	1
" " Public to Half-time	3
" " Half-time to Provisional	2
" " House to Half-time	2
Opened as new schools	5
Total schools in operation during the year	97
Total schools in operation at close of the year	96
Conversion from Public to Superior Public	1

The only school closed during the year was the Half-time at New Line West.

It is necessary here to remark that the Binanderah House School has been converted into *two* Half-time Schools, under the names of Binanderah and Durras Lake.

The 96 schools now in operation are classified thus :—

Public	41
Provisional	14
Half-time	36
House-to-house	5

Several of these are about to be closed owing to the paucity of attendance, notably Creekborough, Provisional; Araluen Upper, Provisional; and Black Creek, Provisional. These will cease to exist as soon as the teachers in charge can be employed elsewhere.

Applications for the establishment of new schools at the following places have been received and dealt with :—

Public	At Wagonga and Half-way Creek.
Provisional	At Woodfield and Urila.
Half-time	At Shallow Crossing, Ryrie Creek, Cullendulla, Werriwa.
House-to-house	At Booth's Creek and Barnes' Creek.

The applications from the settlers at Half-way Creek and Urila were refused by the Minister, the others granted, and at Shallow Crossing, Cullendulla, Werriwa, Ryrie Creek, and Woodfield, the schools asked for are now open.

In addition to the applications above referred to three, lately to hand, are now awaiting inquiry and report.

These applications are from residents at East Lynne, Stony Pinch, and Jingera, requesting the establishment of Half-time Schools in these localities.

Viewed collectively, the material condition of the schools is fairly satisfactory, and is being rapidly improved.

New buildings have been erected by the Department at Thornhurst and Woodfield, and at Wagonga a new one, now in course of erection, is nearly fit for occupation.

Fourteen schools have been repaired this year, and extensive improvements to the school premises at Bodalla and Braidwood have been sanctioned, and are about to be executed. It has also been decided to replace with new ones the old buildings now in use at Major's Creek and Captain's Flat, and arrangements are being made to do this.

The accommodation afforded by the existing school buildings is, in the aggregate, more than sufficient for present requirements, and is well distributed.

Information concerning the accommodation provided is subjoined :—

Places provided at end of 1887	3,016
" added during 1888	116
" lost	63
Total places gained in 1888	53
" now provided	3,069
Average attendance for 1888	2,097
Ordinary attendance	2,300

Thus it is evident that ample accommodation is afforded by the existing school buildings.

The schools for the most part are suitably furnished, and though much of the furniture is roughly constructed the greater part of it is in serviceable condition.

The school-rooms are kept very clean by most of the teachers, and nearly all the rooms present a neat, well ordered appearance.

Many of the school grounds, though securely fenced, are destitute of trees and flowers—a serious defect in the material condition of their schools that teachers should set themselves the task of remedying without further delay.

The tall trees and tastefully arranged flower-beds on the school grounds at Braidwood and Major's Creek, and the "Willow Avenue," in the Jembaicumbene playground, show how successful those teachers can be who make an effort to effect the twofold object of beautifying the premises, and of adding at the same time to the out-door comfort and amusement of the pupils. The

The other branches of school organization must be briefly referred to.

In a large number of schools the attendance records in use were found to be of obsolete type; they have been since set aside for the substitution of new ones of modern style.

The lesson documents are, with a few excellent exceptions, defectively compiled, and are not strictly followed.

All things considered the schools generally may be regarded as fairly organized.

The pupils present at inspection were tidily dressed and clean, and all but a very small percentage of them were orderly and attentive.

The government, in the majority of the schools, is vigilant, firm, and effective, and the moral tone obtaining amongst the pupils is for the most part satisfactory.

Drill is well taught in nearly all the larger schools and a few of the smaller ones. The subject has, however, been neglected by many of the teachers. If such had not been the case there would have been at least 500 more under instruction in drill than the number entered in this report.

The pupils have attended school more regularly this year than last, as may be seen by the following statement:—

	Enrolment.	Average.
For 1887.....	3,803	2,027
For 1888.....	3,375	2,095

Thus the average attendance for this year exceeds that of last year, though the actual enrolment for the current year is less by nearly 500 pupils than the enrolment for 1887.

The gross enrolment for this year has been 3,695. The ordinary attendance about 2,300 pupils.

All the schools of this section have been fully inspected, and 13 of those below the standard were re-inspected. 47 schools received an ordinary inspection, and 30 were incidentally visited.

The inspectorial work for the year may, therefore, be summarized thus:—

Regular inspections	97
Regular re-inspections	13
Ordinary inspections.....	47
Incidental visits.....	30

In addition to this work, 9 of the schools on the Manning River received an ordinary inspection from me in January last.

The efficiency of the schools, as disclosed by inspection, is set forth in the following table:—

Classes of schools.	Below Standard.	Up to Standard.	Above Standard.	Total.
Public.....	5	9	27	44
Provisional	5	4	5	14
Half-time	6	12	19	37
House-to-house	1	1	3	5
Totals.....	17	26	54	97

These results do not bear favourable comparison with those recorded for last year, as may be seen, thus:—

	1887.	1888.
Schools below the standard	10	17
Schools up to the standard	7	26
Schools above the standard.....	75	54

This comparison would have been still less favourable to this year's work, but for the fact that 11 of the 13 schools re-inspected succeeded at my second visit in reaching or exceeding standard requirements.

The number of pupils examined during the year, and the proportion that showed themselves up to or above the standard in each subject, are given in the following table:—

	Pupils.	1887.	1888.
Reading	2,195	83·9 per cent. ...	89 per cent.
Writing	2,195	88·7 "	90 "
Arithmetic	1,907	85·6 "	65 "
Grammar.....	891	72·1 "	66 "
Geography	891	83·5 "	63 "
English history	689	75·5 "	43 "
Australian history	333	91·5 "	45 "
Scripture.....	2,010	72·1 "	69 "
Object lessons	1,397	74·5 "	84 "
Drawing	681	74·1 "	65 "
Music	1,432	72·6 "	69 "
Euclid	115	78·2 "	90 "
Mensuration	139	70·4 "	54 "
Needlework	740	92·3 "	96 "
Drill.....	924	83·9 "	91 "

In reading, the majority of the pupils examined satisfied the standard.

A still larger percentage of passes in writing would have been gained if the advanced pupils in several of the schools had shown better work in ornamental penmanship.

The results obtained for arithmetic would have been higher than those recorded if the teachers generally had devoted more of the pupils' time to the study of notation tables and mental arithmetic.

Excepting in one or two of the small schools, and about half of the larger ones, grammar is not skilfully taught. Most of the pupils had an indifferent knowledge of analysis; etymology, and syntax were found to be very weak branches, and composition was mechanically and ineffectively taught by very many of the teachers.

The award of marks for geography is far below that of last year, a result due in great measure to the fact that a considerable number of teachers omitted to give instruction to their advanced pupils in physical geography and mapping.

History (both English and Australian) is a subject that very few of the teachers have this year gained high marks for. I do not expect any improvement in the handling of this attractive subject till at least half the teachers become themselves better acquainted with it. All the classes that passed creditably in history were in charge of teachers who themselves were proficient in the subject.

Scripture is taught intelligently in most schools, but a number of teachers have omitted moral lessons from the course of instruction prescribed for the junior classes.

Next year I propose giving the names of the schools that have severally gained the highest mark awarded in this section for proficiency in all or any one of the subjects taught. The

The schools that gained, this year, the highest marks for general efficiency were the under-mentioned :—

Public.—Braidwood Superior, Araluen, Captain's Flat, Moruya, Araluen West, Bungendore, Queanbeyan, Major's Creek, Nerrigundah, Eurobodalla, and Brook's Creek.

Provisional.—Creekborough, Meangora, Thornhurst.

Half-time.—Back Creek, Durran Durra, Jinden, Gundillion, Nithsdale, Anembo, Monkittie.

House-to-house.—Currawan, Snaphook.

Savings' Banks are in operation at Queanbeyan Public, Bungendore Public, Braidwood Superior Public, Major's Creek Public, Araluen Public, and Moruya Public, and they are being conducted with success.

In the schools under my supervision there are 78 teachers, 3 assistants, and 9 pupil-teachers. These are classified as shown in the following table :—

Office.	Class I.	Class II A.	Class II B.	Class III.			Probationers.	Total.
				A.	B.	C.		
Teachers	0	4	4	11	17	9	33	78
Assistants	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	3
	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.				
Pupil-teachers	2	0	4	3	0	0	0	9

Of the 33 Probationers, 19 are in charge of Provisional and House-to-house Schools, for the conduct of which classified teachers are not required. The other 14 probationers are in charge of such small Half-time and Public Schools that salaries at Provisional School rates only are paid them.

The teachers are persons of good moral character, and they have the respect of the communities amongst whom they labour.

The pupil-teachers are studious, attentive to duty, and fairly efficient. All of them are regularly and efficiently instructed, and all have this year been favourably reported upon by their inspector and their teachers.

The defects existing in the general management of their schools have been brought prominently under the notice of the teachers concerned, all of whom have promised to make every effort to put their schools into a thoroughly efficient state. Already 11 teachers have succeeded in raising considerably the status of their schools, and this gives ground for the hope that all others will do the same, and that the results to be obtained by inspection next year will be a great improvement upon those recorded for the year that closes to-day.

M. WILLIS,
Inspector.

Braidwood, 31st December, 1888.

ANNEX Q.

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR SKILLMAN'S REPORT.

I HAVE the honor to submit my General Report for 1888.

At the end of 1887 there were in this section of the Goulburn District 84 Public, 18 Provisional, 14 Half-time, and 3 House-to-house Schools, making a total of 119.

During 1888 new Provisional Schools have been established at Greig's Flat, Stony Batter, Thubergal Lake, Wellesley, and White's Point, and a House-to-house School at Boggy Plain.

Three Provisional Schools (Beresford, Pericoe, and Wallaga Lake) have been raised to the rank of Public.

Avoca and Sam's Corner, Provisional, Eaglehawk and Hembsy, Public, and Hayden's Flat, House-to-house Schools, have been converted into Half-time.

Cubmurra Provisional, and Corrowong Lower Half-time, have been closed.

The number of schools now under my charge is 123, comprising :—

85 Public.
17 Provisional.
18 Half-time.
3 House to-house.

Total... 123

Six applications for the establishment of new schools have been received and reported on during the year.

A list of the localities is given below :—

Place.	Result of Inquiry.
Bobundarah	Under consideration.
Boggy Plain	House-to-house granted.
Crackemback.....	Provisional, granted conditionally.
Pleasant View	Half-time promised.
Thubergal Lake	Provisional granted.
White's Point	" "

A proposal has also been made to open an Evening Public School at Arable, but at present it is doubtful whether the requisite attendance could be maintained.

School Buildings.

During 1888 six new school buildings have been erected at a cost of £373, under my own or local supervision. Two of these replaced old structures, and four were built where no school previously existed.

Two buildings at Wellesley and Boggy Plain have been provided for school purposes rent free by the residents.

At the beginning of the year the number of pupils that could be accommodated in the schools of this district was 6,960.

By the new buildings referred to above, accommodation for 187 children is provided.

Places for 61 pupils have been lost by the closing of schools and giving up old buildings.

123 extra places have therefore been supplied, so that existing schools contain sufficient space for 7,086 pupils.

In addition, authority has been given for the erection of class-rooms at Adaminaby and Brown Mountain, and the school-room at Angledale is being lengthened. These extensions will accommodate 75 more children.

During

During the year the architect has effected considerable improvement to the school buildings and residences at Cathcart, Eden, Merimbula, and Rocky Hall, while the sum of £320 ls. 7d. has been expended under my supervision in executing necessary repairs, &c., at 19 other schools.

A teacher's residence is in course of erection at Quaama.

Attendance.

In all 125 schools have been in operation during 1888, 115 being in existence for the whole year and 10 for only a portion thereof.

The total enrolment of pupils has been 5,443, and the average attendance for the year, 3,046·3.

In 1887 the numbers were 5,622 and 2,974·9 respectively.

The average attendance for the four quarters was as follows:—

[The numbers for 1887 are also given for the purpose of comparison.]

Quarter.	Average attendance.						Total enrolment.		Percentage.	
	Boys.		Girls.		Total.		1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.
	1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.				
March	1,542·7	1,509·3	1,347·6	1,368·9	2,890·1	2,878·2	4,413	4,210	65·7	68·3
June	1,598·1	1,613·4	1,368·8	1,465·4	2,958·9	3,078·8	4,404	4,248	67·1	72·4
September ...	1,612·9	1,619·4	1,372·7	1,427·9	2,985·6	3,047·3	4,393	4,322	67·9	70·5
December	1,572·5	1,590·8	1,396·6	1,415·9	2,969·1	3,006·7	4,359	4,285	65·8	70·1

These figures show that, although the enrolment of pupils has not increased in 1888, the attendance has been decidedly better, a proof of an improvement as regards regularity.

It must be remembered, however, that the year has been extraordinarily dry, and little interruption in the attendance of school children has been caused by rain.

The number of pupils present at examination was 3,359.

School Fees.

The school fees collected during the year amounted to £1,673 16s. 6d., or £120 more than the sum received in 1887.

Inspection.

Of the 125 schools in operation during 1888, 123 received a regular inspection and 27 an ordinary inspection. In addition, 4 schools were fully inspected a second time.

The two schools not inspected at all were Cubmurra (Provisional), and Boggy Plain (House-to-house). The former was closed early in February, and the latter was not opened before 10th December.

Organization.

The material condition of the school buildings in this district is being gradually improved, and many are in an excellent state in this respect.

In some thinly peopled localities the school-rooms are very poor structures, but the prospects of the maintenance of the schools are not sufficiently good to warrant the erection of expensive buildings.

In most instances ample accommodation is provided. A few schools are over crowded, but steps are being taken to provide additional room in those cases where an attendance too great for the size of the building is likely to be maintained.

The teachers generally take due care of the school buildings and property, and keep the premises in a neat and tidy state. There are, unfortunately, a few exceptions where teachers allow paper and litter to lie on the play-ground, and either neglect the daily sweeping and dusting of the rooms, or have it performed in such a careless manner as to be of little use.

In nearly every case the school records are kept correctly and regularly, but negligence is still shown by too many teachers in compiling returns.

Discipline.

The discipline maintained in the schools is satisfactory. An improvement is being made as regards regularity and punctuality. The children generally are clean, neat, and well behaved. The government is firm, and there are very few cases where harshness prevails.

A fair amount of drill is taught by those teachers who have a knowledge of the subject.

At Cooma a cadet corps, whose drill reflects credit on the master, is in existence.

Attainments.

The following table shows the condition of the schools in relation to the standard for the years 1887 and 1888:—

Schools.	Below Standard.		Up to Standard.		Above Standard.	
	1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.	1887.	1888.
Public	36	30	28	27	20	28
Provisional	13	9	4	6	1	2
Half-Time	11	10	1	8	3	1
House-to-House	1	1	2	1	.....	.....
All	61	50	35	42	24	31

It will be seen that while in 1887 only 59 schools, or not quite 50 per cent., reached the standard in 1888; 73 schools, or more than 59 per cent. secured the requisite minimum of marks. The proportion is still low, but it is gratifying to be able to report improvement.

The number of pupils examined, and the percentage of those who reached the standard are shown hereunder :—

Subjects.	Number of Pupils examined.	Percentage of those who reached the Standard.	Subjects.	Number of Pupils examined.	Percentage of those who reached the Standard.
Reading	3,359	85·6	Music	2,066	70·9
Writing.....	3,359	87·0	French.....	18	61·1
Arithmetic	3,359	57·4	Euclid.....	119	54·6
Grammar	1,269	64·3	Algebra	35	51·4
Geography	1,323	71·8	Mensuration	14	50·0
History—English	922	63·4	Latin	10	20·0
Australian	579	80·3	Natural science	9	66·6
Scripture	3,317	68·9	Needlework	978	83·6
Object lessons	2,133	79·1	Drill.....	2,222	72·6
Drawing	914	62·5			

At the public examinations held in October, five pupils from the Cooma Public School creditably passed the Junior University Examinations. It is to be hoped that the teachers in some of the other schools in this district will put forth a little more energy and effort and produce similar results.

Savings Banks.

Savings banks exist in connection with the schools at Bega, Bombala, Candelo, Cobargo, and Eden. During the year 1888 the sum of £79 3s. 3d. was deposited in these banks by 249 children.

Teachers.

The number and the classification of the teachers and pupil-teachers employed in this district are as stated below :—

Class II—A	11
" II—B	10
" III—A	21
" III—B	24
" III—C	13
Unclassed	39
Total	118

Pupil-teachers :—

Class 1	—
" 2	5
" 3	7
" 4	2
Total	14

The number of unclassified teachers here is, I am thankful to say, gradually decreasing, though still about one-third hold no certificates.

Speaking of the teachers as a whole, their conduct, habits, and work are satisfactory. Most of them have a due conception of the importance of their office, and are carefully attentive to duty.

A few, I regret to say, perform their work perfunctorily. As a matter of course, their schools are not successful.

One teacher was dismissed from the Service during 1888 for wilful falsification of the records, and similar conduct of another is under consideration. These, however, are rare instances.

The pupil-teachers under my supervision are working well. Not one failed to gain promotion at the annual examination.

Summary.

The number of schools in the district has increased by four during 1888.

Improvement in the material condition of the schools has been effected by the erection of new buildings and the repair of others.

Sufficient accommodation for the total enrolment is provided.

The pupils have attended with more regularity throughout the year.

The organization generally is satisfactory, and the discipline maintains its good character.

Better results with regard to attainments have been secured, and it is hoped that further improvement will be made in 1889.

H. SKILLMAN,
Assistant Inspector.

ANNEX R.

DISTRICT-INSPECTOR LOBBAN'S REPORT.

THE Grafton District was placed under my supervision early in February, the inspectors associated with me being Mr. Nolan, successor to Mr. Willis, stationed at Port Macquarie, and Mr. M'Lelland, stationed at Lismore. As far as practicable, the programme of my predecessor, Mr. M'Credie, was followed.

At the end of 1887 there were 229 schools in the district; 2 of these were not opened in 1888; 15 new schools were established during the year; but 4 schools were permanently closed within the same period. Thus there were 242 schools to inspect in 1888, and 238 in existence at its close.

The establishment of new schools at Bellenger Heads, Cooper's Creek, Green Hills, Hanging Rock, Warrell Creek, and Wooran has been authorized, and Evening Schools at North Creek and Simpson's Ridge will be opened at once.

School sites were selected at Bellenger Heads, Boggumbil, Buccarumbi, Cumbalum, Cowlong, Dondingalong, Lavadia, Warrell Creek, and Wooroolgan.

The schools are, in most cases, centrally situated, and the buildings, with few exceptions, are substantial, well designed, and properly furnished. Most of them afford more than adequate accommodation, but a few require enlargement, and steps have already been taken to meet such cases. Some of the smaller structures are ill designed, and of inferior character generally. During the year 16 school buildings, 5 weathersheds, and 9 residences were erected; while 9 school buildings were enlarged, and 91 repaired and improved. The ravages of white ants have been considerable; but in all the more recently erected buildings, measures have been successfully adopted to prevent their encroachment.

At the close of 1887 seats had been provided for 12,746 pupils; but at the end of 1888 places were available for 13,150 scholars. When the authorized additions are completed there will be ample accommodation in every school in the district.

The

The attendance throughout the year was, on the whole, very fairly satisfactory; although the vacations connected with the Centennial celebrations, and the prevalence of epidemic sickness reduced the average considerably. About 73 per cent. of those enrolled attended seventy days or more during the first half of the year, and 74 per cent. during the latter half.

No serious interruption to the work of inspection occurred, although each inspector had, at different times, to depart from the authorized programme to inquire into and report upon special matters of importance as they occurred. Of the 242 schools in operation during some portion of the year all, except one, received a regular or general inspection. Some schools received a second regular inspection, and 113 ordinary inspections were made. The Wyrallah Evening Public School, which existed but a short time after its establishment, collapsed before an inspector could visit it. The results of inspection are fairly satisfactory. There were 59 schools below, 16 up to, and 166 above the standard. Of those below standard, 20 are Provisional Schools and 11 Half-time Schools. Of the Public Schools, 84½ per cent. satisfied or exceeded the standard. The number of pupils examined was 8,898, and they were all tested in reading, writing, and arithmetic—the percentage of passes in these subjects being respectively 85, 85, and 69. In the other branches of instruction a fair approach to the standard was made. As a large proportion of the teachers have been fully trained and hold respectable certificates, it is naturally expected to find their schools well conducted; and, as a rule, this expectation is not disappointed. There are, however, some weak subjects in all the schools. Writing in copy-books is one of these, and the writing of the upper classes on unruled paper is often of very poor quality. Good writing is seen in the South Grafton Public School. The drawing on paper is fair, but it would be better if the Royal drawing books were more generally used in the early stages. The results in arithmetic are the most disappointing. Mental arithmetic appears to be greatly neglected; and few boys, even in the higher classes, are found able to work correctly simple questions like the following:—"What sum of money should a farmer receive for 648 bags of maize, each weighing 4¼ bushels, at 3s. 11½d. per bushel, after paying the agent 5 per cent. commission for selling, and the steam company 1s. 6d. per bag for freight?" Considering that maize is the staple product of these districts, it is reasonable to require boys, whose fathers are farmers, to solve questions in arithmetic connected with their ordinary business transactions. Singing is not taught in several of the schools, and in only one of those I visited—West Kempsey Superior—did it strike me as particularly sweet and tuneful. In most schools where the subject is taught, the singing, though correct in time is loud and harsh. In few schools can the pupils sing at sight an easy three-part song. The theoretical portion of the subject is indifferently known, and the modulator is not practised with sufficient frequency.

Savings Banks are in operation in 35 schools. There are 1,124 depositors with £308 5s. 3d. at their credit. These institutions are popular with the children, and are well patronized.

Two attendance officers are attached to this district, one stationed at Grafton and the other at Taree. Owing to impaired health, Mr. Bayley, of Grafton, was forced to retire from the service at the end of September, and he was succeeded by Mr. W. Apsey, of Mudjee. The work in connection with this Branch has been considerable, but the results have been commensurate with the labour. There are no defaulters for the last half-year in 96 schools, and only 99 parents have been recommended for prosecution. There were 128 prosecutions during the year, and fines and costs, amounting to £31 7s., were inflicted.

In 134 schools there were no school fees in arrears on 31 December, 1888. Among the other schools the returns show £131 13s. 6d. in arrear. The bulk of this is due in schools in the Richmond River District. Thus, Ballina returns the arrears as £16 13s.; Drake, £9 13s.; Lismore, £8 9s.; Coraki, £7 0s. 6d.; Seven Creek Provisional, £6 14s. 3d.; and Wyrallah, £5 17s. 3d. During the year a sum, amounting in the aggregate to £130 4s. 14d. was cancelled as bad debts. This is the worst side of the case, for no less a sum than £5,067 7s. 6d., was paid as school fees in this district during 1888, being an increase of £812 on the receipts of the previous year.

In December, the Public School at Taree was declared a Superior Public School, which makes the fourth school of this grade in the Grafton District.

In only two of our schools were pupils prepared for the University Examination in 1888. Lismore Public School sent up 6 candidates, and Cowper Public 1. All were successful.

The teachers, as a body, are trustworthy and zealous. A few were censured for carelessness or misconduct, and two or three were either dismissed or allowed to resign. At the end of each quarter there is a small contingent who fail to furnish complete and correct returns promptly; some even fail to send in all the returns at the close of the year until they are reminded of the omission. Happily these remarks apply to a very small number. Most of the teachers strive to do their work well, and discharge their duties in a manner creditable to themselves and reflecting credit on the Department. The pupil-teachers are a respectable body of young people, who discharge their duties with fair efficiency.

In the following schedules the facts dwelt upon in this Report are summarized, and the reports of inspectors are attached.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 1888.

1. Schools in Operation at close of 1887.

Public.	Provisional.	Half-time.	House-to-house.	Evening.	Total.
169 Departments	35	24	...	1	229

2. New Schools Opened during 1888.

Public.	Provisional.	Half-time.	House to-house.	Evening.	Total.
1	11	2	...	1	15

3. Schools closed during 1888.

Public.	Provisional.	Half-time.	House-to-house.	Evening.	Total.
1	2	1	...	2	6

4. Status of Schools in Operation at close of 1883.

Superior Public.	Public.	Provisional.	Half-time.	House-to-house.	Evening.	Total.
6 Departments	175	31	26	...	...	238

5. Schools Inspected during 1888—Regular or General—excluding re-inspections.

By whom.	Public.	Provisional.	Half-time.	House-to-house.	Evening.	Total.
Mr. Lobban.....	57	13	8	...	...	78
Mr. Nolan	56	9	12	...	1	78
Mr. M'Lelland	67	14	4	...	...	85
<i>Ordinary.</i>						
Mr. Lobban.....	30	...	4	...	...	34
Mr. Willis	7	1	...	...	...	8
Mr. Nolan	37	4	4	...	...	45
Mr. M'Lelland	25	1	...	...	...	26

6.—Efficiency of Schools inspected.

Kind of School.	Above.	Up to.	Below Standard.	Total.
Public	141	12	28	181
Provisional	12	1	20	33
Half-time	12	3	11	26
Evening Public	1	.....	.....	1

7.—Estimated Proficiency of Pupils.

Subjects.	Above.	Up to.	Below Standard.	Total.	Per cent.
Reading	5,509	2,072	1,317	8,898	85
Writing	5,835	1,784	1,279	8,898	85
Arithmetic	4,358	1,864	2,676	8,898	69
Grammar	1,864	855	1,029	3,748	72
Geography	2,004	761	1,085	3,860	71
History—English	1,403	557	569	2,529	71
" Australian	718	177	310	1,205	74
Scripture	4,859	1,754	2,045	8,658	76
Objects	3,581	1,211	1,303	6,095	78
Drawing	1,360	688	563	2,711	76
Music	4,435	1,299	1,803	7,537	76
French	23	18	19	60	68
Euclid	196	56	122	374	68
Algebra	28	8	30	66	54
Mensuration	228	165	123	516	76
Latin	10	16	14	40	65
Natural science	127	62	55	244	77
Needlework	2,493	328	450	3,271	87
Drill	3,926	1,434	1,928	7,288	73

8.—Quarterly Returns for 1888—Fees for 1887 and 1888.

Quarter ending.	Enrolled.	Averages.	Percentages.	School Fees.	Total fees for 1887.	Increase during 1888.
March	11,529	8,134.3	70	£ s. d. 1,152 13 3	} 4,255 0 0	£ s. d. 812 7 6
June	11,365	8,475.2	74	1,216 2 9		
September	11,721	8,349.4	71	1,385 9 9		
December.....	11,493	8,185.5	71	1,313 1 9		

9.—Half-yearly Returns.

Half-year ending.	Number of Pupils who attended seventy days or more.	Number of Pupils who attended less than seventy days.	Percentages.
June 30	8,760	3,127	73 per cent.
December 31	8,866	3,093	74 „

10.—Defaulters: Prosecutions and Results.

Number of parents prosecuted.	Number of children represented.	Number of convictions.	Total amount of fines and costs.	Cases withdrawn.	Cases dismissed.
128	174	139	£ s. d. 31 7 0	34	1

11.—*Arrears of School Fees.*

Number of Schools in which no Fees are owing.	Number of Schools in which Fees are owing.	Amount of Fees in arrears on 31st December, 1888.	Amount of School Fees cancelled in 1888.
134	104	£ s. d. 134 13 6	£ s. d. 130 14 4

12.—*Public Schools Savings' Banks.*

Number of Bank.	Number of Depositors.	Amount at Credit on 31st December, 1888.
35	1,124	£ s. d. 308 5 3

13.—*Works completed in 1888.*

Nature of Works.	Under Architect.	Under Inspectors.	Total Expenditure under Inspectors.
			£ s. d.
New school-buildings .....	.....	16	585 16 0
Buildings enlarged	5	4	138 15 0
Repairs and improvements	39	52	511 13 3
Weathersheds	2	3	49 0 0
New residences	8	1	136 10 3

14.—*Accommodation at end of 1888.*

Number of Seats available at end of 1887.	Number of Seats lost by closing Schools in 1888.	Number of Seats gained by opening Schools in 1888.	Increase of School Accommodation in 1888.	Number of Seats available at end of 1888.
12,746	101	505	404	13,150

15.—*Classification of Teachers and Assistants.*

Status.	I A.	I B.	II A.	II B.	III A.	III B.	III C.	Nil.	Total.
Teachers	3	30	25	40	40	35	52	225
Assistants	1	3	4	3	2	1	14

16.—*Classification of Pupil-teachers.*

First Class.	Second Class.	Third Class.	Fourth Class.	Total.
11	11	17	25	64

Grafton, 14th January, 1889.

A. LOBBAN,
District Inspector.

ANNEX S.

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR NOLAN'S REPORT.

At the close of 1887 there were in operation in the Port Macquarie Section of the Grafton District 78 schools. During 1888 four new schools were established, and four small schools were permanently closed, owing to paucity of attendance.

The schools in operation at the end of the current year are classified thus :—

58 Public.
8 Provisional.
12 Half-time.

Rainbow Reach Public School and the Half-time School at Stony Creek, though not closed officially until the early part of the year, were actually not open during any portion of 1888. The Provisional School at Bobin Flat, and the Evening Public School at Cundletown lapsed in June last. The Provisional School at Callaghan's Creek and Koribakh Creek were raised during the year to the rank of Public Schools. The Provisional School at Telegraph Point, which had been closed for some time, was reopened early in the year.

The gross enrolment for December quarter was 2,993, and the average daily attendance for the same period was 2,139. Existing schools provide accommodation for 3,406 pupils. A few of the schools are slightly overcrowded, but steps are being taken to afford increased room. The schools are well distributed, and they are centrally situated; there are now but few centres in this district without the means of education. Three applications for the establishment of new schools are at present under consideration, and they will probably be favourably entertained.

All the schools in this section received full inspection, and 49 of them underwent a second or ordinary inspection. Four of the regular inspections, and seven of the ordinary inspections were conducted by Mr. District Inspector Lobban. In addition to the above I held two regular and nine ordinary

ordinary inspections of schools in the Grafton Section. The condition of the several schools in the Port Macquarie District, as disclosed by inspection, is exhibited in the following table :—

Class of Schools.	Below the Standard.	Up to the Standard.	Above the Standard.	Total.
Public	9	1	48	58
Provisional	4	...	5	9
Half-time	2	1	9	12
Evening .....	...	...	1	1
Totals	15	2	63	80

The corresponding table for 1887 was :—

Class of Schools.	Below the Standard.	Up to the Standard.	Above the Standard.	Total.
Public	8	13	35	56
Provisional	5	...	4	9
Half-time	6	...	6	12
Evening .....	...	1	...	1
Totals	19	14	45	78

81 per cent. of the schools inspected in 1888 satisfied the required standard ; the corresponding proportion for 1887 was 76 per cent. It thus appears that better results were produced during the year just terminated than in the previous year. Detailed statistics as to class proficiency in the several subjects are forwarded herewith. The Public School at Wingham deserves special mention for its very creditable condition.

The material condition of the school-buildings is fairly satisfactory ; extensive repairs to several school-buildings situated on the Manning and the Hastings Rivers have been sanctioned, and the work will be carried out early in the ensuing year. As a rule the schools are commodious and well furnished, and the supply of working materials is adequate ; the premises are neatly kept, and the Department's property is carefully preserved. As far as the teachers are accountable the organization is sound ; the usual lesson guides are intelligently constructed, and they are faithfully observed ; with but very few exceptions the records are neatly and correctly compiled. Discipline is a pleasing feature ; the government is generally mild, but it is firm and exacting, and the resulting order is satisfactory. The instruction is earnest and industrious, and the methods employed are of a modern type.

The following table shows the enrolment and the average daily attendance of pupils for each quarter :—

	Enrolment.	Average.
March quarter.....	3,079	2,178
June quarter	2,986	2,231
September quarter	3,087	2,235
December quarter	2,998	2,139

The residents of Ellenborough, Telegraph Point, and Killabakh provided buildings in their respective localities free of cost to the Department. A building was erected under the inspector's supervision at Cogo, at a cost of £60. At the abovenamed places schools did not previously exist. Commodious residences were erected by the architect at Sherwood, Tinonee, and Killawarra ; and repairs to seven schools were effected under his supervision. A sum of £210 1s. was spent under the supervision of the inspector in effecting repairs to seventeen schools.

At the commencement of the year accommodation was provided for 3,371 pupils ; during the year 30 places were lost by the closing of schools ; and 65 seats gained by the opening of new schools.

The following list gives information concerning the teachers employed in the district :—

Classification of Teachers.

	1 A.	1 B.	2 A.	2 B.	3 A.	3 B.	3 C.	Nil.	Totals.
Teachers	5	7	15	21	9	14	71
Assistants	1	1	...	...	2

Classification of Pupil-teachers.

Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Total.
...	4	3	5	12

Both teachers and pupil-teachers have as a body worked well during the past year ; their labours have been attended with gratifying results, and there is every reason to anticipate equally good work for the ensuing year. A few of the older teachers who have for many years past been employed in the Service, are now, by their advanced ages, compelled to retire under the provisions of the Civil Service Act.

W. NOLAN,
Assistant Inspector.

Port Macquarie, 31st December, 1888.

ANNEX T.

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR M'LELLAND'S REPORT.

I BEG to submit my general report for the year 1888 :—

At the beginning of the year there were in operation in this section 85 schools, viz. :—
Sixty-seven Public, 12 Provisional, 6 Half-time. Total 85.

During the year new schools, 7 in number, were opened at the under-mentioned places :—

Red Rock Public.	Skinner's Creek Provisional.
Brunswick River Provisional.	Woorroowoolgan "
Condong "	Wyrallah Evening.
Riley "	"

The

The Provisional Schools at Byron's Creek, Cormick's Creek, Friday Hut, Lower Palmer's Island, Seven Creek, and Sandy Hills were converted to Public rank, as also was Cowlong Half-time, and the other Half-time School at Pearce's Creek was raised to Provisional grade. In consequence of these changes, and the closing through failing attendance, of Dugarubba Creek Provisional, and Wyrallah Evening Public, the classification of schools at the end of the year stood thus:—

Seventy-five Public, 11 Provisional, 4 Half-time. Total 90. The number in operation during any portion of the year was 92.

It has been decided by the Minister to establish new schools at Hanging Rock, Cooper's Creek, and Wooram (Sandy Creek); and an Evening School will also be opened at North Creek next month. Applications for the establishment of schools at Cudgen Wharf, Tuckurimba, Boomerang Creek, and Blakebrook have, for various reasons, been declined. Altogether 14 applications have been dealt with and reported on by me during the past year; and such is the nature of the district under my supervision that the same activity in new school movements may be expected for several years to come. At present, however, I am personally aware of very few localities where the residents are without the means of education. So soon as increased settlement brings a sufficient number of children of school age within the prescribed radius, the parents concerned are usually prompt in urging their claims upon the Minister's notice. It is strange but true, however, that they do not always display the same zeal when their desires have been gratified; hence it not uncommonly happens that the most enthusiastic promoter of the new school is the first to become enrolled upon its list of defaulting parents.

The accommodation for pupils has increased during the year from 5,006 to 5,240, and is, on the whole, quite adequate. The increase referred to (234) has been produced, (1) by the erection or rental of new buildings where none formerly existed, (2) by the substitution of new premises for old ones, and, (3) by the provision of class-rooms and other additions where such were required. Information respecting these buildings will be found in the subjoined tables.

I. New Buildings.

School.	Under Supervision of.	Object of Erection.	Size and accommodation.		Cost.	
Boggumbil	Inspector	To replace old building.	20 × 16 × 10	32	£ s. d. 135 0 0	
Cowlong	Local Committee.	"	25 × 16 × 10	40	60 0 0	
Tooom	Inspector	"	17 × 14 × 9	21	60 0 0	
Riley	"	New	14 × 12 × 9	15	25 0 0	
Skinner's Creek	"	"	20 × 16 × 10	32	60 0 0	
Woorooloolgan	"	"	20 × 14 × 10	28	40 0 0	
Brunswick River	Local Committee	"	16 × 11 × 9½	15	nil.	
Condong	"	"	17 × 14 × 9	21	nil.	
Red Rock	Rented	"	27 × 12 × 8	25	20 16 0	
				Totals ...	229	400 16 0

II. Additions—Class-rooms, lengthening.

School.	Under Supervision of.	Nature of addition.	Size and accommodation.		Cost.	
Drake	Inspector	Class-room	20 × 10 × 10	20	£ s. d. 60 15 0	
Irvington	Architect	Lengthening	14 × 12 × 10	16	87 13 0	
Tirrannia Creek	"	"	16 × 11 × 10	17	90 0 0	
Palmer's Island	"	Class-room	16 × 14 × 10½	23	100 18 0	
				Totals ...	76	339 6 0

The following is a list of works that are now in course of completion. When finished they will provide further accommodation for 258 pupils:—

Name of School.	Nature of Work.	Under whose Supervision.	Accommodation.	Cost.	
Cooper's Creek	New school-room	Inspector ...	32	£ s. d. 60 0 0	
Cumbalum	"	"	15	45 0 0	
Point Danger	"	"	32	79 18 6	
Ballina	New class-room	Architect...	44	177 18 0	
Broadwater	"	"	43	78 10 0	
Harwood Island	"	"	26	75 0 0	
Wardell	"	"	24	75 0 0	
Meerschaum Vale	Lengthening of School-room	"	16	78 5 0	
M'Lean's Ridges	"	Inspector ...	14	31 10 0	
Cormick's Creek	"	"	12	20 0 0	
			Totals	258	721 1 6

It has also been decided to make additions to the premises at New Italy, and to erect a cheap residence at Mororo.

In all cases where improvements have been deemed desirable, and where the circumstances of the school warranted the expenditure, the necessary steps have been taken to remedy the defects noted; as a result no less than 39 schools have been improved in various ways during the year at a total cost to the Department of £1,075 18s.

In the matter of new buildings the policy of former years has been adopted, *i.e.* the erection of plain but neat wooden structures at the lowest cost, compatible with substantial work.

In most cases the organization is satisfactory. The material condition of the buildings is generally good; the supply of educational requisites adequate. Most of the teachers take pleasure in preserving a neat well-kept appearance in the premises committed to their care. They show judgment in the construction of time-table and programmes, and use these lesson guides intelligently, methodically, and successfully. But there are still some, though not many, who either fail to appreciate the true meaning of effective organization, or are constitutionally too indolent to take the pains necessary to keep their schools in

in good working order. The latter is, I believe, the true explanation of inferior organization. The industrious teacher hates to lose time, and, therefore, always works with a plan. If shiftless teachers could be suddenly transferred from their own ill-kept premises to one of the well-kept schools the contrast would, I think, considerably startle their complacency, and possibly teach them a very valuable lesson.

The discipline generally prevalent is as satisfactory as in former years. The pupils are almost always neat in their dress, and are seldom unpunctual. While under examination they work cheerfully, often with great spirit, and are usually attentive. Doubtless the attention and mental activity displayed at the inspection are somewhat greater than is the case under ordinary circumstances; still, the general behaviour of the children at such a time is a faithful indication of the nature of the government and of the degree of sympathy existing between teacher and pupils. In some few schools the government, though very effective, is too strict and unsympathetic; the same results might be acquired by gentler means. Rarely, however, is corporal punishment inflicted with undue severity, and only two or three instances have occurred during the past year where parents have complained of the teacher's harshness in this respect.

The rudiments of military drill are taught in the larger and in some of the smaller schools; but in the latter the instruction is mostly confined to extension, motion, and marching. Of the 92 schools in operation during some portion of 1888, all save 1 received a regular and 28 an ordinary inspection. The one school not inspected was the Evening School at Wyrallah, which closed suddenly and unexpectedly in the first part of the year, before I had an opportunity of arranging for its inspection. In all, 121 inspections were made in this section; 10 by the district inspector (8 regular and 2 ordinary) and the remaining 111 by myself. The relation of the schools inspected to the standard is shown in the following table:—

	Below.	Up to.	Above.	Totals.
Public	13	7	55	75
Provisional	11	...	1	12
Half-time	3	...	1	4
Totals	27	7	57	91

Thus the percentage of those schools that satisfied or exceeded standard requirements is 70 per cent., as against 86 per cent. for 1887. In explanation of this falling off it must be borne in mind that 11 out of the 27 schools below standard, fell into that unenviable category not through the fault of the teachers, but because they possessed no 3rd class at the time of inspection, and no school can be considered "up to Standard," in the proper sense of the expression, where no instruction is given in grammar, geography, history, and higher arithmetic. This distinction was not drawn in making up the estimates of last year. If for the purposes of comparison these 11 schools be considered neutral, there were 64 schools up to or above standard, out of 80 that could reasonably be expected to obtain the minimum number of marks. The percentage of passes is now raised to eighty which is still 6 per cent. less than the average for last year. Of the 16 schools that ought to have passed a satisfactory inspection, but did not, I believe that in every instance such failure was due either to indolence or inefficiency on the part of the teachers in charge. The schools in question are all of the smaller class, and their teachers have not had the advantages of training and education enjoyed by their confreres in more important positions. They only imperfectly understand the importance of their office, and such zeal as they do show, springs chiefly from a dread of the consequences of their neglect. The table below setting forth the percentage of passes in each subject, will show clearly that the great bulk of the pupils acquitted themselves satisfactorily, and that the schools found in an unsatisfactory condition are represented by a small minority of the pupils examined. The following schools deserve honorable mention as having obtained over 70 per cent. of the maximum number of marks at the regular inspection: Lismore Primary, Ballina, Wardell, Wyrallah, Coraki, Lower Southgate, and Acacia Creek. At the recent Junior University Examinations, 6 candidates from the Lismore Public School presented themselves, and all were successful. There are several schools in this district whose teachers are well qualified to prepare pupils for these examinations, and I hope, next year, to be able to report a considerable increase both in the number of schools represented and in the number of successful examinees.

Subject.	Number of Pupils Examined.	Percentage of Passes for 1888.	Percentage of Passes for 1887.	Increase or Decrease for 1888.
Reading	3,171	90 per cent.	93 per cent.	Decrease 3 per cent.
Writing.....	3,171	91 "	92 "	Decrease 1 "
Arithmetic	3,171	82 "	71 "	Increase 11 "
Grammar	1,114	75 "	77 "	Decrease 2 "
Geography	1,147	76 "	67 "	Increase 9 "
English history	889	67 "	49 "	Increase 18 "
Australian history	521	75 "	77 "	Decrease 2 "
Scripture	2,992	73 "	65 "	Increase 8 "
Object lessons	2,092	75 "	82 "	Decrease 7 "
Drawing	830	84 "	92 "	Decrease 8 "
Music	2,591	83 "	79 "	Increase 4 "
Euclid	113	88 "	56 "	Increase 32 "
Algebra.....	8	100 "	100 "	.....
Mensuration	115	64 "	65 "	Decrease 1 "
Needlework	1,037	94 "	99 "	Decrease 5 "
Drill	2,682	72 "	77 "	Decrease 5 "

In such subjects as show a decrease in the number of passes compared with those of last year, the falling off is so slight as to call for no special remark. The improvement, on the other hand, observable in arithmetic, geography, English history, and euclid, is creditable and gratifying.

Of the great majority of the teachers, I can report in terms of commendation. I have already referred to a small number that have given cause for dissatisfaction. It is to be hoped that these will exert themselves honestly during the coming year and not render themselves again liable to censure or dismissal for incompetency. One teacher has been dismissed for gross neglect of duty, and another is under suspension on a charge of intemperance. The pupil-teachers are almost without exception industrious, painstaking, and studious. I am aware of only one that has given cause for complaint.

In conclusion I may state that I consider the general condition of the schools under my supervision satisfactory, and the prospects for the coming year encouraging.

H. D. McLELLAND,
Assistant Inspector.

Lismore, 20th December, 1888.

ANNEX

ANNEX U.

DISTRICT-INSPECTOR T. DWYER'S REPORT.

THE number of schools in operation in the Maitland District at the beginning of 1887 was 270, viz. :—

Public Schools and departments	213
Provisional Schools	19
Half-time Schools	34
House-to-house Schools	4
Total	270

During the year new Infant departments in connection with the Public Schools at Tighe's Hill and Carrington were completed ; a new Public School is ready for occupation at Fassifern ; additional class-rooms have been provided at West Maitland Superior Public for Boys, Girls, and Infants, at St. Ethel's, and at Newcastle East. These schools and class-rooms were erected under the architect's supervision.

Non-vested Public Schools have been established and opened in temporary buildings at Middle Falbrook and Tea Gardens. New Provisional Schools were started at Awaba, Eglingford, Turrill, and Wagaribil, and House-to-house Schools were brought into operation at Rosemount and Lower Munmurra.

The Public Schools at Muscle Creek, Hawk's Nest, and the Half-time Schools at Castle Rock, Sandy Creek, Gungal, and Worrolong had to be closed during the year through want of attendance of pupils ; but it has been decided to re-open Muscle Creek as a House-to-house School, and Worrolong as a Provisional.

Applications for the establishment of small schools at Cattle Creek, Cooba, Bulga, and Nandowra have been favourably entertained.

The number of schools in operation during some portion of 1887 in this district is shown hereunder.

Section of District.	Public Schools.	Provisional Schools.	Half-time Schools.	House-to-house Schools.	Total.
Maitland	62	2	2	.....	66
Newcastle	57	2	.....	.....	59
Dungog	58	10	12	3	83
Muswellbrook	39	11	20	5	75
Total	216	25	34	8	283

Existing schools are, with few exceptions, centrally situated, and provide ample accommodation for the requirements of the district. At the beginning of the year accommodation for 22,189 pupils existed, while at the end of 1888 the schools in operation had sufficient floor space for 22,922 children.

The material condition of the vested buildings continues to be satisfactory. The sum of £953 9s. 3d. was expended by the inspectors in repairing and painting them during the year.

In a number of schools which, unfortunately, is not as large as it should be, the teachers have incurred expense, and have worked hard besides in improving the school-grounds by planting trees and cultivating flower and vegetable gardens. An example has been set by these teachers to their pupils and neighbours, which is certain to be beneficial in the near future. This class of teachers rarely gives trouble to the Department. The satisfactory performance of their official duties, and the cultivation of their gardens afford them ample means of spending their time intellectually, healthfully, and profitably. Improved means of ventilation have been introduced into many schools. Some are still defective in this particular ; in others, fair means of ventilation are provided, but are not properly utilized. Lighting is generally sufficient ; but some even of the newer schools are not well constructed in this respect. There is too frequently an unnecessary amount of cross lights ; and a number of schools are unprovided with blinds or frosted windows.

The number of pupils enrolled during each quarter of the year, and the average attendance are shown in the following table :—

	Enrolment.	Average attendance.	Percentage.
1st quarter	21,387	15,101.4	70.5
2nd quarter	20,777	14,830.2	71.3
3rd quarter	21,100	14,335.8	68.
4th quarter	20,522	14,634.3	71.

The prevalence of measles in all sections of the district throughout the year, and the miners' strike in the Newcastle Section during the third and fourth quarters of the year are the main causes of the diminution in the average attendance for these periods. Were it not for these obstacles, the average attendance for the third and fourth quarters of 1888 would have exceeded 72 per cent. of the enrolment for the same periods.

The number of pupils enrolled for the whole year was 26,522, the multiple enrolments amounted to 3,946; the net enrolment was, therefore, 22,580, and the average attendance was 14,548.1 or 65 per cent. of the net enrolment. But for the reasons already assigned, the average attendance for the year would have reached 72 per cent. of the net enrolment.

The organization of the majority of the schools of this district continues to be satisfactory. In a large number it is of a high order of merit. Cleanliness and neatness in regard to the keeping of grounds, school-rooms, residences, and out-offices, is a marked feature. The arrangement of furniture and appliances is thoughtful and appropriate. School property is carefully preserved, and the records are invariably, neatly, and accurately kept. In other schools, these characteristics of good organization exist, but in a less satisfactory degree. Sometimes in this class, school-rooms do not present such a well ordered appearance as they should, and teachers of important schools have had to be rebuked for inattention to, and inaccuracy in the keeping of their records. In a third class of schools, the grounds and buildings present an unattractive and untidy appearance. Nothing is done to improve them. Insufficient attention is given to the proper classification of the pupils ; out-offices are not inspected regularly, and the records are not kept well enough to escape adverse criticism. The inspectors of this district have done a good deal to remove these defects, but still they exist.

With regard to discipline, it is pleasing to have to report that improvement has been made during the year. Punctuality of attendance is decidedly better, and is unsatisfactory only in such schools as are under the management of teachers who are themselves unpunctual and indifferent as to the character of their schools and pupils. The children are under good control, their movements in school are marked by more precision than in former years ; self-reliance, good manners, and habits of industry, are more generally inculcated ; home exercises receive increased attention ; copying has almost disappeared, and corporal punishment is much less resorted to than in the past. In a small number of schools, however, which are under the oversight of unambitious teachers, the details of discipline receive but fitful attention, and, as a consequence, the tone of these schools is unsatisfactory.

Pupils look forward to the annual inspection of their schools with pleasurable feelings, and indicate by their eagerness to answer well, and by their desire to be thoroughly questioned how fully they appreciate completeness and fulness in the work of inspection.

The work of inspection for the year is exhibited in the following table :—

Section of District.	Schools that received General or Regular Inspection.	Schools that received Ordinary Inspection.	Total number of Inspections.	Total number of pupils examined at General or Regular Inspections.
Maitland	66	66	132	3,768
Newcastle.....	59	58	117	8,192
Dungog.....	83	57	140	2,108
Musclebrook	75	60	135	1,880
Total	283	241	524	15,948

Every school in operation during any portion of the year received a general or regular inspection, and 241 schools had ordinary inspections. The number of schools that did not receive second inspection is 42 of which 1 is in the Newcastle, 26 in the Dungog, and 15 in the Musclebrook Section.

Conditions of the inspected schools in relation to the Standard :—

Section of District.	Schools.	Above the Standard.	Up to the Standard.	Below the Standard.	Total.
Maitland	Public	43	6	13	62
	Provisional.....	2	.....	.....	2
	Half-time .....	.....	.....	2	2
	Total	45	6	15	66
Newcastle	Public	54	1	2	57
	Provisional .....	.....	.....	2	2
	Total.....	54	1	4	59
Dungog	Public.....	13	25	20	58
	Provisional	1	4	5	10
	Half-time .....	.....	5	7	12
	House-to-house	1	.....	2	3
	Total.....	15	34	34	83
Musclebrook.....	Public.....	33	3	3	39
	Provisional.....	5	3	3	11
	Half-time	14	3	3	20
	House-to-house	5	.....	.....	5
	Total.....	57	9	9	75
Grand Total...		171	50	62	283

From this table it appears that 78 per cent. of the inspected schools succeeded in reaching or exceeding the standard of proficiency; the percentage for each section of the district being Maitland, 78; Newcastle, 93; Dungog, 59; Musclebrook, 88. Last year the percentage for the whole district was 74; for Maitland Section, 72; for Newcastle, 91; for Dungog, 52; and for Musclebrook, 84.

The following schools failed to reach the standard :—

Maitland Section.—Aberglasslyn, Black Hill, Brokenback, Brownmuir, Elderslie, Ellalong, Laguna, Merannie, Nelson's Plains, Sedgefield, Stockyard Creek, Sweetman's Creek, Wattagon, Dairy Arm (Half-time), Mount Finch (Half-time).

Newcastle Section.—Awaba, Mandalong, Ash Island, Dora Creek.

Dungog Section.—Bendolba, Booral, Bulladelah, Belltrees, Binglebrah, Carrow Brook, Chichester, Croom Park, Bunnabunoo, Gundy, Hawke's Nest, Limeburner's Creek, Gloucester, Malvern, Markwell, Myall Upper, Mount Rivers, Mount Pleasant, Glen William, Monkerai, Tea Gardens, Nerong, Page's River, Rouchel Vale, Ward's River, Atherton, and Lamb's Valley (Half-time), Bowman's Creek (Half-time), Big Creek (Half-time), Carrabolla (Half-time), Sugarloaf Creek (Half-time), Tabule Creek (Half-time), Page's Creek (House-to-house), Waverley (House-to-house).

Musclebrook Section.—Aberdeen, Harben Vale, Wybong, Doyle's Creek, Gungal, Willy Wally, Bylong, Howick, Oxley's Peak.

The proficiency of the pupils examined in each subject of instruction, and the percentage of those who satisfied or exceeded the Standard, are shown in the following table :—

Subjects.	Number examined.	Percentage up to or above the Standard.
Reading—		
Alphabet	2,226	82
Monosyllables	2,090	81
Easy narrative	4,292	78
Ordinary prose	7,340	82
Total number examined	15,948	81
Writing—		
On slates	6,168	91
On paper	9,744	90
Total number examined	15,912	91
Arithmetic—		
Simple rules	9,498	78
Compound rules	3,116	56
Higher rules.....	3,274	54
Total number examined	15,888	69

Subjects.	Number Examined.	Percentage up to or above the Standard.
Grammar—		
Elementary	2,054	65
Advanced	4,980	69
Total number examined	7,034	68
Geography—		
Elementary	2,519	68
Advanced	5,061	73
Total number examined	7,580	72
History—		
English	5,079	70
Australian	2,381	69
Scripture and moral lessons	15,173	78
Object lessons	13,396	98
Drawing	5,142	71
Music	13,503	81
French	133	73
Euclid	924	64
Algebra	178	90
Mensuration	1,375	36
Latin	169	84
Natural science	419	94
Trigonometry	43	60
Needlework	5,379	90
Drill	13,312	74

Compared with last year there is improvement in eleven subjects, viz., writing, 3%; English history, 2%; scripture, 5%; object lessons, 15%; music, 2%; euclid, 4%; algebra, 22%; Latin, 10%; natural science, 23%; trigonometry, 26%; and needlework, 1%. The results in arithmetic, geography, and drawing are the same as for last year. In five subjects there is a falling off, viz., grammar, 2%; Australian history, 6%; French, 2%; mensuration, 13%; and drill, 1%.

Except in the compound and higher rules of arithmetic, in grammar, Australian history, euclid, and trigonometry, the percentage up to or above the standard in every subject of instruction exceeds 70.

In the best conducted schools of this district, Reading lessons are as carefully prepared by the teachers as if they had to be delivered before a critical audience. Sample reading is regularly practised; and the pupils are made thoroughly conversant with the meaning of the passage to be read by them before they are allowed to read it. In these schools reading is taught intelligently, expressively, and satisfactorily.

The tests applied in arithmetic were easier all round than in former years; still the percentage of satisfactory answering for this year is no higher than for 1887. This arises mainly from defective teaching, infrequent revision, and the absence of systematic training in mental arithmetic. In some schools failure to solve easy questions resulted from the over simplicity of the questions given by the inspectors.

Mensuration is badly taught, chiefly because teachers fail to clearly explain definitions and principles, to deduce the rules from geometry, and to give a sufficient number of suitable exercises on the different rules.

Composition, which is an important branch, being an intellectual test of a high order has received an average share of attention. Letter-writing has been introduced into a number of schools with fair success. In only a few schools of the better class has notepaper been supplied to the pupils for use in letter-writing.

Were the question asked—what, in your opinion, is the chief hindrance to increased efficiency in the attainments of the pupils attending the Department's Schools in this district?—my answer would be—"Failure on the part of a number of teachers to methodically prepare their school-work in regard to matter and method." Experience justifies me in expressing the deliberate opinion that in a pretty large number of schools the teachers seldom, or never, prepare their lessons in grammar, geography, history, scripture, meanings and derivations. Desultory, ineffective teaching, and unsatisfactory results at inspections are the invariable consequences of such inexcusable neglect. In several schools where teachers were requested by the inspectors to examine their pupils in object lessons, scripture, or history, they had to actually use the text-book in the inspector's presence.

The teachers employed in this district number 264; the assistants, 62; and the pupil-teachers, 137. In the following table their classification is shown:—

	I.		II.		III.			Unclassified.	Total.
	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	C.		
Teachers	6	7	43	26	48	38	41	55	254
Assistants .....	.....	1	14	20	14	10	1	2*	62
Total	6	8	57	46	62	48	42	57	326

* Classification not yet awarded.

Pupil-te chers.

Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Total.
44	35	26	31	137

On the whole, the teachers and the assistants employed in this district possess the necessary skill, diligence, and information to enable them to successfully discharge their official duties. Some of

of them, however, are rather too much engaged in the consideration of other pursuits to admit of their devoting all their energy and attention to the duties of their office as required by law. As previously stated, a certain number fail to give satisfaction by reason of their neglect to systematically prepare the lessons which they have to teach.

With very few exceptions the pupil-teachers are a decidedly promising body. In some schools they are hard worked, indifferently supervised, and badly taught. Arrangements for giving all who can conveniently attend on Saturdays at Maitland and Newcastle instruction in Latin, French, drawing, and music have been nearly three months in operation; and give promise of materially benefiting such as attend regularly.

Summary.

Thirteen new schools were opened during the year. Accommodation for 22,922 pupils exists. Every school in the district had a regular or general inspection, and 241 schools received ordinary inspection. The condition of the schools in regard to organization, discipline, and efficiency shows satisfactory improvement. The material condition of the schools of the district is better. Habits of study among the bulk of teachers and pupil-teachers are general; and the prospects of primary education in the Maitland District are highly gratifying.

East Maitland, 18th January, 1889.

T. DWYER,
District Inspector.

ANNEX V.

INSPECTOR M'CORMACK'S REPORT.

THE Newcastle Section of the Maitland District had 58 schools in operation at the beginning of 1888. One new school has since been opened. Fifty-seven are Public Schools and 2 are Provisional Schools. At Fassifern, 16 miles south-west of Newcastle, a place where no school previously existed, suitable buildings have just been completed, and new Infants' Departments for the Public School at Tighe's Hill and Onybigambah are now ready for occupation. An additional class-room has been built at Newcastle East, weathersheds have been erected at Islington and the Gravel Pits, and improvements and repairs, extensive in some instances, have been effected in connection with the Public Schools at Adamstown, Cook's Hill, Hexham, Jesmond, New Lambton, Minmi, Newcastle East, Onybigambah, Stockton, and Wallsend. It has been decided to establish Public Schools at Merewether, near Newcastle, and at West Wallsend. Important works have also been sanctioned for improving the condition of the school premises at Charlestown, Cooranbong, Dora Creek, Fullerton Cove, Hanbury, Lambton, Mosquito Island, Newcastle South, Raymond Terrace, and Wickham. All new buildings but one have been erected under the supervision of the architect.

2. Existing schools provide ample accommodation for, and are within easy reach of, almost the entire school population of this section. They contain 9,596 places, an increase of 229 since the beginning of the year. The return for December shows an enrolment of 10,667 pupils, and the ordinary attendance reaches 8,800. With very few exceptions the buildings are in a very fair state of repair. The water supply, much less this year than the ordinary, owing to the slight rainfall, has been carefully used. Good attention has been given to the ventilation and the cleanliness of the rooms, and, as a rule, the necessary supervision has been exercised to keep the grounds and out-buildings in a satisfactory state. School materials, excepting slate and slate pencils, are kept in creditable condition. Desks scratched and in places chipped are to be seen in a few of the largest schools. Defects in registration are occasionally met with. Admission registers are not always fully posted, and some records of monthly examination are of little worth. Mere results, loosely estimated, are set down. On the whole the classification of pupils is sound. Occasional delay in the promotion of pupils from the Infants' School to the Primary Departments has been noted. Pleading discipline is maintained in most schools. Punctuality is insisted upon, and close inspection of the pupils in reference to cleanliness and neatness is made before they enter school. Simultaneous class movements are performed with quietness, precision, and due rapidity, and the government generally is vigilant, regular, and considerate. An adequate teaching staff for each school has been maintained, and the proper distribution of the teaching power has been well observed.

3. The schools and the departments under my supervision are ranked thus:—

Public—	Classes.	Schools and Departments.
	I	12
	II	18
	III	2
	IV	8
	V	5
	VI	2
	VII	4
	VIII	2
	IX	4
	X	0
Provisional		2

4. In the following table the enrolment and the average attendance for each quarter of the year are given:—

Quarters.	Pupils Enrolled.	Average Attendance.
March.....	11,255	7,927
June	10,844	7,469
September	11,017	7,260
December	10,667	7,595

The average attendance is 69.1 per cent. of the enrolments. Much sickness was prevalent in the thickly populated portions of the district during the second and third quarters of the year. Several schools had to be closed for short periods. In the September quarter also a general strike of coal-miners began, lasted three months, and caused a further decrease in the attendance at several schools.

5. All schools received during the year a regular inspection, and all but one an ordinary inspection. The exception, Awaba Provisional, was established very late in the year. The general condition of the schools is here given:—

Schools.	Below Standard.	Up to Standard.	Above Standard.
Public	2	1	54
Provisional	2	...	...
Totals	4	1	54

These results are very satisfactory and indicate a considerable amount of earnest skilful teaching throughout the district.

6. The subjects, the number of pupils examined in each subject, and the percentage up to and above the standard, are given in the following table :—

Subjects.	Pupils Examined.	Percentage up to and above Standard.
Reading.....	8,192	80
Writing.....	8,184	87
Arithmetic.....	8,192	63
Grammar.....	3,673	65
Geography.....	4,118	67
History.....	3,908	66
Scripture.....	8,107	73
Object lessons.....	7,983	80
Drawing.....	2,622	61
Music.....	7,958	74
French.....	89	60
Euclid.....	547	55
Algebra.....	82	79
Mensuration.....	1,226	40
Latin.....	82	74
Natural science.....	110	75
Trigonometry.....	43	60
Needlework.....	2,786	84
Drill.....	8,157	75

Kindergarten occupations have been introduced into the Infants' Departments of the Wickham Superior Public School, and satisfactory results have been achieved. Numerous specimens of the pupils' work are in the present Melbourne Exhibition.

7. The entire teaching staff consists of :—

59 Teachers.
46 Assistants.
92 Pupil-teachers.
6 Work-mistresses.

Total..... 203

They are thus classified :—

Teachers and Assistants.

Teachers.	First Class.		Second Class.		Third Class.			Not classified.
	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	C.	
Teachers.....	5	5	27	8	7	3	2	2
Assistants.....	...	1	11	17	8	9	...	...
Totals.....	5*	6	38	25	15	12	2	2

Pupil-teachers.

Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.
32	19	18	23

On Saturday mornings all Pupil-teachers attend the Wickham Superior Public School, a central and suitable place, for special instruction in singing, drawing, Latin, and French. These classes are conducted by competent and earnest teachers.

As a body, the teachers are devoted to their work, are conscientious in the discharge of their duties, and are exemplary in their conduct.

Existing conditions favour the progress of primary education in this portion of the Maitland District.

Newcastle, 8th January, 1889,

J. M'CORMACK,
Inspector.

ANNEX W.

MR. INSPECTOR LONG'S REPORT.

At the end of 1887 there were in operation in the Dungog Section of the Maitland District, 78 schools. During the year 1888 one school was closed, and five new schools were opened. Three Provisional Schools were raised to the rank of Public Schools. The schools at the end of the year numbered 82, and consist of 57 Public Schools, 10 Provisional, 12 Half-time, and 3 House-to-house. New buildings have been provided for three schools, and in eighteen cases repairs or improvements have been effected. Details of the nature and cost of these have been furnished in a separate schedule.

The buildings in use at the beginning of the year sufficed for 4,179 pupils. The places gained during the year numbered 165, and 128 places have been lost, so that there is now in this section school-room accommodation for 4,216 pupils. The largest enrolment for any quarter was 2,862, while the average attendance for the year was 2,056.3. As regards the distribution of the schoolroom space, it may be stated that in every instance it is at least sufficient. The buildings are centrally situated and, with two exceptions, are in good condition, while all are liberally provided with educational appliances.

During

During the year every school received a regular or general inspection, and 58 an ordinary or second inspection. Several were further visited incidentally or under special instructions. In the following table is shown the condition of each school in relation to standard at the time of its inspection :—

Above Standard.	Up to Standard.	Below Standard.
Clareval	Aliceton	Hannah Bay
Rosenthal	Johnson's Creek	Dusodie
Barrington	Williamtown	Lostock
Bandon Grove	Moonan Flat	Vacy
Dungog	Gresford	Moonan Brook
Munni	Halton	Salisbury
Upper Hunter	Brookfield	Colstoun
Caergurle	Crawford River	Salt Ash
Oakendale	Davis Creek	Rouchel
Thalaba	Clarence Town	Goorangoola
Copeland North	Ravensworth	Eccleston
Paterson	North	Stroud
Holmes Creek	Welshman's	Seaham
Ellerston.	Creek	Boolambayte
	Telegherry	Stewart's Brook
	Eagleton	Cross Creek
	Girvan	Wortwell
	Tea-tree	Nelson's Bay.
	Campsie	
		Malvern
		Bendolba
		Markwell
		Limeburner's
		Creek
		Gundy
		Mount Rivers
		Croom Park
		Hawk's Nest
		Monkerai
		Tea Gardens
		Carrow Brook
		Nerong
		Rouchel Vale
		Lamb's Valley
		Big Creek
		Sugarloaf Creek
		Tabule Creek
		Bulladelah
		Myall, Upper
		Booral
		Ward's River
		Belltrees
		Chichester
		Bunnabunoo
		Mount Pleasant
		Glen William
		Binglebrah
		Gloucester
		Page's River
		Atherton
		Bowman's Creek
		Carrabolla
		Page's Creek
		Waverley.

The number of schools, therefore, whose efficiency is up to or above standard is 49, constituting 59 per cent. of those inspected. This is satisfactory in so far that it is an improvement of 7 per cent. on the results of the preceding year, but, that so many schools should appear as below standard must certainly indicate defective efficiency in the case of a considerable number of teachers. In some few instances the teachers cannot be held responsible for this failure, either because their schools have been but recently established, as in the case of Gloucester, Tea Gardens, Page's River, and Waverley, or because of special obstacles beyond their control. The teachers of 6 schools which appear under the least creditable of the above headings, have, during the year, been replaced by successors who give promise of improved efficiency, and it is to be hoped that the others will, in future, manifest that increase in diligence or skill which has been pointed out to them as necessary.

The number of pupils examined in the several subjects, and the percentages whose proficiency was found to be satisfactory, or creditable, is given in the following table :—

Subjects.	No. Examined.	Percentage up to or above Standard.
Reading.....	2,108	85
Writing.....	2,108	88
Arithmetic.....	2,108	74
Grammar.....	944	64
Geography.....	950	63
English history.....	683	55
Australian history.....	333	62
Scripture.....	1,930	76
Object lessons.....	1,295	75
Drawing.....	633	70
Music.....	888	83
Euclid.....	53	38
Needlework.....	631	95
Drill.....	941	69
Dictation.....	1,555	63

These results are higher than those of the former year in all subjects but three, and may be accepted as indicating some improvement in the average efficiency of the teaching. The organization of the schools, so far as the teacher is accountable, and the discipline, are, as a rule, characterised by highly commendable diligence, judgment, and skill. Defects of a serious nature in regard to the former were found in 10 schools only, and in but 17 was the discipline of less than average quality. Excellent order, and careful attention to neatness, and propriety of appearance, are almost invariably observed. In some instances, however, teachers do not exhibit an intelligent comprehension of the methods by which good discipline should be secured. They fail to exert proper personal influence, and resort to means appropriate in extreme cases only, with a frequency which is suggestive of defective judgment, self-control, and disciplinary ability.

There are employed under my supervision 77 teachers, of whom 53 hold classifications ranging from 3C to 2A. As a rule they possess the skill, attainments, and diligence requisite for the successful performance of the duties entrusted to them, and are, further, well-conducted and respected. There are cases in which defective diligence or aptitude is observed, or neglect of the responsibilities involved in the acceptance of the position of teacher, but it is satisfactory to note that these are exceptional, and are diminishing in number. Seven pupil-teachers are employed in this section. They are well-conducted, diligent, and useful, and all, so far as is at present known, have, during the year, been successful in their examinations for promotion.

Summary.

The schools in this section are sufficient in number, properly situated, and in good condition in a material sense. The educational results, though unsatisfactory in certain schools, show an improvement as compared with those of the preceding year. Alterations already effected, and in prospect, warrant the anticipation of higher average results in the future.

Sydney, 16th January, 1889.

GEORGE ED. LONG,
Inspector.

ANNEX X.

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR FLASHMAN'S REPORT.

THE boundaries of the section under my supervision are the same this year as they were last.

At the beginning of the year the following schools were in operation :—

Public.....	38
Provisional.....	10
Half-time.....	20
House-to-house.....	3
	—
Total.....	71
	—

The

The public school at Muscle Creek and the Half-time Schools at Castle Rock, Sandy Creek, Gungal, and Worrolong have, in consequence of diminished attendance, been closed during the year.

A Public School at Middle Falbrook, Provisional Schools at Wagoribil and Turill, and House-to-house Schools at Rosemount and Lower Munmurra, have been opened.

It has been decided to re-open the school at Muscle Creek as a House School, and that at Worrolong as a Provisional. Applications have been received and granted for schools at Cattle Creek and Cooba Bulga, near Cassilis.

The year closed with the following schools in operation :—

Public	38
Provisional	12
Half-time	16
House-to-house.....	5
Total	71

Accommodation has been provided for 3,629 pupils, while the number of names on the roll during any quarter of the year has not exceeded 2,400. There is no school where the number of seats is not equal to the attendance. Most of the buildings are fairly well placed as regards the school population, and I believe that some school is within easy reach of nearly every child of school age in the district.

The school-buildings at Denman, Seone, Jerry's Plains, Dunbar's Creek, Kayuga, Owen's Gap and Broke have been repainted, and minor repairs have been effected in connection with several other buildings.

As a general rule the teachers are careful of the property placed under their charge. Most of the school-rooms are neat and clean; it is very seldom that there is any need to complain of dirty rooms. When such is necessary, other and more serious defects are almost certain to be present. It is rare indeed, to find a successful teacher in dirty or untidy surroundings.

Several of the play-grounds have been planted with ornamental trees. The almost total absence of rain during the greater part of the year, has made it very difficult to keep the trees alive, and only those teachers who take more than average interest in their homes have been successful.

All the schools in the section were fully inspected once, and most of them received a second or ordinary inspection :—

No. of schools that received a Regular Inspection.	No. that received an Ordinary Inspection.	Total No. of Inspections.
73	60	135

The following table shows the relation of the schools to the standard of proficiency :—

Schools.	Below Standard.	Up to Standard.	Above Standard.	Total.
Public	3	3	33	39
Provisional	3	3	5	11
Half-time	3	3	14	20
House-to-house .....	.....	.....	5	5
Total	9	9	57	75

Last year 12 schools failed to reach the standard requirements; this year 9 failed. This is to a certain extent satisfactory. At the same time it must be remembered that 50 per cent. of the possible number of marks obtainable is not a very high standard, and I hope before very long ever school in this district will be at least "up to standard."

The conviction is forcing itself upon me that the number of teachers content with the mark "Tolerable" is on the increase. It is generally supposed that a school must obtain at least that mark to escape censure. My opinion is that a trained teacher who is satisfied with such a result plainly indicates that his training and experience have to a large extent been a failure. A first or second class teacher who can produce results equal only to those obtained by untrained teachers certainly is not compensating the State for the expense of his education and training.

The subjects, the number of pupils examined in each, and the percentage that satisfied the Standard, are given below :—

Subject.	Number Examined.	Percentage up to Standard.
Reading	1,880	92
Writing	1,864	96
Arithmetic	1,825	71
Grammar	671	86
Geography	772	86
History—English.....	605	84
" Australian.....	314	97
Scripture	1,440	90
Object lessons	1,038	92
Drawing	650	78
Music	1,360	87
Euclid	97	76
Algebra	38	100
Mensuration	59	91
Latin	38	100
Natural science.....	118	100
Needlework	526	100
Drill.....	1,075	88

The results obtained this year are as a whole much higher than those of last. This I attribute in some measure to the fact that many of the small schools are now in charge of young men who have had some experience as pupil-teachers. These young persons being excluded for various reasons from the

the advantages of the Training School, know that if they are to make any headway in their profession it must almost entirely depend upon their success in the management of their schools. Consequently they devote their whole energy and attention to their work. Their one aim appears to be to prepare their pupils to successfully deal with the inspector's tests and so obtain a good report. There is a healthy rivalry between them which imparts an enthusiasm to their teaching, which reacts upon the pupils in a pleasing manner. The scattering of these semi-trained teachers must have the effect of raising the general character of the instruction in the country districts.

Arithmetic has improved considerably. Yet I am far from being satisfied with the results obtained. Seventy-two per cent. only obtained half the number of possible marks. It is in the higher rules that the low results are obtained; the simple rules are fairly well taught.

Mental arithmetic has received more attention during the year. The number of teachers who are beginning to see its value is fast increasing.

Drawing does not receive that attention which its importance demands; it is not at all uncommon to find a teacher who possesses two or three certificates for drawing almost entirely neglecting the subject, or teaching it in such a manner as to give the impression that his knowledge of the subject is of the most elementary kind.

The organization and discipline generally are still of a very satisfactory character; in most schools there is little to find fault with and much to commend.

The teachers employed are classified as follows:—

Schools.	Class II.		Class III.			Unclassified.	Total.
	A.	B.	A.	B.	C.		
Public	2	3	11	8	9	6	39
Provisional ...	...	...	...	...	2	10	12
Half-time .....	...	...	...	1	4	3	8
House-to-house.....	...	...	...	...	...	5	5
	2	3	11	9	15	24	64

There are 7 pupil-teachers all of whom have gained promotion during the year.

The number of unclassified teachers is still large; most of them are in charge of small bush schools where they are doing satisfactory work. As a body the teachers are respected; they are industrious, painstaking, and reliable.

There are school Savings Banks opened at Muscleebrook, Scone, Murrurundi, Denman, and Jerry's Plains; they have in each case been very successful.

Muscleebrook, 29th December, 1888.

C. O. FLASHMAN,
Inspector.

ANNEX Y.

DISTRICT INSPECTOR O'BYRNE'S REPORT.

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the information of the Minister, my report on the condition of the schools in the Wagga Wagga District for the year 1888.

The boundaries of the district are the same as described in last year's report, and the inspectorial staff remains the same. In consequence of the extensive area of the Hay Section, it was found necessary at the beginning of the year to lighten the work assigned to Mr. Assistant Inspector Maclardy. This was done by the transference of 5 schools to the Wagga, and 4 to the Albury Section.

The number of schools in operation for the whole or some portion of the year was 330. Eleven of these were closed on account of low attendance, thus leaving 319 in actual operation on 31st December.

During the year 18 new schools were opened where none existed before. These were at the following places: Murrleball, Gregadoo, Gwynne, Gobbagumblin, Bull Plains, Jubilee Downs, Overton, Manus, Black's Camp, near Gundagai, Keajura Creek, Kyamba, Boginderra, Ferncliffe, Toual, Kildary, Pooncairie, Mia Mia, and Tori.

The schools closed during the course of the year were situated at Rowan, Jones' Creek, Jingellic, Mountain Creek, Milbrulong, Wyangle, Barwong, Cullagong, Birrego, Narrama, and Toganmain. It is expected that most of these schools will be reopened in the near future. The loss of a family from a locality is sufficient to cause the temporary breaking up of many of the small schools. Persons not conversant with the circumstances of country schools would be led to conclude that the Department shows want of forethought in erecting buildings that, after a short period, are not required. This would be a very erroneous conclusion. The aim of the Department is to meet the educational wants wherever ascertained, and it is not possible, in all cases, to foresee that settlers will sell out their holdings to their neighbours. There certainly is some waste of power in this direction, but it is better that this should be than that any centre of settlement should be left without its school. In last year's report I pointed out that the natural desire for enlarging estates is one of the main factors at work in closing schools in settled districts. My observations during the year now closed bear out that conclusion.

Arrangements have been completed for opening new schools at the following places: Kimo, Boombolo, Yellow Waterhole, Winchenden, Cuthero, Eaglehawk, Acacia Dam, Alma, Euriowie, Mount Brown, and Purnamoota. The last six are in the neighbourhood of the Barrier Range. In this part of the Colony a couple of schools might have been established with advantage some months back, but the rapid change of population in these parts could not be foreseen in the early part of the year, when the inspector visited it, and the remoteness of the place, and pressure of other work prevented him from making the necessary inquiries to enable him to report on the applications. These matters, however, have now been attended to. It may be said, generally, that the action of the Department in providing new schools in the Wagga District has been kept fairly abreast of ascertained requirements.

Accommodation.

The school-buildings provide ample accommodation for all requirements. Only in a very few places is there anything like overcrowding, and in these prompt action has been taken to adjust the accommodation to the attendance. At the end of 1887 the school-houses provided accommodation for 17,231 pupils, and by new schools and additions, there is now room for 17,779. This is exclusive of the new schools mentioned above as ready for occupation. A comparison of these figures with the average attendance will show that in providing accommodation, the Department is well ahead of all reasonable wants. Indeed, in a matter of this kind, there is very little fear of falling behind requirements.

A contrary danger is more to be apprehended, as Local Boards and the public generally are very keen to obtain expenditure on new buildings. I have endeavoured to exercise the strictest economy in the matter of buildings and repairs, whilst seeing, at the same time, that nothing absolutely necessary has been left undone. By the policy of resisting all unnecessary demands I am satisfied that considerable savings have been effected.

The schools have been kept well supplied with furniture and all necessary working appliances.

Inspection.

Inspection.

The number of schools regularly inspected was 322, leaving 8 not examined. Five of these were in the Hay Section, 2 in Albury, and 1 in Yass. The gentlemen in charge of these sections give satisfactory reasons in their own reports for these omissions.

As in former years, the inspections were of a searching character. Every pupil was tested in all the subjects prescribed for his class. Deductions for high age and long enrolment were more rigidly enforced than in former years. By these means we have aimed at keeping up a ratio between the time at school and the progress made by each pupil. The gentlemen associated with me in the work of inspection all bear testimony to the practical utility of this mode of examining. The deductions spoken of will, I think, account for the slight falling off in the attainments as compared with last year.

The number of pupils examined in 1887 was 9,532, and in 1888 we tested 10,446. The following table exhibits the proficiency in all the principal subjects for these two years:—

	1887.	1888.
Reading	83.5	80
Writing	86.5	84
Arithmetic.....	72.6	68
Grammar	76.7	73
Geography.....	84.9	78
History.....	74.6	83
Scripture	85.0	75

For special reasons, the following schools underwent a second regular examination:—Dalton, Stony Creek, Deniliquin, and Moama.

We are indebted to the Deputy Chief Inspector, Mr. Bridges, for valuable aid in the inspection of 6 of the more important schools. These visits from the Chief Inspector's office, of a man of such large experience, are of the greatest possible utility, as tending to preserve uniformity of inspection. All inspectors' reports are examined by the Deputy Chief, and, therefore, he has special opportunities of noticing any deviation from the aims of the standard.

Forty-one ordinary inspections were made during the year, besides a very great number of incidental visits. Each ordinary inspection takes nearly a day to complete it, but the incidental visits are of a less formal character, and involve no writing unless grave errors are revealed. I paid a second visit to 48 out of the 61 schools in the Wagga Section, and, as District Inspector, visited a large number of schools in the other sections.

The subjoined table shows the number and the various kinds of schools in the district, as also the number that received a regular inspection:—

	Public.		Provisional.	Half-time.	House-to-house.	Total.
	Schools.	Departments				
(a) Opened during year 1888 or part thereof	234	245	66	6	13	330
(b) Number that received regular inspection	231	242	62	6	12	322
(c) Number that did not receive regular inspection	3	3	4	...	1	8
(d) Number that received ordinary inspection	35	37	3	...	1	41

Of the 322 schools examined, 248 were either equal to or above the standard; that is 77 per cent. were found to be in a fair or very satisfactory condition.

The number of teachers and pupil-teachers employed to work the schools to which this report refers is 410. The following table shows the ranks or grades they hold in the service:—

Section.	Teachers.								Pupil-teachers.					Total Teachers and Pupil-teachers.
	I A.	I B.	II A.	II B.	IIIA.	IIIB.	IIIC.	Unclassed	Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Probationers.	
Albury ..	1	7	9	15	10	14	34	1	7	2	7	1	108	
Hay....	1	12	4	10	18	6	25	3	3	3	6	...	91	
Wagga ..	2	11	4	11	14	7	20	5	2	2	7	2	87	
Yass ..	1	1	10	4	13	13	41	6	3	4	5	...	124	
Totals	1	5	40	21	54	60	120	15	15	11	25	3	410	

I am able to speak in favourable terms of the industry, good conduct, and general bearing of the teachers. As a rule, they win the confidence and respect of the people amongst whom they live. Of course, among such a large staff, occasional dissatisfaction will arise, but we had no very serious complaint to deal with during the year. As hitherto, the pupil-teachers have proved themselves thoroughly efficient.

Attendance Branch.

There are two Attendance Officers employed in the district—one at Wagga, and one at Deniliquin. I am not very well satisfied with the present arrangement; the officer at Wagga has more than he can do, and the one at Deniliquin is sometimes without work. During the year there were 368 cases brought into Court, and in 252 of these convictions were obtained; 1,124 parents were cautioned by letter.

Summary.

The total number of pupils enrolled for any portion of the year was 18,902, and the average attendance was 10,172. The number of pupils examined was 10,446. The fees paid amounted to £5,644 19s. 6½d. These figures show a moderate increase in each item for the year now closed.

Wagga Wagga, 12th January, 1888.

G. O'BYRNE,
District Inspector.

ANNEX Z.

INSPECTOR LAWFORD'S REPORT.

I HAVE the honor to submit my general report for the year 1888.

The boundaries of the Yass Section are practically the same this year as they were last. At the end of 1887 there were in operation 101 schools, of which the following 4 have been closed during the current year.

School.	Giving places for.
Fisher's Creek	40
Trigalong	28
Barwang	33
Cullagong	14

Total places lost 115

The first two were not open during any part of the year, and Cullagong was only open for the first two weeks in January.

The following schools are new, and are in places where there were no schools before :—

Name.	Room for.	Built by.	Cost.
Boginderra	15	Local Committee.	£45
Ferncliffe	8	„	nil
Toual	15	„	nil
Boambolo	21	„	£60
Total	59		£105

Boambolo was only finished in December, too late for a teacher to be sent there this year.

A new school has been built by the residents at Milong, at no expense to the Department, to replace that burned down, giving places for 40 children.

A new school has been built at Wargela by the inspector at a cost of £90, to replace the old one, giving additional places for 19 children.

The Provisional School at Geegullalong was converted during the year into a Public School, and was enlarged and repaired by the inspector at a cost of £27 7s. 7d., giving places for 10 more children.

Repairs and improvements were made at 13 schools by the inspector, at a cost of £201 7s.

Adequacy of School Accommodation.

At the beginning of the year there were places for 5,611 children ; by the closing of the 4 schools above mentioned, 115 places have been lost, but the new schools and extra room given by the larger size of the new buildings, or by additions, provide fresh places for 128 children. There is thus a net gain of 13 places, and room now for 5,624 children.

No new residences have been built, but tenders for one at Derringullen are under consideration.

One new weathershed, at Bendenine, has been built at a cost of £13 16s.

Applications for new schools were dealt with at Cavendale (renewed) and Narellan, and refused ; but were granted at Caulderwood, Broken Dam, and Wee Jasper, subject to the residents putting up the necessary buildings at their own expense.

There is therefore exactly the same number of schools in actual operation at the end of this year as there was at the end of 1887 and 1886, viz., 101 ; but Boambolo will probably start at the beginning of next year or very soon after.

The total number of schools open during the year or any part of the year is 103, of which 97 have been open during the whole year, and 6 during a part only.

All these have been fully inspected once, excepting Cullagong, which, as mentioned above, was only open during the first fortnight of the year, and collapsed unexpectedly, so that it was impossible to visit it. Ordinary inspections have been made at 4 schools, time not allowing of any more of these inspections being held.

As regards the adequacy of the means of education in this district, there is nothing to add to what was said last year. As then the number of schools closed balances the new ones.

The actual condition of the schools as elicited by inspection is not so good this year, 77 per cent. being up to or above the standard as against 92 per cent. last year ; but it is possible that a stricter application of the standards is responsible for this, and the percentage is good when all things are taken into account, and will probably compare very well with other districts.

There is no reason to suppose that next year will not produce as good or better results.

Attendance Branch.

The school attendance and payments officers have now been for a complete year and a half under the District Inspector, and although not under the inspectors, yet such officers in the country districts have to deal with all the forms relating to the enforcement of the compulsory clauses of the Act, and the collection of fees in arrear, or their remission in cases of poverty. The efficacy of that portion of the Act is thus brought more thoroughly under their notice than in former years.

By clause 20 parents and guardians are obliged to send all children between the ages of 6 and 14 to school for seventy days in each half year ; unless—

1. The child is being regularly and efficiently instructed in some other manner.
2. The child has been sick.
3. Or lives beyond 2 miles from a school.
4. Or has been educated up to the standard.

And the next clause provides the penalty on conviction of the first offence of a fine not exceeding 5s., and for succeeding offences a fine not exceeding £1, and in default, imprisonment for a term not exceeding seven days.

Forms are sent to all teachers, on which it is their duty to report the names of all children of the school age whose homes are within 2 miles of the school, at the end of every quarter. These are sent to the inspector, and it becomes his duty to recommend prosecution or otherwise. When a case is taken into Court the burden of proof is on the prosecution, and it sometimes happens that a case is dismissed from inability on the part of the prosecution to prove that the child is *not* being regularly and efficiently instructed in some other manner. This is especially the case with regard to private schools. There is no means of compelling the managers of such to record the attendance of their pupils, nor to disclose the number of days they have attended, even if they can do so. This in towns affords an easy method by which the Act may be evaded.

Then, when the evidence is complete, it sometimes happens that the Magistrates take a sentimental view of a case, and dismiss it without any just cause.

When a conviction is obtained the fines in most cases are very light, the fine on a first conviction being generally 1s., and the costs amount to about 5s. more, so that, assuming a parent intended to defy

defy the law, he might keep his child at home entirely and save 12s. a year by having no school fees to pay. It is a Departmental rule that no parent should be prosecuted who has not first been cautioned. Take the case of a useful boy of 12, whose father finds his work on a farm worth a good deal of money. The boy is kept at home entirely; at the end of six months the father is cautioned; at the end of a year he is prosecuted, and fined 1s., and 4s. 10d. costs; so that on the first year he actually saves 6s. 2d. in non-payment of school fees. The boy is then 13, and the father has to stand two more prosecutions, which cost him at the outside £2 10s., but more probably about 30s. As the boy's labour is probably worth ten times the first sum, he can cheerfully afford to pay the highest fine the Bench can impose.

This is not the time or place to suggest remedies, but it is submitted that the Act is defective in the following respects:—

1. That the onus of proving that a child is *not* being efficiently educated is thrown on the prosecution.
2. That there are no means of compelling a disclosure of the attendance at private schools.
3. That the maximum fine allowed for second and subsequent offences is too low.

Yass, 31st December, 1888.

L. E. LAWFORD,
Inspector.

ANNEX Z 1.

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR WRIGHT'S REPORT.

THERE were 94 schools open in the Albury Section of the Wagga Wagga District during some portion of the year 1888, 4 of which—Jingellic Public, Mountain Creek Provisional, Milbrulong Provisional, and Wyangle Half-time—were closed, owing to the low attendance.

During the year 7 new schools were opened, viz., 5 Provisional—Bull Plain, Jubilee Downs, Keajura Creek, Overton, and Manus; 1 Half-time at the Black's Camp, near Brungle, and 1 House School at Kyamba. There are now in operation 90 schools, viz.:—

60 Public,
17 Provisional,
6 Half-time,
7 House-to-house,

and the teaching staff of the district consists of 87 principal teachers and mistresses, 3 assistants, and 18 pupil-teachers, whose classifications are shown in the following tables:—

TEACHERS.

	I B.	II A.	II B.	III A.	III B.	III C.	Unclassed.	Totals.
Principals and mistresses.	1	6	7	15	10	14	34	87
Assistants .....	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Totals.....	1	7	9	15	10	14	34	90

PUPIL-TEACHERS.

	Cl. I.	Cl. II.	Cl. III.	Cl. IV.	Probationers.	Total.
Pupil-teachers	1	7	2	7	1	18

The educational wants of the district are very fairly met by the schools in operation, and the opening of schools at Burrumbuttock East, Round Water Hole, Ellerslie, and Major's Plains in 1889, will leave but little room for the establishment of schools in this district.

Inspection.

All the schools but 2 open during the year received a regular inspection, one of the two omitted being Jingellic, which closed early in the year, and the other, Manus, which was not opened until December, too late for inspection. Two schools received a second regular inspection, and twenty ordinary inspections were made, while incidental visits were paid to a large number of schools.

The school lately opened for the aboriginals near Brungle was inspected by Mr. District Inspector O'Byrne, who has included the statistics relating to it in his report.

Of the other 91 schools inspected 53 were above, 14 up to, and 24 below the standard in efficiency; that is, 73.6 per cent. of the schools satisfied the requirements. This coincides exactly with the results obtained last year, and so confirms the statement made in my last report, that this percentage represents very fairly the results our teachers can obtain.

The organization and discipline of the schools have been, as heretofore, very satisfactory.

The attainments of the pupils in the principal subjects of examination are shown in the subjoined summary:—

Subject.	Pupils Examined.	Percentage up to or above Standard.
Reading	2,584	82.3
Writing	2,573	92.3
Dictation.....	2,066	71.2
Arithmetic	2,380	77.9
Grammar	911	69.3
Geography	943	79.5
English history	795	73.0
Australian history	230	72.1
Scripture.....	2,335	80.0
Object lessons	1,647	90.4
Singing	1,776	85.1
Drill	2,430	89.5

In some subjects, notably Australian history, geography, and reading, there is a falling off in the attainments, but the results obtained in these subjects are still high, while in arithmetic and dictation, which in former years have been weak, there is a decided improvement.

Adequacy

Adequacy of School Accommodation.

At the beginning of the year places were provided for 4,484 pupils, but ninety-eight of these places have been lost through the closing of schools, &c. The new schools erected or rented provide accommodation for 182 pupils, as follows:—

Schools.	Vested or rented.	New or to replace old	Places for.	Cost.
Culeairn.....	Vested	To replace old	21	£60
Manus	"	New	15	£45
Black's Camp	"	"	24	.....
Overton.....	Rented	"	25	.....
Jubilee Downs	"	"	17	.....
Bull Plain.....	"	"	10	.....
Kyamba.....	"	"	20	.....

Thus there is a gain for the year of thirty-four places, so that there is now accommodation for 4,518 pupils, this being ample for all probable contingencies.

Repairs and additions have been effected at 19 schools, and information respecting these is given below:—

Minor repairs have been executed at 15 schools under the supervision of the Inspector at a total cost of £197 14s.

Four schools have been repaired by the architect at a cost of £369 5s. 6d.

In addition to these, repairs are in progress at 6 schools, involving an expenditure of £445, and improvements to 5 schools have been sanctioned, the estimated cost of which is £500.

Summary.

To sum up, the educational wants of the district are well met, the teaching staff is complete, and the teachers as a body are well adapted for their work. The efficiency of the schools is very satisfactory, and there is every reason to believe that in all respects equally high results will be obtained next year.

STEWART WRIGHT.

Albury, 31st December, 1888.

ANNEX Z 2.

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR MACLARDY'S REPORT.

In January last I was relieved of the supervision of the following 9 schools:—Public, Berrigan, Clarendon, Cooba Creek, Mitta Mitta, Nangunia, Nangus, and Tocumwall; Provisional, Billabong and Leniston, and there were left in this section of the district 69 schools, classed as follows:—Public, 49; Provisional, 17; and House-to-house, 3.

Of these, the Provisional Schools at Birrego and Narama were closed early in the year on account of the diminution in the attendance. The Public School at Toganmain has also been closed since June last for the same reason. There is a probability, however, of this last school being reopened next year.

The Provisional Schools at Cuddell Siding, Lower North Berry Jerry, and Tibooburra, were during the year, converted to Public.

The designation of the Public School at Woodlands, near Moama, was changed to Altcar, as confusion had arisen from the fact that a post town in another district had already received the former name.

During the year the following new schools were opened:—Provisional, at Kildary (on the boundary of the Buddigower and Kildary Runs), and at Pooncairie (Darling River); House-to-house, at Mia Mia (Wakool River), and at Tori (near Lake Tori).

Altogether there were in operation during the year or some portion thereof, 73 schools, viz., 49 Public in 52 departments, 16 Provisional, and 5 House-to-house.

After further inquiry it was decided to establish a Provisional School at Cuthero (Darling River), for which the application had been declined last year. Schools are also to be established at the following places:—Public, at Alma (South Broken Hill), and Eaglehawk (Mount Gipps); Provisional, at Euriowie (Poolamacca Tin Mines), Mount Browne (near Milparinka), Uley and Winchenden Vale (near Coolaman). The application for a Provisional School at Bunyip (near Jerilderie) was declined, but the residents were informed that an itinerant teacher would be appointed if they provided the necessary school accommodation.

The school buildings provided by the residents at Cuthero and Ivanhoe are now ready for occupation, and these schools will be opened as soon as practicable. The residents at Merrowie Creek have not yet provided the necessary school accommodation for a House-to-house School at that place.

During the year school buildings were erected at the following places:—Ivanhoe, Kildary, Lower North Berry Jerry, Mimosa East, and Pooncairie, 5 under local Committees and 1 under the District Inspector. Three of these were new, and 2 to replace old buildings. The residents at Mia Mia and Tori also provided the necessary House-to-house school accommodation at these places.

The buildings rented for school purposes at South Marowie were burnt down, through accident, last July. The Stewards of the Hillston Jockey Club kindly lent their Committee room (which is situated about half-a-mile from the site of the old school) for use as a school, pending the completion of the new school buildings, which, I have just been informed, are now ready for inspection. School buildings are also in course of erection at Broken Hill, Euriowie, Kindra, Mount Browne, and Tibooburra, and a new class-room is being built at Silverton. The buildings at Broken Hill and Silverton are under the supervision of the architect, the rest under that of local committees. The probable cost to the Department of those being erected under local committees, including the school buildings at Cuthero, which are complete and ready for inspection, will be £577 10s., and the additional accommodation 185 places.

Teachers' residences, under the supervision of the architect, were erected at Broken Hill and Round Hill.

The removal of the Maloga Black Mission, referred to in last year's report, was finally determined on by the Aborigines' Protection Association. This necessitated the removal of the school buildings to the new site, 3 miles distant from the old one. This was accordingly done, and the buildings were also enlarged, to afford accommodation for the increased attendance. The work was under the supervision of the inspector. The new position is called by the aborigines "Cummeragunja," and as the place is totally distinct from Maloga, this name has been suggested as the new designation of the school. The exact position of the new Mission Station was for some considerable time undetermined, and as the aborigines had in the meantime left the old station, and had not settled themselves in any definite place, the school was closed for about three months.

Several minor repairs, improvements, &c. to school buildings have been effected, when and where required, under the supervision of the Inspector, and at a cost to the Department of £108 15s. 6d.

The accommodation provided by the school buildings in operation at the beginning of the year was 4,555 places. By the closing of schools, &c., 223 places were lost, and by the erection of new buildings, &c., 296 places were gained, or an increase of 63 places; so that at the close of the year the accommodation provided by existing schools is 4,618 places. This accommodation, together with that being provided by buildings

buildings in course of erection, is sufficient for present requirements. Cases where additional accommodation is found necessary are dealt with as they arise, and wherever there appears a reasonable probability that a sufficient number of children can be collected in a central position, or in groups within a reasonable radius the means of education are provided either in the form of Provisional Schools or of House-to-house teaching stations.

The following schools were not inspected this year:—Public—Milparinka and Toganmain; Provisional—Birrego and Narama; and House-to-house, Tori.

The school at Milparinka, situated about 450 miles north-west from Hay, was closed when I visited that portion of the district. Toganmain Public was closed for the last six months, and I was unable to visit it during the first six months of the year. The Provisional Schools at Birrego and Narama were closed early in the year, and the House-to-house School at Tori was only opened last month.

Of the 68 schools inspected, one—Juneo Reefs Provisional—was inspected by the District Inspector. Deniliquin Primary Public and Moama Public received second regular inspections from the Deputy-Chief Inspector and the District Inspector. Two schools received ordinary inspections, and I also received a second regular inspection from myself. That no other school received a second inspection was due to the first six months of the year being taken up by special trips to the extreme south, east, and west of the district, and by the tour of inspection in the north-west corner of the Colony, beyond the Darling. These trips so interfered with the work of inspection that by the end of June only 16 schools had been inspected. During the last six months fifty-three inspections were made, but my continued ill-health interfered largely with the work of inspection.

The number of pupils examined in the several subjects, and the results of inspection, together with a comparison with those of last year, are shown in the following table:—

Subjects.	1887.		1888.	
	Number of pupils Examined.	Percentage up to or above Standard.	Number of pupils Examined.	Percentage up to or above Standard.
Reading.....	2,375	66·8	2,402	54·4
Writing.....	2,375	69·5	2,402	61·2
Arithmetic	1,888	59·9	1,935	57·4
Grammar	744	65·7	777	65·2
Geography	782	76·4	829	66·3
History—				
English	504	71·2	574	52·6
Australian.....	147	80·2	148	72·9
Scripture	2,311	70·0	2,395	65·7
Object lessons	1,356	76·4	1,327	73·5
Drawing	504	67·6	577	62·0
Music.....	1,960	65·0	1,910	69·0
French			4	75·0
Euclid	44	68·1	71	71·9
Algebra			11	54·5
Mensuration			6	83·3
Latin.....			6	66·6
Natural science			22	81·8
Needlework	709	72·4	879	72·8
Drill	930	67·8	747	74·9

With the exception of grammar, music, euclid, needlework, and drill, the results for this year are below those of last year. This is due to the fact that the requirements of the standards as to the age of the pupils in the several classes have been more strictly enforced. Thus not only is the period of enrolment in class taken into account, but children are expected to commence second class work at 7 years of age, third class work at 8½ years, and so on, as specified by the standards of proficiency. Children were examined according to their period of enrolment in class, and if their ages were beyond that required by the standards for that period of enrolment, a suitable proportion of marks was deducted. It was found necessary to make the greatest deductions in reading and history. Of the other subjects, the percentage of passes in arithmetic approaches most nearly to that of last year, and it must therefore be considered that the results in this subject show decided improvement.

Strenuous efforts are being made to bring the schools in this district into a state of greater efficiency, and I have every hope that these efforts will meet with success.

The following tables show the number and classification of the teachers and pupil-teachers under my supervision.

1. Teachers.

Office.	I A.	I B.	II A.	II B.	III A.	III B.	III C.	Prob.	Totals.
Principal or Mistress	1	11	4	8	14	6	25	69
Assistant	1	...	2	4	...	...	7
Totals.....	...	1	12	4	10	18	6	25	76

2. Pupil-teachers.

Class I.	Class II.	Class III.	Class IV.	Totals.
3	3	3	6	15

In this district a great difficulty has been found in obtaining suitable applicants for employment in small schools. Teachers, who are qualified for training applicants, have been instructed to look out for such persons, but they report in nearly all cases that they cannot find suitable persons. Four applicants were examined by me this year, but only one was deemed eligible for employment.

With the exception of the schools in the oldest established centres, and in the mining districts of the Barrier Ranges and Mount Browne, the number of pupils enrolled is steadily decreasing. This is due to the unsettled condition of the population of this extensive district, through the tendency of the land to revert into large holdings. In other respects the educational condition of the district is satisfactory.

Hay, 29th December, 1888.

J. D. ST. CLAIR MACLARDY,

Assistant Inspector.

ANNEX

ANNEX Z 3.

DISTRICT INSPECTOR JOHNSON'S REPORT.

Two hundred and twenty-four schools of all classes commenced work in this district in January last, but 6 of these were closed during the year on account of the falling off in the attendance thereat. Eight new schools were brought into operation, and 3 that were closed during the previous year were reopened. There were, therefore, 229 schools in the district at the close of the year. The new schools opened are Goolma Public, Beri Provisional, Suntop Provisional, Plain Creek Provisional, Belairingah Provisional, Gooriannawa House-to-house, Narrango House-to-house, and Pandora's Pass House-to-house; and the schools reopened are Medway House-to-house, Arthurville Provisional, and Inglegar House-to-house. The Public School at Bourke consisted, at the beginning of the year, of a Primary and an Infants' Department, but it being considered advisable to have a separate school for girls, these two were closed and one each for boys and girls opened instead. There are not at present any Evening Schools in this district. The Superior Public Schools are those at Dubbo, Mudgee, and Wellington.

It has been decided to establish new schools at Peabody, Tong Bong, Buckhobble, and Eurimbla, and these will be opened immediately the necessary buildings have been erected. When they shall have started work the educational requirements of every part of this district will be fully met. The population of this part of the Colony increases but slowly, and it is not therefore probable that many new schools will be required in the near future.

New buildings were erected during the year at Goolma, East Tabrabucca, Beri, Suntop, Buggil, Belairingah, Curban, Munderoran, and Plain Creek. Those at Buggil, Curban, and Munderoran replaced old and unsuitable buildings, and the others were erected in places where no schools previously existed. Contracts have also been let for new buildings, including a teacher's residence at Nyngan, for a new schoolroom at Coonabarabran, and for class-rooms at Bourke and Dubbo.

The present school buildings of the district are capable of comfortably seating 10,381 pupils, being an increase of 134 seats made during the year. The enrolment for the September quarter, which is the highest for the year, was 9,431, so that the number of seats provided exceeded the number of pupils enrolled by 950, but as the whole number enrolled is never present at any one time, the excess of seats over the number actually required is considerably greater. With the exception of the schools at Nyngan, Bourke, and Coonabarabran, no schoolroom is overcrowded, and, as before stated, increased accommodation is being provided at these places.

Forty-five buildings were repaired or otherwise improved during the year, namely, those at—

Amaroo	Molong
Botobolar	Mookerawa
Bourke North	Mumbil
Byerock	Mulyan
Canadian Lead	Murrumbidgee
Cobar	Nymagee
Cobbora	Nyngan
Coonamble	Pipeclay Creek
Crudine Creek	Ponto
Cudgegong	Rocky Ponds
Curra Creek	Sally's Flat
Dapper	Sandy Creek
Dubbo	Spring Flat
Eurunderee	Tambaroora
Galwadgerie	Ulamabri
Geuri	Wanaaring
Goodrich	Warkton
Goolma	Wellington
Gulgamree	Wilbertree
Gulgong	Windeyer
Hill End	Yeoval
Lawson's Creek	Yulundry
Minore	

A considerable outlay for repairs will always be necessary in this district, on account of the severity of the climate and the ravages of the white ants. The only safeguard against these latter is the use of the local pine, the timber of which has not so far been attacked by them.

All the schools of the district, except the Evening School at Cobar, which was closed in the early part of the year, received a regular inspection, and 155 schools were inspected a second time, so that 389 inspections were made during the year. Of these, 194 were made by Mr. Inspector Rooney, 89 by Mr. Assistant Inspector Smith, and the remaining 106 by myself.

The number of pupils examined in the various subjects of instruction and the percentages of passes in each for this and the previous year are given in the subjoined table:—

Subject.	1887.		1888.	
	No. of pupils.	Percentages.	No. of pupils.	Percentages.
Reading	6,651	88.7	7,004	90.2
Writing	6,321	94.5	6,872	95.3
Arithmetic	6,139	61.1	6,855	76.8
Grammar	2,485	74.7	2,727	78.8
Geography	2,559	76.7	2,703	83.0
History	2,650	81.6	2,721	83.5
Scripture	5,701	88.3	6,484	89.6
Object lesson	3,493	91.7	3,699	92.1
Drawing	1,966	88.0	2,033	87.4
Music	4,993	92.5	4,931	87.9
French	50	100.0	46	100.0
Euclid	344	97.6	265	96.6
Algebra	46	32.6	90	100.0
Mensuration	252	63.0	272	93.5
Latin	52	100.0	69	100.0
Science	198	100.0	511	100.0

The numbers of pupils examined in each of the more important subjects is greater this year than last, and a very marked improvement has taken place in the percentages of passes. Especially is this so in arithmetic, which satisfactory result is mainly due to the improved methods of handling the subject and

and also to the greater time and attention devoted to it by the teachers generally. On visiting the schools the second time this year, I observed that several teachers had adopted a more intelligent method of teaching arithmetic, and were more careful to see that each point explained was well understood before proceeding to the next. In most schools also copying has almost wholly been suppressed, and thus one of the greatest hindrances to satisfactory progress has been removed.

The teaching, generally speaking, is painstaking and intelligent, but there are some teachers who give very little time to the previous preparation of the various lessons, and, as a result, the subject matter is slovenly and imperfectly treated, and the explanation is often wanting in clearness and is sometimes even incorrect. This is especially noticeable in arithmetic, in object lessons, in the explanation of words, &c., and in the reading lessons. This neglect of previous preparation, both as to matter and method, is sufficient to account for many of the poor results so often obtained at the inspection. If teachers would carefully prepare their lessons beforehand, and at frequent and regular intervals thoroughly examine their pupils on the work done, taking notes of their weak points with the object of afterwards making good the defects; and also, during the various lessons, question rigorously and exhaustively on the subject being taught, much of the, at present, unavoidable fault-finding by the inspectors, would become a thing of the past.

As a rule, the schools of this District are well disciplined, the pupils being orderly, obedient, and well behaved, and the schoolwork being carried on quietly and systematically. In this connection the following schools deserve special mention:—Dubbo Superior Public, Mudgee Superior Public, Hill End Public, and Canadian Lead Public. Many of the smaller bush schools also are admirably conducted.

The various school premises are, with few exceptions, neatly and cleanly kept; but in some few cases, though the schoolrooms are clean, yet the premises have an untidy and uncared for look, and it is very noticeable that when this is the case, the appearance of the majority of the pupils is in keeping therewith. This untidiness is, in some instances, attributable to neglect on the part of the teachers, but I think, in the majority of cases it is the result of unconsciousness on their part.

There is also much improvement observable in the keeping of the school records. Seldom now are the necessary entries found to be either incomplete or incorrect, and the books themselves are carefully preserved. It is in the construction of time-tables and programmes of lessons that the greatest want of judgment and skill is to be noticed. Some few teachers look upon these documents as being intended for show rather than for use, and so take little or no pains with their construction, and when completed, suspend them on the walls of their schoolrooms, and take no further notice of them. In the larger number of schools, however, these documents are skilfully drawn up and their provisions carefully followed.

The condition in relation to the standard of the schools inspected are given hereunder:—

Schools.	Below the Standard.	Up to the Standard.	Above the Standard.	Totals.
Public	27	11	116	154
Provisional	13	4	14	31
Half-time	10	10	14	34
House-to-house.....	4	1	9	14
Evening.....	...	...	1	1
Totals.....	54	26	154	234

That is, 76.9 per cent. of the schools were up to or above the standard, and 23.1 per cent. failed to reach it. This shows a slight improvement on last year.

The quarterly enrolment and average attendance for the years 1887 and 1888 are given in the following table:—

	1887.		1888.	
	Enrolment.	Average.	Enrolment.	Average.
March	9,142	5,858.2	9,244	6,450.9
June	9,238	6,437.0	9,134	6,745.3
September.....	9,072	6,163.4	9,431	6,592.2
December	9,153	6,508.2	9,148	6,436.2

The average attendance for each of the first three quarters of 1888 is greater than for the same periods of 1887, but for the December quarter it is less. The falling off in the attendance towards the end of the year was caused by the elder children being kept at home to drive stock to water, the usual home supply having become exhausted through the long continued drought; and the intense heat during the months of November and December caused many of the younger children to be kept away, especially those living at a distance from school.

The number of pupils returned as having attended for less than seventy days during each half year was—

June	3,964
December	3,640

Of these, however, 566 and 631 were enrolled for the June and December quarters respectively, as pupils of Half-time Schools, and could not, therefore, have made up the full number of days. Legal proceedings were taken against the parents of 119 pupils for short attendance, and 74 of these were convicted and fined in various amounts.

At the beginning of the year the fees in arrear amounted to £354 17s. 5d., and the whole of this would no doubt have been cleared off had it not been for the drought, which in this part of the Colony caused an almost total failure of the farmers' crops, and great loss to all classes of residents. The amount now owing is £137 11s. 2d., the greater part of which has been promised, and consists chiefly of small sums.

The teachers employed in this District are classified as follows :—

Class I.		Class II.		Class III.			Unclassified.	Totals.
A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	C.		
1	2	18	20	43	24	32	85	225

The teachers are as a body industrious, well conducted, and intelligent, and, with few exceptions, they are most anxious to perform their duties with credit to themselves and benefit to their pupils.

Summary.

The present condition of the schools of this district as regards organization, discipline, and instruction, is satisfactory, and an equal, if not increased state of efficiency, may confidently be expected during the year just entered upon.

Wellington, 10th January, 1889.

W. H. JOHNSON,
District Inspector.

ANNEX Z 4.

INSPECTOR ROONEY'S REPORT.

I HAVE the honor to submit this, my general report for 1888 :—

At the termination of the year 1887 there were 93 schools in operation in this portion of the Wellington District, viz. :—

65 Public.
8 Provisional.
16 Half-time.
4 House-to-house.

Total 93

In June last the Public School at Sally's Flat, and the Provisional School at Crudine Creek, were reduced to the rank of Half-time.

The following new schools were opened during the year :—

Goolma (Public).
East Tabrabucca (Provisional).
Narrangerie (House-to-house).
Pandora's Pass (House-to-house).

Now, the end of the present year the number of schools stands thus :—

65 Public.
8 Provisional.
18 Half-time.
6 House-to-house.

Total 97

Narrangerie House-to-house is in future to be worked as a Provisional School.
A Provisional School is in course of erection at Tong Bong.

Organization.

In this portion of the Inspectoral District, the school buildings, with one exception, are suitably and centrally situated.

During the year three new buildings were erected in localities where no schools previously existed. Repairs and improvements of a substantial character have been effected at 18 schools.

All the Public and Provisional Schools, except one, are vested in the Department, and their material condition may be considered as good.

The buildings used for Half-time and for House-to-house Schools are suitable, and in very fair repair. All schools are properly lighted and ventilated.

At the beginning of the year the accommodation afforded by the existing schools was estimated as sufficient for 3,454 pupils. At present accommodation is provided for 3,548 pupils.

The annual returns show that there was an average daily attendance of 2,804 throughout the year.

Enrolment.

The total enrolment for the year amounted to 4,565, and of this number 465 are returned as having attended more than one school. The enrolment and average attendance for each quarter of the year were as follows :—

	Enrolment.	Average Attendance.
1st quarter	3,751	2,710·9
2nd quarter	3,723	2,796·4
3rd quarter	3,817	2,861·9
4th quarter	3,746	2,752·2

The enrolment for the year is 76, and the average attendance 147 more than in 1887. The average attendance is 74 per cent. of the quarterly enrolments, being thus, 2 per cent. greater than that of last year.

Inspection.

Of the 97 schools in operation during the year all received general or regular inspection—91 from myself and 6 from the District Inspector. Two schools received a second regular inspection, and 1 a third. Three schools, not under my supervision, were also examined by me.

All schools received ordinary inspection except Pandora's Pass House-to-house, which was not in operation till 5th December.

The work of inspection may be summed up thus :

103 General and Regular inspections.
99 Ordinary inspections.

The

The number of pupils present at the examination of the 97 schools was 2,895. The proficiency displayed in the various subjects in relation to the standards is given below. The results of the preceding year are also given.

Subjects.	Number of Pupils Examined.	Percentage satisfying Standard.	
		In 1888.	In 1887.
Reading	2,895	95	90
Writing	2,763	97	96
Arithmetic	2,821	89.7	73½
Grammar	1,297	84	80
Geography	1,245	85.7	80
History—English	900	76	76
" Australian	462	81	84
Scripture	2,582	81	83
Object lessons	1,755	95	92
Drawing	916	83	82
Music	2,037	81	93
French	35	100	100
Euclid	128	93	95
Algebra	35	100	100
Mensuration	97	100	73
Latin	24	100	100
Natural science	144	100	100
Trigonometry		None examined.	
Needlework	943	100	100
Drill	1,822	85	98

Reading, arithmetic, object lessons, and mensuration show considerable improvement, but English composition and geography are still imperfectly taught in most schools.

The methods of instruction are suitable, and in nearly all cases, the teaching is painstaking and effective.

The following table shows the efficiency of the schools inspected in relation to the standard :—

Schools.	Below Standard.	Up to Standard.	Above Standard.
Public	3	7	55
Provisional	2	1	5
Half-time	3	5	10
House-to-house	1	1	4
Total	9	14	74

Thus 90 per cent. of the schools satisfied or exceeded the standard.

Pupils from the Public Schools at Hill End and Mudgee were successful at the University examinations held in September.

Teachers.

The teachers of the schools under my supervision are classified as follows :—

I B.....	2
II A.....	7
II B.....	12
III A.....	20
III B.....	12
III C.....	10
Unclassified	29
Total	92
Pupil-teachers—	
Class I.....	10
" II.....	3
" III.....	5
" IV.....	2
Total	20

Only three complaints were made against teachers during the year, and in each case the teacher was exonerated.

The Department's property, on the whole, is well cared for, and the schoolrooms, with one or two exceptions, are clean and cheerful. Proper attention is given to the classification of pupils, and an improvement has taken place in the construction of the lesson guides and in the compilation of the returns.

As a body the teachers are respectable, and are animated with diligence and zeal in the discharge of their duties.

Savings Banks have been established in connection with 5 schools, but in no instance with the success expected.

Summary.

1. This part of the Wellington District is well provided with schools.
2. The material condition of the school buildings is good.
3. The accommodation in most cases exceeds the requirement.
4. The total enrolment and average attendance increased during the year.
5. All schools were fully inspected.
6. The organization of the schools is good.
7. The general discipline is very satisfactory.

In conclusion, it may be stated that good work has been done during the year just ended, and that the prospects for 1889 are very favourable.

Mudgee, 31st December, 1888.

JOHN P. ROONEY,
Inspector.

ANNEX

ANNEX Z 5.

INSPECTOR SMITH'S REPORT.

I HAVE the honor to submit my general report upon the schools in the Dubbo section of the Wellington District for the year 1888.

There were in operation during the year, or some portion thereof, 51 Public, 13 Provisional, 4 Half-time, and 7 House Schools—total, 75 schools. Of these, 2 of the Public were, at the beginning of the year, Provisional Schools, namely, Angledool and Warkton, and Bourke first consisted of a Primary and an Infants' School, which were closed, and Boys' and Girls' Departments opened instead. Yalcogrin Public with New Berida Provisional formed a House School, and the Half-time Schools, Biamble and Caigan, were also converted into a House School, while the House School at Inglegar, which had been closed for some time, was re-opened. Two new Provisional Schools, Belairingah and Plain Creek, and one new House School, Goorianawa, were established during the year in places where no schools had previously existed. Warrumbungul Public School was closed for want of sufficient attendance. The establishment of a House School at Wilga, near Nevertire, and a Provisional School at Mount Billygoe, near Cobar, has been sanctioned by the Minister; and teachers will be appointed thereto immediately after the Christmas vacation. Two or three other applications for House Schools from some of the outlying portions of the district may be expected within a short period, and when these have been attended to it may be taken for granted that the means of education will be well distributed and within easy reach of all classes of the community.

Every school in the Dubbo section of this great and important district received either a regular or a general inspection, one Public School two regular inspections, and twenty-three schools ordinary inspections. The number of inspections in 1885, the year before my appointment, and one most favourable for travelling, was ninety-one, which was slightly in excess of that for 1884; and the number last year, though much time was spent in conducting special examinations of teachers and pupil-teachers, was 91. These special examinations were held in no less than seven different places, namely, Angledool, Bourke, Brewarrina, Cobar, Coonamble, Coonabarabran, and Nymagee. The regular examinations were also held in Dubbo during the months of June and December.

In 1887, out of seventy-eight schools there were:—

Below Standard.	Up to Standard.	Above Standard.
27	8	43

And in 1888, out of seventy-five schools there were:—

Below Standard.	Up to Standard.	Above Standard.
27	3	45

The following table will show the proficiency of the pupils examined:—

Subjects.	Number of pupils examined.	Percentages satisfying Standard.
Reading	2,427	82 per cent.
Writing	2,427	90 "
Arithmetic	2,427	66 "
Grammar	763	65 "
Geography	791	76 "
History—English	604	79 "
" Australian.....	90	100 "
Scripture.....	2,280	92 "
Object Lessons	1,195	89 "
Drawing	613	85 "
Music	1,819	90 "
French	11	100 "
Euclid	83	100 "
Algebra	20	100 "
Mensuration	98	81 "
Latin	20	100 "
Natural Science	208	100 "
Needlework.....	519	93 "
Drill.....	1,662	90 "

The number of children present at examination was greater this year than in 1887. This may be accounted for by the (comparatively speaking) better condition of the roads in the interior of the district. During the September quarter an epidemic of measles broke out, which seriously interfered with school work, and reduced the attendance of scholars.

A statement of the enrolment and average attendance is hereto subjoined:—

Quarters.	No. of Schools.	Enrolment.	Average Attendance.
March	72	3,091	2,090·2
June	72	3,041	2,192·4
September	72	3,125	2,004·2
December	73	3,036	2,040·4

Thirty-five out of fifty-one teachers employed in the Public Schools in this section are duly qualified by examination for their several positions. The teachers of the Provisional and House Schools are not required to hold any classification by examination, and the majority of them are young and without experience in their profession. All the teachers, with but very few exceptions, performed their arduous duties in a most conscientious and faithful manner, and this, too, under severe trials, arising from an exceedingly

exceedingly warm climate and poor accommodation in the houses where they board and lodge. Only three complaints were brought before me during the year for investigation—one of a very serious character, and two for undue severity in the use of the cane. The behaviour of the children under tuition has been decidedly good, though in the back-blocks there is still the same unpleasant habit—an inexcusable fault—of answering questions in a whispering tone of voice.

The material condition of the schools has undergone considerable improvement. Besides the two new Provisional Schools, already referred to—Belairingah and Plain Creek—three other new schools have been erected to replace old and incommodious buildings, namely, Buggil, Curban, and Mundooran. The Public School at Trangie has been lengthened, and the following schools repaired:—Dubbo, Coonamble, Bourke (North), Byerock, Minore, Ulamabri, Wanaaring, and Warkton. A new teacher's residence has been built at Narromine, and a new weathershed at Nevertire. New buildings and improvements and alteration of teacher's residence, to replace old and incommodious ones, are in the course of erection at Coonabarabran. The erection of a class-room at Dubbo, and of two class-rooms at Bourke, and also the enlargement of the Public School at Wanaaring, has been sanctioned by the Minister.

At the end of 1887 there was accommodation for 4,100 pupils, and making allowance for the school closed (Warrumbungul), and the new schools opened (Belairingah, Plain Creek, and Goorianawa), there is still an excess of accommodation over actual requirements.

In conclusion, the organization in every respect of all the schools may be pronounced very fair, the discipline decidedly good, and progress in attainments fair.

Dubbo, 4 January, 1889.

JOHN LESLIE SMITH.

ANNEX Z 6.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL OF TRAINING SCHOOL, FORT-STREET.

At the beginning of the year the students were divided into two sections, the seniors (fourteen in number), who had completed six months of their training, and the juniors (ten in number), who had just been admitted. The seniors were examined and classified in June last; and as the Minister had decided to make important changes in the organization of the training institutions, it was determined that no further admissions should take place until January, 1889. During the latter half of the year, therefore, there were only ten students in training. Their conduct has, almost without exception, been highly satisfactory, while their diligence and attention to duty have been equally commendable.

2. STAFF.

The permanent staff consisted of two persons, Principal and Assistant. Drill, Drawing, and Vocal Music were taught by visiting masters, and the practical training of the students was entrusted to the Head Masters of the Fort-street Superior Public School and the Practising School.

3. COURSE OF STUDY.

Reading.

Smith's Specimens of English Literature. Shakespeare's "Julius Cæsar."

English Grammar.

Parsing. Derivation.
Analysis. Punctuation.
Composition. Prosody.

Geography.

Descriptive: Australia, Europe, North America. Physical: Geikie's Physical Geography.
Mapping.

Mathematics.

Arithmetic in Theory and Practice. Algebra up to, and including, Binomial
Mensuration, Plane and Solid. Theorem.
Euclid, Books I to VI, with deductions. Elementary Geometrical Analysis.
Plane Trigonometry.

Natural Science.

Physics: Heat, Magnetism, and Electricity. Chemistry: Outline of the Non-metals.
Physiology: Elementary.

Latin.

Smith's Principia Latina, Part I. Cæsar, Books I and II.
Ihne's Syntax.

School Management.

Public Instruction Act and Regulations. Outline of the History and progress of
Organization, Discipline, Method. Primary Education in New South Wales.

History and English Literature.

British History from William I to Victoria. Australian History.
English Literature: Elizabeth to Cromwell, inclusive.

Vocal Music.

Staff Notation. Rudiments.
Elements of Harmony.

Drawing.

Freehand, Model, and Geometrical.

Military Drill.

Squad and Company Drill.
Dumb-bell, Indian Club, Single-stick, and
other gymnastic exercises.

4. PRACTICAL TRAINING.

The small number of students in training this year has given them the opportunity for more extended practice in the Art of Teaching than could possibly have been granted to larger sessions. Every student spent four (and in some cases even five) weeks in the Practising School, engaged either in the actual work of teaching, or in watching the method employed by the classified teachers of that establishment. In addition to this valuable training, every Wednesday afternoon was devoted to *test lessons*, which were afterwards criticised by the students themselves, and also by a committee consisting of the Principal of the Training School and the Head Masters of the Fort-street Superior Public School and the Practising School. The hints and suggestions given to the students by these officers will undoubtedly prove of much benefit to them hereafter.

5. PUPIL-TEACHERS' CLASSES.

Certain important alterations have taken place in the organization of these classes. Latin has been added to the list of subjects for female pupil-teachers, and French for males of the first and second classes.

Singing, Drawing, and Drill are no longer taught to the two upper classes, while the two lower classes now confine their attention entirely to these subjects.

The number of pupil-teachers in attendance during the year was 381.

Their conduct has been on the whole satisfactory, but there is a tendency among a small minority of them to absent themselves on frivolous pretences. This, however, has now to a large extent been checked.

Considering the limited time at their disposal, the pupil-teachers attending the Wednesday Mathematical Classes have, with but few exceptions, made satisfactory progress.

J. CONWAY,
Principal.

ANNEX Z 7.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL OF HURLSTONE TRAINING SCHOOL.

I HAVE the honor to submit my report upon the Training School, Hurlstone, Ashfield, for the year 1888.

1. COURSE OF STUDY.

English.

Reading : Macaulay's Essays, Bacon's Essays, Elocution : Recitations from Shakespeare, Shakespeare's "Julius Cæsar." Goldsmith, and Sheridan.
Composition, Parsing, Analysis, and Prosody.

Mathematics.

Arithmetic : Theory and Practice. Mensuration.

Geography.

Descriptive : Europe, North America, and Australasia, in detail. Physical : Surface of the earth, climate, oceans, atmosphere, seasons, &c.
Commercial and Political. Mapping.

English Literature.

From Elizabeth to Cromwell, inclusive. Special Study : "Julius Cæsar," Shakespeare.

British History.

From William I to Victoria. Sutherland's Australian History.

Natural History.

Physiology.

French.

Havet's Grammar. Recitation : Molière's "Bourgeois Gentilhomme"; Molière's "Précieuses Ridicules";
Hallard's Grammar. "La Bague de Diamants."
Charles XII, Voltaire.

School Management.

Organization, method, discipline. Public Schools Act and Regulations.
Compilation of School Records, Time-tables, History of Reformers of Education.
and Lesson Programmes.

Domestic Economy.

Sanitary Science. Needlework.
Cookery : Theory and Practice.

Vocal Music.

Theory and Practice. Tonic Sol-fa.
Staff Notation.

Drawing.

Blackboard. Model and Elementary Perspective.
Freehand from Copies. Geometrical.

Drill.

Calisthenics. School Drill.

Kindergarten.

2. THE STUDENTS.

In January, 1888, there were 51 students—the full number—29 of whom had been in training from July, 1887, and completed their course in June, 1888. Of the remaining 22, one was obliged to retire from the service of the Department, on account of ill-health, and the others are now undergoing classification examination prior to leaving the Training School. No fresh students were admitted last July, as entirely new arrangements are contemplated for the year 1889. Consequently there has been only one class this half-year instead of two.

The conduct of the students has been satisfactory, their diligence being especially commendable. Their health, though giving in some instances cause for anxiety last half-year, has been remarkably good this half.

Both in attainments and abilities, a wide diversity is still noticeable. The proposed plan of not admitting to the Training Schools any but the very best pupil-teachers is most welcome, and almost imperatively needed. Among the present set, several knew very little French and History on entering, and two knew no French at all. When it is remembered that sometimes even the best enter having comparatively slight acquaintance with Sanitary Science, Literature, Physiology, and even Needlework, the heavy amount of work to be done in one year will be better understood. Composition and General Reading—with a few striking exceptions—are weak points, but with the contemplated extension of time to two years, a great improvement in mental culture may be hoped for.

It is noticeable that a large percentage of those most advanced in French and History come from Sydney schools; some of the most solidly grounded in Arithmetic and Grammar from the *small country schools*; and also that a considerable number of those who *teach* effectively, and with good style, have been trained as pupil-teachers in the *large country schools*, such as Maitland, Newcastle, and Bathurst.

3. ADVANTAGE OF THE PROPOSED TWO YEARS' COURSE OF TRAINING AND PREPARATION FOR MATRICULATION EXAMINATION.

All the subjects at present taught can be better grounded; there will be more time to correct deeply-rooted errors in Practical Skill; another subject—such as Botany, or even Phonography—could be taken; and the range of information will be widened to a very beneficial extent.

4. PRACTICAL TRAINING.

The arrangements have hitherto been, that the juniors do the Practising School work, and give Model Lessons too. As seniors, they are exempt from the Practising School Work, but continue to give the Model Lessons to children in the presence of fellow-students and the Principal, weekly or bi-weekly. This has been the only means by which each student could get her fair share of practice in the school. The present set of students had completed their prescribed course of Practising School Work as juniors, and as they appeared weaker in attainments than in practical skill, and needed time to study, it was deemed wiser that they should give the Model Lessons only, as other seniors had done. As there were no juniors in July, two ex-students were sent as assistants to the mistress of the school. Each Thursday a student is selected by the Instructor in Music to give a lesson either in Theory or Part Singing to a class of children; occasionally the Instructor gives the lesson himself, to show what he wishes done. Lessons in Drill are given in presence of the Drill Instructor, sometimes to children, but more frequently to fellow-students. Lessons (oral) are also prepared weekly by students and given to fellow-students. The lessons in the Practising School are determined by the mistress, the Model Lessons by the Principal. If left to themselves, the students—even the brightest—show an inclination to choose somewhat hackneyed subjects for their specimen lessons. Model Lessons are occasionally given by the Principal and the mistress of the Practising School in the presence of the students.

5. KINDERGARTEN.

Instruction in the Kindergarten System is given by the mistress of the Riley-street Public School to the students, who are taught to occupy themselves with the various gifts exactly as the children would do. The lesson is given once a week, and lasts an hour. This subject can only receive partial attention in the Practising School, otherwise the requirements of the standard would not be met. The pupil-teacher receives the lessons with the students, and puts into practice as much as she can of the instruction she receives. It appears quite possible to give a real Kindergarten class—Kindergarten and nothing else—a fair trial at Hurlstone. A class of about twelve could be formed, the children to be under seven years of age, to come in the morning only, and to provide their own material; the pupil-teacher, under the supervision of the mistress, could devote herself to their instruction in the morning, and attend to other duties in the afternoon. As far as can be judged, the Kindergarten system appears to be in favour with children and parents alike.

6 THE PREMISES.

The premises are in good condition. The following improvements have been effected:—
 (a) The water has been laid on. Until this year the institution had depended on the rainfall for its supply of water, but the very dry weather that set in almost at the beginning of the year necessitated other arrangements, and the water was laid on from the main supply without delay.
 (b) A proper lavatory was constructed.
 (c) The grounds have received much needed attention from a practical gardener sent for the purpose.

Hurlstone Training School, Ashfield, 21 December, 1888.

MARY M. EVERITT,
Principal.

APPENDIX XIII.

REPORT OF PUBLIC SCHOOL CADET CORPS.

DURING the year corps have been formed at Broughtonworth, Camperdown, and Balmain.

The following teachers have been appointed honorary subalterns during the year, viz., Mr. Deer, of Broughtonworth, and Mr. Kennedy, of Thirlmere.

The number of cadets on the roll for the year is 2,191, against 2,054 for last year. The increase is only 137, owing, partly, to the want of suitable carbines. This difficulty, I am happy to say, will soon be overcome, as the 2,000 light snider carbines, applied for in June, are expected to arrive about the end of January, 1889. There are three applications for the formation of corps under consideration, viz., from Lismore, Macdonaldtown, and Wickham, and I hope to induce the masters of the principal city and suburban schools to take to the cadet movement a little more warmly and form corps where none already exist. The various corps were visited and inspected by me during the year, and, on the whole, everything was in a satisfactory condition. Parades were held by me monthly and target practice weekly, in connection with the metropolitan and suburban corps, and both have been well attended.

It is my intention to establish a corps of senior cadets, to be composed of youths who have left school, but who are still too young to enrol in our Volunteer Force; and it will be my aim to make this branch a connecting link between the Public School Cadet Corps and the defence force of the Colony, so that the ranks of the Volunteers may be recruited, if not entirely, in a great measure from the senior cadet corps.

The annual prize meeting held on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd of last November, was an unqualified success; 645 cadets competed, of whom 137 camped on the rifle range for five days, and behaved admirably.

The prizes were presented to the winners by Mrs. Poole, at the Protestant Hall, on the 8th of December, the Public Schools' shield going to the Sydney High School, and the shield presented by Mr. Condy being won by Quartermaster-sergeant Richardson of the same school.

I append report of inspection of the Cadet Artillery by Captain Savage of the Permanent Artillery, with Colonel Roberts' remarks thereon.

H. W. STRONG, Major,
Commanding Public Schools Cadet Corps.

The Under Secretary, Department of Public Instruction.

From Captain Savage, Adjutant, P.A., to Colonel Roberts, C.M.G., Commanding Artillery and Military Forces.

Sir,

20 August, 1888.

I have the honor to inform you that, in accordance with your directions, I inspected the Cadet Artillery at field-gun drill, on Saturday afternoon last, the 18th instant, at Victoria Barracks, and beg to forward the following report.

The parade consisted of four detachments with 6-pounder L.B. guns, who were exercised in drill and field-artillery movements.

The drill, with the exception of one or two minor details, was admirably carried out—the cadets showing a thorough acquaintance with their duties, and working smartly and keenly under intelligent Nos. 1.

The want of such drill stores as lanyards, lights, and dummy tubes, cartridges, and projectiles, was, however, very obvious, and it is a question whether the practice that at present obtains of "going through the motion" of loading, sighting, and firing is not calculated to infuse a spirit of carelessness in the performance of those duties.

A

A variety of intricate field-battery movements were gone through most creditably, and showed that the instruction imparted to the cadets has been very thorough, and the cadets themselves have made the most of their opportunities.

The behaviour of the cadets on parade left nothing to be desired.

In conclusion, I would point out that the guns in possession of the cadets are of very old date, and, in view of the fact that they are sometimes fired with live shell, it would seem desirable that they should be thoroughly examined by some competent authority.

I have, &c.,

A. S. P. SAVAGE,

Captain and Adjutant, P.A.

In forwarding this report, I would desire to fully endorse the remarks of Captain Savage, especially those referring to the gun-drill. The practice of "going through the motions of loading" I consider is a fruitful cause for the accidents so often heard of lately, when blank cartridges are used; in the desire to appear smart, the sponge is not properly pressed home, and, with muzzle-loaders, the danger of fragments of ignited cartridge remaining in the bore is incurred. I would strongly advise that the proper drill cartridges and shot of wood, with strong lanyards attached, be given to the Cadet Corps. If it is desired, the guns could be examined and reported on immediately, and this, I consider, should be carried out prior to any practice taking place, in order to prevent the possibility of a serious accident; but when the date of the manufacture of these guns is considered, in two cases out of four, being over 100 years old, I would recommend that no more shot practice should be carried out with them. The 16-pounders in use by the Artillery Forces could be utilized, if the ammunition expended was replaced by the Department of Instruction, under which Cadet Corps now are maintained.—CHAS. F. ROBERTS, Col., 21/8/88.

B.C., P.S. Cadet Corps. Forwarded for information and remark *re* suggestions contained herein.
—J.S.R., M.-G., 23/8/88.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS CADET CORPS.

Return of Cadets, Arms, &c., quarter ending 31st December, 1888.

Corps.	Officers.	Non-commissioned Officers.	Cadets.	Snider Car-bines.	M.-H. Car-bines.	Henry Car-bines.	Henry Rifles.	M.-H. Rifles.	Enfield Car-bines.	Smooth-bore Car-bines.	6-pounder Field Guns.
Fort-street .....	...	3	30	38	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cleveland-street .....	...	3	30	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paddington .....	...	5	41	47	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Crown-street .....	...	3	29	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Campbelltown .....	...	1	26	...	...	...	...	...	14	13	...
Richmond .....	...	2	29	31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Newtown .....	...	3	28	31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Petersham .....	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Goulburn	1	4	36	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Newcastle .....	...	5	44	54	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Woolahra .....	...	3	33	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gunnedah .....	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	7	23	...
Deniliquin .....	...	3	27	...	...	...	...	...	7	23	...
High School	1	5	48	...	48	...	...	7	...	...	...
Penrith .....	...	3	36	39	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Young	1	7	63	70	...	6	1	...	...	...	...
Dubbo	1	3	37	40	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Wagga Wagga	3	6	66	60	...	14	...	...	12	...	...
Leichhardt .....	...	4	36	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tamworth	1	5	65	...	...	19	12	1	25	20	...
Picton	1	3	36	39	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Grenfell	1	4	40	2	...	...	...	...	31	11	...
Wellington .....	...	3	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Murrurundi	1	3	35	10	...	...	...	1	21	11	...
Armidale .....	...	5	45	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...
Singleton	1	5	45	10	...	...	...	1	35	9	...
Junee	1	5	45	10	...	...	...	...	37	20	...
Muswellbrook .....	...	3	33	10	...	...	...	...	36	...	...
Glen Innes	1	5	56	16	...	...	...	...	50	...	...
Bookham	2	5	42	1	...	23	26	...	...	...	...
Blackfriars .....	...	10	141	119	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Glebe .....	...	4	26	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bathurst .....	...	5	45	50	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Bungendore .....	...	3	34	...	...	...	...	...	37	...	...
Cooma	1	5	60	...	...	16	...	...	48	...	...
Blayney	1	5	45	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bega .....	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...
Bourke	1	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...
Orange	1	4	46	50	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Adelong Crossing	1	2	35	...	...	...	...	1	38	...	...
Gundagai	1	3	37	...	...	...	...	1	40	...	...
Esk Bank .....	...	3	41	35	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Inverell	1	...	36	5	...	...	1	...	30	...	...
Arneliffe .....	...	3	27	30	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Broughtonworth	2	3	28	...	...	13	20	2	...	...	...
Camperdown .....	...	3	42	45	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Balmain .....	...	...	41	41	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ex-Cadets .....	...	5	60	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...
Artillery	1	7	56	...	44	...	53	16	...	...	4
Band .....	...	2	30	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
Staff	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
Spare arms .....	...	...	...	9	8	2	10	...	233	421	...
Total	28	179	1,984	1,163	100	89	137	47	780	612	4

H. W. STRONG, Major,
Commanding Public School Cadet Corps.

APPENDIX XIV.

REPORT ON HIGH SCHOOLS.

THE five High Schools in operation at the end of 1887 were carried on through 1888. All are still conducted in temporary buildings, which, though fairly suitable, are not attractive in situation or appearance. Arrangements have, however, been completed for leasing at Bathurst commodious, well-appointed, and centrally-situated premises, so that, in future, so far as Bathurst is concerned, there will be nothing in the material condition of the High School that will hinder its success.

The want of proper buildings is severely felt in Sydney. The insufficiency of accommodation makes school organization difficult, and prevents the formation of such classes as would utilise the teaching staff to the best advantage. The limited space for play-ground is also a serious drawback.

At the beginning of the year the schools in Sydney were fitted with single-seated desks of an improved pattern, but the crowded state of the various class-rooms has rendered it necessary to place these desks so close together that much of the benefit of their special construction is lost.

All the schools are adequately furnished and are supplied with proper working appliances. In connection with the Sydney boys school is a small laboratory for the teaching of Chemistry and Physics. At Maitland, the Head Master has a very large and useful collection of geological specimens.

The number of pupils attending the High Schools is steadily increasing. For 1887 the total enrolment and average daily attendance were respectively 710 and 498·9; for 1888 they were 737 and 550·7. In the following table particulars of the attendance at each school are given:—

Name of School.	Total Enrolment for 1888.	Average Quarterly Enrolment.	Average Daily Attendance.
Bathurst Girls	27	26	23·2
Maitland Boys	66	53	47·1
„ Girls	38	30	27·1
Sydney Boys	315	260	239·9
„ Girls	291	233	213·4
Totals	737	602	550·7

The disciplinary condition of the High Schools is very good in all respects. Punctual and regular attendance prevails in all. The pupils are very orderly, attentive to instruction, and diligent in study. During the examinations we saw nothing in the conduct or demeanour of any pupil to which serious exception could be taken. The boys are regularly drilled, and the girls receive instruction in calisthenics. There is a very efficient cadet corps at the Sydney boys' school.

The subjects of instruction are fixed by regulation, but in arranging the work for each year care is taken that the course of lessons accords with the programme of the University examinations. Our examinations were both oral and written. The questions were framed so as to cover the course of instruction for the year, and, without being puzzling, were minute and searching. The oral answering was prompt and intelligent; the written work gave evidence of fairly accurate and thoughtful acquaintance with the various subjects of study. While we are pleased to be able to report an all-round improvement in the attainments, we regret that, excepting in four classes, sufficient attention is not paid to neatness in the execution of the written work. Careless, slovenly writing is too often seen.

The methods of teaching vary according to the professional training and experience of the teachers employed, but, viewed as a whole, they are intelligent and are vigorously and earnestly applied. The following table shows in detail the results of the examinations in the various subjects:—

Subjects.	No. of Pupils Examined.	Percentage of Passes.
English	583	96
Dictation	526	90
Arithmetic	583	89
Mensuration	300	90
History	583	88
Latin	560	94
French	583	93
Geography	307	93
Drawing	537	86
Geometry	403	96
Algebra	583	92
Trigonometry	102	86
Natural Science	142	100
Greek	12	100
German	35	100

The number of pupils examined, 583, is an increase of 66 upon the number examined in 1887.

Our favourable opinion of the work done in the High Schools is borne out by the results of the University Examinations: 70 High School pupils passed the junior, 20 the senior, and 11 the matriculation examinations of the year. Those who passed were not the only ones qualified to do so; many well-informed pupils are kept away from these examinations by the inability or unwillingness of their parents to pay the fees demanded. Former High School pupils now in attendance at the University have distinguished themselves at the yearly examinations.

During the year, a collection of exhibits, comprising specimens of plain and ornamental writing, drawings, maps, solutions of problems in the different sections of mathematics, translations from and into French and Latin, and original essays in English, French, and Latin, was forwarded to the International Exhibition at Melbourne. This collection has been awarded a prize of the "first order of merit."

The

The total expenditure on High Schools during 1888 was £6,691 18s. 8d.; the amount received from school fees for the same period was £1,326 12s. 7d.: so that the actual cost to the State was £2,365 6s. 1d., or less than £3 5s. for each pupil enrolled. This fact shows how utterly unfounded is the complaint sometimes made that the High Schools are a heavy charge upon the State funds.

In conclusion, we have to report that while it is unfortunately still a fact that in the country towns the High Schools do not receive such measure of public support as their efficiency merits, they show a steadily increasing number of pupils, and are doing very good work for the State at a very small cost.

For information as to the range of instruction in the High Schools we append the synopsis of the year's work for the Sixth Form in the Sydney High School.

F. BRIDGES, } Inspectors.
R. N. MORRIS, }

BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL.

Synopsis of Work.—VI Form.

- Latin*—Virgil. Eclogues, all. Bucolica, I-X.
Livy. Book XXI, all.
Grammar and Composition. General questions, syntactical sentences, and continuous pieces.
- Greek*—Xenophon. Cyropædia, all.
Lucian, all. Two boys only. Liscator, Charon.
Grammar. Curtius' Smaller Greek Grammar I.
Composition. Easy continuous pieces. Sidgwick.
- French*—Lamartine's "Christophe Colombe."
Corneille's "Le Cid."
Grammar and Composition.
- English*—Life and Times of Alexander Pope.
Pope's "Essay on Man."
Composition, &c.
- History*—Grecian. Smith's Smaller Book, to the end of the Peloponnesian War.
Roman. Smith's Smaller Book, to the end of the third Punic War.
- Arithmetic and Mensuration*—General questions.
- Algebra*—Todhunter's larger book. Theory and Practice.
- Trigonometry*—Todhunter's larger book. Theory and Practice (up to Chapter XVI).
- Geometry*—Books I, II, III, IV, VI, XI (1-21), and exercises on all the Books.
- Physics*—General course of Heat, Light, Electricity, and Magnetism (embraced in text-book Everett's Physics).
- German*—(Upper Section). General accidence to end of irregular verbs.
Composition embracing above.
Author. Fifteen pages Freytag's "Frederic the Great."
- Drawing*—Perspective and Model.
- Mechanics*—Todhunter's Statics. Theory and Examples.

APPENDIX XV.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SITES OBTAINED IN 1888.

Number of Sites granted by Government	63
" " resumed under Act, 44 Vic. No. 16	30
" " purchased	8
" " conveyed as gifts	2
Total number of Sites obtained during the year as per following lists.....	108

1888.—School Sites granted by the Government.

Aberfoil	Friday Hut Road	Oakey Creek
Baan Baa	Girvan	Parramatta South (addition to site)
Barbingal	Glen Arm	Quirindi
Bellbrook	Gobarralong	Sandy Creek
Beresford	Gregadoo	Sandy Hills
Beri	Grenfell (addition to site)	South Lead
Bonavista	Harold's Cross	Stewart's River
Bournda	Hollybrook	Tabrabucca
Brassi	Holsworthy	Tarlo Gap
Broula	Keirson	Thornhurst
Bullawa Creek	Kildary	Thubergal Lake
Bullokreek	Koorawatha	Tomanbil
Bunda	Long Arm	Trundle Lagoon
Cal Lal	Mannus	Turill
Colinton	Methul	Turkey Creek
Coramba	Micilo Island	Ugly Range
Crackemback	Molroy	Ukolan
Deep Lead	Moorbah	White's Point
Drake	Morrisset	Wooroowoolgan
Dural Upper	Mount Costigan	Yango Creek
Eaglehawk	Murga	Yanko Upper
Eilerslie	Nanama	Yarrowitch
Euriowie	Nine Mile	

1888.—*School Sites resumed under the "Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," 44 Vic. No. 16.*

Place.	Cost.	
	Amount already paid.	Amount still due—estimated at.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Aramagong	Nil.—A Gift from Mr. Hector M'Kenzie.	570 0 0
Balgownie .....	.....	25 0 0
Beggan Beggan .....	.....	35 0 0
Boggumbil	Nil.—A Gift from Mr. John Sheehan.	10 0 0
Bongongo .....	.....	10 0 0
Casino South (addition to site)	Nil.—A Gift from Mr. W. Manwaring.	10 0 0
Cooney .....	.....	25 0 0
Cowlong .....	.....	4 0 0
Cumbalum .....	.....	.....
Eurimbla	6 4 6	330 0 0
Jacob and Joseph Creek .....	.....	.....
Kempsey West (addition to site)	Nil.—A Gift from Mr. T. E. Noble.	.....
Middle Falbrook	776 4 9	75 0 0
Mortdale .....	.....	.....
Mosquito Island (addition to site) .....	.....	2,550 0 0
Murrulebale	Nil.—A Gift from Mr. P. Carroll.	80 0 0
Paddington (addition to site) .....	.....	.....
Pennant Hills (addition to site) .....	.....	.....
Pimlico North	36 1 5	150 0 0
Robbinsville .....	.....	360 0 0
Rockdale (addition to site) .....	.....	.....
St. Ives	195 9 9	.....
Suntop	Nil.—A Gift from Mr. W. Harris.	.....
Thanowring	5 0 0	.....
Tunut (addition to site) .....	.....	.....
Wagoribil .....	.....	25 0 0
Wagra	Nil.—A Gift from Mr. Baker Vincent.	.....
Wattle Grove	Nil.—A Gift from Mr. H. Rowlands.	1,660 0 0
Woolwich .....	.....	.....
Yarralumla	10 15 0	.....
Total	£ 1,029 15 5	5,909 0 0

Total cost, so far as can be estimated at present, £6,938 15s. 5d.

1888.—*School Sites purchased.*

Place.	Cost.
Copmanhurst	£ 40
Marden	105*
Pittwater (addition to site)	5
Rockdale	600
Sandhurst	2)
Tomki	40
Toongabbie	90
Whiteman's Creek	20
Total	£ 920

* This includes buildings on the site.

1888.—*School sites obtained by way of Gift.*

Place.	Donor's Name.
Hoxton Park	R. R. Terry, Esq.
Mullamuddy	Mrs. A. C. Cadell.

APPENDIX XVI.

REPORT OF THE WORK OF THE ARCHITECT'S OFFICE.

BUILDINGS.

BETWEEN the 1st January and the 31st December, 1888, there have been delivered to the Department, ready for occupation, the following buildings, viz. :—

No.	Description of Work.	Accommodation.	Cost.
14	Public School Buildings	1,745	£ s. d. 12,052 2 5
17	Additions, &c., providing increased accommodation	1,869	5,484 0 0
272	Additions, &c., not providing increased accommodation .....	.....	17,991 12 11
9	Weather-sheds .....	.....	625 9 3

The school accommodation has thus been increased this year by 3,614, at a cost of £17,536 2s. 5d., or about £4 17s. per head, against 9,840 at a cost of £52,795 3s. 4d., or about £5 7s. 3d. per head last year, and 8,321, at a cost of £41,101 4s. 8d., or about £5 per head in 1887.

In addition to these works contracts have been entered into, and are now in progress, and will probably all be finished by the end of 1889 as follows:—

No.	Description of Work.	Accommodation.	Cost.
21	Public School Buildings	2,821	£ s. d. 21,990 16 1
14	Additions, &c., providing increased accommodation	1,012	3,443 10 6
87	Additions, &c., not providing increased accommodation..	.....	7,306 10 9
3	Weather-sheds.....	.....	186 5 0

It will thus be seen that in the work now in progress additional accommodation is provided for 3,833 children, at a cost of £25,434 6s. 7d., or about £6 12s. 8d. per head, and there is every indication of this number being largely increased during 1889. The slightly greater average cost of accommodation arises from the fact that with most of the schools, residences are being provided.

OUTLAY.

The total outlay for work certified for by me during the year is £47,484 6s. 10d., in 1,038 certificates, averaging about £47.

CORRESPONDENCE, &C.

The number of papers received, registered, and dealt with during the year is 7,000, against 6,000 last year, and the number of letters, reports, &c., written and dispatched, 3,526, against 3,354 last year, besides 747 papers referred to the clerks of works, and 112 orders for school furniture. 346 contracts were entered into during the year, for which 346 sets of contract documents had to be prepared, and a number of works were carried out under the Minister's authority, but for which no contracts were signed. The clerical work has therefore increased, and the staff is one less than it was for the first half of last year.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.

During the year 527 plans, &c., and 577 specifications have been prepared, against 439 plans, &c., and 490 specifications last year, and for the first six months of 1887, I had four more draftsmen and four more clerks of works than I now have.

The work in this branch has been very heavy during the year, and it is only by the extra diligence displayed by my officers, and by making large use of photography in the preparation of drawings, that I have, I am glad to say, been able to cope with it, and prevent the work accumulating and getting into arrears.

COST.

The cost of the office for salaries was £4,786 7s. 5d., and for travelling expenses £1,233 17s. 4d. during the year, making a total of £6,020 4s. 9d., against £5,798 for salaries in 1887, and £1,269 2s. 2d. for travelling expenses, making a total of £7,067 2s. 2d. The decrease in the amount paid for salaries is very large, amounting to £1,011 12s. 7d.

STAFF.

The staff is less by four draftsmen, four clerks of works, and one clerk than it was for the first six months of last year, and as the work done does not, and is not likely to decrease, I think I am justified in saying the number of my officers is as small as possible. The foregoing statements of the amount of work done in this office justify me in reporting that I have reason to be satisfied with the care and diligence with which all the officers serving under me, perform their duties.

WM. E. KEMP,
Architect for Public Schools.

APPENDIX XVII.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

To the Honorable the Minister of Public Instruction.

THE Board of Technical Education has much satisfaction in reporting that the number of students attending the classes at the Sydney Technical College and Provincial Technical Schools has again increased. The enrolment of students during the year at the Sydney Technical College and Branch Technical Schools numbered 2,847 individuals, being an increase of 152 over those for 1887. The holding of celebrations in connection with the centenary of the foundation of the colony and other causes interfered to some extent with the attendance of the students during the first quarter of the year, but the numbers enrolled afterwards showed an increase over those of similar terms in the preceding year. The continued scarcity of constant employment in the various trades during the last three years has doubtless prevented many youths from joining the classes, as in more prosperous times they could better afford to pay the fees charged to attend courses of instruction.

There is still, as in former years, a difference of opinion as to the subjects which should be taught by the Board, and the manner of teaching them. Speaking on this point, Sir Philip Magnus, the Director of the City and Guilds of London Institute for the Advancement of Technical Education, in an address delivered at the opening of the Finsbury Technical College, said:—“It must be remembered, in considering this difference of method, that the main purpose of the teaching to be given in this institution is not to make scientific men, nor to train scientists, as the Americans call them, but to educate technikers as the Germans say—to explain to those preparing for industrial work, or already engaged in it, the principles that have a direct bearing upon their occupation, so that they may be enabled to think back from the processes they see to the causes underlying them, and thus substitute scientific method for mere rule of thumb. It is almost superfluous to remark that instruction of this kind can be given by those only who possess a wide and deep knowledge of their subject, and a full and accurate acquaintance with the practical and commercial details of the industry or trade to which their teaching refers. Indeed, it is now generally recognised that technical teachers must be familiar with the processes of the factory or workshop. Teachers of this kind the President of the British Association must have had in view when, in his opening address at Southampton, contrasting them with the ardent students of nature, ‘the High Priests of Science,’ he said:—‘It is not to them that we must look for our excellence and progress in practical science, nor must we look for it to the rule of thumb practitioner, who is guided by what comes nearer

ncarer to instinct. It is to the man of science, who gives attention to practical questions, and to the practitioner, who devotes part of his time to the prosecution of strictly scientific investigations, that we owe the rapid progress of the present day.' Such men, of whom the writer himself is so illustrious an example, are difficult to find; and yet the progress of technical education in this country depends upon their supply. The teacher who is to inspire confidence in his artisan students must address them in the language they understand, and must show that he is not beyond appreciating practical difficulties which occur to them in their daily work. Dr. Siemens further tells us that 'theory and practice are so interdependent that an intimate union between them is a matter of absolute necessity for our future progress,' and certainly none are more alive to the truth of this proposition, as regards educational progress, than artisan students, for it is to them a constant source of regret that they are unable to see the relation of scientific truths as they are generally imparted to them to the work in which they are engaged; and in this complaint, which is so often heard, is found the protest of workmen against the divorce of practice from theory in the instruction which they frequently receive."

On the 11th December, 1884, the Board requested the Government to commission the President of the Board to make special inquiries with reference to technical schools and other matters connected with the system of technical instruction in Great Britain and on the continent of Europe, and Mr. Combes submitted an exhaustive report to His Excellency the Governor, which was printed by order of Parliament. This report contained a number of recommendations respecting the imparting of instruction in art, science, and manual training at the Technical College, and in connection with the public school system of the colony. Mr. Combes is still in Europe, and at his own cost prosecuting inquiries into industrial instruction and selecting apparatus for the Technical College. He has recently intimated to the Board that he has now ready a scheme of manual training for the approval of the Government.

The Board considers that the premises and appliances of the Sydney Technical College could be much better utilised by the formation of a regularly organised day school, in addition to the afternoon and evening classes now held, and with prescribed courses of study similar to those seen recently by the Secretary in successful operation at the principal technical institutions of Great Britain. If the necessary funds were available the Board would accordingly recommend that similar courses of technical instruction be imparted at the Sydney Technical College during the daytime as are now given in the evening. In this respect its operations should be made to correspond with the Finsbury Technical College, which, since its formation, has had both day and evening classes.

It has ever been the desire of the Board not to enter into competition with the Sydney University, the Grammar School, the High Schools, Primary Schools, or private tutors; and therefore the instruction given under the Board has been confined chiefly to subjects not embraced in the programmes of the other educational agencies of the colony. The Board has several times relinquished features of its work as soon as more suitable agencies have been found willing to take up the teaching, hence the conduct of evening classes in primary school subjects, such as arithmetic, grammar, writing, &c., which had been conducted at the Technical College for several years, were formed into an Evening Public School. The Board also only consented to conduct several other literary classes at the Mechanics' School of Arts out of deference to representations that it would not be convenient for its committee to continue them while the Board rented the greater part of the buildings. Classes in law, English history, English literature, Greek, Italian, singing, and music, which were also transferred from the Committee of the School of Arts, were therefore discontinued, as subjects not within the province of the Board.

There were 35 fortnightly Board meetings held during the year under the presidency of Mr. Norman Selse, with an average attendance of five members; 16 meetings of the Organising Committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. Belgrave; and 12 monthly meetings of the Finance Committee to examine accounts. Resignations of their positions on the Board were received during the year from Mr. Justice Windeyer, Mr. H. C. Russell, and Professor Liversidge, and the Board must express its indebtedness to these gentlemen for their services when originally engaged in the work of fixing the curriculum of the Technical College and engaging for it a staff of instructors and teachers.

Buildings for Sydney Technical College.

The principal defect in the operations of the Sydney Technical College, as regards convenience and economical working, is that operations have to be conducted in three different streets in the city, instead of the several departments being held in one central building specially constructed for the purpose, as in similar institutions elsewhere. The Board has for several years recommended that a suitable building for the metropolitan institution should be erected in a central position, as a great saving could thereby be effected in payments for rental, administration, teaching, &c. Many students have found it impossible to bear the intense heat of the present badly ventilated class rooms during the summer months, and there can be no doubt that the numbers attending would largely increase if a properly constructed building, similar to those now in course of erection for branches of the Sydney University, were provided for the Technical College.

The Committee of the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts having declined on the expiration of the lease of its premises, to allow the chemistry classes to be held there, the laboratory has been removed to new buildings at No. 301, Pitt-street, adjoining the Temperance Hall. The classes in the department of domestic economy, for cookery, dress-cutting, &c., which were formerly held at the Royal Arcade and in the Sussex-street Technical Institute, have also been removed to the same premises. As the large hall of the School of Arts could not be obtained for every evening, in order to accommodate the large number of students now attending the school of design, the apartments hitherto used for the chemical laboratory and the registrar's office will in future be utilised for the art classes. The office of the Board is also removed from Phillip-street to the new premises in Pitt-street, and this change will enable the Secretary to have better supervision over the arrangements connected with the Technical College; the operations of which will even now be conducted in four places in Sydney situated widely apart, instead of as it should be in one suitable building erected for the purpose.

As the leases of two of the premises now rented for the purposes of the Technical College will expire during the present year, it is very desirable that steps should be at once taken to renew these leases or provide a suitable building in which all the operations can be conducted at one central spot.

Enrolments of Students.

At the Sydney Technical College the number of individual students enrolled and who received instruction for at least one session was 2,077, and there were also 770 individual students entered at the Provincial Schools, making a total of 2,847 persons. The quarterly enrolments of individual students at the Technical College were 835 in the first quarter, 1,081 in the second, 1,133 in the third, and 1,007 in the fourth, or an average quarterly enrolment of 1,014 persons. The average quarterly attendances were respectively 621, 793.7, 749.3, and 698.4, or 771.6 daily. The number of attendances at the Technical College during the first quarter was 12,930; second quarter, 15,810; third quarter, 19,385; fourth quarter, 14,441. The entries for the classes at the Technical College numbered in the first quarter 1,197 in the second quarter 1,440, in the third quarter 1,484, in the fourth quarter 1,262 or an average of 1,425.7.

The average enrolments in each class at the Sydney Technical College during the four quarters were as follows:—Agriculture, elementary, 19.6; advanced, 14.6; afternoon, 6.5; botany, 3.3; veterinary science, 6.5; wool-sorting, 5.7; applied mechanics, 16.2; mechanical drawing, 55.2; plumbing, 14; naval architecture, 4.5; boiler-making, 12.7; fitting and turning, 34.7; afternoon class, 3.5; architecture, 48.2; carpentry, evening, 52.5; afternoon 26.7; Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institution, 13.5; brick-laying, 12.5; masonry, 10.7; cabinet-making, 8.5; coach-building, 6; freehand drawing, 140.2; modelling, 22.2; geometry, plane, 26.5; solid, 15.5; afternoon 11.7; perspective, 19; design, 14.2; house painting,

painting, 22.5; art decorating, 13.5; practical chemistry, Monday, 15; Friday, 12; chemistry (theoretical), first year 11.5; second year, 8.7; photography, 10.7; bookkeeping, 4.9; calligraphy, 50.7; phonography, 90.7; actuarial science, 9; German, 10.5; French, 39.5; Latin, 36.5; domestic economy, 4.5; cookery (plain) 27.7; elementary, 12.5; advanced, 8.5; dresscutting, 46.5; tailors' cutting, 19; geology, 9; crystallography, 13.5; mineralogy, 15.6; mining, 8.3; mathematics—geometry 12.5; algebra, 14.5; trigonometry, 3.5; arithmetic, 3.5; navigation, 2; elocution, 17.5; pharmacy, 13.2; materia medica, 10.7; pharmaceutical chemistry, 16.7; dispensing, 11.7; dentistry, 13.5; physics, 12.5; electricity, 17.5; telegraphy, 6.7; freehand, (teacher's special) 20, Saturday 25. Of the individual students who attended at the Technical College in 1888, 990 received one quarter's instruction, 497 two quarter's instruction, 286 three quarter's instruction, and 304 four quarter's instruction.

The 770 individual students who entered during last year at Provincial Branch Technical Schools were enrolled as follows:—537 in the first quarter, 617 in the second quarter, 720 in the third quarter, and 709 in the fourth quarter, or an average enrolment of 733.5. The average quarterly attendances were respectively 254.6, 314.6, 343.9, and 385.6, or 378.4 daily. The number of attendances during the first quarter was 4,098; second quarter, 5,273; third quarter, 7,198; fourth quarter, 5,957.

The average entries for the classes at the Branch Provincial Schools for the four quarters were as follows:—Newcastle: Chemistry, 9.5; mineralogy, 6.5; metallurgy, 6; mechanical drawing, 8.3; building construction, 6.3; phonography—senior, 29.5; junior, 17; model drawing, 18.7; perspective, 7.7; geometry, 8; mathematics, 10. Lambton: Model drawing, 7. Plattsburg: Model drawing, 8; geometry, 9. West Maitland: Drawing, 75.7; mathematics, 18.2. Singleton: Drawing, 49.7. Coogee: Drawing, 5. Paddington: Drawing, 30. Petersham: Drawing, 56.5. Granville: Geometrical drawing, 9; mechanical drawing, 8.7. Parramatta: Geometrical drawing, 6.7; model drawing, 16. Bathurst: Physics, 30.5; chemistry, 7.5; geology, 14.7; mineralogy, 9; mathematics, 17; botany, 4.7; bookkeeping, 14; drawing, 21.2; French, 21. Morpeth: Drawing, 15; mechanical drawing, 4.5. Goulburn: Theoretical chemistry, 21; practical chemistry, 4.7; geology, 5.7; mineralogy, 4; mathematics, 12; freehand drawing, 60.5; mechanical drawing, 4.5; architecture, 9. Kogarah: Mechanical drawing, 12. Glen Innes: Geology and mineralogy, 14.

The total quarterly enrolments for the classes under the Board in the Sydney Technical College and Branch Technical Schools were 1,734 in the first quarter, 2,087 in the second quarter, 2,204 in the third quarter, and 1,971 in the fourth quarter, or an average quarterly enrolment of 2,159.1. The average quarterly attendances at the classes under the Board was respectively 875.6, 1,108.3, 1,093.2, 1,084, or 1,150 daily. The total number of attendances of students in Sydney and the country districts during the first quarter was 17,028; second quarter, 21,083; third quarter, 26,583; fourth quarter, 20,398.

The occupations of students attending the Sydney Technical College during the year were as follows:—Accountants, 6; architects, 34; artillerymen, 7; agents, 27; assayers, 12; baker, 1; blacksmiths, 11; booksellers, 7; bookbinder, 1; builders, 14; bricklayers, 23; boxmaker, 1; bootmakers, 2; boilermakers, 18; brass finishers, 2; brass moulder, 1; carpenters and joiners, 128; chemists, 31; carters, 5; civil servants, 10; clerks, 322; clergyman, 1; coachbuilders, 12; cement tester, 1; curators, 3; cabinet-makers, 4; decorators, 16; dentists, 8; drapers, 21; dressmakers, 3; draughtsmen, 26; engineers, 126; engravers, 5; engine drivers, 14; electricians, 6; farmers, 12; farriers, 3; feather duster maker, 1; fitters, 29; french polisher, 1; frame maker, 1; gardeners, 9; grocers, 9; ironmongers, 11; ironmoulders, 4; japanners, 2; jewellers, 9; labourers, 7; ladies, 362; lithographers, 8; masons, 31; matmaker, 1; mariners, 7; messengers, 37; modellers, 8; nurses, 5; operators, 5; painters, 34; pattern-makers, 8; photographers, 6; plasterers, 16; plumbers, 34; printers, 22; policemen, 5; saddler, 1; scholars and students, 257; sign-writers, 14; shipwrights, 5; slater, 1; stationers, 6; storemen, 10; surgeon, 1; surveyors, 19; tailors, 37; teachers—male, 34; female, 76; tinsmiths, 4; tobacco manufacturer, 1; type-writer, 1; warehousemen, 14; woodcarvers, 3; woodturners, 2; wool-sorters, 3.

The nationalities of the students who attended the Sydney Technical College during the year 1888 shows that there were born in New South Wales, 1,287; Victoria, 139; Queensland, 41; South Australia, 7; Tasmania, 27; New Zealand, 55; England, 322; Scotland, 84; Ireland, 46; Wales, 7; America, 18; South America, 2; Germany, 16; France, 1; Russia, 2; Norway, 2; Poland, 1; Belgium, 1; Switzerland, 1; Denmark, 3; Italy, 2; Mauritius, 1; South Africa, 1; South Sea Islands, 2; New Caledonia, 1; India, 7; China, 1. It will thus be seen of the 2,077 students who attended the Technical College, 1,556 were Australasian born, evidencing that colonial youths largely avail themselves of the advantages of the institution.

Examinations, &c.

Annual examinations according to the courses of study prescribed in the calendar of the Technical College were held in December last. In the subjects of the courses for the first year 838 entries were made, and 74 obtained honors, 130 the first grade, and 394 the second grade. In the subjects of the courses for the second year 153 were examined, and 24 obtained honors, 35 the first grade and 70 the second grade. In the subjects of the courses for the third year, 9 were examined, seven obtained honors, and 2 the first grade. Monthly class examinations were also made by the teachers. A report of each lecture or lesson given has to be forthwith furnished to the Secretary, and the classes in Sydney, suburbs, and country towns are visited by members and officers of the Board. The instruction given by teachers in townships in the country districts is under the supervision of resident science and art masters, who forward, for the information of the Board, periodical reports on the progress of the classes placed under their immediate supervision.

The following extracts are taken from the reports received from the examiners in the following subjects:—Veterinary science: "I think that the students have shown great proficiency considering the time devoted to tuition, which reflects very favourably on the attention devoted to them by the teacher of the class." Plumbing: "I have much pleasure in recording the general excellence of the work done, which, having consideration that the students presenting themselves this year are much younger in experience than those who came forward at last year's examination, is, in my opinion, quite up to the average. The same number of students, viz. 10, presented themselves this year as last, and the same proportion have passed, and although only two have secured honors this year as against four last year, that is amply accounted for by the circumstances above noted. The suggestion I made last year that gas-fitting should be included in the course of instruction has been carried out, and some very excellent answers in that branch have been given." Fitting and turning: "The work done in the shop by the pupils was very good, and reflects very great credit upon their instructor. I am also very pleased with the theoretical work done this year, as most of the papers are very good." Architecture: "The papers of a fair percentage of students being very good, as will be seen by result sheets." Carpentry: "One of the students has a first-class record, and the theoretical and practical questions were answered very well. I am convinced that if apprentices largely availed themselves of the instruction given in these classes we would have tradesmen second to none in the world." Carriage building: "A marked improvement in the work of this class on the examinations in previous years." Chemistry: "The practical work of some of the students is very satisfactory. The purely theoretical questions have been very indifferently answered." Advanced calligraphy: "It affords me much pleasure to find the papers are on the whole very creditable alike to the teacher and the students, considering the length of time the latter have been under tuition in the College. It has occurred to me that the Board might perhaps see its way to improve the arrangements and fittings for these classes by adopting the plans followed in some of the large modern schools in Scotland, that is in fitting up rooms for writing, correspondence, and bookkeeping, as much as possible like a merchant's counting-house, with suitable desks, tables, book-racks, presses, &c." Correspondence: "There is a considerable difference in the merits of the papers in the second grade, as the marks show the students to exhibit very good writing generally, and the questions have been answered intelligently and with evident pains. The teacher deserves great credit considering the time the students have been under his charge." French;

French: "The work done by the students of the first year was very satisfactory, some of the papers being very remarkable for their neatness and accuracy. As for the students of the second year, their work did not by any means come up to the expectations formed by me at the last examinations." Scientific dress-cutting: "I must say that on the whole great credit is due to the teaching." Mineralogy: "One student answers excellent throughout, and others a trifle weak in crystallography, but otherwise very good." Mining: "All these papers are fair, but the answers are too general, from which it is apparent that these students have not that intimate knowledge of their subject which would entitle them to a first class." Actuarial science: "The answers by the candidates show that the standard obtained is due rather to carelessness and want of thought than to ignorance of the subject." Elocution: "Oral test most excellent. Written answers fairly intelligent." Materia medica: "One excellent paper, the others very good." Pharmacy: "The papers in this class were more even than in the materia medica, and omitting the two students who obtained honors in the class the average is much higher." Pharmaceutical chemistry: "One student obtained the maximum number of marks." Dispensing: The examiner reports one student to have prepared a most excellent paper. Dentistry: In the practical examination several are reported to have performed excellent work. Anatomy and physiology: The examiner reports the answering of one student to be of distinguished excellence. Practical electricity: "The papers as a whole are satisfactory, especially when it is remembered that the students have for the most part had but one year's tuition." Telegraphy: "I am doubtful whether I am in order in making the following observation, but I cannot help expressing regret that there is an absence of certainty of students who pass in this examination obtaining a field of employment in the Government Telegraphic Service as a result of that attainment."

Sir Philip Magnus has furnished to the Board the undermentioned results of the technological examinations of the City and Guilds of London Institute for the Advancement of Technical Education, held in May last at the Sydney Technical College, Bathurst Technical School, and Newcastle Technical School, showing that of the 51 competitors in New South Wales 34 passed the examinations, two obtained first-class certificates in the honor grade, five obtained second-class certificates in the honor grade, nine obtained first-class certificates in the ordinary grade, and eighteen second-class certificates in the ordinary grade, as follows:—Gas manufacture—ordinary grade, class 2: Glanville Stone. Electric lighting—ordinary grade, class 2: Arthur J. W. Rush. Plumber's Work—ordinary grade, class 1: John Albin, William Nelson; results of practical examination, class 1: John Albin, William Nelson. Mechanical engineering—honors grade, class 2: William Alsop; ordinary grade, class 1: Ernest E. Hunt, David N. Morrison, John Rodgers; ordinary grade, class 2: Alfred Fischer, Herman Simon. Carriage building—ordinary grade, class 2: Samuel Jewett, J. P. Walsh. Milling—ordinary grade, class 2: John M. Mitchell. Carpentry and joinery—honors grade, class 1: Edward Lockley; James H. Merriman (who has obtained number of marks qualifying for prize) honors grade, class 2: James Dunlop, Thomas Lockley, Frank Taprowsky, William Williamson; ordinary grade, class 1: John Gardiner. Ernest E. Giles, Louis S. Robertson, W. S. Sweet; ordinary grade, class 2: Paul J. Barrett, Guilford Dudley, Bernard Finkernagel, George H. Gostelow, William R. Goulding, Patrick E. Malumby, Thomas A. Walker, Uriah W. Ware, John M. Wilson. Brickwork and masonry—ordinary grade, class 2: Holland Andrews, Edward Stevens. The above awards by the imperial examiners show that a large percentage of colonial candidates obtained an excellent classification in these technological examinations, which were also held at over 200 centres in the United Kingdom.

A communication has been also received from the Secretary to the Science and Art Department of Great Britain, enclosing a list giving the names of students of the Sydney Technical College who were awarded prizes at the South Kensington examinations held in June last, at which 71,730 works were sent up from 237 Schools of Arts and branch classes. The prizes obtained by the colonial competitors at this national competition being special books for architectural drawings, &c., to Messrs. Frank Lee and W. S. Sweet; and the examiners also state the work submitted in this branch shows an improvement as compared with that forwarded in previous years. Messrs. Holland Andrews, F. J. Davies, E. Lockley, F. M. Marshall, and P. E. Malumby gained third grade prizes for architectural drawing; L. Dechaineux, third grade prize for design; Herman Simon, third grade prize for mechanical drawing; and the following students received rewards for obtaining the maximum number of (20) marks:—Messrs. Holland Andrews and W. S. Sweet, architectural drawing; L. Dechaineux, design; and Arthur Hallams, Gregory Macintosh, and W. Robbins, modelling. Two students having attended the required courses and obtained the necessary class certificates have been awarded by the Board certificates as Industrial Experts in the following departments:—Pharmacy, Mr. H. W. Smith; domestic economy, Miss Mary Dowling.

Subjects of Instruction.

When the Board commenced its operations technological instruction even in Great Britain was in the experimental stage, but during the last few years very great attention has been given to the subject by leading educationists in view of the importance of conserving the manufacturing interests of the mother country, which were being jeopardised by the results of the excellent science and art training given to artisans, not only in France, Germany, Belgium, and Sweden, but also in America.

The annual reports, forwarded for the information of the Minister of Public Instruction during the last four years, contain records of the difficulties the Board has had to contend with in conducting its work, and also some of the views of leading educationists as to the subjects which should form part of technical training, as well as recommendations relating to instruction in agriculture and mining to further the development of these great colonial industries. Efforts have been made, as far as the funds at the disposal of the Board would permit, to promote technical instruction in many centres of population in the interior, for the benefit of those engaged in pioneer industrial work, so that they might not be altogether debarred from proper scientific training. The classes applied for by the large number of persons engaged in mechanical pursuits in the city and suburbs had, however, first to be developed, as it was considered expedient that the metropolitan institution should be properly fitted with apparatus, and serve as a model for the branch schools afterwards formed in the country districts.

Mining and Agriculture.

The classes of the Sydney Technical College afford all the instruction required for a complete mining course, similar to that given at the Royal School of Mines in London. The valuable metalliferous deposits found throughout New South Wales have also induced the Board on several occasions to endeavour to obtain additional funds for imparting systematic instruction by means of schools of mines, for the establishment of which institutions applications have been received from the residents of the principal mining centres. Although the Board, at the request of the Government, reported on the best mode of carrying out a resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly in 1886 respecting mineralogical instruction, the only amounts placed on the Estimates for that purpose were for "Schools of Mines and Assay Works," to be expended under the direction of the Mining Department, and the Board has been directed to defer the formation of the schools of mines applied for, until special funds have been voted for them.

The classes conducted by the Instructors in Agriculture and Mining in the Sydney Technical College were not held during the first quarter of the year, as these gentlemen had to devote all their time lecturing in the country districts. The whole amount placed at the disposal of the Board would not be more than sufficient to devote to either of the important subjects of instruction in agriculture and mining, if their importance with regard to the progress and welfare of the Colony is taking into account or contrasted with the expenditure on similar work in Victoria and the other colonies.

The Instructor in Agriculture reports: "Concerning the classes in Sydney, they have been the largest we have yet had. The attendance has been exceptionally high. I could not speak too highly of the studious character of the students. That they will show good results for the country I have not a doubt.

doubt. Had we the facilities for out-door instruction, such as I have pointed out on previous occasions, the system, as carried out at the Technical College, would be still more useful. For the session 1889, I expect still larger classes, and may have again to apply to the Board for more accommodation and additional appliances to give instruction. During the terms of the 1888 sessions various gardens, orchards, &c., were visited during Saturday afternoon 'outings,' which are always well attended, and are of much practical use. I am very glad to add that there is evident improvement in the character of the subjects of the lectures asked for by Agricultural Societies and Mechanics' Institutes. The requests for information regarding tools and implements, draining, manures, various systems of tillage, dairying, poultry, and bee-keeping, &c., show how practical is the tendency towards agricultural education. The applications for lectures from the country districts are more numerous than ever before, and though, during the teaching sessions of 1888, I filled as many engagements in the country districts as my duties at the Technical College would allow, I am afraid it will be impossible for me to comply with all the requests now in the hands of the Secretary. If I could have the aid of an assistant for the out-door work, one who could take one or more of the classes in Sydney while I was absent, all the requests for lectures might be met, though it might be late in the year before all could be filled."

Under the direction of the Board, notes and analyses were made of the grazing, farm, and garden soils of New South Wales, by the Instructors in Agriculture and Chemistry, at the Sydney Technical College, and the valuable information thus obtained published in pamphlet form for the benefit of farmers and others.

Thirty-eight lectures were delivered in the following country towns by Mr. Angus Mackay, F.C.S., Instructor in Agriculture, in addition to nineteen lectures in the Technical Hall and conducting classes at the Sydney Technical College: Adelong 1, Broughton Creek 1, Burrawang 1, Burrowa 1, Camden 1, Carlingford 1, Cootamundra 1, Crookwell 1, Dugong 1, Fairfield 1, Goulburn 2, Grafton 2, Grenfell 1, Kangaroo Valley 1, Kogarah 2, Lismore 1, Liverpool 1, Milton 1, Molong 1, Mudgee 2, Murrurundi 1, Muswellbrook 1, Nowra 1, Parkes 1, Picton 2, Richmond 1, Robertson 1, Scone 1, Tamworth 1, Tumut 1, Wellington 1, Windsor 1, Wollongong 1.

Twenty-six lectures were delivered in country towns by Mr. S. H. Cox, F.G.S., F.C.S., Instructor in Geology, Mineralogy, and Mining, at the following places during the first quarter of the year, besides conducting classes for nine months at the Sydney Technical College:—Adelong 2, Bega 1, Blayney 2, Carcoar 2, Emmaville 2, Forbes 2, Goulburn 2, Gulgong 2, Inverell 2, Mount M'Donald 2, Orange 1, Parkes 2, Tenterfield 2, Tingha 2.

During the five and a-half years of its existence the Board has been the means, through itinerant science lectures and publications, of awakening throughout the Colony a great interest in the subject of technical education, and the movement has extended to several of the other colonies, as many of their statesmen now appreciate its utility in relation to the applied arts and manufactures of Australia.

Manual Training, &c.

The imparting of manual training to school boys has only been attempted during the last few years in a few schools in Great Britain, while at the same time the experiment was being tried at the Technical workshops in Sydney. The trade classes, recommended by the recent Royal Commission on Technical Education in England, have obtained considerable development in the Sydney College, especially in its departments of Architecture, Engineering, and Art. Practical tests in mechanical work, given to young artisans and apprentices at the annual examinations held for the last four years, have shown that many of them possess considerable manual skill, and that they have also profited by the theoretical instruction afforded has been proved by the answers given to the questions in the papers specially set them by the examiners. Collections for exhibition purposes of models in wood, stone, and other materials made in the carpentry, masonry, plumbing, painting, naval architecture, boiler-making, fitting and turning, and other trade classes have been found to be most interesting, as showing the methods adopted at the Technical College to endeavour to improve the applied arts in this Colony. Some difficulty has been recently experienced in inducing many of the students attending the mechanical classes to make models in metal, wood, or plaster, as several much-prized articles owned by them have been broken in transit to and from English competitions and intercolonial exhibitions. It is also understood that the primary object of the teachers must be to impart instruction in the principles underlying the arts and industries, rather than in endeavouring to give actual training in the trade itself, or in producing finished works suitable for exhibition purposes.

The obtaining of the valuable plant for the workshops in Kent-street has been one of the best means to promote a knowledge of mechanical science amongst the young men of the community. The acquisition of the latest scientific instruments, for illustrating the instruction imparted at the Technical College and branch schools, has been necessarily attended with much expense and difficulty, as the apparatus was specially selected, in many instances, by the President in Europe, and conveyed to this colony. For example, the delicate instruments in the physics room at the Technical College, procured in order to properly illustrate the courses of instruction in light, heat, sound, and electricity, now amount in value to over £1,000. The beautiful statuary, models, &c., obtained from England and France for the school of design, are used by a large number of students attending the drawing and modelling classes. Advantage was taken of the Sydney International Exhibition of 1879 to purchase several valuable collections of engineering models and drawing casts, used in the Polytechnic Schools of Germany, which happily were not lost in the destruction of the Garden Palace by fire. One of the largest items of expenditure incurred by the Board has been for machinery for the workshops, apparatus for the science classes, and models for the art classes; and the cost of imparting instruction in technical matters is therefore necessarily much greater than that for purely literary subjects taught in other kinds of schools, in which comparatively few appliances are required. In order to stimulate instruction being given in drawing from the round instead of from the flat, the Board has allowed teachers of many private schools to purchase at cost price plaster models made by its caster, as these models cannot be obtained elsewhere in the colony. Sets of these casts have also been supplied to the Department of Public Instruction for use in the high and superior schools, and an offer made to furnish them to the primary schools. Many of the educational institutions in the neighbouring colonies have also been furnished with sets of these casts on application.

Sir Phillip Magnus says, with regard to art instruction being given from the round and not from the flat:—"But there is no better way of selecting for further training those children who exhibit any decided art aptitude, than by teaching drawing indiscriminately to all. From those who exhibit such an aptitude the bulk of industrial designers would be formed. * * * * But, in order that drawing may yield its full value as a means of mental training, the pupil must be brought face to face with natural objects. It helps him little or nothing that he can copy copies. He must depict things. He must look at all things till he knows them, and must acquire the ability to represent them on paper. There is this in common between science teaching and art teaching: that both should bring the pupil in immediate contact with nature. It is because drawing may be made the means of directing observation to the form of things that the teaching of it is valuable, apart altogether from the use which the pupil may make of the skill acquired. It is desirable, therefore, that the pupils should be taught from the very first to draw from natural objects. Much difference of opinion has been expressed as to the advantage of letting children commence by drawing from things, but the prevailing practice of the best foreign schools is found to fully support the views of educationists as to the importance of accustoming the child, as soon as he can use a pencil or a brush, to draw from real objects."

Sir Frederick Leighton, President of the Royal Academy, has also recently stated with regard to imparting art instruction:—"I should strongly advise work almost exclusively from the round, and not from drawings and prints."

In order to enable school teachers to receive instruction in free-hand, geometrical and perspective drawing special classes have been held in the metropolitan and country districts, and they have been attended by numbers of the teachers employed by the Department of Public Instruction, in order to gain a proper elementary art training.

Results of Instruction.

The prescribed courses of study in freehand, architectural, and mechanical drawing, building construction, and design must have proved highly beneficial to many colonial trades and industries, as is evidenced by beautiful decorations executed by students on the buildings erected of late years in Sydney, by many articles made in the classes, and from the accounts now given of the methods of instruction pursued by the teachers. A class for imparting instruction in the principles of design, open only to students who have completed a two years' course in freehand drawing, has been held by the Instructor in Art for several years past. It is believed that when the course in design is completed, the knowledge gained will be utilised by the students in benefitting colonial industries—such as stone-carving, terra-cotta work, weaving, illumination, illustration, &c.—more especially as attention is directed to the suitability of the Australian fauna and flora for decorative purposes.

Many young men have gratefully acknowledged that they have obtained promotion to the positions of foremen and to other responsible posts, owing to the superior technical knowledge acquired at the Sydney Technical College; and the certificates given by the Board have been the means of otherwise securing remunerative employment for numbers of late and present students not only in New South Wales but also in the neighbouring colonies.

The following particulars have been received from teachers as to the utility of the instruction imparted by them, and as to situations, promotions, &c., obtained by students in classes under their charge:—The instructor in chemistry at the Sydney Technical College states that several of the students attending the classes taught by him have obtained appointments as managers, assayers, and some of them are now engaged in scientific departments of the Government, and in the employ of manufacturing firms. The teacher of architecture furnished twenty names of some who have passed through his classes and are doing well—some in architect's offices, some as clerks of works, &c. The teacher of dentistry stated that nine students taught by him have obtained situations or are practising through class instruction. The teacher of boilermaking states that three pupils owe their present positions to what they learned in the boilermaking class. The teacher of phonography states that many have brought phonography into practice in the situations they hold, such as solicitors' clerks, &c., and some have become teachers of phonography and reporters for the press. A student on leaving school, some months ago, was engaged as a warehouse boy to a large firm in the city, but one of the principals, having seen a specimen of his shorthand exhibited, sent for him and promoted him into the office. The teacher of elocution states one of his most successful pupil twice received a prize, and some of his pupils have been students for the ministry. The teacher of masonry mentions that three of the students of his class have taken very prominent positions as foremen of masons to large contractors in Sydney; one of them went to Brisbane to be foreman for large buildings for the Works Department, and others have commenced business on their own account. The instructor in geology states that students in his class have received appointments as assistants on the geological survey, and in other geologists' offices, and as manager of cobalt works. Other gentlemen have turned their knowledge to account as curator of the Geological Museum, in positions at the Sydney Mint, and for working mining machinery, auriferous deposits, or as mining and general agent. The instructor in physics reports that he has reason to believe that several students who have obtained certificates in his department have found them of assistance in obtaining positions. The instructor in engineering reports that there are several instances where students have advanced in the workshops through the knowledge that they gained at the college. In many other cases the students have obtained situations and joined classes to better learn the work they have to carry out—such as men coming to learn how to work and clean gas engines for lifts—they being in stores and having the charge of gas engines. Clerks of works have come to learn how to draw, so that they can send sketches in to the office. Engine drivers have come to learn how to repair working parts of engines, so that they can take charge of the engine without the engineer's assistance. All these instances show the great benefits numbers are able to receive through attending the technical classes. The teacher of the cabinetmaking class mentions one clerk who, in the short space of eighteen months, has risen from a novice to be almost equal to a journeyman, and bids fair to become a first-class tradesman. Most of the students are very young, some not having left school. Mechanics also come for a quarter or two to perfect themselves in a difficult branch of their trade, and drop off as soon as they have acquired that knowledge. Under such circumstances, it is hard to estimate results, but there can be no doubt of the ultimate good to young tradesmen and apprentices from the diffusion of this knowledge, otherwise unattainable, among them. The teacher of carpentry reports that a good many students learn hand-railing, stair-casing, and other advanced work, fitting them for competent tradesmen and to receive the standard wages. One apprentice has finished his time, and is now a foreman; his assistant teacher came first as a student and is now also a foreman. Other students have started business on their own account. Direct results in money can scarcely be expected in this department so soon, as the greater number of those who come are school boys and apprentices, whose time is not completed since the college started, and therefore have no chance of promotion. Until very lately, wages in the trade have been gradually reduced, the trade in general depressed, and there has been very little chance of promotion of any kind. But, if trade revives and opportunities occur, there is no doubt that those who have gone through the full course will be able to take the best positions in the trade. The teacher of veterinary science reports that one of his pupils has considerably improved his position with his employers, as he has been recently promoted and his salary increased in consequence of the saving effected by skill acquired in treatment of their horses. The teacher of bookkeeping reports that one of his students who passed, on the strength of the certificate received from the Technical College obtained a position as bookkeeper. The teacher of photography reports that he knows of two members of his class who have been promoted as photographers to a private firm and to a Government department. The teacher of French states that he has had from the pupils many expressions of the high commercial value they place on the knowledge acquired by them in the class. The teacher of Latin states that, since he has taught the class, several of the students have passed in that subject in the matriculation and law examinations; and, this year, one was classified A at the Senior Public Examination. The teacher of cookery reports that she can only state that five out of the eighteen already joined the cookery classes this term are married ladies, and eleven out of forty-four of last term, and that several of her pupils are engaged to be married. The teacher of actuarial science reports that the great majority of his pupils have invariably been drawn from the ranks of the service of the Australian Mutual Provident Society, which has a system of progressive examinations in actuarial science for the members of its staff. In accordance with the regulations laid down, increases in salary are granted annually to those who are successful in attaining the percentages of marks required to constitute a first, second, or third class. Nearly all the tuition of these youths has been necessarily performed in the class under his charge, and several of them have obtained substantial promotion in the way of salary, from time to time, by virtue of the examinations passed by them. The teacher of solid geometry submitted letters received from several mechanics connected with the building trades, testifying to the value of the practical instruction received by them from the teacher, and the promotion to positions of foremen and constant employment as journeymen secured through the knowledge obtained at the Technical College. The teacher of drawing at Paddington reports that there were two or three pupil teachers in his late class at Coogee who, but for the instruction received, would have failed to pass their examinations. The Science and Art Master at Bathurst reports that several teachers in the public service, after attending classes, gained certificates which enabled them to obtain the full

full "D" certificate and improved classification. At least one teacher also was enabled to take the sciences of physics, geology, and botany at the examination for promotion to the first-class. A dispenser, who was a regular student, mentioned that his salary was raised shortly after he had passed examinations in chemistry, physics, and botany, and he considered this increase was to a great extent a recognition of his success; he also proposes going to England to qualify himself for a medical man, and relies upon the information gained in the classes as a means of winning a medical scholarship to enable him to pursue his studies. A joiner, and subsequently foreman at the gaol works, stated that he had found a knowledge of drawing, mathematics, and physics of great assistance in his business, and this training he gained in the Bathurst classes. A student who intends shortly to present himself for the examination of the Pharmaceutical Society, in order to qualify as a druggist, obtained the knowledge he possesses of chemistry and botany in the classes there. A student in the bookkeeping class, who has just been appointed to a local bank, stated that he had already found his knowledge of the subject of great assistance to him. One late student has entered an architect's office in Melbourne, and is continuing his studies in that city, and another has recently received a cadetship as an engineer in the Eveleigh Workshops. The Science and Art Master at Goulburn reports that a local architect applied to him for an opinion respecting one student, who was afterwards taken on as an articled clerk. A coachbuilder, a carpenter, a bricklayer, a sign-writer, and others, have expressed unsolicited acknowledgement of the benefits they have derived from attendance at the classes. About thirty public school teachers have gained drawing certificates, which assisted them in gaining promotion. Three students have become articled clerks in lawyers' offices. The Science and Art Teacher at Maitland reports that the certificates of eighteen students have been accepted by the Department of Public Instruction. There are a number of intelligent lads, in both Maitland and Singleton classes, who are still attending school, and these boys will probably find little difficulty in obtaining situations when the time comes. Five of the students were successful in the mathematical portion of the teacher's examination held recently, and one, who attended the class for technical arithmetic, passed the Junior University Examination in that subject. The art teacher at Morpeth reports that eight public school teachers and pupil teachers attending his classes obtained passes either under the Technical Board or at subsequent examinations under the Public School Department. One obtained employment with an artist in Maitland. The art teacher at Petersham reports that one student, whose instruction was solely gained there, was appointed to the position as the assistant art teacher, and that an apprentice to lithography received a course of instruction which enabled him to be trusted with work of considerable importance. Another student, an upholsterer, attended the drawing class specially to gain instruction to aid him in taking drawings and measurements of rooms, furniture, &c. Another, a carpenter by trade, is now entrusted to superintend various jobs for his father, a coachbuilder.

Collection of Works of Students.

At the request of the Minister of Public Instruction, the Board collected a number of works executed by the students of the Sydney Technical College and Provincial Technical Schools, to illustrate their courses of study, and for comparison with similar collections shown at the Melbourne Centennial Exhibition of 1888. The works executed were principally from the art, architectural, and engineering departments of the Sydney Technical College. The classes in its other six departments were represented by but few specimens as the result of the instruction given in them could not be shown in a similar way. Some of the best articles shown in the exhibition were done by clerks, who, besides learning shorthand, bookkeeping, &c., occupy their spare time in endeavouring to qualify themselves for some manual occupation, instead of swelling the ranks of the unemployed. Hundreds of men have now to deplore the purely literary training given to them in the ordinary schools, which has proved in their case but poor preparation for the battle of every-day life, especially in a new country requiring hardy pioneers to develop natural resources scattered over a large extent of territory.

A pamphlet, describing the work of the Sydney Technical College in its several departments and illustrating its courses of study, was distributed at the Melbourne Centennial Exhibition. A comparative statement was also compiled for distribution, showing subjects in which instruction is given at the Sydney Technical College and Industrial Colleges in the United Kingdom, United States, and the neighbouring colonies, most of which institutions were recently visited by the Secretary when absent on sick leave.

The separate court in which the work of the students was shown at the Melbourne Exhibition, had a frontage of about 50 feet, by a depth of 60 feet, with an external entablature, having the words "Sydney Technical College," supported in four columns decorated with purely Australian subjects, principally the flowers and foliage of the *stenocarpus* and the waratah or native tulip. Upon the top of the structure is the Australian coat of arms and the design for the corporate seal of the Sydney School of Arts, with figures representing Science, Art, and Literature.

The following extracts from the report and copy of award made by the Educational Jury, at the Melbourne Centennial Exhibition, shows that the exhibits in the Sydney Technical College Court obtained the first order of merit and special mention:—"Too high praise could not be given to New South Wales for the exhibit of the Board of Technical Education." "Board of Technical Education.—Special prize for students' work from the Sydney Technical College and Branch Schools; special mention for completeness of organization, large scope of subjects taught, good execution of work by students."

Department of Art.

The studies in the Art Department are organized in the following progressive order:—

- (1.) Practical plane geometry, which realises the plane aspect, the surface of objects or space; solid and descriptive geometry, treating of volume and development, and which, with the aid of isometric projection, proves of great use, not only to pupils engaged in the different decorative arts, but also to those whose pursuits are connected with construction in architecture and engineering. The study of geometry, or the knowledge of surfaces and bodies such as they are, has been dealt with as follows:—Monday night, 1st and 2nd year, practical plane geometry; Tuesday night, 1st and 2nd year, solid and descriptive geometry. Instruction in these courses is given on an average in forty lessons per annum.
- (2.) Following immediately after instruction in geometry comes the perspective course, dealing with surfaces and bodies, not as they are, but as they appear to the eye. This course comprehends parallel and angular perspective, inclined planes, accidental perspective, projection of shadows, and reflection in the water. The class for it is held on Tuesday night, in order that the students wanting to attend it may prepare themselves in the geometry course given on Monday, and the course is of three years duration.
- (3.) Prepared by the initial and indispensable studies of geometry and perspective, the student enters on Wednesday in the first stage of freehand drawing, *i.e.*, model drawing, the course of which extends over a period of two years, occupied by the rendering of straight and curvilinear bodies. Of all the elementary ones, this course is most important, inasmuch as the student has to apply, without the aid of any mathematical instruments, the principles he has been previously made acquainted with. The work in this freehand drawing course lies in the correct representation of solids from the following apparatus: wire models, showing the construction lines, wooden metals, and plaster casts. Combination seats and stands in wrought iron were specially designed by Mr. Norman Selfe for use in the School of Design by the students in freehand drawing and modelling. A large number of the valuable diagrams exhibited were specially prepared by the art instructor (Mr. Lucien Henry) during the last three years, in order to illustrate his course of lectures on design. Several hundreds of the exhibits shown consisted of works from the freehand, model, geometrical, and perspective drawing classes held in Sydney, Goulburn, Bathurst, Newcastle, Maitland, Petersham, &c. Special exhibits were sent from the Sydney Technical College of figure drawing, designs, and modelling

modelling, reproduced from the excellent appliances now in its art rooms. The house painting and decorating classes showed specimens of ornamental panels, decorations, sign-writing, &c., executed by apprentices, which could not be produced in Sydney even by journeymen some years ago. Instruction in freehand drawing is given on Thursday and Friday evenings and on Saturday mornings. This course is conducted entirely from the round, and occupies a period of two years; the first year being for elementary, and the second year for advanced studies. Instruction from the figure is excluded, as this subject is only studied by pupils having obtained their certificates for freehand drawing. The design class is open on Monday and Friday nights to students having completed their freehand drawing course and obtained their certificate in that subject. The course in design is intended for studying the different styles of ornamentation required in architecture, metal-work, glass-work, pottery, textile fabrics, and other pursuits involving the use or application of the decorative arts. The complete art course occupies five years, and the design class deals consecutively with the following forms:—1, Egyptian and Assyrian; 2, Greek-Pompeian; 3, Etruscan-Roman; 4, Byzantine, Romanesque, Celtic; 5, Moorish and Arabian; 6, Gothic; 7, Renaissance-Italian, French, English; 9, Persian and Indian; 10, Chinese and Japanese; 11, Modern; and 12, Australian subjects applied to the decorative arts. The course of modelling has been of two years duration, the first and second year being respectively given to elementary and advanced studies. Having been prepared by the first year's course of the Art Department, students engaged in plastering, terra-cotta, metal or glass-works, are able to make rapid progress. The course in modelling is that for a trade class, and deals with the decorative arts expressed by "relief."

The course of instruction in house-painting and decorating extends over two years, and students have to be prepared for entering it by the first year's training in the art department. This class deals with the decorative art expressed by "color," and proves of great advantage to those students engaged in general painting, who want to familiarise themselves with graining, marbling, oil gilding, sign writing, gilding and ornamental work on glass, applications of decorative designs, &c.

Department of Architecture.

The course of instruction in the department of architecture is designed for evening students, and includes the use of drawing instruments, drawing to scale, copying drawings, enlarging and altering sizes, orders and styles of architecture, working out complete designs of buildings and sketches with partial assistance, draft specifications, coloring and neatly finishing set of plans, inch scale and full sized detail drawing for foremen and clerks of works, &c. Perspective drawing is taught in its application to architectural subjects, and the examples are finished with pen and ink shading. Regular courses of lectures are delivered by the instructor in historical architecture, building construction, materials, sanitation, ventilation, and the principles of design. A class for learning how to calculate quantities should be of great service to young builders, and prevent them from making mistakes when tendering for work. In connection with the architectural department the following trade classes are held, viz.:—Carpentry and joinery, masonry, bricklaying, cabinet-making, and carriage building. During the short time that the architectural department has been in existence its influence has been widely felt, and its marked success has been most gratifying, especially in the annual examinations held by the Science and Art Department at South Kensington, as during the last three years one bronze medal and eighteen third grade prizes have been gained by the students for architectural designs. In the technological examinations held last year by the City and Guilds of London Institute, fourteen students from the architectural school were examined, and every one succeeded, ten receiving first-class certificates and four second class certificates. Of eight students who entered from the carpentry and joinery class seven gained first class certificates and one a second class certificate in the ordinary grade. The scene in the workshops when the students are employed in them is a very busy one, and it is a gratifying spectacle to see the intense interest each one takes in his particular task. A student very often comes to the Technical College with one object in view, say for example to improve himself in his particular trade or in some detail of it, and although he is strongly advised to go through the whole course no obstacle is raised to his applying himself to that particular portion of it that he may need most.

In the Technical College Court there were shown drawings and designs from the architecture class, practical work from the cabinet making class, models and working drawings from the carriage building class, and articles from the carpentry class, consisting of handrails, models of doors, ventilators shutters, windows, &c.

Department of Engineering.

The Engineering Department has its various classes in the Sussex-street and Kent-street branches of the Sydney Technical College, and the work is divided into several sections, viz.:—Mechanical drawing, machine construction, applied mechanics, blacksmithing, pattern-making, plumbing, boiler-making, metal plate working, fitting and turning, and naval architecture.

The number of students on the roll for the engineering department averages about 150, the largest class being for mechanical drawing with 65 enrolled, but many of the students in it also attend other classes. The mechanical drawing class has students principally from various workshops in the city, and the progress made evidences much appreciation by those attending such an institution. In the classes the students acquire the means of conveying their ideas to paper, and obtain proper instruction how to erect or manufacture. The machine construction class is composed of students who have passed through a year's course of study in mechanical drawing, or who can show that they can thoroughly understand its principles. In this class the work is treated in the same way as in an engineer's drawing office, by giving the order to draw a machine or engine for a particular purpose on certain conditions. The strength of the work is then ascertained by calculations on the blackboard, the students taking notes and designing from the information given. The applied mechanics class, which also works in unison with the mechanical drawing and design class, goes more fully into strains and tresses for construction of large bridges, roofs, &c., and also the principles and applications of the mechanical powers. The members of the class have to visit works in progress in various places so as to see the special modes of manufacture or of erection, and the young engineer should attend a one year's course of study in it. The classes in blacksmithing and pattern-making are only now being formed, but a large number of students is anticipated in that for pattern-making. The principles and processes of moulding will also be taught, as well as those for melting and casting, with the adaptability of metals for different work. In this course instruction will also be given in the selecting of timbers most suitable for pattern-making, and the way to cut them to the best advantage. The plumbing class is one that has been well appreciated, and it is trusted that the advantages gained by the theoretical as well as the practical lessons given will soon be of great use to the public, as until the class was formed the young colonial plumber had no means of gaining information on the very important subjects of sanitary plumbing and the best methods of dealing with sewer gases, &c. The boiler-making and metal plate working class has made remarkably good progress since it was started, and the students have gained information in it that could not be learned in the workshop. The construction of templates, setting out and properly proportioning the dimensions of stays, and lining off of templates for bending, &c., are thoroughly gone into in this class. The fitting and turning class is a large one, and advantage is taken of it by apprentices in several of the consulting and civil engineer's offices as well as those at mechanical work, to get an insight into practical work. The students have first to begin at vice work, and learn the art of chipping and filing, and gradually advance up to working the machine tools and lathes. Besides the instruction given by the teacher in mechanical work, the instructor one night in the week gives explanations of various parts of machines and processes of manufacture in large factories. The naval architecture class, though a very important one for a large maritime port like Sydney, is not as much availed of by colonial youths as should be the case; for, although colonial timber shipbuilding is nearly an industry of the past, it might be considered that from

the number of yachting men in Port Jackson many would attend the class in order to understand the principles of construction in their racing or pleasure boats. It is hoped that with a revival of the ship-building trade in Sydney more apprentices will again be employed, when it is probable the advantages of the class will be more largely availed of by shipwrights, boat builders, and others interested in naval architecture.

Curriculum.

The calendar of the Sydney Technical College for 1888 was referred for revision to the Committee of Instructors, and several recommendations contained in the reports submitted by it respecting fees, enrolments, &c., have been adopted by the Board. On the recommendation of the Committee of Instructors it is also now proposed to hold only three terms at the College during the year instead of four as at present, in order to make a longer recess during the heat of the summer months, as is the practice in Great Britain and elsewhere.

Department of Commercial Economy.

With a view to conducting the classes in the department of commercial economy on the lines suggested at the Chambers of Commerce Congress recently held in Melbourne, the Board has requested the Honorable S. A. Joseph, M.L.C., President of the Sydney Chamber of Commerce, to recommend a competent instructor over the classes in that branch of the Sydney Technical College, and this gentleman has promised to submit the matter for the consideration of the body over which he presides. Sir Philip Magnus says in his recently published work on "Industrial Instruction":—"The question of how best to adapt our existing educational machinery to the requirements of commercial life, and of the additions, if any, that should be made to it, is now engaging the serious attention of merchants, manufacturers, teachers, and statesmen. The importance of the question is no longer doubted, and discussion of the subject is invited with the view of eliciting the opinions of persons, who by their knowledge and experience, are able to contribute to the solution of what must be regarded as a problem of national importance. To this end an important conference was held under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce in November, 1887, when Sir John Lubbock, who is specially qualified to speak on this subject, delivered a very suggestive address, in which he pointed out many of the reasons which prevent our children from obtaining in our secondary schools, as at present organized, the preliminary training which might best prepare them for practical and commercial pursuits. The organization in all large towns of evening classes, with a well arranged programme of studies extending over three years, is a necessary part of any system of commercial education. If our clerks are to hold their own against the competition of foreign clerks opportunities must be afforded to them of making up, by evening instruction, for the deficiencies of their early education."

Department of Pharmacy.

Under the direction of the instructor in pharmacy one of the rooms at the Technical Institute has been furnished with the necessary apparatus for teaching pharmaceutical chemistry, materia medica, and pharmacy. The curriculum in this department has been arranged to meet the requirements of the Board of Pharmacy of New South Wales, and the instructor states that about 60 students who have been in attendance at his lectures have become duly qualified chemists and druggists.

Staff.

There are 9 instructors and 41 teachers, &c., employed at the Sydney Technical College, and 3 science and art masters, and 14 teachers and assistants at the branch schools, making the total number of the teaching staff to be 67 persons. During the year 36 different lecturers were engaged by the Board to deliver a number of popular lectures for working men on technical subjects. There were 41 examiners selected by the Board in 1888 from persons engaged in the various colonial industries and the staffs of other educational institutions, who prepared papers in 55 subjects. The examination of classes in suburban and country districts were superintended by local committees appointed for that purpose, to whom thanks are due, and in Sydney by the Board's officers.

Expenditure.

The Treasury advances to the Board from the Parliamentary vote amounted to £16,997 3s. 2d. The whole of this sum has been expended as follows:—Allowances to instructors and teachers of Sydney Technical College and Branch Provincial Technical Schools (exclusive of £2,381 19s. paid to them as fees from students), £7,354 10s. 9d.; administration—salaries, £2,783 13s. 8d.; Sunday duty, £60 10; petty cash, £92 18s. 11d.; rent, £3,336 1s. 2d.; apparatus, £651 11s. 6d.; printing, £193 4s. 6d.; advertising, £421 17s. 6d.; library, £37 18s. 7d.; fittings, £414 1s. 10d.; lectures £529 17s. 3d.; prizes, £158 16s. 8d.; lighting, £390 5s.; stationery, £36 19s. 9d.; general expenses, £534 16s. 2d.

Since the appointment of the Board in 1883 it has received 291 applications for the formation of classes in the city, suburban, and country districts, of which 87 were granted and 204 deferred, owing principally to want of funds for providing the desired instruction. During 1888 there were ten classes formed out of 44 applied for. Women are allowed to join any of the classes, and nearly 500 of them attended during last year, not only in classes specially formed for them in the department of domestic economy—in order to secure training in cookery, household management, scientific dresscutting, &c.—but they have also largely availed themselves of many of the science and art classes with satisfactory results.

Popular Science Lectures.

There were 181 popular lectures delivered during the year in Sydney, at which there was a total attendance of 43,308 persons, or an average of 239 persons at each lecture. These lectures on science and art subjects have been delivered on four evenings in each week in the large hall of the Sydney Mechanics School of Arts, and during the last five years they numbered 937 (including many long courses of a systematic kind) with 210,808 attendances, or an average attendance of about 225 persons at each lecture. The attendances at the popular science lectures delivered in the Technical Hall were as follows:—1884: 187 lectures, average attendance 183. 1885: 196 lectures, average attendance 208. 1886: 190 lectures, average attendance 226. 1887: 183 lectures, average attendance 270. 1888: 181 lectures, average attendance 239. It will be seen that the attendances at these lectures during the five years gradually increased, evidencing that they must have been appreciated by those attending them during that period to obtain information on technical subjects in which they were interested. The lectures were principally intended, for artisans resident in the city and suburbs, who felt themselves too old or had too little time at their disposal to attend classes and undertake courses of systematic study, and also to induce young men to join the classes. Many of those who attended these lectures belonged to the labouring classes and had apparently come from the country districts seeking employment, so that it is believed that much practical information was given them which should prove of use in their ordinary vocations and for opening up new industries. The following steps were taken with regard to popular lectures:—(a) Reports were obtained from experts as to the qualifications of lecturers in the Technical Hall; (b) the applications from agricultural societies, Municipal Councils, Mechanics' Institutes, and the reports of the Board's officers are carefully considered before a lecturer is sent to the country; (c) the reports of the lecturer, of the local authorities, and the statements furnished as to the number attending the lectures, are further taken into account when deciding as to the utility of this method of imparting technical instruction. The lectures delivered in the Technical Hall during the year were given by specialists, when obtainable in answer to applications invited by advertisement, and digests of the information afforded were furnished after delivery for publication in newspapers, so that the instruction given reached a large number of persons

persons besides those who personally attended. For several reasons already referred to it has been decided not to renew the lease of the large hall of the Sydney School of Arts for these lectures on four evenings each week, but arrangements have been made so that introductory lectures can be given by the instructors of the Technical College at the opening of its first session in 1889. The resident masters at Bathurst, Goulburn, Newcastle, and Grafton, also delivered popular lectures on scientific subjects in connection with local Schools of Arts or Mechanics' Institutes, in addition to conducting science and art classes in the branch country schools.

Provincial Technical Schools.

The Board has been most anxious to extend technical education as rapidly as possible throughout the Colony, and has now in operation Branch Technical Schools or science and art classes in the following places:—Bathurst, Goulburn, Newcastle, West Maitland, Singleton, Morpeth, Lambton, Kogarah, Paddington, Petersham, Parramatta, Granville and Glen Innes. The Committees of the Newcastle School of Arts and the Goulburn Mechanics' Institute have erected new buildings, in which better accommodation has been provided for the science and art classes conducted by the Board in those cities. A building has been recently secured for the Bathurst Technical School, as its classes had to be held in three different places in that city for several years previously. The other branch schools are held in buildings rented from the committees of Mechanics' Institutes and private persons, or in public schools granted for that purpose by the Minister of Public Instruction.

The resident science master at Bathurst reports that the present year has been an important one in the history of the Bathurst Technical School, as not only has the attendance at the classes considerably increased, but suitable rooms have been provided, so that the students meet under much more comfortable conditions than hitherto. During the year, 105 individual students have attended the science classes, and 36 in other subjects, making a total of 141. In the science classes for the first two quarters, the number of individual students was 43 and 47 respectively. During the third quarter, there was a sudden increase to 75 individuals. This great rise has not been quite maintained, owing to some of the younger students having dropped off, but at the close of the year there were 60 individual students on the roll. The examinations held in connection with the City and Guilds of the London Institute for Technical Education are becoming more widely known and appreciated. Last year one student passed from Bathurst. This year three passed in gas manufacture, milling, and brickwork and masonry respectively.

The local science and art master reports another year of successful work in connection with the Goulburn Technical School. The total number of individual students who were enrolled during the year is 131. Of this number, 42 have attended throughout the year, 21 have attended for three quarters, 28 for two quarters, and the remaining 40 only one. The average enrolment during the four quarters for each subject is as follows: Theoretical chemistry 21, practical chemistry 4·7, geology 5·7, mineralogy 4, elementary mathematics 12, freehand 8, model 21, geometry 13, perspective 3, mechanical drawing 3, architecture 10·5. The number of registered attendances during the year is 6,021, which gives an average of 128 each week during the 47 weeks in which the school was opened. The work in all classes has been well sustained, and good progress has been made, the majority of students showing a praiseworthy desire to take full advantage of the opportunities offered.

The science master at Newcastle reports that during the last 12 months two classes ceased to exist from lack of a sufficient number of students, namely, that for metallurgy at Newcastle, and the geometrical drawing class at Plattsburg; the former he hopes to resuscitate. The classes for mechanical drawing and building construction have been amalgamated as a class for mechanical and building construction drawing. One new class has been formed, that for mathematics; and others have been proposed, as bookkeeping, for which thirty students entered, and which is now being carried on in the School of Arts as a private class; and physics, for which no apparatus was available, and one for telegraphy. The promoters of these were informed that the classes could not be undertaken by the Board of Technical Education, owing to insufficiency of means. During the year 1888, the entries for the classes in the Newcastle district were 417 in number, averaging 117 per quarter. The entries in the drawing classes were respectively in order, 52, 59, 52, 64. The entries for last quarter, including three day students for metallurgy, amounted to 118. The number of individual students who entered for the classes during the year was 105. The average attendance during the last three months was about 90; and for the year, 79·14. The students' fees during the year amounted to £140 15s. 10d. The following list fairly represents the occupation of the students:—Assayer 1, blacksmiths 2, boilermaker 1, bricklayers 2, butcher 1, carpenters 5, contractors 2, clerks 7, draftsman 1, engineers 14, labourer 1, merchant 1, machinist 1, miners 8, printers 3, photographer 1, private teachers 2, painter 1, telegraphist 1, public school teachers 38, timber merchant 1, news agent 1, journalist 1, watchmaker 1; others are shop assistants, youths of no occupation, clerks, &c. About fifty students went up for examination. The number would have been much larger, but that during the year, from disturbing causes, several students left the classes and the district, and their places were taken by others, who were beginners. This was notably the case in respect to the mechanical drawing class.

Work Performed.

Some of the work performed since the appointment of the Board of Technical Education will be seen from the following statistics:—52 classes have been formed at the Sydney Technical College, in addition to the 28 classes transferred from the Committee of the Sydney School of Arts, of which eight subjects have been discontinued as not properly within the province of the Board, and 45 classes are in operation at the Branch Technical Schools.

There are now a larger number of teachers, subjects taught, and students attending at the Sydney Technical College than similar institutions in towns of the same size in Great Britain, although the latter have been subsidised by the Imperial Government for a great many years.

New classes were authorized to be formed at the Technical College for instruction in scientific dress-cutting, type-writing, and ladies' phonography. Seven classes were also opened in the Branch Technical Schools in the country and suburban districts as follows:—Newcastle—mechanical drawing, metallurgy, and mathematics; Bathurst—bookkeeping; Parramatta—model drawing; Glen Innes—mineralogy; Kogarah—mechanical drawing.

The Board has, from an early period, recognized the importance of associating appropriate honour and dignity with the numerous constructive and manufacturing trades and the useful handicrafts, knowing how powerful an influence the estimation of the world exercises on the judgment of youth in determining the choice of a calling in life. The Board has in practice been insensibly led towards correcting the disparity that has been noticed to increase so disastrously, during recent years, between the producing and consuming classes. The bulk of its numerous educational classes in Sydney are, therefore, for imparting instruction in useful trades and those branches of physical science which underlie them.

Summary of Statistics for 1888.

(1.) Individual Students—	
Sydney Technical College.....	2,077
Provincial Technical Schools	770
Total	2,847

Increase over last year—152 students.

(2.) Average quarterly enrolment in classes—			
Sydney Technical College.....		1,426	
Provincial Technical Schools		733	
Total		2,159	
(3.) Average daily attendance—			
Sydney Technical College.....		772	
Provincial Technical Schools		378	
Total		1,150	
(4.) Income—			
Advances from Parliamentary Vote	£16,997	3	2
Fees received from students and paid to teachers	2,381	19	0
Total	£19,379	2	2
(5.) Number of classes—			
Sydney Technical College.....		72	
Provincial Technical Schools		45	
Total		117	
(6.) Number of Instructors, Teachers, &c.—			
Sydney Technical College.....		50	
Provincial Technical Schools		17	
Total		67	
(7.) Number of Examiners for all Board's classes			41
(8.) Annual Examinations, 1888—			
	Entered.	Passed.	
1st year.....	838	598	
2nd year.....	153	129	
3rd year	9	9	
	1,000	73=673%	of entries
(9.) Popular Science Lectures—			
Sydney, 181; average attendance, 239; total attendance, 43,308; number of lecturers, 36.			
Country, 64; 33 on Agriculture, 26 on Mining.			
(10.) Technological Examinations, City and Guilds of London Institute; 51 entered, 34 obtained certificates.			
(11.) Science and Art Department of Great Britain, 1883—12 obtained classification from the examiners.			

EDW. DOWLING,
Secretary.

NORMAN SELFE,
Acting President.

APPENDIX XVIII.

CHIEF EXAMINER'S REPORT, WITH ITS ANNEXES.

THIS Section of the Department of Public Instruction dealt with the following Examinations during the year which closed in December, 1888 :—

1. The Examination of Applicants for the office of Pupil-teacher.
2. The Examination of all Pupil-teachers, Male and Female.
3. The Examination of Applicants for admission to the Training Schools.
4. The Examination and Classification of Male Students on completion of their Training Course.
5. The Examination and Classification of Female Students on completion of their Training Course.
6. The Examination of Applicants for Classification and Appointment as Teachers under the Department.
7. The Examination of Unclassified Teachers and Assistant Teachers, serving within the Department.
8. The Examination of Teachers and Assistant Teachers appointed, and in charge of Schools.

I.—APPLICANTS FOR THE OFFICE OF PUPIL-TEACHER.

In the selection of candidates for this office, the conditions laid down in the Regulations relative to age, attainments, aptitude for teaching, character, and general eligibility, have not been altered during 1888. It will be seen from the following statement that the number of Examinations for the year is not quite so large as that recorded for 1887; but the results, in the light of efficiency, exhibit improvement.

Examined in Sydney	Eligible	97	Ineligible	120	Total	217
„ Country Districts	„	113	„	61	„	174
Totals.....		210		181		391

The percentage of passes is 53·7 as against 51·5 in the preceding year.

The nature of the Examinations which these Applicants are required to undergo, may be understood from a perusal of the published regulations on the subject, and specimens of the questions employed, will be found in Annex A enclosed herewith.

II.—PUPIL-TEACHERS.

The following will show the results of Examination for the year which has closed.

Advanced from Class IV to III	220	Not promoted	59	Total ...	279
„ „ III „ II	180	„	39	„ ...	219
„ „ II „ I	182	„	30	„ ...	212
„ „ I „ Training... ..	117	„	20	„ ...	137
Totals	699		148		847

The

The percentage of passes is 82.5 as against 60.7 in 1887. In the two lower classes the Examinations have this year been somewhat lighter; but in the others they have been considerably heavier. This was especially the case with those of the Pupil-teachers who, falling within the range of Class I, were candidates for admission to the Training Schools under the new Regulations. The Examination Papers, as a whole, were good—not a few extremely so; and as nearly all had put forth their best efforts to pass successfully, a careful and lengthened scrutiny of the answers was absolutely necessary in order that justice might be done to the Examinees. Specimens of the Examination Questions will be found in Annexes B, C, D, E.

I have already shown in former Reports what is required of these young persons on their appointment to the lowest grade, i.e., to Class IV, and it is scarcely necessary to repeat the details now. Having once entered the Service, however, they are, as the conditions of continuance and promotion, required to advance year by year both in knowledge and skill. They must also be well reported of, as regards conduct and usefulness, by those appointed to guide them and watch over their welfare. Should there be any failure in carefulness, attainments, or efficiency, the course of promotion is necessarily arrested.

III.—APPLICANTS FOR ADMISSION TO THE TRAINING SCHOOL.

Males passing successfully,	49	Ineligible	8	Total	57
Females „	68	„	12	„	80
Totals	117		20		137

The percentage of passes is 85.4, as against 72.9 in 1887. Specimens of Examination Questions employed, will be found in Annex E.

IV.—STUDENTS IN TRAINING—MALES.

Seventy-four Students passed out of the Training Schools for 1888. Of this number, twenty-four (24) were males, and fifty (50) were females.

The following are the Results of Examination in the case of the Male Students. They show the classification provisionally awarded for the sessions terminating in June, and December. I have said “provisionally,” because the certificates gained through Training, are not finally confirmed until three years of satisfactory service have expired.

Recommended for Class 2, Section A	12
„ „ subject to the completion of	
the Drawing	2
Recommended for Class 2, Section B	7
„ „ subject to the completion of	
the Drawing	3
Total	24

V.—FEMALE STUDENTS.

The following are the results of Examination in the case of the Females.

Recommended for Class 2, Section A	14
„ „ subject to the completion of	
the Drawing	1
Recommended for Class 2, Section B	24
„ „ subject to the completion of	
the Drawing	3
Recommended for Class 3, Section A	3
„ „ subject to the completion of	
the Drawing	1
Recommended for Class 3, Section B	3
„ „ C	1
Total	50

The number examined and classified provisionally, was therefore seventy-four (74). The highest certificate attainable in Training is Section A. of Class 2; and the number of Females gaining this grade is not so high as that shown in the record for 1887. It must not however be inferred that the instruction and training have been less vigorous, or less efficient than formerly. The causes of diminished results are often to be found in the difference of “material” on which the Training Officers operate, rather than in the lack of earnest teaching. In some sessions it may be that the candidates admitted are superior in capacity, talent, and perhaps power of application, to those received at other times. Such variations in quality, have existed before, and may arise again. Nor is it to be concluded that those Examinees who win Section B, only, instead of Section A, have failed, or that they will ultimately prove of less value as instructors, than their more fortunate, or more gifted companions, merely because, at a certain stage, they appeared slow of mind. Experience should lead us to be reluctant to blame, or think unfavourably of such Trainees. Backward they may be, for a time, in some subjects—less brilliant and less showy perhaps, as teachers, than some of their companions; but they, not unfrequently, in after days, make up for all this by steady perseverance, thorough work, consistent attention to duty, and an unrelaxing, but quiet vigilance, which avails itself of every legitimate advantage to gain the soundest results in teaching. Specimens of the examination Questions used will be found in Annex F.

VI.—APPLICANTS EXAMINED WITH A VIEW TO CLASSIFICATION AND APPOINTMENT.

Two only of the above class were dealt with in 1888, and they were strangers, not educated in the Colony.

The following are the results:—

Recommended for Class III, Section A	1
„ „ C	1
Total	2

VII.—UNCLASSIFIED TEACHERS AND ASSISTANTS EXAMINED FOR CLASSIFICATION

The number in 1888 examined under this head was, 260.

The following will show the results:—

Recommended for Class II, Section A	1
„ „ B	6
„ „ A	15
„ „ B	53
„ „ C	42
Not recommended for classification	143
Total	260

The percentage of promotions is 45, as against 35 for 1887. Specimens of the Examination Questions employed will be found in Annexes G and H.

VIII.—

VIII.—CLASSIFIED TEACHERS IN CHARGE OF SCHOOLS, AND ASSISTANTS.

The number of Examinations under this section for the year now closed, was 345.
The following summary shows the results:—

Recommended for advancement to Class I, Section A	7
" " I, " B	26
" " II, " A	43
" " II, " B	34
" " III, " A	53
" " III, " B	21
Not recommended for promotion	161

Total

345

The percentage of promotions is 53·3, as opposed to 41·7 in 1887.

Specimens of the Examination Questions will be found in Annexes G, H, and I. These embrace papers on Writing, Arithmetic, Grammar, Geography, Principles of Teaching, Sanitary Science (both ordinary and advanced), Drawing (in five sections) Music, History, British Literature, Geometry, Algebra, Trigonometry, French, Latin, Greek, Geology, Physics, Chemistry, Physiology, Botany, and Zoology.

The total number of Examinations for the year was, 1,919.

Regarded from a numerical standpoint, the papers, compared with the total number of Examinations returned for 1887, show a decline; although the individual examinations themselves were more voluminous as a whole. The decline in numbers is, to some extent, more apparent than real, and may be thus explained. The Examinations in the subject of Drawing (only), were more numerous in 1887 than in 1888. The number of Teachers examined for the higher classifications, was also considerably lower in 1888, not perhaps from any unwillingness on the part of the Examinees themselves to come forward as usual, but because it was necessary that they should possess the Practical Skill required by the Standard, before admission to the Literary portion of their Examination. Previously, they were permitted to undergo this Examination, even though, at the time, they did not possess the requisite Practical Skill.

As regards the results otherwise, although the general issues are not unsatisfactory, not much that is new can be advanced. In almost all Examinations, some subjects are necessarily stronger than others. The weak point with one Teacher, may be a strong one in his neighbour, and *vice versa*. Again, in a course of Examination, some subjects will be more or less defective throughout. In the year of which we speak, the least satisfactory points are those lying within the domain of Arithmetic, Latin, History, British Literature, and English Composition.

On the whole, however, there is a steady upward tendency; the papers are fuller, and in most instances more carefully prepared than in past years. With perhaps one exception, already noticed, the range of promotion is higher. Both Teachers and Pupil-teachers continue to improve.

J. GARDINER,
Chief Examiner.

ANNEX A.

EXAMINATION PAPERS—APPLICANTS FOR THE OFFICE OF PUPIL-TEACHER.

Grammar.

An hour and a half allowed.

All questions, answered, throughout the set, *are to be written down.*

1. *A man's ledger does not tell what he is really worth: [count what he is in himself, not what he has, if you would know whether he is rich or poor.]*

- Parse all the words in italics.
- Analyse the portion within brackets.
- Write a paraphrase of the passage, or give its true sense in your own words.

2. Correct or criticize the following expressions, and give your reasons:—

This road is the best of the two.
Them fish is not good.
He can't see it, nohow.
Who finds him in the money?
She is a misfortunate creature.
I ain't agoing to-day.
If any one calls, tell them I am engaged.

Arithmetic.

An hour and a half allowed.

- $80,200,105 \times 30,409$. Prove your answer.
- 654 articles at £7 13s. 5½d. each: work by practice, and by compound multiplication.
- 1,500 copies of a book of 11 sheets, require 66 reams of paper; how much paper will be necessary for 5,000 copies of a book of 25 sheets, of the same size as the former?
- If 2½ yards of cloth cost 3½ shillings, what would be the price of 4¾ yards?

Geography.

An hour and a half allowed.

Answer four questions at least, the last must be one of them.

- Why are Maps of the World usually represented in two (circular) portions, and not in one, seeing that the Earth is one sphere?
- Distinguish between Parallels and Meridians.
- From what lines or points are Latitude and Longitude measured?
- What is the greatest Latitude any place can have; and what, the greatest Longitude?
- Name the Continents and Oceans of the Globe. Indicate also the positions of the following:—Australia, Australasia, Polynesia, and New South Wales.
- Give a clear Geographical account of the District lying round your Home or School, and within 2 miles of it.

Reading, Prose, and Poetry.

For an Advanced Class Book, sanctioned by the Minister.

Dictation.

See Paper enclosed herewith.

Aptitude for Teaching.

A Lesson to be given to a Junior Class in presence of the Inspector.
N.B.—Applicant's personal statement as usual.

Dictation.

Dictation.

It was Milton, I believe, who said, "They also serve, who only stand and wait."

"This is the story of one who stood and waited. Whether she has served aright, and whom, the pages to come would wish to tell you. If their purpose fail in part, know that the fault is in the tale, and not in the life it speaks of. Faultless she is not, being human. Weak she may be, being a woman; but the purpose of a pure life cannot fail. How should it, being most entirely one of the great purposes of the Almighty? Discourses are delivered to us week by week; and weekly we listen and then forget. But the sermon of a devoted, a holy life cannot thus pass away. Judging no man, condemning no one, from the majestic silence of the lesson comes its power. Day by day to see, is so much better than from week to week to hear. Sermons in stones and brooks, the Voice of the Highest in the cedars of Lebanon; and why not in one formed after His own image? This is the life of a maiden called Margaret.

would	avouch	couch	fowl	towel	slough
would	bough	crouch	foul	trowel	rough
allow	browse	dowry	fuller	marsh	scowl
avow	carouse	drowsy	lounge	shovel	scout

Music.

One hour allowed.

1. Rewrite the following passage, putting in bars in their proper positions:—



2. Write down in order the time-name and pitch-name of each of the above notes.
3. Rewrite the above passage, putting corresponding rests for the notes.
4. Give the length of each or the following notes in demisemiquavers:



5. Explain clearly the meaning of each of these terms:—allegro, forte, pianissimo, crescendo, da capo; show the sign that is used for each.

ANNEX B.

PUPIL-TEACHERS—FOURTH CLASS.

NOTE.—To the Presiding Inspector. Throughout all these sets of questions, and unless where otherwise indicated, please to direct all Examinees to write down every question before proceeding to answer it.

Grammar.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. "Remote from towns he ran his godly race
Nor e'er had changed nor wished to change his place
Unskilful he to fawn or seek for power
By doctrines fashioned to the varying hour
Far other aims his heart had learned to prize
More bent to raise the wretched than to rise."

DESERTED VILLAGE.

- a. Supply the punctuation in the above quotation.
b. Paraphrase the passage.
c. Parse the words in italics.
d. Analyse the first four lines.
2. Construct sentences showing the uses of six of the following words: gay, severe, zeal, craft, appreciate, extremity, manifold, external, mainly, deepen, regret.
3. The nominative to a verb may be a word, a phrase, or a clause. Illustrate this by examples.

Arithmetic.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. Add together $\frac{3}{4}$ of a guinea, and $\frac{5}{8}$ of a pound stg.; from the resulting fraction take $\frac{1}{2}$ of half a guinea; and find the vulgar fraction representing the remainder.
2. How far should 27 tons 10 lb. of goods be carried for £19 15s. 6d., if 100 tons are charged £3 10s. 6d. for a mile and a half?
3. Find, by Practice, the cost of 115 miles 3 fur. 8 po. 3½ yds. of telegraph, at £21 7s. per mile.
4. Divide £20 15s. 10d. stg. between two men, so that one of them may receive one-fourth more than the other.

Geography.

An hour and a half allowed.

Answer three questions.

1. Draw a map of the coast line of New South Wales, showing its projections, indentations, lagoons, &c., as clearly as possible.
N.B.—The map must not be less than ten inches in length.
2. Enumerate, in order of importance, the chief towns of the Colony, south of the parallel of Sydney, stating their positions, industries, and any other facts known to you, relating to these places.
3. Give a full description of Italy.
4. Give a description of England, south of a line drawn from London to Bristol.

School Management.

An hour and a quarter allowed.

Two questions at least, are to be answered, the second to be one.

N.B.—In the first lines of your first answer, give specimens of copy Lines in three hands.

1. Describe what you understand by the Kindergarten System. Explain how it is applied.
2. Explain how you would give a moral lesson on "Courage" to a Class.
3. What measures would you take to secure Regularity and Punctuality?
4. How would you teach Simple Addition to beginners?

Dictation.

Dictation.

N.B.—Inspectors are respectfully requested to caution Examinees against *carelessness in writing*, and against *the use of abbreviations*, or symbols, to represent any word, or words, such as “&” for “and,” &c.

“This tendency towards abstracted observation, discernible in Goldsmith’s poetry, agrees peculiarly with the compendious forms of expression which he seems to have studied; whilst the home-felt joys on which his imagination loved to repose, required at once the chastest and sweetest hues of language to make them harmonize with the dignity of a philosophical poem. His whole style has a still placid depth of feeling and reflection which gives back the image of nature unruffled and minutely. He has no redundant thoughts nor fallacious transports, no ecstasies, but appears on every occasion to have weighed the impulse to which he surrendered himself. Whatever ardour or casual facilities he may have thus sacrificed, he acquired a high degree of purity, lucidity, and self-possession. His chaste pathos makes him a fascinating, if not an insinuating moralist, and throws a spell of Claude-like softness over his descriptions of homely scenes, that would seem only suited to be the materials for a Dutch painting.”

Music.

An hour allowed.

1. Define the following terms:—Staff, unison, octave, slur, bind, pause, syncopation.
2. Place over each of the following notes its name, under it, its value in semiquavers, and after it its corresponding rest:—



3. Write two bars in each of the following Times, introducing a quaver rest, a crotchet rest, and a minim rest:—



4. Define a Major Second and a Minor Second. How many of each are there in the Major Scale? Define their respective positions.

5. How many kind of Scales are used? Distinguish between them.

History.

An hour and a half allowed. Three questions at least to be answered.

1. Give an account of the descent of the Romans upon Britain, prior to the Christian era.
2. Give an account of the struggle with the Danes in Britain.
3. State what you know of the introduction of Christianity into Britain.
4. Give an account of the formation of the first British settlement on Port Jackson.

Euclid.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. Write down all Euclid’s definitions of rectilineal figures accurately and in their order.
2. If from the ends of the side of a triangle there be drawn two straight lines to a point within the triangle, these shall be less than the two other sides of the triangle, but shall contain a greater angle.
3. To make a triangle of which the sides shall be equal to three given straight lines, but any two of which must be greater than the third.
4. If two triangles have two sides of the one equal to two sides of the other, each to each, but the angle contained by the two sides of one of them greater than the angle contained by the two sides equal to them, of the other, the base of that which has the greater angle shall be greater than the base of the other.

Algebra.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. $a = 1, b = 2, c = 3, d = 4,$ and $e = 5,$ find the numerical value of $5a^2 + 3ab + 9b^2 - ab - 2b^2 - 2ab - 7b^2 + 5abcde$
2. Add together $x^2 + y^4 + z^3, -4x^2 - 5z^3, 8x^2 - 7z^4 + 10z^3, 6y^4 - 6x^3,$ and from $7x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x + 2$ take $4x^3 - 2x^2 - 2x - 14,$ diminishing this remainder by $2x^3 - 8x^2 + 4x + 16.$
3. By what expression must $x + y - z$ be multiplied to produce $x^2 + 2yz - y^2 - z^2?$
4. Resolve the following expressions into factors, $x^2 - 81, x^2 + 11x + 30, x^2 - 7x - 44, x^3 + 125, x^2 - 13xy + 42y^2$ and $a^2 + 9ab + 20b^2.$

Latin.

Two hours allowed.

1. Translate into Latin, *without transcribing the English*—
 - a. Which girl’s flowers are the most beautiful?
 - b. She has twenty-two pictures in that house.
 - c. These old men’s legs are very thin and very weak.
 - d. These spurs will be very useful to the horse-soldiers.
 - e. What gift is better than virtue?
 - f. My brother’s horse is swifter than that one.
 - g. These works will be more useful to you than to me.
 - h. The soldiers’ camp is in my father’s field.
 - i. Iron is more useful than gold for you and me.
 - j. War is the cause of many men’s death.
2. Decline these combinations of words.—

Mea similis spes.
Hec longius calcar.
Alia gracilis quercus.
3. Give the comparative and superlative of—humilis, pius, velox, celer, nobilis, malevolus, magnus, arduus, niger, benedictus.
4. Write down the Latin for—a thousand mares, three thousand daughters, eight hundred and two trees, nine hundred animals, the twenty-fourth day.

French.

French.

Two hours allowed.

1. Translate into French,
- without transcribing the English*
- :—

- A. It is more noble to forgive an enemy than to avenge one's self.
 B. My sister is prettier than yours ; but your brother is cleverer than mine.
 C. These books are very much esteemed by my dear father.
 D. My sister has been a little better, but is now worse than ever.
 E. My father's enemies are stronger than his friends.
 F. Bring me some coffee, and put in it some sugar and cream.
 G. My friend's mother has sold her house and garden.
 H. Have you seen my sister's watch, so small and pretty ?
 I. This general's horses are finer than my father's.
 J. These little girls' dolls are prettier than ours.

2. Translate into English,
- without transcribing the French*
- :—

- A. Votre lettre du quinze janvier m'est parvenue le premier février.
 B. Ces ouvrages sont très estimés des savants.
 C. L'histoire est aussi utile qu'agréable et intéressante.
 D. La vertu est plus précieuse que les richesses.
 E. Avez-vous vu mes fleurs favorites, les roses, si fraîches et si douces ?
 F. Il y a quelques défauts dans ce tableau.

3. Write down the plural of each of these nouns—Jeu, sou, voix, travail, bal, aïeul, cheval, détail, fou, bijou, couteau, œil.

4. Write down the feminine form of each of these adjectives—Agé, vif, vieux, net, fier, flatteur, pécheur, épais, mou, long, conducteur, meilleur.

ANNEX C.

PUPIL-TEACHERS—THIRD CLASS.

Grammar.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. "Beside the bed where parting life was laid
-
- And sorrow guilt and pain by turns dismayed
-
- The reverend champion stood. At his control
-
- Despair and anguish fled the struggling soul
-
- Comfort came down the trembling wretch to raise
-
- And his last faltering accents whispered praise."

DESERTED VILLAGE.

- (a) Supply the punctuation in the above quotation.
 (b) Paraphrase the passage.
 (c) Parse the words in italics.
 (d) Analyse the first four lines.
2. Give the origin or derivations of any six words selected from the above extract.
 3. Give examples of the various ways in which Adjectives may be formed from Nouns, and Adverbs from Adjectives.
 4. "That" may be a Relative, an Adjective, or a Conjunction. Give three examples of each.

Arithmetic.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. Show that $\frac{3 \cdot 25 + 2\frac{1}{4}}{3\frac{1}{4} - 2 \cdot 25} = 5\frac{1}{2}$; and find what fraction of half-a-crown is the difference between $\frac{3}{8}$ of a shilling and $\frac{5}{16}$ of a guinea.
 2. Find, by Practice and Proportion, the value of 2,731 cwt. at £4 8s. 9½d. per cwt.
 3. I laid out upon an estate, which cost me originally £798 16s., the sum of £500 15s. How must I sell it to gain 35 per cent. ?
 4. Extract, to six decimal places, the square root of $6\frac{1}{2}$.

Geography.

An hour and a half allowed.

Three questions to be answered.

1. Draw an outline map of the Australian Continent, showing the coast-lines, boundaries, and chief towns of the various Colonies.
 2. Enumerate the island groups of the Pacific lying between the Equator and the Southern Tropic ; or, exhibit the relative positions of the same by means of an outline map.
 3. Describe fully one of the two larger islands of New Zealand.
 4. Give a full description of the table-lands of New South Wales.

School Management.

An hour and a half allowed.

Three questions to be answered, the last to be one of them.

N.B.—In the first lines of your first answer give specimens of copy lines in three hands.

1. How would you maintain a healthy spirit of emulation in your class ?
 2. On what principles would you act in giving rewards to pupils ?
 3. Explain clearly how you would teach Simple Proportion to a class ?
 4. Give notes of a moral lesson on " True Heroism."

Music.

An hour allowed.

1. Define a major sixth and a minor sixth. How many of each are there in a major scale, and where are they respectively situated ?
 2. Define the terms—adagio, accelerando, staccato, decrescendo, dal segno, sforzando, alligretto, a tempo ; and give the sign for each used in music.
 3. What is a sharp, a flat, a natural, a key-signature ? Give an example of each.

4. Write three measures in $\frac{3}{8}$ time. How would you beat such time for your class?
 5. Complete the imperfect measures in the following passage, using rests only—



History.

(Three questions to be answered.)

An hour and a half allowed.

1. Enumerate the authors of the "Old English" period. Specify the literary works of King Alfred.
2. Give an account of Simon de Montfort, and of the struggles maintained during his time.
3. Describe the social condition of England during the time of the Angevins.
4. Describe the administration of Governor Sir Ralph Darling.

Euclid.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. If two triangles have two angles of the one equal to two angles of the other, each to each, and one side equal to one side, namely either the sides adjacent to the equal angles, or the sides which are opposite to the equal angles in each, then shall the other sides be equal, each to each, and also the third angle of the one equal to the third angle of the other.
2. If a side of any triangle be produced, the exterior angle is equal to the two interior and opposite angles; and three interior angles of every triangle are together equal to two right angles.
3. Triangles upon the same base and between the same parallels are equal.
4. To describe a parallelogram that shall be equal to a given triangle, and have one of its angles equal to a given rectilineal angle.

Algebra.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. Resolve into factors $a^4 - 16b^2$, $2xy + x^2 + y^2 - z^2$, $9 - 64a^4b^4$, and $a^3 - b^3$.
2. Find the G.C.M. of $3x^2 - 22x + 32$ and $x^3 - 11x^2 + 32x - 28$, and the L.C.M. of $x^2 - 4y^2$ and $x^2 + xy - 6y^2$.
3. Reduce to their simplest forms the following expressions:—

$$\frac{x^3 - 5x^2 + 11x - 15}{x^3 - x^2 + 3x + 5} \text{ and } \frac{a^2 - a - 20}{a^2 + a - 12}$$

4. Solve $\frac{5x - 1}{2x + 3} = \frac{5x - 3}{2x - 3}$ and $\frac{3x + 2}{x - 1} + \frac{2x - 4}{x + 2} = 5$.

Latin.

Two hours allowed.

1. Translate into Latin, *without transcribing the English*,—
 - (a) All wise mothers wish that their daughters may love virtue.
 - (b) Do not flee, soldiers! The enemy's camp has been taken by our horse-soldiers.
 - (c) My dear sons, take care that your bodies may be vigorously exercised.
 - (d) As soon as I have finished this work I shall take a walk in the garden.
 - (e) The Romans' camp, which has been pitched near the river will be taken by our men.
 - (f) There is no doubt that that brother of yours is likely to injure the State.
 - (g) My daughters have been walking in the garden, singing and adorning themselves with flowers.
 - (h) My dear daughters, obey your mother who has loved you so long.
 - (i) We who have finished our work will be praised by the wise master.
 - (j) You brave soldiers, who have fought so bravely, will be praised by the General.
2. Write down, with the English, the 2nd person singular of each tense, active voice, of *rapio*, *rapui*, *raptum*, I seize, and passive voice of *mordeo*, *momordi*, *morsum*, I bite.
3. Decline in full these combinations of words:—

idem aureum monile.
 ego humilis filia.
 aliud melius donum.

French.

Two hours allowed.

1. Translate into French, *without transcribing the English*,—
 - A. Here is my house, and your cousin's.
 - B. The arm-chair on which I am sitting is very old.
 - C. The house in which I was living is larger than this one.
 - D. Here are two pears; choose which you please.
 - E. Whatever your intentions may be, no reason can justify a falsehood.
 - F. Let us be more attentive and diligent, in order that we may have real and true pleasure.
 - G. My dear daughter, be humane, kindhearted, and generous.
 - H. When we have filled our pockets with pears and apples, we shall go away.
 - I. I shall answer his letter, and wait for the steam-boat till to-morrow.
 - J. Since you are so idle, Mary, I shall not speak to you any more.
2. Translate into English, *without transcribing the French*:—
 - A. Combien de plumes avez-vous? Je n'en ai pas une.
 - B. Chacun d'eux résolut de vivre en gentilhomme.
 - C. L'entreprise est difficile, mais vous en viendrez à bout.
 - D. Un magistrat intègre et un brave officier sont également estimables; celui-là fait la guerre aux ennemis domestiques, celui-ci nous protège contre les ennemis extérieurs.
 - E. C'est une chose à laquelle ma sœur ne condescendra jamais.
 - F. Vos frères n'ont pas dû le rencontrer.
3. Write down, with the English, the third person plural of each tense of *devoir* and *mordre*.

ANNEX D.

PUPIL-TEACHERS—SECOND CLASS.

Grammar.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. "Far as Creation's ample range extends
The scale of sensual mental powers ascends
Mark how it mounts to Man's imperial race
From the green myriads in the peopled grass
What modes of sight betwixt each wide extreme—
The mole's dim curtain and the lynx's beam—
Of smell—the headlong lioness between
And hound sagacious on the tainted green."
"ESSAY ON MAN."
- a. Supply the punctuation in the above.
b. Paraphrase the passage, explaining the allusions in the last three lines.
c. Parse the words in italics.
d. Analyse the first four lines.

2. Give examples of words (six of each) containing the diphthongs *ie* and *ei*; and suggest some general rule regulating their application.

3. *Mine* and *thine* are sometimes used before nouns beginning with a vowel or silent *h*. Give six examples.

4. The *nominative* is, as a rule, placed before the *verb*; but it is often found after it, and at a distance from it. Give six examples.

Arithmetic.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. If £40 10s. 8d. is required to provide 16 men with food for 8 weeks, when flour is 5d. a pound; what sum would be required to supply 15 men with provisions for $10\frac{1}{2}$ weeks, when flour has risen to 6d. per pound?
2. Find, by Practice, the cost of 2 tons 15 cwt. 27 lb. at £5 11s. 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per cwt.
3. Find what part of $\frac{1}{3}$ of an acre is 25 $\frac{1}{4}$ poles? Represent $\frac{7}{183}$ of 28 days as a fraction of $\frac{1}{30}$ of a minute.
4. What is the present worth of £357, due 296 days hence, at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum?

Geography.

An hour and a half allowed.

Three questions to be answered.

1. Describe one of the following:—
a. Palestine.
b. Japan.
2. Give a full account of one of the Californias (Upper or Lower).
3. Enumerate the Rivers composing the drainage system of Southern Asia; and describe one of them in full.
4. Account for the Tides, and trace the progress of the Tidal Wave from its source to the Arctic Ocean.

School Management.

An hour and a half allowed.

Three questions to be answered, the last to be one of them.

N.B.—In the first lines of your first answer give specimens of copy lines in three hands.

1. How do you determine when a School is in a healthy condition of Government?
2. Explain what you understand to be the objects sought by punishment, and describe the means you would employ to gain those objects?
3. Explain as to your class the mode of solving the following:— $(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{4}) = ?$
4. Give notes of a Moral Lesson on one of the following:—"Fidelity," "Gentleness."

Music.

An hour allowed.

1. Write on the staff—treble clef—the key of G major, showing where the semitones fall.
2. Write on the staff—bass clef—the key signatures of A, $A\flat$, B, $B\flat$, D, F.
3. What is a tetrachord? How many are there in the major scale?
4. In key-signatures with sharps, what is the order of sharps?
5. Over each of the following notes write its pitch-name (A, B, C, &c.), under each its time name (minim, crotchet, &c.), and after each its corresponding rest:—



History.

An hour and a half allowed.

Three questions to be answered.

1. Give an account of Cardinal Wolsey, and his influence upon the State policy of England.
2. Describe the popular amusements during the Tudor Period.
3. Give a description of the Plague and the Great Fire of London—1665 to 1688.
4. Describe the discovery and development of the mineral wealth of South Australia.

Euclid.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. To describe a parallelogram that shall be equal to a given triangle, and have one of its angles equal to a given rectilineal angle.
2. The perpendiculars let fall on two sides of a triangle from any point in the straight line bisecting the angle between them are equal to each other.
3. To divide a given straight line into two parts, so that the rectangle contained by the whole and one of the parts, may be equal to the square on the other part.
4. If the square described on one of the sides of a triangle be equal to the squares described on the other two sides of it, the angle contained by these two sides is a right angle.

Algebra.

Algebra.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. Reduce to simple fractions in their lowest terms:—

$$\frac{x^2+x-2}{x-7} \times \frac{x^2-13x+42}{x^2+2x} \text{ and } \frac{x^2-4}{x^2+5x} \times \frac{x^2-25}{x^2+2x}$$

2. Divide the number 208 into two parts such, that the sum of the fourth of the greater, and the third of the less, is less by 4, than 4 times the difference between the parts.

3. Solve the equations:—

$$(x+a)(2x+b-c)^2 = (x+b)(2x+a+c)^2, \sqrt{x+4ab} = 2a - \sqrt{x}$$

4. Simplify:—

$$\frac{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}}{2\sqrt{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{x} \cdot \sqrt{y}}{2\sqrt{y}} \text{ and } \frac{1}{\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{2}i} \text{ also } \frac{\sqrt{12+6\sqrt{3}}}{1+\sqrt{3}}$$

Latin.

Two hours allowed.

1. Translate into Latin,
- without transcribing the English*
- ,—

- (a) It is befitting in good daughters to obey their mother's orders.
 (b) Many citizens were killed when returning from the city.
 (c) It cannot be doubted that you have acted worse than all the others, thou wicked Consul.
 (d) Towards summer we shall migrate into other lands with our father and mother.
 (e) The Romans were able to conquer the Gauls more easily than the Germans.
 (f) The enemy's camp, which was pitched near the river, will be taken by our soldiers in three days.
 (g) Let us always obey the laws of the country in which we dwell.
 (h) Who doubts that it is honourable to die for one's country?
 (i) O, just Judge! you ought to have pity on the wretched girls.
 (j) On the same day on which the poet was born the Gauls' camp was taken by our soldiers.

2. Write down with the English the 2nd pers. sing. of each tense, active and passive, with all the infinitives and participles of
- rapio, rapui, raptum*
- , to seize.

3. Give the English of these parts of verbs:—cant, velitis, ferris, cundo, nolles, fer, amere, vicere, loquere, locutura.

French.

Two hours allowed.

1. Translate into French,
- without transcribing the English*
- ,—

- A. Shall I have the pleasure of answering his letter?
 B. My dear little sister is loved and esteemed by everybody.
 C. We had fallen a-leap, but my brother had got up at 4 o'clock.
 D. My dear daughters, have you not risen too late this morning?
 E. There would be more happiness if everybody were to obey God's law.
 F. Let us endeavour to persuade her to send him some money.
 G. People do not become learned without studying, nor rich without working.
 H. These girls have run over the whole town to find their unhappy mother.
 I. They who serve the country well have no need of ancestors.
 J. These little girls, who amuse themselves the whole day in my garden, are very dear to me

2. Translate into English,
- without transcribing the French*
- ,—

Deux petits garçons, ayant trouvé une noix, se la disputèrent vivement. Elle est à moi, dit l'un d'eux; car c'est moi qui l'ai vue le premier. Non, mon cher, elle m'appartient, répondit l'autre; car c'est moi qui l'ai ramassée. Ils en venaient déjà aux mains, lorsqu'un jeune homme, qui était témoin de la dispute, leur dit: Venez, je vais vider votre querelle. Il se plaça entre les deux petits garçons, cassa la noix et dit: L'une des coquilles appartient à celui qui le premier a vu la noix, l'autre sera pour celui qui l'a ramassée. Quant à l'amande, je la garde pour prix du jugement que j'ai rendu.

3. Conjugate in full, giving the English of the first person singular of each tense,
- tenir and savoir*
- .

ANNEX E.

PUPIL-TEACHERS—FIRST CLASS FOR ADMISSION TO TRAINING.

Grammar.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. ["Heaven from all creatures *hides* the book of fate
Ali but the page prescribed—their present state
 From brutes what men—from men what spirits know
 Or who could suffer being here below]
 The lamb they riot dooms to bleed to-day.
 Had he thy reason would he skip and play
 Pleased to the last he crops the flowery food
 And licks the hand just raised to shed his blood."
 "ESSAY ON MAN."

- a. Supply the punctuation in the above quotation.
 b. Paraphrase the passage.
 c. Parse the words in italics.
 d. Analyse the first four lines.

2. Some words change y into i, before "ous," as "study," "studious"; but others transform the y into e. Give six examples.

3. The relative sometimes refers to a whole clause as its "Antecedent." Give three examples.

4. Give examples of the various sounds which the letters (or vowels)
- a*
- and
- e*
- represent in English Orthography.

Arithmetic.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. If $3\frac{5}{8}$ shillings pay for $1\frac{1}{8}$ yard, how much may be bought for $\pounds 6\frac{7}{8}$?
 2. If 17 per cent. be gained by selling flour at $\pounds 1$ 5s. 8d. per cwt., how much per cent. is gained or lost by selling it at $\pounds 1$ 0s. 9d. per cwt.?
 Find the difference between the sum of the cube roots of 50 and 31, and the cube root of their sum.
 4. Two persons purchase a house jointly. They afterwards, however, let it for a yearly rental of $\pounds 183$ 6s. 8d. What share of the annual profit from the rent should each receive, the one having contributed $\pounds 850$, and the other $\pounds 1,150$, of the purchase money, and the ground rent being $\pounds 44$ 8s. per annum?

Geography.

Geography.

An hour and a half allowed. Three questions to be answered.

1. Define the term "Wind" and show what gives rise to Atmospheric Currents. Describe also what is meant by the Zone of Calms and Variables.
2. Draw an outline map of Cape Colony.
3. Describe fully the conditions on which Climate depends, showing their application to New South Wales.
4. Give a full account of Chili.

School Management.

An hour and a half allowed. Three questions to be answered. The last must be one.

N.B.—In the first lines of your first answer, give specimens of Copy Lines in three hands.

1. What is to be gained by teaching Grammar in School?
2. When do you consider a Reading Lesson thoroughly taught?
3. State your views as to the aims, ends, and working of the Kindergarten System.
4. Give notes of a Moral Lesson on "Reverence for the aged."

Music.

An hour allowed.

1. Transpose the following passage into the key of A :—



2. Write on the staff—bass clef—the key-signatures of C \sharp , D, A \flat , G, E, D \flat .
3. Define the terms—perfect 4th, augmented 4th, major 6th, augmented 6th, minor 3rd, diminished 3rd, minor 7th, and diminished 7th, and write these intervals on the treble clef, commencing in each case from G.
4. How can you decide whether a piece of music is in the major or minor key?
5. What is the order of major scales with flats? How is the tonic of each flat scale found?

History.

An hour and a half allowed. Answer three questions fully.

1. Explain clearly how George the first succeeded to the throne of Great Britain.
2. Give an account of Sir Robert Walpole as a statesman, noticing the times in which he lived.
3. Describe the Rebellion of 1745.
4. Describe Sturt's exploratory journey into Central Australia.

Euclid.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. On the same base and on the same side of it, there cannot be two triangles having their sides which are terminated in one extremity of the base equal to one another, and likewise those which are terminated at the other extremity equal to one another.
2. Construct a right-angled triangle, having given the hypotenuse and the difference of the sides.
3. In any triangle, the sum of the squares on the sides is equal to twice the square on half the base, together with twice the square on the straight line drawn from the vertex to the middle point of the base.
4. If a straight line be divided into any two parts, the squares on the whole line, and on one of the parts, are equal to twice the rectangle contained by the whole and that part, together with the square on the other part.

Algebra.

An hour and a half allowed.

1. Extract the cube root of $27x^6 - 54ax^5 + 63a^2x^4 - 44a^3x^3 + 21a^4x^2 - 6a^5x + a^6$
2. Solve $\frac{x+4}{3x+5} + 1\frac{1}{2} = \frac{3x+8}{2x+8}$ and $\frac{6x+13}{15} - \frac{3x+5}{5x-25} = \frac{2x}{5}$
3. Solve $\sqrt{5}(x+2) = \sqrt{5x} + 2$ and $x^2 + 19x = 20$
4. Find two numbers whose sum, multiplied by the greater, is 223, and their difference 5.

Latin.

Two hours allowed.

1. Translate into English, *without transcribing the Latin* :—

Perfacile factu esse illis probat conata perficere, propterea quod ipse suæ civitatis imperium obtenturus esset; non esse dubium, quin totius Galliae plurimum Helvetii possent; se suis copiis suoque exercitu illis regna conciliaturum confirmat. Hac oratione adducti inter se fidem et jusjurandum dant, et, regno occupato, per tres potentissimos ac firmissimos populos totius Galliae sese potiri posse sperant.

2. Parse the words in italics.
3. Translate into Latin, *without transcribing the English* :—
 - a. Do you believe that our camp which the soldiers have pitched near the river will be taken by the enemy?
 - b. Cæsar has sent two messengers to Ariovistus to ask for the gold he promised.
 - c. Let us go to see Corinth which is called the most beautiful city of Greece.
 - d. My sister promised to come with me to Rome which the Romans call the head of the whole earth.
 - e. The General having heard these things ordered the soldiers to return the gold they had taken.
 - f. After we had finished this work we shall return to Athens, the largest city of Greece.
 - g. I am of opinion that the world was created by God, and is governed by his providence.
 - h. The girls who obey their mothers' laws are to be praised.
4. Write down the principal parts of these verbs :—*tero, vinco, texo, quæro, vincio, morior hæreo, occido, cogo, committo.*

French.

French.

Two hours allowed.

1. Translate into French, *without transcribing the English*,—
 - A. When will you see his sister again? It is necessary that we should see each other soon.
 - B. After the death of this king his empire will be dissolved.
 - C. That sum will not be sufficient to pay his debts.
 - D. My dress was torn, but my dear mother sewed it again very neatly.
 - E. She has not written again; it is a sign that she is coming.
 - F. A wise man never defers till to-morrow what he can do to-day.
 - G. Has not your sister surprised you very much by telling you that?
 - H. My sister has been in great dejection of mind, but the news she has just received has revived her.
 - I. Of all the great French writers Voltaire is the one I like least.
 - J. Truth, notwithstanding prejudice, error, and falsehood, clear its way and penetrates at last.
2. Write down the 3rd person singular of each tense of the verb *écrire*.
3. Translate into English, *without transcribing the French*,—

Un marchand voyageait à cheval, pour aller chercher dans une ville éloignée une somme considérable, qui lui était due; son fidèle barbet marchait à côté de lui. Après avoir touché son argent, il se remit en route pour revenir chez lui.

En chemin le porte-manteau qui renfermait sa bourse, tomba de cheval, sans que le marchand s'en aperçût. Le barbet essaya d'enlever le porte-manteau avec ses dents; ne pouvant en venir à bout, il courut à son maître et se mit à sauter contre le cheval, en aboyant sans cesse et avec une telle force, que le marchand ne savait qu'en penser. Il lui commanda de se taire, ce fut en vain; il lui donna un coup de fouet, mais inutilement.

ANNEX F.

STUDENTS IN TRAINING.

Grammar.

Three hours allowed.

Two questions will suffice for the maximum number of marks—the first is to be one of them.

1. [“ If these be motives weak break off betimes
And every man hence to his idle bed
So let high-sighted tyranny range on
Till each man drop by lottery. But if these
As I am sure they do bear fire enough
To kindle cowards and to steel with valour
The melting spirits of women then countrymen
What need we any spur but our own cause
To prick us to redress] what other bond
Than secret Romans that have spoke the word
And will not palter and what other oath
Than honesty to honesty engaged
That this shall be or we will fall for it.”

JULIUS CÆSAR.

- (a.) Supply the punctuation in the above passage.
- (b.) Paraphrase it.
- (c.) Parse the words italicized.
- (d.) Analyse the portion within brackets.
2. Give examples of nouns that have the same form, singular and plural, and of others that have the singular form only.
3. In how many ways may a noun be in the nominative case. Give examples of each, and explain clearly what is meant by a “ noun in apposition.”
4. In analysis, sentences are met with which begin, some with the extension of the predicate, and others with the completion of the predicate. Give examples showing this.

Arithmetic.

Three hours allowed.

Six questions are required for the maximum number of marks; but candidates for section A are expected to solve the last six.

1. If 500 men excavate a reservoir 800 yards long, 500 yards wide, and 120 feet deep, in four months, how many men will be required to excavate another reservoir 100 yards long, 400 yards wide, and 50 yards deep in five months?
2. By practice. Find the value of 2 tons 3 qr. 19½ lb. at £7 8s. 6½d. per ton.
3. A dealer accepts £19 6s. 3d. in payment of a debt of £20 5s. 6½d. due twelve months hence, in consideration of being paid at once. What rate of discount does he allow?
4. A cistern can be filled by three taps, flowing separately, in 20, 30, and 40 minutes respectively. In what time will it be filled should they all flow together?
5. £5,151 sterling are invested in 5 per cent. stock at 101. The stock, however, rises to 105, and it is sold out, the proceeds being then invested in stock at 102, which gives 4½ per cent. interest. What change takes place in the income of the investor?
6. Solve the following to not less than three decimal places :—
√1·014049
7. A has coffee, which he exchanges at 6d. per lb. more than it cost him, for tea which cost B 3½s. a pound but which he now values at 4½s. How much did the coffee at first cost A?
8. A square apartment, the floor of which measures 32 square yards and 1 square foot, is 11½ feet high. Calculate the expense of colouring the walls and ceiling at 2½d. for every square yard.
9. Two men in two weeks complete a piece of work, for which they are paid £7 7s. 9d. One of them works alternately 9 hours and 8 hours daily; the other works 9½ hours daily during 5 days per week, but remains idle on the remaining day. How should the amount they earn be divided in these circumstances?

Geography.

Three hours allowed.

Four questions to be taken for the maximum number of marks. Write down each question before answering it.

1. Through what regions, tracts, or countries does each of the following pass?
 - The Meridian of Greenwich.
 - The Equator.
 - The Tropic of Cancer.
 - The Tropic of Capricorn.

Any reference to maps in the examination room is prohibited.

2.

2. Describe in general terms the Great Archipelago lying north and north-west of the Australian Continent, giving a more detailed account of one of the most important islands—Java, for example.
3. Describe the course of the Danube, noticing its tributaries.
4. Describe fully one of the following:—
 1. Mexico.
 2. Scandinavia.
5. Account for the Monsoons, and describe their range.
6. Draw lines on an outline map of New South Wales and Victoria, showing their principal and secondary watersheds.

Art of Teaching.

Three hours allowed.

Four questions to be answered, one of them (the second) to be dealt with in the form of a letter to the Minister. Write down each question before answering it.

N.B.—In the first lines of your first answer, give specimens of head lines in three forms at least.

1. In constructing a Time-table for Infants in what respects might it differ from one for grown children, apart altogether from the range of subjects?
2. What do you understand by "Moral Government" in school? How would you secure it?
3. What lessons, in your estimation, are best calculated to cultivate close attention and sustained effort? Give reasons for your opinions.
4. Describe how you would give an Object or Oral Lesson on one of the following. Give full notes:—

An Australian Fig-tree (*Ficus Macrophylla*).

An Arch (constructed of stone or brick).

Presence of Mind.

5. Describe the best mode of teaching Geography. Explain also, if possible, the method employed in German schools.
6. What special difficulties attend the giving of Collective Oral Lessons? Explain how you would meet them.

Sanitary Science.

Three hours allowed.

Four questions to be answered for the maximum number of marks.

Write down each question before proceeding to answer it.

1. Mention the various changes which food must undergo before it can supply the blood with nourishment.
2. What are the Instructions of the Royal Humane Society in relation to Bathing, and accidents arising therefrom?
3. Describe how you would treat one of the following:—
 - a. Bronchitis.
 - b. Scarlet Fever.
4. What is meant by a "Vapour Bath"? In what cases can it be safely employed? How could you improvise one in an ordinary household?
5. Describe clearly the effects of one of the following upon the Human System:—
 - a. Intemperance (in eating or drinking).
 - b. Smoking (Tobacco or Narcotics).

Music.

One hour and a half allowed.

Either Part I. or Part II. to be answered.

Part I.—Tonic Sol-fa Notation.

1. Give an account of the three positions of the common chord.
2. Rewrite the following passage, exhibiting the transition according to the better method:—

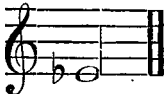
| s : s | m : d | f : f | l : — | l : l | ta l | ta : ta | l : — | s : l t | d' : f | m : r | d : — ||

3. Write notes of a lesson on transition of two removes.
4. Show how to divide a pulse into thirds, sixths, eighths, and ninths.
5. Write the passage in question 2 in the Staff Notation.

Part II. | Staff Notation.

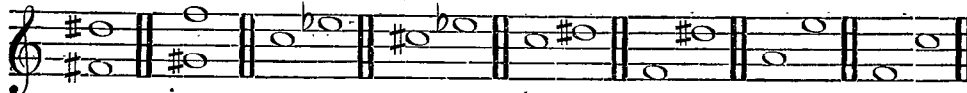
1. Write on the staff in the bass clef the key-signatures of B major, B \flat major, C minor, and C \sharp minor.
2. Rewrite the following passage half a tone higher, making the necessary alterations:—



3. Write this note  in all the clefs with which you are acquainted without

altering the pitch.

4. Write on the staff the notes, their names, and corresponding rests, equal respectively to 16, 24, 8, 12, 32, 6 demi-semiquavers.
5. Write below each of the following intervals its name:—



NOTE.—Students in training must take Part II.

British Literature and History.

Three hours allowed.

Five questions will suffice for the maximum number of marks, provided that they are nearly evenly distributed between the History and Literature.

1. Account for the great advance made by British Literature more especially during the latter half of the Sixteenth Century.

2. Give a concise account of Hampden and his leading Contemporaries.
3. Describe the plot of the "Facrie Queene," and quote a passage of twelve consecutive lines from the work.
4. Describe the troubles in Scotland during the lifetime of Queen Mary (Stuart).
5. Give an account of the administration of Sir Thomas Brisbane in New South Wales.
6. Enumerate the leading Authors of the Elizabethan Age, and describe one Work composed by any of the more eminent prose writers.
7. Give an outline of the "Faustus," of Marlowe; or, failing this, of any one of the standard tragedies of the Shakesperian School.

Geometry.

Three hours allowed.

N.B.—Six of the following, well answered, will suffice for the maximum number of marks :—

1. If a quadrilateral have two of its opposite sides parallel, and the two others equal but not parallel, any two of its opposite angles are together equal to two right angles.
2. If a side of a triangle be produced the exterior angle is equal to the two interior and opposite angles, and the three interior angles of every triangle are together equal to two right angles.
3. Show that in a straight line, divided as in the 11th Prop. of the 2nd Book, the rectangle contained by the sum and difference of the parts is equal to the rectangle contained by the parts.
4. To divide a given straight line into two parts so that the rectangle contained by the whole and one of the parts may be equal to the square of the other part.
5. To describe a square that shall be equal to a given rectilineal figure.
6. Draw a straight line to touch each of two given circles.
7. Equal straight lines in a circle are equally distant from the centre, and those which are equally distant from the centre are equal to one another.

Algebra.

Three hours allowed.

N.B.—Six of the following numbers, well answered, will secure a pass for 2 A.

1. Extract the cube root of $x^3 - 3x^2y + 3xy^2 - y^3 + 8x^3 + 6x^2z - 12xyz + 6y^2z + 12xz^2 - 12yz^2$.
2. Find the G.C.M. of $x^3 - (2a + b)x^2 + (2ab + a^2)x - a^2b$, and $3x^2 - (4a + 2b)x + 2ab + a^2$; and the L.C.M. of $x^3 + ax^4 + a^2x^3 + a^3x^2 + a^4x + a^5$, and $x^5 - ax^4 + a^2x^3 - a^3x^2 + a^4x - a^5$.
3. Simplify $\left(\frac{x}{x-y} - \frac{y}{x+y}\right) \div \left(\frac{x^2}{x^2+y^2} + \frac{y^2}{x^2-y^2}\right)$ and $\left(\frac{2x}{x+y} + \frac{y}{x-y} - \frac{y^2}{x^2-y^2}\right) \div \left(\frac{1}{x+y} + \frac{x}{x^2-y^2}\right)$
4. Multiply $a^{\frac{5}{2}} - 2a^2b^{\frac{1}{2}} + 4a^{\frac{3}{2}}b^{\frac{3}{2}} - 8ab + 16a^{\frac{1}{2}}b^{\frac{5}{2}} - 32b^{\frac{5}{2}}$ by $a^{\frac{1}{2}} + 2b^{\frac{1}{2}}$, and extract the square root of $9a^2 - 6ab + 30ac + 6ad + b^2 - 10bc - 2bd + 25c^2 + 10cd + d^2$.
5. Solve $3x + 5y = 76$
 $4x + 6z = 108$
 $5z + 7y = 106$
and $\sqrt{9x+4} + \sqrt{9x-1} = 3$.
6. An officer can form his men into a hollow square, 4 deep; and also into a hollow square, 8 deep; the front, in the second square, contains 16 men fewer than that in the first; find the number of men.
7. Solve $4x^2 + 9xy = 190$ } and $x^3 + y^3 = 2728$ }
 $4x - 5y = 10$ } and $x^2 - xy + y^2 = 124$ }
8. Solve $\sqrt{2x+4} - \sqrt{\frac{x}{2}+6} = 1$, and $\frac{1}{\sqrt{x+1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x-1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2-1}}$

French.

1. Translate into English, *without transcribing the French*,—

A. Le maréchal Stenau ne perdit pas un moment; à peine aperçut-il les Suédois qu'il fondit sur eux avec la meilleure partie de sa cavalerie. Le choc violent de cette troupe tombant sur les Suédois dans l'instant qu'ils formaient leurs bataillons, les mit en désordre; ils s'ouvrirent, ils furent rompus et poursuivis jusque dans la rivière. Le roi de Suède les rallia le moment d'après au milieu de l'eau, aussi aisément que s'il eût fait une revue. Alors ses soldats, marchant plus serrés qu'auparavant, repoussèrent le maréchal Stenau et s'avancèrent dans la plaine. Stenau sentit que ses troupes étaient étonnées; il les fit retirer en habile homme dans un lieu sec, flanqué d'un marais et d'un bois où était son artillerie. L'avantage du terrain, et le temps qu'il avait donné aux Saxons de revenir de leur première surprise, leur rendit tout leur courage.

B. C'est lui qui a établi des hussards en Russie. Enfin il a eu jusqu'à une école d'ingénieurs dans un pays où personne ne savait avant lui les éléments de la géométrie. Il était bon ingénieur lui-même; mais surtout il excellait dans tous les arts de la marine; bon capitaine de vaisseau, habile pilote, bon matelot, adroit charpentier, et d'autant plus estimable dans ces arts qu'il était né avec une crainte extrême de l'eau; il ne pouvait dans sa jeunesse passer sur un pont sans frémir: il faisait fermer alors les volets de bois de son carrosse; le courage et le génie domptèrent en lui cette faiblesse machinale.

Il fit construire un beau port auprès d'Azoph, à l'embouchure du Tanaïs: il voulait y entretenir des galères, et dans la suite, croyant que ces vaisseaux longs, plats, et légers, devaient réussir dans la mer Baltique, il en a fait construire plus de trois cents dans sa ville favorite de Pétersbourg: il a montré à ses sujets l'art de les bâtir avec du simple sapin, et celui de les conduire.

2. Translate into French, *without transcribing the English*,—

A. After having finished this work, I shall go to pay a visit to my mother.
B. Whatever your opinion on this subject may be, do all you can to relieve the miserable girl.
C. The lady you heard playing is going to sing this song that I composed.
D. The girls you have taught are now trying to teach their little sisters.
E. When walking in my garden this morning, I found my little daughter crying bitterly.
F. The roses I have brought you are the finest I could find in the whole garden.
G. The books I wished you to read are full of facts that will be very useful to you.
H. Those songs you have heard sung this morning, have been much praised by my father.

3. Write down in a tabular form the 1st pers. plur. pres. indic., 3rd sing. pret. def., 2nd plur. pres. imperative, 3rd plur. pres. cond., 3rd sing. imperf. subj. of *peindre, pouvoir, tenir, se promener*.

STUDENTS IN TRAINING.

Latin.

Three hours allowed.

1. Translate into English, *without transcribing the Latin*,—

- (a) Postquam id animum advertit, copias suas Cæsar in proximum collem subducit, equitatumque, qui sustineret hostium impetum, misit. Ipse interim in colle medio triplicem aciem instruxit legionum quatuor veteranorum, ita uti supra se in summo jugo duas legiones, quas in Gallia citeriore proxime conscripserat, et omnia auxilia collocaret, ac totum montem hominibus completeret; interea sarcinas in unum locum conferri, et eum ab his, qui in superiore acie constiterant, muniri jussit. Helvetii cum omnibus suis carris secuti impedimenta in unum locum contulerunt; ipsi confertissima acie, rejecto nostro equitatu, phalange facta, sub primam nostram aciem successerunt.
- (b) Hæc sibi esse curæ: frumentum Sequanos subministrare, jamque esse in agris frumenta matura; de itinere ipsos brevi tempore judicatu. Quod non fore dicto audientes neque signa latenti dicantur, nihil [se ea re commoveri; scire enim, quibuscunque exercitus dicto audiens non fuerit, aut male re gesta fortunam defuisse, aut aliquo facinore comperto avaritiam esse convictam: suam innocentiam perpetua vita, felicitatem Helvetiorum bello esse perspectam. Itaque se, quod in longiorem diem collaturus fuisset, representaturum, et proxima nocte de quarta vigilia castra moturum, ut quam primum intelligere posset, utrum apud eos pudor atque officium an timor valeret. Quod si præterea nemo scquatur, tamen se cum sola decima legione iturum, de qua non dubitaret, sibi que eam prætoriam cohortem futuram.

2. Parse the words in italics.

3. Turn the speech in extract B into *Oratio recta*.4. Translate into Latin, *without transcribing the English*,—

- (a) Having pitched his camp near the river, the general was about to draw up his line of battle.
- (b) I am of opinion that virtue is to be prized by all good girls.
- (c) The more you love your parents and follow after virtue, the more happy you will be, my dear sister.
- (d) Having exhorted his fellow citizens to fight bravely for the republic, he promised to be at their head in time of danger.
- (e) When you have taken the camp which the Germans have pitched in the middle of the plain, you must advance to Marseilles as quickly as possible.
- (f) Do you believe that we must all die?
- (g) At what price do you value this field? I believe it is not worth as much as that house.
- (h) After this speech had been delivered, the sentiments of all the bystanders were wonderfully changed, and the greatest alacrity and keenness for going on with the war were engendered.

5. Decline these combinations of words:—

alius præceps vir.
hæc vetus domus.
quod longius rete.

and give the principal parts of—occido, impello, pango, depingo, cohæreo, cogo, comburo, texo, contero, surgo.

Mathematics.

Three hours allowed.

1. A person observes the elevation of a tower to be 60° , and, on retiring from it 100 yards further, he finds the elevation to be 30° . Determine the height of the tower.

2. Prove these formulæ:—

$$a. \quad \frac{\cot. \frac{1}{2} A}{\cot. A} = 1 + \sec. A.$$

$$b. \quad \frac{\sin. A + \sin. 2A}{\cos. A + \cos. 2A} = \tan. \frac{3}{2} A.$$

2. Given $AB = 250$ yds., $AC = 160$ yds., and $A = 60^\circ$. Find the area of the triangle.

4. Solve the equations—

$$A. \quad \left. \begin{aligned} 3x^2 + xy + 3y^2 &= 8\frac{1}{3} \\ 8x^2 - 3xy + 8y^2 &= 17\frac{2}{3} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$B. \quad x^3 + 3x = a^3 - \frac{1}{a^3}$$

5. If $a + b + c + d = 2s$, prove that $4(ab + cd)^2 - (a^2 + b^2 - c^2 - d^2)^2 = 16(s - a)(s - b)(s - c)(s - d)$.

6. Find by the binomial theorem an approximate value of $\sqrt[7]{108}$.

7. If two circles touch externally, and a common tangent be drawn not passing through the point of contact; then the square of this tangent shall be equal to the rectangle of the diameters of the circles.

8. If the side of a hexagon inscribed in a circle be produced to equal the side of the inscribed square, a tangent to the circle from the extremity of the produced line will be equal to the side of the inscribed octagon.

Science.

Three hours allowed.

- Give a general account of the occurrence, preparation, and properties of iodine.
- Calculate the percentage composition of sulphuric and nitric acids.
 $H = 1, N = 14, O = 16, S = 32.$
- State the names of the following substances, and one method of preparation of each:
 $HCl, CO, P_2O_5, H_2S, NH_3, HNO_3.$
- Give some explanation of the phenomenon of lightning. What is the supposed use of lightning conductors?
- What is a magnet? How would you make one?
- Mention some of the principal causes which produce variation in the amount of CO_2 exhaled by the lungs.
- Describe fully the circulation of the blood.

ANNEX G.

THIRD-CLASS TEACHERS.

Grammar.

Three hours allowed.

Two questions, fully answered, will suffice for the maximum number of marks for 3 C or for 3 B, the first being one. Write down each question before proceeding to answer it; *all through this set the same practice is to be observed, unless otherwise instructed on the question paper.*

1. "Recall the traveller whose altered form
Has borne the buffet of the mountain storm
And who will first his fond impatience meet
His faithful dog's already at his feet
[Yes though the porter spurn him from the door
Though all that knew him know his face no more
His faithful dog shall tell his joy to each
With that mute eloquence which passes speech]
And see the master but returns to die
Yet who shall bid the watchful servant fly."

"PLEASURES OF MEMORY."

- (a) Supply the punctuation in the above passage.
(b) Paraphrase, or give its substance in other words.
(c) Parse the words printed in italics.
(d) Analyse the portion enclosed in brackets.
2. The same word may represent different parts of speech, according to the office it has to fill in the sentence, or the ideas to be expressed. Give six varied examples.
3. Give six examples of words pronounced alike, but spelled differently, showing also their applications.
4. Construct sentences showing the use of any seven of the following words, giving the derivations where possible:—

exhaust	degreo	grade	proscribe
foreign	adore	mellow	depict
data	apparatus	citron	languish

Arithmetic.

Three hours allowed.

Five questions have to be solved for Class 3, section C; six for 3 B; and candidates for 3 A are expected to solve the last six at least.

1. How long will it take a man to walk 16 miles, if he should take 110 steps of $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet each every minute?
2. Divide 28 tons 4 cwt. 3 qr. into 36 equal portions, and find the value of one of them (in two ways) at the rate of £7 10s. 8d. per cwt.
3. By practice, find the value of $644\frac{3}{8}$ packages, at £10 14s. 10½d. each.
4. A man, his wife, and three children earn twenty-seven shillings and sixpence per week. The wife earns twice as much as each child, and the man three times as much as his wife. What is the man's weekly earnings?
5. In what time will £142 10s. amount to £227 5s. 9d. at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum?
6. A can do a piece of work in 50 days, B in 60 days, and C in 75 days. If all worked together, in what time could they do it?
7. Solve one of the following, giving the answer both as a Vulgar Fraction and as a Decimal:—

$$(a) \left\{ \frac{3}{8} + \cdot 061 \right\} \times \left\{ \cdot 02 - \cdot 003 \right\}$$

$$(b) \left\{ \cdot 0672 \div \cdot 006 \right\}$$

8. If 15 horses and 148 sheep can be kept during 9 days for £75 15s., what sum will keep 10 horses and 132 sheep for 8 days, supposing 5 horses to eat as much as 4 sheep?
9. A grocer buys 10 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb. of molasses for £30, and pays 12s. 6d. more for expenses. How should he sell it per lb. so as to clear £15 6s. 3d. by the transaction?

Geography.

Three hours allowed.

Four questions to be answered for the maximum number of marks.

1. Compare Europe and Australia as Continents.
2. On an outline map of Europe, show how you would draw lines so as to indicate the course of its principal watersheds.
3. Draw a map of Australia, marking the boundaries of all its Colonies, the capitals, and courses of the Rivers Murray and Darling.
4. A ship sails from Cronstadt to Sebastopol, touching at Bordeaux on the way. Through what seas, gulfs, straits, &c., will she successively pass in order to reach her destination?
5. Describe clearly the drainage of New South Wales—Pacific slope.

School Management.

Three hours allowed.

Four questions to be answered for the requisite number of marks.

One, the first, to be dealt with in the form of a letter to the Minister.

- N.B.—In the first lines of your first answer, give specimens of copy-lines in "text," "round," and "small" hands.
1. What is the cause of noise in school? What measures may be taken to prevent it?
2. What is the difference between "Collective" and "Simultaneous" Teaching? Explain fully.
3. What is stated in the Regulations as to the duties of Teachers?
4. It has been said that the worst Penmanship differs from the best in three particulars only, or at most four. How could you prove this to your pupils, with a view of acquiring decided excellence in Writing?
5. Describe the essential characteristics of a good Reading Lesson?

Domestic Economy.

Three hours allowed.

Four questions to be fully answered for the maximum number of marks. The last should be one.

1. For what purpose is the blood taken to the lungs? How is it conveyed to and from these organs?
- 2.

2. How would you make one of the following :—
Mutton Broth?
Yorkshire Pudding?
3. *Accidents*.—How would you act in the following cases :—
The occurrence of a "severe cut"?
Do. of a "burn" or "scald"?
4. Describe how, without a slavish adherence to fashion, you could, in the Australian climate, most appropriately and economically clothe a young family of boys and girls.
5. Show the advantage to girls of respectable Domestic Service, as opposed to comparative idleness at home, on the one hand, or Factory Life on the other.
6. What, in your opinion, may lead to Intemperance in Husbands, and their desertion of Home?

Music.

An hour and a half allowed.

Either Part I or Part II to be answered.

Part I—Tonic Sol-fa Notation.

1. Draw a modulator exhibiting transitions into the first Flat and Sharp Keys. Explain the advantages of the modulator in teaching Singing.
2. Write a chromatic scale exhibiting all the accidentals with which you are acquainted.
3. Explain fully the difference between a major and a minor scale.
4. Write a time exercise in four-pulse measure, showing notes of one, two, and three pulses, three-quarters, half, and quarter-pulse notes; also rests corresponding with each of these.
5. What signs and terms are used to indicate the various shades of expression in music? Explain the meaning of each.

Part II—Staff Notation.

1. Add correct time-signatures to the following bars of music :—



2. Show on the staff the four clefs—Alto, Tenor, Bass, Treble; and write the scale of A major in the Bass and Treble clefs.
3. How is duration of sound represented in the Staff notation? Name each of the notes and exhibit them on the staff with their corresponding rests.
4. Re-write the bars in Question 1, using rests instead of notes.
5. Explain the meaning of each of the following signs :—

\S , \langle , \rangle , \frown , *sf*, *D.C.*, *ad lib.*

History.

Three hours allowed.

Four questions to be fully answered for the maximum number of marks.

1. In English History, what is meant by the "Conquest"? Describe its more immediate effects upon England.
2. Enumerate the monarchs of the Plantagenet Dynasty. Give the date of the accession of each, and the length of each reign.
3. Give a concise account of the wars of the Roses, and show their effects upon the nation at large.
4. Name the prominent statesmen who guided public affairs in the reign of Elizabeth, stating what you know of the character of her Chief Minister.
5. Give your views as to the character and policy of Charles the First.
6. Describe the career of one of the following :—

William Pitt.
General Wolfe.
Cardinal Wolsey.

ANNEX H.

SECOND-CLASS TEACHERS.

Grammar.

Three hours allowed.

Two questions will suffice for the maximum number of marks—the first is to be one of them.

1. ["If these be motives weak break off betimes
And every man hence to his idle bed
So let high-sighted tyranny range on
Till each man drop by lottery But if these
As I am sure they do bear fire enough
To kindle cowards and to steel with valour
The melting spirits of women then *countrymen*
What need we any spur but our own cause
To prick us to redress] what *other bond*
Than secret Romans that *have spoke* the word
And *will not palter* and what other oath
Than honesty to honesty engaged
That this *shall be* or we will fall for it."]
- JULIUS CÆSAR.
- a. Supply the punctuation in the above passage.
 - b. Paraphrase it.
 - c. Parse the words italicized.
 - d. Analyse the portion within brackets.
2. Give examples of nouns that have the same form, singular and plural, and of others that have the singular form only.
 3. In how many ways may a noun be in the nominative case? Give examples of each, and explain clearly what is meant by a "noun in apposition."
 4. In Analysis, sentences are met with which begin, some with the extension of the predicate, and others with the completion of the predicate. Give examples showing this.

Arithmetic.

Arithmetic.

Three hours allowed.

Six questions are required for the maximum number of marks ; but candidates for Section A are expected to solve the last six.

1. If 500 men excavate a reservoir 800 yards long, 500 yards wide, and 120 feet deep in 4 months, how many men will be required to excavate another reservoir, 100 yards long, 400 yards wide, and 50 yards deep in 5 months ?
2. By Practice. Find the value of 2 tons 3 qr. 19½ lb., at £7 8s. 6½d. per ton.
3. A dealer accepts £19 6s. 3d. in payment of a debt of £20 5s. 6½d., due 12 months hence, in consideration of being paid at once. What rate of discount does he allow ?
4. A cistern can be filled by 3 taps, flowing separately, in 20, 30, and 40 minutes respectively ? In what time will it be filled should they all flow together ?
5. £5,151 sterling are invested in 5 per cent. stock at 101. The stock, however, rises to 105, and it is sold out, the proceeds being then invested in stock at 102, which gives 4¼ per cent. interest. What change takes place in the income of the investor ?
6. Solve the following to not less than three decimal places :—

$$\sqrt{1.014049}$$

7. A has coffee, which he exchanges at 6d. per lb. more than it cost him, for tea which cost B 3½s. a pound, but which he now values at 4½s. How much did the coffee at first cost A ?
8. A square apartment, the floor of which measures 32 square yards and 1 square foot, is 11½ feet high. Calculate the expense of colouring the walls and ceiling at 2½d. for every square yard.
9. Two men in 2 weeks complete a piece of work, for which they are paid £7 7s. 9d. One of them works alternately 9 hours and 8 hours daily ; the other works 9½ hours daily during 5 days per week, but remains idle on the remaining day. How should the amount they earn be divided in these circumstances ?

Geography.

Three hours allowed.

Four questions to be taken for the maximum number of marks. Write down each question before answering it.

1. Through what regions, tracts, or countries does each of the following pass ?

The Meridian of Greenwich.
The Equator.
The Tropic of Cancer.
The Tropic of Capricorn.

Any reference to maps in the examination room is prohibited.

2. Describe in general terms the Great Archipelago lying north and north-west of the Australian Continent, giving a more detailed account of one of the most important Islands - Java, for example.
3. Describe the course of the Danube, noticing its tributaries.
4. Describe fully one of the following :—
 1. Mexico.
 2. Scandinavia.
5. Account for the Monsoons, and describe their range.
6. Draw lines on an outline map of New South Wales and Victoria, showing their principal and secondary watersheds.

Art of Teaching.

Three hours allowed.

Four questions to be answered, one of them (the second) to be dealt with in the form of a letter to the Minister. Write down each question before answering it.

N.B.—In the first lines of your first answer, give specimens of head lines in three forms at least.

1. In constructing a Time-table for Infants, in what respects might it differ from one for grown children, apart altogether from the range of subjects ?
2. What do you understand by "Moral Government" in school ? How would you secure it ?
3. What lessons, in your estimation, are best calculated to cultivate close attention and sustained effort ? Give reasons for your opinions.
4. Describe how you would give an Object or Oral Lesson on one of the following. Give full notes :—

An Australian Fig-tree (*Ficus Macrophylla*)
An Arch (constructed of stone or brick.)
Presence of Mind.

5. Describe the best mode of teaching Geography. Explain also, if possible, the method employed in German schools.
6. What special difficulties attend the giving of Collective Oral Lessons ? Explain how you would meet them.

Sanitary Science.

Three hours allowed.

Four questions to be answered for the maximum number of marks.

Write down each question before proceeding to answer it.

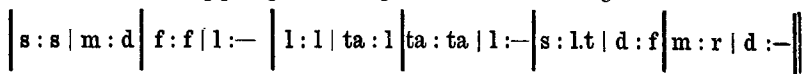
1. Mention the various changes which food must undergo before it can supply the blood with nourishment.
2. What are the Instructions of the Royal Humane Society in relation to Bathing, and accidents arising therefrom ?
3. Describe how you would treat one of the following :—
 - a. Bronchitis,
 - b. Scarlet Fever.
4. What is meant by a "Vapour Bath" ? In what cases can it be safely employed ? How could you improvise one in an ordinary household ?
5. Describe clearly the effects of one of the following upon the Human System :—
 - a. Intemperance (in eating or drinking).
 - b. Smoking (Tobacco or Narcotics).

Music.

One hour and a half allowed.
Either Part I or Part II to be answered.

Part I.—Tonic Sol-fa Notation.

1. Give an account of the three positions of the common chord.
2. Rewrite the following passage, exhibiting the transition according to the better method :—

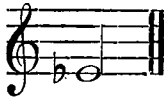


3. Write notes of a lesson on transition of two removes.
4. Show how to divide a pulse into thirds, sixths, eighths, and ninths.
5. Write the passage in question 2 in the Staff Notation.

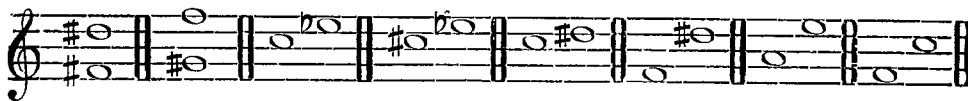
Part II.—Staff Notation.

1. Write on the staff in the bass clef the key-signatures of B major, B \flat major, C minor, and C \sharp minor.
2. Rewrite the following passage half a tone higher, making the necessary alterations :—



3. Write this note  in all the clefs with which you are acquainted without altering the pitch.

4. Write on the staff the notes, their names, and corresponding rests, equal respectively to 16, 24, 8, 12, 32, 6 demi-semiquavers.
5. Write below each of the following intervals its name :—



NOTE.—Students in training must take Part II.

British Literature and History.

Three hours allowed.

Five questions will suffice for the maximum number of marks, provided that they are nearly evenly distributed between the History and Literature.

1. Account for the great advance made by British Literature more especially during the latter half of the Sixteenth Century.
2. Give a concise account of Hampden and his leading Contemporaries.
3. Describe the plot of the "Faerie Queene," and quote a passage of twelve consecutive lines from the work.
4. Describe the troubles in Scotland during the lifetime of Queen Mary (Stuart).
5. Give an account of the administration of Sir Thomas Brisbane in New South Wales.
6. Enumerate the leading Authors of the Elizabethan Age, and describe one Work composed by any of the more eminent prose writers.
7. Give an outline of the "Faustus," of Marlowe; or, failing this, of any one of the standard tragedies of the Shakesperian School.

Geometry.

Three hours allowed.

N.B.—Six of the following, well answered, will suffice for the maximum number of marks.

1. If a quadrilateral have two of its opposite sides parallel, and the two others equal but not parallel, any two of its opposite angles are together equal to two right angles.
2. If a side of a triangle be produced, the exterior angle is equal to the two interior and opposite angles, and the three interior angles of every triangle are together equal to two right angles.
3. Show that in a straight line, divided as in the 11th Prop. of the 2nd Book, the rectangle contained by the sum and difference of the parts is equal to the rectangle contained by the parts.
4. To divide a given straight line into two parts so that the rectangle contained by the whole and one of the parts may be equal to the square on the other part.
5. To describe a square that shall be equal to a given rectilineal figure.
6. Draw a straight line to touch each of two given circles.
7. Equal straight lines in a circle are equally distant from the centre, and those which are equally distant from the centre are equal to one another.

Algebra.

Three hours allowed.

N.B.—Six of the following numbers, well answered, will secure a pass for 2 A.

1. Extract the cube root of $x^3 - 3x^2y + 3xy^2 - y^3 + 8z^3 + 6x^2z - 12xyz + 6y^2z + 12xz^2 - 12yz^2$.
2. Find the G.C.M. of $x^3 - (2a + b)x^2 + (2ab + a^2)x - a^2b$, and $3x^2 - (4a + 2b)x + 2ab + a^2$; and the L.C.M. of $x^5 + ax^4 + a^2x^3 + a^3x^2 + a^4x + a^5$, and $x^5 - ax^4 + a^2x^3 - a^3x^2 + a^4x - a^5$.
3. Simplify $\left(\frac{x}{x-y} - \frac{y}{x+y}\right) \div \left(\frac{x^2}{x^2+y^2} + \frac{y^2}{x^2-y^2}\right)$ and $\left(\frac{2x}{x+y} + \frac{y}{x-y} - \frac{y^2}{x^2-y^2}\right) \div \left(\frac{1}{x+y} + \frac{x}{x^2-y^2}\right)$.
4. Multiply $a^{\frac{5}{3}} - 2a^2b^{\frac{1}{3}} + 4a^{\frac{2}{3}}b^{\frac{2}{3}} - 8ab + 16a^{\frac{1}{3}}b^{\frac{4}{3}} - 32b^{\frac{5}{3}}$ by $a^{\frac{1}{3}} + 2b^{\frac{1}{3}}$, and extract the square root of $9a^2 - 6ab + 30ac + 6ad + b^2 - 10bc - 2bd + 25c^2 + 10cd + d^2$.

5. Solve $3x + 5y = 76$
 $4x + 6z = 108$
 $5z + 7y = 106$

and
 $\sqrt{(9x + 4)} + \sqrt{(9x - 1)} = 3.$

6. An officer can form his men into a hollow square, 4 deep; and also into a hollow square, 8 deep; the front, in the second square, contains 16 men fewer than that in the first; find the number of men.

7. Solve $4x^2 + 9xy = 190$ } and $x^3 + y^3 = 2728$ }
 $4x - 5y = 10$ } $x^2 - xy + y^2 = 124$ }

8. Solve $\sqrt{(2x + 4)} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{x}{2} + 6\right)} = 1$, and

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{(x+1)}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x-1)}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(x^2-1)}}$$

French.

Three hours allowed.

1. Translate into English, *without transcribing the French* :—

(a) Le maréchal Stenau ne perdit pas un moment; à peine aperçut-il les Suédois qu'il fondit sur eux avec la meilleure partie de sa cavalerie. Le choc violent de cette troupe tombant sur les Suédois dans l'instant qu'ils formaient leurs bataillons, les mit en désordre; ils s'ouvrirent, ils furent rompus et poursuivis jusque dans la rivière. Le roi de Suède les rallia le moment d'après au milieu de l'eau, aussi aisément que s'il eût fait une revue. Alors ses soldats, marchant plus serrés qu'auparavant, repoussèrent le maréchal Stenau, et s'avancèrent dans la plaine. Stenau sentit que ses troupes étaient étonnées; il les fit retirer en habile homme dans un lieu sec, flanqué d'un marais et d'un bois où était son artillerie. L'avantage du terrain, et le temps qu'il avait donné aux Saxons de revenir de leur première surprise, leur rendit tout leur courage.

(b) C'est lui qui a établi des houssards en Russie. Enfin il a eu jusqu'à une école d'ingénieurs dans un pays où personne ne savait avant lui les éléments de la géométrie. Il était bon ingénieur lui-même; mais surtout il excellait dans tous les arts de la marine; bon capitaine de vaisseau, habile pilote, bon matelot, adroit charpentier, et d'autant plus estimable dans ces arts qu'il était né avec une crainte extrême de l'eau; il ne pouvait dans sa jeunesse passer sur un pont sans frémir; il faisait fermer alors les volets de bois de son carrosse; le courage et le génie domptèrent en lui cette faiblesse machinale.

Il fit construire un beau port auprès d'Azoph, à l'embouchure du Tanaïs: il voulait y entretenir des galères; et dans la suite, croyant que ces vaisseaux longs, plats, et légers, devaient réussir dans la mer Baltique, il en a fait construire plus de trois cents dans sa ville favorite de Pétersbourg: il a montré à ses sujets l'art de les bâtir avec du simple sapin, et celui de les conduire.

2. Translate into French, *without transcribing the English* :—

(a) After having finished this work, I shall go to pay a visit to my mother.

(b) Whatever your opinion on this subject may be, do all you can to relieve the miserable girl.

(c) The lady you heard playing is going to sing this song that I composed.

(d) The girls you have taught are now trying to teach their little sisters.

(e) When walking in my garden this morning, I found my little daughter crying bitterly.

(f) The roses I have brought you are the finest I could find in the whole garden.

(g) The books I wished you to read are full of facts that will be very useful to you.

(h) Those songs you have heard sung this morning have been much praised by my father.

3. Write down in a tabular form the 1st pers. plur. pres. indic., 3rd sing. pret. def., 2nd plur. pres. imperative, 3rd plur. pres. cond., 3rd sing. imperf. subj. of *peindre, pouvoir, tenir, se promener*.

Latin.

Three hours allowed.

1. Translate into English, *without transcribing the Latin* :—

(a) Hac confirmata opinione timoris, idoneum quandam hominem et callidum delegit Gallum, ex his, quos auxilii causa secum habebat. Huic magis proemiis pollicitationibusque persuadet, uti ad hostes transeat, et quid fieri velit edocet. Qui ubi pro perfuga ad eos venit, timorem Romanorum proponit, quibus angustiis ipse Cæsar a Venetis prematur docet; neque longius abesse, quin proxima nocte Sabinus clam ex castris exercitum educat et ad Cæsarem auxilii ferendi causa proficiatur. Quod ubi auditum est, conclamant omnes occasionem negotii bene gerendi amittendam non esse; ad castra iri oportere.

(b) Diebus decem, quibus materia coepta erat comportari, omni opere effecto exercitus transducitur. Cæsar ad utramque partem pontis firmo præsidio relicto in fines Sigambrorum contendit. Interim a compluribus civitatibus ad eum legati veniunt, quibus pacem atque amicitiam petentibus liberaliter respondit, obsidesque ad se adduci jubet. At Sigambri ex eo tempore, quo pons institui coeptus est, fuga comparata hortantibus iis, quos ex Tenchtheris atque Usipetibus apud se habebant, finibus suis excesserant suaque omnia exportaverant seque in solitudinem ac silvas abdiderant.

2. Parse the words in italics.

3. Translate into Latin, *without transcribing the English* :—

(a) Are you aware that the judges have threatened you with punishment?

(b) My sister promised to come home to-day to see her mother, who is very ill.

(c) Do not believe, my dear son, that I, who have been in so many battles, will be afraid of this danger.

(d) Cannot you, who have ever sided with the wretched, prevent this coward from speaking ill of our unhappy friend?

(e) Having exhorted his soldiers to remember their ancient valour, and having given the signal for battle, he ordered the tenth legion to charge.

(f) I fear that these girls who have not obeyed their mother will not be happy.

(g) Rome, which has been called the head of the whole earth, is a very beautiful city.

(h) This man is of opinion that the more money he has the happier he will be. He is wrong.

4. Write down the principal parts of—pango, pingo, tego, texo, quero, queror, cedo, cædo, vinco, vincio.

5. Write down in four columns the English, gender, gen. sing., and acc. plur. of—acus, scelus, incus, servitus, domus, locus, ager, agger, obses, acies.

ANNEX

ANNEX I.

FIRST-CLASS TEACHERS.

Grammar.

Three hours allowed.

Three questions to be answered for the maximum number of marks, the first being one. Write down each question before answering it.

1. "They heard and *were abashed* and up they *sprung*
Upon the wing *as* when men *went* to watch
On duty sleeping *found* by *whom* they dread
Rouse and *bestir* themselves ere well awake
Nor did they not perceive the evil plight
In *which* they were nor the fierce *pains* not feel
Yet to *their* general's voice they soon obeyed
Innumerable—as when the potent rod
Of Amram's son in Egypt's evil day
Waved round the coast *up* called a pitchy cloud
Of locusts warping on the eastern wind
That o'er the *realm* of impious Pharaoh hung
Like night and darkened all the land of Nile."
"PARADISE LOST," Book I.
 - a. Supply the punctuation in the above passage.
 - b. Paraphrase the quotation, explaining the allusions.
 - c. Scan the passage.
 - d. Parse the words italicised.
 - e. Analyse the last nine lines.
2. Explain the formation of the "Preterite" in the so-called Irregular Verbs, in English.
3. What are the principal conditions that a perfect Alphabet and Orthographical System must satisfy; and how far does the English alphabet fail to meet these conditions?
4. Explain the difficulties and anomalies connected with the following nouns:—'alms,' 'riches,' 'pains,' 'news,' 'means,' 'data,' 'apparatus.'

Arithmetic.

Three hours allowed.

Seven problems are necessary for the maximum number of marks for Class 1 B; but candidates for 1 A are expected to solve the last seven. Write down each question before answering it.

1. The wages of 25 men amount to £76½ for 16 days. How many boys must work 24 days, to earn £103 5s, the daily wages of the latter being only one half those of the former?
2. Simplify $\left(\frac{2\frac{3}{4} + 3\frac{3}{4} + 3\frac{3}{4}}{4\frac{3}{4} + 5\frac{3}{4} + 10\frac{3}{4}}\right) \times \left(\frac{2\frac{4}{11} + 2\frac{7}{11}}{2\frac{4}{11} + 2\frac{7}{11}}\right) - \frac{281}{1405}$.
3. Supposing I mix 80 gallons of spirit at 15s. 6d. per gallon with 96 gallons at 17s. 1d., and then sell the mixture so as to gain 10 per cent., at what price per gallon do I sell it?
4. A and B join in a speculation. A puts in £400 stg. at first; and, at the end of two months, £500 more. B contributes at first £300; but, at the end of three months, adds £600 more. They gain, at the end of the year, £470. How should it be divided?
5. A, B, C, do $\frac{1}{5}$ of a piece of work collectively in 24 days. A does the same quantity of work that B does, in the same time; but had either A or B been absent, the remaining two could have done $\frac{1}{5}$ of the work in 28 days. In what time could each *separately* do the work.
6. How many flags, each 5.76 feet long and 4.15 feet wide, will be required to pave a corridor which encloses a rectangular court 45.77 yards long, and 41.93 yards wide, the corridor itself having a width of 12.45 feet?
7. Solve one of the following, stating concisely the principle on which the operation rests:—
 - (a) $\sqrt[3]{\frac{5030 \cdot 912}{65536}}$
 - (b) $\sqrt[3]{0.00024339}$.
8. A broker sells out of the three per cents at 92½, and realises £18,550. If he invests $\frac{2}{3}$ ths of the produce in the four per cents at 96, and the remainder in the three per cents at 90, what is the change effected in his income?
9. A seaman rows a distance of 1½ mile down stream in 20 minutes; but, without the aid given by the current, it would have taken him half an hour. What is the rate of the stream per hour, and how long would it take him to pull back against it?
10. Three traders, X, Y, and Z, charter a vessel. X contributes £240 for 6 months; Y a sum unknown for 12 months; and Z, £160 for a time not known when the accounts were settled. X received £300 for his stock and profit; Y, £600 for his; and Z, £260 for his. Required Y's stock, and Z's time.

Geography.

Four questions, fully answered, are necessary for the maximum number of marks.

1. State concisely what is known of the configuration of the Ocean basins.
2. Specify the Maritime Counties of Great Britain, taking them in order. Describe one.
3. By what general law for the whole World, and by what special law for the Old and New Worlds respectively, are the slopes of mountain chains regulated?
4. Give a good general description of Central America.
5. Draw an outline map of one of the larger Islands of New Zealand, indicating its capes, bays, rivers, mountains, settlements, &c.
6. In the light of its position, climate, soil, productions, and resources, compare New South Wales with the other Australian Colonies.
7.

{	Answer one.	(a.) To an observer at the North Pole, what solar phenomena would be presented, or what would be the sun's apparent course, between the months of March and September?
		(b.) <i>The Planets Jupiter and Saturn</i> : State what is known of these members of the solar system, and their attendant moons.

Principles of Teaching.

Three hours allowed.

Four questions to be answered for the maximum number of marks—the fourth to be in the form of a letter addressed to the Minister. Write down each question previous to answering it.

NOTE.—In the first lines of your first answer give specimens of penmanship in as many forms as possible.

1. *Memory*: How can it be most beneficially employed or cultivated? What is its office in School Training?

2. "The earliest lessons in Composition should begin with the Lowest Class (in Primary Schools), and proceed from the concrete, and through simple objects arranged before the pupils." Show how this can be worked out effectively.

3. Describe the Faculties of the "Human Mind," and the order in which they are developed.

4. *In Grammar*, a pupil may parse and analyse tolerably well, but yet be unable to make sensible composition in reconstructing the passage thus treated. How do you account for this defect? How would you act in such circumstances?

5. Show fully, by means of notes, &c., how you would give an Oral or advanced Object Lesson on one of the following :—

The Garden Spider and its habits.
The Frigate Bird.
A Mirror.
Self-denial.

6. Formulate the principles which should underlie all Methods propounded for effective Teaching.

Sanitary Science—Ordinary Paper only.*

Three hours allowed.

Four questions to be fully answered for the maximum number of marks.

1. Assuming that "Fish" and "Fresh Meat" are composed of the same elements as regards nutrition, explain how it is that a given weight of the former is not so nourishing as the same weight of the latter.

2. Describe how you would deal with one of the following, if out of all reach of medical aid :—
(a) Pleurisy.
(b) Small-pox.

3. Describe the Human Heart, its structure and mechanism, showing how the blood is conveyed from it through the body.

4. What hints could you give on diet, as regards variety, digestibility, distribution, and choice of food? Write some useful rules on the subject.

5. Describe the functions of Respiration, showing the difference between inspired and expired air.

*NOTE.—THE ALTERNATIVE PAPER ON Sanitary Science will be found printed separately.

Sanitary Science.

Three hours allowed.

Write down each question before answering it.

If taken as an *Ordinary Paper*, four questions will suffice; but if taken as part of an *Alternative Group*, it is expected that the last six will be answered.

1. Enumerate the more palpable self-induced causes of disease, and describe the effects of one of them.

2. Show the necessity for fashioning dress in conformity with the natural lines and proportions of the body.

3. Describe the composition of the Blood.

4. Describe fully the precautions you would take in the selection of a dwelling, or in selecting the site for the erection of one.

5. The neglect of bodily exercise is a fruitful source of disease. State some of the forms which the failure of health referred to assumes.

6. Water may be rendered impure, and even unsafe, by an excess of mineral matter held in solution. How can this be proved?

7. Mention the most suitable schemes which have been proposed for the removal, purification, and utilization of sewage, and describe one fully.

8. With a view of exhibiting the nutritive values of certain foods, show the relative proportions of carbonaceous matter contained in any fifteen of the articles—vegetable and animal—commonly found in household use.

Music.

One hour and a half allowed.

Candidates will answer either Part I or Part II.

Part I.—Tonic Sol-fa Notation.

1. Define each of the following musical terms :—Madrigal, glee, part song, fugue, canon, recitative, oratorio, round.

2. Construct a Modulator showing transition of three flat removes and three sharp removes.

3. Explain fully the difference between a major and a minor scale.

4. Write down a short passage exhibiting transition.

5. Translate into Staff Notation the following passage (first and second lines to be in G clef, third in F clef) :—

Key F.

m : — f : s	l : — : l	t : — l : t	d ₁ : — : s	s : f : m
d : — r : m	d : — : f	r : — d : r	m : — : m	m : r : d
d : — d : d	f ₁ : — : r ₁	s ₁ : — : s ₁	d : — : d	f ₁ : — : f ₁
r : — d : r	m : — : —	— : — : —	— : — : —	— : — : —
t ₁ : — l ₁ : t ₁	d : — : —	— : — : —	— : — : —	— : — : —
s ₁ : — s ₁ :	d : — : —	— : — : —	— : — : —	— : — : —

Part II.—Staff Notation.

1. Give an account of the origin of the syllabic names of the tones of the scale.

2. Write in the bass clef, the key signatures of C \flat major, F \sharp major, B \flat minor, and C \sharp minor.

3. Write on the staff a major second from B \flat , a perfect fifth from D, a major seventh from E \flat , and a minor third from A.

4. Write the following passage a semitone lower, making the necessary alterations :—



5. Put the following into score for treble, alto, tenor, and bass, each part on its proper staff, and with its proper clef signature :—



History.

Three hours allowed.

Four questions to be fully answered for the maximum number of marks.

1. Describe the effects of the Crusades upon Britain.
2. Describe what is meant by "Trial by Jury." Trace the rise and progress of this institution in Britain.
3. Compare Parliamentary Government under William the Third with that prevailing under Charles the Second.
4. What circumstances rendered the Union of England and Scotland a necessity?
5. Delineate the character of one of the following :—
King George the Third,
William Penn,
John Howard,
Lord Burleigh.
6. Trace the origin and progress of Wool-growing in Australia.

British Literature.

Three hours allowed.

Four questions, fully answered, are necessary for the maximum number of marks. Write down each question before proceeding to answer it.

1. Characterize the method and style of the Principal British Writers of History from the time of Elizabeth to that of Anne, quoting examples, if possible, in illustration.
2. Describe the "De Augmentis Scientiarum," giving a concise view of the aims of its author.
3. Enumerate the chief literary works of De Foe; and account for the influence which he exercised upon contemporary Literature.
4. } Answer one only of these (a.) or (b.)
(a.) What do you understand to have been the design of the author of the "Paradise Lost" in writing such a work? State the "Argument" (Book I.) Give also Milton's description of the following heathen deities :—Moloch, Chemos, Bäälim, Astarte, Dagon.
(b.) "The materials for the 'Paradise Lost' consist of the first chapters of the Book of Genesis and some passages in the Apocalypse." Give your views on this statement as clearly as possible, showing its accuracy or otherwise.
5. Describe the changes of taste in poetry between the era of Spenser and that of Pope.
6. Describe one of the following, quoting from it, and criticizing the matter, style, diction, &c.
The "St. Cecilia Ode" of 1697 (Dryden).
"Hymn on the Nativity" (Milton).
"Vision of Public Credit" (Addison).
"Envy" (Bacon).
7. How far may the physical condition of the British Isles be regarded as having determined the character of their Literature?

Geometry.

Three hours allowed.

N.B.—Six problems, well answered, are required for 1 B; but candidates for 1 A are expected to take the last six. Every problem must be written down before proceeding to answer it.

1. On the hypotenuse BC, and the sides CA, AB of a right angled triangle ABC, squares BDEC, AF, and EG are described. Show that the squares on DG and EF are together equal to five times the square on BC.
2. A straight line is divided into two parts. Show that if twice the rectangle of the parts is equal to the sum of the squares described on the parts, the straight line is bisected.
3. In every triangle, the square on the side subtending an acute angle is less than the squares on the sides containing that angle, by twice the rectangle contained by either of these sides, and the straight line intercepted between the perpendicular let fall on it from the opposite angle, and the acute angle.
4. If a straight line be bisected and produced to any point, the rectangle contained by the whole line thus produced, and the part of it produced, together with the square on half the line bisected, is equal to the square on the straight line, which is made up of the half and the part produced.
5. If two straight lines cut one another within a circle, the rectangle contained by the segments of one of them shall be equal to the rectangle contained by the segments of the other.
6. Draw a straight line cutting two given circles, so that the chords intercepted within the circles shall have given lengths.
7. To inscribe an equilateral and equiangular quindecagon in a given circle.
8. Perpendiculars are drawn from any point within an equilateral triangle on the three sides. Show that their sum is invariable.
9. On a given straight line to describe a rectilinear figure similar and similarly situated to a given rectilinear figure.
10. Find a straight line such that the perpendiculars drawn on it from three given points shall be in a given ratio to one another.

Algebra.

Three hours allowed.

N.B.—Eight of the following numbers, well answered, will secure a pass for 1A.

- Solve $x - \frac{14x-9}{8x-3} = \frac{x^2-3}{x+1}$ and $4a^2x = (a^2-b^2+x)^2$
- $\sqrt{x+\sqrt{(x+y)}} + 2\sqrt{(x^2+7x)} = 35-2x$;
or,
 $x+4 + \sqrt{\left(\frac{x+4}{x-4}\right)} = \frac{12}{x-4}$
- The sum of two numbers is 20; and the sum of their cubes 2,240: find the numbers.
- Expand to four terms $(1+5x)^{\frac{1}{5}}$ and find the $(r+1)$ th term in the expansions $(1-2x)^{-\frac{7}{2}}$ and $\sqrt[1]{(1-x)}$.
- Divide $8a^{\frac{3}{2}} + b^{-\frac{3}{2}} - c + 6a^{\frac{1}{2}}b^{\frac{1}{2}}c$ by $2a + b - c$ and extract the 4th root of $x^{\frac{4}{3}}y^{-\frac{2}{3}} - 4xy + 6xy - 4xy + x^{\frac{5}{3}}y^{-\frac{2}{3}} + x^{\frac{2}{3}}y^{\frac{2}{3}}$
- Find the price of oranges per dozen, when two more in a shilling's worth lowers the price one penny per dozen.
- Find the greatest term in the expansion $(1+x)^{-n}$ when $x = \frac{1}{2}$ and $n = 3$.
- Three numbers are in Arithmetical Progression whose sum is 10; and the product of the 2nd and 3rd $33\frac{1}{2}$. What are the numbers?
- If the common ratio of a G.P. is -3 , find the common ratio of the series obtained by taking every 4th term of the original series.
- Solve $\frac{3x-2}{2x-5} - \frac{2x-5}{3x-2} = \frac{8}{3}$ and $(7-4\sqrt{3})x^2 + (2-\sqrt{3})x = 2$.

Trigonometry.

Three hours allowed.

- Given $\sin A = \frac{2}{3}$, find all the other ratios.
- From the top of a ship's mast, 90 feet above the surface of the water, the angle of depression of the hull of another ship was found to be 30° ; find the distance between the ships.
- The earth's radius (4,000 miles) subtends at the moon an angle $57' 1.8''$; find what is the moon's distance from the earth.
- In any triangle prove the truth of this formula:—
$$\frac{\tan B}{\tan C} = \frac{a^2 + b^2 - c^2}{a^2 + c^2 - b^2}$$
- The sides of a triangle are as 3:4:5; find the greatest angle and the sines of the other two.
- A person observes the elevation of a tower to be 60° , and on retiring from it 100 yards further he finds the elevation to be 30° ; determine the height of the tower.
- Given $\log. 6 = 7781513$, $\log. 5 = 6989700$; find the log. of $\sqrt[4]{\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4}}$.
- Prove the following formula:—
$$\frac{\sin A + \sin 2A}{\cos A + \cos 2A} = \tan \frac{3}{2}A$$
- The angles of a triangle are as 1:2:3, and the greatest side exceeds the least by 100 yards; find the area.

French.

Three hours allowed.

- Translate into English, *without transcribing the French*:—
 - Ah! Rodrigue, il est vrai, quoique ton ennemie,
Je ne te puis blâmer d'avoir fui l'infamie;
Et, de quelque façon qu'éclatent mes douleurs,
Je ne t'accuse point, je pleure mes malheurs.
Je sais ce que l'honneur, après un tel outrage,
Demandoit à l'ardeur d'un généreux courage:
Tu n'as fait le devoir que d'un homme de bien;
Mais aussi, le faisant, tu m'as appris le mien.
Ta funeste valeur m'instruit par ta victoire;
Elle a vengé ton père et soutenu ta gloire;
Même soin me regarde, et j'ai, pour m'affliger,
Ma gloire à soutenir, et mon père à venger.
Helas! ton intérêt ici me désespère.
Si quelque autre malheur m'avoit ravi m'en père,
Mon âme auroit trouvé dans le bien de te voir
L'unique allègement qu'elle eût pu recevoir;
Et contre ma douleur j'aurois senti des charmes,
Quand une main si chère eût essuyé mes larmes.
 - Cieux, écoutez ma voix; terre, prête l'oreille!
Ne dis plus, ô Jacob, que ton Seigneur sommeille!
Pécheurs, disparaissez; le Seigneur se réveille.
Comment en un plomb vil l'or pur s'est-il changé?
Quel est dans le lieu saint ce pontife égorgé?
Pleure, Jérusalem, pleure, cité perfide,
Des prophètes divins malheureuse homicide:
De son amour pour toi ton Dieu s'est dépouillé!
Ton encens à ses yeux est un encens souillé.
Où menez-vous ces enfants et ces femmes?
Le Seigneur a détruit la reine des cités:
Ses prêtres sont captifs, ses rois sont rejetés;
Dieu ne veut plus qu'on vienne à ses solennités:
Temple, renverse-toi; cèdres, jetez des flammes.
 - Maie, quoi, n'ai-je point oublié en mille autres occasions les devoirs de la solidarité humaine? Est-ce la première fois que j'évite de payer ce que je dois à la société? Dans mon injustice, n'ai-je pas toujours traité mes associés comme le lion? Toutes les parts ne me sont-elles pas successivement revenues? Pour peu qu'un malavisé en redemande quelque chose, je m'effraie, je m'indigne, j'échappe par tous les moyens. Que de fois, en apercevant, au bout du trottoir, la mendicante acroupie, j'ai dévié de ma route, de peur que la pitié ne m'appauvrît, malgré moi, d'une aumône! Que de douleurs mises en doute pour avoir le droit d'être impitoyable! Avec quelle complaisance j'ai constaté, parfois, les vices du pauvre, afin de transformer sa misère en punition méritée!

2. Translate into French, *without transcribing the English* :—
- How many faults you would have avoided in this examination if you had attended to the directions I have given you!
 - Though I wanted very much to see my sister, I had to set off again without seeing her.
 - After spending all our ready money abroad, we returned to our native country, where we shall spend the rest of our lives in retirement.
 - Do you believe that my dear sister will come to see me, when she has finished this work? No; I do not.
 - Have you read the books I had advised you to read?
 - The recollection of the pains we have suffered and the dangers we have run through is pleasant, because it is a blessing to be delivered from them.
 - I could have finished my work as soon as you, if I wished, but then it would not have been so well done as it is.
 - Whatever be your power as a teacher, you cannot hope to increase, nor even to preserve it, if you be not very attentive to gain the affections of your pupils.
3. Give the French for the following idioms :—
- That will suit me exactly. That is quite another matter. She is laughing in her sleeve. I am at my wit's end. This speaker wanders from his subject. He builds castles in the air. He shut the door in my face. The piano is out of tune. We slept in the open air. Let us come to the point.
4. Give the meanings of the following paronyms :—
- Haire, hère; are, arrhes; brocard, brocart; compte, comte, conte; cri, cric; fard, phare; héraut, héros; gué, guet; peau, pot; pêcheur, pècheur.

Latin.

Three hours allowed.

Candidates in Group IV will take Questions 1 A, 1 B, 2, 3.

1. Translate into English, *without transcribing the Latin* :—
- A. Horum adventu tanta rerum commutatio est facta, ut nostri, etiam qui vulneribus confecti probuissent, scutis innixi proclium redintegrarent, tum calones perterritos hostes conspicati etiam iermes armatis occurrerent; equites vero, ut turpitudinem fugæ virtute delerent, omnibus in locis pugnae se legionariis militibus præferrent. At hostes etiam in extrema spe salutis tantam virtutem præstiterunt, ut, quum primi eorum cecidissent, proximi jacentibus insisterent utque ex eorum corporibus pugnarent; his dejectis et coacervatis cadaveribus, qui superessent ut ex tumulo tela in nostros conjicerent et pila intercepta remitterent: ut non nequidquam tantae virtutis homines judicari deberet ausos esse transire latissimum flumen, ascendere altissimas ripas, subire iniquissimum locum; quae facilia ex difficillimis animi magnitudo redegerat.
- B.
- At Cytherea novas artes, nova pectore versat
Consilia, ut faciem mutatus et ora Cupido
Pro dulci Ascanio veniat, donisque furentem
Incendat reginam, atque ossibus implicet ignem:
Quippe domum timet ambiguam Tyriosque bilingues.
Urit atrox Juno, et sub noctem cura recursat.
Ergo his aligerum dictis affatur Amorem :—
"Nate, meæ vires, mea magna potentia, solus,
Nate, patris summi qui tela Typhoia temnis,
Ad te confugio et supplex tua numina posco.
Frater ut Æneas pelago tuus omnia circum
Litora jactetur, odiis Junonis iniquæ
Nota tibi, et nostro doluisti sæpe dolore.
Hunc Phœnissa tenet Dido blandisque moratur
Vocibus; et vereor, quo se Junonia vertant
Hospitia; haud tanto cessabit cardine rerum.
- C. Si civis vester Alco, sicut ad pacem petendam ad Hannibalem venit, ita, pacis condiciones ab Hannibale ad vos rettulisset, supervacuum hoc mihi fuisset iter, quo nec orator Hannibalis nec transfuga ad vos venissem. Cum ille aut vestra aut sua culpa manserit apud hostem (si metum simulavit, sua; vestra, si periculum est apud vos vera referentibus), ego, ne ignoraretis esse aliquas et salutis et pacis vobis condiciones, pro vetusto hospitio quod mihi vobiscum est, ad vos veni. Vestra autem causa me, nec ullius alterius, loqui quae loquor apud vos, vel ea fides sit, quod neque dum vestris viribus restitistis, neque dum auxilia ab Romanis sperastis, pacis unquam apud vos mentionem feci. Postquam nec ab Romanis vobis ulla est spes, nec vestra vos jam aut arma aut mœnia satis defendunt, pacem afferro ad vos magis necessariam quam æquam.
2. Turn the above speech into *oratio obliqua*.
3. Translate into Latin, *without transcribing the English* :—
- We believe that he will use his wealth wisely, that he will help the poor, and not forget his friends.
 - Having conquered the Gauls in battle, and having won over their chiefs by gifts, Cæsar returned to Rome in the seventh month.
 - Who fears a man that he despises, or loves one that has injured him?
 - After laying waste the whole country they demand hostages of the enemy; for they remember that the more recent their misfortune is, the speedier is their own hope of peace.
 - Would you rather that your son should die with honour as a youth, than seem, when an old man, endowed with wisdom, but not free from the cares of age?
4. Translate into Latin, both *oratio recta* and *oratio obliqua* :—
- Away then with such follies! Do you not see that your liberty and lives are at stake to-day? Why do you obey a few centurions, still fewer tribunes, who can do nothing against your will? When will you dare to demand redress? It is of the utmost importance what you do. Awake at last and follow me? Remember the ancestors from whom you are sprung. If you let slip this opportunity, you will deservedly be slaves, and no one will give you a thought, or compassionate your present condition.

TEACHERS—CLASS I, GROUPS III, V, VI.
FEMALE TEACHERS—CLASS II, GROUP IV.

Physiology.

Three hours allowed.

Candidates in Class II will answer six.

1. Describe the different changes which the various food stuffs undergo between the time they enter the mouth and the time they enter the blood.
2. Explain what is meant by the glycogenic function of the liver, and mention some of the principal circumstances which modify it.
3. Mention some of the principal causes which produce variation in the amount of carbonic acid exhaled by the lungs.
4. Describe what is meant by the accommodation of the eye, and explain how it is effected.
5. Give an account of the development of the teeth.
6. In what manner is the heat of the body obtained?
7. Describe fully the structure of the retina.

Physics.

Three hours allowed.

Candidates in Class II will answer six.

1. What are the differences between kinetic and potential energies?
2. What is the nature of a sound-wave? What are the chief circumstances affecting its velocity?
3. Explain the construction and action of the Telephone.
4. Define Magnetism; and state some of the points of resemblance and difference between it and common electricity.
5. A body weighs 252 grains in air, 36 in water, and 63 in spirit; what is the specific gravity of the body and of the spirit?
6. A room of 2,000 cubic feet capacity is heated from 60° to 80° F.; how much air is expelled from the room?
7. What degrees on a Centigrade thermometer correspond with 10, 60,—40 on a Fahrenheit, and vice versa?
8. Describe the Solar Spectrum, and the practical uses of the Spectroscope.

Geology.

Three hours allowed.

Candidates in class II will answer six.

1. Describe the process of disintegration that may be observed in most granites of New South Wales, and trace out its ultimate effect on the land surface.
2. Describe the tokens by which the prehistoric existence of glaciers may be inferred in regions now quite free from perennial snow.
3. Show how bars are formed at the mouth of rivers, and why they are absent in certain cases. Illustrate your answer by some account of the bars, harbours, and coast lagoons of New South Wales.
4. Describe the material, mode of stratification, joints, faults, and phenomena of erosion in the Hawkesbury sandstone.
5. What are mineral veins? How have they been formed? What do you know of the manner in which gold occurs in veins?
6. Describe the processes by which caverns are excavated in solid limestone, and stalactitic deposits formed within them.
7. Describe the chief rock-forming minerals.

Zoology.

Three hours allowed.

Candidates for Class II will answer the first five questions. For class I, candidates are expected to take the last six.

1. Give a concise view of the five Groups or Sub-kingdoms into which the Invertebrates are divided.
2. Give an account of the Sea Anemones, showing their structure, habits, &c.
3. State clearly the leading points of dissimilarity existing between the Vertebrata and the Invertebrata.
4. What are the distinctive peculiarities of the "Lucernarida"? Distinguish between this Sub-Class and the so-called "Naked-eyed Medusæ."
5. Distinguish between the "Pearly Nautilus" and the so-called "Paper Nautilus," showing the group to which they belong, their haunts, habits, and more remarkable peculiarities.
6. Describe the more important characteristics of the Asteroidæ.
7. Give a clear account of one of the following orders:—
"Chelonia."
"Grallatores."
"Cursores."
8. Enumerate the various Groups or Orders included under the head Mammalia, and describe the leading characteristics of the Class.
9. Compare fully the following as regards structure, motion, habits, and manifestations of life:—
(a) The Holothuroidæ.
(b) The Ophidia.

Botany.

Three hours allowed.

1. Define the following:—Seed, Fruit, Bract, Stipule, Rhizome, Pistil, Calyx, Epiphyte, Species, Genera and Raceme.
2. Give an account of the structure and functions of the root of a plant.
3. What is the difference between the vascular and cellular tissue?
4. Name the usual parts of the flower of a Phanerogamic plant.
5. Distinguish between Phanerogamic and Cryptogamic plants as to structure.
6. By what general characters are Endogens or Monocotyledonous plants and Exogens or Dicotyledonous plants distinguished from each other?
7. What are the functions of leaves?
8. What parts of the flower are essential to the production of seed?

Greek.

TEACHERS—CLASSES I.

Three hours allowed.

1. Translate into English, *without transcribing the Greek* :—

- (a) Καὶ ὁ Κύριος παρελαύνων οὐ πᾶν πρὸς αὐτῶ τῷ στρατεύματι, κατεθεύτο ἐκατέρωσε ἀποβλέπων εἰς τε τοὺς πολεμίους καὶ τοὺς φίλους. ἰδὼν δὲ αὐτὸν ἀπὸ τοῦ Ἑλληνικοῦ Ξενοφῶν Ἀθηναῖος, ὑπελάσας ὡς συναντήσῃ, ἤρετο εἰ τι παραγγέλλοι· ὁ δ' ἐπιστήσας εἶπε, καὶ λέγειν ἐκέλευσε πᾶσιν, ὅτι καὶ τὰ ἱερὰ καλὰ καὶ τὰ σφάγια καλὰ. ταῦτα δὲ λέγων θορύβου ἤκουσε διὰ τῶν τάξεων ἰόντος, καὶ ἤρετο τίς ὁ θόρυβος εἶη. ὁ δὲ Κλέαρχος εἶπεν ὅτι τὸ σύνθημα παρέρχεται δεύτερον ἤδη, καὶ ὡς ἐθαύμασε τίς παραγγέλλει, καὶ ἤρετο ὅ, τί εἶη τὸ σύνθημα. ὁ δ' ἀπεκρίνατο Ζεὺς σώτηρ, καὶ νίκη.
- (b) Πρόξενος δὲ ὁ Βοιωτίας, εὐθύς μὲν μενιάκιον ὄν, ἐπεθύμει γενέσθαι ἀνὴρ τὰ μεγάλα πράττειν ἱκανός· καὶ διὰ ταύτην τὴν ἐπιθυμίαν ἔδωκε Γοργία ἀργύριον τῷ Λεοντίῳ. ἐπεὶ δὲ συνεγένετο ἐκεῖνος, ἱκανὸς νομισθεὶς ἤδη εἶναι καὶ ἄρχεω, καὶ φίλος ὢν τοῖς πρώτοις, μὴ ἤττάσθαι ἐνεργετῶν, ἦλθεν εἰς ταύτας τὰς σὺν Κύρῳ πράξεις· καὶ ᾤετο κτήσεσθαι ἐκ τούτων ὄνομα μέγα καὶ δύναναι μεγάλην καὶ χρήματα πολλά. τοσοῦτων δ' ἐπιθυμῶν, σφόδρα ἐνδηλον αὐτῷ καὶ τοῦτο εἶχεν ὅτι τούτων οὐδὲν ἂν θέλοι κτᾶσθαι μετὰ ἀδικίας, ἀλλὰ σὺν τῷ δικαίῳ καὶ καλῷ ᾤετο δεῖν τούτων τυγχάνειν, ἀνευ δὲ τούτων· ἄρχεω δὲ καλῶν μὲν κάγαθῶν δυνατὸς ἦν.

2. Translate into Greek, *without transcribing the English* :—

- (a) I pity the mother for having been deprived of such a daughter.
- (b) He withheld from the sources of gain which he formerly pursued, thinking them disgraceful.
- (c) Many men die before their character is known.
- (d) Do you see how many there are of the enemy, and how few we are?
- (e) What induced the Athenians to undertake an expedition against so great an island as Sicily?
- (f) Do not go away till you have learnt whether the affairs of the city are in a good condition.
- (g) Who, that is a good citizen, would not be willing to obey the laws of his own city?
- (h) He refused to go away without receiving the money.

3. Write down the principal tenses (1st person singular) of *τρέφω, ἀμαρτάνω, ἐλαίνω, ἐσθίω, τρέχω, ῥέω, μάχομαι, αἰρῶ, ὠνούμαι, βάλλω, δάκνω, φαίνω, ἀφίημι, ὀρῶ, γιγνώσκω*.

4. Conjugate in full the future and aorist active of *ἀφίημι, φέρω*, and the aorist and perfect passive of *δίδωμι, φέρω*.

APPENDIX XIX.

Department of Public Instruction, Sydney, 12 February, 1886.

REGULATIONS UNDER THE PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ACT OF 1880.

His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following Regulations, for carrying out the provisions of the Public Instruction Act of 1880, being made in accordance with the 37th section of that Act. These regulations are intended to supersede those of 4th May, 1880, and subsequent dates.

J. H. YOUNG.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

1. Application for the establishment of a Public School must be made in the following form :—

Application for the establishment of a Public School at
Post Town,
Date,

The undersigned, on behalf of the residents at _____, hereby request that a Public School may be established at that place, under the provisions of the Public Instruction Act.

On behalf
of the Residents...

{
.....
.....
.....

Information to be supplied by Applicants.

- (1.) Describe the position of the proposed School, namely :—
County,—
Parish,—
Post Town,—
- (2.) What other Schools, maintained or aided by the State, are within two miles of the site of the proposed School?
- (3.) If none are within two miles, what is the distance to the nearest School?
- (4.) Are there any Primary Schools, not aided by the State, within two miles of the proposed School? If so, of what character, and how attended?
- (5.) State the number of children, from four to fourteen years of age, living within a radius of two miles of the site of the proposed School, *e.g.* :—

Boys
Girls
Total.....

Religious Denominations—
Church of England
Roman Catholic
Presbyterian
Wesleyans
Others

Total.....

- (6.) What land is available for a site on which to erect the necessary School buildings? Give a Surveyor's description, and, if possible, a plan of the ground. Annex

Annex to Application for establishment of a Public School at

WE, the undersigned Parents (or Guardians) of Children residing within the undermentioned distances from the site of the proposed Public School at _____, hereby undertake that our Children, whose names are inserted below, shall attend the said School.

Name of Parent or Guardian. (To be written by himself. *)	Distance from proposed School.	Distance from nearest existing State School.	Name of Child.	Age.	Religious Denomination.

* If the Parent or Guardian be unable to write, his mark must be witnessed by one of the Promoters of the School.

2. A Public School may be established in any locality where a regular attendance of twenty children between the ages of 6 and 14 years can be guaranteed.

Inscription.

3. In the case of every Public School, whether the property be vested in the Minister or not, the inscription "Public School," and no other, shall be conspicuously put up on the outside of the building.

Uses of Public School Buildings.

4. No use shall be made of any Public School building tending to cause contention—such as the holding of political meetings, or bringing into it political petitions or documents for signature. And no such building shall be used as a place of public worship unless built and kept in repair without aid from the Minister; nor in such case, if objected to in writing by one-fourth of the parents of the children attending the school.

SUPERIOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

5. Any Public School may be declared a Superior Public School, if, after due inquiry, it shall be found that the attendance thereat is sufficient to enable a class to be formed of not less than twenty pupils who have been educated up to the standard that completes the course prescribed for a Fourth Class.

6. In addition to more advanced work in the ordinary subjects, lessons in other branches shall be given to the highest class, as under:—

To Boys.—In Mathematics, Latin, Science, and Drawing.

To Girls.—In French, Drawing, and Sanitary Science.

Instruction may also be given in such other branches as the Minister may from time to time consider expedient.

7. No special fee shall be charged.

8. Necessary text-books shall be supplied by the Minister.

9. In cases where the regular staff is unable to teach any prescribed subject efficiently, the Minister may employ a special teacher for such subject, and pay him such salary as he may deem expedient, provided that the special class so taught shall be drafted from the highest class, and contain not less than twenty pupils.

10. The course of instruction to be carried out in the highest class of a Superior Public School shall be that prescribed for a fifth class in the Standard of Proficiency; and such portions of the course shall be studied each year as will coincide with the subjects prescribed annually for the Junior or Senior Examinations of the Sydney University.

EVENING PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

11. Application for the establishment of Evening Public Schools must be made by petition to the Minister of Public Instruction in the form subjoined.

Signatures to Petition.

12. Every such petition must be signed, on behalf of not fewer than ten persons, by the parents, guardians, or other residents of the locality in which it is desired to establish an Evening Public School.

Persons not eligible to be Pupils.

13. No person below the age of fourteen years shall be received as a pupil in any Evening Public School unless such person has received a certificate under section 35 of the Public Instruction Act; and no teacher or pupil-teacher employed in any school established or maintained under this Act shall be eligible for admission into such Evening Public School unless authorized by the District Inspector.

Appointment of Teachers.

14. Teachers of Evening Public Schools will be appointed by the Minister, but no teacher can be appointed unless he has been trained and classified.

Place of holding Evening Public Schools.

15. An Evening Public School may be conducted in any Public School-room or in any class-room attached thereto, or elsewhere in a suitable place.

Furniture and Apparatus.

16. The ordinary school furniture and apparatus of any such Public School may be used in the management of an Evening Public School.

Books.

17. Necessary supplies of reading-books will be granted to Evening Public Schools.

Time of Meeting.

18. The pupils of an Evening Public School shall meet for instruction three times weekly at least, and every such meeting shall be of not less than two hours' duration.

Course of Instruction.

19. The course of instruction shall comprise Reading, Writing, Dictation, Arithmetic, Grammar, and Geography; but other subjects may be included with the sanction of the District Inspector.

Instruction to be Secular.

20. The instruction imparted must be secular, in accordance with section 7 of the Public Instruction Act. Fees.

Fees.

21. Every pupil in an Evening Public School shall pay to the teacher weekly, in advance, a fee not exceeding one shilling; but the Minister may relieve pupils from the payment of school fees in cases where inability to pay is satisfactorily shown, and make good the payment to the teacher.

Salaries.

22. The salaries of teachers of Evening Public Schools shall be at the following rates :—
 For an average attendance of 10 to 15, £20 per annum.
 „ „ 15 to 20, £26 „
 „ „ 20 to 30, £32 „
 „ „ 30 to 40, £38 „

Fuel and light.

23. The expense of providing fuel and light must be borne by the teacher.

Registers.

24. A class roll for recording the attendance of pupils, and a lesson register, shall be kept in every Evening Public School.

Returns.

25. Quarterly and annual returns shall be furnished in the same form as in Public Schools.

Inspection and control.

26. Evening Public Schools shall be subject to the same inspection and control as Public Schools.

FORM OF PETITION.

To the Honorable the Minister for Public Instruction.

The petition of the undersigned parents, guardians, and other residents, humbly sheweth :—
 THAT your Petitioners desire that an Evening Public School may be established at
 in accordance with the provisions of section 10 of the Public Instruction Act of 1880.

That your Petitioners guarantee the regular attendance for _____ months at such school,
 when established, of the persons named in the annexed Schedule.

That your Petitioners undertake, on behalf of the said persons, that they shall conform to the
 Regulations for the conduct of Evening Public Schools now in force or that may hereafter be framed by
 authority.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

SCHEDULE showing the names of persons who will attend an Evening Public School at

Name.	Age next birthday.	Occupation (if any).	Signature of parents, guardians, or employers.

PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS.

27. The standard of attainments for the admission of pupils to High Schools shall be as follows :—

BOYS AND GIRLS.

Reading.—To read a passage from some standard author, pronouncing every word distinctly, and giving due emphasis and modulation to each sentence as a whole. To have an acquaintance with the meanings of words selected from the passage read.

Dictation.—To write a passage of about fourteen lines dictated from some standard author, or an ordinary newspaper, with correct spelling and punctuation.

Arithmetic.—To solve questions in Proportion, Vulgar and Decimal Fractions, Interest, and Discount.

NOTE.—In the case of girls, Interest and Discount to be omitted.

Grammar.—To parse the more difficult words in a passage of about six lines. To distinguish the true subjects and the true predicates in sentences. To correct inelegant or ungrammatical expressions. To exemplify the correct usage of picked words.

BOYS.

Euclid.—Book I, Definitions, &c., Propositions 1 to 20 inclusive.

Algebra.—First Four Rules.

Latin.—Smith's Principia Latina, Part I, to Exercise 15 inclusive.

GIRLS.

French.—Schneider's First French Course, Exercises 1 to 60 inclusive.

28. The School fee shall be two guineas per quarter, payable in advance. Candidates whose parents are duly certified to be unable to pay the fee may be admitted free, provided they pass the entrance examination.

29. The fees shall in no case be the property of the Teachers, but shall be paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

30. The ten candidates of each sex, and not over fourteen years of age, who gain most marks and show the necessary proficiency at the examination held at the beginning of each year for admission to the Sydney High Schools, shall be awarded Scholarships entitling them to free education therein for that year, and, subject to the Teacher's annual favourable report on their proficiency and conduct, for the two following years. In each of the other High Schools the first three successful candidates shall be awarded like Scholarships.

PROVISIONAL SCHOOLS.

31. Application for the establishment of a Provisional School must be made in the form contained in the subjoined Schedule.

32. A Provisional School may be established in any locality where not fewer than 12, but not more than 19, children between the ages of six and fourteen years can regularly attend such school: provided that no Provisional School shall be established within 4 miles by the nearest route practicable for children of any existing Public, Provisional, or Half-time School.

33. The necessary school buildings and furniture for a Provisional School, as well as the requisite books and apparatus, will be provided at the cost of the Department, subject to the following conditions :—

- (a) That the grant in aid of the building and furniture shall be limited to £45, when, in the opinion of the Inspector, the average attendance will be from 12 to 15, and to £60 when the average attendance is likely to be 18 ; that payment shall not be made until the building has been erected, and reported by an Inspector or other officer of the Department of Public Instruction to be ready for occupation.
- (b) That the building shall be placed on Crown lands, if sites thereon central to the school population and otherwise suitable can be obtained, and that, if built on private land, the right-of-way shall be secured, and the property leased to the Minister of Public Instruction for a term of years, as may be agreed upon, at a peppercorn rent, the Minister having the right to remove the building before or at the expiration of that term.
- (c) That where the average attendance is expected to range from 12 to 15, the school-room shall measure 14 feet in length, 12 feet in width, and 9 feet in height to the wall-plates, and shall have a pitched roof, two windows, a boarded floor, and a fire-place ; two out-offices must also be provided, and the following articles of furniture supplied, viz. :—
 2 desks, each 10 feet 6 inches long.
 2 forms, each 10 feet 6 inches long.
 1 book-press or box.
 1 table, 3 feet by 2 feet
 1 chair.
- (d) That where the average attendance is expected to be 18, the school-room shall measure 17 feet in length, 14 feet in width, and 9 feet in height to the wall-plates, and shall have a pitched roof, two windows, a boarded floor, and a fire-place ; two out-offices must also be provided, together with the following articles of furniture, viz. :—
 4 desks, each 7 feet 6 inches long.
 4 forms, each 7 feet 6 inches long.
 1 book-press or box.
 1 table, 3 feet by 2 feet.
 1 chair.
- (e) That the applicants for a Provisional School state, on the usual form of application, the arrangements which they deem best for having the building erected, and the furniture supplied, with the least possible delay.

34. Teachers of Provisional Schools will be appointed by the Minister, after their competency for the office has been ascertained.

35. To ensure the continuance of a Provisional School, the provisions of the Public Instruction Act must be duly observed, and an average attendance of not fewer than 12 pupils maintained.

36. Provisional Schools shall be classified in the following manner :—

Schools with an average attendance below 20, but not below 18.....	} First-class Provisional Schools.
Schools with an average attendance below 18, but not below 15.....	
Schools with an average attendance below 15, but not below 12.....	} Second-class Provisional Schools.
Schools with an average attendance below 15, but not below 12.....	
Schools with an average attendance below 15, but not below 12.....	} Third-class Provisional Schools.
Schools with an average attendance below 15, but not below 12.....	

37. The Salaries of Teachers of Provisional Schools shall be at the following rates :—

- In First-class Provisional Schools, £90 per annum.
- In Second-class Provisional Schools, £75 per annum.
- In Third-class Provisional Schools, £60 per annum.

38. School fees shall be paid at the same rate as prescribed for Public Schools, and the sums received shall be paid to the Consolidated Revenue.

39. Provisional Schools must be conducted in every respect as Public Schools, and be subject to all the provisions of the Public Instruction Act with respect to religious instruction.

40. The course of secular education shall embrace Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Grammar, Geography, and History, with needlework for girls, whenever practicable ; and the instruction must be imparted in accordance with the prescribed standard of proficiency.

SCHEDULE.

Form of application for the establishment of Provisional School at

Post Town,
Date,

THE undersigned, on the behalf of the residents at _____ request that a Provisional School may be established at that place, in accordance with the 22nd section of the Public Instruction Act of 1880.

.....

Information to be supplied by Applicants.

Where is the proposed school situated ?

In what county ?

In what parish ?

What other schools, maintained or aided by the Minister of Public Instruction, are within 4 miles of the site of the proposed school by the nearest practicable route ?

If none are within 4 miles, what is the distance of the nearest school ?

Are there any primary schools, not aided by the Minister, within four miles of the proposed school ? If so, what is their character, and by what number of pupils are they attended ?

State the number of children from four to fourteen years of age living within a radius of 2 miles of the site of the proposed school, e.g. :—

Boys
 Girls
 Total.....

Religious Denominations—
 Church of England
 Roman Catholic
 Presbyterian
 Wesleyan.....
 Others

Total.....

If a school building has been provided without cost to the Department, or can be rented, describe it.
 Can

Can a suitable and central site be obtained on Crown Lands? If not, is there a site on private property that can be rented by the Department for a term of years at a peppercorn rental, on the understanding that a building erected by the Minister can be removed before or at the expiration of that term?

What arrangements are deemed best for having the requisite building erected and furniture supplied, with the least possible delay, in accordance with article 3 of the Regulations for Provisional Schools.

Annex to Application for the establishment of a Provisional School.

We, the undersigned, parents (or guardians) of children residing within the undermentioned distances of the proposed Provisional School at _____, hereby undertake that our children, whose names are inserted below, shall attend the said school :—

Name of Parent or Guardian. (*To be written by himself.)	Distance from proposed school.	Distance from nearest State School.	Name of Child.	Age.	Religious Denomination.

* If the Parent or Guardian be unable to write, his mark must be witnessed by a Member of the Local Committee.

SCHOOLS TAUGHT BY ITINERANT TEACHERS.

(A.) Half-time Schools.

41. Wherever twenty children, between the ages of six and fourteen years are residing within an estimated radius of 10 miles from a central point, and can be collected in groups of not less than ten children in each, the Itinerant Teacher will visit two such places only, and the schools so established will be designated Half-time Schools.
42. Applications for the establishment of Half-time Schools must be made in the form appended; but aid will not be granted towards the maintenance of such schools unless suitable school-houses be provided by the applicants.
43. No school-room will be approved unless it be 10 feet at least in width, be floored, be provided with a fireplace, and be properly lighted and ventilated.
44. A full supply of furniture and school books will be granted as a first stock to all schools newly established, and further grants will be made from time to time, as may be deemed expedient.
45. The same Registers are to be kept and the same Returns furnished as in Public Schools.
46. Every teacher must divide his time between the schools under his charge, with the view of effecting the largest amount of good. Where practicable, he is to devote the mornings to the teaching of one school and the afternoons to the teaching of the other; but, if found more suitable, other arrangements may be adopted, under the authority of the Inspector charged with the supervision of the school. In any case, the parent or guardian of each child is to be supplied with a time-table showing the hours at which school will open and close.
47. Half-time Schools will be classified in the same manner as Public Schools, according to the total average attendance of pupils at the stations at which a Teacher gives instruction.
48. Teachers will be paid the full rates of salary attached to the classification of their schools.
49. The scale of fees for Half-time Schools shall be, for five days teaching —
 For one child in a family, three pence.
 For two children in a family, six pence.
 For three children in a family, nine pence.
 For four or more in a family, one shilling.
50. Teachers will be paid a sufficient annual allowance, where necessary, for horse forage, irrespective of the salary attached to their schools.
51. As regards instruction, every Half-time School is to be conducted in all respects as a Public School.
52. Teachers are required to insist on the carrying out of a systematic course of Home Lessons.
53. Teachers will hold themselves directly responsible to the Inspectors under whose supervision they are placed.
54. At the end of each month a report upon the work done during that period must be furnished by each Teacher to the Inspector.

Application for the establishment of a Half-time School at _____ and _____
 Post Town _____
 Date _____

Sir,
 Schools at _____ beg to apply to the Minister for Public Instruction for the establishment of Half-time
 and _____ under the 23rd section of the Public Instruction Act of 1880.
 The Under Secretary, Department of Public Instruction. have the honor to be,
 Sir,
 Your most obedient Servant,

Information to be supplied by Applicants.

Describe the position of the proposed schools from each other.
 What other schools maintained or aided by the Minister are within 2 miles of the site of the proposed school.

If none are within 2 miles, what is the distance of the nearest school.
 Are there any Primary Schools not aided by the Minister within 2 miles of the proposed school? If so, of what character, and how attended?
 State the number of children from four to fourteen years of age living within a radius of 2 miles of the site of each of the proposed schools, e.g. :—

At		At
Boys .....		.....
Girls .....		.....
Total.....		Total.....
Religious Denominations—		
Church of England .....		.....
Roman Catholic.....		.....
Presbyterian .....		.....
Wesleyan .....		.....
Others .....		.....
Total.....		Total.....

What is the character of the proposed school buildings at each place?

Annex to application for establishment of a Half-time School at

WE, the undersigned, parents (or guardians) of children residing within the undermentioned distances from the site of the proposed Half-time School at _____ hereby undertake that our children, whose names are inserted below, shall attend the said school.

Name of Parent or Guardian. (*To be written by himself.)	Distance from School.	Name of child.	Age.	Religious Denomination.

* If the parent or guardian be unable to write, his mark must be witnessed.

(B.) *House-to-house Schools.*

55. Teachers not necessarily trained may be employed in house-to-house teaching; they must be persons of good moral character, and must satisfy the Inspector that they are capable of imparting the rudiments of an English education.

56. The mode in which their time shall be apportioned to the several families visited by them will be determined by the Minister, on information furnished by the Inspector.

57. The subjects of Instruction shall be limited to reading, writing, dictation, and arithmetic.

58. It is required that the teacher shall supplement his oral instruction by a systematic course of home lessons.

59. At the end of each month a report upon the work done during that period must be furnished by the teacher to the Inspector.

60. The remuneration of teachers engaged in the work will be at the rate of £5 per annum for each pupil in average attendance, up to a maximum salary of £100 per annum.

61. In addition to such remuneration they will be allowed a sum of £10 per annum as forage allowance. Application for payment should be made at the end of each quarter.

62. As a condition to payment of salary, they must keep a record of the pupils' attendance in a satisfactory manner, and furnish punctually and accurately such returns as may be required by the Department.

63. Necessary text-books and materials will be supplied on requisition, as in the case of other schools.

Application for the appointment of an Itinerating Teacher for the _____ District of

Sir,

Date _____

We hereby request that the Minister of Public Instruction, in accordance with the provisions of section 23 of the Public Instruction Act, will be pleased to appoint an Itinerating Teacher to instruct the children residing in the vicinity of _____, and within 10 miles of that place.

The information necessary for the Minister's decision is appended hereto.

The Under Secretary,
Department of Public Instruction.

We remain, Sir,
Your obedient Servants,

Information to be supplied by Applicants for the appointment of an Itinerating Teacher.

NAMES of Teaching Stations, their distances from the most central position, and the number of children to be instructed at each :—

	Name.	Distance.	No. of Children.
1.—Residence of _____	_____	_____	_____
2.— Do _____	_____	_____	_____
3.— Do _____	_____	_____	_____
4.— Do _____	_____	_____	_____
5.— _____	_____	_____	_____
6.— _____	_____	_____	_____

NATURE of provision made at each station for school accommodation. Local provision towards the support of Teachers.

WE, the undersigned, hereby promise that we will place under the instruction of the Itinerating Teacher to be appointed by the Minister of Public Instruction, the children whose names are inserted in the subjoined Schedule, and send them regularly and punctually to school :—

Place (if named).	Children's Names.	Ages.	Parents' Signatures.

Grants of School Books, &c.

64. Grants of school books and apparatus will be made from time to time as may be deemed expedient, to all schools under supervision of the Minister, in proportion to the average number of children in attendance. A full supply will be granted to schools newly established.

Requisitions for School Materials.

65. Requisitions for supplies should be forwarded at the end of a quarter only.

Character of School Books.

66. Such books only as are supplied or sanctioned by the Minister shall be used in any school for ordinary instruction.

Apparatus.

67. The term apparatus will include maps, diagrams, pictures, black-boards, easels, and ball-frames.

Registers, &c., to be kept.

68. The undermentioned registers and forms shall be kept, according to directions supplied with them, by every teacher: (a) an Admission Register, (b) a Class Roll, (c) a Daily Report Book, (d) Punishment Book, (e) a Lesson Register, (f) a Time-table, and (g) a Programme of Lessons for each Class.

Returns.

Returns.

69. Quarterly and Annual Returns shall be furnished from every school. Each quarterly return must be neatly made out in duplicate, one copy to be retained by the teacher as a record and the other to be furnished to the Inspector on the Saturdays preceding the Midwinter and Christmas vacations, and in other cases on the last Saturdays in the months of March and September. The annual return must be forwarded, with the quarterly return, immediately after the close of the December quarter.

Default in sending Returns.

70. Negligence in compiling or sending returns, or in keeping School Registers, will render a teacher liable to a fine, or, if repeated, to a loss of classification. Any teacher guilty of fraudulently making false entries in any register or return will be dismissed.

Training of Teachers.

71. Every applicant for employment as a teacher must undergo a course of training before being permanently appointed, unless he shall have previously been trained in some recognized Training School. He must sign an undertaking to accept such employment in any locality indicated by the Minister.

Position of Teachers.

72. Teachers employed under the Department of Public Instruction are Civil Servants of the Crown, and are entitled to all the advantages and subject to all the restrictions of that position.

General Qualifications.

73. As a general rule, no person will be appointed as a teacher unless he has been examined and classified. In some cases a teacher may be appointed provisionally who has not undergone examination; but his appointment will not be ratified until his competency has been tested in that manner.

Examination and Classification.

74. The attainments of teachers, students of the Training School, and candidates for employment as teachers, will be tested by oral and written examinations, and their skill in teaching will be determined by their ability to manage a school or class; and according to such attainments and skill they will be classified in the following grades:—The first or highest class will have two grades, distinguished as A and B; the second class will have two grades, distinguished as A and B; and the third class will have three grades, distinguished as A, B, and C. A classification awarded to a teacher, a student of the Training School, or a candidate for employment, after his first successful examination, will be provisional only, and will be confirmed at the end of three years from the date of examination if the Inspectors' reports upon his school work be fully satisfactory: Provided that the classification of any teacher in the school service shall be liable to reduction or cancellation for inefficiency, gross neglect of duty, or serious misconduct on the part of the person holding such classification.

Commencement of duty.

75. When a teacher is appointed to a school he must report to the Inspector of the District the fact of arrival at his post, and the date of commencing duty.

Resignation of Teachers.

76. Teachers are required to give not less than one month's notice of their intended resignation, which will take effect on the last day of the month indicated. Before receiving salary for the last month they must hand over to a person duly authorized all school property belonging to the Minister, and make out, in duplicate, an inventory of the same: one copy, to be forwarded to the Inspector, the other to be left with the School records.

Teachers' Occupation.

77. Teachers in the service of the Minister are prohibited from engaging in any occupation not having a distinctly educational character, unless the sanction of the Minister has been previously obtained.

Duties of Teachers.

78. The duties of teachers are the following:—

- To observe faithfully these Regulations.
- To carry out the suggestions of Inspectors to the best of their ability.
- To teach according to the course of secular instruction.
- To maintain the discipline prescribed in the Regulations.
- To keep the School records neatly, and to furnish returns punctually.
- To see that the undermentioned documents are kept posted in a conspicuous place in the school-room, namely:—(a) The Regulations; (b) Notice to Visitors; (c) Course of Secular Instruction; (d) Time-table; (e) Programme of Lessons; (f) Scale of Fees.
- To take charge of the school buildings and all property belonging to the Minister, and to be responsible for keeping the school premises in good order and tenantable repair—reasonable wear and tear excepted.

Teachers' Wives.

79. In schools containing female children but no female teacher it will be the duty of the teacher's wife to teach needlework to the girls during at least four hours in each week. In forming an estimate of the efficiency of schools, the competency and usefulness of teachers' wives, and the time they devote to school duties, will be taken into account.

Assistant Teachers.

80. Assistant teachers may be appointed to schools in which the average daily attendance exceeds seventy. They may be (a) persons who have served for three years at least as a pupil teacher, or (b) persons who have been examined and classified.

Pupil-teachers.

81. Pupil-teachers may be employed to serve not less than three years in any school in which the average attendance has been not less than fifty for the three months preceding, provided that the teacher holds a classification not lower than Class II.

Conditions of Appointment.

82. Candidates for the office of pupil-teacher must be not less than 13 nor more than 17 years of age, and free from any bodily infirmity likely to impair their usefulness. They must also pass an examination in the subjects specified in Regulation 84.

Remuneration.

83. The remuneration of pupil-teachers will consist partly of instruction to be given by the teacher, for at least one hour on every school day, and partly in a yearly salary.

SUBJECTS OF EXAMINATION FOR TEACHERS AND PUPIL-TEACHERS.

84. The subjects in which teachers, students of Training Schools, and pupil-teachers shall be examined for classification are those stated hereunder.

FOR A THIRD CLASS CERTIFICATE.

- Reading*—Full value, 800 marks. Prose and Poetry.
Writing—Full value, 800 marks. Specimens of copy-setting in round hand, half-text, and small hand.
Arithmetic—Full value, 1,000 marks. Simple and Compound Rules, Reduction, Proportion, Practice, Simple and Compound Interest, Vulgar and Decimal Fractions.
Text Books—Barnard Smith's Arithmetic, or Hamblin Smith's Arithmetic.
Grammar—Full value, 1,000 marks. Including Punctuation, Paraphrasing, Parsing, Analysis of Sentences, Meanings and Applications of Words, Saxon and Latin Prefixes and Affixes, Dictation, and Composition.
Text Books—M'Leod's Grammar, and Laurie's Composition.
Geography—Full value, 1,000 marks. Europe and Australia in detail. Mapping in connection with those Continents.
Text Books—Hughes' Class Book of Geography, Geography of New South Wales (Wilkins').
History—Full value, 600 marks. Outlines of British History from the Conquest to the reign of Victoria inclusive; date of Accession of each Sovereign; leading Men; and most important Events. General sketch of Australian History.
Text Books—Nelson's Royal History of England, Sutherland's History of Australia.
School Management—Full value, 800 marks. Organization, Discipline, and Instruction of Schools—in outline.
Text Books—Gladman's School Method, Public Instruction Act and Regulations.
Domestic Economy—(Female Teachers only)—Full value, 500 marks. Plain Needlework, Food, Clothing, Household Management.
Text Book—Hassall's Domestic Economy.
Drawing—Full value, 500 marks. Black-board, Freehand.
Text Books—As prescribed in the Standard of Proficiency.
Vocal Music—Full value, 500 marks. Rudiments of Music, either notation.
Text Books—Curwen's Standard Course, or Sutton's Theory of Music.

FOR A SECOND CLASS CERTIFICATE.

- Reading*—Full value, 500 marks. Prose and Poetry from any English Reading Book.
Writing—Full value, 500 marks. Specimens of Copy-lines, Letter-writing, Ornamental Writing.
Arithmetic—Full value, 1,000 marks. The full course, with Elementary Mensuration.
Text Books—Barnard Smith's Arithmetic, Hamblin Smith's Arithmetic, Todhunter's Mensuration (for Males), Chap. I to XX inclusive. For Females, Chap. I to XIII inclusive.
Grammar—Full value, 1,000 marks. Including Spelling, Punctuation, Parsing, Paraphrasing, Meaning and Uses of Words, Etymology, and Analysis.
Text Books—Hunter's Grammar, Lennie's Grammar (revised), Morell's Grammar and Analysis.
Subject for Special Study—"Julius Cæsar,"—(Shakespeare).
Geography—Full value, 800 marks. Physical Geography, Europe, Australasia, and North America, in detail. Mapping within these limits.
Text Books—W. Hughes' Class Book of Geography, and Edward Hughes' Physical Geography, or Geikie's Physical Geography.
History and English Literature—Full value, 700 marks.
 History—{ British History, from the Conquest to the present times.
 { Australian History.
 Literature—Elizabeth to Cromwell inclusive.
Text Books—Nelson's Royal History, Sutherland's History of Australia, Smith's smaller History of English Literature.
Art of Teaching—Full value, 500 marks. Organization, Discipline, Method, and Instruction of Schools in greater detail.
Text Books—Gladman's School Method, Public Instruction Act and Regulations.
Sanitary Science—(Female Teachers only)—Full value, 500 marks.
Text Books—Wilson's Healthy Life and Healthy Dwellings.
Drawing—Full value, 500 marks. Geometrical and Model Drawing.
Text Books—Nesbit and Brown's Handbook of Model and Object Drawing, Rawle's Practical Plane Geometry.
Vocal Music—Full value, 500 marks. Rudiments of Music, either notation, with increased proficiency.
Text Books—Curwen's Standard Course, or Sutton's Theory of Music.

* *Alternative Groups for Males.*

Group I.

- Euclid*—Full value, 1,000 marks. First three Books of Euclid's Elements, with Deductions.
Algebra—Full value, 1,000 marks. To Quadratic Equations, including Surds.
Text Books—Hamblin Smith's Algebra, Todhunter's Euclid.

Group II.

- Latin*—Full value, 2,000 marks. Grammar, Composition, Cæsar De Bello Gallico. Books I to IV inclusive.
Text Books—Dr. Smith's Smaller Latin Grammar, "Principia Latina," Part I; and Ihne's Latin Syntax, Part I. * *Alternative*

* NOTE—These groups of subjects are styled Alternative, because candidates are allowed to choose from them the group in which they wish to be examined. Candidates are required to confine themselves to one group.

* *Alternative Groups for Females.*

Group I.

French—Full value, 1,500 marks. Grammar, Composition, Translation from an easy author.
Text Books—Voltaire's Charles XII. Books I to IV inclusive.
 Havet's French Class Book (complete), or
 Hallard's French Grammar.

Group II.

Latin—Full value, 1,500 marks. Grammar, Composition. Cæsar De Bello Gallico. Books I, II.
Text Books—As for Males.

Group III.

Euclid—Full value, 750 marks. Books I and II, with easy deductions on them.
Text Books—As for Males.
Algebra—Full value, 750 marks. To Quadratics, omitting Surds.
Text Books—As for Males.

Group IV.

Any two of the following Sciences:—

Experimental Physics—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Balfour Stewart's Lessons on Elementary Physics.
Chemistry—Full value, 750 marks. Inorganic.
Text Book—Roscoe's Lessons in Elementary Chemistry.
Geology—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Lyell's Student's Elements of Geology.
Zoology—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Huxley's Lessons in Elementary Zoology.
Botany—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Oliver's Lessons in Elementary Botany.
Physiology—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Huxley's Lessons in Elementary Physiology.

FOR A FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE.

Reading—Full value, 500 marks. Prose and Poetry from a standard author.
Writing—Full value, 500 marks. Specimens of Copy-setting and Letter-writing, Ornamental Printing, Principles of Writing.
Arithmetic—Full value, 1,000 marks. The whole theory and practice.
Text Books—Hamblin Smith's Arithmetic.
 Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.
 Colenso's Arithmetic (as revised by Hunter.)
 Todhunter's Mensuration (for Males only).
Grammar—Full value, 1,000 marks. Including Orthography, Punctuation, Parsing, Paraphrasing, Analysis, Composition, Etymology, Prosody, and Style.
Text Books—Mason's English Grammar.
 Bain's Higher English Grammar.
 Meiklejohn's Book of English.
Geography—Full value, 800 marks. Physical Geography.
 Astronomical Geography.
Text Books—Geikie's Physical Geography.
 Lockyer's Astronomy.
Art of Teaching—Full value, 700 marks. Organization, Method, Discipline, with a knowledge of the Constitution of the Human Mind.
Text Books—Gladman's School Method.
 Tate's Philosophy of Education, or
 Morell's Mental Philosophy.
Sanitary Science (Female Teachers only)—Full value, 500 marks.
Text Books—Wilson's Healthy Life and Healthy Dwellings.
Drawing—Full value, 500 marks. The full D Certificate.
Text Book—Dennis' Perspective.
Vocal Music—Full value, 500 marks. Rudiments of Music, either notation.
Text Books—Curwen's Standard Course, or
 Sutton's Theory of Music.
History—Full value, 700 marks. History of England in detail. History of Australia.
Text Books—Smith's Student's Hume.
 Creasy on the English Constitution. Chapters 10, 11, 15, 16.
 Sutherland's History of Australia.
English Literature—Full value, 800 marks. Elizabeth to Anne.
Text Book—Morley's English Literature. Chapters VII to XI inclusive.
For Special Study—Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice."
 Milton's "Paradise Lost." Book I.
 Addison's Essays, 12 (Clarendon edition), Nos. 3, 15, 25, 61, 105, 106, 135, 159, 165, 409, 458, 487.
 Bacon's Essays, 6 (Blackie's edition), Civil and Moral.

Alternative Groups for Males.

Group I.

Algebra—Full value, 1,000 marks. Including the Binomial Theorem.
Text Book—Colenso's Algebra, or
 Hamblin Smith's Algebra.
Euclid—Full value, 1,000 marks. Books I to VI, with Deductions.
Text Books—Potts' Euclid, or
 Todhunter's Euclid.
Plane Trigonometry—Full value, 1,000 marks.
Text Books—Todhunter's Trigonometry for Schools and Colleges, or
 Hamblin Smith's Trigonometry.

* Group

* NOTE.—These groups of subjects are styled Alternative, because candidates are allowed to choose from them the group in which they wish to be examined. Candidates are required to confine themselves to one group.

* Group II.

Latin—Full value, 2,000 marks. Virgil, first two Books of *Æneid*; Livy, Book 21. Questions on Grammar. Composition.

Text Books—Dr. Smith's Larger Latin Grammar.
Abbott's Latin Prose Composition.
Inhe's Latin Syntax.

Greek—Full value, 1,000 marks.

Text Books—Xenophon's "Anabasis." Books I and II.
Smith's Larger Greek Grammar.
Abbott's Greek Prose Composition.

French—Full value 1,000 marks. Grammar, Translation, Composition.

Text Books—Souvestre's "Un Philosophe sous les Toits."
Racine's "Athalie."
Havet's French Grammar.
Hallard's French Grammar.

German—Full value, 1,000 marks. Grammar, Translation, Composition.

Text Books—Schiller's "History of the Thirty Years' War." Chaps. I to IV.
Goethe's "Faust."
Otto's German Grammar.

† Group III.

Natural Science—Full value, 750 marks. Experimental Physics.

Text Book—Ganot's Physics.

Chemistry—Full value, 750 marks. Inorganic.

Text Book—Rosco's Class-book of Elementary Chemistry. (Macmillan.)

Geology—Full value, 750 marks.

Text Book—Juke's or Geikie's Geology.

Zoology—Full value, 750 marks.

Text Book—Huxley's Zoology.

Botany—Full value, 750 marks.

Text Book—Oliver's Manual of Botany.

Physiology—Full value, 750 marks.

Text Book—Huxley's Physiology.

Sanitary Science—Full value, 750 marks.

Text Book—Wilson's Handbook of Hygiene.

Group IV.

Euclid—Full value, 1,000 marks. Books I to VI, with Deductions.

Text Books—As in Group I.

Algebra—Full value, 1,000 marks. Inclusive of the Binomial Theorem.

Text Books—As in Group I.

Latin—Full value, 1,000 marks. Cæsar De Bello Gallico. First two Books.

Virgil's *Æneid*. Book I.
Text Books—As in Group II.

Group V.

Euclid—Full value, 1,000 marks. Books I to VI, with Deductions.

Text Books—As in Group I.

Algebra—Full value, 1,000 marks. Inclusive of the Binomial Theorem.

Text Books—As in Group I.

And any two Sciences of the Science Group already specified in Group III. Full value, 1,000 marks.

Group VI.

Latin—Full value, 2,000 marks. Virgil's *Æneid*. Books I, II.

Livy. Book XXI.

Horace's Odes. Books I, II.

Grammar and Composition.

Text Books—As in Group II.

Together with any two of the following Sciences, namely :—Chemistry, Physics, Physiology, Geology.

Full value, 1,000 marks.

Text Books—As in Group III.

Alternative Groups for Females.

Group I.

French—Full value, 1,500 marks. Grammar, Translation, Composition.

Text Books—Souvestre's "Un Philosophe sous les Toits."
Corneille's "Le Cid."
Racine's "Athalie."
Havet's French Grammar.
Hallard's French Grammar.

Group II.

German—Full value, 1,500 marks. Grammar, Translation, Composition.

Text Books—As for Males.

Group III.

Latin—Full value, 1,500 marks. Grammar, Translation, Composition.

Text Books—As for males.

Group IV.

Euclid—Full value, 800 marks. Books I to IV, with Deductions.

Text Books—As for Males.

Algebra—Full value, 700 marks. To Quadratic Equations inclusive.

Text Books—As for Males.

Group V.

Any three of the following Sciences :—

Experimental Physics—Full value, 500 marks.

Chemistry—Full value, 500 marks.

Geology—Full value, 500 marks.

Zoology—Full value, 500 marks.

Botany—Full value, 500 marks.

Physiology—Full value, 500 marks.

Text Books—As for Males of First Class.

SUBJECTS

* NOTE.—In this group at least two languages must be taken, one of them being Latin.

† NOTE.—Any four of these Sciences may be taken.

SUBJECTS OF STUDY FOR PUPIL TEACHERS.

BEFORE APPOINTMENT—CANDIDATES.

- Reading*—Full value, 50 marks. To read an advanced Class Book, sanctioned by the Minister, with ease, fluency, and expression, to spell well, and to understand the meaning of the passage read.
- Writing*—Full value, 50 marks. To write from Dictation, in a neat hand, a simple Prose Narrative, with correct spelling and punctuation.
- Dictation*—Full value, 100 marks.
- Arithmetic*—Full value, 100 marks. To know the Arithmetical Tables, and to work the Rules in Vulgar Fractions, Proportion, and Practice, as in Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.
- Grammar*—Full value, 100 marks. To Parse and Analyze correctly a passage taken from an ordinary Class Book; to know the Elements of Grammar.
- Geography*—Full value, 100 marks. To understand the Geographical Terms, to be acquainted with the Map of the World, and to have a knowledge of the Geography of Australia.
- Drawing*—Full value, 50 marks. Freehand Tests, as prescribed for a Third Class in the Standard of proficiency.
- Vocal Music*—Full value, 50 marks. As prescribed for a Third Class in the Standard of Proficiency.
- Skill in Teaching*—To teach a Junior Class in the presence of an Inspector.

PUPIL TEACHERS—Class IV.

- Reading*—Full value, 50 marks. To read the Fifth Reading Book, sanctioned by the Minister, with fluency and expression, give synonymous words and phrases, and answer upon the subject matter; to repeat from memory fifty lines of Poetry.
- Writing*—Full value, 50 marks. To write neatly and correctly from Dictation or from memory.
- Dictation*—Full value, 50 marks.
- Arithmetic*—Full value, 100 marks. To work Questions in Proportion, Vulgar and Decimal Fractions and Practice.
Text Book—Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.
- Grammar*—Full value, 100 marks. To Parse, Paraphrase, and Analyze a Passage; Meanings of Words Etymology.
Text-Books—Lennie's Grammar (revised).
Laurie's Spelling, and
Dictation Class Book.
- Geography*—Full value, 80 marks. New South Wales, in detail; Europe; the Physical Features and Chief Towns in each Country.
Text Books—Wilkins' Geography of New South Wales.
Hughes' Class Book of Geography.
- History*—Full value, 70 marks. English History to William I.
Text Book—Nelson's Royal History of England.
Australian History—Sutherland's. Chap. I to V.
- Drawing*—Full value, 50 marks. Black-board Practice.
- Vocal Music*—Full value, 50 marks. Stimpson's Singing Class Book, Chaps. I to VIII.
- Geometry* (for Males)—Full value, 100 marks. Euclid. Book I. Propositions I to XXVI.
Text Book—Todhunter's Geometry.
- Algebra* (for Males)—Full value, 100 marks. Hamblin Smith's Algebra. Chaps. I to V inclusive.
- Latin* (for Males)—Full value, 100 marks. Smith's "Principia Latina" to Exercise XXIV inclusive.
- * *French* (for Females)—Full value, 100 marks. De Fivas' "Grammaire des Grammaires," to Exercise XXX inclusive.
- School Management*—Full value, 50 marks. The Kindergarten Principle (Lyschinska). Gladman's School Method.
- Needlework* (for Females)—Full value, 50 marks.

PUPIL TEACHERS—Class III.

- Reading*—Full value, 50 marks. To read with improved intonation and expression.
- Writing*—Full value, 50 marks. Specimens of Penmanship; three hands.
- Arithmetic*—Full value, 100 marks. Compound Interest, Profit and Loss, and Square Root—as in Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.
- Grammar*—Full value, 100 marks. Parsing of Difficult Sentences, with a good knowledge of Syntax and the Analysis of Sentences: Meanings of Words; Force of Affixes; Latin Roots; Composition.
Text Book—Lennie's Grammar (revised).
- Geography*—Full value, 80 marks. Australia, Polynesia.
Mapping, confined within these limits.
Text Books—Collins' Geography of Australia and Pacific Ocean.
Collins' Australian and Primary Atlas.
- History*—Full value, 70 marks. English History; William I to Richard III inclusive.
Australian History—Sutherland's. Chaps. VI to X.
Text Books—Nelson's Royal History of England.
Sutherland's History of Australia.
- Drawing*—Full value, 50 marks. Freehand Drawing.
- Vocal Music*—Full value, 50 marks. Stimpson's Singing Class Book, Chaps. IX to XII inclusive.
- Geometry*—Full value, 100 marks. Euclid. Book I.
- Algebra*—Full value 100 marks. Fractions and Simple Equations, to Chap. XIV inclusive.
- Latin*—Full value, 100 marks. Smith's "Principia Latina," to Exercise XXXIII.
- French* (for Females)—Full value, 150 marks. "Grammaire des Grammaires," to Exercise LX. (See note,* Fourth Class Pupil Teachers.)
- School Management*—Full value, 50 marks. Gladman's School Method. The Kindergarten Principle (Lyschinska).
- Needlework* (for Females)—Full value, 50 marks.

PUPIL TEACHERS—Class II.

- Reading*—Full value, 50 marks. A standard author, with correct intonation and emphasis.
- Writing*—Full value, 50 marks. Specimens of Penmanship; three hands, with increased skill.
- Arithmetic*—Full value, 100 marks. Cube Root, Discount, Stocks, Proportional Parts—as in Barnard Smith's Arithmetic, or Hamblin Smith's Arithmetic.
- Grammar*—Full value, 100 marks. Increased skill in Parsing, Paraphrasing, and in the Analysis of Sentences; Meanings of Words, Affixes, Roots, Composition.
Text Book—Hunter's Grammar.
- Geography*—Full value, 80 marks. Asia: Physical Features and Chief Towns of each Country of Asia and North America.
Physical Geography: Waves, Tides, Currents.
- History*—

*NOTE.—From Female Pupil Teachers in Country Districts the following will be accepted in lieu of French, where it can be shown that the examinee has no means of acquiring a knowledge of the language in question:—

Latin or Euclid and Algebra	As for Males.
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History—Full value, 70 marks. English History: Henry VII to Anne inclusive.
 Australian History—Sutherland's. Chapters XI to XVI.
Drawing—Full value, 50 marks. Model Drawing.
Vocal Music—Full value, 50 marks. Stimpson's Class Book, Chap. XIII to XV inclusive.
Geometry—Full value, 100 marks. Books I and II, with Deductions in Book I.
Algebra—Full value, 100 marks. Simple Equations and Surds, to Chap. XXIV inclusive.
Latin—Full value, 100 marks. Smith's "Principia Latina," to Exercise XLVIII.
French (for Females)—Full value, 150 marks. "Grammaire des Grammaires," to Exercise XC. (See (Note,* Fourth Class Pupil Teachers.)
School Management—Full value, 50 marks. Gladman's School Method. The Kindergarten Principle (Lynschiska).
Needlework (for Females)—Full value, 50 marks.

PUPIL TEACHERS.—Class I.

Reading—Full value, 50 marks. To read with ease and expression from a standard author.
Writing—Full value, 50 marks. Specimens of Penmanship; three hands, with increased skill.
Arithmetic—Full value, 100 marks. Application of Rules and Principles. Mensuration of Surfaces.
Text Books—Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.
 Todhunter's Mensuration.
Grammar—Full value, 100 marks. Parsing, Paraphrasing, Prosody, Analysis of Sentences, Meanings of Words, Formation of Words, Derivations, Composition.
Text Book—Hunter's Grammar.
Geography—Full value 80 marks. Physical Geography.
 Physical Features and Chief Towns of each of the Countries of Africa and South America.
 Mapping, within these limits.
History—Full value, 70 marks. English History: George I to present time.
 Australian History—Sutherland's. Chapters XVII to XXII.
Drawing—Full value, 50 marks. Advanced proficiency expected in the three sections.
Vocal Music—Full value, 50 marks. Stimpson's Class Book, Chap. XVI to end.
Geometry—Full value, 100 marks. Books I and II, with Deductions.
Algebra—Full value, 100 marks. Quadratic Equations, with Surds, to Chap. XXVI inclusive.
Latin—Full value, 100 marks. Smith's "Principia Latina," to end. Cæsar de Bello Gallico. Chap. I to III. Easy Translations.
French (for Females). Full value, 150 marks. "Grammaires des Grammaires," to the end. (See note,* Fourth Class Pupil Teachers.)
School Management—Full value, 50 marks. Gladman's School Method. The Kindergarten Principle (Lynschinska).
Needlework (for Females)—Full value, 50 marks.

Annual Examinations.

85. Examinations of teachers will be held half-yearly in each Inspector's District. Teachers who desire to be examined, with a view to a higher certificate, must at least one month before the date of examination, apprise the Inspector of their wish, and furnish him with a list of the alternative subjects upon which they are prepared for examination.

Promotion for Good Service.

86. Teachers can only be promoted from one class to another by examination. But in each class a teacher may, without examination, be advanced to a higher grade for good service, counting from the end of 1885; that is to say, if his school, in the last five years during which he has held the classification, has increased in efficiency, if the Inspectors' reports throughout that period have been satisfactory, and the report for the fifth year indicates that the applicant's practical skill is equal to that required for the grade sought, and if his general conduct has merited the Minister's approval.

Promotion by Removal.

87. Teachers desirous of being promoted to more important schools must intimate their wishes to the Inspector of the district, in writing. A list of such teachers will be kept in the Department of Public Instruction; and, except in special cases, promotions will be made in accordance with the principle of classification and seniority.

Classification of Schools.

88. Primary schools established or maintained under this Act shall be classed as follows :—

First Class Schools.

All schools in which the average daily attendance is not less than 600 in three departments, boys', girls', and infants', and in which the standard of proficiency prescribed for that class of schools is fully reached.

Second Class Schools.

All schools in which the average daily attendance is not less than 400 children nor more than 600 in three departments, boys', girls', and infants', and in which the standard of proficiency prescribed for that class of schools is fully reached.

Third Class Schools.

All schools in which the average daily attendance is not less than 300 nor more than 400 in three departments, boys', girls', and infants', and in which the standard of proficiency prescribed for that class of schools is fully reached.

Fourth Class Schools.

All schools in which the average daily attendance is not less than 200 nor more than 300 in two departments, and in which the standard of proficiency prescribed for that class of schools is fully reached.

Fifth Class Schools.

All schools in which the daily average attendance is not less than 100 nor more than 200 children in one department, and in which the standard of proficiency prescribed for that class of schools is fully reached.

Sixth Class Schools.

All schools in which the daily average attendance is not less than fifty nor more than 100 children in one department, and in which the standard of proficiency prescribed for that class of schools is fully reached.

Seventh Class Schools.

All schools in which the daily average attendance is not less than forty nor more than fifty in one department, and in which the standard of proficiency prescribed for that class of schools is fully reached.

Eighth

*NOTE.—From Female Pupil Teachers in Country Districts the following will be accepted in lieu of French, where it can be shown that the examinee has no means of acquiring a knowledge of the language in question :—

Latin	} As for Males.
or	
Euclid and Algebra	

Eighth Class Schools.

All schools in which the daily average attendance is not less than thirty nor more than forty children, in one department, and in which the standard of proficiency prescribed for that class of schools is fully reached.

Ninth Class Schools.

All schools in which the daily average attendance is not less than twenty nor more than thirty children, in one department, and in which the standard of proficiency prescribed for that class of schools is fully reached.

Tenth Class Schools.

All Public Schools in which the daily average attendance does not exceed twenty.

Condition of Retention in Class.

89. If a school fail to meet any one of the conditions before specified for its class the Minister may remove such school to a lower class.

Eligibility of Teachers for appointment to certain Schools.

90. Teachers who have gained their classifications by examination, or by promotion under regulation 86, shall be eligible for appointment to any school or department, in accordance with the following schedule :—

Class of Schools or Department.	Teacher's Classification.
I	I. A.
II	I. B.
III	II. A.
IV	II. A.
V	II. B.
VI	II. B.
VII	III. A.
VIII	III. B.
IX	III. C.
X	III. C.

91. A teacher may be removed from the school in which he is employed to another of a lower class, should he fail, through any default on his part, to maintain the requisite number of pupils n average attendance, or to satisfy the conditions of the standard of proficiency.

Teachers' Emoluments.

92. The salaries of male teachers shall be according to the following scale :—		£
For a teacher in charge of a school of the	First Class	400
Do do do	Second Class	336
Do do do	Third Class	252
Do do do	Fourth Class	240
Do do do	Fifth Class	228
Do do do	Sixth Class	216
Do do do	Seventh Class	180
Do do do	Eighth Class	156
Do do do	Ninth Class	132
Do do do	Tenth Class	108

In schools ranking below the fourth class, the salaries of unmarried male teachers, of married teachers who are not assisted by their wives, as required by regulation, and of female teachers in charge of schools, shall be £12 per annum less than the foregoing rates.

Mistresses.

93. The salaries of mistresses shall be according to the following scale :—		£
For a mistress in charge of a girls' or infants' department of a	School of the First Class	300
Do	Second Class	252
Do	Third Class	204
Do	Fourth Class	192
Do	Fifth Class	180

94. In addition to these salaries, residences, vested or rented, will be provided for married men in charge of Public Schools ; but a residence rented for a teacher shall be as near as practicable to his school. Mistresses of departments and unmarried teachers in charge of Public Schools may be paid such allowances in lieu of rent as the Minister may direct.

Assistant Teachers.

95. Salaries shall be paid to assistant teachers as follows :—		Male.	Female.
To a First Assistant, holding a First Class Certificate, in a school of the First Class	£250	£168	
To a Second Assistant, holding a Second Class Certificate, in a school of the First Class	150	120	
To a Third Assistant, holding a Third Class Certificate, in a school of the First Class	108	100	
To a First Assistant, holding a Second Class Certificate, in a school of the Second Class	180	144	
To an Assistant holding a Second Class Certificate, in a school of the Third Class	150	114	
To an Assistant holding a Second Class Certificate, in a school of the Fourth Class	150	114	

Pupil-teachers.

96. Salaries shall be paid to pupil-teachers at the following rates :—		Male.	Female.
First Class	£66	£48	
Second Class	54	36	
Third Class	42	30	
Fourth Class	36	24	

TRAINING SCHOOL.

Classes of Candidates.

97. The Minister will authorize to be received into the Training Schools three classes of candidates, namely:—*First Class* pupil-teachers whose term of service has expired, and teachers who have already been trained elsewhere. *Second Class*—Untrained teachers who have been in charge of schools. *Third Class*—Persons entering the teaching profession for the first time.

Qualifications

Qualifications.

98. Candidates must apply for admission in a form prescribed by the Minister: They must, except in the case of pupil-teachers, be not less than twenty years of age, and, as a general rule, not more than thirty; they must be free from any bodily infirmity likely to impair their usefulness as teachers, and be persons of active habits and unblemished reputation. They must also satisfy the Minister as to their previous history and qualifications.

Conditions of Admission.

99. Before admission, every candidate must make a declaration that he intends, in good faith, to follow the profession of a teacher in schools under the Minister, and that he will accept a situation in any district, as the minister may see fit. He must also procure a guarantee from two responsible persons that the whole expense of his training will be refunded, if, from any cause whatever, he shall not enter the service of the Minister, or shall leave it in less than a period to be agreed upon at the time of his admission to training.

Term of Training.

100. Entrance examinations will be held half-yearly, in June and December; and the periods of training will be six or twelve months, as may be found necessary.

Allowances During Training.

101. The following allowances may be made to students who satisfy the afore mentioned conditions and pass successfully the prescribed examinations:—To married couples, £8 per month; to unmarried persons, £6 per month. When the school is prepared to receive students into residence, these allowances are not paid; board and lodging being provided instead.

Practical Training.

102. The students will be trained in the practical management of schools by attendance at the practising school.

Examinations.

103. Oral examinations of the students will be held periodically to test their attention and progress; and written examinations will take place half-yearly, in June and December—when classifications will be awarded according to attainments and teaching skill. No certificate will be given until the Inspectors Report shows that the student is successful in the management of a school.

GOVERNMENT OF SCHOOLS.

Public School Boards.

104. The Minister reserves to himself the power of controlling, through his officers, the internal management of schools; but, for other purposes, he will avail himself of the assistance of Public School Boards, whenever suitable persons are found to fill the office.

105. Every Public School Board, at the first meeting thereof, shall elect from the members a chairman, whose duty will be to correspond with the Minister on behalf of the Board; and the Board may in like manner appoint such other honorary officers, being members of the Board, as the Board may deem expedient.

106. A Public School Board may, by resolution passed at a duly constituted meeting thereof, appoint any member or members to perform the duty, prescribed by the 19th section of the Public Instruction Act, of visiting any of the schools placed under the supervision of the Board; and it shall be the duty of the member or members so appointed to report the results of any such visitation to the Board.

107. In the visitation of schools placed under the supervision of a Public School Board in accordance with the aforesaid section of the Act, the Board may be represented by a quorum thereof, and the Board may, if it see fit, report the result of such visit to the Minister.

108. The grounds upon which any Public School Board shall exercise the power conferred on it by the section beforementioned to suspend a teacher for misconduct, should be the following:—Unfitness on the part of such teacher to perform his duties from intemperance; immoral conduct; gross neglect of duty; or continued absence from duty without leave.

109. Public School Boards shall, before leaving the school under visitation, report to the Minister any case in which a teacher is suspended by them, and apprise the Inspector having charge of such school by letter.

110. Public School Boards should use every endeavour to induce parents to send their children regularly to school, and should report, in cases coming under their notice, the names of any parents or guardians who refuse or fail to educate their children, for which purpose necessary forms will be provided.

111. When the course laid down in Regulations under the 13th section of the Public Instruction Act for relieving parents and guardians from payment of school fees by the Minister is not convenient, application may be made by parents or guardians to the Public School Board of the district; and, if satisfied as to the inability of the applicants to pay school fees, such Public School Board may issue a certificate of exemption from payment thereof for a period not exceeding three months and shall thereupon report the case to the Minister.

112. In fixing, in consultation with any teacher, the hour for special religious instruction, in accordance with section 17 of the Public Instruction Act, the Public School Board should take care that the daily routine of the school, as laid down in the Regulations, is not unduly interfered with.

113. In addition to the powers conferred on such Boards by the Public Instruction Act, the Minister entrusts to them the following duties:—(a) To take care that the school buildings are not used for any improper purpose. (b) To see that a sufficient quantity of suitable furniture and apparatus is provided. (c) To take precautions for excluding from the school, during its ordinary business, all books not sanctioned by the Minister. (d) To inspect periodically the School Registers and Records. (e) To see that the school is open on all the usual school-days, and that the teacher is present at his work. (f) To observe whether the teacher discharges his duties; to report his conduct to the Minister when he is in fault; and to protect him from vexatious complaints.

Inspectors of Schools.

114. Inspectors and other persons deputed by the Minister to visit any school will be furnished with proper credentials. Every teacher is required to treat such persons with deference; to carry out their suggestions for the improvement of the school; and to obey their instructions in all matters relating to the Public Instruction Act and these Regulations.

Duties of Inspectors.

115. Inspectors are to enforce observance of the provisions of the Public Instruction Act and of the Regulations; but their decisions are subject to appeal to the Minister. They are to examine into the condition of schools, and to inquire into all matters which it may be expedient to report to the Minister. They are authorized to determine all questions of school management, and to take the teaching of a class or of a school into their own hands for a time, to show the teacher how defective methods may be improved.

Annual Inspections.

116. Once at least in the year, every school in each Inspector's district shall be visited by him, and the pupils be examined as to their proficiency in the several branches of instruction which are authoritatively prescribed. He will, within six days' of such inspection, send a report thereupon to the Minister, together with such observations on the state of the school generally as shall appear to him to be called for.

Conduct of Inspectors.

117. In their intercourse with teachers, Inspectors should be guided by feelings of respect for the teacher's office, and of sympathy with his labours. They will exhibit towards teachers every possible courtesy, treating them at all times with the consideration and kindness which the difficulties of their position demand.

Observation Book.

118. The Inspector's remarks upon the state of a school visited by him, will, at the close of the examination, be entered in the Observation Book of the school, which, as a record, is to be carefully preserved. Entries therein are not to be erased or altered.

SCHOOL ROUTINE AND DISCIPLINE.

Punctuality.

119. With a view to the proper training of their pupils, teachers must conduct the operations of their schools with punctuality and regularity.

Cleanliness.

120. Habits of personal neatness and cleanliness are to be encouraged among the pupils, not only by precept, but by the personal example of the teachers, and, if necessary, may be enforced. Teachers are also responsible for keeping the schoolrooms and furniture clean and arranged in an orderly manner.

Order and Conduct.

121. Teachers are to instil into the minds of their pupils the necessity for habits of orderly and modest behaviour, as well as of obedience to teachers and to the rules of the school. Pupils should also be trained to exhibit respect for the property of others, whether public or private; to regard the feelings of their fellows; to be honest and truthful, diligent under instruction, and conscientious in the discharge of every duty.

Government of Pupils.

122. In the government of pupils all degrading punishments are to be avoided. The teacher's discipline should be mild but firm, his manner kindly, his demeanour cheerful, and his language marked on all occasions by strict propriety. While overlooking no offence, his aim should be to prevent the necessity of punishment by effecting the improvement of the offender.

Corporal Punishment.

123. Corporal punishment may be inflicted, but by the principal teacher only, or by an assistant with his approval. It should be restricted as much as possible to extreme cases; and the teacher must keep a record of the time and place of punishment, its amount, and the nature of the offence.

Expulsion of Pupils.

124. No pupil shall be expelled from any school unless by the direction or with the express concurrence of the Inspector or the Public School Board, in writing; subject in every case to appeal to the Minister.

Suspension.

125. A pupil may, nevertheless, for gross insolence, persistent disobedience, profanity, or immoral conduct, be, by the teacher, forthwith removed from the school: provided that, in every such case, the matter shall be reported without delay to the Minister; and, until its settlement by him, the pupil shall not be readmitted.

Playground Supervision.

126. The conduct of pupils in the playground must be carefully supervised by the teacher; and he must see that, in proceeding to school and returning from it, their behaviour is orderly.

Religious Views of Pupils or Parents.

127. Nothing must ever be said or done by any teacher, in a pupil's hearing or presence, calculated to offend the religious views of that pupil, or of any other in the school, or of the parents of any such pupil.

Daily Routine.

128. In all schools maintained or aided by the Minister, the daily routine shall be that specified hereunder: provided that, by permission of the Minister, the time of assembling may be half an hour later than that so specified; in which case, the several times stated will be later in the same proportion.

Morning.

- At 8:45. Pupils to assemble in the playground. All school materials to be prepared for lessons.
- At 8:55. Pupils to be arranged in ranks, inspected as to cleanliness, and marched into school.
- At 9. Lessons (or Special Religious Instruction) to commence; as noted in the time-table prescribed by Rule 131.
- At 10:30. Recess for ten minutes, to be spent in the playground by pupils and teachers.
- At 10:45. Lessons to be resumed according to the time-table.
- At 11:55. Class-roll to be called and marked.
- At 12. The school to be dismissed for mid-day recess.

Afternoon.

- From 12 to 1:20. Recess for dinner and recreation, under the superintendence of the teachers.
- At 1:20. Pupils to reassemble in the playground. School materials to be prepared for lessons.
- At 1:25. Pupils to be arranged, inspected, and marched into school.
- At 1:30. Lessons to recommence as noted in the time-table.
- At 3:25. The roll to be called and marked.
- At 3:30. The school to be dismissed.

Time-table.

129. The time-table to be observed in the schools is the following, except that, in cases within the proviso to the preceding regulation, the time in each instance will be half an hour later than specified:—

- From 9 to 10. Special Religious Instruction; or, in Public and Provisional Schools, where no religious teacher is in attendance, Ordinary Instruction.
- From 10 to 12. Ordinary Instruction.
- From 12 to 1:30. Recess for dinner and reassembling.
- From 1:30 to 3:30. Ordinary Instruction.

Specia

Special Religious Instruction.

130. The hour appropriated to Special Religious Instruction is to be fixed by mutual agreement between the Public School Board, the teacher, and the person giving such instruction.

Vacations and Holidays.

131. The vacations sanctioned by the Minister are—three weeks at Christmas, and a fortnight at Mid-winter. The holidays allowed, other than those occurring in vacation, are—the Anniversary of the Colony, and of the Queen's Birthday, Good Friday, and Easter Monday.
Teachers are to state on their time-tables these vacations and holidays.

Closing Schools.

132. No school is to be closed on any school-day without the written direction of the Minister or other person duly authorized by him on that behalf.

Infectious Diseases.

133. The attendance of any pupil suffering from any contagious, offensive, or infectious disease, may be temporarily suspended by the teacher.

INSTRUCTION IN SCHOOLS.

Course of Instruction.

134. The course of Secular Instruction, as the term is defined in the Public Instruction Act, shall, for each class be as follows :—

1.—*Infants' Department.*

(Course, 2 years.)

Reading—Primer, Reader I and Reader II to Lesson 24—"Australian School Series"; or (in last half-year) "I.N.B. Series," Book II, to end of Section III.
Writing—On slates, from copies and dictation, using capitals.
Arithmetic—Notation to four places, and Simple Addition on slates; easy mental operations in Addition and Subtraction, and the Multiplication Tables to "7 times."
Object Lessons—Familiar Objects, Domestic Animals, Common Vegetables, Common Materials.
Form—Lines and Angles, Three and Four-sided Figures, Curved-line, and other Plain Figures.
Colour—Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Colours; Combination, Shades, and Tints.
Singing—Simple Melodies by Ear.
Geography—School-premises and surrounding neighbourhood.
Scripture—Narratives and Moral Lessons.

2.—*First Class.*

(Course, 1½ year.)

Reading—Primer, Reader I, Reader II to Lesson 24—A.S. Series; or, I.N.B. Series as far as Book II, Section III, inclusive.
Writing—On slates from copy.
Dictation—From Lessons read, using capitals.
Arithmetic— }
Singing— } As in Infants' Department.
Scripture— }

Second Class.

(Course, 1½ year.)

Reading—Readers II and III—A.S. Series, or I.N.B. Series, Book II, with Sequel I, and Book III; Repetition of Poetry—50 lines.
Writing—On slates from copy; in copy-books—round-hand, half-text, and small-hand, with capitals.
Dictation—From Lessons read.
Arithmetic—Notation; Simple Rules; Addition, Subtraction, and Multiplication of Money by two figures. Mental Arithmetic:—Tables, Money, Weights and Measures, Prices of Dozens, easy Reduction.
Grammar—(In last half-year)—Noun, Pronoun, Adjective, and Verb, Parts of Speech.
Geography—(In last half-year)—School Locality, Cardinal Points; Continents, Oceans, and Chief Divisions marked on Map of the World.
Object Lessons—(In last half-year)—Domestic Animals, Common Objects, &c.
Singing—Simple Melodies by Ear; Scale Exercises, Intervals, Two-part Songs.
Scripture—I.N.B., Old Testament No. 1 to end of Lesson 18; Moral Lessons.

Third Class.

(Course, 1½ year.)

Reading—Reader IV, A.S. Series; or, I.N.B. Series, Book IV. Repetition of Poetry, 150 lines.
Writing—In copy-books—three hands.
Dictation—From the Reading Lessons, with correct spelling and punctuation.
Arithmetic—Compound Rules and Reduction; Vulgar and easy Decimal Fractions; Simple and Compound Proportion. Mental Arithmetic—Prices of Dozens and Scores, Exercises in Buying and Selling Transactions, and in Proportion and Fractions.
Grammar—All the Parts of Speech; Accidence, Parsing, and Analysis of simple Sentences; the Rules of Syntax; Composition—Letter-writing, description of places and events.
Geography—Outlines of the Geography of Australasia and Polynesia; Physical Geography and Towns of New South Wales, Europe, and Asia; Tides, Winds, Currents, Climates, Mapping.
Object Lessons—Common Minerals, Vegetables, and Animals; the Human Frame, and Laws of Health; Elementary Physiology; Important Manufactures.
History—Nelson's History of England for Junior Classes, to page 122; Sutherland's History of Australia, to end of Chapter III.
Singing—Part-singing; Notation, Pitch, Accent, Length of Sound; Double, Triple, and Quadruple Measures; Time Signatures; Scale, &c.
Drawing—"Royal Drawing Books," Nos. 7, 8, 9, and 10; Miscellaneous Freehand Exercises.
Scripture—I.N.B. Old Testament No. 1 and No. 2 to Lesson 27; New Testament No. 1.

Fourth Class.

(Course, 1 year.)

Reading—Reader V to Lesson 56, A.S. Series; or I.N.B. 4th Supplement, to page 155. Repetition of Poetry—100 lines.
Writing—On unruled paper; three hands; Ornamental Writing; Commercial Forms.
Dictation—From any portion of books read, with punctuation.
Arithmetic—Practice; Simple and Compound Interest; Discount; Profit and Loss; Mensuration of Surfaces; Mental Arithmetic.
Grammar—Accidence; Parsing and Analysis generally; framing Sentences; simple Essays.
Geography—Physical features and Chief Towns of North America. Outlines of the Geography of Africa, South America, and West Indies. Ocean; Atmosphere. *Object*

Object Lessons—As in Third Class, with Light, Heat, and Air in relation to Health ; Elementary Physical Science.
History—Nelson's History of England for Junior Classes, to page 232 ; Sutherland's History of Australia, Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10.
Singing—As in Third Class ; Sharps, Flats, Transition, Staff Notation, Key, and Time ; Signatures and Intervals fully.
Drawing—"Royal Drawing Books," Nos. 11 and 12 ; Collins' Advanced Books, Nos. 1 and 2 ; Wire Models—cube, cone, prism, pyramid.
Scripture—I.N.B. Old Testament, No. 2, to end ; New Testament, No. 2, to end.
Euclid—Book I, to Proposition XXVI.

Fifth Class.

(Course, 1 year.)

Reading—Reader V to the end, A.S. Series ; or I.N.B. 4th Supplement, to the end.
Writing—As in Fourth Class.
Dictation—On unruled paper—difficult passages.
Arithmetic—Full course, from Hamblin Smith's Manual, or any equivalent.
Mensuration—Todhunter's Mensuration for Beginners.
Grammar— }
Geography— } As prescribed for Junior and Senior Public Examinations at the Sydney University.
History— }
Natural Science—Balfour Stewart's Lessons in Elementary Physics ; or Huxley's Elementary Physiology.
Geometry—Euclid, Books I, II, III, and IV, with Exercises.
Algebra—Todhunter's Algebra for Beginners, to Chapter XXII inclusive.
Latin—Smith's "Principia Latina," Part I, to Exercise 28 inclusive.
French—(For Girls) Schneider's First Year's French Course ; Caron's French Reader to Exercise 152.
Drawing—Geometrical Drawing—Royal, Vere Foster's, or Collins' Series ; Collins' Advanced Books, Nos. 22 and 24 ; Wire Models—hexagon, pyramid, cylinder, flat circle, and square ; Plaster Models, or grouping of Wire Models.
Music—As in Third and Fourth Classes ; Major and Minor Modes ; Inversions, &c.
Scripture—As in Fourth Class.

NOTE—Where there are not as many as ten pupils to form a Fourth Class or a Fifth Class, as required, the Fourth Class and Fifth Class courses are to be taken as additions to the courses of the Third and Fourth Classes respectively ; and where pupils remain in the Fifth Class beyond a year, Trigonometry is to be taken in that class as an additional subject.

The Standards of Proficiency for the several Classes in Schools shall be as follow :—

FOR INFANTS' SCHOOLS.

First Half-year of Enrolment.

For children enrolled one half-year, and being five and a-half years old :—

Reading—To read Primer, Part I (Australian School Series), to Lesson 26.
Writing—To write on slates—i, u, n, m, v, r, w.
Arithmetic—To count and read up to 10, to know Ball-frame exercises in Addition, and addition of other concrete quantities as far as 10.
Object Lessons—Familiar Objects.
Singing—Simple Melodies by ear.
Form—The different kinds of lines and angles.
Colour—First (Primary) Colours.
Scripture—Narratives and Moral Lessons.

Second Half-year of Enrolment. (Age, 6 years.)

Reading—To read Primer (Part I), to end, Primer (Part II), to Lesson 70.
Writing—To write on slates all the letters of the Alphabet, with easy combinations.
Arithmetic—To count and read as far as 20 ; addition in single column to 20 ; add and subtract mentally, numbers not involving higher results than 20.
Object Lessons—Domestic Animals.
Singing—Simple Melodies by ear.
Form—Three and four sided figures.
Colour—Secondary Colours.
Scripture—Narratives and Moral Lessons.

Third Half-year of Enrolment. (Age, 6½ years.)

Reading—Primer (Part II), to end ; and Reader I (A.S.S.), to Lesson 10.
Writing—To write on slates from copies, and Monosyllables from Dictation.
Arithmetic—To read and notate to three places ; addition to three places—4 addends ; Mental Arithmetic, up to 40 ; tables to "4 times."
Object Lessons—Common Vegetables.
Singing—Simple Melodies by ear.
Form—Curved-line figures.
Colour—Tertiary Colours.
Scripture—Narratives and Moral Lessons.

Fourth Half-year of Enrolment. (Age, 7 years.)

Reading—(A.S.S) Reader I, to the end ; and Reader II, to Lesson 24. (I.N.B.) Book II, to the end of Section III.
Writing—On slates from Copies and Dictation, using Capitals.
Arithmetic—To read and notate as far as four places ; addition—6 places, 6 lines ; mental operations in Addition, Subtraction ; Multiplication Tables to "7 times."
Geography—The School premises and surrounding neighbourhood.
Object Lessons—Common materials.
Singing—Simple Melodies by ear.
Form—Other plain figures.
Colour—Combination, Shades, and Tints.
Scripture—Narratives and Moral Lessons.

NOTE.—The enrolment of each Pupil in the several Classes must show the time of such Pupil in the School and not in the Class.

Values of Subjects taught in Infants' Schools.

Reading	100
Writing	100
Arithmetic	100
Object Lessons	30
Form	20
Colour	20
Singing	40
Geography	20
Scripture	30

FOR

FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND FOR BOYS' AND GIRLS' DEPARTMENTS.

FIRST CLASS.

First Half-year of Enrolment.

Children enrolled one half-year and being six years old must have completed the following course:—

Reading—One of the following books or an authorized equivalent:—1. (A.S.S.) Primer I. 2. (I.N.B.) Book I, Sections I and II.

Writing—To write on slates from the black-board the following letters with their combinations in words of four letters—i, u, n, m, o, a, c, e, v, w, r, t, d, l, b, h, j, f, y, g, p, q.

Arithmetic—To count and read any number as far as 20; to add in single columns numbers not involving a higher result than 20; to notate as far as 20; to add and subtract, mentally, numbers not involving results higher than 20.

Singing—Simple Melodies by ear.

Scripture—Narratives and Moral Lessons.

NOTE.—Object Lessons are to be included in the instruction to the First Class in all schools above Class 7.

Second Half-year of Enrolment.

Reading—1. (A.S.S.) Primer II, to the end; and Reader I, to Lesson 10. 2. (I.N.B.) Book I, to the end; and Book II, Section I.

Writing—To write on slates from copies and Dictation—Monosyllables, and Sentences consisting of Monosyllables.

Arithmetic—To read and notate easy numbers as far as three places; to work sums in Addition—four addends; to add mentally numbers involving results not higher than 40; Tables to "4 times."

Singing—Simple Melodies by ear.

Scripture—Narratives and Moral Lessons.

Third Half-year of Enrolment.

Reading—1. (A.S.S.) Reader I, to the end; and Reader II, to Lesson 24. 2. (I.N.B.) Book II, Sections II and III.

Writing—On slates from copy.

Dictation—From Lessons read, using capitals.

Arithmetic—To read and notate numbers as far as four places; to work sums in Addition to six places, 6 lines; to perform easy mental operations in Addition and Subtraction; to know the Multiplication Tables to "7 times."

Singing—Simple Melodies by ear.

Scripture—Narratives and Moral Lessons.

Values of Subjects taught to First Class.

Reading (Reading, 80; Spelling and Meanings, 20).....	100
Writing	60
Dictation	60
Arithmetic (Notation, 20; Slate work, 60; Mental, 20)	100
Singing	30
Scripture Narratives and Moral Lessons	30

SECOND CLASS.

First Half-year of Enrolment.

Children enrolled one half-year, and being seven and a-half years old, must have completed the following course:—

Reading—One of the following books, or an authorized equivalent:—1. (A.S.S.) Reader II, to Lesson 70. 2. (I.N.B.) Book II, to the end.

Writing—On slates from copy; in copy-books—Round-hand, with capitals.

Dictation—8 lines from Lessons read.

Arithmetic—Notation as far as seven places—4 lines; Subtraction; Multiplication by two digits. Mental Arithmetic—More difficult operations in Addition and Subtraction. Multiplication Tables to "12 times."

Singing—Simple Melodies by ear. Scale Exercises on Modulator.

Scripture—(I.N.B.) Old Testament, No. 1, to the end of Lesson 6. Moral Lessons.

Second Half-year of Enrolment.

Reading—1. (A.S.S.) Reader II, to the end; and Reader III, to Lesson 25. 2. (I.N.B.) Sequel I, to the end; and Book III, to Lesson 25. Repetition from memory of 20 lines of Poetry.

Writing—On slates from copy. In copy-books—Half-text and Round-hand.

Dictation—8 lines from Lessons read.

Arithmetic—Notation to 9 places—5 lines; Multiplication in full; Division by 3 figures. Mental Arithmetic—Exercises in Simple Rules. Tables—Money, Weights and Measures.

Singing—Scale Exercises and Simple Melodies.

Scripture—Old Testament No. 1, to the end of Lesson 12. Moral Lessons.

Third Half-year of Enrolment.

Reading—1. (A.S.S.) Reader III, to the end. 2. (I.N.B.) Book III, to the end. Repetition from memory of 30 additional lines of Poetry.

Writing—In copy-books—Round-hand, Half-text, and Small-hand.

Dictation—8 lines from Lessons read.

Arithmetic—Notation; Long Division; Compound Addition; Subtraction; and Multiplication of Money by 2 figures. Mental Arithmetic—Prices of Dozens; Easy Exercises in Reduction.

Geography—To know the School locality and the Cardinal Points, and the names and positions of the Continents, Oceans, and chief divisions of Land and Water, marked on a Map of the World.

Grammar—To define the Noun, Pronoun, Adjective, and Verb, and to distinguish them in easy sentences.

Singing—Scale Exercises; Intervals; Two-part Songs.

Scripture—Old Testament, No. 1, to the end of Lesson 18. Moral Lessons.

Object Lessons should be given to the Second Class twice a week.

Values of Subjects taught to Second Class.

Reading (Reading, 80; Meaning, &c., 20)	100
Writing	60
Dictation	60
Arithmetic (Notation, 10; Slate-work, 80; Mental, 10)	100
Grammar	40
Geography	40
Object Lessons	30
Singing	30
Scripture	60

THIRD

THIRD CLASS.

First Half-year of Enrolment.

Children enrolled one half-year must have completed the following course :—

- Reading*—One of the following books or an authorized equivalent :—1. (A.S.S.) Reader IV, to the end of Lesson 27. 2. (I.N.B.) Book IV, to Lesson 18, Section II. Repetition from memory of 40 lines of Poetry.
- Writing*—In copy-books—Round-hand, Half-text, and Small-hand.
- Dictation*—12 lines from the Reading Lessons, marking periods.
- Arithmetic*—All the Compound Rules and Reduction. Mental Arithmetic—Prices of dozens and scores.
- Grammar*—To distinguish readily all the Parts of Speech ; to know the Accidence of the Noun ; to be able to point out the Subject and Predicate ; and to construct Simple Sentences.
- Composition—To write a letter of not less than 12 lines.
- Geography*—To know the outlines of the Geography of Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand ; and the Physical Geography of New South Wales and its Towns.
- Object Lessons*—On common Minerals, Vegetables, and Animals.
- English History*—To page 58, Nelson's "History of England for Junior Classes."
- Singing*—Two-part Songs, and Rounds in three parts ; Notation of Pitch ; Accent.
- Drawing*—Royal Drawing Book No. 7, and Miscellaneous Free-hand Exercises in straight line figures.
- Scripture Lessons*—(I.N.B.) Old Testament, No. 1, Lessons 1 to 23. New Testament, No. 1, Lessons 1 to 12.

Second Half-year of Enrolment.

- Reading*—1. (A.S.S.) Reader IV, to the end of Lesson 50. 2. (I.N.B.) Book IV, to the end of Section III. Repetition from memory of 40 additional lines of Poetry.
- Writing*—In copy-books, three hands.
- Dictation*—12 lines from the Reading Lessons, with proper punctuation.
- Arithmetic*—Vulgar Fractions—Addition and Subtraction ; Simple Proportion by First Principles. Mental Arithmetic—Questions in Buying and Selling, and easy questions in Proportion and Vulgar Fractions.
- Grammar*—Parsing of Simple Sentences, Accidence, and Analysis of Simple Sentences.
- Composition—To write a letter on paper of not less than 12 lines.
- Geography*—Europe—Physical Features and Chief Towns of each Country ; Tides, Winds, and Mapping.
- Object Lessons*—Elementary Lessons on the Human Frame and on the Laws of Health.
- English History*—Nelson's "History of England for Junior Classes," to page 84.
- Singing*—As in last half-year ; and also Length of Sound ; Double and Treble Measures ; Notation.
- Drawing*—Royal Drawing Book, No. 8, and Miscellaneous Free-hand Exercises in curved figures.
- Scripture Lessons*—Old Testament, No. 1, to the end. New Testament, No. 1, to Lesson 24.

Third Half-year of Enrolment.

- Reading*—1. (A.S.S.) Reader IV, to the end. 2. (I.N.B.) Book IV, to the end. Synonyms, Meanings, Derivations ; Repetition from memory of 50 additional lines of Poetry.
- Writing*—In copy-books, three hands.
- Dictation*—12 lines on paper, with correct spelling and punctuation.
- Arithmetic*—Vulgar and easy Decimal Fractions, Simple and Compound Proportion. Mental Arithmetic—exercises in the foregoing.
- Grammar*—Increased skill in Parsing and Analysis of Sentences, with a knowledge of the Rules of Syntax. Composition—description of places and events.
- Geography*—Asia—Physical Features and Chief Towns of each Country. Polynesia in outline ; Currents, Climate, Mapping.
- Object Lessons*—Elementary Physiology ; Important Manufactures.
- English History*—Nelson's "History for Junior Classes," to page 122. History of Australia—Sutherland's "History of Australia," Chapters I, II, and III.
- Singing*—Scale and Voice Exercises ; Two-part Songs from Notation ; Quadruple Measure ; Time Signatures ; Structure of the Scale.
- Drawing*—Royal Drawing Books, Nos. 9 and 10, with Miscellaneous Free-hand Exercises in figures of corresponding difficulty.
- Scripture Lessons*—Old Testament, No. 2, to Lesson 27. New Testament, No. 1, to the end.

Values of Subjects taught to Third Class.

Reading (Reading, 80 ; Meanings, &c., 20).....	100
Writing	50
Dictation	50
Arithmetic	100
Grammar (Accidence, 20 ; Parsing, 40 ; Analysis, 10 ; Composition, 30) ...	100
Geography	70
Object Lessons	40
History.....	60
Singing.....	30
Drawing	30
Scripture Lessons	30

NOTE.—Where there are not ten pupils to form a Fourth Class, the Standard prescribed for the First Half-year in the Fourth Class shall be that for the Fourth Half-year in the Third Class.

FOURTH CLASS.

First Half-year of Enrolment.

Children enrolled one half-year must have completed the following course :—

- Reading*—One of the following books or an authorized equivalent :—1. (A.S.S.) Reader V, to the end of Lesson 22. 2. (I.N.B.) 4th Supplement to page 63. Repetition from memory of 50 lines of Poetry.
- Writing*—On unruled paper, three hands ; Ornamental Writing ; Ordinary Commercial Forms.
- Dictation*—As in last half-year—12 lines on unruled paper.
- Arithmetic*—Practice ; Interest ; Mensuration of Surfaces. Mental Arithmetic as in last half year.
- Grammar*—Parsing passages from Reading Lessons ; Analysis of a Compound Sentences ; Framing Sentences ; Composition of Simple Essays.
- Geography*—North America—Physical Features and Chief Towns of each Country. South America, West Indian Islands, and Africa, in outline.
- Object Lessons*—As in previous half-year, with Light, Heat, and Air in relation to Health.
- History*—English History—Nelson's "History for Junior Classes" to page 155. History of Australia—Sutherland's, Chapters IV, V, and VI.
- Singing*—As before ; Sharpened and Flattened Sounds ; Transition ; Expression Marks.
- Drawing*—Royal Drawing Book, No. 11. Drawing from Wire Models—Cube and Cone.
- Scripture Lessons*—Old Testament (I.N.B.), No. 2, to end. New Testament (I.N.B.), No. 2, to Lesson 21.
- Euclid*—Definitions—Book I, Propositions I to VII.

Second

Second Half-year of Enrolment.

- Reading**—1. (A.S.S.) Reader V, to the end of Lesson 56. 2. (I.N.B.) 4th Supplement, to page 155.
 Repetition from memory of additional 50 lines.
Writing—As in last half-year.
Dictation—Selected passages and separate words from any portion of the books read, with punctuation.
Arithmetic—Compound Interest ; Discount ; Profit and Loss ; Mensuration of Surfaces.
Grammar—Accidence ; Parsing and Analysis generally ; Framing Sentences ; Simple Essays.
Geography—Physical—Ocean and Atmosphere.
Object Lessons—Elementary Physical Science.
History—English History—Nelson's Junior, to page 232. History of Australia—Sutherland's, Chapters VII, VIII, IX, and X.
Singing— { Staff Notation ; Sol-faing.
 { Key and Time ; Signatures fully ; Three-part Songs.
 { The Intervals fully.
Drawing—Royal Drawing Book, No. 12, Collins' Advanced Drawing Books, Nos. 1 and 2. **Drawing**
 from Wire Models—Prism and Pyramid.
Scripture Lessons—New Testament, No. 2, to end.
Euclid—Book I, to Proposition XXVI.

Values of Subjects taught to Fourth Class.

Reading (Reading, 70 ; Meanings, &c., 30)	100
Writing	50
Dictation	50
Arithmetic	100
Grammar (Accidence, 20 ; Parsing, 40 ; Analysis, 10 ; Composition, 30)	100
Geography	60
Object Lessons	40
History	60
Singing	30
Drawing	30
Scripture	60
Euclid	60

NOTE.—Where there are not ten pupils to form a Fifth Class, the Standard prescribed for the First Half-year in Fifth Class shall become that for the Third Half-year of the Fourth Class.

FIFTH CLASS.

First Half-year of Enrolment.

Children enrolled one half-year must have completed the following course :—

- Reading**—One of the following books, or an authorized equivalent :—1. (A.S.S.) Reader V, to the end of Lesson 114. 2. (I.N.B.) 4th Supplement, to page 275.
Writing—Ornamental, and three hands.
Dictation—On unruled paper—Difficult passages.
Arithmetic—The Full Course as treated in Hamblin Smith's Manual, or any equivalent. Mensuration—
 Todhunter's Mensuration for Beginners, to page 120.
Grammar—
Geography— } As prescribed for the Senior or Junior Public Examinations at the Sydney University.
History— }
Natural Science—Physics or Physiology. Physics—Balfour Stewart's Lessons in Elementary Physics.
 Physiology—Huxley's Lessons in Elementary Physiology.
Euclid—Books I and II, with Exercises.
Algebra—Todhunter's Algebra for Beginners, to Chapter IX.
Latin (for Boys)—Smith's "Principia Latina," to Exercise 21.
French (for Girls)—Schneider's "First Year's French Course," to Exercise 85, or an equivalent.
Drawing—Geometrical Drawing ; Royal, Vere Foster's, or Collins' Series. Collins' Advanced
 Drawing Books, Nos. 22 and 24. Drawing from Wire Models ; Hexagon, Pyramid, Cylinder, Flat
 Circle, and Square.
Music—Staff Notation, Major and Minor Modes ; Part Singing ; Consonant and Dissonant Intervals ;
 Inversions.
Scripture Lessons—As in Fourth Class.

Second Half-year of Enrolment.

- Reading**—1. (A.S.S.) Reader V, to the end. 2. (I.N.B.) 4th Supplement, to the end.
Writing— } As in last half-year.
Dictation— }
Arithmetic—As before. Mensuration—Todhunter's, to end.
Grammar—
Geography— } As in last half-year.
History— }
Natural Science— }
Music— }
Scripture Lessons— }
Drawing—From Plaster Models, or from Groupings of Wire Models.
Euclid—Books III and IV, with Exercises.
Algebra—Todhunter's Algebra for Beginners, to Chapter XXII inclusive.
Latin—Smith's "Principia Latina," Part I, to Exercise 28 inclusive.
French—Schneider's "First Year's French Course," to end. Caron's "French Reader," to Exercise 152.

NOTE.—Where there are pupils in a Fifth Class in Third Half-year it is expected that Trigonometry will be introduced ; and provided the pupils are able to work as far as page 104 of Todhunter's Trigonometry for Beginners, full marks (100) will be awarded.

Values of Subjects taught to Fifth Class.

Reading (Reading, 20 ; Derivations, &c., 30)	50
Writing	30
Dictation	50
Arithmetic (Arithmetic, 70 ; Mensuration, 30)	100
Grammar (Accidence, 10 ; Parsing, 20 ; Analysis, 10 ; Prosody, 10 ; Composition, 30)	80
Geography	40
History	50
Natural Science	70
Geometry (Euclid, 70 ; Exercises, 30)	100
Algebra	70
Latin	100
French	100
Drawing	30
Music	30
Scripture	60

NOTE.—Teacher's are required to see that the two Series of Reading Books specified are duly read by their Pupils.
Provisional

Provisional Schools.

135. The last preceding regulation, with all others respecting routine, discipline, and inspection, shall apply equally to Provisional as to other schools.

Special Religious Instruction.

136. No pupil is to be required to receive Special Religious Instruction if the parents or guardians of such pupil object to such religious instruction being given.

Denominational Books.

137. The teacher, in all schools under the superintendence of the Minister, shall see that the religious books employed in the classes for Special Religious Instruction are confined to the time and place of such instruction, and not left in the way of children whose parents may object to them.

Methods of Teaching.

138. Every teacher is required to make himself acquainted with improved methods of teaching, and to practice them in his school; and, as the efficiency of teachers will be judged of by the attainments, as well as the moral improvement of their pupils, *results*, as well as the mode of instruction should be kept in view.

Teaching power to be justly distributed.

139. Teachers are to provide for the equitable distribution of their time through all the Classes, so that the instruction of no pupil shall be neglected.

Persons visiting Schools.

140. Visitors shall have access to every school maintained or aided by the Minister, during the hours of Secular Instruction—not to take part in the business or interrupt it, but simply to observe how it is conducted.

Duty of Teachers to Visitors.

141. Every teacher is required to receive courteously visitors seeking to inspect his school, to afford them access to the schoolroom, and liberty to observe what books are in the hands of the children or on the desks, what tablets are on the walls, and what is the method of teaching; but teachers should not permit any person to interrupt the business of the school by asking questions of the children, examining classes, calling for papers, or in any way diverting attention from the usual business.

Official Visits.

142. The restriction expressed in the preceding rule, will, of course, not interfere with the provision in section 17 of the Public Instruction Act, whereby access is afforded to religious teachers for the purpose of communicating special religious instruction.

Visitors' Book.

143. Every teacher is required to have the visitors' book lying upon his desk, in which the visitors may enter their names, and, if they think proper, any remarks. Teachers are by no means to erase or alter any remark so made.

INSTRUCTIONS TO TEACHERS.

THE following Instructions, issued for the information and guidance of principal teachers of schools comprising two or more departments, and of mistresses of Girls' and Infants' Departments, are also to be acted upon as far as practicable by teachers generally.

I. INSTRUCTIONS RELATING TO PRINCIPAL TEACHERS ONLY.

1. The principal teacher will keep a teachers' time-book, and will see that all teachers enter therein the time of their arrival at and departure from school.
2. He will report to the Inspector all teachers absent from duty without leave, and any who are habitually unpunctual.
3. He will visit the other School Departments once a day at least, to ascertain that the Teachers are at their posts and are observing the time-tables. He will see that all documents required by the Regulations are exhibited in their proper places. It is not intended that he shall interfere with the teaching, the discipline, or the internal management of the other departments; nor is he at liberty to remove children therefrom to his own department without the sanction of the Inspector; but he is empowered to decide questions relating to the general order and routine of the entire school, subject to appeal to higher authority.
4. He will, with the concurrence and aid of the heads of departments, arrange for the regular cleaning of the schoolrooms, will see that the water-closets and all external premises are kept clean, and that the fences and gates are uninjured by the pupils. He will report promptly any damage done to the school buildings, as also any necessity for emptying the water-closets. If the water for the use of the pupils should become bad, the Inspector should be informed to that effect; and, in dry seasons, care is to be taken to prevent any persons, other than the pupils or the Teacher's family, from obtaining water from the school tanks or wells.
5. He will receive all letters addressed to teachers at the school, and deliver them to the owners as soon as convenient. At the same time he will impress upon Teachers that having private letters addressed to them at the school is an inconvenient arrangement, justified only by urgent circumstances. Letters intended for pupils, and non-official letters addressed to pupil-teachers, should be forwarded to the parents of the persons concerned.
6. Persons visiting the school, or calling upon teachers, should in the first instance be brought to the principal teacher.
7. He will receive and investigate complaints from parents and others. It is expected that he will attentively consider such complaints, that he will endeavour to ascertain whether they are well founded, and that he will afford the redress which their nature may require or suggest.
8. The principal teacher will register all children applying for admission to the school, and will determine the department for which they are fit.
9. Under the heading in the Annual Return, "Number of Scholars on the Records," pupils who have left, but who have subsequently been re-enrolled in the same school during the year, should only be counted once. A school with two or more departments is to furnish but *one* Annual Return, in which children transferred from one department to another during the year are only to be counted once.

II. INSTRUCTIONS RELATING ALIKE TO PRINCIPAL TEACHERS AND MISTRESSES OF DEPARTMENTS.

10. He will give vigilant attention to the ventilation and temperature of the rooms, and will especially avoid an excessive degree of heat. At each recess the doors and windows should be opened so as to secure an effectual change of air. Windows should be opened, where practicable, by lowering them from the top; and children must not be allowed to sit in a strong current of air.
11. He will note the methods employed and the discipline maintained by the several teachers under his immediate supervision, and will have power to interfere whenever he may consider either to be defective.
12. He will arrange his classes; if four or more, in sections, each section to contain two or three classes; and will place in charge of each section an assistant teacher, who, when the staff admits, will be aided by a pupil-teacher.

13. When a subordinate Teacher relinquishes the charge of a class or section, it should be examined by the Head of the Department in the presence of the outgoing Teacher and his successor. A record of the condition of the class or section, as elicited by such examination, should be entered in the Lesson Register, and be attested by the signatures of all the persons concerned.

14. A similar course should be followed with respect to the materials used by the class or section in charge of the outgoing Teacher.

15. He will carefully preserve in the School all completed records and duplicate returns, for the use of future Teachers.

16. Corporal punishment must not be inflicted except by the Head of the Department, or—under his direction and responsibility—by an Assistant Teacher. Pupil-teachers are, under no circumstances, to be permitted to inflict corporal punishment. Careful attention must be paid to the Regulation which provides that corporal punishment “should be restricted as much as possible to extreme cases.” The frequent infliction of such punishment will be regarded as evidence of a Teacher’s want of disciplinary power. The boxing of pupils’ ears is strictly forbidden, as is also the infliction of corporal punishment upon female pupils twelve years of age and over. It must be distinctly understood that *all* cases of corporal punishment are to be recorded at the time the punishment is inflicted. A book for that purpose may be obtained by requisition in the usual way, and should be preserved in the Department.

17. Pupils shall not be detained in School for study or for punishment during any part of the forenoon recess.

18. During recesses, the Teacher will make the necessary arrangements for the proper oversight of the playground. It is competent for the Head of a School or of a Department, the staff of which contains more than one Teacher, to so arrange that each half of the staff shall be relieved of playground supervision during an equal portion of the recess for dinner. Principal Teachers and Mistresses of Departments must undertake playground duty equally with the other Teachers.

19. He will construct Programmes of Lessons for classes in his department taught by Pupil-teachers, and will decide upon the suitability of those framed by Assistant Teachers. His signature is to be attached to these documents, in evidence that they have been examined by him and have received his approval.

20. He will devote a portion of his time weekly to the instruction of each class in his department.

21. He will examine each class in his department at least once a month, and will record the results, note the defects, and enter suggestions for their remedy in a book kept for the purpose. Such entries should be signed by himself and the teacher of the class.

22. He will be responsible for the progress of all children in his department, and for the condition of the department in all other matters, excepting those points of organization for which he cannot reasonably be held accountable.

23. He will devote at least one hour daily to the instruction of pupil-teachers, and will see that *all* the prescribed subjects are duly studied by them. Suitable programmes are to be prepared, and a Register is to be kept showing (a) the time of commencing the daily lesson and the time at which it was concluded, (b) the exercise or home-lesson appointed for the day. It must be clearly understood that mistresses of departments are to perform a fair share of the work of instructing pupil-teachers.

24. He will be responsible for posting Quarterly Returns on the Saturdays preceding the Mid-winter and Christmas vacations; and, in other cases, on the last Saturdays of the months of March and September. In country places where no post leaves on Saturday or the preceding Friday evening, the Returns must be sent, without fail, by the first subsequent opportunity.

25. In making application for increased assistance, he will give attention to the following rules, by which the numerical strength of teaching staffs is regulated:—

In a mixed school, or in a separate boys’ or girls’ department, having an average attendance of—

50 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher and Pupil-teacher.

80 to 110 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher and 2 Pupil-teachers.

110 to 140 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, Assistant, and Pupil-teacher.

140 to 180 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, Assistant, and 2 Pupil-teachers.

180 to 220 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, Assistant, and 3 Pupil-teachers.

220 to 270 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, 2 Assistants, and 2 Pupil-teachers.

270 to 310 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, 2 Assistants, and 3 Pupil-teachers.

310 to 350 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, 2 Assistants, and 4 Pupil-teachers.

350 to 400 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, 3 Assistants, and 4 Pupil-teachers.

400 to 450 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, 3 Assistants, and 5 Pupil-teachers.

450 to 500 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, 3 Assistants, and 6 Pupil-teachers.

In every separate Infants’ Department having an average attendance of—

60 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher and a Pupil-teacher.

100 to 120 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher and 2 Pupil-teachers.

120 to 160 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, Assistant, and Pupil-teacher.

160 to 200 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, Assistant, and 2 Pupil-teachers.

200 to 240 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, Assistant, and 3 Pupil-teachers.

240 to 300 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, 2 Assistants, and 3 Pupil-teachers.

300 to 340 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, 2 Assistants, and 4 Pupil-teachers.

340 to 380 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, 2 Assistants, and 5 Pupil-teachers.

380 to 440 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, 3 Assistants, and 5 Pupil-teachers.

440 to 480 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, 3 Assistants, and 6 Pupil-teachers.

480 to 550 pupils, the staff may consist of Teacher, 3 Assistants, and 7 Pupil-teachers.

26 Principal Teachers and Mistresses of Departments are empowered to grant leave of absence to Assistants and Pupil-teachers employed under their supervision, respectively, for a period not exceeding one day, subject to the conditions stated in paragraph 3 of the rules regulating leave of absence. It must, however, be distinctly understood that such leave of absence can only be granted in cases where the necessity for it is clearly shown. In forwarding applications for leave of absence for more than one day, the Principal Teacher or Mistress of a Department, will state thereon the arrangements proposed for the performance of the duties of those applying; will express an opinion as to whether such arrangements are satisfactory; and will state what previous leave has been granted, and on what terms, during the past twelve months. Applications for sick leave for three or more days should be accompanied by medical certificates.

27. All correspondence and returns (except those relating to fees) should be sent to the Inspector under whose immediate supervision the school is placed. Salary abstracts should be sent direct to the accountant.

28. Teachers of all ranks are required to abstain from public discussions on political or religious topics, and from public controversy upon the merits of the system of education now in force, as also from acting as local preachers, lay readers, or local correspondents of newspapers.

29. No sectarian or denominational publications of any kind whatsoever shall be used in school, nor shall any denominational or sectarian doctrines be inculcated.

30. It shall be the duty of all teachers to impress on the minds of their pupils the principles of morality, truth, justice, and patriotism; to teach them to avoid idleness, profanity, and falsehood; to instruct them in the principles of a free Government; and to train them up to a true comprehension of the rights, duties, and dignity of citizenship.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ACT OF 1880: AMENDED REGULATIONS AS TO TRAINING,
EXAMINATION, AND CLASSIFICATION OF TEACHERS.

Department of Public Instruction, Sydney, 25th September, 1888.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following amended Regulations, in substitution for those relating to the Training, Examination, and Classification of Teachers, of date 12th February, 1886.

JAMES INGLIS.

Examination and Classification.

74. The attainments of Teachers, Students of the Training Schools, and Candidates for employment as Teachers, will be tested by written and oral examinations, and their skill in teaching will be determined by their ability to manage a school or class; and, according to such attainments and skill they will be classified in the following grades:—The First, or highest class, will have three grades, distinguished as A with Honors, A (without Honors), and B; the Second Class will have three grades, distinguished as A with Honors, A (without Honors), and B; and the Third Class will have three grades, distinguished as A, B, and C. A classification awarded to a Teacher, a Student of the Training School, or a Candidate for employment, after his first successful examination, will be provisional only, and will be confirmed at the end of three years from the date of examination if the Inspectors' reports upon his school work be fully satisfactory: Provided that the classification of any Teacher in the School Service shall be liable to reduction or cancellation for inefficiency, gross neglect of duty, or serious misconduct on the part of the person holding such classification.

Assistant teachers.

80. Assistant teachers may be appointed to schools in which the average daily attendance exceeds seventy. They may be (a) persons who have served for four years at least as a pupil-teacher, or (b) persons who have been examined and classified.

Pupil-teachers.

81. Pupil-teachers may be employed to serve not less than four years in any school in which the average attendance has been not less than fifty for the three months preceding; provided that the teacher holds a classification not lower than Class II.

SUBJECTS OF EXAMINATION FOR TEACHERS AND PUPIL-TEACHERS.

84. The subjects in which teachers, students of Training Schools, and pupil-teachers shall be examined for classification are those stated hereunder.

FOR A THIRD-CLASS CERTIFICATE.

- Reading*—Full value, 800 marks. Prose and Poetry.
Writing—Full value, 800 marks. Specimens of Copy-setting in round hand, half-text, and small hand.
Arithmetic—Full value, 1,000 marks. Simple and Compound Rules, Reduction, Proportion, Practice, Simple and Compound Interest, Vulgar and Decimal Fractions.
Text Books—Barnard Smith's Arithmetic, or Hamblin Smith's Arithmetic.
Grammar—Full value, 1,000 marks. Including Punctuation, Paraphrasing, Parsing, Analysis of Sentences, Meanings and Applications of Words, Saxon and Latin Prefixes and Affixes, Dictation and Composition.
Text Books—M'Leod's Grammar, and Laurie's Composition.
Geography—Full value, 1,000 marks. Europe and Australia in detail. Mapping in connection with those Continents.
Text Books—Hughes' Class Book of Geography, Geography of New South Wales (Wilkins').
History—Full value, 600 marks. Outlines of British History from the Conquest to the reign of Victoria inclusive; date of Accession of each Sovereign; leading Men; and most important Events. General sketch of Australian History.
Text Books—Nelson's Royal History of England, Sutherland's History of Australia.
School Management—Full value, 800 marks. Organization, Discipline, and Instruction of Schools—in outline.
Text Books—Gladman's School Method, Public Instruction Act and Regulations.
Domestic Economy—(Female Teachers only)—Full value, 500 marks. Plain Needlework, Food, Clothing, Household Management.
Text Book—Hassall's Domestic Economy.
Drawing—Full value, 500 marks. Black-board, Freehand.
Text Books—As prescribed in the Standard of Proficiency.
Vocal Music—Full value, 500 marks. Rudiments of Music, either notation.
Text Books—Curwen's Standard Course, or Sutton's Theory of Music.

FOR A SECOND-CLASS CERTIFICATE.

- Reading*—Full value, 500 marks. Prose and Poetry from any English Reading Book.
Writing—Full value, 500 marks. Specimens of Copy-lines, Letter-writing, Ornamental Writing.
Arithmetic—Full value, 1,000 marks. The full Course, with Elementary Mensuration.
Text Books—Barnard Smith's Arithmetic, Hamblin Smith's Arithmetic, Todhunter's Mensuration (for Males, Chap. I to XX inclusive. For Females, Chap. I to XIII inclusive).
Grammar—Full value, 1,000 marks. Including Spelling, Punctuation, Parsing, Paraphrasing, Meaning and uses of Words, Etymology and Analysis.
Text Books—Hunter's Grammar, Lennie's Grammar (revised), Morell's Grammar and Analysis.
Subject for Special Study—"Julius Cæsar."—(Shakespeare).
Geography—Full value, 800 marks. Physical Geography, Europe, Australasia, and North America, in detail. Mapping within these limits.
Text Books—W. Hughes' Class Book of Geography, and Edward Hughes' Physical Geography, or Geikie's Physical Geography.

History

History and English Literature—Full value, 700 marks.

History— { British History, from the Conquest to the present times;
 } Australian History.

Literature—Elizabeth to Cromwell inclusive.

Text Books—Nelson's Royal History.
 Sutherland's History of Australia.

Smith's Smaller History of English Literature.

Art of Teaching—Full value, 500 marks. Organization, Discipline, Method, and Instruction of Schools in greater detail.

Text Books—Gladman's School Method.
 Public Instruction Act and Regulations.

Sanitary Science (Female Teachers only)—Full value, 500 marks.

Text Book—Wilson's Healthy Life and Healthy Dwellings.

Drawing—Full value, 500 marks. Geometrical and Model Drawing.

Text Books—Nesbit and Brown's Handbook of Model and Object Drawing.

Rawle's Practical Plane Geometry.

Vocal Music—Full value, 500 marks. Rudiments of Music, either notation, with increased proficiency.

Text Books—Curwen's Standard Course, or
 Sutton's Theory of Music.

* *Alternative Groups for Males.*

Group I.

Euclid—Full value, 1,000 marks. First three Books of Euclid's Elements, with Deductions.

Algebra—Full value, 1,000 marks. To Quadratic Equations, including Surds.

Text Books—Hamblin Smith's Algebra.
 Todhunter's Euclid.

Group II.

Latin—Full value, 2,000 marks. Grammar, Composition. Cæsar, De Bello Gallico. Books I to IV inclusive.

Text Books—Dr. Smith's Smaller Latin Grammar. "Principia Latina," Part I; and Ihne's Latin Syntax, Part I.

* *Alternative Groups for Females.*

Group I.

French—Full value, 1,500 marks. Grammar, Composition. Translation from an easy author.

Text Books—Voltaire's Charles XII. Books I to IV inclusive.

Havet's French Class Book (complete), or
Hallard's French Grammar.

Group II.

Latin—Full value, 1,500 marks. Grammar, Composition. Cæsar, De Bello Gallico. Books I, II.

Text Books—As for Males.

Group III.

Euclid—Full value, 750 marks. Books I and II, with easy Deductions on them.

Text Books—As for Males.

Algebra—Full value, 750 marks. To Quadratics, omitting Surds.

Text Books—As for Males.

Group IV.

Any two of the following Sciences:—

Experimental Physics—Full value, 750 marks.

Text Book—Balfour Stewart's Lessons on Elementary Physics.

Chemistry—Full value, 750 marks. Inorganic.

Text Book—Roscoe's Lessons in Elementary Chemistry.

Geology—Full value, 750 marks.

Text Book—Lyell's Student's Elements of Geology.

Zoology—Full value, 750 marks.

Text Book—Huxley's Lessons in Elementary Zoology.

Botany—Full value, 750 marks.

Text Book—Oliver's Lessons in Elementary Botany.

Physiology—Full value, 750 marks.

Text Book—Huxley's Lessons in Elementary Physiology.

FOR A FIRST-CLASS CERTIFICATE.

Reading—Full value, 500 marks. Prose and Poetry from a standard author.

Writing—Full value, 500 marks. Specimens of Copy-setting and Letter-writing, Ornamental Printing, Principles of Writing.

Arithmetic—Full value, 1,000 marks. The whole theory and practice.

Text Books—Hamblin Smith's Arithmetic.

Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.

Colenso's Arithmetic (as revised by Hunter).

Todhunter's Mensuration (for Males only).

Grammar—Full value, 1,000 marks. Including Orthography, Punctuation, Parsing, Paraphrasing, Analysis, Composition, Etymology, Prosody, and Style.

Text Books—Mason's English Grammar.

Bain's Higher English Grammar.

Meiklejohn's Book of English.

Geography—Full value, 800 marks. Physical Geography.

Astronomical Geography.

Text Books—Geikie's Physical Geography.

Lockyer's Astronomy.

Art of Teaching—Full value, 700 marks. Organization, Method, Discipline, with a knowledge of the Constitution of the Human Mind.

Text Books—Gladman's School Method.

Tate's Philosophy of Education, or

Morell's Mental Philosophy.

Sanitary Science—(Female Teachers only)—Full value, 500 marks.

Text Book—Wilson's Healthy Life and Healthy Dwellings.

Drawing—Full value, 500 marks. The full D Certificate.

Text Book—Dennis' Perspective.

Vocal

* NOTE.—These groups of subjects are styled Alternative, because candidates are allowed to choose from them the group in which they wish to be examined. Candidates are required to confine themselves to one group.

- Vocal Music**—Full value, 500 marks. Rudiments of Music, either notation.
Text Books—Curwen's Standard Course, or Sutton's Theory of Music.
- History**—Full value, 700 marks. History of England in detail. History of Australia.
Text Books—Smith's Student's Hume.
 Creasy on the English Constitution. Chapters 10, 11, 15, 16.
 Sutherland's History of Australia.
- English Literature**—Full value, 800 marks. Elizabeth to Anne.
Text Book—Morley's English Literature. Chapters VII to XI inclusive.
For Special Study—Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice."
 Milton's "Paradise Lost." Book I.
 Addison's Essays, 12 (Clarendon edition), Nos. 3, 15, 25, 61, 105, 106, 135, 159,
 165, 409, 458, 487.
 Bacon's Essays, 6, Blackie's edition, Civil and Moral.

Alternative Groups for Males.

Group I.

- Algebra**—Full value, 1,000 marks. Including the Binomial Theorem.
Text Books—Colenso's Algebra, or
 Hamblin Smith's Algebra.
- Euclid**—Full value, 1,000 marks. Books I to VI, with Deductions.
Text Books—Potts' Euclid, or
 Todhunter's Euclid.
- Plane Trigonometry**—Full value, 1,000 marks.
Text Books—Todhunter's Trigonometry for Schools and Colleges, or
 Hamblin Smith's Trigonometry.

*Group II.

- Latin**—Full value, 2,000 marks. Virgil, first two Books of *Æneid*; Livy, Book 21. Questions on Grammar. Composition.
Text Books—Dr. Smith's Larger Latin Grammar.
 Abbott's Latin Prose Composition.
 Ihne's Latin Syntax.
- Greek**—Full value 1,000 marks.
Text Books—Xenophon's "Anabasis." Books I and II.
 Smith's Larger Greek Grammar.
 Abbott's Greek Prose Composition.
- French**—Full value, 1,000 marks. Grammar, Translation, Composition.
Text Books—Souvestre's "Un Philosophe sous les Toits."
 Racine's "Athalie."
 Havel's French Grammar.
 Hallard's French Grammar.
- German**—Full value, 1,000 marks. Grammar, Translation, Composition.
Text Books—Schiller's "History of the Thirty Years' War," Chapters I to IV.
 Goethe's "Faust."
 Otto's German Grammar.

* NOTE.—In this group at least two languages must be taken, one of them being Latin.

† Group III.

- Natural Science**—Full value, 750 marks. Experimental Physics.
Text Book—Ganot's Physics.
- Chemistry**—Full value, 750 marks. Inorganic.
Text Book—Roscoe's Class Book of Elementary Chemistry (Macmillan).
- Geology**—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Jukes' or Geikie's Geology.
- Zoology**—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Huxley's Zoology.
- Botany**—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Oliver's Manual of Botany.
- Physiology**—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Huxley's Physiology.
- Sanitary Science**—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Wilson's Handbook of Hygiene.

† NOTE.—Any four of these Sciences may be taken

Group IV.

- Euclid**—Full value, 1,000 marks. Books I to VI, with Deductions.
Text Books—As in Group I.
- Algebra**—Full value, 1,000 marks. Inclusive of the Binomial Theorem.
Text Books—As in Group I.
- Latin**—Full value, 1,000 marks. *Cæsar, De Bello Gallico*. First two books.
 Virgil's *Æneid*. Book I.
Text Books—As in Group II.

Group V.

- Euclid**—Full value, 1,000 marks. Books I to VI, with Deductions.
Text Books—As in Group I.
- Algebra**—Full value, 1,000 marks. Inclusive of the Binomial Theorem.
Text Books—As in Group I.
- And any two Sciences of the Science Group already specified in Group III. Full value 1,000 marks.

Group VI.

- Latin**—Full value, 2,000 marks. Virgil's *Æneid*. Books I, II.
 Livy. Book XXI.
 Horace's Odes. Books I, II.
 Grammar and Composition.
Text Books—As in Group II.
- Together with any two of the following Sciences, namely, Chemistry, Physics, Physiology, Geology,
 Full value 1,000 marks.
Text Books—As in Group III.

Alternative

Alternative Groups for Females.

Group I.

French—Full value, 1,500 marks. Grammar, Translation, Composition.
Text Books—Souvestre's "Un Philosophe sous les Toits."
 Corneille's "Le Cid."
 Racine's "Athalie."
 Havet's French Grammar.
 Hallard's French Grammar.

Group II.

German—Full value, 1,500 marks. Grammar, Translation, Composition.
Text Books—As for Males.

Group III.

Latin—Full value, 1,500 marks. Grammar, Translation, Composition.
Text Books—As for Males.

Group IV.

Euclid—Full value, 800 marks. Books I to IV, with Deductions.
Text Books—As for Males.
Algebra—Full value, 700 marks. To Quadratic Equations inclusive.
Text Books—As for Males.

Group V.

Any three of the following Sciences :—

Experimental Physics—Full value, 500 marks.
Chemistry—Full value, 500 marks.
Geology—Full value, 500 marks.
Zoology—Full value, 500 marks.
Botany—Full value, 500 marks.
Physiology—Full value, 500 marks.
Text Books—As for Males of First Class.

NOTE.—In lieu of the Alternative Subjects of examination herein prescribed for a Second-class or a First-class Certificate, the subjects of the Sydney University Arts' Course (as set forth in the by-laws and annually published in the Calendar) will be taken up in the Training Schools by those students who have passed the University Matriculation examination and who may desire to compete, in subsequent University examinations, for the special privilege of remaining a third year in Training and proceeding to the final examination for the B.A. degree.

SUBJECTS OF STUDY FOR PUPIL-TEACHERS.

Before Appointment—*Candidates.*

Reading—Full value, 50 marks. To Read an advanced Class Book, sanctioned by the Minister, with ease, fluency, and expression, to Spell well, and to understand the meaning of the passage read.
Writing—Full value, 50 marks. To write from Dictation, in a neat hand, a simple Prose Narrative, with correct spelling and punctuation.
Dictation—Full value, 100 marks.
Arithmetic—Full value, 100 marks. To know the Arithmetical Tables, and to work the rules in Vulgar Fractions, Proportion, and Practice, as in Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.
Grammar—Full value, 100 marks. To Parse and Analyse correctly a passage taken from an ordinary Class-book; to know the Elements of Grammar.
Geography—Full value 100 marks. To understand the Geographical Terms, to be acquainted with the Map of the World, and to have a knowledge of the Geography of Australia.
Drawing—Full value, 50 marks. Freehand Tests, as prescribed for a Third Class in the Standard of Proficiency.
Vocal Music—Full value, 50 marks. As prescribed for a Third Class in the Standard of Proficiency.
Skill in Teaching—To Teach a Junior Class in the presence of an Inspector.

Pupil-teachers—Class IV.

Reading—Full value, 50 marks. To Read the Fifth Reading Book, sanctioned by the Minister, with fluency and expression, give synonymous words and phrases, and answer upon the subject matter; to repeat from memory 50 lines of Poetry.
Writing—Full value, 50 marks. To write neatly and correctly from Dictation or from Memory.
Dictation—Full value, 50 marks.
Arithmetic—Full value, 100 marks. To work Questions in Proportion, Vulgar and Decimal Fractions, and Practice.
Text Book—Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.
Grammar—Full value, 100 marks. To Parse, Paraphrase, and Analyse a Passage; Meanings of Words; Etymology.
Text Books—Lennie's Grammar (revised).
 Laurie's Spelling and Dictation Class Book.
Geography—Full value, 80 marks. New South Wales, in detail; Europe. The Physical Features and Chief Towns in each Country.
Text Books—Wilkins' Geography of New South Wales.
 Hughes' Class Book of Geography.
History—Full value, 70 marks. English History to William I.
Text Book—Nelson's Royal History of England.
 Australian History—Sutherland's. Chaps. I to V.
Drawing—Full value, 50 marks. Black-board Practice.
Vocal Music—Full value, 50 marks. Stimpson's Singing Class Book, Chaps. I to VIII.
Geometry (for Males)—Full value, 100 marks. Euclid. Book I. Propositions I to XXVI.
Text Book—Todhunter's Geometry.
Algebra (for Males)—Full value, 100 marks. Hamblin Smith's Algebra. Chaps. I to V inclusive.
Latin (for Males)—Full value, 100 marks. Smith's "Principia Latina" to Exercise XXIV inclusive.
 **French* (for Females)—Full value, 100 marks. De Fivas' "Grammaire des Grammaires," to Exercise XXX inclusive.
School Management—Full value, 50 marks. The Kindergarten Principle (Lyschinska). Gladman's School Method.
Needlework (for Females)—Full value, 50 marks. *Pupil-teachers*

* NOTE.—From female pupil-teachers in country districts the following will be accepted in lieu of French, where it can be shown that the examinee has no means of acquiring a knowledge of the language in question :—

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \textit{Latin, or} \\ \textit{Euclid and} \\ \textit{Algebra.} \end{array} \right\} \text{As for Males.}$$

Pupil-teachers—Class III.

- Reading*—Full value, 50 marks. To read with improved intonation and expression.
Writing—Full value, 50 marks. Specimens of Penmanship; three hands.
Arithmetic—Full value, 100 marks. Compound Interest, Profit and Loss, and Square Root—as in Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.
Grammar—Full value, 100 marks. Parsing of Difficult Sentences, with a good knowledge of Syntax, and the Analysis of Sentences; Meanings of Words; Force of Affixes; Latin Roots; Composition.
Text Book—Lennie's Grammar (revised).
Geography—Full value, 80 marks. Australia; Polynesia.
 Mapping, confined within these limits.
Text Books—Collins' Geography of Australia and Pacific Ocean.
 Collins' Australian and Primary Atlas.
History—Full value, 70 marks. English History: William I to Richard III inclusive.
 Australian History—Sutherland's. Chaps. VI to X.
Text Books—Nelson's Royal History of England.
 Sutherland's History of Australia.
Drawing—Full value, 50 marks. Freehand Drawing.
Vocal Music—Full value, 50 marks. Stimpson's Singing Class Book, Chaps. IX to XII inclusive.
Geometry—Full value, 100 marks. Euclid. Book I.
Algebra—Full value, 100 marks. Fractions and Simple Equations, to Chap. XIV inclusive.
Latin—Full value, 100 marks. Smith's "Principia Latina," to Exercise XXXIII.
French (for Females)—Full value, 150 marks. "Grammaire des Grammaires," to Exercise LX. (See note*, Fourth Class Pupil-teachers).
School Management—Full value, 50 marks. Gladman's School Method. The Kindergarten Principle (Lyschinska).
Needlework (for Females)—Full value, 50 marks.

Pupil-teachers—Class II.

- Reading*—Full value, 50 marks. A standard author, with correct intonation and emphasis.
Writing—Full value, 50 marks. Specimen of Penmanship; three hands, with increased skill.
Arithmetic—Full value, 100 marks. Cube Root, Discount, Stocks, Proportional Parts—as in Barnard Smith's Arithmetic, or Hamblin Smith's Arithmetic.
Grammar—Full value, 100 marks. Increased skill in Parsing, Paraphrasing, and in the Analysis of Sentences; Meanings of Words; Affixes; Roots; Composition.
Text Book—Hunter's Grammar.
Geography—Full value, 80 marks. Asia: Physical Features and Chief Towns of each Country of Asia and North America.
 Physical Geography: Waves, Tides, Currents.
History—Full value, 70 marks. English History: Henry VII to Anne, inclusive.
 Australian History—Sutherland's. Chapters XI to XVI.
Drawing—Full value, 50 marks. Model Drawing.
Vocal Music—Full value, 50 marks. Stimpson's Class Book, Chaps. XIII to XV inclusive.
Geometry—Full value, 100 marks. Books I and II, with Deductions in Book I.
Algebra—Full value, 100 marks. Simple Equations and Surds, to Chapter XXIV inclusive.
Latin—Full value, 100 marks. Smith's "Principia Latina," to Exercise XLVIII.
French (for Females)—Full value, 150 marks. "Grammaire des Grammaires," to Exercise XC. (See note*, Fourth Class Pupil-teachers).
School Management—Full value, 50 marks. Gladman's School Method. The Kindergarten Principle (Lyschinska).
Needlework (for Females)—Full value, 50 marks.

Pupil-teachers—Class I.

- Reading*—Full value, 50 marks. To read with ease and expression from a standard author.
Writing—Full value, 50 marks. Specimen of Penmanship; three hands, with increased skill.
Arithmetic—Full value, 100 marks. Application of Rules and Principles. Mensuration of Surfaces.
Text Books—Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.
 Todhunter's Mensuration.
Grammar—Full value, 100 marks. Parsing, Paraphrasing, Prosody, Analysis of Sentences, Meanings of Words, Formation of Words, Derivations, Composition.
Text Book—Hunter's Grammar.
Geography—Full value, 80 marks. Physical Geography. Physical Features and Chief Towns of each of the Countries of Africa and South America.
 Mapping within these limits.
History—Full value, 70 marks. English History: George I to present time. Australian History—Sutherland's. Chapters XVII to XXII.
Drawing—Full value, 50 marks. Advanced proficiency expected in the three sections.
Vocal Music—Full value, 50 marks. Stimpson's Class Book, Chaps. XVI to end.
Geometry—Full value, 100 marks. Books I and II, with Deductions.
Algebra—Full value, 100 marks. Quadratic Equations, with Surds, to Chap. XXVI, inclusive.
Latin—Full value, 100 marks. Smith's "Principia Latina," to end. Caesar, De Bello Gallico. Chaps. I to III. Easy translations.
French (for Females)—Full value, 150 marks. "Grammaire des Grammaires," to the end. (See note*, Fourth Class Pupil-teachers).
School Management—Full value, 50 marks. Gladman's School Method. The Kindergarten Principle (Lyschinska).
Needlework (for Females)—Full value, 50 marks.

NOTE.—The course herein prescribed is for all pupil-teachers alike. It is recommended, however, that the Sydney University Matriculation subjects (as set forth in the by-laws and annually published in the Calendar) be also studied by those pupil-teachers who may desire or intend, after admission to the Training School, to present themselves at the Matriculation examination and to compete, in subsequent University examinations, for the privilege of remaining three years in training and proceeding to the final examination for the B.A. degree.

Examinations.

85. Examinations of teachers will be held yearly in each Inspector's District. Teachers who desire to be examined, with a view to a higher certificate, must at least one month before the date of examination apprise the Inspector of their wish, and furnish him with a list of the alternative subjects upon which they are prepared for examination.

Eligibility

* NOTE.—From female pupil-teachers in country districts the following will be accepted in lieu of French, where it can be shown that the examinee has no means of acquiring a knowledge of the language in question:—

*Latin, or
 English and
 Algebra.* } As for Males.

Eligibility of Teachers for appointment to certain Schools.

90. Teachers who have gained their classifications by examination, or by promotion under Regulation 86, shall be eligible for appointment to any school or department, in accordance with the following Schedule :—

Class of Schools or Department.	Teacher's Classification.
I	I A. with Honors, or I A.
II	I B.
III	II A. with Honors.
IV	II A.
V	II B.
VI	II B.
VII	III A.
VIII	III B.
IX	III C.
X	III C.

TRAINING SCHOOLS.

Classes of Candidates.

97. The Minister may authorize to be received into the Training Schools, annually, three classes of candidates, namely, *First Class, or Scholarship Candidates*—Thirty pupil-teachers whose term of service has expired and who have obtained the highest marks among those passing the entrance examination successfully; *Second Class, or Half-scholarship Candidates*—Twenty pupil-teachers whose term of service has expired and who have obtained, after the first 30, the next highest marks among those passing the entrance examination successfully, and are prepared to pay half the cost of their maintenance while in training; *Third Class, or Non-scholarship Candidates*—Other Pupil-teachers whose term of service has expired, untrained teachers who have had charge of schools, and persons entering the Teaching profession for the first time, who have passed the entrance examination successfully and are prepared to pay the whole cost of their maintenance while in training.

Conditions of Admission.

99. Before admission, every candidate must make a declaration that he intends, in good faith, to follow the profession of a teacher in schools under the Minister, and that he will accept a situation in any district, as the Minister may see fit. He must also procure a guarantee from two responsible persons that the whole expense of his training defrayed by the State will be refunded, if, from any cause whatever, he shall not enter the service of the Minister, or shall leave it in less than a period to be agreed upon at the time of his admission to training.

Term of Training.

100. Entrance examinations will be held yearly, in December; and the period of training will be one year, two years, or three years, as may be found expedient.

Allowances during Training.

101. The following allowances may be made to students who satisfy the aforementioned conditions and pass successfully the prescribed examinations :—To Scholarship Students, £6 per month; and to Half-scholarship Students, £3 per month. When the school is prepared to receive students into residence, these allowances are not paid; board and lodging being provided instead.

Examinations.

103. Oral examinations of the students will be held periodically to test their attention and progress; and written examinations will take place yearly, in December—when classifications will be awarded according to attainments and teaching skill to students who have completed their course. No certificate will be given until the Inspector's Report shows that the student is successful in the management of a school.

APPENDIX XX.

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS of the Department of Public Instruction, from 1st January to 31st December, 1888.

RECEIPTS		DISBURSEMENTS			
	£ s d		£ s d	£ s d	
To Balance from 1887	5,295 0 7	By Salaries	11,352 1 2		
„ Amount received from Treasury on account of Vote for 1887	24,960 19 9	„ Repairs and furniture	169 0 6		
„ Amount received from Treasury on account of Vote for 1888	571,738 16 8	„ Rent	20 0 0		
		„ Books printing, and stationery	83 1 9		
		„ Miscellaneous expenses—			
		Advertising	£ s d		
		Fuel and light	42 0 0		
		Travelling expenses, freight, cartage, and cab hire	43 5 1		
		Sundry small expenses	367 2 3		
			13 17 9		
			466 5 1		
				12,095 8 6	
		EXAMINER'S BRANCH			
		„ Salaries	2,281 9 0		
		„ Rent, repairs, and furniture	107 0 6		
		„ Fuel and light	5 0 0		
				2,393 9 6	
		CHIEF INSPECTOR'S BRANCH			
		„ Salaries	25,567 0 0		
		„ Rent, repairs, and furniture	499 2 11		
		„ Fuel and light	44 1 7		
		„ Books, printing, and stationery	19 14 3		
		„ Travelling expenses	7,285 13 9		
		„ Sundry small expenses	6 1 0		
				33,421 13 6	
		ARCHITECT'S BRANCH			
		„ Salaries	4,785 17 5		
		„ Repairs and furniture	17 15 0		
		„ Books, printing, and stationery	5 10 0		
		„ Travelling expenses	1,220 17 4		
				6,029 9 9	
		TRAINING SCHOOL, FORT STREET			
		„ Salaries and allowances	3,287 9 8		
		„ Repairs and furniture	121 6 0		
		„ Books, printing, and stationery	12 2 4		
		„ Medical fees	30 0 0		
		„ Advertising	1 9 6		
				3,462 7 6	
		TRAINING SCHOOL, HURLSTONE			
		„ Salaries	1,657 3 1		
		„ Repairs and furniture	124 19 10		
		„ Books, printing, and stationery	25 12 3		
		„ House expenses—Maintenance	1,012 5 5		
		„ Travelling expenses	12 9 0		
		„ Lectures	125 0 0		
		„ Medical fees	30 0 0		
		„ Advertising	3 3 6		
				2,990 13 1	
		HIGH SCHOOLS			
		„ Salaries	5 343 0 8		
		„ Rent, repairs and furniture	1,140 2 10		
		„ Books, printing, and stationery	144 13 4		
		„ Travelling expenses	1 14 2		
		„ Advertising	62 7 8		
				6,691 13 8	
		PUBLIC SCHOOLS			
		„ Salaries and allowances	396,777 16 2		
		„ Buildings, repairs, rent, furniture, and sites	74,020 12 0		
		„ Fuel	4 0 0		
		„ Books, printing, and stationery	7,965 16 10		
		„ Advertising	673 11 5		
		„ Travelling expenses	1,146 9 0		
		„ „ „ Railway Passes	3,843 18 7		
		„ Medical fees	64 19 0		
		„ Lectures	20 0 0		
		„ Sundry small expenses	25 12 8		
				484,542 15 8	
		PROVISIONAL SCHOOLS			
		„ Salaries and allowances	21,760 10 6		
		„ Buildings, repairs, rent, and furniture	3,256 2 0		
		„ Books, printing, and stationery	649 17 6		
		„ Forage allowance	10 0 0		
		„ Travelling expenses	187 13 5		
		„ Advertising	6 3 3		
				25,870 6 8	
		HALF TIME SCHOOLS,			
		„ Salaries and allowances	11,603 13 7		
		„ Buildings, repairs, rent, and furniture	121 14 2		
		„ Law costs	1 1 0		
		„ Books, printing, and stationery	169 4 4		
		„ Travelling expenses	77 13 6		
		„ Forage allowance	968 16 0		
				12,942 2 7	
		HOUSE TO HOUSE TEACHING			
		„ Salaries and allowances	5,724 15 2		
		„ Books, printing, and stationery	124 13 2		
		„ Travelling expenses	49 16 3		
		„ Forage allowance	563 11 10		
		„ Rent	6 10 0		
				6,469 11 5	
		EVENING SCHOOLS			
		„ Salaries	201 15 5		
		„ Refund to Treasury of balance of Vote for 1886		201 15 5	
		„ Refund to Treasury on account of Vote for 1887		1 8 8	
				3,500 0 0	
		Balance		600,603 10 11	
				1,391 6 1	
	£ 601,994 17 0			£ 601,994 17 0	

E & O E.

Department of Public Instruction,
18th February, 1889.

J. GIBSON,
Accountant.

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM.

(REPORT OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR 1888.)

Presented to Parliament pursuant to Act 17 Vic. No. 2, sec. 9.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,—

The Trustees of the Australian Museum, incorporated by the Act 17 Victoria No. 2, have the honor to submit to your Excellency in Council, in accordance with the 9th section of that Act, this their thirty-fifth Annual Report.

1. The hours during which the Museum is open to the public have continued to be, as in previous years, from 10 o'clock until 5 o'clock (or in summer till 6 o'clock) daily, except on Sundays, when the hours are from 2 o'clock only till 5, and on Mondays, when it is closed for the necessary purposes of cleaning. The record of the number of visitors in 1888 shows an increase over the previous year, the total number being 128,365, as against 122,799 in 1887. The largest attendance on one day was 2,160, namely, on Thursday, 26th January; and the largest Sunday attendance was 1,058, on 8th January. The average daily number throughout the year was 332 on week-days and 756 on Sundays. The orderly conduct of the visitors on all these occasions, and the more than ordinary interest taken by a large portion of them in the exhibits, afford gratifying evidence of their value as affording not merely amusement, but also useful instruction.

2. The collections are still being increased, by Purchases, Exchanges, and Donations, and also by our Collectors. A list of these additions, under their respective heads, with a report by the Curator, will be found in the Appendices. An expedition, under the charge of Messrs. Cairn and Grant, to the Western Districts of the Colony was not very successful on account of the drought, but it resulted in obtaining for the Museum many specimens of Mammals and Birds, and other desiderata required for replacement of exhibits sent to the Adelaide and Melbourne Exhibitions and for exchanges with other Museums and kindred societies. A list of the most important of these will be found among the Appendices. Mr. Etheridge, our Palæontologist, visited the Limestone Caves at Cave Flat, junction of the Murrumbidgee and Goodradigbee Rivers, on behalf of the Museum, and obtained much interesting information. His report is published as an appendix. At the request of the New South Wales Commissioners for the Melbourne International Exhibition, we supplied to them a collection of natural history exhibits illustrative of the fauna of this Colony, and we also sent to them some relics of Captain Cook and implements of the Aborigines.

3. The Ethnological Hall has been opened to the public during the greater part of the year, and has proved, as anticipated, to be not the least interesting portion of the Museum.

4. The officers of the Institution are still suffering much inconvenience, and their work is in no small degree retarded, by the want of the additional accommodation which has been so long promised. We are glad to report, however, Parliament having voted to a considerable extent the necessary funds, that plans for the authorized works are in preparation; and we hope that considerable progress will be made with these alterations and additions during the current year. In the meantime the Curator has in anticipation vacated the rooms hitherto occupied by him; Parliament having made provision for his accommodation elsewhere.

46—A

[1553 copies—Approximate Cost of Printing (labour and material), £49 16s. 0d.]

5.

5. The following publications have been issued during the year :—

Catalogue of Fishes. Part I. Recent Palæichthian Fishes ; by J. Douglas Ogilby.
Catalogue of Sponges ; by R. Von Lendenfeld.

The following works are in the Press, and will shortly be issued, while others are in preparation :—

Catalogue of Australian Birds' Nests and Eggs ; by A. J. North.

Catalogue of Shells ; by J. Brazier.

Report on Lord Howe Island ; edited by the Curator and Mr. R. Etheridge, with special papers by the Scientific staff.

Guide to the Museum.

6. Annexed to this Report are the following Appendices .—

- I.—Annual Balance-sheet.
- II.—Attendance of Visitors.
- III.—Attendance of the Trustees.
- IV.—Acquisitions by Collection and Purchase.
- V.—Donations.
- VI.—Exchanges.
- VII.—Reports of Assistants.
- VIII.—Additions to the Library.
- IX.—Report on the Limestone Caves.
- X.—Publications of the Australian Museum.

The Common Seal of the Museum is affixed by order of the Board, this
11th day of February, 1889.

S. SINCLAIR,
Secretary.

ALFRED STEPHEN, (L.S.)
Crown Trustee and Chairman.

APPENDIX I.

BALANCE-SHEET for the year 1888.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance from last year.....				1,890	8	4						
From the Colonial Treasurer—												
Statutory endowment	1,000	0	0									
Parliamentary appropriation—												
Salaries	£2,070											
Opening on Sundays	250											
Collecting specimens	400											
Purchase of specimens	350											
" books	350											
Catalogues	100											
Additional endowment	1,000											
Show-cases												
Travelling expenses.....	100											
Specimen bottles	50											
Ethnological collection	100											
Additional attendants.....	300											
Quarters for Curator	200											
	5,270	0	0									
For Guides and Catalogues sold.....				6,270	0	0						
From Fisheries Commission on account of exhibits at Melbourne				4	5	3						
				11	1	3						
				£ 8,175	14	10						
Purchase of specimens												
" ethnological specimens												
" books												
" show-cases												
" bottles												
Furniture and repairs to buildings												
Collection of specimens												
Travelling, freight, and carriage												
Preparation of Catalogues												
Salaries—												
Curator	600	0	0									
Secretary	300	0	0									
Scientific assistants	1,170	0	0									
Ticket-writer and Registrar	200	0	0									
Taxidermists, attendants, &c.....	1,360	3	4									
Attendants in new hall	300	0	0									
Night watchman	100	0	0									
Sunday services	243	8	4									
										4,273	11	8
Miscellaneous expenses—												
Insurance	46	7	6									
Taxidermists' materials, stationery, ironmongery, &c.....	52	2	10									
Sundries	84	12	8									
										183	3	0
Repaid to Colonial Treasurer.....										80	6	2
Exhibition expenses.....										153	1	9
										£ 6,938	0	4
Balance										1,237	14	6
										£ 8,175	14	10

Examined and found correct, 16th January, 1889.

JAMES NORTON.
J. BELISARIO.

APPENDIX II.

ATTENDANCE OF VISITORS DURING 1888.

	Week-days.	Sundays.	Totals.
January	14,594	4,806	19,400
February	6,844	2,840	9,684
March	5,731	2,866	8,597
April	6,925	3,840	10,765
May	8,627	2,333	10,960
June	7,214	3,400	10,614
July	5,855	4,055	9,910
August	5,782	3,458	9,240
September	5,421	3,364	8,785
October	7,235	2,332	9,567
November	6,759	2,651	9,410
December	8,041	3,392	11,433
Total for the year 1888...	89,028	39,337	128,365
Total for 1887	85,931	36,868	122,799

APPENDIX III.

ATTENDANCE OF THE TRUSTEES DURING 1837.

Crown Trustee.

The Honorable Sir Alfred Stephen, G.C.M.G., C.B., M.L.C. ... 4

Official Trustees.

His Honor the Chief Justice 0
 The Honorable the Colonial Secretary 0
 The Honorable the Attorney-General 0
 The Honorable the Colonial Treasurer 0
 The Auditor-General 7
 The Collector of Customs 0
 The Surveyor-General 8
 The Colonial Architect 0
 The President of the Medical Board 11

Elective Trustees.

J. C. Cox, Esq., M.D., F.L.S. 12
 J. Belisario, Esq., D.D.S. 3
 A. Liversidge, Esq., F.R.S. 4
 The Honorable Jas. Norton, M.L.C. 9
 Sir Alfred Roberts, M.R.C.S., Knt. 6
 H. H. B. Bradley, Esq. 9
 Robert Hunt, Esq., C.M.G. 14
 Charles Moore, Esq., F.L.S. 8
 C. S. Wilkinson, Esq., F.G.S. 3
 The Honorable P. G. King, M.L.C. 5
 W. J. Stephens, Esq., M.A. 3
 W. D. Campbell Williams, Esq., L.R.C.P., London, &c. ... 12
 Number of Board Meetings during the year 17

APPENDIX IV.

ACQUISITIONS BY PURCHASE AND COLLECTION.

Mammalia:—17 species; 66 specimens collected. 35 species; 69 specimens purchased.
 Aves:—158 species; 603 specimens collected. 91 species; 201 specimens purchased. 9 species;
 77 specimens nests and eggs purchased.
 Reptilia:—20 species; 53 specimens collected. 29 species; 29 specimens purchased.
 Pisces:—129 species; 301 specimens collected. 89 species; 140 specimens purchased.
 Mollusca:—10 species; 35 specimens purchased.
 Insecta.—338 specimens purchased. One or two small collections collected.
 Fossils:—111 species; 459 specimens collected. 56 species; 227 specimens purchased.
 Minerals:—494 specimens purchased.
 Ethnological specimens purchased:—

	Specimens.		Specimens
Queensland	152	Savage Island	1
German New Guinea	123	Mortlock Island	15
British New Guinea	30	Stewart Island	7
New Guinea	6	Greenwich Island	8
New Britain	11	French Island	7
Viti or Fiji Islands	5	Sir Chas. Hardy Island	2
Solomon Islands	21	Mortlock Island, Carolines	10
New Ireland	9	O'Brien Island	8
New Hebrides	21		
New Zealand	149		632
New South Wales	47		

APPENDIX V.

Donations.	Presented by—
<i>Reptiles—continued.</i>	
1 Diemenia, sp. ...	Mr. Boyer Bower.
1 Psuedechis porphyriacus ...	Mr. G. Carlyle.
2 Morelia variegata ...	Mr. Church.
2 Hoplocephalus curtus ...	Mrs. Chandler.
1 Gymnodactylus miliusii ...	} Mr. R. W. Cox.
1 Vermicella annulata ...	
1 Tiliqua gigas ...	Dr. J. Cox.
1 Lialis burtonii ...	Mr. A. Denning.
4 Eggs of Varanus varius ...	Mr. T. Dobson.
1 Hoplocephalus curtus ...	Mr. A. Ferguson.
1 Brachysoma diadema ...	Mr. A. E. Flavelle.
1 Typhlops nigrescens ...	Rev. W. S. Frackleton.
1 Hoplocephalus signatus ...	Mr. P. Goneolf.
1 Tiliqua gigas ...	Mrs. M. Hall.
1 Acanthopphis antarctica ...	} Mr. J. G. Hunter.
1 Hoplocephalus stephensii ...	
1 Gymnodactylus platurus ...	Mr. W. Jarman.
1 Trachysaurus rugosus ...	Hon. G. P. King.
1 Vermicella annulata ...	Hon. C. Kroetzsch.
2 Lygosoma lichenigerum ...	Mr. J. Langley.
1 Hoplocephalus curtus ...	} Mr. H. J. McCooley.
1 " ramsayi ...	
1 Diemenia superciliosa ...	} Mrs. McFail.
1 Typhlops rueppellii ...	
1 Vermicella annulata ...	
2 Diplodactylus vittatus ...	} Mr. J. Mitchell.
1 Egernia, sp. (with young) ...	
1 Lygosoma, sp. ...	
1 " tæniolatum ...	
1 Pseudophryne, sp. ...	} Mrs. J. Morrison.
1 Lygosoma punctatovittatum ...	
1 Acanthopphis antarctica ...	
1 Vermicella annulata ...	
1 Typhlops nigrescens ...	
1 Tiliqua gigas ...	
1 Vermicella annulata ...	
2 Amphibolurus muricatus ...	
1 Lygosoma lesueurii ...	
2 " tæniolatum ...	
1 " metallicum ...	} Mr. J. D. Ogilby.
2 " sp. ...	
2 Chiroleptes, sp. ...	} Mr. T. Paton.
2 Pseudophryne, sp. ...	
1 Amphibolurus barbatus ...	
2 Brachysoma diadema ...	
1 Lygosoma tæniolatum ...	
2 Gymnodactylus platurus ...	
1 Nardoia gilberti ...	
2 Pseudonaja australis ...	
1 Pseudechis australis ...	
1 Brachyrophis australis ...	
2 Gymnodactylus miliusii ...	} Mr. J. Ramsay.
2 Diplodactylus spinigerus ...	
1 Lialis burtonii ...	} Mrs. Saunders.
2 Hoplocephalus curtus ...	
1 " collaris ...	Mr. T. G. Sloane.
1 Gehyra oceanica ...	} Mr. A. G. Steele.
3 Brachylophus fasciatus ...	
2 Lygosoma samoense ...	} Mr. H. E. Stephenson.
1 Cryptodelma orientalis ...	
1 Diemenia superciliosa ...	
1 Vermicella annulata ...	
1 Pelamis bicolor ...	
1 Acanthopphis antarctica ...	
1 Lygosoma æquale ...	
1 Physignathus lesueurii ...	
1 Tiliqua gigas ...	
1 Pygopus lepidopus ...	
1 Typhlops nigrescens ...	Mr. T. Temperley.
1 Pygopus lepidopus ...	Mr. H. Thorpe.
1 Dendrophis punctulata ...	Mr. H. G. Walker.
2 Vermicella bertholdii ...	Mr. G. Wall.
	Mr. S. Waters.
	Mr. J. J. Weatherstone.
	Mr. W. Webb.
	Mr. H. Wells.
	Mr. J. G. Wilson.
	Mr. Zietz.

Donations.	Presented by—
<i>Fishes.</i>	
1 Trichiurus coxii (upper jaw)	} Mr. M. Bell.
1 Ophichthys serpens... ..	
2 Scyllium anale	} Bondi Aquarium Company.
1 Dactylopterus orientalis	
1 Eleotris australis	Mr. A. S. Bowman.
1 Girella cyanea	Mr. R. Brannon.
1 Parma squamipinnis	Mr. J. Brazier.
1 Therapon richardsonii	Mr. M. C. Brown.
1 Syngnathus margaritifer	Mr. R. Cameron.
1 Hypeneus signatus	Mr. J. Cooper.
1 Plectropoma annulatum	} Dr. J. Cox.
1 Hypeneichthys porosus	
1 Percis coxii	
1 Glyphidodon antjerius	
1 Cossyphus unimaculatus	
1 Synaptura nigra (var.)	
2 Ctenolates ambiguus	
1 Therapon richardsonii	
5 Gadopsis marmoratus	
1 Dicotylichthys punctulatus	
1 Trigla kumu	} Mr. R. W. Cox.
1 Acanthias megalops	
1 Priacanthus macracanthus	Mr. G. Emmanuel.
1 Trygon kuhlii	Mr. M. Fleming.
1 Gobius leucostictus	Mr. F. C. Fox.
1 Belone choram	Mr. G. L. Goodman.
1 Ophichthys serpens... ..	} Rev. — Gray.
2 Chatoessus richardsonii	
1 Rhinobatus bougainvillii	Mr. F. Hatfield.
2 Acanthoclinus littoreus	Mr. F. C. Hogg.
1 Hypeneus signatus	Mr. J. Hughes.
1 Cristiceps aurantiacus	} Mr. J. Langley.
1 Gonorhynchus greyi	
1 Sillago maculata (deformed)	Mr. Leonard.
1 Fistularia serrata	Mr. J. Lipman.
1 Glyptauchen panduratus	Manly Aquarium Company.
3 Macquaria australasica	Mr. A. Marden.
1 Parascyllum collare. TYPE	} Mr. O. Meyer.
1 Anema inermis	
1 Ophichthys serpens	Mr. G. W. Mortimer.
1 Trigla kumu... ..	Mr. R. Oatley.
1 Trachypterus jacksoniensis	Mr. W. H. Paul.
1 Serranus dæmeli	} Messrs. Payten and Brown.
1 Trachypoma macracanthus	
1 Plectropoma cinctum	
1 Atypichthys strigatus	
2 Girella cyanea	
1 Glyphidodon polyacanthus	
2 Labrichthys inscriptus	
1 " luculentus	
1 Coris aygula... ..	
1 Ostracion lenticularis	
2 Chrysophrys australis	Mr. S. Pepper.
2 Percalates montanus	Mr. R. W. Robertson.
2 Gadopsis marmoratus	} Mr. A. M. N. Rose.
3 Carassius vulgaris	
1 Caranx ciliaris	Mr. Roderick.
1 Achirus pavoninus	Mr. F. Sommers.
1 Trichiurus coxii	} Mr. T. Southwell.
1 Trigla kumu	
1 " "	Hon. R. H. D. White.
1 Dactylopterus orientalis	Mr. Williams.
9 Oligorus macquariensis	} Mr. O. Wilshire.
7 Ctenolates ambiguus	
23 Macquaria australasica	
2 Therapon macleayanus	
2 Aristeus fluviatilis	
15 Gadopsis marmoratus	
2 Copidoglanis tandanus	
<i>Tunicata.</i>	
2 Compound ascidians	Mr. J. Brazier.

Donations.						Presented by—	
<i>Mollusca.</i>							
12	Ostrea mordax, Gld.	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. H. S. Hyam, M.L.A.
2	Helix grayi ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. Bell.
26	„ falconari ...	...	...	...	...	...
12	„ richmondiana ...	...	...	...	...	...
6	„ muehlfeldtiana ...	...	...	...	...	...
71	„ fraseri ...	...	...	...	...	...
59	Unio, sp. ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. J. A. Thorpe.
29	Donax deltoides ...	...	...	...	...	...
274	Marine shells ...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Ovula birostris ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. T. Whitelegge.
2	Conus marmoreus, 1 Conus litteratus ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mrs. J. Parkinson.
	Cypræa microdon ...	...	...	...	...	...
	Columbella marquesa ...	...	...	...	...	...	Captain Braithwaite.
2	Cypræa decipiens ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. Jas. Clarke.
2	Succinea eucalypti ...	...	...	...	...	...
1	Vitrina mastersi ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. J. Mitchell.
2	Shells-Cypræa talpa and C. lynx ...	...	...	...	...	...	Rev. F. E. Lawes.
<i>Polyzoa.</i>							
	Bugula neritina ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. Langley.
<i>Crustacea.</i>							
	Parthenope horrida ...	...	...	...	...	...	Rev. F. E. Lawes.
	Alpheus edwardsii ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. Dunshea.
	Planes minutus ...	...	...	...	...	...
	Several specimens of a species of Caprella ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. Langley.
1	Alpheus edwardsii ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. L. Porcello.
2	Cardiosoma hirtipes ...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Pagurus, sp....	...	...	...	...	...	Rev. — Gray.
1	Remipes testudinarius ...	...	...	...	...	...
1	Astacopsis serrata ...	...	...	...	...	...
1	Palinurus hugelii ...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Penæus monodon ...	...	...	...	...	...	Dr. J. C. Cox.
1	Thalamita crucifera...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tiger Prawn—Penæus monodon ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. H. L. Carter.
1	Ibacus peronii ...	...	...	...	...	...	Dr. Ward.
2	Alpheus edwardsii ...	...	...	...	...	...
1	Halimus spinosus ...	...	...	...	...	...	Dr. J. C. Cox.
	Menaëthius monoceras ...	...	...	...	...	...	Messrs. Payten & Brown
1	Axius plectrorhynchus ...	...	...	...	...	...	Prof. R. Tate.
	Ibacus peronii...	...	...	...	...	...	Mrs J. Pratt.
2	Crabs ...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Barnacles—Lepas, sp. ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. J. A. Thorpe.
2	Phymodius ungulatus ...	...	...	...	...	...
	Goniodactylus chiragro ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. Langley.
<i>Arachnida.</i>							
1	Stéphanopis, sp. ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. J. F. Fitzhardinge.
	Cermatia maculata ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mrs. Podmore.
<i>Myriopoda.</i>							
1	Heterostoma, sp. ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. Goneolf.
	Heterostoma sulcidens ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. H. G. Greville.
1	Heterostoma sulcidens ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. H. J. Acland.
	Heterostoma, sp. ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. W. Murphy.
6	Zephronia, sp. ...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Julus, sp. ...	...	...	...	...	...
8	Myriopoda ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. J. A. Thorpe.
<i>Insecta.</i>							
	Walking-stick Insect (Phasma, sp., immature) ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. A. C. Jacob.
	Wood Moth (Cossus, sp.) ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. Archibald Smith
	Ailanthus Moth—Saturnia cynthia ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. W. A. Gilder.
	Melolonthid larvæ (2 species), from roots of sugar-cane ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. A. J. Boyd.
6	Schizorrhina australasiæ, & larvæ ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. H. Belnare.
	Gigantic Spider (Mygale, sp.) ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mrs. E. Mackay.
	Bronze-bodied Fly (Pangonia, sp.) ...	...	...	...	...	...	Master A. Farr.
	Larva of Charocampa sp. ...	...	...	...	...	...	Miss King.
	Australian Silk Moth—Antheræa eucalypti ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. C. E. Jones.
	Larva of Chelepteryx collesii ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. James Wall.
	Cocoon and Larva of Chelepteryx collesii ...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. H. Smithurst.
	Walking-stick Insect (Phasma, sp.)...	...	...	...	...	...	Mr. Martin Green.

Donations.	Presented by—
<i>Insecta—continued.</i>	
Coccus, sp. ♀	Mr. H. A. Burrows.
Larva of <i>Chærocampa scrofa</i> ...	Mr. W. G. Cole.
Larva of <i>Cæquosa triangularis</i>	Mr. W. A. Nicholas.
<i>Acripeza reticulata</i> ♀	Mr. M. Brown.
<i>Musca</i> , sp.	Mr. Steers.
<i>Protoparce</i> (<i>Sphinx</i>) <i>convolvuli</i>	Mr. J. M. Stephens.
1 <i>Libellula</i> , sp.	Mr. B. Lucas.
1 <i>Lamprima latreillei</i>	Mr. R. Cox.
1 <i>Chærocampa erotus</i>	} Mrs. Hall.
1 <i>Scolia violacea</i>	
1 <i>Acrophylla titan</i>	Mr. J. Jacobs.
1 <i>Anoplognathus porosus</i>	} Madame Friederich.
1 <i>Darala</i> , sp.	
1 <i>Doratiophora</i> (Cocoon)	
1 <i>Metamimas australasiæ</i>	Mr. D. Hazlewood.
12 Coleoptera (<i>Buprestidæ</i> , <i>Lampyridæ</i> , &c.)	Rev. I. Gray.
A small collection of Coleoptera, chiefly Longicorns and Phytophaga	Mr. L. F. Woolrych.
1 <i>Spilosoma fulvo-hirta</i>	Mr. J. Moore.
1 <i>Schizorrhina bakewelli</i>	Mr. Young.
1 <i>Acrophylla typhon</i>	Mr. Jos. Power.
<i>Chærocampa scrofa</i>	} Madame Friederich.
<i>Lamprima latreillei</i>	
18 Lepidoptera, from N. America, including— <i>Vanessa antiopa</i> , Linn ; <i>Pyrameis cardui</i> , Linn ; <i>Pyrameis carye</i> , Hübn ; <i>Pyrameis huntera</i> , Fabr ; <i>Pieris protodice</i> , Bois ; <i>Samia cecropia</i> ; <i>Telea polyphemus</i> ; <i>Smerinthus occidentalis</i> , &c.	} Right Rev. Bishop of Sydney.
2 <i>Doratiophora casta</i>	Mr. F. G. Lender.
Processionary Caterpillars and nest...	Mr. E. G. Dyce.
<i>Chelepteryx collesii</i> , ♀	Mr. C. Beverley.
14 Carabidæ	} Mr. J. A. Thorpe.
20 Passalidæ	
3 Tenebrionidæ	
1 <i>Anostostoma australasiæ</i> ♂	Mr. C. A. Keram.
<i>Podacantha typhon</i>	Mr. H. Smithurst.
6 <i>Haltica</i> , sp.	Mr. H. G. Gornale.
A Cricket— <i>Anostostoma australasiæ</i>	Madame Friederich.
Pupa of <i>Chærocampa</i> , sp.	Mr. Geo. Bridle.
<i>Hyperion schroetteri</i>	Mr. J. P. Creed.
Parasitic dipteran (<i>Nyctemera</i> , sp.)...	Mr. A. H. Belfield.
1 <i>Lestes bombylans</i>	Miss King.
1 <i>Doratiophora lewini</i> (Larva)	Right Rev. Bishop of Grafton.
1 <i>Lestes bombylans</i>	Mrs. H. A. Podmore.
1 <i>Myrmeleon</i> , sp.	Mr. J. Burrows.
1 <i>Trygonalys fasciapennis</i> ♀	Mr. J. Simpson.
1 <i>Cæquosa triangularis</i>	
<i>Echinodermata.</i>	
3 <i>Ophiocoma brevipes</i>	Mr. Langley.
<i>Centrostephanus rogersii</i>	Mr. W. Steers.
100 <i>Asterina calcar</i>	Mr. J. A. Thorpe.
Star fish— <i>Ophidiaster germanii</i>	Messrs. Payten and Brown.
<i>Ophiomyxa australis</i> (Sand star)	Mr. A. M. Lea.
<i>Holothuria</i> , sp.	Mr. W. H. Rowsale.
2 <i>Colobocentrotus atratus</i>	Mr. Ralph Hargrave.
<i>Vermes.</i>	
6 Marine worms	Mr. Langley.
17 Marine worms	Mr. J. A. Thorpe.
Intestinal worm (from a sea snake)...	} Capt. G. Drevar.
<i>Platurus scutatus</i> ; from the stomach of the Tiger shark, <i>Galeocerdo rayneri</i>	
<i>Cœlenterata.</i>	
4 Alcyonarian Corals— <i>Spongodes</i> , sp.	} Capt. Braithwaite.
6 Hydrocorallines— <i>Distichopora nitida</i>	
1 <i>Lytocarpus</i> , sp.	Revd. — Gray.
<i>Antipathes</i> , sp.	Dr. W. A. Haswell.
1 <i>Antipathes spiralis</i>	Dr. McGregor.
<i>Distichopora coccinea</i>	Miss M. M. Rowsell.

Donations.	Presented by—
<i>Palæontological Specimens.</i>	
1 <i>Spirifera tasmaniensis</i>	} Dr. J. C. Cox.
1 „ <i>convoluta</i>	
1 „ <i>duodecemcostata</i>	
1 <i>Platyschisma oculus</i>	
1 <i>Productus brachythærus</i>	
1 <i>Stenopora crinita</i>	} Mr. Fitzgerald.
1 <i>Meiolania platyceps</i> , portion of head and fragments of bones	
Pelvis, teeth, and other bones of <i>Diprotodon</i>	} Mr. J. McMaster.
Ramus of large Wombat	
Jaws, teeth, and bones of extinct sp. of <i>Macropus</i>	
Ramus of <i>Nototherium mitchelli</i> . Adult.	
5 pieces of shell <i>Agglutinate</i> (Post-Tertiary)	Mr. Jas. Smith.
3 <i>Sanguinolites</i> from the Permo-Carboniferous beds, near Maitland	Mr. Achd. Smith.
<i>Dietyophyton</i>	Messrs. Ward and Howell.
2 <i>Spirifera stokesii</i>	} Mr. T. Illidge.
1 „ <i>tasmaniensis</i>	
<i>Minerals, Rocks, &c.</i>	
Specimens of pyrites on wood, &c.	Mr. John Henry.
Orthoclase felspar with mica... ..	Mr. John Lovett.
Auriferous quartz with free gold and pyrites	Mr. W. Lovegrove.
Tin ore, mispikel, and gem sand, containing quartz, topaz, tourmaline, zircon, sapphire, &c.	} Mr. Chas. Wooller.
Decomposed clay rock	Mr. Chas. Wooller.
Dyke rock containing pyrites	Mr. E. Lawless
Stalactites of limonite	Mrs. E. Selkirk.
Red clay and red sand probably baked by lava stream	Mr. H. G. Gornalle.
Pyrolusite (manganese ore)—basalt	} Mr. Véscey.
Crystals of augite	
Hollowed prisms of ferruginous clay	Mr. Cocks.
Galena and copper pyrites with silver and gold	Mr. J. Begehole.
Galena, zincblende, &c.	Mr. B. Bryant.
Galena and copper pyrites, &c.; quartz and felsite breccia, with pyrites, copper pyrites, and blende; quartz with galena and light yellow blende; crystalline marble; hematite; idocrase or vesuvianite; the same decomposed; epidote; granite; pegmatite; diorite; arkose; jasper; chalcedony in diabase; black slate with glossopteris; coal; chalcopyrites; zincblende; barytes and buratite, &c.	} Mr. H. G. Gornalle.
Auriferous quartz showing gold from Gympie	Dr. E. P. Ramsay.
Copper glance and malachite in diabase	} Mr. A. Chrystal.
Gray copper in quartz	
Red oxide of copper with azurite and malachite	
Chalcopyrites	} Mr. J. T. Fischer.
Basalt, hornblende granite, sandstone, white topaz, skeleton of quartz infiltrated in fissures of a mineral (probably pyrites) subsequently removed	
Quartz with encrinite stems	Mr. A. F. Macdonnell.
Galena from White Rock—gem sand including sapphires, green sapphires, zircons, &c.	} Mr. H. G. Gornalle.
Granite containing small garnets	Mr. W. Lovegrove.
Chalcedony, stream tin and quartz pyrites	Mr. J. G. Lodwidge.
Crystallised calcite	Mr. B. Hargraves.
Silver gossan, galena and carbonate of lead	Mr. A. Duboisé.
Pyrites and gossan, with quartz	Mr. Nathan.
Porphyritic rock	Mr. G. Gander.
Auriferous quartz	Mr. P. Davies.
„ specimens... ..	Mr. W. Tanner.
Quartz with magnetic pyrites, pyrites and gold	Mr. J. Traverton.
Mispikel and gold in quartz—auriferous mispikel with calcite	Mr. J. Charlton.
Auriferous quartz, gold in honeycombed opaline quartz—and quartz with mispikel	} Mr. T. Poile.
Magnetic pyrites and quartz—pitchstone	Mr. W. E. Mitchell.
Specimens of argentiferous galena, mispikel, and oxide of lead, black slate with fenestella,—specimens of graphite... ..	} Mr. C. Wooller.
Specimens of calcite; quartz with specks of pyrites and copper pyrites; chlorite, &c.	} Mr. T. R. Hancock.
Gray shale with specks of mica	Mr. H. Lord.
Limonite showing gold (silicious)	Mr. Jas. Smith.
Coralloidal chloride of silver with moss gold; crystallised chloride of silver, &c.	} Mr. R. Hellyer.

Donations.	Presented by—
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Ethnological and Historical Specimens—continued.

5 Stone tomahawks	} Mr. C. W. T. Brown.
1 Flat sharpening stone	
Mummied skin of the head of a child, from Quito, Peru, South America	} Mr. W. L. Fenwick.
1 Wicker basket from Marshall Islands	
1 Basket from Gilbert Islands	} Dr. J. C. Cox.
Fork for eating human flesh from Fiji	
Corfu race card—Autumn, 1883—on pink satin	} Miss Stephen.
Indenture of the time of Queen Elizabeth, 1602	
Colonial land grant by Governor Hunter, 1796	} Baron A. von Hugel.
Patent of Knighthood by Queen Victoria, 1846	
Rough draft of a deed of partnership entered into for the purpose of printing and publishing a newspaper in Melbourne, to be called the <i>Port Phillip Gazette</i> , which paper has now merged into one of the principal daily papers in Melbourne. The water-mark on this draft is 1832. Prepared by the late J. S. Clarke, Esq., solicitor	} Miss Taylor.
	} Sir Alfred Stephen, G.C.M.G. C.B., &c.
	} Mr. W. S. Clarke.

Numismatics.

English testoon or shilling, Edward VI, 1547	} Mr. G. T. Hall.
Bronze coin, 1 cent, Indo-Chine Française Republique Française	
Bronze medal in commemoration of visit of Colonial and Indian Representatives to the city of London, 25 June, 1886	} Mr. B. Lucas.
Centennial bronze medal, in commemoration of the completion of the first 100 years of settlement of the Australian Colony	
	} London Corporation.
	} Centennial Celebration Commission.

Photography.

“Cook’s tree.” A Tamarind tree planted by Captain Cook on Point Venus, Tahiti, to mark the spot from which he viewed the transit of Venus in 1768. (Photo. taken in 1883)	} Mr. C. T. Burfitt.
10 original proof photos. of New Guinea, &c.	
Photographic view of their exhibit	} Mr. Theo. Bevan.
	} Messrs. Ward & Howell.

Books for the Library.

Reports of Meetings	} Marine Biological Association, Plymouth.
Journal, Nos. 1 and 2	
Plan of Building	} E. Thurston.
Report, Marine Fauna of Ramcswaram	
Catalogue of Batrachia Salientia and Apoda	} Government Central Museum, Madras.
Report, 1887-8	
Odontornithes; O. O. Marsh	} British Museum.
Icones Fossilium Sectiles; Konig	
Catalogue of Fossil Mammalia. Part 5	} British Museum.
A number of Geological Publications	
Catalogue of Birds, vols. 12 to 14	} British Museum.
Guide to Shell and Starfish Galleries	
Catalogue of Fossil Reptilia and Amphibia	} Societa Adriatica, Trieste.
Bolletino, vol. 10	
Insects Noxious to Agriculture; Maskell	} Prof. T. Kirk, New Zealand.
Catalogue of the Moths of India: Cotes & Swinhoe. Parts 2 and 3	
Notes on Economic Entomology, No. 2	} Indian Museum, Calcutta.
Annual Report, 1886-7	
Preliminary Account, Wheat and Rice Weevil; Cotes	} A. W. Waters, Microscopical Society, King’s College, Lond.
Bryozoa from N.S.W., &c. Parts 1, 2, and 3	
Third Annual Report of Antiquarian Com., 1887	} Museum of Archæology, Cambridge.
Annual Reports, 1886-7	
Geology of Vegetable Creek Tin-mining Field	} Department of Mines.
Mineral Products of New South Wales and other Publications, 1887	
Memoirs Geological Survey of N.S.W.; Palæont. Nos. 1 and 2	} Department of Mines.
Catalogue of Exhibits of Metals, &c.	
Aarsberctning for 1886	} The Museum, Bergen.
Abnorme Eberhauer	
Memiors, vol. 24. Part 1	} Dr. O. Finsch, Bremen.
Palæontologia Indica, ser. X, vol. 4, part 3; ser. XIII, vol. 1, part 7	
Manual of the Geology of India. Part 4	} Director Geol. Survey of India, Calcutta.
Records, vol. 18, part 4; and vol. 21, parts 1, 2, and 3	
Annual Report, 1886-7	} American Museum of Natural History, New York.
Bulletin, vol. 1, title and index; vol. 2, No. 1	
Bulletin, vol. 2, Nos. 6, 7, and 8	} Academy of Science, San Francisco.

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<i>Books for the Library—continued.</i>	
Proceedings, 1887. Parts 1, 2, and 3	Academy of Natural Science, Philadelphia.
„ 1888. Part 1	
Quarterly Report, July, September, 1887	S. Tegima, Director Tokyo Library, Tokyo, Japan.
Lepidoptera of Ceylon. Sup. part 13	Government of Ceylon, per Agent-General, N.S.W.
Aboriginals of Victoria; Smyth	Public Library of Victoria.
Prodromus Zoology of Victoria. Decade 16	
Annual Report, 1885. Parts 1 and 2	
Catalogue of North American Birds	
„ „ Mammals	Smithsonian Institute, Wash- ington.
Progress of Geography	
Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, vol. 24	
Review of American Birds	
Bureau of Ethnology, 2nd and 3rd Reports	
U.S. National Museum Bulletins, 17 to 32	Biological Society, Washington.
Proceedings, vols. 1, 2, and 4	
Catalogue Canadian plants. Part 3 and 4	Geological Survey of Canada, Ottawa.
Map of a portion of British Columbia	
Summary Report, 31 December, 1887	
Annual Report, new series, vol. 2	B. Friedlander & Son, Berlin.
Fauna and Flora des G. von Neapel Mon, 15-16	
Bulletin, 1887, part 4; 1888, part 1 and part 2	Soc. des Naturalistes, Moscow.
Account of Mount Morgan	F. W. F. Danker, Rockhampton.
22nd Annual Report	Colonial Museum, New Zea- land.
Reports Geological Explorations, 17 and 18	
Index to Reports	
Studies in Biology, No. 3	Professor Parker, London.
Structure and Development of the Skull in Mammalia. Parts 2 and 3	
Journal and Proceedings, vol. 21, part 8; vol. 22, part 1	Royal Society, N.S.W.
Proceedings, vol. 2, part 4	Linnean Society, N.S.W.
Abstracts of Proceedings, 1883-8	
Proceedings, vol. 3, parts 1, 2, and 3	
Mém. de l'Acad. Roy. des Sciences, parts of vols. 24, 36, 37, 43, and 47	Belgian Consul, Melbourne.
Proceedings, vols. 2 to 5 and 7 to 22 and 24, part 1	Royal Society of Victoria.
„ vol. 24, part 2	
Transactions, vol. 1, part 1	Manchester Microscopical So- ciety.
Report and Transactions, 1883-7	
Annual Report	Mechanics' Institute, Goul- burn.
Report, 1887-8	Auckland Institute and Mu- seum.
Reports of Meetings	Natural History Society, Rockhampton
Bulletin, vol. 13, Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10; vol. 16, part 1; vol. 17, No. 1; vol. 1, Nos. 11 and 12; vol. 2, Nos. 2 and 4; vol. 3, Nos. 3, 6, 9, and 16; vol. 5, Nos. 2 and 6; vol. 7, Nos. 1, 9, and 10; vols. 14 and 15	Museum of Comparative Zoo- logy, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.
Memoirs, vol. 2, Nos. 4, 5, and 6; vol. 5; vol. 10, title page; vol. 15	Natural History Society, Mon- treal.
Canadian Record of Science, vols. 1, 2, and 3, parts 1 and 2	
Mathematische and Naturwissenschaftliche Mitt. Heft, 1 and 6, 1888	K. Pruessischen Akad. de Wis- senschaften, Berlin.
Puffin Island Biological Station	Dr. Herdman, Victoria Uni- versity, Liverpool.
An ideal Natural History Museum	
A number of Pamphlets	
Vid. antea—Insects injurious to Agriculture; Maskell	Crown Lands Department, Wellington, N.Z.
S. African Butterflies, vols. 1 and 2; Trimen	South African Museum.
Reports, 1887, 1887-8	Government of Victoria.
Victorian Government Prize Essays, 1861	
A number of Geological publications	R. Etheridge, Junr.
Verhandlungen, 1887	K. K. Zoologisch-Botanisch, Gesellschaft-Wien.
University Dissertations, 1887	Rector and Senat. K. Rhemis- chen Fr. Wil. Universitat, Bonn.
Sixth Report of Mineralogist. Parts 1 and 2	California State Mining Bureau, Sacramento, Cal.
Mittheilungen, yr 12, Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10	Ornithologischen Vereines, Vienna.
Transactions, vol. 2	Meriden Science Association, Meriden, Conn.

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<i>Books for the Library—continued.</i>	
Transactions, vols. 1, 2, 4, 6, and 7, Nos. 1 and 2 ...	Academy of Sciences, New York.
Annals, vols. 1 and 2, parts 3 and 4, Nos. 3 and 4...	
Catalogue of Chinese Exhibits at Fisheries Exhibition ...	Dr. E. P. Ramsay.
Ramsay: Tabular List of Australian Birds...	
Reports of the U.S. Geological Surveys west of the 100th meridian, vols 2 and 3, sup. 4, 5, 6, and 7 ...	U.S. Geological Survey, Washington.
Reports of the U.S. Geological Explorations of the 40th parallel, vols. 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, and Atlas ...	
Calendar for 1888 ...	University of Sydney.
Abhandlungen and Berichte, 1886-7 ...	K. Zoologischen and Anthropologischen Ethnographischen Museums, Dresden.
Journal, vol. 2, parts 1, 2, and 3 ...	
17th Annual Report ...	College of Science, Imperial University, Yokohama, Japan.
Proceedings and Transactions, vol. 7, parts 1 and 2 ...	Zoological Society, Philadelphia
Proceedings, vols. 5, 6, 7, 8 (part 2 only), and 9 ...	Nova Scotian Institute of Natural Science, Halifax, N.S.
Transactions, vol. 20, 4th series ...	Royal Physical Society, Edinburgh.
G. W. Griffin: N.S.W., her Commerce and Resources	Highland and Agricultural Society, Edinburgh.
Warren: Strength and Elasticity of Timber	
Coghlan: Wealth and Progress of N.S.W.	Government Printer, Sydney.
Wood: Mineral Products	
Wilkinson: Geology	
Mackenzie: Coal Seams	
David: Vegetable Creek Tin-mining Field	
Clarke: Sedimentary Formations	
Fitzgerald's Orchids, vol. 2, part 3	
Report, Department of Public Instruction, 1886-7	
Annual Reports, 1883 and 1886	
White: Ancient History of the Maori		Department of Geology and Natural History, Indianapolis, U.S.A.
Tregear: Ayrrian Maori	
Grey: Polynesian Mythology	N.Z. Government, per Sir Jas. Hector.
Larnach: Handbook of N.Z. Mines...	
Sherrin: Fishes of N.Z.	
Hector: N.Z. Geology	
Buller: Birds of N.Z.	
Sounds, Lakes, Rivers, and Thermal Springs	
Smith: Kermadec Islands	
Smith: Eruption of Tarawera	
Proceedings, vol. 10	
Proceedings, 1887	
Catalogue of Minerals	Royal Society of S.A.
Report, 1887	
Handbook of Information	Royal Society of Tasmania.
Proces verbaux July, December, 1887	School of Mines, Ballarat.
Proceedings, vols. 4 and 5, parts 1, 2, and 3	Burns, Philp & Co.
Darwinism	Société Royal Malacologique de Belgique.
Annales, tomes 1 and 2, parts 1 and 2	Royal Society of Queensland.
Proceedings, vol. 12, 13, and 14	Professor F. W. Hutton, Christchurch.
Olliff: Short Life-histories of nine Australian Lepidoptera	Museo Nazionale de Costa Rica, San Jose.
Report for 1887	Royal Society of Edinburgh.
Report Geological Features, Mackay District	A. S. Olliff.
Bulletin, 1888, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and supplement	Montrose Natural History and Antiquarian Association, per Honorable J. Inglis.
Mémoires, vol. 5, Nos. 2, 3, and 4	R. L. Jack, Brisbane.
„ vol. 6, No. 12	
„ vol. 7, Nos. 1, and 2	Comite Geologique de la Russe, St. Petersburg.
Annales, band 3, No. 3	K. K. Naturhistorischen Hofmuseums, Vienna.
Bulletin, tome 5, No. 1	
Annales, tome 14	Musee d'Hist Nat. de la Belgique, Brussels.

Donations.	Presented by—
<i>Books for the Library—continued.</i>	
Maclurian Lyceum, Nos. 1, 2, and 3... ..	} R. L. Foster, Pine-street, New York.
Zoological Nomenclature, natural selection Ornith, Union Bulletin 1 and 2	
Catalogue of Books	H. Fotheran & Co., London.
Proceedings, vol. 19	} Royal Colonial Institute, London.
Calendar for 1888-89	
Report, 1887	The University of Glasgow.
Amtliche Berichte, Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4, 1886	Queensland Museum.
Verhandlungen, 1883, part 2; 1887, parts 1 and 2	} K. Kunntsamsolungen, Berlin.
Berichte, 1888	
Transactions, vol. 16, part 2	} Naturhistorisches Vereins, per Dr. A. Krautz, Bonn.
Mémoires, tome 9; liv. 1 and 2	
Annual Reports, 11 and 12	} Senckebergische, Naturforschende Gesellschaft Frankfurt, A.M.
Miscellaneous Publications, No. 12	
Reports, vols. 3, 8, and 12	} Asiatic Society of Japan, Yokohama.
Catalogue of Books	
Miscellaneous Papers... ..	} Société des Naturalistes, Kien, Russia.
	} U.S. Geological Survey.
	} Science and Art Museum, Dublin.

APPENDIX VI.

EXCHANGES.

Received from—	Forwarded to—
Professor Collett, Christiana, Norway. (8, 24.)	
Mammalia :—4 species—4 specimens.	Mammalia :—3 species—3 specimens.
Aves :—20 species—21 specimens.	
P. H. Carpenter, F.R.S., London. (20.)	
Named duplicates.	Echinodermata :—7 species—19 specimens.
Dr. Carroll, Sydney.	
	Photography :—24 prints of ethnological specimens.
Blackmore Museum, Salisbury, Wilts. (38.)	
Cretaceous fossils promised.	Pisces :—2 species—2 specimens.
James Dall, New Zealand. (12, 25.)	
Aves :—1 species—1 specimen.	Aves :—14 species—14 specimens.
8 Birds Nests and Eggs.	Mollusca :—54 species—148 specimens.
Mollusca :—18 specimens.	Minerals :—1 specimen.
Educational Museum, Tokio, Japan.	
	Aves :—125 species—169 specimens.
	Minerals :—Small collection.
Fisheries Commission of New South Wales.	
	Pisces :—89 species—161 specimens.
L. S. Foster, New York. (32.)	
Books :—6 vols.	Books :—2 vols.
Royal Zoological Museum, Florence, per Professor Giglioli.	
Reptilia :—1 species—2 specimens.	

EXCHANGES.

Received from—	Forwarded to—
	Robert Grant, Lithgow. (11.)
Mammalia :—13 species—15 specimens. Aves :—46 species—89 specimens.	Aves :—2 species—2 specimens.
	G. W. Griffin, Consul for U.S.A. (17.)
	Minerals :—50 specimens.
	Tasmanian Museum, Hobart. (31, 37.)
Mammalia :—3 species—5 specimens.	Photography :—19 negatives of fossils. Bottles :—192 glass stoppered. Boxes :—Glass top.
	R. H. Ivy, Sydney.
Mammalia :—2 species—2 specimens. Aves :—53 species—64 specimens.	
	Hon. Jas. Inglis, M.L.A., for Montrose Museum, Scotland. (15.)
	Aves :—23 species—24 specimens. Mollusca :—42 species—109 specimens. Echinodermata :—16 species—30 specimens. Fossils :—17 species—25 specimens. Ethnology :—30 specimens.
	Ed. Lovett, Croydon, England. (18.)
Specimens illustrating the manufacture of Gun Flints, &c., at Brandon.	
	Prof. M'Coy, Melbourne. (22.)
Specimens lent for comparison.	Reptilia :—2 specimens.
	Prof. M'Intosh, Scotland. (14.)
Fishes and Crustacea promised :—Pamphlets.	Mammalia :—46 species—135 specimens.
	F. M'Knight, Melbourne. (5, 33.)
Fossils :—11 species—28 specimens.	Fossils :—19 specimens.
	Mines Department, Sydney. (26, 41.)
Ethnology :—1 specimen.	Fossils :—2 casts. Books.
	L. Montagnat, New Caledonia. (27.)
Minerals :—Collection of.	Book.
	N.S.W. Commission, Centennial International Exhibition, Melbourne.
	Mammalia :—5 species—9 specimens. Aves :—61 species—103 specimens. Album of Photos. of Fishes.
	Natural History Society Museum, Newcastle-on-Tyne. (16.)
Mollusca :—4 type specimens shells.	
	H. Payten, Sydney. (34.)
Aves :—2 species—2 specimens.	Aves :—1 species—1 specimen.
	A. S. Olliff. (29.)
Book :—1 vol.	Book :—2 vols.
	Sir Richard Owen, England. (19.)
	Fossils :—3 casts.
	Queensland Museum, Brisbane. (10.)
Fossils :—2 casts.	Fossils :—4 casts.
	U.S. National Museum, Washington.
	Reptilia :—10 species—20 specimens. Pisces :—39 species—88 specimens.
	H. Smithurst, Brisbane. (7.)
Reptilia :—9 species—13 specimens. Insecta :—Small collection.	Aves :—2 species—2 specimens.
	H. Suter, New Zealand. (30.)
Mollusca :—30 specimens.	

MINERAL DEPARTMENT.—(*F. Ratte, Mineralogist*).—1,406 numbers (corresponding to about 1,930 specimens) have been entered in the Register of Minerals. Leaving out retrospective registrations and purchases, there are 750 numbers, half of which represent minerals and rocks collected and the other half, donations. Three-fourths of the donors are amateur collectors, with whom correspondence is kept up, or persons interviewed in the course of collecting excursions and visits. This shows progress compared to last year, and demonstrates that a system of correspondence, combined with occasional collecting excursions, will ultimately succeed in filling the gaps of a colonial collection, methodically arranged, and illustrating such mineralogical features necessary to the education of the people and the advance of science.

PALÆONTOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.—(*R. Etheridge, jun., Palæontologist*).—The chief work consisted in naming and registering new acquisitions, and naming portions of the old collection. Of specimens registered, 227, including 56 species, were obtained by purchase; 130, including 20 species, by exchange; and 459, including 111 species, were collected by members of the Museum staff. Of these a collection from the Shoalhaven district of the marine fossils of the Coal Measures; Post-Tertiary bird bones (small Moa) from New Zealand, partly purchased from and partly presented by Mr. Illidge; bones of Marsupials collected by Mr. Etheridge and Mr. J. Mitchell from the Murrumbidgee Caves, including a very large Thylacine skull; and, lastly, the Geological specimens, consisting chiefly of bones of *Meiolania*, obtained from Lord Howe Island by the Museum Collecting Party in 1887, are among the most important. In addition to the foregoing a large series of shells and other fossils has been collected from the Tertiary strata of Muddy Creek, Hobson's Bay, and other localities. A part of these were collected by Mr. A. J. North, and the remainder received in exchange from Mr. T. Worcester. This collection will be referred to in detail in the next Annual Report. Those portions of the old collection determined consist of the higher-Permo-Carboniferous Mollusca and some of the Australian Secondary fossils. During a portion of June Mr. Etheridge was engaged with Mr. J. Mitchell in a preliminary exploration of the Murrumbidgee Caves at Cave Flat, on which a report has already been made.

CONCHOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.—(*J. Brazier, Conchologist*).—During the year the purchases have been 8 from New Zealand, Mauritius, Lord Howe Island, Phillippine and Solomon Islands, Port Jackson, New Hebrides. The most important collection purchased is a foreign one; it embraces nearly all European species, including the land and fresh water forms. *Nautilus Pampilius* with the animal in spirits was secured from the New Hebrides. Specimens presented number 16 from New Hebrides, New South Wales, and Western Australia; among them are two rare *Cypræa decipiens*, E. A. Smith, obtained in deep water at Cape Joubert and Amphinome Shoals, N. W. Australia. Exchanges received are *Heligen Silveri*, Angas; *Angasiana*, Pfr. *Flindersi*, Ad & Angas; *Eyrei*, Angas; typical specimens from the collection of the late Mr. George French Angas, from the Natural History Society Museum, Barras Bridge, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England; and a small collection of land shells from New Zealand.

ETHNOGRAPHICAL DEPARTMENT.—(*J. Brazier, Ethnologist*).—During the year ending 31st December, 1888, a number of specimens (632) have been purchased to fill up the many gaps in this department. Specimens have been secured from Queensland, British and German New Guinea, New Britain, Viti, or Fiji Islands, Solomon Islands, New Ireland, New Hebrides, New Zealand, New South Wales, Niue, or Savage Island, Mortlock, Stewart, Greenwich, French, Sir Charles Hardy, and O'Brien Islands, Caroline Group. The number of specimens presented during the year has been only nineteen, from New South Wales, Viti or Fiji, Gilbert, Marshall, and Solomon Islands. The exchanges number two, viz., portion of a large tree with native carvings, New South Wales, from the Department of Mines; large square of tappa cloth, from Viti or Fiji, Dr. Williams. Although the Ethnological Hall was formally opened by Sir Alfred Stephen, G.C.M.G., Crown Trustee of the Museum and Chairman of the Board of Trustees, in January last, the ceremony was but a concession to the exigencies of the Centenary celebration, and so much had to be done before all the contents were properly arranged and catalogued that the place was closed at the end of the week and remained so until the 16th of October, when it was finally thrown open for inspection. The hall is already too small for the collection, which must grow from year to year. The hall itself is 70 feet by 30 feet, lofty and well ventilated, with galleries all round.

HISTRIOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.—(*J. Brazier, Ethnologist*).—During the year five old historical documents have been presented, viz.:—Indenture of the time of Queen Elizabeth, 1602; Colonial Land Grant by Governor John Hunter, 1796; Patent of knighthood by Queen Victoria, 1846, to Alfred Stephen, Esq., presented by Sir Alfred Stephen, G.C.M.G.; Race Card, printed on satin, Corfu, 1833, Miss Taylor; Rough draft of a deed of partnership entered into for the purpose of printing and publishing a newspaper in Melbourne to be called the "Port Phillip Gazette," which paper has now merged into one of the principal daily papers in Melbourne, prepared by the late J. S. Clarke, Esq., Solicitor; this is understood to be the first printed newspaper in Melbourne, the only previous one being a written one; the watermark on this draft is 1835. Two coins and one medal have been presented, viz.:—English Testoon or Shilling, Edward VI, 1547, silver; and bronze one cent, Indo-Chine Française. Centennial Medal, bronze, in commemoration of the completion of the first hundred years of Australian settlement, has been received from the Centennial Celebration Commission.

E. P. RAMSAY,
Curator.

APPENDIX VIII.
ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

Reg. No.	Book.
CLASS A—ZOOLOGY.	
3004	Balfour (Ed.) Agricultural pests of India, and of Eastern and Southern Asia, injurious to man and his products. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1887.
3122-25	Bronn (H. G.) Lethæa Geognostica. 3 vols. 8vo. and atlas 1 vol. Folio. Stuttgart, 1850-86.
3197	Buller (Walter L.) Manual of Birds of New Zealand. 1 vol. 8vo. Wellington, 1882.
3005	Cantor (Theod.) Catalogue of Malayian Fishes. 1 vol. 8vo. Calcutta, 1850.
3361	Cobbold (T. Spencer.) Parasites: A treatise on the Entozoa of Man and Animals. 1 vol. 8vo., London, 1879.
2786	Colton (Buel P.) Elementary Course of Practical Zoology. 1 vol. 8vo. Boston, 1887. Conchylien Cabinet (<i>see</i> Martini und Chemnitz).
2781	Darwin (Chas.) The Structure and Distribution of Coral Reefs, 2nd Ed. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1874.
2825	Darwin (Chas.) Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1872.
2826	Darwin (Chas.) Insectivorous Plants. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1875.
2827	Darwin (Chas., assisted by Francis Darwin). The Power of Movement in Plants. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1880.
2940	Delprino (M. le chev). La Nouvelle Sericiculture. 1 vol. 8vo. Acqui, 1867.
3175	Suites a Buffon (Aug-Dumeril). Histoire Naturelle des poissons ou Ichthyologie Générale. Vol. 1, parts 1 and 2, vol. 2 and atlas. 4 vols. 8vo. Paris, 1865.
3276	Fowler (Rev. Canon). Coleoptera of the British Islands. Vol. 2, Staphylinidæ. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1888.
2866	Gemminger and B. de Harold. Catalogus Coleopterorum. Tome VIII. 1 vol. 8vo. Munich, 1871.
2782	Green (J. F.) Oceanic Birds, with a Preface by A. G. Guillemard and notes on the Skinning of Birds by F. H. N. Guillemard. 1 vol. 4to. London, 1887.
2927	Griffiths (Edward). General and particular Descriptions of vertebrated Animals. Order Carnivora. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1821.
3371	Hanley (Sylvanus). Ipsa Linnæi Conchylia. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1855.
3297	Leach (Wm. E.) Zoological Miscellany: being description of new or interesting Animals. Illustrated by R. P. Nodder. Vol. 2. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1885.
3181	Leach (W. E.) Malacostraca podophthalmata Britannia; or description of British Species of Genus Cancer as have eyes on footstalks. Illustrated by James Sowerby. 1 vol. 4to. London, 1815.
2788	Lutken (Chr. Fr.) Dyreriget. Un Haand og Lærebog til brug ved højere læreanstalter. 1 vol. 8vo. Kjobenhavn, 1881-2.
3008	Martini & Chemnitz. System. Conchylien Cabinet, Bd. VII, Abt 2. Spondylus und pection. C. H. Kuster and W. Kobelt.
3224	Band VII., Abt. 3. Die Gattung Avicula. W. Dunbar. 1 vol. 4vo. Nürnberg, 1872.
2817	Maskell (W. M.) An account of the Insects noxious to Agriculture and Plants in New Zealand:—The Scale Insects (Coccididæ). 1 vol. 8vo. Wellington, 1887.
2818	Nicholson (H. A.) A manual of Zoology. Seventh edition. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1887.
3230	Parker (W. K.) Structure and Development of the Skull in the Mammalia:—Part 2, Edentata; Part 3, Insectivora (from Phil. Trans. Part 1, 1885). 1 vol. 4to. London, 1885.
2836	Perrier (Edmond). Revision de la Collection de Stellérides du Museum d'Histoire Naturelle de Paris (from Archives de Zoologie expérimentale et générale. Tome 4, 1875). 1 vol. 8vo. Paris, 1875.
3225	Ramsay (E. P.) Tabular list of all the Australian Birds at present known, showing the distribution of the species over the continent of Australia and adjacent Islands. 1 vol. 4to. Sydney, 1888.
3372	Ridgway (Robert). A Nomenclature of Colours for Naturalists, and Compendium of useful knowledge for Ornithologists. 1 vol. 8vo. Boston, 1886.
2844	Seeböhm (Henry). The Geographical Distribution of the Family Charadriidæ or the Plovers, Sandpipers, Snipes, and their Allies. 1 vol. 4to. London, 1888.
3195	Sherrin (R. A. A.) Handbook of the Fishes of New Zealand. 1 vol. 8vo. Auckland, 1886.
2843	Skuse (F. A. A.) British Stalk-eyed Crustacea and Spiders. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1887.
2787	Spolia Atlantica. Om nogle pelagiska Annulata, ved G. M. R. Levrnsen. 1 vol. 4to. Kjobenhavn, 1886.
3234	Thurston (Edgar). Catalogue of the Batrachia Salientia, and Apoda, of Southern India. 1 vol. 8vo. Madras, 1888.
2828-9	Trimen (Roland). Assisted by J. H. Bowker. South African Butterflies. A Monograph of the Extra-tropical Species. Vol. 1. Nymphalidæ. Vol. 2. Erycinidæ and Lycænidæ. 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1887.
2970	Tryon (G. W.) Manual of Conchology; Structural and Systematic. Vol. 9. Solaridæ, Ianthinidæ, Trichiropidæ, Scalarotidæ, Cerithidæ, Rissoidæ, Littorinidæ. 1 vol. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1887.
2971	Tryon (G. W.) Manual of Conchology; Structural and Systematic. Second series, Pulmonata. Vol. 3. Helicidæ, vol. 1. 1 vol. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1887.
3021	Waterhouse (Chas. Owen). Aid to the Identification of Insects. Vol. 1. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1880-2.

Reg. No.	Book.
CLASS B.—BIOLOGY, &c.	
2867	Evans (John). The Ancient Stone Implements, Weapons, and Ornaments of Great Britain. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1872.
2868	Evans (John). The Ancient Bronze Implements, Weapons, and Ornaments of Great Britain and Ireland. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1881.
2886	Evans (John). Flint Implements in the Drift. 1 vol. 4to. London, 1860-2.
3207	Gegenbaur (Carl). Elements of Comparative Anatomy, translated by G. Jeffrey Bell, and revised by E. Ray Lankester. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1878.
3193	Grey (Sir George). Polynesian Mythology and Ancient Traditional History of the New Zealand Race, as furnished by their priests and chiefs. 2nd edition, English and Maori. 1 vol. 8vo. Auckland, 1885.
3143	Lubbock (Sir John). Prehistoric Times, as illustrated by Ancient Remains and the Manners and Customs of Modern Savages. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1878.
3140	Maout (Emm. la), and Decaisne (J.) <i>Traité général de Botanique descriptive et analytique</i> . 1 vol. 4to. Paris, 1868.
2819	Smyth (R. Brough). The Aborigines of Victoria, with notes relating to the habits of Natives of other parts of Australia and Tasmania. 2 vols. R. 8vo. Melbourne, 1878.
3192	Tregear (Edward). The Aryan Maori. 1 vol. 8vo. Wellington, 1885.
3014	Warren (W. H.) Strength and Elasticity of New South Wales Timbers of Commercial value. 1 vol. 8vo. Sydney, 1887.
3189-91	White (John). Ancient History of the Maori, his Mythology and Traditions. Horouta or Taki-tumu Migration. 3 vols. 8vo. Wellington.
3142	Wilson (Daniel). Prehistoric Man. Researches into the origin of civilization in the old and new worlds, 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1865.
CLASS C.—GEOLOGY.	
2914	Agassiz (Louis). <i>Fcuilleton additional aux Recherches sur les poissons fossiles</i> . 1 vol. 4to.
2906	Alth (Alois V.) <i>Ueber die palaeozoischen Gebilde Podoliens und deren Verstienerungen</i> . 1 Abth (K. K. Geol. Reich. Abhand. Bd. VII). 1 vol. 4to. Wien, 1874.
3281	Andra (Dr. Carl Justus). <i>Vorweltliche pflanzen aus dem Steinkohlengebirge der preussischen Rheinlande und Westphalens</i> . Heft 1, 2, 3. 1 vol. 4to. Bonn, 1865-69.
2897	Barrande (Joachim). <i>Défense des Colonies</i> . III <i>Etude générale [sur nos Etages. G—H avec application spéciale aux environs de Hlubočep, près Prague]</i> . 1 vol. Prague and Paris.
2902	Barrois (Charles). <i>Recherches sur la Terrain Crétacé supérieur de l'Angleterre et de l'Irlande</i> . 1 vol. 4to. Stockholm, 1872-73.
2804	Benecke (E. W.) <i>Ueber Trias und Jura in den Südalpen</i> . 1 vol. Munchen, 1866.
2895	Benecke (E. W.) <i>Ueber die Umgebungen von Esino in der Lombardei</i> . 1 vol. 8vo. Munchen, 1876.
2802	Binckhorst (J. J. S. van). <i>Monographie des Gastéropodes et des Céphalopodes de la Craie supérieure du Limbourg</i> . 1 vol. 4to. Bruxelles—Leipzig, 1873.
3007	Blake (J. F.) <i>Monograph of the British Fossil Cephalopoda</i> . Part 1: Introduction and Silurian species. 1 vol. 4to. London, 1882.
2841	Briart (A.), and Cornet (F. L.) <i>Description de Fossiles du Calcaire grossier de Mons</i> . Parts 1, 2, 3, 4. (Mem. de l'Acad. Roy. des. Sciences, Belgique. Tomes 36, 37, 43, 47). 1 vol. 4to. Bruxelles, 1871-87.
2903	Briart (A.), Cornet (F. L.), and Coemans (E.) <i>Description minéralogique et stratigraphique de l'Etage inférieur du Terrain Crétacé du Hainaut, par A. Briart et F. L. Cornet, suivie de la description des Végétaux Fossiles de cet Etage, par E. Coemans</i> . 1 vol. 4to. Bruxelles, 1867.
3131-2	Buckland (Rev. William). <i>Geology and Mineralogy considered with reference to Natural Theology</i> . New edition, edited by Francis F. Buckland (being Treatise VI of the <i>Bridgewater Treatises</i>). 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1858.
3135	Burmeister (Hermann, or German). <i>Los Caballos fosiles de la Pampa Argentina</i> . Die fossilen pferde der Pampas formation. 1 vol. fol. Buenos Aires, 1875.
2695	Cope (E. D.) <i>Synopsis of the extinct Batrachia and Aves of North America</i> . (Trans. Am. Phil. Soc., vol. XIV). 1 vol. 4to. 1869.
2791-2	Coquand (H.) <i>Monographie du Genre Ostrea</i> . Terrain Crétacé. Texte; 1 vol. 8vo.; Marseille, 1869. Atlas; 1 vol. fol. Paris, 1869.
3279	Dames & Kayser. <i>Palæontologische Abhandlungen</i> . Band IV. 1 vol. 4to. 1887-8.
2904	D'Orbigny (Alcide). <i>Forimanifères fossiles au Bassin tertiaire de Vienne, découvertes par S.E. le Chev. Joseph de Hauer</i> . (Published in German and French.) 1 vol. 4to. Paris, 1846.
2832-5	Dumortier (Eug.) <i>Etudes paléontologiques sur les Dépot jurassiques du Bassin du Rhone</i> . 4 vols. 8vo. Paris, 1864-74.
2809-14	Eichwald (Ed. d'). <i>Lethæa Rossica ou Paléontologie de la Russie</i> . Text, 3 vols. 8vo.; and Atlas, 3 vols. 4to. Stuttgart, 1853-68.
2901	Erdmann (Edward). <i>Beskrifning öfver Skanes stenkolsforande Formation (Sveriges Geologiska Undersökning, 1872)</i> . Description de la Formation carbonifère de la Scanie. Edition abrégée (<i>Recherches géologique sur la Suede, 1873</i>). In 1 vol. 4to. Stockholm, 1872-3.

Reg. No.	Book.
Class C—Geology— <i>continued.</i>	
3010	Etheridge (R., jun.) Catalogue of Australian Fossils (including Tasmania and Timor). 1 vol. 8vo. Cambridge, 1878.
2905	Eudes Deslongchamps (Eugene). Etudes sur les Etages jurassiques de la Normandie. 1 vol. 4to. Paris and Caen, 1864.
	Fischer de Waldheim. (See Waldheim.)
2794	Geinitz (Hanns Bruno). Grundriss der Versteinerungskunde. 1 vol. 8vo. Leipzig, 1856.
2965	Geinitz (Hanns Bruno). Das Quadersandstiegegebirge oder Kreidegebirge. 1 vol. 8vo. Frieberg, 1849-50.
3283	Goldenburg (Friedrich). Die Pflanzenversteinerungen des Steinkohlengebirges von Saarbrücken. Heft 1, 2, 3. 1 vol. 4to. Saarbrücken, 1825-62.
2893	Grateloup (Mr.) Mémoire de Géo-zoologie sur les Oursins Fossiles (Echinides) qui se rencontrent dans les Terrains calcaires des environs de Dax. (Soc. Linn., Bordeaux, VIII). 1 vol. 8vo. 1836.
2910	Grunewaldt (M. V.) Notizen über die versteinierungsführenden Gebirgsformationen des Ural. 1 vol. 4to. 1857.
3280	Schimper (W. P.) and Zittel (Karl A.) Handbuch der Paläontologie. II Abt. Paläophytologie. 1 vol. 8vo.
2923	Hantken (Max von). Die Fauna der Clavulina Szabói Schichten. Theil, Foraminiferen (K. Ung. Geol. Anstalt, Bd. 4). 1 vol. 8vo. Budapest, 1875.
3144	Heer (Oswald). Le monde primitif de la Suisse, traduit de l'Allemand par Isaac Demole. Vol. 8vo. Genève and Bale, 1872.
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2882	Hudleston (Wilfred H.) The Yorkshire Oolites. Parts 1 and 2, secs. 1 and 2. (Proc. Geol. Assoc. Vols. 3, 4, and 5.) In 1 vol. 8vo.
3201	Hutton (Prof. F. W.) Report of the Tarawera Volcanic District. 1 vol. 8vo. Wellington, 1887.
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2797	Kloden (K. F.) Die Versteinerungen der Mark Brandenburg. 1 vol. 8vo. Berlin, 1834.
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2936	Leanta (Argangilo). Lo stats presente della Sicilia. Tomo primo. 1 vol. 8vo. Palermo, 1761.
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3120	Macartney (John Neill). The Bendigo Gold-fields Registry. Maps by G. W. Hart, and an Essay on the saving of Fine Gold and the undeveloped resources of the Bendigo District, by a Bendigonian. 1 vol. 8vo. Melbourne, 1871.
2842	Malaise (C.) Description du Terrain Silurien du centre de la Belgique. (Mém. de l'Acad. Royale des Sciences de Belgique. Tome 37. 1873.)
	Saporta (G. de) and Marion (A. F.) Essai sur l'Etat de la végétation à l'Époque des marnes Heersiennes de Gelinden. (Mém. de l'Acad. Roy. des Sciences de Belgique. Tome 37. 1873.)
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2972	Mallet (F. R.) Manual of the Geology of India. Part IV. Mineralogy (mainly non-economic). 1 vol. 8vo. Calcutta, 1887.
3303	Mojsisovics (E.) and Neumayr (M.) Beiträge zur Paläontologie Österreich-Ungarns und des Orients. Band VII. 1888.
2937	Mongitore (Antonius). Della Sicilia ricercate nelle cose piu' memorabili. 1 vol. 8vo. Palermo, 1742.
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3127-30	Nauman (Carl Freidrich). Lehrbuch der Geognosie, with Atlas. 4 vols. 8vo. Leipzig, 1858.
2900	Pictet (F. J.) Matériaux pour la Paléontologie Suisse. 4me Série, Livraison 11 contenant Monographie des Couches de l'Étage valangien des Carrières d'Arzier (Vaud.) par P. de Loriol. 1 vol. 4to. Bale and Genève, 1840.

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2912	Pirona (Guilio Andrea). <i>Le Ippuritidi del Colle di Medea nel Friuli (Mem. Inst. Veneto XIV.</i> 1 vol. 40.
2881	Prestwich (Joseph). <i>The Structure of the Strat. between the London Clay and the Chalk in the London and Hampshire Systems. (Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc. Vol. 8.)</i> 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1852.
2885	Prestwich (Joseph). <i>Report on the explorations of Brixham Cave, with Description of the Animal Remains, by G. Busk; and the Flint Implements by J. Evans. (Phil. Trans. 1872).</i> On the structure of the neighbourhood of Gamrie, Banffshire, particularly on the deposit containing Ichthyolites. (Phil. Trans., 1835.) Tables of Temperature of the Sea at different depths beneath the surface, from observations made between 1749 and 1868. (Phil. Trans., 1874.) In 1 vol. 4to.
2798-9	Quenstedt (Fr. Aug.) <i>Die Cephalopoden. Text, 1 vol. 8vo. Atlas, 1 vol. 4to.</i> Tübingen, 1849.
2800-1	Quenstedt (Fr. Aug.) <i>Handbuch der Petrefactenkunde. Text and Atlas. 2 vols. 8vo.</i> Tübingen, 1885.
2133-4	Quenstedt (Fr. Aug.) <i>Handbuch der Petrefactenkunde. 1 vol. Text. 1 vol. Tafeln. 2 vols. 8vo.</i> Tübingen, 1852.
2891	Rénevier (E. H. and E.) <i>Description des Fossiles du Terrain Nummulitique Supérieur des Environs de Gap des Diablerets, et de quelques localités de la Savoie.</i> In 1 vol. Prague and Paris, 1868.
2907	Reusch (Hans H.) <i>Silurfossiler og pressede Konglomerater i Bergenskifrene.</i> 1 vol. 4to. Kristiania, 1882.
2795	Reuss (August E.) <i>Die Versteinerungen der Bohmischen Kreideformation mit Abbildungen de neuen oder weniger bekanten arten von Joep Rubesch.</i> 1 vol. 4to. Stuttgart, 1845-6.
3370	Roehl (E. von). <i>Fossila Flora der Steinkohlen—formation Westphalens.</i> 1 vol. 4to. Cassel, 1869.
2964	Roemer (C. F.) <i>Das Rheinische Uebesgangsgebirge. Ein palæontologische geognostische Dartstellung.</i> 1 vol. 4to. Hannover, 1844.
2881	Roemer (F. A.) <i>Die Versteinerungen des Norddeutschen, Oothengebirges.</i> 1 vol. 4to. Hannover, 1836-39.
2797	Roemer (F. A.) <i>Die Versteinerungen der Norddeutschen Kreidegebirges.</i> 1 vol. 4to. Hannover, 1841.
2908	Roemer (F. A.) <i>Bertrage zur geologischen Kenntniss des nordwestlichen Harzgebirges.</i> 1 vol. 4to. 1850.
2840	Ryckholt (Le Baron P. de.) <i>Mélanges paléontologique. (Mém. de l'Acad. Roy. des Sciences de Belgique. Tome xxiv.)</i> 1 vol. 4to. Bruxelles.
3126	Senft (Dr. Ferdinand). <i>Krystallinischen Felsgemengtheile.</i> 1 vol. 8vo. Berlin, 1868.
3200	Smith (S. Percy). <i>The Eruption of Tarawera, New Zealand.</i> 1 vol. 8vo. Wellington, 1887.
2805-8	Stoppani (Antoine). <i>Paléontologie Lombarde ou description des Fossiles de Lombardie.</i> 4 vols. 4to. Milan, 1858-81. 1. <i>Série Les petrefactions d'Esino, par A. Stoppani.</i> Milan, 1858-60. 2. <i>Série Mammifères Fossiles de Lombardie, par Emile Cornalia.</i> Milan, 1858-71. 3. <i>Série Geologie et paléontologie des Couches a Aircula conoorta en Lombardie et de l'Apennin central, par Joseph Meneghini.</i> Milan, 1867-81.
2896	Sveriges Geologiska Undersokning. <i>Odd parts.</i> In 1 vol. 8vo. Stockholm.
3228	Teall (J. J. Harris). <i>British Petrography, with special reference to the igneous rocks.</i> 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1888.
2909	Trautschold (H.) <i>Die Kalkbruche von Mjatschkowa, eine Monograph desoteren Berghalks. (2 parts.)</i> 1 vol. 4to. Moscou, 1874-76.
2874	Victorian Government Prize Essays, 1860. 1 vol. 8vo. Melbourne, 1861. Contains :— <i>Collection and Storage of Water in Victoria.</i> Fred. Acheson. <i>Agriculture of Victoria.</i> W. Story. <i>Origin and Distribution of Gold.</i> H. Roseles. Manufactures more immediately required for the development of the resources of the Colony. Chas. Mayes.
2803	Voltz (Ph. L.) <i>Observations sur les Bélemnites.</i> 1 vol. 4to. Paris, 1830.
2815	Waldheim (Gottlieb Fischer de). <i>Oryctographie du Gouvernement de Moscou.</i> 1 vol. fol. Moscou, 1830-37.
3283	Weiss (Dr. Ch. Ernst). <i>Fossile Flora der jüngsten Steinkohlenformation und des Rothliegenden im Saar-Rhein-Gebiete.</i> 1 vol. 4to. Bonn, 1869-72.
3174	Zeiller (R.) <i>Végétaux Fossiles du Terrain Houiller de la France.</i> 1 vol. 4to. Paris, 1880.
2789	Zittel (Karl A.) <i>Auzder Ur eit.</i> 1 vol. 8vo. Munchen, 1875.
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3003	Annals of Philosophy. Vol. 1, 1802. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1802.
2387	British Museum Publications. Catalogue of the Fossil Mammalia in the British Museum, part 5, containing Tillodontia, Sirenia, Cetacea, &c., and supplement. R. Lydekker. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1887.
2945	Guide to the Shell and Starfish Galleries (Mollusca Echinoclermata Vermes) in the Department of Zoology of the British Museum. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1887.
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3210	British Association Report, 1887. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1888.
3383	Entomologist. Vol. 21. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1888.
3384	Entomologist's Monthly Magazine. Vol. 24 June, 1887, to May, 1888. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1888.
3229	Fisheries Exhibition, London, 1883. Special Catalogue of the Chinese Exhibit. 1 vol. 4to. Shanghai, 1883.
3382	Geological Magazine. New Series. Dec. 3. Vol. V. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1888.
3279	Geologist's Association. Proceedings. Vol. 10, 1887-8. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1888.
2846, 3373	Geological Record for 1879, with supplements for 1874-78. Edited by W. Whitaker and W. H. Dalton. For 1880-84. Vol. 1, Stratigraphical and Descriptive Geology. 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1887-8.
2877	Geological Society of London. Proceedings. Vol. 1, 1826-33. Vol. 3, 1838-42. 2 vols. 8vo. London, 1834-42.
2876	Geological Society of London. Transactions. 31 odd numbers in 1 vol. 4to.
2851	Geological Society of London. Quarterly Journal. Vol. 28. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1872.
3376	Vol. 44. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1888.
3179	Geological Society of London. Classified Index to the Transactions, Proceedings, and Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society of London. G. W. Ormerod. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1870.
2879	Geological Survey of Ireland. Data and Description and Explanation accompany of the Geological Survey of Ireland. 9 parts. In 1 vol. 8vo. 1858-80.
3278	Glasgow University Calendar for the year 1888-9. 1 vol. 8vo. Glasgow, 1888.
2999	Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland Transactions. 4th Series. Vol. 20. 1 vol. 8vo. Edinburgh, 1888.
2925	International Inventions Exhibition. Official Catalogue. Official Guide. In 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1885.
3385	Ibis. 5th Ser. Vol. 5. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1888.
3362	Linnean Society of London. General Index to the first 20 vols. of the Journal (Botany), and the Botanical portion of the proceedings. 1838-86. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1888.
2847-8	Linnean Society of London. Journal. Zoology. Vols. 18, 19. 1885-6.
3376	Vol. 22. 1888.
2849-50	" " " Botany. Vols. 21, 22. 1886-7. 5 vols. 8vo. London, 1885-8.
3234	Manchester Microscopical Society. Transactions and Annual Report, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887. In 1 vol. 8vo. Manchester, 1884-8.
3388	Microscopical (Royal) Society. Journal. Vol. 8. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1888.
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3246-53	Vol. 1-8. 8 vols. 8vo. London, 1853-60.
3254-61	New Series. Vols. 1-8. 8 vols. 8vo. London, 1861-8.
3262-73	New Series. Vols. 9-20. 12 vols. 8vo. London, 1869-80.
3277	Vol. 28. New Series. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1888.
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2865	Palaeontographical Society. Vol. 41 for 1887. 1 vol. 4to. London, 1888. Contains— 1. Fossil Sponges. Part 2. G. J. Hinde. 2. Palaeozoic Phyllopora. Part 1. T. Rupert Jones and H. Woodward. 3. Jurassic Gasteropoda. Part 1. No. 2. W. H. Hudleston. 4. Inferior Oolite Ammonites. Part 2. S. S. Buckman.
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3373	Royal Society. The Eruption of Krakatoa and subsequent phenomena. Report of the Krakatoa Committee. 1 vol. 4to. London, 1888.
3211-3	Royal Society of Edinburgh. Proceedings. Vols. 12, 13, 14. 1882. 3 vols. 8vo. Edinburgh, 1884-7.
2994-8	Royal Physical Society, Edinburgh. Proceedings. Vols. 5, 6, 7, 8 (pt. 2 only), 9. 5 vols. 8vo. Edinburgh, 1878-87.
3274	Royal Colonial Institute. Proceedings. Vol. 19. 1887-8. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1888.
3307	Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society. 5th Annual Report, 1887. 1 vol. 8vo. Falmouth and Griss, 1888.
3365-7	Science and Art Museum, Dublin. Catalogue of Books added to the National Library of Ireland from 1874-86. In 3 vols. 8vo. Dublin.
3368	Science and Art Museum, Dublin. Miscellaneous Papers. In 1 vol. 8vo. Dublin.
3387	Zoological Society of London. Proceedings, 1887. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1888.
2845	Zoological Record for 1886. Edited by F. E. Beddard. 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1887.
3274	Catalogue of Books for the Library. By H. Sotheran & Co. 1 Vol. 8vo. London.
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3221	History and Description of Sperm Whale. Reprint. 1 vol. 8vo. Sydney, 1888.
3222	Catalogue of Fishes. Part 1. J. D. Ogilby. 1 vol. 8vo. Sydney, 1888.
3308	Technological, Industrial, and Sanitary Museum. Reports of the Committee of Management. 1880-7. 1 vol. fol.
3232 }	Department of Mines, N.S.W. Annual Reports for 1886-7. 2 vols. fol. Sydney, 1887-8.
3289 }	
2926	Department of Mines, N.S.W. Mineral products of N.S.W., by Harrie Wood; Notes on the Geology of N.S.W., by C. S. Wilkinson; Description of the Seams of Coal worked in New South Wales, by John Mackenzie. 1 vol. 4to. Sydney, 1887.
3401	Geological Survey of N.S.W. Memoirs. Palæontology, No. 1. The Invertebrate Fauna of the Hawkesbury—Wianamatta Series of N.S.W., by R. Etheridge, junr. 1 vol. 4to. Sydney, 1888.
3304	Memoirs. Geological Survey of N.S.W. Palæontology, No. 2. Contributions to the Tertiary Flora of Australia, by Dr. Constantin, Baron von Ettingshausen. 1 vol. 4to. Sydney, 1888.
3301-2	Report of the Minister of Public Instruction for the years 1886-7. 2 vols. fol. Sydney, 1887-8.
3226	Linnean Society of N.S.W. Proceedings. Vol. 3, pts. 1-2. 1 vol. Sydney, 1888.
3243	Royal Society of N.S.W. Journal and Proceedings, vol. 26. 1 vol. 8vo. Sydney, 1888.
2973	University of Sydney. Calendar for the year 1888. 1 vol. 8vo. Sydney, 1888.
2990	Works on New South Wales, compiled at the Free Public Library, by R. A. Hawley and E. G. W. Palmer, under the direction of R. C. Walker. 1 vol. 8vo. Sydney, 1878.
3015	Coglan, T. A. Wealth and Progress of New South Wales, 1886-7. 1 vol. 8vo. Sydney, 1887.
2391	N.S.W. Medical Gazette. Vol. 1, 1870-1. 1 vol. 8vo. Sydney, 1871.
2852-3	Royal Society of Victoria. Transactions of the Philosophical Institute of Victoria. Vols. 2, 3, 4. 1857-9. In 2 vols. 8vo. Melbourne, 1858-60.
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3305	Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition, 1888. N.S.W. Mineral Court. Descriptive Catalogue of Exhibits of Metals, Minerals, Fossils, and Timbers. 1 vol. 8vo. Sydney, 1888.
3233	Handbook of Information for the Colonies and India. Issued by the British-India and Queensland Agency Co. (Limited). 1 vol. 8vo. Brisbane, 1888.
3244	Royal Society of Tasmania. Papers and Proceedings, 1887. 1 vol. 8vo. Hobart, 1888.
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3240	Colonial Museum and Geological Survey of New Zealand. Nos. 17 and 18. Reports of Geological Explorations during 1885-6-7. 1 vol. 8vo. Wellington, 1885-7.
3196	Colonial Museum and Geological Scenery of New Zealand. Outlines of New Zealand Geology. By Jas. Hector. 1 vol. 8vo. Wellington, 1882.
2838	Colonial Museum of New Zealand. The Indigenous Grasses of New Zealand. Illustrated by John Buchanan. 1 vol. fol. New Zealand, 1878-80.
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3173	Geological Survey of India. Catalogue of the Organic Remains of Echinodermata in the Museum of the Geological Survey of India. 1885. Catalogue of the Organic Remains of Cephalopoda in the Museum of the Geological Survey of India, 1886. Catalogue of the Materials in the Museum of the Geological Survey of India, 1886. 1 vol. 8vo. Calcutta.
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4. Canada.	
3215	Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada. Annual Reports. (New Series.) Vol. 2. 1886. 1 vol. 8vo. Montreal, 1887.
3237-8	Canadian Record of Science. Vols. 1-2. 1884-7. 2 vols. 8vo. Montreal, 1885-7.
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3202-6	The Auk. A Quarterly Journal of Ornithology, published for the American Ornithologist's Union. Vols. 1-5. 5 vols. 8vo. Boston, 1884-8.
3389	American Naturalist. Vol. 22. 1 vol. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1888.
3354-60	American Journal of Conchology. Edited by Geo. W. Tryon, junior. Vols. 1-7. 7 vols. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1865-72.
3393	Library Notes. Vol. 2. 1887-8. 1 vol, 8vo. Boston, 1888.
3393	Acad. Nat. Sciences Philadelphia. Proceedings. 1887. 1 vol. 8vo. Philadelphia, 1888.
3239	Biological Society of Washington. Proceedings. Vols. 1, 2. 1880-84. In vol. 8vo. Washington, 1883-85.
3321	California Academy of Sciences. Bulletin. Vol. 2 (Nos. 5-8), 1886-7. 1 vol. 8vo. San Francisco, 1887.
3328	American Museum of Natural History. Bulletins. Vol. 1. (Nos. 1-8.) 1 vol. 8vo. New York, 1881-6.
3329	American Museum of Natural History. Reports, 3 & 4 (1872), 14 (1883), 15 (1881-87). 1 vol. 8vo. New York, 1872-87.
2884	New York State Museum of Natural History. 28th Annual Report. 1 vol. 8vo. Albany, 1879.
3322-4	New York Academy of Sciences. Transactions. Vols. 1, 2, 4, 6. 1 vol. 8vo. New York, 1881-7.
3325-7	New York Academy of Science. Annals. Vols. 1, 2, 3. 3 vols. 8vo. New York, 1877-85.
3317-9	Museum of Comparative Zoology. Bulletin. Vols. 13-15. 3 vols. 8vo. Cambridge, Mass., 1888.
3310-16	Museum of Comparative Zoology. Memoirs. Vols. 2, 5, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15. 7 vols. 4to. Cambridge, Mass., 1871-87.
2823	Smithsonian Institution. Annual Report of the Board of Regents, 1885. Part 1 and
3309	Smithsonian Institution. Part 2, being Reports of the U. S. National Museum to July, 1885. 2 vols. 8vo. Washington, 1886.
2947	Smithsonian Institution. Miscellaneous Collections. No. 181. Review of American Birds in the Museum of the Smithsonian Institute. Part 1. By S. F. Baird. 1 vol. 8vo. Washington, 1864-72.
3088-90	Smithsonian Institution. Misc. Col. Vols. 3, 4, 5. 3 vols. 8vo. Washington, 1862-4.
2946	Smithsonian Institution. Misc. Col. Vol. 24. 1 vol. 8vo. Washington, 1883. Containing Bulletins of the U. S. National Museum. Vol. 3. No. 16. Synopsis of the Fishes of North America. By David S. Jordan and Charles H. Gilbert. Washington, 1882.
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3338	No. 17. Zoological position of Texas. E. D. Cope.
3339	" 18. Exhibit of Fisheries and Fish culture of U. S. at Boston. G. B. Goode, 1880.
3340	" 19. Nomenclator Zoologicus. By S. H. Scudder, 1882.
3341	" 20. Bibliographies of American Naturalists. S. G. Baird and G. B. Goode, 1883.
3342	" 21. Nomenclature of North American Birds. By R. Ridgway, 1881.
3343	" 22. Guide to Flora of Washington. By Lester F. Ward, 1881.
3344	" 23. Bibliographies of American Naturalists. 2. Isaac Lea. By N. P. Scudder, 1885.
3345	" 24. Check list of North American Reptiles and Batrachia. By C. H. Yarrow, 1882.
3346	" 25. Natural History of the Bermudas. Edited by J. M. Jones and G. B. Goode. Vol. 1, 1884.
3347	" 26. Avifauna Columbiana. 2nd Ed. E. Coues and D. W. Prentiss.
3348	" 27. Descriptive Catalogue of the Collections sent by the U. S., to the Intercolonial Exhibition. London, 1883. By G. B. Goode and A. S. 1884.
3349	" 28. Manual of American Land Shells. W. G. Binney, 1885.
3350	" 29. Result of Ornithological Explorations in the Commander Islands, and in Kamtschatka. By L. Steiner. 1885.
3351	" 30. Bibliographies of American Naturalists. 3 Publications relating to Fossil Vertebrates, including writings by Max White and Watcot. By J. B. Marcou. 1885.
3352	" 31. Synopsis of South American Syphidæ. S. W. Williston. 1886.
3352	" 32. Catalogue of Batrachians and Reptiles of Central America and Mexico. E. D. Cope. 1887. 15 vols. 8vo. Washington, 1880-7.

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	United States Geological Survey. Bulletins:—
3096	Vol. 1. Washington, 1884. Incomplete. Contains Nos. 1-6. 1813-4.
3097	Vol. 2. Washington, 1885. Incomplete. Contains Nos. 7-14. 1884-5.
3098	Vol. 3. Washington, 1885. Contains Nos. 15-23. 1885.
3099	Vol. 4. Washington, 1886. Incomplete. Contains Nos. 24-30. 1885-6.
	United States Geographical and Geological Explorations. Surveys west of 100th meridian, in charge of Lieut. G. M. Wheeler and H. C. Wright—
2950	Reports. Vol. 2. Astronomy and Barometric Hypsometry. 1877.
2951	" Vol. 3. Geology. 1875.
2952	" Vol. 3. Supplement, Geology. 1881.
2953	" Vol. 4. Palæontology. 1877.
2954	" Vol. 5. Zoology. 1875.
2955	" Vol. 6. Botany. 1878.
2956	" Vol. 7. Archæology. 1879.
	7 vols. 4to. Washington, 1875-81.
	United States Geological Exploration of the 40th parallel. By Clarence King, Geologist in charge—
2857	Reports. Vol. 1. Systematic Geology. By Clarence King. 1877.
2958	" Vol. 2. Descriptive Geology. By Arnold Hague and S. F. Simmons. 1877.
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2918	<p>Pamphlets. Geological Series. 8vo., vol. XXIV. Contains—</p> <p>Mantell (R. A.) An account of the Strata and Organic Remains exposed in the cuttings of the Branch Railway from the Great Western Line near Cheltenham, through Trowbridge to Westbury. (Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc., 1850.)</p> <p>Sowerby (G. B., Junr.) Description of a new Fossil Cirripede from the Upper Chalk, near Rochester.</p> <p>Morris (John). On the occurrence of the Genus <i>Policipedes</i> in the Oxford Clay. (An. & Mag. Nat. Hist., vol. 15.)</p> <p>Morris (John). Description of some new species of the genus <i>Ancyloceras</i>. (An. & Mag. Nat. Hist., vol. 15.)</p> <p>White (Adam). Description of some new species of Homopterous Insects from the East in the British Museum. (An. & Mag. Nat. Hist., vol. 15.)</p> <p>Fordham (H. George). Notes on Boulders and Boulder-clay in North Hertfordshire. (Trans. Herts. Nat. Hist. Soc., vol. 3.)</p> <p>Edwards (F. E.) Notice of the Fossil Remains of a new Fresh-water Mollusc, from the Lower London Tertiaries. (The Geologist, No. 30, 1865.)</p> <p>Baily (W. H.) Descriptions of Fossil Invertebrata from the Crimea. (Proc. Geol. Soc., 1858.)</p> <p>Fossil Birds from the Cretaceous of North America. (Am. Jour. Arts and Sciences, 1873.)</p> <p>Dewalque (Gustave). Un Spongiaire nouveau du Systeme Eifelien. (Acad. Roy. de Belg. Bull., 1872.)</p> <p>Bosquet (J.) Notice sur quelques Mollusques lamelibranches nouveaux trouvés dans les couches tertiaires du Limbourg. (Acad. Roy. Belg. Bull., tome 18.)</p> <p>Koninck (L. de). Notices sur le genre <i>Davidsonia</i> et sur le genre <i>Hypodema</i>. Liège, 1852.</p> <p>Maurice (Charles). Exposé des Recherches de M. W. Branco sur L'Embryogénie et les Affinités des Céphalopodes fossiles. Lille, 1882.</p> <p>Maurice (Charles). Les Insectes fossiles, spécialement d'après les travaux de Samuel Scudder. Lille, 1882.</p> <p>Suess (Eduard). Über Megarteris, eine neue Gattung von Terebratuliden. (1885.)</p> <p>Goppert —. Berichte über eine in den Preussischen Rheinlanden und einem Theile Westphalens unternommenen Reise zum Zwecke der Erforschung der fossilen Flora jener Gegenden. Breslau (n.d.)</p> <p>Pflücker y Rico (Leonardo). Das Rhät (die Rhätische Gruppe) in der Umgegend von Göttingen. (Inaug. Dissert. Univers Göttingen). Berlin, 1868.</p> <p>Reuss (A. Em.) Über einige Crustaceenreste aus der Alpenen Trias österreichs. (Akad. der Wissen. 1867.)</p> <p>Roemer (Ferd.) <i>Protolycosa anthracophila</i>, eine fossile Spinne aus dem Steinkohlengebirge Oberschlesiens. (Jahrb. f. Miner., 1866.)</p> <p>Bölsche (W.) Beiträge zur Paläontologie der Juraformation im nordwestlichen Deutschland. (Jahresh. d. Naturwis. Ver. zu Osnabrück.)</p> <p>Lindström (G.) Några iakttagelser öfver <i>Zoantharia rugosa</i>. (Ofvers af K. Vet. Akad. Forh., 1865.)</p> <p>Gümbel (C. W.) Über zwei jurassische Vorläufer des Foraminiferen-Geschlechtes <i>Nummulina</i> und <i>Orbitulites</i>. (Jahr. f. Miner., 1872.)</p> <p>Laube (Gustav C.) Petrefacten aus den <i>Baculitens</i>schichten von Böhmischem Kamnitz, in der K. K. geologischen Reichsanstalt. (K. K. Geol. Reich., 1864.)</p> <p>Jäger (Geo. von). Über einen durch ringförmige Erhöhungen (Wachstumsringe?) ausgezeichneten höchst wahrscheinlich fossilen Stosssahn des Elephanten. Moskau, 1857.</p> <p>Visiani (Rob de). Sulle piarte fossile di Zovencedo e dei Vegroni, lettera del Dr. A. B. Prof. Massalongo. Verona, 1858.</p> <p>Heer (Oswald). Über Permische Pflanzen von fünfkirchen in Ungarn. (K. Ung. Geol. Anstalt, Bd. 5.) Budapest, 1876.</p> <p>Staub (M.) Mediterrane Pflanzen aus dem Baranyaer Comitate. (K. Ung. Geol. Anstalt Bd. 6.) Budapest, 1882.</p>
2919	<p>Pamphlets. Mineralogy. 8vo. Vol. XXIV. Contains—</p> <p>Brogniart (Alex.) Essai sur les Orbicules Siliceux. (An. d. Sc. Nat., tome 23.)</p> <p>Forbes (David). Researches in British Mineralogy. (Phil. Mag. 1868-9.)</p> <p>Bonney (T. G.) Notes on the Microscopic Structure of some Rocks from the Andes of Ecuador, collected by E. Whymuer. (Proc. Roy. Soc. 1884.)</p>
2924	<p>Pamphlets. Geological Series. 8vo., vol. XXVI. Contains—</p> <p>Powrie (James). On the working together of Igneous and Denuding Agencies in the Formation of Scenery. (Edin. Geol. Soc.)</p> <p>Home (D. Milne). Notes from a Diary in 1862 of some Geological Observations made at Points along the Caledonian Railway, at Moffat and at Loch Skene. (Ed. Geol. Soc. 1881.)</p> <p>Nicholson (H. A.) Notes on the Geology of Derwentwater. (Ed. Geol. Soc.)</p> <p>Stock (Thos.) Note on a Section recently exposed near Straiton. (Ed. Geol. Soc., 1880.)</p> <p>Thomson (Sir William). Of Geological Dynamics. (Geol. Soc., Glasgow, vol. 3.)</p>

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<i>Pamphlets—continued.</i>	
2924.	<p>Pamphlets. Geological Series—<i>continued</i>—</p> <p>Smith (J. Toulmin). On the different Beds of the White Chalk, and on the Faults and Dislocations which they exhibit. (An. and Mag. Nat. Hist., 1847).</p> <p>Gibb (G. D.) A Chapter on Fossil Lightning. (The Geologist, n.d.)</p> <p>Morris (J.) Coal; its Geological and Geographical Position. (n.d.)</p> <p>Blake (J. H.) Address on the Age and Relation of the so-called "Forest-bed" of the Norfolk and Suffolk Coast. (Norwich Geol. Soc., 1880).</p> <p>Davis (Jas. W.) On a Group of Erratic Boulders at Norber. (Geol. and Polytech. Soc., W. Riding, Yorkshire, 1880).</p> <p>Barrois (Chas.) Note Préliminaire sur le Terrain Silurien de l'ouest de la Bretagne. Lille (n.d.)</p> <p>Barrois (Chas.) Sur le Gault et sur les couches entre lesquelles il est compris dans le bassin de Paris. (Soc. Géol. du Nord, 1871).</p> <p>Cocchi (Igino). Description des Roches ignées et sédimentaires de la Toscane. Paris, 1856.</p> <p>Gosselet (J.) Note sur le Famennien. Les Schistes des environs de Philippeville et des bords de l'Ourthe. (Soc. Géol. du Nord, 1881).</p> <p>Gosselet (J.) Etudes sur le Gisement de la Houille dans le nord de la France. Lille, 1874.</p> <p>Gosselet (J.) Carte Géologique de la Bande Méridionale des Calcaires Dévonieniens de l'Entre-Sambre-et-Meuse. Bruxelles, 1874.</p> <p>Gosselet (J.) Discours à la Société des Sciences dans la Séance solennelle de Distribution des Prix, 1881.</p> <p>Koenen (Adolphus de). De Stratis Helmstædtiensibus Oligocænis inferioribus. (Dissertatio inauguralis geologica, Universitate Fred. Guil.) Berolini (n.d.)</p> <p>Schloenbach (U.) Über die Parallelen zwischen dem oberen Pläner Nord-deutschlands und den gleichalterigen Bildungen im Seine-Becken. (Deutscher Naturforscher und Ärzte. Hannover, 1865.)</p> <p>Schloenbach (U.) Beitrag zur Altersbestimmung des Grünsandes von Rothenfelde unweit Osnabrück. Stuttgart, 1869.</p> <p>Loretz (H.) Beitrag zur geologischen Kenntniss der cambriesh-phyllitischen Schieferreihe in Thüringen. (Jahrbuch K. Preus. Geol. Landesanstalt, 1881.)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ED. P. RAMSAY, Curator.</p>

APPENDIX IX.

To the Curator.—Report on the Limestone Caves at Cave Flat, junction of the Murrumbidgee and Goodradigbee Rivers, County of Harden.

Sir,

Sydney, 6 July, 1888.

In compliance with your instructions, I have the honour to herewith hand a report on my visit to the Murrumbidgee Caves, in company with Mr. J. Mitchell, of Bowning, between the dates of June 16th and June 22nd. We had intended visiting the Goodradigbee Caves also, some distance up the river of that name, above its junction with the Murrumbidgee, but time did not permit of our so doing.

Cave Flat is about twenty-five miles south-west of Bowning, and can be reached comfortably from that place by arriving there by the night-train from Sydney in the morning, and then driving. For the first nine miles the Great Southern Road is followed, but at that distance from Bowning the Goodradigbee Road branches off, and is a good track the whole way. The country is undulating and open until within a short distance of the flat, on entering the Barren Jack Ranges. The ground here becomes more broken and thickly wooded, a rapid descent of 800 feet taking place to the Murrumbidgee. Cave Flat is situated at the junction of the two rivers—the Bowning and Yass Road here crossing the former stream—and is a large alluvial tract of more than one geological age, extending on both sides the Murrumbidgee, and forming a delta-like piece of land between it and the mouth of the Goodradigbee.

The caves, for there are a series of them, are situated in a belt of limestone, running in a general north-west and south-east direction, along the strike of which the Goodradigbee River has more or less cut its course. Three caves in all were explored, one other is known, which we did not examine, and there are numerous depressions existing in the limestone ridge which probably represent filled in entrances to others.

The principal cave, or that which will be known throughout this report as "The Cave," and which was partially examined by Mr. Charles Jenkins, L.S., of Yass, in 1881, on behalf of your Trustees, is situated on the river's edge, within the conditional purchase of Mr. Weston, No. 14, Parish of Childowla; the two others examined by us are on the conditional purchase, No. 13, of Mr. John Hannam. To Mr. Weston we were indebted for much assistance and information, and I wish to take this opportunity of thanking him.

THE CAVE.

This, the principal cave, so far as our knowledge at present goes, is situated on the steep and narrow north bank of the Murrumbidgee, immediately at the south-west corner of Cave Flat. Its precise position, as surveyed by Mr. Jenkins, is 4 chains 86 links west of the south-east corner peg of Weston's (formerly Swift's) 65-acre conditional purchase, No. 14 (H. 3929), Parish of Childowla, County Harden. It was the subject many years ago of a brief description by Dr. G. Bennett,* and as before stated, has been briefly reported on by Mr. Jenkins.† His report refers almost wholly to excavations carried on in searching for fossil bones in the main, or entrance chamber of the cave. It "has a noble entrance in the

* Wanderings in New South Wales, &c., 1834, I, p. 224.

† Exploration of the Caves and Rivers of New South Wales. *N. S. Wales Parl. Papers*, 1882, 162—A, p. 32.

the face of a nearly vertical cliff of limestone, about 78 feet high. The entrance is about 40 feet above the Murrumbidgee ordinary summer level, and above the height reached by the greatest known flood. * * * As seen on the face of the cliff the entrance has a triangular form; but immediately within the entrance the form is modified by stalactitic roof cutting off the upper angle." This magnificent chamber, which for the sake of distinction, may be called "The Hall," is 42 feet wide, and has a depth of 80 feet, with a height of about 30 feet. The triangular form assumed at the entrance is continued more or less throughout all the chambers of the cave, and as Mr. Jenkins very justly remarks, is dependent on the dip of the limestone rock, which varies in the hall from 60° to 63°. Speaking generally of this cavern and its branches, Jenkins remarks, "The west side inclines generally at an angle of about 60°, so that the opposite side rises to a great height, whenever the passage is not very narrow. The right side (by the right I mean the right-hand side on entering) is nearly vertical throughout, more or less covered with stalactite incrustations, and where the passages widen out, the right halves of the chambers are filled with beautifully formed white, or variously tinted, and sometimes massive, stalactites and stalagmites. The left side exhibiting throughout little more than the dark grey limestone rock of the cliff, is relieved by bold massive fractures, and occasionally by small stalactites and stalactite stains." The size of this fine hall is adequately expressed by Dr. Bennett, who says, "a slight ascent brought us to the spacious and lofty entrance into which the horses were easily led and conveniently stabled."

The general form of this chamber is that of an irregular square, with a sloping roof. On entering, the visitor is confronted with the remains of fallen stalactites, broken and stained, but on the right are two very large columnar masses of united stalactite and stalagmite. Behind them the whole of the right-hand side is occupied by a massive deposit fantastically arranged in tiers and pillars. Up and over this is the path leading to the right-hand and main passage of this cavern, and the masses of deposited matter in this part of the hall are the result of water issuing from this passage as well as percolating through the roof above. In some of these festoon-like masses, where broken, the laminated and mammilated structure of the lime deposit is well exhibited. The roof of the hall is mottled with blunt and obtuse parti-coloured stalactites. At its further end, about the centre, is a short upcast passage of 20 feet, containing red earth.

Two main passages proceed from the hall—that already mentioned on the right, and one from the immediate far left-hand or north-west corner of the chamber. The course of the former will be first followed. Proceeding upwards over the worn surfaces of stalagmitic masses, the hall gradually narrows at 64 feet, along its eastern or vertical wall, from the entrance, from the successive accumulations of calcareous matter, to a narrow triangular passage. The entrance is almost blocked by a stalactitic doorway, through the pillars of which the dim chamber at the end of this passage can be seen. A gutter-like passage leads round this, and then passes in a direct line for 110 feet.

PLATEAU CHAMBER.

At about the middle of its course the above passage widens to the extent of 20 feet into a small and low chamber of the usual triangular form. This we have named from its position the Plateau Chamber (No. 2 on plan). On the left-hand side a blind branch is given off, now completely filled up, but it is just possible that it may communicate in a downwards direction with the short upcast from the end of the hall. A few stalactites are visible on both sides of this chamber, but they are not important, and have ceased forming. The floor is composed of the dull-red earth, partly bone earth, and partly bat guano, so prevalent in these caves. It imperceptibly lowers as progress is made forwards until a brow is reached, and an abrupt descent of 66 feet, at an angle of 32°, takes place into the Altar Chamber.

Along the passage to and from the Plateau Chamber are a few excellent examples of the method in which the stalagmites first commence to form. A constant drip takes place from the roof, resulting in the scattering of the soft earth on which it falls into a small basin-shaped outline. The dripping continuing into this, the water gradually evaporates, leaving a small pinnacle of stalagmite in the centre.

The descent to the Altar Chamber appears to be wholly stalagmitic, and whether following on a bed of limestone rock or is composed of successive beds of stalagmite and bone earth it is difficult to say, but from the resonance which takes place on percussion it is probably the latter. The present slope is covered with 1 ft. 6 in. of bone earth, in places hardened into a breccia filled with bone fragments.

ALTAR CHAMBER.

As the previously mentioned descent takes place, a large and high chamber is entered, 41 feet wide and including the gentle ascent at its further end, about 140 feet long (No. 3 on plan.) The general triangular form is again noticeable here, but it is somewhat more rounded than in other instances, the ultimate roof attaining a very considerable height. The left-hand, or western side, runs generally in a direction varying from N. 20° W. to N. 35° W., and immediately at the foot of the descent from the plateau chamber, the hanging wall has fallen, revealing a declivity below this chamber (No. 4 on plan) for 32 feet, and following the dip of the rock, and is more or less filled with general *débris* and bone earth. In consequence of this fall, a magnificent face of limestone is here exposed.

The mass of stalactitic and stalagmitic matter from which this chamber takes its name stands in about the centre of the cavern, just as the floor commences to rise again in a corresponding manner to the descent into it. It occupies more or less the whole of the floor, and consists of two portions, a right and left. The former is a number of thin pendant stalactites like a chandelier or candelabra, joined below to four chief masses of stalagmite. The left-hand portion is formed of two large pillars, fluted by the formation of smaller stalactites around them. These unite with a heavy base of stalagmitic matter, arranged in festoon-like groups. The height cannot be less than 20 feet, and probably more. It is possible to go behind and around these pillars, and if, when in such a position, the chamber is illuminated by means of magnesian wire a very fine effect is produced.

Behind the altar the chamber throws off a subsidiary branch (No. 5 on plan), which it was not possible to follow up without much labour and excavation. Immediately past this point the chamber narrows to 19 feet, and the floor continues to rise, but with traces of an old stalagmitic stratum, perhaps corresponding with one of those on the opposite and downward slope. It is at present 2 feet above the existing roadway. On this ascent, a little distance further on, is the finest single stalagmite in these caves, about 10 feet high, with a stalactite above, to which it is barely joined. The surface is fluted and concentrically wrinkled, the whole attaining a basal girth of 4 feet 6 inches, and at the top 6 feet. Adjoining this individual is an immense mass of stalactitic and stalagmitic matter combined, forming a huge pedestal,

pedestal, with a girth of 58 feet. At one time a small recess existed in this mass, with a continuous drip from its roof, representing a small fountain; but now, as a result of the vulgar vandalism of the day, this natural feature has been destroyed, and the whole face is simply an inscription-post for the vain and ignorant. This deposit of calcareous matter seems to have acted as the starting point of at least one, if not more, of the floors with which this part of the cave is covered. The longest stalactites may be seen just at the point where the fall of the hanging wall had taken place; they extend from the roof to the floor.

Returning to the altar once more, we found, by a little diligent examination, two openings immediately below it. The right-hand aperture led into a narrow downward passage, in a direction N. 1° W., at an angle of 32°, and extending for 40 feet. At the bottom the sides and roof are covered with a stalactitic incrustation, which has evidently proceeded from a crack in the limestone above. The bottom or lowest level of this passage is completely blocked up with stalagmitic layers and ossiferous earth and breccia, which seems to have entered through the before-mentioned crack, and more or less filled the whole passage, as it is still adhering to the roof in places. The present face cannot be less than 5 feet thick. This is the lowest point to which this cave was explored by us, and appears to be the lowest level to which any of the passages have yet been traced. The left-hand opening simply consists of the hollowed-out base of the altar, but is, however, of interest, as it is filled with ossiferous red earth.

Beyond the large pedestal, like mass of stalagmitic deposit, the main passage extends but about 40 feet further, the rising floor still showing alternations of stalagmite and bone-earth.

BAT CHAMBER.

On the left-hand side of the Altar Chamber, and opposite the large pedestal stalagmite, is a very low and irregular opening in the limestone wall, partially blocked by red earth and bat guano. By crawling through a fourth chamber is gained (No. 7 on plan), long and narrow, but with a high roof, lost in the depths of, upward blackness. It is 52 feet in length, with a long terminal fissure-like passage, which it is impossible to traverse. Like that of the other chambers the floor is composed of deposited matter, red earth, and an immense quantity of recent bat guano, and is resonant on percussion. The floor rises at a considerable angle. About half-way in its course, on the left-hand side, is an old branch passage, now partially closed by fallen *débris*; and, as a fresh current of air issues hence, this cannot be far from the surface of the hill. Just at the entrance, and immediately on the right-hand side, is a narrow upcast passage, where red earth is again visible; and a third similar fissure occurs at the lowest point of this cave, to the left of the entrance aperture. The cave is inhabited by a large number of bats (*Scotophilus morio*), and must have been so for ages, from the immense quantity of droppings accumulated not only in this cave, but throughout the chambers generally. In fact, I believe that the red earth, which so freely enters into the composition of the present flooring of the chambers, is to a large extent composed of bat guano. The walls of the bat chamber are coated with a peculiar semi-greasy black carbonaceous-looking film, which I apprehend is the result of some form of chemical change brought about by the decay of the guano at a somewhat high temperature. The temperature of all the chambers and passages is much above the external atmosphere. The total length of this eastern branch of the cave, according to Mr. Jenkins, is 420 feet, and our measurements made it but a few feet more, too trivial to comment on in such a difficult and ever-varying matter as cave measurement.

The lower or eastern passage leads off from the north-east corner of the hall (No. 8 on plan) in a direction of S. 2° E., and in round numbers extends for a distance of 140 feet, terminating at its distal end in a mere fissure. This portion of the cave calls for but brief notice, being low and narrow, but retaining in a marked form the triangular outline, so frequently referred to before. The passage is nowhere more than 13 feet wide, and perhaps as much as 15 feet high, narrowing and widening imperceptibly. The floor appears to be composed of general fine alluvial matter, mixed with a proportion of red earth and calcareous *débris*, and I think little doubt can exist that it has been filled to a considerable depth, like the hall, of which it is practically a continuation, by an in-wash in times of flood from the river, and matter brought down from the higher parts of the cave. By excavation no doubt this passage could be cleared out to some depth, and rendered a worthy continuation of The Hall.

Some differences in the length of the passage now under description, as given by Mr. Jenkins, and the measurement as taken by Mr. Mitchell and myself, exist. The former, speaking of the branches from the hall, or entrance chamber, as he terms it, says:—"That from the right is 200 feet; that from the left a length of 420 feet." Now by the explanation of his own terms—"by the right I mean the right-hand side on entering,"—he has clearly changed the places of his figures, and the numbers should be reversed; then the reading would be,—“That from the right is a length of 420 feet; that from the left a length of 200 feet.” The length of 200 feet, however, is clearly too much for this passage, unless it has greatly altered its character since Mr. Jenkins' visit; we made it only 140 feet. If the 200 feet he calculated from the absolute plumb-line entrance of the hall, along its actual western or lower wall, it is quite correct; but Mr. Jenkins distinctly speaks of his measurement as a passage, and here there clearly exists a discrepancy.

Touching the question of ossiferous deposits in these caves, the excavations for determining this point were made by Mr. Jenkins in the floor of The Hall only, in the deposit which I believe to be the least likely to contain fossil bones. So far as can be gathered from his not too clear statement, his section of the excavations made by him would be as follows:—

1. "Dark earth," with lime, recent bones of small marsupial, 1 foot 6 inches.
2. "Yellowish earth," with lime, insect remains, fur, similar bones, and towards the bottom bones of large marsupials, reaching to a depth of 5 feet.
3. Broken stalactites and lumps of rock, followed by a stalagmite floor, at 6 feet.
4. Solid limestone floor, at 9 feet.

Mr. Jenkins distinctly speaks of fossil bones coming in at a depth of 5 feet, but I am assured by yourself that most of the specimens sent from the cave were recent and unfossilised. Mr. Jenkins says, "as to how the bones came into the cave, I remark that they were never brought there by water, no drift was found in sinking." The presence of drift is not required to account for their transport by water. Little doubt exists in the minds of Mr. Mitchell and myself that these bones have acquired their present position through flood-waters, to which The Cave or at any rate The Hall has been subjected at a remote period.

True ossiferous deposits exist in these chambers although they certainly were found by Mr. Jenkins, only to a limited extent, and I am of opinion that they are well worthy of investigation on an extended

extended scale. We have undoubtedly proved the presence of bone earth, passing into ossiferous breccia, at certainly three spots, viz. :—The descent into the Altar Chamber, in the long passage below the altar, and on the ascent from the Altar Chamber, at its further extremity.

The evidence seems to point to a filling of these inner chambers with bone earth from above, through cracks and fissures, and if such is the case the best possible results may be anticipated. Judicious excavation will probably result in the extension of the branches of "The Cave" to a considerable extent, and I believe they are capable of being rendered worthy objects for the attention of the enquiring.

THE BONE CAVE.

The Bone Cave so named by Mr. Mitchell, from the fact that this was the first in which his attention was attracted to fossil bones, is the smallest cavern examined by us. It is situated on the 200-acre conditional purchase, No. 13 (H. 3928), of Mr. John Hannam, Parish of Childowla, and lies barely a chain inside the fence separating the lot on which it stands from that containing "The Cave."

The entrance is small, just sufficiently large to admit the body of an ordinary sized man, and is situated on the rocky ridge traversing the above lot. The descent from the entrance is vertical for a distance of 40 feet, in two flights of 20 feet each, with a small platform half way. The cave at the bottom of this pipe-like fissure is a low excavation of three irregular prolongations—one having an upward direction towards the surface, another a rather downward inclination, and the most important portion horizontal. The first has a direction N. 45° W., and extends upwards for 58 feet, at an inclination of 40°, tailing off into a very narrow long fissure-like passage, filled with small stalactites and red earth, but much fallen about. The width varies from 5 to 20 feet. The second branch proceeds in an E. 5° S. direction for 16 feet, and is hardly more than an expansion of the main hollow at the foot of the descent, it is about 13 feet wide. The third and most important branch has a bearing of S. 15° W., and terminates in a right and left prolongation. The former is a long, low, and narrow entry, leading some 30 feet to a small chamber, which is now blocked up, but Mr. Mitchell penetrated into this on a former visit. The left-hand split extends but 12 feet, and is a rounded prolongation of the main passage, it is however of the greatest importance, as it was here the most important bones were found. The walls of all these passages bear stalactites, but they are poor and small.

The whole of this cave must at one time have been filled with alternations of bone earth and stalagmite. Immediately at the bottom of the fissure are evidences of two breccia deposits, the higher 5 feet 6 inches above the present floor, and just under the roof, and 3 feet 5 inches below this is the second. The latter stalagmitic and bone floor although broken away and destroyed generally shows its lateral portions adhering to the sides of the cave, like portions of a shelf. Below it the bone earth has been removed for a depth of 1 foot 6 inches, representing the space now existing between the shelves and the present bottom, which is composed of black alluvium brought from the above, through the entrance fissure. In the E. 5° S. passage the ossiferous deposit has been as much as 3 feet 4 inches thick, resting on a stalagmite floor 1 foot 6 inches.

The whole of the infilling of this cave is of a brick red colour, in some places soft, in others quite hard, and resembles the Wellington bone-breccia very much in appearance, the red stains even hiding up the surface of the limestone walls.

The bones in the best state of preservation occur at the further end of the *cul-de-sac*, terminating the S. 15° W. passage, where the Thyiacine skull was found by Messrs. Weston and Mitchell. There are here several small layers of stalagmitic matter associated with strata of hair bone breccia.

The Bone Cave would, without doubt, yield by far the best immediate results by detailed examination.

CATHEDRAL CAVE.

The Cathedral Cave, so called by the residents on the flat, from the large number of pillar stalactites it contains, is excavated in the same hilly mass of limestone as The Cave, but removed some little distance from it. It is situated on the same block as the Bone Cave, but some way further south, and is quite contiguous to the fence.

Like the Bone Cave, the entrance is very small, and would be readily passed unnoticed, but the descent although steep is gradual, 50 feet in length, and is in fact a talus formed by inwashed detritus. The cave consists of one large chamber, more or less oval in form, and dome-shaped above. It is 80 feet long, by 54 feet broad, and on the left-hand or west side there is a further prolongation or recess of 30 feet, making a total width of 84 feet. The roof is covered with fine drooping stalactites, and the entire walls are a similar mass. Simply from the point of view of effect this is the finest cave visited, and is a really wonderful example of stalactitic and stalagmitic structure. The centre of the chamber is occupied by a large pedestal of stalagmite, and on the east and south are some grand masses. The recess on the right above referred to, cannot be better compared, than to an ice-floe, from the huge blocks scattered about, and on one another, completely filling up the lower portions; several of these blocks of calcareous matter must be several tons in weight. The further wall of this recess is covered with stalactites resembling a series of cascades, mounting one above the other. There are also traces of red earth in some of the cracks and crevices of the walls. The extreme southern end of the oval chamber rises like so many of the terminations of these caves.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The Murrumbidgee limestone is a dense blue-black in colour, much jointed and fissured, highly brittle in places, with a hackly conchoidal fracture, and crammed with fossils, especially corals. As a display of these beautiful organisms in natural section I have never seen its equal. Large faces of limestone—none are better than one at the entrance to the lower passage from The Hall in The Cave, and another in the Altar Chamber—may be seen, with the weathered corals, and particularly *Stromatopora*, standing out in relief and in section also. Many of these masses of coral, particularly those of *Stromatopora* and *Favosites*, are as much as 4 feet in diameter.

The Murrumbidgee limestone has been classed as Devonian by the late Prof. de Koninck; but I have not yet sufficiently examined the fossils of this deposit either to gainsay or confirm this view; but it is not improbable that his view may be correct.

The bones collected comprised portions of those of kangaroo—femora, humerus, radius, tibia, pelvic,

pelvic, and toe bones; portion of the lower jaw of a bear (*Phascolarctos*) or wombat (*Phascolomys*), and a tibia of a bear. The chief specimen, however, is a very large skull of a Thylacine, 10½ inches in length 7 inches in breadth. These are all from the Bone Cave.

From The Cave the specimens are more fragmentary and commingled together.

I have, &c.,

R. ETHERIDGE, JUNR.,
Palæontologist.

The Curator, Australian Museum.

P.S.—Appendices herewith—

1. Plan of The Cave.
2. Plan of the Bone Cave.
3. Plan of the Cathedral Cave.
4. Plan showing position of caves.

APPENDIX X.

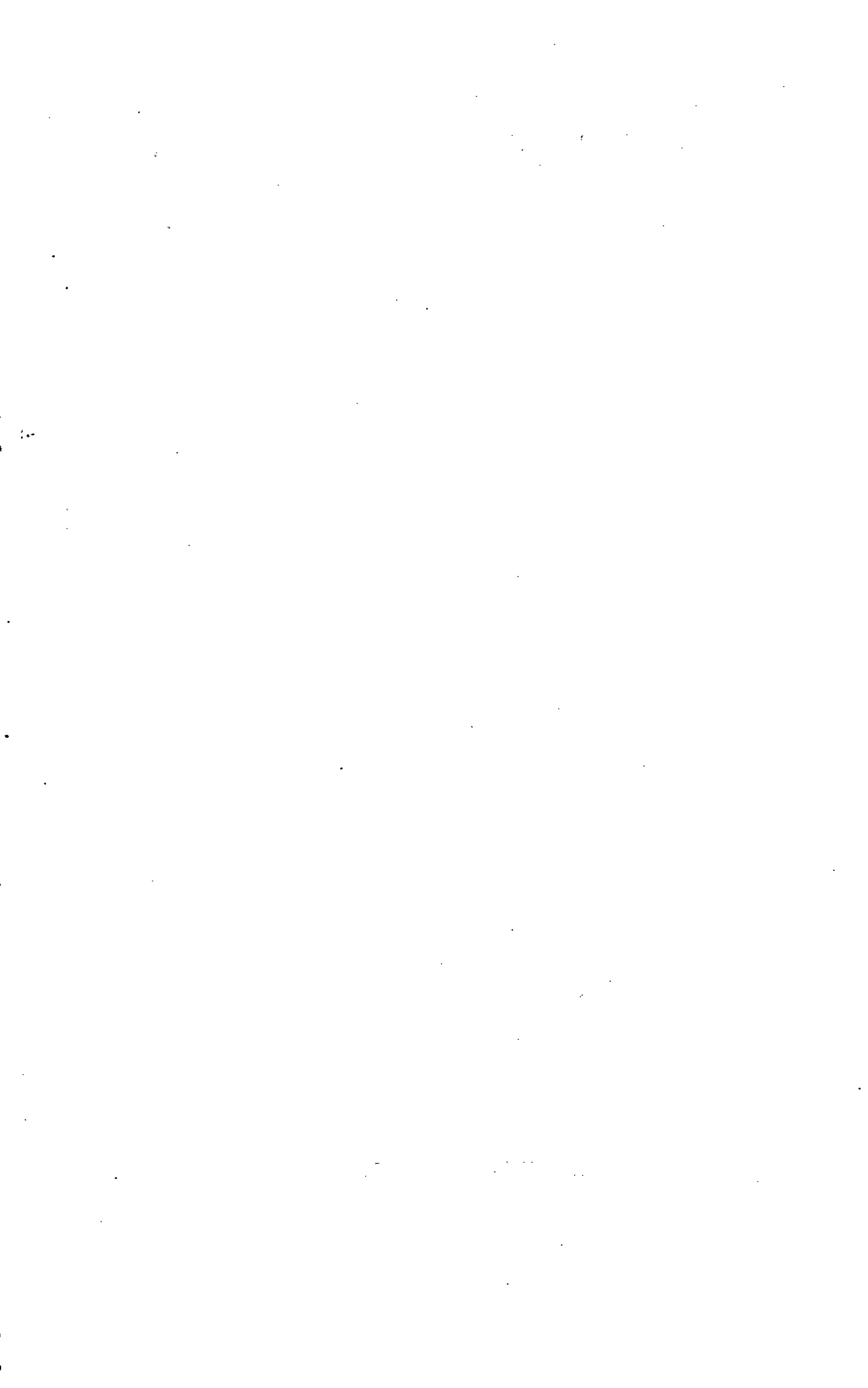
Publications of the Australian Museum.

- Catalogue of the Specimens of Natural History and Miscellaneous Curiosities in the Australian Museum, by Dr. George Bennett. 1837. [Out of print.]
- History and Description of the Skeleton of a new Sperm Whale in the Australian Museum, by W. S. Wall. 1851. With two plates. Reprint, with photographs, &c., 1887.
- Catalogue of Mammalia in the Collection of the Australian Museum, by G. Krefft. 1864. [Out of print.]
- Guide to the Australian Fossil Remains in the Australian Museum. 1870. [Out of print.]
- Catalogue of the Minerals and Rocks in the Collection of the Australian Museum, by G. Krefft. 1873. [Out of print.]
- Catalogue of the Australian Birds in the Australian Museum, by E. P. Ramsay. Part I, Accipitres. 1876.
- Catalogue of the Australian Stalk and Sessile-eyed Crustacea, by W. A. Haswell. 1882. With four plates.
- Guide to the Contents of the Australian Museum. W. A. Haswell. 1883.
- Catalogue of the Library of the Australian Museum. 1883. With two supplements.
- Catalogue of a Collection of Fossils in the Australian Museum, with Introductory Notes, by F. Ratte. 1883.
- Catalogue of the Australian Hydroid Zoophytes, by W. M. Bale. 1884. With nineteen plates.
- List of old Documents and Relics in the Australian Museum. 1884.
- Descriptive Catalogue of the General Collection of Minerals in the Australian Museum, by F. Ratte. 1885. With a plate.
- Catalogue of Echinodermata in the Australian Museum, by E. P. Ramsay. Part I. Echini. 1885. With five plates.
- Descriptive List of Aboriginal Weapons, Implements, &c., from the Darling and Lachlan Rivers. K. H. Bennett. 1887.
- Notes for Collectors. 1887. Containing—
- Hints for the preservation of Specimens of Natural History, by E. P. Ramsay.
- Hints for Collectors of Geological and Mineralogical Specimens, by F. Ratte. With a plate.
- Descriptive Catalogue of the Medusae of the Australian Seas. Part I, Scephomedusae. Part II. Hydromedusae, by R. von Lendenfeld. 1887.
- Descriptive Catalogue of the Nests and Eggs of Australian Birds, by A. J. North. With twenty plates.
- Descriptive Catalogue of the Sponges in the Australian Museum, by R. von Lendenfeld. With twelve plates.
- Catalogue of the Fishes in the Australian Museum. Part I. Palaeichthyan Fishes, by J. Douglas Ogilby. 1888.
- Lord Howe Island: its Zoology, Geology, and Physical Characters. 1889. With eleven plates.

In Preparation:—

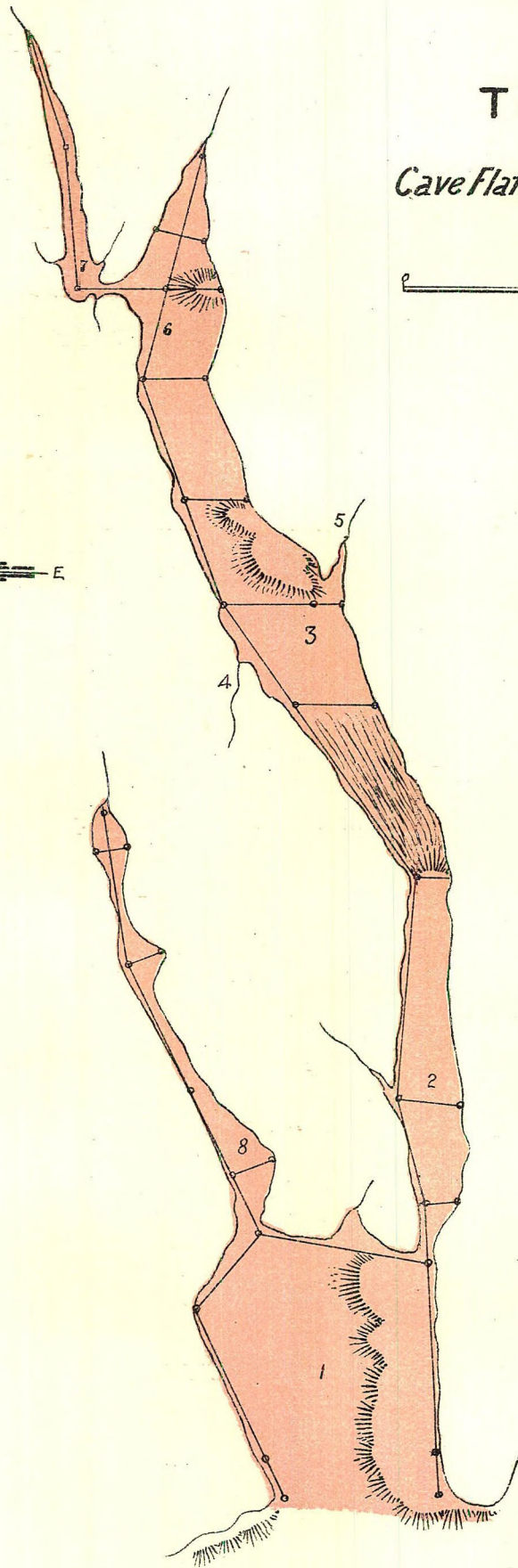
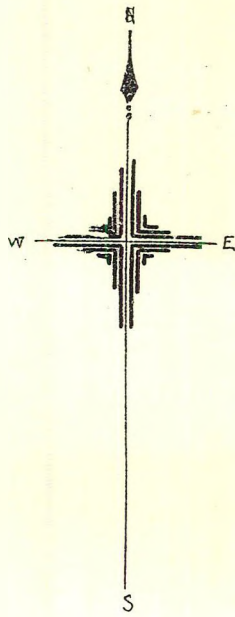
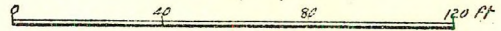
- Catalogue of the Library. Revised and corrected.
- Guide to the Museum. New Edition.
- Catalogue of Shells. Hargraves and General Collections, by J. Brazier.
- Catalogue of Lizards, Batrachia, Fishes, &c., by J. D. Ogilby.
- Catalogue of Butterflies, by A. S. Olliff.

[Four Plans.]



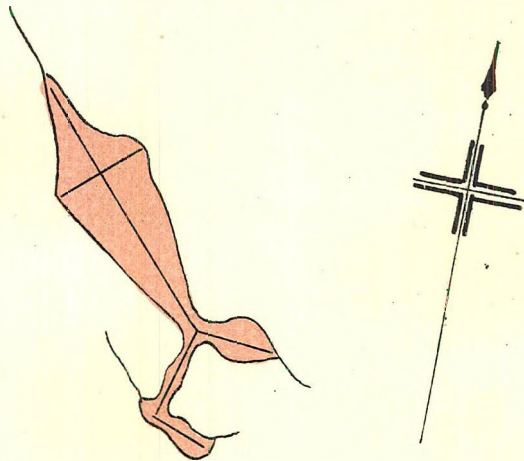
Plan 1
THE CAVE
LOT 14
Cave Flat, Murrumbidgee River.

Scale.

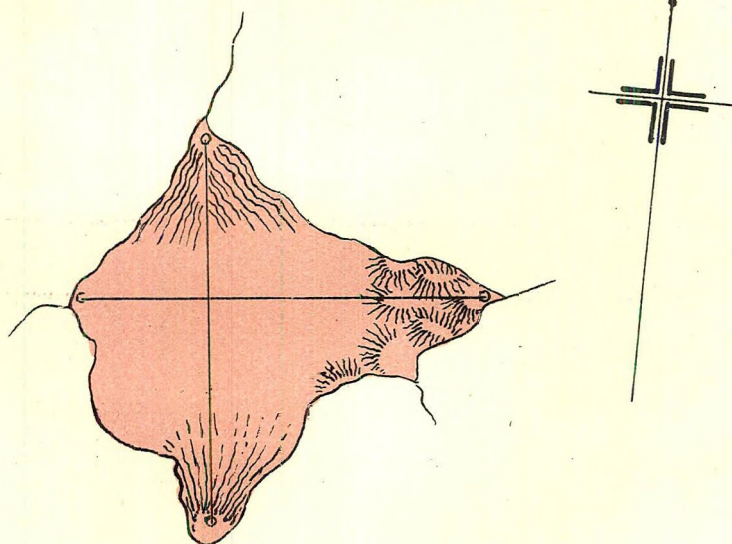


(Sij 46-)

Plan 2.
BONE CAVE
LOT 13
Cave Flat, Murrumbidgee River.



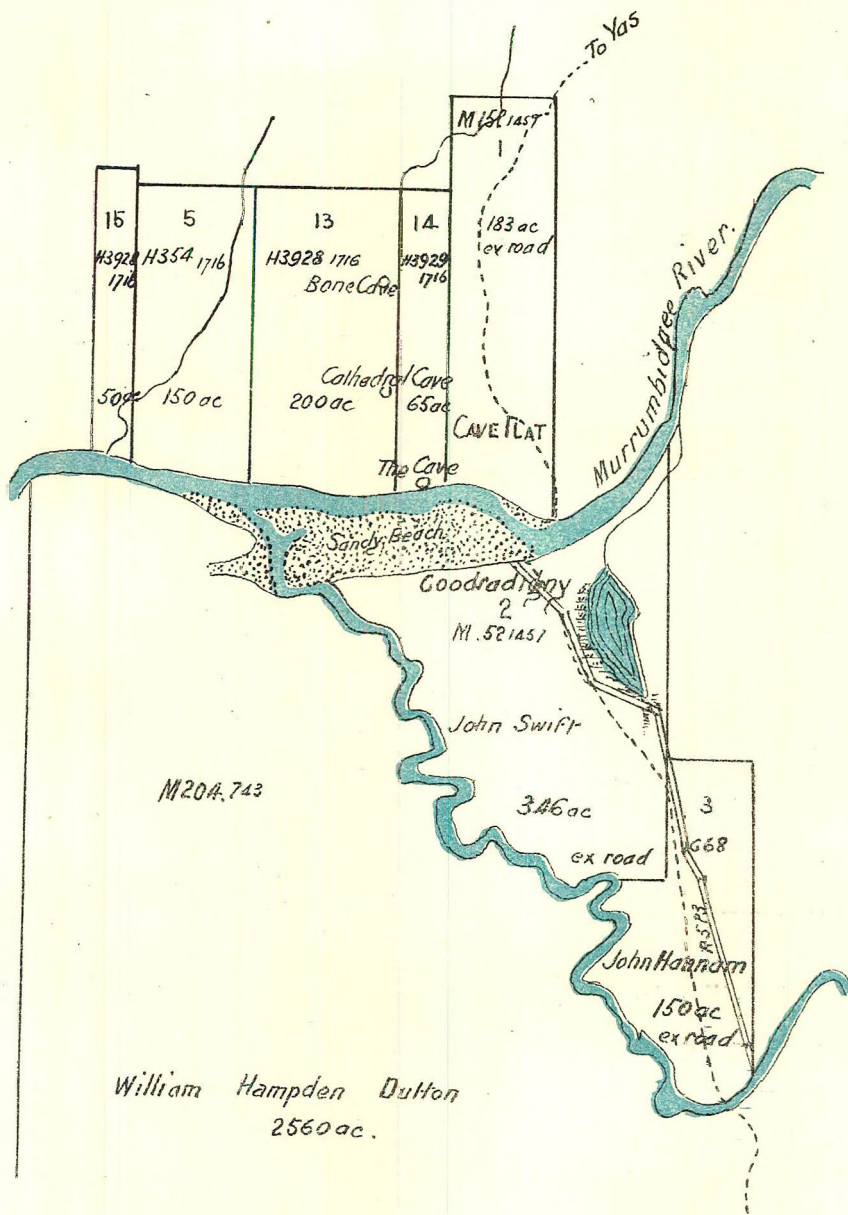
Plan 3.
CATHEDRAL CAVE
LOT 13
Cave Flat, Murrumbidgee River



(Sig. 46.)

PLAN

*Shewing Position of Caves
at
Cave Flat, Murrumbidgee R.*



(Sig. 46.)

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

NATIONAL ART GALLERY.

(REPORT OF TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR 1888.)

Presented to Parliament by Command.

ANNUAL REPORT of the National Art Gallery of New South Wales, for the year 1888.

Trustees of the National Art Gallery of New South Wales :

E. L. MONTEFIORE, Esq., J.P., President.	JOSIAH MULLENS, Esq.
E. DU FAUR, Esq., F.R.G.S.	The Hon. W. J. TRICKETT, M.L.C.
J. R. FAIRFAX, Esq.	J. R. ASHTON, Esq.
E. COOMBES, Esq., C.M.G.	B. R. WISE, Esq.
SIR PATRICK JENNINGS, K.C.M.G.	

Secretary and Treasurer :

W. P. WARTON.

Report to The Minister for Public Instruction.

A NUMBER of very important additions have been made to the national collection during the year by purchase ; the Colony is also indebted to the donors for several valuable presentations.

The Trustees have purchased ten oil paintings, at a cost of £2,322 5s.; seventeen water-colours, at a cost of £1,222 10s.; and eleven pictures, in black and white, costing £100, of which the following is a detailed list :—

Oil Paintings.

Portrait (Mrs. N. W. Pickersgill) : By H. W. Pickersgill, R.A.
 Departure of the "Orient" : By C. Conder.
 Meadow Walk, Christchurch, Oxford : By Keeley Halswelle, A.R.S.A., R.I., and H. S. Marks, R.A., R.W.S.
 The Cowlow Rocks : By John Brett, A.R.A.
 Rising Mists : By Peter Graham, R.A.
 The Shrimpers : By E. W. Cooke, R.A.
 On the Jetty : By G. Haquette.
 A Lecture on Anatomy : By F. Sallé.
 The First Born : By Gaston La Touche.
 Sydney, from North Shore : By C. H. Hunt.

Water-colours.

Off the Eddystone : By Copley Fielding.
 Gib it Bacca, Boss : By J. R. Ashton.
 High Tide, Bondi : By F. B. Schell.
 A Solitary Ramble : By J. R. Ashton.
 Near Fulham Dock : By C. E. Hern.
 View of the Alhambra : By N. C. Stanier.
 Gateway, Granada : By N. C. Stanier.
 Interior, Granada : By N. C. Stanier.
 A Sketch : By J. Mather.
 A Seat in St. James' Park : By G. F. Pinwell, R.W.S.
 Bazaar Gossip : By Chas. Robertson, R.W.S.
 Llyn Elsi, North Wales : By W. H. Raworth.
 Arts Applied to War (copy) : By C. Morton, after Sir Frederick Leighton's Cartoon.
 Cathedral of Saintes : By Lennard Lewis.
 St. Alban's Cathedral : By H. Hine, R.I.

Black and White.

7 Autotypes of New Guinea : By Lindt.
 Andromeda (Mezzotint engraving) : After F. Goodall, R.A.
 Christ on Calvary : Etched by C. Koepping, after Munkaczy.
 Little Redcap (Pastel Head) : By Madame Schwartz.

The

The total number of visitors during the year was 195,050, being an increase of 17,708 on that of the previous year.

The average on Sundays was 1,565, and on week-days 360.

The following works of art were presented to the Gallery during the year :—

An oil painting, "Oxen Ploughing": By Thos. L. Devitt, Esq.

An oil painting, Portrait of H. W. Pickersgill, R.A., painted by himself: By C. Newton, Esq.

A marble group, "Romeo and Juliet": By G. F. Todman, Esq.

A plaster bust, "Leichhardt": By John Rae, Esq.

A Jubilee Medal: By the Master of the Mint.

A Centennial Medal: By the Master of the Mint.

An application made to the Government, through the Agent-General, by the Anglo-Australian Society of Artists, for the use of a room in the Gallery for the purpose of holding an exhibition of pictures which they proposed sending to Sydney, having been submitted to the Trustees, it was agreed, subject to the sanction and approval of the Government, to allow the Society the use of the black and white Gallery, in accordance with which a message was cabled to the Society by the Government through the Agent-General, who spoke very highly of the objects of the Society—the aims and purpose of which are stated to be as follows :—

"The Society is formed for the purpose of affording the Australian public the opportunity of becoming acquainted with contemporary English Art, and for the furtherance, culture, and promotion of the Fine Arts in the Australian Colonies."

"The Widower," by Luke Fildes, A.R.A., having become seriously cracked, was sent to England to the artist to be renovated, that gentleman having kindly undertaken to restore it.

The number of students permitted to copy in the Gallery was increased by twenty, the total number now being sixty-eight, and there was a fair average attendance throughout the year. A platform has been provided at the request of the students to enable studies to be made from pictures highly hung.

It was arranged, by permission of the Minister, that Mr. Sydney Dickinson should be engaged to give four lectures on art in the Gallery; these were delivered to large and appreciative audiences, and afterwards published—copies being obtainable at the Gallery.

A sum of £300 having been placed on the Estimates for the purpose of calling for competitive designs for the completion of the building, the matter is now under consideration.

The Trustees desire to express great regret at the resignation of the Hon. Sir Alfred Stephen, C.B., G.C.M.G., the President of the Board, and consider the thanks of the public are due to that gentleman for the interest taken by him in the promotion of art in the Colony.

The Trustees also desire to express their regret at the resignation of the Hon. H. C. Dangar, who for so many years assisted them by his counsel.

Messrs. J. R. Ashton and B. R. Wise, having been appointed as Trustees by the Government, have taken their seats at the Board.

The Trustees desire to especially direct the attention of the Government to the present unsightly appearance of the exterior of the Gallery, and to the necessity for additional space, and to urge the advisability of proceeding as soon as possible with the completion of the building.

On the completion of the Gallery the Trustees hope to have accommodation for art classes, for loan collections, and for the proper exhibition of works by Colonial artists.

E. L. MONTEFIORE,
President.

1888-9.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

SYDNEY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

(REPORT FROM TRUSTEES FOR 1888-9.)

Presented to Parliament by Command.

The Trustees of The Free Public Library to The Minister of Public Instruction.

Sir,

Sydney, 13 March, 1889.

I have the honor to transmit to you the Eighteenth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Free Public Library, for the year 1888-89.

2. It is with regret that the Trustees have, since the date of their last Report, had to place on record the decease of one of the late members of the Board, the Right Hon. William Bede Dalley, P.C., Q.C., M.L.C., whose death took place on the 28th of October last.

3. At a meeting of the Trustees held on the 14th November, the following resolution was passed, viz. :—"That this Board desires to record its sense of the great loss which has been sustained by the Free Public Library, and the Colony at large, in the decease of the Right Hon. William Bede Dalley, P.C., Q.C., M.L.C. (one of the first appointed Trustees of the Library), and to express the same to the surviving members of his family." A copy of this minute was transmitted to his eldest son.

4. The vacancy in the Board, occasioned by the death of the Right Hon. William Bede Dalley, P.C., Q.C., M.L.C., has been filled by the appointment of the Hon. John Fitzgerald Burns, Esq., M.P. (late Colonial Treasurer), and is notified in the *Government Gazette* of 11th December, 1888.

5. During the past year 6,381 volumes have been added to the Library, increasing the total number on the 31st December to 82,343 volumes. The classes under which these additions have been made are given in A of the Appendix.

6. The number of visits to the Reference Library during the year is 84,922, and to the Lending Branch 64,503, making a total of 149,425, being an increase upon last year of 10,222, but it is to be observed that the Library was closed for three months during 1887 for the purpose of removing the collection of books from the old building, now demolished, into the new wing in Bent-street. A still greater increase in the number of visits would in all probability have been shown had the Trustees been able to provide more sitting accommodation for readers, pending the building of the new Library in Macquarie-street.

7. The Reference Library was kept open to the public for 357 days, and the Lending Branch 343 days. In the number of volumes borrowed from the latter there is a decrease, as shown in the return for 1887-88, of twenty-three in the daily average, which is no doubt owing to the closing of the Reference Library, as stated above, having caused a greater number to go to the borrowing department in 1887.

8. Country Libraries have taken advantage of the privilege for borrowing boxes of books to the full extent to which the trustees could, with only thirty-eight boxes to lend, meet the demands made upon them, while there have been an average of fifteen applications each month in excess of the boxes available for loan. These boxes, which contain 2,918 volumes, have been issued eighty-four times, making a circulation of 6,283 volumes during the past year, and they have travelled 34,868

83—A

miles

miles to reach the various borrowing institutions, a list which will be found under Appendix E. One of the boxes which was lost by the Brewarrina School of Arts last year has now been paid for by the Committee of that Institution, and the books replaced, but the absence of this box has made the number of issues two less than last year

9. A list of the various donations, for which the Trustees have sent their acknowledgments, are given in Appendix H, and in addition to these they have received from the Corporation of the City of London a copper medal in commemoration of the visit of the Colonial and Indian representatives to London on the 25th June, 1886. They have also to report that the late Richard Sadlier, Esq., R.N., at the advanced age of ninety-five, presented to the Library, in view of its future publication at any time the Trustees may have funds at their disposal for such a purpose, his manuscript of "Christianity in the Southern Hemisphere," being an account of its rise and progress in the Colonies of New South Wales, and Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, and missions in the Pacific, which the Trustees have accepted on the conditions above named.

10. In their last report the Trustees referred to the contract taken for the masonry of the new Library in Macquarie-street, which will probably be completed by the end of June next, and they have received a notification that the Colonial Architect has been instructed to prepare the necessary plans, &c., for the internal fittings. They desire to point out that, with the view of relieving readers from the overcrowding which is unavoidable in the present reading-room, it is desirable that a contract should be taken at the earliest date possible, as such a work can scarcely be completed in less time than eighteen months from the day of starting.

11. Owing to serious illness in the family of Mr. Orlando Stevens, Cataloguing Clerk in the Library, who has been twelve years in the Government service, the Board recommended that he be granted an extended leave of absence to enable him to proceed to Italy, and His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to grant him six months leave on half-pay, from the 1st December last

12. The Trustees regret to report that on the 1st of February last a young man of education, about twenty-two years of age, and a new arrival in the Colony, stole from the reading-room Mrs. Ida Pfeiffer's "Lady's Second Voyage Round the World," two volumes cr. 8vo., and offered them for sale to Messrs. Angus and Robertson, booksellers, in Market-street, who seeing that the volumes had been mutilated suspected them to be stolen, and called in a constable, who brought the thief with the volumes to the Library. Here the Principal Librarian identified them as Government property, although the stamps had been obliterated, and several pages bearing the Library marks taken out. The man was charged with stealing the property, and on being searched nine of the missing pages were found in his pockets. He was taken before the Water Police Magistrate, when he pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to one month in gaol, also to pay four times the value of the book (£3) or a further three months imprisonment.

13. The use which has been made of the Library during the past year, as shown by the statistics given in the appendices, justifies the Trustees in stating that the Institution continues to render great assistance in the cause of public education.

I have, &c.,

W. J. STEPHENS,
Chairman of the Board.

3

APPENDIX A.

NUMBER of VOLUMES in the FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY on the 31st December, 1888.

Synopsis of Classification.	Reference Department	Lending Branch.	For Country Libraries.	Total.
Natural Philosophy, Science, and the Arts ...	6,236	3,073	517	9,826
History, Chronology, Antiquities, and Mythology	5,322	2,629	751	8,702
Biography and Correspondence	3,729	3,155	753	7,637
Geography, Topography, Voyages and Travels, &c.	5,374	2,979	470	8,823
Periodical and Serial Literature	14,633	.....	.....	14,633
Jurisprudence	2,564	705	49	3,318
Theology, Moral and Mental Philosophy, and Education ...	3,284	1,159	68	4,511
Poetry and Drama	1,848	656	72	2,576
Miscellaneous Literature and Collected Works	4,426	4,612*	238	9,276
Works of Reference and Philology	3,957	.....	.....	3,957
Patents .....	.....	4,355	.....	4,355
Duplicates and unbound Volumes	1,319	.....	.....	1,319
Pamphlets	2,812	.....	.....	2,812
Books for the Blind.....	.....	598	.....	598
Total Number of Volumes	55,504	23,921	2,918	82,343

* Including 2,136 vols. of Prose Fiction.

APPENDIX B.

NUMBER and average of visits of Readers to the Library, the number of days the Library was open to the Public, and the average number of Volumes used on Sundays and on week-days, from 1st January to 31st December, 1888:—

Number of VISITS for the year—

To the Reference Library	84,922
To the Lending Branch	64,503
Total... ..	149,425

Total visits to the Reference Library on week days	80,165	On Sundays ...	4,757
Total visits to the Lending Branch on week days... ..	61,859	On Sundays ...	2,644
Daily average of visits to the Reference Library on week days ...	262	On Sundays ...	81
Daily average of visits to the Lending Branch on week days ...	209	On Sundays ...	55

Total number of days that the REFERENCE LIBRARY was open (including Sundays) 357

Total number of days that the LENDING BRANCH was open (including Sundays)... .. 343

Average number of VOLUMES used on SUNDAYS—

Reference Library (from 2 to 6 o'clock p.m.)	129
Lending Branch (from 2 to 6 o'clock p.m.)... ..	67
Total	196

Average number of VOLUMES used on WEEK-DAYS—

Reference Library (from 10 o'clock a.m. to 10 o'clock p.m.)	730
Lending Branch (from 10 o'clock a.m. to 9 o'clock p.m.)	264
Total... ..	994

Summary

Summary of VISITS to the Library, 1869-1888 :—

1869 (three months—1 Oct. to 31 Dec)	17,006	1879 (Exhibition open)	...	...	152,086
1870	59,786	1880	...	...	134,462
1871	60,165	1881	...	...	136,272
1872	48,817	1882 (eleven months)	...	...	133,731
1873	76,659	1883	...	...	155,431
1874 (eleven months)	57,962	1884 (eleven months)	...	...	161,877
1875	66,900	1885	...	...	165,715
1876	72,724	1886	...	...	163,685
1877 (Lending Branch first opened)	124,688	1887 (closed three months for moving)	...	...	139,203
1878	117,047	1888	...	...	149,425

APPENDIX C.

CLASS of Books borrowed from the Lending Branch of the Free Public Library, Sydney, from 1st January to 31st December, 1888.

No of days open	No of Tickets issued to Borrowers	No of Borrowers' visits	Synops of Classification of Reading.	No of Volumes used	Daily average of Vols. issued including Sun days
343	5,109	61,503	Natural Philosophy, Science, and the Arts	9,432	27 498
			History, Chronology, Antiquities, and Mythology	7,842	22 863
			Biography and Correspondence	8,671	25 283
			Geography, Topography, Voyages and Travels	11 785	34 358
			Jurisprudence	1,415	4 125
			Mental and Moral Philosophy &c	2,859	8 335
			Poetry and Drama	2,459	7 169
			Miscellaneous Literature	12,505	36 458
			Prose Works of Fiction	24,033	70 213
			Patents	64	187
Total				81,115	236 486

APPENDIX D.

CLASS of Books read, the number of Volumes used, and the number of Visits to the Libraries, on Sundays during the year 1888.

No. of Sundays open.	No of Visits.	Daily average of Visits	REFERENCE LIBRARY.	No of Volumes issued.	Daily average of Volumes issued on Sundays
52	4,757	81	Natural Philosophy, Science, and the Arts	1,313	25 250
			History, Chronology, Antiquities, and Mythology	524	10 077
			Biography and Correspondence	1,072	26 615
			Geography, Topography, Voyages and Travels, &c.	1,202	23 116
			Periodical and Serial Literature	1,587	30 519
			Jurisprudence	58	1 115
			Theology, Moral and Mental Philosophy, and Education	105	2 019
			Poetry and Drama	98	1 885
			Miscellaneous Literature and Collected Works	229	4 404
			Works of Reference and Philology	226	4 346
Total				6,414	129 346
48	2,644	55	Natural Philosophy, Science, and the Arts	460	9 583
			History, Chronology, Antiquities, and Mythology	297	6 188
			Biography and Correspondence	321	6 687
			Geography, Topography, Voyages and Travels	490	10 208
			Jurisprudence	62	1 292
			Mental and Moral Philosophy, &c	136	2 833
			Poetry and Drama	93	1 938
			Miscellaneous Literature	569	11 855
			Prose Works of Fiction	811	16 895
			Patents	1	0 021
Total				3,240	67 500

APPENDIX E.

APPENDIX E.

NUMBER of Boxes of Books borrowed from the Free Public Library, Sydney, by Country Libraries, with miles travelled, during the year, 1888.

Town.	Institution	No of Boxes borrowed	No of Vols issued	Miles travelled	Town.	Institution	No of Boxes borrowed	No of Vols issued	Miles travelled
Albury	School of Arts . . .	21	146	1,158	Milton	Free Library	1	79	310
Ballina	School of Arts ...	1	95	728	Milton	School of Arts	1	80	310
Bathurst	Teachers' Association	1	70	288	Mittagong ...	School of Arts ...	2	118	308
Berrima	School of Arts ...	1	62	166	Morpeth ...	School of Arts ..	2	122	291
Bowral	School of Arts ...	1	82	160	Mudgee	Mechanics' Institute	2	176	760
Boat Harbour...	School of Arts	2	121	1,496	Murrurundi	School of Arts ..	2	121	576
Brewarrina ...	School of Arts ...	1	60	527	Narrabri	Mechanics' Institute.	2	159	962
Bungendore ...	School of Arts	1	92	354	Nowra ..	School of Arts	2	147	351
Carcoar	School of Arts .	1	60	346	Nyngan	Mechanics' Institute .	2	157	1,181
Cobar ...	School of Arts	2	145	1,482	O'Connell .	Literary Institute	1	62	139
Condobolin	School of Arts . . .	1	68	620	Orange . .	School of Arts ..	1	97	192
Coonabarabran.	Mechanics' Institute	2	139	1,472	Pilgaa	School of Arts	1	100	384
Coraki .	School of Arts ...	2	147	1,396	Plattsburg.....	Mechanics' Institute	1	61	85
Cundletown ..	School of Arts . . .	2	136	796	Pt. Macquarie	School of Arts .	2	158	768
Eugowra ..	School of Arts	2	155	741	Randwick	School of Arts ...	2	121	12
Fairfield	Mechanics' Institute	1	70	1,014	St. Mary's ...	Mechanics' Institute..	1	62	29
Glen Innes	School of Arts	2	179	1,197	S. Woodburn .	School of Arts	1	69	672
Grafton ..	School of Arts ...	2	177	1,050	Sunny Corner..	School of Arts .	1	60	124
Granville	School of Arts	2	177	39	Tamworth	Mechanics' Institute	1	90	251
Grenfell ...	Free Library .	1	80	574	Taree	School of Arts	1	78	386
Guilgong . .	Free Public Library	2	160	621	Tenterfield	School of Arts	2	143	1,425
Gundagai ...	Literary Institute	2	129	867	Tumut ...	Mechanics' Institute	1	80	650
Hamilton ...	School of Arts . . .	1	89	156	Uralla	Literary Institute ...	1	87	640
Harden . . .	Mechanics' Institute	1	60	456	Walcha	School of Arts . . .	2	143	1,236
Inverell	School of Arts ...	1	60	244	Waterloo ...	School of Arts ...	1	79	417
Islington .. .	Mechanics' Institute	1	61	86	Wellington	Free Public Library ..	2	152	744
Kogarah .	School of Arts	1	95	14	Wickham	School of Arts	1	87	76
Lake Cudgellico	Literary Association .	1	60	734	Wilcanma....	Athenaeum ...	1	89	708
Lyttleton ...	School of Arts	1	69	624	Wolumla .	School of Arts . . .	1	62	568
Manilla	School of Arts	2	122	843					
Marulan	School of Arts . . .	1	58	114					
						Total	84	6,283	34,868

APPENDIX F.

Trustees.

Professor W. J. Stephen, M.A., F.G.S. (*Chairman of the Board*).
 The Hon. Edmund Barton, M.L.C. | The Hon. W. Macleay, F.L.S., M.L.C.
 The Hon. John Fitzgerald Burns, M.P. | The Hon. James Norton, M.L.C.
 Edward Greville, Esq., J.P. | Alexander Oliver, Esq., M.A.
 His Honor Sir J. George L. Innes, Knt. | The Hon. John Stewart, M.L.C.

His Honor Mr. Justice Windeyer, M.A.

Principal Librarian and Secretary :—Robert Cooper Walker.

Assistant Librarian and Compiler :—D. R. Hawley.

Cataloguing Clerk :—Orlando Stevens.

Overseer :—George Gifford.

LENDING BRANCH.

Librarian :—Michael F. Cullen. | *Assistant Librarian* :—Alfred Augustus Richardson.
Entry Clerk :—Edward Hawley. | *Registrar for Country Libraries* :—David Weir.

London Agents :—Messrs. Trübner & Co., 57 and 59, Ludgate Hill.

APPENDIX G.

AMENDED REGULATIONS.

CONDITIONS upon which books in boxes, each containing lots of about 60 volumes, will be lent by the Trustees of the Free Public Library, Sydney, to Libraries in Country Districts of New South Wales:—

1. Books will be lent only to Trustees or Committees of Free Libraries, Schools of Arts, Mechanics' Institutes, or Libraries of Municipalities, that may be beyond the boundary of the City of Sydney.

2. All books authorized to be lent under these conditions shall be bound in good strong binding, placed in boxes constructed of nearly uniform size, and numbered from 1 upwards. Each box shall contain about 60 volumes, according to its catalogue, in which no alteration can be made.

3. Printed catalogue slips of the contents of each box, stating the value of each book, together with forms of application for loans, will be forwarded free of charge, on application being made to the Principal Librarian.

4. Trustees or Committees of Country Libraries, &c, wishing to obtain books on loan, must make application in writing, stating which particular box of books they desire to borrow; and their application must be accompanied by an undertaking in the form approved by the Trustees of the Free Public Library, Sydney, to indemnify them against loss.

5. Borrowers in their applications must give a full description of the Library, room, or building in or from which it is proposed to deposit or lend the books, and must specify the time for which they desire to retain the use of the books. They must also submit, for the approval of the Trustees, the conditions or regulations under which it is proposed to lend any books so obtained from the Trustees, who reserve to themselves the right of refusing any application without assigning any reason therefor.

6. No charge will be made for the loan of any box of books to cover the cost of freight, packing, and collating; but no receipt will be given for any books returned until they have been collated and an adjustment made for any loss or damage that may be discovered.

APPLICATION TO BORROW BOOKS.

Sir, We are desirous of borrowing the books enumerated in your catalogue slip No. 188 .
of the of which the names of the* are on behalf

It is proposed to retain the books for _____ months from the date of their despatch from Sydney, and to keep them (while not lent under the conditions mentioned below) in the building of which a full description is attached, in order that you may effect an insurance on the said books to cover risk against fire so long as they remain in the said building.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the regulations under which we propose to lend the books, and we agree to sign an undertaking in the form required by the Trustees of the Free Public Library, Sydney.

We have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servants.

The Principal Librarian, Free Public Library, Sydney.

* Trustees or Committee.

UNDERTAKING to be signed by Borrowers of Books from the Free Public Library, Sydney, for use of
Libraries, &c., in Country Districts.

IN consideration of the books enumerated in the Catalogue hereunto annexed, together with the box containing the same, having this day been delivered to us by Robert Cooper Walker, the Principal Librarian of the said Free Public Library, Sydney, for the use of the
situate at _____ we, the undersigned, undertake and agree with the said Robert Cooper Walker, and also with the Trustees of the said Free Public Library, Sydney, and each and any two or more of them, as follows:—

1. The books will be kept in a suitable apartment of the said _____ to be approved of by the Trustees of the said Free Public Library, Sydney, and the public will be permitted to use the same during such hours only as shall be determined by the Trustees (or Committee, as the case may be), but may be lent by such of the said Trustees (or Committee, as the case may be) under the same Regulations as shall apply to books belonging to the said Institution.

2. The said books and box shall be returned to the said Robert Cooper Walker, or other Principal Librarian for the time being of the said Free Public Library, Sydney, at the expiration of _____ months from the date of despatch from Sydney, in good condition, allowance being made for reasonable wear.

3. We undertake to pay to the said Robert Cooper Walker, or other Principal Librarian for the time being of the Free Public Library:—

- (1) The value of every book not returned.
- (2) The estimated value of the injury done to any volume, work, set, or series, or box, of which value the Trustees for the time being of the Free Public Library, or any two of them, shall be the sole judges.
- (3) The value of the whole work, set, or series, in case any volume or part thereof shall not be returned within the time above mentioned.

4. In case default shall be made in the observance or performance of any of the conditions aforesaid, we will pay to the said Robert Cooper Walker, or other Principal Librarian of the said Free Public Library, Sydney, for the time being, the sum of £50 (fifty pounds) as liquidated damages.

Dated at _____ this _____ day of _____ 18 .

Witness to the signature of the said—

Witness to the signature of the said—

APPENDIX H.

LIST of Donations during the year 1888, received from the following:—

- Adelaide Library, Catalogue of.
 Agassiz, A. Report of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College, 1886-87.
 Allen, C. H. Anti-Slavery Reporter, November, 1887, to October, 1888.
 Ambrocoli, A. Selvaggi dell' Australia; by Barsanti.
 Astor Library. Thirty-eighth and Thirty-ninth Annual Reports, 1886-87.
 Australian Museum. Catalogue of Fishes. (2 copies.)
 " History and Description of the Skeleton of a new Sperm Whale. (2 copies.)
 " Report of the Trustees, 1887; with Supplement.
 Backhouse, Mrs. K. Witnesses for Christ; by E. Backhouse and C. Tylor.
 Ballarat Cemetery Trust. Chairman's Report, 1887.
 Batty and Chalcraft. Blue Mountain Guide.
 Birmingham Libraries. Twenty-sixth Annual Report, 1887.
 Boston Public Library. Bulletin of the, 1887.
 " Thirty-fifth Report, 1887.
 Bruck, L. " Guide to the Health Resorts in Australia, &c.

Burns,

- Burns, Philp, and Co. Hand-book of Information for the Colonies and India. (3 copies.)
 Calvert, J. J. Journal of the Legislative Council of N.S.W., 1885-87. Vols. 40-42, Parts 1-4.
 Cambridge Public Free Library. Thirty-third Annual Report, 1887-88.
 Cameron, A. M. Light Phenomena.
 Cardiff Free Library. Twenty-sixth Annual Report, 1887-88.
 Cincinnati Public Library. Annual Report for 1887.
 Colonial Secretary of N.S.W. Colonial Office List.
 " Foreign Office List.
 " French Colonies; by Bonwick. (10 copies.)
 Colonial Treasurer of N.S.W. New South Wales: her Commerce and Resources; by G. W. Griffin.
 Curwen, J. S. Tonic-Sol-fa Reporter, January to November.
 Dapto Agricultural and Horticultural Society. Annual Show Prize List for 1889.
 Duckworth, A. Australian Economic Association Papers. No. 4.
 Dundee Free Library. Report for 1887.
 Editors of the Bathurstian. The Bathurstian. Vol. 3, Nos. 9-11.
 Geological and Natural History Survey of Canada. Annual Report. Vol. 2, 1886.
 " Catalogue of Canadian Plants. Part 3.
 " Summary Report. Part 3, 1887.
 Geological and Natural History Survey of Minnesota. Bulletins. Nos. 2-4.
 " Fifteenth Annual Report, 1886.
 Gow, W. Legends of Strathmore.
 Government Printer of New Zealand. Crown Lands Guide, No. 9.
 Government Printer of Queensland. Chester's Expedition to New Guinea.
 " Journals of Australian Explorations.
 " Justices Act of 1886.
 " Synopsis of the Queensland Flora.
 Hayter, H. H. My Christmas Adventure, and other Poems.
 " Statistical Register of Victoria, 1886.
 " Victorian Year-book, 1886-87, 1887-88.
 Hector, Sir J. Index to Reports of the Geological Survey of New Zealand.
 " Reports of Geological Explorations, 1885-87.
 " Studies in Biology for New Zealand Students.
 " Twenty-second Annual Report of the Colonial Museum and Laboratory.
 Horsepool, W. Alderman Ralph; by T. Cooper.
 Intercolonial Medical Congress, Adelaide. Transactions of the First Session.
 Jones, Rev. J. H. Henry Kemble Oliver.
 Jones, S. W. Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, 1885-87.
 Kay, R. Report of the Public Library, Museum, and Art Gallery of South Australia, 1887-88. (2 copies.)
 Labilliere, F. P. de. History of a Cevenol Family.
 Leeds Free Public Library. Eighteenth Report, 1887-88.
 Linnean Society. Proceedings of. Vol. 2, Part 4, and Vol. 3, Parts 1-3.
 Liverpool Free Public Library. Thirty-fifth Annual Report.
 Liversidge, A. British Association for the Advancement of Science: President's Address.
 " Proposed Chemical Laboratory at the University of Sydney.
 Mackellar, C. Premier's Secret, and other Tales.
 Madras Government. Annual Report on Lunatic Asylums in the Madras Presidency, 1886.
 " Manual of the Administration of the Madras Presidency. Vol. 1. (2 copies.)
 " Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency, 1886-87.
 " Returns of the Hospitals and Dispensaries in the Madras Presidency, 1886.
 Manchester Public Free Library. Thirty-sixth Annual Report, 1887-88.
 May, W. H. Report of the Bundaberg Chamber of Commerce.
 Mayes, C. Australian Builder's Price-book.
 Mitchell Library. Report of, 1887.
 Newberry Library. Proceedings of the Trustees.
 Newcastle-upon-Tyne Library. Catalogue of the Lending Department.
 " Sixth Report, 1886-87.
 New South Wales Rifle Association. Proceedings of the National Rifle Association, 1887. (2 copies.)
 " Report for the year 1887. (2 copies.)
 New Zealand Government. Reports on the Mining Industry, 1887-88.
 " Statistics of the Colony for 1887.
 Nicolle, W. E. H. Proceedings of the Engineering Association of N.S.W., 1886-87. Vol. 2.
 Norwich Free Library. Report for 1887-88.
 Page, T. Map of North Coast, New England, and North-western Districts of New South Wales.
 Palestine Exploration Fund. Survey of Western Palestine. General Index.
 Parnell, J. Song of the Seraphim. (4 copies.)
 " Tercentenary Ballad: Defeat of the Spanish Armada. (4 copies.)
 Peck, C. F. Fifth Annual Report of the Bureau of Statistics of Labour, New York, 1887.
 Philadelphia Library Co. Bulletin of, from January to September, 1887.
 Phillips and Co. Present Day Slavery.
 Phillips, H. Report of the Proceedings of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Philadelphia, 1886.
 Pinson, H. Good News.
 " The Contrast. Parts 1 and 2.
 Poppenhagen, C. Northern Agricultural Association. Members' Pamphlet.
 Portsmouth Free Library. Fourth Annual Report, 1887-88.
 Preston, S. H. Supplement to the Fourth Edition of Chambers's Index.
 Queensland Government. Acts of the Parliament, 1887.
 Ramsay, J. S. Transactions and Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society, 1885-86.
 Rennie, E. A. Foundation Strength of Popery.
 " Minutes of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia.

- Richmond Free Public Library. Seventh Annual Report, 1887-88.
 Robertson and Co., G. Protection in Victoria *v.* Free Trade in New South Wales.
 Royal Colonial Institute. Proceedings of, 1887-88. Vol. 19.
 " Report of the Council.
 Royal Society of New South Wales. Journal and Proceedings. Vol. 21, Part 3, and Vol. 22, Part 1.
 Royal Society of South Australia. Transactions, Proceedings, and Report. Vol. 10.
 Royal Society of Tasmania. Papers and Proceedings for 1887.
 Royal Society of Victoria. Transactions and Proceedings. Vol. 24, Part 2.
 " Transactions of. Vol. 1, Part 1.
 Russell, H. C. Results of Rain, River, and Evaporation Observations in New South Wales, 1887.
 " Results of Meteorological Observations made in New South Wales, 1886.
 Saint Helen's Public Library. Eleventh Annual Report, 1887-88.
 Saint Louis Public Library. Annual Report, 1885-86.
 Sceusa, F. Hail, Australia!
 Schomburgk, R. Report on the Progress and Condition of the Botanic Gardens, South Australia, 1887
 Selby, Prof. R. T. Social Physiology. (2 copies.)
 Shakespeare Memorial Library. Librarian's Report.
 Sheffield Free Libraries. Thirty-second Annual Report.
 Smith and Sons, W. H. Hand-book No. 2 of Line of Intercolonial Steamships.
 Smithsonian Institute. Annual Report of the Board of Regents, July, 1885. Parts 1 and 2.
 " Annual Report of the Comptroller of the Currency of the United States. Vol. 1.
 Sotheran and Co., H. Catalogue of Superior Second-hand Books.
 South Australian Government. Proceedings of the Parliament, 1887.
 Stephen, Sir A. Australian Divorce Bills.
 " Divorce Extension Justified.
 Stirling's and Glasgow Library. Ninety-seventh Report, 1887-88.
 Stone, G. F. Thirtieth Annual Report of the Trade and Commerce of Chicago, 1887.
 Sulley, H. Temple of Ezekiel's Prophecy.
 Tangye, Richard. The Banks Medal.
 " Earliest Locomotive in England.
 " Johann Schöner; by H. Stevens.
 " Pope Commemoration. Loan Museum Catalogue.
 Tasmanian Government. Acts of Parliament, 1887.
 " Journals and Papers of the Parliament of, 1887. Vols. 10-12.
 " Statistics of the Colony for 1886.
 Victoria Institute. Journal of Transactions, Vols. 21 and 22, Nos. 83-86.
 Victoria Public Library. Prodrromus of the Zoology of Victoria. Decade 16.
 " Report of the Trustees of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery, 1887.
 " Victorian Parliamentary Papers. Session 1887.
 Victorian Government. Acts of Parliament of.
 " Mineral Statistics of Victoria, 1886.
 " Report of the Secretary for Mines and Water Supply for 1886-87.
 " Reports of the Mining Registrars of Victoria, 1887-88.
 " Votes and Proceedings. Session 1887.
 West Bromwich, Borough of. Thirteenth Report of Free Library, 1887.
 Western Australian Government. Blue Book for 1887.
 " Votes and Proceedings of the Legislative Council, 1887-88.
 White, W. H. Royal Institute of British Architects: Journal of Proceedings. Vols. 3-5.
 Wood, H. Invertebrate Fauna of New South Wales.
 " Mineral Products of New South Wales. (2 copies.)
 " Report of the Department of Mines, 1886-87.
 Woolls, Rev. Dr. Sermon on the Centenary of the Colony. (4 copies.)
 Wright, Dr. A. Te Aroha, New Zealand. (2 copies.)
 Wright, C. D. Third Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labour, 1887.
 Yarmouth Free Library. First Annual Report, 1886-87.
 Young, W. Vaccination Inquirer. Nos. 111, 114, 115.

COPYRIGHT.

- Angus and Robertson. Fac-simile of a Proposal for a Settlement on the Coast of New South Wales, 1785; by Sir George Young.
 Clarke, J. L. Bulli Disaster: a Poem.
 Edwards and Co. Australian Monthly Bradshaw, November.
 Felton, M. Eena Romney; by M. Felton.
 Fry, E. H. Coming Events; by "Hawkeye." Nos. 1, 2.
 Gibbs, Shallard, and Co. Graphic Analysis, &c.; by C. O. Burge.
 Gordon and Gotch. Australasian A B C Guide. January to December.
 " Australian Hand-book.
 Government Printer of New South Wales. Boundaries of the Police Districts of New South Wales.
 " Catalogue of New South Wales Mineral Court of Melbourne C. I. Exhibition, 1888.
 " Colony of Australia.
 " Crown Lands Act of 1884: Report of Cases. Vol. 1, Parts 4 and 10.
 " Crown Lands Act of 1884: Report of Cases heard before the Court of Appeal, 1888.
 " Customs Hand-book.
 " Estimates of Ways and Means for 1889.
 " Extracts from Reports; by Campbell.
 " Fifth Expedition to British New Guinea; by T. F. Bevan.
 " Financial Statement of Hon. J. F. Burns.

Government

- Government Printer of New South Wales.
- General Rules under Bankruptcy Act.
- Geology of the Vegetable Creek Tin-mining Field.
- Geology of the Vegetable Creek Tin-mining Field; by T. W. E. David.
- Grammar and Vocabulary of Language spoken by Motu Tribe, New Guinea; by Rev. W. G. Lawes.
- Hand-book of New South Wales Statistics, 1887.
- Hand-book to Statistical Register, New South Wales, 1886.
- Hints for Collectors of Geological and Mineralogical Specimens; by Ratte.
- Invertebrate Fauna of New South Wales.
- Law and Practice of New South Wales Letters Patent; by A. G. Taylor.
- Letters of Registration of Inventions for 1883.
- Mineral Products of New South Wales.
- New South Wales; by G. W. Griffin.
- New South Wales Crown Lands Act of 1884: Report of Cases in Court of Appeal, 1887.
- New South Wales Electoral Rolls for 1887-89.
- New South Wales List of Pastoral Leases.
- New South Wales Lunacy Rules.
- New South Wales Railways Ambulance Hand-book.
- Nosological Index.
- Notes on Armour and Artillery Defence.
- Official Catalogue of Exhibits from the Colony to Adelaide Exhibition, 1887.
- Peat's Ferry Railway Accident Report.
- Postal Conference.
- Public Tanks and Wells.
- Railways and Tramways Report.
- Report of the Department of Lands, 1886.
- Report of the Intoxicating Drink Inquiry Commission.
- Report of the Sewerage and Drainage of the Western Suburbs.
- Report on the Proposed Standing Orders.
- Results of Meteorological Observations made in New South Wales, 1886.
- Results of Rain, River, and Evaporation Observations made in New South Wales.
- Schedule to the Estimates-in-Chief, 1889.
- Statutes of New South Wales.
- Supplementary Catalogue of Books added to the Parliamentary Library since 1885.
- Supplementary Estimates.
- Transactions and Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia.
- Wealth and Progress of New South Wales.
- Wealth and Progress of New South Wales, 1886-87; by T. A. Coghlan.
- Greville, E. Year-book of Australia.
- Maxwell, C. F. Bankruptcy Act for 1887; by Wise and Davies.
- Morrison, W. F. Centennial History of New South Wales.
- Pepperday and Vider. Post Card Assurance Policy System.
- Ten Minutes Advice to Intending Investors.
- Tontine System as applicable to Annuities.
- Rasmussen, H. P. Australian Friend.
- Medical Herbalist Journal.
- Robertson and Co., G. Centennial Geography of New South Wales.
- Crown of Wattle; by H. P. Steel.
- Hand-book to Magisterial Inquiries in New South Wales; by Mathews.
- Sands, J. Sands' Sydney Directory.
- Spruson, H. Tragedy of Druid's Glen; by L. Barrington.
- Tourist Bureau. Tourist's Pocket Guide.
- Turner and Henderson. Dairying in Australasia; by Dowling.
- History of Australian Exploration, from 1788 to 1888; by E. Favenc.
- Mathematical Papers; by H. J. Carter.
- Taxation on Property; by Smith.
- Westbrook, C. Alphabetical List of Names of upwards of 2,000 Racehorses.
- Sporting Index.
- Wilton, C. E. Jubilee Poems. Dedicatory Preface to the late Henry Kendall. (6 copies.)

APPENDIX I.

LIST of Books missing from the Lending Branch during 1888,

No.	Author and Title of Book.	Borrowed by	No.	Author and Title of Book.	Borrowed by
1.33	H—Stowe's Pink and White Tyranny.	C. Leslie, Arthur-street, Moore Park.	6.97	H—Andersen's Danish Fairy Tales.	D. Loise, Charlotte-lane, Sydney.
2.70	H—Haddon's Book-keeping.	F. S. Naphthali, Point Piper Road, Woollahra.	7.121	B—Cox's Campaigns of the Civil War.	J. Leonard, 24, Francis-street, Hyde Park.
1.146	A—Weale's Dictionary of Terms.	J. R. Louat, Dock Road, Balmain.	7.147	H—Habberton's Helen's Babies.	R. C. Griffin, Crystal-street, Petersham.
3.178	H—Hammerton's Intellectual Life.	Miss A. Argles, 31½, Walker-street, Redfern.	9.62	H—Knight's Half-hours with Best Authors.	J. Hartley, 45, Bayswater Road.
3.184	E—Murray's Round about France.	C. Atkin, Royal Hotel.	10.148	H—Hughes's Tom Brown's Schooldays.	J. Edgar, Union-street, Pyrmont.
4.112	H—Wilson's Tales of the Borders.	T. Crampton, Haileybury Cottage, Double Bay.	10.162, 163	D—Kohl's Travels in Canada.	S. Norman, 60, Dowling-street, Paddington.
5.176	A—Carpenter's Spiritualism.	W. C. Burne, 53, Douglas-street, Redfern.	11.9	H—Napier's Military Life.	T. J. Gardiner, Tramway Offices, Randwick.
5.192	F—Blackie's Natural History of Atheism.	T. Milligan, Belmont House, Wynyard-square.	11.175	A—Jones's Evolution of the Human Race.	A. Thomas, 60½, Harris-street, Ultimo.

No.	Author and Title of Book.	Borrowed by	No.	Author and Title of Book.	Borrowed by
11.189	H—Fielding's Works of Fiction.	L. Jarrett, Australia-street, Woollahra.	33.96	H—Kingsley's Hereward the Wake.	E. Sauphy, Burwood Road.
12.51	D—Wilkinson's Sunny Lands.	T. Mitchell, Hunter's Hill.	33.148-150	H—Ward's Human Life.	Mrs. M. Schmidt, 99, Morehead-street.
12.157	A—Downing's Cottage Residences.	J. Cleburne, 69, Church-street, Newtown.	33.169-171	H—Tabor's Janita's Cross.	W. Harvey, Andreas-street, Petersham.
13.29	G—Burns's Poetical Works.	T. S. Sherratt, 22, Burton-street.	36.195	H—Lytton's What will he do with it?	S. Stokes, 129, Albion-street, Surry Hills.
13.147	B—Story of Waterloo.	O. Kelly, Rose-street, Darlington.	39.3	C—Clarke's Shakespeare.	E. Gilmour, John-street, Woollahra.
17.103	D—Jerrold's At Home in Paris.	A. H. Couldery, "Aubyn," Stanmore.	40.168-170	G—Swift's Works.	J. Sheideaux, 441, Bourke-st.
18.135	D—Butler's Travels in Assam.	C. Johnson, Mossman's Bay.	41.115	B—Dixon's Tower of London.	T. Beck, Record Office, St. Leonards.
22.37	D—Therry's New South Wales.	J. Norton, 273, Goulburn-street.	41.157	F—Parker's Collected Works.	G. Shaw, 65, Pitt-st.
22.38	A—Youatt's The Horse.	A. J. Kent, 53, Lewis-street, Redfern.	44.167	C—Scott's Albert Durer.	S. J. Laby, Sutton Forest.
24.40	D—Ede's Home among the Snow.	Mrs. A. M. Sharp, 243, Forbes-street, Darlinghurst.	45.152	A—Miller's Lockwood's Price-book.	E. Phillips, 50, Macquarie-street South.
25.171	B—Journal of the Plague Year.	J. C. Sayers, Victoria Cottage, Edward-street, North Shore.	45.157	A—Anderson's Persia.	A. Roy, 208, Pitt-street.
26.4	A—Gore's Scientific Discovery.	H. J. Gibson, St. Aubyn Terrace, Ridge-street, North Shore.	47.2	B—Keightley's Mythology.	T. Mozzall, 7, Erskineville Road.
26.43	H—Beeton's Household Amusements.	K. D. Moore, 31, Wigram-street, Forest Lodge.	48.96	G—Kendall's Australian Forest.	C. Hungerford, 146, Phillip-street.
26.58	C—Celebrated Men.	W. H. Jeffreys, 2, Brent-street, Balmain.	41.140	A—Gore's Electro-deposition.	R. Gibson, St. Aubyn's-terrace, North Shore.
26.189, 190	C—Alger's Life of E. Forrest.	H. Cooke, 129, Liverpool-street, Sydney.	49.150	C—Grote's Plato.	S. Lasker, 424, Castlereagh-street.
27.16	H—Dickens's Nicholas Nickleby.	T. Astley, 348, Crown-street.	52.180	H—Thackeray's Four Georges.	R. M'Grath, 114, Dowling-street.
27.20	H—Dickens's Tale of Two Cities.	R. Munro, "Royal Hyde Park Hotel."	53.94	C—Jolly's Robert Burns.	J. Wilson, "Hill Top."
27.76	H—Benjamin's Wrinkles and Recipes.	G. Mathieson, 36, Wells-street, Redfern.	55.80	H—Beeton's Three Scouts.	W. Franklin, Hargrave-street, Paddington.
27.77	C—Barnum, Life of.	S. Hornby, Survey Office.	57.6	H—Blackwood's Tales.	R. D. Stephens, 36, Castlereagh-street, Redfern.
27.80	D—Barnard's Three Years' Cruise.	R. O'Neill, 21, Little West-street, Darlinghurst.	57.55-57	C—Scott's Life of Napoleon.	P. S. Harris, Moore Park.
29.122	A—Arnold's Dairying.	J. Sherrington, 2, Denison-street, Woollahra.	57.87	G—Bell's British Theatre.	J. G. Neale, Gannon Grove, Hurstville.
30.35	H—Thackeray's Critical Reviews.	W. Hubbard, Elizabeth-street.	58.22	H—Baughan's Chiromancy.	W. F. Hooper, 135, Phillip-street.
30.55	H—Thackeray's Barry Lyndon.	J. Murdock, 11, Clarence-street.	58.117	D—Knox's Boy Traveller.	R. O'Neill, 35, Barcom-street, Darlinghurst.
30.84, 85	H—Thackeray's Vanity Fair.	J. J. Cooper, 391-3, George-street.	66.112	D—Gray's Switzerland.	Mrs. M. A. Jackson, 2, Melrose-terrace, Oxford-street, Paddington.
30.86, 87	H—Thackeray's Pendennis.	Miss E. Williams, Trafalgar-terrace, Petersham.	68.68	D—Kingsley's Water Babies.	B. Taylor, "Lakemba," Canterbury.
32.133-135	H—Martineau's Romance.	J. Waus, 23, Botany-street.	68.132	A—Harris's Honey Bee.	E. Meares, 147, Liverpool-st.
32.166-168	H—Ollier's Ferrers.	H. Stewart, 594, Kent-st.	70.43	C—The Hero Sacrificed.	T. West, Beattie-street, Balmain.
			71.124	C—Davitt's Prison Diary.	J. Molloy, 52, Princes-st.
			73.102	H—Harris's Coaching Age.	R. Logan, Pitt-street, Redfern.
			73.184	C—Pycroft's Oxford Memories.	J. A. Howison, 441, Darling-street, Ultimo.

LIST of Books reported missing from the Lending Branch during 1887, returned in 1888.

No.	Author and Title of Book.	Borrowed by	No.	Author and Title of Book.	Borrowed by
1.119, 120	C—Carlyle's Life and Sketches.	H. Rule, Croydon Park.	32.58	H—Dickens's Cricket on the Hearth.	F. Edwards, Crown Road, Ultimo.
1.199	A—Fulton's Poultry.	W. Terry, Glen-street, Milson's Point.	32.110, 111	H—Genlis' Duchess de la Vallière.	E. Huntley, "New Brighton Hotel," Lady Robinson's Beach.
2.133	A—Baker's Mensuration.	J. C. Duffy, Moncur-street, Woollahra.	33.12, 13	H—Le Sage's Gil Blas.	A. R. Potter, Marlborough-street, Leichhardt.
3.82	H—Lamb's Essays of Elia.	J. W. Abigail, 35, Regent-street, Newtown.	34.18-20	H—Lytton's Last Days of Pompeii.	J. R. Wallis, Edgecliff Road, Waverley.
7.78	B—Xenophon's Anabasis.	T. Gardiner, Avoca-street, Randwick.	35.118	H—Evans' Silas Marner.	W. Horsford, Cabramatta.
11.46	C—Mill's Autobiography.	M. Jones, North Shore.	35.143-145	H—St. John's Sir Cosmo Digby.	S. Murphy, 12, George-street, Redfern.
13.68	H—Timbs' London Curiosities.	E. C. Butler, Bourke-street.	37.141	A—Selby's Natural History.	L. Jarrett, Sutherland-street, Paddington.
14.10	H—Mayhew's The Dog.	W. S. Wallis, Australia-street, Waverley.	37.190	H—Hazlitt's Literature.	C. Madden, 26, Wynyard-street.
24.14	D—Manning's English Pictures.	H. Curry, Balmain.	41.48	B—Mason's Charlemagne.	J. Gunter, 9, Marshall-st.
26.40	G—Moore's Poetical Works.	J. P. Magee, "Grosvenor Hotel," Harris-street.	42.195	D—Murphy's Sporting Adventures.	C. Delosme, Grey-street, Waverley.
27.11	H—Dickens's Hard Times.	H. Watts, Albyn Road, Strathfield.	43.120, 121	A—Roscoe's Chemistry.	W. Cates, Fraser-street, Petersham.
27.35	H—Marryat's Poacher.	H. Brent, Newtown.	43.179, 180	B—Mommsen's History of Rome.	H. Clemens, 1, Pitt-street, Redfern.
27.52	H—Scott's Monastery.	G. Wilson, 44, Buckingham-street.	46.75	H—A'Beckett's Comic Blackstone.	R. G. Atkinson, Glenmore Road, Paddington.
30.25	H—Thackeray's Henry Esmond.	F. Searancke, 2, Birrell-street, Waverley.	47.47	H—Napier's Road-making.	A. Brindley, 5, Olive-street, Paddington.
30.86, 87	H—Thackeray's Pendennis.	C. Edwards, 221, George-street.	49.76	B—Spilsburg's Coast of Africa.	I. J. Fox, West-street, St. Leonards.
31.140	H—Brook's Mandeville.	J. H. Flynn, Mossman's Bay.	54.22	D—Beerbohm's Patagonia.	H. H. Park, Nicholson-street, Balmain.
31.142	H—Mackenzie's Man of Feeling.	Miss M. Simpson, Birchgrove Road, Balmain.	57.90	G—Bell's British Theatre.	Miss S. Myers, Albion-st.

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

(ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1888.)

Presented to Parliament, in accordance with the provisions of section 16 of Act 18 Vic., 1854.

The Chairman of Board of Trustees to The Minister of Public Instruction.

Sir,

Sydney Grammar School, 18 June, 1889.

I have the honor to submit the following Report of the proceedings of the Trustees, and of the progress of the School during the year 1888, in order that the same may be laid before His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council, in accordance with the provisions of the Sydney Grammar School Act.

The only change which has taken place in the Board of Trustees has been occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Justice Stephen, and the election of the Honorable Dr. Andrew Garran in his place. Mr. Stephen had for many years held office as a Trustee, and rendered valuable services to the School. The Trustees desire to record their appreciation of such services, and an expression of regret that Mr. Stephen should have found it necessary to resign his seat. Throughout the year Mr. Justice Windeyer has been Chairman, and Mr. J. R. Street, M.L.A., Vice-chairman of the Board.

The full number of pupils has been maintained during the year, the average being 423.

The Trustees would again express their satisfaction with the able manner in which the whole teaching staff have performed their duties; and the continuance of the zealous interest in the welfare of the boys, and of the School generally, that has been displayed by the Head Master.

The yearly examination of the School was, as usual, conducted by gentlemen selected from other Institutions. In Classics, Mr. E. J. Robson, B.A., Lecturer and Tutor of Ormond College, in the University of Melbourne; in Mathematics, Mr. A. Newham, B.A., Lecturer in Mathematics in the Sydney University; in Modern Languages, English and Natural Science, Mr. Robertson, B.A., LL.B. Their reports are hereto annexed.

A Schedule is attached giving the names and emoluments of the Teaching Staff. A comparison of this with that given in the last Report will show the changes that have taken place in the Staff.

The Salting Exhibition at the University, which became vacant early in 1888, was awarded to Mr. Edward Milner Stephen.

The Morehead Exhibition was for the first time awarded at the close of 1888 to Mr. John Beverley Peden.

During the year the Trustees had under their consideration the matter of adapting some portion of the School Curriculum to meet the requirements of those boys who proposed to seek Commercial employment on leaving School, as also the question of improving the status and efficiency of the Modern Division of the School. Four Trustees and the Head Master prepared papers embodying their views on these questions, which have now been submitted to the Board, and it is believed that this discussion will be productive of good result. Meanwhile the Trustees have reason to believe that some of the defects in the Modern School, to which attention had been called in the reports of previous Examiners, have been overcome.

In view of the important part which Chemistry is now playing in the Manufacturing, Agricultural, and Mining Industries, the Trustees are strongly of the opinion that they should be in a position to afford instruction on this branch of knowledge. For this purpose a laboratory with the necessary appliances should be provided at the School. The Trustees therefore request that a sum of £1,500 be placed on the Estimates to enable them to build a room (none being available in the present building), and to provide the necessary equipment, and that the annual vote should be supplemented by £250, so that they could make provision for the necessary lectures to the boys who appear to be qualified for this line of study.

The funds in the hands of the Trustees are now only sufficient to defray the current expenses of the School, and no savings could be effected which could be devoted to improving or adding to the present buildings. These are now much more suitable than formerly for the work of the School, and have been maintained in fair order, but much can yet be done to them before they are worthy of the School or of the site they occupy.

A statement of the income and expenditure of the School for the past year is hereto appended.

I have, &c.,

W. C. WINDEYER,

Chairman.

RETURN

RETURN of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Sydney Grammar School for the year 1888.

Receipts.		Total.	Disbursements.		Total.
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.
To Balances from 1887, as under:—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	By Salaries	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
On fixed deposit in Commercial Bank..	1,250 0 0		„ Allowances	6,122 16 6	
Current account	11 5 9		„ Capitation fees paid to Head Master	437 7 0	
		1,261 5 9	„ Examination expenses and fees to	946 0 0	7,506 3 6
„ School fees		5,989 0 0	Examiners, 1887 and 1888		205 0 0
Colonial Treasury.			„ Stationery	69 17 10	
„ Endowment	1,499 19 4		„ Printing	88 1 0	
„ Vote for increases to junior Master's			„ Advertisements	16 14 0	174 12 10
salaries	433 7 2		„ School prizes		45 0 0
„ Vote for Head Master's residence	249 19 10		Special Prizes.		
„ George Knox prize	49 19 8		„ E. Knox prizes	15 0 0	
„ Vote for new lavatories and W.Cs.	999 19 10	3,233 5 10	„ George Knox prize	3 0 0	
Special Prizes.			„ W. C. Windeyer prize	3 3 0	
„ E. Knox prizes	15 0 0		„ Sir George Wigram Allen prizes	12 0 0	33 3 0
„ Sir G. Wigram Allen prizes	12 0 0		„ Cost of new lavatories and W.Cs.	1,081 1 7	
„ George Knox prize	3 0 0		„ Improvements to playground, &c.	300 0 0	
„ W. C. Windeyer prize	3 3 0	33 3 0	„ Repairs to buildings, &c.	175 13 10	1,556 15 5
„ Interest on deposits, &c.	65 3 2	65 3 2	„ Petty expenses	123 7 5	
„ Rent of confectioner's shop to 30 Sept.	12 10 0	12 10 0	„ Insurance	7 0 0	135 16 2
			„ Water rate	5 8 9	
			„ Repayment to Government of half-year's		125 0 0
			rent of Head Master's house		
			„ Sports committee, being the sum received		12 10 0
			as rent of shop		
			„ Balances in Commercial Bank as under		
			on fixed deposit	650 0 0	
			„ On current account	150 6 10	800 6 10
		£ 10,594 7 9			£ 10,594 7 9

Audited—
JAMES C. TAYLOR, Accountant.
22 February, 1889.

W. H. CATLETT,
Secretary,
18 February, 1889.

SPECIAL Endowments for Prizes and Scholarships.

R. A. A. MOREHEAD SCHOLARSHIP.

By Endowment	£ s. d.	To Balance—Debentures	£ s. d.
„ Interest thereon to 31st December	1,000 0 0	Cash in Commercial Bank	1,000 0 0
	53 7 4		53 7 4
	£ 1,053 7 4		£ 1,053 7 4

SPECIAL PRIZES.

E. Knox Prizes	£ s. d.	Invested in Debentures	£ s. d.
George Knox Prize	250 0 0	Deposit Receipt	450 0 0
Sir George Wigram Allen Prizes	50 0 0		50 0 0
	200 0 0		
	£ 500 0 0		£ 500 0 0

Audited,—
JAMES C. TAYLOR, Accountant.
22 February, 1889.

W. H. CATLETT,
Secretary,
18 February, 1889.

RETURN of the Sydney Grammar School for the year ending 31st December, 1888.

Office.	Name.	Salaries.	Allowances.	Fees from Pupils.	Total.	Remarks.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Head Master	Albert Bythesea Weigall	500 0 0	*250 0 0	946 0 0	1,696 0 0	*House rent.
Mathematical Master	William Newbery	600 0 0			600 0 0	†Chemistry.
Master of Lower School	Arthur Giles	441 13 4	†12 10 0		454 3 4	
Master of Modern School	Arthur Key Farrar	445 16 8			445 16 8	‡Bonus.
Second Classical Master	Charles Edward Hewlett	450 0 0	†25 0 0		475 0 0	
Second Mathematical Master	Herbert James Carter	350 0 0			350 0 0	
Assistant Master	Charles Dashwood Goldie	250 0 0			250 0 0	
Do do	Arthur Hill Griffith	216 13 4			216 13 4	
Do do	Leonard Hemery Lindon	350 0 0			350 0 0	
Do do	William H. W. Nicholls	300 0 0			300 0 0	
Do do	David M'Burney	300 0 0	\$60 0 0		360 0 0	\$Detention money, and
Do do	Charles De Kantzow	216 13 4			216 13 4	Clerical assistance to
Do do	Henry Maurice Jocelyne	216 13 4			216 13 4	Head Master.
Do do	Charles Thomas Soar	295 16 8			295 16 8	
Do do	Norman Fitz	200 0 0			200 0 0	
Do do	John Trant Fischer	79 6 4			79 6 4	
Do do	Reginald Heber Bode	25 0 0			25 0 0	
Do do	John Mackintosh	230 16 0			230 16 0	
Do do	T. Abbott	9 7 6			9 7 6	
Do do	G. P. Barbour	10 0 0			10 0 0	
Supernumery Master	Edwin Whitfield	25 0 0			25 0 0	Resigned, 31 Dec., 1887
Master of Modern Languages	Rudolf Max	230 0 0			230 0 0	
Drawing Master	Josiah Thomas Crook	100 0 0			100 0 0	
Janitor and Drill Sergeant	Frank Morris	180 0 0	30 0 0		210 0 0	
Secretary and Accountant to Trustees	William Henry Catlett	100 0 0	59 17 0		159 17 0	
		£ 6,122 16 6	437 7 0	946 0 0	7,506 3 6	

Audited—
JAMES C. TAYLOR, Accountant.
22 February, 1889.

W. H. CATLETT,
Secretary,
18 February, 1889.

RETURN

RETURN of the Number of Masters at the Sydney Grammar School, as well as the Number of Scholars, for 1888.

Number of Masters.	Number of Scholars.				
	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.	Average of the Year.
Eighteen.	420	422	434	416	423

W. H. CATLETT,
Secretary,
18 February, 1889.

SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL, DECEMBER, 1888.

Reports of the Examiners.

To the Trustees of the Sydney Grammar School,—

Mr. E. I. Robson, B. A., Lecturer and Tutor of Ormond College, in the University of Melbourne, late Scholar of Christ's College, Cambridge, reports as follows :—

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to submit to you a fourth time my report on the classical work of the Sydney Grammar School. I am pleased to be able again to express a satisfactory opinion.

In the sixth form which I have examined only in unseen work, the averages of this year will not be found to compare favourably with those of 1887. Two principal factors have contributed to this result. First, the difficulty of the papers set, and secondly, a want of strength, by no means unaccountable, in the form. With one exception no boys have been in the form for more than a year; while the large increase in numbers as compared with last year naturally leads to a preponderance of mediocrity. But these boys have done really well throughout, and in composition, at least, the whole form shows signs of having been carefully taught, and though some may have failed, yet it was not for want of effort. In sight translation there is not a very good result, but this is rather, I imagine due to want of practice in this class of work.

The fifth form is in a better condition than I have yet known it. Their knowledge of the subjects is not only good, but is better presented than heretofore. Some really good papers were submitted throughout, and the Latin unseen translation calls for special commendation. I was glad to see my recommendation of last year followed and less prepared work presented.

The upper fourth form has done even better than in previous years, its one failure being in sight translation in which, I understand, the boys have had no practice.

With the material of these two forms there is every reason to hope for some really good results in the sixth next year. One fault which crops up somewhere or other in every form of the Upper School I cannot omit to notice. There is great need to cultivate better expression when translating from Latin or Greek. This fault is naturally more marked in the unseen work than in the papers on prepared books, though in the lower forms it is also conspicuous in the latter. I am of opinion that if time can be found, more writing of translations should be done throughout the Upper School. *Viva voce* translation is necessarily, especially in the lower forms, of a fragmentary nature. These forms might be set to translate, on paper, passages which they have already done orally in class, though personally I should like to see more sight translation attempted. As a form of mental, not merely linguistic training the importance of sight translation whether from dead or modern languages, cannot be over-estimated. Pen and paper ought to be, to the boy, as to the French philosopher, a great incentive to thought.

The Lower School work is mostly good throughout, showing considerable improvement upon last year's standard. In the upper forms there is again a slight tendency to know the advanced and more difficult work better than the elementary. There is a tendency among the better boys to see pitfalls where none exist. It is to be hoped that soon a knowledge of Latin and Greek Grammar will not mean a precise acquaintance with irregularities, many of which exist only in the grammarians' or examiner's brain. I need to repeat, though scarcely so emphatically, my last year's remark about quantities. The Lower School are still grave offenders in this respect, and do not, even in the higher forms, seem to have been impressed with the necessity of a correct pronunciation.

Mr. W. Newham, B.A., late scholar of St. John's College, Cambridge, Evening Lecturer in Mathematics in the University of Sydney, reports on the Mathematics as follows :—

Gentlemen,

It is once more my duty to report to you upon the results of the Christmas Examinations in Mathematics at the Sydney Grammar School, and generally as to the present state of Mathematical teaching in that Institution.

During the whole time, extending now to four years, that I have had the honor of acting as an Examiner the school has been to a considerable extent in a state of development and experiment, the object being to satisfy the demand which exists that the boys should be prepared to pass certain definite examinations at particular stages of their career, and yet not to interfere in any way with the high standard of mathematical culture which this school has always endeavoured to impart to its scholars. This is by no means an easy task to accomplish, but an important step in this direction has been taken during the past year in the formation of two classes, parallel roughly speaking to Divisions II and III in which boys are specially prepared for the Junior Examination. These classes have as yet been formed for too short a time for me to speak confidently as to the result; but I regard the experiment as a very hopeful one, and as the best way out of the difficulty, which is undoubtedly caused by the Junior Examination, in satisfactorily arranging the school Mathematical course. The teaching of Higher Mathematics has, I regret to say, been to some extent sacrificed in consequence of these changes, there being only eleven boys who sent in papers in Trigonometry this year as compared with twenty-seven in 1886; but I am confident that this falling off is only temporary; and that in a very short time it will be found possible to combine increased attention to the Public Examinations with a maintenance of the high standard hitherto reached by the school. I am glad to hear that Mr. Newbury has applied for extra time for Mathematics. If the Head Master can see his way to grant this request, I have no doubt that the result will prove most satisfactory.

Turning to particular subjects, I find a marked improvement in the Lower School and in the less advanced part of the Upper School in all their Mathematical subjects. The Arithmetic and Algebra are decidedly better, and the Euclid is written out with more intelligence and less verbosity. The definitions and questions dealing with fundamental ideas were the least satisfactory part of the Geometry; I am glad to hear that a modern edition of Euclid is to be introduced, which gives more assistance to learners than the one at present in use. This change cannot fail to produce a great improvement in this subject.

Owing to the rearrangement of the upper classes, I cannot confidently compare their work with last year's; but on the whole I think that the process of transition has affected them unfavourably. After allowing for the fact that some of the papers were harder this year than last year, the fact remains that some divisions, notably the IV, did not do as well as they ought to have done. The Arithmetic of Division I is also weak, and there are minor faults in some other divisions which I have pointed out more fully in my detailed report. These a little attention on the part of the masters will easily correct.

Taking the whole school together the results obtained were most satisfactory, and I am happy to be able to congratulate the Governing Body, Masters, and all others interested in the school upon the continued efficiency and progress of its Mathematical department.

Mr.

Mr. D. S. Robertson, B.A., LL.B., reports as follows :—

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to report that I have for the third time examined the Modern School in German and French, with results which, if not evidence of such progress as was shown at the examination of 1887, are still satisfactory in every respect.

Senior English, of which in previous years I had been able to speak in terms of high commendation, has not been included in my work this year, having been examined at an earlier date. On the other hand, I have now for the first time examined the French of the Upper and Lower Schools, and have been able to compare the results of the former with those obtained in the same subjects by the boys on the Modern side. The advantage is slightly with the Classical boys on the average percentages, but the restriction to prescribed authors favours them, as do other obvious matters, so that I regard the results of the Moderns as about equal to those obtained by the Upper School.

I cannot pass without remark the position of the German language in the work of the school. I have examined fourteen divisions in French and only three in German.

Remarks on Chemistry, Division I., which has been examined by Mr. A. M. Nesbitt, M.A., Oxon., Lecturer at Trinity College, Melbourne, will be found in the detailed report.

APPENDIX, giving full details of the Examination Work.

CLASSICS—UPPER SCHOOL.

Form.	Subjects.	Percental results.			Remarks.
		Average.	Highest.	Lowest.	
UPPER SCHOOL VI. 12 boys.	Latin Prose	52	71	35	The way in which the form attacked the historical piece showed that they had been taught to appreciate the differences of Latin and English idiom. The second piece was rather too hard, but one or two fair versions were forthcoming.
	Greek Prose	61	75	45	The better part of the form showed some good work, and all made a good attempt at the first piece. Many fail however in consecution of tenses, and a better acquaintance with conditional sentences should have been shown in the second piece. Accents are good in the upper part of the form.
	Latin Translation (unseen)	48	80	20	Some good, but most too content with a slipshod average of the meaning. A better knowledge of the vocabulary should have been shown, and considerably more common sense. There was not enough vigour or boldness displayed.
	Greek Translation (unseen)	58	80	20	Better boys did fairly, but most appear to have been discouraged by the difficulty of the paper. One piece was rendered harder by two misprints. Vocabulary rather weak, and more vigour required.
	Critical Paper	42	76	21	Better boys do fairly well. There is a want of knowledge of the Greek negatives, and the test sentences for translation into Latin should have been better done. Question 10 elicited a satisfactory amount of general information from the better boys.
	Greek and Roman History	42	74	20	Well done by two boys, whose work shows great improvement on that of last year in arrangement and conciseness.
V. 18 boys.	Lucian: Piscator.....	67	92	46	The remainder of the form might have known more facts. Translation mostly good. Bye questions often very well and intelligently answered. A few boys attacked the piece set for retranslation particularly well. Parsing is indifferent.
	Cicero pro lege Manilia ...	67	85	55	Translation mostly good. The bye questions show in some cases a want of familiarity with Latin sentence structure, which ought to be cultivated in this form.
	Latin Prose	57	83	31	The versions of the continuous piece scarcely showed enough style or accuracy. Boys often aim at a periodic style, without paying much attention to the sequence of ideas. More knowledge of the moods and tenses should have been displayed on the sentences.
	Greek Prose	64	92	50	In many cases a great want of life. Elementary mistakes rather too common, and particles too much at haphazard.
IV.—A. 20 boys.	Latin Unseen Translation and Grammar.	68	92	41	The grammar might have been better done. The translation was in several cases particularly good.
	Greek Unseen Translation and Grammar.	58	80	46	The translation was often too much rushed at and the meaning simply roughly averaged. One or two rather common phrases and constructions generally missed. In the grammar questions a much better knowledge of Greek accidence was shown than in the Greek Prose paper. Scarcely enough known about indirect speech and prepositions.
	Roman History	51	69	14	Two or three knew their facts and could arrange them, but several were lacking both in facts and arrangement.
	Lucian: Piscator.....	63	87	45	The same paper as set for Form V but rather less stringently marked. The remarks on the work of Form V on this paper apply equally well here.
	Cicero pro lege Manilia ...	61	77	44	Marked to the same standard as in Form V. The translation was on the whole good, though there were some failures. The bye questions, were well done, except that in explaining points of grammar boys often apply terms which they do not seem to understand.
	Latin Prose	66	91	25	The paper showed a good knowledge and power of application of the book work.
	Greek Prose	66	88	45	Fairly well done, but rather too many mistakes in accidence, and want of vocabulary. Rather more acquaintance with the particles might have been shown.
	Unseen Translation.....	60	85	25	The form has had no practice in this kind of work and consequently for the most part failed. A few however did much better than was under the circumstances to be expected.
IV.—B. 25 boys.	Grammar	64	83	47	Both in Greek and Latin the knowledge of accidence was very satisfactory.
	Cæsar and Latin Grammar	67	80	40	Translation rather lacks style and in one of the pieces there might have been more accuracy, too many points being missed. A few boys show an intelligent appreciation of sentence structure, and in accidence the form as a whole did very well.

CLASSICS—UPPER AND LOWER SCHOOL.

Form.	Subjects.	Percental Results			Remarks.
		Average.	Highest.	Lowest.	
IV.—B (continued).	Latin Prose	46	71	19	The paper set covered too much ground, at the same time more familiarity with their book work might have been shown.
	Greek Grammar	61	81	42	On the whole good.
	Greek Prose	69	86	52	The knowledge of accidence shown is good, but there should be a little more attention paid to minor points.
REMOVE. 22 boys.	Caesar and Latin Grammar	58	77	31	The translation is generally poor. Perhaps the work was a little hard for the form. Boys have little idea of putting an English sentence together. Spelling often very bad. Parsing was not often well done, the wildest theories being often hazarded about the connection of words. Accidence much more satisfactory.
	Latin Prose	43.5	85	5	Not good, with a few exceptions. Some boys seem to have little idea how to put a Latin sentence together. False concords, especially with persons of verbs, are numerous.
	Greek Grammar and Prose	50	71	36	Grammar generally fair, sometimes good. The Prose was not well done, except in a few cases. Boys seemed often too careless to take the hints given them.
LOWER SCHOOL. III.—A. 31 boys.	Latin Accidence	70	89	55	Some of the work very good, and none very bad. None under half marks.
	Latin Sentences	68	94	41	Very good on the whole; a slight tendency to fail in the more elementary part of the paper. The order of words is often too artificial.
	Greek Grammar	52	86	28	Some did well, but the work is necessarily very uneven.
	<i>Vivá Voce</i> (Latin) .....	...	...	...	The form answered well and readily. About 65 per cent. of right answers were obtained.
III.—B. 24 boys.	Latin Accidence	69	89	44	Work not so uniform as in III A., but some individually better results.
	Latin Sentences	59	84	18	Too many elementary mistakes, such as a disregard of concords. The more advanced work was better done than the elementary.
	<i>Vivá Voce</i>.....	...	...	...	The form answered well on the points of accidence, but parsed badly. Their quantities are bad. About 60 per cent. of good answers were obtained.
II.—A. 23 boys.	Latin Accidence	69	92	58	Some of the work very good, and the results on the whole very satisfactory.
	Latin Sentences	78	93	51	Some very good work; mistakes not frequent and not often stupid.
	<i>Vivá Voce</i>.....	...	...	...	About 60 per cent. of good answers obtained. The relative pronoun rather a puzzle.
II.—B. 25 boys.	Latin Accidence	74	83	61	A very satisfactory result.
	Latin Sentences	74	88	51	A very creditable paper.
	<i>Vivá Voce</i>.....	...	...	...	About 67 per cent. of good answers given.
I.—A. 30 boys.	Latin Accidence	63	84	35	A very fair paper, but perhaps might have been more even.
	Latin Sentences	75	94	28	Both sentences and parsing good. Scarcely any boys know the Latin for neither—nor.
	<i>Vivá Voce</i>.....	...	...	...	About 63 per cent. of good answers given. Quantities rather bad.
I.—B. 30 Boys.	Latin Accidence	40	53	29	A rather higher standard of accuracy might have been reached.
	Latin Sentences	63	83	33	Sentences often very good, but translation into English and parsing too often missed.
	<i>Vivá Voce</i>.....	...	...	...	About 48 per cent. of good answers.
I.—C. 24 Boys.	Latin Accidence	44	80	11	Work not unnaturally very uneven.
	Latin Sentences	39	85	3	Not much notion of translating from Latin into English, or of parsing. English into Latin varies between excellence and zero.
	<i>Vivá Voce</i>.....	...	...	...	About 58 per cent. of good answers. <i>Vivá voce</i> parsing not very brilliant.
LOWER SCHOOL. I.—B. 25 Boys.	French	64	85	27	Very good except in sentences.
I.—A. 26 Boys.	"	65	85	50	Very good except in the sentences.
II.—B. 23 Boys.	"	76	88	58	Very good, fair in sentences.
II.—A. 20 Boys.	"	77	89	57	Very good. Sentences better done than in 2 B.
III.—B. 19 Boys.	"	67	98	45	Good; last questions not well answered.
III.—A. 27 Boys.	"	63	81	40	Good. Better than 3 B in sentences, but not so strong in accidence. In all these lower school divisions the accidence is well known so far as the boys have gone, but they need constant practice in easy translation from French to English, and from English to French.
UPPER SCHOOL. DIVISION I. 16 Boys.	French	64	92	34	Very good all round. Translation better than that of Modern I. Composition—satisfactory.
DIVISION II. 23 Boys.	"	54	81	30	Good in general. Translation into French—indifferent. Sentences done badly. These boys do not know the rules as to position of personal pronouns in a French sentence.
DIVISION III. 23 Boys.	"	64	84	42	Very good. Ten pages of the author is very little to read in a year. The choice of author is scarcely a happy one.
DIVISION IV. 25 Boys. MODERN.	"	46	74	30	Good. I still think the boys of this division might read an easy author.
DIVISION I. 8 Boys.	"	61	75	51	Grammar—good. Translation—unsatisfactory. No boy in the division translated the first two lines of the passage from "Le Cid" correctly.
DIVISION II. 16 Boys.	"	50	72	16	Grammar—fair. One mistake in translation universal.
DIVISION III. 24 Boys.	"	55	78	26	Grammar—good. Translation in general not so good as it might be.
DIVISION IV. 14 Boys.	"	40	54	30	A fair result, not quite equal to that of the corresponding division in the upper school.

CLASSICS AND MATHEMATICS—UPPER AND LOWER SCHOOL

Form.	Subjects.	Percental Results			Remarks.
		Average.	Highest.	Lowest.	
DIVISION V. 27 Boys.	French.....	37	65	16	
DIVISION I. 5 Boys.	German.....	60	81	46	Grammar and translation—very good, but composition and sentences—indifferent. The boys in the first German division of the Modern Side should translate English into German much better than they do.
DIVISION II. 14 Boys.	„	62	84	36	Translation from German very good. English into German exceedingly bad.
DIVISION III. 25 Boys.	„	48	72	25	Some papers very good. The boys in general are not accurate in Grammar, have a limited vocabulary, and know very little about the construction of a sentence.
MODERN I. 21 Boys.	Special History	38	75	11	Not quite a satisfactory result. Question 1—badly answered. One very good paper.
24 Boys.	English Composition	45	85	18	A few essays very good. The majority indifferent.
MODERN II. 20 Boys.	Special History	51	85	19	Some very good papers. Questions 6 and 7 not well done.
27 Boys.	General History	44	74	25	Question 6 not answered. Questions 1, 3, 5, 8, badly answered.
25 Boys.	English Composition	55	70	35	The compositions in the divisions are in general promising. A few are very good both in matter and arrangement.
MODERN III. 21 Boys.	Special History	46	73	21	Questions 6, 7, 8, 9, not well done.
24 Boys.	General History	44	59	19	These boys sometimes answered correctly part of a question which had been wrongly answered by every boy in Division II.
23 Boys.	English Composition... ..	42	60	25	Fair all round.
MODERN IV. 22 Boys.	English History	48	75	28	A fair result.
20 Boys.	English Composition	44	70	10	Punctuation not well understood, and the personal pronouns used in a strange confused way.
22 Boys.	English Grammar and Author.	59	72	44	Good knowledge of the text and allusions. Analysis might be improved. Questions 6, 7, 8, fairly answered.
24 boys.	Geography	41	73	16	Questions 2, 3, 4, satisfactory. Maps—bad.
MODERN V. 22 boys.	English History	35	61	16	The answers show abundant proof of the influence of the text-book, the form being strong in trivial anecdotes and a little weak in important facts.
22 boys.	English Composition	37	60	10	Too much bad grammar and slang.
21 boys.	English Grammar and Author.	35	57	18	Question 1, not answered as the form had not finished "The Traveller." Fair knowledge of the meaning of allusions. Analysis bad. Questions 6, 7, good.
22 boys.	Geography	37	70	19	Maps rather better done than by Modern IV.
DIVISION I. 14 boys.	Chemistry.....	54	74	28	Question 2. Principal points of reason for answer either omitted or wrongly stated. Question 3. In no case was the correct result sent in. Question 5. Only one boy gave the correct equation. In other respect satisfactory. Two boys showed excellent work and the papers of three others were decidedly good.
DIVISION II. 21 boys.	„	29	69	8	
DIVISION III. 25 boys.	„	20	59	...	
UPPER SCHOOL. DIVISION I. 16 boys. 2 absent.	Arithmetic	62	84	31	Paper rather harder than that set last year; the marks obtained greatly diminished. I think that the division ought to have done better.
	Algebra to Binomial	44	65	25	Better on the whole than last year, specially in the higher part of the paper. Wanting in finish in the harder examples; they go far enough to show that they know the method to be applied; but stop short where a little originality is required.
11 boys.	Euclid, Books I-VI.	55	79	38	Propositions well written out; it is a pity that they do not do more riders. Eleven papers sent up; two very creditable, and five very fair.
1 boy.	Analytical Conics and Differential Calculus.				One paper, sent in by Taylor, shows good knowledge of the subjects as far as he has read.
4 boys.	Mechanics and Geometrical Conics.				Four papers in mechanics and two in conics. The standard is rather lower than last year, but two papers in each subject are very promising.
DIVISION II. 25 boys. 2 absent.	Arithmetic	53	79	28	Work is accurate, but they are inclined to shirk questions in decimals and fractions.
	Algebra to Quadratics.....	44	65	25	Work accurate and neat, but the standard of the class not quite so high as it was last year, or as the position of the division in the school requires.
DIVISION III. 25 boys. 1 absent.	Euclid, Books I-VI.....	57	69	34	Book work very well written out; but they sometimes cut it too short. Riders not much attempted.
	Arithmetic	50	81	23	Not a very strong division, but the work is well done and the class well together.
	Algebra to Simultaneous Simple Equations.	54	97	27	Work very variable; some good, others very bad.
	Euclid, Books I-III	63	97	30	Well drilled; show a good acquaintance with the minutiae of the propositions.
DIVISION IV. 28 boys. 1 absent.	Arithmetic to Compound Interest.	40	79	20	This division has not done well as a rule. Their work is very inaccurate.
	Algebra to Equations	41	70	19	Best subject of this class. Weak in G.C.M. and L.C.M.
	Euclid, Books I and II....	39	78	13	Results in this subject very poor. Very few of the boys can be trusted to write out a proposition correctly.

MATHEMATICS—UPPER AND LOWER SCHOOL—continued.

Division.	Subjects	Percental Results			Remarks.
		Average.	Highest.	Lowest.	
DIVISION V. 29 boys. 1 absent.	Arithmetic to Compound Interest.	51	72	26	A very good division as far as they go. They would have done better, but for the employment of clumsy methods of working in some questions. Results sent up without work in too many instances; otherwise very good.
	Algebra to Simple Equations.	57	100	23	
DIVISION VI. 32 boys. 3 absent.	Div. I. Euclid Book I.	66	94	38	} Ought to learn to divide their propositions up into steps to a greater extent in writing them out, otherwise excellent.
	Division II. Book 1-25 ...	74	100	36	
DIVISION VII. 27 boys. 5 absent.	Arithmetic	52	77	33	Quite satisfactory. Very various. Display a good deal of intelligence in their work, considering that they are quite beginners.
	Algebra and Euclid Elementary.				
JUNIOR I. 23 boys. 3 absent.	Arithmetic	45	84	20	Averaged on the same standard as the two top divisions. Work good, but more boys ought to have attempted the theoretical question.
	Algebra various to Quadratics.	42	87	25	
JUNIOR II. 27 boys.	Euclid Books I-IV	59	85	23	Decidedly good, some very fair attempts at problems.
	Arithmetic	54	89	27	
LOWER SCHOOL. DIVISION I. 30 boys.	Algebra to Equations	54	78	25	Satisfactory, but I was disappointed to find that no one was successful with the problem.
	Euclid, Books I and II ...	55	77	31	
DIVISION II. 25 boys. 1 absent.	Propositions well written out, but with two many slips, due apparently to carelessness or hurry.				The material not quite so good as last year. Good with the exception of factors and fractions. Rather inaccurate.
	Arithmetic to Discount ...	58	84	27	
DIVISION III. 24 boys. 2 absent.	Algebra various to Equations.	...	...	...	Work particularly good, specially in decimals and fractions. Class includes several very promising boys; good average class on the whole. Very fair.
	Euclid various to Book II.	...	...	...
DIVISION IV. 27 boys.	Arithmetic to Simple Interest.	60	88	39	Satisfactory. Good work for beginners.
	Algebra .....	...	...	...
DIVISION V. 25 boys. 4 absent.	Euclid .....	...	...	...	Averaged on standard nearly as high as division above them. Work much more fully shown than by Divisions II and III.
	Arithmetic to Proportion..	52	66	25	
DIVISION VI. 27 boys. 2 absent.	Algebra .....	...	...	...	Quite satisfactory. Do not go very high, but work well as far as they do go.
	Arithmetic to Decimals ...	51	84	34	
DIVISION VII. 30 boys.	Arithmetic to Fractions ...	59	88	21	A good general result.
	Arithmetic to Weights and Measures.	54	76	31	
	Arithmetic, elementary ...	...	...	...	The upper portion of this division averaged 62 per cent. on the same standard as Division VI. An excellent result. The lower boys are mere beginners.

[*Supplement to the Australian Museum Report for 1888.*]

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

TECHNOLOGICAL, INDUSTRIAL, AND SANITARY MUSEUM.

(REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT FOR 1888.)

Presented to Parliament pursuant to Act 17 Vic. No. 2, sec. 9.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL,—

The Trustees of the Australian Museum, incorporated by the Act 17 Victoria No. 2, have the honor to submit to your Excellency in Council, in accordance with the 9th section of that Act, this, the Ninth Annual Report of the Committee of Management of the Technological, Industrial, and Sanitary Museum.

1. The business of the Museum has been conducted by the same Committee as in the previous year, namely,—Sir Alfred Roberts, M.R.C.S., E.; Robert Hunt, Esq., C.M.G., F.G.S.; and Professor Liversidge, M.A., F.R.S.

2. The Museum has continued open every afternoon (Good Friday and Christmas Day alone excepted) during the year 1888. A statement of the number of visitors for the year will be found in Appendix II of this Report. The attendance of visitors continues to fall off, though the diminution in number as compared with 1887 is not so great as the Committee had to regret in last year's Report.

3. The falling off of the attendance of the public is clearly attributable to the impossibility of examining the exhibits, owing to the crowded state of the building. The mere storage of the goods for exhibition has rendered it necessary to encroach very largely upon the floor space. Numbers of specimens are packed upon each other in the show-cases, and many of the latter stand upon each other. Numerous valuable exhibits are packed away and cannot at present be otherwise dealt with. Every possible precaution against danger from fire has been taken, but the Committee feel that no means which they can adopt in the present building would prevent the total destruction of the collection in case of fire breaking out. The Committee feel the more anxious while contemplating this probability as the Museum has already been totally destroyed by fire, and the consequences of a second conflagration would be far more serious to the interests of the Museum than even the first one was. The Committee have felt it their duty to wait upon the Minister for Public Instruction, and represent to him the very serious state of the Museum, and are assured that he will give it his most earnest attention.

4. The Committee have the pleasant duty to report that the acquisition of suitable specimens, both by donation and purchase, has been important during the past year. They particularly desire to notice the munificent gift of Messrs. Whitbread & Co., brewers, of London, of a beam engine, by James Watt, the celebrated natural philosopher and civil engineer, which, originally erected in 1785, has been working ever since, and was only pulled down in 1887 to make room for a larger one. It is believed that it is the best existing specimen of its kind, and it is accordingly of great historical interest. The Committee also take this opportunity of acknowledging their indebtedness to Mr. E. A. Cowper, the well-known engineer, of London, for the great assistance he gave in helping to secure this gift.

The Committee hope soon to be able to report the acquisition of a building in which this valuable educational exhibit can be suitably displayed; meantime, it has been stored in a dry warehouse, and every care has been taken of it.

Messrs.

316—A

[2,153 copies—Approximate cost of printing (labour and material), £48 3s. 6d.]

Messrs. John Priestman & Co., Ashfield Mills, Bradford, Yorkshire, have generously presented a very valuable collection (in show-case) of merino wool in various stages of manufacture. This forms an imposing and instructive exhibit. The collection of raw wools (chiefly Australian) has received important additions during the past year, and the total exhibit of wools is one of the most useful and valuable in the Colonies. This has been secured through the generous co-operation of growers, and much labour on the part of Mr. Alfred Hawkesworth, Honorary Wool-classer to the Museum.

The Committee have to report the receipt of a further magnificent collection of specimens of economic botany from the Director of the Royal Gardens, Kew. The value of the gift cannot fully be estimated by the catalogue given in Appendix IV.

The Committee beg to add to this, their Report, the following Appendices :—

- I. Balance-sheet for the year ending 31st December, 1888.
- II. Attendance of visitors.
- III. List of specimens purchased.
- IV. List of specimens presented.
- V. List of specimens lent to the Museum.
- VI. List of books, periodicals, &c., purchased.
- VII. List of books, periodicals, &c., presented.
- VIII. List of diagrams, maps, &c., purchased.
- IX. List of diagrams, maps, &c., presented.
- X. List of specimens sent away in exchange.

The Common Seal of the Museum is affixed by order of the Board, this sixth day of August, 1889.

ALFRED ROBERTS,
ROBERT HUNT,
A. LIVERSIDGE, } Members of
Committee.

ALFRED STEPHEN, Crown Trustee.

J. H. MAIDEN,
Curator and Secretary.

APPENDIX I.

BALANCE-SHEET of the Technological Museum of New South Wales for the year ending
31st December, 1888.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
The Honorable the Treasurer—Vote for 1888	3,400 0 0	Salaries	1,036 7 9
Amount expended in London on behalf of		Models, apparatus, and chemicals	102 12 7
this Museum by the Agent-General of		Show and other cases ..	180 5 6
New South Wales	0 8 0	Bottles	126 3 0
	3,399 12 0	Furniture	26 2 6
		Stationery	33 8 8
		Freights ..	165 14 8
		Sundries	72 13 1
		Ironmongery	65 0 2
		Painters' materials	19 15 6
		Timber	71 18 4
		Labels	150 0 0
		Advertising	6 5 0
		Books, maps, and diagrams	519 16 7
		Collecting specimens	252 6 11
		Uniforms	14 2 9
		Exchanges, postages, &c.	9 10 8
		Insurance	77 2 6
		Night watchman	100 0 0
		Purchase of specimens	256 14 4
		Additions to premises	13 2 2
		Mounting specimens	506 15 6
		Exhibitions	54 10 7
		Refunds	14 7 9
Total receipts	3,399 12 0	Total expenditure	3,874 16 6
Balance from 1888—		Balance to 1889—	
Union Bank	£1,079 14 2	Union Bank	£609 0 5
Cash in hand	4 19 8	Cash in hand	0 8 11
	1,084 13 10		609 9 4
£	4,484 5 10	£	4,484 5 10

APPENDIX II.

ATTENDANCE (AFTERNOONS ONLY) OF VISITORS DURING 1888.

	Sundays.	Week-days.
January	1,473	4,392
February	894	2,409
March	1,057	2,414
April	1,375	2,046
May	1,084	2,042
June	1,094	2,289
July	1,243	1,627
August	950	1,569
September	952	1,609
October	889	2,021
November	657	1,789
December	825	1,914
	12,493	26,121
Total	38,614	
Largest Sunday attendance, January 20th		386
Largest week-day attendance, January 26th		376

APPENDIX III.
PURCHASES (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
ECONOMIC ZOOLOGY.	
February 15.	
18,035	Two dressed sides of Porpoise Leather, blackened and waxed on both sides, suitable for boot-laces.
February 16.	
18,032	Rough-tanned whole Whale Hide, Southern baleen Whale (<i>Megaptera australis</i>).
18,034b	Fine rough-tanned sides Australian Porpoise Leather (<i>Delphinus Forsteri</i>), dressed on grain side and buffed; suitable for boot-uppers.
18,033a	Fine rough-tanned sides Porpoise Leather; suitable for belt-laces for machinery.
May 1.	
18,323	Deerskin, tanned (Swinhoe's Deer, <i>Cervus Swinhoei</i>), Formosa.
June 29.	
18,551	Two Ivory Tusks of Narwhal (<i>Monodon monaceros</i>); length, 6 feet 3½ inches; width, 2¼ inches (at base), 1 inch (at top). Both ends are sawn off; original length may have been 10 feet. Spiral in form; fine complete turns discernible. Have been used for bedposts.
ECONOMIC ENTOMOLOGY.	
Collection of Bee-keeping Appliances, as under:—	
January 31.	
17,828	Alley's Trap for excluding drones, and for retaining swarms.
17,829	Queen Cage "Pipe-cover," for enclosing a queen by pressing the cage into the comb upon some honey-cells.
17,830	Queen Travelling Cage. For sending queen bees through the post.
17,831	Bee Entrance Guard. To exclude drones on returning to their hive when flying out.
17,832	Traps for caging drones.
17,833	Honey-bottle, jar shape.
17,834	Eucalyptus Honey, one bottle.
17,835	Eucalyptus Honey, one can.
17,836	Capsule Screw-top Honey-bottles, two sizes.
17,837	Vegetable Parchment. For covering honey and preserved fruit.
17,838	"Perfection" Feeder. For regulating the supply of food to the bees when there is no honey to be gathered and it is desired to keep the queen laying.
17,839	Round Feeder. Used above the brood nest.
17,840	Simplicity Feeder.
17,841	Smokers, three sizes. For quieting bees by the use of smoke.
17,842	Bertrand's Fumigator. For fumigating bees with salicylic acid in cases of foul brood.
17,843	Spray Diffuser. Used for spraying bees with scented syrup before uniting, also for spraying combs affected with foul brood.
17,844	Dr. Clarke's Bee-keeper's Lotion. For bee stings.
17,845	Cheshire's Cure for Foul Brood.
17,846	Pure Salicylic Acid. Used for fumigating bees to cure foul brood.
17,847	Salicylic Acid and Borax. Used for medicating syrup for feeding bees, as a preventive against foul brood.
17,848	Heavy Artificial Comb Foundation. Used for placing in the frames to form the brood nest, and may be drawn out for extracting.
17,849	Light Artificial Comb Foundation. Used for bees just commencing work in the section-boxes to guide them in the direction to build their comb. Made from sheets of pure beeswax.
17,850	The Lever Foundation Fixer. For fixing foundation into section-boxes by pressure.
17,851	The Roller Foundation Fixer. For fixing foundation into frames and sections.
17,852	"Carlin" Wax-cutter. For cutting wax-comb foundation.
17,853	Cake of Beeswax; weight, 2 lb. 1 oz.
17,854	Wax-melter. This is a double-cased tin kettle. The outer reservoir holds hot water and the inner one contains the wax, which is thus kept in a liquid condition, and may be heated by being placed over a lamp or candle. The wax can be poured out slowly at the spout for cementing the combs or wax sheets so as to fix them in position within frames or sections.
17,855	Knife-heater. When uncapping the combs the knives should be used hot.
17,856	Honey-knives, Roots' large-size blade.
17,857	Honey-knives, Bingham pattern. For uncapping combs previous to extracting the honey.
17,858	Scraper-knife. For cleaning sections and hive.
17,859	Frame Block (for wiring). To hold the frames rigid while the wires are being stretched tightly across them.
17,860	Button-hook Wire-fixer. For pressing the wire into the comb foundation.
17,861	Tinned Wire. For wiring frames.
17,862	Frame Blocks. To hold frames square and true while being nailed.
17,863	Veils. To protect the face when manipulating bees.
17,864	The "Jones" Comb-holder. To hang at the side of the hive for receiving the first frame or two when manipulating.
17,865	Separator. For placing between the rows of sections to ensure a flat surface for the combs and an equal quantity of honey in each section-box.
17,866	Dove-tailed Section-boxes, 1-lb. size.
17,867	Block. For holding the sections square and true while they are being put together.
17,868	Uncapping Tin. Used for holding the comb while the cappings are being removed.

APPENDIX III—*continued.*
PURCHASES (SPECIMENS.)

Museum No.	Date and Description.
17,869	Travelling Honey crate. For section honey; 1-lb. size sections.
17,870	Queen Excluder, zinc. Spaces allow worker bees to pass through, but will prevent the queen or drones from passing.
17,871	Solar Wax-extractor. For smelting wax by the heat of the sun.
17,872	Ant-proof Hive-stand. The zinc trough, being supplied with water, forms an island, thereby isolating the hive from ants.
17,873	Voltaic Cell. For fixing wire into comb foundation.
17,874	Comb Box. For carrying combs to and from the hive when extracting honey.
17,875	Swarm Box. To pack bees for travelling; also very convenient for hiving and transporting a swarm.
17,876	Bar-frame Movable Comb Hive (Langstroth) standard size. Containing ten frames, movable floor-board, reducing entrance $2\frac{1}{2}$ storeys, each fitted with twenty-eight 1-lb. section-boxes.
17,877	Queen Cage (registered). Used for introducing a new queen.
17,878	Bar-frame Movable Comb Hive (Langstroth), standard size. Containing ten frames for brood nest, movable floor-board, reducing entrance, tin runners, and extra body fitted with four frames.
17,879	Centrifugal honey-extractor. To extract honey, remove the cappings with a knife, then place the frames near the wire gratings at each side, one comb against each grating; by turning the handle at a good speed the honey contained in the combs is thrown out of the cells by centrifugal force on to the side of the extractor.
	31 May.
18,464	Honey of Australian Native Bee, from Cambewarra, N.S.W.
	30 June.
18,564a	Wax of Australian Native Bee, from Cambewarra, N.S.W.

ETHNOLOGY.

31 January.

- 17,824 Nardoo stone, from Korningbirry Creek, 100 miles N.W. of Wilcannia, N.S.W. Collected by Mr. W. Bäuerlen.

In Brough Smith's "Aborigines of Victoria," i, 383, will be found a drawing of these stones, such as are used by the natives of the Darling. The following description is given:—

"The slab, generally of sandstone, is about 22 inches in length, 14 inches in breadth, and about 1 inch in thickness.* The handstones (*Wallong*) are round, or of an oval form, and vary in size, one is $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in breadth and $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch in thickness; and another is 6 inches in length, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in breadth, and 3 inches in thickness. The *Wallong* have hollows cut in them, so as to be more easily held by the hand.

"Mr. Howitt says that the stones here figured like those usually seen at Cooper's Creek. In the flat stone there is a depression which leads out to the edge by a channel. In grinding grass, or *Portulaca* seed, a little water is sprinkled in by the left hand, and the seeds being ground with the stone in the right hand form a kind of porridge, which runs out by the channel into a wooden bowl (*Peechee*), or a piece of bark. It may then be baked in the ashes, or eaten, as it is, by using the crooked forefinger as a spoon."

ECONOMIC GEOLOGY.

7 February.

- 17,889 Specimen of Indurated Schist. Tibooburra, N.S.W.
 17,890 Silver-bearing Ironstone (two specimens). Mount Poole, N.S.W.
 17,897 Specimen of Copai, Native Sulphate of Lime, used as a substitute for lime. In making mortar it is mixed with a little more than its own quantity of sand.
 17,909 Gypsum from Whittabranah, Tibooburra.
 17,910 Gypsum from Yantara Lake, Milparinka.

28 November.

- 19,140 Clay suitable for Fictile Ware. Bounty River, Nerriga.
 19,141 Carbonate of Lead (Crystallized). Captain's Flat, Bungendore.

ECONOMIC BOTANY.

8 May.

- 18,362-3 Specimens of Japanese Pine (*Cryptomeria japonica*), polished and unpolished.

28 May.

- 18,451 Black Wattle Gum (*Acacia decurrens*). Sold in Sydney as "Chewing Gum."

Specimens to illustrate the utilization of Colonial Woods, as follows:—

14 June.

- 18,476 One Handspike. "Tallowwood." (*Eucalyptus microcorys*)
 18,477 One Picket. "Tallowwood."
 18,478 One Handspike. "Blackbutt." (*Eucalyptus pilularis*?)
 18,479 One Picket. "Blackbutt."
 18,480 One Handspike. "Blue Gum." (*Eucalyptus saligna*)
 18,480a One Picket. "Blue Gum."

* In the Technological Museum is a very fine pair of stones from the Korningbirry Creek, 100 miles N.W. of Wilcannia, and 80 miles south of Milparinka, N.S.W. The material is of fine-grained sandstone, inclining to quartzite. The dimensions of the bed-stone are 23" x 14" (widest part) x $3\frac{1}{2}$ " to 2", while those of the hand-stone are $5\frac{1}{2}$ " x 4" x $1\frac{1}{4}$ ". The hand-stone has no hollow cut in it, but it is well worn, and it is, of course, impossible to say what its original thickness was.

APPENDIX III—continued.
PURCHASES (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
29 June.	
18,517	One Patent Double Block. "Blackwood." (<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i> .)
18,518	One Patent Single Block. "Blackwood."
18,519	One Patent Double Block. "Beech." (<i>Gmelina Leichhardtii</i> .)
18,520	One Patent Single Block. "Beech."
18,521	One Small-size Double Block, 5½ inches. "Blackwood."
18,522	One Small-size Double Block, 5½ inches. "Blackwood." (With <i>lignum vitæ</i> pulleys.)
18,523	One Jib-sheet Block, 8 inches. "Beech." (With <i>lignum vitæ</i> pulleys.)
18,524	One Match Block, 7½ inches. "Beech." (With <i>lignum vitæ</i> pulleys.)
18,525	One Pair Dead Eyes, 7 inches. "Blackwood."
18,526	One Leader, 4 inches. "Cedar."
18,527	One Leader, 4 inches. "Cedar."
18,528	One Leader, 4 inches. "Cedar."
18,529	One Truck, 5 inches. "Beech."
18,530	One Belaying Pin. "Blue Gum?" (<i>E. saligna</i> .)
18,531	One Belaying Pin. "Blackwood."
18,532	One Cedar Table-leg, 6 inches.
18,533	One Cedar Table-leg, 5 inches, for Casters.
18,534	One Pair Shafts. "Ironbark." (<i>Eucalyptus siderophloia</i> .)
18,535	One Pair Shafts. "Spotted Gum." (<i>Eucalyptus maculata</i> .)
18,536	One Pair Shafts. "Blackwood." (<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i> .)
18,537	One Pair Rims. "Blackwood." (<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i> .)
18,538	One Pair Canoe Fronts. "Blackwood." (<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i> .)
18,539	One Pair Cart-rails. "Blackwood." (<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i> .)
18,540	One Pair Cart-rails. "Blackwood." (<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i> .)
18,541	One Pair Cart-rails. "Blackwood." (<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i> .)
18,542	Two Pair Seat-rails. "Blackwood."
18,543	One Pair Cart-rails. "Mountain Ash."
18,544	One Pair Cart-rails. "Mountain Ash"
18,545	One Pair Cart-rails. "Mountain Ash."
18,546	Two Splash-boards. "Kauri Pine."
18,547	Two Riddle Hoops. "Kauri Pine."
18,548	One Sieve Hoop. "Kauri Pine."
18,549	One Set Waggon Bows. "Mountain Ash" and "Blackwood."
The following logs of timber from The Valley, Blue Mountains :—	
19 July.	
18,570	<i>Angophora lanceolata</i> ; Cav. "Apple-tree."
18,571	<i>Eucalyptus eugenioides</i> ; Sieb. "Stringy-bark."
18,572	<i>E. corymbosa</i> ; Sm. "Bloodwood."
18,573	<i>Casuarina torulosa</i> ; Ait. "Forest Oak."
18,574-5	Two Cabbage-tree Hats made from the leaves of an Australian Palm. (<i>Livistona australis</i> , Mart.) These particular specimens came from the Illawarra District of N.S.W. The leaves are boiled, dried, and then bleached preparatory to weaving.
June 15.	
18,433	Kino (B.P.) Probably the produce of <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> .
October 3.	
19,070	<i>Araucaria Cunninghamii</i> ; Ait. "Pine." (<i>Coniferæ</i> .) Richmond River, N.S.W. Collecting plate.
19,071	<i>Gmelina Leichhardtii</i> ; F. v. M. "Beech." (<i>Verbenacæ</i> .) Richmond River, N.S.W. Finial.
19,072-3	<i>Cryptocarya glaucescens</i> ; R. Br. "She Beech." (<i>Laurinæ</i> .) Nambuccera, N.S.W. Baluster; also specimen in the rough.
19,074-5	<i>Endiandra glauca</i> ; R. Br. "Teak." (<i>Laurinæ</i> .) Tweed River, N.S.W. Baluster; also sample of timber in the rough.
19,076-7	"Black Bean." (<i>Leguminosæ</i> .) Clarence River, N.S.W. Masonic column; also specimen of timber in rough.
19,078	<i>Gmelina Leichhardtii</i> ; F. v. M. "Beech." (<i>Verbenacæ</i> .) Richmond River, N.S.W. Specimen of timber.
19,079-80	"Red Bean." (<i>Leguminosæ</i> .) Clarence River, N.S.W. Chair-leg; also specimen of timber in the rough.
19,081	<i>Casuarina</i> sp. "Oak." (<i>Casuarinæ</i> .) Nepean River, N.S.W. Cornice-pole.
19,082	<i>Eucalyptus resinifera</i> ; Sm. "Mahogany." (<i>Myrtacæ</i> .) Myall Lakes, N.S.W. Table-leg.
19,083	"Ash." Richmond River, N.S.W. Hand-screw.
19,084	<i>Araucaria Cunninghamii</i> ; Ait. "Colonial Pine." (<i>Coniferæ</i> .) Richmond River, N.S.W. Carved bracket for mantelpiece.
19,085-6	<i>Dysoxylon</i> sp. "Rosewood." (<i>Meliacæ</i> .) Myall Lakes, N.S.W. Newel-post; also specimen of timber in the rough.
October 5.	
19,092	<i>Eucalyptus rostrata</i> ; Schlecht. "Red Gum." (<i>Myrtacæ</i> .) Melbourne. Kino.
December 4.	
19,146	<i>Eucalyptus resinifera</i> ; Sm. "Forest Mahogany." (<i>Myrtacæ</i> .) Nambuccera River, near the Bellinger River, N.S.W. Obtained through the Forest Branch, Lands Department, Sydney.

APPENDIX III—*continued.*
PURCHASES (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
The following specimens have been acquired by the Collector for the Museum:—	
February 7.	
17,883	<i>Acacia cibaria</i> ; F. v. M. (Leguminosæ.) Olive Downs, Tibooburra, Grey Ranges, N.S.W. Seeds used as food by the Aborigines.
17,884	<i>Hakea lorea</i> ; R. Br. "Cork-tree." (Proteaceæ.) Olive Downs, Tibooburra, Grey Ranges, N.S.W. Log.
17,886	<i>Crinum flaccidum</i> ; Herbert. "Darling Lily." (Amaryllideæ.) Olive Downs, Tibooburra, Grey Ranges, N.S.W. An arrowroot is made from these bulbs, which may be used as food in times of scarcity.
17,891-3	<i>Eucalyptus terminalis</i> ; F. v. M. "Bloodwood." (Myrtaceæ.) Whittabranah, Tibooburra, Grey Ranges. Log, bark, and kino.
17,894	<i>Atalaya hemiglaucæ</i> ; F. v. M. "White-wood." (Sapindaceæ.) Whittabranah, Tibooburra, Grey Ranges. Log.
17,895	<i>Acacia aneura</i> ; F. v. M. "Mulga." (Leguminosæ.) Whittabranah, Tibooburra, Grey Ranges. Insect galls; used as food occasionally.
17,896	<i>Grevillea striata</i> ; R. Br. "Beefwood." (Proteaceæ.) Whittabranah, Tibooburra, Grey Ranges, N.S.W. Resin.
17,898	<i>Acacia sentis</i> ; F. v. M. "Prickly Acacia." (Leguminosæ.) Whittabranah, Tibooburra, Grey Ranges, N.S.W. Gum.
17,899	<i>Acacia salicina</i> ; Lindl. "Native Willow." (Leguminosæ.) Whittabranah, Tibooburra, Grey Ranges, N.S.W. Insect galls.
17,900-2	<i>Acacia homalophylla</i> ; A. Cunn. "Gidjah." (Leguminosæ.) Whittabranah, Tibooburra, Grey Ranges, N.S.W. Log, bark, leaves.
17,903-4	<i>Acacia</i> sp. (Leguminosæ.) Mount Wood, Tibooburra. Bark, leaves.
17,905	<i>Acacia</i> sp. (Leguminosæ.) Mount Wood, Tibooburra. Insect galls, 1st kind.
17,906	<i>Acacia</i> sp. (Leguminosæ.) Mount Wood, Tibooburra. Insect galls (aromatic), 2nd kind.
17,907	<i>Acacia pendula</i> ; A. Cunn. "Nilyah" (Leguminosæ.) Mount Wood, Tibooburra. Insect galls.
17,908	<i>Owenia acidula</i> ; F. v. M. "Mooley Apple." (Meliaceæ.) Mount Wood, Tibooburra. Timber (log).
17,912	<i>Acacia stenophylla</i> ; A. Cunn. (Leguminosæ.) Yantara. Leaves and bark.
March 29.	
18,193	<i>Acacia decurrens</i> ; Willd. "Green Wattle." (Leguminosæ.) Nerriga, N.S.W. Bark.
18,194	<i>Eucalyptus maculata</i> ; Hook. "Spotted Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Nowra, N.S.W. Kino.
18,195	<i>Eucalyptus eugenioides</i> ; Sieb. "Stringy-bark." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra, N.S.W. Kino.
April 4.	
18,216	<i>Eucalyptus corymbosa</i> ; Sm. "Bloodwood." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
April 7.	
18,217	<i>Cedrela australis</i> ; F. v. M. "Red Cedar." (Meliaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,218	<i>Tristania laurina</i> ; R. Br. "Water Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Bangley Creek, Cambewarra. Bark.
18,219	<i>Angophora intermedia</i> ; DC. "Apple-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Bangley Creek, Cambewarra. Liquid kino.
18,220	<i>Angophora intermedia</i> ; DC. "Apple-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Bangley Creek, Cambewarra. Kino.
18,221	<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i> ; Andr. (Pittosporææ.) Cambewarra. Gum-resin (aromatic).
18,222	<i>Eucalyptus eugenioides</i> ; Sieb. "Stringybark." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
18,223	<i>Acacia binervata</i> ; DC. "Black Wattle." (Leguminosæ.) Cambewarra. Insect galls.
April 16.	
18,247	<i>Eucalyptus botryoides</i> ; Sm. "White Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
April 18.	
18,297	<i>Macrozamia spiralis</i> ; Lehm. "Burrawang." (Cycadeæ.) Cambewarra. Gum from the fruit stalk.
18,298	<i>Angophora intermedia</i> ; DC. "Apple-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Liquid kino.
18,299	<i>Banksia serrata</i> ; Linn. "Honeysuckle." (Proteaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
May 1.	
18,324	<i>Eucalyptus corymbosa</i> ; Sm. "Bloodwood." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
18,325	<i>Eucalyptus botryoides</i> ; Sm. "White" or "Scribbly Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
18,326	<i>Angophora intermedia</i> ; DC. "Apple-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
18,327	<i>Casuarina suberosa</i> ; Otto & Diet. "Forest Oak." (Casuarineæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,328	<i>Acacia decurrens</i> ; Willd. "Green Wattle." (Leguminosæ.) Braidwood. Bark.
18,329	<i>Acacia binervata</i> ; DC. "Blackwattle." (Leguminosæ.) Tomerong, Nowra, N.S.W. Bark.
18,330	<i>Eucalyptus corymbosa</i> ; Sm. "Bloodwood." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
18,331	<i>Eucalyptus punctata</i> ; DC. "Grey Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
May 5.	
18,345	<i>Syncarpia laurifolia</i> ; Ten. "Turpentine-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,346	<i>Ceratopetalum gummiferum</i> ; Sm. "Christmas-bush." (Saxifragææ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,347	<i>Eucalyptus punctata</i> ; DC. "Grey Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,348	<i>Eucalyptus botryoides</i> ; Sm. "White" or "Scribbly Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,349	<i>Macrozamia spiralis</i> ; Lehm. "Burrawang." (Cycadeæ.) Cambewarra. Gum.

APPENDIX III—*continued*.
PURCHASES (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
May 4.	
18,350	<i>Ceratopetalum gummiferum</i> ; Sm. "Christmas-bush." (Saxifragæ.) Cambewarra. Gum. (Kinoid.)
18,351	<i>Acacia binervata</i> ; DC. "Black Wattle." (Leguminosæ.) Cambewarra. Piece of timber.
18,352	<i>Acacia binervata</i> ; DC. "Black Wattle." (Leguminosæ.) Cambewarra. Log (31).
18,353	<i>Syncarpia laurifolia</i> ; Ten. "Turpentine-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Log (32).
May 5.	
18,354	<i>Eucalyptus botryoides</i> ; Sm. "White" or "Scribbly Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (33).
18,355	<i>Eucalyptus corymbosa</i> ; Sm. "Bloodwood." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (34).
18,356	<i>Eucalyptus punctata</i> ; DC. "Grey Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (35).
18,357	<i>Casuarina suberosa</i> ; Otto & Diet. "Forest Oak." (Casuarinæ.) Cambewarra. Log (36).
18,358	<i>Ceratopetalum gummiferum</i> ; Sm. "Christmas-bush." (Saxifragæ.) Cambewarra. Log (37).
May 11.	
18,366	<i>Banksia serrata</i> ; Linn. "Honeysuckle." (Proteaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (38); from trunk.
18,367	<i>Banksia serrata</i> ; Linn. "Honeysuckle." (Proteaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (39); from limb.
18,368	<i>Cryptocarya</i> sp. "Cork-tree." (Lauraceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (40).
18,369	<i>Eucalyptus amygdalina</i> , var.; Labill. (No local name.) (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (41).
18,370	<i>Cryptocarya</i> sp. "Cork-tree." (Lauraceæ.) Bark.
18,371	<i>Eugenia Smithii</i> ; Poir. "Lillypilly." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,372	<i>Sterculia diversifolia</i> ; G. Don. "Kurrajong." (Sterculiaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,373-4	<i>Syncarpia laurifolia</i> ; Ten. "Turpentine-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Oleo-resin and fruit.
18,375	<i>Eucalyptus botryoides</i> ; Sm. "White Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
18,376	<i>Eucalyptus punctata</i> ; DC. "Grey Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
18,377	<i>Eucalyptus botryoides</i> ; Sm. "White Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Insect galls.
18,378	<i>Eucalyptus eugenioides</i> ; Sieb. "Stringybark." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Insect galls.
May 21.	
18,431	<i>Eucalyptus maculata</i> ; Hook. "Spotted Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (42).
18,435-6	<i>Melia composita</i> ; Willd. "White Cedar." (Meliaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (43), and also bark.
18,437	<i>Duboisia myoporoides</i> ; R. Br. "Cork-tree." (Solanaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (44).
18,438-9	<i>Eugenia myrtifolia</i> ; Sims. "Red Myrtle." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (45) and bark.
18,440	<i>Eucalyptus amygdalina</i> ; Labill. (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,441	<i>Cupania semiglaucæ</i> ; F. v. M. (Sapindaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (46).
18,442	<i>Phyllanthus Ferdinandi</i> ; J.M. "Pencil Cedar." (Euphorbiaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (47).
18,443	<i>Cryptocarya glaucescens</i> ; R. Br. "Beech." (Lauraceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (48).
18,444	<i>Baloghia lucida</i> ; Endl. "Brush Bloodwood." (Euphorbiaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (49).
May 11.	
18,445	<i>Acacia decurrens</i> ; Willd. "Green Wattle." (Leguminosæ.) Cambewarra. Log (50).
18,446	<i>Cupania semiglaucæ</i> ; F. v. M. (Sapindaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,447	<i>Phyllanthus Ferdinandi</i> ; F. v. M. "Pencil Cedar." (Euphorbiaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,448	<i>Baloghia lucida</i> ; Endl. "Brush Bloodwood." (Euphorbiaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
May 31.	
18,452	<i>Eucalyptus maculata</i> ; Hook. "Spotted Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Small slab timber (dressed).
18,453	<i>Syncarpia laurifolia</i> ; Ten. "Turpentine-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Timber (dressed).
18,454-5	<i>Stenocarpus salignus</i> ; R. Br. "Beefwood" or "Silky Oak." (Proteaceæ.) Cambewarra. Timber (dressed), and also a sample in the rough.
18,456	<i>Baloghia lucida</i> ; Endl. "Brush Bloodwood." (Euphorbiaceæ.) Timber (rough).
18,457	<i>Persoonia linearis</i> ; Andr. "Geebung." (Proteaceæ.) Cambewarra. Timber (rough).
18,458	<i>Eucalyptus punctata</i> ; DC. "Grey Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Timber (rough).
18,459-60	<i>Macrozamia spiralis</i> ; Lehm. "Burravang." (Cycadeæ.) Cambewarra. Hairy covering from fronds (Australian Pulu.) Gum from the same species.
18461	<i>Ceratopetalum gummiferum</i> ; Sm. "Christmas-bush." (Saxifragæ.) Cambewarra. Kinoid gum.
18,462	<i>Syncarpia laurifolia</i> ; Ten. "Turpentine-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Oleo-resin.
18,463	<i>Gymnostachys anceps</i> ; R. Br. "Settlers' twine." (Aroideæ.) Cambewarra. These long leaves are used for tying the legs of pigs, for hay-bands, &c., by farmers.
18,465	<i>Eucalyptus botryoides</i> ; Sm. "Blackbutt." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (51).
18,466	<i>Ficus rubiginosa</i> ; Desf. "Fig-tree." (Urticaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (52).
18,467	<i>Evodia micrococca</i> ; F. v. M. (Rutaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (53).
18,468	<i>Bursaria spinosa</i> ; Cav. "Boxthorn." (Pittosporæ.) Cambewarra. Log (54).

APPENDIX III—*continued*.
PURCHASES—(SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
18,469	<i>Eucalyptus botryoides</i> ; Sm. "Blackbutt." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,470	<i>Ficus rubiginosa</i> ; Desf. "Fig-tree." (Urticaceæ.) Cambewarra. Cross-section of the stem.
18,471	<i>Evodia micrococca</i> ; F. v. M. (Rutaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
June 18.	
18,484	<i>Eucalyptus siderophloia</i> ; Benth. "Ironbark." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (55).
18,485	<i>Ceratopetalum apetalum</i> ; D. Don. "Coachwood" or "Leather-jacket." (Saxifrageæ.) Cambewarra. Log (56).
18,486	<i>Cupania semiglauca</i> ; F. v. M. (Sapindaceæ.) Cambewarra. (Log 57).
18,487	<i>Backhousia myrtifolia</i> ; Hook. "Grey Myrtle." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (58).
18,488	<i>Claoxylon australe</i> ; Baill. (Euphorbiaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (59).
18,489	<i>Ceratopetalum apetalum</i> ; D. Don. (Saxifrageæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
June 22.	
18,490	<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp. (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (60).
18,491	<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp. (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (60a).
18,492	<i>Melaleuca leucadendra</i> ; Linn. "Tea-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (61).
18,493	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> ; Sm. "Blue Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (62).
18,494	<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp.; "Stringybark," "Messmate," or "Peppermint." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (63).
18,495	<i>Ceratopetalum apetalum</i> ; D. Don. (Saxifrageæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,496	<i>Backhousia myrtifolia</i> ; Hook. "Grey Myrtle." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,497	<i>Claoxylon australe</i> ; Baill. (Euphorbiaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,498	<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp.; (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,499	<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp.; (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,500	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> ; Sm. "Blue Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
June 29.	
18,501	<i>Eucalyptus piperita</i> ; Sm. "Peppermint" or "Messmate." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (64).
18,502	<i>Eucalyptus eugenioides</i> ; Sieb. "Stringybark." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (65).
18,502a	<i>Eucalyptus eugenioides</i> ; Sieb. "Stringybark." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,503	<i>Angophora intermedia</i> ; DC. "Apple-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (66).
18,504	<i>Leptospermum flavescens</i> ; Sm. "Tee-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (67).
18,505	<i>Stenocarpus salignus</i> ; R.B. "Beefwood" or "Silky Oak." Proteaceæ. Cambewarra. Log (68).
18,506	<i>Cryptocarya glaucescens</i> . "Black Sarsaparilla" or "Black Beech." (Lauraceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (69).
18,507	<i>Alphitonia excelsa</i> ; Reiss. "Red Ash." (Rhamneæ.) Cambewarra. Log (70).
18,508	<i>Rhodamnia trinervia</i> ; Blume. (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (71).
18,509	<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp. "Stringybark," "Messmate," or "Peppermint." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,510	<i>Eucalyptus piperita</i> ; Sm. "Peppermint," or "Messmate." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,511	<i>Stenocarpus salignus</i> ; R. Br. (Proteaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,512	<i>Stenocarpus salignus</i> ; R. Br. (Proteaceæ.) Cambewarra. Cross-section.
18,513	<i>Cryptocarya</i> sp. "Black Sarsaparilla" or "Black Beech." (Lauraceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,514	<i>Alphitonia excelsa</i> ; Reiss. "Red Ash." (Rhamneæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,515	<i>Rhodamnia trinervia</i> ; Blume. (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,516	<i>Commerçonia Fraseri</i> ; J. Gay. "Kurrajong." (Sterculiaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
June 30.	
18,552	<i>Ceratopetalum apetalum</i> ; D. Don. "Coachwood." (Saxifrageæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
18,553	<i>Eucalyptus punctata</i> ; DC. "Grey Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
18,554	<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp. (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
18,555	<i>Macrozamia spiralis</i> ; Lehm. "Burrawang." (Cycadeæ.) Cambewarra. Gum.
18,556	<i>Cedrela australis</i> ; F. v. M. "Red Cedar." (Meliaceæ.) Cambewarra. Gum.
18,557	<i>Sterculia diversifolia</i> ; G. Don. "Kurrajong." (Sterculiaceæ.) Cambewarra. Inner fibrous bark.
18,558	<i>Commerçonia Fraseri</i> ; J. Gay. "Kurrajong." (Sterculiaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,559	<i>Lambertia formosa</i> ; Sm. "Honeyflower." (Proteaceæ.) Cambewarra. Honey-like liquid from the flowers.
18,560	<i>Hæmodorum teretifolium</i> ; R. Br. (Amaryllideæ.) Cambewarra. Roots, probably capable of yielding a reddish dye.
18,564	<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp. "Hybrid." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. White fungoid substance from the wood.
July 17.	
18,566	<i>Elæocarpus reticulatus</i> , var. <i>Kirtoni</i> ; Sm. "Mountain Ash." (Tiliaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
19,567	<i>Villaresia</i> sp. "Maple." (Olacineæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,568	<i>Diploglottis Cunninghamii</i> ; J. Hook. "Tamarind." (Sapindaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.

APPENDIX III--*continued.*
PURCHASES (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
August 2.	
18,582	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> ; Sm. "Blue Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (62).
18,583	<i>Pseudomorus Brunoniana</i> ; Beau. "Whalebone-tree." (Urticaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (72).
18,584	<i>Eucalyptus robusta</i> ; Sm. "Swamp Mahogany." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log. (79).
18,585	<i>Casuarina glauca</i> ; Sieb. "Swamp Oak." (Casuarinææ.) Cambewarra. Log (80).
18,586	<i>Nephelium leiocarpum</i> ; F. v. M. (Sapindaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (81).
18,587	<i>Elæocarpus</i> sp. "Ash." (Tiliaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log. (82).
18,588	Not yet determined. Cambewarra. Log (83).
18,589	<i>Melaleuca styphelioides</i> ; Sm. "Prickly-leaved Tea-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (84).
18,590	<i>Callistemon salignus</i> ; DC. "Tea-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (85).
18,591	<i>Acacia longifolia</i> ; Willd. "Sally." (Leguminosæ.) Cambewarra. Log (86) and bark.
18,593	<i>Eucalyptus robusta</i> ; Sm. "Swamp Mahogany." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,594-5	<i>Casuarina glauca</i> ; Sieb. "Swamp Oak." (Casuarinææ.) Cambewarra. Cross-section of stem; also bark.
August 16.	
18,940	<i>Eugenia Smithii</i> ; Poir. "Lillypilly." (Myrtaceæ.) Bangle Creek, Cambewarra. Log (73).
18,941	<i>Elæocarpus reticulata</i> ; F. v. M. "Mountain Ash." (Tiliaceæ.) Cambewarra Mountain. Log (74).
18,942	<i>Diploglottis Cunninghamii</i> ; Hook. "Tamarind." (Sapindaceæ.) Cambewarra Mountain. Log (75).
18,943	<i>Villaresia Moorei</i> ; F. v. M. (Olacineæ.) Jasper's Brush, Cambewarra Mountain. Log (76).
18,944	<i>Pennantia Cunninghamii</i> ; Miers. (Olacineæ.) Cambewarra Mountain. Log (77).
18,945	<i>Pennantia Cunninghamii</i> ; Miers. (Olacineæ.) Cambewarra Mountain. Section.
18,946	<i>Rhodamnia trinervia</i> (?); Blume. (Myrtaceæ.) Bomaderry. Log (78).
18,947	<i>Sloanea australis</i> ; F. v. M. (Tiliaceæ.) Cambewarra Mountain. Log (87).
18,948	<i>Sideroxylon laurifolia</i> ; F. v. M. (Sapotaceæ.) Cambewarra Mountain. Log (88).
18,949	"Opossum Wood." Jasper's Brush, Cambewarra Mountain. Log (89).
18,950	<i>Polyosma Cunninghamii</i> ; J. J. Benn. (Saxifrageæ.) Jasper's Brush, Cambewarra Mountain. Log (90).
18,951	<i>Tristania conferta</i> . R. Br. (Myrtaceæ.) Jasper's Brush, Cambewarra Mountain. Log (91).
18,952	<i>Eucryphea Moorei</i> ; F. v. M. (Saxifrageæ.) Cambewarra Mountain. Log (92).
18,953	<i>Dysoxylon</i> (?); Cambewarra Mountain. Log (93).
18,954	<i>Doryphora sassafras</i> ; Endl. (Monimiaceæ.) Cambewarra Mountain. Log (94).
18,955	<i>Elæocarpus cyaneus</i> ; Ait. Tiliaceæ. Cambewarra Mountain. Log (95).
18,956	<i>Panax Murrayana</i> ; F. v. M. (Araliaceæ.) Cambewarra Mountain. Log (96).
18,957	<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i> ; R. Br. (Leguminosæ.) Cambewarra Mountain. Log (97).
18,958	<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i> ; Vent. (Pittosporææ.) Clyde, Cambewarra Mountain. Log (98).
August 23.	
18,961	<i>Achras australis</i> ; R. Br. "Black Apple." (Sapotaceæ.) Cambewarra. Log (99).
18,962	<i>Eucalyptus resinifera</i> ; Sm. "Forest Mahogany." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,963	<i>Sideroxylon laurifolia</i> . "Sycamore." (Sapotaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,964	<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i> ; Andrews. "Cheesewood." (Pittosporææ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,965	<i>Polyosma Cunninghamii</i> ; J. J. Bennett. "Featherwood." (Saxifrageæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,966	<i>Tristania conferta</i> ; R. Br. "Water Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,967	<i>Doryphora sassafras</i> ; Endlich. "Sassafras." (Monimiaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
18,968	<i>Melaleuca styphelioides</i> ; Sm. "Prickly-leaved Tea-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Slab of timber.
18,969	<i>Ficus rubiginosa</i> ; Desf. "Rusty Fig." (Urticaceæ.) Cambewarra. Milky juice (latex).
18,970	<i>Ceratopetalum apetalum</i> ; D. Don. "Leather-jacket"; "Coachwood." (Saxifrageæ.) Cambewarra. Kinoid Gum.
18,971	<i>Eucalyptus robusta</i> ; Sm. "Swamp Mahogany." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
18,972	<i>Eucalyptus piperita</i> ; Sm. "Peppermint." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
18,973	<i>Eucalyptus eugenioides</i> ; Sieb. "Stringybark." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
18,974	<i>Eucalyptus amygdalina</i> ; Schau. "Messmate." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Kino.
18,975	<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i> ; Andr. "Cheesewood." (Pittosporææ.) Cambewarra. Gum-resin.
18,976	<i>Cedrela australis</i> ; F. v. M. "Red Cedar." (Meliaceæ.) Cambewarra. Gum.
September 11.	
19,016	<i>Eucalyptus corymbosa</i> ; Sm. "Bloodwood." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Piece of timber.
19,021	<i>Eucalyptus maculata</i> ; Hook. "Spotted Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Piece of timber.
September 24.	
19,028a	<i>Eucalyptus siderophloia</i> ; Benth. "Red Ironbark." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Small slab of timber.
October 1.	
19,053	<i>Eugenia Smithii</i> ; Poir. "Lillypilly." (Myrtaceæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
19,054	<i>Ceratopetalum apetalum</i> ; D. Don. "Coachwood"; "Leather-jacket." (Saxifrageæ.) Cambewarra. Bark.
19,055	<i>Gmelina Leichhardtii</i> ; F. v. M. "Long Jack." (Verbenaceæ.) Cambewarra. Piece of timber.

APPENDIX III—*continued.*
PURCHASES (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
19,056	<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i> ; Andr. "Cheesewood." (<i>Pittosporaceæ.</i>) Cambewarra. Piece of timber.
19,057	<i>Eucalyptus siderophloia</i> ; Benth. "Ironbark." (<i>Myrtaceæ.</i>) Cambewarra. Kino.
19,058	<i>Ficus rubiginosa</i> ; Desf. "Rusty Fig." (<i>Urticaceæ.</i>) Cambewarra. Milky sap (latex).
October 9.	
19,097	<i>Eucalyptus hemiphloia</i> ; F. v. M. "Box." (<i>Myrtaceæ.</i>) Braidwood. Kino.
November 26.	
19,126-128	<i>Acacia mollissima</i> ; Willd. var. <i>Leichhardtii</i> . F. v. M. (<i>Leguminosæ.</i>) Monga. Gum; timber; bark; the latter being difficult to grind, though used by tanners.
19,129	<i>Eucalyptus goniocalyx</i> ; F. v. M. "Mountain Gum." (<i>Myrtaceæ.</i>) Sugarloaf Mountain, Braidwood. Timber.
19,130	<i>Eucryphia Moorei</i> ; F. v. M. "Plum." (<i>Saxifrageæ.</i>) Braidwood. Timber.
November 28.	
19,131	<i>Hakea macræana</i> ; F. v. M. (<i>Proteaceæ.</i>) Braidwood. Gum.
19,132	<i>Aster argophyllus</i> ; Labill. "Musk." (<i>Compositæ.</i>) Sugarloaf Mountain, Braidwood. Three pieces of timber.
19,133	<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> ; Labill. "Ribbon" or "Manna Gum." (<i>Myrtaceæ.</i>) Monga, Braidwood. Manna.
19,134	<i>Eucalyptus hemiphloia</i> ; F. v. M. "Box" or "White Box." (<i>Myrtaceæ.</i>) Nerriga. Kino.
19,135-6	<i>Eucalyptus amygdalina</i> (?); Labill. "Mountain Ash." (<i>Myrtaceæ.</i>) Sugarloaf Mountain, Braidwood. Kino; bark.
19,137	<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp. "Blue Gum." (<i>Myrtaceæ.</i>) Sugarloaf Mountain, Braidwood. Bark.
19,138-9	<i>Acacia mollissima</i> ; Willd. "Green Wattle." (<i>Leguminosæ.</i>) Bell's Creek, Araluen. Gum; bark.
December 3.	
19,143-5	<i>Aster argophyllus</i> ; Labill. "Musk." (<i>Compositæ.</i>) Sugarloaf Mountain, Braidwood. Log, two slabs, and two thin pieces of timber.
December 17.	
19,147	<i>Eucalyptus goniocalyx</i> ; F. v. M. "Mountain Gum." (<i>Myrtaceæ.</i>) Sugarloaf Mountain, Braidwood. Timber.
19,147A	<i>Eucalyptus amygdalina</i> ? var. "Mountain Ash." (<i>Myrtaceæ.</i>) Sugarloaf Mountain, Braidwood. Timber.
19,141	<i>Leptospermum lanigerum</i> ; Sm. "Tea-tree." (<i>Myrtaceæ.</i>) Monga, Braidwood. Timber.
19,149-50	<i>Hakea macræama</i> ; F. v. M. Sugarloaf Mountain, Braidwood. Bark; gum.
19,151	<i>Cedrela Toona</i> ; Roxb. "Red Cedar." (<i>Meliaceæ.</i>) Cambewarra. Gum.
19,152	<i>Eucalyptus</i> sp. (hybrid). "Blue Gum." (<i>Myrtaceæ.</i>) Bell's Creek, Araluen. Kino.
19,153-4	<i>Acacia mollissima</i> ; var. <i>Leichhardtii</i> . Willd., F. v. M. (<i>Leguminosæ.</i>) Monga. Gum off tree; ditto taken off ground.

EDUCATIONAL APPLIANCES.

Large Drawing Models, as under:—

August 23.

18,977	One square prism.
18,978	" hexagonal prism.
18,979	" cube.
18,980	" cylinder.
18,981	" square pyramid.
18,982	" hexagonal pyramid.
18,983	" cone.
18,984	" globe, and two extra pieces to form base.
18,985	" treble cross.
18,986	" circle, with two extra pieces to form intersecting circles.
18,987	" square.
18,988	" triangle.
18,989	" pentagon.
18,990	" hexagon.
18,991	" Gothic arch.
18,992	" set (three) of patent perspective models. (P. Jolins.)

Models of Light and Shade, as under:—

18,993	(1.) Showing the construction of the angle of incidence and of shadows; also of lines in various positions on the plane of projection.
18,994	(2.) Showing construction of the shadows of four round, and four cornered planes on the plane of projection.
18,995	(3.) Cylinder, with shadow of incidence and shadow of conical plane thereon. Oblique cylinder, with shadow of a circular surface thereon.
18,996	(4.) Hexagonal pyramid, with shadow of incidence and shadow of a vertical surface thereon.

APPENDIX III—*continued*.
PURCHASES (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
18,997	(5.) Cone, with shadow of incidence and shadow of a horizontal surface thereon.
18,998	(6.) Flat surface, with coping; canted off below.
18,999	(7.) Semi-circular moulding, with newel.
19,000	(8.) " hollow, with slab.
19,001	(9.) Reversed cornice.
19,002	(10.) Plinth.
19,003	(11.) Model of shadows of parts of machinery (head of slide rod.)
19,004	(12.) " " (bearings.)
19,005-7	Three objects of form (vases), in baked white clay, as used for teaching at South Kensington.

August 23.

- 19,003-12 Five selected Vases in majolica ware, used for teaching at South Kensington.
19,013-15 Three selected Vases in terra-cotta, used for teaching at South Kensington.

September 11.

- 19,017 One Universal joint Telescope-stand, to show models in any position. (Full size.)
19,018 One Universal joint Telescope-stand. Small size, and different model to the preceding.

APPLIED ART.

- 17,985 Pair of Vases, brown Awaji ware, decorated with best gold lacquer.
17,986 Pair of Vases, purple Awaji ware, decorated with best gold lacquer.

February 11.

- 17,987 Pair of Vases, Awata body, decorated with best gold lacquer.
17,988 Pair of Vases, Kishiu ware, decorated gold lacquer on blue.
17,989 Pair of Vases, Kishiu ware, decorated gold lacquer on green.
17,990 Pair of Vases, brown Awaji ware, best gold lacquer.
17,991 Large Plate, Seiji ware, crackled, with cheap lacquer decoration.
17,992 Pair Vases, Seiji ware, with cheap lacquer decoration.
17,993 Plate brown Fayence, bronze imitation, best gold lacquer.
17,994 Plate, Kutani ware, fine.
17,995 Pair Bottle-Vases, blue and white, by Goski.
17,996 Plate, Rakuyaki earthenware.
17,997 Bowl, finest Imari, by Korasha.
17,998 Small Bowl, Imari, common earthenware.
17,999 Pair Vases, Owari body, painted.

March 16.

- 18,112-55 Collection of Japanese Fans, various shapes and designs of frame, and various pictorial subjects.

MISCELLANEOUS.

May 8.

- 18,364 Cashmere Dress Goods, cream colour, dyed in piece. Made from the finest Colonial merino wools.
18,365 Merino Dress Goods, cardinal colour, dyed in piece. Made from fine-combing Colonial wools.

June 7.

- 18,473 Wall Ornaments of split bamboo, with birds and flowers painted thereon. From Japan.
18,473a Water-jug on iron spring frame (automatic tilter).
18,473b Patent compact Clothes-horse.
18,473c Patent folding Writing-desk.

APPENDIX IV.
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
ETHNOLOGY, &c.	
January 31, 1888.	
17,827	Weaving Loom, showing screw-pine fibre (<i>Pandanus</i>) mat in course of construction, Santa Cruz Islands. Right Rev. Dr. Selwyn, Bishop of Melanesia, through Sir Alfred Roberts.
June 18.	
18,481	Bronze Coin, 1 sen, Japan. Mr. John Fagan, Sydney.
18,482	Silver Coin, $\frac{1}{2}$ dime, United States. Mr. John Fagan, Sydney.
18,483	Rod-like elongated Dumb-bell; made of cocoanut wood. Used by natives of N.E. India for athletic exercises. Mr. John Fagan, Sydney.
October 1.	
18,659	Aboriginal Relic or implement of undetermined character, found a few months ago in sinking a tank at Byrock, N.S.W., at a depth of 7 ft. It is of argillaceous sandstone, carrot-shaped, about $11\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in., the broad extremity concave, the surface marked transversely at intervals with lines, of which there are five pairs on one side and three pairs on the other. Blackfellows to whom it had been shown could give no information about it; nor had anyone who had yet seen it been able to recognize its import.* Rev. J. Milne Curran, F.G.S., Cobar.
MISCELLANEOUS.	
January 12.	
17,801	Stereotype of four pages of the <i>Times</i> , 2nd August, 1878 (2), 25th July, 1883 (1), 19th August, 1887 (1). Mr. Charles Robertson, 110, Market-street, Sydney.
February 7.	
17,888	A piece of wood (<i>Frenela</i> sp.) which formed a portion of the boat used by Sturt, the Australian Explorer. Mr. A. Lang, Mount Poole, N.S.W.
May 31.	
18,472	Exhibit for the purpose of teaching carpentry, consisting of models and diagrams (received incomplete). Mr. H. Staynes, Finsbury Technical College, London.
June 30.	
18,561-3	Three pieces of square turning, for cabinet work. "Blackwood." (<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>). Mr. E. Verdich, Darlington, Sydney.
ECONOMIC GEOLOGY (INCLUDING MINING).	
January 3.	
17,800	Specimen of Göthite. Master B. Corrie, Strathdon, Colo Vale, N.S.W.
January 14.	
17,802-5	Four models of appliances for obtaining gold from washdirt, as used on the Turon (N.S.W.) Goldfields:—Cradle, scale $\frac{1}{4}$, 3 in. to 1 ft.; False-bottom Sluice, scale $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 in. to 1 foot; "Long Tom," scale $\frac{1}{2}$, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. to 1 ft.; Puddling Machine and appurtenances. Mr. C. Taylor, Burlington-street, North Shore, through Mr. Hugh Watt.
January 16.	
17,806	Bat Guano, from caves on the Murrumbidgee, near Cooradigby, N.S.W. Mr. John Mitchell, Bowning.
January 31.	
17,825	Mass of Azurite Crystals, from Mount Hope, N.S.W. Rev. J. Milne Curran, F.G.S., Cobar, N.S.W. (now of Bathurst).
17,826	Two specimens Diabase Porphyry, Red Hill, Springs, N.S.W. Rev. J. Milne Curran, F.G.S., Cobar, N.S.W. (now of Bathurst).
February 1.	
17,880	Seven pieces of Cores from diamond drill. Dr. J. C. Cox, Sydney.
February 2.	
17,881-2	Scythe Stones and Stones for sharpening the blades of reaping machines, moulded, Yorkshire, England. (? Made of sand bound with Kean's cement). Mr. J. Fagan, Sydney.
March 14.	
18,110	3-in. cube of Sandstone, quarried in Queensland about 1 January, 1888. Crushing weight, 15,900 lb. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
18,111	3-in. cube Sandstone, quarried at Pyrmont, Sydney. Crushing weight, 48,000 lb. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.

* On comparing the specimen with an implement exhibited on behalf of Mr. C. S. Wilkinson, at the Linnean Society's Meeting of 25th June, 1884 (*vide* Proceedings, vol. IX., p. 507), it is evident that the two are of a similar character, differing but little except in regard to size, and in the details of the pairs of transverse markings.

APPENDIX IV—*continued*.
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
March 27.	
18,186	Block of Sydney Sandstone, $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. x $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. x $2\frac{1}{4}$ in., from Tarban Creek. No. 1. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
18,187	Block of Sydney Sandstone, $3\frac{1}{4}$ in. x $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. x $2\frac{1}{4}$ in., from Tarban Creek. No. 2. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
18,188	Block of Sydney Sandstone, $3\frac{3}{8}$ in. x $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. x $2\frac{1}{4}$ in., from Trickett's Quarry, Lane Cove. No. 1. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
18,189	Block of Sydney Sandstone, $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. x $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. x $2\frac{1}{4}$ in., from Trickett's Quarry, Lane Cove. No. 2. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
18,190	Block of Sydney Sandstone, $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. x $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. x $2\frac{1}{4}$ in., from Old South Head Road, Waverley. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
18,191	Block of Sydney Sandstone, $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. x $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. x $2\frac{1}{4}$ in., from Trickett's, Greenwich, Parramatta River. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
18,192	Block of Sydney Sandstone, $3\frac{3}{4}$ in. x $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. x $2\frac{1}{4}$ in., from Mossman's Bay. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
April 16.	
18,273	Block of Cimolite, the so-called "Meerschaum" of New South Wales. Wyralla, Richmond River. Mr. H. L. Steel, Redfern.
18,274-5	Sachrite (two samples). Eden, Twofold Bay. Mr. H. L. Steel, Redfern.
18,276-7	Quartz var. Opal (two samples). Eden, Twofold Bay. Mr. H. L. Steel, Redfern.
18,278	Basalt Block, 14 in. x 14 in. x 8 in., dressed. Bowral, N.S.W. Messrs. Loveridge and Hudson, Sydney.
18,279	Basalt Block, $10\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 8 in. x $7\frac{1}{2}$ in., dressed. Bowral, N.S.W. Messrs. Loveridge and Hudson, Sydney.
18,280	One polished Block of Granite, 12 in. x 12 in. x 6 in. Trial Bay, N.S.W. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
18,281-4	Four Briquettes Portland Cement (Femer's), $7\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 3 in. x $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
April 16.	
18,285-88	Four Briquettes Portland Cement (Robins'), 3 x 2 x 1 inches; breaks at 450 lb. per square inch in seven days. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
18,289	Sample of Cement moulded in bottle, to show contraction. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
April 21.	
18,290-91	Two "Australian Rubies" cut from one stone, of which No. 18,291a is a model. These "rubies" are from South Australia, and are simply garnets of fair quality. E. W. Streeter, Esq., F.R.G.S., New Bond-street, London (through Professor Liversidge, F.R.S., Sydney).
18,291a	Model of Ruby before being cut. E. W. Streeter, Esq., F.R.G.S., New Bond-street, London (through Professor Liversidge, F.R.S., Sydney).
April 23.	
18,292-95	Four specimens of Basalt from Colo Vale. Mr. E. S. Corrie, Strathdon, Colo Vale, N.S.W.
April 26.	
18,300	Specimen Graphite from New Borrowdale Mine, Undercliff Station, Wilson's Downfall, Tenterfield, N.S.W. Mr. Chas. Wooller, Sydney.
18,301	Clinkers and Drift-wash from Wilson's Downfall, Tenterfield, N.S.W. Mr. Chas. Wooller, Sydney.
May 5.	
18,359	Eight specimens Argentiferous Galena from Horton and Archibald's silver leases at junction of Koreelah Creek, Cullen's Creek, and Clarence River, Rivertree. Mr. C. Haazer.
18,360	Four specimens Argentiferous Galena from Horton and Archibald's silver leases at junction of Koreelah Creek, Cullen's Creek, and Clarence River, Rivertree. Mr. C. Haazer.
May 8.	
18,361	Permission to take a cast from a Nugget of Gold (specific gravity, 15.44) from Mount Brown, N.S.W. Assay—Gold, .9790; silver, .015; gross value, £116. The Department of Mines, Sydney.
May 11.	
18,379	One block White Sandstone, 12 x $7\frac{1}{2}$ x 6 inches (piece of string course), from Bundanoon, N.S.W. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
18,380	One block Red Sandstone from neighbourhood of Condobolin, N.S.W., 7 x $5\frac{3}{4}$ x 5 inches (base course). The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
18,381	One 3-inch cube White Sandstone from Parramatta, N.S.W. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
June 7.	
18,474	One sample Coal, Upper Clarence River District. Mr. A. Hagman, Sydney.
18,475	Gold-bearing Conglomerate, Black Rock, Ballina. Mr. A. Hagman, Sydney.

APPENDIX IV.—*continued.*
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
June 29.	
18,550	One specimen Tetradymite (telluride of bismuth) from Jingera, N.S.W. (This mineral has not previously been found in New South Wales.) The Government Geologist, Sydney.
July 19.	
18,576	Carnelian from Stanthorpe, Queensland. Mr. Chas. Wooller, Sydney.
18,577	Specimens of Gem-stones from Stanthorpe, Queensland. Mr. Chas. Wooller, Sydney.
18,578	Specimen of Auriferous Quartz from creek near New Borrowdale Mine, Tenterfield, N.S.W. Mr. Chas. Wooller, Sydney.
18,579	Porcelain-clay (Kaolin), Undercliff Run, Tenterfield. Mr. Chas. Wooller, Sydney.
July 30.	
18,580	Three-inch cube of Sandstone from Parramatta; crushing weight, 37,000 lb. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
18,581	One specimen Soapstone (fireproof) from Gundagai, N.S.W. The Colonial Architect, Sydney.
August 2.	
18,596	Three Australian Rubies (garnets) from the Macdonnell Ranges, South Australia. Daniel Adamson, Esq., J.P., Adelaide.
18,597	Specimen of Auriferous Quartz from the New Rising Sun Gold-mine, North Gippsland, Victoria. Mr. H. L. Walker, Bombala.
18,598	Specimen of Auriferous Quartz from the Eclipse Mine, Bendoc, Victoria. Mr. H. L. Walker, Bombala.
18,599-604	Five specimens Calcite in cavity in diabasic dolerite; two specimens Analcime crystallised on calcite; two specimens Wollastonite; two specimens Prehnite in cavity in diabasic dolerite; one nodule of Clay Ironstone. From Waimalle Hill, Prospect Reservoir. Mr. A. Godhard, Prospect, near Sydney.
September 24.	
19,029	One specimen Rock Crystal
19,030	Specimens Topaz
19,031	One specimen Beryl
19,032	One specimen Carnelian
	} Mr. C. Wooller, Bonanza King Reef Mine, Undercliff Run, Wilson's Downfall, Tenterfield.
	(The above are from Undercliff Run, Wilson's Downfall, Tenterfield, N.S.W.)
October 5.	
19,089	One specimen Basalt. Mr. A. Corrie, Colo Vale, Mittagong.
19,090	Three specimens Colonial Pine (<i>Araucaria Cunninghamii</i>) from northern part of New South Wales and Southern Queensland. Anonymous.
November 26.	
19,124	Two specimens Auriferous Quartz showing white mundic (iron pyrites). Messrs. Wooller and Main (through Mr. Chas. Wooller, 23, Burns-street, Sydney).
19,125	Two specimens Quartz showing graphite and slate. Messrs. Wooller and Main (through Mr. Chas. Wooller, 23, Burns-street, Sydney).
	(All from the Bonanza King Reef, Undercliff Run, Wilson's Downfall, near Tenterfield, N.S.W.)
November 28.	
19,142	Meteorite, Cast of. Weight of original, 12 lb. 3.84 oz.; specific gravity, 7.802. The meteorite was found by a miner named O'Shaughnessy, now living at Cowra, on the highest peak of the Battery Mountain, at the junction of the Burrowa and Lachlan Rivers, firmly embedded in the slate, only one point being visible.
December 20.	
19,155	Gold and Gems, Persecution Creek, Wilson's Downfall, Tenterfield. Messrs. Wooller and Main, through Mr. Chas. Wooller, 23, Burns-street, Sydney.
19,156	Quartz with crystals, Bonanza King Reef, Undercliff Run, Wilson's Downfall, Tenterfield. Messrs. Wooller and Main, through Mr. Chas. Wooller, 23, Burns-street, Sydney.
19,157	Jasper, Bonanza King Reef, Undercliff Run, Wilson's Downfall, Tenterfield. Messrs. Wooller and Main, through Mr. Chas. Wooller, 23, Burns-street, Sydney.
METALLURGY AND MACHINERY.	
24 February.	
18,043	Chilled Iron Wheel; largely used on the Austro-Hungarian railways. These wheels offer great resistance to change of temperature. Messrs. Ganz & Co., Buda-Pesth, through Messrs. A. D. Nelson & Co., Sydney.

APPENDIX IV—*continued.*
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
18,045	Chilled Iron Crossings; largely used on the Austro-Hungarian railways. These crossings offer great resistance to change of temperature. Messrs. Ganz & Co., Buda Pesth, through Messrs. A. D. Nelson & Co., Sydney.
18,382	11 May. Model of Apparatus for transferring rolling-stock from broad to narrow gauge railways, and <i>vice versa</i> ; narrow gauge, 4 feet 8½ inches; broad gauge, 7 feet (Eng.), 6 feet (U.S.) Two trucks and track, 6 feet 4 inches x 12 inches. The Engineer-in-Chief, Railway Department, Sydney.
18,383	Casting made of Colonial Iron. Scroll-work with Australian Arms in centre; length, 25¼ inches; height, 5½ inches (for tops of railway carriages). The Engineer-in-Chief, Railway Department, Sydney.
18,384	Casting made of Colonial Iron in form of Crown; size, 6 inches x 6 inches. Tylden Wright, Esq. (the agent of the Earl of Dudley), through H. B. Hardt, Esq. Collection of Iron Samples from the "Round Oak" Ironworks. Tylden Wright, Esq. (the agent of the Earl of Dudley), through H. B. Hardt, Esq., as follows:— Pig Iron for Foundry and Forge purposes (13 samples.)
18,385	Cold blast (samples) brand L.N.F., Dud.
18,385a	Cold blast (samples) brand L.N.F.
18,385b	Hot blast (samples) brand L.N.F.
18,385c	Hot blast (samples) brand Coneygre.
18,386	6 samples round 2-inch iron.
18,386a	7 samples round 1¾-inch iron, L.N.R.O.; R.B.B. Crys. showing fracture.
18,387	2 samples round 1-inch iron, cut and bent over to show fibre, L.W.R.O.; R.B.B. Crys.
18,388	2 samples 2 inch x ¼ inch, showing bending qualities, L.W.R.O.; B.B.B. Crys.
18,388a	2 do. do. do
18,389	10 samples 1½ inch x 1½ inch, showing bending qualities of metal, L.W.R.O., B.B.B. Crys.
18,390	1 sample 9-inch H girder-iron, showing bending qualities when cold.
18,390a	1 sample 10-inch H girder-iron, do do
18,390b	2 samples 6½-inch H girder-iron do do
18,391	9 samples 1-inch round iron, L.W.R.O.
18,392	21 samples 1½ inch x 1½ inch iron, showing quality of fibre or texture, L.W.R.O.; B.B.B. Crys.
18,392a	10 samples 1 inch x 1 inch do do do
18,393	8 samples iron 1⅝ inch (round) showing texture or grain, L.W.R.O., B.B.B. Crys.
18,393a	8 samples round iron, 1 inch do do
18,394	2 samples of 1½-inch square iron, showing bending qualities, L.W.R.O.
18,395	4 samples ¾-inch round iron, Hurst best; best chain, showing bending qualities.
18,396	7 samples horse-shoe iron, L.W.R.O., showing bending qualities.
18,396a	15 do do
18,397	9 finished horse-shoes, branded Guest L.W.R.O., best.
18,397a	4 finished horse-shoes, brand L.W.R.O.
18,397b	3 finished horse-shoes, branded L.W.R.O., best.
18,398	2 samples iron 2 inch x ½ inch, showing bending qualities, L.W.R.O.
18,399	2 samples plate-iron ⅝-inch, triangular in form.
18,400	A piece of 1½-inch round iron, worked in various shapes, <i>i.e.</i> , horse-shoe, core, twist, nails, &c.
18,401	Wrought-iron fork in the rough, made from 2 inch x ¼ inch iron, brand, L, crown, W.R.O.; best best Crys.
18,402	Double fork, made from iron 2 inch x ¼ inch, showing malleability; wrought iron, L.W.R.O.; B.B.B. Crys.
18,403	1½-inch square iron, wrought and beaten into various shapes, hand, spoon, tongues, &c., showing malleability, L.W.R.O.; B.B.B. Crys.
18,403a	1-inch square iron showing malleability.
18,404	1 sample ¾-inch round iron, L.W.R.O.; best best, showing bending qualities.
18,404a	3 samples 1½-inch round iron, L.W.R.O.; best best best, showing bending qualities.
18,404b	2 samples 1¾-inch round iron, L.W.R.O.; best best best, showing bending qualities.
18,404c	1 sample 1¼-inch round iron, L.W.R.O.; best best best, showing bending qualities.
18,405	1 sample 1-inch rivet-iron, cut longitudinally and hammered, L.W.R.O., best.
18,405a	1 sample 1½-inch rivet-iron, cut longitudinally and hammered, L.W.R.O.; best best best.
18,406	3 samples ¾-inch round iron, showing bending qualities.
18,406a	5 samples 1¼-inch round iron, L.W.R.O., best best, showing bending qualities.
18,406b	2 samples 1½-inch round iron, L.W.R.O., best best, showing bending qualities.
18,406c	2 samples 1½-inch round iron, L.W.R.O., best best, showing bending qualities.
18,406d	1 sample 1½-inch round iron, L.W.R.O., best, showing bending qualities.
18,406e	6 samples 1-inch round iron, L.W.R.O., best, showing bending qualities.
18,407	Thumb-screw in the rough, showing malleability, L.W.R.O.
18,408	1 sample iron, 2 inches x ⅝ inch, showing punching qualities.
18,409	2 samples malleable iron, worked in various shapes.
18,410	2 hammers, in the rough, made from L.W.R.O. iron.
18,411	1 sample, Y shaped, made from L.W.R.O. iron.
18,412	Part of tire made from L.W.R.O. iron.
18,413	1 sample 1¼-inch square iron, L.W.R.O., showing bending qualities.
18,413a	3 samples 1-inch square iron, L.W.R.O., best best, showing bending qualities.
18,414a	1 sample 1½-inch round iron, L.W.R.O., showing bending qualities.
18,414	1 sample 2-inch round iron, L.W.R.O., showing bending qualities.

APPENDIX IV—*continued.*
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
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June 5.

18,432 A Beam Engine by the celebrated Watt. Messrs. Whitbread & Co., Brewers, Chiswell-street, London, E.C., through E. A. Cowper, Esq., London, and Professor Liversidge, M.A., F.R.S., Sydney.

It is a very interesting and very early example of Boulton and Watts' manufacture, having been erected in 1785, and having worked well till 1887 (102 years), when it was taken down simply to make room for one of greater power. Mr. E. A. Cowper, the distinguished engineer, says, "I doubt if there is another like it left anywhere now." He was also kind enough to furnish the following interesting particulars concerning it in a letter to Professor Liversidge.

The only reason for its being pulled down is to make room for a more powerful engine of a much more economical character, viz., one burning much less than half the fuel per horse-power. The following quaint inscription is on a brass plate on the engine:—

The steam-engine was first invented by the most noble Edward Somerset, Marquis and Earl of Worcester, 1655.

Improved by Captain Thomas Savery, 1699.

Further improved by Thomas Newcomen and John Cawley, Ingenious Mechanicians of Dartmouth, in the County of Devon, 1712.

The expense in fuel reduced one half by Mr. John Smeaton, F.R.S., of Austthorpe, in the County of York, Civil Engineer, 1768.

Greatly enlarged in its powers and uses, and brought to its present state of perfection by Mr. James Watt, F.R.S., of the City of Glasgow, who received His Majesty's Patent, 1769.

And in conjunction with Mr. Matthew Boulton, of Birmingham, F.R.S., obtained an Act for the exclusive privilege for 25 years, commencing 1775.

They erected this engine, which performs the work of 35 horses, 1785.

But in the course of 10 years' use more power being found necessary, this engine was altered to make it equal to the work of 70 horses.

It is stated, it will be observed, that ten years after its erection it was increased in power, and it is believed that at this time the iron beam was substituted for the original wooden beam, and an iron connecting rod added; also, that the long diagonal iron strut was added to stiffen the framing, which is of wood. I may state that the teeth in the "sun wheel" of the "sun and planet motion" gave way several times, being only of wood; these were replaced by brass teeth, which are now in the wheel, and have stood their work very well, when the engine has been worked of late years as a "stand by" engine, when the other engine in the brewery required repair.

It will be noticed that the valve motion is distinctly a "tappet motion," with catches that are let off, for opening some valves, by the very small portion of the stroke of the engine, there being a small "set-screw" which is so set as just to detach the latch at the end of the stroke.

The balance-weights to the valves work in pots of water, having a hole in the side of the pot, just softening the blow, or acting to some extent as "cataracts."

There are no eccentrics to the engine, though all the later Boulton and Watts' engines had them.

The cylinder is not "steam-jacketted" like more modern Boulton and Watts' engines, but it is well "logged" with wood.

I may mention that there used to be an old copper boiler of the "haystack" form, with a domed top; this was only safe for low-pressure steam, and I took it down in 1877. It was of curious construction, having $1\frac{1}{8}$ -inch rivets at $3\frac{1}{4}$ -inch pitch, and the heads were $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter.

I will trace some indicator figures that I have, off the old engine, and enclose them to you, together with some figures off the new compound engine, as soon as the work is on it; it will have 80 lb. steam, and expand largely, and has a "Cowper's hot pot," or steam-jacketted steam receiver between the cylinders, and an "evaporative surface condenser," to avoid using the valuable cold water from the well, used for cooling worts.

WOOL.

January 17.

Messrs. Hodgson and Ramsay, Eton Vale, Darling Downs, Queensland:—

- 17,807 Stud ram; champion grass-fed; skirted fleece, 12 lb.; from Toowoomba Show, 1886.
- 17,808 Stud ram; strong combing fleece, 14 lb.
- 17,809 Stud ram; very superior combing fleece, $12\frac{1}{4}$ lb.
- 17,810 Stud ram; very superior combing fleece, $13\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
- 17,811 Stud ram; fine combing fleece, 15 lb.
- 17,812 Champion ewe; superior combing fleece, 13 lb.
- 17,813 Champion ewe; strong combing fleece, $14\frac{1}{4}$ lb.
- 17,814 Champion ewe; fine combing fleece, 13 lb.
- 17,815 Champion ewe; strong combing fleece, $13\frac{1}{4}$ lb.
- 17,816 Stud ewe; strong combing fleece, 13 lb. 3 oz.

[The last four samples from Toowoomba Show, 1887.]

Wellshot Station, Barcaldine, Queensland, the property of the New Zealand and Australian Land Company (Limited):—

- 17,817 Aged stud rams; 4 samples.
- 17,818 Fat wethers; 5 samples.
- 17,819 Stud ewes with lambs; combing superior to medium; 18 samples.
- 17,820 Aged stud ewes; clothing wool; 6 samples.
- 17,821 Ewe hoggets; 2 samples.
- 17,822 Aged ewe; showing distinct serration.

Sir Francis Murphy, Northampton Downs, Central Queensland:—

- 17,823 Imported Tasmanian ram, "Sir Thomas" blood; purchased, 1887.

February 9.

Messrs. Lackay, Wallace, and Mills, Nudda Station, near Cootamundra, through Messrs. Trebeck Son and Gair, Sydney:—

- 17,913 High-class stud ram.

APPENDIX IV—*continued*.
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
H. C. White, Esq., Havilah, Dungarce, Mudgee, through Messrs. Trebeck Son and Gair, Sydney :—	
17,914	Black Wool, extra quality, grown at Havilah, from prize Havilah sheep; awarded Special Centennial Prize at the Centennial Agricultural Exhibition, Sydney, 1888. One of the most valuable specimens of black wool in the Colonies, probably the best. Valued in grease at 1s. 10d. per lb.
17,915 to 17,924	Ten samples of very superior combing Hogget Wool. Value, 1s. 2d. per lb.
17,925 to 17,928	Four samples superior combing Ewes' Wool. Value, 1s. 2d. per lb.
17,928, a, b, c	Three samples Ewes' Wool.
Mr. F. W. Hume, Tarengo, Burrowa, N.S.W., through Messrs. Mort & Co. Sydney :—	
17,929 to 17,934	Six samples Merino Greasy Combing Wool; age of sheep, from 2 to 3 years; growth of wool, 370 days; wool grown at Tarengo Station; bred, previous to the year 1865, from ram bred by David Taylor, St. Johnston, Tasmania, and shows a marked improvement. Fed on natural grasses only, and unhused.
Mr. R. H. F. Hume, Everton, Burrowa, N.S.W. :—	
17,935 to 17,938	Four samples Merino Combing Wool, unwashed; aged ewes rearing lambs; growth of wool, 357 days; wool grown at Everton Station; bred, previous to the year 1865, from imported Saxon merino rams, subsequently from rams purchased from N. P. Bayly, of Havilah, Mudgee. Fed on natural grasses only, and unhused.
Mr. F. W. Hume, Tarengo, Burrowa, N.S.W.; agents—Messrs. Mort & Co. :—	
17,939 to 17,942	Four samples Merino Combing Wool, hoggets'; grown at Tarengo; growth of wool, 390 days. The wool exhibited is from sheep by a stud ram; bred by David Taylor, St. Johnston, Tasmania, and shows marked improvement. Fed on natural grasses only, and unhused.
17,943 to 17,948	Wool, grown at Tarengo; growth about 400 days. Flock bred from N. P. Bayly's Mudgee sheep, and crossed with a ram bred by David Taylor, Tasmania.
Messrs. F. & A. Cox, Oakfields, Mudgee :—	
17,949 to 17,954	Six samples Greasy Combing Wool, taken from pedigree stud ewes; growth of wool, 12 months.
February 11.	
— Hawkins, Esq., Eunonyhareenyha, Wagga Wagga :—	
17,955 to 17,958	From 4-tooth and 8-tooth ewes out of breeding flock. Wool grown at Wallinga, Mudgee. Pure Broombee blood. Running in natural-grass paddock, never housed or fed.
17,959 to 17,966	Eight samples of Wool from stud ewes, 4-tooth. Value, 1s. per lb.
17,966a to 17,973	Eight samples of Wool from stud ewes, 8-tooth. Value, 1s. per lb.
17,974 to 17,977	Four specimens Hogget Wool. Value, 1s. per lb.
17,978 to 17,982	Five specimens of Wool from wethers. Value, 9d. per lb.
17,983 to 17,984	Two specimens Lambs' Wool; very superior. Value, 1s. per lb.
February 15.	
Messrs. Dangar Brothers, Gostwyck, Uralla, New England :—	
18,000 to 18,011	Twelve specimens Hoggets' Wool, grown at Gostwyck. Value, 1s. 2d. per lb.
18,012 to 18,014	Three specimens Breech Wool (lowest part of fleece) from Hoggets.
18,015 to 18,028	A very fine Combing Wool from the general flock; used in making ladies' dress goods. Value, 1s. per lb.
18,029 to 18,031	Three samples Breech Wool, from ewes of general flock.
February 18.	
T. Warnes, Esq., Koomooloo, South Australia, through Messrs. Goldsbrough & Co., Sydney :—	
18,036	Fleece of 4-tooth ram; extra strong and deep-grown combing; sheep fed on salt-bush country; weight of fleece, 15 lb. 12½ oz.
18,037	Fleece of 4-tooth ewe; extra strong and deep-grown combing; sheep fed on salt-bush country; weight of fleece, 11 lb. 11 oz. Value, 8d. per lb.
18,038	Belly Wool from No. 18,037.
18,039	Breech Wool of No. 18,036.
February 20.	
Messrs. John Payton, Son, & Co., Sydney :—	
18,040	Frame containing Knitting Yarns.
February 29.	
Mr. John R. Chappel, Wool-scouring Works, Dundee, New South Wales, through The New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, Sydney :—	
18,053	Fellmongered Wool; grown at Grass Vale, Dundee, New England, New South Wales. First Prize at Centennial Agricultural Show, Sydney, 1888.

APPENDIX IV—*continued.*
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
February 29.	
Mr. J. R. Chappel, Wool-scouring Works, Dundee, New South Wales :—	
18,054	Sample Cross-bred Skin Wool ; scoured in perforated iron boxes ; household soap only used.
18,055	Wool grown at Grass Vale ; growth, 360 days ; flocks bred from pure merino rams and ewes. Plan of scouring, with perforated iron boxes and spouts. Household soap only used.
Mr. B. Hayden, Bloomfield, Blandford, New South Wales, through New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company :—	
18,056	Combing Wool, Greasy ; ewe's, 2 years old ; 363 days' growth. Sheep descended from original Camden stud flock. Fed on natural grasses only.
J. B. Bettington, Esq., Brindley Park, Merriwa, Mudgee :—	
18,057 to 18,062	Six samples of Wool from Stud Rams, a combination of the celebrated studs of "Havilah," "Oakfields," and "Scone" (Tasmania).
18,063 to 18,065	Three samples showing back part of Wool from Nos. 18,057, 18,058, and 18,062.
18,066 to 18,067	Samples of Breech Wool from Nos. 18,057 and 18,062.
18,068 to 18,070	Samples Belly Wool from Nos. 18,057, 18,060, and 18,061.
April 3.	
A superb collection (in show-case) of Merino Wool, in various stages of manufacture.—Messrs. John Priestman & Co., Ashfield Mills, Bradford, Yorkshire :—	
18,071	Greasy Port Phillip Wool.
18,072	Fleece-washed Port Phillip Wool.
18,073	Scoured Port Phillip Wool.
18,074	Greasy Fleece and Scoured Port Phillip Wool ; mixed and washed ready for carding.
18,075	"Carding," <i>i.e.</i> , Ball of Wool Carded.
18,076	"Top," <i>i.e.</i> , Ball of Wool Combed, with short wool and burrs extracted.
18,077	"Noils," <i>i.e.</i> , short wool and knots extracted in combing.
18,078	Third Drawing Operation.
18,079	Fourth Drawing Operation.
18,080	Fifth Drawing Operation.
18,081	Sixth Drawing Operation.
18,082	Seventh Drawing Operation.
18,083	Eighth Drawing Operation.
18,084	Ninth Drawing Operation.
18,085	Tenth Drawing Operation.
18,086	Eleventh Drawing Operation.
18,087	Spun Quality Single Yarn, 48's, for worsted coating trade.
18,088	Spun Quality Single Yarn, 60's, for Bradford stuff trade.
18,089	Spun Quality Single Yarn, 90's, for fine Bradford stuff trade.
18,090	Spun Quality Single Yarn, 68's, for export trade.
18,091	Spun Quality Two-fold Yarn, 20's, hanked and scoured for hoisery trade.
18,092	Spun Quality Two-fold Yarn, 36's, hard twisted and warped.
18,093	Spun Quality Single Yarn, 20's, for heavy coating trade.
18,094	Spun Quality Two-fold Yarn, 36's, on double-headed bobbins for winding.
18,095	Spun Quality Two-fold Yarn, 36's, hard twisted, on bobbins for warping.
Collection of Cross-bred Wools, raw and in different stages of manufacture.—John Dale & Co., Worsted Spinners, Bradford, York :—	
18,091a	Three-quarter-bred wool, Merino and Southdown, showing best part of fleece, <i>viz.</i> , shoulder.
18,092a	From same fleece as 18,091, showing "breech."
18,093a	Half-bred Merino and Leicester.
18,094a	Half-bred Merino and Leicester, "breech" wool.
18,095a	Three-quarter-bred Leicester and Merino.
18,096	Three-quarter-bred Leicester and Merino, showing "breech."
18,097	Half-bred Merino and Leicester. A very wasty wool, and one which will give much "noil."
18,098	Cross-bred Wool, scoured.
18,099	Cross-bred Wool, carded.
18,100	Cross-bred Wool, combed, in tops or sliver.
18,101	Noils from cross-bred combed wool.
18,102	"Slubbed" Cross-bred Wool. First process after combing ; for spinning.
18,103	"Roving," next process after "slubbing."
18,104	Two-fold or Double Yarn. Process after "roving."
18,105	Sample of Single Yarn on Spool ready to put in shuttle for weaving.
18,106	Four spools or bobbins of Yarn Warp (damaged).
18,107-8	Two spools or bobbins of Yarn ready to put into shuttle.
18,109	Yarn on tube, for export.

APPENDIX IV—*continued*.
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
March 24.	
Lucien Faithfull, Esq., Springfield, Goulburn :—	
18,171	Five samples, very superior Combing Wool from stud rams, progeny of "Grand Prince," of which a photograph was sent.
18,172	Three samples, very superior Combing Wool, shorter staple than No. 18,171.
18,173	Eleven samples, fine Combing Wool from stud rams.
18,174	Three specimens of strong Combing from stud rams.
N.Z. Loan and Mercantile Agency Co. (Limited), Sydney :—	
18,175	Cross-bred Skin Wool, scoured. Value, 7½d. per lb.
Messrs. Shanahan and Jennings, Westbrook, Darling Downs, Queensland :—	
18,176	Wool from ewes, medium combing, fair quality and length; weight of fleece, 6 lb.
18,177	Wool of 6-tooth ewe, rearing lamb; useful combing of fair quality.
18,178	Wool of 6-tooth ewe, rearing lamb; well-grown, and bald combing.
18,179	Wool of 6-tooth ewe, rearing lamb; wool of shoulder, best part of fleece.
18,180	Breech Wool of No. 18,179.
18,181	Wool from wether; nice specimen of combing.
18,182	Combing Wool from wether.
18,183	Strong Combing Wool from wether; 12 months' growth; weight of fleece, 9¼ lb.
18,184	Wool from wether; heavy deep-grown combing; weight of fleece, 9¼ lb.
18,185	Wool from hogget; well grown, and strong combing.
April 4.	
— Webb, Esq., Baden Park, Wilcannia :—	
18,210	Fine Carding (ewe's wool).
18,211	Combing (ewe's wool).
18,212	Medium Carding (ewe's wool).
18,213	Medium Combing (ewe's wool).
18,214	Low Combing (ewe's wool).
18,215	Four specimens Ewe Hoggets' Wool, showing good combing length.
April 26.	
The Manager, Strathdarr Station, Darling Downs, Queensland :—	
18,302	Scoured Wool (ewe).
18,303	Scoured Wool (ewe).
18,304	Scoured Wool (lamb).
The Manager, Darr River Downs, Queensland :—	
18,305	Clothing Wool, scoured.
18,306	Combing Wool, scoured.
The Manager, Lansdowne Pastoral Company, Evesham Station, Murrumbidgee, Queensland :—	
18,307-8	Two samples Carding Wool (ewes').
18,309-11	Three samples Combing Wool (ewes').
18,312-15	Four samples Hoggets' Wool (ewes').
May 4.	
Alexander Sloane, Esq., Mulwala Station, Riverina :—	
18,332-38	Seven samples of Wool, exhibited at the Centennial Agricultural Show, Moore Park, Sydney, January, 1888.
18,339-43	Five samples Fleece Wool, exhibited at the Centennial Agricultural Show, Moore Park, Sydney, 1888.
18,344	One sample Breech Wool, exhibited at the Centennial Agricultural Show, Moore Park, Sydney 1888.
July 13.	
Mr. Briggs, Sydney :—	
18,565	One sample Wool.
September 18.	
James M'Kees, Esq., Hazel Park, Conargo, N.S.W. :—	
19,022	One sample Ram's Wool; 9 months' growth.
19,023	One sample Ram's Wool; 9 months' growth.
19,024	One sample Ewe's Wool; 12 months' growth.
19,025	One sample Ewe's Wool; 9 months' growth.
19,026	One sample Wool of old ewe; 9 months' growth.

APPENDIX IV—*continued.*
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
September 24.	
Jas. Lee, Esq., Larras Lake, Molong:—	
19,033	One sample of Wool of 4-tooth ram; grass-fed.
19,034	One sample of Wool of 2-tooth ram; grass-fed.
19,035	One sample of Wool of 2-tooth ram; grass-fed.
19,036	One sample of Wool of 8-tooth ram; grass-fed; 11 months' growth.
19,037	One sample of Wool of 8-tooth ram; grass-fed; growth of wool, 11 months.
19,038	One sample of Wool of 8-tooth ram; grass-fed.
19,039	One sample of Wool of 2-tooth ewe; grass-fed; growth of wool, 11 months.
19,040	One sample of Wool of 2-tooth ewe; grass-fed; growth of wool, 11 months.
19,041	One sample of Wool of 2-tooth ewe; grass-fed; growth of wool, 11 months.
19,042	One sample of Wool of 2-tooth ewe; grass-fed; growth of wool, 11 months.
19,043	One sample of Wool of 2-tooth ewe; grass-fed; growth of wool, 11 months.
19,044	One sample of Wool of 2-tooth ewe; grass-fed; growth of wool, 11 months.
[The six samples (19,033 to 19,038) of rams' wool averaged 20½ lb. in weight. The six samples (19,039 to 19,044) of ewes' wool averaged 12½ lb. in weight. All the above sheep took prizes at Bathurst Show, held in April, 1888, and since then have been grass-fed in box country, with rich alluvial black flats, sown with prairie rye and lucerne.]	
September 28.	
Messrs. Russell & Co., Barunah Plains, Hesse, Victoria:—	
19,045	One sample Wool of 4-tooth ram; growth of wool, 342 days; weight of fleece, 13½ lb.
19,046	One sample Wool of 4-tooth ram; growth of wool, 366 days; weight of fleece, 12½ lb.
19,047	One sample Wool of 4-tooth ram, No. 9, offered for sale in Melbourne, bought in for £15 15s.; weight of fleece, 12½ lb.
19,048	One sample Wool of 4-tooth stud ram; growth of wool, 334 days; weight of fleece, 13½ lb. This ram is used in stud flock.
19,049	One sample Wool of 4-tooth ram, used in common flocks; growth of wool, 349 days; weight of fleece, 12½ lb.
19,050	One sample Wool of 4-tooth ram, used in common flocks; growth of wool, 347 days; weight of fleece, 12 lb.
19,051	One sample Wool of 4-tooth ram, No. 5, bought in at Melbourne for £15 15s; weight of fleece, 11 lb.
October 3.	
F. W. Hume, Esq., Tarengo, Burrowa, N.S.W.:—	
19,067	One sample Wool of young ewe, grass-fed and unhoused; growth of wool, 11 months.
19,068	One sample Wool of hogget ram, grass-fed and unhoused; shorn as a lamb; growth of wool, about 11 months.
19,069.	One sample Wool of hogget ram, grass-fed and unhoused; shorn as a lamb; growth of wool, about 11 months.
Hon. Philip Russell, M.L.C., Carngham, Victoria:—	
19,091-2	Two samples of Wool.
October 9.	
H. R. F. Hume, Everton, Burrowa:—	
19,093	One sample Wool of ewe, 3 years old. This sheep took 1st prize in her class when exhibited (twice), at Yass and Burrowa Shows (1888); growth of wool, 11½ months; weight of fleece, 11 lb.
19,094-5	Samples of Skirtings of No. 19,093. One sample wool of ewe, aged 8 years, rearing lambs 3 months old; growth of wool, 11½ months; weight of fleece, 11 lb. This ewe won four "champion" prizes.
19,096	Skirtings from No. 19,095.
November 12.	
M. Minter, Esq., Dhurringile, Murchison, Victoria:—	
19,098	Sample of Wool of cross-bred sheep out of merino ewe, by Lincoln ram.
19,099	Sample of Wool of cross-bred sheep out of cross-bred ewe, by merino ram.
19,100	Sample of Wool of sheep out of cross-bred ewe, by merino ram.
19,101	Sample of pure merino Wool of stud sheep.
November 23.	
Mr. Phillip Lee, 29, Lower Fort-street, Sydney:—	
19,113	One fleece Wool; weight, 9 lb.
19,114	One fleece Wool; weight, 9 lb.
19,115	One fleece Wool; weight, 10 lb. Champion prize winner for length, density, and staple of wool, and build of sheep.
November 24.	
H. C. White, Esq., Havilah, Mudgee:—	
19,118-23	Six samples of Wool.

APPENDIX IV—*continued.*
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
ECONOMIC BOTANY.	
(a) <i>Miscellaneous.</i>	
April 16.	
C. C. Armytage, Sydney:—	
18,239-41	Cocoa-nut Fibre, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd qualities, Ceylon. Called "mattress fibre"; used for mattresses, and also to make coir yarn.
18,242	Kapok, Calcutta (? <i>Bombax malabaricum</i>).
18,243	Kapok, Java; used for stuffing pillows, &c.
18,244	Cinnamon Chips, Ceylon; used in the manufacture of essential oil.
18,215	Plumbago (2nd quality), Ceylon.
Miss M. A. Clements, Palesthan, Condobolin:—	
18,246	Collection of 120 plants, indigenous to New South Wales, comprising specimens in Flower and Fruit.
May 21.	
Mr. Henry Vincent, 154, Castlereagh-street, Sydney:—	
18,450	Pentagonal Basket, made from the seeds of the Whampee (<i>Cookia punctata</i>), worked from the centre to each angle; ornamented with white beads and Barricarr seeds; handle of rattan covered with seeds, probably from the South Sea Islands, possibly Samoa.
March 16.	
Messrs. Rottman, Strome & Co., Tokyo, Japan:—	
18,156 to 18,169	Fourteen specimens of Japanese "Leather Paper" (made from fibre of the Paper Mulberry).
16 April.	
C. C. Armytage, Esq., Sydney:—	
18,224	Cinnamon, "Superior." Bambalapitiya Estate, Colombo, Ceylon.
18,225	Cinnamon, No. 1. Bambalapitiya Estate, Colombo, Ceylon.
18,226	Cinnamon, No. 2. " "
18,227	Cinnamon, No. 3. " "
18,228	Cinnamon, No. 4. " "
No. 18,224 is from the inner bark, and is of too fine a quality and too laboriously rolled to pay as a commercial product.	
18,229 to 18,235	Coir Yarn. Six specimens showing different qualities. Ceylon.
18,236-S	Kitool Fibre (<i>Caryota urens</i>), three qualities. Ceylon. Used for the manufacture of the most expensive (locally) brooms and brushes.
(b) <i>The following specimens, Australian with hardly an exception, are separately listed for convenience.</i>	
8 February.	
Presented by the Curator:—	
17,911	Xanthorrhæa arborea (Grass-tree Gum); R. Br. (Juncaceæ.) Oatley's Grant, Illawarra Line.
21 February.	
Presented by Mr. J. C. Brown, F.L.S., Conservator of Forests of South Australia:—	
18,041	Xanthorrhæa Tateana; F. v. M. (Juncaceæ.) Kangaroo Island, South Australia. "Grass-tree Gum."
24 February.	
Presented by Miss A. Lovegrove, Sydney:—	
18,042	Eucalyptus maculata; Hook. "Spotted Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Illawarra, N.S.W. Tinder or amadon formed by a fungus (<i>Xylostroma giganteum</i> , Fries.) in the wood. It is very like chamois leather in texture and appearance.
29 February.	
Presented by the Colonial Botanist, Brisbane:—	
18,046	Eucalyptus hæmastoma; Sm. "Scribbly Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Queensland. Kino.
18,047	Eucalyptus microcorys; F. v. M. "Turpentine-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Queensland. Kino.
18,048	Eucalyptus resinifera; Sm. "Jemmy Low." (Myrtaceæ.) Queensland. Kino.
18,049	Eucalyptus siderophloia; Benth. "Ironbark." (Myrtaceæ.) Queensland. Kino.
18,050	Eucalyptus maculata; Hook. "Spotted Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Queensland. Kino.
18,051	Semecarpus anacardium; Lind. "Marking-ink Nuts." Anacardiacea. India. Nuts grown in Queensland.
10 March.	
Presented by Mr. M. P. Hansen:—	
18,056a	Acacia decurrens; Willd. "Black Wattle Gum." Leguminosæ. Gosford.
26 March.	
Presented by the Curator:—	
18,185a	Angophora lanceolata; Cav. "Red Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Tram Terminus, Botany.
4 April.	
18,196	Acacia linifolia; Willd. (Leguminosæ.) The Valley, Blue Mountains, N.S.W. Gum.
18,197	Acacia elata; A. Cunn. (Leguminosæ.) Fitzgerald's Creek, The Valley. Gum.
18,198	Eucalyptus eugenioides; Sieb. "Stringybark." (Myrtaceæ.) Between Springwood and The Valley. Kino.

APPENDIX IV—continued.
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
18,199	<i>Eucalyptus corymbosa</i> ; Sm. "Bloodwood." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Kino from concentric circles of the wood.
18,200	<i>Angophora lanceolata</i> ; Cav. "Apple-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Kino.
18,201	<i>Eucalyptus corymbosa</i> ; Sm. "Bloodwood." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Kino.
18,202	<i>Eucalyptus saligna</i> ; Sm. (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Bark.
18,203	<i>Backhousia myrtifolia</i> ; Hook. et Harv. "Water Myrtle." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Bark.
18,204	<i>Tristania laurina</i> ; R. Br. "Water Box." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Bark.
18,205	<i>Hakea saligna</i> ; R. Br. (Proteaceæ.) The Valley. Bark.
18,206	<i>Callicoma serratifolia</i> ; Andr. "Beech." (Saxifrageæ.) The Valley. Bark.
18,207	<i>Ceratopetalum gummiferum</i> ; Sm. "Christmas Bush." (Saxifrageæ.) The Valley. Bark.
18,208	<i>Eucalyptus punctata</i> ; DC. "Leather-jacket." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Kino.
18,209	<i>Eucalyptus eximia</i> ; Schau. "Yellow Bloodwood." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Leaves.
16 April.	
18,248	<i>Acacia elata</i> ; A. Cunn. (Leguminosæ.) The Valley. Bark.
18,249	<i>Ceratopetalum apetalum</i> ; D. Don. "Coachwood." (Saxifrageæ.) The Valley. Bark.
18,250	<i>Eucalyptus punctata</i> ; DC. "Leather-jacket." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Bark.
18,251-2	<i>Angophora lanceolata</i> ; Cav. "Apple-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Bark (two samples from differently-grown trees.)
18,253	<i>Banksia serrata</i> ; Linn. "Honeysuckle." (Proteaceæ.) The Valley. Bark.
18,254	<i>Eucalyptus Sieberiana</i> ; F. v. M. (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Bark.
18,255-6	<i>Eucalyptus corymbosa</i> ; Sm. "Bloodwood." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Bark (two samples from differently-grown trees.)
18,257	<i>Eucalyptus eugenioides</i> ; Sieb. "Stringybark." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Bark.
18,258-9	<i>Casuarina torulosa</i> ; Ait. "Forest Oak." (Casuarinæ.) The Valley. Bark (two samples from differently-grown trees.)
18,260	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> ; Sm. "Red Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Bark.
18,261	<i>Eucalyptus saligna</i> ; Sm. "Blue Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Bark.
18,262	<i>Doryphora sassafras</i> ; Endl. "Sassafras." (Monimiaceæ.) The Valley. Leaves.
18,263	<i>Angophora lanceolata</i> ; Cav. "Apple-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Kino.
18,264	<i>Eucalyptus punctata</i> ; DC. "Leather-jacket." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Kino and leaves.
18,265-6	<i>Eucalyptus corymbosa</i> ; Sm. "Bloodwood." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Kino (two samples and leaves.)
18,267	<i>Eucalyptus engenioides</i> ; Sieb. "Stringybark." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Kino.
18,268	<i>Eucalyptus piperita</i> ; Sm. "Peppermint." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Kino.
18,269	<i>Sida retusa</i> ; Linn. "Queensland Hemp." (Malvaceæ.) The Valley. A bundle of the stems.
18,270	<i>Eucalyptus eximia</i> ; Schau. "Yellow Bloodwood." (Myrtaceæ.) The Valley. Kino and bark.
18,272	<i>Xylomelum pyriforme</i> ; Knight. "Native Pear." (Proteaceæ.) The Valley. Gum.
24 April.	
18,296.	<i>Frenela rhomboidea</i> ; Endl. "Cypress Pine." (Coniferæ.) Near Clontarf, Middle Harbour. Sydney. Bark and resin.
30 April.	
18,316	<i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i> ; DC. "Blackbutt." (Myrtaceæ.) Eastwood, near Sydney. Kino.
18,317	<i>Eucalyptus saligna</i> ; Sm. "Blue Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Eastwood. Kino.
18,318	<i>Eucalyptus paniculata</i> ; Sm. "White Ironbark." (Myrtaceæ.) North Ryde. Kino.
18,319	<i>Angophora intermedia</i> ; DC. "Apple-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Eastwood. Kino.
18,320	<i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i> ; DC. "Blackbutt." (Myrtaceæ.) Eastwood. Bark.
18,321	<i>Eucalyptus paniculata</i> ; Sm. "White Ironbark." (Myrtaceæ.) North Ryde. Bark.
18,322	<i>Eucalyptus acmenioides</i> ; Schau. "White Mahogany." (Myrtaceæ.) Eastwood. Bark.
21 May.	
18,449	<i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i> ; DC. "Blackbutt." (Myrtaceæ.) Ashfield, near Sydney. Three logs.
25 April.	
Presented by the Hon. W. Macleay:—	
18,349	<i>Spinifex resin</i> . (Gramineæ?) Near Derby, Western Australia. Vegetable matter cemented by an ill-smelling resin of an orange colour. In cakes, about 3 inches in diameter, and used by the aboriginals for cementing the heads of their spears.
16 August.	
Presented by Mr. A. W. Aspinall, Eden:—	
18,960	<i>Alyxia buxifolia</i> ; R. Br. (Apocynæ.) Eden, N.S.W. Stem and roots. Reputed to possess medicinal properties for curing pulmonary complaints.
11 September.	
Presented by Mr. S. Sinclair, Sydney:—	
19,019	<i>Leucadendron argenteum</i> . "Silver-leaf Plant." (Proteaceæ.) Cape Colony. Leaves.
Presented by Miss M. A. Clements, Palesthan:—	
19,020.	<i>Fusanus acuminatus</i> ; R. Br. "Quandong." (Santalaceæ.) Palesthan, Condobolin. Dried fruit.

APPENDIX IV—*continued*.
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
19 September.	
Presented by the Curator:—	
19,027	<i>Eugenia Smithii</i> ; Poir. "Lilly Pilly." (Myrtaceæ.) Oatley's Grant, Illawarra Line. Bark.
19,028	<i>Acacia prominens</i> ; A. Cunn. (Leguminosæ.) Penshurst, Illawarra Line. Bark.
28 September.	
Mons. P. Durieux, Sydney:—	
19,052	<i>Araucaria</i> sp. (Coniferæ.) New Caledonia. Piece of wood exuding an aromatic resin.
1 October.	
Presented by Dr. Cox, Sydney:—	
19,060	<i>Macrozamia</i> sp. "Native Pulu." (Cycadææ.) Western Australia. Wool and seeds of the boyar or wool palm. Much used for making beds in W.A.
19,061	<i>Typha</i> sp. "Bull-rush Down." (Typhaceæ.) Western Australia.
19,062	<i>Acacia homalophylla</i> (?); A. Cunn. "Curly Yarran." (Leguminosæ.) N.S.W. Baluster.
3 October.	
Presented by Mr. R. C. Riley, through Dr. Cox, Sydney:—	
19,105	<i>Acacia dealbata</i> ; Link. "Silver Wattle." (Leguminosæ.) Glenmore, Penrith, N.S.W. Bark.
19,106	<i>Acacia mollissima</i> ; Willd. "Green Wattle." (Leguminosæ.) Fernhill, Mulgoa, N.S.W. Bark.
19,107	<i>Acacia decurrens</i> ; Willd. "Green Wattle." (Leguminosæ.) Fernhill, Mulgoa. Bark.
19,108	<i>Acacia prominens</i> ; A. Cunn. "Grey Wattle." (Leguminosæ.) Fernhill, Mulgoa. Bark.
14 November.	
Presented by Mr. G. Brown, Sydney:—	
19,102	<i>Eucalyptus siderophloia</i> ?; "Red Ironbark." (Myrtaceæ.) In the old Central Police Court, Sydney. These pieces of timber (Nos. 19,102, 19,103, and 19,104) formed a portion of the building materials, and have been in use over sixty years.
19,103	<i>Eucalyptus crebra</i> ? "Grey Ironbark." (Myrtaceæ.) See No. 19,102.
19,104	<i>Cedrela australis</i> ; F. v. M. "Cedar Wedge." (Meliaceæ.) See No. 19,102.
Presented by Mr. R. C. Riley, Glenmore, Penrith:—	
19,109	<i>Acacia decurrens</i> , var.; Willd. "Wattle." (Leguminosæ.) Penrith. Flower, leaf, and seed.
20 November.	
Presented by Messrs. Mailand and McKeown, Sydney:—	
19,110	Red Ironbark. See note to No. 19,112.
19,111	<i>Cedrela Australis</i> ; F. v. M. "Cedar." (Meliaceæ.) See note to No. 19,112.
19,112	<i>Araucaria Cunninghamii</i> ; Ait. "Colonial Pine." (Coniferæ.) Old "White Swan Hotel," Queen's Wharf, Sydney.
Presented by Mrs. R. H. Kennedy, Wonnaminta, Wilcannia:—	
19,116	<i>Marsdenia Leichhardtiana</i> ; F. v. M. "Doubar" or "Native Fig." (Asclepiadææ.) Wonnaminta, Wilcannia. Used as food by the aboriginals.
19,117	<i>Cucumis trigonus</i> ; Roxb. "Native Melon." (Cucurbitaceæ.) N.W. Albert District, N.S.W. Used as food by the aboriginals.
(c) The following superb collection is the gift of the Director of the Royal Gardens, Kew, England:—	
<i>Timbers.</i>	
14 June, 1888.	
18,615	<i>Eperua falcata</i> ; Aubl. (Leguminosæ.) British Guiana. Shingles.
18,616	<i>Olinia cymosa</i> ; Thunb. (Lythariææ.) South Africa. Timber used for musical instruments, picture-frames, and fancy work; also for axles and poles for waggons.
18,617	<i>Castilloa elastica</i> ; Cervantes. "India-rubber Tree." (Urticaceæ.) British Honduras. A spongy, almost worthless, timber.
<i>Fibres and Fibrous Substances.</i>	
18,618	<i>Typha elephantina</i> ; Roxb. (Typhaceæ.) Cuddapah, Madras. Umbrella-mat (Gudala). Used for protecting plants, &c.
18,619	<i>Pandanus odoratissimus</i> ; Linn. "Screw Pine." (Pandaneææ.) India. Mats made of split leaves.
18,620	<i>Borassus flabelliformis</i> ; Linn. "Fan-palm" or "Palmyra." (Palmææ.) India. Mats made from leaves.
18,621	<i>Bambusa</i> sp. "Bamboo." (Gramineæ.) India. Roofing-mats made from split bamboo.
18,622	<i>Calamus</i> sp. "Rattan." (Palmææ.) India. Mats made from split cane.
18,623	<i>Ichnosiphon aromata</i> ; Korn. "Iturite." (Scitamineæ.) Kernicke, British Guiana. Basket made from the strips of the leaves; woven very openly.
18,624	<i>Streblus asper</i> ; Lour. (Moreææ.) Bangkok, Siam. Book made of the leaves.
18,625	<i>Hierochloa borealis</i> ; Hook. F. (Gramineæ.) N. America. Four mats—one entirely made of this aromatic grass; the other three are tastefully decorated with birch-bark and dyed porcupine-quills.
18,626	<i>Bambusa</i> sp. "Bamboo." (Gramineæ.) India. Strainer made of split bamboo.
18,627	<i>Bauhinia Vahlia</i> ; W. & A. (Leguminosæ.) India. Platters made by sewing the leaves together; used instead of plates.

APPENDIX IV—*continued.*
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
18,628	<i>Ravenala guyanensis</i> . (Musaceæ.) Brit. Guiana. Red tomentum from seeds.
18,629	<i>Yucca brevifolia</i> ; Engelm. "Adam's Needles." (Liliaceæ.) Mexico. Boiled fibre.
18,630	<i>Bœhmeria nivea</i> ; Hook. et Arn. "Ramie" or "China Grass." (Urticaceæ.) Gowhatty, India. Fibre.
18,631	<i>Gossypium</i> sp. "Cotton." (Malvaceæ.) India. Five pods (capsules).
18,632	<i>Ficus</i> sp. "Fig." (Urticaceæ.) Botanic Gardens, Mauritius. Fibre (inner bark).
18,633	<i>Thuja gigantea</i> ; Nuttall. "Cedar." (Coniferæ.) Vancouver Island. Fibre from wood.
18,634	<i>Caryota</i> sp. (Palmeæ.) Cachar, Assam. Hairy covering from young fronds; used as tinder.
18,635	<i>Pinus palustris</i> ; Sol. "Syn. <i>Pinus australis</i> , Mich." (Coniferæ.) United States of America. Fibre prepared from the leaves; used for mat-making.
18,636	<i>Aloe spicata</i> ; Thun. (Liliaceæ.) Madras. Piece of fine cord.
18,637	<i>Livistonia sinensis</i> ; Griff. (Palmeæ.) Hongkong. Piece of rope made from the leaves.
18,638	<i>Sabal palmetto</i> . "Palmetto Palm." (Palmeæ.) Bahamas. Piece of rope made from the leaves.
18,639	<i>Raphia ruffia</i> ; Mt. (Palmeæ.) Madagascar. Very fine cloth made up into a gaiter.
18,640	<i>Phormium tenax</i> ; Forst. "New Zealand Flax." (Liliaceæ.) New Zealand. Fibre ready for rope-making.
18,641	<i>Linum usitatissimum</i> ; Linn. "Flax." (Linaceæ.) Lahore, India. Prepared fibre.
18,642	" " (Linaceæ.) Russia. Coarse flax.
18,643	" " " " Flax beaten out and then dried.
18,644	" " " " Flax prepared by steeping in water.
18,645	" " " St. Petersburg, Russia. Flax.
18,646	" " " Ireland. Flax.
18,647	" " " " (Co. Mayo). Flax.
18,648	" " " Russia (Porkoff). Tow (fine).
18,649	" " " Ireland. Tow (medium and very coarse).
18,650	" " " " Dry-spun tow.
18,651	" " " " "
18,652	" " " " Wet-spun tow.
18,653	" " " " Flax yarn, wet-spun.
18,654	" " " " Dry-spun flax twist.
18,655	<i>Corchorus capsularis</i> ; Linn. "Jute." (Tiliaceæ.) India. Fibre.
18,656	" " " " " Wet-spun twists.
18,657	" Flax " and " Jute." Dry-spun mixture.
18,658	<i>Linum usitatissimum</i> ; Linn. Ireland. Yarns.
18,659	" " " " Four samples to illustrate the preparation of flax.
18,660	Tow (prepared for spinning). " " Three samples to illustrate the preparation of tow previous to being spun into yarn.

14 June.

The following fabrics, to illustrate the utilization of flax and jute, were manufactured by Messrs.

Richards & Co., Broadford Works, Aberdeen, Scotland:—

18,661	Brand Sheeting. Flax warp and flax weft. "Shaved" and "finished."
18,662	Railway Waggon Canvas. Flax warp and flax weft. "Shaved" and "finished."
18,663	Flax Tent Cloth. Double flax warp, single flax weft; boiled yarns. "Shaved" and "finished."
18,664	Tent Cloth. Flax warp and flax weft. "Unshaved," "unfinished."
18,665	Plain Art Canvas. Creamed flax yarns. "Finished."
18,666	Etruscan Tapestry. Wet-spun, natural colour. "Finished." Flax warps and bleached flax wefts.
18,667	Linen Scrim. Wet-spun warps and wefts unbleached. "Unfinished."
18,668	Brown Dowlas, for Army and Navy clothing purposes. Flax warps and wefts. "Finished."
18,669	Seamless Flax Hose-piping. Rubber-lined for Fire Brigades, Mines, Railways, &c. "Finished."
18,670	Linen Drill. Flax warps and wefts. Round thread. "Finished."
18,671	Serge Twilled Sheeting, flax warps and wefts. Cloth "bleached" and "finished."
18,672	Creamed Damask Table Linen, medium quality. "Shaved" and "finished." Flax warp and weft.
18,673	Bleached Damask Table Linen, flax warp and weft. "Bleached" and "finished" after weaving.
18,674	Superior Linen Glass-cloth. Bleached flax warps and wefts. Washed and finished after weaving to remove fluff.
18,675	Huckaback Towelling. Flax warps and wefts. "Loom finished."
18,676	Sail Canvas, medium quality, made from flax warps and wefts. "Finished."
18,677	Sail Cloth, superior quality, flax warp and weft. "Unshaved" and "unfinished."
18,678	Table Linen, medium quality, flax warps and wefts. Bleached and "finished" after being woven.
18,679	Linen Drill Short-linings, flax warps and wefts. Round thread. "Finished."
18,680	Roman Tapestry. Wet-spun, flax lino warps and wefts. "Finished."
18,681	Linen Scrim. Wet-spun, flax warps and wefts. Bleached and finished.
18,682	Domestic Linen. Turkey-red cotton borders. Bleached flax warps and wefts. Round thread. "Finished."
18,683	Old English Tapestry. Creamed flax warps and wefts. "Finished."
18,684	Linen Drill Short-linings. Wet-spun flax warps and wefts, round thread, "finish."
18,685	All Flax Navy Duck. Creamed flax warps and wefts. "Unshaved" and "unfinished."
18,686	Flax Duck. Awnings and yacht sails. Bleached flax yarns. "Finished."
18,687	Table Linen, medium quality, flax warps and wefts. "Creamed" and "loom finished."
18,688	Navy Duck, Army and Navy clothing purposes, &c.; warps and wefts superior flax yarns. "Finished."
18,689	Linen for Sheetings, &c.; dry-spun warps and wefts. Washed and "finished."

APPENDIX IV—*continued.*
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
<i>Flax and Tow Fabrics.</i>	
18,690	Glass-cloth made of bleached yarns. Flax warp and tow weft. "Loom finished."
18,691	Railway-waggon canvas, tow warp and weft. "Finished."
18,692	Domestic linen. Bleached dry-spun flax warps and tow wefts. "Unshaved" and "unfinished."
18,693	"Cream" sheeting. Flax warps and tow wefts, rough as it comes from the loom.
18,694	Linen Drill, short-lining. Bleached yarn, flax warps, tow wefts. "Finished."
18,695	Domestic linen. Bleached dry-spun flax warps and wefts. "Shaved" and "finished."
18,696	Cream linen shoe-linings. Flax warps and tow wefts. "Finished."
18,697	Black linen linings; cloth dyed. Flax warps and tow wefts. "Finished."
18,698	Tea-cloths. Flax warps and tow wefts. Washed and "finished" after being woven.
18,699	"Cream" sail-canvas. Finished "creamed," tow warps and wefts.
18,700	Tailors coat-paddings. Flax warps and tow wefts. "Unshaved" and "unfinished."
<i>Tow Fabrics.</i>	
18,701	Domestic towelling. Dry spun, tow warp and tow weft yarn.
18,702	White and brown and twilled towelling. Warp, best spun tow; weft, dry-spun tow; colours, cotton.
18,703	Bed-ticking. Colours, warp and weft, dry-spun tow.
18,704	Repairing canvas. "Finished." Boiled tow warp and weft.
18,705	Brown sacking twill. Natural colour, tow warp and weft. "Shaved, finished."
18,706	Railway-waggon canvas. Flax warp, tow weft. "Shaved, finished."
18,707	"Creamed" sheeting. Tow warp and weft. "Shaved and finished."
18,708	Blue-striped padding. Warp and weft, dry-spun tow yarn.
18,709	Brown-striped sheeting. Warp and weft, dry-spun tow yarn; colour, cotton.
<i>Mixed Fabrics.</i>	
18,710	Railway-waggon canvas. Flax warp, hemp, weft. "Unshaved" "unfinished."
18,711	Domestic towelling. Jute warp, natural colour, tow weft, bleached, "finished."
18,712	"Creamed" tropical cloth, "shaved" "finished," double cotton warps; double flax wefts.
18,713	Apron sheeting, low quality, bleached cotton warps, tow wefts.
18,714	Huckaback towel. Warp, dry-spun flax; weft, dry-spun tow; colour, cotton.
18,715	Tropical cloth. Double cotton warps, double flax wefts. "Full bleached" and "finished."
18,716	Union glass-cloth, cotton warp and tow weft. "Shaved" and "finished."
18,717	Union glass-cloth, cotton warp and tow weft. "Unshaved" "unfinished."
18,718	Dice towels. Flax warp, tow weft. Colour, cotton.
18,719	Oatmeal towel, warp and weft, dry-spun tow; colour, cotton.
18,720	Damask towel, warp, dry-spun flax, and weft, dry-spun tow; colour, cotton.
18,721	Glass towel, warp and weft, dry-spun line; colour, cotton.
18,722	Twilled towel; warp, flax; weft, tow; coloured yarn, cotton.
18,723	Dice towel; warp, flax; weft, tow; coloured yarn, cotton.
18,724	Dice towel, striped; warp, dry-spun flax; weft, dry-spun tow; colour, cotton.
18,725	Linen sheeting; warp, flax; weft, tow. "Finished." Natural colour.
18,726	Brown sacking twill; natural colour; warp, tow; weft, jute. "Shaved" and "finished."
18,727	Union glass-cloth; warp, cotton; weft, tow. "Shaved," "finished."
18,728	Apron sheeting, rough; warp, bleached cotton; weft, tow.
18,729	Railway-waggon canvas; warp, flax; weft, hemp. "Shaved" and "finished."
18,730	Brown tow scrim (gluing canvas); warp, tow; weft, jute. "Shaved" and "finished."
18,731	Union glass-cloth; warp, cotton; weft, tow. "Shaved" and "finished."
18,732	Union creguela; warp, cotton; weft, dry-spun.
18,733	Italian tapestry; natural colour; warp and weft, wet-spun flax. "Finished."
18,734	Union glass-cloth; warp, cotton; weft, tow. "Unshaved" and "unfinished."
18,735	Domestic towelling; warp, cotton; weft, wet-spun tow; turkey-red cotton borders.
18,736	Creamed sacking twill; warp and weft, tow. "Shaved" and "finished."
18,737	Railway-waggon canvas; warp and weft, tow. "Unshaved," "unfinished."
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>	
18,738	Pipe made of maize-cobs by the Indians of South Carolina, America.
18,739	Shield of split rattans, Coorg, India.

FOODS.

(a) *Cereals.*

18,768	<i>Oryza sativa</i> ; Linn. "Rice." (Gramineæ.) Almercz. Husk used as fodder.
18,769	<i>Oryza sativa</i> ; Linn. "Paddy." (Gramineæ.) Java.
18,770	<i>Oryza sativa</i> ; Linn. "Paddy." (Gramineæ.) Bombay.
18,771	<i>Oryza sativa</i> ; Linn. "Paddy." (Gramineæ.) Bombay.
18,772	<i>Oryza sativa</i> ; Linn. "Var. Kar." (Gramineæ.) Madras.
18,773	<i>Oryza sativa</i> ; Linn. "Var. Kar." (Gramineæ.) Madras.
18,774	<i>Oryza sativa</i> ; Linn. "Var. Kar." (Gramineæ.) Bengal.
18,775	<i>Oryza sativa</i> ; Linn. "Paddy." (Gramineæ.) Saharunpore.

APPENDIX IV—*continued.*
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
18,776	<i>Oryza sativa</i> ; Linn. "Var. Shengkorvai." (Gramineæ.) India.
18,777	<i>Oryza sativa</i> ; Linn. "Var Dhola Bosidham." (Gramineæ.) Goalpara, Assam.
18,778	<i>Oryza sativa</i> ; Linn. "Pootoo Aresee." (Gramineæ.) Madras. Husked.
18,779	<i>Triticum sativum</i> ; Linn. "Hard Red Wheat." (Gramineæ.) Punjab.
18,780	<i>Triticum sativum</i> ; Linn. "Wheat, poisoned." (Gramineæ.) Bombay.
18,781	<i>Avena sativa</i> ; Linn. "Oats." (Gramineæ.) Calcutta.
18,782	<i>Hordeum hexastachyum</i> ; Linn. "Barley." (Gramineæ.) India. Used for making a kind of beer.
18,783	<i>Hordeum cœleste</i> (syn. <i>H. vulgare</i>); Linn. "Siberian Barley." (Gramineæ.) Bushahr. Grows at high elevation. Used for making beer. Flour made from the parched grain is carried by the natives.
18,784	<i>Zea Mays</i> ; Linn. "Mucca." (Gramineæ.) Chitore, India. Maize or Indian Corn.
18,785	<i>Zea Mays</i> ; Linn. (Gramineæ.) Natal. Maize.
18,786	<i>Sorghum vulgare</i> ; Pers. "Great Millet." (Gramineæ.) Central Provinces, India. The well-known "Guinea Corn."
18,787	<i>Panicum italicum</i> (unthreshed); Linn. (Gramineæ.) Bombay.
18,788	<i>Panicum italicum</i> (threshed); Linn. (Gramineæ.) Bombay.
18,789	<i>Pennisetum typhoideum</i> , var. <i>Gungapori</i> ; Rich. "Bajra." (Gramineæ.) Cawnpore. Furnishes a valuable green fodder and a good hay.
18,790	<i>Paspalum scrobiculatum</i> ; Linn. "Koda Millet." (Gramineæ.) Central Provinces, India. Fodder and food.
18,791	<i>Paspalum scrobiculatum</i> ; Linn. "Koda Millet." (Gramineæ.) Narsinghur, India. Fodder and food.
18,792	<i>Paspalum scrobiculatum</i> ; Linn. "Koda Millet." (Gramineæ.) India. Fodder and food.
(b) <i>Pulse.</i>	
18,793	<i>Pisum sativum</i> ; Linn. "Common Pea." (Leguminosæ.) India.
18,794	<i>Pisum arvense</i> ; Wight. "Field Pea." (Leguminosæ.) Calcutta.
18,795	<i>Lens esculenta</i> ; Moench. "Lentils." (Leguminosæ.) Calcutta.
18,796	<i>Lens esculenta</i> ; Moench. "Split Seeds." (Leguminosæ.) Gobindpore, Manbhūm, India.
18,797	<i>Cajanus indicus</i> ; Spreng. "Pigeon Peas." (Leguminosæ.) Calcutta. Largely consumed by all classes in many parts of India.
18,798	<i>Cajanus indicus</i> ; Spreng. "Split." (Leguminosæ.) Cawnpore.
18,799	<i>Lathyrus sativus</i> ; Linn. "Vetchlings, split." (Leguminosæ.) Cawnpore. A coarse, inferior pulse.
18,800	<i>Vigna catiang</i> ; Endl. "Catiang Beans." (Leguminosæ.) Madras.
18,801	<i>Vigna catiang</i> ; Endl. "Catiang Beans." (Leguminosæ.) Saharunpore.
18,802	<i>Phaseolus mungo</i> ; Linn. "Gram." (Leguminosæ.) Bombay. Largely consumed in all parts of India.
18,803	<i>Phaseolus mungo</i> , var.; Linn. "Gram." (Leguminosæ.) Gobindpore. Manbhūm, India.
18,804	<i>Phaseolus mungo</i> , var. <i>radiatus</i> ; Linn. (Leguminosæ.) Calcutta.
18,805	<i>Phaseolus mungo</i> , var. <i>radiatus</i> ; Linn. (Leguminosæ.) Madras.
18,806	<i>Dolichos biflorus</i> ; Roxb. "Horse Gram." (Leguminosæ.) Madras. Common food for cattle and horses in South India.
18,807	<i>Dolichos biflorus</i> ; Roxb. "Horse Gram." (Leguminosæ.) Calcutta. Common food for cattle and horses in South India.
18,808	<i>Cicer arietinum</i> ; Linn. "Chick-pea." (Leguminosæ.) Saharunpore. Much consumed by the lower classes.
18,809	<i>Cicer arietinum</i> ; Linn. "Chick-pea." (Leguminosæ.) Calcutta.
18,810	<i>Cicer arietinum</i> ; Linn. "Chick-pea." (Leguminosæ.) Central Provinces, India.
(c) <i>Spices and Miscellaneous.</i>	
18,740	<i>Allium sativum</i> ; Linn. "Garlic." (Liliacæ.) Berar, India.
18,742	<i>Allium cepa</i> ; Linn. "Onion." (Liliacæ.) Almara, India.
18,743	<i>Capsicum</i> sp. "Red Pepper, or Chillies." (Solanacæ.) Dehra Dun, India.
18,744	<i>Elettaria cardamomum</i> (cardomoms); Wh. and Mt. "Horse-radish." (Zingiberacæ.) India.
18,745	<i>Cochlearia armoracia</i> ; Linn. "Horse-radish." Cruciferæ. United States.
18,746	<i>Illicium anisatum</i> ; Lindl. "Star Anise." (Magnoliacæ.) Bombay. Fruits.
18,747	<i>Ocimum sanctum</i> ; Linn. "Basil." (Labiata.) Madras. Seed.
18,748	<i>Areca catechu</i> ; Linn. "Betel Nuts." (Palma.) Ceylon. The masticatory of tropical Asia.
18,749	Models of sliced betel nut. India.
18,750	<i>Piper betel</i> ; Linn. (Piperacæ.) Madras. These leaves are wrapped round fragments of betel nut and lime, and the whole chewed.
18,751	<i>Cannabis sativa</i> ; Linn. "Ganja." (Cannabinacæ.) Bombay. The dried hemp plant, used for smoking.
18,752	<i>Erigeron canadense</i> ; Linn. "Canadian Flea-bane." (Compositæ.) United States. Used for making a kind of tea.
18,753	<i>Papaver somniferum</i> ; Linn. (Papaveracæ.) Bombay. Scarified poppyheads, showing the incisions made, from which the juice (which, when dried, becomes opium) exudes.
18,754	<i>Papaver somniferum</i> ; Linn. (Papaveracæ.) Patua, India. "Alcaree Provision" opium.
18,755	<i>Coffea liberica</i> ; Bull. "Liberian Coffee." (Rubiaceæ.) Porak.
18,756	<i>Cyclopia latifolia</i> ; DC. "Cape or Bush Tea." (Leguminosæ.) Cape of Good Hope. Used for making a kind of tea, and said to be used to adulterate China tea.

APPENDIX IV—*continued.*

DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
18,757	Nuphar advena; Ait. (Nymphaeaceæ.) United States. The roots of this water-lily are eaten.
18,758	Nymphaea sp. "Poi Giy." (Nymphaeaceæ.) Bombay. Water-lily seeds.
18,759	Cyperus sp. "Cormantyn ground Nut." (Cyperaceæ.) Niger expedition, Africa.
18,760	Raphanus sativus; Linn. "Tinki Radish." (Cruciferae.) Nepal. Fermented.
18,761	Cucumis trigonus; Roxb. (Cucurbitaceæ.) Chota Nagpur, Bengal. Sliced fruits. For an account of the use of these fruits, see Dymock, "Materia Medica of Western India," p.
18,762	Coix lachryma; Linn. "Job's Tears." (Gramineæ.) India. Used for food, and also for making necklaces.
18,763	Fagopyrum emarginatum; Meiss. "Buckwheat." (Polygonaceæ.) India.
18,764	Mangifera indica; Linn. "Mango." (Anacardiaceæ.) Calcutta. Vernacular, "Amchoor."
18,765	Prunus armeniaca; Linn. "Khobani." (Rosaceæ.) Calcutta. A kind of insipid dry plum, used as food.
18,766	Sagus vitiensis; Herm. Wendl. "Sago." (Palmae.) Fiji.
18,767	Curcuma angustifolia; Roxb. "Arrowroot." (Cucurbitaceæ.) Bombay.
<i>Dyes and Tans.</i>	
18,831	Acacia catechu; Willd. (Leguminosæ.) British Burmah. Chips of the wood, used both for tanning and dyeing.
18,832	Diospyros Burmanica; Kurz. (Ebenaceæ.) Prome, Burmah. The fruits used locally for tanning.
18,833	Uncaria gambier; Roxb. "Siak Gambier." (Rubiaceæ.) Straits Settlements. Used for tanning.
18,834	Comptonia asplenifolia; Gærtn. "Sweet Fern." (Myricaceæ.) United States. The leaves used for tanning.
18,835	Acacia catechu; Willd. (Leguminosæ.) Burmah. Pods.
18,836	Rhizophora mangle; Roxb. "Mangrove." (Rhizophorææ.) United States. The bark used for tanning.
18,837	Diospyros embryopteris; Pers. "Gab." (Ebenaceæ.) Hoogly, India. The fruits. The glutinous juice of these is extensively employed in caulking boats and fishing-nets in India; it yields a powerful astringent, used for tanning purposes.
18,838	Anogeissus latifolia; Wall. (Combretaceæ.) Gobindpora, Maubhum, India. Leaves used for dyeing and tanning.
18,854	Calamus Draco; Willd. "Dragon's Blood." (Palmae.) Bombay. The well-known red dye.
18,825	Nyctanthes arbor-tristis; Linn. "Hursinghar." (Jasminææ.) Patiala, India. The flowers. The tube of the corolla affords a beautiful but fugacious yellow dye.
18,847	Terminalia belerica; Roxb. (Combretaceæ.) Basha'ir, Punjab, India. The fruits, called "Belleric Myrabolans."
18,848	Moriada citrifolia; Linn. "Madder." (Rubiaceæ.) United States." The roots, use for dyeing reds.
18,849	Quercus tinctoria; Willd. "Quercitron, or Dyer's Oak." (Cupuliferae.) United States. The bark, used for dyeing and tanning.
18,850	Cathamus tinctorius; Linn. "Safflower." (Compositæ.) Saharanpore, India. The florets, used for dyeing reds and yellows.
18,851	Ventilago calyculata; Tulasne. (Rhamnæ.) Cuddapah, India. Root-bark.
18,852 & 18,853	Pinus longifolia; Roxb. (Coniferae.) N. W. Provinces, India. The charred leaves, which, when mixed with rice-water, are used as ink.
18,811	Pistacia terebinthus; Linn. "Galls of." (Terebinthaceæ.) Calcutta. Used for tanning leather in the East.
18,812	Button lac. "Shellac." Bengal. The purified exudation caused by the exudation of an insect on the twigs of various trees.
18,813	Quercus infectoria; Olivier. "Galls of." (Cupuliferae.) Bengal. Used for dyeing.
[The three preceding specimens are caused by the attacks of insects on plants]	
<i>Gums and other exudations.</i>	
18,839	Dichopsis gutta; Bth. et. Hook. f. "Gutta-percha." (Sapotaceæ.) British North Borneo.
18,840	Gutta-percha. Gutta-percha, supposed to be from the Straits Settlements. Brought on shore at Zanzibar, probably from a wreck.
18,841	Symphonia globulifera; Linn. "Hog Gum." (Guttiferae.) Jamaica.
18,842	Aloe Socotrina; Lam. "Socrotine Aloes." (Liliaceæ.) Bombay. The inspissated juice, used largely in medicine.
18,843	Anogeissus latifolia; Wall. (Combretaceæ.) Cuddapah, Madras. Gum.
18,844	Hevea brasiliensis; Muell. Arg. "Para Rubber." (Euphorbiaceæ.) Jamaica. The seeds.
18,845	Manihot Glaziovii. "Cerea Rubber." (Euphorbiaceæ.) Jamaica. The seeds.
18,846	Hopcea micrantha. (Dipterocarpeæ.) Sumatra. "Damar Mata Kutching," or "Cat's-eye Damar." A resin used in varnish-making.
<i>Oils and Oil Seeds.</i>	
18,814	Papaver somniferum; Linn. "Poppy Seeds." (Papaveraceæ.) Bombay. Used to make "poppy oil;" used by artists, &c.
18,815	Hardwickia binata; Roxb. "Fruits of." (Leguminosæ.) Tinnevelly.
18,816	Quillaja saponaria; Mol. "Soap Bark." (Rosaceæ.) Chili. Contains a large quantity of saponin.
18,817	Pongamia glabra; Vent. "Indian Beech." (Leguminosæ.) Bengal. These seeds yield an oil used both medicinally and for illuminating purposes.

APPENDIX IV—*continued*.
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
18,818	<i>Bassia butyracea</i> ; Roxb. "Indian Butter-tree." (Sapotaceæ.) Almora, India. A vegetable butter ("Rhut") is made from the seeds.
18,819	<i>Bassia latifolia</i> ; Willd. "Mahwa-tree." (Sapotaceæ.) N.W. Provinces, India. Sample of the oil-cake made from the seeds.
<i>Drugs.</i>	
18,856	<i>Colliguaya odorifera</i> ; Molin. "Colliguaya." (Euphorbiaceæ.) Chili. The juice of the berries is used to destroy.
18,857	<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i> ; Linn. "Mugwort." (Compositæ.) North America. Leaves and twigs, tonic and anthelmintic.
18,858	<i>Teucas aspera</i> ; Spreng. (Labiatae.) Madras. The leaves, the juice of which has been applied successfully in psora and other chronic eruptions.
18,859	<i>Cunila Mariana</i> ; Linn. "Dittany." (Labiatae.) United States. The leaves.
18,860	<i>Aristolelia macqui</i> (Syn. <i>A. glandulosa</i> , Ruiz. & Pav.); Herit. "Magui." (Tiliaceæ.) Chili. Leaves and twigs; used in cases of diarrhœa and dysentery.
18,861	<i>Polygonum sanguinaria</i> . (Polygonaceæ.) Chili. Used as a diuretic and to cool the blood.
18,862	<i>Erythraea divaricata</i> (Syn. <i>E. Chilensis</i> , Benth.); Schaff. "Cauchalagna." (Gentianaceæ.) Chili. The herb.
18,863	<i>Kageneckia oblonga</i> ; Ruiz. & Pav. "Bollen." (Rosaceæ.) Leaves used as a febrifuge; but taken in excess they act as a poison.
18,864	<i>Solanum nigrum</i> ; Linn. "Yerba Mora." (Solanaceæ.) Chili. The herb.
18,865	<i>Pongamia glabra</i> ; Vent. (Leguminosæ.) Thauna, Bombay. The pods; an oil is obtained from the seeds, which is very valuable in scabies, herpes, and other cutaneous diseases.
18,866	<i>Mentha arvensis</i> ; Linn. "Mint." (Labiatae.) Nowgong, Assam. The herb.
18,867	<i>Picrorrhiza Kurroa</i> ; Royle. (Scrophulariaceæ.) Nepal. The herb; a bitter. The root is, however, the part usually employed.
18,868	<i>Gentiana quinqueflora</i> ; Lamarek. (Gentianaceæ.) America. The herb; a bitter tonic.
18,869	<i>Chelone glabra</i> ; Linn. "Balmony." (Scrophulariaceæ.) United States. The herb; laxative or purgative.
18,870	<i>Cephaelis tomentosa</i> ; W. (Rubiaceæ.) Trinidad. The root; an ipecacuanha.
18,871	<i>Parmelia Kamtschadalis</i> ; Esch. (Lichenes.) India. Said to be diuretic.
18,872	<i>Peumus Boldus</i> ; Molina. "Boldo." (Monimiaceæ.) Chili. Leaves.
18,873	<i>Rheum emodi</i> ; Wall. "Indian Rhubarb." (Polygonaceæ.) Nepal. Differs entirely in appearance and structure from ordinary rhubarb.
18,874	<i>Ruta graveolens</i> ; Linn. "Rue." (Rutaceæ.) United States. The leaves; stimulant, carminative, and anthelmintic.
18,875	<i>Cunila Mariana</i> ; Linn. "Dittany." (Labiatae.) United States. Leaves and twigs.
18,876	<i>Cistanche tubulosa</i> (Syn. <i>Phelipæa tubulosa</i> , Schenk); Hoffm. & Link. India. When the stems are bruised they form an efficient cure for sores on horses.
18,877	<i>Gnaphalium viravira</i> ; Molin. "Viravira." Chili. Flowers, leaves, and twigs.
18,878	<i>Melilotus officinalis</i> ; Linn. "Melilot." (Leguminosæ.) Kurrachi, India. The flowers contain abundance of coumarin.
18,879	<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i> ; Linn. "Henbane." (Solaneæ.) Colchester, England. A fine bundle of biennial henbane, in fruit.
18,880	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> ; Wigg. "Dandelion." (Compitæ.) India. The root, spirited.
18,881	<i>Verbascum thapsus</i> ; Linn. "Mullein." (Scrophulariaceæ.) United States. The root, mucilaginous.
18,882	<i>Hydrastis canadensis</i> ; Linn. "Yellow-root." (Ranunculaceæ.) United States. The roots, official in the U.S.P.; a powerful bitter.
18,883	<i>Tinospora cordifolia</i> ; Miers. (Menispermaceæ.) Saharunpore, India. The roots; reputed to possess tonic, antiperiodic, and diuretic properties.
18,884	<i>Aconitum heterophyllum</i> ; Wall. "Atees Root." (Ranunculaceæ.) Bengal. The roots. Used in India as a tonic and antiperiodic.
18,885	<i>Caulophyllum thalictroides</i> ; Mich. "Blue Cohosh." (Berberideæ.) North America. The root is valued as a sudorific in North America, and its seeds form a substitute for coffee.
18,886	<i>Nectandra Rodiceï</i> ; Schomb. "Bebeeru." (Laurineæ.) British Guiana. The fruit; the bark is the part employed in medicine.
18,887	<i>Rheum</i> sp.; "A Rhubarb." (Polygonaceæ.) Afghanistan. The fruit; used as a purgative. (Surgeon-major Aitcheson).
18,888	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> ; Linn. (Zygophyllaceæ.) Bengal. The fruit; diuretic.
18,889	<i>Thevetia nereifolia</i> ; Juss. "Yellow Oleander." (Apocynæ.) Calcutta. These very poisonous fruits are useful, in suitable doses, in the treatment of intermittent fever.
18,890	<i>Dalbergia</i> sp.; "Plaska biya." (Leguminosæ.) Nepal. Fruit.
18,891	<i>Spondias mangifera</i> ; Pers. (Terebinthaceæ.) Kurseong, Bengal. The fruit.
18,892	<i>PedaliuM Murex</i> ; Linn. (Bignoniaceæ.) Bengal. The fruit; a useful diuretic.
18,893	<i>Pterocarpus Marsupium</i> ; Roxb. "Kino-tree." (Leguminosæ.) Madras. Fruit.
18,894	<i>Cassia Fistula</i> ; Linn. "Purging Cassia." (Leguminosæ.) Cawnpore. Fruit pulp; a purge, as its name denotes.
18,895	<i>Ambrosia artemisiæfolia</i> ; Linn. (Compositæ.) United States. Leaves.
18,896	<i>Cynoglossum officinale</i> ; Linn. "Hound's Tongue." (Boraginaceæ.) United States. Leaves; the root is used medicinally.
18,897	<i>Juniperus Virginiana</i> ; Linn. "Red Cedar, or American Savin." (Coniferae.) United States. Leaves; used as a substitute for Savin.

APPENDIX IV—*continued.*
DONATIONS (SPECIMENS).

Museum No.	Date and Description.
18,898	<i>Mussaenda frondosa</i> ; Linn. (Cinchonaceæ.) Seebpore, Calcutta. Leaves.
18,899	<i>Archangelica atropurpurea</i> ; Hoffm. (Umbelliferae.) North America. Leaves.
18,900	<i>Hepatica triloba</i> ; Chaix. "Liverwort." (Ranunculaceæ.) United States. These leaves have enjoyed some reputation in chronic bronchitis, &c.
18,901	<i>Erigeron philadelphicus</i> ; Linn. "Syn. of <i>E. canadense</i> ." (Compositæ.) United States. The leaves; slightly tonic, diuretic and astringent.
18,902	<i>Cassia lanceolata</i> ; Wall. "Senna." (Leguminosæ.) Bombay. The leaves. The Indian or Tinnevely Senna.
18,903	<i>Hedeoma pulegioides</i> ; Pers. "American Pennyroyal." (Labiatae.) North America. The leaves; a substitute for Pennyroyal.
18,904	<i>Pinus Strobis</i> ; Linn. "White Pine or Weymouth Pine." (Coniferae.) United States. Leaves.
18,905	<i>Oenothera biennis</i> ; Linn. "Evening Primrose." (Onagraricæ.) United States. The leaves, which are slightly astringent, are occasionally given in diarrhoea.
18,906	<i>Simaruba glauca</i> ; Kth. "Bitter Dan." (Rutaceæ.) Jamaica. The bark; a bitter tonic.
18,907	<i>Holarrhena antidysenterica</i> ; Wall. "Conessi." (Apocynæ.) India. The bark; largely used in bowel complaints in India.
18,908	<i>Ilex verticillata</i> ; Gray. "Black Alder." (Ilicineæ.) United States. Bark.
18,909	<i>Alnus rubra</i> ; Desf. "Tag Alder." (Myricaceæ.) United States. The bark; used in scrofula and cutaneous diseases.
18,910	<i>Prunus Pseudocerasus</i> ; Lind. (Rosaceæ.) Japan. Bark.
18,910a	<i>Quassia amara</i> ; Linn. "Surinam Quassia-wood." (Simarubeæ.) Japan. The bitter bark; the wood is, however, usually employed.
18,911	<i>Michelia champaca</i> ; Linn. (Magnoliaceæ.) Kurseong, Bengal. The bark; bitter and aromatic.
18,912	<i>Tsuga mertensiana</i> ; Carrietze. "Syn. <i>Abies Mertensiana</i> ; Lindl." (Coniferae.) United States. Bark.
18,913	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> ; Linn. "Tulip-tree." (Magnoliaceæ.) United States. The inner bark; stimulant, tonic, and diaphoretic.
18,914	<i>Melia Azedarach</i> ; Linn. "Persian Lilac." (Meliaceæ.) Kumaon, India. Bark. The root bark is used as an anthelmintic in America.
18,915	<i>Tsuga Pattoniana</i> . (Coniferae.) United States. Bark.
18,916	<i>Juniperus Virginiana</i> ; Linn. "Red Cedar." (Coniferae.) United States. Bark.
18,916a	<i>Myrica sapida</i> ; Wall. "Wax Myrtle." (Myricaceæ.) Phillour, Punjab. The bark, when mixed with ginger, is used to rub cholera patients, to promote reaction.
18,917	<i>Canella alba</i> ; Murr. "Wild Cinnamon." (Canellaceæ.) Jamaica. The bark; a stimulant, aromatic tonic.
18,918	<i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> ; Linn. "Emblie Myrabolans." (Euphorbiaceæ.) Bitul, Central Provinces, India. The bark; astringent.
18,919	<i>Gordonia Lasianthus</i> ; Linn. "Loblolly Bay." (Camelliaceæ.) United States. Bark.
18,920	<i>Cinchona Calisaya</i> ; Wedd. "Calisaya Bark." (Rubiaceæ.) Jamaica. The well-known Cinchona bark.
18,921	<i>Quercus alba</i> ; Linn. "White Oak." (Cupuliferae.) United States. The bark; astringent.
18,922	<i>Psidium Guaiana</i> ; Raddi. "Guava." (Myrtaceæ.) Bengal. Bark.
18,923	<i>Oxydendron arboreum</i> ; DC. (Ericaceæ.) United States. Bark.
18,924	<i>Vochysia guyanensis</i> (Syn. <i>Cucullaria excelsa</i> , Willd); Aubl. "Etabally." (Vochysiaceæ.) British Guiana. Bark used in the form of an infusion for affections of the eye.
18,925	<i>Careya arborea</i> ; Roxb. "Kumbhi." (Myrtaceæ.) Thama, Bombay. Bark.
18,926	<i>Hymenoclea Courbaril</i> ; Linn. "Simiri" or "Locust Bark." (Leguminosæ.) British Guiana. Bark.
18,927	<i>Ægle marmelos</i> ; Corr. "Bael or Bengal Quince." (Rutaceæ.) India. The seeds. The interior of the fruit is used in the preparation of a drink for invalids.
18,928	<i>Melia Azadirachta</i> ; Linn. "Neem or Margosa." (Meliaceæ.) India. Seeds; the bark is used as an anthelmintic.
18,929	<i>Schleichera trijuga</i> ; Willd. (Sapindaceæ.) Thama, Bombay. Seeds.
18,930	<i>Plantago Ispaghula</i> ; Roxb. "Spogel." (Plantaginaceæ.) Bengal. Seeds; used for making a demulcent drink.
18,931	<i>Corypha umbraculifera</i> ; Linn. "Fan Palm." (Palmæ.) Ceylon. Seeds.
18,932	<i>Macuna</i> sp. (Leguminosæ.) British Guiana. Seeds.
18,933	<i>Psoralea corylifolia</i> ; Linn. "Bakche." (Leguminosæ.) Nepal. Seeds.
18,934	<i>Butea frondosa</i> ; Roxb. "Pulas." (Leguminosæ.) Chota, Nagpore. Seeds.
18,935	<i>Crotalaria juncea</i> ; Linn. (Leguminosæ.) Thama, Bombay. Seeds.
18,936	<i>Crotalaria juncea</i> ; Linn. (Leguminosæ.) Cawnpore. Seeds.
18,937	<i>Cæsalpinia</i> sp.; "Kubi Rasche." (Leguminosæ.) Nepal. Seeds.
18,938	<i>Sisymbrium Irio</i> ; Linn. (Cruciferae.) Kurrachi, India. Seeds.
18,939	<i>Strychnos nux-vomica</i> ; Linn. "Nux Vomica." (Loganiaceæ.) Trinidad. Seeds; used for preparing strychnine.
18,826	<i>Matricaria Chamomilla</i> ; Linn. "German Chamomile." (Compositæ.) Cawnpore, India. The flowers.
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>	
18,822	<i>Pinus serotina</i> ; Mich. "Pond Pine." (Coniferae.) North America. Cones.
18,823	<i>Mucuna</i> sp. "Horse-eye Beans." (Leguminosæ.) British Guiana. Used for making into bracelets.
18,824	<i>Tulipa stellata</i> ; Clegh. (Liliaceæ.) Rawulpindi, India.
18,827	<i>Trifolium repens</i> ; Linn. "White or Dutch Clover." (Leguminosæ.) North America. Flowers of.
18,828	<i>Pinus muricata</i> ; D. Don. "Bishop's Pine." (Coniferae.) California. Cones.

APPENDIX VI—continued.

PURCHASES (Books).

Library No.	Title of Book.	Author.
APPLIED ART.		
2,145	The Art of the Saracens in Egypt—Part I. (South Kensington Museum Hand-book.)	Stanley Lane-Poole.
2,148	Musical Instruments, Historic, Rare and Unique	A. J. Hipkins.
2,254	Album of Arts and Industries of Great Britain, 1887 :— Illustrations of Armorial China Portfolios of Chinese Art (1). " Egyptian Art (2). " English Art (1). " Flemish Art (1). " German Art (1). " Italian Art (5). " Persian Art (4). " Saracenic Art (2). " Sicilian Art (2). " Spanish Art (2).	
APPLIED SCIENCE.		
2,089	Treatise on Coal-gas. Vols I, II, III	King.
3,112	Woollen and Worsted Cloth Manufacture	R. Beaumont.
2,130	Text-book of Paper-making	Cross and Bevan.
2,242	Soaps and Candles	Cameron.
2,244	Animal and Vegetable Fats and Oils	Brannt.
2,063	Report on the Manufacture of Paper from the Paper-Mulberry in Japan. (Re-bound.)	
CHEMISTRY.		
2,001	Qualitative Chemical Analysis	W. G. Valentin.
2,003	Quantative "	J. E. Thorpe.
2,004	Qualitative "	Thorpe and Muir.
2,079	Chemistry of Foods—Part 2. (Science Hand-book, South Kensington.)	Bell.
2,113	Hand-book of Chemical Technology... ..	R. Wagner (translated by W. Crookes).
2,128	Plant Analysis	Dragendorff (translated by Greenish).
2,131	Manual of Chemical Analysis... ..	Hoffmann and Power.
2,132	Manual of Analytical Chemistry	J. Muter.
2,141	Treatise on Chemistry—Vol. III.—The Chemistry of Hydrocarbons, and their Derivatives; or, Organic Chemistry.	Roscoc and Ichorleminer.
2,237	Physical and Inorganic Chemistry	Watts.
EDUCATION.		
2,241	Ellis's Irish Educational Directory. 1888	Ellis.
2,032	Report of the Royal Commission on Technical Instruction. 2nd Report. Evidence, &c, re Ireland.	
GEOLOGY, MINERALOGY, AND METALLURGY.		
2,043	Der Jura in den Alpen der Ost-Schweiz. (Re-bound)	Moesch.
2,064	Der Südliche Aargauer-Jura. (Re-bound)	"
2,217	Modern American Methods of Smelting Copper	Peters.
2,220	British Petrology	Teall.
2,232	Practical Mineralogy	Overmann.
2,233	Manual of Geology—Vol. I and II	Phillips.
2,234	Treatise on Ore Deposits	Phillips.
2,235	Metalliferous Mines and Minerals	Davies.
2,236	Treatise on Metallurgy	Overmann.
2,264	Lectures on Mining. (Text)	Callon.
2,265	" " (Atlas)	"
2,266	Mining Machinery; a descriptive treatise on	André.
2,267	Practical Treatise on Coal-mining	André.
2,283	Minerals of New South Wales	Liversidge.
2,095	Hand-book of the New Zealand Mines. (Including notes on forest trees, building materials, &c.)	Official.
ECONOMIC ZOOLOGY.		
2,002	Pearls and Pearling Life	E. W. Streeter.
2,099	Studies in Biology for New Zealand Students. (Part III—Anatomy of the Common Mussel.— <i>Mutilus spp.</i>)	A. Purdie.
2,105	Fishes of New Zealand, and Notes on Edible Fishes	F. W. Hutton.
2,106	Hand-book of the Fishes of New Zealand	R. A. A. Sherrin.
2,108	An Account of the Insects Noxious to Agriculture, and Plants in New Zealand. (The Scale Insects.)	W. M. Maskell.

APPENDIX VI—*continued.*
PURCHASES (Books).

Library No.	Title of Book.	Author.
2,142	Injurious and Beneficial Insects of Massachusetts. Year 1871. (Report.)	A. S. Packard, junr.
2,143	Injurious and Beneficial Insects of Massachusetts. Year 1872. (Report.)	"
2,144	Injurious and Beneficial Insects of Massachusetts. Year 1873. (Report.)	"
2,203	Eleventh Report on Injurious Insects	Ormerod.
MECHANICS AND ENGINEERING.		
2,017	Modern Steam Practice and Engineering	J. G. Winton.
2,018	Engineer and Machinist's Assistant. Vols I. (text) and II (plates)	"
2,019	Mine Engineering	Greenwell.
2,226	Drainage of Lands, Towns, and Buildings	Dempsey & Clarke.
2,246	Steam-boiler Explosions	Thurston.
2,247	Testing of Materials of Construction	Unwin.
2,248	Metal-plate Work	Miller.
MISCELLANEOUS.		
2,149	The Petroleum Act, 1879 (Great Britain)	"
2,227	Art of Perfumery	Piesse.
2,229	Australasia. (A School Geography.)	Wilkins.
2,038	Imperial Gazetteer of India. Vols. XII-XIV.	W. W. Hunter.
2,127	The Best Books	W. S. Sounenschien.
2,210-1	L'Année Scientifique et Industrielle	Louis Figuier.
2,129	Romance of the Wool Trade	J. Bonwick.
PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.		
2,255	The British Association for the Advancement of Science (Report for 1887); and Index of Transactions, 1831 to 1860.	" "
2,122		
2,161	Scientific and Learned Societies of Great Britain and Ireland. (Official Year-book of.) 1888.	" "
REPORTS (not otherwise catalogued).		
2,006	Apple and Pear Congress, Edinburgh, 1885.	" "
<i>United States Consular Reports.</i>		
2,080-3	Vol. 22— Cattle and Dairy Farming. Emigration and Immigration. Index Vols. 1-17. Forestry in Europe.	" "
2,100	19th Annual Report on the Colonial Museum and Laboratory.	" "
<i>New Zealand.</i>		
	15th Annual Report on the Colonial Botanic Gardens, 1883-84.	" "
2,101	20th Annual Report on, and 16th Annual Report on the Colonial Botanic Gardens, 1884-5.	" "
2,102	21st Annual Report on, and 17th Annual Report on the Colonial Botanic Gardens, 1885-6.	" "
2,103	22nd Annual Report on; with a List of Donations and Deposits during 1886-7.	" "
2,156	New Zealand Survey. Reports of Geological Explorations during 1886-7; with maps and sections.	" "
2,207	United States Consular Reports, Nos. 81 and 82, July to December, 1887.	" "
2,243		
2,213	Commercial Reports from H.M. Consuls, 1887. No. 58, Brazil.	" "
2,214	Diplomatic and Consular Reports on Trade and Finance, 1887. No. 207, France.	" "
2,301	Report of the Mining Industries of New Zealand, 1888. (Official).	" "
<i>Exhibition Literature.</i>		
2,007	London Dairy Show, 1887. Catalogue of.	" "
2,030	New Orleans' Exposition, 1884-5. Catalogue of Exhibits and Conventions.	" "
2,031	London. South Kensington Museum. Classed Catalogue, Educational Division. (Rebound.)	" "
2,035	Italy. Esposizione Italiana, 1861. Report on Class V. (Rebound.)	" "
2,085	London. Brewers' Exhibition, 1887. Catalogue.	" "
2,086	Manchester Exhibition, 1887. Catalogue of the Silk Section.	" "
2,146	London. Apprentices' Exhibition, 1887, People's Palace, Mile End. Catalogue.	" "
2,147	London. International Sportsman's Exhibition and Kennel Clubs Show, 1888. Catalogue.	" "
2,152	London. International Exhibition, 1862. Illustrated Catalogue of Industrial Department. 2 vols.	" "
2,212	Lausanne. Exposition, 1887, des Insectes utiles et des Insectes nuisibles. Catalogue de.	" "
2,221	Vienna. Aeronautical Exhibition, 1889. Catalogue of.	" "
2,249	London. Cookery Exhibition, Knightsbridge, 1888. Catalogue of.	" "
2,250	Brussels. Exhibition, 1888. Catalogue of.	" "
2,251	London. Irish Exhibition, 1888. Catalogue of.	" "
2,252	London. Workmen's Industrial Exhibition, 1888, People's Palace, East London. Catalogue of.	" "
2,285	Italian Exhibition, 1888, South Kensington, London. Catalogue.	" "
2,296	Copenhagen Exhibition, 1888. Catalogue.	" "
2,297	Glasgow Exhibition, 1888. Catalogue.	" "
2,298	London. Anglo-Danish Exhibition, 1888. Catalogue.	" "

APPENDIX VI—*continued*.
PURCHASES (BOOKS).

Library No.	Title of Book.
The following purchased periodicals have been bound during the year:—	
2,014	Drugs and Medicines of North America. (Lloyd.) Vol. I.
2,015	Australian Journal of Pharmacy. Vol. I.
2,027 } 2,205 }	Tropical Agriculturist. 1885-7.
2,028 } 2,163 }	Canadian Magazine of Science. 1885-6.
2,050 } 2,111 }	Therapeutic Gazette. 1886. 1885.
2,073 } 2,204 }	Révue Coloniale Internationale. 1885-7.
2,076 } 2,192 }	Scientific American. Jan., 1886—Dec., 1887.
2,271 } 2,077 }	Pharmaceutical Journal. Jan. 1883—June, 1887.
2,200 } 2,093 }	Australian Journal of Pharmacy. Vol. I.
2,184 } 2,270 }	The Chemist and Druggist. 1870, 1872-6, 1879, 1880-7.

APPENDIX VII.
DONATIONS (BOOKS AND PERIODICALS).

Library No.	Title, Author, and Donor.
2,036 } 2,215 } 2,216 }	"Eucalyptographia." (Mueller.) The Chief Secretary of Victoria, through the Free Library, Melbourne.
2,094	The Forest Flora of Australia. Part VII. (Brown.) The Government Printer of South Australia.
2,173 } to } 2,176 }	Iconography of Australian species of Acacia and cognate genera. Decades 5-11. (Mueller.) The Chief Secretary of Victoria.
AGRICULTURE AND BOTANY.	
2,150	Imperial College of Agriculture and Dendrology. Komaba, Tokyo, Japan. Bulletin. No. 1. (C. C. Georgeson.) The Director.
2,151	Chief Regulations of the above. (Dec., 1887.) The Director.
2,258	Plants reputed poisonous and injurious to Stock. (Gordon and Bailey.) The Government Botanist of Queensland.
2,070	Illustrations of the Genus Cinchona (rebound). Lambert. 1821.
APPLIED ART.	
2,287	Art Manufactures of India. (Mukharji.) The Government of India.
EDUCATION.	
2,121	Phases of Technical Training. (T. Twining.) The Author.
	Circulars of Information, Bureau of Education, Washington. The Commissioner.—
2,177	No. 1. College of William and Mary.
2,178	No. 2. Study of History in the American Colleges and Universities. (Adams.)
2,179	No. 3. Proceedings of the Department of Superintendence. March, 15th-17th, 1888. Washington.
2,260	The Educational Record. (July, 1888.) British and Foreign Bible Society.
GEOLOGY AND MINERALOGY.	
2,257	Geology of the Vegetable Creek Tin-mining Field, New England (David). The Minister for Mines, Sydney.
2,295	The Mineral Wealth of Queensland; by R. L. Jack, Government Geologist. The Executive Commissioner for Queensland, C.T.E.M.
2,303	Memoirs of the Geological Survey of New South Wales. Palæontology, No. 2. "Contributions to the Tertiary Flora of Australia." Von Ettingshausen (trans. by Etheridge). The Minister for Mines, Sydney.
MECHANICS, ENGINEERING, &C.	
2,067	Magazin Mathematischer Instrumente. Parts II-VI (rebound). F. W. Breithaupt and Son, Cassel.
2,110	Designing Wrought and Cast Iron Structures. Part IV. (Adams.) The Author.
2,183	A paper on the removal of the roof over the "Departure" Platform, King's Cross Terminus, G.N.R., London. Messrs. Trübner & Co.

APPENDIX VII—*continued*.
DONATIONS—(BOOKS AND PERIODICALS).

Library No.	Title, Author, and Donor.
2,284	The Proposed Chemical Laboratory at Sydney University (Liversidge). (Drawings reproduced from "The Building and Engineering Journal," Sydney.) A. Liversidge, M.A., F.R.S., the University, Sydney.
ZOOLOGY.	
2,126	History and Description of the Skeleton of a Sperm Whale, lately set up in the Australian Museum. (Wall.) Reprint of a paper published in 1851. The Trustees.
2,292	Anatomy of "Megascolides Australis," the great earth-worm of Gippsland. (Spencer.) From the Transactions of the Royal Society of Victoria. Vol. I, Part I, 1888. The Council.
2,231	Catalogue of Fishes in the Australian Museum, Sydney, (Ogilby.) Part I. The Trustees.
MISCELLANEOUS.	
2,222	Handbook of Information. (British-India Steam Navigation Co.) Messrs. Burns, Philp, & Co., Sydney.
2,092	By-laws of the Australian Museum, Sydney. The Trustees.
PROCEEDINGS, &C., OF SOCIETIES.	
2,016	Philosophical Society of Glasgow, Proceedings of. Vol. XVIII. The Council.
2,057	American Chemical Society, Proceedings of. Parts 1 and 2 (rebound). The Council.
2,074	Royal Society of N.S.W., Journal and Proceedings of. Vol. XVII (rebound). The Council.
2,115	Royal Society of N.S.W., Journal and Proceedings of. Part 2, 1887. The Council.
	Royal Society of N.S.W., Journal and Proceedings of. Part 3, 1887. The Council.
2,137	Royal Scottish Society of Arts, Transactions of. Vol. XII, Part 1. The Council.
2,120	} Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry, 1888, vol. Index of 1887, vol. By-laws. The Council.
2,138	
2,180	
2,136	Calendar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 1888. The Council.
2,181	Calendar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, 1888. The Council.
2,154	Linnean Society of New South Wales, Proceedings of. Second series. Vol I, 1886. The Council.
2,155	Linnean Society of New South Wales, Proceedings of. Second series. Vol. II, 1887. The Council.
2,230	Royal Society of Tasmania, 1887, Papers and Proceedings of. The Council.
2,256	Royal Society of New South Wales, 1888. Part 1. The Council.
2,262-3	Physikalisch-medizinischen Societat, Erlangen, 1887-8, Sitzungsberichte der. The President.
2,277	Royal Society of Victoria, Transactions and Proceedings of. Vol. XXIV, part 2. The Council.
REPORTS.	
The following have been presented by the Minister for Mines, Sydney, New South Wales:—	
2,065	Annual Reports of the Department of Mines of New South Wales. 1881-4 (rebound).
2,029, 2,291	Annual Reports of the Department of Mines of New South Wales. 1875-9, 1880, '82, '85, '86.
2,034	The Silver-bearing Lodes of the Barrier Ranges. Report by the Geological Surveyor in charge.
The following have been presented by the Secretary for Mines and Water Supply, Melbourne:—	
2,042	Gold-fields of Victoria. Reports of Mining Registrars. 1884-6 (rebound).
2,119, 2,159, 2,253	Gold-fields of Victoria. Reports of the Mining Registrars for the Quarters ending 31st December, 1887, up to June, 1888.
2,066	Reports of the Registrars and Mining Surveyors of Victoria. 1877-84 (rebound).
2,044, 2,060	Mineral Statistics of Victoria. 1877-85 (rebound).
2,300	Victoria, Mineral Statistics of. 1887.
2,259	Victoria, Department for Mines and Water Supply. Annual Report of the Minister for. 1888.
2,000	Geological Survey of Victoria. Report of Progress. 1873-7 and 1883 (rebound).
2,059	Diamond Drills in Victoria. 1884-6 (rebound).
2,061	Report of the Chief Inspector of Mines for Victoria. 1877-83 (rebound).
2,033	Victorian Board appointed to inquire on Pyrites; Report of.
2,062	Reports of the Government Geologist of South Australia. 1883-6 (rebound). From the Government Geologist.
2,276	Queensland Department for Mines; Annual Report of. 1887. From the Executive Commissioner for Queensland, Melbourne Exhibition.
2,118	Report of the School of Mines, Ballarat. 1887. From the Council.
2,157	California State Mining Bureau. 7th Annual Report of the State Mineralogist, for year ending 1st October, 1887. From the State Mineralogist, Sacramento.
2,182	Botanic Gardens, Adelaide; Report on the Progress and Condition of. Year 1887. From the Director, Botanic Gardens, Adelaide.
2,140	Department of Education, Washington. Report of the Commissioner for Education 1885-6.
2,206	Technological Museum, Sydney. Annual Reports, 1880-6. (Rebound.)
2,281	Queensland Museum. Annual Report of the Trustees for 1888. From the Trustees.
2,282	Technical and Art Instruction and Drawing in Primary Schools in Australasian Colonies. Report on. (Riley.) New Zealand, 1888. Official. From the Author.
2,090	Massachusetts Institute of Technology. 23rd Annual Catalogue. From the Institute.

APPENDIX VII—*continued*.
DONATIONS (BOOKS AND PERIODICALS).

Library No.	Title, Author, and Donor.
2,158	United States, Worcester, Mass. 18th Annual Catalogue of the Polytechnic Institute, with the plan of Instruction, 1888. From the Council.
2,091	Birkbeck Literary and Scientific Institution, London. Syllabus of Classes and Examinations 1887-8, and Report of the 64th Session. From the Council.
2,139	Royal Colonial Institute. Report of the Council. From the Council.
2,261	British and Foreign School Society. 83rd Annual Report of. From the Council.

Exhibition Literature.

2,088	Centennial Intercolonial Exhibition of the Agricultural Society of New South Wales, 1888. Official Catalogue. From the Society.
2,117	Adelaide Jubilee Exhibition, 1887. Catalogue of the New South Wales Wool Exhibits.

Centennial International Exhibition, Melbourne, 1883 :—

2,272	Queensland Court. Catalogue of Grasses.
2,273	" " " Economic Plants.
2,274	" " " Minerals.
2,275	" " " Woods. From the Executive Commissioner for Queensland.
2,279	French Court. " Catalogue Officiel.
2,280	" " " Détaillé. From the Executive Commissioner for France.
2,288	New South Wales Court. Catalogue of the Metals, Minerals, Fossils, and Timbers sent by the Minister for Mines. From the Minister for Mines, New South Wales.
2,289	List of Commissioners, Rules and Regulations of the Exhibition. From the Commission, Melbourne.
2,294	Official Catalogue of Exhibits of New South Wales Court. From the Executive Commissioner.

PERIODICALS.

The Publishers of the following Journals have generously continued to contribute copies of their publications to the Reading-room of the Museum during the year, viz. :—

Amateur Photographer (London).	Hatters' Gazette (London).
American Mail and Export Journal (New York).	Horological Journal (London).
American Monthly Microscopical Journal (New York).	Ironmonger (London).
Bookseller (London).	Ironmonger (Supplement).
Boot and Shoe Trades Journal (London).	Iron (London).
Brewers' Guardian (London).	Iron and Steel Trade Journal.
British and Colonial Printer and Stationer (London).	Jeweller and Metal-worker (London).
British Trade Journal (London).	Manufacturer and Builder (New York).
Builders' Weekly Reporter (London).	Mechanical News (New York).
Bullettino Telegraphico (Rome).	Mechanical Progress.
Burgoyne's List.	Oil and Colourman's Journal (London).
Cabinet-maker (London).	Paper-maker's Journal, and Annual Directory of Paper-makers (London).
California Architect (San Francisco).	Paper-making.
Chamber of Commerce Journal.	Paper Trade Review (London).
Colliery Guardian (London).	Pharmaceutical Journal.
Decorators' Gazette (London).	Plumber and Decorator.
Electrical Review.	Printer's Register (London).
Engineering (London).	Sanitary Record (London).
Exporter (London).	Sugar Cane (Manchester).
Fireman (London).	Stationery Trades Journal (London).
Gas and Water Review (London).	Textile Recorder (Manchester).
	Timber Trades Journal (London).
	Worsted and Woollen Trades Journal.

The Publishers of the following have been good enough to occasionally forward copies of their journals to the Museum :—

American Gas-light Journal.	Mineralogical Magazine.
Australian Chemists Review.	Mining World and Engineering Record.
Australian Trading World.	Paper and Printing Trades Journal.
British Mail.	Paper Record.
Decoration.	Phillips Machinery Register.
Electrical Engineer.	Practical Electricity.
	Stationer and Printer.

APPENDIX VII—*continued.*

The following Periodicals (donations) have been bound during the year:—

Library No.	Title.	Library No.	Title.
2,011 } 2,219 }	British and Colonial Printer and Stationer. July to December, 1885; January to June, 1887.	2,049 } 2,051 } 2,194 }	Oil and Colourman's Journal. 1883-1886. Ironmonger. 1886-7.
2,012	The Printers' Register. 1886.	2,052	Jeweller and Metal-worker. 1886.
2,013 } 2,198 }	The Pottery Gazette. 1885-6.	2,053 } 2,054 }	Paper-makers' Monthly Journal. 1886. American Microscopical Journal. 1886.
2,020 } 2,190 }	London Iron Trades Exchange. 1886-7.	2,055 } 2,056 }	Chemical Review. 1886. Horological Journal. 1885-6.
2,021 } 2,187 }	Engineering. January-June, 1886.	2,068 } 2,069 }	Sanitary Record. 1885-6. British and Colonial Printer and Stationer. 1886.
2,187	" January to June, 1887.	2,071 }	Colliery Guardian. 1886-7.
2,022	Textile Recorder. Vol. III. 1885-6.	2,191 }	Sugar Cane. 1885-86.
2,023 } 2,199 }	Amateur Photographer. 1886-7.	2,072 } 2,075 }	Decorators' Gazette. April, 1883, to December, 1886.
2,024 } 2,186 }	Boot and Shoe Trades Journal. 1885-6. Boot and Shoe Trades Journal. January to June, 1887.	2,134 } 2,135 }	Iron Age. 1886. Paper Trades Journal. 1886.
2,025	Telegraphic Journal. 1886.	2,164-5 } 2,166-9 }	American Mail. 1883-1886. British Trades Journal. 1876; 1884-5-6.
2,185	Telegraphic Journal. January to June, 1887.	2,193 }	Mechanical News. 1885-6.
2,026 } 2,188 }	Cabinet-maker and Art Furnisher. 1884-7.	2,245 }	Sanitary World. 1887; January to June.
2,037 } 2,189 }	Iron. Vols. XXVII, XXVIII, XXIX.	2,196 } 2,197 }	Gas and Water Review. 1887; January to June.
2,038 } 2,195 }	Mechanical World. Vol. XXI.	2,201	Paper Trade Review. March, 1886, to June, 1887.
2,039	Timber Trades Journal. 1886-7.	2,202	Paper-making. 1886.
2,040	Engineering. Vol. XLII. July to De- cember.	2,203	Journal of Forestry.
2,041	Telegraphic Journal. Vol. XVIII. January to June.	2,218	Sanitary Record. 1886-7. Rebound.
2,045	Cabinet-maker and Art Furnisher. 1883.	2,238-40	Index Medicus. 1885-7.
2,047	Gas and Water Review. Vols. XV and XVI.	2,268	Californian Architect and Building News. 1886.
2,048	Boot and Shoe Trades Journal. Vols. XV and XVII.		

APPENDIX VIII.

PURCHASES (DIAGRAMS, MAPS, &c.)

January 31.

Library No. 1,262 "The Physiology" and Anatomy of the Honey Bee and its relations to flowering plants. Two coloured prints 39 in. x 26 in. with explanatory Handbook, by Frank Cheshire.

February 23.

1,263-72 Ten large Wall Maps (in revolving frame), as follows:—
 1. Europe. 6. Canada.
 2. England. 7. Egypt.
 3. Scotland. 8. South Africa.
 4. Ireland. 9. United States.
 5. India. 10. Pacific Ocean.

From Messrs. W. and A. K. Johnston, Edinburgh.

The following Engineering, &c., diagrams have been executed in enlarged scale, in water-colours, by Mr. A. Hagman. The source of the original is stated in each case.

Types of Coke-ovens.

February 23.

a. Full recovery of Bye-products.

1,273 Klönne's.
1,274 Carvès and Hauptart's. } These are drawn on a scale of 4 ft. to 1 in. "Engineering," Vol.
1,275 Adapted Coppée. } XXXVIII, pages 361 and 402.

b. Non-recovery of Bye-products.

1,276 Appolt's. } These are drawn to a scale of 3 ft. to 1 in. "Engineering," Vol. XXXVIII,
1,277 Jones'. } page 337.

Oream Separators.

February 23.

1,278 De Laval's. (The motor being a steam turbine.) Scale: full size. "Engineering," Vol. XLIV,
page 520.

APPENDIX VIII—*continued.*

February 28.

Library No.

1,279 Burmeister and Wain's. Scale: full size. "Engineering," Vol. XLIV, page 476.

July 3.

1,336 Crushing Battery for auriferous vein-stuff. Showing also Californian Mortar with double discharge. Scale: half ft. to 1 in. "Gold, its occurrence and extraction" (Lock), page 1001.

July 10.

1,336 Fisher's rotating-bed stamp for auriferous vein-stuff. Scale: 1 ft. to 1½ in. "Gold, its occurrence and extraction" (Lock), page 1022.

Automatic vacuum brake applied to a locomotive.

July 3.

1,335a Side elevation and plan. Scale: 1 ft. to 1 in.

April 3.

1,299b Combination ejector. Scale: full size.

1,301c Engine vacuum cylinder. Scale: full size.

1,300d Ball valve. Scale: 3 ft. to 1 in. (enlarged).

Westinghouse automatic brake applied to a locomotive.

June 26.

1,333a Side elevation and inverted plan. Scale: 1 ft. to 1 in.

1,334b Driver's brake-valve, in section and elevation. Scale: 2 ft. to 1 in. (enlarged).

April 17.

1,303c Standard air-pump, shown in section. Scale: full size.

1,304d Section of Triple Valve. Scale: 3 ft. to 1 in. (enlarged).

1,305e Double-brake cylinder. Scale: half-size.

1,305f Release valve. Scale: half-size.

March 20.

1,291 Colorado Water-jacket Furnace, with shed for smelting silver and lead. Scale: 2 ft. to 1 in. "Engineering," Vol. XLII, page 267.

March 27.

1,294 Colorado Silver and Lead Smelting Plant. Scale: 10 ft. to 1 in. "Engineering," Vol. XLII, page 267.

Safety Lamps.

March 20.

1,293 Marsaut's. "Engineering," Vol. XLII, page 296.

March 27.

1,296 Evan Thomas's. "Engineering," Vol. XLII, page 296.

March 20.

1,292 Gray's. "Engineering," Vol. XLII, page 296.

March 27.

1,295 Mueseler's. "Engineering," Vol. XLII, page 296.

February 28.

1,280 "Conductor," for Tanneries, used for carrying the tanning materials to and from the exhausting pits. "Text-book of Tanning" (H. R. Procter), page 163.

1,281 Hides for Sole Leather. Diagram showing English method of division (Procter).

Bark Mills (for Tanners).

March 7.

1,287 American "Keystone." H. R. Procter, page 159.

1,286 Newall and Barker's. H. R. Procter, page 159.

1,288 Glaser's. H. R. Procter, page 160.

March 13.

1,289 Wilson's Disintegrator, for Wattle-barks and Myrobalans. H. R. Procter, page 161.

1,290 Tanners' Disintegrator, for Myrobalans. H. R. Procter, page 162.

The following enlarged water-colour drawings of economic plants of New South Wales have been drawn from fresh specimens by Mr. A. Hagman. The scale is stated on the drawings themselves, and is usually 3 : 1.

1,356 *Acacia armata*; R. Br. "Kangaroo Thorn." (Leguminosæ.) Hedge Plant.

June 12.

1,315 *Acacia Cunninghami*; Hook. (Leguminosæ.) Timber.

September 18.

1,353 *Acacia elongata*; Sieb. (Leguminosæ.) Tan.

APPENDIX VIII—*continued.*

June 12.

Library No.

- 1,316 *Acacia falcata*; Willd. "Sally." (Leguminosæ.) Timber (small), Tan.
October 9.
- 1,357 *Acacia glaucescens*; Willd. A. "Myall." (Leguminosæ.) Timber, Tan.
June 12.
- 1,317 *Acacia implexa*; Benth. (Leguminosæ.) Bitter Bark.
August 7.
- 1,342 *Acacia longifolia*; Willd. "Golden Wattle." (Leguminosæ.) Tan.
June 19.
- 1,327 *Acacia melanoxylon*; R. Br. "Blackwood." (Leguminosæ.) Timber, Tan.
September 11.
- 1,351 *Acacia prominens*; A. Cunn. (Leguminosæ.) Timber, Tan.
January 17.
- 1,249 *Angophora cordifolia*; Cav. "Apple-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber (small).
January 3.
- 1,243 *Angophora intermedia*; DC. "Narrow-leaved Apple-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Forage, Kino,
Timber.
January 31.
- 1,258 *Angophora subvelutina*; F. v. M. "Apple-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Forage, Kino, Timber.
April 3.
- 1,297 *Avicennia officinalis*; Linn. "Mangrove." (Verbenaceæ.) Timber.
January 17.
- 1,248 *Barklya syringifolia*; F. v. M. (Leguminosæ.) Timber.
November 27.
- 1,379 *Brachychiton populneum*; R. Br. "Kurrajong." (Sterculiaceæ.) Fibre.
August 28.
- 1,348 *Bursaria spinosa*; Cav. "Box Thorn." (Pittosporææ.) Timber, Forage.
June 5.
- 1,311 *Callistemon lanceolatus*; DC. "Red Bottle Brush." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber.
February 7.
- 1,259 *Canthium vacciniifolium*; Benth. (Rubiaceæ.) Timber.
January 24.
- 1,253 *Capparius nobilis*; F. v. M. "Native Pomegranate." (Capparideæ.) Food.
October 30.
- 1,366 *Carumbium populifolium*; Gr. "Poplar." (Euphorbiaceæ.) Fibre.
January 10.
- 1,244 *Castanosporum australe*; A. Cunn. "Moreton Bay Chestnut." (Leguminosæ.) Food, Forage,
Timber.
June 5.
- 314 *Casuarina torulosa*; Ait. "Forest Oak." (Casuarineæ.) Timber.
November 20.
- 1,374 *Cedrela australis* (Syn. *C. Toona*, Roxb.); F. v. M. "Red Cedar." (Meliaceæ.) Timber.
January 3.
- 1,241 *Ceratopetalum gummiferum*; Sm. "Christmas Bush." (Saxifrageæ.) Gum, Timber,
Ornament.
November 20.
- 1,373 *Claoxylon australe*; Baill. (Euphorbiaceæ.) Timber.
June 19.
- 1,328 *Commersonia echinata*; Forst. "Brown Kurrajong." (Sterculiaceæ.) Fibre.
December 4.
- 1,380 *Croton Verreauxii*; Baill. A "Cascarilla." (Euphorbiaceæ.) Drug.
October 16.
- 1,361 *Cryptocarya glaucescens*; R. Br. "Beech." (Lauraceæ.) Timber.
December 11.
- 1 384 *Cudrania Javanensis*; Trécul. "Cockspur Thorn." (Urticeæ.) Dye.

APPENDIX VIII—*continued.*

October 30.

Library No.

- 1,368 *Cupania semiglauca*; F. v. M. "Black Ash." (Sapindaceæ.) Timber.
June 12.
- 1,318 *Cupania pseudorhus*; A. Rich. (Sapindaceæ.) Timber.
August 7.
- 1,340 *Denhamia pittosporoides*; F. v. M. (Celastrineæ.) Timber.
June 5.
- 1,313 *Duboisia myoporoides*; R. Br. "Corkwood." (Solanaceæ.) Drug.
December 4.
- 1,381 *Ehretia acuminata*; R. Br. "Brown Cedar." (Asperifoliæ.) Timber.
November 6.
- 1,371 *Eleodendron australe*; Vent. (Celastrineæ.) Ornamental Shrub.
August 7.
- 1,345 *Endiandra pubens*; Meiss. (Lauraceæ.) Timber.
1,358 *Eucalyptus eximia*; Schau. "Mountain Bloodwood." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber.
January 24.
- 1,255 *Eucalyptus Gunnii*; J. Hook. "Swamp Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber.
January 31.
- 1,257 *Eucalyptus hemiphloia*; F. v. M. "Box." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber, Kino.
February 7.
- 1,261 *Eucalyptus incrassata*; Labill. "Mallee." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber, Essential oil.
January 17.
- 1,251 *Eucalyptus longifolia*; Link. "Woollybutt." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber.
February 7.
- 1,260 *Eucalyptus melanophloia*; F. v. M. "Silver-leaved Ironbark." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber.
September 11.
- 1,352 *Eucalyptus paniculata*; Sm. "She Ironbark." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber.
July 10.
- 1,338 *Eucalyptus robusta*; Sm. "Swamp Mahogany." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber.
January 10.
- 1,245 *Eucalyptus rostrata*; Schlect. "Red Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber, Kino.
August 28.
- 1,349 *Eucalyptus saligna*; Sm. "Blue Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber.
November 20.
- 1,376 *Eucalyptus sideroxylon*; A. Cunn. "Ironbark." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber.
August 7.
- 1,343 *Eucalyptus Stuartiana*; F. v. M. "Apple-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber.
January 10.
- 1,246 *Eucalyptus tereticornis*; Sm. "Grey or Flooded Gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber, Kino.
November 20.
- 1,377 *Eucalyptus* sp. Not yet determined. (Myrtaceæ.) Timber.
June 12.
- 1,320 *Exocarpus cupressiformis*; Labill. "Native Cherry." (Santalaceæ.) Timber.
1,321 *Ficus aspera*; Forst. "Rough-leaved Fig." (Urticeæ.) Timber (poor).
January 31.
- 1,256 *Flindersia Oxleyana*; F. v. M. "Yellow-wood." (Meliaceæ.) Timber.
January 3.
- 1,242 *Frenela rhomboidea*; Endl. "Cypress Pine." (Coniferæ.) Timber.
1,240 *Grevillea Hilliana*; F. v. M. "White Yiel-yiel." (Proteaceæ.) Timber.
October 23.
- 1,364 *Grevillia robusta*; Cunn. "Silky Oak." (Proteaceæ.) Timber.
September 25.
- 1,355 *Hakea saligna*; R. Br. (Proteaceæ.) Timber.

APPENDIX VIII—*continued.*

June 12.

Library No.

- 1,322 *Harpullia alata*; F. v. M. A "Tulip-wood." (Sapindaceæ.) Timber.
October 30.
- 1,367 *Hedycarya angustifolia*; Cunn. "Native Mulberry." (Monimiaceæ.) Timber.
June 19.
- 1,330 *Helicia glabrifolia*; F. v. M. (Proteaceæ.) Food.
November 27.
- 1,378 *Hibiscus heterophyllus*; Vent. "Green Kurrajong." (Malvaceæ.) Fibre.
June 19.
- 1,329 *Laportea gigas*; Wedd. "Giant Nettle-tree." (Urticæ.) Fibre.
August 7.
- 1,344 *Laportea photiniphylla*; Wedd. "Small-leaved Nettle-tree." (Urticæ.) Fibre.
September 18.
- 1,354 *Leptomeria acida*; R. Br. "Native Currant." (Santalaceæ.) Food.
June 12.
- 1,323 *Litsea dealbata*; Nees. "Pigeon-berry-tree." (Lauraceæ.) Timber.
August 28.
- 1,347 *Logania floribunda*; R. Br. (Loganiaceæ.) Timber (small).
December 31.
- 1,388 *Lomatia longifolia*; R. Br. "Mountain Beech." (Proteaceæ.) Timber.
June 12.
- 1,324 *Mallotus philippensis*; Muell., Arg. The "Kamala" of India. (Euphorbiaceæ.) Dye; drug.
November 20.
- 1,375 *Melaleuca linariifolia*; Smith. "Tea-tree." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber.
June 12.
- 1,325 *Memecylon* sp. (Melastomaceæ.) Timber.
August 28.
- 1,346 *Monotoca elliptica*; R. Br. "Beech." (Epacrideæ.) Timber.
December 11.
- 1,382 *Myrsine variabilis*; R. Br. (Myrsineæ.) Timber.
June 12.
- 1,326 *Notelæa longifolia*; Vent. "Axe-breaker." (Jasmineæ.) Timber.
October 16.
- 1,360 *Olearia argophylla*; F. v. M. "Musk-tree." (Compositæ.) Timber; perfume.
April 3.
- 1,298 *Panax elegans*; C. Moore and F. v. M. "White Sycamore." (Araliaceæ.) Timber.
December 31.
- 1,387 *Panax sambucifolius*; Sieb. "Elderberry Ash." (Araliaceæ.) Timber.
December 18.
- 1,386 *Pennantia Cunninghamii*; Miers. (Olacineæ.) Timber.
December 31.
- 1,389 *Persoonia linearis*; Andr. A "Geebung." (Proteaceæ.) Timber.
January 17.
- 1,250 *Persoonia pinifolia*; Sieb. A "Geebung." (Proteaceæ.) Timber.
June 5.
- 1,307 *Physalis Peruviana*; Linn. "Cape Gooseberry." (Solaneæ.) Food. Introduced
October 30.
- 1,369 *Pimelia ligustrina*; Labill. (Thymeleæ.) Fibre.
November 6.
- 1,372 *Polyosma Cunninghamii*; J. J. Benn. "Feather-wood." (Saxifrageæ.) Timber.
December 11.
- 1,383 *Prostanthera lasiantha*; Labill. (Labiatae.) Oil; essential.

APPENDIX VIII—*continued.*

August 7.

Library No.

- 1,341 *Psychotria loniceroides*; Sieb. (Rubiaceæ.) Timber.
October 16.
- 1,359 *Quintinia Sieberi*; DC. "Opossum-tree." (Saxifrageæ.) Timber.
June 5.
- 1308 *Rubus rosifolius*; Sm. "Native Raspberry." (Rosaceæ.) Food.
October 23.
- 1,363 *Scolopia Brownii*; F. v. M. (Flacourtiæ.) Timber.
December 18.
- 1,385 *Sloanea australis*; F. v. M. "Maiden's Blush." (Tiliaceæ.) Timber.
January 10.
- 1,247 *Smilax glycyphylla*; Sm. "Native Sarsaparilla." (Liliaceæ.) In flower; drug.
July 10.
- 1,337 *Smilax glycyphylla*; Sm. (Liliaceæ.) In fruit; drug.
June 5.
- 1,309 *Solanum nigrum*; Linn. A "Native Currant." (Solaneæ.) Introduced.
October 16.
- 1,362 *Styphelia triflora*; Andr. "Five-corners." (Epacridæ.) Food.
November 6.
- 1,370 *Synoum glandulosum*; de Juss. "Rosewood." (Meliaceæ.) In flower; timber.
June 19.
- 1,331 *Synoum glandulosum*; de Juss. "Rosewood." (Meliaceæ.) In fruit; timber.
June 5.
- 1,310 *Tarrietia actinophylla*; Baill. "Stavewood." (Sterculiaceæ.) Timber.
- 1,312 *Tristania suaveolens*; Sm. "Broad-leaved Water-gum." (Myrtaceæ.) Timber.
January 24.
- 1,254 *Trochocarpa laurina*; R. Br. "Beech." (Epacrideæ.) Timber.
June 26.
- 1,332 *Xylomelum pyriforme*; Sm. "Native Pear." (Proteaceæ.) Timber.

APPENDIX IX.

DONATIONS.

MAPS, DRAWINGS, DIAGRAMS, &c.

January 17.

- 1,252 Framed Photograph of the Incline, Joadja Creek, New South Wales (Kerosene Shale Mine).
From the Government Printer.

March 3.

Plans of the Earning Yacht "Nonsuch" —

- 1,282 Profile.
- 1,283 Plans (a) Upper Deck.
" (b) Lower Deck.
- 1,284 Cross-sections (2).
- 1,285 Drawings (2) to show rig.
Presented by Mr. Thos. Smith, Sydney.

April 21.

- 1,306 Photograph of Engine by Messrs. Boulton and Watt, Soho, Birmingham; erected in 1785 for Messrs. Whitbread & Co., London, who presented the engine to the Museum. From Messrs. Whitbread & Co.

August 28.

- 1,350 Zoological Chart and Chart of Vegetable Kingdom; also Table of Plants and Animals referred to in the "British Pharmacopœia." Presented by Dr. Ussher, Ballarat.

APPENDIX X.

EXCHANGES (OUTWARDS).

Date.	Description of Specimens.	To whom sent.
1888.		
21 Feb.	136 samples of Australian Wools, as follows :— 65 from Queensland 32 „ Tasmania 23 „ New South Wales 16 „ Victoria	The Smithsonian Institute, Washington, through G. W. Griffin, Esq, Consul in Sydney for the United States.
8 March	44 samples of Wool, as follows :— 1 of Ercildoune washed wool, from sheep bred by Sir Samuel Wilson 16 of Goorianawa greasy wool, of sheep bred by C. Fetherstonhaugh, Esq. 27 of Gostwyck greasy wool, of sheep bred by Messrs. Dangar Bros., Uralla, New England	The Queensland Museum.
8 May	Emery, from Naxos Diabase-porphry, from Red Hill, The Springs, N.S.W. Plumbago, from Tenterfield, N.S.W. Wavellite, from Montgomery County, Arkansas Quartz (Jasper), from Cambay, India Axinite, from Dauphiny, France Topaz, from Schneckenstein, Saxony Obsidian, from Iceland Ore, from shallow lead, Brickwood Tin-mine, Inverell Calcite, from Iceland Phacolite, from Collingwood, Victoria Paraffin Coal, from Rott, near Bonn, Germany Novaculite, from Hot Springs, N.Z. Sepiolite, from Asia Minor Hacked Chalcedony, from Yellowstone, National Park, U.S.A. Erythrite, from Schneeberg, Saxony Tourmaline, from Suarum, Norway Aluminite, from Newhaven, England Stibnite, from Corangula, Kempsey, N.S.W. Galena (Argentiferous), from Rivertree, Clarence River, N.S.W.	Rev. J. Milne Curran, Bathurst (late of Cobar).

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY.

(REPORT FOR 1888.)

Presented to Parliament, pursuant to Act 14 Vic. No. 31.

REPORT of the Senate of the University for the year ended 31st December, 1888.

1. The Senate of the University of Sydney, in pursuance of the Act of Incorporation, 14 Victoria No. 31, has the honor to transmit the account of its proceedings during the year 1888, for the information of His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council.

2. Out of a total of 139 students who presented themselves for matriculation in March, 88 qualified themselves.

3. The following are the numbers of matriculated students attending lectures in the various faculties during the year:—Faculty of Arts, 182, including 36 evening students; Faculty of Medicine, 56; Faculty of Science, 4; Department of Engineering, 8; total, 250.

4. The following Degrees were conferred, after examination:—

Master of Arts (M.A.):—Cornelius Delohery, Edward James Loxton, John Meillon.

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.):—Thomas Kingsmill Abbott, Ettie Artlett, Arnold George Henry Bode, Herbert Edward Britten, Norman Vyner Fletcher, Carleton Brennand Fidler, Robert Randolph Garran, Harold W. G. Hunt, Augustus George F. James, George Chatfield King, Gustav Hugo Leibius, Randal Charles William M'Donnell, Duncan Allan M'Intyre, Frederick Allan Morgan, John Arthur O'Keefe, William Clowes Pritchard, Alfred Edward Sendall, Albert John Studdy, William Alexander Walker.

Bachelor of Medicine (M.B.) and Master of Surgery (Ch.M.):—William George Armstrong, B.A., Peter Bancroft, Leslie Gordon Davidson, Arthur G. Henry, Alfred Edward Perkins, M.A., David Dunlop Rutledge, M.A.

Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.):—Archibald William Fletcher, B.A., Fanny Elizabeth Hunt.

Bachelor of Engineering (B.E.):—Henry Harvey Dare, Norman Fitz, James Vicars.

5. The following graduates of other Universities were admitted *ad eundem gradum* in accordance with the provisions of the "Ad Eundem Degrees Act," 44 Victoria No. 22:—

Master of Arts (M.A.):—Andrew Gardiner, M.A., Edinburgh; Richard Philp, M.A., Dublin.

Doctor of Medicine (M.D.):—Alexander MacCormick, M.D., Edinburgh; Ralph Worrall, M.D., Queen's University, Ireland.

Bachelor of Medicine (M.B.):—Frank Antill Pockley, M.B., Edinburgh; Robert Scot-Skirving, M.B., Edinburgh.

6. The total number of degrees conferred during the year was thus forty-five, divided as follows:—M.A., 5; B.A., 19; M.D., 2; M.B., 8; M.Ch., 6; B.Sc., 2; B.E., 3.

7. The following are the honours conferred at the Degree Examinations:—

Faculty of Arts—B.A. Examination.

Classics—Honours—Class I:—W. A. Walker, gold medal; G. H. Leibius, *prox. acc.* Class

II:—D. A. M'Intyre. Class III:—T. K. Abbott, J. A. O'Keefe.

Latin and French—Honours—Class III:—F. A. Morgan.

Mathematics—Honours—Class I:—Harold W. G. Hunt, gold medal.

Faculty of Medicine—Examinations for M.B. and M.Ch.

First-class Honours:—P. Bancroft, A. E. Perkins, M.A.

Second-class Honours—W. G. Armstrong, B.A., A. G. Henry.

Faculty of Science—B.Sc. Examination.

Geology and Palæontology—Honours—Class I:—A. W. Fletcher, B.A.

Physiology—Honours—Class II:—A. W. Fletcher, B.A.

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Department

[1,253 copies—Approximate Cost of Printing (labour and material), £13 1s. 6d.]

Department of Engineering—B.E. Examination.

First-class Honours :—H. H. Dare, gold medal.

8. The following Scholarships were awarded :—

(a) Matriculation Examination.

Cooper Scholarship No. 2 for Classics—E. M. Stephen.

Barker Scholarship No. 2 for Mathematics—E. M. Stephen.

University Scholarship for General Proficiency—Gained by E. M. Stephen, but awarded to F. W. Doak, E. M. Stephen being the holder of two other Scholarships.

(b) First year Examination in Arts.

Lithgow Scholarship for Classics—F. Lloyd.

George Allen Scholarship for Mathematics—R. P. Sellors.

Levey Scholarship for Chemistry and Physics—Gained by H. Wolstenholme, but awarded to W. T. Dick, H. Wolstenholme being the holder of two other Scholarships.

(c) Second year Examination in Arts.

Barker Scholarship No. 1 for Mathematics—H. Newton.

(d) First Professional Medical Examination.

Renwick Scholarship for General Proficiency—G. H. Abbott.

9. Prize books stamped with the University Arms were awarded to those who obtained first-classes in honours at the yearly examinations.

Faculty of Arts.

First year Examination—Classics :—F. Lloyd, H. R. Curlewis. Latin and French :—R. Dick. Mathematics :—R. P. Sellors.

Second year Examination—Mathematics :—H. Newton.

Faculty of Medicine.

First Professional Medical Examination—Chemistry :—G. H. Abbott. Botany :—G. H. Abbott, C. L. W. Hunt.

Second Professional Medical Examination—Anatomy :—J. W. Hester, A. E. Mills, H. V. C. Hinder, Æ. J. M'Donnell, A. Henry. Physiology :—J. W. Hester, A. Henry. *Materia Medica* :—Æ. J. M'Donnell. Pathology :—J. W. Hester, Æ. J. M'Donnell, Æq.

10. Special Annual Prizes were awarded as follows :—

Smith Prize for Physics at the first year examination—H. Wolstenholme.

Norbert Quirk Prize for Mathematics at the second-year examination—H. Newton.

Dr. Milford's Prize for Surgery—G. H. Abbott.

Professor MacCallum's Prize for English Literature in connection with the University Extension Scheme—H. Y. Braddon.

Dr. Dixon's Prize for *Materia Medica*—C. G. Wilson.

Professor MacCallum's Prizes for English—First year—E. I. Sutherland; second year, R. P. Sellors; third year, M. Meares.

11. The following Bursaries were awarded :—

The Maurice Alexander Bursary.

The John Ewan Frazer Bursary.

The Ernest Manson Frazer Bursary.

The William Charles Wentworth Bursary (one half).

The Hunter Baillie Bursary, No. 2 (one half).

The John Brown Watt Exhibition.

The Walker Bursary, No. 1.

The Walker Bursary, No. 2 (one half).

The Walker Bursary, No. 3 (one half).

The Walker Bursary, No. 4.

The Walker Bursary, No. 5.

Twelve students, in addition to the holders of Bursaries, were permitted to attend lectures without the payment of fees.

12. The following courses of lectures under the University Extension Scheme were delivered during the year :—

Lent Term.—Ancient History: Lecturer, Professor Scott; number of students attending, 61.

Political Economy: Lecturer, Mr. A. C. Wylie; number of students attending, 10.

Bathurst—English Literature: Lecturer, Mr. A. W. Jose; number of students attending, 34.

Parramatta—English History: Lecturer, Rev. H. L. Jackson, M.A.; number of students attending, 28.

Trinity Term.—Political Economy: Lecturer, Mr. A. C. Wylie; number of students attending, 8.

English Literature: Lecturer, Professor MacCullum; number of students attending, 30.

West Maitland—English History: Lecturer, Rev. H. L. Jackson, M.A.; number of students attending, 113.

Michaelmas Term.—Political Economy: Lecturer, Mr. J. H. P. Murray; number of students attending, 3. Modern History: Lecturer, Rev. A. Gilchrist, LL.D.; number of students attending, 20. Logic and Mental Philosophy: Lecturer, Mr. F. Anderson, M.A.; number of students attending, 11.

Bathurst—English Literature: Lecturer, Mr. A. W. Jose; number of students attending, 18.

Newcastle—English History: Lecturer, Mr. W. Crompton, M.A.; number of students attending, 61.

The total number attending the various courses was thus—397.

13.

Mr. Christopher Rolleston had been an active Fellow of the Senate for the past sixteen years, and had always taken a leading part in the management of the financial business of the University.

19. In order to fill the two vacancies thus created a Convocation for the election of two Fellows was held on the 19th of May, and the ballot which was taken on the 26th of May resulted in the election of Mr. Cecil Bedford Stephen, M.A., and Mr. Thomas Butler, B.A.

20. In the month of May leave of absence from the meetings of the Senate for a period of six months was granted to the Hon. Peter Faucett and also to the Most Rev. Bishop Barry, both of whom were leaving the Colony on a visit to Europe. Mr. Faucett was at the same time appointed by the Senate to act as representative of the Sydney University at the festivals to be held in the month of June at the University of Bologna to celebrate the eighth centenary of its existence.

21. In the month of April the triennial elections to the offices of Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Dean of the Faculty of Law were held. They resulted in the appointment of Professor Gurney as Dean of the Faculty of Arts, and the re-election of the Hon. Mr. Justice Windeyer as Dean of the Faculty of Law.

22. During the year the Senate has had under discussion the best mode of utilizing the bequest, amounting to about £30,000, of the late Mr. Thomas Fisher, for the purpose of "establishing and maintaining a library for the use of the University."

In the month of February the Senate determined, on the motion of the Chancellor,—

"That the sum of £20,000 and the accumulations thereof from that time to the time of expenditure should be applied in the erection of a library building at and for the University, such building to be designated 'The Fisher Library'; but that before the expenditure of the amount so dedicated the Government and Parliament should be petitioned to provide a corresponding amount for the erection of buildings annexed to the library, comprising reading-rooms and common rooms for students, residences for the librarian and the registrar, a small museum for the Nicholson antiquities, and additional lecture-rooms, together with a refectory for students and other conveniences."

The disposal of the remainder of the bequest, £10,000, is still under the consideration of the Senate.

23. In the month of February the Chancellor reported to the Senate that an effort was being made by several members of the Senate and other friends to the higher education of women, to procure the establishment of a Women's College, in affiliation to the University, upon the general principles of the Affiliated Colleges Act of 1854, but upon a reduced scale of expenditure, and also without denominational distinctions, and that an open public meeting had been held on the 27th of May, 1887, under the presidency of his Excellency the Governor, Lord Carrington, at which the following resolutions had been unanimously passed:—

1. That this meeting affirms the desirability of establishing a College for Women within the University of Sydney, on the basis of the Colleges' Endowment Act of 1854.
2. That the systematic religious instruction required by that Act shall be subject to the following provisions—
 - (a) No religious catechism or formulary which is distinctive of any particular denomination shall be taught, and no attempt shall be made to attach students to any particular denomination.
 - (b) Any student shall be excused from attendance upon religious instruction, or religious observance, on express declaration that she has conscientious objection thereto.
3. That the governing body be composed of twelve members (of whom not less than four shall be women), to be elected in the first instance by the subscribers, and subsequently in such manner as may be determined, together with two Members of the Senate of the University, to be appointed by the Senate from time to time.
4. That subscriptions be forthwith invited from the public, with a view to raising the necessary sum of £5,000.
5. That a deputation be appointed to wait on the Government, with a view to obtaining the co-operation of the Legislature in the establishment and endowment of a College for Women within the University of Sydney. That the deputation consists of the following gentlemen: The Hon. Sir W. Manning, Dr. MacLaurin, Hon. E. Barton, Hon. Dr. Garrau, Mr. G. H. Reid, Mr. A. B. Weigall, Professors Gurney, MacCallum, and Scott; Mr. J. R. Fairfax, the Revs. Canon Sharp, Principal Kinross, C. J. Prescott, Dr. Jefferis, and H. L. Jackson.

The Chancellor also stated that subscriptions had been received to the amount of between £800 and £900, but that it appeared to the committee that before further subscriptions could be obtained it would be necessary that assurance should be received by subscribers that the College would be accepted by the Senate in affiliation, and legally established and endowed, and also that a site for the necessary buildings would be bestowed by the University. He accordingly gave notice of the following resolutions, which were carried at a meeting of the Senate held on the 26th of March:—

1. That the Senate, having had under consideration a proposal made at a public meeting, and already supported by considerable private contributions, for the establishment of a Women's College within the University, hereby consents to receive such College into affiliation in the event of its being established and endowed by the authority of Parliament.
2. That the Senate agrees to dedicate to the use of the proposed College a site for necessary buildings and recreation grounds within the University Domain: Provided that Parliament shall, as in the case of the Affiliated Colleges, have endowed the College for building purposes with a sum equal to the amounts subscribed by the public, and have provided an annual stipend for the Principal: Provided also that the College shall have been established within four years from the passing of this resolution.
3. That the Senate will concur with the subscribing supporters of the said proposal in inviting the Government to submit to Parliament a Bill for establishing and endowing the said College for women.
4. That the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor be authorized to represent the University in the deputation agreed to at the public meeting of May last.

24. The Senate has adopted certain changes at the instance of the Professor of Modern Literature, by which it is hoped the teaching in that department will be rendered more efficient and of a less elementary character than it has been hitherto. The Lectureship in French and the Lectureship in German existing up to the present have been combined into a Lectureship in French and German, and at a much larger salary than that received by either of the distinct lecturers, with a view to the appointment of some gentleman specially trained as a teacher in the Department of Modern Literature. In order to fill the appointment the following gentlemen were requested to act as a committee for receiving applications and making the election:—The Agent-General for New South Wales; Sir Charles Nicholson, Bart., D.C.L.; Professor Nichol, of Glasgow; Professor Ward, of Owen's College, Manchester; Professor Ker, of University College, Cardiff. These gentlemen gladly consented to act, applications were invited for the post, and received from thirty-five applicants. From these the committee selected and appointed Mr. Emil J. Trechmann, B.A. (Oxon.) Ph.D. (Heidelberg), at present Lecturer in English at Bangor College, North Wales. Dr. Trechmann is expected to arrive in Sydney in time to commence his duties at the beginning of Lent Term, 1889.

25. In consequence of the adoption of the new curriculum for the Faculty of Arts, mentioned in last year's report, in which the subject of logic and mental philosophy was included, it became necessary to appoint a teacher in that subject. Applications were accordingly invited for the post by public advertisement, and from a number of applicants the Senate appointed Mr. Francis Anderson, M.A., a distinguished graduate of Glasgow University.

26. During the year the Senate has had under consideration the expediency of making certain changes in the curriculum for medical and science students in consequence of reports which were received from the Professorial Board and the Faculty of Medicine respectively, recommending that the curriculum in those departments should be modified, so that students should no longer be required to pass through the first year in the Faculty of Arts before proceeding to their special medical and scientific studies. The Faculty of Medicine was accordingly instructed to prepare a proposed new medical curriculum extending over five years on the basis of its suggestion, and the Professorial Board was at the same time instructed to draw up a curriculum for science and engineering students for the consideration of the Senate. The reports were duly presented to the Senate, and after considerable discussion the proposed new by-laws for the medical curriculum (which are appended to this report) were adopted. In accordance with these by-laws candidates for a degree in medicine or in science are required to produce evidence of having graduated in arts or in science, or of having attended the lectures of the first year of the arts course, and passed the first year examination in arts, or of having passed the senior public examination, or an examination equivalent to the senior public examination, in the following subjects, viz.:—Latin; one of the three languages, Greek, French, German, and three of the subjects in group III, viz., arithmetic, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, elementary surveying and astronomy, mechanics, applied mechanics.

27. The Senate is glad to be able to report the completion of the Physical Laboratory which was in course of erection at the beginning of the year. The classes for theoretical and practical instruction have been held in it during the year, and, as regards general fittings and conveniences, it proves to be as well adapted as possible for the purpose for which it was erected.

28. The Senate has had under consideration during the year the necessity for the erection of a new laboratory for the Department of Chemistry. The want of additional accommodation in this department has been felt for some years, and frequent proposals for its provision have been made, but up to the present time financial difficulties have stood in the way. In the month of June the Senate, in view of the great urgency of the necessity of a laboratory, passed the following resolution:—

"1. That for the erection of the buildings required for a Department of Chemistry and Mineralogy, the sum of £7,500 be granted from the amount saved by the compromise in reference to the payment of legacy duty on the Challis bequest as soon as it is available, on condition that an equal sum be provided by the Government, provided that the said sum of £7,500 be recouped to the fund by annual payments from the income fund, extending over a period of not more than twenty years.

2. In order that the building may serve as a memorial of the late Mr. Challis, it be known as the Challis Laboratory."

These resolutions having been submitted to the Government, a communication was subsequently received, stating that the Government had determined to place a sum of £7,500 upon the Estimates for the year 1889 for the purpose, and that the Colonial Architect had been instructed to proceed with the preparation of the plans for the building in order that there might be no delay when the money was available.

29. The Senate is able to report that more efficient arrangements have been made for clinical teaching of medical students at the Prince Alfred Hospital by means of the following resolutions, which were approved by the Senate in the month of May, and by which the conjoint board,—consisting of the Senate and the Directors of the Prince Alfred Hospital—in the month of

- "1. That there should be on the staff of the Prince Alfred Hospital four honorary physicians, four honorary Surgeons, two, three, or four honorary assistant physicians, and two, three, or four honorary assistant surgeons, independently of special appointments.
2. That the University Lecturer on Medicine should be one of the honorary physicians, and the University Lecturer on Clinical Medicine should be one of the honorary physicians.
3. That the University Lecturer on Surgery should be one of the honorary surgeons, and the University Lecturer on Clinical Surgery should be one of the honorary surgeons.
4. That after the expiration of the tenure of office of the present Ophthalmic Surgeon this appointment should be held by the University Lecturer on Ophthalmic Surgery.
5. That when a special Lectureship on Diseases of Women shall have been established by the University, the Lecturer should be the Honorary Physician for Diseases of Women in the Prince Alfred Hospital.
6. That every Honorary Medical Officer should be equally and fully subject to all the by-laws, rules, and regulations of the Hospital.
7. That in order to carry out the above recommendations it is desirable that the conjoint board should elect the Lecturers above specified, unless, in any individual instance, they see material reasons against such a course."

30. In the month of April the Senate received a communication from the Medical Board of the Prince Alfred Hospital recommending the appointment of a Lecturer in Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery. After full consideration the Senate determined upon the establishment of a Lectureship in that subject; and in the month of September, after applications had been invited by public advertisement, elected Mr. F. Antill Pockley, M.B., Ch.M. (Edin.) to the office.

31. In the month of May Mr. Edward Reeve was reappointed to the office of Curator of the Nicholson Museum of Antiquities for a period of one year.

32. In the month of June a communication was received from the Department of Public Instruction stating that important changes in the Training Institutions organized in that Department were being arranged, and suggesting that arrangements might be made under which a certain number of students of those Institutions would be entitled to graduate in arts in the University. After some consideration and correspondence with the Department, the following by-law was passed by the Senate and approved by His Excellency the Governor in Council:—

To stand as by-law 8, chapter XI.

Notwithstanding the provisions of by-laws 6 and 7, matriculated students, who are students in a Training Institution for teachers organised under the Department of Public Instruction, may be admitted to the First Year Examination in the Faculty of Arts, without having attended the University lectures, upon presenting a certificate from the Under Secretary for Public Instruction to the effect that they have attended the course of instruction in such Training Institution for one year after matriculating. Students of a Training Institution, who have passed the First Year Examination, may be admitted to the Second Year Examination in the Faculty of Arts without having attended the University lectures of the second year, upon presenting a similar certificate to the effect that they have attended a second course of instruction in such Training Institution for one year after passing their First Year Examination.

All such students having passed the Second Year Examination shall have the status of students commencing the Third Year in the Faculty of Arts.

This by-law will have the effect of bringing students of the Training School into close relation with the students of the University who are preparing for other professions to their mutual benefit.

33. In the month of May a committee was appointed by the Senate to inquire and report upon the system of evening lectures at present carried on. On the 30th of July the committee reported that in its opinion the evening lectures had not been altogether successful, but pointed out that as the ordinary period of graduation by attendance on the evening lectures was five years, those students who had entered at their establishment had not had sufficient time to graduate, and recommended that the whole question should be reconsidered after the next annual commemoration when the first five years curriculum would have been completed.

34. The office of Demonstrator in Physiology was rendered vacant during the year through the resignation of Dr. Alexander M'Cormick, who held the office for five years. The appointment of a gentleman to fill the vacancy was left in the hands of Dr. Michael Foster, Professor of Physiology, in the University of Cambridge, and Secretary of the Royal Society, London, who selected Mr. A. E. Wright, B.A. (Cantab.), M.B. (Dub.) Mr. Wright is expected to commence his duties in Lent Term, 1889.

35. In the month of September a meeting of Convocation was held in accordance with the provisions of the by-laws, which had been adopted by the Senate for the regulation of such meetings, and the following resolutions were passed:—

1. That the Fellows of the Senate should be elected for a definite term of years, and not for life, but should be eligible for re-election.
2. That the professors should not be *ex-officio* Fellows of the Senate, but should be eligible for election.
3. That Convocation, other than for the election of Fellows, should be summoned at least twice in each year.
4. That Convocation should be empowered to originate any statute or regulation, and recommend the same for the approval of the Senate.
5. That the Senate be requested to obtain the necessary authority from Parliament for giving effect to the preceding resolutions."

These resolutions were considered at a special meeting of the Senate, held on the 24th of September, when resolutions 1 and 3 as passed by Convocation were adopted by the Senate. In regard to clause 2 and 5 the Senate appointed a committee to consider and report as to the best mode of making use of the services of the teaching staff in the government of the University. The committee has not yet reported to the Senate. In regard to clause 4 it was determined to inform Convocation that the Senate will at all times be ready to receive and carefully consider any recommendations for by-laws or regulations sent up by Convocation.

36. In the month of October a communication was received from Professor Stephens, Professor of Natural History, and Dr. Haswell, Lecturer in Biology, pointing out the necessity for increased accommodation for the classes in their departments, and suggesting that the necessary additional lecture-rooms and laboratories should be erected upon a site adjoining the Macleay Museum. As the Senate felt that there might be difficulty in procuring the necessary funds for the large expenditure which was proposed, arrangements have been made by which at a much smaller expense the building hitherto used as a temporary medical school can be adapted to the required purpose.

37. In the month of November leave of absence for a part of the term beginning in March, 1889, was granted to Professor Threlfall, to enable him to visit Europe.

38. In view of the falling in of the Challis bequest, or that portion of it represented by the Australian assets in the month of September, 1889, the Senate has appointed a committee to consider and report what chairs should be founded when the bequest is at the disposal of the Senate. The committee has not yet sent in its final report to the Senate.

39. The office of Lecturer in Architecture for the year 1888 was filled by the reappointment of Mr. John Sulman, F.R.I.B.A.

40. Mr. John Sulman, F.R.I.B.A., has also been appointed to deliver a course of thirty lectures upon architectural design during the year 1889, for the benefit of architects' articled clerks, not being compulsory for University engineering students.

41. In the month of December the Senate received with regret the resignation of Dr. F. Norton Manning as Lecturer in Psychological Medicine. The vacancy has not yet been filled, as the services of the lecturer will not be required until Michaelmas Term, 1889.

42. In the same month the Senate also received with regret the resignation of Dr. Albert Helms, who has held the office of Demonstrator in Practical Chemistry for seven years. The vacancy has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Edgar Hall, F.C.S., of Owen's College.

43. In the month of October the Senate received a communication from the Hon. William Macleay, in which he pointed out that the building erected to receive his Museum of Natural History, originally bequeathed, but now given to the University, had been completed, and that provision had been made for the necessary fittings, and expressed his intention of commencing the transfer of the museum from its present location to the University building at an early date. He also enclosed a cheque for £6,000 for the endowment of a curatorship in connection with it, in accordance with his intention expressed in 1874 of bequeathing that sum with the museum to the University. Up to the end of the year the transfer of the museum was being rapidly carried on.

44. The Senate has to report the receipt of the following benefactions :—

Some valuable additions to the Nicholson Museum of Antiquities from the Egypt Exploration Society, which is represented in Australia by Mr. Josiah Mullins, one of its Vice-Presidents, including a colossal head in granite of Rameses II in a very excellent state of preservation.

A bequest of £4,000 from the late William Roberts, Esq., of Penrith, for the foundation of a scholarship or scholarships, travelling or otherwise, in memory of the late Mr. James King, of Irrawang, near Raymond Terrace. It has been determined to establish with this endowment a travelling scholarship of £150 per annum, tenable for two years, to be awarded to graduates of not more than four years' standing.

A sum of £1,000 from the Hon. J. B. Watt, to duplicate the Watt Exhibition, which is awarded to pupils at the public examinations.

Prizes of books from Professor Scott, Professor Stevens, Professor MacCallum, Dr. Milford, Dr. Wilkinson, and Mr. F. Anderson.

45. The annual statement of receipts and expenditure, duly certified by the auditor, the Hon. Geoffrey Eagar, and also a statement showing the condition of the various private foundations of the University, are appended to this report.

H. E. BARFF,
Registrar.

APPENDIX A.

BY-LAWS OF THE UNIVERSITY.

CHAPTER XVII.—FACULTY OF MEDICINE.

1. The Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, the Fellows of the Senate who are legally qualified members of the medical profession, the Professors and Lecturers in the subjects of the Medical Curriculum, and the Examiners in Medicine appointed by the Senate, shall constitute the Faculty of Medicine.

2. The Dean shall exercise a general superintendence over the administrative business connected with the Faculty, and it shall be the duty of the Registrar to summon meetings of the Faculty at such times as may be required by the Dean provided that upon the written requisition of any three members of the Faculty, the Dean, or in his absence the Registrar, shall convene a special meeting. No question shall be decided at any meeting of the Faculty unless there be present at least five members. In the absence of the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, the Dean shall act as chairman at all meetings of the Faculty, but in his absence the members then present shall elect a chairman from amongst themselves. The chairman at any such meeting shall have a vote, and in case of an equality of votes, a second or casting vote. It shall be the duty of the Registrar to attend all meetings, and to record the proceedings.

3. The Faculty shall meet for the purpose of considering and reporting to the Senate upon such subjects as have relation to the studies, lectures, examinations, and degrees in Medicine, and such questions as may be referred to it by the Senate.

4. Courses of Instruction shall be given as directed by the Senate; and except where otherwise specified, each shall consist of a long course of 100 hours' instruction, extending through two terms, or a short course of fifty hours' instruction, extending throughout one term; and, where possible, the long courses shall be given during Lent and Trinity Terms, and the short courses during Michaelmas Term.

5. At least three Written Class Examinations shall be held during each long course of instruction, and at least two such examinations during each short course. Students shall not absent themselves from these examinations except upon a medical certificate, and at the end of each course a report of the results, signed by the responsible teacher, shall be presented to the Senate by the Dean.

6. There shall be three Degrees granted in the Faculty of Medicine, viz., Doctor of Medicine (M.D.), Bachelor of Medicine (M.B.), and Master of Surgery (Ch.M.).

7. Candidates for a Degree in Medicine shall produce evidence of having graduated in Arts or in Science, or of having attended the lectures of the First Year of the Arts course and passed the First Year Examination in Arts, or of having passed the Senior Public Examination, or an Examination equivalent to the Senior Public Examination, in the following subjects, viz., Latin and one of the three languages—Greek, French, German, and in three of the sections in Group III., viz., Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Elementary Surveying and Astronomy, Mechanics, Applied Mechanics.

8. Candidates for the Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and of Master of Surgery shall attend the following courses of instruction, and present the following certificates:—

I. In the First year,—

Inorganic Chemistry and Practical Chemistry.
Physics and Practical Physics.
Biology and Practical Biology.
Descriptive Anatomy, Junior Course.

II. In the Second Year,—

During Lent and Trinity Terms,—
Physiology, Junior Course (including Microscopical Anatomy).
Practical Physiology.
Regional Anatomy, Junior Course.

During Michaelmas Term,—
Organic Chemistry.
Descriptive Anatomy, Senior Course.
Hospital Practice.

III. In the Third Year,—

During Lent and Trinity Terms,—
Surgery.
Regional and Surgical Anatomy, Senior Course.
Hospital Practice.

During Michaelmas Term,—
Physiology, Senior Course (with Embryology and Physiological Chemistry)
Hospital Practice.

IV. In the Fourth Year,—

During Lent Term,—
Operative Surgery, a course of twenty-five hours' instruction.

During Lent and Trinity Terms,—
Pathology.
Materia Medica and Therapeutics.
Hospital Practice, with lectures on Clinical Surgery twice weekly and Tutorial Surgery.

During Michaelmas Term,—
Practical Pathology.
Medical Jurisprudence and Public Health.
Hospital Practice, with lectures on Clinical Surgery twice weekly and Tutorial Medicine.

V. In the Fifth Year,—

During Lent and Trinity Terms,—
Medicine.
Midwifery and Gynæcology.
Hospital Practice, with lectures on Clinical Medicine twice weekly and Tutorial Medicine.

During Michaelmas Term,—
Applied Logic.
Psychological Medicine, including Clinical Instruction and at least twelve Systematic Lectures.
Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery, including Clinical Instruction and at least twelve Systematic Lectures.
Hospital Practice, with lectures on Clinical Medicine, twice weekly.

Before

Before admission to the Fourth Examination candidates shall also be required to present the following certificates at least ten clear days before the date of the Examination :—

1. Of attendance on Practical Pharmacy, or a certificate showing that the Student has been engaged for at least three months, by apprenticeship or otherwise, in compounding and dispensing drugs in the laboratory of a Hospital or Dispensary, or of a Licentiate of the London or Dublin Society of Apothecaries or Pharmaceutical Chemist approved by the Faculty of Medicine.
2. Of having acted during at least three months as a Dresser in the Out-patient's Department, during at least six months as a Dresser in the Surgical Wards, and during at least six months as a Clinical Clerk in the Medical Wards of a recognized hospital.
3. Of attendance on *post mortem* examinations during at least one term during the fourth or fifth years of the curriculum.
4. Of attendance on at least twelve cases of Practical Midwifery.
5. Of proficiency in Vaccination, signed by a legally qualified Medical Practitioner.
6. Of proficiency in the administration of Anæsthetics.

9. For the degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Master of Surgery there shall be four examinations. The First Examination shall not take place before the end of the First Year, and shall include Inorganic Chemistry, Physics, and Biology. The Second Examination shall not take place before the end of the Third Year, and shall include Organic Chemistry, Anatomy, and Physiology. Before admission to the Second Examination candidates will be required to present certificates of having dissected during at least five terms, and of having dissected at least one side of the body. The Third Examination shall not take place before the end of the Fourth Year, and shall include Pathology and Materia Medica and Therapeutics. The Fourth Examination shall not take place before the completion of the Fifth Year, and shall include Medicine, Clinical Medicine, Surgery, Clinical Surgery, Midwifery, Medical Jurisprudence and Public Health, Psychological Medicine, Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery, and Applied Logic.

10. Before admission to the Fourth Examination, each candidate shall furnish a declaration of having completed his twenty-first year, and also a certificate of good fame and character, signed by two competent persons.

11. At each Examination candidates shall be required to give proof of their knowledge by written answers to the questions set, to be followed by a practical or by a *vivâ voce* Examination in all subjects whatsoever.

12. Candidates who have passed all the Examinations to the satisfaction of the Examiners shall be recommended to the Senate for admission to the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine, and to the Degree of Master of Surgery if they so elect.

13. Honours at graduation shall depend upon the proficiency shown in the examinations, in accordance with regulations adopted by the Senate from time to time, and the candidate who shall have been most distinguished shall receive a gold medal or a prize of the value of £10, provided that he shall have obtained first-class honours.

14. Accredited certificates of attendance on courses of instruction from other Universities and Schools of Medicine recognized by the University of Sydney, may, on the report of the Dean, be accepted by the Senate as proof of the attendance on courses of instruction *pro tanto* required by these by-laws: Provided always that no person shall be recommended to the Senate for admission to the degrees of Bachelor of Medicine or of Master of Surgery by examination, unless he shall present certificates of having attended within the University of Sydney during each of at least six terms, not less than two courses of instruction in subjects included in the medical curriculum of the University. In all such cases a degree in Arts or in Science, or some certificate of general education satisfactory to the Senate, will be required. Every candidate making application under this by-law must present a certificate of good fame and character, signed by two competent persons.

15. Bachelors of Medicine and Masters of Surgery of this University shall not possess any right to assume the title of Doctor of Medicine.

16. The degree of Doctor of Medicine shall not be conferred until after the expiration of two academic years from the granting of the degree of Bachelor of Medicine.

17. Candidates for the degree of Doctor of Medicine must produce evidence that after having obtained the degree of Bachelor of Medicine they have spent at least two years in medical or surgical practice, or that they have been engaged for a like period and in a manner approved by the Faculty in the scientific study of any subject included in the medical curriculum of the University of Sydney.

18. The candidates shall be required to pass an examination conducted by means of set papers and by *vivâ voce* interrogations in one division of the two following groups, viz. :—

- (1) Medicine,
Surgery,
Midwifery and Gynæcology.

The examination in each case shall include examination of, and report on, the cases of patients in a hospital, and examination and demonstration of specimens or preparations, normal or morbid.

- (2) The other subjects included in the medical curriculum of the University.

They shall further be required to present, and, if called upon, to defend, a thesis on some subject included in the medical curriculum of the University. Five printed copies of the thesis, on paper $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. wide and $8\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep, must be transmitted to the Registrar at least two months before the date fixed for the examination.

19. The candidate who shall at this examination most distinguish himself shall, if of sufficient merit, receive a gold medal or a prize of the value of £10.

20. The degree of Master of Surgery shall not be conferred on any person who has not already been admitted a Bachelor of Medicine.

21. The fees for the degrees of Doctor of Medicine, Bachelor of Medicine, and Master of Surgery, shall be £10 respectively. The fees shall be paid to the Registrar before the examination, and shall not in any case be returned to the candidate.

22. Candidates who fail to pass the examination for any degree shall be allowed to present themselves for a second examination for the same degree without fee, but for every further examination that may be required they shall pay the sum of £5.

APPENDIX B.

Dr. RECEIPTS and Expenditure of the University of Sydney for the year ending 31st December, 1888. Cr.

GENERAL ACCOUNT.

Receipts.		Expenditure.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Received from the Government of New South Wales :—		Balance due Commercial Bank, 31st December, 1887	1,634 2 2
the Annual Endowment	£5,000 0 0	Paid for Salaries	17,488 17 11
the Additional Endowment...	7,000 0 0	" Improvement of Grounds	147 13 10
for purchase of Scientific Apparatus	1,000 0 0	" Sundry charges, including Printing	2,319 17 11
for purchase of Scientific Apparatus for Department of Physics	500 0 0	" Library, periodicals, &c.	229 1 2
for purchase of Scientific Apparatus for Medical School	400 0 0	" Philosophical Apparatus	1,428 14 3
towards expenses of Evening Lectures	2,000 0 0	" University Prizes	128 16 11
towards payment of Lectures in Medical and Science Schools	1,000 0 0	" University Scholarships	50 0 0
for Chair of Modern Literature	900 0 0	" Medical School	58 15 6
for Chair of Modern Literature (vote of 1887)	900 0 0	" Organ tuning, &c.	14 19 0
the balance of 1887 vote for "Additions, Repairs, and Furniture"	199 8 5		
for the payment of Carpenter's Salary, &c., from the Vote for "Additions, Repairs, and Furniture"	200 0 0		
	19,099 8 5		
Received from Lectures Fees, after paying Professors	£2,295 14 6		
" Matriculation Fees	331 1 0		
" Degree Fees	275 0 0		
" Public Examination Fees, after deducting expenses	120 5 6		
" Testing Fees	30 0 7		
	3,052 1 7		
Received for Pasturage	80 0 0		
" from Commercial Bank, interest on Fixed Deposits	275 0 0		
" " Commercial Bank, principal sum as Fixed Deposit	500 0 0		
" on account of William Hilton Hovell Lectureship, interest on Investments and Rents of Properties (transferred from Private Foundation Account)...	278 8 4		
" Balance due Commercial Bank, 31st December, 1888...	216 0 4		
	£ 23,500 18 8		£ 23,500 18 8

STATEMENT of Receipts and Expenditure on account of the Civil Service and Public Examinations, for the year ending 31st December, 1888.

Receipts.		Expenditure.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Balance at 31st December, 1887	151 7 10	Paid fees to Examiners and all other expenses in connection with Examinations	1,958 12 4
Received fees from Candidates for Civil Service and Public Examinations	1,927 10 0	Balance carried to general account	120 5 6
	£ 2,078 17 10		£ 2,078 17 10

G. EAGAR,
Auditor.ROBERT A. DALLEN,
Accountant.

ANALYSIS of Private Foundations showing the Investments and Cash Balances at 31st December, 1888.

Ledger Account Cr. Balance.	Investments.				Private Foundations.	Dr. Cash Balance.	Cr. Cash Balance.
	Mortgages.	Buildings and Land.	Fixed Deposits.	Debentures.			
£ s. d.	£	£	£	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1,013 0 10	.....	.....	125	900	Levey Scholarship	11 19 2	
1,788 17 3	.....	1,120	225	400	Barker Scholarship		43 17 3
1,673 12 9	.....	1,036	250	400	E. Deas-Thomson Scholarship	12 7 3	
441 12 3	.....	.....	230	200	Wentworth Prize Medal .....	.....	11 12 3
2,073 19 11	.....	1,120	350	600	Cooper Scholarship .....	.....	3 19 11
701 4 5	.....	.....	90	600	Salting Exhibition .....	.....	11 4 5
1,306 7 6	100	.....	430	800	Wentworth Fellowship	23 12 6	
1,747 10 0	200	.....	1,550	.....	Lithgow Scholarship	2 10 0	
393 18 10	100	.....	90	200	Nicholson Medal .....	.....	3 18 10
387 7 4	.....	.....	370	.....	Earl Belmore Medal .....	.....	17 7 4
600 5 0	.....	.....	50	575	John Fairfax Prizes	24 15 0	
1,062 12 6	.....	.....	75	1,000	Maurice Alexander Bursary	12 7 6	
1,073 17 6	.....	.....	75	1,000	Levey and Alexander Bursary	1 2 6	
211 3 6	.....	.....	.....	200	John West Prize .....	.....	11 3 6
1,201 4 2	.....	.....	200	1,000	E. M. Frazer Bursary .....	.....	1 4 2
1,118 3 1	.....	.....	125	1,000	J. E. Frazer Bursary	6 16 11	
1,014 17 11	.....	.....	.....	1,000	W. C. Wentworth Bursary No. 1 .....	.....	14 17 11
1,012 2 11	.....	.....	.....	1,000	W. C. Wentworth Bursary, No. 2 .....	.....	12 2 11
588 10 0	.....	.....	650	.....	W. C. Wentworth Bursary, No. 3	61 10 0	
1,065 15 5	.....	.....	75	1,000	Burdekin Bursary	9 4 7	
1,176 6 8	.....	.....	175	1,000	Hunter-Baillie Bursary, No. 1 .....	.....	1 6 8
1,184 14 6	800	.....	375	.....	Hunter-Baillie Bursary, No. 2 .....	.....	9 14 6
2,335 9 10	200	.....	2,130	.....	J. B. Watt Exhibitions .....	.....	5 9 10
1,132 1 6	.....	.....	1,125	.....	Renwick Scholarship .....	.....	7 1 6
975 0 0	.....	.....	1,000	.....	Bowman-Cameron Scholarship	25 0 0	
6,000 0 0	1,000	4,400	600	.....	Hovell Lectureship .....	.....
1,099 15 0	.....	.....	1,100	.....	George Allen Scholarship	0 5 0	
1,236 16 4	.....	.....	1,250	.....	Freemasons Scholarship	13 3 8	
58 8 4	.....	.....	65	.....	J. G. Raphael Prize	6 11 8	
1,026 5 0	.....	.....	25	1,000	James Aitken Bursary .....	.....	1 5 0
5,334 15 0	100	.....	5,200	.....	Thomas Walker Bursaries .....	.....	34 15 0
1,330 15 0	500	.....	400	400	G. Wigram Allen Scholarship .....	.....	30 15 0
1,108 15 0	1,000	.....	100	.....	Struth Exhibition .....	.....	8 15 0
52,898 1 9	12,532	.....	20,350	.....	Fisher Estate .....	.....	16 1 9
152 12 6	.....	.....	150	.....	Norbert Quirk Prize .....	.....	2 12 6
105 0 0	.....	.....	100	.....	Smith Prize .....	.....	5 0 0
1,010 7 11	.....	.....	1,000	.....	Badham Bursary .....	.....	10 7 11
275 0 0	.....	.....	265	.....	Slade Foundation .....	.....	10 0 0
1,120 0 0	.....	.....	1,060	.....	Caird Scholarship .....	.....	60 0 0
4,000 0 0	.....	.....	4,000	.....	J. King of Irrawang Scholarship .....	.....
6,000 0 0	.....	.....	6,000	.....	Macleay Curatorship .....	.....

ROBERT A. DALLEN,
Accountant.

31st December, 1888.

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY.

(BY-LAWS—FACULTY OF MEDICINE.)

Presented to Parliament, pursuant to Act 14 Vic. No. 31.

By-Laws—Faculty of Medicine—passed by the Senate, December, 1888.

CALENDAR : CAP. XVII.

1. The Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, the Fellows of the Senate who are legally qualified members of the medical profession, the Professors and Lecturers in the subjects of the Medical Curriculum, and the Examiners in Medicine appointed by the Senate, shall constitute the Faculty of Medicine.

2. The Dean shall exercise a general superintendence over the administrative business connected with the Faculty, and it shall be the duty of the Registrar to summon meetings of the Faculty at such times as may be required by the Dean, provided that upon the written requisition of any three members of the Faculty, the Dean, or, in his absence, the Registrar, shall convene a special meeting. No question shall be decided at any meeting of the Faculty unless there be present at least five members. In the absence of the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, the Dean shall act as chairman at all meetings of the Faculty, but in his absence the members then present shall elect a chairman from amongst themselves. The chairman at any such meeting shall have a vote, and, in case of an equality of votes, a second or casting vote. It shall be the duty of the Registrar to attend all meetings, and to record the proceedings.

3. The Faculty shall meet for the purpose of considering and reporting to the Senate upon such subjects as have relation to the studies, lectures, examinations, and degrees in Medicine, and such questions as may be referred to it by the Senate.

4. Courses of instruction shall be given as directed by the Senate, and, except where otherwise specified, each shall consist either of a long course of one hundred hours' instruction, extending throughout two terms, or of a short course of fifty hours' instruction, extending throughout one term; and, where possible, the long courses shall be given during Lent and Trinity Terms, and the short courses during Michaelmas Term.

5. At least three written class examinations shall be held during each long course of instruction, and at least two such examinations during each short course. Students shall not absent themselves from these examinations except upon a medical certificate, and at the end of each course a report of the results, signed by the responsible teacher, shall be presented to the Senate by the Dean.

6. There shall be three degrees granted in the Faculty of Medicine—viz., Doctor of Medicine (M.D.), Bachelor of Medicine (M.B.), and Master of Surgery (Ch.M.)

7. Candidates for a Degree in Medicine shall produce evidence of having graduated in Arts or in Science, or of having attended the lectures of the first year of the Arts course and passed the first year examination in Arts, or of having passed the senior public examination, or an examination equivalent to the senior public examination, in the following subjects, viz., Latin, and one of the three languages—Greek, French, German, and in three of the sections in Group III, viz., Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Elementary Surveying and Astronomy, Mechanics, Applied Mechanics.

8. Candidates for the Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and of Master of Surgery shall attend the following courses of instruction, and present the following certificates :—

- I. In the first year,
 Inorganic Chemistry and Practical Chemistry.
 Physics and Practical Physics.
 Biology and Practical Biology.
 Descriptive Anatomy (junior course).

- II. In the second year,
 During Lent and Trinity Terms,
 Physiology (junior course).
 Practical Physiology.
 Regional Anatomy (junior course).

- During Michaelmas Term,
 Organic Chemistry.
 Descriptive Anatomy (senior course).
 Hospital Practice.

III.

III. In the third year,

- During Lent and Trinity Terms,
Surgery.
Regional and Surgical Anatomy (senior course).
Hospital Practice.
- During Michaelmas Term,
Physiology (senior course).
Hospital Practice.

IV. In the fourth year,

- During Lent Term,
Operative Surgery, a course of twenty-five hours' instruction.
- During Lent and Trinity Terms,
Pathology.
Materia Medica and Therapeutics.
Hospital Practice, with lectures on Clinical Surgery, twice weekly, and Tutorial Surgery.
- During Michaelmas Term,
Practical Pathology.
Medical Jurisprudence and Public Health.
Hospital Practice, with lectures on Clinical Surgery, twice weekly, and Tutorial Medicine

V. In the fifth year,

- During Lent and Trinity Terms,
Medicine.
Midwifery and Gynæcology.
Hospital Practice, with lectures on Clinical Medicine, twice weekly, and Tutorial Medicine.
- During Michaelmas Term,
Applied Logic.
Psychological Medicine, including clinical instruction and at least twelve systematic lectures.
Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery, including clinical instruction and at least twelve systematic lectures.
Hospital Practice, with lectures on Clinical Medicine, twice weekly.

Before admission to the fourth examination, candidates shall also be required to present the following certificates at least ten clear days before the date of the examinations:—

1. Of attendance on Practical Pharmacy, or a certificate showing that the candidate has been engaged for at least three months, by apprenticeship or otherwise, in compounding and dispensing drugs in the laboratory of a hospital or dispensary, or of a Licentiate of the London or Dublin Societies of Apothecaries or Pharmaceutical Chemist approved by the Faculty of Medicine.
2. Of having acted during at least three months as a dresser in the Out-patients Department, during at least six months as a dresser in the surgical wards, and during at least six months as a clinical clerk in the medical wards of a recognized hospital.
3. Of attendance on *post-mortem* examinations during at least one term during the fourth or fifth years of the curriculum.
4. Of attendance on at least twelve cases of Practical Midwifery.
5. Of proficiency in Vaccination, signed by a legally qualified medical practitioner.
6. Of proficiency in the administration of Anæsthetics.

9. For the degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Master of Surgery there shall be four examinations. The first examination shall take place before the end of the first year, and shall include Inorganic Chemistry, Physics, and Biology. The second examination shall not take place before the end of the third year, and shall include Organic Chemistry, Anatomy, and Physiology. Before admission to the second examination candidates will be required to present certificates of having dissected during at least five terms, and of having dissected at least one side of the body. The third examination shall not take place before the end of the fourth year, and shall include Pathology and Materia Medica and Therapeutics. The fourth examination shall not take place before the completion of the fifth year, and shall include Medicine, Clinical Medicine, Surgery, Clinical Surgery, Midwifery, Medical Jurisprudence, and Public Health, Psychological Medicine, Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery, and Applied Logic.

10. Before admission to the fourth examination, each candidate shall furnish a declaration of having completed his twenty-first year, and also a certificate of good fame and character, signed by two competent persons.

11. At each examination candidates shall be required to give proof of their knowledge by written answers to the questions set, to be followed by a practical, or by a *vivâ voce*, examination in all subjects whatsoever.

12. Candidates who have passed all the examinations to the satisfaction of the examiners shall be recommended to the Senate for admission to the degree of Bachelor of Medicine, and to the degree of Master of Surgery, if they so elect.

13. Honors at graduation shall depend upon the proficiency shown in the examinations, in accordance with regulations adopted by the Senate from time to time, and the candidate who shall have been most distinguished shall receive a gold medal or a prize of the value of ten pounds, provided that he shall have obtained first-class honors.

14. Accredited certificates of attendance on courses of instruction from other Universities and Schools of Medicine recognized by the University of Sydney, may, on the report of the Dean, be accepted by the Senate as proof of the attendance on courses of instruction *pro tanto* required by these by-laws: Provided always that no person shall be recommended to the Senate for admission to the Degrees of Bachelor

Bachelor of Medicine or of Master of Surgery by examination, unless he shall present certificates of having attended within the University of Sydney during each of at least six terms, not less than two courses of instruction in subjects included in the Medical Curriculum of the University. In all such cases as degree in Arts or in Science, or some certificate of general education satisfactory to the Senate will be required. Every candidate making application under this by-law must present a certificate of good fame and character, signed by two competent persons.

15. Bachelors of Medicine and Masters of Surgery of this University shall not possess any right to assume the title of Doctor of Medicine.

16. The degree of Doctor of Medicine shall not be conferred until after the expiration of two academic years from the granting of the degree of Bachelor of Medicine.

17. Candidates for the degree of Doctor of Medicine must produce evidence that, after having obtained the degree of Bachelor of Medicine, they have spent at least two years in medical or surgical practice, or that they have been engaged for a like period and in a manner approved by the Faculty in the scientific study of any subject included in the medical curriculum of the University of Sydney.

18. The candidates shall be required to pass an examination conducted by means of set papers, and by *viva voce* interrogations in one division of the two following groups, viz. :—

(1) Medicine.

Surgery.

Midwifery and Gynæcology.

The examination in each case shall include examination of, and report on, the cases of patients in a hospital, and examination and demonstration of specimens or preparations, normal or morbid.

(2) The other subjects included in the medical curriculum of the University.

They shall further be required to present, and, if called upon, to defend, a thesis on some subject included in the medical curriculum of the University. Five printed copies of the thesis, on paper five and a half inches wide and eight and three-quarters of an inch deep, must be transmitted to the Registrar at least two months before the date fixed for the examination.

19. The candidate who shall at this examination most distinguish himself shall, if of sufficient merit, receive a gold medal, or a prize of the value of ten pounds.

20. The degree of Master of Surgery shall not be conferred on any person who has not already been admitted a Bachelor of Medicine.

21. The fees for the degrees of Doctor of Medicine, Bachelor of Medicine, and Master of Surgery, shall be ten pounds respectively. The fees shall be paid to the Registrar before the examination, and shall not in any case be returned to the candidate.

22. Candidates who fail to pass the examination for any Degree shall be allowed to present themselves for a second examination for the same degree without fee ; but for every further examination that may be required, they shall pay the sum of five pounds.

(L.S.)

H. N. MACLAURIN,

Vice-Chancellor.

H. E. BARFF,

Registrar.

February 5th, 1889.

Laid before the Executive Council on the 19th day of March, 1889, and approved.

ALEX. C. BUDGE, Clerk of the Council.

CARRINGTON.

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY.

(AMENDED BY-LAW.)

Presented to Parliament, pursuant to Act, 14 Vic. No. 31.

PASSED by the Senate at a meeting held on Monday, the 15th day of July, 1889, to stand in lieu of the present By-law 8, Chapter II.

If any Fellow shall, without leave from the Senate, be absent from the aforesaid meetings for three consecutive calendar months, his fellowship shall, *ipso facto*, become vacant.

(L.S.) W. M. MANNING,
Chancellor.
H. E. BARFF,
Registrar.

Laid before the Executive Council on the 3rd day of September, 1889, and approved.—ALEX. C. BUDGE, Clerk of the Council.

CARRINGTON.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

EDUCATION.

(PROFESSORS' FEES, SYDNEY UNIVERSITY—AMOUNT OF LECTURE AND EXAMINATION FEES RECEIVED BY EACH OF THE PROFESSORS AND LECTURERS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY, FOR THE YEAR 1888, AND FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 31 MARCH, 1889, RESPECTIVELY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 17 April, 1889.

[Laid on the Table of the House in accordance with a promise made by the Minister of Public Instruction in reply to questions asked by Mr. Edmunds]

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

RETURN showing the total amount of Lecture and Examination Fees received by each of the Professors and Lecturers during the year 1888

	Lecture Fees			Examination Fees			Total		
	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d
Professor Scott	393	15	0	129	5	0	523	0	0
„ MacCallum	229	8	6	160	1	2	389	9	8
„ Guiney	320	15	6	206	3	2	526	18	8
„ Threlfall	135	9	0	14	10	0	149	19	0
„ Liversidge	290	5	0	13	10	0	303	15	0
„ Stephens	137	11	0	162	8	2	299	19	2
„ Stuart	386	15	0	5	5	0	392	0	0
„ Warren	58	5	6	30	9	0	88	14	6
Mr L F M. Armstrong				22	5	0	22	5	0
„ Moors				87	16	0	87	16	0
„ Anderson	21	0	0	86	16	0	107	16	0
„ Bulteau				34	6	0	34	6	0
„ Sulman	47	5	0				47	5	0
„ Butler	79	10	9	180	14	2	260	4	11
„ Newham	71	8	0	87	16	0	159	4	0
Dr. Max	34	2	9				34	2	9
„ Helms				104	2	0	104	2	0
Mr. Quayle	3	18	9				3	18	9
„ Adair	27	11	3	6	2	0	33	13	3
Dr. Wilson				10	1	0	10	1	0
„ Haswell	43	1	0	6	5	0	49	6	0
„ Milford	130	4	0				130	4	0
„ Dixon	94	10	0				94	10	0
„ Wilkinson	151	4	0				151	4	0
„ Goode	56	14	0				56	14	0
„ Hankins	31	10	0				31	10	0
„ Oram	16	16	0				16	16	0
„ Shewen	16	16	0				16	16	0
„ Chambers	50	8	0				50	8	0
„ Cox	50	8	0				50	8	0
„ Manning	34	13	0				34	13	0

There has been no distribution of lecture or examination fees during the quarter ended 31st March, 1889.—H E B

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

WOMEN'S COLLEGE UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT BILL.
(MESSAGE, No. 31.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 14 June, 1889.

CARRINGTON,
Governor.

Message, No. 31.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends, for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly, the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to establish and endow a College for Women within the University of Sydney.

*Government House,
Sydney, 13th June, 1889.*

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

EDUCATION.

(ADDITIONAL AND AMENDED REGULATIONS UNDER THE "PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ACT OF 1880.")

Presented to Parliament, pursuant to Act 43 Vic. No. 23, sec. 37.

Department of Public Instruction, Sydney, 15 August, 1889.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to approve of the following Additional and Amended Regulations, in substitution for those of dates 12th February, 1886, and 25th September, 1888, relating to Teachers.

J. H. CARRUTHERS.

Instructions to Teachers.

28. Teachers of all ranks are required to abstain from participation in any public meetings or other gatherings on party, political, or sectarian topics, and generally to refrain from all action in such matters calculated to give offence to any section of the community or to impair their own usefulness as teachers; they must also abstain from public controversy upon the merits of the system of education now in force, and from acting as local preachers, lay readers, or local correspondents of newspapers.

28A. It is incumbent on teachers to attend to directions given them by inspectors, and all departmental orders issued to them must be strictly observed. Should a teacher at any time feel aggrieved, he may appeal to the Minister for redress, but such appeal must be made in a proper and respectful manner. Pending an appeal, no teacher will be justified in disobeying orders, nor in the course of an appeal shall he knowingly make unfounded charges or improperly introduce subjects foreign to the matter of appeal.

Appointment and Training of Teachers.

71. Every applicant for employment as a teacher, unless he be a University graduate, or a person holding a certificate from a recognised training institution, must show that he has gained in the Colony, either as a pupil in a State School, or otherwise, a sufficient experience of the established Public School system to warrant his employment. Every untrained applicant must undergo a course of training before being permanently appointed, and he must sign an undertaking to accept such employment in any locality indicated by the Minister.

SUBJECTS OF EXAMINATION FOR TEACHERS AND PUPIL-TEACHERS.

84. The subjects in which teachers, and pupil-teachers shall be examined for classification are those stated hereunder.

FOR A THIRD-CLASS CERTIFICATE.

Reading—Full value, 800 marks. Prose and Poetry.

Writing—Full value, 800 marks. Specimens of Copy-setting in round hand, half-text, and small hand.

Arithmetic—Full value, 1,000 marks. Simple and Compound Rules, Reduction, Proportion, Practice, Simple and Compound Interest, Vulgar and Decimal Fractions.

Text Books—Barnard Smith's Arithmetic, or

Hamblin Smith's Arithmetic.

Grammar—Full value, 1,000 marks. Including Punctuation, Paraphrasing, Parsing, Analysis of Sentences, Meanings and Applications of Words, Saxon and Latin Prefixes and Affixes, Dictation and Composition.

Text Books—M'Leod's Grammar, and

Laurie's Composition.

Geography—Full value, 1,000 marks. Europe and Australia in detail. Mapping in connection with those Continents.

Text Books—Hughes' Class Book of Geography.

Geography of New South Wales (Wilkins').

History—Full value, 600 marks. Outlines of British History from the Conquest to the reign of Victoria inclusive; date of Accession of each Sovereign; leading Men; and most important Events. General sketch of Australian History.

Text Books—Nelson's Royal History of England.

Sutherland's History of Australia.

School Management—Full value, 800 marks. Organization, Discipline, and Instruction of Schools—in outline.

Text Books—Gladman's School Method.

Public Instruction Act and Regulations.

Domestic Economy—(Female Teachers only)—Full value, 500 marks. Plain Needlework, Food, Clothing, Household Management.

Text Book—Hassall's Domestic Economy.

Drawing—Full value, 500 marks. Black-board, Freehand.

Text Books—As prescribed in the Standard of Proficiency.

Vocal Music—Full value, 500 marks. Rudiments of Music, either notation.

Text Books—Curwen's Standard Course, or

Sutton's Theory of Music.

FOR

FOR A SECOND-CLASS CERTIFICATE.

- Reading*—Full value, 500 marks. Prose and Poetry from any English Reading Book.
- Writing*—Full value, 500 marks. Specimens of Copy-lines, Letter-writing, Ornamental Writing.
- Arithmetic*—Full value, 1,000 marks. The full Course, with Elementary Mensuration.
Text Books—Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.
 Hamblin Smith's Arithmetic.
 Todhunter's Mensuration (for Males, Chap. I to XX inclusive. For Females, Chap. I to XIII inclusive).
- Grammar*—Full value, 1,000 marks. Including Spelling, Punctuation, Parsing, Paraphrasing, Meaning and uses of Words, Etymology and Analysis.
Text Books—Hunter's Grammar.
 Lennie's Grammar (revised).
 Morell's Grammar and Analysis.
Subject for Special Study—"Julius Cæsar"—(Shakespeare.)
- Geography*—Full value, 800 marks. Physical Geography. Europe, Australasia, and North America, in detail. Mapping within these limits.
Text Books—W. Hughes' Class Book of Geography, and Edward Hughes' Physical Geography, or Geikie's Physical Geography.
- History and English Literature*—Full value, 700 marks.
 History— { British History, from the Conquest to the present times.
 { Australian History.
 Literature—Elizabeth to Cromwell inclusive.
Text Books—Nelson's Royal History.
 Sutherland's History of Australia.
 Smith's Smaller History of English Literature.
- Art of Teaching*—Full value, 500 marks. Organization, Discipline, Method, and Instruction of School in greater detail.
Text Books—Gladman's School Method.
 Public Instruction Act and Regulations.
- Sanitary Science* (Female Teachers only)—Full value, 500 marks.
Text Book—Wilson's Healthy Life and Healthy Dwellings.
- Drawing*—Full value, 500 marks. Geometrical and Model Drawing.
Text Books—Nesbit and Brown's Handbook of Model and Object Drawing.
 Rawle's Practical Plane Geometry.
- Vocal Music*—Full value, 500 marks. Rudiments of Music, either notation, with increased proficiency.
Text Books—Curwen's Standard Course, or Sutton's Theory of Music.
- * *Alternative Groups for Males.*
- Group I.
- Euclid*—Full value, 1,000 marks. First three Books of Euclid's Elements, with Deductions.
- Algebra*—Full value, 1,000 marks. To Quadratic Equations, including Surds.
Text Books—Hamblin Smith's Algebra.
 Todhunter's Euclid.
- Group II.
- Latin*—Full value, 2,000 marks. Grammar, Composition. Cæsar, De Bello Gallico. Books I to IV inclusive.
Text Books—Dr. Smith's Smaller Latin Grammar. "Principia Latina," Part I; and Ihne's Latin Syntax, Part I.
- * *Alternative Groups for Females.*
- Group I.
- French*—Full value, 1,500 marks. Grammar, Composition. Translation from an easy author.
Text Books—Voltaire's Charles XII. Books I to IV inclusive.
 Havet's French Class Book (complete), or Hallard's French Grammar.
- Group II.
- Latin*—Full value, 1,500 marks. Grammar, Composition. Cæsar, De Bello Gallico. Books I, II.
Text Books—As for Males.
- Group III.
- Euclid*—Full value, 750 marks. Books I and II, with easy Deductions on them.
Text Books—As for Males.
- Algebra*—Full value, 750 marks. To Quadratics, omitting Surds.
Text Books—As for Males.
- Group IV.
- Any two of the following Sciences:—
- Experimental Physics*—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Balfour Stewart's Lessons on Elementary Physics.
- Chemistry*—Full value, 750 marks. Inorganic.
Text Book—Roscoe's Lessons in Elementary Chemistry.
- Geology*—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Lyell's Student's Elements of Geology.
- Zoology*—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Huxley's Lessons in Elementary Zoology.
- Botany*—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Oliver's Lessons in Elementary Botany.
- Physiology*—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Huxley's Lessons in Elementary Physiology.

FOR

* NOTE.—These groups of subjects are styled Alternative, because candidates are allowed to choose from them the group in which they wish to be examined. Candidates are required to confine themselves to one group.

FOR A FIRST-CLASS CERTIFICATE.

- Reading*—Full value, 500 marks. Prose and Poetry from a standard author.
Writing—Full value, 500 marks. Specimens of Copy-setting and Letter-writing, Ornamental Printing, Principles of Writing.
Arithmetic—Full value, 1,000 marks. The whole theory and practice.
Text Books—Hamblin Smith's Arithmetic.
 Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.
 Colenso's Arithmetic (as revised by Hunter).
 Todhunter's Mensuration (for Males only).
Grammar—Full value, 1,000 marks. Including Orthography, Punctuation, Parsing, Paraphrasing, Analysis, Composition, Etymology, Prosody, and Style.
Text Books—Mason's English Grammar.
 Bain's Higher English Grammar.
 Meiklejohn's Book of English.
Geography—Full value, 800 marks. Physical Geography.
 Astronomical Geography.
Text Books—Geikie's Physical Geography.
 Lockyer's Astronomy.
Art of Teaching—Full value, 700 marks. Organization, Method, Discipline, with a knowledge of the Constitution of the Human Mind.
Text Books—Gladman's School Method.
 Tate's Philosophy of Education, or
 Morell's Mental Philosophy.
Sanitary Science—(Female Teachers only)—Full value, 500 marks.
Text Book—Wilson's Healthy Life and Healthy Dwellings.
Drawing—Full value, 500 marks. The full D Certificate.
Text Book—Dennis' Perspective.
Vocal Music—Full value, 500 marks. Rudiments of Music, either notation.
Text Books—Curwen's Standard Course, or Sutton's Theory of Music.
History—Full value, 700 marks. History of England in detail. History of Australia.
Text Books—Smith's Student's Hume.
 Creasy on the English Constitution. Chapters 10, 11, 15, 16.
 Sutherland's History of Australia.
English Literature—Full value, 800 marks. Elizabeth to Anne.
Text Book—Morley's English Literature. Chapters VII to XI inclusive.
For Special Study—Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice."
 Milton's "Paradise Lost." Book I.
 Addison's Essays, 12 (Clarendon edition), Nos. 3, 15, 25, 61, 105, 106, 135, 159, 165, 409, 458, 487.
 Bacon's Essays, 6, Blackie's edition, Civil and Moral.

Alternative Groups for Males.

Group I.

- Algebra*—Full value, 1,000 marks. Including the Binomial Theorem.
Text Books—Colenso's Algebra, or
 Hamblin Smith's Algebra.
Euclid—Full value, 1,000 marks. Books I to VI, with Deductions.
Text Books—Potts' Euclid, or
 Todhunter's Euclid.
Plane Trigonometry—Full value, 1,000 marks.
Text Books—Todhunter's Trigonometry for Schools and Colleges, or
 Hamblin Smith's Trigonometry.

*Group II.

- Latin*—Full value, 2,000 marks. Virgil, first two Books of *Æneid*; Livy, Book 21. Questions on Grammar. Composition.
Text Books—Dr. Smith's Larger Latin Grammar.
 Abbott's Latin Prose Composition.
 Ihne's Latin Syntax.
Greek—Full value 1,000 marks.
Text Books—Xenophon's "Anabasis." Books I and II.
 Smith's Larger Greek Grammar.
 Abbott's Greek Prose Composition.
French—Full value, 1,000 marks. Grammar, Translation, Composition.
Text Books—Souvestre's "Un Philosophe sous les Toits."
 Racine's "Athalie."
 Havet's French Grammar.
 Hallard's French Grammar.
German—Full value, 1,000 marks. Grammar, Translation, Composition.
Text Books—Schiller's "History of the Thirty Years' War." Chapters I to IV.
 Goethe's "Faust."
 Otto's German Grammar.

† Group III.

- Natural Science*—Full value, 750 marks. Experimental Physics.
Text Book—Ganot's Physics.
Chemistry—Full value, 750 marks. Inorganic.
Text Book—Roscoe's Class Book of Elementary Chemistry (Macmillan).
Geology—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Jukes' or Geikie's Geology.
Zoology—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Huxley's Zoology.
Botany—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Oliver's Manual of Botany.
Physiology—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Huxley's Physiology.
Sanitary Science—Full value, 750 marks.
Text Book—Wilson's Handbook of Hygiene.

Group

* NOTE.—In this group at least two languages must be taken, one of them being Latin.

† NOTE.—Any four of these Sciences may be taken¹

Group IV.

- Euclid*—Full value, 1,000 marks. Books I to VI, with Deductions.
Text Books—As in Group I.
Algebra—Full value, 1,000 marks. Inclusive of the Binomial Theorem.
Text Books—As in Group I.
Latin—Full value, 1,000 marks. Cæsar, De Bello Gallico. First two books.
 Virgil's *Æneid*. Book I.
Text Books—As in Group II.

Group V.

- Euclid*—Full value, 1,000 marks. Books I to VI, with Deductions.
Text Books—As in Group I.
Algebra—Full value, 1,000 marks. Inclusive of the Binomial Theorem.
Text Books—As in Group I.

And any two Sciences of the Science Group already specified in Group III. Full value 1,000 marks.

Group VI.

- Latin*—Full value, 2,000 marks. Virgil's *Æneid*. Books I, II.
 Livy. Book XXI.
 Horace's Odes. Books I, II.
 Grammar and Composition.
Text Books—As in Group II.
 Together with any two of the following Sciences, namely, Chemistry, Physics, Physiology, Geology.
 Full value 1,000 marks.
Text Books—As in Group III.

Alternative Groups for Females.

Group I.

- French*—Full value, 1,500 marks. Grammar, Translation, Composition.
Text Books—Souvestre's "Un Philosophe sous les Toits."
 Corneille's "Le Cid."
 Racine's "Athalie."
 Havet's French Grammar.
 Hallard's French Grammar.

Group II.

- German*—Full value, 1,500 marks. Grammar, Translation, Composition.
Text Books—As for Males.

Group III.

- Latin*—Full value, 1,500 marks. Grammar, Translation, Composition.
Text Books—As for Males.

Group IV.

- Euclid*—Full value, 800 marks. Books I to IV, with Deductions.
Text Books—As for Males.
Algebra—Full value, 700 marks. To Quadratic Equations inclusive.
Text Books—As for Males.

Group V.

Any three of the following Sciences :—

- Experimental Physics*—Full value, 500 marks.
Chemistry—Full value, 500 marks.
Geology—Full value, 500 marks.
Zoology—Full value, 500 marks.
Botany—Full value, 500 marks.
Physiology—Full value, 500 marks.
Text Books—As for Males of First Class.

SUBJECTS OF STUDY FOR PUPIL-TEACHERS.

Before Appointment—*Candidates.*

- Reading*—Full value, 50 marks. To Read an advanced Class Book, sanctioned by the Minister, with ease, fluency, and expression, to Spell well, and to understand the meaning of the passage read.
Writing—Full value, 50 marks. To write from Dictation, in a neat hand, a simple Prose Narrative, with correct spelling and punctuation.
Dictation—Full value, 100 marks.
Arithmetic—Full value, 100 marks. To know the Arithmetical Tables, and to work the rules in Vulgar Fractions, Proportion, and Practice, as in Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.
Grammar—Full value, 100 marks. To Parse and Analyse correctly a passage taken from an ordinary Class-book ; to know the Elements of Grammar.
Geography—Full value 100 marks. To understand the Geographical Terms, to be acquainted with the Map of the World, and to have a knowledge of the Geography of Australia.
Drawing—Full value, 50 marks. Freehand Tests, as prescribed for a Third Class in the Standard of Proficiency.
Vocal Music—Full value, 50 marks. As prescribed for a Third Class in the Standard of Proficiency.
Skill in Teaching—To Teach a Junior Class in the presence of an Inspector.

Pupil-teachers—Class IV.

- Reading*—Full value, 50 marks. To Read the Fifth Reading Book, sanctioned by the Minister, with fluency and expression, give synonymous words and phrases, and answer upon the subject matter ; to repeat from memory 50 lines of Poetry.
Writing—Full value, 50 marks. To write neatly and correctly from Dictation or from Memory.
Dictation—Full value, 50 marks.
Arithmetic—Full value, 100 marks. To work Questions in Proportion, Vulgar and Decimal Fractions, and Practice.
Text Book—Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.

Grammar

Grammar—Full value, 100 marks. To Parse, Paraphrase, and Analyse a Passage; Meanings of Words; Etymology.

Text Books—Lennie's Grammar (revised).
Laurie's Spelling and Dictation Class Book.

Geography—Full value, 80 marks. New South Wales, in detail; Europe. The Physical Features and Chief Towns in each Country.

Text Books—Wilkins' Geography of New South Wales.
Hughes' Class Book of Geography.

History—Full value, 70 marks. English History to William I.

Text Book—Nelson's Royal History of England.
Australian History—Sutherland's. Chaps. I to V.

Drawing—Full value, 50 marks. Black-board Practice.

Vocal Music—Full value, 50 marks. Stimpson's Singing Class Book, Chaps. I to VIII.

Geometry (for Males)—Full value, 100 marks. Euclid. Book I. Propositions I to XXVI.

Text Book—Todhunter's Geometry.

Algebra (for Males)—Full value, 100 marks. Hamblin Smith's Algebra. Chaps. I to V inclusive.

Latin (for Males)—Full value, 100 marks. Smith's "Principia Latina" to Exercise XXIV inclusive.

*** French (for Females)**—Full value, 100 marks. De Fivas' "Grammaire des Grammaires," to Exercise XXX inclusive.

School Management—Full value, 50 marks. The Kindergarten Principle (Lyschinska). Gladman's School Method.

Needlework (for Females)—Full value, 50 marks.

Pupil-teachers—Class III.

Reading—Full value, 50 marks. To read with improved intonation and expression.

Writing—Full value, 50 marks. Specimens of Penmanship; three hands.

Arithmetic—Full value, 100 marks. Compound Interest, Profit and Loss, and Square Root—as in Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.

Grammar—Full value, 100 marks. Parsing of Difficult Sentences, with a good knowledge of Syntax, and the Analysis of Sentences; Meanings of Words; Force of Affixes; Latin Roots; Composition

Text Book—Lennie's Grammar (revised).

Geography—Full value, 80 marks. Australia; Polynesia.

Mapping, confined within these limits.

Text Books—Collins' Geography of Australia and Pacific Ocean.
Collins' Australian and Primary Atlas.

History—Full value, 70 marks. English History: William I to Richard III inclusive.

Australian History—Sutherland's. Chaps. VI to X.

Text Books—Nelson's Royal History of England.
Sutherland's History of Australia.

Drawing—Full value, 50 marks. Freehand Drawing.

Vocal Music—Full value, 50 marks. Stimpson's Singing Class Book, Chaps. IX to XII inclusive.

Geometry—Full value, 100 marks. Euclid. Book I.

Algebra—Full value, 100 marks. Fractions and Simple Equations, to Chap. XIV inclusive.

Latin—Full value, 100 marks. Smith's "Principia Latina," to Exercise XXXIII.

French (for Females)—Full value, 150 marks. "Grammaire des Grammaires," to Exercise LX. (See note*, Fourth Class Pupil-teachers.)

School Management—Full value, 50 marks. Gladman's School Method. The Kindergarten Principle (Lyschinska).

Needlework (for Females)—Full value, 50 marks.

Pupil-teachers—Class II.

Reading—Full value, 50 marks. A standard author, with correct intonation and emphasis.

Writing—Full value, 50 marks. Specimen of Penmanship; three hands, with increased skill.

Arithmetic—Full value, 100 marks. Cube Root, Discount, Stocks, Proportional Parts—as in Barnard Smith's Arithmetic, or Hamblin Smith's Arithmetic.

Grammar—Full value, 100 marks. Increased skill in Parsing, Paraphrasing, and in the Analysis of Sentences; Meanings of Words; Affixes; Roots; Composition.

Text Book—Hunter's Grammar.

Geography—Full value, 80 marks. Asia: Physical Features and Chief Towns of each Country of Asia and North America.

Physical Geography: Waves, Tides, Currents.

History—Full value, 70 marks. English History: Henry VII to Anne, inclusive.

Australian History—Sutherland's. Chapters XI to XVI.

Drawing—Full value, 50 marks. Model Drawing.

Vocal Music—Full value, 50 marks. Stimpson's Class Book, Chaps. XIII to XV inclusive.

Geometry—Full value, 100 marks. Books I and II, with Deductions in Book I.

Algebra—Full value, 100 marks. Simple Equations and Surds, to Chapter XXIV inclusive.

Latin—Full value, 100 marks. Smith's "Principia Latina," to Exercise XLVIII.

French (for Females)—Full value, 150 marks. "Grammaire des Grammaires," to Exercise XC. (See note*, Fourth Class Pupil-teachers.)

School Management—Full value, 50 marks. Gladman's School Method. The Kindergarten Principle (Lyschinska).

Needlework (for Females)—Full value, 50 marks.

Pupil-teachers—Class I.

Reading—Full value, 50 marks. To read with ease and expression from a standard author.

Writing—Full value, 50 marks. Specimen of Penmanship; three hands, with increased skill.

Arithmetic—Full value, 100 marks. Application of Rules and Principles. Mensuration of Surfaces

Text Books—Barnard Smith's Arithmetic.

Todhunter's Mensuration.

Grammar—Full value, 100 marks. Parsing, Paraphrasing, Prosody, Analysis of Sentences, Meanings of Words, Formation of Words, Derivations, Composition.

Text Book—Hunter's Grammar.

Geography—Full value, 80 marks. Physical Geography. Physical Features and Chief Towns of each of the Countries of Africa and South America.

Mapping within these limits.

History—Full value, 70 marks. English History: George I to present time. Australian History—Sutherland's. Chapters XVII to XXII.

Drawing—Full value, 50 marks. Advanced proficiency expected in the three sections. Vocal

* NOTE.—From female pupil-teachers in country districts the following will be accepted in lieu of French, where it can be shown that the examinee has no means of acquiring a knowledge of the language in question:—

Latin, or
Euclid and } As for Males.
Algebra.

- Vocal Music*—Full value, 50 marks. Stimpson's Class Book, Chaps. XVI to end.
Geometry—Full value, 100 marks. Books I and II, with Deductions.
Algebra—Full value, 100 marks. Quadratic Equations, with Surds, to Chap. XXVI, inclusive.
Latin—Full value, 100 marks. Smith's "Principia Latina," to end. Cæsar, De Bello Gallico. Chaps. I to III. Easy translations.
French (for Females)—Full value, 150 marks. "Grammaire des Grammaires," to the end. (See note,* Fourth Class Pupil-teachers.)
School Management—Full value, 50 marks. Gladman's School Method. The Kindergarten Principle (Lyschinska).
Needlework (for Females)—Full value, 50 marks.

NOTE.—The course herein prescribed is for all pupil-teachers alike. It is recommended, however, that the Sydney University Matriculation subjects (as set forth in the by-laws and annually published in the Calendar) be also studied by those pupil-teachers who may desire or intend, after admission to the Training School, to present themselves at the Matriculation examination and to compete, in subsequent University examinations, for the privilege of remaining three years in training and proceeding to the final examination for the B.A. degree.

131. The vacations sanctioned by the Minister are: three weeks at Christmas, one week at Easter, and a fortnight at Midwinter. The holidays allowed, other than those occurring at vacation, are: the Anniversary of the Colony, the Anniversary of the Queen's Birthday and of the Prince of Wales' Birthday, and Good Friday.

Teachers are to state on their time-tables these vacations and holidays.

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

MUNICIPALITIES.

(MOSS VALE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY BY-LAWS.)

Presented to Parliament, in accordance with the provisions of the Municipalities Act of 1867.

Department of Public Instruction, Sydney, 19 July, 1889.

THE following By-laws for the regulation of the Free Public Library at Moss Vale, which have been made by the Municipal Council of Moss Vale, and confirmed by His Excellency the Governor in Council, are published in accordance with the "Municipalities Act of 1867."

J. H. CARRUTHERS.

By-Laws approved by the Library Committee for the regulation of the Public Library, Moss Vale.

1. The Library shall be open every Monday and Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m.; every Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, from 7 to 9 p.m. In connection with the Library there shall be a Reading Room which shall be open at such times as the Library Committee may appoint.

2. Every person entering the Public Library shall write his name and address in a visitor's book to be provided by the Library Committee, and if such person shall be unable to write, then such name and address shall be written by the proper officer of the Council at such Library or Reading Room at the request of such person; and no person who shall refuse to comply with this regulation shall be permitted to remain in such Library or Reading Room, and it shall be the duty of the officer of such Library or Reading Room to enforce this By-law.

3. Any person who being intoxicated shall enter such Library or Reading Room, shall be at once removed from the premises; any person who shall use therein any abusive, improper, or unbecoming language, or shall by unnecessarily loud talking, or by any noise or otherwise, disturb or annoy the persons using or resorting to such Library or Reading Room, or who shall without lawful excuse, but without felonious or larcenous intent, remove any property from such Library or Reading Room, shall forfeit and pay any sum not less than ten shillings nor more than ten pounds, and any such person may be forthwith removed by any officer of the Council in charge of such Library and Reading Room.

By order of the Library Committee,

W. VAL. MILLER,

Council Clerk.

Sealed with the Seal of the Municipal Council of Moss Vale, by order of the Council.

(L.S.)

WM. VAL. MILLER,

Council Clerk.

N. HERBERT THROSBY, MAYOR.

Council Chambers, Moss Vale, 25 June, 1889.

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

LANDS FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES ACQUISITION ACT.

RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL PURPOSES AT

Corrimal.	Mortdale.	Narara.
Eglinford.	Mona Vale.	Orange East.
Granville South.	Narrabeen.	Rockdale.

Presented to Parliament, pursuant to Act 44 Vic. No. 16, sec. 6.

CORRIMAL.

*Gazette, 22nd March, 1889.*NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor. Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification, published in the *Gazette* and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Wollongong Argus" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith: And that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication in the Government *Gazette*, and in a newspaper circulated in the Police District of Wollongong, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever; and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee, as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinafter referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situated at Corrimal, containing two acres, being part of John Thomas Williams' 160 acres, originally forming part of Harriet Spearing's 2,000-acre grant, in the parish of Wonona, county of Camden: Commencing on the eastern side of the Main South Coast Road, at the north-west corner of the Roman Catholic cemetery, being a point bearing north 19 degrees 16 minutes east 2 chains 94½ links

from the intersection of the east boundary of J. Martin's 50 acre portion with the north side of a road 20 feet wide, now forming the south boundary of that portion; and bounded thence on the south by a line partly forming the north boundary of said cemetery bearing north 87 degrees 49 minutes east 5 chains 6 $\frac{3}{10}$ links; thence on the east by a line bearing north 2 degrees 11 minutes west 4 chains; thence on the north by a line bearing south 87 degrees 49 minutes west 4 chains 99 $\frac{2}{10}$ links; and thence on the west by the east side of the Main South Coast Road aforesaid bearing south 14 minutes east 4 chains and $\frac{3}{10}$ of a link, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this eighteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

J. H. CARRUTHERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

EGLINFORD.

*Gazette, 18th January, 1889.*NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor. Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification published in the *Gazette* and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Maitland Mercury" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of

buildings in connection therewith, and that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Police District of Wollombi, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever, and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situated at Eglinford, parish of Aellalong, county of Northumberland, being portion 82, containing two acres, and forming part of T. Crawford's 3,000 acres: Commencing at a point bearing south 75 degrees 44 minutes west and distant 22 chains 56 links from the south-west corner of portion No. 93, J. Bridges' conditional purchase of 40 acres; and bounded thence on the east by a line bearing south 4 chains; thence on the south by a line bearing west 6 chains 9 links to the road from Congowai to Aellalong; thence on the north-west by parts of south-eastern sides of that road bearing respectively north 25 degrees 10 minutes east 2 chains 21 links and north 35 degrees 10 minutes east 2 chains 44 links; and thence on the north by a line bearing east 3 chains 74 links, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this ninth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

JAMES INGLIS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

GRANVILLE SOUTH.

Gazette, 22nd March, 1889.

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, } Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor } Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification, published in the Gazette and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Granville Express" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith: And that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Police District of Parramatta, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever, and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee, as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to, as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situated at Granville South, containing one acre, being part of W. J. Baker's portion No. 9, originally part of the Church and School Estate, in the parish of St. John, county of Cumberland: Commencing on the western side of the Dog-trap Road, at its intersection with the northern side of a Government road now known as Oxford

Road, being a point bearing north 3 degrees 15 minutes east, and distant one chain from the north-east corner of portion 4, H. White's 16 acres 2 roods 21 perches; and bounded thence on the south by the northern side of the last-mentioned road bearing north 86 degrees west 5 chains $1\frac{5}{10}$ link; thence on the west by a line bearing north 4 degrees east 2 chains; thence on the north by a line bearing south 86 degrees east 4 chains $98\frac{5}{10}$ links to the western side of the Dog-trap Road aforesaid; and thence on the east by that side of that road bearing south 3 degrees 15 minutes west 2 chains and one-tenth link, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this eighteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

J. H. CARRUTHERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

MORTDALE (ADDL.)

Gazette, 18th January, 1889.

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, } Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor } Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification published in the Gazette and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Sydney Morning Herald" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith: And that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Metropolitan Police District, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever, and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction, as a Trustee, as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land, being part of lot 14 of Mort's Farm subdivision, situated at Mortdale, parish of St. George, county of Cumberland, containing 30 perches more or less: Commencing on the south-western side of Mort's Road, at the east corner of the land resumed for Public School purposes on the 12th June, 1888; and bounded thence on the north-west by the south-east boundary of that resumed land bearing south 44 degrees 18 minutes west 7 chains $25\frac{5}{10}$ links; thence on the west of the railway fence bearing south 0 degrees 29 minutes east $35\frac{5}{10}$ links; thence on the south-east by a line bearing north 44 degrees 18 minutes east 7 chains $51\frac{5}{10}$ links to the south-west side of Mort's Road aforesaid; and thence on the north-east by that side of that road bearing north 46 degrees 50 minutes west $25\frac{5}{10}$ links, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this ninth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

JAMES INGLIS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

MONA VALE.

*Gazette, 22nd March, 1889.*NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, } Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor. } Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification, published in the Gazette and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Sydney Morning Herald" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith: And that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Metropolitan Police District, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple, in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever, and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee, as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situated at Mona Vale, Pittwater, containing 2 acres and 12 perches, being allotments 11 to 14 inclusive, of section D, of the new marine township of Newport, in the parish of Narrabeen, county of Cumberland: Commencing at the intersection of the south-west side of Stuart-street with the south-east side of the Queen's Parade; and bounded thence on the north-east by the south-west side of the first-mentioned street bearing south 10 degrees 39 minutes east 5 chains 71 links; thence on the south-east by the north-east side of Beaconsfield-street bearing north 85 degrees 59 minutes west 4 chains $13\frac{9}{10}$ links; thence on the south-west by allotment 10 bearing north 10 degrees 39 minutes west 4 chains $66\frac{1}{10}$ links to the south-east side of The Queen's Parade aforesaid; and thence on the north-west by that side of that street bearing north 79 degrees 21 minutes east 4 chains, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this eighteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,
J. H. CARRUTHERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

NARRABEEN.

*Gazette, 22nd March, 1889.*NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, } Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor. } Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have

sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification, published in the Gazette and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Sydney Morning Herald" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith: And that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Metropolitan Police District, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever, and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee, as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situated at Narrabeen, containing 1 acre 3 roods 4 perches, being allotments 1 to 4 and 12 to 15 inclusive, of section 25 of the Mount Ramsay Estate, being part of John Ramsay's 410 acres, in the parish of Manly Cove, county of Cumberland: Commencing at the intersection of the north side of Goodwin-street with the south-west side of Victoria-street; and bounded thence on the north-east by the south-west side of the last-mentioned street bearing north 17 degrees 2 minutes west 3 chains 3 links; thence on the north by the south boundary of allotments 5, 9, 10, and 11, bearing west 5 chains $70\frac{3}{10}$ links; thence on the west by the east side of Park-street bearing south 2 chains $89\frac{1}{10}$ links to the north side of Goodwin-street aforesaid; and thence on the south by that side of that street bearing east 6 chains 59 links, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this eighteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,
J. H. CARRUTHERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

NARRARA.

*Gazette, 25th January, 1889.*NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, } Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor. } Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School, and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification, published in the Gazette and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Gosford and Wollombi Express" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith: And that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Police District of Brisbane Water, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty,

for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple, in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever; and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land, being allotments 5 to 8 inclusive, of section C, Hogan's Brush subdivision, situated at Narara, parish of Gosford, county of Northumberland, containing by admeasurement 1 acre 3 roods 14 perches: Commencing on the south-east side of the main road leading from Gosford to Newcastle, &c., at the north corner of allotment 4 being a point bearing north 45 degrees 42 minutes east and distant 5 chains $74\frac{7}{10}$ links from the intersection of that side of that road with the north side of the Berry's Head Road; and bounded thence on the south-west by the north-east boundary of allotment 4 aforesaid bearing south 46 degrees east 4 chains $73\frac{1}{10}$ links; thence on the south-east by a line forming parts of the north-west boundaries of allotments 87 and 86 bearing north 44 degrees east 4 chains; thence on the north-east by the south-west boundary of allotment 9 bearing north 46 degrees west 4 chains $10\frac{8}{10}$ links; and thence on the north-west by lines forming the south-east side of the road from Gosford to Newcastle aforesaid bearing south 68 degrees 53 minutes west 1 chain 29 links and south 45 degrees 42 minutes west 2 chains $83\frac{2}{10}$ links, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this fifteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

JAMES INGLIS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

ORANGE EAST.

Gazette, 18th January, 1889.

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, } Order of Saint Michael and Saint
Governor. } George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification published in the *Gazette* and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Orange Advocate" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith: And that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that, by the publication in the Government Gazette and in a newspaper circulated in the Police District of Orange, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever; and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee, as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land containing 1 acre 2 roods 16 perches, being allotments 11 and 12 of section 11 of the private town of East Orange, being a subdivision of Joseph Moulder's 633 acres, in the parish of Orange, county of Bathurst: Com-

mencing on the south side of March-street East, at its intersection with the east side of Nile-street; and bounded thence on the west by that side of Nile-street bearing south 4 chains; thence on the south by the north boundary of allotment 10 of section 11 bearing east 4 chains; thence on the east by the west boundaries of allotments 2 and 1 bearing north 4 chains; and thence on the north by the south side of March-street East aforesaid bearing west 4 chains, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this ninth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

JAMES INGLIS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

ROCKDALE.

Gazette, 27th December, 1888.

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, } Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor. } Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification published in the *Gazette* and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Sydney Morning Herald" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith, and that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Metropolitan Police District, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever, and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction, as a Trustee as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land, being allotments 10 to 13 inclusive of section 4 of Rockdale Township, parish of St. George, county of Cumberland, containing by admeasurement $34\frac{2}{10}$ perches: Commencing on the north-east side of Pitt-street, at its intersection with the south-east side of a lane 20 feet wide; and bounded thence on the south-west by that side of Pitt-street bearing south 72 degrees 2 minutes east 120 feet; thence on the south-east by the north-west boundary of allotment No. 14 bearing north 17 degrees 58 minutes east 86 feet $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches; thence on the north-east by the south-west side of a lane 20 feet wide bearing north 80 degrees 15 minutes 30 seconds west 121 feet 3 inches; and thence on the north-west by the south-east side of the first-mentioned 20-foot lane bearing south 17 degrees 58 minutes west 69 feet, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this twenty-first day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, and in the fifty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

JAMES INGLIS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

LANDS FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES ACQUISITION ACT.

(RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER, FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL PURPOSES AT—

Hampton, Major's Plains,
Pinnacle, Rockdale,
Winchenden Vale.)

Presented to Parliament, pursuant to Act 44 Vic. No. 16, sec. 6.

HAMPTON.

[Gazette, 25th June, 1889.]

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
Honourable Privy Council, Knight
(L.S.) Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
CARRINGTON, Order of Saint Michael and Saint
Governor. George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification published in the Gazette and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Carcoar Chronicle" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith, and that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Police District of Carcoar, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever, and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situate at Hampton, parish of Hampton, county of Bathurst, being measured portion marked "P.S." at corners, containing 2 acres, and forming part of E. Henry's additional conditional purchase No. 84-69, portion 115 of 117 acres 1 rood: Commencing on the south-

west side of the road from Mandurama to the Belubula, at the south-east corner of portion 115; and bounded thence on the north-east by part of that side of that road bearing north 19 degrees west 4 chains 23 links; thence on the north by a line bearing west 4 chains 32 links; thence on the west by a line bearing south 4 chains; and thence on the south by a line forming the north side of a 1 chain road bearing east 5 chains 69 links, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this twenty-second day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-third year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

J. H. CARRUTHERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

MAJOR'S PLAINS.

[Gazette, 18th June, 1889.]

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor. Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification, published in the Gazette and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Border Post" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith: And that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication

in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Police District of Albury, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever; and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee, as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situated at Major's Plains, parish of Moorwatha, county of Hume, containing two acres, being portion 299, and forming part of W. Harrison's conditional purchase of 40 acres, portion 22: Commencing at the north-east corner of portion 22; and bounded thence on the north-east by part of the north-east boundary of that portion, forming the south-west side of a one-chain road, bearing north $72^{\circ} 20'$ west 5 chains; thence on the north-west by a line bearing south $17^{\circ} 40'$ west 4 chains; thence on the south-west by a line bearing south $72^{\circ} 20'$ east 5 chains; and thence on the south-east by part of the south-east boundary of portion 22 aforesaid, being the north-west side of a one-chain road, bearing north $17^{\circ} 40'$ east 4 chains, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this eleventh day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

J. H. CARRUTHERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

PINNACLE.

[Gazette, 25th June, 1889.]

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, } Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor. } Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification published in the Gazette and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Wagga Wagga Advertiser" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith, and that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Police District of Wagga Wagga, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever, and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction, as a Trustee as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situated at Pinnacle, parish of Maror county of Clarendon, being portion 171, containing 2 acres, together with a road of access thereto containing $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres, and forming part of James Erskine's (now William M'Kickle's) conditional purchase, portion 103: Commencing on the east side of a 1 chain road forming the west boundary of

portion 103, at a point bearing south 15 chains 89 links from its north-west corner; and bounded thence on the north by a line bearing north 82° degrees 21 minutes east 24 chains 78 links; thence on the north-west by a fenced line bearing north 62° degrees 14 minutes east 5 chains 1 link; thence on the north-east by a fenced line bearing south 29° degrees 36 minutes east 3 chains 97 links; thence on the south-east by a fenced line bearing south 61° degrees 20 minutes west 5 chains 2 links; thence on the south-west by a fenced line bearing north 29° degrees 28 minutes west 2 chains 97 links; thence on the south by a line bearing south 82° degrees 21 minutes west 25 chains 31 links; and thence on the west by the east side of the above-mentioned road bearing north 1 chain 1 link, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this twenty-second day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-third year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

J. H. CARRUTHERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

ROCKDALE (Additional).

[Gazette, 18th June, 1889.]

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, } Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor. } Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification, published in the Gazette, and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Sydney Morning Herald" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith: And that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Metropolitan Police District, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever; and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee, as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land being allotments 14 and 15 of section No. 4 of Rockdale Township, parish of St. George, county of Cumberland, containing by admeasurement 20 perches: Commencing on the north-east side of Pitt-street, at the south-east corner of allotment 13; and bounded thence on the north-west by its south-east boundary bearing north $17^{\circ} 58'$ east 86 feet $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches; thence on the north-east by the southern side of a lane 20 feet wide bearing south $80^{\circ} 15' 30''$ east 60 feet $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches; thence on the south-east by the north-west boundary of allotment 16 bearing south $17^{\circ} 58'$ west 95 feet $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch; and thence on the south-west by the north-eastern side of Pitt-street aforesaid bearing north $72^{\circ} 2'$ west 60 feet, to the point of commencement.

Also, all that piece or parcel of land being allotment 18 of section No. 4 of Rockdale Township, parish of St. George, county of Cumberland, containing by admeasurement 17 perches: Commencing on the north-east side of Pitt-street, at the south-east corner of allotment 17 of section 4; and bounded thence on the north-west by its south-east boundary bearing north $17^{\circ} 58'$ east 103 feet 8 inches; thence on the north-east

by the southern side of a lane 20 feet wide bearing south 80° 15' 30" east 27 feet 3¼ inches; thence on the east by a line forming the east boundary of allotment 18 bearing south 1° 7' west 112 feet 7½ inches; and thence on the south-west by the north-east side of Pitt-street aforesaid bearing north 72° 2' west 59 feet 8¼ inches, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this eleventh day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

J. H. CARRUTHERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

WINCHENDEN VALE.

Gazette, 18th June, 1889.]

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, } Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor. } Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School, and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification, published in the Gazette, and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the

said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Southern Cross" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith: And that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that, by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Police District of Wagga Wagga, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever, and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee, as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situated at Winchenden Vale, parish of Lachlan, county of Bourke, containing two acres, being portion 175, and forming part of C. A. Lawrence's additional conditional purchase portion 149: Commencing at the south-west corner of portion 149, being a point bearing east one chain from the south-east corner of portion 49, in the parish of Berry Jerry; and bounded thence on the west by the east side of a one chain road bearing north 5 chains; thence on the north by a line bearing east 4 chains; thence on the east by a line bearing south 5 chains; and thence on the south by the north side of a one-chain road forming a south boundary of portion 149 aforesaid bearing west 4 chains, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this eleventh day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

J. H. CARRUTHERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

LANDS FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES ACQUISITION ACT.

(RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER, FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL PURPOSES, AT MOSQUITO ISLAND.)

Presented to Parliament, pursuant to Act 44 Vic. No. 16, sec. 6.

MOSQUITO ISLAND.

[*Gazette*, 16th July, 1889.]

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, } Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor. } Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification published in the *Gazette* and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Newcastle Herald" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith: And that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that, by the publication in the *Government Gazette* and in a newspaper circulated in the Police District of Newcastle, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges,

rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever; and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee, as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situated at Mosquito Island, parish of Newcastle, county of Northumberland, containing 1 acre 2 roods, and forming part of W. Moseley's portion No. 14 of 12 acres: Commencing at the north-east corner of the present Public School ground being a point bearing east and distant 2 chains 50 links from the south-west corner of portion 15 of 13 acres; and bounded thence on part of the north by part of the south boundary of that portion bearing east 2 chains 50 links; thence on the east by a line bearing south 4 chains; thence on the south by a line bearing west 5 chains; thence on part of the west by the east side of a road 50 links wide bearing north 2 chains; thence again on the north by the south boundary of the Public School ground aforesaid bearing east 2 chains 50 links; and thence on the remainder of the west by the east boundary of the school ground bearing north 2 chains, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my Hand and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this eleventh day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-third year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

J. H. CARRUTHERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

NOTE.—This notification is intended to be in lieu of the one bearing date 31st October, 1888, and published in the *Government Gazette* of the 2nd November, 1888,—an error having been made in the description of the land included in that notification.

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

LANDS FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES ACQUISITION ACT.

(RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER, AT FOSTERTON, ORANDELBINNIA, RAVENSWORTH NORTH, AND WOORAM

Presented to Parliament, pursuant to Act 44 Vic. No. 16, sec. 6.

FOSTERTON.

[Gazette, 4th October, 1889.]

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
Honourable Privy Council, Knight
(L.S.) Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
CARRINGTON, Order of Saint Michael and Saint
Governor. George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification, published in the Gazette, and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Durham Chronicle" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith: And that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Police District of Dungog, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever; and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee, as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situate at Fosterton, parish of Tillegra, county of Durham, containing 2 acres, being portion 68, and forming part of R. Windeyer's 460-acre grant: Commencing on the west boundary of R. Windeyer's 460 acres, at a point bearing south 18 chains 26 links from the north-west corner of that land, on the right bank of Williams River; and bounded thence on the north by a line bearing east 4 chains 92 links; thence on the east by a line bearing south 4 chains 47 links; thence on the south by a line bearing west 2 chains

88½ links; thence on the south-west by part of a north-eastern side of the road 1 chain wide from Fosterton to Dungog bearing north 46 degrees 14 minutes west 2 chains 82 links; and thence on the west by part of the west boundary of R. Windeyer's 460 acres aforesaid bearing north 2 chains 52 links, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this twenty-seventh day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-third year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

J. H. CARRUTHERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

ORANDELBINNIA.

[Gazette, 24th September, 1889.]

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
Honourable Privy Council, Knight
(L.S.) Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
CARRINGTON, Order of Saint Michael and Saint
Governor. George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification published in the Gazette, and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Coonamble Independent" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith, and that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Police District of Coonamble, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in

fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever, and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situate at Orandelbinnia, parish of Orandelbinnia, county of Gowen, containing 2 acres, being portion 51, and forming part of Samuel Gussen's, jun., conditional purchase of 320 acres, portion 2: Commencing on the south-eastern side of the road from Yarragrin Creek to Coonabarabran, at a point bearing south 89 degrees east 1 chain from the north-east corner of portion 18 of 320 acres; and bounded thence on the west by part of the eastern side of a road 1 chain wide dividing it from that portion bearing south 4 chains 41 links; on the south by a line bearing east 4 chains; on the east by a line bearing north 5 chains 59 links; and on the north-west by part of the south-eastern side of the road from Yarragrin Creek to Coonabarabran aforesaid bearing south 73 degrees 30 minutes west 4 chains 17 links, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this twentieth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-third year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,
J. H. CARRUTHERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

RAVENSWORTH NORTH.

[Gazette, 24th September, 1889.]

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,

(L.S.)
CARRINGTON,
Governor.

a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification, published in the Gazette, and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Scone Advocate" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith: And that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Police District of Scone, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever, and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee, as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situate at Ravensworth North, parish of Tudor, county of Durham, containing 5 acres, being portion 33, and forming part of portion 13 of 40 acres: Commencing on the eastern side of a road 1 chain wide, at the north-west corner of portion 27, D. Lawrence's additional con-

ditional purchase of 40 acres; and bounded thence on the south by part of the north boundary of that portion bearing east 10 chains 1 link; on the east by a line bearing north 5 chains; on the north by a line bearing west 10 chains; and on the west by part of the eastern side of the aforesaid road, dividing it from part of portion 26, bearing south 5 minutes west 5 chains, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this twentieth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-third year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,
J. H. CARRUTHERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

WOORAM.

[Gazette, 24th September, 1889.]

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,

(L.S.)
CARRINGTON,
Governor.

a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School, and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification, published in the Gazette, and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Richmond River Express" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith: And that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that, by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Police District of Richmond River, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever, and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee, as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situate at Wooram, parish of Wooram, county of Richmond, containing 2 acres, being portion 131, and forming part of Francis Lebon's additional conditional purchase of 213 acres, portion 91: Commencing at the north-east corner of portion 68; and bounded thence on the west by part of the east boundary of that portion bearing south 5 chains; thence on the south by a line bearing east 4 chains; thence on the east by a line bearing north 5 chains to a road 1 chain wide separating this land from portion 67; and thence on the north by the south side of that road bearing west 4 chains, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this fourteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-third year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,
J. H. CARRUTHERS.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

LANDS FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES ACQUISITION ACT.
(RESUMPTION OF, AT BUNGERELLINGONG.)

Presented to Parliament pursuant to Act 44 Vic. No. 16

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor. Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS the parcel of land hereinafter described is required for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings to be used in connection therewith: And whereas I, as such Governor as aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have sanctioned the acquisition of the said land for a site for a Public School: Now, therefore, I, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the said Executive Council, in pursuance of the power and authority given to or vested in me by "The Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," by this notification, published in the Gazette and a newspaper circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, that is to say, in the "Cowra Free Press" newspaper, declare that the parcel of land hereinafter particularly described has been resumed for the purpose of the erection thereon of a Public School and of buildings in connection therewith: And that the said land hereinafter described is resumed with the intent that by the publication in the Government Gazette, and in a newspaper circulated in the Police District of Cowra, of this notification of the said land being so resumed, the said land shall forthwith become and be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction of the said Colony and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty, for the purposes of the said Act, for an estate of inheritance

in fee simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interests, contracts, charges, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever; and that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the Minister of Public Instruction as a Trustee, as in the said Act is provided: And I declare that the following is the parcel of land hereinbefore referred to as resumed by this notification, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situated at Bungerellingong, parish of Gooloogong, county of Forbes, being measured portion marked p.s. at corners, containing an area of 2 acres, and forming part of M. Walsh's additional conditional purchase No. 81-211, portion 50 of 56 acres, exclusive of road: Commencing on the north-east side of the road 3 chains wide from Cowra to Gooloogong at its intersection with the north side of a road 1 chain wide which forms the south boundary of portion 50 aforesaid; and bounded thence on the south by part of the north side of the latter road bearing east 3 chains 40 links; on the east by a line bearing north 4 chains 24 links; on the north by a line bearing west 6 chains 5 links to the north-east side of the road from Cowra to Gooloogong aforesaid; and thence on the south-west by part of the north-east side of that road bearing south 32 degrees east 5 chains, to the point of commencement.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this fourteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,
J. H. CARRUTHERS.
GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

FISHERIES OF THE COLONY.

(REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF FISHERIES UP TO 31st DECEMBER, 1888.)

Presented to Parliament by Command.

REPORT of the Commissioners of Fisheries for New South Wales on the Fisheries of the Colony, for the year ending the 31st December, 1888.

The Commissioners of Fisheries to The Colonial Secretary.

Sir,

We have the honor to submit under the following titles our Report on the Fisheries of the Colony for the year 1888.

Finance.

We desire to call special attention to the unsatisfactory financial position of the Department which has resulted from loss of revenue consequent upon the abolition, by Act of Parliament, of the royalty on oysters, and upon the large arrears of rent due on leases for oyster culture.

We regret to be obliged to state that there is an increasing disinclination among lessees to pay the rents due on their holdings. The failure is probably in a measure owing to the present unprolific nature of those holdings, but the result to the Department is that at the present time there remains no less a sum than £2,300 of rent in arrear. It may be remembered that this rent debit was brought under notice in September last with the view to steps being taken for its recovery.

The revenue for 1888, which reaches £3,634 19s. 8d., is less by £1,887 0s. 7d. than that received in 1887, while the expenditure is in excess of receipts by the sum of £2,573 5s. 10d. Against this excess there is the possible asset for overdue rentals above referred to.

Official Staff.

In respect to the staff of the Department, we regret to have to record the death, on the 7th May last, of Mr. Thomas Laman, Acting Assistant Inspector of Fisheries at Port Stephens Heads. It is not in contemplation to fill this vacancy; on the contrary, it is intended to further reduce the staff by dispensing with the services of two inspectors, a draftsman, and a temporary clerk. These reductions will, together, result in a saving in salaries of £499 10s.; and it is possible that in 1889 still further reductions may be found possible.

Fish Acclimatisation.

The introduction of trout-fry into several inland streams has, it is hoped, been successfully accomplished during the year. Through the courtesy of the Victorian Government, aided by the Committee of the Geelong Acclimatisation Society, we were enabled to obtain, free of cost, some thousand or more of trout-fry, and these have been distributed in the Upper Shoalhaven, the Wollondilly, the Upper Nepean, and Nattai Rivers, the Picton Lakes, in several streams in the Western range of mountains, and at Mudgee. A supply was also liberated in a stream in the Armidale district and in the Brogo River, in the Eden district.

It is hoped that this attempt to stock our waters with this favourite fish may prove successful. We do not, however, regard our efforts in this direction as completed, but intend, as early as possible in the season of 1889, to repeat the experiment, anticipating that, by these repeated efforts, the problem whether trout can be successfully acclimatised in New South Wales waters will be finally solved.

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[1,403 copies—Approximate Cost of Printing (labour and material), £37 8s. 1d.]

Oyster

Oyster Culture.

The year's consumption of oysters has reached a total of 22,502 bags, of which quantity 13,318 bags were imported from Queensland and New Zealand, the balance, 9,184 bags, being the produce of the Colony.

This result exhibits a very unsatisfactory development of our own beds, and shows that oyster culture, during the year 1888, has not thriven. From a revenue point of view alone can this unfortunate condition of our fisheries be regarded without serious misgivings, the royalty previously levied on the production of oysters having been abolished.

The decline in production is to be attributed in a large measure to the very limited rainfall during 1888—the smallest on record. Our best oysters are absolutely dependent for development upon the presence in their waters of a certain proportion of fresh water; in the absence of such a supply, the result has been, in some rivers, an excessive growth of marine vegetation, and in others the development of disease. These have been, in their respective ways, very destructive. As a consequence, the yield is less by 680 bags than in 1887, while the importation of oysters shows an increase of 8,550 bags over the number received in the previous year.

We consider that this disease, which is becoming so common in some of the best of our rivers, should form the subject of special examination by an expert, in order either that the conclusions we have provisionally adopted may be verified, or a cause, and with it, we hope a remedy, suggested. The northern beds have not by any means recovered their productive capabilities of previous years, and the apparent increase in the yield over that of 1887 is due to the removal of stock which had been previously brought from New Zealand and laid on the beds. Had not this work of semi-cultivation been adopted, the returns from the principal Northern waters would have been very small.

The spawning has, speaking generally, been but moderate, and confined to the lower parts of the rivers; owing moreover to the small rainfall the spat did not thrive as it should have done. We have, however, been informed that there has been a good fall of spat on some of the leased areas at Cape Hawke, as well as in some of the southern rivers.

In the northern half of the Southern division of Fisheries, great improvement is manifest in many of the oyster culture leases, especially those at the Clyde River and Narrawillie Creek. The lessees have expended considerable sums in laying down oak logs and stone for spat collection, with the result that those waters are now fairly stocked with oysters, besides which a large growth of spat is visible on the mangroves; and leases which were originally taken for speculative purposes with the sole object of stripping for sale every available oyster, are, by transfer, now in possession of *bond fide* cultivators, who, we believe, are using their best endeavours to improve their layings.

Oysters have not in this last-mentioned division suffered as in the Northern and Home Divisions. Indeed it is anticipated that, with the increased attention given to culture, the productive powers of those waters will in the course of two or three years show a very considerable increase.

It is however to be admitted that the oyster fisheries in the Twofold Bay district have not improved. They are said to have been nearly ruined by applicants for leases, as well as by lessees. These people strip not only the shores they have applied for, but also their leased areas and Crown lands as well, and yet, under proper management, these fisheries are capable of very remunerative development.

The Fishing Industry.

In the Appendices will be found tabulated statements showing the quantities of fish brought to market, and the range of prices obtained for the latter during the year.

The amount realized in 1887 at the Fish Market by the sale of fish was £31,594 3s. 3d., while in 1888 it reached £37,775 6s. 11d., an increase of £6,181 3s. 8d.

In connection with this industry there are two matters which we regard with satisfaction; one is the transmission of ice-packed fish from the Clarence and other northern rivers to the Metropolis. This industry was only fairly started in the latter part of 1887, and yet this year shows a production of 15,830 baskets so transmitted. The prosecution of this industry may be found to be equally practicable in the Southern waters, where, *e.g.*, in the grounds about Twofold Bay, fish are said to abound. When this shall have been accomplished, the metropolis will receive its supply from along the whole sea-board, with the result, it is hoped, that fish food will be so cheapened as to make it an article of regular consumption in the poorest homes.

The other matter is fish canning. A company for this purpose has been established at Iluka, on the Clarence River, and promises to become a commercial success. It, at present, cans about twenty-five baskets of fish per week. There is a widely expressed opinion that the mullet, which during the months of
April

April to June frequents our shores in immense shoals, is an exceptionally suitable fish for preserving, and would in time prove a formidable rival to the imported tinned salmon and other tinned fish.

We have to report very favourably upon the advantage in the Home Division of fisheries which has been secured in the preservation of the fish supply by the closing of the lakes and upper portions of the rivers against the use of fishing nets; and we think it essential in the public interest that these natural breeding and feeding grounds should be continuously protected from the harassing and destructive operations of the fishing nets. So convinced are we on this point, that we intend to recommend the extension of the system to the Northern waters, whence, as has been shown, a large supply of fish has lately been received in the metropolis. Whilst these closures are maintained, but little apprehension need be felt about any scarcity of fish.

We have pleasure in referring to an experiment undertaken by Leonardi Porchelli with a trawl-net which he proposed for use in deep-sea-fishing. Several trials with this instrument were made in the early part of July last, off the coast at Broken Bay, and at Port Hacking, and in each case satisfactory results were obtained. At Broken Bay one catch was so enormous that the net broke, and the fish escaped. The experiments were undertaken at the instance of Dr. Marano, the Italian Consul, and other gentlemen, and so satisfied were they with the success attained that they had it in contemplation to take the subject up on commercial lines, but the project fell through owing to some of the projectors leaving the Colony. Signor Porchelli is understood to be now on his return from Italy, whither he was sent to procure a sufficient supply of necessary gear in view of the formation of a company to work the net as a commercial venture.

The net itself is unlike the English beam-trawl, being twice as long, and having its other dimensions in proportion; the mouth, instead of being a plain transverse opening, is formed of two extending jaws or wings, which when distended form a shape like the letter V. The net is drawn through the water by two vessels, there being two warps attached to it, one at each side of the mouth; the attachments also are different from those used with the ordinary English trawl. Signor Porchelli has obtained a patent for this net, and a full description and illustrative tracing are among the Appendices.

We have also to invite the perusal of an interesting letter from Mr. W. Buckingham, detailing particulars of a well-fish-boat which he had built in the Colony for the purpose of bringing fish alive to the Sydney market.

Mr. Buckingham in embarking upon this venture was guided by an experience which he had gained during six or seven years' connection with the fisheries at Grimsby. He constructed a vessel, the "Gratitude," 120 tons register, on the model of a North Sea fishing smack. The "Gratitude" measures 90 ft. overall, 23 ft. beam, 10 ft. depth of hold, and 10 ft. draft of water. She is fitted with two wells formed by water-tight bulkheads set athwartships. The water is decked down to prevent wash, the connection with the deck being through a well-funnel, constructed to afford light and air. Water is supplied to the well by apertures on each side of the vessel, through which a stream continually flows as the smack moves through the water. These wells are calculated to carry 2,500 schnapper. The vessel is also fitted with ice and fish rooms, and is complete in all other respects.

Mr. Buckingham states that so far the attempt has been financially a failure—he found the habits of the fish and the circumstances attending their capture and sale so different from what he had learned in his English experience, that he was not surprised at his failure in his first experiments. So far however from being discouraged he has sent the vessel to New Zealand in charge of a person who has had several years' experience in fishing on that coast, and he expects her return in a week or two with a cargo of oysters and live-fish. Mr. Buckingham now considers that all that is necessary to make this venture a success in these waters is auxiliary steam-power to enable the vessel to contend against the southerly current which drifts him off the fishing grounds in the night calms that often prevail.

Mr. Buckingham's enterprise is deserving of all commendation, and his letter in the Appendix is deserving of attentive perusal by every one interested in the success of the fishing industry in this Colony.

For the purpose of instituting experiments in open sea fishing, we recommend the importation of a purse-seine net, such as is used in the Menhaden fisheries, off the coast of Maine.

Such a net was supplied to the Commissioners some years since, but was consumed in the Garden Palace fire.

Also, in view of encouragement to fishing outside the estuaries of the Colony, and, more especially, near Sydney, we advise that a survey be made of the sub-marine coast ground, from Port Stephens to Jervis Bay, extending for a distance of 20 miles seaward.

This survey could be expeditiously and faithfully carried out by H.M.S. "Dart," which is especially qualified for such work, and we suggest that application be made to the Admiralty to grant permission for the "Dart" to make such survey.

The

The Steam Launch.

The small steam launch now used by the Department is, we regret to say, altogether unfit for the various services she is required to perform, and which, because of her unfitness, are necessarily much circumscribed. In spite of repeated efforts to improve her speed and stability, this launch is still a slow and dangerously unstable vessel; nor can she carry coal or water sufficient for even a short trip to the upper waters of the Hawkesbury. Against a very moderate head wind she is unable to make any respectable headway, and it has been found impossible to bring her from so short a distance as Botany or Broken Bay to Sydney unless in exceptionally calm weather. She is altogether unequal to any experiments in trawling except in smooth water, and even then she can do nothing with a moderately heavy beam trawl. She is too small to carry even a dingey on her decks, and her accommodation in wet weather for the single engineer who composes her crew is practically limited to standing room, as her small cabin is generally required as a supplementary coal bunker. We strongly recommend the Minister to direct her to be sold or converted to some other purpose for which, possibly, she may be found suitable, and that a vessel be built for the Department capable of fulfilling the various and, in some respects, exceptional requirements of a serviceable Fisheries Tender. Such a vessel should be of at least 70 tons (builders' measurement), and should be so designed as to allow of at least four or five days' coal being stowed in her bunkers; to give deck room for two useful fishing boats; to be masted and otherwise fitted so as to provide the means of trawling and shooting drift nets and purse-seines at sea; of allowing ample storage for oysters and fish, and especially for the safe carriage of young fry for purposes of acclimatization. A high degree of speed would not be necessary. What is of more importance is that the vessel should be a good sea-boat, capable of ensuring a passage to and fro between the home fishing stations, and of providing the necessary accommodation for the services to which she could be devoted so beneficially. Such a vessel could be employed on the ordinary towing and other Departmental services when not specially employed on duties connected with the Department of Fisheries.

Without such a vessel we do not hesitate to give it as our deliberate opinion that none of the important benefits, experimental and protective, expected by the fishermen and the general public from this Department can even be attempted, much less effected, by those upon whom the Legislature has cast the grave obligation of developing the fisheries of the Colony.

We do not make this recommendation lightly, or without having given due consideration to the cost which the character of vessel indicated would entail; nor have we forgotten that, for reasons given in an earlier part of our Report, the Department of Fisheries is no longer self-supporting. But we are constantly being reminded, both in Parliament and in the Press, that much more is expected of the Department of Fisheries than it has yet been in a position to accomplish or even essay, and we are made painfully conscious of the weakness and limitation of our efforts by the nature of the material with which we have to work. In the entire equipment of our Department, feeble and insufficient as it is in many respects, there is nothing which so denotes impotence as the vessel with which we are supposed to carry out the duties connected with the periodical closing of fishing-grounds and the protection of fish for reproductive purposes in waters known to be their natural nurseries, while, in connection with the oyster fisheries, this vessel has never been, and can never be, of the slightest use.

Melbourne Centennial Exhibition.

Our fisheries have been prominently represented at the Centennial International Exhibition, Melbourne. In preparing the collection, a chief object kept in view was to present our resources from an economical standpoint; therefore, in addition to natural history specimens, there were gathered for display exhibits showing our several kinds of fish prepared for food in various ways—smoked, salted, and tinned; also a collection of mammalian and fish oils, as well as specimens of porpoise, seal, and eel skins in the raw and tanned states.

Another feature in the collection was the display of thirty-eight life-size oil-paintings of our fishes; also charts drawn on a large scale of the several oyster-bearing waters, and a map showing their positions. It is proposed that eventually these paintings, &c., shall occupy a space in the Technological Museum.

We hope that this exposition of the capabilities of the fisheries may be instrumental in attracting attention to our resources, and in promoting the establishment of industries such as are referred to in another portion of this Report. The exhibit generally has been favourably commented upon, and it is expected that official recognition of its merit will be duly accorded.

In the Appendices are to be found reports covering the year 1887, as well as from Inspectors stationed on the principal fish-producing rivers, which may be perused with advantage.

We cannot conclude this Report without recording the fact that recent experience has convinced us of the absolute necessity for further amendments in the fisheries' laws, and we propose to submit detailed recommendations indicating the nature of such amendments at an early date.

APPENDIX A.

Annual Reports from local Inspectors for the year 1888.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

THE principal event in connection with the Northern Fisheries for the year 1888, has been an important extension of the fishing industry, and the large development of the trade of shipping fresh fish packed in ice to Sydney.

This work was fairly started in the latter half of 1887, prior to which the quota supplied by the Northern Division to the fresh fish supply of the metropolis consisted of a few shipments packed in ordinary baskets during the winter months of each year—the quantity and success of the shipments depending entirely upon the length and severity of the winter.

The total of these shipments prior to 1887 did not amount in any one year to more than a few hundred baskets for the whole division.

During 1887, when the new mode of packing was initiated, the quantity of fresh fish produced amounted to 3,743 baskets.

In 1888, the industry increased and extended to such dimensions as to show a total of 15,830 baskets, this large quantity being chiefly produced from the Clarence River which, in addition to its fine fishing grounds, has the necessary advantage of regular steam communication with the city.

The total number of fishermen licensed on this river for the year amounted to 56.

The following return shows the total amount produced by each river, while the tabulated form appended shows the production of each river for each of the several months of the year:—

Clarence River	10,453 baskets.
Manning River	1,063 „
Richmond River	165 „
Cape Hawke	2,938 „
Macleay River	821 „
Port Macquarie... ..	390 „
Total	15,830 baskets.

With but little exception the whole of the above were net fish taken within the respective rivers—the exception consisting of a few cases of schnapper. These were caught outside during the winter months when the westerly winds prevailed, and kept the bar entrance sufficiently smooth to admit of the fishing boats crossing out. The schnapper fishing was tried chiefly at the Clarence River and the Nambucca River, but it was soon abandoned—the work proving in the first place risky in crossing over the river bars, and in the next place unremunerative—the plan of packing large fish in ice not being found to answer so well as in the case of the smaller fish.

In addition to the quantity of fish shipped from the Clarence River it is worthy of notice that some large sea turtles are occasionally caught in this river, no fewer than seven being shipped to Sydney during November last.

A fish canning company has likewise been started at Iluka, on the Clarence River, and bids fair to be a commercial success. The company preserves about twenty-five baskets of fish per week.

A limited amount of dried fish has also been produced in a few of the rivers, principally the Clarence, the Richmond, and at Cape Hawke.

With reference to the Richmond River returns—it may be noticed that they are for one month only. The fishermen on that river having started to forward fish in ice and had then to discontinue. The irregularity of their steam communication, together with the greater distance from Sydney, combining to make the work uncertain and unremunerative.

Oysters.

The oyster production and general condition of the natural oyster-beds of the Northern Fisheries for 1888, although showing some improvement on the previous year, is still far from encouraging.

The returns for this year show a total of 1864 bags as against 1226 bags for 1887, and as against the average of 4,129 bags for the four previous years.

The amount produced from the respective rivers is as follows:—

Clarence River	Nil.
Richmond River	588 bags
Manning River	732 „
Evans' River	292 „
Tweed River	73 „
Bellinger River	41 „
Cape Hawke	130 „
Port Macquarie	8 „
Total	1,864 bags

At first sight, it would appear as if there was a decided improvement in the yield for 1888 over that of 1887.

There is this remarkable circumstance, however, to be taken into consideration, that the leases were largely stocked with New Zealand oysters—no less than 2,250 bags being brought from Sydney and laid down upon the Manning River and at Cape Hawke.

A large proportion of them died from long exposure, a portion was lost in the work of laying and relifting, and the remainder contributed in no small degree to the yield which otherwise would have shown no improvement in the return for 1887.

The

The reason for this great falling-off in 1887 and 1888 is not the result of either neglect or mismanagement on the part of the lessees of the natural oyster-beds. On the contrary, nearly the whole production for the year consists of planted oysters—that is, oysters which have been attached or grown in one place, and removed and developed in another. Besides, the large quantities of New Zealand oysters, foreshore oysters have been planted out from many of the leases, and whatever spat has been procurable from Crown Lands not under lease has been taken by the lessees under the provisions of spat licenses, and placed on their deep-water leases.

This work of semi-cultivation has been carried on on the Richmond, Evans, and Manning Rivers, and also at Cape Hawke, and it is quite certain that, but for this work of planting out, the returns from these inlets for 1888 would have been almost nil.

The principal cause of the defection in the natural oyster-beds during the past two years is certainly due to the great extremes which the Colony has experienced in its rainfall in that period.

“It is a remarkable fact,” writes the Government astronomer, “that the rainfall of the Colony for 1888 is the smallest on record,” being 42 per cent. below the average,—while that for 1887 was the greatest on record, being 43 per cent. above the average rainfall of the Colony.

The floods which occurred in the early part of 1887 killed large quantities of oysters in the northern rivers—especially on the Clarence, where the quantity destroyed was ascertained as the result of careful inspection to be 84 per cent. of the whole.

As a further proof of the great damage done by the floods on this river, it may be noted that no oysters were procured from the Clarence after the floods in the early part of 1887 nor during the whole of 1888. Although the extensive natural oyster-beds on the river regularly produced for years several hundreds of bags annually—the amount for 1886 being 2,008 bags, and for 1885, 1,625 bags.

One beneficial effect resulted from these floods, and much was expected from it. This was the thorough scouring the rivers received (the Manning River excepted) and the clearing of the natural beds of marine vegetation, leaving them free to attach the spawn of the succeeding summer months. Then followed the other extreme of rainfall, which had the effect of limiting spawn, and encouraging by an undue amount of salinity marine growth on the natural beds, and fouling them as before.

Moderate amounts of spawn occurred during the latter part of 1887 and in the summer months of 1888, and were noted on the Richmond, Clarence, and Evans Rivers, at Camden Haven, Cape Hawke, and Weegoolgah—this being the first spawn which occurred at the latter place during the last five or six years.

Generally, the spawn was not abundant, and was invariably confined to the leases on the lower parts of the rivers, and as a result of the scarcity of rain, did not thrive so well as it otherwise would have done.

THOS. TEMPERLEY,
Inspector, Northern Fisheries.

RETURN of Fresh Fish shipped from the Northern Division Fisheries during 1888.

River.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
	Baskets.	Baskets.	Baskets.	Baskets.	Baskets.	Baskets.	Baskets.	Baskets.	Baskets.	Baskets.	Baskets.	Baskets.	Baskets.
Clarence River	185	686	941	660	825	1,021	735	1,207	1,255	996	843	1,099	10,453
Manning River .....	...	...	42	105	240	220	75	101	70	75	55	80	1,063
Richmond River .....	...	...	...	...	...	165	...	...	...	...	...	...	165
Cape Hawke .....	...	...	25	175	548	380	633	123	250	495	215	94	2,938
Macleay River	10	10	10	60	55	55	88	102	104	116	104	107	821
Port Macquarie .....	...	...	...	...	...	120	36	30	24	60	60	60	390
	195	696	1,018	1,000	1,668	1,961	1,567	1,563	1,703	1,742	1,277	1,440	15,830

RETURN showing Oysters produced from the Northern Division of Fisheries during 1888.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
	bags.	bags.	bags.	bags.	bags.	bags.	bags.	bags.	bags.	bags.	bags.	bags.	bags.
Clarence River .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Richmond River	112	90	83	56	...	...	...	...	3	5	135	104	588
Manning River	11	21	31	29	25	15	15	39	41	122	235	150	732
Evans River	14	22	22	24	8	...	4	8	13	46	62	69	292
Tweed River .....	...	2	7	3	8	21	16	16	...	...	...	...	73
Cape Hawke .....	...	3	5	7	...	...	2	15	23	43	18	14	130
Bellinger River	3	14	4	1	1	1	3	4	2	2	2	4	41
Port Macquarie .....	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	8	8
Total	140	152	152	120	42	45	40	80	82	218	452	341	1,864

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

Bateman's Bay, 25 February, 1889.

I HAVE the honor to forward my report for the year 1888, on that portion of the Southern Fisheries, which has been under my charge during the year, and extending from St. George's basin to the Wagonga, River.

During the year, a great improvement is noticeable on many of the leases, particularly amongst those situated at the Clyde River and Narrawallee Creek, where the lessees have gone to considerable expense in laying down oak and free-stone on their foreshores for the purpose of collecting spat; mature oysters have been kept on the beds for producing spat, and great care has been taken in laying down, culling, and replacing on beds all under-sized oysters. Owing to this treatment most of the leases on these waters are now fairly stocked with oysters. The foreshores, which are principally mangrove and rock,

rock, are well covered with spat and young oysters, many of which will be suitable for laying down during the present year; the few leases which were taken up for speculative purposes by persons whose sole object was evidently to take all the oysters off them they could possibly get hold of, have now fortunately been transferred, and all of the leases are held by persons who have been in the oyster trade for years, and who are using their best endeavours to improve their holdings.

At the Tuross, Borang, and Durras Lakes, most of the oysters have been destroyed by an accumulation of mud and weeds caused through the mouths of these waters being closed to the sea. The leases at the Wagonga River and Tomago River have slightly improved, and several of them are now fairly stocked with oysters.

In consequence of the increased amount of interest that is now being taken by the lessees in their holdings, the future prospects of the oyster beds in the southern waters again becoming as productive as of old have much improved, and I feel confident that under similar treatment to that which they have received during the last twelve months, the supply of oysters in the course of two or three years will be increased tenfold.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE G. BENSON,
Inspector, Southern Fisheries.

Clyde River.—This river, which is the most important in the Southern Division of fisheries, has greatly improved during the year. Owing to a good spatting season the foreshores are well covered with young oysters, many of which will be suitable for laying down on fattening beds during the present year. Most of the leases have been worked in a fair manner, only mature oysters being sent to market, and care taken to leave a sufficient number to insure a supply of spat. Improvements have been made on some leases by laying down spat collectors, but, on the majority of them, this is unnecessary, as they are already supplied with natural collectors in the shape of rocky foreshores and mangroves. Most of the leases are now owned by persons who have been engaged in the oyster trade for many years, who are now utilizing the experience gained in that trade in working their leases, and are doing all that lies in their power to make oyster culture a success. In most cases their efforts have been crowned with success; but unfortunately, in a few instances, oysters which have been laid down on what at the time was a hard bottom have been destroyed by an accumulation of mud. On lease No. 105, belonging to Mr. Gibbins, a great number were lost in this way. 441 bags of oysters were shipped during the year. Most of the leases are fairly stocked with oysters suitable for spatting; and the mangroves and rocks lining the foreshores are well covered with spat. Under these circumstances I consider that there are fair prospects of oyster culture at the Clyde River becoming a success, and am satisfied that if the same care continues to be taken by the lessees the quantity of oysters will gradually increase, and that in a few years it will again become one of the largest oyster producing waters in the Colony.

Cullendulla Creek.—This creek is unsuitable for oyster culture, as with the exception of a few patches of hard ground the foreshores are lined with mangroves, whilst outside of these the bottom is a soft mud. Edwin Cain, who leases the greater portion of the creek, has given it a fair trial during the last three years, but without success. Creeks of this description should, I think, be reserved from lease and kept for producing spat. Leases at Square Head, which is situated near the mouth of the creek, are well stocked with spat. Oysters on these leases, however, never attain a marketable size, owing to their exposed position and the salinity of the water in which they grow; although for flavor and condition they cannot be excelled.

Tuross and Borang Lakes.—Prior to the month of September, 1886, at which time the mouth of the Tuross River was closed by a bank of sand, the oyster beds in these waters were very prolific, and large quantities of a superior class of oysters were shipped annually to market. In consequence of the closure young oysters, with which many of the leases were stocked, were destroyed by an accumulation of mud and weeds, and now scarcely an oyster is to be seen. The mouth of the river is now only partially open, and in the absence of a flood will, in the event of heavy easterly weather, be again completely closed. At present the tide does not rise and fall more than 4 inches; and on the upper part of the river is not perceptible. No spat is showing on any of the leases excepting those situated near the mouth, which derive the benefit of what little tide there is, keeping the rocks clean and giving the spat a chance to adhere. On all of the other leases the foreshores are covered with slime to which, owing to the smooth surface presented, spat cannot adhere. Mr. Smart, who is a lessee and very old resident, states that some twenty years ago the Tuross and Borang Lakes were in as bad a condition as now, when a flood occurred which swept mud, slime, &c., to sea, leaving the bottom clean and suitable for attaching spat. Twelve months later and they were covered with young oysters. Until something similar again happens I am afraid the supply of oysters from these waters will be very limited. Forty-four bags of oysters were shipped during the year.

Narravallee Creek.—All of the lessees on this creek continue to work their leases in a satisfactory manner, and have made and are still making great improvements by laying down young oysters in water averaging about 3 feet in depth at low tide, and placing stone and oak saplings on their foreshores for collecting spat. Some hundreds of yards have been improved in this manner, and it is the intention of the lessees to carry out this method throughout the whole extent of their leases. The oak saplings are placed in a horizontal position, about 12 inches apart, on that portion of the leases lying between high and low water marks, and on these the stone, principally free-stone, is placed stones which have been laid down in this manner for a period of at least twelve months become covered with barnacles and other small crustacea, to which, owing to the rough surface presented, spat can adhere. The stones which have been laid down for this portion of time are well stocked with spat, the majority of which are growing on the under portion of the stone (that resting on the oak), and so protected from the sun and frost, which are very destructive. 168 bags have been shipped to Sydney during the year, and fifteen bags sold locally, making a total of 183 bags for the year. When it is taken into consideration that the creek had been stripped of oysters by licensed dredgers a short time prior to its being leased, and that the whole area on combined leases is only 2,000 yards, the result achieved is highly creditable to the lessees, and shows what can be done by working the beds in a systematic and intelligent manner.

Wagonga River.—The oyster deposits at the Wagonga River show signs of improvement in consequence of a good fall of spat during the year. Those foreshores which are naturally suitable for affixing spat are well covered. Nothing has been done by the lessees to improve their leases beyond laying

laying down young oysters on their foreshores, which are shipped to market on arriving at a marketable size. A lessee named Stephen Canty is an exception, he having gone to considerable expense in laying down stone for collecting spat and fencing in his oysters with wire-netting to prevent the ravages of the star-fish, which are very numerous and grow to a large size. He has also laid down New Zealand oysters with partial success. They show good growth and improve in condition, but about 30 per cent. have died. The Wagonga River is unsuitable for the cultivation of oysters to any great extent, as its foreshores are very narrow, and outside of low-water mark the bottom is composed of soft mud, and in some places sand. Mud oysters are found in considerable numbers on the upper portion of the river, but are of no commercial value, owing to the difficulty in getting them to Sydney in marketable condition.

Moruya River.—Acting Assistant Inspector Sutherland, who is in charge of this river, reports that there has been absolutely nothing done towards the improvement of the leases. The majority of the lessees reside at Bateman's Bay, and I have no doubt that most of the oysters lying above low-water mark are taken by the public during their absence. During the year there has been a great scarcity of fish in the river, so much so that licensed fishermen seldom fished in it, the local market being supplied with fish caught at Coila Lake, although the fish caught there are not so wholesome, on account of the entrance to the lake being closed, which has the effect of making the fish soft and unpalatable, caused, no doubt, by the freshness of the water in which they live. The following oysters were shipped from Moruya Heads during the year:—Forty-four bags from Tuross, and forty-seven from the Moruya River.

Tomago River.—Beyond laying down a few oysters, nothing has been done to improve the leases. On lease No. 501, where mature oysters have been kept laid down for about two years, spat in considerable numbers are growing on the foreshores. On the other leases and unleased portions of the river scarcely a mature oyster is to be seen, and the quantity of spat is very limited. Eleven bags of oysters were shipped to market during the year.

Fish.

Fishing operations are confined chiefly to the limited supply of local wants. Owing to the distance from market and the inefficient steam communication, it is only during two or three of the winter months that fish can be sent to market with any prospect of their arriving in marketable condition. Fish of many descriptions, especially mullet, gar-fish, and whiting, abound in the southern waters, particularly in the lakes; but the expenses incurred for freight, commission, cartage, &c., in sending them to the Sydney market are so heavy that little is left to the fishermen to repay them for their labour.

During the year the supply of fish shipped to Sydney from Bateman's Bay was—

Fresh fish ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	210 baskets.
Smoked „	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 cases.
Dried „	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 bags.
Lobsters ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	126 cases.

Report by Inspector Smithers, 1888.

Sir,

Sydney, 19 February, 1889.

In compliance with your instructions I have the honor to submit my report of Twofold Bay District Fisheries for the year 1888; also a brief report upon Tuggerah and Lake Macquarie, and of special visits made to Penrith, Lawson, Katoomba, Shoalhaven River, Goulburn, Mudgee, and Bega, with trout fry.

As stated in previous reports the Eden District possesses large facilities for the extension of the fisheries and oyster culture industries. The experience of 1888 has not lessened the opinion. I had formed.

The entire coast line, as far north as Montague Island, for quite six months of the year, is literally fringed with vast shoals of fish, which work north towards the island from about May till August, then working southward towards Cape Howe till about November. From some unexplained cause the island seems to be a terminal point for the shoals; north of it the number to be seen is actually less than one-half. These larger shoals, which consist of fish of various kinds, are to be found between 5 and 12 miles from the shore, and nearer in shore the smaller shoals abound.

I believe that if means were taken for the capture by meshing nets of these smaller shoals, immense results would appear; but with all this abundance, which by the way is well known to the residents, there does not appear enterprise sufficient to avail of it. There is an illimitable supply of fish food lost to the public, the sole advantages accruing to the innumerable flocks of sea-birds which frequent the locality. This abundance, moreover, is not confined to the ocean waters, for all the creeks and inlets teem with fish of all kinds. I may mention one case in Wallagoot Lake, wherein 10 tons of fish were taken in one haul, and were nearly all destroyed, as the fishermen had not the means to send them to market, nor had they even an idea of curing them.

In addition, also, there awaits an industry in the crayfish capture. The capture of this excellent food is entirely neglected, though fish of 7 lb. could be secured in quantities.

I believe that trawling could be very advantageously practised between Cape Howe and Green Cape, the ground and climate being suitable.

The oyster fisheries in the Twofold Bay District have been to a great extent ruined by the applicants for oyster culture leases, and indeed by the leaseholders themselves. As a rule these people have skinned off every oyster, and have done nothing, and intend doing nothing, towards securing stock with which to perpetuate the supply. I think the defective legislation which we possess is responsible for this, and until better law is provided, requiring leaseholders to enter into a bond to maintain a proper supply of stock on their holdings, and also to prevent stealing oysters from Crown lands, an improvement may not be hoped for.

I respectfully suggest that these splendid waters, that are capable of such enormous development, should not be left uncared for.

I have also visited Lakes Macquarie and Tuggerah, and can safely say they are prosperous; and in the closed waters of these places the fish are very plentiful, showing the grand result accruing by the closing, and reflecting credit upon the officers in charge of them.

As

As an instance of closed waters, Johnson's Bay when closed was fairly alive with fish; but upon its opening for thirty days, on the expiration of and the taking effect of a fresh Proclamation, the fishermen plied their avocation with disastrous results, leaving the bay without a fish either to be seen or heard; but upon the reclosing, after a short period the fish became again plentiful. The same may be said with regard to Parramatta River, Lane Cove River, and Iron Cove. Whilst the waters are closed for the preservation of fish the open waters are being cruelly used by the Italian fishermen with their sunken nets of 1-inch mesh, and containing a large bag, of same mesh, and hauling lines of nearly 200 fathoms. These are being used continuously night and day in and about the harbour.

In conclusion, I must draw attention to an important event—the introduction of trout fry into several waters in the Colony, as far as Armidale one way, Goulburn on another, Mudgee on another, Shoalhaven River on another, and to the south to Brogo River. I cannot but express a hope that the trial will be successful, as it will be the means of stocking the rivers with a most valuable article of fish food, leaving aside the question of providing sport to the angler; and it is to be hoped that the experiment will be further continued in other rivers in the Colony.

I have, &c.,

FREDK. W. SMITHERS,

Travelling Inspector.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

Report on the Fisheries, Tweed River.

Tweed Heads, 5 January, 1889.

In the fisheries under my supervision, there has not been anything particular to note during the past year. Sea mullet came in about the 23rd of March, and disappeared from the station about the 20th of June, but although none were seen about the station from June till the 21st of December, except a small shoal, I heard that they were plentiful up river all the season. There were not many seen about here, they must have come in on the night tides and passed up. Fish are plentiful in the river, principally whiting, bream, mullet, tarwhine, black fish, taylor, and jew fish, but there is only one fisherman and he does not work much, most of the fish are caught by hotelkeepers and crews of vessels for their own use. Whiting are and have been plentiful in the river for some time. The bar having been shallow I have not been able to get to the reefs, so cannot say anything about schnapper.

Seventy-one bags of oysters have been taken from leases—sixty-five shipped to Sydney, and six taken for local consumption. Some of the spat laid on Langley's lease in 1887 has got covered with sand, what is clear is growing well; several of the leases have very little on them; others a quantity of young oysters, but I do not think there will be many to ship for 1889. In collecting the oysters this year the lessees have, in lieu of putting the cullings back, laid them on deeper water leases, as the leases they were taken from were being covered with sand. I cannot say anything about spatting, only that any ballast thrown about the heads gets covered with spat in a short time; I cannot say where it comes from.

WILLIAM M'GREGOR,

Acting-Assistant Inspector of Fisheries.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

Report on the Macleay River Fisheries, 1888.

Macleay River, 27 February, 1889.

THE mullet season was very good, commencing on the 12th April and lasting to the end of May. Six men with three boats have been fishing for the Sydney market, and four men with two boats for the local consumption by the river residents.

The supply during the year has been falling off in quantity. Net fishing is carried on all through the year in the Lower Macleay. All the inlets and creeks up the river are interfered with only for local requirements. I have inspected the fishing nets and found them in accordance with regulations. No leases for oyster culture has been applied for during the year.

J. A. JAMIESON,

Assistant-Inspector of Fisheries.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

Report on the Nambucca River Fisheries, 1888.

Nambucca River, 1 January, 1889.

THE oyster beds were idle, as after careful examination the lessees, Messrs. Pospechal and West, decided to allow them to spell for a season or two.

I am of an opinion that the beds would be much better worked. Much larger quantities of spat were visible this season than there have been for years.

During the year four fishermen with two boats arrived and commenced fishing for schnapper, they sent two shipments away packed in ice; but discontinued the work owing to the irregularity of transit; they thus fished for the local market.

The fish are moderately plentiful, and no doubt if the steamer would continue to trade regularly more shipments will be made. The sea mullet season commenced on the 1st of May and finished on the 12th of June.

There are six fishing nets on this river of legal length and mesh.

W. J. WHAITES,

Assistant Inspector of Fisheries.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

Report on the Cape Hawke Fisheries, 1888.

Forster, 20 February, 1889.

THERE has been a very fair sample of young oysters set in on the lower beds and-foreshores.

The ballast stones at the heads in some places are covered. Oysters can be traced for 1½ mile up the river in patches, the cutting bed lease No. 1,431 in particular is well stocked.

Mr.

Mr. H. Woodward imported here from the 18th May to 25th of August, 191 bags of New Zealand oysters and 98 bags of very small Port Stephens oysters. The New Zealand oysters which made great improvement in a very short time, have been laid down in from 1 to 3 feet of water; the Port Stephens oysters have not yet been disturbed, there is abundance of all kinds of fish about the spits, at the heads, and up the lakes, the fishermen fish at present about the heads as the lake fish will not keep long enough to be sent to market. A Mr. Hack has lately started a smoking establishment and is turning out first class fish, during the past 12 months the exports for fish and oysters were as follows, 1,791 baskets of fish, 282 bags salt fish, 125 bags of oysters—72 bags of the oysters were New Zealand oysters.

At present there are only five boats fishing for the Sydney market, the other fishermen have given up fishing owing to the very small returns from their agents in Sydney.

On 26th April, large shoals of sea mullet came off the bar and proceeded north.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

A. H. KENDALL,
Acting Assistant Inspector of Fisheries.

Report on Manning Fisheries.

Croki, Manning River, 5 January, 1889.

THERE have been imported to this river from March to September, by Mr. A. Comino, 1,437 bags of New Zealand oysters. These were laid on his lease, No. 29, South Channel. He has reshipped 418 bags to Sydney. By a careful examination of his bed I find that more than half of the oysters laid down are dead. I might state that the oysters were in a bad condition when they arrived here.

Mr. Woodward also imported seventy bags of New Zealand oysters, and laid them on one of the beds. When reshipped he obtained only forty-seven bags, thus leaving a dead loss of twenty-three bags.

Mr. Woodward also had collected off his foreshores about 100 bags of mangrove oysters, and laid them in shallow water, on lease No. 489, South Channel. These are doing well, and showing signs of spat.

A. Gylter, junior, has also collected oysters off the mangroves and cobbler's pegs fronting his lease, and laid them on his bed in shallow water, in Scott's Creek, lease No. 1,521.

James Marshall obtained a spat license, and collected twenty-two bags of mangrove oysters, which he has laid on his lease, No. 680, Luthrie Bay.

There are several others who have laid down a few bags of mangrove and foreshore oysters on their leases.

The above comprise all the improvements which have been made during last year.

The deep-water beds are still in a very poor state. There is no sign of spat settling on any of them.

Foreshore oysters have spat several times during the year, spat adhering to the cobbler's pegs and mangrove trees. Most of the spat grow to a certain size and then die off again.

As this river stands at present there is not much of a show for oysters for the next year or two.

Several leases have been cancelled, and but one applied for during the year.

Fish.

Several boats have been here fishing, and sending them to the Sydney market. This river is not adapted for fishing for Sydney market, as the steam communication is very irregular. All the men and boats but three left for other rivers. One boat is fishing for the Sydney market. The other two boats go out occasionally to supply local wants. The principal fish shipped from here are mullet, whiting, bream and flathead.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

ANDREW GYLER,
Assistant Inspector.

Report on Port Stephens Fisheries, 1888.

Aliceton, Port Stephens, 28 February, 1889.

I REGRET to have to say that the oyster industry has suffered a considerable check owing to the appearance of a worm which boring into the shell leaves an opening by which the sand and mud find an entrance and smother the oyster. There are various causes assigned for this, but I think the salinity of the water caused by the absence of freshes (in the upper waters at any rate) is the principal cause. The middle beds of the Upper Karuah, have so far been the principal sufferers among the dredging grounds. The disease, however, is also bad amongst the foreshore and bank oysters all through the harbour, with the exception probably of Mr. Coote's bed round Corrie Island. As some set off against this disease, I have to report that this has been by far the best season for "spat," or "brood," that has been known for some years, more especially on the rocks and foreshores; I regret to have to say that oyster stealing has been prevalent; I obtained two convictions this year; the high price of oysters makes it worth while to run the risk, and a couple of bags pay the fine. Whilst on this subject, I must say that I have found that the issuing of licenses to gather "spat," does not work as it was intended to. Most men who have been granted a license take oysters from Crown lands, and instead of relaying them on their own areas, send them to market. The terms of the "spat" license are not complied with; in only one instance was I notified that so many bags were gathered and ready for removal. Unless caught working they evade paying the fees. On the whole the lessees have worked their beds with care and moderation. This specially applies to the holders of the valuable dredging beds of the Upper Karuah. There is an experiment being tried by Mr. Coote, of Corrie Island, which will be watched with interest, namely, the laying down of New Zealand oysters for culture on his beds.

I have issued permits from Lime Burners Creek for 2,123 bags of oysters, and there have been sent by the "Kingsley" about 624 bags—being a total of 2,747 bags for the year.

Fish have been plentiful. Mullet have been swarming in all the bays and creeks since the commencement of spring. The proclamation closing the greater portion of Port Stephens to net fishing expired on 26th August, and on the strength of its doing so several men in the upper waters got nets and gear. However, on the 29th October the proclamation was renewed in the same terms for a further period.

period of two years. The Myall and fishing grounds towards the heads have supplied all the fish forwarded to the Sydney market. Since the weather has become warm the supply has fallen off considerably owing to length of carriage. The past year has seen the formation of a Fisherman's Union in this district, which has for its ostensible object the increasing of the number of markets for sale of fish, and the guarding of fishermen's interests generally. I have through the year constantly inspected the fish on board the "Kingsley," and also the fishermen hauling. The fish were in particularly good condition, especially the mullet and whiting. No breaches of the Fisheries Act in connection with net fishing have come under my notice. There have been forwarded from this district, on an average, about 270 baskets of fish per month, or 3,240 for the year.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

C. H. OTWAY,
Assistant Inspector.

Report on improvement in dredge beds, Hunter River, 1888.

Fisheries Office, Newcastle, 31 December, 1888.

I HAVE examined the oyster beds in the Hunter River with the dredge this month, and I find there are a good many young oysters set on the beds. I got as many as sixty young oysters in a haul in the bag, and in the back channel and on Yellow Tom's Point the young oysters were not bigger than a sixpence; there are also a good many on the three Spectacle Islands, and on Mud Island, and at the mouth of Mosquito Creek. I have seen a good many worms in the old shells in the bay, and some in the oysters, but I have not found any of the oysters dead on the beds, or on the foreshore. The oysters are in good condition, and I think they will spawn this month.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

I have, &c.,
HENRY CURRAN.

Report on Lake Macquarie Fisheries, 1888.

Swansea, Lake Macquarie, 21 February, 1889.

7,720 BASKETS of fish were sent by fishermen from Lake Macquarie, also between 2 and 3 tons of dried fish by Chinese fishermen, being a decrease in the quantity sent in 1887, which was caused no doubt by there being a less number of fishing boats working on the lake, and also through the lake being infested with blubber during many months of the year. Fish of all description have been plentiful both in lake and channel during year. Salmon and sharks have been destructive as usual, both in channel and lake, amongst the small fish. All fish caught for the Sydney market have been forwarded *via* Newcastle by carts. There were eight fishermen prosecuted for breaches of the Fisheries Act, seven of whom were convicted and one discharged. With reference to oyster culture there is not any on Lake Macquarie.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

I have, &c.,
WILLIAM BOYD.

Report on Tuggarah Lakes Fisheries, 1888.

Tuggarah Lakes, 31 December, 1888.

FISHING operations have been very extensive. The fish were principally netted in Tuggarah Lake and Budgewoi. There was not sufficient water to allow the boats to go into Manmora Lake. It has supported from twenty-six to twenty-eight men and six boats, and produced a total for the year of 1,780 baskets, consisting principally of small schnapper, mullet, gar-fish, bream, tarwhine, whiting, and other varieties.

Large quantities of schnapper have been caught off the entrance to Tuggarah Lakes.

The lakes themselves are in a very dirty state owing to a slimy weed which is very destructive to the nets. I do not expect improvement until a flood occurs.

All the creeks abound with fish, and every precaution has been taken to prevent the destruction of immature fish.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

W. N. CAIN,
Assistant Inspector.

Report on Brisbane Water Fisheries, 1888.

Brisbane Water, 31 December, 1888.

FISHING operations commenced the middle of March and ended about the beginning of October.

Brisbane Water has forwarded a good supply of fish during the eight months the men were netting fish.

On an average there were from eight to twelve boats at work during these months, and about twenty-eight men. The total quantity of fish netted being 496 baskets.

I have carefully watched the natural oyster beds on this river. The lessees in many parts have improved their leases by stocking them with immature foreshore oysters, these are doing well and looking healthy. Other lessees are very careless and take no pride in cultivating there holdings.

In many cases I have stopped the shipment of oysters not being in marketable condition.

In many parts of the river the beds are in a very exhausted condition, and it will take some considerable time before they recover.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

W. N. CAIN.

Report on Hawkesbury River Fisheries, 1888.

Hawkesbury River, 20 February, 1889.

OWING to the greater part of the river and tributaries being closed against net fishing, the catch of fish has necessarily been very limited, not more than from fifteen to twenty persons having found employment.

The produce was, as usual, shipped, partly by steam and partly by rail, to Sydney and suburbs, and part absorbed by local consumption.

Shoals of schnapper found their way during the summer months into Cowan Creek, but they would not take bait when shoaling. Cowan Creek abounds also in shoals of other fish,—bream, black fish, whiting, and mullet; sharks also are very numerous during the summer months.

Saleable

Saleable fish have not been so plentiful in the lower Hawkesbury River, partly owing to the continued blasting operations at the railway works; but up river, in the closed waters, far removed from any noise, mullet and other fish may be seen by tons and in large shoals.

It is now a well known fact that fish after spawning, and on the approach of winter, always desert the lower part of the river and migrate many miles up the river, where they remain until spring, unless driven down by flood. This remark applies also to all the mullet species, the bream, perch, jewfish, and prawns.

During the past year the jewfish were mostly of small size, from 1 foot to 18 inches, and were therefore very young; they were caught in large numbers by pleasure parties, but are not amongst the fish protected by the Fisheries Act.

Of the oyster fisheries I beg to state that culture, such as was contemplated by the Oyster Act of 1884, has not been realized, as scarcely any attempt in that direction has been made, owing in a great measure to the continued worm disease in oysters. The disease, it has also been noted, will attack laid oysters in preference to the natural rock oysters.

A moderate trade has also been carried on with imported oysters from New Zealand; much of this has been laid down, but if due care has not been taken in the operation it will also get the disease.

Of the localities most affected with the disease are the whole of Mooney Creek, the lower part of Berowra Creek, Marra Marra Creek, and the main river above Peat's Ferry.

The quantity of spat paid for by lessees off Crown land for the purpose of laying down was only twenty-five bags.

The total quantity of oysters sent to market, by steamboat and railway, was 2,128 bags, of which I estimate about 400 bags were New Zealand oysters, which had been laid down for fattening purposes.

I cannot close my eyes to the fact that the oyster foreshores of this fine river are getting very much denuded of oysters, both on leases and Crown land, and that only very few lessees have their leases in anything like decent order.

The great cause of the leases and shores being in this condition is through being overwrought; and that only few lessees take the requisite pains to nurture the industry.

P. SMITH,
Assistant Inspector.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

Report on Port Jackson Fisheries, 1888.

Sydney, 26 February, 1889.

THERE has been a decrease of large-sized fish in the closed waters, but small size were to be seen all the year in abundance.

From the open waters of Sydney Harbour, namely, Watson's Bay, Middle Harbour, Rose Bay, and Manly Beach, fish of all kinds have been caught in good quantities and brought to market, particularly black fish, which have been very plentiful, also good numbers of mullet and bream have been got there.

In regard to schnapper, there have been few caught in the harbour, but along the coast, I have to say, they have been more plentiful during this year than for some little time before; also large jewfish have showed an increase all along the coast.

During the prawn season the catchers were very successful, both in regard to quantity and size—the prawns being the finest I have ever seen yet, and which I am sure could not be equalled.

There were a large number of men engaged prawn-catching, and, I suppose, about thirty boats.

The number of boats net-fishing varies, as they go from one district to another; sometimes there may be twenty or more boats in the harbour and other times many less. The nets in use by the fishermen are general working-nets, with a few garfish-nets, besides the prawn-nets.

In regard to oyster culture about the harbour there is little to say, as the rocks from Bradley's Head up to Ryde are almost bare of oysters; but Middle Harbour is very different, the rocks there being as thick as possible with small oysters, but too small altogether for market.

During the past year I have attended at the fish market each morning, from 4 and 5 a.m. till nearly 7 a.m. The fish supply there has been very good from all the fishing places, but during the great heat of the summer there have been quantities of fine fish condemned as unfit for food.

I wish especially to refer to the fineness of the fish, particularly the large whiting, which are brought in large quantities from the Clarence, Macleay, Richmond, and Cape Hawke. During the summer the fish, that is the greater part, are brought from those places in ice-chests.

Crayfish were very plentiful, coming to market in such quantities as to allow them being sold at a low price. Those fish are brought from Port Stephens, Cape Hawke, and Jervis Bay.

All the past year myself and the three men have kept a good watch on the closed portions of my district. The men have always assisted to the best of their power in all the different duties.

THOMAS MULHALL,
Assistant Inspector.

To the Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

Report on George's River Fisheries, 1888.

26 February, 1889.

THE closed waters of George's River have been abundantly supplied with fish. The principal quantities lay on the bars between the railway bridge and Saltpan Creek. From the early part of June to about the middle of July I saw upwards of 2,000 hampers of whiting lying on the shoals known as the moon bars; in fact, all through the winter months whiting were to be seen on all shoals in the closed waters. Mr. Wray, who collects oysters by the diving apparatus, informs me that black bream, black fish, and all kinds of ground fish are in abundance in all the deep waters he has been down in.

The closed waters of the Woronora River have also been abundantly supplied, but though not with large whiting, the river was entirely alive with small whiting, bream, and mullet. In both the above mentioned rivers, on many hauling grounds and flats, a marine vegetation has grown in the past two years, which I think forms food and shelter for fish; I put the cause of the growth to the bottom not being disturbed by fishing nets for three years.

About

About December last a great fresh was caused in the rivers by heavy rain, which drove a great number of fish from the closed waters. I saw several nice lots of sand whiting killed by fishermen about the mouth of the river after the said fresh, and all in full roe; in fact, the roe could be squeezed from them. A fisherman named Charles Smith, who caught some of these whiting, informed me that he has caught whiting full roed in December and in June; he is sure that whiting spawn twice a year, and has also served his life time at net-fishing. Since the fresh in December all fishermen have been catching nice lots of fish; in fact, as many as eighteen hampers of large sand whiting have been caught in one haul on the shores of Botany Bay. All the shores of the open waters have swarmed with mullet and small whiting since the warm weather set in.

The principal part of the oysters of George's River have been in very poor condition all through the year, very few being fit for market, the cause of this poor condition is through mud finding its way into nearly every oyster, and over this mud a very thin shell has grown. The greater portion of the New Zealand oysters which were laid down in the upper beds of the river have died. Mr. T. Wray, oyster culture lessee, brought about 300 bags of spawn, and Mr. J. H. Geddes about 100 bags from their areas in Port Hacking and laid them down on their leases in George's River, out of which one-third have died from the same cause as the New Zealand oysters.

Spawn on George's River has been very plentiful all through the year between low and high water marks, the rock being smothered with small oysters.

All the principal natural oyster beds in George's River have a coating of mud on them about 3 inches thick, which I believe was caused by the heavy freshes of 1887; it has smothered nearly all the oysters on the beds.

The total number of bags of oysters taken from the waters of my district is 138, which includes 100 bags taken from Mr. F. E. Holt's private oyster fishery at Gawley Bay, George's River.

The mangroves of Wolloware, Towra, and Jinbray contain plenty of spawn, but very few marketable oysters, as the public keep them very thin.

J. D. GRANT,
Assistant Inspector of Fisheries, George's River.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

Report on Illawarra Lake Fisheries, 1888.

Unandina, 25 February, 1889.

THIS fishery continues to be very productive. During the year 8,966 baskets were taken, of which 5,189 were sent to Sydney, and 1,500 disposed of locally. This is an increase on last year's output, which is owing to the better facilities afforded by sending fish to the metropolis by the Illawarra Railway. Formerly the fisherman had to depend on steamer carriage, which only permitted their working three or four days per week. Now they can work every day, and send the result away by an afternoon train.

During the year I observed unusually large quantities of young fry of all descriptions in the lake, more particularly in the reserve parts. I attribute this increase to the judicious closing of the tributaries of the lake and areas adjacent to their mouth, against net fishing. The reserved portions are peculiarly adapted to the favourable development of young fish, and I am of opinion that their permanent closure would convert the lake into a vast natural nursery.

A peculiarity of the year was the exceptionally large quantities of flathead and schnapper, which were taken both by net and line fishing. The number of schnapper in the lake seems to increase each year. They are probably attracted from the sea by the better feeding grounds in the lake.

The sea entrance to the lake closed about the 18th of October last. Should it continue closed for any length of time, and the lake be worked by the fishermen daily, as at present, the question as to whether it would not be advisable to prohibit net fishing will have to receive consideration, as the supply of marketable fish partly depends on those sea fish which enter at each tide.

Shags of both species are very numerous, and seem to increase in spite of the rewards offered for their destruction. The reward was claimed on only 241 heads during the year.

Three persons were convicted during the year of breaches of the 18th section of the Fisheries Act, and in each case a heavy penalty was inflicted.

Minumurra River.

Fishing operations as heretofore have been confined to a couple of fisherman for local consumption.

The output of oysters for the year from the river have been very small, namely, twenty-nine bags, or 87 bushels. The oysters are in good condition. No disease exists amongst the oysters in this river.

D. W. BENSON,
Assistant Inspector.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

Report on the Shoalhaven Fisheries, 1888.

Greenwell Point, Shoalhaven, 2 January, 1889.

Oysters.

THE oyster fisheries are in fair condition, there having been a good fall of spat in all the rivers, especially in Currumbene and Mooney Creeks, Jervis Bay.

In Crookhaven river about 500 bags of New Zealand oysters have been laid down on Messrs. Woodward's and Haiser's areas. Mr. Haiser has also cleaned all rubbish off his leases, Nos. 1,894 and 1,902, Crookhaven River. This is all that has been done here as regards cultivation.

A great many of the New Zealand oysters were very shaky when they arrived, consequently a large percentage died. I notice that the large oysters were the ones which suffered most.

In Broughton Creek there have been no oysters laid down this year. Most of what were laid down before died through being affected by the mud. I do not think this creek will ever be any good for oysters again, as it is very narrow, and there are too many steamers going up and down, which disturbs the spawn and does not allow it to settle on the beds. There is no spawn in this creek.

In

In Currambene and Mooney Creeks there has been a great spawn. About 100 bags were shifted to lease 759, which comprises the deep water beds. Not many oysters were sent from here during the year. The oysters in these creeks are not affected by the worm.

In Bherrewerre nothing at all has been done in connection with oyster culture, nor have any oysters been sent away. The 300 bags laid down last year on lease No. 857 Sussex Inlet, remain there, as the lessees intend giving the bed a good spell.

The reason no work has been done is that the oysters which were laid down before were nearly all destroyed by the mud, and lessees are afraid that it might affect them again. This mud is more severe on oysters laid down than on those which grow naturally on the beds.

Fish.

There has been a very good catch this year, but the fishermen complain much of their cheapness, averaging only about 5s. per basket for the greater part of the season.

Net fish have been plentiful, principally mullet.

Schnapper very scarce; they seem to have deserted their old feeding grounds.

In June, July, and August I noticed large quantities of very small fish in all the rivers. The fishermen tell me that they were very plentiful about the same time on the Sir John Young banks, 7 miles east from Crookhaven Heads.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

CHARLES GORDON,
Assistant Inspector of Fisheries.

Report on Moruya River Fisheries, 1888.

Fisheries Station, Moruya, 19 February, 1889.

THERE were shipped from this river during the year ninety-one bags of oysters. There has been absolutely nothing done by the lessees of oyster areas to improve their holdings; the only object they seem to have had in view was to strip their holdings of all available oysters, and leave all improvements as regards oyster culture to nature.

The majority of the lessees being resident in Bateman's Bay, I am of opinion, from what I can hear, that they lose a great many oysters through picnic parties and others visiting their areas in their absence.

And another reason that, I have no doubt, weighs with the lessees for not improving their areas is the harbour improvements that are going on in this river at present.

There were two fishermen's licenses and three boat licenses taken out for the year; but I regret having to report there having been very few fish caught in the river.

The scarcity of fish, in my opinion, is attributable to the majority of the deep holes that existed some years back in the river having been filled up with sand; in consequence, the fish have no place of shelter or resort.

The greater part of the fish for the local market have been obtained from Lake Coila, where the fish, principally mullet, are very plentiful; but they are a coarse, inferior fish, caused, I presume, by the lake being closed at its entrance from the sea, so that, in consequence, the water is fresher than the sea water, and gives the fish a soft, fat, blubbery appearance.

The schnapper fishing outside has been very poor; occasionally there are a few to be caught, but not in any great numbers. The leather-jacket have not been as plentiful as they were in 1887.

The scarcity of schnapper in that year was attributed to the great numbers of leather-jackets about, but the schnapper do not seem to have increased with their disappearance.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

A. SUTHERLAND,
Acting Assistant Inspector of Fisheries.

Report on Inland Fisheries, 1888.

Deniliquin, 5 January, 1889.

1. My experience has shown that the closing of the rivers and creeks against netting has been productive of much good, and that, in consequence, there is every evidence of an increase in young fish of the various species frequenting these streams. Up to the present time this increase is most noticeable in gold and silver perch and silver and black bream which now seem to be fast multiplying under the favourable conditions consequent on the prohibition of netting. This also applies to all other kinds of young fish in these waters.

2. Since the rivers have been proclaimed against netting I have exercised every diligence in the discharge of my duty, but have been unable to detect any case of illegal netting, and I do not consider the prohibition placed upon fishermen has had any ill-effect as regards their particular industry; for when it was found that the penalties attached to netting would be stringently enforced, these persons adopted a system of fishing by lines stretched across the rivers and creeks at various points, by which means they secured large takes of fish sufficient to fully supply their local market, and enable them also to make good profits from this export trade to Melbourne.

3. This method of fishing, and securing the larger fish, is beneficial to the smaller species, as it tends to destroy the natural enemies of the latter, namely, the large cod.

4. During a portion of the year the rivers here have been low, and this has had the effect of attracting large numbers of cormorants or shags, and these birds have no doubt destroyed a great many young fish. These cormorants also have been greatly reduced, for I have given receipts for over 17,000 of their heads during the year.

5. To summarise, I beg respectfully to state that netting is entirely suppressed in the rivers, that the conditions of the proclamation regarding the closing of the streams are being properly observed, and that altogether the fishing grounds in my district are in a healthy and satisfactory condition.

6. In conclusion, I would recommend that the proclamation for the closing of the rivers, &c., against netting of any kind be extended for a period of twelve months, which will be a further advantage in allowing the young fish to mature. It will be obvious that if this be done a large benefit to the public interest will be secured in the near future.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

OSBORNE WILSHIRE,
Assistant Inspector of Fisheries.

Report

Report on Lake George Fisheries, 1888.

Bungendore, 20 February, 1889.

I HAVE to state that a decided increase of fish is discernible in the Murrumbidgee, Molonglo, and Queanbeyan Rivers. Since last August a quantity of fine cod and perch have been caught by the inhabitants of Queanbeyan with lines. I am not aware of any nets being used in these rivers, and the only fishing done is by the inhabitants of the town and district. These rivers are only now being taken interest in, as the fish are increasing. As soon as possible I intend making a special visit to the locality with the view of gaining information.

With regard to Lake George, I have little of interest to report. The first part of the year a very fair supply of fish was caught, viz.:—January, 784 lb.; February, 1,130 lb.; March, 800 lb.; April, 600 lb.; May, 550 lb.; June, July, and August, no fish were caught (these three last named months are very cold, and no fish can be caught; in fact, the fishermen do not care to engage in the avocation); September, 100 lb.; October, 410 lb.; November, 240 lb.; December, 640 lb. During the latter part of the year the water fell to a very low level, owing to the dry weather; but a very little rain in the end of December filled it up to its old level.

There were three licensed fishermen, who all complained of not being able to catch many fish; but this I still think was owing to their not having nets large enough. It was reported some time ago that in consequence of so much net fishing in the lake the supply was being exhausted; consequently I made several visits to all parts of Lake George, and found no persons using nets except those licensed, and with the appliances used I scarcely think it is so far detrimental to the supply. I may also mention that two or three perch have been caught in Lake George during the year and let go again, so as to allow them to accumulate. These fish can only be accounted for by N. Powell, Esq., of Turalla, having some three or four years ago placed a few perch in the Turallo Creek, which flows into the lake.

I am not aware of any illegal fishing being carried on, and the nets are all of the proper mesh.

FREDK. NELSON,

Senior-Constable, Acting Assistant Inspector of Fisheries.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

APPENDIX B.

CENTENNIAL INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, MELBOURNE, 1888.

Catalogue of the Exhibits from the Department of Fisheries, New South Wales, in the General Fisheries Court.

NATURAL HISTORY SPECIMENS.

Specimens of New South Wales Fishes, mounted and in spirits:—

SPECIMENS MOUNTED.

Sea Shark (<i>Carcharias macrurus</i>).	Trevally (<i>Caranx georgianus</i>).
Brown Dogfish (<i>Chiloscyllium modestum</i>).	Horse Mackerel (<i>Pelamys australis</i>).
Fiddler (<i>Trygonorhina fasciata</i>).	Sea Mullet (<i>Mugil grandis</i>).
Black Rock-cod (<i>Serranus daemeli</i>).	Fig-fish (<i>Cossyphus unimaculatus</i>).
Black-fish (<i>Girella tricuspidata</i>).	(<i>Solenognathus spinosissimus</i>).
Blue-fish (<i>Girella cyanea</i>).	Box-fish (<i>Ostracion lenticularis</i>).
Morwong (<i>Chilodactylus morwong</i>).	Porcupine fish (<i>Dicotylichthys punctulatus</i>).
Carp (<i>Chilodactylus fuscus</i>).	Murray Cod (<i>Oligorus macquariensis</i>).
(<i>Prionurus microlepidotus</i>).	

SPECIMENS IN SPIRITS.

Perch (<i>Percaletes colonorum</i>).	Black Bream (<i>Chrysophrys australis</i>).
Black Rock-cod (<i>Serranus daemeli</i>).	(<i>Chilodactylus vittatus</i>).
(<i>Plectropoma annulatum</i>).	Carp (<i>Chilodactylus fuscus</i>).
Wirrah (<i>Plectropoma ocellatum</i>).	Red Rock-cod (<i>Scorpaena cruenta</i>).
Trumpeter Perch (<i>Therapon cuvieri</i>).	Fortescue (<i>Centropogon australis</i>).
(<i>Therapon unicolor</i>).	(<i>Plesiops bleekeri</i>).
Silver Billy (<i>Gerres ovatus</i>).	(<i>Pempheris compressus</i>).
Murray Cod (<i>Oligorus macquariensis</i>).	Jew-fish (<i>Sciæna neglecta</i>).
(<i>Macquaria australasica</i>).	(<i>Prionurus microlepidotus</i>).
Salmon (<i>Arripis salar</i>).	Yellow-tail (<i>Caranx trachurus</i>).
(<i>Apogon fasciatus</i>).	Samson-fish (<i>Seriola hippos</i>).
Red Bullseye (<i>Priacanthus macracanthus</i>).	Dart (<i>Trachynotus russellii</i>).
(<i>Chatodon strigatus</i>).	Horse Mackerel (<i>Pelamys australis</i>).
(<i>Chelmo truncatus</i>).	Sand Whiting (<i>Sillago maculata</i>).
Red Mullet (<i>Hypeneichthys porosus</i>).	Trumpeter (<i>Sillago ciliata</i>).
(<i>Hypeneus signatus</i>).	(<i>Batrachus dubius</i>).
(<i>Haplodactylus lophodon</i>).	Frog-fish (<i>Antennarius striatus</i>).
Tarwhine (<i>Chrysophrys sarba</i>).	Sand Flathead (<i>Platycephalus arenarius</i>).

SPECIMENS

SPECIMENS IN SPIRITS—continued.

Flathead (<i>Platycephalus fuscus</i>).	Flounder (<i>Pseudorhombus multimaculatus</i>).
Red Flathead (<i>Platycephalus cirrhonus</i>).	(<i>Ammotretis adpersus</i>).
(<i>Trigla mulhali</i>).	(<i>Solea microcephala</i>).
Flying Gurnard (<i>Trigla polyommata</i>).	(<i>Solea macleayana</i>).
Pike (<i>Sphyræna obtusata</i>).	(<i>Pardachirus pavoninus</i>).
Sea Mullet (<i>Mugil grandis</i>).	Sole (<i>Synaptura nigra</i>).
Flat-tail (<i>Mugil peronii</i>).	(<i>Plagusia unicolor</i>).
Lake Mullet (<i>Agonostoma lacustris</i>).	Catfish (<i>Cnidogobius lepturus</i>).
Pipe-fish (<i>Fistularia serrata</i>).	(<i>Saurus myops</i>).
(<i>Parma squamipinnis</i>).	Long Tom (<i>Belone gavioloides</i>).
(<i>Heliastes immaculatus</i>).	Sea Garfish (<i>Hemirhamphus intermedius</i>).
(<i>Labrichthys laticlavus</i>).	River Garfish (<i>Hemirhamphus regularis</i>).
(<i>Labrichthys gymnogenis</i>).	Maray (<i>Clupea sagax</i>).
Butterfly fish (<i>Heteroscarus castelnavii</i>).	Herring (<i>Clupea hypselosoma</i>).
(<i>Olistherops cyanomelas</i>).	(<i>Ichthyocampus cinctus</i>).
(<i>Gadopsis marmoratus</i>).	(<i>Stigmatophora argus</i>).
Ling (<i>Lotella limbata</i>).	Leather Jacket (<i>Monacanthus granulatus</i>).
Flounder (<i>Pseudorhombus russellii</i>).	Toadfish (<i>Tetrodon hamiltoni</i>).

EDIBLE MOLLUSCA, OYSTERS.

(*Ostrea glomerata*, *O. virescens*, *O. subtrigona*, Sow., *O. mordax*, Gld. *O. edulis*, var. *purpurea*, Hanley.)
A LARGE collection of oysters, in numerous varieties, and from beds in different localities. Most of these are natural beds, very few of them formed by artificial layings; all are under lease, and more or less under cultivation.

Tweed River Oysters.

1. From G. Wells' Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,651, Terranora Creek; dry at low tide; bottom, sandy, mud, stones, and shells.
2. From G. Wells' Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,652, Terranora Creek; dry at half tide; bottom, sandy mud.
3. From G. Wells' Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,298, Terranora Creek; depth of water, 2 to 8 feet; bottom, mud, stones, and shells.
4. "Cultivated Oysters," from R. Langley's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,692, Terranora Creek; laid down November, 1887, in 1 foot of water at low tide; bottom, hard slate, with layer of coarse sand and shells.

Richmond River Oysters.

5. "Dredge Oysters," from S. Martin's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 568, Richmond River; depth of water, 10 to 20 feet.
6. "Cultivated Oysters," from W. O. Chafe's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 410, Richmond River; depth of water, 4 to 10 feet.

Clarence River Oysters.

7. "Dredge Oysters," from A. Ross' Oyster-culture Lease, No. 64, at Lake Channel; depth of water, 6 to 20 feet.
8. "Dredge Oysters," from A. Philp's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 677, at Lake Channel; depth of water, 6 to 20 feet.
9. From foreshore at Yamba; dry at low water.

Evans River Oysters.

10. "Rock Oysters," from F. J. Gibbins' Oyster-culture Lease, No. 386, at the Iron Gates; depth of water, 9 to 16 feet.

Bellinger River Oysters.

11. "Rock Oysters," from Ballast heaps; depth of water, 2 to 8 feet.
12. "Dredge Oysters"; depth of water, 10 to 22 feet; bottom, soft slate and pipeclay.

Manning River Oysters.

13. "Dredge Oysters," from South Channel; depth of water, 5 to 20 feet; bottom, rocky and shingly.
14. "Cultivated Oysters"; laid down in the south channel in January, 1887; depth of water, 1 foot at low tide.

Cape Hawke Oysters.

15. "Rock Oysters"; depth of water, 1 to 6 feet.
16. "Cultivated Oysters," from G. Ravel's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 876, at Godwin Island; laid down in January, 1888; depth of water, 1 to 6 feet; bottom, sand and weeds.
17. From H. Woodward's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,431; dry at half-tide; bottom, mud and shells.

Port Stephens Oysters.

18. "Dredge Oysters," from W. Engel's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 108, Serpent River; depth of water, 6 to 18 feet.
19. "Dredge Oysters," from J. Joass' Oyster-culture Lease, No. 48, Karuah River; depth of water, 6 to 18 feet.
20. "Dredge Oysters," from J. Holdon's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 832, Karuah River; depth of water, 6 to 18 feet.
21. From R. H. D. White's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 794, Garden Island.
22. From R. H. D. White's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,345, Garden Island.

Hunter River Oysters.

23. From F. J. Gibbins' Oyster-culture Lease, No. 808, Spectacle Island ; dry at half-tide ; bottom, mud and shells.
24. From F. J. Gibbins' Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,658, Spectacle Island ; dry at half-tide ; bottom, mud and shells.
25. From J. Jordon's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,330, Port Waratah ; dry at half-tide ; bottom, mud and shells.
26. "Rock Oysters" ; dry at half-tide.
27. From F. J. Gibbins' Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,250, Mosquito Creek ; depth of water, 1 to 5 feet ; bottom, mud and shells.
28. "Cultivated Oysters," laid down in February, 1888, on F. J. Gibbins' Oyster-culture Lease, No. 83 Sandy Island ; depth of water, 2 to 8 feet ; bottom, shells.
29. "Cultivated Oysters," laid down in December, 1887, in the Back Channel.
30. "Rock Oysters," covered at half-tide.

Brisbane Water Oysters.

31. "Hammer-headed Oysters," from Narrara Creek.
32. "Cultivated Oysters," laid down in February, 1887, on A. Settrae's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,706, Cockle Creek ; in 2 feet of water at low tide.
33. "Cultivated Oysters," laid down in January, 1887, on P. Murray's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 729, Riley Island ; in 2 feet of water at low tide.
34. "Cultivated Oysters," laid down in June, 1886, on P. Murray's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,189, Brisbane Water ; in 1 foot of water at low tide.
35. "Rock Oysters," taken from Erina Creek, at a depth of 5 feet at low water.

Hawkesbury River Oysters.

36. "Rock Oysters," from Mooney Mooney Creek ; dry at low water.
37. "Cultivated Oysters," from James Ross' Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,480, Mooney Mooney Creek dry at low water.
38. "Rock Oysters," from Charles Alick's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,565, Cowan Creek.
39. "Natural Dredge Oysters," from Browera Creek ; depth of water, 15 feet at low tide.
40. From P. Melvey's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 437, Bar Point.

George's River Oysters.

41. "Mud Oysters," from Jewfish Point, Public Oyster Reserve ; depth of water, from 23 feet ; procured by divers.
42. "Rock Oysters," from Oven Reach and Half-moon ; depth of water, from 20 feet ; procured by divers.
43. "Drift Oysters," from Oven Reach and Half-moon ; depth of water, from 20 feet ; procured by divers.
44. "Cultivated Oysters," brought from Adelaide, South Australia, and laid down at Oven Reach in June, 1885.

Shoalhaven River Oysters.

45. From G. Haiser's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,067, at Currambene Creek, Jervis Bay.
46. From H. Woodward's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 749, at Broughton Creek.
47. Spawn from No. 2 bed, Currambene Creek, Jervis Bay.
48. From H. Woodward's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 550, Broughton Creek.
49. "Cultivated Oysters," from H. Woodward's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 550, Broughton Creek.
50. "Cultivated Oysters," from G. Haiser's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 759, Currambene Creek, Jervis Bay.
51. "Mud Oysters," from Jervis Bay.

Lake Durras Oysters.

52. "Mud Oysters," depth of water, 4 feet.

Clyde River Oysters.

53. From Woodward & Templeman's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 34, Buckenboursa Creek.
54. From Woodward & Templeman's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 398, at Buckenboursa River ; depth of water, from 2 to 8 feet.
55. From Woodward & Templeman's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,311, at Buckenboursa River ; depth of water, from 2 to 8 feet.
56. From Woodward & Templeman's Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,501, at Buckenboursa River ; depth of water, from 2 to 8 feet.
57. "Cultivated Oysters," from F. J. Gibbins' Oyster-culture Lease, No. 105 ; known as the "Bold Shore Bend" ; length, 1,000 yards ; breadth, 12 yards ; depth of water, 3 to 15 feet.
58. "Rock Oysters," from F. J. Gibbins' Oyster-culture Lease, No. 1,357 ; known as "Rocky Point Bed."

Lake Tuross Oysters.

59. "Mud Oysters" ; depth of water, 10 feet.

Kiah River Oysters.

60. "Rock Oysters" ; dry at low tide.

Womboyne River Oysters.

61. "Rock Oysters" ; depth of water, 1 to 9 feet.

BIRDS DESTRUCTIVE TO FISH.

Shag (*Graculus*).Pelican (*Pelicanus*).Diver (*Plotus*).Heron (*Ardea*).

PRESERVED

PRESERVED FISH.

These exhibits have been prepared to the order of the Department of Fisheries.

Most of the fishes were preserved during the months of August and September, 1888, having been purchased under the supervision of an officer of the Fisheries Department.

The fresh fishes comprise many of the best known food fishes, of which the mullet, bream, blackfish, and eel appear to be best adapted for this mode of preserving.

In smoked fishes—whiting, eels, blackfish, jewfish, tailor, and mullet, are exhibited.

The oysters were specially selected from beds on the Clarence River and at Cape Hawke.

Crayfishes, tinned and sun-dried, and tinned prawns, are also exhibited.

Fishes tinned for food, prepared at the Globe Preserving Works, Balmain.

FISH, PRESERVED, FOR FOOD.

Fresh Fish, tinned.	Smoked Fish, tinned.	Smoked Salted Fish.
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FISH, TINNED, FOR FOOD.

Fresh Fish.

Mullet.	Schnapper.	Oysters.
Whiting.	Long Tom.	Curried Oysters.
Bream.	Blackfish.	Crayfish.
Jewfish.	Trevally.	Curried Crayfish.
Flathead.	Garfish.	Prawns.
Eel.	Garfish in oil.	

Smoked Fish.

Eel.	Blackfish.	Tailor.
Whiting.	Jewfish.	Mullet.

SMOKED SALTED FISH (loose).

Eel.	Jewfish.	Mullet.
Whiting.	Tailor.	Yellowtail.
Blackfish.		

OILS.

Oils from fish, other than for edible purposes.

Turtle.	One-finned Shark.	Sting Ray.
Porpoise.	Wobbegong Shark.	Sand Mullet.
Finbacked Whale.	Blue Pointer Shark.	Sea Mullet.
Black Whale.	Tiger Shark.	Whiting.
Humpbacked Whale.	Sunfish.	Jewfish.
Grey Nurse Shark.	Fiddler Ray.	

OIL-PAINTINGS OF NEW SOUTH WALES FISHES.

Oil-paintings of New South Wales fishes and crustacea, colored from life. Painted for the Commissioners of Fisheries by Mr. George Podmore, of Mossman's Bay, Sydney, artist. They represent the following species:—

(*Natural Size.*)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The Silver Billy (<i>Gerres ovatus</i>). | 20. The Blue Groper (<i>Cossyphus gouldi</i>). |
| 2. The Wirrah (<i>Plectropoma ocellatum</i>). | 21. The Blackfish (<i>Girella triscuspudata</i>). |
| 3. The Box-fish (<i>Ostracion lenticularis</i>). | 22. The Kingfish (<i>Seriola lalandi</i>). |
| 4. The Rock Whiting (<i>Odax semifasciatus</i>). | 23. The Flathead (<i>Platycephalus fuscus</i>). |
| 5. The John Dory (<i>Zeus australis</i>). | 24. The Sea Perch (<i>Percalates colonorum</i>). |
| 6. The Butter-fish (<i>Scatophagus multifasciatus</i>). | 25. The Carp (<i>Chilodactylus fuscus</i>). |
| 7. The Murray Cod (<i>Oligorus macquariensis</i>). | 26. The Red Rock-cod (<i>Scorpena cruenta</i>). |
| 8. The Red Mullet (<i>Hypeneichthys porosus</i>). | 27. The Salmon (<i>Arripis salar</i>). |
| 9. The Soldier Crab (<i>Neptunus pelagicus</i>). | 28. The Barracouta (<i>Thyrsites atun</i>). |
| 10. The Schnapper (<i>Pagrus unicolor</i>). | 29. The Flounder (<i>Pseudorhombus multimaculatus</i>). |
| 11. The Tailor (<i>Temnodon saltator</i>). | 30. The Bonito (<i>Cybium commersoni</i>). |
| 12. The Sea Mullet (<i>Mugil grandis</i>). | 31. The Sea Garfish (<i>Hemirhamphus intermedius</i>). |
| 13. The White Trevally (<i>Caranx georgianus</i>). | 32. The Yellowtail (<i>Caranx trachurus</i>). |
| 14. The Jewfish (<i>Scicena aquila</i>). | 33. The Long Tom (<i>Belone ferox</i>). |
| 15. The Sand Whiting (<i>Sillago maculata</i>). | 34. The Sergeant Baker (<i>Aulopus purpurissatus</i>). |
| 16. The Morwong (<i>Chilodactylus macropterus</i>) is the Jackass-fish. | 35. The Tarwhine (<i>Chrysophrys sarba</i>). |
| 17. The Nannygai (<i>Beryx affinis</i>). | 36. The Red Gurnard (<i>Trigla kumu</i>). |
| 18. The Pigfish (<i>Cossyphus unimaculatus</i>). | 37. The Teraglin (<i>Otolithus atelodus</i>). |
| 19. The Black Bream (<i>Chrysophrys australis</i>). | 38. The Drummer (<i>Pimelepterus meridionalis</i>). |

CHARTS OF OYSTER-BEARING WATERS OF NEW SOUTH WALES, SHOWING AREAS HELD UNDER LEASE FOR OYSTER CULTURE.

Richmond River.	Hawkesbury River, Brisbane Water, and tributaries.
Clarence River.	Brisbane Water.
Manning River.	Shoalhaven.
Wallis Lake.	Clyde.
Port Stephens.	Coast-line of New South Wales.
Hunter River.	

SUNDRIES.

SUNDRIES.

Mussels from Casino, Richmond River.
 Mytilus. Mutton-fish Shells.
 Sponges.
 Porpoise Skins.
 Eel Skins (tanned and raw).
 Roes of Fishes.
 Sounds of Fishes.
 Crayfish Nets.
 Crayfish Traps.
 Oyster Dredges.
 Fishing Boat, 22 feet long, with all gear complete.

Garfish Net, 90 fathoms long.
 Fish-scale Work—Flowers, Sprays, &c.
 Trophy illustrative of the economic value of the Fisheries of the Colony for the past five years.
 Edible Birds' Nests.
 Dried Oysters.
 Dried Squid.
 Dried Cuttle Fish.
 Seal Skins (tanned and raw).
 Whale Baleen.

APPENDIX C.

A New or Improved Fishing-net for use in Deep-sea Fishing.

I, LEONARD PORCELLI, of Sydney, in the Colony of New South Wales, fisherman, do hereby declare the particulars of my invention, for "A New or Improved Fishing-net for use in Deep-sea Fishing," and the manner in which the same is to be performed, to be specified, described, and illustrated in and by the following statement and the drawings attached hereto :—

This invention relates to certain improvements in the form and construction of that description of fishing-net of which the "Otter Trawl-net" is typical.

In carrying out my invention I form the body of the net in the same manner as an ordinary trawl or drag-net is formed. The mouth of the net is not, however, constructed like that of the trawl, but is peculiar in form and arrangement; and it is in this peculiarity of form and arrangement that constitutes the essence of my said invention.

I prefer that the length, overall, of the net should be about twice that of an ordinary trawl-net, and that its other dimensions should be proportionate to such length—using the trawl as a model. I prefer to devote about half the total length of the net to the mouth or head, and the remainder to the pocket or body.

The mouth of the net does not consist of a plain transverse opening like that of the trawl, but is formed with two extending jaws or wings, one at each side. These jaws or wings are so formed that when the mouth of the net is distended it assumes a shape something like that of the letter V. The wings or jaws at the lower part of the net extend further back than those at the upper part. Other improvements relate to the formation of the lips at the mouth of the net, and to the mode of attaching the mouth to the drag-rope.

But to make my invention better understood, reference is had to the accompanying sheet of drawings [Appendix A] which illustrates a part plan of a net constructed according to my said invention, and arranged in the way in which it would appear when in actual use.

A is the pocket or body of the net; BB are the jaws or wings. The length of the pocket or body from the bunt a to the lower lip at C is preferably about one-half the total length of the net. The upper lip (D) overhangs the lower lip (C) by a distance of about one-tenth the total length of the net. The jaws or wings are made in the form illustrated, and taper away to a width of about 1 foot at the forward end of the net. At each lip of the net I form two rows (E) of wide-meshed net, converging to a point in the body of the net. Through these larger meshes the weeds and *debris* scraped from the bottom are allowed to escape. The operation of trawling or dragging is carried on by two steamers or boats, to each of which one of the tow-ropes (F) is attached. I prefer that these tow-ropes should be of considerable length—in very deep water several hundred fathoms; but the length must in each case to a great extent depend upon the circumstances. The boats or steamers should be a considerable distance apart, in order that the mouth of the net will be kept well open. The mouth of the net is lashed to the leadline or drag-rope (H) and the cork-line or float-line (K) in the ordinary manner by lashing or lacing with twine (m1); and the extremities of both lines are secured to the bars (GG) at the forward end of the jaws or wings in the way illustrated in the drawing. M are sinkers of lead or other suitable material; N are cork-floats. By these arrangements the mouth of the net is kept distended under all circumstances when in use. The drag-rope or lead-line is fastened to the lower end of the bar (G), and its extremity is then brought round and fastened to the upper end of the same bar, thus forming a loop to which the tow-rope is attached. The float-line is fastened to the upper end of the bar (G), and its extremity is passed through an eye in the end of the jaw or wing (B), and is then fastened to the bar in any convenient manner. The arrangement is the same at both ends of the lines. The effect of this arrangement of the float-line is, that the net may be drawn taut or slackened out as may be required, so as to adapt it for use to suit any description of bottom, leaving it slack when passing over rocks or rough ground, and taut when passing over a smooth bottom. The lead-line and the cork-line are not set at a uniform distance from the edge of the net, but preferably to the following distances :—The lead-line 12 inches at the extremity of each jaw or wing, 18 inches at the curve between the jaw and the lip, and 4 inches at the lip; the float-line 6 inches at the extremity of the jaw or wing, 10 inches at the curve, and 3 inches at the lip.

Having now specified, described, and illustrated the particulars of my said invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is: In a net for use in deep-sea fishing, having a body like that of an ordinary trawl-net the combination and arrangement of the extending side-jaws or wings, wide-meshed netting let in at the lips for the purpose of allowing the *debris* to escape, upper lip overhanging the lower lip, lashing for lead-line and cork-line, and the bars at the forward extremities of the jaws or wings and the arrangement therewith of the lead-line, cork-line, and tow-rope, substantially as described.

HEPBURN AND SPRUSON,
 Agents for the Applicant.

Dated at Sydney, August 15, 1889.

APPENDIX D.

Well-fishing—Smack "Gratitude."

Dear Sir,

510, George-street, 10 May, 1889.

In compliance with your request for information in connection with the fishing industry, I hereby write you as many particulars on the various points which have come under my notice as I conveniently can.

As you are aware, I sent the "Gratitude" to sea for the first time in September last. Neither I nor my captain having had any previous experience on the coast, it follows that I had a great deal of pioneering work to do—more than I expected. I have a considerable knowledge of the business as it is carried on in England, having been connected with it during six or seven years in Great Grimsby. I had no doubt but that a vessel similar to what I had seen there would do splendidly here, so I determined, at my own risk, to build a fishing smack, after having had the advice of several practical men, coasting captains, and others, which, however, when reduced to practice, proved of very little service to me.

The "Gratitude" is a well-fishing vessel of 120 tons register, built on the model of the famous North Sea fishing smacks, only she is some 30 or 40 tons larger. Her measurements are: Over-all, nearly 90 ft.; beam, 23 ft.; depth of hold, 10 ft.; draught of water, 10 ft. She has two wells, formed by putting three very strong water-tight bulkheads athwartships about 8 ft. apart, the extreme breadth of the vessel. The water is decked down, so as to prevent wash. Connection with the water from the deck is through what we call a "well funnel," 8 x 4 ft., over which a grating is placed, to allow for the passage of light and air. Holes are bored in the vessel's bottom, through which a constant stream of water flows as she sails along. The capacity is about 8,000 gallons (33 tons). She can accommodate 2,500 snapper. She is also fitted with ice and fish rooms, lined with asbestos; has a very nice cabin, kitchen, fore-castle, sail-lockers, &c., replete with every convenience; her sails are all of specially imported canvas; steel wire rigging throughout, &c. She was built by Mr. Thos. Davis, of Terrigal, in that builder's best style, and was modelled, sparred, and canvassed for sailing, which she does remarkably well, in spite of the rush of water through the well as she moves along, 140 miles in thirteen hours having been got out of her; she sails four points from the wind.

Captain Rodgers, whom I first put in charge, had had a large experience in the trade in the old country, he having been for several seasons admiral of a North Sea fishing fleet, but he soon discovered that the Australian coast required a special knowledge, which of course I have had to pay for. The habits of the fish are different from any he had been used to, and the fish themselves differently constituted. Schnapper especially he found were a much finer strung fish, more sensitive, and full of game—different from the cod, which, for instance, has an eel-like tenacity of life; schnapper, on the other hand, is easily killed. The first great difficulty we had to contend with was that of "pricking" the fish. When fish are caught in (say) twenty or thirty fathoms of water they fill with wind through being hauled up. The question then arose where to prick them, and how deep, so as to get the wind out without hurting them. You can easily imagine that a delicate surgical operation had to be performed on a live fish, which was likely to kick as soon as he felt the pricker. Several were dissected so as to try and get the exact spot. Then there had to be discussed size and shape of pricker, the position to hold the hand when using it: whether to hold the fish under the arm, or between the knees, or lay it flat on the deck, &c. Eventually it was found that they were in the best position flat on the deck. But where to prick them was the real difficulty. Some said just behind the fin like a cod, others near the navel, others again between the two. We tried every way, and yet a large number of them died. All tried their hands at it, and all failed. Eventually it was decided to let one man do all the pricking, and though this was attended with better success, nevertheless twenty, thirty, and forty, and sometimes fifty, would die daily. We were almost at our wits' end. Three months had passed and we were not masters of the situation. During that time, however, we had one extra good trip: Out of between 1,000 and 1,100 schnapper caught we managed to bring in alive 850. They were school fish. We always noticed that the smaller they were the better they lived. These were strong, alive, and looked well. Unfortunately it was 5 o'clock on Saturday afternoon when the vessel arrived, and we thought that possibly the fish would not hurt if left in the well until the morning. We had left them in on previous voyages for some hours, although I knew that it is always advisable to take them out directly the vessel is at anchor. Still we had been so fortunate in this respect that we thought we would leave them. On one occasion several had been left in the fore well and the vessel made a trip and they were all right when she came in. So we left them until the morning. Well, would you believe it, 700 of them were dead in the morning. It was a veritable "Black-hole of Calcutta." They had been poisoned in their own dirt, there being no draught of water. The few that remained we kept for over a week. I let Captain Rogers make another trip and then made a change. I thought it was possibly something wrong on his part, especially as he had on a previous trip gone into Port Stephens and lost between 300 and 400 in a similar manner. After this, I think it was the second trip after, they were fishing at the Solitaries, in shallow water, catching large schnapper, a discovery was made. One large fellow was caught in about 4 fathoms of water, strong, alive, and they thought he did not require pricking, so they popped him into the well at once. Directly he touched the water he made a dart, thinking no doubt that he was in the open sea, and came full butt against the bulkhead. They noticed that he seemed stunned. In half an hour he was a dead fish. Here was the explanation why so many had died. I could now account for the small ones living better than the large. They were not so strong, did not swim so swiftly, consequently did not come with such a thump up against the vessel's side, and being young more easily recovered. We then made a net and put it down under the funnel to act like a buffer. It suited admirably. It effectually stopped them until they quieted down. They could then see where they were. We then loosed the strong and let them swim away. It took us nearly five months to make this discovery.

I think I mentioned to you about some chests I had had made similar to those used in England (they were 8 ft. x 5 ft. x 3 ft.) to hold the fish when they were taken out of the well. I was not at all satisfied with them. They appeared to me to be too dark. The fish seemed to fret a good deal and look pale, and when they were taken out of the water the scales fell off. A large number of them went blind as well. Their flesh too was not as firm as it might have been. So, after a number of experiments, which cost me a lot of time and money, I made what I call a cage. On a frame 25 ft. x 9 ft. x 4 ft., made of 4 in. x 4 in. pine, I stretched some galvanized wire-netting, and so formed an excellent movable pen. I fixed
oil-drums

oil-drums at the ends to buoy it so that it floated easily with two men standing on it. I found that the fish lived remarkably well in it, and am sure that I did not lose more than 5 per cent. of them since; and they looked so well, scarcely a scale coming off when they were taken out. We kept them three weeks without food practically speaking, and they looked as if they would live another three weeks. Mind you, I found it advisable to feed them; but not so much as people might think necessary—that is, judging from the condition they were in when sold.

I have introduced fishing lines similar to those used in the North Sea cod fisheries; I find they answer very well. It always was an enigma to me how men could sit fishing with such a very small line, and, at the same time, have a snood double its thickness. I know the argument is, that a small line is best to fish with, but, then, why have a thick snood? My lines are about the thickness of a lead pencil, and the snoods about the ordinary thickness. Something for the men to pull with. They have no difficulty in catching fish when they are among them, and if the hook catches the bottom the snood breaks first. The fish we have caught most of have been schnapper, but one trip they had some very fine cod, they were black in colour and somewhat shorter and thicker than the northern species. If I remember rightly there were eight or nine very fine fish one trip caught at the Solitaries; one sample measured 35 in. at the girth and weighed about a cwt. They lived well, and were strong alive when they were sold in the market, but did not realise much, 7s. 6d. being the highest price obtained—not a penny per pound. A few days before I was asked a shilling at one of the shops. I may here mention that we have taken the barbs off the hooks; we find that it does not make any difference in fishing and it is much easier to unhook the fish, especially when they are to be kept alive.

I have been very well served at the market. Prices have ranged from 15s. to 74s. per dozen, or an average of 30s. I think, though, that 10 per cent. commission and market dues is rather too much, especially when cartage has to be added. Certainly the market is too far from the water. The building seems to be a permanent structure, and I have no doubt but that it will be some years before there will be any thought of moving the market. Nevertheless, trade is rapidly growing at Woolloomooloo Bay, and the ground is getting more valuable every year; it may be advisable to move it; allow me to suggest, through you, that there could be a fine market made over the spit at Rushcutters' Bay.

You will not be surprised, after learning of the difficulties I have had to contend with, that I have not made the venture a financial success; you will be still less so when I explain what I consider has been my greatest difficulty, and one which I did not foresee, consequently did not provide for.

Two features peculiar, as far as I know, to the Australian coast, and which will have to be overcome by the aid of steam power; they are—(1st.) a southerly current; (2nd.) wind failing at sun-set. Consider the effect of these two causes on a sailing vessel. If we happen to be on a good fishing ground, with a north-easter, we soon drop to leeward off the ground. We then lose a lot of time sailing to windward. After having fished all day the wind drops about sunset, consequently we find the vessel 6 or 8 miles to the southward, in the morning, and *no wind*; a breeze springs up at (say) 10 o'clock; it is then dinner-time before the vessel is back on the fish again. This has repeatedly happened, and taken together with the fact of the captains I have had not knowing the grounds, have been the chief causes of failure. I would recommend steam, but only as an auxiliary. It would be too hot for the fish else, and the working expenses would be increased; besides, the first cost of a vessel large enough for the trade would be too great for an adequate return. Sail does very well; we can go and come in fine style. The fish are all right in the well while the vessel is underweigh. Tenison Woods, in his "Fish and Fisheries," p. 143, quoting from the Report of the Fisheries Inquiry Commission, 1880, seems to have got very near the mark. He adopts the Commissioners' statement that we want strong, roomy vessels, of from 100 to 150 tons, with moderate steam power, at least 6 knots, for going to and from the fishing grounds. I agree as to the vessel, but for different reasons: The steam is wanted *while on the ground*, and not going and coming. Page 144, he says: "The cost of such a vessel would be probably £4,000; the weekly expenditure, including £2 a week for the wages of each of the crew of twelve men and interest at 10 per cent. would be, (say), wages £24, interest 8s. and £10 for losses, wear and tear, &c., would be £42 per week. In the course of a week it is pretty certain that twelve men could catch at least 4 tons of fish, and taking these at the low estimate of £20, the weekly profit would be 100 per cent. on the outlay." He says something too about ice. In the first place iced fish does not realize the price on account of its going bad so soon; also, it loses flavour. My vessel did not cost much more than half the Commission's estimate, and the cost of an engine would be (say) only £300 extra, as against the twelve men. I have only five and a cook at a cost of £50 per month as against the Commission's estimate of between £170 and £180 per month. I am not paying wages at all now, the men are on the lay, which is far better. When I made this venture my estimate was something like this: Expenses £50 per month, 100 dozen schnapper per month, at (say) £1 net—clear money, £50, which would have paid well. There is no doubt that all I want now is an engine to drive the ship about four knots, and she then ought to bring in 100 dozen in the fortnight, which, at 30s., should do. I might mention to you an idea which struck me while I was having a conversation with a fisherman. It is this:—That some large cages, similar to those I have described, be taken close to the fishing grounds at the north and anchored; the fishermen to go out in the morning, and as they catch the fish put them in the cage. I to buy them at a price, (say) 5s. per dozen; the vessel to act as a carrier only. This idea only suggested itself to me since I sent the vessel to New Zealand, where she is now. I am not sure but that I shall put it into practice, that is if she does not do anything over there, which I am not quite sure about. I have had so much to learn and so many disappointments that I am almost disheartened. The engine, I believe, would do it. The vessel could get closer to the rocks than they can do now. Having to depend entirely on the wind there is a danger of driving ashore. She could then hold her own at night-time too; also, when fishing, she would not drive over the ground so fast. In fact it would assist in a variety of ways. I believe I am on the right track, only it is almost too much for one man to undertake unless he could devote all his time to it. You see it is, or has been, almost all pioneering work, and it has just about taken all the spirit out of me. I find, too, that I have too many things to attend to. There is my own business, home duties, and other matters, which take up a lot of my time and thought—then this fishing business; so that I have asked myself the question, "Is it worth while? I am doing very well; why not let well alone?" I have thought, "I'll sell her; she will make a good island trader, &c.," and again I have said, "Try again;" so, acting under advice from my captain, I sent her to New Zealand. He, by the way, has been fishing for some years on that coast. I saw that she was reported in the *Daily Telegraph* yesterday. There is a small paragraph in the shipping news about her.

I am sorry that I have kept you waiting for this, but I really have not been able to help it. You will see by the date that I commenced on Friday, and have not really finished now; there is something else I intended to have mentioned but have forgotten. This is about the twelfth time I have attempted to finish. I am sure you will excuse me if I am not quite as clear as I might have been. My train of thought has been broken in upon so often that I could not make out what I intended to say when I left off. I am not quite sure that I have not repeated myself; if so, you will know the reason.

In closing, I would like to say that, if this venture turns out a failure altogether, it will not be my fault. I have done my best to further the interests of my adopted country. I now send you my experience (which has cost me time and money), trusting that if I do not benefit from it others will. Australia has served me well, and I would like to show my "Gratitude" to her.

I am, yours sincerely,

Lindsay Thompson, Esq.

W. BUCKINGHAM.

APPENDIX E.

COMMISSIONERS of Fisheries for New South Wales, 1888:—

James C. Cox, M.D., President.

E. P. Ramsay, F.R.S.E., L.L.D., &c., &c.,	A. Oliver, Esq., M.A.
J. R. Hill, Esq.,	S. H. Hyam, Esq.

Official Staff, 1888.

Lindsay G. Thompson, Secretary and Chief Inspector of Fisheries.

Edward J. Ellis, 1st Clerk.	G. F. Hainsworth, Clerk.
J. A. O'Grady, Clerk.	L. G. Mann, Draftsman.
C. D. St. Pinnock, Clerk.	L. F. Mann, Draftsman.
J. D. Delany, Clerk.	W. Lannen, Messenger.

Thomas Temperley, Inspector for Northern Division of Fisheries.
 George G. Benson " Southern " "

Andrew Gyler, Assistant Inspector of Fisheries,	Manning River.
Thomas Mulhall, " "	Sydney.
Henry Curan, " "	Newcastle.
Peter Smith, " "	Hawkesbury River.
Charles Gordon, " "	Shoalhaven.
C. H. Otway, " "	Port Stephens.
William Boyd, " "	Lake Macquarie.
John D. Grant, " "	Botany and George's River.
D. W. Benson, " "	Lake Illawarra.
Richard Seymour, " "	Fish Market, Sydney.
W. N. Cain, " "	Brisbane Water.
F. W. Smithers, " "	Eden.
William M'Gregor, Acting Assistant Inspector of Fisheries,	Tweed River.
Thomas Stewart, " "	Bellingen River.
W. J. Whaites, " "	Nambucca River.
John Jamieson, " "	Macleay River.
A. H. Kendall, " "	Cape Hawke.
H. W. C. Windeyer, " "	Port Macquarie.
Thomas Laman, " "	Port Stephens Heads.
A. T. Black, " "	Broken Bay.
Bourne Russell, " "	Twofold Bay.
Angus Sutherland, " "	Moruya.
George Baker, " "	Sydney.
Basil J. H. Scott, " "	Port Stephens.

George Glading, Boatman, Sydney.
 Richard Hellings, " "
 Frank Aldrick, " Botany and George's River.
 J. F. Hespe, " Bateman's Bay.
 J. Massingham, " Clarence River.
 F. Young, Engineer, Sydney.

Inland Waters.

Osborne Wilshire, Assistant Inspector of Fisheries, Deniliquin.
 Frederick Nelson, Acting Inspector of Fisheries, Bungendore, Lake George.

APPENDIX F.

RETURN showing the quantity of fish exported from the Murray River, to Melbourne, January to December, 1888.

January	lb. 6,720	August	lb. 4,592
February	10,528	September	8,456
March	17,920	October	13,164
April	10,156	November	7,356
May	10,528	December	1,984
June	6,160		
July	7,000	Total for year..	104,564

APPENDIX G.

RETURN showing quantity of fish caught in Lake George, January to December, 1888.

January	lb. 784	August	lb. ...
February	1,130	September	100
March	800	October	410
April	600	November	240
May	550	December	640
June .....	...	
July .....	..	Total for year	5,254

APPENDIX H.

RETURN showing quantity, in bags, of Oysters, taken from the Tidal Waters of the Colony, January to December, 1888.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Tweed River .....	...	2	6	3	8	21	7	18	8	..	.....	.....	73
Richmond River	119	135	88	75	45	.....	..	..	..	20	.....	138	620
Evans River .....	.....	..	..	.....	..	..	..	..	..	.....	.....	20	20
Clarence River	6	.....	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Bellinger River	3	14	4	1	1	1	3	3	4	3	.....	6	43
Port Macquarie	1	..	..	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Manning River	11	20	31	29	23	17	15	30	45	111	215	182	729
Cape Hawke .....	..	4	5	7	.....	.....	5	10	29	30	..	18	108
Port Stephens	217	109	169	274	330	379	365	321	274	123	153	329	3,043
Hunter River .....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	..	..	2	3
Hawkesbury River	189	203	164	142	135	176	169	98	123	211	330	209	2,154
Brisbane Water	40	30	32	29	18	16	9	8	5	9	24	66	286
George's River	8	14	24	23	17	.....	.....	2	.....	3	.....	24	115
Port Hacking .....	..	8	.....	.....	.....	7	4	5	..	.....	.....	.....	24
Shoalhaven River	102	150	215	116	35	11	9	23	40	126	70	158	1,055
Clyde River	94	60	25	6	1	.....	2	10	10	61	78	81	428
Moruya River .....	..	7	20	..	..	8	10	.....	..	9	6	12	72
Tuross River .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	..	.....	12	.....	..	22
Wagonga River	16	5	5	9	4	3	.....	3	2	3	..	2	52
Bermagui River	26	.....	11	..	..	.....	.....	.....	..	.....	.....	14	51
Bega River .....	..	.....	..	..	..	.....	12	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
Panbula River	5	..	.....	6	3	2	2	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Twofold Bay	19	30	24	15	22	12	7	27	2	8	..	33	199
Womboyn River	3	.....	..	..	..	..	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Minnamurra River	8	.....	..	3	1	1	.....	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	16
Nelson Lake	4	.....	.....	.....	2	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
Total	871	796	824	738	645	673	629	564	545	729	876	1,294	9,184

RETURN

RETURN showing quantity, in bags, of Oysters, received at Sydney from places outside the Colony,
January to December, 1888.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Queensland.....	524	913	403	260	115	130	250	155	...	90	49	125	3,014
New Zealand .....	...	496	1,220	608	926	2,235	1,125	1,625	1,459	610	...	...	10,304
Total	524	1,409	1,623	868	1,041	2,365	1,375	1,780	1,459	700	49	125	13,318

APPENDIX I.

RETURN showing quantity, in bags, of Spat taken off Crown Lands and laid down on Leased Areas,
January to December, 1888.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Brisbane Water	8	.....	.....	.....	13	36	15	23	.....	.....	2	.....	97
Hawkesbury River	11	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	25
Clyde River	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Manning River .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22	.....	22
	27	9	.....	.....	13	36	17	23	.....	.....	27	.....	152

152 bags, at 2s. = £15 4s.

APPENDIX J.

RETURN showing the Revenue derived under the "Fisheries Act" and the "Oyster Fisheries Act"
during the year 1888.

FISHERIES ACT.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Fishermen's licenses, yearly	285 @ 20/-	285	0	0	322	10	0	685	0	0
Do. half-yearly	75 @ 10/-	75	10	0						
Fishing-boat licenses, yearly	631 @ 10/-	315	10	0	362	10	0			
Do. half-yearly	188 @ 5/-	47	0	0						
OYSTER FISHERIES ACT.										
Deposits on applications for leases for oyster culture					186	0	0			
Deed fees					68	0	0			
Transfer fees					40	0	0			
Rent on leased areas					2,460	15	8			
Spat fees					15	4	0			
								2,769	19	8
Fines and forfeitures recovered for offences under the Fisheries and Oyster Fisheries Acts										180 0 0
										£3,634 19 8

APPENDIX K.

EXPENDITURE for the Year 1888, DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES.

SALARIES.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Staff		4,304	0	0	5,167	12	6
Temporary		863	12	6			
CONTINGENCIES.							
Travelling expenses		400	0	0	1,320	5	9
Incidental		100	0	0			
Rent of offices		104	0	0			
Rewards for destruction of cormorants		318	13	0			
Steam-launch, repairs and alterations		397	12	9			
							£6,487 18 3

APPENDIX L.

RETURN showing the quantity, in baskets, of Fish brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1888.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Harbour	368	331	550	306	280	207	136	116	179	351	458	378	3,660
Botany	516	668	583	614	646	545	377	339	503	291	463	651	6,196
Broken Bay	565	241	373	312	271	339	152	92	193	273	588	540	3,939
Bateman's Bay	16	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	25
Jervis Bay .....	...	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Terrigal Lake .....	...	...	9	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Tuggerah Lake	722	382	153	252	194	486	282	310	384	250	206	215	3,836
Port Stephens	387	333	792	726	882	762	498	496	456	444	343	360	6,479
Gosford .....	...	...	...	...	47	243	274	377	295	14	...	...	1,250
Port Macquarie .....	...	...	...	...	15	48	30	110	62	48	71	31	415
Narrabeen .....	...	...	...	14	...	12	...	...	...	21	...	...	47
Wollongong	10	36	123	434	731	612	605	599	634	460	437	508	5,189
Ulladulla .....	...	...	...	10	31	187	241	110	26	...	...	...	605
Shoalhaven .....	...	...	101	163	477	567	555	640	565	118	53	12	3,251
Twofold Bay .....	...	...	...	...	4	10	115	156	133	...	...	26	444
Lake Macquarie	184	227	362	429	526	312	358	388	617	377	399	411	4,590
Clarence River .....	...	...	819	682	620	1,265	644	751	1,196	841	944	827	8,589
Long Reef .....	...	...	1	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	12
Shellharbour	124	118	228	44	103	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	617
Macleay River	327	419	195	50	70	...	23	25	55	38	54	115	1,371
Manning River .....	...	...	16	76	190	174	105	111	74	54	58	83	941
Cape Hawke .....	...	...	25	75	530	541	473	273	465	440	163	521	3,506
Total	3,219	2,755	4,344	4,203	5,627	6,310	4,868	4,893	5,837	4,025	4,237	4,679	54,997

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of Schnapper brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1888.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Harbour	1	10½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65	4½	81
Botany	11	34	18½	26	25½	24	11	7	19	23	14	40	253
Broken Bay	9	57½	105	64	49	54½	14½	62	30	45½	33	31½	555½
Jervis Bay .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	12
Terrigal Lake .....	...	3½	7	...	14	6	...	36	...	...	...	...	66½
Tuggerah Lake	12	30½	...	...	7½	24	...	18	...	...	...	...	92
Port Stephens	4	5½	14½	6	4	...	2	1	5	...	...	6	48
Wollongong .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	8
Ulladulla .....	...	...	...	...	...	4	17	...	...	...	...	...	21
Shoalhaven .....	...	...	1	...	19	56½	43½	101	14½	...	...	...	235½
Twofold Bay .....	...	...	...	...	7½	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	23½
Lake Macquarie	4	...	...	...	...	14	...	5	3½	...	...	...	26½
Clarence River .....	...	...	...	3	4	78	2	3	...	...	...	...	90
Long Reef	2	15	37½	9	30	5½	12	...	...	...	14	16½	141½
Shellharbour .....	...	7	...	5	...	10	20	...	...	...	...	...	42
Manning River .....	...	...	...	...	5	17	8½	...	...	...	...	...	30½
Cape Hawke .....	...	...	...	...	4	6	10	...	10	...	...	2	32
Total	43	163½	183½	113	169½	299½	152½	257	82	68½	126	100½	1,758½

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of Mullet brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1888.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Harbour	350	4,052	300	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,720
Botany	2,650	3,220	1,250	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,120
Broken Bay	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Port Stephens	2	2
Wollongong	5	5
Lake Macquarie	2	2
Clarence River	2	2
Macleay River	1	1
Total	3,000	7,312	1,550	18	...	...	...	...	...	12	11,892

RETURN

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of Jew-fish brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1888.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Harbour	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Botany	2	1½	2	...	1½	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	8
Broken Bay	9	7	1½	2½	4	...	...	...	½	...	2	26½
Tuggerah Lake	½	...	½
Gosford	½	...	...	...	...	½
Wollongong	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Shoalhaven	1	½	1	20	...	...	22½
Lake Macquarie	2	...	...	...	1½	1	...	...	4½
Clarence River	6½	3	...	2	...	7	2	20½
Long Reef	10	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Manning River	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Cape Hawke	6	...	½	2	8½
Total	2	10½	9	11½	24	13½	4	1	10½	23½	8	6	123½

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of King-fish brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1888.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Harbour	24	½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	2	...	32½
Botany	6	2½	...	...	2	...	1	...	5	9	2	...	27½
Broken Bay	3	...	2½	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	12½
Tuggerah Lake .....	...	½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3½
Shoalhaven .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Clarence River .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3½	...	...	...	...	3½
Long Reef .....	...	...	4	7½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25½	37
Shellharbour	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Total	44	3½	6½	7½	4	3	1	3½	6	15	4	30½	128½

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of Salmon brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1888.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Harbour	7	70	...	...	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	102
Botany .....	...	...	11	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	31
Broken Bay .....	...	½	...	80	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	81½
Total	7	70½	11	80	36	...	...	...	...	...	1	9	214½

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of various large Fish brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1888.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Botany .....	...	4	5	...	4	...	3	...	4½	...	4	6	30½
Broken Bay .....	...	2	2	12½	2	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	26½
Wollongong .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Shoalhaven .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	15	5	...	...	...	24
Clarence River .....	...	...	...	...	...	3½	...	...	...	...	...	...	3½
Long Reef	5	14	6	33½	15½	20	...	...	...	...	11	26	131
Shellharbour .....	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Manning River .....	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Total	5	22	13	46	32½	23½	7	17	9½	...	19	36	230½

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of Crayfish brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1888.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Botany	7	3½	1½	...	12
Broken Bay	6	...	...	...	6
Bateman's Bay	13	...	...	35	...	...	...	7½	...	...	55½
Jervis Bay	38½	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	51½
Port Stephens	231½	88½	64½	4	...	403	572	639	759	640	375	478	4,254½
Wollongong	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Ulladulla	64	97	82	155	67	22	...	...	...	487
Newcastle	51½	...	95	146½
Twofold Bay	12	...	10	...	...	...	22
Cape Hawke	118	191	75	7	20	...	...	411
Total.....	231½	88½	77½	68	135½	668	930	781	824	722½	376½	573	5,476

RETURN showing quantity, in baskets, of Prawns brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1888.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Harbour	291	316	311	172	106	35	5	...	53	18	104	263	1,674
Botany .....	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Broken Bay	1½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1½
Port Stephens .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	119	...	119
Newcastle .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43	169	212
Total.....	292½	316	314	172	106	35	5	...	53	18	266	432	2,009½

RETURN showing quantity, in baskets, of Fish seized under Fisheries Acts, January to December, 1888.

January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	October.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
2½	1	...	1½	2½	8½	3	1	4	3½	4½	3½	35½

RETURN showing quantity, in baskets, of Fish condemned unfit for food, January to December, 1888.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Harbour .....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	2	9
Botany .....	...	...	...	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	35
Broken Bay	10½	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	20	41	75½
Bateman's Bay .....	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	15
Tuggerah Lake	15	...	14	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	6	52
Port Stephens	13	1	22	36	10	23	...	...	45	42	32	45	269
Port Macquarie .....	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	16
Wollongong .....	...	...	...	4	8	...	...	...	...	14	20	44	90
Ulladulla .....	...	...	...	...	12	...	5	...	15	...	...	...	32
Shoalhaven .....	...	...	13	7	10	60	...	...	27	6	41	...	164
Twofold Bay .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	18	29
Lake Macquarie .....	...	...	10	20	...	...	...	...	33	...	13	15	91
Clarence River .....	...	...	53½	51	16	31½	7	...	184	17	52	102	514
Shellharbour .....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Macleay River	26	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	37
Manning River .....	...	...	6	...	...	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Cape Hawke .....	...	...	...	30	...	30	25	...	70	5	9	44	213
Total	64½	10	118½	192	60	169½	38	...	385	101	213	322	1,673½

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of Fish from Inland Waters brought to Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1888.

September—6 dozen Murray cod, from Murrumbidgee River,

RETURN showing Range of Prices obtained for Fish sold at Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1888.

Name of Fish.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
Schnapper, per dozen	4/ to 108/	2/ to 108/	3/ to 108/	3/ to 60/	2/ to 72/	2/ to 60/	2/ to 54/	2/ to 56/	3/ to 82/	6/ to 102/	6/ to 84/	2/ to 93/
Flathead	2/ to 24/	2/ to 48/	2/ to 48/	2/ to 36/	2/ to 30/	2/ to 36/	1/ to 24/	1/ to 30/	2/ to 30/	1/ to 36/	1/6 to 33/	1/ to 30/
Whiting	1/ to 9/	1/ to 8/	1/ to 12/	1/ to 9/	1/ to 7/	1/ to 11/	6d. to 8/	1/ to 7/	6d. to 8/	1/ to 8/	6d. to 7/	6d. to 8/6
Flounder	1/ to 15/	1/ to 13/	1/ to 17/	1/ to 11/	1/ to 14/	2/ to 13/	1/ to 13/	1/ to 11/	1/ to 36/	2/ to 12/	1/ to 15/	1/ to 13/
King-fish	3/ to 12/	3/ to 42/	8/ to 60/	2/ to 24/	4/ to 24/	6/ to 12/	4/ to 12/	.....	12/ to 57/	6/ to 18/	15/ to 18/	3/ to 42/
Jew-fish	1/ to 120/	1/ to 114/	1/ to 168/	4/ to 96/	2/ to 108/	3/ to 108/	6/ to 90/	3/ to 90/	6/ to 120/	6/ to 90/	3/ to 96/	9/ to 96/
Groper	18/	.....	8/ to 12/	12/	12/ to 18/	12/ to 18/	12/	12/	6/ to 36/	2/ to 27/	18/	12/
Teraglin	8/ to 16/	9/ to 18/	6/ to 36/	3/ to 16/	3/ to 9/	4/ to 12/	4/ to 9/	3/ to 19/	3/ to 7/	5/ to 10/6	3/ to 20/	4/ to 27/
Nannagai	.....	.....	9/	8/	1/ to 4/	3/ to 8/	3/ to 9/	2/ to 12/	3/ to 8/	.....	4/6 to 5/	2/ to 6/
Salmon	2/ to 6/	2/ to 5/	2/ to 10/	1/ to 4/	1/ to 5/	2/ to 7/	1/ to 4/	3/ to 7/	1/ to 8/	2/ to 6/6	3/ to 3/6	3/ to 9/
Mullet (sea)	2/ to 9/	2/ to 11/	6d. to 14/	3d. to 4/	2/ to 9/	1/ to 7/	2/ to 9/	1/ to 9/	2/ to 7/	2/6 to 5/	1/6 to 6/	2/ to 9/
Rock Cod	2/ to 11/	2/ to 12/	3/ to 30/	3/ to 12/	3/ to 21/	2/ to 84/	2/ to 36/	2/ to 7/	3/ to 18/	3/ to 9/	1/6 to 10/	2/ to 36/
Eels	3/ to 18/	2/ to 24/	9/ to 50/	2/ to 21/	8/ to 30/	3/ to 29/	3/ to 24/	2/ to 27/	2/ to 35/	6/ to 21/	1/6 to 24/	1/ to 18/
Bream per basket	7/ to 42/	7/ to 46/	7/ to 42/	4/ to 32/	8/ to 25/	6/ to 32/	3/ to 27/	5/ to 27/	3/ to 32/	6/ to 30/	3/ to 25/	4/ to 28/
Garfish	5/ to 40/	8/ to 34/	.....	7/ to 37/	7/ to 36/	2/ to 25/	5/ to 24/	5/ to 21/	5/ to 28/	6/ to 30/	6/ to 26/	7/ to 32/
Blackfish	2/ to 20/	3/ to 22/	2/ to 26/	2/ to 18/	1/ to 19/	2/ to 16/	.....	2/ to 18/	2/ to 22/	2/ to 18/	1/6 to 16/	3/ to 19/
Silverbelly	2/ to 9/	4/ to 9/	4/ to 13/	4/ to 6/	3/ to 9/	2/ to 9/	2/ to 16/	2/ to 6/	1/ to 6/	2/ to 9/	1/6 to 8/	2/ to 12/
Tarwhine	.....	12/	.....	2/ to 10/	5/ to 18/	.....	2/ to 11/	.....	.....	4/	4/6 to 9/	.....
Salmon Trout	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2/	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mullet (sand)	2/ to 33/	5/ to 20/	2/ to 20/	2/ to 28/	2/ to 18/	2/ to 19/	2/ to 18/	2/ to 16/	2/ to 16/	3/ to 19/	2/ to 15/	2/ to 18/
Travalley	.....	4/ to 8/	5/ to 11/	3/ to 14/	4/ to 9/	3/ to 19/	3/ to 12/	4/ to 12/	4/ to 12/	5/ to 9/	5/ to 9/	4/ to 7/
Perch	.....	.....	.....	.....	9/	4/ to 15/	5/ to 18/	4/ to 11/	6/ to 11/	8/ to 16/	7/ to 11/	7/ to 12/
Tailor	2/ to 16/	3/ to 16/	5/ to 22/	3/ to 16/	4/ to 16/	3/ to 18/	3/ to 16/	3/ to 16/	1/ to 16/	4/ to 14/	2/ to 12/	4/ to 13/
Crayfish per dozen	7/ to 18/	10/ to 19/	15/ to 24/	7/ to 10/	7/6 to 8/6	4/ to 19/	4/ to 12/	4/ to 15/	4/ to 14/	5/ to 8/	5/6 to 10/6	3/ to 14/
Prawns per bushel	8/ to 96/	8/ to 95/	11/ to 104/	1/ to 5/	20/ to 96/	25/ to 90/	20/ to 75/	20/ to 60/	20/ to 90/	20/ to 90/	15/ to 95/	9/ to 70/
Murray Cod per dozen	.....	.....	42/ to 90/	15/ to 110/	.....	.....	.....	.....	60/	42/ to 114/	12/6 to 96/	.....

RETURN showing amount realized for Fish sold at the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1888.

				£	s.	d.					£	s.	d.	
January	...	...	...	2,598	10	0	August	...	...	...	3,067	9	0
February	...	...	...	2,803	6	0	September	...	...	...	3,549	10	6
March	...	...	...	4,163	16	0	October	...	...	...	2,609	17	3
April	...	...	...	2,930	5	0	November	...	...	...	2,813	8	11
May	...	...	...	2,994	17	0	December	...	...	...	3,475	19	6
June	...	...	...	3,806	14	9							
July	...	...	...	2,961	13	0							
												£37,775	6	11

APPENDIX M.

SCHEDULE of Applications for Leases of Shore for Oyster Culture received in 1888.

Name.	Area.	Locality.	Name.	Area.	Locality.
Woodward, Henry	100	Wallis Lake.	Macree, Spiro	100	Wapengo Lake.
Do	200	do	Paddon, Thomas	200	Evans River.
Furber, Thomas Frazer	400	Berowra Creek.	Archer, John	200	do
Pullen, William Toft	100	Woogoolga River.	Browne, W. C.	100	St. Hubert's Isle.
Patrech, Antonio	500	Tuross Lake.	Bradridge, E. D.	60	Lane Cove River.
Donnell, Demetrius	100	Merico Creek.	Woodward, H. & Templeman, T.	200	Moruya River.
Do	100	do	Frater, Jno.	100	George's River.
Do	100	do	Baalman, Peter Jno.	100	do
Scaysbrook, Alfred	100	Brisbane Water.	Hunter, Robert	100	Wapengo Lake.
Dwyer, John Denis	400	Mooney Mooney Creek.	Cole, Sydney	300	Mooney Mooney Creek.
Ross, A. & Phillip, A., junr.	700	Clarence River.	Thomas, Fredk. A.	250	Quibray Bay.
Do	100	do	Emerson, A. E.	100	George's River.
Haiser, George	400	Crookhaven River.	Lund, J. G.	200	Brunswick River.
Cox, William	400	Hawkesbury River.	Do	200	do
Do	700	Long Island.	Lilly, Samuel & Davis, G.	200	Port Stephens.
Canty, Stephen	200	Boat Harbour.	Johnston, Jno.	200	Wagonga River.
Woodward, Henry	100	Broughton Creek.	Livingstone, W. S.	200	Nelson Lake.
Do	200	do	Bertram, Frank	200	Evans River.
Do	100	do	Langley, Alfred	300	Terranora Creek.
Armstrong, James	100	Wapengo Creek.	Do	200	do
Stevens, William	200	Hawkesbury River.	Do	300	do
Brett, William Harrison	200	Terranora Creek.	Do	200	do
Templeman, T. & Woodward, H.	200	Clyde River.	Cook, Azarias	100	George's River.
Do	100	do	Do	200	do
Lilly, Samuel	100	Cromarty's Bay.	Colbran, Wm. Chas.	1 acre	Kogarah Bay.
Emmanuel, George	100	Bermagui River.		Yards.	
Haiser, George	400	Currumbene Creek.	Gibbons, Fredk. Jno.	600	Hunter River.
Melnieth, F. H.	100	Port Stephens.	Do	200	do
Eyles, Jno. & Marsh, Wm.	300	Brunswick River.	Lund, Jno. Gerhard	100	Brunswick River.
Haiser, George	100	Currumbene Creek.	Do	100	do
Eyles, Jno. & Marsh, Wm.	500	Evans River.	Paddon, Thomas	300	Evans River.
Haiser, George	100	Currumbene Creek.	Woodward, H. & Templeman, T.	200	Moruya River.
Eyles, Jno. & Marsh, Wm.	500	Evans River.	Cowderoy, Henry O. T.	300	Nelson Lake.
White, Archibald	300	Hawkesbury River.	Johnson, Charles	100	Bellinger River.
Downton, Annie	100	Wagonga River.	Glanville, George	100	Berrara Creek.
Sutton, Mary Ann	200	Mooney Mooney Creek.	Woodward, Henry	300	Wallis Lake.
Morris, Ephraim	400	Brunswick River.	Do	400	do
Cox, William	100	Hawkesbury River.	Cook, Azarias	300	Port Hacking.
Brown, Jessie Campbell	600	St. Hubert's Isle.	Scott, D.	100	Pittwater.
Do	400	do	Archer, Jno.	100	Evans River.
Rooks, Henry	100	Port Stephens.	Melmeth, F. J.	200	Port Stephens.
Melmeth, F. H.	100	do	Johnston, Martin	200	Brisbane Water.
Black, Andrew	300	Bellinger River.	Wilcox, George	100	Manning River.
Murray, Patrick	100	Brisbane Water.			

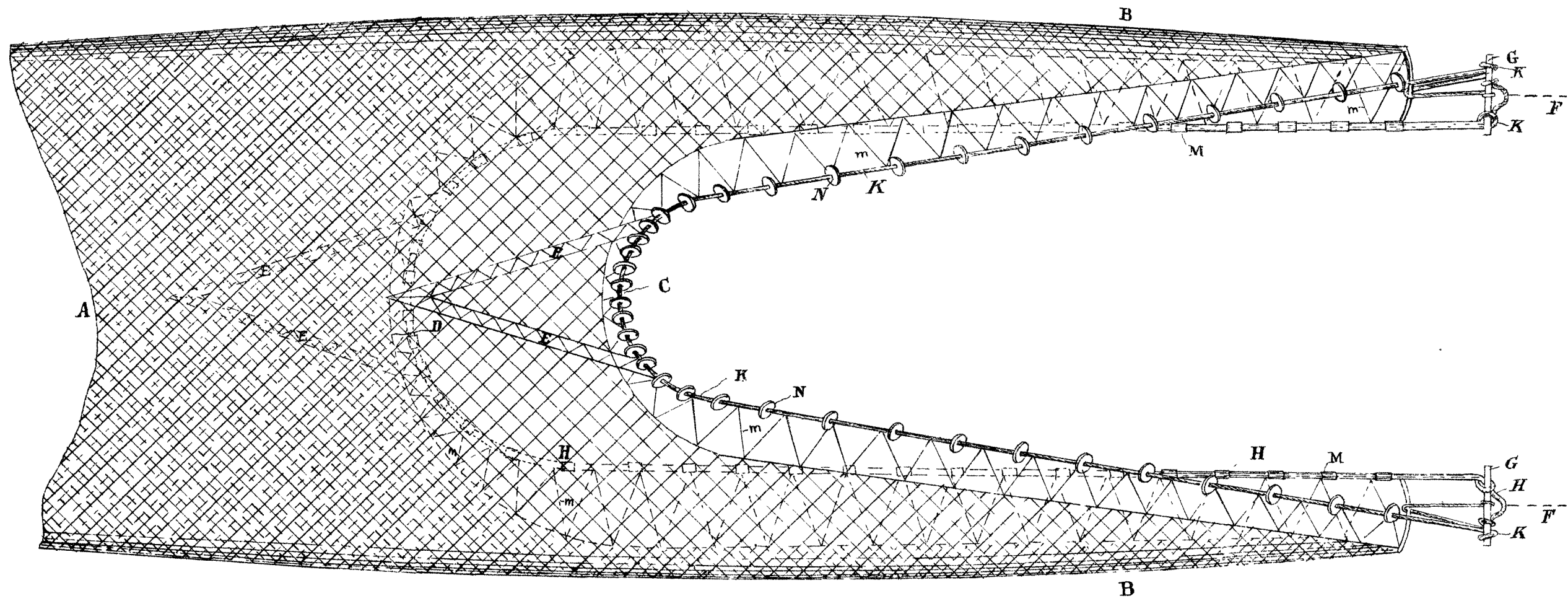
APPENDIX N.

PARTICULARS of Prosecutions for infringements of the "Fisheries Act, 1881," and "Oyster Fisheries Act, 1884," during the year 1888.

Offender's Name.	Offence.	Result of Prosecution
Robert Mitchell.....	Fishing in closed waters, Lake Illawarra.....	Fined £2 and costs; net returned.
J. Dennis	" " " ".....	Fined £2 10s. and costs; net forfeited, also licenses.
J. Duncan	" " " ".....	
George Cloughton	Fishing in closed waters of Lake Macquarie	Fined £3 and costs.
Henry Cloughton	" " " ".....	" £3 "
James Smith	" " " ".....	" £5 "
William Boyd	" " " ".....	" £5 "
James Smith	" " " ".....	" £2 "
Charles Parker	" " " ".....	" £2 "
William Smith	Having oysters in unbranded bags	" £5 and £2 2s. costs.
Thomas Thoroughgood.....	" " " ".....	Acquitted.
John Douglass	Stalling.....	Fined £2 and £1 5s. 6d. costs.
Edward Douglass	" " " ".....	" £2 and £1 3s. 6d. costs.
Thomas Douglass	" " " ".....	" £2 and £1 3s. 6d. costs.
Andrew Derwent	Fishing in closed waters, George's River.....	" £10 and costs.
John Callaghan	Stealing oysters	" £5 or two months.
John Callaghan, junior.....	" " " ".....	" £5 or one month.
W. Labone	Fishing in closed waters of Hawkesbury River	" £5 or one month.
Walter Crossland	" " " ".....	" 10s.
James White	" " " ".....	" 10s.
Wm. Labone	Fishing without a license	" 10s.
Richard Hibbs	Having undersized oysters in his possession	" 10s.
W. M'Call	Having undersized fish in his possession	" £1 and costs.
H. Allen	" " " ".....	" £1 and costs.
J. M'Allum	Fishing in closed waters	Did not appear.
C. M'Allum	" " " ".....	" " " ".....
A. Johnson.....	Fishing in closed waters; fishing with over length of net; and fishing with illegal mesh.....	Johnson only appeared, and was fined £2 for fishing with illegal mesh; 10s. for fishing in closed waters; and 10s. for fishing with over length of net.
N. Alstrom		
Michael Burns		
Fredk. Milton		
Mrs. Dennis	Obstructing in performance of duty	Charge withdrawn.
Walter Dennis	" " " ".....	" " " ".....
P. Clifford	" " " ".....	Fined £10.
Walter Dennis	Fishing with an illegal net.....	" £2.
P. Clifford	" " " ".....	" £2.
John Johns.....	" " " ".....	" £2.
R. C. Dunlop.....	Destroying fish with dynamite	" £20.
Peter Jackson.....	" " " ".....	Dismissed.
R. Dunlop	" " " ".....	Withdrawn.
Robt. Gascoigne	Fishing in closed waters.....	Dismissed.
Olaf Olson	" " " ".....	" " " ".....
Olaf Olson	Fishing with an illegal net	" " " ".....
James Latimer	Fishing without license	Fined 1s. and costs.
John Latimer	" " " ".....	" 1s. "
J. Clifford	" " " ".....	" 1s. "
James Latimer	Fishing with an illegal net.....	" £2 "
John Latimer	" " " ".....	" £2 "
J. Clifford	" " " ".....	" £2 "
W. Clifford	" " " ".....	" £2 "
Spiro Macree	Removing oysters without authority.....	Cautioned.
Spiro Macree	Taking oysters under size	Fined 1s. and costs.
Robert Hunter	Shipping oysters in unbranded bags.....	" 1s. "
John Severs	Fishing without license	" 1s. "
John Severs, junior	" " " ".....	" 1s. "
Chas. Severs	" " " ".....	" 1s. "
Demetrius Donnell	Taking oysters off Crown Lands	Oysters confiscated.
B. Higgs	Fishing without a license	Dismissed.
P. Higgs	" " " ".....	Fined £1 and costs.
J. Challoner	" " " ".....	" 10s. "
J. Wint	" " " ".....	" 2s. 6d. "
F. Wint	" " " ".....	" 2s. 6d. "
G. Gianqulani	" " " ".....	" 5s. "
H. Rush	" " " ".....	" 5s. "
H. Newman	" " " ".....	" 5s. "
— Taylor	" " " ".....	" 5s. "
— Rush	" " " ".....	" 5s. "
— Folling	" " " ".....	" 5s. "
— Lyons	Fishing in closed waters, and stalling	Dismissed. Lyons only appeared, and was fined £1 5s. and costs.
— Thompson		

[Plan.]

PLAN OF TRAWL



(Sig. 55.)

1887.

APPENDIX A.

COMMISSIONERS of Fisheries for New South Wales, 1887 :—

James C. Cox, M.D., President.

Dr. E. P. Ramsay, F.R.S.E., &c., &c.
J. R. Hill, Esq.,A. Oliver, Esq., M.A.
S. H. Hyam, Esq.*Official Staff, 1887.*

Lindsay G. Thompson, Secretary and Chief Inspector of Fisheries.		
Edward J. Ellis, 1st Clerk.		G. F. Hainsworth, Clerk.
J. F. O'Grady, Clerk.		L. G. Mann, Draftsman.
C. D. St. Pinnock, Clerk.		L. F. Mann, Draftsman.
J. D. Delany, Clerk.		W. Lannen, Messenger.
Thomas Temperley, Inspector for Northern Division of Fisheries.		
George G. Benson	”	Southern
Andrew Gyler, Assistant Inspector of Fisheries,		Manning River.
Thomas Mulhall,	”	Sydney.
Henry Curan,	”	Newcastle.
Peter Smith,	”	Hawkesbury River.
Charles Gordon,	”	Shoalhaven.
C. H. Otway,	”	Port Stephens.
William Boyd,	”	Lake Macquarie.
John D. Grant,	”	Botany and George's River.
D. W. Benson,	”	Lake Illawarra.
Richard Seymour,	”	Fish Market, Sydney.
W. N. Cain,	”	Brisbane Water.
F. W. Smithers,	”	Eden.
William M'Gregor, Acting Assistant Inspector of Fisheries,		Tweed River.
Thomas Stewart	”	Bellinger River.
W. J. Whaites,	”	Nambucca River.
John Jamieson,	”	Macleay River.
A. H. Kendall,	”	Cape Hawke.
H. W. C. Windeyer,	”	Port Macquarie.
Thomas Laman,	”	Port Stephens Heads.
A. T. Black,	”	Broken Bay.
Bourne Russell,	”	Twofold Bay.
Angus Sutherland	”	Moruya.
George Baker,	”	Fish Market, Sydney.
George Glading, Boatman, Sydney.		
Richard Hellings,	”	”
Frank Aldrick,	”	Botany and George's River.
J. F. Hespe,	”	Bateman's Bay.
F. Massingham,	”	Clarence River.
Basil J. H. Scott,	”	Port Stephens.
F. Young, Engineer, Sydney.		

Inland Waters.

Osborne Wilshire, Assistant Inspector of Fisheries, Deniliquin.

Frederick Nelson, Acting Assistant Inspector of Fisheries, Bungendore, Lake George.

APPENDIX B.

RETURN showing the quantity of fish exported from the Murray River, to Melbourne, January to December, 1887.

	lb.		lb.
January	4,704	August	784
February	3,584	September	3,472
March	2,688	October	6,832
April	3,248	November	10,920
May	3,024	December	7,728
June	4,368		
July	4,082	Total for year.....	55,384

RETURN showing the quantity of fish caught in Lake George, January to December, 1887.

	lb.		lb.
January	1,900	August .....	...
February	1,856	September	1,300
March	1,926	October	1,792
April	1,935	November	2,016
May	300	December	676
June .....	..	
July .....	..	Total for year.....	13,701

APPENDIX C.

RETURN showing quantity, in bags, of Oysters, taken from the Tidal Waters of the Colony, January to December, 1887.

	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov.	Dec	Total.
Richmond River	67	56	45	40	20	..	..	..	..	..	51	80	359
Clarence River	84	2	..	14	6	..	..	..	..	15	..	..	121
Bellinger River	10	7	6	3	..	5	..	7	7	6	7	23	81
Port Macquarie ..	40	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	50
Manning River	41	8	114	51	53	25	25	3	2	14	25	62	429
Cape Hawke	17	16	16	..	8	4	17	5	6	14	15	8	126
Port Stephens	175	563	354	409	303	204	356	70	133	195	104	173	3,119
Hunter River	6	16	19	23	9	6	..	..	..	..	1	3	83
Hawkesbury River ..	178	211	148	176	116	75	214	104	156	282	301	289	2,280
Brisbane Water	49	60	50	61	13	8	23	11	15	35	17	37	379
George's River	39	26	21	8	..	9	14	9	..	3	4	10	113
Port Hacking .....	..	3	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	20	10	..	36
Shoalhaven River	216	160	104	93	7	4	24	12	16	33	55	185	909
Jervis Bay .....	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Clyde River	158	156	126	79	36	4	..	..	8	30	34	76	707
Moruya River	18	62	103	71	26	12	7	10	10	9	13	13	354
Turoos River .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	..	..	..	8	27	45
Wagonga River .....	..	27	2	..	23	6	19	4	16	3	3	9	112
Beimigui River .....	..	11	12	17	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	27	74
Panbula River	4	15	29	21	20	13	11	..	..	10	21	..	144
Twofold Bay .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	39	42	..	6	..	33	120
Womboyno River ..	..	28	12	32	13	15	12	..	..	..	..	..	112
Minnamurra River ..	14	13	22	19	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	77
Total	1,119	1,440	1,191	1,200	675	390	801	278	370	676	669	1,055	9,864

RETURN showing quantity, in bags, of Oysters, received at Sydney from places outside the Colony, January to December, 1887.

	Jan.	Feb	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept.	Oct	Nov.	Dec	Total.
Queensland	183	74	16	148	147	130	108	..	150	166	241	534	1,903
New Zealand .....	..	..	121	169	314	130	610	594	652	230	..	..	2,820
New Calodonia ..	..	..	..	..	27	18	..	..	..	..	..	..	45
Total	183	74	137	317	488	273	718	594	808	396	241	534	4,708

RETURN showing amount of Royalty collected on Oysters, January to 13th December, 1887.

Month	No of bags.	Royalty.	Month	No of bags.	Royalty.
January	1,119	£ s d 167 17 0	August	278	£ s d 41 14 0
February	1,440	216 0 0	September	370	55 10 0
March	1,191	178 13 0	October	676	101 8 0
April	1,200	180 0 0	November	669	100 7 0
May	675	101 5 0	December (to 13th)	576	86 8 0
June	390	58 10 0			
July	801	120 3 0			
					£ 1,407 15 0

NOTE.—An Act to abolish the Royalty on oysters was assented to on the 13th December, 1887; after which date Royalty ceased to be collected.

APPENDIX D.

RETURN showing the Revenue derived under the "Fisheries Act" and "Oyster Fisheries Act" during the year of 1887.

FISHERIES ACT.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Fishermen's licenses, yearly	606 @ 10/-	303	0	0						
Do. half-yearly	148 @ 5/-	37	0	0						
Fishing-boat licenses, yearly	263 @ 20/-	263	0	0						
Do. half-yearly	70 @ 10/-	35	0	0						
OYSTER FISHERIES ACT.										
Royalty on oysters taken from leased areas	9,385 bags @ 3/-				1,407	15	0			
Deposits on applications for leases for oyster culture					347	0	0			
Deed fees					290	0	0			
Transfer fees					74	0	0			
Rent on leased areas					2,455	1	4			
Spat fees					63	6	0			
Fines and forfeitures recovered for offences under the Fisheries and Oyster Fisheries Acts										
								4,637	2	4
										246 17 11
										£5,522 0 3

APPENDIX E.

RETURN showing the quantity, in baskets, of Fish brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1887.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Harbour	422	388	227	834	247	115	81	77	136	207	313	396	3,443
Botany	422	781	636	1,227	529	408	319	334	286	572	298	498	6,310
Broken Bay	548	646	618	828	413	391	491	438	264	271	130	413	5,451
Bateman's Bay	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	45	...	...	...	55
Jervis Bay	...	...	...	386	233	47	...	...	...	...	...	...	666
Tuggerah Lake	...	...	...	194	1,435	836	820	879	824	946	759	841	7,534
Port Stephens	272	474	517	780	514	304	711	541	397	583	370	313	5,776
Gosford	...	...	...	90	...	...	...	...	88	133	58	...	369
Narrabeen	59	26	64	19	...	...	10	...	32	8	10	22	250
Wollongong	43	71	423	659	627	512	608	522	341	349	197	95	4,447
Ulladulla	20	...	8	41	119	161	109	86	11	20	...	...	575
Newcastle	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Shoalhaven	25	...	12	539	427	480	758	494	294	154	56	5	3,244
Twofold Bay	...	...	...	...	5	...	24	41	18	2	...	...	90
Lake Macquarie	839	1,120	1,038	1,324	422	653	643	633	642	784	583	360	9,041
Clarence River	...	...	...	...	26	199	534	354	...	...	26	42	1,181
Shellharbour	188	152	167	127	100	...	...	...	...	...	222	217	1,173
Macleay River	40	11	34	...	...	52	120	...	236	361	222	351	1,427
Manning River	12	...	4	...	15	4	41	...	...	8	...	...	84
Cape Hawke	...	...	...	...	...	25	84	30	...	9	...	...	148
Total	2,901	3,669	3,758	7,048	5,112	4,187	5,353	4,429	3,614	4,407	3,244	3,553	51,275

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of Schnapper brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1887.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Harbour	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	3	$\frac{1}{2}$	...	1	$7\frac{1}{2}$
Botany	$7\frac{1}{2}$	19	15	39	14	4	$23\frac{1}{2}$	4	$5\frac{1}{2}$	7	9	35	$182\frac{1}{2}$
Broken Bay	26	$21\frac{1}{2}$	59	$51\frac{1}{2}$	104	45	$75\frac{1}{2}$	50	$18\frac{1}{2}$	$30\frac{1}{2}$	23	$24\frac{1}{2}$	529
Jervis Bay	...	...	...	12	73	6	93	114	32	...	2	...	332
Jerrigal Lake	...	...	...	...	25	11	24	...	...	...	...	15	75
Tuggerah Lake	...	...	...	...	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	22
Port Stephens	8	...	2	5	3	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	20
Wollongong	5	...	...	7	3	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	23
Ulladulla	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Shoalhaven	...	...	...	...	...	17	46	60	$21\frac{1}{2}$	5	...	...	$149\frac{1}{2}$
Lake Macquarie	...	3	4	14	32	12	$30\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	1	...	4	$100\frac{1}{2}$
Clarence River	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	7
Long Reef	5	5	2	$24\frac{1}{2}$	14	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	$51\frac{1}{2}$
Macleay River	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	6
Shellharbour	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8
Total	$52\frac{1}{2}$	$48\frac{1}{2}$	82	153	255	107	$301\frac{1}{2}$	228	$58\frac{1}{2}$	53	34	$92\frac{1}{2}$	$1,525\frac{1}{2}$

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of Mullet brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1887.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Harbour	1,490	55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,545
Botany	4,430	1,015	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,445
Broken Bay	1,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,000
Total	6,920	1,070	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,990

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of Jew-fish brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1887.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Harbour .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Botany .....	...	...	...	...	7½	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	14½
Broken Bay .....	...	...	...	...	...	½	3	9	...	...	8	2	22½
Tuggerah Lake .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1½	...	...	...	...	...	1½
Port Stephens .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	½	½
Lake Macquarie	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Shellharbour	1½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1½
Long Reef .....	...	½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	½
Macleay River	1½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1½
Manning River .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total	19	½	...	...	7½	7½	5½	9	...	...	8	3½	60½

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of King-fish brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1887.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Harbour .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
Botany	18	21½	½	...	...	...	4	...	...	2	...	13	59
Broken Bay .....	...	5	...	5	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	20
Long Reef	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total	19	26½	½	5	6	...	4	...	...	4	...	17	82

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of Salmon brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1887.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Harbour	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	234	...	240
Botany	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	157	20	227
Broken Bay .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70	12	82
Lake Macquarie .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	180	...	...	...	...	...	180
Total	16	...	...	...	...	...	180	...	...	40	461	32	729

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of various large Fish brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1887.

	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Harbour .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35	...	35
Botany	2	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	13
Broken Bay .....	...	...	3½	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	8½
Ulladulla .....	...	...	...	...	...	10½	...	...	...	...	...	...	10½
Long Reef	20	16	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	41
Total	22	16	6½	5	1	10½	...	...	...	...	42	5	108

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of Crayfish brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo,
January to December, 1887.

	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Bateman's Bay .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	14
Port Stephens	158½	92½	21	5½	...	145½	806	488	402	746	428	361	3,654
Ulladulla .....	...	...	...	9	...	...	87	94	31	60	...	...	281
Total	158½	92½	21	14½	...	145½	893	582	447	806	428	361	3,949

RETURN showing quantity, in baskets, of Prawns brought to the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo,
January to December, 1887.

	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Harbour	168	174	105	30½	46½	7	1	1½	6½	34	141	288	1,003
Botany .....	...	...	19	12½	12	110	25	2½	6	56	37	9	289
Broken Bay .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	½	...	...	23	23½
Newcastle .....	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Total	168	174	124	45	59½	117	26	4	13	90	178	320	1,317½

RETURN showing quantity, in baskets, of Fish seized under Fisheries Acts, January to December, 1887.

January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	October.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
½	1½	3	6½	2	1	3½	½	3	2½	1	2½	27½

RETURN showing quantity, in baskets, of Fish condemned unfit for food, January to December, 1887.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Harbour	3	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	41
Botany	18	...	11	47	...	...	...	...	...	16	2	5	99
Broken Bay	13	17½	48	83	...	...	...	...	...	6	3	...	170½
Jervis Bay .....	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Tuggerah Lake .....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	21
Port Stephens	48	45	37	21	...	...	7	...	...	30	...	...	188
Wollongong	12	...	67	30	...	...	...	...	...	31	9	8	157
Ulladulla .....	...	...	4	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Newcastle	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Shoalhaven	4	...	8	37	5	41	16	40	7	16	...	...	174
Twofold Bay .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	...	...	...	8
Lake Macquarie	116	174	121	13	...	22	...	...	...	...	22	7	475
Clarence River .....	...	...	...	...	...	45	30	113	...	...	...	6	194
Shellharbour	41	...	90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	131
Macleay River	6	7	4	...	...	20	...	...	26	46	14	...	123
Manning River .....	...	...	...	...	10	...	1	...	...	8	...	...	19
Cape Hawke .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	12	...	...	...	...	14
Total	265	243½	390	242	65	128	56	169	37	153	70	34	1,852½

RETURN showing quantity, in dozens, of Fish from Inland Waters brought to Fish Market, Woolloomooloo,
January to December, 1887.

October—11 dozen Murray cod, from Murrumbidgee River.

November—2½ dozen Murray perch, from Lake George.

RETURN showing Range of Prices obtained for Fish sold at the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1887.

Name of Fish	January.	February	March.	April	May.	June	July	August	September	October	November.	December
Schnapper, per dozen	1/ to 52/	1/ to 84/	3/ to 96/	2/ to 99/	1/ to 92/	4/ to 60/	2/ to 46/	3/ to 66/	3/ to 56/	3/ to 228/	3/ to 70/	3/ to 78/
Flathead "	1/ to 36/	1/ to 36/	2/ to 36/	2/ to 36/	1/ to 21/	1/ to 36/	2/ to 36/	2/ to 48/	1/ to 30/	2/ to 24/	1/ to 24/	1/ to 30/
Whiting "	1/ to 9/	1/ to 9/	2/ to 9/	1/ to 18/	1/ to 9/	1/ to 11/	1/ to 9/	1/ to 8/	1/ to 15/	1/ to 10/	1/ to 10/	1/ to 9/
Flounder "	1/ to 15/	1/ to 16/	1/ to 16/	1/ to 15/	1/ to 11/	1/ to 15/	1/ to 15/	1/ to 11/	1/ to 15/	1/ to 16/	1/ to 14/	1/ to 13/
King fish "	4/ to 18/	3/ to 24/	4/ to 27/	7/ to 24/	2/ to 18/	5/ to 15/	3/ to 6/	15/		9/ to 36/	12/	4/ to 12/
Jew-fish "	3/ to 96/	2/ to 96/	5/ to 114/	6/ to 96/	4/ to 96/	5/ to 96/	6, to 96,	6/ to 96/	9/ to 144/	8/ to 144/	8/ to 96/	2/ to 180/
Groper "	15/ to 34/	12/ to 24/	9/ to 18/	6/ to 18/	9/ to 21/			6/				9/ to 60/
Teraglin "	9/ to 15/	9/ to 19/	10/ to 19/	9/ to 18/	7/ to 36/	7/ to 12/						11/
Nannagai "					4/		2/ to 7/	2/ to 5/	2/ to 4/	6/ to 11/	...	2/ to 3/
Salmon "	3/ to 8/	2/ to 6/	2/ to 6/	3/ to 7/	2/ to 5/	9/ to 11/	2/ to 6/	1/ to 6/	1/ to 6/	1/ to 8/	1/ to 3/	1/ to 4/
Mullet (sea) "	1/ to 12/	1/ to 11/	3/ to 12/	3d to 8/	3d to 5/	2/ to 13/	3/ to 9/	3/ to 8,	3/ to 8/	2/ to 8/	2/ to 9/	2/ to 9/
Rock Cod "	4/ to 6/	2/ to 6/	2/ to 7/	2/ to 13/	2/ to 24/	2/ to 66/	2/ to 7/	2/ to 5/	2/ to 12/	3/ to 8/	3/ to 6/	1/ to 6/
Eels "	2/ to 21/	3/ to 21/	3/ to 36/	3/ to 24/	3/ to 24/	5/ to 30/	3/ to 24/	3/ to 18/	2/ to 18/	3/ to 21/	2/ to 21/	1/ to 21/
Bream per basket	2/ to 46/	3/ to 45/	9/ to 89/	5/ to 42/	2/ to 40/	5/ to 46/	4/ to 60/	5/ to 50/	3/ to 34/	6/ to 42/	4/ to 64/	5/ to 42/
Garfish "	8/ to 32/	7/ to 27/	10/ to 38/	7/ to 36/	3/ to 25/	5/ to 22/	3/ to 26/	3/ to 29/	3/ to 29/	4/ to 52/	9/ to 27/	5/ to 29/
Pike "		3/		13/	4/							
Blackfish "	2/ to 38/	2/ to 21/	5/ to 24/	1/ to 18/	2/ to 22/	2/ to 23/	1/ to 16/	4/ to 23/	1/ to 18/	1/ to 18/	2/ to 15/	1/ to 28/
Silverbilly "	3/ to 18/	2/ to 16/	7/ to 17/	6/ to 16/	4/ to 9/	3/ to 11/	1/ to 9/	2/ to 9/	2/ to 8/	2/ to 5/	2/ to 8/	2/ to 19/
Tawhine "	10/	8/	11/ to 27/	4/ to 17/	2/ to 13/	5/ to 7/	3/ to 9/			10/		
Salmon Trout "			9/ to 13/	7/ to 13/			3/ to 15/					4/
Mullet (sand) "	1/ to 25/	2/ to 25/	5/ to 29/	1/ to 18/	3d to 18/	2/ to 22/	1/ to 19/	2/ to 26/	2/ to 18/	2/ to 25/	3/ to 26/	3/ to 31/
Travalley "	1/ to 14/	1/ to 11/	3/ to 14/	2/ to 11/	1/ to 13/	3/ to 22/	4/ to 12/	3/ to 12/	4/ to 12/	2/ to 8/	4/ to 17/	4/ to 11/
Perch "				9/ to 11/	1/ to 13/	5/ to 19/	3/ to 15/	5/ to 21/	5/ to 14/	6/ to 29/		
Tailor "	2/ to 17/	2/ to 18/	4/ to 22/	1/ to 18/	1/ to 18/	3/ to 19/	2/ to 17/	3/ to 18/	2/ to 18/	2/ to 16/	2/ to 15/	1/ to 22/
Crayfish per dozen	11/ to 20/	15/ to 20/	10/ to 23/	9/ to 24/		6/ to 27/	3/ to 14/	4/ to 15/	6/ to 20/	2/ to 15/	7/ to 12/	6/ to 22/
Crabs "	1/ to 6/	1/ to 7/	2/ to 6/	2/ to 6/	2/ to 5/	2/ to 5/	1/ to 4/	1/ to 3/	1/ to 3/	1/ to 4/	1/ to 3/	1/ to 4/
Prawns per bushel	13/ to 30/	14/ to 80/	18/ to 100/	10/ to 109/	10/ to 90/	9/ to 36/	15/ to 48/	25/ to 52/	20/ to 50/	10/ to 45/	5/ to 60/	7/ to 90/
Murray Cod per dozen								...		10/ to 72/		..
Murray Perch "									..		20/ to 30/	.. ..

RETURN showing amount realized for Fish sold at the Fish Market, Woolloomooloo, January to December, 1887

	£	s.	d		£	s.	d
January	2 000	3	6	August	2,617	0	9
February	2,542	10	7	September	2,230	12	9
March	2,543	19	6	October	2,827	8	0
April	3,172	10	9	November	2,393	2	3
May	2,375	11	0	December	2,962	2	3
June	2,518	17	0				
July	3,410	5	0				
					£31,594	3	3

APPENDIX F.

SCHEDULE of Applications for Leases of Shore for Oyster Culture

Name	Yards	Locality	Name	Yards	Locality
Parks, Edmund	100	Brisbane Water	Murphy, Jeremiah	100	Hawkesbury River
Do	100	do	Brown, George	300	M'Gaa's Creek
Longworth, John	100	Queen's Lake	Geddes, John Henry	100	George's River
Windley, Abraham	100	Moruya Lake	Do	100	do
Peoples, William	100	Clarence River	Way, Timothy	100	Port Hacking
Bogears, Nicholas	500	Mullet Creek	Do	100	George's River
Louttit, John Flett	100	Louttit Creek	Osbourne, William	100	Manning River
Cook, Azarius	300	Womona Creek	Archer, John	100	Lvans River
Harrison, Joseph	400	North Creek	Geddes, John Henry	200	George's River
Broome, Lake Witts, and Munro	200	Broadwater	Bogears, Nicholas	200	Mullet Creek
C T			Holt Sutherland Land Co	78	Woiwona River
Houp, Zachary	100	Woogoolga Creek	Moss, Robert Henry	200	Evans' River
Do	300	do	Muston, C H, and Barnett, A J	200	Port Stephens
Melmeth, F H	100	Bundebar Creek	Alick, Charles	300	Mooney Mooney Creek
Bettini, J A	100	Clyde River	Do	300	Mullet Creek
Brown, John	200	M'Curr's Creek	Batt, Edward Compton	100	Kiah River
Garrard, Samuel	300	Bherrewherre Creek	Bertram, Frank	400	Evans River
Archer, John	400	Evans' River	Muston, Harriet	125	Karuah River
Pullen, William Toft	100	Woogoolga Creek	Archer, John	400	Lvans River
Do	100	do	Houp, Zachary	100	Woogoolga Creek
Breckenridge, J W	100	Wallis Lake	Do	300	do
Cusack, Nicholas John	200	Toumbal Creek	Walker, David Wilson	100	M'Garr's Creek
Millard, W	100	Barara Creek	Batt, Edward Compton	200	Panbula River
Latta, William	200	Clyde River	Green, William Henry	300	Mullet Creek
Barclay, James	100	Bateman's Bay	Do	300	do
Do	100	Bherrewherre Creek	Melmeth, F H	400	Karuah River
Melmuth, Frederick Henry	100	Port Stephens	Spattles, Moses	300	Porto Bay
Redman, John	100	M'Garr's Creek	Park, Peter	500	Woolli River
Moss, Thomas	100	Lvans' River	Neath, John Evans	100	Nelson Lake
Oloff, Johnson	700	North Creek	Do	100	do
Rose, Henry	200	Hawkesbury River	Do	100	do
Johnston, Martin	300	Brisbane Water	Paddon, Thomas	200	Evans' River
Dick, John Stuart	400	Hastings River	Anderson, Huns	400	Hunter River
Nicoll, Archibald	300	Mooney Mooney Creek	Paddon, Thomas	200	Evans' River
Henderson, Robert Geary	200	Brisbane Water	Gibbons, Fredk J	125	do
Pullen, William Toft	200	Woolgoolga River	Calbran, William	100	Kogarah Bay
Do	200	do	Archer, John	400	Evans' River
Tibbits, Walter H	300	Pittwater	Canty, Stephen	200	Wagonga River
Batt, Edmond Compton, and	200	Panbula River	Johnsen, Joseph	300	Porto Bay
Qunan, James			Geddes, John Henry	500	Port Hacking
Do	200	do	Holdom, John	450	Karuah River
Do	200	do	Hibs, Richard	300	Porto Bay
Do	100	do	Joass, James	1,000	Sawyer's Point
Do	100	do	Bertram, Frank	100	Evans' River
Do	200	do	Moss, Robert Henry	200	do
Do	1,000	do	Bates, Charles	200	Port Stephens
Do	200	do	Do	100	do
Donnell, Demetrius	100	Twofold Bay	Rose, Henry	600	Mooney Mooney Creek
Geddes, John Henry	200	George's River	Geddes, John Henry	800	Port Hacking
Do	750	do	Kell, Henry	400	Long Island
Williams, John	200	Patonga Creek	Pullen, W F	200	Woogoolga Creek
Holdom, John	100	Karuah River	Do	200	do
Duren, John	100	Wagonga River	Lonesborough, Robert	100	Crookhaven River
Geddes, John Henry	500	Port Hacking	Emmanuel, George	200	Bermagui River
Do	500	do	Macree Spiro	100	do
Canty, Stephen	100	Wagonga River	Do	100	do
Cole, William	200	Long Island	Do	100	do
Alick, Charles	300	Dangar Island	Melmeth, Frederick H	200	Karuah River
Do	300	Porto Bay	Do	200	do
Melmeth, Frederick Henry	300	Connor's Flat	Archer, John	400	Evans' River
Macree, Spiro & Alexander, Geo	100	Bermagui River	Do	200	do
Do	100	do	Canty, Stephen	200	Wagonga River
Do	100	do	Millard, William	200	Narrawalla Creek
Do	200	do	Nicoll, Archibald	300	Spectacle Island
Haiser, George	200	Shoalhaven	James, Peter, junr	500	Hastings River
Way, Timothy	200	Port Hacking	James, William	200	do
Geddes, John Henry	600	Gunnamatta Bay	Macree, Spiro, & Bastick, Nicholas	200	Bermagui River
Do	200	George's River	Woodward, Henry	300	Woolumba River
Do	400	Port Hacking	Mosley, Thom, and Shepherd, John	200	Port Hacking
Do	400	do	Gibbins, John Frederick	100	Evans River
Bertram, Frank	100	Evans' River	Do	200	do
Davidson, Alex B	200	Kiah River	Jarvis, Robert E C	500	Karuah River
Haiser, George	100	Crookhaven River	Lavington, William Sexton	200	Bega River
Brown, Joshua	200	Port Hacking	Do	100	do

APPENDIX G.

RETURN showing Quantity, in Bags, of Spat taken off Crown Lands, and laid down on Leased Areas, January to December, 1887.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Brisbane Water	10	20	13	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Clyde River	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Tweed River .....	...	...	...	21	15	10	10	...	...	...	20	11	87
George's River .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	17	...	...	...	20
Hawkesbury River .....	...	...	...	39	...	...	...	...	386	...	10	19	454
Shoalhaven River.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
Total	12	24	13	60	35	10	13	...	403	...	33	30	633

633 Bags at 2s.....£63 6s.

ANNUAL REPORT, NORTHERN DIVISION OF FISHERIES, 1887.

Inspector Temperley's Report.

Oysters.

THE oyster-bearing waters of the Northern Division of Fisheries have produced during the past year the total quantity of 1,223 bags of oysters, upon which royalty has been chargeable to the amount of £166 19s.

The quota contributed by each inlet, the quantities shipped to Sydney, and those locally consumed, are as follows :—

River.	Shipped to Sydney.	Locally consumed.	Royalty.
	bags	bags	£ s. d.
Clarence River	88	8	14 8 0
Richmond River	337	10	46 4 0
Manning River	362	33	54 15 0
Evans' River	134	8	18 9 0
Cape Hawke	85	.....	12 15 0
Bellinger River	57	.....	7 10 0
Port Macquarie.....	44	1	6 12 0
Sandon River	20	.....	3 0 0
Woolli River .....	.....	22	3 6 0
Boambee Creek.....	14	.....	.....
Totals	1,141	82	£166 19 0

It may be noted that the total royalty does not correspond with the amount calculated on the total 1,223 bags, at the royalty charge of 3s. per bag. This is due to the abolition of royalty on the 13th December, between which date and the end of the year 110 bags were produced, and were consequently exempt from royalty charges.

A comparison of the oyster production of this year with that of four previous years shows a serious defection in the production of the whole Northern Division. The figures are these :—

Total quantity of oysters produced ...	Year.	bags.
.....	1883	6,191
.....	1884	3,186
.....	1885	3,177
.....	1886	3,962
.....	1887	1,226

It will be seen that the production for 1887 is much less than a third of the average (4,129 bags) for the years above quoted, and less by 399 bags than the production of the Clarence River alone during last year. The year 1883, which realized 6,191 bags, was specially the licensing-boat year, when that system was in full force, and resulted in a general rush and clearing out of many of the natural beds. The system of leasing the natural oyster beds came into operation with the Amended Fisheries Act of 1884, and for that and the two following years, 1885 and 1886, it may be noticed that the quantities returned are fairly uniform. It is somewhat important to examine the causes to which this falling off in 1887 may be attributed. Whether due to climatic irregularity or mismanagement on the part of the lessees, or to a combination of these causes, it is not supposed that the mismanagement has been wilful, or mainly other than the result of inexperience or ignorance.

Being possessed of long and secure tenures, self-interest alone has caused lessees, as a whole, to take an active interest in their leases, and work them in the manner each has considered best adapted for the improvement of his holding. As affecting a few individual cases, it is, however, desirable that there should be an effective ring measurement to prevent the shipment of young undersized oysters by any lessees willing to sacrifice the future well-being of their holdings for immediate returns. Small as the return for 1887 is, it would undoubtedly have been lessened by at least one-half if many of the lessees had not carried on the work of semi-cultivation, and stocked their deep water areas with immature fore-shore oysters.

Important

Important work in this respect has been carried on in the Richmond River, Manning River, Evans' River, and at Cape Hawke, but little being done in the Clarence River owing to the general scarcity of foreshore oysters in this river. In some cases the work has proved remunerative; in others it has resulted in loss. Inexperience in the selection of suitable sites upon which to deposit the small oysters has rendered the lessees' efforts fruitless, while floods and freshes have proved destructive to the work in other instances.

The principal cause of the falling off is doubtless due to the extremes which the Colony has experienced in its rainfall during the past few years. It is well known that oyster culture has been seriously affected in many oyster-bearing countries of the northern hemisphere by extremes of temperature, from which this Colony is remarkably and happily free.

In fact it may be here noted that it is the uniform temperature of the inlets of New South Wales which with, other conditions, renders almost every inlet from the northern to the southern boundary of the Colony an oyster-bearing area, and causes the oysters to spawn occasionally in winter as well as summer months.

But the rainfall forms an equally important factor in the many conditions which are required for the establishment and preservation of oyster beds.

Sufficient fresh water being required to convey nourishment to the oysters, and at the same time prevents undue salinity, and consequent growth of marine plants and animals which smother the mature oysters and prevent the attachment of spawn.

On the other hand excessive and continued rainfall proves immediately destructive.

It was in this manner the drought of 1885 and 1886 affected the oyster deposits, disturbing the usual spawning seasons and preventing the attachment of whatever spawn occurred. It was specially noticeable during this period that whatever spawn occurred only became attached above half-tide mark—the foul condition of the deep-water beds preventing its attachment below. Following upon the droughty period came the wet season of 1887 with a succession of floods and freshes. These floods were specially destructive, killing large quantities of mature oysters on the natural beds and silting over large areas of foreshore mangrove oysters in several of the northern rivers.

A heavy flood occurred in the Clarence, Richmond, Evan's, and Tweed Rivers in January, a less flood occurred on the Clarence River three weeks later, and following so closely after the first flood was most destructive to the oysters. A careful examination made by the undersigned shortly after the second flood showed that no less than eighty-four per cent. of the oysters on the fine natural beds of this river had recently died.

On the Richmond and Evans' Rivers, the beds suffered from the same excessive rainfall, but not to the same extent. It was realized by the lessees that these floods while immediately damaging to the oyster deposits had thoroughly cleared the deep water beds, leaving them clear of injurious marine vegetation and free to attach whatever spawn might occur. It was also anticipated that the rainy season would be succeeded by a spawning season. The expectation proved correct, the only drawback being that it followed too close after the floods and freshes of the first half-year and occurred during the winter months. It was general, that is, occurred in nearly all the inlets of the North Coast, the Manning River being the chief exception, but it was not by any means an abundant spawn, the result probable of its occurrence outside the usual summer months.

The young oysters became observable before the summer had fairly set in and were noticed as being attached generally in the lower portions of the rivers only. The spat was reported as being attached in the Tweed and Richmond (most northerly rivers), in July, in the Clarence River in September, in the Brunswick and Evans' Rivers in October. Additional deposits were noticed in the Clarence and Richmond Rivers in these later months, Cape Hawke was added to the list in November, and lastly the Assistant Inspector-in-Charge of Camden Haven reported in December, that a good quantity of spat had been attached in that inlet. Young oysters are also known to have shown upon the Bellinger River during some of the above mentioned periods. The only inlet of any importance in the Northern Division, which so far as known not to have participated in the spawn is the Manning River.

While the lessees in general who had taken up deep-water oyster-bearing areas, took a hopeful view of the effect of these floods, those who had later applied for shallow foreshores suitable for cultivation were discouraged by the damage done to the oyster deposits, and more especially by the quantities of silt which in many cases completely covered the foreshore oysters. Many applicants who had intended to start oyster cultivation abandoned the areas they had applied for, and the work which it was anticipated some would have entered upon of providing attachment for the spawn may be considered, so far as these rivers are concerned, still practically untried.

Fish.

With regard to fish, a very important change was made by the fishermen of the Clarence River in the shipment of fresh fish to Sydney. In previous years this work had been carried on only during the brief winter months, and was, moreover, very uncertain. The fish were shipped in ordinary baskets, and depended for their safe carriage upon the coldness of the weather during the passage down, quantities being frequently condemned. In the summer months the fishermen turned their attention chiefly to other pursuits. Occasionally they made attempts to establish a trade in preserved fish, and generally, except where the work was carried on by Chinamen, failed. In one season the sea mullet were boiled down for oil. This was also found to be an unremunerative pursuit.

The winter shipments of fresh fish in 1887 were, however, extended into the summer months by means of the refrigerating chamber of the Clarence River Company's new steamer "Electra." Ultimately the practice—previously tried in the Macleay River—was adopted of packing the fish in ice within large chests, and carrying them on the steamers decks. This mode of conveying fish has succeeded. The fish carry well in the hottest weather. Regular shipments are made by bi-weekly steamers, and the trade is fairly established.

The extensive and prolific fishing grounds of the Clarence River will continue to be regularly worked, and fishing operations grow to an important and remunerative industry. The quantity now shipped (February, 1888) amounts to 150 baskets per week—by far the greatest part consisting of the finest whiting.

The amount of ice required for their transmission amounts to close upon 5 tons per week.

The fish returns for the year are as follows :—

Clarence River	...	...	...	...	...	1,150 baskets.
Macleay River	...	...	...	...	...	2,500 „
Cape Hawke	..	...	...	...	...	93 „
Total...						3,743 baskets.

Although some fine prawns may be caught in the Clarence and Richmond Rivers, nothing has yet been done in the way of establishing them in the market. They do not appear to move in sufficient quantities to enable the work to be properly carried on.

No rewards have been claimed during the year in the Northern Division for the destruction of cormorants.

THOS. TEMPERLEY,
Inspector, Northern Fisheries.

Inspector Benson's Annual Report, Southern Fisheries, 1887.

Sir,

Bateman's Bay, 18 January, 1888.

I have the honor to forward my report for the year 1887, on that portion of the Southern Division of Fisheries, which is under my special supervision. I also enclose Mr. Assistant Smithers' report on the fisheries lying south of the Wagonga River.

I have much pleasure in reporting that the majority of the lessees are paying greater attention to their leases, and working them in a more systematic manner. On many of the leases large numbers of mature oysters have been kept for a considerable time, the spat from which has set on the adjoining foreshores. In several cases spat collectors have been placed consisting generally of stone, and these are fairly well covered with spat. Many of the leases are naturally provided with spat collectors in the shape of rocky foreshores and mangroves, which, excepting in cases where oysters have been laid down near them, are but poorly stocked with spat.

The supply of marketable oysters from the various waters throughout the fishery has fallen off to a considerable extent during the year. Several reasons can be given for this, the principal of which are :

1. Several of the lessees have large numbers of marketable oysters on their leases.
2. In the year 1884, when the new Oyster Fisheries Act came into force, the foreshores of many of the southern waters were well stocked with oysters, which only required to be laid down for twelve or eighteen months to become marketable. Most of these oysters were shipped in the years 1885 and 1886.
3. Oyster spawning during the last four years has occurred only to a moderate extent throughout the fisheries. Most of the leases are now held by men who have been engaged in the oyster trade for many years, and who seem determined to give oyster culture a fair trial.

I am of opinion that a good fall of spat is now the only thing required on many of the southern waters to make oyster culture a success.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE G. BENSON,
Inspector, Southern Fisheries.

Berara Creek is situated about 16 miles north of Ulladulla, and is about 3 miles in length. The oyster bearing portion commences 1 mile from the mouth and extends to within a short distance of the head of the creek. The oysters are found on small patches of freestone, and are of good quality, though scarce. After a careful examination I have failed to discover any sign of spat, and am of the opinion that oysters have not spat for three or four years, as all of the oysters showing on the rocks are apparently of that age. Why there should be a good fall of spat at Narrawallee Creek, only a few miles distant, and none here, I am unable to say, but am inclined to believe that the water has become too salt for their existence. Small areas suitable for oyster culture exist, but up to the present only one lease of 100 yards has been applied for and granted.

Narrawallee Creek.—I have again the pleasure of reporting favourably of the manner in which the lessees are working their leases. As a result of their good management I found on inspection, that although some 150 bags of oysters had been sent to market during the summer months, the beds are still fairly stocked, and the mangroves and spat collectors which line the foreshores well covered with young oysters, which will have attained sufficient growth for laying down during the present year. When it is taken into consideration that the oyster bearing portion of this creek is only about 1 mile in extent, and the fact of its having been almost denuded of oysters under the old licensing system, the result is extremely satisfactory, and is a proof that it only requires judgment combined with a little practical knowledge to make oyster culture a success. Nine leases amounting to 2,000 yards have been issued. Particulars of shipments of oysters are sent direct to Sydney by the lessees.

Durras Lake.—With the exception of a few short periods, extending in one instance to a month, the mouth of the lake has been completely closed to the sea for four years. The natural beds have been almost destroyed by an accumulation of mud, slime, and weeds, the last of which completely cover the lake, making it a matter of impossibility to lay down oysters with any chance of success. One attempt was made by Mr. William Latta, who at the time held an area on sufferance, resulting in the loss of some twenty bags of oysters which he had laid down on his foreshore. The mud oysters, which are very numerous, appear to thrive in spite of everything. All the leases which were applied for have been declared void in consequence of the applicants having failed to execute and take delivery of them. I might mention that this lake was at one time considered one of the best waters in the southern division for the cultivation of oysters.

Cullendulla Creek.—Six leases for a total of 1,700 yards have been issued. Oysters of any description were very scarce when the leases were taken possession of by the lessee, but in November last I noticed a considerable quantity of spat and brood attached to the mangroves which line the foreshores. These, however, are now threatened with destruction by the weeds, which are gradually increasing in quantity. On lease No. 459 a few bags of oysters have been laid down, which, owing to the accumulation of mud necessitating frequent removal, are not doing well. Thirty bags of oysters shipped during year.

Clyde

Olyde River and Tributaries.—Notwithstanding the great falling off in the supply of oysters shipped to Sydney during the year, the prospects of the river ultimately recovering are much brighter. Many of the leases held by persons for purely speculative purposes have been transferred, and the whole of them are now held by persons who have been engaged in the oyster industry for many years, and who, from their experience, should be more likely to give oyster culture a fair trial. A splendid quality of oysters have been shipped during the year, most of which were caught by divers on the deep-water beds. A large quantity of mature oysters, which I estimate at about 500 bags, have been kept on the beds for spatting purposes. Several of the leases have been improved during the year, more especially leases Nos. 187, 273, and 803, held by Mr. James Barclay, who has improved them at great labour and expense by laying down spat-collectors consisting of stone and swamp oak along his foreshores and by keeping some 200 bags of marketable oysters on his beds for spatting. Leases Nos. 105 and 1,357, owned by Mr. Frederick Gibbons, are also in splendid condition, the rocks which line the foreshores being well covered with oysters in all stages of development. Mr. Gibbons' manager informs me that from careful observation he is satisfied that, excepting in two or three of the winter months, oysters on these leases spat more or less throughout the year. On those leases adjacent to where mature oysters have been kept laid down for any considerable time I notice a moderately large quantity of spat and brood on the foreshores, whereas in places which have been denuded of oysters very little is to be seen, and in some cases none at all. In November last I examined oysters taken from the deep water on Messrs. Woodward and Templeman's leases, and supposed by Mr. Templeman to have been destroyed by worm, but failed to observe any indications which would lead to the conclusion that such had been the case. No burrows on the exterior of the shell could be detected, and there was no appearance of the small dark patches resembling blisters filled with fine mud, and in which the worm lives, which are invariably found on the inner face of the shells of oysters affected with this disease. I have no hesitation in stating that the worm which has caused such dire destruction to the oyster beds of the Hawkesbury and other northern rivers is at present unknown in the southern waters. Forty-seven leases, amounting in the aggregate to 23,968, have been issued, from which 601 bags of oysters were shipped to Sydney during the year.

Tomago River.—The lessees on this river have improved their leases by laying down mangrove oysters on their foreshores, which are showing good growth. On lease No. 501, upon which oysters have been kept laid down for two years, I notice a fair quantity of spat. On the other leases and unleased portions of the river very little is to be seen. From personal observation and from information received I am of opinion that a very limited number of oysters have spat during the last three years. Three leases, amounting to 900 yards, have been taken delivery of, from which I have been advised thirty-five bags of oysters were shipped during the year.

Turoos River and Borang Lake.—Twenty-seven leases have been granted on these waters, embracing an area of 7,300 yards. Throughout the whole of the leases very little has been done by the lessees in the way of improvement, which may be accounted for in a great measure by taking into consideration the unfavourable conditions under which they have been placed. During the greater portion of the time the leases have been in their possession the mouth of the river has been closed, causing the destruction of large numbers of oysters, more especially on those leases situated farthest from the entrance. On lease No. 19½, owned by Mr. Walter Foreman, and known as the Pages Islands, situated about 4 miles from the entrance, a great many oysters which had been laid down and were doing well, have been destroyed by the fresh. The only leases on which oysters, in any quantity, exist, are Nos. 16 and 17, situated near the mouth of the river. I also noticed quantities of spat on these two leases, which I failed to do on any other lease throughout the fishery. The mouth of the river is now open to the sea, but not sufficiently so as to allow of a good flow of tide. On the upper portion of the river the action of the tide is scarcely perceptible, whereas some 18 months since, there was a regular flow, and ebb of from 2 to 3 feet. I am of opinion that the oyster beds on these waters will never recover until the mouth of the river is so deepened as to admit of a free flow of tide. 272 bags of oysters have been shipped from these waters during the year.

Wagongo River.—Leases for 3,760 yards have been issued, and there are still several applications to be dealt with. Many of the leases applied for have been declared void in consequence of the applicants having failed to execute and take delivery of them. The lessees have paid greater attention to their leases during the year, having improved them by laying down oysters, and erecting wire-netting and stakes for preventing star-fish and other enemies of the oyster from destroying them. There has been a fair fall of spat, more especially on those foreshores adjacent to leases which have been stocked, and on which, mature oysters have been left for any considerable time. I am unable to state how many banks of oysters have been produced during the year, as particulars of shipment are sent direct to Sydney by the lessees.

Moruya River.—With the exception of a few bags of oysters laid down on lease No. 1,055, nothing has been done to improve the leases. The foreshores are almost destitute of oysters, and very little spat is to be seen. Diving operations were carried on for about three weeks in the deep water, resulting in the catch of only nine bags of oysters. Eight leases for 1,400 yards have been delivered, from which ninety-eight bags of oysters have been shipped during the year.

Inspectors Benson & Gyler's Report on the Hawkesbury River Oyster Beds.

Sir,

Sydney, 21 April, 1887.

We have the honor to forward our report on the oyster-bearing portions of the Hawkesbury River and its tributaries, which, in accordance with your instructions, we have carefully examined.

Beginning at *Mooney Creek*, which has the reputation of being the most valuable oyster-bearing water of the Hawkesbury, and where we had been informed many of the lessees had laid down large numbers of oysters on their leases, which were doing well up till the month of November last, when they were attacked by the worm. We found on examining the leases that in almost every case where oysters had been laid down the worm had nearly completely destroyed them. On lease No. 144 the lessee had improved his holding by paving the foreshore with stone between high and low water marks, and then laying oysters on it. The mud, however, has accumulated on the paving to a depth of from 2 to 6 inches, and at least one-half of the oysters have been killed by mud and worm. We found only five leases in this creek, on which oysters had been laid, free from worm, viz., Nos. 1,654, 1,243, 1,698, 1,462; and a lease on the north-west point of Snake Island, owned by S. Cole. On Nos. 1,654 and 1,243 the bottom

is

is a nice gravel, only slightly intermixed with mud; and to this clean bottom, and to the set of the tide, we ascribe the absence of the worm. Nos. 1,698, 1,462, and the north-west point of Snake Island, the oysters have been laid on points of land where they derive the full benefit of the tide, an advantage to which I will allude further on. The oysters growing naturally on the foreshores are entirely free from disease.

Berowra Creek.—A lease owned by Peter Melvey, at the mouth of creek, is the only one which has been improved by laying down oysters, and they are completely destroyed by worm. We found whole families of them existing in several of the oysters. Mr. Melvey informed us that he had laid down about 800 bags of oysters on his leases, and did not expect to raise fifty bags of marketable ones. The foreshores on all of the leases in this creek are of a rock formation, and well stocked with oysters apparently about twelve months of age. They are in condition during the winter months, but will not be available for market before the winter of 1888, as their growth will not be sufficient to admit of their being knocked off the rock without injury. There are no deep beds in the Hawkesbury excepting those in Berowra Creek, and they can scarcely be designated as such, for they consist merely of a few strips of shelly bottom, extending a few feet outside of low-water mark. No spat or brood has ever been observed attached to the oysters taken from them, and we are of opinion that they depend entirely on oysters forced by growth from the adjoining foreshores for a supply. In several runs of the dredge on Johnson's lease, No. 1,666, we succeeded in catching a few dozen of large-sized oysters which were entirely free from worm.

Milson Island.—Mr. R. Milson is the lessee of the whole island and has laid down oysters at the south-west corner of the island, on lease No. 162. Oysters laid at the extreme western point where a good tide runs are almost entirely free from disease, whilst those lying in still water have been almost entirely destroyed. A few undersized rock oysters exist on the other leases.

Patonga Creek.—R. Emmett is the only lessee in this creek; mangroves line the shore throughout his lease, most of the oysters on which appear to have been killed by sand, those still alive showed no sign of disease.

Porto Bay.—Young oysters on all of the leases few of which are of marketable size; no disease; shores unsuitable for oyster culture, being of soft mud. From Holterman's Lease, No. 176, in Porto Bay to Cowan Creek the rocks are smothered with oysters, many of which are, judging from their stunted appearance, very old and unsuitable for laying down. We noticed, however, growing amongst them, great numbers of young oysters showing good growth which will have no chance of improving unless removed to suitable ground. Oysters laid down on Pelican Island, Fisherman's Point, and Bar Island have been almost entirely destroyed by worm.

At Dangar and Long Islands the rocks are well covered with oysters, many of which are suitable for laying down.

Mullet Creek.—Fair quantities of oysters abound on the rocks of leases Nos. 1,391 and 1,393; but the rock is of such a hard nature, as to render it almost impossible to separate the oysters intact from the rock, they are therefore not available for commercial purposes, and are useful only for local consumption.

Remarks.—We notice that the worm in the Hawkesbury River invariably bores an entrance through the *ventral* or front margin of the shell, whereas on the Hunter, it makes its entrance at the back or *umbo* of the shell.

Most of the lessees have made what we consider a great mistake in laying down oysters on those parts of their foreshores only slightly affected by the tides, or in eddy waters, instead of, in our opinion, laying them on points or places upon which there is a good run of tide, for during our investigations we have noticed that while we found no worm on these points, the oysters in the still waters have been affected and in many cases almost eradicated.

We failed to observe any sign of a recent fall of spat throughout the fishery and believe that in the event of oysters spawning most of the foreshores are incapable of retaining it on account of the rocks and layings being covered with a deposit of tidal sediment to which, owing to the smooth surface presented they cannot adhere.

The oysters growing naturally on the foreshores show no sign of disease.

We have &c.,

GEORGE G. BENSON, Inspector, Southern Fisheries.
ANDREW GYLER, Assistant Inspector.

Assistant-Inspector Nelson's Report on Fisheries at Lake George.

Sir,

Department of Fisheries, Bungendore, 14 January, 1888.

I have the honor to submit my report on the Lake George fisheries for the year 1887. During the above period I have constantly visited all parts of Lake George, and have tried to find out the spawning season of codfish, which I think is scarcely known. However, from my observation of the Lake George cod, they must spawn between September and January, as I find during these months they are full of eggs. During the last twelve months the lake has been constantly rising, and is now almost up to its usual level as in 1880.

For the last year only two licensed fishermen have been engaged fishing, and then only half their time; and although they have very poor appliances for fishing, still they obtain large quantities of fish, which they sell readily at 6d. per pound.

With regard to the quantity of fish sent away from Lake George during the past year, I think, from my observation, it has been larger than it has been for years. During January, February, March, and April, I did not keep an exact record of the fish sent away; but to take it on an average with other months, I should say about 1,900 lb. each month.

The month of May begins to get very cold and boisterous, and very little fish are caught. About 300 lb. for May.

June, July, and August.—No fishing is done during these months; the weather is too cold and boisterous. The fish at this season of the year appear not to move about much, as they cannot be netted in any way, or the fishermen have not the proper appliances to catch them.

September,

September.—The weather begins to get warm, and a few fish are caught. I kept a record from September, and about 1,300 lb. were caught; October, about 1,792 lb.; November, about 2,016 lb.; December, very little fishing carried on—only about 650 lb. caught.

The seasons differ very much. August in some years is a warm month; then as many fish are caught as in September.

All the nets used have been legal.

I have, &c.,
FRÉDK. NELSON,
Acting Assistant Inspector of Fisheries.

Assistant-Inspector Wilshire's Report.

Sir,

Deniliquin, 2 January, 1888.

In submitting my annual report for the year 1887 on the fisheries in my district for the information of the Commissioners of Fisheries, I have the honor to report that I am convinced that a great improvement can now be observed in the increase of fish within the various rivers and creeks here, and, with the introduction of the new Act, I am confident that fish will become as plentiful as formerly, especially if the rivers and creeks are closed from netting for a couple of seasons. I have, as far as lay in my power, guarded against illegal netting, but, owing to the high floods during the last five months, I have not been able to exercise as great a supervision as I could wish for. Since the flood waters have commenced to recede I find that large quantities of small fish have been left in shallow holes in the ana branches from the main creeks, and they are now dying in hundreds, owing, I think, to the weeds decaying and the water becoming hot, and their having no escape to the deep-waters.

I have during the year prosecuted three Victorian fishermen for using unlicensed boats in the Jumudgerie Creek, and two of them named Emerson and M'Shane appeared to answer the charge at the Police Court, Deniliquin. They pleaded not guilty, but after my evidence had been taken they were fined £2 6s. 8d. each, and the other one, named Charles Tomol, who did not appear, was fined £3 6s. 8d. or fourteen days in gaol. After waiting for some two months for him to pay the fine, and not having done so, I have had a warrant issued for his arrest, but while he remains in Victoria it cannot be enforced. And it is with these Victorian fishermen that I have the greatest trouble in watching and guarding against their committing illegal acts. I have seized and have had confiscated one large bag net found set completely across the Bullatella Creek. For the year I have given receipts and vouchers for the destruction of 7,957 cormorants or shags.

There are some twelve licensed fishing boats in my district, and about twenty men are employed in fishing. But these men do not fish all the year round. Most of them during part of the year are engaged rabbit and kangaroo killing.

In conclusion I beg to enclose a paragraph from the *Pastoral Times* of the 31st ultimo.

I have, &c.,
OSBORNE WILSHIRE,
Assistant Inspector of Fisheries.

CORMORANT SCALPS.—During the year 1887 there have been 7,957 shags killed in this district, and Mr. Wilshire, the local Inspector of Fisheries, has paid out the large sum of £132 12s. 4d. for their scalps. The increase this year in the number killed is an enormous one as compared with the previous two years, there being only 1,145 scalps paid for in 1885 and 933 in 1886. The price paid is 6d. per head for the large birds and 4d. per head for the small ones, and all the heads after being passed and paid for by the inspector have to be burned in the presence of a magistrate or a senior constable. These birds have a most voracious appetite for small fish, and as many as fifty and sixty have been found in one bird. It is a coincidence that with the large destruction of the shags there is a corresponding increase in the number of fish in the rivers. This year they are unusually plentiful, and lovers of the gentle sport have many opportunities for securing such hauls as are seldom taken from the local streams by amateur fishermen.

Assistant-Inspector Mulhall's Report.

Sydney, 11 January, 1888.

Sir,

I do myself the honor to furnish you with the following report of the fisheries under my supervision for the year 1887:—

Port Jackson.—I visited the Fish Market every morning during the year (excepting Sundays) from 4 and 5 a.m. till nearly 7 a.m.; often remaining there later when necessary to do so.

During the year there was a very good supply of fish at the market, sometimes rather more than could be well disposed of; and, when such was the case, they had to be sold at a rate too small for the fisherman to gain much by them. Such an influx of fish at those times was caused by the heavy rains which we had during the year driving them down from the heads of the bays into deeper water. Also, the mullet season helped to increase the quantity, as hundreds of dozens of large sea mullet were brought to market from the various fishing places during the early part of the year.

In the beginning of last year—that is, January, February, March, and the early part of April—there was a large quantity of fish condemned as unfit for food, owing to the long distance they had to be brought during those hot months. The fish from the distant places are packed in baskets, then sent on to Sydney by steamers, and, on their arrival, are carted as soon as possible from the wharves to the Woolloomooloo Fish Market, where they are inspected and then sold.

During November and December the fish arrived in much better condition than in the early part of the year, and those from the Macleay and the Clarence have been in very good condition, owing, I believe, to being packed in ice, or brought on to their destination by a steamer with a refrigerator in her. The fish from Lake Macquarie, Port Stephens, Tuggerah Lake, and Broken Bay have arrived during those last named months all in very good order.

During the summer months the Botany fish are generally very good, on account of the nearness of that fishing place to Sydney.

All through the past year the different parts of my district, and particularly the closed waters, have been regularly visited and well watched, by myself and the boatmen generally, four or five nights each week, arriving home seldom before 3 or 4 o'clock of a morning.

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In the early part of the year fish of small size were not plentiful in the closed waters, but towards the middle of the year they began to increase, and by the end of the year—that is, the middle of November—they had increased in such quantities that my district appeared one mass of various kinds of fish. Such a sight I had not seen for a number of years. They were in such numbers that we could have almost caught them with our hands, and as the boat moved on they almost jumped into it.

Outside the closed waters, in the open portions, fish were not so plentiful; but towards the end of December they began to scatter over the different parts of the harbour.

By the end of the year garfish had almost disappeared from the harbour, owing, no doubt, to the fresh, which did not allow the sea garfish to come in.

In reference to schnapper, I wish to say they are very scarce; but I believe there was rather an increase for the past year (in the quantity brought to market) over the preceding year. The scarcity of this favourite fish cannot well be accounted for. My opinion is that the schnapper men go too far out to sea.

Jew-fish have been more plentiful during the past year, according to the number brought to market.

In reference to the prawn season of last year, I wish to say it has been the best I have ever known. There has been a great increase in the quantity of prawns; and as regards quality and size, I am sure they have never been equalled here or elsewhere. There is generally a good quantity brought to market every morning, which brings a ready sale.

The number of fishermen, including prawn-fishers, belonging to Port Jackson is, I suppose, about seventy when all at work, but they generally go from place to place.

The number of boats is about twenty-six when all at work.

Oysters about Sydney harbour have almost disappeared, the cause of which I believe is through the picnic parties which are allowed to strip the rocks of them.

If there are any remaining in the deep water they are covered with mud, and those on the fore-shores and rocks which remain are so covered with slime that no spawn could attach to them.

I wish to add a few remarks respecting the spawning of fish. The fish spawn twice in the year, first in April and May, secondly in September and October, but owing to the changeable weather we had last year the second spawn was much later on, quite to the end of the year.

I have, &c.,

THOMAS MULHALL,

Assistant Inspector of Fisheries.

Assistant-Inspector Smith's Report.

Sir,

Hawkesbury River, 21 January, 1888.

I have the honor to forward my report on the Fisheries and Oyster Fisheries for the year 1887.

Total quantity of oysters sent to market during the past year, 2265 bags, the greater part of which were natural rock oysters. Royalty payable on the above, up to 13 December, 1887, on which date the royalty ceased by Act of Parliament, £317 11s.

Spat fees received during the year, from different lessees, on 73 bags of spat, £7 6s.

By the above figures you will observe that there has been a serious falling off in the shipments of oysters with former years.

The great item of interest, particularly to lessees, has of course been the disease in oysters, which commenced in this river during the latter part of 1886.

In three months all the laid oysters were either dead or seriously diseased, which made sale impossible; the disease eventually generally resulted in death. Oyster culture thus came to a standstill, and, I may add, remains so now. It is true several lessees have laid small quantities of spat, but it was no sooner laid than it was again attacked by worms.

The localities most marked by the disease are the upper half of Mooney Creek, for a distance of 5 miles; the main river from Peat's Ferry to Mangrove Creek, being a distance of 9 miles; Bar Island and locality; the whole of Murra Murra Creek, and all the lower part of Beroura Creek. In some localities the disease is very severe; in fact, the oysters are nearly exterminated, and the lessees have become disgusted with repeated failures.

In April, 1887, a special examination of the disease took place by experts, who found no difficulty in finding plenty of worms in the oysters; but the origin of the disease and the cure are up to now, I believe, a mystery. I beg to add that I am in hopes that the first good flood may prove to be the cure.

In the upper part of Beroura Creek rock oysters are fairly plentiful, with disease in some. The rock oysters on the main river, below Peat's Ferry, are healthy and clear of disease.

The net and line fishing during the past year have also been disappointing. In the early part of 1887 it was remarked that fish of all sorts had become very scarce in this river, in consequence of which all the waters above the railway bridge were closed against net-fishing for a term of eighteen months.

The waters thus closed against net-fishing contain an enormous area—main river, 90 miles; Mooney Creek, 15 miles; Beroura Creek, 15 miles; Mangrove Creek, 20 miles; Marra Marra Creek, 5 miles; besides other smaller creeks and numerous bays, where fish of all sorts may now be seen undisturbed possession, and in large quantities.

In the spring months Cowan Creek was again visited by shoals of schnapper and large quantities of other fish. The schnapper were seen in shoals and would not take bait, although at other times schnapper were often caught by fishing parties.

The quantity of fish sent to market during the past year, has therefore only been indifferent.

During the latter part of 1887, fish of all sorts have been more plentiful, particularly in closed waters.

Large prawn have also been very plentiful in open waters, as well as closed waters.

The number of men fishing in the lower part of the river in open waters is very uncertain; they are here one day and gone the next, perhaps to Pitt Water, or Brisbane Water, or to Sydney.

The fishing-nets used in this river are mostly a long hauling net, having a mesh of 2½ inches in the bunt, and 3 inches in the wings.

Garfish nets have also been used for the purpose of catching bait for fishing parties, which should at once be discontinued.

I have, &c.,

P. SMITH,

Assistant Inspector.

Assistant

Assistant-Inspector Cain's Report, Tuggarah Lake, 1887.

Sir,

Tuggarah Lake, 14 January, 1888.

I have the honor to report the state of the Tuggarah Lakes fisheries for the year 1887.

During eight months, from 26th of April to 22nd of December, there has been a bountiful supply of fish, principally mullet, whiting, blackfish, garfish, bream, and flathead. There has been 7,013 baskets of fish forwarded to Sydney Market by steamer.

The number of men at work the first two months on the lakes was sixty; number of boats was nineteen.

Shoals of small fish are plentiful along the foreshores, and looking healthy. There are no fish in the creeks at the present time. Owing to the late rains the creeks are quite fresh. The channel to the entrance is good; there are from 7 to 8 feet of water in it. The fish can be plainly seen in the channel making their way into the lakes. The months of February and March are the principal months for the sea mullet entering the lakes. I approve very much of the closed waters that have been proclaimed.

I have, &c.,

W. N. CAIN,

Assistant Inspector.

Assistant-Inspector Cain's Report of the Oyster Beds, Brisbane Water.

Sir,

Brisbane Water, 14 January, 1888.

I have the honor to submit the following report of the present state of the natural oyster beds in the district of Brisbane Water:—They are in good condition, and will continue so until April. The foreshore in the Kincumbe broadwater is not naturally a suitable place for cultivation on account of the soft bottom, but where ballast has been thrown overboard from vessels the oysters are good. In Woy Woy and Cockle Creek the rock oysters are in good condition.

I feel pleased in having to report that the lessees who are cultivating these oyster beds have them in good condition. There are at the present time 900 bags in marketable order. The amount of spat I collected in 71 bags, for which I received the fees, £7 6s.

I have, &c.,

W. N. CAIN,

Assistant Inspector.

Assistant-Inspector Curan's Report, Hunter River Oyster Beds, 1887.

Sir,

Fisheries Office, Newcastle, 9 January, 1888.

I have the honor to forward annual report on the state of the Hunter River beds for the past year. There have been several floods during the year, which have killed the worm. The oysters are commencing to grow on the deep-water beds in the back channel, one of the beds in the steamers' channel, and on the foreshores; mostly in the back channel. On Spectacle Islands the oysters spawned last November. There was a great number of very young oysters to be seen on the old shells on the foreshores in the back channel, Mosquito Creek, and on Spectacle Island, but very few in Fullerton Cove. Mr. Gibbins and Mr. Anderson have laid down about forty or fifty bags of bank oysters on the beds in the back channel, and on the beds in Fullerton Cove; they are all growing well, and in good condition. The last flood does not appear to have injured them as yet. I hope in a few months, with favourable weather and no big floods, to report more favourably on the state of the oyster beds. Mr. Gibbins and Mr. Anderson have two men employed in removing young oysters on their foreshores fronting their leases into deeper water.

I have, &c.,

HENRY CURAN,

Assistant Inspector, Fisheries.

Assistant-Inspector Curan's Annual Report for 1887, Hunter River Fisheries.

Sir,

Fisheries Office, Newcastle, 19 January, 1888.

I have the honor to forward my annual report on the Fisheries for the Hunter River. There have been several floods in the river during the year which have brought down large quantities of mud: this has killed a great many of the foreshore oysters; in some places the mud has settled from six inches to a foot deep, completely covering the oysters and killing them. There has been a great deal of spawn on the foreshores several times, but the freshes in the river have killed them. There is now a good crop of young oysters on the foreshore in Mosquito Creek, and back channel, and Spectacle Island, and on the stones in Mosquito Channel. There are very few young oysters to be seen about Fullerton Cove. Mr. Gibbins, and Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Harrison have laid down forty or fifty bags of foreshore oysters in the back channel beds, and beacon beds, and in Fullerton Cove beds. The oysters laid down on the back channel beds and on the beacon beds spawned, as I got young oysters growing on the old shells in the back channel, and on the beacon beds, when I was trying them with the dredge some hauls I got two and three oysters and others more. Mr. Gibbins, and Mr. Anderson, and Mr. Harrison are the only lessees who have made any efforts to improve their leases; they keep two men constantly employed cleaning with the dredge and removing spat into deeper water, so that the oysters will be always covered at low water. The freshes have killed all the disease in the old shells, the worm does now appear to be destroyed, the shells are clean, and nothing to stop the spawn from setting on the dredge beds; the oysters laid down are growing well and in good condition. The last flood does not appear to have done any harm to the laid oysters. Charles Croese, and Martin Jordan, and James Deamer have not taken up the leases they applied for. There have seventy-four bags of oysters taken from the foreshore last year for use in Newcastle. If there be no more freshes in the Hunter for a few months the oysters will set on the beds and grow; all the dredge beds are cleaner now than they have been for these last three years. There are very few marketable oysters in the river at the present time. If there should be no more floods and fine weather exist I hope to be able to report more favourably of the oyster beds at the close of this year.

With reference to the fish, the supply has not been equal to the demand, the freshes have driven all the fish from the heads of the rivers and out to sea. The flood has killed a large quantity of fish, such as bream, whiting, flathead, soles, eels, mullet, perch, and stinging ray, and the beach was at one time covered with them. I saw some flatheads 2 ft. 6 in. long dead, floating in the river after the flood in February last.

Bream

Bream, flathead, and whiting have been very scarce in the Hunter. Young jew-fish are very plentiful, in fact they are a nuisance to the fishermen, as there is no sale for them when brought into the market. There have been forty-six licensed fishing-boats and 106 licensed fishermen for the Hunter River for the year 1887. Some of these men and boats only fish in the lobster season, some at Port Stephens and some at Newcastle. There have been 3,088 baskets of fish caught last year. Prawns have been very plentiful and very large, but dull of sale. There have been as many as five and six basketfuls caught in one haul in Fullerton Cove. There have been 2,604 baskets of prawns caught in seven months, and thirty-nine dozen of lobsters. The floods have destroyed the feeding-ground by the deposit of mud. The flood last December drove all the prawns out to sea, and they have not returned yet. Young mullet are very plentiful this last week; I have seen large shoals of them from 4 to 6 inches long; they seem to be going up the river. There are three fish-dealers who get fish from Lake Macquarie every morning and sells them on the Market Wharf. Hunter River fishermen are not allowed to retail their fish on the Market Wharf unless they pay 5s. a week for a stand, and 2d. a basket for landing. I must say a fish market is very badly wanted in Newcastle. I have successfully prosecuted one fisherman for catching under-weight fish.

I have, &c.,

HENRY CURAN,

Assistant Inspector of Fisheries.

Report on the Fisheries, Port Stephens District.

Sir,

Port Stephens, 27 January, 1888.

I have the honor to submit for the information of the Commissioners of Fisheries for this Colony the following report on the condition of the fisheries in the district under my charge:—

As the oyster-fishing is the most important I shall commence with it.

It will be in your recollection that towards the close of 1886 or beginning of 1887 I reported upon the existence of a disease affecting the oysters, which bade fair, if not to exterminate the oyster, certainly to cripple that industry. I am happy now to be able to report that this disease has quite died out. There has been a great diversity of opinion as to both the cause of it and to its cessation. Men of experience have given me totally different reasons, but happily the fact remains that it no longer exists. As a rule, the oysters during the past year have been in good condition, especially those from the deep dredging beds of the Upper Karnah.

Some of the lessees have, during the latter months of the year, been giving their beds a rest, and consequently the output has not been so great as in the first portion. With one exception—which I have specially reported on—the holders of oyster areas have kept well within the spirit of the Act; and many have spent time and money in laying down oysters on their ground. From my own observation, as well as from information gathered from the oystermen, I may state that “spat” has been more plentiful during 1887 than the previous year. But I question if oyster culture will ever be properly carried out until some method of artificially hatching “spat” and laying it down is adopted.

I am sorry to have to mention that oyster stealing has been prevalent. It was principally confined however, to one locality—the North Arm. The individuals concerned in this are well known, but the difficulty of detection has been great. I am happy, however, to say that since I confiscated, on two occasions, bags I got on the beach (once the men ran into the bush, and the other time I got the men as well), the nuisance has almost entirely stopped.

This district is so large and consequently thorough supervision of it so difficult, that the wonder is that oyster stealing has not attained greater proportions. The applications to take up new ground were not as numerous as in the latter portion of 1886. Several holders of oyster ground of not much value conceived the idea of forming a company. This was done, and as a matter of course in a very short time it came to grief. A Mr. Kelly became purchaser of the company's interest and he also before long suspended operations, and the leases of the portions of the areas included have for the most part been cancelled for non-fulfilment of the covenants. On the whole, I consider the oyster industry in a healthy condition. The abolition of the royalty does not seem to have met with any particular favour, the middlemen, it is considered, reaping the benefit. Herewith is the number of bags forwarded from this district:—

	Lime Burners Creek,	Nelson's Bay.
January	65	168
February	252	302
March	175	157
April	323	206
May	218	102
June	137	74
July	184	125
August	63	41
September	67	43
October	109	111
November	54	89
December	76	132
	1,723	1,550
	1,550	

Total 3,273 bags for the district of Port Stephens,

which produced a royalty of £490 19s.

With regard to the fish, I have to report that I have observed in all the tidal waters running into Port Stephens a larger number, by a long way, than what I noticed the previous year. Except for some days after freshes, which drive the fish back into the salt water, all the rivers and creeks literally swarm with fish, principally mullet and bream. All the upper waters, extending from Wurrung Island to Flying Fox Island—a distance of over 15 miles—and also a considerable portion of the main harbour, have been closed to net-fishing for a period of two years, which expires in August next; consequently the

the fish sent away are caught entirely in the Myall, and about its mouth, and the lower portion of the harbour. Notwithstanding that the Myall is the principal fishing ground, there seems to be quite as many fish in it as in the other rivers. In going up it the other night I found the mullet in thousands. At this time of year the distance from market is a great drawback to the fishermen, as so many fish are unfit for food by the time they arrive in Sydney. Several fishermen have told me that with all their hard work and life they cannot keep out of debt; and although in the winter and cooler season they do better, yet, taking one time of the year with another, they barely make a living. It is a pity that an attempt is not made to dry and preserve the fish in the summer time, as even a small price for salted or dried fish would pay better than allowing it to go to loss in the wholesale way it does. I think that if any one with a little capital and some practical experience would start a drying establishment, he would not only make the venture pay himself, but do a material benefit to the district and help considerably a hard-working class of men. The fish sent from Port Stephens in 1887 averaged about seventy-five baskets a week, or a total of 3,900.

I have now only to mention the crayfish, which are all caught outside the Heads, the quantity shipped being 1,800 dozen for the season of six months.

I have, &c.,
C. H. OTWAY,
Assistant Inspector.

Acting Assistant-Inspector Windeyer's Report on Oysters and Fisheries at Port Macquarie for 1887.

Oysters.

NATURAL beds situated on the River Hastings, about 4 miles from its mouth, though not large in extent, were in past years extremely productive, yielding oysters of superior size and quality; but for the last eight years have been completely bare, and at the present time show no signs of recuperation, as far as can be ascertained by my limited means of observation.

The causes assigned by experts and others of this total absence of oysters from beds formerly so prolific have been various. Some have attributed it to the complete denudation of the beds by dredging; others to the continued dry weather and consequent absence of freshes, causing a deposit of slime on the stones and cultch, and preventing the adherence of the spawn. Others assert that the water became too saline for the spawn to live, and others again give a combination of these causes as the reason. To this opinion I incline, believing that the continued absence of freshes in the river is the main factor in this apparent extinction of the oysters on the natural beds.

I have gathered from old residents that at one time there were no oysters in these waters, but that the supply was originated by a vessel weatherbound depositing a cargo of oysters in the river. I have every reason to believe this to be correct; it may therefore be assumed from the enormous increase, superior size, and quality, that the conditions of these waters are highly favourable to the production and propagation of oysters.

Foreshore Oysters.

During the past year these oysters do not appear to have thriven; many localities abundantly supplied in 1885 and 1886 have become nearly extinct. I cannot trace any cause for this, unless it may be that the water was too saline.

In 1884, 1885, and 1886, quantities were taken from the foreshores and laid down by Mr. P. Cohen on his leased areas; but this did not prove successful—most of them died. I may here hazard an opinion as to this failure, though I am aware it is opposed by experts.

I have observed, heard, and read that similar failures, some of them on a large scale, have attended the laying down of foreshore oysters in various localities. The rock and mangrove oyster will not exist out of its natural habitat, that is, completely covered at high water, and as completely uncovered at low water; thus, when they are removed and placed in positions where they are constantly covered, the natural conditions of their existence are infringed. Another condition which appears to be necessary is that the oyster must not be detached. In its natural state it is always attached to some object—rocks, stones, trees, or to one another. It is true that the oyster may become habituated to these radical changes of its natural conditions and improve and propagate; but this must be a matter of time.

Spawn.

As far as my observations have extended there appears to have been a medium quantity of spawn cast during the past season; but I fail to see a corresponding supply of young oysters, which should now be of notable dimensions. This may be attributed to adverse conditions of winds and tides during spawning.

Causes of destruction.

With reference to the appearance (the first, to my knowledge) of a small shell-fish, which destroyed the young oysters, mentioned in my Monthly Oyster Returns, I find that its presence is confined to certain localities where the oysters are among rocks or stones. I have not observed that they infest the mangrove oysters; only very young oysters are attacked. I do not attach much importance to this visitation, but will report on more extended observation.

Leased Areas.

As reported in my Monthly Oyster Return, only on one lease (J. S. Dick, No. 319) have the conditions been complied with. On this the boundaries have been marked, and some trouble taken to develop on a small scale the capacity of the locality for oyster culture. On lease No. 945, Cohen and Fremlin, the boundaries have not been marked. In 1885-86 oysters were laid down on this area, with the result before-mentioned. A wall of stones has been placed on this lease to catch spawn. On all the other areas nothing whatever has been done.

Fisheries.

As by weekly reports, supply of fish of every description has been very abundant in this harbour, notably whiting.

During 1885-86 a party of licensed fishermen made large hauls of fish for curing and sending to Sydney; but, I believe, were not successful. The only netting now done is for local consumption—about 20 baskets weekly. The quantity of fish in the harbour at nearly all seasons is very large, and I fail to see why the curing for export to Sydney should not be remunerative, as I believe it is on the Macleay River.

Closing Waters.

In the event of more extensive fishing operations being carried on here, I should beg to recommend the closing of these waters from net-fishing for (say) three months—December, January, February, the spawning season for whiting, mullet, and salmon.

Deep Sea Fish.

The schnapper grounds on this coast, extending over 150 miles north and south, are, within my experience, the best in the Colony, and, I have no doubt, will in the near future be the main source of supply for the Sydney markets.

The fine red sea-weed mentioned in Commissioners' Report (page 3) did not appear here during 1887.

HENRY W. C. WINDEYER,
A.A. Inspector, Fisheries.

Assistant-Inspector M'Gregor's Report for 1887—Tweed River Fisheries.

Sir,

Tweed Heads, 24 January, 1888.

I have the honor (as requested by you) to forward report on the fisheries under my supervision.

There has not been any thing particular to note during the past year (1887). There are generally plenty of fish in the river, principally whiting, bream, tarwhine, black fish, and mullet, but not many caught, there being only one fisherman on the river. Some of the hotelkeepers have short seines, and occasionally fish for their own use. When up river I examined the nets and found them to be the proper size of mesh. Whiting were very plentiful in the lower parts of the river in the summer months; and quantities were caught by crews of vessels. Sea-mullet were not so numerous, nor so long in the river as in former years; but after sea-mullet had left the river, flat-tail mullet were very numerous for some time. Schnapper were more plentiful at the reef's off Cook's Island than in 1886.

No oysters have been taken from the leases. I have not tried any oysters from deep-water leases; but have several times tried some on the foreshores, and they opened well. There is a slimy weed on some of the leases, but there are very few oysters on those leases, they having been over worked some years past and have never recovered again.

Leases improved are Langley's and Wells', Langley having laid down 74 bags of spat on his lease, and Wells 28, besides improving the leases by placing sand stone on the edges. Neither Hunter, Smith & Brett have improved or taken oysters from their leases.

Not having a dredge I cannot tell whether there are any marketable oysters on the deep-water leases or not. There are very few on the shallow leases.

There was a quantity of oyster-spat on the foreshores near the mouth of Terranora Creek towards the end of the year; but do not know what part of the creek it came from.

I have, &c.,

WILLIAM M'GREGOR.

The Secretary Department of Fisheries.

Assistant-Inspector Grant's Report on George's River Fisheries.

Sir,

George's River Fishery, 21 January, 1888.

I have the honor to submit to you the following Report on the Fisheries of the waters under my supervision.

In George's River (closed waters), on Limekiln, Moon, Soilybottom, and Saltpan sandbars, whiting and bream abound for the greater part of the year. On and above the Moon Flats, and in all creeks as far as Rocky Reach, mullet of all descriptions were found in enormous shoals; red bream in medium quantities; river garfish numerous, but very small—none fit for market.

In the Woronora River (closed waters) on all sandbars and flats, there are school and trumpeter whiting, flat-head and bream in very large quantities; mullet and black fish in medium quantities.

Line fishers in the closed waters have been catching great quantities of whiting, flat-head, and red bream; in fact, it has been a great harvest for line fisheries, through the river being closed from net fishing. I notice if it rains heavily for two or three days, a fresh is caused, which drives great numbers of different fish from the closed waters into the open waters of George's River and Botany Bay; after the said fresh, it takes some time before you can see the great quantities of fish back in the closed waters.

Leather-jackets have been very troublesome to the net fishermen in Botany Bay and about the mouth of George's River; in fact, I saw the bunt of a garfish net almost eaten out by them whilst being hauled ashore on the south side of Botany Bay. All through the winter months prawns were caught, and are to be seen in great quantities in George's River, Botany Bay, and Cook's River; in fact, it was the greatest season ever known for prawns.

In Botany Bay, sea garfish have only been in medium quantities, more scarce than they have been for the last few years; only for the few freshes through the year, fishermen would find it very hard to live, being confined only to the mouth of George's River and Botany Bay.

I have noticed for many years that the last two months of the year fish fall off greatly in numbers about the Bay and the mouth of George's River. The cause of the scarcity is that the fish accumulate in large shoals in deep holes in the upper parts of the rivers for the purpose of travelling, which they commence about January; but, if a fresh comes, I have known them to travel at Christmas time. On and after February fish of all descriptions leave the rivers, and commence to travel along the coast from inlet to inlet till May, at which time they cease travelling, and, to the best of my opinion, are going up the river to prepare for spawning. Again, salmon, mackrel, and other coast fish are travelling in September.

The average number of licensed fishing boats engaged in the waters under my supervision is twenty-four, and fishermen sixty, and about twenty private fishing boats with nets.

George's

George's River, as almost everyone knows, is remarkable for its oysters, they being most delicious in flavour; but the quantity taken during the last year has been very limited. Many of the lessees are working diligently to improve their leases, and I think they will prosper, as the foreshores of George's River are lined with spawn, for which it has been the greatest season known for the last fifteen years. In the month of December, there were about 300 bags of spawn laid down on lease No. 510.

The collections taken from private oyster fisheries for the year is ninety-two bags of spawn from Weenee Bay, and 169 bags of marketable oysters from Gawley Bay, sent to Sydney.

Port Hacking Fishery.

In Port Hacking, small fish for the last year have been very plentiful about the upper parts, viz.—above north-west arm, and in the deep holes at the head of south-west arm; which places, I think, are the only parts in the whole of Port Hacking fit for breeding purposes; and I don't see any improvement from the closing of the whole of Port Hacking River from net fishing to what it was in previous years, because fish are plentiful in the said river in all parts one week, but the next, it is impossible to see any. Port Hacking seems to be nothing more than a place of shelter for school fish whilst travelling about the coast. In fact, there have been less schnapper caught by the line since the river has been closed than when the fishermen were continually hauling their nets in it.

In Port Hacking there are numerous oyster leases on the northern side of the river. Lessees have collected and culled 300 bags of oysters, large and small, and brought them to their leases in George's River, for growth and fattening; also, 400 bags to bring round this year. The majority of the oysters on the north shore are poor and not marketable, and never would be if left to remain in Port Hacking, as they grow in great clusters, oyster upon oyster; the underneath ones die, and so the whole bunch falls off the rocks, and what remain alive are buried or choked with sand, and also perish. The removing of the said oysters is the means of saving hundreds of bags through the year, and greatly improves oyster culture in George's River. The shores bounding the National Park have flourished greatly; in fact, since July till the latter end of November, the oysters were in the best condition they have been known to be in for many years; but are now poor again.

The National Park Trustees have taken all control over the the oysters on the shores, so that I can only give account of about 100 bags collected for the market.

I have, &c.,

J. D. GRANT,

Assistant Inspector of Fisheries, George's River.

The Chief Inspector of Fisheries, Sydney.

Assistant-Inspector Benson's Report on Fisheries of Lake Illawarra.

Sir,

Wollongong, 16 January, 1888.

I have the honor to submit the following report on the fisheries in my district to the 31st December, 1887.

Lake Illawarra.

This lake continues to be very productive in fish, although during the months of January and February fishing operations were considerably hampered by the height of the water in the lake, it being three feet above high water mark, rendering it almost impossible for hauling. In consequence of this, I recommended the fishermen to cut through the sand bar at the entrance, it being sanded up; which, after several unsuccessful attempts they succeeded in doing on the 14th February. On this date and the day following, two schools of fish worked into the lake, one of blue-nose whiting, and one of mullet (hardgut). The entrance has continued open during the year, and as yet there are no indications of its sanding up.

The supply of fish forwarded to the metropolis has been very large, when taking into consideration two causes, which, no doubt, have reduced the total thus forwarded. First, to the wonderful increase in the local supply, and second, to eight of the resident fishermen and three boats leaving this lake in April for the Tuggerah Beach Lake, to fish there for the winter months, returning here again for the summer.

The varieties of fish forwarded consisted principally of sea bream, of which some of the finest of these species which have been seen in the Sydney market for years were forwarded from this lake during the early part of this year. These fish were all full roed, but could not ascertain if they spawned in the lake; other varieties consisted of sea mullet, flathead, blackfish, mullet (hardgut), whiting, black bream, garfish, perch, squire, tarwhine, and tailor, with a small quantity of travally, and flat-tail mullet.

The tributaries and bays adjoining with the entrance to the lake, being closed for a further period of twelve months, has kept up the supply of young fish of all descriptions with which this lake is swarming. In reference to the entrance of the lake and Mullet Creek, I would strongly advise the permanent closing of these waters, without the reservations on either sides or facing these waters, and, more especially so, the entrance to the lake, in consequence of netting operations being continuously carried on when open for net fishing, thus preventing the free ingress of fish to the lake for purposes of spawning.

With reference to the local supply of fish, I have to report a wonderful increase on that of 1886. The total number of baskets locally sold being 1,838; the cause of this great increase in the supply is that there are four men constantly hawking fish through the mining centres of the Illawarra districts. Three of these men have been miners who came out on strike during the latter end of 1886, and to gain a livelihood were induced to hawk fish, which will be seen from the total number of baskets sold they have been so successful as to continue to supply the local demand.

Appended to this report is a return showing the quantities for each month of baskets of fish shipped to Sydney, *via* Wollongong and Shellharbour, for 1887.

I have, &c.,

DAVID W. BENSON,

Assistant Inspector.

The Secretary, Department of Fisheries.

Assistant

Assistant Inspector Benson's Report on Fisheries of Lake Illawarra, for 1887.

Sir,

Wollongong, 16 January, 1888.

I have the honor to submit the following report on the oyster fisheries in my district, for the year 1887:—

Minumurra River.

Two oyster culture leases have been granted during the year. The lessee who has been engaged in the oyster fisheries for many years, has gone to work in a systematic manner, by keeping a fair quantity of mature oyster on his beds, and laying down mangrove and cobbler's peg oyster and allowing them to mature thoroughly before shipping to market, also by laying spat collection.

During the month of February there was a general spawn of the deposits of oysters in this river. The lessee in consequence did not work his beds for several months.

There have been taken during the year 40 bags of oysters, the total amount of royalty being £6 collected in Sydney.

This river contains a large quantity of foreshore mangrove and cobbler's peg oysters, which have shown during the year a marked and healthy growth; there is also a fair supply of deep-bed oysters. No disease exists among the oysters in this river.

Fish.

Operations have been during the year confined to a couple of fishermen for local consumption only.

I have, &c.,

DAVID W. BENSON,

Assistant Inspector.

Inspector's Benson's Report of inspection, Ulladulla, Narrawillee, Conjola, and Berara.

Sir,

Bateman's Bay, 17 May, 1887.

I have the honor to report having visited and inspected the fisheries at Ulladulla, Narrawillee Creek, Conjola Lake, and Berara Creek.

At Ulladulla, where fish of many descriptions abound, no licensed fishermen are at work, and on questioning two fishermen as to the reason was informed that they found it impossible to obtain a livelihood, owing to the uncertainty attached to the time at which the steamer leaves, and the low price received for their fish at the Sydney market. Some aborigines told me that schnapper were very abundant on the coast around Ulladulla, but that their fishing was greatly interfered with by the great numbers of leather jackets, which abound on the schnapper grounds. These pests of the fishermen are reported by the Inspectors to be increasing yearly throughout the southern fisheries.

Narrawillee Creek.—The lessees on this creek are doing all in their power to make oyster culture a success by laying down spat collectors in the shape of free-stone and swamp oak, and by sending only those oysters to market which have arrived at maturity. As a result of this good management I found on inspection, that although some 130 bags of oysters have been sent to market during the summer months, the beds are still fairly stocked, and that the mangroves and spat collectors which line the foreshores are well covered with spat and brood, many of which will have attained sufficient growth for laying down during the coming summer. When it is taken into account that the oyster-bearing portion of this creek is only about 1 mile in extent, and that it had been almost completely denuded of oysters under the old licensing system, the result is extremely satisfactory, and goes far to prove that it only requires judgment combined with a little practical knowledge to make oyster culture a success.

Conjola Lake.—One application for a lease, made on this lake by William Millard, has been disallowed. The applicant, under his sufferance occupation, has laid down several bags of oysters on his foreshore, and is desirous of giving oyster culture at Conjola Lake a fair trial. I would respectfully recommend that the action taken with regard to this area be reconsidered.*

Berara Creek is situated 16 miles north of Ulladulla, and is about 3 miles in length. The oyster-bearing portion commences about 1 mile from the mouth and extends to within a short distance of the head of the creek. The oysters are found on small patches of rock and are now in splendid condition. Only one lease has been applied for, which I measured and marked in accordance with instructions.

After a careful examination I failed to discover any sign of spat at Conjola or Berara, and am of opinion that the oysters in these waters have not spatted for some years, as all of the oysters showing on rocks are apparently four years of age and upwards. Why there should be a good fall of spat at Narrawillee Creek and none at Conjola or Berara, only a few miles apart, I am at present unable to say, but will give the matter careful consideration, and report the conclusion arrived at.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE G. BENSON,

Inspector, Southern Fisheries.

Assistant-Inspector Smithers to The Chief Inspector.

Sir,

Sydney, 2 January, 1888.

I have the honor to submit, for your information, my report, from 30th August last (upon which date I left Eden District to temporarily supervise another matter) to 31st December.

As you are aware, I left under instructions for Lake Illawarra on the 2nd September, and remained in charge of that place till the 26th of the same month, when, under instructions, I again left for Sydney.

During my stay at Lake Illawarra I had the satisfaction of noting the great advantages gained by the closing certain parts of the lake against net fishing. In the whole of these closed waters, more especially Mullet Creek, the fish were very plentiful, and there could be seen countless numbers of young fish, fully proving what protection and attention has done there. If the same protection could be always afforded it there would be a permanent abundant supply.

The fishing is done at the lake principally with 4-inch meshing nets, which are used with very great success, as this lake undoubtedly gives every facility to such nets being used.

The

* NOTE.—In reference to the petition of certain persons this lease was disallowed, and the area has been recommended to be exempted from the power of leasing.—L.G.T., 21/5/87, Chief Inspector.

The fishermen send in their fish to Wollongong five times a week ; this involves a land transit of 4 miles, and thence steamer to Sydney. Only a small portion of the catch is sold at Wollongong.

I should mention that this fine lake has of itself splendid and valuable natural reserves, in the way of large flats, covered for the most part with marine vegetation, upon which vast quantities of fish may be seen, and upon which nets can be neither hauled nor set.

In addition to the proclaimed reserve these flats are invaluable in the protection they afford to young fish.

The oversight of the closed waters is no easy matter. The only place of residence available is distant some 2 miles up Mullet Creek, and as many of the fishermen live on the creek it is very difficult to visit the lake unobserved.

If the Inspector should be seen during his passage down signals are at once made by the fishermen to any *confrères* who may be engaged in fishing in the closed waters.

The only apparent remedy for this difficulty is for a house to be provided for the Inspector in some position where the closed waters could be overlooked.

On my return to Sydney I at once took my share in watching the closed waters of Port Jackson. The results of my oversight have been duly reported to you from time to time. I summarise those results here ; altogether I found ten men offending, seized four nets and one boat ; other offences, I charged four men and took three nets and one boat.

My duties in closed waters have been much frustrated by the systematic manner in which my movements have been watched.

As in Lake Macquarie, so in Port Jackson, great quantities of fish may be seen in closed waters, a further proof of the wisdom of affording protection to the spawning ground.

I have, &c.,

FREDK. W. SMITHERS.

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

FISHERIES ACT, 1881.

(REGULATION UNDER.)

Presented to Parliament, pursuant to Act 44 Vic. No. 26.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Sydney, 21st February, 1889.

His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased, in accordance with section 9 of the "Fisheries Act, 1881," to make the following Regulation under the provisions of the above-cited Act.

GEORGE R. DIBBS.

Every person licensed to catch fish, or being either the owner or in charge of a fishing-boat licensed under the provisions of the "Fisheries Act, 1881," 44 Vic. No. 26, shall, on demand at any time by any Inspector of Fisheries, Officer of Police, or constable, forthwith produce such license; and any person so failing to produce such license shall on conviction forfeit and pay a penalty of not less than two pounds.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

REPORT FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

WORKING OF THE FISHERIES ACT,

TOGETHER WITH THE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE,

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE,

AND

APPENDICES.

ORDERED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TO BE PRINTED,
27 *August*, 1889.

SYDNEY : CHARLES POTTER, GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

1889.

1889.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

VOTES NO. 28. TUESDAY, 21 MAY, 1889.

10. WORKING OF THE FISHERIES ACT:—Mr. Frank Farnell moved, pursuant to *amended* Notice,—
- (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed, with power to send for persons and papers, to inquire into and report upon the working of the Fisheries Act.
- (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Howe, Mr. William Stephen, Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Ritchie, Mr. Nobbs, Mr. Seaver, Mr. Carruthers, and the Mover.
- Debate ensued.
- Question put and passed
-

VOTES NO. 56. WEDNESDAY, 10 JULY, 1889.

5. WORKING OF THE FISHERIES ACT (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Dale, for Mr. Frank Farnell, moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Select Committee now sitting on "Working of the Fisheries Act" be authorized to make visits of inspection to, and to hold inquiries at, certain fisheries of the Colony, and that the Committee have power to sit during any adjournment of this House, to enable them to make the said visits of inspection.
- Question put and passed.
-

VOTES NO. 83. TUESDAY, 27 AUGUST, 1889.

4. WORKING OF THE FISHERIES ACT:—Mr. Frank Farnell, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and Report this subject was referred on 21st May, 1889, together with Appendices.
- Ordered to be printed.
-

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1889.

WORKING OF THE FISHERIES ACT.

REPORT.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE of the Legislative Assembly appointed on 21st May, 1889, "with power to send for persons and papers, to inquire into and report upon the working of the Fisheries Act" and to whom was granted on 10th July, 1889, "leave to make visits of inspection to, and to hold inquiries at, certain fisheries of the Colony,"—have agreed to the following Report:—

Your Committee having bestowed a large amount of time and attention upon the subject referred to them, and carefully considered the varied evidence given before the Committee find that the Fisheries Act has not worked as satisfactorily as was anticipated by its framers. The Act has by reason of certain restrictions operated harshly upon those engaged in the industry, and has not held out sufficient encouragement to oyster-culture; indeed this industry has almost become a dead letter owing particularly to the system of leasing and supervision being defective.

2. The evidence taken before your Committee, without exception, points to the expediency of allowing an extension of the length of the various nets along the corks, and your Committee recommend for the consideration of your Honorable House,—

- (1.) That the hauling-net should be allowed to be increased in length to 250 fathoms, with a mesh of $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in the wings, and 2 inches in the bunt, and that the bunt should not exceed $\frac{1}{3}$ the length of the net.
- (2.) That the garfish-net should not exceed 60 fathoms, with bunt not more than $\frac{1}{3}$, and the mesh should be $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch in the wings and 1 inch in the bunt.
- (3.) That the prawn-net should not exceed 30 fathoms, having a mesh throughout not less than 1 inch.
- (4.) That the meshing-net to be used in tidal waters should have a length not exceeding 120 fathoms, and a mesh not less than 3 inches in any part.
- (5.) That the inland waters' net should consist of a net having a mesh of not less than 4 inches in any part, and not fitted with a bag or purse; and no net should be used in the tributaries of inland rivers.
- (6.) That each net should be considered legal when passed by an inspector, and should not be forfeited until a second conviction.
- (7.) That no net be set across any inland river without leaving a width of at least 12 feet of water between each bank and the ends of the net, and any person wilfully placing any obstruction of whatever kind between the net and the bank so as to prevent fish freely passing should be liable to a heavy penalty.
- (8.) That the legal weight of the garfish be reduced to 1 ounce, considering that it is a migratory fish and vast quantities can be captured.

3. Your Committee have cause to regret that more discrimination has not been shown in the closing and opening of rivers and bays for fishing—it having been proved to the Committee that the local Inspectors have but seldom been consulted in regard to the closing or opening of waters, but that closures have been made by the Fisheries Commission which have caused hardship to the fishermen as well as deprived the public of being able to obtain fresh fish, notably on the Parramatta, Hawkesbury, and George's Rivers.

4. Your Committee urge that immediate attention be directed to the way in which the fish in the Murray and its tributaries are being captured and destroyed.

5. Your Committee have learned that trawling is not practised by the fishermen of New South Wales, and they recommend that the coast be surveyed without delay and some encouragement offered to trawlers.

6.

6. It has been shown to your Committee that much delay and inconvenience have been caused the fishermen by the delays that have taken place in the Fisheries Department through the absence of a quorum of the members of the Commission, and they cannot but add that the mode of procedure in many instances, in transacting business in the absence of a quorum, was irregular and objectionable.

7. Your Committee have ascertained that the members of the Commission have been very irregular in their attendance on the Commission, and much delay has been caused in consequence.

8. Your Committee recommend that the fishermen's license fee remain as at present, 10s., and that the boat license be dispensed with.

9. Your Committee are of opinion that all openings and closures of waters should at all times be notified without delay to the Fisheries Inspectors of the various districts for the purpose of affording direct information to the fishermen, and further suggest that in districts where practicable the local police officers be appointed to perform the duties of Assistant Inspectors of Fisheries, and that Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors should be authorized to issue licenses and collect fees.

10. Your Committee beg to point out the deplorable condition of the oyster fisheries, which once yielded profitable employment, and recommend as a remedy the granting of large areas of foreshore on the leasing system, which shall be subject to tender, and that the rent be determined by the amount tendered, and in no case should a lease be granted unless the rent be paid one year in advance.

11. Your Committee have learned that under the present system of oyster-leasing, pilfering and indiscriminate selection of small areas have interfered with the success of the lessees of larger areas.

12. It has been proved to your Committee that a very unsatisfactory state of affairs exists in regard to the sale of fish at the Woolloomooloo Market, and they recommend the following :—

- (1.) That an additional market be established close to the Railway and convenient to water carriage—to be under the supervision of an officer appointed by the Government, who may be authorised to sell consignments of fish at any hour after their arrival; and that all fishermen shall have the right to appoint their own auctioneers or salesmen.
- (2.) That the present market accommodation at Woolloomooloo being inadequate, and the fact being disclosed, that fish are at the present time liable to be spat upon and trodden under foot, the Municipal Council of Sydney be asked to provide means for the display of fish by erecting suitable raised tables on which they could be placed for inspection before sale.
- (3.) That railway freight on fresh fish and oysters and on fish baskets returned empty should be reduced.

13. Your Committee recommend that the present Commission be abolished, and the whole Department reconstructed; and they suggest that, in place of the Commission, direct Ministerial control be established, and one gentleman appointed to preside over the Department, who should report to the Minister having such control.

14. Your Committee are of opinion that, although the Commissioners have done good work, they will not object to being relieved of their duties; and your Committee, in determining on their Report, acknowledge their valuable services as Commissioners.

15. In the event of the Commission being retained, your Committee would recommend that two representatives of the fishermen in the Colony be placed on that Board.

16. Your Committee cannot conclude this Report without expressing their conviction that the Government has been to blame for its inactivity in carrying out the Commission's recommendations; and they confidently believe that the evidence submitted with their Report, and the various suggestions embodied therein, together with the Draft Bills appended thereto, will prove of great value in settling this important question.

FRANK FARNELL,
Chairman.

No. 3 Committee Room,
Sydney, 27 August, 1889.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.

TUESDAY, 28 MAY, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT:—

Mr. Frank Farnell,	|	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Ritchie,	|	Mr. Stevenson,
	Mr. Nobbs.	

Mr. Frank Farnell called to the Chair.

Entry from Votes and Proceedings, appointing the Committee, read by the Clerz.

Committee deliberated.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at a quarter-past Two o'clock.]

THURSDAY, 30 MAY, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT:—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.		
Mr. Ritchie,	|	Mr. Nobbs.

Committee deliberated.

Ordered,—That Drs. J. C. Cox and E. P. Ramsay and Mr. S. H. Hyam be summoned to give evidence next meeting.

[Adjourned till Wednesday next, at Two o'clock.]

WEDNESDAY, 5 JUNE, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT:—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.		
Mr. Howe,	|	Mr. Thompson,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	|	Mr. Ritchie,
	Mr. William Stephen.	

Dr. J. C. Cox (*President of the Fisheries Commission*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness handed in memorandum in reference to transference of Inspectorial Staff; copy of proposed legislation in reference to the Fisheries of the Colony; list of officers and employees in the Fisheries Department; statement of receipts and expenditure of Fisheries Department from 1881 to 1888; correspondence in reference to prosecutions under the Fisheries Act; list of applications for oyster culture leases, by R. R. Armstrong and Sons; report by Inspector Mulhall on fish supply at Woolloomooloo Market; return of oyster culture leases from 1883 to 1889; returns of fish brought to Woolloomooloo Market from 1885 to 1887. [*See Appendices A 1 to 10.*]

Witness withdrew.

[Adjourned till Thursday, 13 June, at Two o'clock.]

THURSDAY, 13 JUNE, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT:—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.		
Mr. O'Sullivan,	|	Mr. William Stephen,
Mr. Ritchie,	|	Mr. Stevenson,
	Mr. Nobbs.	

Dr. E. P. Ramsay (*one of the Fisheries Commissioners*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

Solomon Herbert Hyam (*one of the Fisheries Commissioners*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

[Adjourned till Tuesday next, at Two o'clock.]

TUESDAY, 18 JUNE, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT:—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.		
Mr. O'Sullivan,	|	Mr. Seaver,
Mr. Ritchie,	|	Mr. William Stephen,
Mr. Stevenson,	|	Mr. Howe.

Lindsay G. Thompson (*Secretary to the Fisheries Commission and Chief Inspector of Fisheries*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness handed in copies of two Bills framed for the amendment of the Fisheries Act, with memoranda explanatory of same; copy of letter to Messrs. Duff and Collins, auctioneers, submitting for sale forfeited fishing-nets; list of officers and employees in the Fisheries Department; also memorandum suggesting alterations in the Inspectorial Staff. [*Appendices B 1 to 5.*]

Witness produced correspondence respecting removal of Inspector Quinan.

Witness withdrew.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at Two o'clock.]

THURSDAY,

THURSDAY, 20 JUNE, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT:—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.
 Mr. Nobbs, | Mr. Ritchie,
 Mr. William Stephen, | Mr. Stevenson,
 Mr. Howe.

Alexander Oliver, M.A. (*one of the Fisheries Commissioners*), called in, sworn, and examined.
 Witness withdrew.

[Adjourned till Tuesday next, at *Two* o'clock.]

TUESDAY, 25 JUNE, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT:—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.
 Mr. William Stephen, | Mr. O'Sullivan.

Thomas Mulhall (*Assistant Inspector of Fisheries*) called in, sworn, and examined.
 Witness withdrew.

[Adjourned till Tuesday next, at *Two* o'clock.]

TUESDAY, 2 JULY, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT:—

Mr. O'Sullivan, | Mr. Seaver,
 Mr. William Stephen, | Mr. Ritchie,
 Mr. Stevenson.

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. O'Sullivan was called to the Chair *pro tem*.
 Thomas Mulhall called in, and further examined.

Witness withdrew.

John Duncan Grant (*Assistant Inspector of Fisheries*) called in, sworn and examined.

Witness withdrew.

Peter Smith (*Assistant Inspector of Fisheries*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at *Two* o'clock.]

THURSDAY, 4 JULY, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT:—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.
 Mr. Ritchie, | Mr. Stevenson,
 Mr. Nobbs.

Richard Seymour (*Inspector of Nuisances for the City of Sydney, and an Assistant Inspector of Fisheries*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness *handed in* return showing quantity of fish received and sold by auction, the quantity condemned, and commission on sales at the Eastern Fish Market, Sydney. [*Appendix C 1.*]

Witness withdrew.

Peter Smith called in and further examined.

Witness *produced* list of leases for oyster culture, and of lessees who are in arrear with their rents in the Hawkesbury District.

Witness withdrew.

[Adjourned till Tuesday next, at *Two* o'clock.]

TUESDAY, 9 JULY, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT:—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.
 Mr. Ritchie, | Mr. Seaver,
 Mr. William Stephen, | Mr. O'Sullivan,
 Mr. Howe, | Mr. Stevenson.

James Charles White called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

Frederick William Smithers (*Travelling Inspector of Fisheries*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

Resolved,—That the Chairman obtain the necessary leave from the House for the Committee to make visits of inspection.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at *Two* o'clock.]

THURSDAY,

THURSDAY, 11 JULY, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT:—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.
Mr. William Stephen, | Mr. Stevenson.

Entry from Votes and Proceedings, granting leave to the Committee to make visits of inspection to, and to hold inquiries at, certain Fisheries of the Colony, read by the Clerk.

Henry Woodward (*Oyster-dealer*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

Richard Hellings (*Boatman, Fisheries Department*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

Ordered,—That W. N. Cain, T. Temperley, F. Nelson, and G. G. Benson be summoned, under the Parliamentary Evidence Act, for Tuesday and Thursday next.

[Adjourned till Tuesday next, at *Two o'clock*.]

TUESDAY, 16 JULY, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT:—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.
Mr. O'Sullivan, | Mr. Seaver,
Mr. William Stephen, | Mr. Stevenson,
Mr. Howe, | Mr. Ritchie.

Frederick Nelson (*Inspector of Inland Fisheries*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

William Nicholas Cain (*Assistant Inspector of Fisheries*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

Thomas Temperley (*Inspector of Northern Fisheries*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

The Clerk drew the attention of the Committee to certain alterations made by Mr. H. Woodward in his evidence.

The Committee directed that certain of the alterations should be struck out.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at *Two o'clock*.]

THURSDAY, 18 JULY, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT:—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.
Mr. William Stephen, | Mr. Howe,
Mr. Ritchie, | Mr. Stevenson.

Frederick Nelson called in and further examined.

Witness withdrew.

Thomas Temperley called in and further examined.

Witness withdrew.

George Gordon Benson (*Inspector of Southern Fisheries*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

[Adjourned till Tuesday next, at *Two o'clock*.]

TUESDAY, 23 JULY, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT:—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.
Mr. O'Sullivan, | Mr. William Stephen,
Mr. Ritchie, | Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Stevenson.

Thomas Temperley called in and further examined.

Witness withdrew.

Frederick William Smithers called in and further examined.

Witness withdrew.

Peter Richardson (*Fisherman*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

James Edwards (*Fisherman*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at *Two o'clock*.]

THURSDAY, 25 JULY, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT:—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.
Mr. Howe, | Mr. Ritchie,
Mr. Stevenson, | Mr. William Stephen,
Mr. Thompson.

James Richard Hill (*one of the Fisheries Commissioners*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

The Clerk submitted the following claims for witnesses expenses:—Thomas Temperley, £13; Frederick Nelson, £4 11s. 9d.; G. G. Benson, £5 17s.

Claims considered and passed.

[Adjourned till Tuesday next, at *Two o'clock*.]

TUESDAY,

TUESDAY, 30 JULY, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.
Mr. Howe, | Mr. Stevenson.

James J. Macfadyen (*President of the Fishermen's Association*) called in, sworn, and examined.
Witness handed in copy of Memorial from the Fishermen's Association to the Colonial Secretary, setting forth certain grievances of the fishermen. [*See Appendix D 1.*]

Witness withdrew.

William Neal (*Fisherman*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at *Two* o'clock.]

THURSDAY, 1 AUGUST, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.
Mr. William Stephen, | Mr. Stevenson.

John Moore Chanter, M.P., called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

Philip Cohen called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

[Adjourned till Tuesday next, at *Two* o'clock.]

TUESDAY, 6 AUGUST, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.
Mr. William Stephen, | Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Ritchie, | Mr. Stevenson,
Mr. Howe, | Mr. Nobbs.

Lindsay G. Thompson called in and further examined.

Witness handed in minute in reference to importation of salmon ova. [*See Appendix B 6.*]

Witness withdrew.

James J. Macfadyen called in and further examined.

Witness withdrew.

Thomas Gascoigne (*Fisherman*) called in, sworn, and examined.

Witness withdrew.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at *Two* o'clock.]

THURSDAY, 8 AUGUST, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.
Mr. Ritchie, | Mr. Howe,
Mr. William Stephen, | Mr. Stevenson.

Committee deliberated as to their Report.

[Adjourned till Thursday next, at *Two* o'clock.]

THURSDAY, 15 AUGUST, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Mr. Howe, | Mr. Ritchie,
Mr. William Stephen.

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Howe was called to the Chair *pro tem.*

Draft Report of Chairman submitted.

Same read and considered.

[Adjourned till Tuesday next, at *Two* o'clock.]

TUESDAY, 20 AUGUST, 1889.

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Mr. Stevenson, | Mr. William Stephen.

In the absence of a quorum the meeting called for this day lapsed.

TUESDAY,

TUESDAY, 27 AUGUST, 1889

MEMBERS PRESENT :—

Mr. Frank Farnell in the Chair.

Mr. William Stephen,	|	Mr. Ritchie,
Mr. Howe.	|	Mr. Stevenson.

Draft Report further considered, amended, and agreed to.
Chairman to report to the House.

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1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE

THE SELECT COMMITTEE

ON THE

WORKING OF THE FISHERIES ACT.

WEDNESDAY, 5 JUNE, 1889.

Present:—

MR. FRANK FARNELL,
MR. O'SULLIVAN,
MR. WILLIAM STEPHEN,MR. THOMPSON,
MR. HOWE,
MR. RITCHIE.

FRANK FARNELL, Esq., IN THE CHAIR.

Dr. James C. Cox called in, sworn, and examined:—

1. *Chairman.*] What position do you hold in connection with the Fisheries Commission? President. Dr. J. C. Cox.
2. How long have you occupied that position? Since Mr. Macleay's resignation. I produce copy of correspondence on that subject. It was stated in the House that the members of the Commission resigned in a body, but that is a mistake. Mr. Macleay resigned in 1882. I was appointed President on the 19th October, 1882. 5 June, 1889.
3. Are there four other gentlemen on the Commission with you? Yes.
4. As Commissioners you are not under any Ministerial direct control? Yes, too much so. That is what we all complain of. We practically feel that we are not Commissioners. I do not look upon myself as a Commissioner at all. We have no power beyond what the Act gives us, but the interference on all sides is too great for the Commission to be comfortably worked. If we want to move one of our servants or employees from one district to another the influence which is brought to bear is certainly what it ought not to be. We wanted to remove a man the other day from Wollongong to Hawkesbury, and petitions came in from Mayors, J.P's., and everybody about the district, asking that the man may not be removed. Some short time ago I requested the secretary to draw up a document which he and I had agreed upon to bring before our Board, because I wanted to maintain the principle that it was better to move our servants—inspectors particularly—from one district to another, on account of the fact that they become affected by local influences which ought not to exist. I hand in the document referred to. [*Appendix A1.*] I regret to say that I have never been able to get the suggestions carried out up to this day.
5. Have you taken an active interest in the fishing industry? Yes, I have always been interested in it.
6. Do you think that the provisions of the Fisheries Act have been applied justly and have given satisfaction to fishermen and oyster-men? I believe they have not, but it is the fault of the law made by the legislators of the country utterly against the advice of the Commissioners.
7. Have you any reason to doubt the advisability of continuing the present Commission? No; I think the Commission is the proper thing if you give them proper powers.
8. As Commissioners have you all worked harmoniously? Yes, I have never had a dispute with any of the Commissioners.
9. How many sittings do you have? One every week.
10. Do all the Commissioners attend? No, they do not all attend; Mr. Hill is extremely regular in his attendance; Mr. Hyam is regular in his attendance; Mr. Oliver, till quite recently, scarcely ever attended; Mr. Ramsay, at the Museum, is a very irregular attendant—he is scarcely ever there.
11. What time is usually taken up at your meetings? I do not think we ever get off under two hours.

- Dr. J. C. Cox. 12. Have you at any time as President of the Commission brought under the notice of the Government any proposal to remedy the defects alleged to exist in the Fisheries Act? Yes. In 1883, shortly after I took up the office of President, I began to make suggestions on the subject. The Commissioners before me felt that there were very serious defects in the Act; the Commissioners who were associated with me at that time were Messrs. Want, Thomas, Geddes, and I think, Dr. Ramsay. We found it was very difficult to work the Act; the defects were so great that we drew up a Bill at that time and recommended the Government to adopt it; but not only was it not adopted but it was never even taken the slightest notice of. I produce the Bill which we recommended in 1883. [*Appendix A 2.*] The Government did not even say "Thank you" for it.
- 5 June, 1889. 13. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Speaking of the influence brought to bear, what kind of influence did you refer to? Local influence.
14. *Mr. Thompson.*] Outside pressure? Yes; and too much political influence.
15. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Where does the political influence come from—the Government or private members? From both.
16. Do you find the Government interfere at all? No; the Government are dilatory in carrying out the wishes of the Commission. For instance, we recommended a man to be appointed draftsman six months ago, and we never got an answer to that letter until yesterday.
17. *Chairman.*] Have you at any time had complaints brought under your notice as to the unjust operation of the provisions of the Fisheries Act by fishermen? I have heard hundreds of complaints from fishermen; but they have every one been dealt with honorably and correctly; that is one of the things that I object to in your speech in the House. You said that the Act has been unjustly administered. I think it is a pity to let that go unchallenged, because it is a slur on any body of gentlemen who exist to administer the Act. It is said, in the speech I refer to: "For some time past we have had complaints from the fishermen of this Colony of the unjust manner in which the Fisheries Act is being administered." I challenge this Committee to produce a single instance of that.
18. The officers charged with carrying out the provisions of the Act have power, I believe, to seize nets of an unlawful mesh? Yes.
19. Have many cases come under your notice of the seizure of nets? Very many.
20. Is it not a fact that some of the nets seized have been sold by the Commissioners, while in other cases they have been allowed to rot after having been seized? Yes; we are obliged by a law which you gentlemen made to wait for a certain time before the nets can be sold, and that necessitates their rotting. If you had allowed us to deal with the nets as we thought right they would not have rotted.
21. *Mr. Ritchie.*] What would you have done with the nets? We would either have burnt them or taken them to pieces and sold them for covering fruit trees and things like that.
22. *Chairman.*] Is not your procedure an encouragement to other people to break the law when they purchase the nets, for there is no doubt that they purchase them for the sake of fishing? We have never been able to detect such an instance; the purchasers have to sign a document that they will not use the nets for fishing purposes.*
23. With reference to the constitution of the Commission, are you aware of any particular knowledge possessed by your fellow Commissioners with regard to the fishing industry? I think that Mr. Hill is about as good a practical fisherman as I know of; he is as well versed in the manners and customs and doings of the fishermen as any man in this country; more than that he is a first-class man of business. Mr. Oliver has a good knowledge of fishing and of everything connected with fisheries; Mr. Ramsay has a very good knowledge indeed of the way in which fish breed, and of the different kinds of fish on the coast and the waters they live in. All these matters are very important. Mr. Hyam is a very good practical fisherman, and a very useful member of the Board.
24. Have you taken an opportunity of visiting any of the fishing-grounds or oyster-beds? I have. I would have visited them more frequently but for the meanness of the Government in not allowing us even to visit any one of them, and in not giving us even a vessel or a free pass by train by which we could travel to those grounds.
25. Are you allowed no fees? No; they make me pay if I want to go to see the Illawarra Lake, for instance, to ascertain if it is blocked up or not. I cannot get a railway pass to go anywhere. I once went over on business to confer with the Fisheries Commissioners at Melbourne and they gave me a pass across. Directly I arrived in Melbourne I was given a pass to go all over the country.
26. During your visits to these different places, the fishing-grounds and oyster-beds, were grievances brought under your notice by the fishermen and oystermen, or was it on account of previous complaints made to the Commission that you visited those places? I visited several of them to see for myself what was going on, but the mass of complaints were all received in writing. Hundreds of complaints come to me—my private consulting-room is sometimes inundated by fishermen. I was visited to-day by a man who is unlicensed, who fishes with an unlawful net in the Parramatta River, and then, because his net was seized he wants me to give it back again, on pretence of ignorance. That is the sort of thing we have to deal with every day.
27. Do you find many of these complaints are well grounded or are not sustained? All complaints are gone into carefully. Many of the complaints are well grounded, but the most of them are exaggerated and overdrawn.
28. With reference to the meshes and nets, is it not a fact that new nets, after being passed as legal, shrink and thus cause the mesh to become smaller? They do, but that is always taken into consideration. I produce a diagram of our nets, which I believe will be useful to the Committee.
29. Are you aware of any proceedings having been taken against men who used nets under the circumstances stated in my last question? Yes.
30. Do you remember what the result of that action was? If we think that an illegal mesh is the result of shrinkage caused by proper attention to the net the case is always overlooked—there is never any harshness used. In fact we are rather too lenient in many cases.
31. When once a net is pronounced to be legal should it not always be considered legal? Yes, I maintain that through thick and thin.
32. *Mr. Ritchie.*] If an alteration took place would it not be on the side of safety? No, the alteration of the net would tend against the law, but once a net is passed by our Commissioners I say that a man should be allowed to fish with that net until it is worn out.

* NOTE (on revision) :—No illegal nets are sold if taken illegal; they are made legal at the office and then sold.

33. *Mr. Thompson.*] Do you not know that although the net will at first take up and shrink, it will afterwards go just the contrary on account of the weight brought to bear upon it by the water itself, apart from the weight of the fish and blubber? Yes, I do. Dr. J. C. Cox.
June, 1889.

34. *Chairman.*] Do you think it would be better to have a provision to punish people who bring fish to market under a certain size rather than be so particular as to the nets used? They are not punished, but their fish is seized, if the fish is found to be too light in weight according to the standard ordered by the Legislature.

35. *Mr. Thompson.*] And they are seized even in Government establishments? Yes. A provision as to the size of the fish leads to dreadful effects, and which is destroying the fish in Melbourne waters. The fishermen in Melbourne are allowed to use a net of any length or mesh, but if they are found with fish below a standard weight in their possession anywhere they are punished. I took the trouble to go to Melbourne to see into this question, and I have conferred very carefully with Mr. Kent, who has been investigating the fisheries of Victoria recently. He has been staying here for some time. I certainly agree with him that the destruction of young fish left on the shore in Melbourne is a most melancholy spectacle. In fact they are utterly destroying their fisheries through it.

36. *Mr. Ritchie.*] I suppose the fact is that these men are supposed to return the small fish to the sea when they catch them? They will not live after they are taken out of the water. I have seen young founders killed in thousands along the coast near Melbourne; the air is quite tainted in consequence. That is my argument against the adoption of such a provision. With regard to emptying the nets in the water, that provision was considered necessary at one time. The law we have now provides that the garfish net should be emptied in the water, with the object of putting out all the other fish except garfish. That is one of the troubled points we have always had. The fact is that the poor fellows who were fishing could not and would not do it. They were much injured by being wounded with fish of different kinds. It was a harsh thing to pass such a regulation.

37. Do you know that it is the practice of many fishermen to use garfish nets for larger fish? I have known this occur many a time; in my own opinion, and the Board agrees with me thoroughly, a man should be allowed to take any fish that he catches with the garfish net if the fish is of proper weight. They would only otherwise die.

38. *Chairman.*] That is entirely against the law? Yes.

39. *Mr. Ritchie.*] What are your regulations with regard to allowing fishermen to have the various kinds of nets. Is one fisherman supposed to have all the different grades of nets? No, he can have any net he likes.

40. He can have two if he chooses? Yes, he can have all or any of the nets authorised by law.

41. Do the meshes range from 1 inch up to 4 inches? Yes.

42. Then it is quite possible that the fishermen may use the small meshes which are intended for the small fish, to catch all kinds of fish? Yes, that is to say, the fishermen can go and cast his garfish net in any position he likes, and he is allowed to take the fish that he catches if they are of proper weight.

43. *Mr. William Stephen.*] If the fishermen catch no garfish, but make a haul of other kinds of fish, how do you deal with them? We let them have the fish.

44. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Do you consider that these restrictions with regard to nets are too harsh? I do. What is called a prawn-net is 15 fathoms; I will advise that it be extended to 20 fathoms. The garfish net is 30 fathoms in the bunt, and 30 fathoms on each side, that is 90 fathoms altogether. I will advise that it be extended to 125 or 150 fathoms. The hauling-net is now three-fifties. I will advise that it should be increased to 300, or 350 fathoms, or probably a little more. I would advise the meshing-net as long as 100 fathoms at least. The Commissioners had a conference on the subject recently, and I now produce my rough notes of the meeting, showing the result of the conference. This was brought about by suggestions which were drawn up by the Secretary at my suggestion, embodying all the defects that were discovered in the experience of the Secretary and Commissioners during my tenure of office. I produce the memorandum which was drawn up by the Chief Inspector. He drew up a new Bill which I now produce, altering all defects known.

45. *Chairman.*] You have no control I believe over the inspectors of fisheries, except in seeing that they carry out the law? We have no power of dismissing them. We can only call the attention of the Government to their conduct—we have no power ourselves of getting rid of any servant under the Commission.

46. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Do you appoint them? No.

47. You can only recommend them? We wish we could do that alone; I am sorry that appointments have been made utterly opposed to the wishes of the Commission. I do not want to name anyone but if you wish it I will.

48. *Chairman.*] Are there any particular cases you could refer to? There is the case of the man at present in charge at Port Stephens, who was appointed in opposition to the wishes of the Commission. He is a most incompetent man, and we have since recommended that his services be dispensed with.

49. Have any of the inspectors been reported to you for dereliction of duty? Yes.

50. *Mr. William Stephen.*] Can you state any of the grounds of this man's incompetency? He does not seem to know anything about fisheries.

51. *Mr. Thompson.*] What was he before? A broken-down squatter I think.

52. *Chairman.*] How many inspectors have you? I hand in a copy of some statistics, giving all that information. [*Appendix A 3.*] All the persons employed are given in this printed list. I think the services of two of the officers named there have been dispensed with.

53. *Mr. William Stephen.*] What is the total number of your employees? About forty.

54. What number of these are clerks employed in the office, and how many are employed in the actual work of inspection? Seven are employed in the office. The rest are engaged on the work of inspection.

55. What is the total cost of the Fisheries Commission per annum? I hand in a statement of receipts and expenditure on account of the Department of Fisheries from 1881 to 1888. [*Appendix A 4.*] I have had this document specially drawn up for the Committee. In 1881 the receipts in round numbers were £1,554, and the expenditure £1,488. In 1882 the receipts were £2,651, and the expenditure £3,033. In 1883 the receipts were £2,943 and the expenditure £3,875. That was about the worst year we had, and it was owing to a change in the Oyster Fisheries Act. In 1884 the receipts were £5,865 and the expenditure was £5,231. In 1885 the receipts were £4,988 and the expenditure £5,621. In 1886 the receipts were £7,000 and the expenditure was only £6,000. In 1887 the receipts were £5,000 and the expenditure £6,000. In 1888 the receipts were £3,634 and the expenditure

- Dr. J. C. Cox. expenditure £6,255. I want to explain the reason for the last deficiency. It was because you gentlemen in your wisdom passed an Act to abolish the royalty on oysters;—you took that responsibility upon yourselves.
- 5 June, 1889. 56. *Mr. Ritchie.*] From what source does your revenue come? There is £1 charged for every 100 yards under oyster lease, then there are the fishermen's licenses for boats and men, and there was a royalty on oysters up to this year;—that was 2s. 6d. per bag.
57. *Mr. William Stephen.*] Was there any revenue derived from fines? No; that goes to the consolidated revenue, and the proceeds of sale of the confiscated property goes to the Consolidated Revenue also.*
58. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] With regard to the royalty on oysters before it was abolished, were not our fishermen very unfairly handicapped in competition with New Zealand and Queensland? Yes; they were shamefully used. The people of this Colony paid £1 per 100 yards for the cultivation of oysters under your new Act; then they were charged 2s. 6d. for every bag of oysters which they produced off that ground. Oysters were brought here from Queensland and New Zealand; they were utter rubbish, and they were represented as our oysters. Those oysters came in here without paying one farthing. Knowing that this injustice existed, I called on the Treasurer. Being a protectionist myself, I found it was a very sore subject with him; I pointed out to Mr. Burns the working of the Act, and he said that rather than give in to a proposal to charge 2s. 6d. per bag on oysters which came from abroad he would rather take off the charge from the oysters raised here. The result is that the Commissioners lost a very large sum of money indeed, and of course the country will have to pay for it.
59. According to your statement there appears to be a dual control with regard to the fisheries the Government appointing the officers and dismissing them, and your Commission appearing to be a kind of Board of guardians for disbursing the funds. Do you think such a state of things is likely to promote the interests of the fishing industry? No, we recommended years ago that we should have absolute control over these things. We are responsible only for what we do.
60. What powers would you suggest as necessary to make you an effective body for the protection of this great industry? I will give a case to illustrate the difficulties we have to meet with, and I will suggest that in such aggravated cases more power should be given to the Board. There is a family named Gascoygne on the Parramatta River, who have been detected seven times fishing, against the law. They have been convicted about six times, and fined several times, and two cases against them were dismissed. We ought to have power to take such men's license away and prevent them from fishing again if they will persist in breaking the law. They persist in breaking the law and we have no power to stop them. If they are brought up to Court they are fined a shilling or a pound or two. [*Appendix A 5.*]
61. What would you suggest in regard to the appointment and dismissal of officers? We ought to have absolute power to appoint and dismiss our own officers. We ought to be placed in exactly the same position as the Museum Board is.
62. *Chairman.*] Do you think that all the officers in the Department are required? I do not think that we could do with less than the present number of officers. We have reduced our staff recently, and there is a vast amount of clerical work to be done.
63. *Mr. Lindsay Thompson* is head of the Department and Secretary to the Commission;—has he had any practical experience in connection with fisheries? He knows the Fisheries Acts well, and has them at his fingers ends. I do not know any man who knows the law better; I say it respectfully; but *Mr. Lindsay Thompson* is a real red tapeist.
64. Is he charged with carrying out the detail arrangements of the Department? Yes.
65. Is it customary for him to visit the different fisheries and oyster-grounds? No; he is not required to do so by the law. Whenever he is ordered to go there it is his duty to go, and he does go.
66. Are you aware that it is a source of complaint on the part of fishermen, that the fish-market at Woolloomooloo has not worked satisfactorily? I believe that the fishermen are most grossly used in their employment. They are robbed. The fish caught in the waters of the lakes between Newcastle and Hawkesbury are sent on to the steamers in open baskets. When the baskets are going along the road or knocking about a railway station, everybody seems to think it is his privilege to help himself to the fish. When the baskets go on board the steamers everybody helps himself. They are landed on the wharf, and lie there until people come to take them to the market. Every stroller about the wharf thinks that it is his privilege to help himself to the fish; then we discovered that the people who take the fish from the wharf to the market pull up at two or three public-houses, and the detectives whom we employed discovered that, while the drivers were taking a drink, persons came up to the cart and helped themselves to the fish. When the baskets arrived at the market one-third of the whole mass have gone; then last comes a most heavy impost on these poor fellows who have to pay, what I call middle-men. I hope and trust this Committee will see their way to have the fish conducted in an honest manner to our public places where they are sold. I think that our fishermen are publicly robbed.
67. Who has charge of the market? *Mr. Seymour*, an excellent officer.
68. Do you remember a man named *Quinan*;—what was he dismissed for? I believe for not accounting for some moneys in connection with the revenue from oysters. The whole of the documents are printed.
69. Do you think it is possible for the inspectors to be in collusion with the fish and oyster sellers? Yes.
70. Do you know *Mr. Woodward*, of King-street? Yes.
71. Does he know anything about fisheries? I think that probably he knows as much about the cultivation of oysters as any man in Australia; *Mr. Gibbons* and *Mr. Coote* are also first-class men in oyster cultivation.
72. Does *Mr. Phillip Cohen* know anything about the practical part of fishing? I believe he is a very good fisherman.
73. Do you know if *Captain Armstrong* has any experience? Yes. This gentleman applied to our Commission for the oyster-leases, a list of which I now produce. [*Appendix A 6.*] He deliberately took up the very eyes of the country, and according to the law we could not object to it. He never did anything with the leases—he never took them up. He put the office to an enormous expense, and never did one bit of good to the fisheries.
74. What was his object? Simply to resell the land applied for. *Mr. Cohen* made ten applications for leases. The first application he kept for a long time and withdrew; the same occurred with the second and third. The next we had to cancel because he would not pay his money. One lease was issued; the next

- next one was kept for a long time, and it was withdrawn. The same was done with another, and in the next case a lease was issued, and the next one was cancelled.
75. Are you aware that the fishermen complain that the fishing grounds are closed for periods of over twelve months at a time? They are always closed in accordance with the Act.
76. Does the Act state that you have power to close reserves for a period of six months, and that after that a further proclamation by the Commissioners is necessary? On reference to the Act I find that we have power to close them for a period not exceeding two years.
77. How long has the Parramatta River been closed? For about four years.
78. Therefore you have gone outside the limit? No we reclosed it. We had a fresh proclamation issued.*
79. It has never been actually opened since the first proclamation? If I have my way it never shall be opened.
80. Can you give any reason why the fish have decreased? I think they have most enormously increased. I do not know any more extraordinary sight than I saw a short time ago at George's River which we closed at the bridge right up to the head. The river was literally swarming with fish. The whiting principally were in such enormous abundance that the flood drowned hundreds of baskets of them.
81. Is it not a fact that some eight or nine years ago one could go out on a fishing excursion and catch as many sorts of fish with a line as one chose, whereas in many cases a person may go out now for a whole day and not succeed in catching a single fish? I need only refer to the return of fish which are offered for sale. [See Appendix A 7.]
82. I am speaking more particularly with regard to the Parramatta River? I do not believe it, because yesterday sixty baskets of fish had to be taken away from our fish-market. Certainly, many of them were bad from waiting too long to be sold, but the most of them had to be sent away and destroyed or given away, because no one would buy them, there was such a superfluous quantity.
83. *Mr. Ritchie.*] What is the reason of your saying that you would close the Parramatta River entirely if you had your way? It is one of the most important breeding-places we have in the country, particularly for breeding and stocking Port Jackson with fish for the anglers. If I had my way I would stop net-fishing in Port Jackson altogether, and leave it for line-fishing only, as was done with Port Hacking. You passed a law a short time ago actually closing Port Hacking. Why not do the same with Port Jackson.
84. Would not that be a hardship on fishermen who have settled there and expended a considerable amount in establishing homes for themselves? I do not. They get comparatively little fish in Port Jackson, and it would encourage them to fish outside Port Jackson, where our supply of fish should come from.
85. Take the case of Gascoyne, who has been on the Parramatta River for twenty or thirty years, and where he has the whole of his investment for that purpose;—would it not be a hardship to that man to be deprived of his living? Yes; one man might feel the hardship; but you must consider the community. You must remember that the fishermen are taking fish continuously out of our waters, and you must find means to replenish the supply. How are you to do it; do you expect the fish to be always coming in from the sea? They will not do it, and the places we have closed are necessary for the breeding of the fish. If you do not protect such places you will have no fish at all in Port Jackson. It is not from the fishing alone that the fish supply is diminishing in those places. The great cause is the enormous traffic of steamers up and down, and the filth thrown into the harbour, which encourages sharks and other enemies of our fish to come in and eat them.
86. You have said that the fishermen are robbed in the transit of their fish;—could you suggest any remedy for that? I had a long conversation with the fishermen on this subject, and I advised them to subscribe enough money to pay half the cost to employ a man to come down in charge of the baskets of fish, and I said I would ask the Government to subscribe the other half.
87. Would that be in connection with the Municipal Council or the fish-market? With the Fisheries' Commission. They could then do away with the middle men altogether.
88. What is the heavy impost which you refer to as being placed on the fishermen? That is by the agents.
89. Not the market dues? There are market dues as well.
90. Are they unduly heavy? I do not think so. What I refer to is an impost which is charged by the agents for selling the fish.
91. Is there good accommodation at the fish-market? Very good.
92. Are there expeditious facilities for distributing the fish? Yes. What I would strongly advise is that another fish-market be established at the other end of the town—either at the head of Darling Harbour, or, better, near the Railway station. Then the fish which come from Wollongong and other places could be sold in the evening. Very often fish arrive from there after the hour for closing the fish-market, and these fish have to be put in cold storage and kept until next day to be sold. The fish are not improved by this, and they have to pay for the cold storage.
93. Have you a list of the breeding places which you have referred to as being closed? Yes; I hand it in.
94. Is Lake Macquarie entirely a breeding ground? Yes; the whole lake is a breeding ground, but we could not close it because it would be too great a hardship; it is a fine fishing ground. The Hawkesbury River above Bar Point is closed. We have been done a little injustice too with regard to that. The Chairman represented to the Assembly that no notice was taken of some complaints which had been made by the Hawkesbury fishermen.
95. *Chairman.*] The statement was that no relief had been given? So far from that being the case we actually moved the reserve up to Bar Point.
96. That gives very little more space? Bar Point is a long way up towards Wiseman's Ferry. It was closed at Peat's Ferry.
97. Is not that only 4 miles from the railway bridge? My advice was to open the river as far as Wiseman's Ferry, and to close the tributaries. All the tributaries are very wisely closed now.
98. You are an authority on the propagation of oysters? I have taken a great interest in it.
99. Can you tell the Committee why it is that there is a dearth of oysters in the Parramatta and other rivers? The principal cause in the Parramatta River is the enormous quantity of filth which is thrown into it, and the consequent stirring up of that filth by steamers. Another cause is the scandalous way in which they are pilfered.

- Dr. J. C. Cox. 100. Do you not think that if the whole of the rivers were closed to oyster-getters for three years the beds would be resuscitated? Yes; we recommended that, but you gentlemen actually passed a law in opposition to us.
- 5 June, 1889.
101. *Mr. Thompson.*] Have you found that flood-water has a very deteriorating effect upon the oyster-beds, very often killing not only the spat but the grown oysters, covering them up with fresh mud? Yes; floods from all time past have killed whole beds and masses of oysters.
102. Can you suggest any remedy for that? The only way I can suggest is to do what we are trying to do now to restore the beds in George's River. One of the causes why oysters are not now propagating is because the rocks are so slimed with dirt and filth that the spat cannot take hold of them. If you throw a branch of a tree into the water you will find it covered with young spat in the season of spating.
103. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Will the emptying of the city sewerage at Bondi have any ill effect on oyster culture? No; it will rather benefit us inside the harbour.
104. *Chairman.*] What time does it take before an oyster is eatable? About three years, I fancy.
105. You have stated that oysters were imported from New Zealand, and that there was no royalty or duty charged on the importation? There is not any duty.
106. Do you remember the case of a man named Hanley, who imported oysters, and placed them on land which he leased at Woolwich, in order to keep them fresh. In carrying out his calling he used the oysters as they were required, and sent them to the different oyster-sellers in Sydney. Did you charge him a royalty on those oysters, although they were actually New Zealand oysters? Yes. I might have a horse which I might send down to a livery stable, where it would be fed and bedded. Why should I not have to pay for that horse-feed. This man got a bed for his oysters, and food for his oysters, and why should he not pay for that.*
107. Did he not have a lease? I am not sure on that point, but I think he had. He got food for his oysters, and although it is a nice point, I think we were perfectly justified in our action. We might as well say that a man could bring tons of oysters from Queensland and lay them down here and that we ought not to get any benefit from them.†
108. Do you know how many oyster-leases are in existence? I will have the information supplied. [*Appendix A 8.*]
109. Do you know whether all the rents have been paid? No; there are, or were, a great many in arrears.
110. Are there any means in the hands of the Commissioners to recover these rents, or are you obliged to apply to the Government? We referred this very subject to the Crown Solicitor, and asked him to try a test case. He wrote back and said if we paid for it he would do it.
111. With regard to oyster-culture, can you give the Committee any information as to proposals you would like to see carried out? I am disappointed with the present working of the Oyster Fisheries Act. It is very badly framed. It was not framed by the Commission.
112. *Mr. Thompson.*] Was it framed by one of the Commission? No; by Sir Alexander Stuart, and the Parliamentary Draftsman.
113. Not Mr. Alexander Oliver? Well, the two together. It has resulted in the biggest amount of imposition that I have ever been thrown in connection with. People have contracted to take up and cultivate oysters, and they induced Sir Alexander Stuart to issue what they called permits to work them. By the time we got the leases ready for them so that they could go to work they had stripped the places applied for of every oyster, and then declined to pay for the lease;—that has happened all along our coasts. I think it should be left in the hands of the Commissioners to be able to lease rivers or portions of rivers. If we could do that men like Gibbons, Woodward, and Coote would enter upon the work of cultivating the oysters properly, and we could put down this abominable system of what I call "cockatooning." You do not know the robbery that is going on at present—at Parramatta River, for instance—if they have an oyster left there. There are what are called Crown lands along the water, and you have made the law so that we cannot touch a man taking the oysters from the Crown lands. It is only on oyster reserves that we can touch them.
114. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Can you not resume those Crown lands and place them under your authority? No; we cannot make them all reserves. We make local reserves for the wants of the local people. Even then the oysters are stolen. It would take 10,000 soldiers to keep the people away.
115. *Chairman.*] In 1887 a Bill was passed to protect the fish in the inland waters. Have you directed your attention, or the attention of the Commission, to its provisions? I was very pleased indeed to see that Bill passed; it was a step in the right direction.
116. Can you give the Committee any idea as to how you have directed your operations? We found, as you state, that all the fish from our waters was going to Victoria. In 1884 the quantity of fish exported to Melbourne from this Colony was 555,918 lb. From the first we have had no power whatever to close the waters. In the original Act our powers were confined to tidal waters; any other waters were left out, so that the lawyers always beat us upon that point. When the Act was passed I went over to Melbourne and tried to arrange with the Melbourne Government about this point. Sir Alexander Stuart promised that he would see into the matter for us.‡ We were very anxious to get passed a much more stringent Act than the present one. Now we have power according to the latest Act to appoint inspectors, and to close any waters we like. I confess there has not been very much of it closed. We have not seen any great necessity for it. In fact the fish on the Murray are so prolific that nothing in the world would keep them down. I am speaking of the Murray and its tributaries. It is better to kill and eat those fish as soon as they become large. They eat the young of their own species.
117. *Mr. Thompson.*] Have you not heard that plenty of the best fishing places have been decimated by the everlasting netting? I have, but, so far, we have not been able to get any money to appoint anybody there to prevent it.
118. *Chairman.*] The Act states that reports shall be furnished annually by the Commission. We find that that has not been complied with. In 1883, I think, the first report was issued; then there was no report issued for 1884, 1885, and 1886. No report was issued in 1887, and the last report was made

* NOTE (*on revision*):—If this were permitted no man would work his leases with spat off our own shores; he would get off without a royalty; whereas if the spat from our shores was utilized he would have to pay 2s. 6d. a bag for it.

† NOTE (*on revision*):—Whereas the man who got the same quantity from our shores and lays them down would pay nothing;—our spat would all go to waste.

‡ NOTE (*on revision*):—He found that the jurisdiction of our laws did not extend to the Victorian side of the River Murray.

made in the middle of this month? That is not really out yet, there has been such unnecessary delay over one thing and another.*

119. Then the report for 1887 and 1888 has not yet actually reached the hands of the Government. No. When first I went on the Commission the first report got out was for 1883-1884. When I went on there was no record or book belonging to the Commission, as everything had been burnt in the Garden Palace. After a great deal of trouble I got out the report for 1883-1884. Then came a time when there was a great agitation with regard to the fisheries. New Oyster Fisheries Bills were going through the House and we recommended a new Bill. In fact there was nothing to report except statistics from 1884 to 1885, owing to the change in the laws, and we thought it was really useless to tell the public that we were unable to do anything. I drew attention to the matter, and was very anxious to publish even statistics, but I could not get it carried out. Then we got out a report covering the period from 1884 to 1886, and you will find that there was really nothing to do. The thing was at a stand still, owing to the defects of the law, and we could not do anything except publish statistics.

120. *Mr. William Stephen.*] You told us that men named Gascoyne had been brought up to the Court several times;—can you tell us in what way they had broken the law? They fished in closed waters. There were also charges of having under-weight fish, and for using illegal nets.

121. Under whose control is the fish-market? *Mr. Seymour.*

122. Under whose authority does he act? Under the Municipal Council. We have nothing whatever to do with it. We have an inspector there to see that the fish are of proper size; that is all our duty.

123. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Are you of opinion that inland fisheries are necessary? Yes, I am most anxious to see the inland fisheries properly protected. I want to close certain portions of the tributaries where fish breed, and I would like to have power and money to import fish so as to stock the rivers with trout.

124. Do you think that trout would do well in our waters? Yes, I think that we might establish very excellent breeding grounds for trout, and that they would do excellently in many of our waters.

125. Do you know of any instances where trout have done well in our waters? They have done very well at Monaro.

126. Speaking of the salt water and oyster fisheries;—to what waters would you confine fishing along the coast? I would pick out all those places where the fish breed and I would protect them as nurseries, the head of rivers and their tributaries.

127. Would not your policy drive the fishermen to the deep waters of the sea and confine them to that almost entirely? No. I would not have closed Port Hacking as you gentlemen did. It should have been closed only to the Spit. Then Port Jackson is only closed right at the very head where the fish breed. Middle Harbour is all open. We did close it at one time, but we opened it again. The head of George's River is closed and probably Cook's River might be closed if it is clean enough for fish to live in, but I doubt whether it is. Then the entrances of the rivers that run into Lake Macquarie and Lake Illawarra should be closed and also the head of the Shoalhaven and the tributaries of the Hunter. These are the kind of places I would close.

128. Would you leave open such places as Lake Macquarie, the Hawkesbury, and Lake Illawarra as fishing grounds? Yes, except parts closed now.

129. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Can you explain why fishing with well-boats is not generally carried on here, seeing that it is very successful in Tasmania and elsewhere? I myself take a great interest in that matter. A great many fish such as trumpeter were brought up here in a well-boat from Tasmania, and I do not know myself why we have not adopted the process for catching fish outside.

130. Is it a prejudice? I think it is laziness to a great extent. They can get such a good living inside the protected harbours that they do not care to go outside.

131. Do you remember a schooner called the "Rachel Thompson," a well-boat, which made a very successful trip from Tasmania to Sydney? Yes.

132. If means of that kind were adopted here, could not the fisheries along our coast be largely developed? Yes. You will find that when they have destroyed all the fish in the harbours they will go outside and develop those fisheries, but they do not require to do so just yet.

133. *Mr. William Stephen.*] Can you define defects in the Fisheries Act? Yes, there are very many which are all pointed out in the document which I have handed in, which also contains the improvements which I recommend. I would like now to hand in interesting documents, being two comparative returns of the quantity of fish brought to the Woolloomooloo fish-market, and the prices realized during the years 1886 and 1887, and also during the years 1884, 1885, 1886. During 1886, 28,000 baskets of fish were brought there and realized £32,000. The number of dozens of fish, such as schnapper and others of that kind, was 2,000; and they realized £9,000. The amount realized at auction was £20,000 in 1886, and £18,000 in 1887. These documents will give some interesting information. [*Appendices A 9 and 10.*]

134. Are you aware that the number of fish in Port Hacking have decreased since it was closed? Yes, I know that it is reported to be the case, and I believe it is reported with truth—from what I have heard from Mr. Gannon and several other influential fishermen; but the place is most grossly poached. The Parliament has done a most wonderful thing in legislating on this subject of Port Hacking. The Act says that no fishing shall take place in those waters, but no power is given to inflict a penalty to anyone.

135. *Mr. Howe.*] Have the Commissioners done anything to improve the fishing industry by obtaining information of a practical character for dissemination among the fishermen? Yes; I obtained a most valuable document which was published in America with regard to the cultivation of oysters. I had it copied out by one of our clerks, and the Colonial Treasurer was asked to have it printed for dissemination amongst the fishermen, but he positively refused to do so and he kept the document; so far I cannot get it back. That was Mr. Burns. There is another document which we published, a very interesting one, referring to the propagation of oysters. If we were allowed to disseminate such information I think that it would do a great deal of good.

136. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Have you no funds at your disposal? No.

137. *Mr. Howe.*] Are all the inspectors practical men, and have they an intimate knowledge of their duties? No; some of them have not, and they have been appointed against our wishes.

138. Have you ever represented to the Colonial Secretary the desirability of opening Port Hacking to the fishermen? I am not in favour of it or against it. You gentlemen passed a law setting forth that you wanted to have it closed, and I have not thought of the question. I do not think that it is a very great privation to the fishermen to have it closed.

139.

* NOTE (on revision) :—It was not for want of orders to get it out.

- Dr. J. C. Cox. 139. *Mr. William Stephen.*] Do you think that it would be any benefit to the fishermen, and that it would not be detrimental to the fish in Port Hacking if it were opened as far as the bar? I think it would be an advantage to open it up to the bar for the use of the fishermen.
- 6 June, 1889. 140. Do you think that it would be detrimental to the fish above the bar? No; I do not think that it would do one bit of harm. It is not a breeding ground below the bar.
141. *Mr. Howe.*] Has it ever been represented to the fishermen that the Commissioners were in favour of opening Port Hacking? I do not think so; the waters were taken out of our hands.
142. The fish breed in the estuaries of the rivers. In extending the limit (say) on the Parramatta River and George's River, do you not think that you could well extend it to Ryde, on the Parramatta River, and Salt Pan Creek, on George's River? I am a strong advocate for giving the fish plenty of space to breed in. The fish are sufficiently disturbed by the traffic of the steamers, and I, myself, would not advise the opening of those rivers higher up than at present. Virtually we do not deprive the fishermen of any fishing ground.
143. What charges are made on the fishermen in the way of license fees? The law compels every man to take out a license when he fishes for sale.
144. Has he to pay so much for his boat as well? Yes.
145. And so much for each man? Yes; that is according to the laws of the country.
146. *Mr. William Stephen.*] Is one fee sufficient for the owner of the boat and the boat? It was done in this way: The fishermen thought it was a hardship and said they would like, if they wanted two boats, to be able to take out the license for them. You will find that when the Royal Commission took evidence a great deal was spoken about this point. It was after a conference with the fishermen that the matter was arranged.
147. *Mr. Howe.*] Seeing that the fishermen have to pay taxation, do you not think that it would be an advantage to them to be represented on the Commission? I would not object to it. If there is an association of fishermen I think that I would like it, because I am one of those who like everything to be above board.
148. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Did you wish to give the Committee some information with regard to the culture of fish in our inland waters? I have recently taken a great deal of interest in this matter, and I recently went to Ballarat expressly to see the breeding grounds there. We have got over a large number of young trout recently and distributed them in our waters. We intend next year to get over a great many more and distribute them in those waters which we think best fitted for them. It is our intention, at the request of the Water and Sewerage Board, to stock the Prospect Dam with trout at once, and utilise that as a nursery for trout. My impression is that we could establish there a very excellent trout breeding-place. It is the very kind of water we want, and I think we could stock the whole of the country from there.
149. Has it not been proven that trout does not succeed very well in the eastern parts of this country? There have been statements to that effect. In rivers subject to muddy floods they seem to be destroyed, and, in fact, such floods destroy the native fish.
150. *Mr. Howe.*] I was glad to hear you express an opinion in favour of establishing another fish-market in another part of the city. Would it not be better, instead of having the other market at Darling Harbour, to run a siding from the railway at some convenient place where a market could be established to give a second supply of fish? Yes; I would do all in my power to assist you in carrying out such a proposal.

THURSDAY, 13 JUNE, 1889.

Present:—

MR. FRANK FARNELL,	MR. RITCHIE,
MR. O'SULLIVAN,	MR. WILLIAM STEPHEN,
MR. NOBBS,	MR. STEVENSON.

FRANK FARNELL, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Dr. Edward Pearson Ramsay called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Dr. 151. *Chairman.*] Are you a member of the Fisheries Commission? Yes.
- E. P. Ramsay. 152. How long have you held that position? I think since the end of 1882.
- 13 June, 1889. 153. Are there four other gentlemen associated with you? Yes; several have resigned and others have been appointed.
154. Have you taken any particular interest in the fishing industry? Yes; I was sent to England to make myself acquainted with the fisheries there: chiefly from a scientific point of view, such as examining the hatcheries for fish and the cultivation and breeding of oysters. I took every opportunity of going out on the coast of England with the fishermen day and night. I made myself acquainted with the fisheries of Great Britain and the Continent, and with the aquariums. I went to Howieton, Sir James Maitland's Estate; he invited me there to see the hatcheries for salmon. I also visited Surgeon-General Day on several occasions, who is a great authority on fish-breeding. I made a great many visits to various places and I spent a great deal of time amongst the aquariums at the Fisheries Exhibition. Of course my principal object was to make myself acquainted with the subject from a natural history point of view. I visited one of the Earl of Kinnoul's establishments to examine the salmon disease; there the overseer or factor of the estate showed me all over the place and explained what was being done to reduce the disease.
155. Was it with the object of gaining information that you went to all those places? Yes; so that the knowledge might be applied here.
156. Do you consider that the provisions of the Fisheries Act have been applied justly and have given satisfaction to the people who carry on business as fishermen and oystermen? With the actual working of the Act out here I have not identified myself much. I found that the fish cultivated in England would not live out here, except in one or two instances. The oysters cultivated in England are by no means the oysters cultivated here. The oyster cultivated at home and most in use are the British natives and the Whitstaple oysters. They are identical with our mud-oysters, and consequently the culture is totally different.

different from ours. The oysters generally in use here are drift and rock oysters, and the means of cultivation for British oysters would not suit ours. I doubt very much whether the oyster-spat taken off the rocks here and put into deep water ever comes to maturity. In Middle Harbour and various other places I find that the oysters grow down a certain distance, and you will not find the oysters 2 feet below the lowest tide-mark; I do not believe those oysters would live in 10 or 15 feet of water. There are varieties of oysters which live at the bottom which are gathered up and sold; for instance, the drift oysters in the various rivers.

157. How long does it take an oyster to become eatable from spat? I should say between four and five years; some people say three years. You must remember that it takes spat about twelve months to establish themselves. Oysters here seem to spat all the year round. I have not noticed any defined spatting season. Some fifteen years ago I gathered oysters from the mangroves and rocks round the harbour and put them on Dobroyde, where the people had cleared off all the oysters. It was at least two or three years before we got any return from their spatting.

158. Have you any reason to doubt the advisability of continuing the Fisheries Commission? No; I think the Commission would work well enough if it had more extensive powers.

159. Have you always worked most cordially together? Yes; most amicably. The Commissioners are only too anxious to do what they can, and they very often take trips at their own expense to different parts of the coast and furnish reports.

160. I suppose you have not been the most regular attendant? I very seldom go unless I find that there is special business. I have plenty to do at the Museum, and unless Dr. Cox (the President) tells me that he requires my services, I do not attend the Commission very often.

161. How long does a sitting generally last? Two or three hours. The meetings are held once a week.

162. Do you remember at any time having a complaint brought under your notice as to the unjust operation of the Act? We have had complaints from persons about certain places being closed, and then the next day or so we have complaints because other places are not closed. When we close any place from fishing we always have complaints from the parties interested, on both sides.

163. Have you had any complaints as to the injustice of limiting fishermen to nets of a certain mesh? Not that I remember. I know that once or twice when nets were confiscated we gave them back because we thought it was proved that the mesh was originally correct but the nets had shrunk.

164. Is it not within your knowledge that men have been punished under such circumstances? Not to my knowledge.

165. Have the officers charged with carrying out the Act power to seize nets of an unlawful mesh? Yes.

166. Have many cases come under your notice? No, but nets have been seized which were reported to the Commissioners as illegal; in such a case if we have any doubt we send a special inspector. It is not within my knowledge that instances have occurred where hardship or injustice has been done to those men.

167. Is it not a fact that confiscated nets have in some instances been sold by the Commissioners while in other instances they have been allowed to rot? Not to my knowledge.

168. How many meetings have you attended? Before I was reappointed I stopped away the whole time as a matter of principle. Since I was reappointed I simply go when I think that my services may be required. I tell the Secretary to send to me at the Museum where I am always available if I am required at a meeting of the Commission, and if any information is required from me the material is sent to the Museum, where I examine and report.

169. Are you aware of any particular knowledge possessed by any of your colleagues on the Commission with regard to fisheries? I should think that Mr. Hill has special knowledge. He is continually fishing, and he must know a great deal of fishermen and their goings on. I should think that Mr. Oliver is particularly well up in the business.

170. Have you visited any of the fishing-grounds and oyster-beds? Not recently.

171. Have you done so since you were appointed a Commissioner? I do not think that I have visited more than half-a-dozen places. Once or twice I have gone with Dr. Cox when he wanted some special advice. I often go dredging and trawling in the harbour to see how the fisheries are getting on. I have raked all these harbours with trawls, and I know every inch of them and every rock.

172. Is it not a fact that nets which have been passed as legal have shrunk so as to have an illegal mesh? Yes.

173. Have proceedings been taken against men who have used nets under such circumstances? No. I have heard of instances where the nets have shrunk, and the inspectors have been instructed to overlook the shrinkage of the 16th or 20th of an inch, but it would be a different matter if the mesh had shrunk to the extent of a quarter of an inch.

174. Speaking as a man of some experience do you not think that when a net is pronounced to be of a legal mesh, it should always be considered legal? I do; but you cannot tell whether these men change the nets or not. One net was seized at Manly, having in it two or three different kinds of mesh in strips.

175. Did it belong to a fisherman or to a private gentleman? I believe a fisherman had it. I only heard that casually.

176. Do you not think it would be better to make provision for punishing people who bring fish to market under a certain size, rather than be so particular as to the mesh of the nets? It might be an advantage, but according to my knowledge of the law, if a man is using his garfish net it would be perfectly legal for him to keep any bream or other fish which he might catch in that haul.

177. Have any cases been brought under your notice where any of the inspectors or officers of the Commission have been reported for dereliction of duty? I remember a man named Quinan, regarding whom there was an investigation, and who was dismissed. I think that it is a great pity that the Commission have not the power to dismiss any of their employees instead of having to go to the Government.

178. What was Quinan dismissed for? There was a whole series of charges. I believe he was accused of a great many breaches of the Act and of inattention to his duty.

179. Is it not possible for the inspectors to be in collusion with fish and oyster sellers? Yes, if they are rogues.

180. Does Woodward, of King-street, know anything about fisheries? He has been growing oysters for a great number of years, and he ought to know something about them. I do not know if he has any knowledge of fisheries.

181. Are all your inspectors practical men? I do not know.

182. Do you not think that the officers and men employed by the Commission could be considerably reduced in number? No, I think the staff ought to be increased.

Dr.
E. P. Ramsay.
13 June, 1889.

183. Are you aware that it costs something like £6,000 a year to maintain the Department? I do not know, but I remember a few years ago when I looked over some statistics there was a balance in favor of the Commission.
184. Have you an inspector named Mulhall? Yes.
185. How old is he? I should think about eighty.
186. Is it not time that he retired? Yes; he is a very worthy old gentleman, but I think the Government ought to give him a pension, and let him retire.
187. Can you give any reason why he has been retained? I do not know why he was put on or retained. He can do his duty because he is inspector of the fish-market, and knows the different kinds of fish when he sees them.
188. Has Mr. Lindsay Thompson, the Secretary, any practical experience in connection with fisheries? He certainly has had experience since he has been connected with the Commission, because we send him to make special reports, and the Commission generally relies upon his reports.
189. Are you aware that it is a source of complaint on the part of fishermen that the fish-market at Woolloomooloo has not worked satisfactorily? I do not know about that, but I do know that the fish-market is a disgrace to the city; it is totally unsuited for the purpose; it wants remodelling from beginning to end.
190. Who has charge of the Woolloomooloo fish-market? I do not know.
191. Have you heard of Mr. Seymour? Yes.
192. As a Commissioner have you ever been asked to express your opinion as to whether or not that gentleman is suitable to take charge of the market? Not that I can remember.
193. Are you aware that he receives £75 a year from your Department for services rendered as inspector of the market? I knew he had something to do with selling fish there, but I understood that the Corporation paid him for looking after the market, and the sale of fish, and that he also received a percentage from the sellers of fish, but I had no means of knowing whether that was correct. I never heard any charge made against him. He is rather a rough, plain customer.
194. Are you aware that the fishermen complain of the rivers and fishing-grounds being closed for periods of twelve months at a time? If you want to close the head of the river it is of very little use to close it for six months; it should be closed for eighteen months or two years. I would close the rivers for three years.
195. Do you know, as a matter of fact, that the Parramatta River has been closed for nearly four years? No, I was not aware of that.
196. From a scientific point of view, can you give us any idea as to what has been the cause of the decrease in fish, especially in the Parramatta River? I believe that the prawn-nets have a great deal to do with it; they are all over the place, and they must destroy a great number of small fish. When I visited the Melbourne markets, and I wanted any small species of fish, I always used to overhaul the prawn-baskets. I have done the same in London when collecting specimens for natural history. I have no doubt that great quantities of young mullet and whiting are caught in prawn-nets. We want more inspectors to watch these men, and see that they use the sieve in the water, so that the young fish shall not be killed.
197. Do you not think it would be a good idea to have the inspectors located in the different districts instead of having them at the head-quarters in Sydney? I thought inspectors did live in the different districts. There are inspectors stationed at different places along the coast.
198. You are not aware that there is no inspector on the Parramatta River? I believe that Mulhall and the inspectors under him work the river and the harbour.
199. They do not live up the Parramatta River? I believe they live in Sydney.
200. Can you inform us as to the dearth of oysters in the Parramatta and other rivers? There are various causes. When there is a dry season oysters will not spat, and they grow very little. They want a certain amount of fresh water, and that is the reason why oysters at the mouth of the river are so much better than those out in the open. In the cases of diseases in oysters which I have examined there have been very few oysters bored by small borers. A sponge grows over the oyster in certain places, and that would probably be produced by the want of fresh water. In a very dry season the sponge would take possession of the whole of the oyster, and cover it up very quickly; then small sponges bore through the top shell of the oyster. With regard to the disease which I have been lately examining, that is, worms getting into the oysters, I have come to the conclusion that it is caused through disturbance by floods or by the disturbance of fish and other enemies of the oyster. The octopus feed on oysters when an opportunity affords.
201. Does the stinging-ray also feed on oysters? I do not think that they do much in that way. The octopus will eat oysters, clams, and cockles. I can quite understand that a good deal of damage might be done by octopi taking up their abode on oyster-beds, and disturbing the mud which enters the oysters when their shells are open. A steamer passing up and down, or someone dredging for oysters, might disturb the mud, which gets into the mouth of the oyster. The oyster puts a thin film of mother-of-pearl, or nacre, over the mud, and when the oyster gets disturbed again with mud it puts another film over the deposit. I have seen five or six deposits of mud, with thin films of nacre over each, and the oyster thus gets killed out.
202. Do you not think that if the whole of the rivers were closed to oyster-getters for a period of two years the beds would become resuscitated? You would never hear the last of it if you closed all the rivers. I would close portions of the rivers for breeding, but a good batch of inspectors would then be required for keeping the people from stealing the oysters.
203. A few years ago a Bill was passed, prohibiting net-fishing altogether in the waters of Port Hacking;—why was that done? I do not know.
204. Had the Commission anything to do with that? I do not remember, but I think it was done on account of some gentlemen petitioning in favour of it, so that the public might have plenty of fishing at the National Park.
205. Have you had some experience in connection with the inland fisheries? Yes.
206. There was a Bill passed in 1887 to protect the fish in inland waters;—have you directed any attention to the operation of that measure? I have visited the inland waters repeatedly, because I have been working up the inland fishes from a scientific point of view, but I was line-fishing only. I found that a large number of fish came into the market, perhaps tons at a time. I have seen half a ton in Wellington. In Dubbo on one occasion I was informed that nets were put right across the river. I reported that casually, and the inspectors of the district got a memo. to prevent such a thing being done again.

Dr.
E. P. Ramsay.
13 June, 1889.

207. Are you referring to the River Macquarie? I am referring to the Macquarie, the Murrumbidgee, the Murray and its branches. I have been as far as Dubbo, Wagga Wagga, Wellington, Orange, Bathurst, and all the way up the river as far as Trangie. I saw a few settlers fishing with lines at Trangie, but they did not catch a great deal, and the fish they caught were the same species of fish as were caught in other waters.
208. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Have any inspectors been appointed for the inland waters? Yes; at Dubbo, but not at Trangie—I think the police look after the matter there.
209. *Chairman.*] Are you aware that tons of fish are caught in the Murray and sent to market in Melbourne? I have repeatedly heard of it when in Melbourne.
210. Are you aware that there are lots of oysters imported from New Zealand? Yes.
211. Did the Commissioners ever take any steps with a view of encouraging the industry by suggesting to the Government that the royalty on oysters raised here should be abolished? I remember bringing before the Board a recommendation to ask the Government to put a royalty on imported oysters, but they said that on account of freight having to be paid on those oysters it would be injudicious to impose a royalty.
212. There was a law that every bag of oysters raised here should be subject to a royalty of half-a-crown? I heard that the royalty was removed, but I do not know at whose instance.
213. Was Mr. Saville Kent employed to make a report on the disease of oysters in George's River? I remember that he was employed, but I think that it was during the time I was off the Commission.
214. Has Mr. Oliver any particular knowledge of the fishing industry? I know that he has been fishing for a great number of years. He has always been looked upon as a good yachtsman and boatman, and I think he ought to know as much as anybody about the coastal fisheries.
215. Are the Commissioners allowed any fees or travelling expenses? No. I have never received any.
216. Do you know why the Parramatta River was closed, while Lane Cove and Middle Harbour were left open? No.
217. Do you consider that the Parramatta River is suitable for pisciculture? Undoubtedly the mud flats are breeding grounds for mullet and whiting—mullet especially.
218. Would it not be better to leave the river open to the railway bridge, and close it from there up to Parramatta, instead of closing it from the Parramatta River bridge? I think that point was chosen as a good landmark.
219. Some time ago I brought some complaints under the notice of the Government with reference to the closing of the Hawkesbury River;—were those complaints ever brought under the notice of the Commissioners? I do not remember.
220. Are the recommendations of the Commission usually carried out by the Government with reference to the appointment of inspectors? I do not know. Persons apply for the position and produce testimonials. We pick out the best man according to the credentials submitted, and we recommend his appointment to the Government. I think the Commission should have the power of appointment and dismissal.
221. Do you know if any of your recommendations for appointments have been ignored by the Government? I have heard of such a thing, but I cannot speak of my own knowledge. I have heard several times that the Government have been asked to do certain things which have not been done for months.
222. Do you know Mr. Woodward? Yes.
223. Has he any particular influence with the Commission? No; I should not think so. He is a very large grower of oysters, and he holds very large leases.
224. Do you remember any recommendation having been made by him as to the appointment of particular inspectors? No; I do not think the Commission would take any recommendation from him. I hold that no dealer in oysters, who hold leases, should recommend an inspector.
225. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Have you had good opportunities of observing the fishermen of Great Britain? Yes; chiefly the herring and cod and Pilchard fisheries.
226. Do you think that our fishermen are abreast of the times with regard to appliances? They are about 200 years behind the time.
227. Do they show a sufficient amount of enterprise? No, that is always what I complain of—there is no go in them. There are one or two exceptions, but generally they only work for so much money as will keep them, and more than half of them throw it away.
228. Do you think that if we got a few fishermen from the coast of Great Britain and Ireland with modern appliances that they would develop our fisheries much better? I am sure they would. When I was coming out from England I was instructed to purchase trawls; I purchased two or three, and showed them to Sydney fishermen, but I could not get the fishermen to use them. Another thing to be considered is that with large trawls steamers are required. I have tried small trawls by getting a Government launch occasionally, and I could always get plenty of fish. The Italians and Greeks use ordinary trawls with two boats with a stretch of 100 yards.
229. Our fishermen do not as a rule go out of the harbours and rivers? They do not work the place properly at all.
230. What is your opinion of the value of our fishing-grounds? I cannot tell you, but I know they are valuable. The few fishermen who take the trouble to work their grounds properly seem to be making very good returns.
231. Do you think we have valuable deep-sea-fishing? I believe that is the case, as proved by the Commissioners having sent a trawl out as an experiment.
232. Can you name any particular spot? They went from Shoalhaven up to the Hawkesbury—there is a large stretch of flat country there, but the place is not surveyed. Men will not go out with a trawl costing £150 and paying £5 a day for a steamer to work it, for if the trawl should be drawn across a patch of rocks it would be destroyed or lost. If the whole of the coast were surveyed from Shoalhaven up to the Hawkesbury for a distance of 5 to 10 miles out to sea we would have a very different style of fishing.
233. Have you been to Lord Howe Island and Elizabeth Reef? No; men from New Zealand, and employees of the Museum, have been there.
234. Are there excellent fishing-grounds there which are comparatively undeveloped? Undoubtedly, they are not developed at all. Captain Armstrong tried it, but he said that it would not pay. The difficulty is that the fish cannot be brought here quickly enough. In the English Channel there are fast steamers, which go round to the boats for the fish and get them to market in a few hours.

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235. Why have not our fishermen taken to the use of well-boats? They tried it on two or three occasions, and I do not know why they gave it up.
236. Do you remember the schooner "Rachel Thompson" coming here? Yes; she brought very good fish, but I do not know whether the speculation paid. She was a well-boat. There are not many well-boats used on the British coast, because they use fast steamers for transit. The Dutch fishermen use well-boats for eels, and they keep them in the wells for weeks.
237. Are they not used very generally off the south coast of Tasmania? I do not know.
238. What steps have been taken with regard to the cultivation of oysters? No steps as far as I know. They gather the spat off the rocks and throw them down into different depths of water, where they are left to take their chance.
239. Have you any oyster-farms? They are called oyster-farms. They put up fascines to catch the spat and gather the spat from the mangroves. I remember a gentleman in North Shore complaining that men were permitted to go and shovel the oysters from his wharf into bags, and those men described themselves as oyster-dredgers.
240. Then there is no systematic scientific culture of the oyster at all? No; the only systematic business is getting oysters from various places, laying them down in certain beds, leaving them for so many years, and then lifting them up and selling them—that is done on the feeding grounds at Whitstaple. They buy up first and second "ware," as they are called, for which they pay from 2d. to 6d. a dozen, and when they become "whole ware" the oysters are retailed at 2s. and 2s. 6d. a dozen. That is the method employed by the ancient company of oyster-dredgers of Whitstaple, if I remember rightly.
241. Do you think the establishment of an afternoon market in Sydney for the sale of fish would be a great boon to the citizens? I would go a little farther. I would go so far as to say that the fishermen should be allowed to sell their fish at any moment, and when fresh fish came into the market a flag should be run up, so that people could know that they were for sale.
242. *Mr. William Stephen.*] Do you think that the Fisheries Commission should have any extensive powers? I think that they should have more control over their inspectors. They should be permitted to employ such men as are suited for the work; they should also have power to dismiss those who were not suitable, reporting at first to the Government.
243. Do you think that the Commission, or any member of it, is in a position to offer suggestions as to amendments in the Fisheries Act, so as to promote the interests of the fishing industry? I think Mr. Oliver is a very good man, with large experience.
244. Has the Commission any power to draw up rules or regulations which are not enumerated or provided for in the Act? I think that they can make by-laws; but if there is anything important it must be submitted to the Government.
245. Has the Commission any power with regard to fixing the size of the mesh? No, that is fixed by the Act.
246. Is not some of the material used for making nets more liable to shrink than other material? I do not think so; I think all the nets are made of the same material.
247. In what district was this Mr. Quinan, to whom the Commission seem to have an objection? He was in the home fisheries here.
248. Are you aware that the fish in Port Hacking are less numerous than they were before the waters were closed? I have not heard of it. I should have thought that the closing of the waters would have increased the bulk of the fish; but you cannot expect to see any increase in a year—it would be necessary to wait for two or three years.
249. Nevertheless practical fishermen say that fish are less numerous there now than they were before the waters were closed? My experience of practical fishermen is that they say the first thing that comes into their head.
250. Have the sharks increased in number in Port Hacking? I do not know about Port Hacking, but I know that they have undoubtedly increased in Port Jackson.
251. It is said by some of the fishermen that the sharks eat up all the fish that the fishermen ought to catch? Sharks do eat a great many fish, but when they can get into a school of mullet or whiting they will not go up Port Hacking.
252. *Chairman.*] Is not Port Hacking a first-class place for breeding fish? Yes. I would close the head of all the rivers, and I would allow no heavy nets to be used, except at certain seasons. When the spawning season for the mullet comes on I would allow the fishermen to take them below a certain mark, but not above it.
253. *Mr. William Stephen.*] That might be right from a scientific point of view, but would it not have a very harsh effect upon men who have to earn their living by fishing? They should not be allowed to go and fish on the spawning ground—there is plenty of room to fish elsewhere. Shutting up the head of the river does not prevent fishing in the other portions of the river.
254. Do you think that the whole of Port Hacking ought to be closed? I do not think that it is necessary to close the lower portion. I would close it above the bar. There is no necessity for closing it below that point.
255. Do you think that the fishermen ought to be represented on the Commission by one or two representatives chosen from the working fishermen? I think there always would be rows. I know they would not allow it in England for a moment.
256. Would not such representatives be capable of giving good suggestions for the guidance of the Commission? They might for their own purposes. If you put a practical fisherman on the Commission it would be to adjudicate for himself.
257. Could not the Commission refuse to accede to any suggestions that would be detrimental to the public interest? Yes; but I think that the proper course for the Commission to take, and it is a course which is adopted at present, is to examine practical fishermen and get suggestions from them on any question. I know that such suggestions are carefully considered by the Commission.
258. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Do you know that in Victoria a uniform mesh is used? No.
259. Do you not think that a great waste of fish takes place here through the use of the garfish net? Yes.
260. Can you suggest any improvements with regard to inland fishing? No. The inspectors have instructions not to allow mesh-nets to be put from side to side of the river.
261. Do you think that the inspection now instituted on the inland waters is sufficient? I think so—if the inspectors do their duty.

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262. Do you think that deep-sea fishing might be practised to a greater extent here? Undoubtedly. There is undoubtedly any amount of fine fish to be had if people had only enterprise to catch them.

263. *Mr. Stevenson.*] What is done when nets are seized? The seizure is reported to the Board, and if we have any doubt we send an inspector to examine the nets, or ask some magistrate in the district to do so.

264. What becomes of the nets afterwards? I do not know; I believe that in the first instance they are given back to the man if it is his first offence.

265. Have you ever heard of the nets being sold by auction by order of the Commissioners? It may be the case.

266. They are sold by auction and fishermen buy them? No; they are bought for use in orchards.

267. Have nets been seized more than once and resold? I do not know. If a fisherman bought them he would lay himself open to have the net seized again.

268. It is stated in the advertisement that the nets are sold under instructions from the Fisheries Commission;—under such circumstances have not the fishermen a right to assume that the nets sold are quite legal? If a net is seized and sold as an illegal net it is not likely that it will be bought by fishermen. I have seen them purchased by gentlemen who wanted them to cover their fruit-trees and tomatoes.

269. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Is there any method of marking those nets so that they may be known as illegal nets? Not that I know of.

270. With regard to oyster leases;—you lease certain foreshores for oyster cultivation;—is there any inspection of those leases? There is an inspector in each district.

271. Is the inspector supposed to report on these oyster fisheries? Yes; to see that no one interferes with the oyster-beds, and to report from time to time to the Commission.

272. Does the Fisheries Commission ever make a visit of inspection? Yes.

273. Have they ever been down to Shoalhaven River? I do not know of my own knowledge, but I know that the Commissioners go out now and again. I have not been out very often myself, but I know that Mr. Oliver has been out very frequently, and I believe Mr. Hill, and Mr. Want, when he was a Commissioner, used to go down frequently.

274. Have you any reason to believe that a large number of those oyster leases are used as oyster reservations by the owners of private property? I do not know that. If I had a piece of land opposite to some oyster fisheries I might feel inclined to apply for a lease and use the oysters.

275. If you applied for an oyster lease would you not be bound to apply land to the purpose for which you leased it? If I applied for a lease for oyster cultivation I do not know that I would be bound to work it or put oysters upon it.*

276. Is it in the public interest that beds of rivers suitable to oyster cultivation should be leased in this way? I would not lease the whole bed of a river in that way, but I think if a man pays so much to the Government for a lease he has a right to do what he likes with it.

277. Are you of opinion that the Commission is perfectly justified in leasing to the private owner of a large water-frontage any block of land as an oyster lease whether he cultivates it or not? Within certain restrictions a man cannot take up more than a certain amount of land, and he has to pay for it. If there was a royalty on the oysters the Government might be robbed by his neglect in not cultivating oysters; but if there is no royalty on oysters I do not see how the Government can complain.

278. Then what becomes of the inspection which you say exists? The inspectors have power to inspect the leases whenever they please, but if he reports that the lessee is doing nothing towards the cultivation of oysters the Commission is not able to do anything. I do not think that we can take any action in such a case.

279. Do you think the law is defective in that respect? Yes; I think the law should be altered so as to make cultivation compulsory.

280. *Mr. Nobbs.*] With respect to deep-sea fishing—are you aware that the Victorian Government has granted a sum of money for testing whether such an industry would pay? Yes.

281. Do you think it would be advisable to expend a sum of money in surveying the coast of New South Wales with a view to encouraging deep-sea fishing? Yes. In England you can get charts showing every rock and shoal at the bottom of the sea, and the only trouble that the trawlers have is in connection with wrecks.

282. With respect to the fish-market, are you aware that Inspector Seymour has a monopoly with respect to the sale of fish there, so that every person must go to him to sell fish? I do not know that, but they do go to him.

283. Would it not be in the interests of the public for the fishermen to have the right to go to any auctioneer they pleased? I do not see any objection to that. I would even go further than that, and would say that there ought to be stalls which would be let to agents to whom the fishermen could send their fish at any hour of the day or night. The market is in a bad position. It is in a muggy pokey hole.

284. What are your particular objections to it? We want an open clear place with plenty of draught through it to keep it perfectly clean and sweet; then there should be marble or slate tables on which to place the fish. Water should not be poured over the fish but underneath the slabs, or ice might be placed under the slabs. Each person should have a stall of his own, and the inspector should go round and inspect the fish. The inspector should be continually on the premises, and the market should be in a better location. The money required for this would be well spent.

285. In what month of the year do the mullet and other fish generally come into the river to spawn? Fish do not always come in regularly; the mullet is tolerably regular and always comes in before Good Friday.

286. Are you aware that the rivers were closed some months back? Portions of them.

287. For instance, the Hawkesbury River? I do not remember.

288. The fishermen state that the rivers need not have been closed for a month or two later—that they were filled with fish which were trapped because the fishermen could not get them, and the sharks were encouraged to come up the rivers in shoals, so that the rivers were closed for no other purpose than to feed the sharks? I should say that is not the case. Three months ago an excursion went up the river fishing and they could not get anything. During the mullet season, six or eight months ago, I was in a small

* NOTE (on revision):—By regulations under the Oyster Act, unless a man cultivates his leased land to the satisfaction of the Commissioners he will forfeit his lease. The Commissioners can turn him out.

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small steamer, and I put out a net and caught one mullet. The mullet, of course, go up the rivers, and when they pass a certain point I would have them protected. Below that I would throw the rivers open. 289. Admitting that the fish were in such great quantities in the river, as stated by the fishermen and the captains of steamers, could not the closing of the rivers, have been delayed a month or two in the interests of the fishermen without materially affecting the breeding of the fish? When the fish first come in they make their way straight up to the head of the river, and if the fishermen were allowed to go on to the breeding grounds where the fish accumulate most they would rake up the whole place and destroy millions of eggs or young fish.

290. The fishermen consider that too much of the river is closed. Do you think that the boundary chosen for closing the river extends too close to the mouth? I do not know. The Commission generally take their cue from the position of a headland that is easily marked.

291. I suppose the mullet come in from the sea? Yes.

292. What is the case with respect to schnapper? The schnapper seldom spawn inside the rivers. I have seen them up as far as Cockatoo Island—they go into the deep parts of the harbour. The mullet are migratory but schnapper are not.

293. Do you think that the schnapper have decreased in numbers, and that you could do anything to encourage their breeding? I do not think so.

294. What do you think ought to be done to encourage the breeding of the schnapper? It is very hard to say. Very few come into the harbour to breed. The chief schnapper-fishing is outside.

295. Do the schnapper spawn outside? Yes.

296. In what months? I forget, but I think it is just about winter-time.

297. Do you think there ought to be a close season for schnapper? I do not think it is necessary—they breed so extensively. They spawn about the small islands and headlands of the coast, so that there is no need to protect them; it is where fish come up in immense shoals to spawn that it is necessary to protect them.

298. *Mr. William Stephen.*] How long does it take a schnapper to be fit for eating and to reach the weight of 10 or 14 lb.? At least four or five years.

299. *Chairman.*] Do you believe that the whole of the Fisheries Act is wrong—that its provisions are not suitable, and do not give satisfaction either to the Commission or the fishermen? I would not make such a sweeping assertion, but I say that the Act is capable of improvement.

300. With regard to the breeding of fish in different rivers, do you not think it would be better to leave the main river open while the estuaries or branches might be closed? Yes, I would leave a portion of every river open; I would find out the breeding grounds and close them—the other portions I would leave open. Some of the sandy beaches would have to be closed, because the soles and flounders spawn there.

301. What are the chief enemies of fish here? Stinging-rays catch and eat small fish; some of the larger sharks, different species of rays, and porpoises eat large quantities of fish; king-fish, bonitoes, and jew-fish also eat large quantities—so do shags.

Mr. Solomon Herbert Hyam called in, sworn, and examined:—

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302. *Chairman.*] Are you a member of the Fisheries Commission? Yes.

303. For how long? About three years.

304. Who are the other gentlemen associated with you? Dr. Cox, Dr. Ramsay, Mr. Oliver, and Mr. J. R. Hill.

305. I believe you are not directly under any ministerial control? I always understood that we were under the control of the Colonial Secretary. I think all communications reach us through his office.

306. This inquiry is not merely directed to the work of the Fisheries Commission but also to the operation of the Fisheries Act, in order that we may relieve and assist the Commission in promoting a new Bill for the purpose of remedying the existing Act. We have no complaint to make directly against the Commissioners but wish to get their evidence with a view to having a better law framed? I am very glad to hear that, because there is an impression outside that it is otherwise.

307. Have you taken any particular interest in the fishing industry? Yes, for thirty-five years.

308. Do you consider that the provisions of the Fisheries Act have applied justly and have given satisfaction to the people who have carried on their callings as fishermen and oystermen? I think there are some parts of the Act which might be improved, but I do not think it has operated oppressively on *bona fide* and honest fishermen. It is the worst class among the fishermen who give us the most trouble.

309. Have you any reason to doubt the advisability of continuing the existence of the present Commission? I believe in the Commission; I am the youngest Commissioner. As a business man, conducting a very large business, and the position being only honorary, I would not stay now on the Commission if I did not believe it was beneficial.

310. Has the Commission always worked harmoniously? Certainly.

311. How often do you sit? Every week—a meeting may be missed occasionally, but very seldom since I have been on the Commission. I think it can be shown that I have attended very regularly. A meeting lasts about two hours.

312. Do all the Commissioners attend? No.

313. Have you noticed particularly any Commissioner absent on many occasions? Yes, one Commissioner; but he is looked upon as the scientific member of the Commission—that is Dr. Ramsay. He is not a very regular attendant, but he is a very useful member as a scientific man. Through him we have the Museum always open to us. If there is any new specimen which wants scientific examination we can fall back on him.

314. Have you brought under the notice of the Government any proposal to remedy any of the defects alleged to exist in the Fisheries Act? I think we gave instructions to have a new Act prepared, or some amendment, but I do not know whether it has ever been carried out. I have always been anxious to see some parts of the Act altered.

315. Do you know, of your own knowledge, whether any complaints have been brought under the notice of the Commissioners as to the provisions of the Fisheries Act operating unjustly? Not very many instances; I think most of the complaints have appeared in letters to the newspapers.

316. Do you know Mr. Philip Cohen? Yes, well.

317. Do you think he knows anything about the fishing industry? I think he knows nothing at all about it; it is all theory with him.

318. Do you know Captain Armstrong? I have a still poorer opinion of him; I know him well.

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319. The officers charged with the carrying out of the Act have power to seize nets;—have many cases of seizure come under your notice? Yes.

320. Is it not a fact that while some of the nets seized have been sold by the Commissioners others have been allowed to rot? No. In the first place the nets, before they were sold, were, I think, altered; they have been cut so that they could not be used as illegal nets. I know that every care is taken of the nets before they are sold. We cannot sell one net at a time, and therefore they must be allowed to accumulate; but I know that every care is taken to properly dry them and stow them away. Of course some of the nets have suffered from the ravages of rats.

321. When nets are seized, is it not a fact that the Commission has power under the Act to sell the nets? Not within sixty days.

322. Therefore by selling these illegal nets the Commissioners actually encouraged people to continue fishing against the law? The illegality does not always relate to the mesh. It is generally the length of a particular net which makes it illegal. According to the Act we are compelled to sell, and I am satisfied that there are defects in the Act.

323. Do you think that when once a net has been pronounced to be of the legal mesh it should always be considered legal? It can be made legal by cutting it. For instance, the wings may be legal, whereas the bunt of the net may be illegal. By decreasing the bunt so as to make it the proper size the net would be a legal one.

324. Is it not a fact that nets which are newly made frequently shrink after the first two or three weeks? No doubt that is the case.

325. Under these circumstances do you not think that when those nets have been passed as of the legal mesh they should always be considered legal afterwards? The shrinkage is not much. I do not think the law ought to be stretched to meet a particular case. The shrinkage of a small portion, such as a sixteenth of an inch, ought not to be taken into consideration. We have nothing to do with the confiscation of nets—they are confiscated by a bench of magistrates.

326. Would it not be better to have a provision for punishing people who bring to market fish below a certain size rather than be so particular as to the mesh of the nets? From my experience the provision as to the mesh is a very wise one. I have fished extensively as an amateur in nearly every place in the Colony, inland and on the sea-coast, and I am thoroughly convinced that the size of the mesh is very important, and should never be departed from. I think men should be punished for bringing fish to market when they are below the legal weight.

327. Are you aware of any particular knowledge possessed by your fellow Commissioners with respect to fisheries? Yes; I defended this Commission when I was in the House. Mr. William Clarke, the late Minister of Justice, moved that it should be abolished. I defended the Commission, and then stated what I thought of it individually. I am satisfied that no man in the Colonies possesses greater knowledge of fishing generally, especially of oyster-culture and pisciculture, than Mr. Oliver. I look upon Mr. Hill as a very superior man, who has spent years and years on the coast, and is an able amateur fisherman. He has a thorough knowledge of it. Then Dr. Cox is a thoroughly scientific man like Mr. Ramsay. No objection can be taken to them, not so much as practical but scientific men. As practical men, I think that Messrs. Hill and Oliver are second to none. Besides that Mr. Hill is a very able man in dealing with departmental work. In our desire to reduce the expenses of the Commission Mr. Hill has always taken the lead. I think we have always shown that we want to lessen the expenses as far as possible without injury to the Commission. If I were not working with gentlemen whom I considered were fit to occupy their positions I would not remain on the Commission a day. It is merely for love of the thing that I sit there.

328. As a member of the Commission have you taken any opportunity to visit the fishing-grounds and oyster-beds? Yes, I have visited the Murray, the Edwards in the Deniliquin district, the Darling at Bourke, and 60 miles down, the Macquarie, the Lachlan, the Murrumbidgee, and many of the tributaries of those rivers. Then nearer home—since I have been a member of the Commission I have visited the Shoalhaven, the Hawkesbury, Lake Macquarie, Tuggerah Lakes, Lake Illawarra, Hunter River, and the home fisheries in Middle Harbour, Parramatta River—on which I go two or three times every month—and Botany. Port Hacking is out of our control, as a special Act was passed by Sir John Robertson, and I have not felt called upon to visit that place, except when specially requested. I have been looking out for trout-streams; I was instrumental in introducing the trout into this Colony, and we introduced a great many last year into Cox's River, the Grose River, the head-waters of the Shoalhaven, and the Wingecarribee or Wollondilly. The Victorian Government have promised us a lot of trout-fry, and we are looking out for places where they can be introduced. I know that it can be done with success.

329. Is it not a fact that new nets have been passed as legal, and that they afterwards shrink, which makes them much smaller? Yes.

330. Have proceedings been taken at any time against men who have used nets under the circumstances I have just stated? I cannot say.

331. Whilst you have been on the Commission have you had many cases reported to you where inspectors have been guilty of any dereliction of duty? Not very many. It is a dangerous thing to deal with outside reports. Complaints have been made, but not always I think by reliable people.

332. Are all your inspectors practical men? I am afraid not. It has been my desire, in conjunction with Mr. Hill, and I think the other Commissioners, to make sweeping alterations right through, and I think we have done so; but we do not like to do anything too hurriedly. I think it would be monstrously unfair to dismiss a man until we were quite satisfied that he was not fitted for his position.

333. The Commissioners have no power to dismiss an inspector? No; we can merely recommend that he should be dismissed. I think that we ought to have power of dismissal.

334. Have the recommendations of the Commission with regard to appointments been over-riden at any time? I do not know. It may have been done before my time. There was an appointment made to which Mr. Hill and myself took exception, and when we recommended that the appointment should be cancelled the Colonial Secretary cordially endorsed our recommendation.

335. Has it been your desire on the Commission to economise in connection with the Department? Yes; and I think that might be assisted if the local police were allowed to assist the Commission. I refer to the country police—the sub-inspectors, sergeants, and senior constables.

336. Do you think that all the men who are employed in the Fisheries Department are actually required? I do not. We recommended the dismissal of two some little time ago, and it was approved of by the Colonial Secretary. Those men were employed at Port Stephens.

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337. Who is the head inspector? Mr. Lindsay Thompson.
338. Who is the chief inspector under him? There are head inspectors in three districts. I think the home fisheries are under Mr. Thompson's immediate supervision. I do not think we call Mr. Mulhall head inspector. We look upon Mr. Thompson as chief inspector.
339. Has Mr. Mulhall had considerable experience? Yes; I am sure I have known him in connection with fishing for forty-five years.
340. Is he not rather old? Yes.
341. Would it not be better for him to retire? I think that when a man reaches Mr. Mulhall's age there is some wisdom in what you suggest. A man naturally has a lot of sympathy for an old hand like Mr. Mulhall, and he is full of vigour yet and an active man; still I think that a man of his years should retire.
342. From your knowledge as a Commissioner do you think that Mr. Thompson has some practical knowledge of the fishing industry? I think so.
343. Is it customary for him to visit any of the fishing or oyster grounds? Yes; and it has been my desire and the desire of the other Commissioners that he should visit them oftener than he has done in the past, and it is our intention that he shall.
344. Are you aware that it is a cause of complaint on the part of fishermen that the fish-market in Woolloomooloo has not worked satisfactorily? I think there is room for great improvement in the market, but I think the fault lies with the City Council.
345. Who has charge of the market? I believe that it is under the control of Mr. Inspector Scymour. I am told that he is the leading spirit there.
346. Does the Fisheries Commission pay him anything for his services? Yes.
347. Is it possible for the inspectors to be in collusion with the fish and oyster getters? Yes, and I have expressed very strong opinions about it.
348. Do you know Mr. Woodward in King-street? Yes.
349. Does he know much about fisheries? I think he knows a great deal about oysters. From what I know of him I do not think that he is an expert with regard to fisheries generally.
350. Are you aware that fishermen complain of the rivers and fishing-grounds being closed for over twelve months at a time? I do not know that they complain, but as a Commissioner I have felt it necessary to keep the fishing-grounds closed for one year. There are rivers in this Colony which have almost been completely denuded of fish. Like everything else, rivers must have rest. If we go on fishing in the way that has been done in the past we will not have any fish at all in a few years.
351. As a matter of fact do you know that the Parramatta River has been closed for nearly four years? Yes, and, I think, necessarily so. I have fished that river hundreds of times for forty years, and when the Commissioners closed it first it was almost impossible to catch a line-fish in the river. I know from experience that there is more fish now in the river than there used to be. I have caught them freely. There are a great many steamers trading there during the day, and they frighten the fish, but at night you can catch fish.
352. If the rivers were closed for three years from oyster-getters, do you think that would be the means of resuscitating the oyster-beds? I do not. After granting men leases for the oysters I think that would be arbitrary to do that. I think that the failure of the oysters is attributable in a great measure to the seasons. In very dry seasons there is a great growth of marine vegetation in the rivers which destroys the oysters. Owing to this marine vegetation a worm attacks the oyster—I have noticed that for thirty years. When there is abundance of fresh water this vegetation is destroyed, and the oysters grow vigorously. I do not think that it would be wise to close the rivers for three years. Some discretion might be used in compelling men to take better care of their leases, and to lay down young oysters. I think there are men who take up leases, and do nothing except denude the oyster-beds. They often do that before signing the leases, and then they throw them up.
353. Do you believe there might be some alteration made in the Fisheries Act which would be beneficial, and would be the means of satisfying the fishermen and those more directly interested in its operation? I do not know about satisfying the fishermen, but we could make alterations in the Act which would render it more easy to work. With *bona fide* fishermen we have had very little trouble. My impression is that there are too many fishermen about the home fisheries. They have been cutting each other out since the advent of the Italians, and I think our own men have a lot of trouble to make a living. The Italians and the Greeks have crowded out our men to a large extent.
354. Mr. O'Sullivan.] Have you any experience of fishing outside of New South Wales? Yes; I have visited the Victorian fisheries.
355. Have you any practical knowledge of the fisheries in the old world? No; I am an Australian. I only have knowledge of that from reading, and I was the first to move that trout should be introduced into this country.
356. How do you account for the fact that the fishermen in New South Wales are so much behind the times with regard to appliances and enterprise? Simply because there are no companies here. At home there are large companies which fit up trawlers and employ a great amount of labor. The great fishing industries of the old world are carried on by large companies and by private individuals who have large capital.
357. Have you any knowledge of well-boat fishing? I have tried it.
358. Why is it that that system does not succeed in New South Wales? The chief fish we get here outside the heads is schnapper, and I never could find anybody who could do any good with schnapper in a well. They knock themselves about a great deal.
359. Are there not many other fish to be got besides schnapper? What we want here is to introduce outside trawling. I have had a strong desire all along to try to have the deep-sea fishing tested along the coast. I am satisfied that any amount of good trawling could be done there, but it would be expensive.
360. Do you think that well-boats of the size of the "Rachel Thompson," which made a successful trip here some time ago, would be a success? The schnapper is our great fish, and the experiment has been tried so often that I do not think that you could succeed in keeping schnapper in a well. It is a deep water fish, and very lively. Bottom fish, such as soles and flounders, turbot, and other fish of that kind, can be kept in a well, but that is not the case with fish like schnapper, which soon knock themselves to pieces in a well.

TUESDAY, 18 JUNE, 1889.

Present:—

MR. FRANK FARNELL,
MR. SEAVER,
MR. WILLIAM STEPHEN,MR. O'SULLIVAN,
MR. RITCHIE,
MR. STEVENSON,

MR. HOWE.

FRANK FARNELL, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. Lindsay George Thompson called in, sworn, and examined:—

361. *Chairman.*] What position do you occupy in connection with the Fisheries Commission? Secretary and Chief Inspector.

362. For how long? I have been Secretary ever since the initiation of the Commission.

363. How many members are there on the Commission? Five.

364. Do you know whether those men have practical or theoretical knowledge of oyster-culture or pisciculture? They have either theoretical or practical knowledge. Some of them practical, like Mr. Hyam, Mr. Hill, and Mr. Oliver. Drs. Cox and Ramsay are both practical and scientific.

365. In connection with your position as Secretary and Chief Inspector of Fisheries, have you taken a deep interest in the fisheries? Yes; always.

366. Do you consider that the provisions of the Fisheries Act have applied justly, and that the Act has given satisfaction to the people who carry out the calling of oyster-men and fishermen? Great complaints of dissatisfaction have been made, but I do not know that we have had any cases proved. The difficulty has been to carry out the law, owing to its defects.

367. You are under practically no Ministerial control? We are under the control of the Colonial Secretary.

368. But any matter which you submit to the Government for consideration has first to go to the Commission? Yes; my duties are set out in a regulation under the Fisheries Act.

369. Have you any reason to doubt the advisability of continuing the existence of the present Commission? I do not think that that is a question which I can exactly answer, as it is one of policy.

370. Have you heard many complaints made as to the administration of the Act by a Commission? I have heard it said that it should be administered directly by a Ministerial department, such as that of the Colonial Secretary.

371. How often does your Commission meet? Wednesday in every week.

372. Does the Commission regularly meet on those days? There have been many cases when we could not get a quorum. Usually, when a quorum has not been obtained, two Commissioners have held a sitting, and the signature of the third has been obtained afterwards to the minute-book.

373. What is the mode of procedure by the Commission? The minutes of the last meeting are read, and the Commissioners then proceed to deal with every case which has occurred throughout the week that requires their consideration. The proceedings are entered in a minute-book, and under each head the President writes the directions of the Commission.

374. Have the Commissioners always worked together cordially? I have seen no want of cordiality.

375. What is the time usually occupied at your meetings? I suppose, on an average, from an hour to an hour and a half.

376. Have you at any time been instructed by the Commission to bring any grievances or defects in the Fisheries Act under the notice of the Government? Not under the notice of the Government. I was asked on one occasion—about August last or September—to draw up a statement of what I thought were defects in the present Act. I found that the defects were so numerous and difficult of explanation that I had to draw up new Bills on the basis of the present Acts. I had no authority to go as far as that, but I thought it was the most intelligent way of putting the matter before the Commission. I drew up two Bills, one dealing with the fisheries, and the other with oyster-culture, and I drew up memoranda, explaining the alterations and amendments I had made in each. I now hand in those documents. [*Appendices B 1 and 2.*]

377. To whom did you submit these? To the Commission in October last.

378. Are you aware whether the Commission submitted those suggestions at any time to the Government? They have not done so. They have not fully considered the Bills themselves yet.

379. You mentioned that you had had several complaints made as to the alleged bad operation of the Fisheries Act? I meant with regard to the inspectors.

380. Not on the part of fishermen? No. I cannot call to mind any complaints made by the fishermen; doubtless there are some, and I could furnish a statement to the Committee subsequently with regard to them. There have been many complaints from the inspectors with regard to the difficulty of obtaining convictions where the Act has been palpably infringed.

381. Have the officers, who are charged with carrying out the provisions of the Act, power to seize nets of an unlawful mesh? Yes.

382. Have many cases come under your notice? All of them, I think.

383. Is it not a fact that the very same nets have in some instances been sold at the will of the Commissioners, while on other occasions they have been allowed to rot? No; we never sell illegal nets. If we seize a net that is illegal, before we sell it we are obliged, by one of the regulations, which, I think, ought to have been repealed long ago, to keep it for sixty days. The intention of that in the first place was, to enable fishermen to petition the Government to get their nets back again, but the Government have never thought fit to give them back. The effect of that provision has simply been to prevent the immediate sale of nets which have suffered in consequence. When we have several seized nets, and the specified period has expired, we cut them up and make legal those which were previously illegal. We set against each net the particular purpose for which it can be used, and that is the purpose for which it is sold. It would be manifestly unfair to sell an illegal net to a fisherman, when we could seize it the next day. I hand in a statement showing how we deal with these nets. [*Appendix B 3.*]

384. Is it not a fact that new nets shrink? Only by repeated tanning.

385. Have proceedings been taken against men who have purchased nets under the circumstances stated in my previous question? No; we take proceedings against men with illegal nets, but where there is only a very small degree of difference between the actual mesh and the legal mesh we would not allow a prosecution. We only prosecute where the nets are palpably under size.

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386. So it is not within your knowledge that action has been taken in cases where it has been proved that the nets were at one time of a legal mesh, but that they shrank after having been used for a time? No; it is not within my knowledge. I do not think that the Commission would behave so unjustly to any fisherman.
387. Have you taken any opportunity to visit the fishing-grounds and oyster-beds? I have always been glad to visit them when I have had an opportunity. I have visited the Clyde River, Richmond River, the Clarence, Port Stephens, Newcastle, Shoalhaven, and of course Botany and the Hawkesbury.
388. Do you think it would be only fair once a net has been passed as being of legal mesh that it should always be considered as legal? No, because repeated tannings would bring the mesh down to very much less than the legal mesh. The proper way would be to purchase a net of a larger mesh in the first instance, so as to allow for the shrinkage caused by tanning.
389. Would it not be better to have a provision to punish people who bring fish to market under a certain size rather than be so particular as to the mesh of the net? The 14th section of the Fisheries Act provides for that already.
390. How many inspectors have you at the present time? Twenty-four, besides boatmen. Here is a list of the officers in the Department. [Appendix B 4.]
391. Are all those inspectors practical men? No; the acting assistant inspectors, who are principally the pilots at different out-stations, are not always practical fishermen, but the principal inspectors are practical men—in the home division, at any rate.
392. In your opinion are all those officers actually required? I do not think that the officers are properly placed. I think we should get better supervision if the officers were placed in suitable positions. I made a recommendation to that effect some time ago. I wanted to have a complete removal of inspectors, and I wrote a memo. on the subject, but nothing came of it.
393. To whom did you recommend that? To the Commission.
394. Did they send that recommendation on to the Colonial Secretary? No, they did not. I furnish a copy of the memo. [Appendix B 5.]
395. Are you aware that it is a source of complaint on the part of fishermen that the fish-market at Woolloomooloo has not worked satisfactorily? Yes; and I do not think that it is satisfactory myself. It appears that the men at the fish-market used to pay 5 per cent. dues to the agents; that has since been reduced to 2½ per cent.; they also pay 5 per cent. market dues to the auctioneer. That I believe goes into the civic funds. Mr. Seymour is paid a salary, but as auctioneer is not responsible for the sales proceeds—the agents have to see to that. I think it is too much to expect the fishermen to pay 5 per cent. merely for the privilege of selling in that market, and I do not think that it is right to compel all the fish to be sold there. There is a by-law under the Municipal Act which requires that all fish shall be brought to this eastern market to be sold. I do not think that the by-law is quite absolutely enforced, but it is generally enforced. My own idea is that there should be different markets about the town; for instance, there is a new market at Darling Harbour, which might be utilised for the sale of fish. It is utter nonsense to bring fish in a steamer to Darling Harbour, to cart the fish to the eastern market, sell it there, and then cart it back again to the town to be sold retail. There should also be a market near the railway, where fish brought by rail could be sold. The present arrangements are not at all satisfactory. It might be contended that if this were done the fish would not be properly supervised so as to discover bad fish, but that could easily be provided for by detailing some of our inspectors for the duty.
396. Who has charge of the market at present? It is under the civic authorities. Mr. Seymour, the auctioneer there, is one of our assistant inspectors; he was made so in virtue of his position.
397. He receives a salary from the Commission? Yes, £75 a year, I think.
398. Who is the inspector directly under your control? Mr. Mulhall.
399. How long has he been in that position? Ever since the Commission was created.
400. Is he a good practical man? Some say he is, others say he is not. He seems to be very industrious and intelligent, and he is always able to give me such information as I may require.
401. How old is he? Quite 60, I am sure.
402. Do you remember a man named Quinan, who was employed as an inspector—was he not dismissed? He was not dismissed, but he had to retire; his services were dispensed with.
403. On what grounds? He got into trouble when Mr. Stuart was Colonial Secretary, for trafficking in oysters.
404. Will you furnish us with the papers in connection with that case? Yes.
405. Do you think that it is possible for inspectors to be in collusion with fish and oyster sellers? Yes, quite possible.
406. Do you know Mr. Woodward, of King-street? Yes.
407. Do you think he knows anything about fisheries and oyster-culture? Yes, I think he knows a good deal about oyster-culture.
408. Are you aware that rivers and fishing-grounds have been closed for over twelve months? Yes.
409. How long has the Parramatta River been closed? The Act gives us power to close waters for two years, with the right to extend the closing for one year more, when those three years have expired. We can then begin *de novo*. That is our practice.
410. As a matter of fact, has not the Parramatta River been closed for over four years? I think it has.
411. Can you give any reason why the fish in that river, as well as in other rivers, have diminished in number? I do not think they have decreased. In point of fact I am sure they have increased.
412. What is the cause of the dearth of oysters in the Parramatta and other rivers? The droughts. The oyster requires a certain proportion of fresh water; that is to say, the salt water on which it thrives must not be too saline. There is a certain salinity necessary, but anything over that salinity arrests oyster growth and development. That is the cause of the worm disease which is talked about a good deal. I have here four oysters exhibiting the worm disease from its inception to the actual destruction of the fish. Since the recent flood I have received reports stating that at Port Stephens and Newcastle the worm has been entirely killed. It is simply an ordinary earth-worm. Whether it gets into the laminae in the first instance, or right into the oyster, and the oyster then works a naere over it, we are not quite certain. I am inclined to think, myself, that it gets into the laminae. Another disease to which the oysters are subject is caused by a borer, which attacks the oyster when there is too much fresh water. I now exhibit to the Committee a specimen of oyster which has been attacked by this animal.
413. How long does it take an oyster to become eatable? That all depends on the locality. Oysters which were sent to me yesterday by Mr. Dick, of Port Macquarie, had attained, he states, a marketable size

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size in two years and four months. In other rivers you can get them to attain a marketable size in twelve or eighteen months. In George's River they will mature in nine months, as I know from experiment.

414. Would you favour a proposal to close the rivers for two or three years from oyster-getters—do you think that that would be the means of resuscitating the oyster-beds? No; I think that depends entirely upon the seasons. I believe that after this season we shall have any quantity of oysters. My theory is this: There are deep-water oyster-beds as well as foreshore oysters. Wherever there are developed oysters fresh water must be present, and I believe the deep beds are fed by fresh water oozing up underneath, which produces less salinity at the bottom of those waters than in other waters. If that is the case we shall have oysters whether we keep the beds closed for three years or not. If that is not the case, we might keep the beds closed as long as we liked, and not get oysters. Lately we have not been able to get oysters, because it has been simply impossible for them to grow.

415. Are you in favour of continuing the present system of oyster leasing? I am not so certain about that. I am rather inclined myself to let the rivers either wholly or in arms. I want to bring this about: That if a man has an oyster lease, it shall extend over an arm of a river (say) like the Moonee Creek in the Hawkesbury, so that all the oysters in that creek shall belong to one man. In that case, if any other man were discovered there with oysters, he would have to account for them. The present system of leasing small areas simply encourages people to pilfer one from the other. These small leases are called peacock leases, about 100 yards in length. The Commissioners, at my suggestion, are not now disposed to grant those small areas. People take up these oyster leases simply for the purpose of getting all the oysters they can; then they throw the leases up, leaving the rent unpaid; and I do not know whether we have any power to recover the rent. The matter is now in the hands of the Crown Solicitor, and there is a case to be prosecuted.

416. Do you know how many oyster leases there are, and what amount of rent has been received? No; but I will furnish the information.

417. Have all the rents been paid on the leases issued? No; they are £2,000 or £3,000 in arrear.

418. Is it a fact that in the event of an oyster-lessee detecting anyone pilfering his oysters he cannot prosecute without first consulting the Fisheries Commission? Yes.

419. Is not that an absurd provision? Yes.

420. Do you know how many leases Mr. Woodward has? No; but he has a very large number.

421. Has he always paid his rents? Yes.

422. Do you remember that, some time ago, complaints were made public by myself which came from fishermen in the Hawkesbury River, who stated that they were unjustly and unfairly dealt with? Yes.

423. Has anything been done in order to relieve those people? I went up to the Hawkesbury, and looked into the matter. The result of my inspection was that I recommended the opening of Berowra Creek to net-fishing. I consulted one or two fishermen there, and they said they would be contented if that were done; and I did not see very much harm would result from opening the creek. In point of fact, the mere supervision of its closure was a bar to keeping it closed, because it would be necessary to maintain an inspector there constantly. I recommended the opening of Berowra Creek, but the Commissioners did not agree with my recommendation.

424. Would it not be much better if the main river were left open and the tributaries closed? I do not think so. I am a great believer in keeping those rivers closed for the protection of young fish. I would rather see the heads of the rivers permanently closed, because I have seen such good results from it.

425. Have many complaints been made through you to the Commission as to dereliction of duty on the part of any of your inspectors? No.

426. Have you had any? No.

427. In the appointments of inspectors have the recommendations of the Commission always been carried out by the Government? I think so, without exception.

428. By whom in the first instance are these people recommended;—would they be recommended by a man of Mr. Woodward's or Mr. Emerson's standing? No; I do not know of any who have been recommended by them.

429. In 1887 a Bill was passed to protect the fish in inland waters;—have you directed your attention to the application of that measure? We have no officer to supervise it. I have considered that measure, and I included its provisions in the Fisheries Bill which I drew up. I have not had an opportunity of visiting the inland waters, except Lake George, where I have been once or twice. I should like to have opportunities to visit those waters, as it is really impossible to form an opinion on those matters unless I go there. I would like to have personal knowledge before I made any recommendations. It will be seen in the statement which I have already handed in that I proposed to make recommendations when I was afforded an opportunity of going to the inland waters, but that opportunity has not yet come.

430. At Lake George there are fine fish, and is it not in every way suitable for carrying on experiments in pisciculture? Yes.

431. Have you visited Lake Bathurst? No.

432. Are you aware of the existence of fish there? There was some talk of taking fish there. It would be quite easy to get them there.

433. Are you aware that large quantities of fish are taken from the Murray River to Melbourne? Yes; they all go to Melbourne. We keep the Murray River for the benefit of Melbourne; Sydney gets no benefit.

434. Are you aware there are large quantities of oysters imported from New Zealand? Yes.

435. Do you remember the case of Hanley, who imported oysters from New Zealand and deposited them in one of the foreshores? Yes, at Gore's Bay.

436. Had he to pay royalty on those oysters which came in from New Zealand, and which were under other circumstances imported free of royalty? He took possession of this area and applied for the lease but never got one. It was decided that no leases should be issued in Port Jackson. Hanley was informed that he would have to pay this royalty for the accommodation afforded to him through his being allowed to keep his oysters there and for the benefit which the tidal waters flowing over them had conferred on him. The Commissioners thought that he ought to pay something to the Crown for the benefit he had derived, and they made an arrangement with him that no rent was to be charged. He was to give up the land within three months, but I think the Commissioners allowed him to remain longer.

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437. In bringing these oysters to town and selling them to Woodward and others, had he not to pay just the same as if the oysters had been reared on our own oyster-beds? Yes, only he had no rent to pay.
438. The royalty on oysters has been abolished? Yes.
439. Is there still a royalty on ware? You cannot call it a royalty as it is really a fee. Two shillings a bag is charged on ware, brood, and spat.
440. Do you think that is a wise provision? It is one of the regulations under the Act. It would be a good regulation if attention were paid by the Government to preserving beds for ware. If they took pains to conserve it it would be very good.
441. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Have you any supervision or inspection of inland waters? We have power under the Act.
442. Who enforces those powers? We enforce it; we generally employ the police.
443. Do the police represent you on the inland rivers and lakes? Yes; wherever we ask them.
444. Who represents you at Lake George? We have an inspector appointed there, and another on the Edwards River, between Deniliquin and Moama. He is the forest ranger, and he inspects the fisheries in his district. A sergeant of police, named Nelson, has charge of Lake George.
445. When you were at Lake George were you interfered with by the landed proprietors on the banks? No.
446. Did you ever hear that the people who go fishing at Lake George have been ordered away by the land-owners? No.
447. Were you allowed to land anywhere? Yes; I had no interference whatever.
448. Is there only one kind of fish in Lake George? Yes; the cod.
449. Is that lake suitable for rearing other fish? I think so. I should like to try it. Of course the cod is very voracious, and that would militate against any effort of the kind.
450. With regard to the worm disease in oysters, is there any inspection when they come to market to see if the oysters are diseased? No. The oystermen would not send them to market, because it would be only waste labour.
451. How did you manage to discover the specimens you have shown us? You can get them anywhere; you can always discover the disease, the smell is so bad. It is like dredged silt.
452. Could anyone eating an oyster ascertain for himself if it was diseased? Yes; the mere appearance of it is quite sufficient.
453. Have you any complaints as to the stealing of fish at Woolloomooloo market? No; but I have heard of their having been stolen in transit. In point of fact I have seen them stolen myself on the Hunter River wharf when coming from Newcastle in the early morning.
454. Is there any systematic oyster-culture in New South Wales? No. Although the purpose of the Act was to encourage oyster-culture, people have taken up areas not for that purpose at all. They have selected places where there was the most oysters. In many instances they have cleared off all the oysters and then abandoned the area.
455. Is Mr. Mulhall competent to carry out his duties as an inspector? Yes. He is an old man, of course; but he seems to take a great deal of interest in his duties.
456. Does he give satisfaction? Yes; I have not heard any complaint from the Commissioners. They think very highly of him.
457. Do you think that trawl-fishing would be a success off this coast? I can hardly say that; but I am looking forward to the time when we shall have trawling here. We do not know at present where we can trawl. Trawling requires a clean bottom, and that can only be ascertained when we have had a survey. I not only expect that we shall get ground fish, and unknown fish, but also oysters. There is no doubt that there are oyster-beds off the coast. There is such an oyster-bed off the Clarence, and I was in hopes, although unfortunately I have not been able to do so, that I could show the Committee this afternoon some oysters taken from the sea near Catherine Hill Bay, a few miles to the south of Lake Macquarie. They grow there in a place called Shark Hole, or very near there. There are no creeks or inlets about there, and the only inference is that those oysters come from the sea, and there must be some place there where they breed. I do not know why we should not get deep-sea oysters here as they do in France, New Zealand, and recently in Bass's Straits.
458. How do you account for our fishermen being so backward with their appliances and method of fishing? They seem to be able to supply the market, and they do not seem to care to go out of the beaten track. They have very primitive appliances, and some fishermen really do not care to go away from their own homes. That is one of the causes of the out-cry against closed waters. We had a deputation from the Fishermen's Union on one occasion, and the impression created in my mind was that the fishermen thought there were no other grounds where they could fish except George's River and the Parramatta River. They do not seem to have any enterprise.*
459. Do you think that our fishermen keep up a proper supply of fish for the market? The supply of fish has been increasing yearly. In 1885 there were 38,000 baskets of fish brought to market. In 1886, 45,000 baskets. Roughly, in 1887, 51,000 baskets; and in 1888, 54,000 baskets. The proceeds for the sale of those baskets was—in 1885, £31,000; in 1888, £37,000; so that that shows the supply is gradually increasing, and I put that down to our keeping the rivers closed.
460. Are there any obstacles in the way of well-boat fishing off this coast? No, but it has not been a success so far. I was speaking on the subject to Mr. Buckingham, who owns the ketch "Gratitude." He explained to me that the smaller fish seemed to succeed very well in a well-boat, but he brought a number of them on one occasion into Sydney, arriving here on Saturday night. He left them in the well all Sunday, and on Monday they were all dead. They were killed in their own filth. I can quite understand that, because he moored his boat just in the usual way, and there was not a sufficient passage of water through the well. If he had moored the vessel across the tide he might have saved the fish. He noticed also that the large snapper dived down and killed themselves against the bulk-head. He intended then to spread a net round the well to act as a buffer to prevent that if possible. The "Gratitude" is at present in New Zealand, but she is returning to Sydney, and he hopes to be able to do something with her in future, as he is going to use steam-power, which will enable him to get to the fishing-grounds and back in proper time.

461.

* NOTE (on revision):—I intended to convey this idea: That fishermen resident on a particular water, say, for instance, the Parramatta or George's River, seemed not to think that there were other fisheries besides those to be considered, and that they would rest perfectly satisfied if allowed to follow their calling on their own river, and not trouble much about the convenience of members of their own craft resident in more remote localities.

461. Did not the "Rachel Thompson" from Tasmania demonstrate the success of such fishing? She was not a success. The master had all the assistance possible from the Commissioners. The Government found the money to start the enterprise, but the master, instead of prosecuting the affair went back again, as he found that it was not a paying speculation.

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462. Might he not have had a good market in Tasmania? Yes; he found that he had much better market there than here.

463. Do you know that well-boat fishing has been very successful in Tasmania for years? Yes, I have heard so.

464. Even when the wells were fitted in ordinary whaleboats? Yes; but I do not know anything of it personally.

465. *Mr. Ritchie.*] You have stated that you are in favour of giving extensive oyster leases;—do you think that it would prevent pilfering if you gave one man the entire bed of the river? I did not say that I would give the entire bed of a river to one man. Suppose a river had an arm such as Moonee Creek on the Hawkesbury. I would give one man the whole of that arm. If his oysters were then stolen it would certainly be his own fault. Under the present system we allow one man to have small areas here, there, and everywhere, and neither the Government nor the lessee can protect those leases.

466. Is there any oyster-culture going on at the present time at Moonee Creek? No; the worm disease has taken such a hold on the oysters that nothing has been done.

467. You have spoken of closing the heads of the rivers;—what bounds would you fix for the Hawkesbury? My proposition was that we should close that river from Bar Point upwards. The river was first closed as far as the Railway Bridge. The fishermen represented to me that that was altogether too much. In deference to their wishes, and seeing that it would not interfere with the public interest, I proposed that we should open the river up to Bar Point, excluding the tributaries.

468. Is Bar Point much above the railway bridge? Yes; about 4 miles.

469. What are the bounds in the Parramatta River? We have closed it from the bridges. Iron Cove from the bridge, Johnston's Bay from the bridge, and Parramatta from the bridge, and Lane Cove from the mouth.

470. Have you closed the same proportion in all the other rivers? Yes; we take some well known point.

471. Is the worm disease very prevalent or widespread? Yes; but at present the floods have killed it.

472. Do you think that fresh water is a specific? Yes; there is no doubt about that. There is a great deal of talk about the origin of the disease, but I think the practical question is, what will cure it, so far as is yet known. Nothing but fresh water will do it. I put those worms [*Exhibit*] in fresh water, and they were dead instantly. They would live ever so long in salt water.

473. Is it by trawling only that deep-sea oysters can be obtained? Yes; and dredging.

474. Is that the method used in New Zealand and France? Yes; and dredging. I think they get them in 30 fathoms of water in France.

475. Cannot they be obtained by means of a diving bell? They can. We have divers here, but that is expensive, and a poor man could not go in for it. There is a man diving at George's River, but I do not at all approve of that system as it is impossible to know what the man is doing.

476. *Mr. Howe.*] Would you be prepared to extend the limit on the Parramatta River to beyond the bridge? Yes.

477. Say to Ryde? Yes; I would not object to that.

478. Would you object to extending the limit on George's River to Salt-pan Creek? I was discussing that matter the other day, and I would be willing to extend it to this side of Salt-pan Creek in the summer months, but I would not like to open the creek.

479. Would you be in favour of opening Port Hacking? We have nothing to do with that.

480. Would you advocate the repeal of the Act, which closes Port Hacking? Yes; I should like to close Port Hacking only from the Spit upwards. There is really no supervision at present, and owing to the way in which the Act is drawn a conviction could not be obtained if the opposing lawyers knew what they were about.

481. Are not the fishermen anxious to be allowed to use any kind of net, so long as the fish are not below a specified weight? That is the practice in Victoria; they disregard the nets altogether there, or very nearly so, and rely entirely on the weight of the fish. I am not inclined to agree to that practice, because we have to do more than prevent young fish from being sold. We want to prevent the young fish from being damaged, which takes place when they are caught in a net.

482. *Chairman.*] Do you think that in many cases the lengths of the nets should be increased? Yes.

483. *Mr. William Stephen.*] Do you think that the inspectors should be practical fishermen, and should understand the habits of the various kinds of fish? I think they should be practical fishermen. There is but little known of the habits of the fish. Garfish are the only fish to which a certain net will apply, because they are surface fish, and very seldom go below.

484. Are all the inspectors really practical men, who will be able to give a decision at once, and understand when the fishermen break the law? They will know when the fishermen break the law, but I do not think they have all been practical men. Of course, in their capacity of inspectors, they have learnt a great deal, and perhaps all that is necessary, but when they were appointed I do not think they were all practical fishermen.

485. Is it your opinion they should be? I think that it is very desirable that they should have the necessary knowledge at any rate.

486. Is Mr. Seymour in the employ of the Fisheries Commission? Yes; we pay him a salary of £75 a year.

487. Is he not paid by the Corporation of Sydney? We have nothing to do with his position in the Corporation. He was merely appointed an inspector because it was thought that he would be serviceable as representing the interests of the Fisheries Commission, seeing that he had the control of the market.

488. Then he is paid by regular salary, and not by fees? He is paid a regular salary.

489. Does he not receive any Commission from the vendors of fish? I believe he gets a salary from the Corporation, but I do not know that officially.

490. In your opinion has the closing of the fishing-grounds increased the number of fish? Very much, there is no doubt about that.

491. Have you not heard that since Port Hacking was closed the fish have decreased there? Yes, because the fishermen fish there whenever they please. There is nobody to prevent it.

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492. Have the Commissioners the power of appointing their own inspectors? No; the Minister does everything; the Commission can only recommend.
493. Do you think it would be desirable that the Commission should have the power of appointing inspectors? They virtually have the power of appointing inspectors now, because the Government always carry out their recommendations.
494. Are the inspectors subjected to any examination before the Commission recommends them? No.
495. So that in reality the Commissioners are not aware what their qualifications may be before they employ them? No, except from the recommendations which may accompany their application.
496. Do you think it would be desirable for the Commission to have power to appoint the inspectors directly, without reference to the Government? I do not see what is to be gained by it, because the Government will never refuse the appointments recommended by the Commissioners.
497. Do you think that any of the waters closed at present might be opened with advantage to the fishermen, and without lessening the supply of fish? I do not, except with the modifications I have already explained. I think those modifications might be allowed without detriment to the fish supply.
498. Have the Commissioners power under the Act to try experiments in catching fish outside the Heads? The Act does not exactly give them power, but the Government would not object to their doing so. In fact they have made an experiment with the trawl, and I think the result of that experiment is embodied in the Commissioners' report for 1883.
499. Would it not be desirable for the Commission to make experiments, with a view to educating the fishermen as to what might be done? I think so. I know that when the Commission was first formed the Government, at the instance of Sir William Macleay, who was then the President of the Commission, imported a lot of nets and fishing appliances in use in various countries; but, unfortunately, they were destroyed in the Garden Palace fire. Among them was a purse-seine, half a mile long. This was used to catch fish off the coast of Maine, in America.
500. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Do you ever change your inspectors from one district to another? We have not done so. I made a recommendation to that effect [*Appendix B 5*], which the Commissioners had under consideration, but nothing came of it. Our present inspectors live at Paddington, Woolloomooloo, and Surry Hills. I would place them in proximity to the closed waters. For instance, we want supervision over the closed parts of the Parramatta River. We require supervision of the Lane Cove River, and so on. My idea was to locate the inspectors somewhere near the lines of closure, so that they might see that illegal fishing was not going on. The Commissioners were willing to entertain my proposal to a certain extent, but the trouble was with regard to residences. I thought residences might be provided in this way: That we should make use of some of the 100-foot reservations which exist in most of these places, or any other suitable reserves in existence, and build a weatherboard-house for the inspector on this location, charging him a small rent, so as to cover the interest on the money expended.
501. What has been the result of your recommendation? I submitted it to the Commissioners, but there has been no result so far.
502. What salaries do you pay the inspectors? Mr. Benson, at the Clyde River, and Mr. Temperley, at the Clarence River, are the divisional inspectors; they get £200 a year, and they received the statutory increase of £40, which is the only increase they have had. All the other inspectors are called assistant inspectors, and they get £150 a year.
503. Is Mr. Benson at Bateman's Bay? Yes. He has charge of the Southern Division, from Jervis Bay down to the boundary. Mr. Temperley has charge of the Northern Division, which begins about the Manning River and runs away to the northern boundary.
504. Is Mr. Benson a relative of the President of the Commission? He is a relative or connection.
505. Has he any allowance for rent? Yes; I think he is allowed about £25 a year for rent.
506. Why do you make an allowance to him for rent and not to the other inspectors? I really do not know how it came about. I know he is allowed it. He applied for it, I think.
507. Has any other inspector ever applied for rent allowance, and has it been refused or granted? I do not think any other inspector applied. It has certainly not been granted to any other inspector.
508. Is he allowed anything else besides rent? Travelling allowance.
509. Is he allowed an attendant? He is allowed a boatman.
510. At what salary? I think £108.
511. Does Mr. Temperley get a boatman? Yes. In Mr. Temperley's case the Richmond and the Clarence are important rivers, and the boatman is posted on one river and Mr. Temperley on the other. In my proposition I arranged for another disposition of all those men.
512. Then the only inspectors who have assistance are Temperley and Benson? Mulhall, in Sydney, has attendants of course. You can understand that we require more men at head-quarters.
513. When the chief inspector is absent from Sydney who performs his duty? The chief inspector is very seldom absent. I wish he were absent a little more. Mr. Ellis, the first clerk in the office, performs his duty when he is absent.
514. What practical knowledge has he of the duties? Really there is no practical knowledge necessary, because he, as likewise I, as Secretary, would only take the instructions of the Commissioners. If he wanted any directions, or had to give any directions, he would have to go to the Commissioners, or the President, in the same way as I should. As chief inspector I do not consider that I have any absolute control over the inspectors.
515. Is it not a source of complaint amongst the fishermen that if they want redress for anything they have to wait here until the Commissioners meet? If the fishermen went to one of the Commissioners—to the President, for instance—he would give them all the help and redress he could. If a fisherman had a grievance, and he wrote to me, I should have to wait until the Commission met.
516. Have you heard any complaints from the fishermen as to the delay they have been subjected to? Yes, very frequently.
517. Are any of the inspectors incapable of performing their duty from old age? We have only one old man, that is Mulhall; he is over 60. I do not think anyone else is over age. I had a return of their ages prepared at one time.
518. What is Mulhall's time principally occupied by? He visits the fish-market every morning at 4 o'clock.
519. Has he an assistant? Two or three. He patrols the closed waters at night, and he looks after the oysters and fish coming in during the day. He is generally about.

520. There is no part of his time, I suppose, occupied in getting fish for the Commissioners themselves? No; I never heard of such a thing. That is a case that would hardly come under my notice. If it was done I would hardly know anything about it.

521. You do not know, of your own knowledge, that it is not done? I do not know that it is or is not done.

522. Who is the inspector at Port Stephens? Mr. Otway.

523. Is it proposed to remove him? Yes; the Commissioners have passed a minute that he and the boatman shall be dispensed with. They propose to make other provision, and his services will not be required. The matter is now under the notice of the Government.

524. What fish comes from Port Stephens? All kinds of fish.

525. A large quantity of fish comes from there, and is it not necessary that someone should be at Port Stephens? I think so. That is my opinion, but it is not the Commissioners, so far as I know.

526. What provision is to be made for that place—is it proposed to remove an inspector up there? My proposal was to remove the inspector from where he is stationed, at Alicetown, down to the Heads, to supervise the fish taken from Port Stephens to Newcastle, and that any provision for the inspection of oysters at Limeburners' Creek, whence they are sent overland to Newcastle, should be done at the creek. In fact that he should be helped by another man, and I proposed to take a man from Shoalhaven and place him there. I thought that would be a very effective means of seeing that the law was observed where the principal fishing goes on, that is, at the lower part of Port Stephens.

527. Do you think that Port Stephens is a very important fishing-ground? Yes.

528. Yet the Commissioners propose to close the inspection there? I do not know that they propose that, but they intend to do something. I was instructed to go up there and report for their information, but I have not been able to go yet.

529. It has been reported to me that they propose to remove the inspector, and it is considered to be a very ill-advised step. I want to know what action has been taken and what provision has been made to meet the case of that port? They have not moved him yet. I should propose an inspector there. I am in rather a delicate position in having to state what I believe to be the Commissioners' opinion on this matter. I do not know how far to go, or whether I should leave my idea of it unexpressed.

Chairman.] You will be protected in every possible way with regard to any information you give here, and you need not be afraid in answering any question.

530. *Mr. Stevenson.*] This Committee would be a farce otherwise. I want some information as to the steps taken by the Commissioners as to removing this inspector? I was going to say that the Commissioners take this view generally—

531. Has there been any complaint against this gentleman? I have not had any official complaint. I have had many verbal complaints that he has not given satisfaction. I asked those gentlemen who made verbal complaints to put them in writing, so that we might inquire into them, but I have never been able to get them in writing. Whether the complaint arose from his being too active, or from his not being active enough, I do not know.

532. Is it on account of those complaints that the Commissioners propose to remove him altogether? Not wholly; they think he is rather an expensive officer.

533. What is his salary? £150 a year, but the Commissioners think that he spends too much money in travelling, and they do not think that he is a competent man.

534. Can you give me any idea as to what fish comes from Bateman's Bay in proportion to the quantity from Port Stephens? There is no comparison in favour of Bateman's Bay.

535. Yet you keep an inspector at Bateman's Bay? Yes, the divisional inspector.

536. And you give him an assistant at £108 a year? Yes, but my proposal would remedy all that.

537. But in the meantime the evil exists? Yes.

538. You allow this inspector at Bateman's Bay house-rent in addition. All this expense is kept up where there are no fish, yet the inspector in a place where there is plenty of fish is to be done away with? If I recollect rightly my proposal was to remove Benson to the inland waters and remove the boatman somewhere else, giving him inspectoral powers.

539. What were Mr. Benson's qualifications for the office when he was appointed? I do not know what his qualifications were in the first instance, but I believe that he had had experience in Tasmania or Melbourne. I believe he came from Tasmania originally. He seems to have given satisfaction at Bateman's Bay;—we have no complaints about him.

540. How do you arrive at a knowledge of the existence of deep-sea oysters at Catherine Hill Bay? From the report of the inspector. This is a matter of very great interest to me, and whenever I hear of anything of this kind I always make full inquiry.

541. Have you had any complaints with reference to the fisheries or the inspector at Hawkesbury River? Yes; there were great complaints, and an inquiry was held, but nothing was actually proven. The idea was that the inspector, Peter Smith, was interested in oyster culture leases.

542. Have many nets been seized at the Hawkesbury at any time? Yes, but I cannot say how many.

543. On several occasions? Yes.

544. What became of those nets? They were sold by order of the Commissioners.

545. Are you aware that those nets were sold by public auction under instructions from the Commissioners—that they were purchased, put in use, and seized again? There never has been a case of that kind. Suppose an inspector seizes an illegal net from A, another inspector seizes an illegal net from B, another inspector seizes an illegal net from C, those three illegal nets may be converted into one or perhaps three nets, which may be legal for some purpose or another. We cut up those nets, and make that legal which was hitherto illegal, and the legal net is sold.

546. You do not sell the illegal net in the condition in which you seize it? No. That would be manifestly unfair. It would be laying a trap for the fishermen.

547. *Chairman.*] Are you sure as to that statement;—are you sure that nets have not been seized, prosecutions having been instituted on account of those nets being of an illegal mesh, and the very same nets sold again to people who used them? I do not know of such a case. I now recollect something that took place a long time ago. Many years ago some gentlemen in the country wanted nets to cover their fruit-trees, and some of those nets that could not be made legal for fishing were sold to those people for the purpose named. We instructed the auctioneer to say, when he sells a net, that it is legal for whatever purpose we intend it to be legal.

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548. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Have you never heard of a case where a man was prosecuted for using a net, which was sold to him by order of the Commissioners? I have heard of a case of complaint, but I forget the exact case now. I know that there was nothing in the complaint. It was something in connection with a lot No. 8 at some sale. The man said he had bought the net at this sale, and that he was afterwards prosecuted for using it. As a matter of fact, as far as I can recollect, the man never bought No. 8, but he bought something else. If any information is given me on the subject I can search for the case.
549. We want you to furnish us with information? I cannot give it; if I could I would give it.
550. You really do know or have heard of some case that has arisen? Which was said to have arisen, but there was really nothing in it.
551. What became of the prosecution? I do not know.
552. Was the man subjected to a great deal of annoyance, and was he brought to Court? If he had an illegal net he would certainly be brought to Court.
553. What became of it? I do not know the case, and I cannot give the information.
554. You must admit that that would be a very great hardship? Yes; it would be a monstrous thing, which I would not lend myself to.
555. Do the Commissioners inquire into any complaint that is made? If any representation was made it would be inquired into.
556. *Mr. William Stephen.*] Do the Commissioners inspect every net seized, so as to make sure that a net is not illegal before it is sold? No.
557. Do you leave it to the inspector to do that? Yes.
558. *Mr. Stevenson.*] I presume the inspector performs that duty? Yes.
559. When you grant leases for oyster-beds, do you see that the purpose for which the leases were granted are carried out? Yes; it is our business to do that, and we do it where we can, but we have very little opportunity. Also, an oyster lessee need not do anything for three years. At the end of three years if he finds that the land is incapable of oyster culture the Act gives the Commissioners power to recommend the surrender of his lease.
560. Then you do make some inspection? We always inspect, and we have never got any reports of mismanagement as yet, because really there has been no oyster culture. We have had no growth in the oysters.
561. What reports have you received with reference to the oysters on the Shoalhaven River? That the lessees are carrying out the conditions of their leases as far as they can. We have an inspector there who reports constantly.
562. Then the conditions of leases on that river are supposed to be satisfactorily carried out? Yes.
563. With reference to the sale of fish, would it not be an advantage to the fish-dealers themselves, the parties procuring the fish, if there was an auctioneer licensed to sell the fish, quite irrespective of Mr. Seymour, so that the fish might be sold at any time of the day when they arrived? There is no manner of doubt about it. I would completely upset the present arrangement.
564. Would you be inclined to recommend that fish auctioneers should be licensed to sell the fish, which is a perishable article, in the same way as auctioneers are licensed to sell wood and coal, which are not perishable, at Darling Harbour? Yes, I would recommend that fish and oyster dealers should be licensed.
565. *Chairman.*] You have mentioned that experiments in trawling have been made by the Commissioners;—how many trawls have you? We have at present two trawls and gear complete.
566. What is the cost of them? I do not know. They were brought out by Dr. Ramsay when he was sent home as the representative of the Colony to the London International Fisheries Exhibition. They are kept at the Museum, and have never been used.
567. What is their condition? They are in perfect condition. We have had other trawls besides. We have a boatman in our employ who was an old trawler at Grimsby. He possesses a certificate as second mate as a trawler. He made a trawl of 35 feet beam in 1883. It is now in bad condition, because we have no twine suitable for repairing it. The only cost of that trawl was the actual cost of the material. One experiment was tried with the "Ajax" for a fortnight in 1883, and the result was comparatively successful. The cost of making this trawl was about £15 for material. It required a long warp, which cost about £20; that is still in existence at the Museum. The same man made a small trawl in 1884 that has been used three times. It was used once with the President in Iron Cove, but without success. It was also used in Botany Bay two months ago. The first time it was unsuccessful owing to the trawl getting foul of the screw of the steamer. It was used the next day, and a large haul was made, but not of good fish. They consisted of catfish, rays, and sharks. In order to use the trawl successfully we must of course be sure of the ground. If we could only find out where the beds of deep-sea oysters are I suppose we would have an immense market for them here.
568. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Before that can be done must there not be a survey of the coast? Yes; but I do not think we would require such a survey as was commenced before, and which had to be abandoned owing to the expense.
569. *Chairman.*] Has the Commission a steam-launch? Yes.
570. What is its condition? Quite good.
571. Is she used? Yes, in this harbour and in the Hawkesbury River and George's River. She can only be taken to those rivers in exceptionally fine weather. She is only a little launch about 36 feet long.
572. Are you aware that Lane Cove River is not closed? It is closed. There is a bridge across Lane Cove River, and it is closed from that.
573. Have not the men Gascoyne, who live on the Parramatta River, suffered great hardship owing to the provisions of the Fisheries Act? I do not think so.
574. Did not these men settle on the river years ago to carry out this industry, the father rearing his sons there, and they having, as it were, a vested interest in the river; and is it not a hardship now that for the last four years the river should be closed against them? No; because I think they ought to give way to the public interest and go farther afield. Other fishermen have had to do that, and I do not see why the river should be kept open for these men.
575. Is there not a great population on the northern side of the river who for years were dependent on these people for a supply of fresh fish, and who cannot now get a supply on account of the river being closed? I suppose it is possible for those people to get fish in the same way as the people in the western suburbs get fish.

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576. Do you not think that those people are as worthy of as much consideration as the people of Sydney, and that some means should be afforded them to obtain fresh fish? Report has it that the Gascoynes are, and always have been, very successful in securing a supply of fresh fish, and that the inhabitants on the northern shore have not suffered at all, notwithstanding the river has been kept closed.

577. Is it not a fact that fishermen, if found in closed waters, are liable to have their nets seized, and that cases have occurred in which their nets have been seized? Yes.

578. After that, is it left to the discretion of the magistrate whether he shall punish the fisherman or not? If the seizure is proved he must punish them.

579. Not necessarily? I think you mean with regard to the forfeiture of the net. Under the 26th section there is no penalty, but the magistrate has power to forfeit the nets.

580. Is not that an unjust provision? If we had to contend against *bonâ fide* fishermen, who would take an interest in conserving the fisheries, I think such a provision would be bad; but we have to fight not against the *bonâ fide* fishermen, and there are many of them, but we have to fight against those men who are not *bonâ fide*, and who will take every opportunity of infringing the law. We have to make laws to provide against these, and the *bonâ fide* fishermen suffer through the misdoings of the others.

581. *Mr. Ritchie.*] What is the distinction between a *bonâ fide* fisherman and a non-*bonâ fide* fisherman? A *bonâ fide* fisherman is one who will act so as to help the laws where they are fair. I quite admit that there are many restrictions in the Act; but I think the fishermen should recognize that the Commission are endeavouring to protect the fisheries, and I think we have proved that, inasmuch as we have brought up the supply one-fifth in five years.

582. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Would it not be possible for fishermen in heavy weather to be driven into closed waters, and would it not be a hard case if their nets were then seized? I do not think that ever occurs.

583. Have you not seen rough weather in Hawkesbury River? Yes; but there is no closed waters until you get up to Bar Point.

584. There are a number of settlers on the Hawkesbury, more particularly about Wiseman's Ferry, who are mainly dependent for fresh food upon fish obtained out of the river? I have heard that stated, and I was asked for a report on the matter, and I recommended that the Hawkesbury should be opened from Webb's Creek upwards. The Commissioners however did not concur with my proposal, and it has not been done.

585. Was not a letter sent in complaining that those people could not even get fresh meat, and that they had no means of getting fresh food unless they were allowed to fish, and was not permission to do so refused by the Commissioners? Yes.

586. On what grounds? That it would require the appointing of an inspector.

587. The Commissioners were distinctly informed that the settlers were respectable men, that it would not pay them to catch fish and to hawk them about, and that they, therefore, would only catch sufficient fish to provide for the necessaries of life, that it has always been allowed up to a certain time, but that lately it had been stopped? The Hawkesbury has always been closed. There is nothing to prevent line-fishing.

588. A farmer cannot fish from morning to night with a line, and do you not consider that this prohibition is a great hardship? I recommended that the river should be opened there.

589. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Under the law could you not permit these people to supply themselves with the necessaries of life? The law does not allow it. There is no provision of the kind in the law. It is altogether defective.

590. *Mr. William Stephen.*] Do you think that the law should be amended so as to allow farmers to catch fish for their personal use? Yes; I think some discretion should be allowed in such a case. The present Act when it was passed was tentative, and I suppose if we passed an Act now it would be found unsuitable in some respects in a short time.

591. *Mr. Stevenson.*] I suppose you are fully aware that families in some of these isolated places would have to travel 10 or 20 miles to obtain fresh food? I did not know that but the information was conveyed to us. I think that it is a great hardship that they should not be allowed to get fish.

592. *Mr. William Stephen.*] Are there any divisional inspectors in the immediate vicinity of Sydney? No. Quinan was a divisional inspector for Sydney, but when he retired from the Service no one else was appointed in his stead.

593. Are the provisional inspectors expected to visit the waters in the vicinity of Sydney at any time? No.

594. If the important fishing-grounds in the immediate vicinity of Sydney can be entrusted to assistants or sub-inspectors, why should not the same be the case with regard to Bateman's Bay? I do not myself see the necessity for those divisional inspectors, and I never did. I would do away with them. In the Bill I have prepared I have done away with them.

595. *Mr. Stevenson.*] What becomes of the fish from Clarence River? It is sent to Sydney in ice-boxes. 15,000 baskets have been sent in one year.

596. *Mr. William Stephen.*] Are the sub-inspectors allowed travelling expenses? Yes; they are allowed their actual expenses; the Commissioners are very particular on that point.

597. *Mr. Stevenson.*] What travelling expenses do the inspectors get? They get paid their actual expenses, and nothing more.

598. *Mr. William Stephen.*] Are you not aware that Mr. Mulhall is considerably over 60 years of age? I do not know, but I think that he is over 60.

THURSDAY, 20 JUNE, 1889.

Present:—

MR. FRANK FARNELL,
MR. RITCHIE,
MR. STEVENSON,

MR. NOBBS,
MR. WILLIAM STEPHEN,
MR. HOWE.

FRANK FARNELL, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. Alexander Oliver called in, sworn, and examined:—

599. *Chairman.*] What position do you hold in the Public Service? I am Parliamentary Draftsman and one of the Fisheries Commissioners.

600. How long have you occupied the latter position? I was one of the first Commissioners appointed, in 1881. I afterwards resigned, and remained off the Board for two or three years; then, at Mr. Dalley's request, I again become a Commissioner, I think in 1886.

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601. Have you taken any particular interest in the fishing industry in this Colony? Yes; perhaps no man in the Colony has taken more interest.
602. Do you consider that the provisions of the Fisheries Act have applied justly, and have given satisfaction to the people who carry on their callings of fishermen and oystermen? That is a very large question. It would be impossible for any Act of a regulative character to give satisfaction to the persons who are affected by it. Fishermen could never be pleased with any Act which interferes with their liberty of action. I know a great many of the fishermen, and they have frequently told me that the Act impedes them in the exercise of their calling. Some say we ought to have closed fewer places, or ought to have closed them at other times. There is no consensus of opinion amongst the fishermen as to what parts of the fisheries should be closed. Those who live up the river say, "Do not close the waters where we make our living; close them down below. On the other hand those who live down below say, "Close up the tops of the rivers, because that is where the fish breed." Having had a great deal to do with the working of the Act, I can say that the Commissioners have been very largely guided by the recommendations made by the original Royal Commission of 1880, on the evidence of the fishermen themselves as to their closures, periods of closure, and places of closure. It will be seen by the report of that Commission that the persons who most strongly recommended periodical closures, sometimes to the extent of two years, were the fishermen themselves.
603. In your experience as a Commissioner, have you not had many cases of hardship brought under your notice? Certainly, not many. We have had a few petitions and memorials, and I think that on several occasions Members of Parliament have addressed us on the subject of hardship in the way of forfeiture of nets and the infliction of penalties for fishing in closed waters.
604. As a result of your consideration of those complaints, have the Commissioners made any recommendations to the Government in order to relieve those people? I think that on one or two occasions we have suggested that the penalty might be remitted. I think that during the period I was off the Board some recommendations may have been made to the Government. During the last period of my membership there have been some cases of the kind I refer to, but I do not remember at present that we made suggestions or recommendations to the Government, except in one or two instances, and I think those were cases in which we recommended that the penalty or forfeiture of the nets might be remitted. The magistrate has hardly any discretion. If it is a case of an illegal net or a second offence he must forfeit. Then the case is entirely out of our hands; because, being a forfeiture to Her Majesty, the Government alone can remit the forfeiture. There have been two or three hard cases. I think one was at the Hunter and the other at the Parramatta River, and the law had to take its course. Very frequently, when cases seemed to be hard, we have refused to allow our officers to prosecute. In fact our rule is never to prosecute unless it is really a bad case.
605. I suppose you are a pretty regular attendant at the meetings of the Commission? Not, perhaps, as regular as I should be. Unfortunately, the hour of meeting clashes with another engagement, and with my public duties, but I think I am fairly regular.
606. What time is generally occupied by your meetings? We have frequently sat from 3 to half-past 5, but on an average we get through our business in an hour or an hour and a quarter.
607. Do you remember if at any time the Commission made any recommendation to the Government to alter the present Fisheries Act? Yes; they submitted an amended Bill in 1884.
608. Then it is entirely owing to the negligence of the Government that that measure was not brought forward? I would not say that. I think the Bill was drawn up when Sir Alexander Stuart was in office in 1884. I am quite sure that in the report for 1883-84, when I was not a Commissioner, it was stated that a draft Bill had been submitted. I do not think the Commissioners have ever made any suggestion in the direction of remitting penalties or of altering the system we have been going upon, because we have always been of opinion that it is our duty, in the interests of the fishermen themselves and of the product of fish, to have a periodical closure of the main fisheries, provided it is at the right time of the year. That has been our idea, so that the breeding period should not be interfered with, and so that no one place should be absolutely skinned of its fish, as used to be done in the old times. At one time Lake Tuggerah, a very large fishery, was absolutely skinned of fish. We closed it for two years, and the result was perfectly astonishing. I do not say that we have always been wise in the periods for closing the rivers, as it is a tentative business with us, and perhaps we have not hit the right time for closure, but I am sure that the effect of periodical closure has been on the whole very good.
609. Have you any reason to doubt the advisability of continuing the existence of the present Commission? If any responsible Minister had time to go into the matters that the Commission deals with now, I do not myself see the necessity for a Commission. Of course a Commission is always a bad body for doing anything. It is only useful as an advising body. It only meets once a week, and does not act as quickly as a Minister could act. On the other hand a body selected on account of the familiarity of each of its members with the subject, ought to be of some use, and ought to help the Minister very considerably. If there were any Ministerial Department that had very little to do, and could take over the Fisheries, and if the Minister himself were an enthusiast on the subject, I do not think that the Commission would be a necessity.
610. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Do you think that the power of administration by a Board is too cumbrous in comparison with administration by a Minister? Most certainly; that is always the case.
611. *Chairman.*] Have you at any time had complaints brought under your notice as to the unjust operation of the Fisheries Act, particularly with regard to nets? There have been complaints of length of net, and as to the mesh. There are those who think that the nets are not long enough. They think that 150 fathoms is not long enough to inclose sufficient fish, especially in shallow waters where the men have to take their nets for some distance before they get on the ground where the fish are lying. Then there is the question as to whether the mesh is not too large—that is to say, the men do not get the fish they expect to catch. That is perfectly true in one sense. A man perhaps has an ordinary net with a mesh of 2½ inch in the bunt, and 3 inches in the wings. He shoots his net, and he finds that an immense lot of garfish and whiting escape, he naturally blames the mesh of the net. The object of the Act was to have a mesh of such a size that immature fish could escape. Unfortunately it is very difficult to meet the necessities of the case with regard to the mesh.
612. Would you recommend the extension of the length of the net? Yes; in the case of the lakes that are so shallow near the banks.
613. The officers charged with carrying out the provisions of the Act have power to seize nets of an illegal mesh. Have many cases come under your notice? Yes; a good many. 614.

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614. Is it not a fact that the very same nets have, in some instances, been sold at the Commissioners' will, while in other cases they have been allowed to rot? If so, that has been done without the knowledge of the Commissioners. We have done our best to prevent the nets from being sold to be used again by the same persons. We have had them cut up and altered in every way, so as to try and make them legal nets. We have done whatever we could to prevent illegal nets going back into use; but of course we cannot follow the nets. It may be that we ought to have destroyed the nets; I am not sure that we should not. We thought it well to get any money that we could from their sale, especially when we could sell them to orchardists.

615. Is it not a fact that new nets, after being passed as legal, shrink a good deal, and, as a consequence, the mesh becomes smaller? It is only the tanning process that does that.

616. Even after the first tanning is it not likely that the nets will shrink? Yes; because they tan the nets five or six times. I think that the shrinkage occurs on every occasion that the nets are tanned.

617. Are you aware whether proceedings were ever taken against men who used nets under the circumstances stated in my preceding question? Yes; I think there were two or three cases in which the defence offered was that the nets shrank after tanning. We tried to do the best we could in this way. Where the shrinkage has been very small, and has probably been owing to the tanning, we have done our best not to take proceedings.

618. Do you believe that if a net is once passed as of the legal mesh it should always be considered legal? The object is to prevent the destruction of little fish. We could not attain that object, if, by constant tanning of the net, the mesh were reduced from $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch to the size of a prawn-net; that would wreck destruction on the little fish. Regarded from the point of view of the fisherman it is unquestionably a hardship that a net which was once legal should become illegal by the necessary process of tanning.

619. Do you not think it would be better to have a provision to punish people severely for bringing fish under a certain size to market, instead of being so particular as to the mesh of the nets? Yes, we have a provision of that kind, but it is very difficult to carry it out; we have a scale fixed as to the weight of marketable fish, but it is very difficult in practice to carry it out.

620. You have no control over the inspectors of fisheries, except so far as seeing that they carry out the law? If we found any inspectors behaving as we considered harshly and wrongly we would first of all give them warning. If they persisted we would recommend their dismissal.

621. Cannot the inspectors act without reference to the Commission? Yes; but they could not prosecute in any case without sending the case to the Commissioners.

622. Have any of the inspectors been reported to you at any time for dereliction of duty? Yes; there have been some complaints made as to some of them.

623. Are they all practical men as regards the fishing industry? I do not think we have any inspectors now who do not know something about the industry; but they know their work in different degrees. Some of them are very familiar with their work, because they are old fishermen. On the other hand, some have not been drawn from that class, and, consequently, they are not so familiar with their work as others. I cannot say that all are perfectly familiar with fish and their habits; but I think that the majority are.

624. Do you think that all the officers and inspectors now engaged in the Department are required? We have tried, since the very great decline in our receipts from oyster leases, and owing to the abolition of the royalty on oysters, to economise the expenditure. There has been a very great decline in our revenue, and in fact we have been working on deficits for two or three years. We have done our best to retrench without leaving any of the fisheries absolutely helpless. I think that we have reduced the expenditure about £500 a year.

625. *Mr. Ritchie.*] How often does the Committee meet? Our meeting day is Wednesday—once a week.

626. Do you meet regularly once a week? Meetings have occasionally lapsed for want of a quorum.

627. Does that occur frequently? I will not say frequently, but I think that it has occurred somewhat too often. That is inevitable, seeing that the members of the Commission have plenty to do. I do not think that the business suffers in consequence of non-attendance, because any business of an urgent character is transacted by the Secretary going to a quorum of Commissioners. Frequently he goes to Dr. Cox and myself and tells us what the business is, and when it is urgent action is taken.

628. You have a Secretary who carries out the orders of the Commission? Yes.

629. Are you aware what is the size of the mesh used in Victoria? No, I am not at all acquainted with the Fisheries Act of Victoria.

630. Would it be possible for fishermen to save the smaller fish if they used a smaller mesh? Yes, in many cases. It would give them a lot of trouble, and it would be necessary to have an inspector present to see that the law was complied with.

631. Do you think it would not be desirable to reduce the size of the mesh in any way? Yes. I think the mesh is as small as you could make it, without endangering the succession of fish.

632. With regard to the closing of the rivers, do you think that they should be closed entirely during the breeding time, or should any portion of them be closed permanently? We have found it to be far the best plan not to have the closure during the close months that the Act provides for, but rather to have a closure of the upper portions of the inlets for periods of a year or two years. We cannot close them for longer than two years, and they should be kept periodically closed. That has been our practice, and as a matter of fact the fish have increased and not diminished during the last few years. I have no hesitation in saying that because it is probable by the statistics of the quantity of fish sold, and therefore I think our practice has a good deal to recommend it. In some places no legislation can bring the fish back to their original condition. For instance, in the Parramatta River the traffic and the pollution of the waters are so great that the fish will never be able to get back to their old form.

633. Still you think there is a probability of improving it? I think that the closure that we have adopted on the Parramatta River has certainly increased the fish very largely. I have been a good deal up and down the Parramatta River, and I know that for a long time that it was a rarity to see a school of decent fish. Since the river has been closed for a year or two I have seen on the flats at Five Dock frequently a good school of young mullet. It is impossible to preserve any fisheries in the immediate neighbourhood of a large metropolis.

634. Have you had any experience of deep-sea fishing? Yes, a great deal.

635. Is that practised here at all? Not as much as it should be. The schnapper men go out fishing with lines, but the misfortune is that the fish, during the late droughts, have been driven away, and their place has been taken up by those abominable leather-jackets to an immense extent, for miles along the coast, to the northward and southward of Sydney. The fishermen have now to go a long way to catch schnapper.

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636. Are schnapper easily caught by means of trawling? Not easily. I have been on three or four trawling expeditions and we did not get one schnapper. The schnapper is very active and when he sees a trawl approaching he gets out of the way. Another difficulty is, that you have to trawl for schnapper in the neighbourhood of rocks, so that you run a risk of destroying the trawling apparatus. We have not yet discovered any banks on which we could trawl. I have been out on six or eight expeditions looking for such banks, but never found any.

637. Do you think it is possible that we could establish a good deep-sea fishery here? I am quite sure of it, but it will require some capital and some patience. It will require a complete reform in our system of selling fish. The fisherman now does not get half as much as he should get for his catches of fish. I consider that the fishermen are very badly treated.

638. Do you think that there is anything required in a new Act to encourage deep-sea fishing? It is difficult to see how the Government, or an Act of Parliament, can encourage any industry.

639. The Act at present does not militate against deep-sea fishing? No; the Act has nothing to do with deep-water fishing.

640. The Commission has no control over it? If the Commission had any money to work upon they could do a great deal in this matter which they cannot do now.

641. Are there no funds placed at the disposal of the Commission? No, except for the mere working of the office. If we wanted to make a little experiment with regard to trawling, or with a view to discovering whether fish caught at the Solitaries could be brought down here alive, or in ice, we could not get any money to carry out the experiment. For example, we could not do what the Victorian Government did lately, who despatched a large steamer with a trawl for the purpose of fishing in Bass's Straits. It would not be possible for us to do anything of that kind under the present circumstances.

642. *Chairman.*] Are you aware that it is a source of complaint that the fish-market at Woolloomooloo is worked unsatisfactorily? Yes; it is the subject of very great dissatisfaction all round. I think that it only gives satisfaction to the middle-men.

643. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Whom do you call the middle-men? Perhaps there may be two of them between the catcher and the consumer. It may be the dealer and also the barrow-man or van-man. No doubt the consumer too has much reason to be dissatisfied with the condition in which he gets the fish. The barrow-man takes the fish round after having perhaps washed them in Woolloomooloo Bay, which is not a very clean place, or in the place set aside for the purpose in the fish-market, which is not very much cleaner. He then covers them with a wet bag, instead of keeping them dry and in a cool place. They are kept exposed to the sun, and if there is any one way of making fish rotten, that is the way. The consumption of fish would be very much greater if it was delivered to the consumer in a proper manner.

644. *Chairman.*] Is Mr. Mulhall your inspector at Woolloomooloo? He attends the fish-market. Mr. Seymour, the auctioneer, is also an officer of the Commission. Mulhall attends the market regularly every morning.

645. Do you remember a man named Quinan who was at one time in the Department? Yes.

646. What was he dismissed for? I do not know of my own knowledge. During the time Mr. Quinan was in difficulties I was not a member of the Commission. The Commission took a particular view, and made various representations to Sir Alexander Stuart. At a later stage I was a member of the Commission, and great complaints were made about Quinan in connection with certain oyster leases, respecting which it was considered he had not behaved as an officer of the Board ought to have behaved.

647. Do you think it is possible for inspectors to be in collusion with fish and oyster sellers? It is quite possible.

648. Are you aware that fishermen complain of the rivers and fishing-grounds being closed for periods of over twelve months? Yes; the Act allows a period of two years, and we have sometimes gone to the extreme limit. No doubt the fishermen have complained. The plan we have adopted with most of the fisheries is not to close the whole of them but only certain portions, and to close those portions for two years. For instance, there is Lake Illawarra, which is a very productive fishery. I think there are four creeks flowing into that lake, and there is an entrance from the sea. We closed those tributaries, and for a considerable distance on either side of them going out half a mile into the lake. We consider them to be the nurseries of the fish. All the rest of the lake is open. We have pursued the same course with regard to Lake Macquarie and Lake Tuggerah. We have not closed the whole but only portions of them. In the case of Curl Curl, Deewhy, Narrabeen, and Manly, we have closed the whole of them permanently, because we think they are very great nurseries to Port Jackson.

649. Do you know how long the Parramatta River has been closed? I think it has always been in a state of closure more or less. Sometimes for one year and sometimes for two years. That is to say, the portions which we do close.

650. Can you give any reason why the fish in that river have decreased in number? With all respect we hold that they have increased rather than decreased.

651. Do you think that it would be wise to close the rivers from oyster-getters for a period of about three years? The fact is, that nearly all the oyster-beds are under lease, and we could not now prevent the operations of the lessees. I do not know any particular oyster-fishery which would be benefited by closure. There is a great evil which I do not think we could ever get over by legislation; that is the theft of oysters. It is quite remarkable what a great deal of theft goes on in the rivers under lease. We have constant complaints from lessees, who expect us to look after their oyster-beds, but we cannot do anything of that kind. The lessees, who complain, say that we have given leases of 100 yards here and there to men who really are not lessees but thieves. I know of my own knowledge that that is a fact. One man put down 800 bags of New Zealand oysters, and in four or five days there was not one of them left. The man knew who did it, and he expected the Commissioners to protect his leasehold area, but we could not do that. The thieving of oysters is a very serious thing in this country.

652. Do you not think it would be better to lease either shore of a river, or an arm, instead of giving those leases over small portions? Yes, I am sure of it. It would be one of the best amendments you could make in the Act. That would prevent the invasion by those men who are only thieves.

653. You know that the Parramatta River is closed as far down as the vehicular bridge at Gladesville? Yes.

654. Do you think any harm would result from opening up the Parramatta River as far as the railway bridge at Ryde? I do not think it would do any harm, but the Homebush Bay Flats are the great breeding place in the Parramatta River.

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655. Have you had under your notice several times as a Commissioner the case of the Gascoynes, who live on the Parramatta River? Yes.

656. Do you not think that a hardship has been inflicted upon them by the closing of the Parramatta River? Yes. There is no doubt it is a hardship to any man for the law to operate in such a way as to practically take away his livelihood. These men are not fishermen who go away much from their particular beat. They are river fishermen, and nothing else. On the other hand it is fair to say that the particular interest of one or two residents ought not to militate against any public advantage or general advantage to the fishermen as a class by the closing of the upper part of a river. Fishermen in other countries are generally nomadic. They are as erratic as sailors in their way, and they go wherever the fish are. But here a great many of them have been in the habit of sticking to their own beats, and they do not go elsewhere.

657. Do you not think that the interests of the people on the northern side of the Parramatta should be considered, as well as the interests of the people on the southern side, with regard to obtaining a supply of fresh fish in the morning, and for which they depended on the Gascoynes? Certainly, if they are dependent for their fish supply upon the resident fishermen, that ought to have been considered.

658. Are you aware of the fact that the people up there are now very seldom supplied with fresh fish? I know there is a very intermittent supply, and I suffer myself from it on the North Shore. It is very difficult to get fish.

659. In 1887 a Bill was passed to protect the fish in inland waters;—have you directed your attention to the application of that measure? I drew the Bill for Mr. Tonkin, and I was very much interested in the matter. I have had my attention drawn to the question of the fish in inland waters. It is a very troublesome question indeed. It is troublesome, mainly because we cannot carry out any Act of Parliament without money, and we have not money to get as many inspectors as are required. The Act therefore becomes a dead letter, inasmuch as we cannot depend upon the police. We did our best years ago to see how far we could utilize the police, but we found that they had so many duties cast upon them that the authorities objected to the addition of another duty. Again, the police were not always to be found at the places where our stations would be, on the coast especially, and we could not get policemen on some of the rivers. We therefore had to give up the notion of working the Act in the country by the aid of the police.

660. *Mr. Ritchie.*] I suppose you find that inspectors ought to have some special knowledge of fish? Yes. Some of the police have that knowledge if they could be spared.

661. Could you suggest anything for the improvement of the inland fisheries? I should like this Committee, if possible, to arm us with some powers for the purpose of acclimatizing English and American fish. I know that our rivers are perfectly well fitted for trout, grayling, and other fish. That is one of our duties, but we have been unable to carry it out for want of funds. I wish we had the means of stocking the rivers with better fish than they hold now. Taking the fish as they are I do not see anything which can be done to protect them unless Parliament chooses to spend a little more money upon inspection.

662. What waters do you think are fitted for imported fish? The head waters of nearly all the streams of this Colony are fitted for the acclimatization of fish. A little while ago a gentleman, named Mr. G. A. Murray, got some small trout fry from Ballarat (I think), and he placed them in some big tanks at Mittagong. Even in that unsuitable place they have thriven wonderfully, and when he showed me one of his trout I could hardly believe that it had only been seventeen months there. What has been done in this unsuitable place could be done much better in the waters forming the heads of our rivers.

663. Would not the Murray cod, which is plentiful in many of the rivers, prevent the acclimatization of trout? I am afraid the Murray cod is a very bad fish for others, as he will eat anything, but there are no Murray cod in the eastern rivers.*

664. *Mr. William Stephen.*] Do you think that the Commissioners have as much power at present as they ought to have? They are a recommending body chiefly, and their administrative powers are very small. If they are worth keeping at all they ought to have more power.

665. Have the Commissioners any discretion as to fixing the size of the meshes of the nets? Yes; by a recent Act, and they have exercised that power by reducing the garfish net in the bunt from 1½ to 1¼ inches; that was done at the request of the fishermen.

666. In the event of a net shrinking below the legal size of the mesh, have the Commissioners no discretion as to the punishment? No; the law comes in there, and all that the Commissioners can do is to recommend the Executive to remit the penalty and to return the man his nets. Of course the magistrate has some discretion in the matter, because if evidence is produced to him that the net was originally legal, but had become illegal from shrinkage, he has power to dismiss the case.

667. Are you aware that the fishermen have been making complaints lately as to harshness in working the Act? Yes; sometime ago they made complaints to Sir Henry Parkes, and then I think Sir Henry sent on a memorial to the Commissioners, who went into the matter thoroughly. I think we had one or two interviews with Mr. McFadden, the President of the Fishermen's Union. The complaints were mainly, I think, about the closure of waters. I think they complained that we had not closed the waters where they should have been closed; that our bounds of closure were as a rule drawn too high up the stream; that is to say, they wanted more water to fish in.

668. Has it come to your knowledge that in any closed waters, Port Hacking for instance, the fish have decreased in number? We did not close Port Hacking. I think there is no doubt that the fish have decreased there. A few years ago I could get as many fish there as I wanted, but eighteen months ago I tried many places with a line, and I did not see a fish.

669. Can you give any reason for the decrease of fish there? No. I am inclined to think that it must be fished on the sly very largely. Of course a dam has been thrown across the upper part of this inlet, and it is probable that may have stopped the fish from going up to their usual haunts. Fish are very fond of going to the fresh water, and owing to this obstacle they may possibly have left the place.

670. Do you think it would be any advantage to the fishermen if they were permitted to fish as far up as the natural Spit, 2 or 3 miles from the mouth? I do not know that that would be any advantage to the fishermen. I have heard some people say that now that no netting is allowed to take place sharks and other rubbish go up there and destroy the fish.

671.

* NOTE (on revision):—Perhaps this statement is too large. Cod are said to be plentiful in the upper waters of the Clarence.

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671. Do you think it would be any detriment to the breeding of fish in Port Hacking if the fishermen were allowed to fish as far up as the Spit? I do not think so. I never knew the reason why Port Hacking was closed by Act of Parliament. No one sees whether or not the Act of Parliament is carried out. I think it would be far better to permanently close Port Hacking from the Spit upwards.
672. Do you think that it would be desirable to give the Fisheries Commissioners the same power over Port Hacking as they have exercised over other fishing-grounds? Yes.
673. Do you think that all the Commissioners understand the practical working of the fisheries? I think they all understand that thoroughly well.
674. Do you think that they are pretty well acquainted with the hardships which fishermen have to undergo in plying their vocation? I hope they are humane enough to know that.
675. Do you think it would be desirable to have the fishermen directly represented on the Commission by a practical fisherman who has to earn his living by fishing? I hardly see how that can be done until you pay the Commissioners—you would have to take this man away from his vocation, and you could hardly do that without paying him. A second objection would be that if he felt it was his business to look after the interests of his class he would be outvoted, unless he was an extremely reasonable man. Suppose he said, "I object to the closing of all waters from fishing," he would be out-voted on the Commission, as it is now constituted, because we are of opinion that reasonable closing is the best thing that can be done for the fisheries. I do not see what good he would be under such circumstances. On the other hand, if he were a perfectly reasonable man, and fell in to a certain extent with the policy of the Act, and the way in which it is worked by the Commissioners, I can see no objection to his being on the Board, if he could afford the time.
676. Do you think it would be advisable if the fishermen could find such a man? There could be no harm at all in it.
677. Do you think that your inspectors ought to be really practical fishermen? Yes.
678. Do you think it would be desirable for the Commissioners to have absolute power of appointing their own inspectors, and of dismissing them if proved inefficient? We have not had much trouble as yet on that score. Our recommendations have generally been concurred in by the responsible head of the department, so that I cannot see that much mischief has yet been done. Of course it would strengthen our hands immensely if we had the power of appointment and dismissal, but I do not think that that would be quite consistent with our present system of government, to allow any Board to have so large a power. Inspectors are paid from the Consolidated Revenue, and I suppose it is quite proper that Ministerial control should be paramount.
679. Do you think that any of the present closed waters might be opened with advantage to the fishermen without lessening the supply of fish? We do not close any of them outside the Home Division, that is, between Jervis Bay and Port Stephens. With reference to the Hawkesbury, I would not object very much to making the line of closure above Bar Point. It is at present at Bar Point, and I would not object to taking it a bit farther up, provided that it did not go farther than Mangrove. That would give some good fishing-grounds. With regard to the Parramatta River, the product of fish is comparatively so small that I do not know that it is worth the trouble and expense of protecting. I think it doomed as a fishery owing to the neighbourhood of Sydney. I believe that the fishermen themselves would ask to have the river closed in two years' time if it were to be opened. George's River is closed from the railway bridge upwards.
680. Do you not think it would be advisable to open George's River up to Salt-pan? There is nothing above that any good. The water is so polluted that I do not think the fish go up any higher. If we did what you propose it would be on the understanding that if in a year or two the result was a large decrease in the supply of fish, we should go back to the old plan.
681. Would it not meet all the requirements of the fish supply to open all the main rivers right up, and to close all the estuaries? That would entirely reverse our present system, because we believe in closing the nurseries, and leaving the lower grounds open, in order that the fishermen may ply their business. As a rule the beaches are down at the mouth of the estuaries.
682. I did not mean the mouths of the estuaries but the branches, a certain distance from the mouths. Are you aware that at some seasons of the year, when fishing is permitted in George's River, the river is so foul with quantities of blubber floating about that the fishermen cannot cast their nets, whereas, when the river is closed, it is free from blubber? That is true, and it is a great trouble. The only way to remedy that would be to revert to the old close months—that is to say, to pick out of the year three or four months during which fishing might be allowed. Fishing might be prohibited during the rest of the time, that is, when the blubber is floating about.
683. Can you define the duties of the inspectors? The inspector at Botany performs duties similar to those of the other country inspectors. He has to see that every man who fishes has a licensed boat and is licensed himself. He has to prevent fishing in closed waters with any sort of net whatever. He has also to prevent the use of dynamite or anything of that kind, and he has also to overhaul the nets to see that they are not of an illegal size or mesh. If there is an oyster fishery in the neighbourhood he has to look after the leases. If an inspector does his work conscientiously he has plenty to do, especially where he has a large area of water to protect. Some of the inspectors go out at night to watch people who are suspected of poaching.
684. Do you believe that the increased quantity of fish brought to market is due to the closing of fishing-grounds? Most certainly I do. The increase of fish during the last few years has been the result of periodical closing.
685. Do you think that it is solely due to that cause, and not to the increased number of fishermen? No; because when the fishermen had their own way they did not produce so many fish. They skinned out several of the best fishing-grounds; there were twenty-six or twenty-seven boats on Tuggerah Lake and Macquarie Lake, hauling all day and all night long. The fish were so much harassed that they went out to sea and did not come back again. The Little River, a few miles long, which joins Lake Macquarie and the sea, and which is always closed, is now and has for long been actually teeming with fish.
686. Are you acquainted with the branch of Botany Bay, which is called Quibray Bay or Weney's? Yes.
687. Do you think that it would be desirable to close those places during any portion of the year? We have left them open. I believe they are great breeding places. If we closed those places we would require to have an inspector there constantly.
688. Do you think the present Act could be amended with advantage? Yes; in several directions. The Chairman mentioned one point particularly—that is, with regard to prevent the leasing of small oyster areas. That is one of the things we most want.
- 689.

689. Can you mention any particular points where amendments should be made? I think the length of the net should depend a great deal upon the place where it is used. You should not have a fixed length of net, or character of net, for every place in the Colony. In the shallow places I would allow the nets to be of the total length of 600 yards. I would retain the 3-inch mesh on the wings, so as to let the unmarketable fish have a chance of escape.

690. *Mr. Howe.*] I understand that the fishermen want to use a garfish-net 150 yards long;—do you see any objection to that? Certainly not, if you could provide that they would only catch garfish; that is one of our difficulties, and I think that it is insuperable. With a garfish-net of 150 yards the destruction of small fish would be something dreadful.

691. If the fishermen is only allowed to bring fish of a certain weight to market, is it of any importance what the size of the mesh may be? Yes. The fish are nearly all killed when they are caught in a net and dragged along the sand—that is the destruction we want to prevent if possible. By limiting marketable fish to a certain size we do not get rid of the destruction, because the fishermen simply leave the small fish on the beach.

692. Do the freshes in the rivers sweep the fish down to the sea, and so cause their loss for food? I do not think so. On the contrary, the freshes send some of our best fish to sea, notably the mullet, and they are caught as they come up north. Then the freshes bring down a lot of fish, which are caught in the mouths of the estuaries. For example, the fish which came down George's River in the last fresh will be caught at Botany, or in its immediate vicinity, and in Port Jackson. They are not swept away into the ocean.

693. *Mr. William Stephen.*] Do you think that the freshes destroy fish that inhabit the salt water, because I have been told that during the continuance of the last heavy rainstorm the water for half-a-mile outside the bay was fit to drink, owing to the large quantity of fresh water which came down from the rivers? I do not think that has any effect on the fish, because the fresh water being lighter than the salt it always floats on the top. The water would be quite salt a few feet below the surface. I think floods are the best things that could happen to the fish. The protracted droughts lately have been injurious to the fish as well as to the oysters. If this Committee could induce the Government to investigate the worm disease in oysters it would be a great advantage. That disease reduced the product of our oysters during last year from 25,000 bags to 10,000 bags. It has destroyed nearly all the oysters on the Hunter, a great many in Port Stephens, a great many in the best part of the Hawkesbury, and it has got as far down as the Clyde. It has become as great a pest amongst the oysters as the rabbit is in the western parts of the Colony. The floods have killed those worms. The destruction the disease has worked among lessees is more than anybody would believe who has not given attention to the subject. I know of a poor man who spent £200 to £300 in making a false bottom in Mooney Creek. He bought New Zealand and other oysters, but he lost every one of them owing to the ravages of this worm disease. We cannot pursue the investigation ourselves, because it really requires an expert to do so. If the result of such an investigation was to furnish us with some reliable information as to the laying of oysters it would be a great benefit.

694. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Do I understand that the Commissioners perform their duties without salary? Yes, the Commissioners are unpaid.

695. Do you consider that that is a satisfactory system? When the question was first considered by the first Commissioners, I was one of those who voted against payment, and the Bill was consequently drawn so that the Commissioners should not get paid. I am now older, and I have come to the conclusion that almost all public work to be well done should be paid for. To begin with, payment will always secure a quorum; then I think payment places a sort of obligation on a man's conscience, and he thinks that what he is paid for he should do conscientiously; I am therefore inclined to alter the opinion I entertained on the subject eight years ago.

696. Is it not a fact that the Commissioners often fail to hold a meeting? I am sorry to say that meetings have lapsed too often.

697. Has not that given rise to complaints by those who are fishermen and others who have had grievances? No; because when there is anything urgent, Mr. Thompson comes round and tells us.

698. What is the staff under the Commission at present? The secretary and chief inspector, and I think there are three clerks and a draughtsman.

699. Have you an accountant? I have included him amongst the clerks.

700. Did not the staff originally consist of a secretary and accountant, five clerks, and two draughtsmen? Yes.

701. Was not that a very large staff? No; it was not. At that time we could not have done with fewer. Just then we were overloaded with applications for oyster leases. They all had to be recorded, to be sent on to the draughtsmen to plot, and then had to be sent on to the inspectors for a report.

702. Has it ever come to your knowledge that owing to the delay in granting oyster leases, applicants have refused to take them up? Yes, there was great delay, but I do not know how that could have been avoided. We made it a rule never to grant a lease if it interfered with the fishermen's hauling grounds. Sometimes the inspector would have to go a long way to find out where the area was, and to see if it would interfere with the fishermen's hauls. There was a great deal of delay in consequence of that.

703. How many inspectors have you? The chief inspector and an inspector for the northern division and one for the southern. We may have, I think, about seven sub-inspectors.

704. What duties does the chief inspector perform which are different from the duties of the other inspectors? He has to travel to report upon any particular fishery or particular trouble which may arise. There are frequent conflicts between lessees as to their areas. The chief inspector is supposed from his position, knowing all the work in the office, to be better able to report to the Commission than some of the local inspectors, who are sometimes not very literate.

705. Who is the chief inspector? Mr. Thompson is secretary and chief inspector.

706. Have you divisional inspectors, one for the south and one for the north? Yes; Mr. Temperley in the northern division, and Mr. Benson in the southern.

707. What are the salaries of the divisional inspectors? I think it is £240.

708. Are they provided with any house-rent or accommodation? No; it is sometimes very hard upon them that they are not.

709. Are they provided with boatmen? Sometimes they are, if they have a very large area of water to look after. Of course their expenses to and fro are paid by the Commissioners.

710. You do not know of your own knowledge that the divisional inspectors are regularly provided with boatmen, who receive a salary of £108 a year? I know that most of them are.

711. How often has the inspector who is located at Bateman's Bay to report? He has to report regularly to the Commission on the oyster and various fisheries.

Mr.
A. Oliver.
20 June, 1889.

- Mr. A. Oliver.
20 June, 1889.
712. Is Mr. Benson connected in any way with any gentleman sitting on the Commission? I do not know that. I have only heard that he is a distant connection of the President.
713. Do you choose your own inspectors or do you take them on recommendation from people outside? It is a very long time since we have made any appointment. The first men were chosen from the personal knowledge of the old members of the Commission—Mr. Macleay, Mr. Dalley, Mr. Dangar, and myself.
714. I presume they were taken simply on account of their knowledge of the fisheries? Yes. I think Mr. Otway at Port Stephens was appointed subsequently on recommendation.
715. When the inspectors seize nets what becomes of them? The nets are forfeited in the ordinary course to the Crown, and sold after sixty days.
716. Have you ever heard of nets sold by order of the Commission having been bought by the fishermen from whom they were seized who used them again and were again summoned? No, I have not heard of that. I should not be likely to be told of such a thing. We do our best to prevent such a thing from happening.
717. How do you prevent it? It is very difficult. A net of illegal mesh may not be illegal if it is made up in another way. If it is $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch stuff it would not do for a general net, but it would do for a garfish net. If possible we sell the nets to orchardists.
718. Do you remember Mr. Quinan seizing an illegal net which he found was worked while in the possession of a gentleman who was sitting on the Commission? I did hear that; I think it was Mr. Hill's net. I do not think Mr. Quinan was justified in making that seizure at all.
719. What is your reason for thinking so? I do not think it was an illegal net, or used illegally.
720. What action did the Commissioners take in reference to that matter? I do not know; the occurrence took place during the time I was not on the Commission.
721. How many years ago is it since Mr. Quinan was dismissed? Recently.
722. Then he was not dismissed about the time of the seizure? No; it had nothing to do with that. His final dismissal took a long time. I think it occurred about eighteen months ago.
723. Was he dismissed since you returned to the Commission? Yes; the ground for his dismissal was an improper transaction with oyster lessees down south.
724. What sized oysters do you allow to be sold? They must go through a ring, I think, of $1\frac{3}{4}$ -inch diameter.
725. Do you know of your own knowledge the Commission reduced the legal size of oysters, and that consequently a lot of oysters come on the market which have not yet arrived at maturity? I think unmarketable oysters do sometimes come to market.
726. Can you tell us what number of oysters were brought into Sydney in comparison with the number brought here from our oyster-beds? During last year our own product of oysters was 10,000 bags, and I think over 20,000 bags were brought from different parts.
727. Where did they come from? Queensland and New Zealand.
728. Do you ever change your inspectors from one river to another? We have not done that as much as we should have, but latterly we have started a plan of shifting them about so that they may know something more than their own beats. There is a very great difficulty in the way of this change. These men have homes of their own, and they represent that it would be a very great hardship to them to be removed. It means that in fairness we should have to supply them with residences.
729. Do you not think it would be better for the inspectors to be kept in their own districts, seeing that they would have a better knowledge of those fisheries? That is perfectly true; but, unfortunately, they also contract as we think friendships and partialities, and in some cases we have reason to believe that they have gone a little farther, and trafficked in oyster leases. We therefore came to the conclusion that it would be wise to have a system of changing, and we have changed some of them.
730. What staff do you keep in connection with Mulhull? He has an assistant inspector. He has to attend the market regularly; he has to look after Parramatta River, Lane Cove River, Middle Harbour, and all other places which have been closed. He has to look after the Port Jackson fishermen mainly, and very frequently he goes to Botany and other places.
731. What staff has he under him? Two boatmen.
732. Do you not think that there is room for improvement with reference to the sale of fish at Woolloomooloo? Yes.
733. Do you not think it would be advisable, instead of having only one sale of fish by auction early in the morning, to have a sale of fish whenever it arrives in the market? Yes.
734. Have you any knowledge as to when the fish arrive here from Lake Macquarie? Yes; it always arrives too late for sale.
735. *Mr. Howe.*] Would you favour the establishment of a market in the southern part of the city? Certainly.
736. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Do you consider that the present market is suitable for a fish-market? No; it might do for sea-borne fish, but it is not perfect even for that purpose. When you come to consider the question of railway-borne fish, it is absolutely unsuitable.
737. Do you know the fish-market at Melbourne? Yes.
738. Is it far from the railway station? No; it is just across the road.
739. Do you think that another fish-market should be established, where fish which arrived by rail might be sold? A large quantity of fish is conveyed by rail, and it has always appeared to me that there should be as close as possible to the Redfern station a cooling chamber, and the fish should be sold as early as possible next morning. I do not think that such a cooling chamber would be very expensive. Fish from Port Stephens and the Hunter suffer from two or three handlings.
740. Do you know what becomes of the fish sent by steamer from the Clarence, the Hunter, and the Hawkesbury? Draymen meet the steamers at the wharves, and carry the fish across to Woolloomooloo, where it is sold at the fish-market. During the passage across the stock of fish is very often reduced 25 per cent.
741. Are there cooling-rooms at the fish-market? Yes.
742. You think there is a necessity for a depôt for the sale of fish at the north-west side of the city, say, at Darling Harbour? I am rather disposed to say that there should be a depôt near the railway. I think as time goes on we shall have nearly all our fish brought by rail.

TUESDAY, 25 JUNE, 1889.

Present:—

MR. FRANK FARNELL, | MR. WILLIAM STEPHEN,
MR. O'SULLIVAN.

FRANK FARNELL, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Thomas Mulhall called in, sworn, and examined:—

Mr. T.
Mulhall.

25 June, 1889.

743. *Chairman.*] What position do you hold under the Fisheries Commission? Assistant Inspector.
744. For how long? Since 1881.
745. Were you acting in any other capacity previous to that appointment? No.
746. You then joined the Fisheries Department for the first time? Yes.
747. What was your occupation before that time? I used to be running along the coast as a waterman, and fishing.
748. Have you had considerable experience in connection with fisheries? Yes.
749. Was it your duty to inspect the fish-markets at Woolloomooloo? Yes; I am there every morning at 4 or 4'30, and remain there until 7 and sometimes 8 o'clock. I look after the fish, before Mr. Seymour comes, to see if they are of the full size or not.
750. Have you any assistant there? Yes, Mr. Richard Ellings.
751. Does the fish always come to the markets in good condition? No. In summer-time it very often comes in a very bad condition.
752. Is that the case with the fish that come from distant waters? Yes; from the Clarence, the Richmond, the Macleay, and those places. Sometimes the fish are bad when they come from places near at hand, such as Lake Macquarie.
753. Do you find many fish coming in under size? Not a great many now. There used to be, but the fishermen know that it is of no use to send them in, as they will be seized.
754. What do you do with the fish that you seize? Send them round to the charitable institutions.
755. Do you know that it is a source of complaint on the part of fishermen that the fish-market is not properly conducted, and is not suitable for their requirements? I never heard them say so.
756. Have you heard of any cases of pilfering? There has been some talk about that and I have seen it myself. Baskets have often come to the market, out of which one-third and sometimes one-half have been taken. I cannot say where that has been done.
757. Has Mr. Seymour something to do with the fish-market? Yes; he is the salesman.
758. From whom does he get commission? Each fisherman pays so much in the £, a shilling I think, and that goes to the Corporation.
759. That is the commission that Seymour would get if he were a private auctioneer? Yes.
760. Does he simply sell on behalf of the Corporation? Yes.
761. Does he sell regularly? Yes.
762. How often do the fish supplies come into the market? Every morning, except Sunday.
763. What description of fish comes to market? Whiting, garfish, bream, black-fish, schnapper, jew-fish, king-fish, salmon, silver bellies, yellow-tail, mackerel.
764. Yellow-tail and mackerel are not brought in for food? No, for bait. There is a great deal of crayfish.
765. Do you know much about our fisheries along the coast? Yes, as far as Newcastle.
766. Your duties, I believe, compel you to visit Parramatta River? Yes, and Middle Harbour, Lane Cove, and all those places.
767. As a matter of fact do you know that the fish have become reduced in numbers in the Parramatta River since the closing of it? No, I cannot say that, because before the late rain you could not hear anyone speaking if you went up the river at night, because the fish were so abundant there. Any of the fishermen will tell you that.
768. Do you know the Gascoignes, on the Parramatta River? Yes.
769. They live, I believe, and have their nets within closed waters? Close to the closed waters, or in the closed waters.
770. The river at present is closed from the Parramatta vehicular bridge up to the head of it? Yes.
771. Do you not think that a great deal of hardship would have been avoided if the waters had been open as far as the railway bridge at Ryde? Yes, that has been my argument all along. I say that it ought to be open up to that point.
772. Did you make any recommendation to the Commissioners? I cannot say that I did; but I have spoken of it several times. Lane Cove should be open from the bridge up. The fisherman should be given as much space as possible.
773. Have you had many cases coming under your notice where people use unlawful nets? Yes.
774. When you seized those nets what became of them? Those portions that were fit for sale were sold.
775. Just as they were? No. All the small stuff was taken out. All the illegal net was cut out.
776. From your experience as a fisherman do you know that nets are liable to shrink? Yes, very well; but I always allow for that.
777. When these fishermen are using a new net do they generally submit it to the inspector to see if the mesh is lawful or not? Yes.
778. Do you believe that when a net is passed as being of the legal mesh, it should be always considered legal? It should be considered legal until it goes much under the size. An inch and a quarter is the proper size for a garfish net in the bunt, but if it goes to an inch that should not be allowed. It then comes in for a prawn-net. The fishermen tan their nets in ironbark, I believe; in fact they burn them instead of tanning them, so that the nets shrivel up. The Italians, with a 3-inch mesh of net, take smaller fish than our fishermen can take with a 2-inch net.
779. Is that owing to the shrinkage? No; it is owing to the way in which they hang the nets on to the rope. The net is of the same length as the rope, so that when they begin to haul the net comes close together, and a 2-inch bunt with them will bring in smaller fish than our nets would with a mesh of 1 inch.
780. Have you ever had any complaints made to you as to the length of the net which the fishermen are allowed to use being insufficient? No; but I have often told the fishermen that if they wanted a longer net

Mr.
T. Mulhall.
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net they ought to send in an application in order to get the net lengthened. I proposed allowing the fishermen to have 250 fathom nets on the lakes. I should also propose that the 90-fathom net should be lengthened to 120 fathoms; that the prawn-net should be 20 fathoms instead of 15; and that the meshing-net should be 100-fathoms instead of 60.

781. Have you directed your attention to the inland fisheries? No.

782. Were you ever asked to report on them? No.

783. Do you think that the Woolloomooloo market meets all the requirements of the fishermen as well as of the public? I think so.

784. Could not some improvement be made? I cannot say so. No complaints have ever been made to me about it.

785. Are the fish from distant waters brought here by steamer? Yes.

786. Where do the steamers heave to? They go right round to Darling Harbour.

787. Then has the fish to be brought from the boats in carts to the fish-market? Yes.

788. Would it not be better if there was a depot at Darling Harbour? Yes, if there was any open place for a market there. It would not do to have the fish kept in a closed place in hot weather. There is no doubt that it would be a great benefit to have a market over there somewhere.

789. If there was a market over there at Darling Harbour, such as there is for produce, where the steamers could run alongside and discharge the fish, would it not be much better for the convenience of the public as well as of the fishermen? Yes, and it would save the fish a great deal. The more you drag fish about the more it is spoilt.

790. Do you make any reports to the Commissioners? Yes, monthly reports.

791. Have you ever reported any grievances which were brought under your notice, or which were alleged to exist? No.

792. Do you know anything about oyster-culture? A little. I do not pretend to be much of a man amongst oysters; still I may know as much as those who pretend to be good judges.

793. Can you give us any idea as to the cause of the dearth of oysters in the Parramatta River? It has been a long while since we have had such a flood as we had lately. There are sewers going into the Parramatta River, and all over the harbour, the dirt from which has been destroying both the oysters and the feeding-grounds of the fish. There is no doubt that the late flood will relieve it a great deal. All over the rocks in the water there is about an inch of dirt, and the oysters cannot attach themselves to the rocks until they are clean. That is what spoils the fishing-grounds.

794. How long has the Parramatta River been closed from net-fishing? It is about twelve months since it was last closed.

795. Was it not closed for two or three years previously? Yes.

796. It has been closed for nearly five years in all, I believe? Yes.

797. Was it on your recommendation that it was closed from time to time? No.

798. Can you give us any good reason why the river should not have been left open for one year out of those four or five years? If it was left open you would not have a fish in six months as long as your finger.

799. From your showing, the people of the district, and even the people of the city, have been deprived of fish for the last four or five years? Well, that is a great deal owing to their own fault. The men who live at Watson's Bay watch the places up the river better than the men who live there. When there is abundance of fish in any of those places and a breeze of wind comes, there is a continual stream of fish out of those places. If the fishermen who live about the river looked after the fish they would get them as well as the fishermen do who live at Watson's Bay; but they let the fish pass. If you do not close some of the heads of the rivers there will not be a fish in the place. I have seen the fishermen lying off Johnson's Bay bridge with meshing-nets, meshing the fish as they came out.

800. *Mr. William Stephen.*] What means have you of ascertaining whether the fish brought to market are of legal size? I weigh them.

801. What is the lowest weight that is allowed by law? Two ounces for garfish.

802. Do you think that the breeding grounds above the bridges on the Parramatta River and the Lane Cove River would be sufficient to keep up a supply of fish for the harbour? I think so. It is not the fish that the men bring to market that do the injury. When they shoot a net and get eight or ten baskets of fish, they cannot send more than two or three baskets out of the lot to market. The rest of the fish caught are left on the beach for the hawks, seagulls, and rats. That is how the fishermen injure themselves, because they will not throw the fish back.

803. Do you not think that the fish are injured too much to live after having been drawn-up on the beach? No. I have seen it done in former times.

804. How much have you known nets to shrink after they have been declared legal? With an inch and a quarter net three tannings with ironbark would bring it down to an inch.

805. When a net comes down to a certain extent by shrinkage, but is still legal for garfish and prawns, what are the fishermen supposed to do with the other fish which they catch in those nets? They keep them. They cannot throw them away.

806. Will they not catch fish below the legal weight? Yes, and then they throw them away.

807. Are they not liable to be fined for that? Yes.

808. Is not that very hard on the fishermen? Yes. It is often said that I should fine the fishermen for bringing undersized fish to market, but I look at it in this way, that if I took action against those men and got them fined, the undersized fish would in future be left on the beaches, and would thus be of no use to anyone.

809. Have you a full knowledge of the habits of migratory fish? Yes.

810. Do you understand the seasons when they come in and depart? Yes.

811. You have alluded to fish coming down the harbour and being caught by fishermen from Watson's Bay. How do you ascertain that the fish have come down that are caught there? Because I see them. I see the boats coming out at night, and I see them with meshing-nets catching the fish in Johnson's Bay, outside the bridge.

TUESDAY,

TUESDAY, 2 JULY, 1889.

Present:—

MR. O'SULLIVAN, MR. WILLIAM STEPHEN,	|	MR. SEAVER, MR. STEVENSON,
MR. RITCHIE.		

EDWARD WILLIAM O'SULLIVAN, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR, *pro tem.*

Mr. Thomas Mulhall recalled, sworn, and further examined:—

812. *Chairman.*] How old are you? I am going on for 66.
813. Are you fully competent to carry out the duties you are now performing notwithstanding your age? Mr.
T. Mulhall.
Yes, I am quite qualified. 2 July, 1889.
814. Are you at your post every morning? Yes, at 4 o'clock, or a few minutes afterwards. Sometimes I am not in bed at all for one night.
815. Have you full charge of the Port Jackson inspectorship? Yes. I have to look after all the fish and oysters which come in and I have to make a weekly report on both.
816. Had you long experience as a fisherman and boatman before you took the position? Yes, all my life.
817. How do you account for our fishermen not being in the habit of going out to fish in the deep sea? They have no nets adapted for that. There are no trawls and no trawls men here that I can see. In fact I do not think they know where to go and none of us do know. It is no use finding a sandy or a rocky bottom; you must get a dark bottom before you can get any fish.
818. Do you think that before our fishermen can carry out deep-sea fishing with trawls the coast must be surveyed? Yes.
819. In order that they may know the character of the bottom? Yes. In my opinion the only net that will do any good in this country is a net which one of the Italians has got and that needs a little alteration.
820. What kind of net is that? It is about 100 fathoms long and about 40 feet deep with a large bag in it. That would be dragged by two steamers with a four or five hundred fathom line at each end.
821. Is not that something on the same principle as trawling? Yes, only it is longer. A trawl only picks up about 60 feet. We once used a trawl between Wollongong and Botany and we only got somewhere about three or four baskets of fish of various kinds, most of them not being worth the picking up.
822. Did not the Fisheries' Commission import a few small-sized trawls? Only one. There was one large half mile net, an American one, which was the finest net I ever saw, but that was burnt in the Garden Palace.
823. Were the experiments with those trawls successful? No, we got a few fish but not many. It is necessary that the ground should be surveyed.
824. Do the Greek and Italian fishermen use trawls? No.
825. You have only seen one net used by them which resembles a trawl? Yes, and the man who made that net is gone home to bring out eight or nine men with him. He says he is satisfied he could get as much fish as will supply the market. I think that is questionable but he may get a great many.
826. As a rule do our fishermen make anything like a comfortable living? I think those who will work do, but a great many of them will not work. When they come to Sydney with a few fish they stay about the public-houses as long as their money lasts.
827. How much do they earn as an ordinary rule per week? A couple of pounds or more clear. Some of them make more. The Italians do the best. They are tremendous men to work. They work night and day.
828. What part of Port Jackson is closed from fishing? Johnson's Bay above the bridge, Iron Cove above the bridge, and then the water is closed from the bridge at Five Dock right up. Lane Cove is closed from the telegraph post at the entrance to head of the river. It ought not to have been closed from there, but it ought to have been closed from the bridge in Lane Cove. The Parramatta ought to have been closed from the bridge at Ryde—that would have given the fishermen very good scope. Above the places I have mentioned the river should never be opened, because those are the proper breeding grounds, and if we do not save the fish in some places they will be all destroyed.
829. Do you think from your practical experience that the rivers are closed too low down towards the mouth? Yes.
830. Do you think that oyster-culture could be carried out successfully off our coasts? I do not think we will ever get many oysters off the coast—I have never heard of any. Some twenty-five or thirty years ago three or four men came out from England. They went away in a ketch for five or six months, and they never got an oyster. They lost £300 or £400.
831. Have you noticed that the Victorian Government are offering bonuses for the development of the fisheries and oysters? Yes.
832. Do you think that would be conducive to the encouragement of fishing here? Yes, if there were any men here who knew anything of trawling they would then go to work at once.
833. Was there not an old trawler here at one time? There were two or three. We now have in our office two men who were trawls men in England.
834. Have you ever been at Lord Howe's Island and Elizabeth Reef? No; but I believe there are very good fishing-grounds there. I suppose that the bottom is foul there.
835. Do you think that those fisheries might be developed by offering a bonus to fishermen? Yes.
836. *Mr. Stephen.*] Are you aware that the Fisheries Commissioners have been averse to opening Port Jackson beyond the railway bridge? No.
837. Do you think that it would be desirable to open the river up to that bridge? Yes.
838. Are you under the impression that it would be desirable to open the river to that bridge at present? Yes.
839. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Have you heard that the nets used by the Italian fishermen destroy large quantities of small fish? Yes.
840. What action was taken with reference to that? I never took any action, except against one of the Italians, because although there were several letters in the papers about the Italians destroying small fish, I never could find out the names of the people who wrote the letters, except in the case of two young fellows of Balmain, whom I went to see, and who identified a boat and one of the fishermen. I prosecuted that man, and he was fined £2.

- Mr. T. Mulhall.
2 July, 1889.
841. Do you know whether the practice is now discontinued? I think they continue it at present unless they see me or the boat about.
842. What means have you of checking this practice? No means, except that I watch them pretty closely.
843. How often are you supposed to be out? Every day.
844. But is not this sort of thing done during the night? Yes; but I am generally out three nights in the week.
845. Yet you are at the market every morning at 4? Yes; and it is often 4 o'clock when I get out of the boat.
846. Do you think that the present fish-market is a suitable place? Yes; it is a fine open place. You must have an open place for fish, and you must have plenty of salt water.
847. Is the present market central? It would be much better if it was near the railway terminus, but you would require to have an open place.
848. What district have you to supervise? The whole of Sydney harbour.
849. You do not visit other places? I sometimes go to the Hawkesbury and anywhere I am sent to.
850. To what outside places do you go? It is twelve months since I have been at Broken Bay. It is nearly two years since I have been at Wollongong.
851. You received instructions from the head office? Yes.
852. When the Secretary is absent from whom do you receive orders? The President.
853. When you seize fish for being under-weight what becomes of it? I give them to the charitable institutions. I divide them round about.
854. Do you ever send any fish to the Commissioners? No.
855. Never to Dr. Cox? Dr. Cox gets fish once a week.
856. Who takes them? One of the men.
857. One of your men? Yes.
858. Are they cleaned? No.
859. Who pays for the fish? I pay for them and Dr. Cox pays me. I sometimes pay 2s. 6d, sometimes 3s, sometimes 5s., and I have given as much as 8s. for a schnapper.
860. Then Dr. Cox is the only Commissioner who has fish sent to him? Yes.
861. Do you not think that it is very unfair for the Commissioners to have the pick of the fish? They do not get the pick of them.
862. Still you consider that it is part of your duty to provide any Commissioner who may request you to do so with fish from the market? I look at it in this way: If they ask me to buy half-a-crown's worth of fish I say to one of the men who is buying fish, "I want half-a-crown's worth of fish from you." I only get from him the same fish as he sells about the town.
863. How often does that happen? Sometimes once a week and sometimes twice.
864. Is it not a fact that every week or oftener one or other of the Commissioners is supplied with fish by yourself or by one of your assistants? Dr. Cox is the only Commissioner who gets them.
865. Does he get them regularly? Yes; every Friday.
866. In preparing the reports which you send in do you draw up the report yourself? Yes; I write them myself when I am at home at night.
867. *Mr. Ritchie.*] What is your opinion with regard to the closed waters of Broken Bay? I think the fishermen have a very good space of ground open to them there.
868. How far up would you close the Hawkesbury River? I would open if I had my will as far as Mangrove Creek.
869. *Chairman.*] Do you often hear of depredations by sharks in Port Jackson? Yes; and I often see them.
870. Do you know that very often some very distressing deaths are caused by them? Yes.
871. Do you think it would be worth while for the Government to offer a bonus for the destruction of sharks? I have often said that they ought to do so. The sharks have often rushed right at our boat when coming down at night. Large sharks have done that. I have often watched for them with harpoons, but then they never came near the boat. On several other occasions they have rushed right at the boat.
872. Do you think that men could be induced to hunt the sharks? I think if a bonus were offered they would be soon cleared out.
873. What would you suggest as a proper bonus? I should say that the Government should not offer less than £1 for each of the big sharks.
874. Have you noticed the habits of sharks in Port Jackson, and as to what time they are most numerous? I know they begin to come in about January. I generally see them in January and February. During the cold weather they go to deep water.
875. Is January their breeding season? No, March and April is the proper breeding season.
876. Are they very dangerous at that time? Yes, very savage.
877. Have you noticed that in spring-time they come in again in pairs? Yes, that is another breeding time. October and November is a breeding time.
878. Then they breed twice a year? Yes, all fish breed twice a year. In March and April they spawn, but they come to nothing in the cold weather. Then the fish spawn again in October and November, so that the two spawns come on at about the one time.
879. Is there not one particular time of the year when the sharks come into the harbour in large numbers? Yes, I think they come in in large numbers at the breeding time. They come like the mullet in March and April.
880. Then autumn and spring are the most dangerous periods for sharks? Yes, they are very savage.
881. With regard to purchasing fish for the Commissioners, is that part of your duty, or do you do that merely to oblige Dr. Cox? It is not my duty. I do it merely to oblige Dr. Cox.
882. You say he pays for any fish he gets? Yes.
883. *Mr. Ritchie.*] It does not take up any of your extra time? No.
884. *Mr. Stephen.*] Did you ever earn your livelihood as a fisherman in the same way as fishermen do now? Yes.

Mr. John Duncan Grant called in, sworn, and examined :—

885. *Chairman.*] What position do you hold? Assistant Inspector of Fisheries.
886. What is your district? George's River and Botany.
887. Have you had long experience of fish and fishing? Yes, I was fishing in 1864, and before that time.
888. Do you report to the Commission occasionally as to the closed waters in Botany and George's River? I report that there is plenty or scarcity of fish.
889. Have you reported as to the closed waters? No. I have never recommended the closing of the river.
890. In your opinion as a fisherman do you think that the rivers are closed too far down towards the mouth? Not a bit for the winter months.
891. Then you are not prepared to recommend that they should be opened farther up? I should recommend that they be opened in the summer months. Some of them have been closed for two or three years, summer and winter.
892. Would you recommend that they should be open in winter and closed in summer? No, the reverse—closed in winter and open in summer.
893. Why in summer? They could then get a fresh supply for the market in summer, and in winter they could go farther north and south. I do not say that they spawn in the winter months, but at that time they are rowed, and in September and November they are pretty empty with very little roe in them.
894. *Mr. Stephen.*] Do you think that the closing of Port Hacking has had any effect upon the production of fish there? I think Port Hacking is like a boat-harbour. The fish go in there to-day and they go out to-morrow. Up towards the park there may be a few holes and flats where the fish might spawn, but that is the only place.
895. Then you do not consider it is desirable to have the whole of Port Hacking closed against net-fishing? I do not think it had any effect. South-west arm or up near the park is the only breeding-place. I should say that above north-west arm and the whole of south-west arm might be breeding-places.
896. How far would you recommend Port Hacking to be thrown open to net-fishing? From Lilly Pilli Point across to Coston's Point.
897. Then you think it would be an advantage to have the port open to net-fishing up to Lilly Pilli Point? Yes; but that might stop a great many people from catching fish with lines.
898. Do you consider that the closing of Port Hacking has had anything to do with the enormous number of sharks to be found there lately? No, before the closing of the harbour I can remember one or two boats getting between 200 and 300 sharks in one haul.
899. It has been reported on many occasions that in reality Port Hacking is at present a feeding-ground for sharks because the fishermen are prohibited from hauling, and a great many sharks are left there which would otherwise be caught in the nets and be destroyed? I do not think that is the case because the fishermen have never stopped hauling there. Since the waters have been closed I have seen three boats there at a time.
900. Did you seize the nets? No.
901. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Were the men illegally hauling there? On one occasion.
902. *Mr. Stephen.*] When there is a heavy flood in the George's River do the fish leave the fresh water and go right out to sea and are therefore lost to the public? No, they never go away unless it is their proper season to go away. They go out for a short time but they come back again.
903. Do you think they always return to the same place? Yes.
904. Are you acquainted with the best breeding-grounds in George's River? I can scarcely answer that; but I know where the fish lie in schools by the thousand.
905. I suppose they must have breeding-grounds somewhere there, and a man residing there ought to know their situation? In 1883 and 1884 the river was closed to Tom Ugly's Point. The fishermen asked me if the river could not be opened as far as the bridge, as all the breeding-grounds to their knowledge were above the bridge. I recommended that, but I still believe myself that there were breeding-grounds below the bridge. Since that they have wanted to open the river to Salt-pan Creek, and they say that the breeding-grounds are above that. I could not alter my opinion in that way, as I knew better.
906. Do you think it would be any better for the supply of fish in George's River if it were opened up to Salt-pan Creek? At the present time the fish are as thick as ever they can swim in the river, but if it were opened and fifteen or twenty nets were used up there in a fortnight, there would be no fish at all. What fish they did not catch they would so harass that they would be driven out to Botany Bay, where the sharks would get them. You do not see any sharks in the river.
907. Then you do not think it would be desirable to open up the river to Salt-pan Creek without including Salt-pan Creek? I think you might as well open it up as far as Liverpool as to open it up to that point.
908. Do you think there are any seasons of the year when it would be desirable to throw the whole of the river open to net-fishing? Yes; I think it should be thrown open the whole of the summer. It would be quite sufficient to close the waters during May, June, July, and August.
909. But we are told that October and November are the breeding seasons for fish? Yes; in December the sand-whiting is full of roe.
910. If these are the breeding seasons would it not be well to protect them during that time? It would be good to protect them, but I am speaking of the benefit of the fishermen and of the Sydney market.
911. Our object is not to benefit any particular party. We want to report for the benefit of the whole fishing industry and for all of those using the fish? In December our best whiting are fully roed. I am told by the best fishermen in Botany that they are also fully roed in June and July.
912. Have you given an opinion at any time to the Fisheries Commission that it would be desirable to keep George's River open for fishing purposes from December to the end of April in each year? No; but I recommended that it should be open to the bridge.
913. I would draw your attention to the following passage from an official document: "If it be that a larger supply of fish is required in the metropolis during the summer and Lenten months, Mr. Grant thinks that the whole of the river might be opened from the beginning of December till the end of April, and to this the Commissioners will not offer opposition?" You are right. I forgot myself. I did recommend that. I never recommended that the river should be closed during the summer months. I never approved of it.

Mr
D. Grant.

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Mr.
J. D. Grant.
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914. Do you ever hear any complaints as to private parties line-fishing in Botany or George's River? I have heard complaints that they go into the rivers which are closed and kill fish. I do not think they should be allowed to do it while others are not allowed.

915. Is not line-fishing open to fishermen in that way in the same way as it is to private parties? Just the same.

916. Yet there have been complaints about private parties fishing in that way? Yes; I have seen such a thing as twenty dozen or fifteen dozen whiting being caught by private parties, a very large number of which were under an ounce and a-half in weight, whereas if fishermen were found in possession of fish of that sort they would be liable to prosecution.

917. If a fisherman were to catch these undersized fish with a net would he be liable to be fined? Yes.

918. If he caught them with a line would he be liable to be fined? Yes, if they were found in his possession.

919. Private parties are not so liable? No.

920. *Mr. Stevenson.*] When waters were closed, not only in your district but in other districts, I presume that was done on the report of the inspectors? I cannot say so. I never recommended such a thing.

921. When George's River was closed was it done upon your recommendation, or were you consulted? No.

922. Are we to infer from that that the Commissioners closed the waters without making any reference to the inspectors in the districts? That was what was done in my case. I have always reported that the water was always overflowing with fish.

923. Do you issue fishermen's licenses? No; I have to chase after them to see if they have licenses.

924. Would it not be more convenient if the inspectors were allowed to issue licenses? Yes.

925. Has it not been a great source of complaint with fishermen, and would it not be far better, seeing that you have control of the district, if you had power to issue the licenses? Yes; if I issued a license I would have no occasion to chase the fishermen to find out whether they had a license in their possession.

926. Would it not be better to have the boats licensed by having a number or some other distinguishing mark on them? Yes, I think they ought to have something that would not be destroyed by salt water. At present the fishermen have a bit of paper as a license, but they cannot take it about with them lest it should be destroyed. I think it would be better to have the licenses issued in the form of a piece of metal.

927. When the chief inspector is away to whom do you go for instructions? I address my letters to the chief inspector, and Mr. Ellis, the chief clerk, replies.

928. Then, in the absence of the chief inspector, the instructions are issued by the chief clerk? Yes.

929. Has he any knowledge of the fisheries? Only through seeing our reports, but he may never see any of them for all I know.

930. Do you consider such a person is competent to issue instructions to inspectors of fisheries? I should not think so, but I cannot say what his experience may have been.

931. You do not think he has had any practical knowledge? No.

932. Do you consider that such a person should issue instructions at all? No.

933. You have told us that you visited Port Hacking with somebody else, and that you found some persons fishing there;—what action did you take against those persons? They had their nets confiscated and they were taken to the police court. Mr. Smithers dealt with the case. I was sent by Mr. Hill with him to show him the general work and he seized the net.

934. Have you any knowledge of oyster-culture? A little.

935. If the rents paid for oyster-leases were reduced would not that tend to oyster-culture? I would recommend that the rents be reduced—they might even be reduced to 1s. per 100 yards and a royalty imposed. If they got a good crop they could afford to pay the royalty, and if they did not they would lose nothing.

936. With regard to oyster-leases, are you not just in the same position as you are with regard to licenses to fish, that is to say, you do not know who has paid? Not until I get a copy of the *Gazette*.

937. Would it not be better if you dealt with the collections of that revenue also, so that you might know what is going on in your own district? There is no doubt about it because I would then know what is being done.

938. I suppose that the inspectors, generally being intelligent men, would be quite competent to discharge that duty? Yes.

939. Would it be a saving in carrying out the Act? Yes, we have tracings of the whole of the river, and when anyone applies to us we have to make fresh tracings, and to make out fresh applications for it. Then they go to the Treasury and pay the fee.

940. If the course suggested were pursued would it not be a more systematic method of carrying out the work of the fisheries than the present system of making the fishermen travel long distances to Sydney? I am quite sure that so far as the fishermen are concerned that plan would save them a great deal of trouble and time.

941. Is not the present system a great source of complaint? Yes.

942. Have you ever heard of fishermen applying for licenses, and having to wait a long time for them? Yes.

943. In the meantime are they not deprived of their means of living? Yes, that is the case according to the Act.

944. Do you know what the cause of that delay is that the Board has not held a meeting? I cannot say that.

945. If you seize a net what do you do with it? I take it home, report the matter to the Commissioners, and wait until they give me instructions.

946. How long do you wait before you take action? Sometimes three weeks, sometimes a fortnight, sometimes a week.

947. Presuming that the net was not an illegal net would not the man be under suspension for all that time? Yes, he would be idle.

948. Do you not think that it would be a much better system to arm the inspectors with sufficient power to prosecute as well as to seize? Yes, I think if we are not fit to hold that power we are not fit to hold our positions.

949. Can you tell us what action has been taken by the Commissioners with regard to the culture of oysters in the Colony generally, or whether they have done anything to promote the culture of oysters? A few oysters have been sent to me on several occasions to test them, but I have never been able to keep them; they have always been stolen.
950. Have you any residence provided for you? No, I provide my own.
951. Are you aware whether any of the other inspectors are provided with accommodation? Not to my knowledge.
952. Do you know Mr. Benson? I have seen him occasionally at the office. He is inspector for the Southern Division.
953. What are his duties? I cannot tell you. We are not supposed to know anything out of the office.
954. You say that he is inspector of the Southern Division? That is what I believe.
955. Are you in the Southern Division? No.
956. Under whose supervision are you? Mr. Quinan's, when he was there. Since then I have been directed to write to Mr. Mulhall, and a copy of my report is sent to Mr. Thompson.
957. Do you ever make a report? Yes, every week I am supposed to report, but I generally report every fortnight, and I send a copy of it to Mr. Thompson.
958. How often does Mr. Mulhall visit your district? I never saw him there.
959. How long have you been there? Since 1882. I saw Mr. Quinan there once or twice.
960. Has he left the Service? Yes.
961. Since then you have had no visit of inspection? The President and Mr. Thompson have been there once or twice.
962. But they did not go there on a visit of inspection? They came there to see what fish were in the river.
963. Are the district inspectors provided with rent allowance or houses? I cannot tell you.
964. Are they provided with boatmen? I believe so.
965. What are the duties of the boatmen? To pull the inspector about I suppose.
966. Where is Mr. Benson located? Bateman's Bay.
967. Can you say of your own knowledge what districts he visits? I cannot say. He has not visited mine.
968. *Mr. Ritchie.*] When a fisherman wants a license what steps has he to take? He goes to the Commissioner's office, and gets a printed form; he fills it up; takes it to the Treasury and pays his money. They give him a receipt, which he takes back to the Commissioner's office, where he gets his license.
969. As a rule does he apply to you first? No, very seldom, because they have first to go to Sydney.
970. When a man makes application at the Commissioner's office do they refer to you as to whether the man is suitable or competent? No.
971. There is no test or question as to the right of any man to apply for a license? No.
972. When he receives a license are you apprised of the fact that he is going to fish in your district? There is a little pamphlet printed and circulated every three months, giving information as to who have obtained licenses. I think only one has been issued this year—about February or March last.
973. Are the licenses local or general. If he gets a license for Botany Bay is he permitted to go to Port Jackson? He is permitted to go anywhere in the Colony.
974. Have you had any practical experience of deep-sea fishing? I have done a little line-fishing for seven or eight years. When the trawl was first used I was the only man who was supposed to know anything about the bottom along the coast, as I had been doing a good deal of schnapping. I did not know anything about trawling, but I went with the expedition to show where the sandy and rocky bottoms were.
975. Was that a successful trial? No; it was a perfect failure.
976. What was the cause of the failure? Our fish as a rule hang along the edges of the reefs. If I had charge of a trawl belonging to another man I would be afraid to use it along the edges of the reefs lest it should be destroyed, and I would consequently lose my appointment, but if the trawl belonged to myself I would run the risk, and use it along the edges of the reefs, as there is no doubt that would be the place where the fish would be caught.
977. Are schnapper caught by a trawl-net? We did not catch any. I believe the reason is, that the schnapper is too quick a fish, and that it would swim away in front of the trawl.
978. From your practical experience do you think that the authorised meshes of the nets are correct? Yes, bar the 2-inch net. There is one net $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in the bunt and 3 inches in the wings; I think it ought to be $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in the wings in order to catch whiting. I think the garfish net ought to be 50 fathoms in length of bunt, and that the wings should be $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch mesh.
979. Is the garfish net $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches mesh in the wings? No, they are 2 inches in the wings, and you really do not want that. They shrink a little in tanning.
980. Would you alter the size of the bunt? No, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch is enough.
981. Do you know from your own experience whether garfish-nets destroy any small fish? Yes; they should not be allowed to be used in summer in the flats and bays. All along Botany they kill small whiting and mullet in hundreds.
982. Can you suggest any method of exterminating the sharks? Not without some reward or recompense being given for killing them. That is the only way I know of.
983. Is there any known method by which the large ones especially could be killed expeditiously? No. But I think that if 10s. and 5s. a head were offered for the large and small ones they would soon be killed.
984. *Chairman.*] What, do you think, would be a fair price to give for the destruction of sharks? I think 10s. a head should be given for the big sea-sharks, gray-nurse, and pointer, which eat a great many fish.
985. Do you think that men would be induced to fish for sharks for a reward of that kind? Yes. The fishermen very often see the sharks when they are fishing, and a reward of that kind would make it worth their while to kill the sharks.
986. Are there many sharks at Botany? They are dreadful at times, but there are not many in the winter.
987. Have you observed the habits of the sharks? Yes, they are most plentiful at Christmas time. The big sharks follow the mullet right round from river to river. When I was fishing myself, when I was catching a lot of mullet in a net, a shark about 15 feet long rushed at the mullet, seized a great many of them, and went right through the net.

- Mr. J. D. Grant.
2 July, 1889.
988. Are there any particular breeding-grounds for sharks about here? At the back of the reef between Port Hacking and Botany sometimes 200 can be seen in one evening.
989. Do you think it would be a good thing to use dynamite there? That would be the means of destroying a tremendous lot of other fish, and it would not kill many of the big sharks, because those I am now speaking of are called the school shark.
990. Do you think that 10s. per head would be sufficient inducement to kill the large sharks? Yes. But I think that 2s. 6d. per head would be enough for the school sharks.
991. Would it pay to get shark oil? No. We used to get 3s. or 3s. 6d. a gallon for it at one time, but you can very rarely sell it now.
992. Did you not suggest that the rent of oyster-leases should be reduced to 1s. per 100 yards? Yes. I would sooner see the rent fixed at 1s. than have it arranged as at present. There would then be a better chance of having oysters cultivated.
993. Would not such a reduction lead to a lot of dummyming? They could be made to improve their holdings, and they should also have power to prosecute anyone who stole their oysters, instead of having to wait for months in order to have permission from the Commissioners to do so.
994. Do you also suggest that a royalty should be imposed? Yes.
995. Are you aware that there is no royalty imposed on imported oysters? Yes. But let them pay a royalty too.
996. Then you do not approve of free-trade in oysters? You should not have protection for one and free-trade for another.
997. *Mr. Stephen.*] Do you think there ought to be a royalty on imported oysters as well as on local oysters? Yes. And that would help to pay the expenses. If a lessee got a lot of oysters he could afford to pay the royalty, and if he did not get many he would not have to pay much.
998. *Mr. Stevenson.*] If the rent for oyster-leases were fixed at a low sum would it not lead to a number of small men taking up oyster-culture? Yes. It would give the real oystermen a chance.
999. Is it not almost a monopoly at present? Yes.*
1000. Is not a small man shut out under the present system? The system is bad in several respects. The public can take 500 bags of oysters if they like off the Crown lands for which a man may have applied for a lease? If I find them doing so, and I ask them if they are taking the oysters for sale of course they answer, "No."
1001. Is it not the case that a man who has applied for a lease finds that while he has been waiting for his lease all the oysters have been taken away, and he then refuses to accept the lease? Yes, I have heard of known cases of that kind.
1002. *Chairman.*] Was the trawl which you have referred to imported by the Fisheries Commission? I think it was one made here by George Glading; the imported one was never used in my time.
1003. Who had charge of the trawl? Mr. George Glading, but the Commissioners were also there.
1004. Was he an expert? Yes, I believe he was from England.
1005. Before we resort to trawling do you think it is necessary that the coast should be surveyed? Yes, that is the only way in which you can do it.
1006. Do you think that the Government should undertake a survey without delay? That is the only way in which trawling can be carried out, but I cannot say that it would be a success.
1007. *Mr. Stephen.*] Are the fishermen always supposed to carry their licenses with them? Yes, they are liable to a penalty if they do not carry them, but they are always liable to be damaged.
1008. Is there no clause in the Act which would permit the fisherman to leave his license at home if he thought that it might be damaged with water? There is no such clause in the Act.
1009. When once a net has been passed as being of the legal mesh do you not consider that it should be always considered as legal until it is worn out? The difficulty is that you cannot tell whether it is the same net.
1010. Is a man not likely to be fined if a net which has been passed as legal, afterwards shrinks? I do not think anybody has been fined under such circumstances.
1011. When you seize nets what are done with them? They are cut up. In the case of a garfish-net the centre might be under-size; that part would be cut out and the wings would be sold. If the net is an inch in mesh it is sold for a prawn-net.
1012. What is the lowest legal weight for fish? 2 ounces for gar-fish, 4 ounces for whiting, flathead, mullet, and sand-whiting; 6 ounces for black bream; they have silver bream in the Act but I never saw such a thing.
1013. If men are fishing with a garfish-net and they happen to catch bream, or any other fish below the legal size, are they liable to be fined? Yes, they would be liable, but I do not think an inspector would know his duty if he took notice of such a thing. The real object of the Act ought to be to protect small mullet and whiting.
1014. Is there more than one assistant inspector in George's River and Botany? Yes, I have an assistant with me. I had to swim once or twice; I was in the water for five or six hours, and then I applied for a mate.
1015. What are the bounds of the home district? I think it is from Jervis Bay to Port Stephens.
1016. What do you call the other districts? I cannot say. I have no knowledge of the others.
1017. *Mr. Stevenson.*] You have stated that the fishermen carry the licenses about with them; they would very probably be destroyed by the water. If they were destroyed what remedy would the fishermen have? I cannot answer that; they are liable to be fined if they have not licenses.
1018. Do you not consider that that is a very great hardship on the fishermen? Yes.
1019. Could they not get a duplicate license? I suppose they can. Of course, when I once see a license I take the number of it, and I would not trouble a man again about his license.
1020. Would not this hardship be avoided if the inspectors issued the licenses themselves? Yes.
1021. *Mr. Stephen.*] Might not a man say that he has lost his license in order to get a license in an illegal manner? There would be the same number on the license, so that would prevent a fraud.
1022. *Chairman.*] Are the licenses written on paper or parchment? It is a sort of improved paper. It used to be parchment at first.

1023.

* NOTE (on revision) :—I desire to correct myself. I do not consider that anyone has a monopoly in oyster leases in my district.

1023. Do you not think they ought to be parchment? I think some sort of metal badge with the number would be better.

1024. *Mr. Ritchie.*] How often do you report to the Commission? Once a month.

1025. On what matters do you report? How the oysters are, what is the condition of the river, what boats are working, and so on.

1026. Do you report on the condition of the fish? Yes, I do when I see a roed fish; but I do not see a fish for months at a time, because the river has been closed for two or three years.

1027. *Mr. Stephen.*] Is a fisherman supposed to have a license for himself, for every man in the boat, and also for the boat? Yes; the license for a boat is £1, and for each man 10s. per annum.

1028. Do you not think it is hard to make the men pay for a license for the boat and, in addition, for every man using the boat? If it were not for the Revenue I do not think it saves the fish at all to have licenses. If we had a register of fishermen I think 10s. for the boat and 5s. for each man would be quite sufficient.

1029. *Chairman.*] Is it not very unfair to charge the man for a license first, and then compel him to pay a license for his boat also? The difficulty is that there are a great many men who are always shifting about from one place to another.

1030. Would it not be sufficient for the man to pay a license without having to pay for the boat? If I caught a boat up the river and the men saw me coming they would leave the boats and the nets behind them and go into the bush, and if the boats were not licensed I would not know who had been fishing there.

1031. Do you seize the boat as well as the nets? In the last case that I had the owner of the boat came back again; if he had not I would have taken the boat, but I think he would have got the boat again.

1032. Does the law empower an inspector to seize the boat as well as the nets? The Act says any implement of fishing. I never seized a boat; but if a man ran away I would take the boat as well as the net.

1033. *Mr. Stevenson.*] How do the fishermen know what waters are closed? The proclamations are gazetted and I nail up the proclamations all over the place on trees.

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Mr. Peter Smith called in, sworn, and examined:—

1034. *Chairman.*] What is your position? Assistant Inspector of Fisheries, Hawkesbury River.

1035. Is anyone over you at Hawkesbury? No; we are all called assistant inspectors.

1036. What are the bounds of the closed waters in the Hawkesbury? From Bar Point across to Fishermen's Point in a westerly direction.

1037. Do you think that those boundaries are too close to the mouth? That all depends upon the supply of fish. If there was plenty of fish in the river there would be no occasion for closing that portion.

1038. Could the boundaries be safely shifted up the river for some distance? Yes; if the mesh of the nets was larger. The bunt part of the net is too small. A great many of the fish are destroyed at present in the common hauling-net. If the mesh were made larger I think that the river might be thrown open up to Mangrove Creek. The hauling grounds above Mangrove Creek are not much, and there would be plenty of room for the fish to breed.

1039. Are those waters good breeding-grounds? Yes; there is plenty of space in the Hawkesbury.

1040. What kind of fish have you at the Hawkesbury? Mullet, bream, perch, blackfish, and so on; also whiting, flathead, soles.

1041. Do you consider the restrictions imposed by the Act bear harshly upon the fishermen? No; I cannot say that. Some fishermen would like to have everything their own way, and they do not trouble themselves as to who may come after them. I should like to legislate in such a way that the young fish particularly would be protected. If you do not protect the young fish you will never have old ones. In some instances I would increase the restrictions in this way: Instead of having a mesh of 2½ inches in the bunt I should recommend a mesh of 2½ inches; but at the same time I would allow a greater length. I have been a practical fisherman myself, and I know what I am talking about. Some fishermen, when they see young ones going through the net think that they are losing a fortune. I would give them a little more room to fish in the Hawkesbury River.

1042. What are the best fishing-grounds around Hawkesbury? There are many hauling-grounds everywhere.

1043. Is Pitt Water good? Yes; it is very good.

1044. Is Brisbane Water? Yes; it is a good place, but it is a fine place for young fish and garfish-nets should not be allowed to be used there. There is a very weedy bottom there, and it is a great resort for little mullet, and it is impossible to haul a garfish-net there without killing lots of these young fish.

1045. Are sharks plentiful there? Not at present, but they are in summer.

1046. Do they come there after the mullet? No; it is their nature to come there.

1047. Is it their breeding season? I suppose it is; Cowan Creek is full of them.

1048. What kind of sharks are there? There are several kinds. Some they call the ground-shark, grey-nurses, and another sort are called rough backs—they jump out of the water a great deal.

1049. Do you think that it would lead to a reduction of their number very considerably if the Government offered a bonus for their destruction? It might for the large ones, but I think they come on the coast from some other places. They are not on the coast in winter.

1050. Do you think it would be an improvement if the inspector had the power of issuing licenses to the fishermen? I believe that would be a great convenience to the fishermen. They sometimes have to come to Sydney and lose two or three days in getting licenses, and I do not see why I could not do that work just as well. I have had to account for moneys before in connection with the royalty on oysters; it would certainly give me a little more work to do.

1051. Is there much oyster-culture at the Hawkesbury? Yes; the Hawkesbury has been one of the finest rivers in the Colony for oysters.

1052. Is it carried on in a scientific way? No. It is now carried on in a very unsatisfactory manner, because it seems that there is a lot of rent owing, and I do not know whether the lessees can be prosecuted in order to recover the money. The oyster-beds which the lessees hold are in anything but a good condition.

1053. *Mr. Stephen.*] Do you not think that it would be sufficient for breeding purpose to close the tributaries of the Hawkesbury, and to leave the main river open? Some of the tributaries are the best hauling-grounds. I think if the upper part of the Hawkesbury, that is, from Mangrove Creek upwards, were closed it would be quite

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quite sufficient—there would be then about 60 miles of river besides all the branches. From Mangrove to Windsor is about 60 miles.

1054. Are there not good hauling-grounds as far up as Wiseman's Ferry? A few but not many. Men very seldom go up there if they have to fish for the Sydney market.

1055. Do you think it would not be of much advantage to fishermen to open it up as far as Wiseman's Ferry? It would be an advantage to Windsor fishermen, but they generally use large meshing-nets. It is closed against everybody at present.

1056. Do you not consider that by closing the tributaries of the river, say at a certain distance from the mouth, leaving the remaining portion of the river up to Wiseman's Ferry open to fishing of all descriptions, that would protect the breeding-grounds, and at the same time give fishermen more facilities for making a living? The difficulty would be that a separate inspector would be wanted for every creek. Many of the creeks are 15 miles long, 20 miles, and 12 miles. I have to look after the whole of the Hawkesbury River all the way to Windsor; all that they would have to do would be to watch until I went off to another creek.

1057. Would not further expenditure be justified in procuring a better supply of fish for the market and in giving facilities to the fishermen to earn a living? I think that if you opened the river as far as Mangrove Creek the fishermen would thank you very much, because it would include the best hauling-grounds. If you at the same time made the mesh of the net $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in the bunt and 3 inch wings, that would be the means of protecting the young fish.

1058. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Are you aware that the fishermen of the Hawkesbury have complained because the river has not been opened as far as Mangrove Creek? I believe they have complained to the Commissioners.

1059. Do you not think it is part of your duty that you should know when those complaints are made? It is of no use to complain to me.

1060. Do you not think as inspector that you should be consulted before the waters are closed? Certainly I think I ought to be.

1061. Are you not consulted? No never.

1062. Do you not think it would be an advantage if all the inspectors were consulted before the waters were closed? Yes.

1063. Has it not been a great source of complaint amongst the fishermen for years that they are unfairly dealt with, simply because the river is closed for about 60 miles that they are not allowed to haul above Bar Point, and yet that up to Mangrove there is good hauling-grounds? Just about 200 or 300 yards above Mangrove Creek there are a few good hauls and then they cease.

1064. The fishermen are never allowed to go up there? Yes, the river has been closed ever since the Fisheries Act has been in force.

1065. Did you ever hear that the farmers about Wiseman's Ferry sent in a report to the Commissioners that they were prohibited from getting fresh food for themselves and their families, and that they were not allowed to take any fish? I never heard that complaints were made by the farmers to the Commissioners—there might be and I would hear nothing about it.

1066. Do you not think that the Commissioners would be perfectly justified in allowing those families to obtain the necessities of life from the river? If you open the door to one you must do it to all. If you allow one to fish even for his own use there would be no limit to it.

1067. What sort of people generally live about the McDonald and the Colo? They are all farmers.

1068. Do you not consider that an application of that kind coming from people who were debarred from getting any fresh food should have been granted by the Commissioners? Yes.

1069. *Mr. Stephen.*] If they desire to sell the fish they would have no market there would they? Yes, at Windsor.

1070. *Mr. Stevenson.*] How far is Windsor from McDonald? 50 miles.

1071. Do you think it would pay a farmer to neglect his wife and family, and leave his work, in order to take a few fish up to Windsor? I know that there are men who have made a living by doing so. I remember the time when Peter Kemp used to take fish from Mangrove Creek to Windsor; that is how he learnt his rowing.

1072. Have you ever prosecuted anybody for hauling in those waters? Yes, chiefly in Berowra Creek.

1073. There is no supervision above Bar Point? I go up there sometimes.

1074. How often? I do not suppose I go above Mangrove Creek once a month.

1075. Have you visited as far as McDonald River, Colo, and other places once in six months? No.

1076. Then what supervision is there to prevent people from hauling fish daily? There is none.

1077. Yet when these persons applied to fish for their families they were refused, and yet if they did it illegally they could not be detected? Yes.

1078. Do not the fishermen at Hawkesbury complain bitterly about having to come to Sydney to obtain licenses? They do not say much about it to me.

1079. Do you not consider that the inspector should issue those licenses? It would be an advantage to the fishermen.

1080. Would it not be an advantage in the working of the Fisheries Act? Yes, I would like to be in a better position to know who really hold licenses, without having to hunt them up and ask them.

1081. For want of that knowledge how do you know who are licensed fishermen? I would not know unless I demanded their licenses when they were at work.

1082. How are you acquainted with them in the first instance? I go round when I see them hauling, and I ask them to show me their licenses. I sometimes get a list from the office showing the licenses issued. I have a list at home now which was issued on the 1st March, and I have not received one since.

1083. From March to July you have no knowledge? No, unless I see them myself and note them down.

1084. Suppose you go to a man and demand his license and he has not got it, what course do you take? I have to prosecute him according to law. He would be fined according to the Fisheries Act.

1085. Would you not seize his net? No, I could not.

1086. Supposing that the man told you that he left the license behind him, would you summon him? No; I would write to the head office to ascertain if he had a license; if he had not I would have to prosecute him.

1087. *Mr. Stephen.*] Does your jurisdiction extend further than the Hawkesbury River? Not now. I was appointed for Tuggerah Lake as well as Gosford, but there is an inspector there now.

THURSDAY,

THURSDAY, 4 JULY, 1889.

Present:—

MR. FRANK FARNELL,	|	MR. RITCHIE,
MR. NOBBS,	|	MR. STEVENSON.

FRANK FARNELL, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. Richard Seymour called in, sworn, and examined:—

1088. *Chairman.*] What is your position? Inspector of Nuisances for the City of Sydney, and Assistant Inspector under the Fisheries Act.

1089. How long have you held the last-named position? About three years.

1090. Is it part of your duty to visit any of the fishing-grounds or oyster-beds? No.

1091. Are your duties confined to the fish-market at Woolloomooloo? Yes.

1092. Are you supposed to supervise the sale of fish? I am one of the auctioneers. My first duty is to go into the market half an hour before the sale. We commence the sale every morning in winter at half-past 5, except on Friday, when we begin at 5. I go round and examine all the fish. If there are a great quantity of small fish in any one heap they are seized and sent to the charitable institutions. If there is only a small proportion of small fish in each heap they are passed, because in that case it would be a great injustice to the fishermen to seize the fish.

1093. Do you sell the fish by auction, and charge the fishermen a commission for selling? Yes, 5 per cent. The City Council makes that charge.

1094. Does that commission go into your pocket? Not a farthing. It is paid into the revenue of the City Council.

1095. Have you any idea what quantity of fish passes through your hands a year? Yes. I hand in a return giving full information. [*Appendix C 1.*]

1096. Have you ever heard any complaints from fishermen that while their fish is in transit to the market it is pilfered? Yes.

1097. How does that occur? The fish may be taken on board the boats. They may be taken out on the wharves. There is no doubt they have been taken out at the wharves. Then there is every likelihood that fish are taken out while they are being carted from the Newcastle and Clarence steamers to the fish-market.

1098. Does the fish come to market chiefly by steamer? It now comes both by steamer and by rail.

1099. When the fish comes by rail, does it go to Darling Harbour? It is first taken to the Redfern Station, and then straight down to Darling Harbour; it is then brought by the agents, carters, or vanmen, to Woolloomooloo.

1100. When the fish comes by steamer does the steamer generally take it to the western side of Sydney, to Darling Harbour? Yes; except when it is brought from Cape Hawke. In that case it comes into Woolloomooloo Bay.

1101. Do you think the fish get very much damaged in transit? I am sure they do.

1102. Do you think that it would be better to have a depot, say, at Darling Harbour, or where the steamers are moored, rather than continue the present state of affairs? I do not think that so far as the markets are concerned you could better them.

1103. Do you think it would be a benefit to have another market established at Darling Harbour? I do not think so.

1104. Do you not think that if there was another market at Darling Harbour it would prevent the hauling about of fish? There would not be any less hauling; the fish would have to be taken from the trucks into vans, wherever they went, even if the market was in Darling Harbour.

1105. Are the fish-markets at Woolloomooloo large enough for the sale of fish? Yes; they have been recently enlarged; they are very large.

1106. Do you always see that the markets are always kept clean? Yes; if you went there now you would not know that it was a fish-market. It has been favourably spoken of by the most experienced men from Billingsgate, Portsmouth, and Plymouth.

1107. Are very great numbers of under-sized fish brought to market? Yes, sometimes.

1108. How do you account for that? The fishermen along the coast wait until the last minute to make a haul; the fish are then caught in a hurry to be put on board the small steamers or the boats which meet the Newcastle boat. The fish are bundled into the baskets and are sent to market.

1109. Have you heard many complaints from fishermen as to the operation of the Fisheries Act? The principal thing they complain of is the closing of certain waters in summer. I refer to Port Hacking, Botany, Port Jackson, and Broken Bay.

1110. Have you ever heard any complaints from the fishermen with regard to the mesh of the nets? No, I have nothing to do with that.

1111. Then the principal complaint you have heard is with regard to the closing of the rivers? Yes, at certain times of the year,—that is, during the summer months. The country fish during the months of February, March, and April, are seized in great quantities as being unfit for food. The atmosphere during those months is very low and clammy, and the fish brought from the country spoils in transit. If the places which I just mentioned were opened it would give a better supply and a fresher supply to the city and suburbs. At the present time the fish are in grand condition.

1112. According to the return you have just handed in it appears that the schnapper brought into the market has gradually increased. For instance, in 1873 there were thirty-one dozen of schnapper brought in, whereas in 1888 there were brought in 1,820½ dozen. How do you account for the increase? The increase has been principally from the other side of the Hawkesbury, and the Hawkesbury, and also south of Botany Heads, along the southern coast to Jervis Bay, and south. Near the city the schnapper is very scarce; the men have to go north for them.

1113. Are the schnapper caught by line-fishing? Yes. We have had schnapper caught in nets at the Hawkesbury, but not many. They are caught by line principally and brought in by fishermen in their own boats.

1113½. How long will fish remain fit for human food after they are caught? In winter-time fish will keep for about three days; if cooked they would last much longer. I know the Jews buy fish on Tuesday and
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eat it on Friday, but they cook the fish as soon as they get it. Good schnapper, such as were in the market yesterday, from Botany, would keep two days and two nights without being cooked.

1114. In the summer-time are fish which are caught in the morning likely to go bad before sunset on the same day? Yes; it is bad bait which often turns the fish; when bad bait gets into the belly of the fish decomposition sets in very quickly.

1115. Are you aware that fish have decreased very much in the Parramatta River? I have heard so from fishermen. I know that some years ago people used to go up the river and catch any amount of bream.

1116. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Where does the bulk of the fish come from which supplies this market? The greater part comes from the Clarence, Port Stephens, Newcastle, and Wollongong.

1117. Have you any control over the means of transit? No; not until it comes into the city.

1118. How are the fish which are caught at Port Stephens conveyed to Sydney? They are brought in a small steamer to Newcastle, and transhipped there to Sydney. Those caught in Lake Macquarie, I believe, are carted over in waggons to Newcastle, and from there conveyed by steamer to Sydney.

1119. When the fish are landed on the wharf are they under your charge? No; we are not at the wharves.

1120. Are the carriers under your control? No; they belong to the fish agents. The fish are not handed to us until they come to the market.

1121. You are in no way responsible for taking fish out of the baskets or anything of that kind before it comes to the market? No; I know an instance which occurred last week where a great quantity of fish came down by rail, and three-quarters of it never came near the markets. That fish went up country.

1122. The great question is who accounts for that fish—what price is obtained for it? All the fish sold in the Sydney market is booked by the agents and clerks. The books are made up every morning before 9 o'clock, sent up to the City Treasurer, examined, and sent back for the use of the fishermen and the public, from 10 to 6 o'clock.

1123. Is it not quite possible that the fish that are passed from the steamers up country may be of an illegal weight? There is not the slightest doubt about that. I have no control over that.

1124. You say that you frequently seize under-sized fish. If a fisherman sends a consignment of fish containing large and small, how do you deal with it? I have the large taken out. I do not confiscate the whole. There is a memo. kept, showing who owns the fish, what quantity has been seized, and where it has been sent to.

1125. In what way are you connected with the Fisheries Commission? On behalf of the Commissioners I am bound to see all the fish that comes into the market, and to see that none is sold under a certain weight.

1126. Do you receive any orders from the Commission? Sometimes; but very seldom. It is only in connection with the fish coming into the market.

1127. Do you think the fish-market is sufficiently commodious for the trade? Yes.

1128. Do you think that it is in the proper place for distribution? Yes; I can guarantee that the fish sold at half-past 5 in the morning, or at 5 o'clock in the morning, is for sale in the suburbs at half-past 6. Taylor and Assenheim have carts which take fish out to Waverley, Petersham, and as far as Burwood, and people there can have fish for breakfast.

1129. Have the sellers of fish any license? No, they pay no fees of any sort.

1130. After the fish leave the market have you no further control? No; except that if I met a man with small fish in his basket I would seize them, and I would do the same if they were in a bad condition. I have no control outside of the City.

1131. *Mr. Stevenson.*] How many auctioneers are there? Two.

1132. Do you only sell in one hour during the day? No; we sell on Friday morning from 5 o'clock till half-past 8 o'clock, and on other mornings from half-past 5 o'clock until 8 o'clock.

1133. Would it not be an advantage if the fish were sold at any hour in the day when they arrive? We tried that for twelve months, and it was an utter failure. We gave the people the markets free to do what they liked. If any fish come in after the sale is over they are put in a refrigerating-room, where they are kept until the following sale.

1134. But they have to pay for that? One shilling per basket of 90 lb. of fish.

1135. Are not a great deal of the fish which are caught in Lake Macquarie brought down to Sydney by the morning train? Yes.

1136. Does that reach the market in time for the morning sale? Yes.

1137. What time do you close the sale? Not until we get a report from all the wharves that all the fish are in.

1138. What time does the northern train come in in the morning? We have the fish from it in the market before half-past 6.

1139. Does Mr. Mulhall, one of the Assistant Inspectors, buy any fish from you at the market? Yes.

1140. How often does he buy fish from you? Sometimes twice a week.

1141. Do you know what he does with that fish? No.

1142. Does he purchase it in the open market in the same way as anyone else? Yes.

1143. Have you ever heard any complaints from fishermen in reference to this course of proceeding? No.

1144. Can you suggest any method for the prevention of the stealing of fish while it is in transit? Yes. I would suggest that the Fisheries Commissioners should have men at the wharf who should follow the carts from the wharf to the market, as I did myself for three months with the Corporation officers. No fish were lost then and the baskets were quite full when they reached the market. Since the Corporation staff has been reduced I have not been able to carry out that system.

1145. Do you think it is part of the work of the Fisheries Commission to have somebody on the wharf to carry out this duty? Two inspectors at each wharf would be enough; one man would remain at the wharf and the other would follow the cart.

1146. Could it not be prevented by having licensed carts for the conveyance of fish, the carters to be held responsible? I do not think so.

1147. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Could it not be prevented if the carts were under your control? Yes, if they were engaged by the Council and were held responsible.

1148. Could you not issue licenses for the purpose at a nominal sum? Yes, we could then have men whom we could be able to trust. I suggested that myself; in fact I think the first suggestion came from the

the Mayor, Mr. John Harris, but there was a great row made about it in the market. The first suggestion was that we should have our own waggons and have the fish brought up to the market.

1149. Have you the means of engaging carts? We could get half a dozen waggons in a day.

1150. Are your principal duties connected with the City Council? Yes; I am only connected with the Fisheries Commission in the market.

1151. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Have you ever seen Mr. Mulhall or his assistants cleaning fish in the market? No.

1152. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Do you receive any salary or emolument from the Fisheries Commission? Yes, £75 a year.

1153. Yet the Commission have no control over the officers appointed under you by the Council? No, they receive nothing from the Commission.

1154. *Mr. Nobbs.*] At what time do fish arrive by train from the south coast? They are in the market every morning before 6 o'clock.

1155. Is there not a mid-day fish train? I do not think so.

1156. Does the 6 o'clock train arrive in time for the market? Yes.

1157. I understand that fish does come in at mid-day from the south coast;—if that is the case must the fish wait for the next morning's sale? If it comes in at mid-day it goes into the refrigerating-room.

1158. And it has to wait for the next morning's sale? Yes.

1159. What arrangements have you for the fish? Cool chambers.

1160. Do you not think that there ought to be a mid-day sale? We tried a mid-day sale and a 4 o'clock evening sale, but we could never get a person to come to the place unless they could get a basket of fish for 1s.

1161. That was under the old system; but now that we have trains from the north and south bringing large quantities of fish every day, do you not think it would be advisable to try a mid-day sale? We can try at any time you wish, but I think you will find that it is a great failure. The shopkeepers buy all their fish in the morning, the carters do the same, and after 9 or 10 o'clock they are employed all day hawking fruit and vegetables, and they do not go back to fish.

1162. It has been stated here in evidence that the market accommodation is not sufficient; what is your opinion? I think that the market accommodation is equal to anything in the world.

1163. What is your opinion as to the situation of the market? I think it is very good—we have plenty of room. There are the sides of four streets for the carts and waggons to come in without blocking up any thoroughfare or entrances to wharves, stores, or anything of that kind.

1164. Is there nothing you could suggest that would in any way improve the market? I think not.

1165. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Do you know of your own knowledge whether the mode of carrying the fish from Lake Macquarie destroys any of it? I am sure it does, especially in summer.

1166. Do they not send any of the fish down by rail instead of sending it to Newcastle? Yes, the greater part of it comes down by the Northern train.

1167. Does not that portion of the fish come down in better condition? Yes.

1168. Is the refrigerating-room at the market effective? Yes.

1169. How long can you keep fish there in the months of February, March, and April? For three months, if necessary.

1170. Do you actually freeze them? Yes, by cold air. The refrigerating-room is going to be made about four times its present size. We are about to import from home a Bell-Coleman cool-air-machine.

1171. Can you store away great quantities in the refrigerating-room? Yes, more than we can get. In fact we have always one chamber empty at present.

1172. *Mr. Nobbs.*] I see from the return before us that, from the 30th November, 1887, to the 30th November, 1888, the revenue of the market amounts to £2,658;—what are the working expenses of the market? A little more than half, but then the buildings have to be taken into consideration. After paying for gas, electric light, interest on capital, and so on, I do not think that the profit derived by the Council will be £500 per annum.

1173. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Does the Fisheries Commission receive none of those profits? No. The buildings and maintenance are the property of and kept by the City Council.

Mr. Peter Smith recalled and further examined:—

1174. *Chairman.*] Have you had experience with regard to oysters? Yes.

1175. Have a great many oysters been sent to market from the Hawkesbury? Yes.

1176. Has there been a dearth of oysters of late years in the Hawkesbury? There has been a great deal of disease among them during the last two years that has caused a great scarcity of oysters. Oyster culture has not gone ahead, as we expected it would, when the Act was passed.

1177. How many oyster leases are there on the Hawkesbury River? I produce a list of the leases in existence. There are now ninety-nine leases in existence on the Hawkesbury. I measured and reported upon 216, embracing an area of 144,800 yards of foreshore. All of those leases, however, were not completed.

1178. Does the completed number amount to ninety-nine? Yes; embracing an area of 40,750 yards. A few more leases have been taken out since that return was made up.

1179. Is it your duty to collect the rentals on those leases? No.

1180. Do you know whether the rentals have been paid on all those leases? I have reason to believe that there is a great deal owing. What is really owing for this year I cannot say, but I produce a list of what is owing for last year. There is something like £232 owing for last year alone.

1181. Do you know whether any of that money has been paid in since? I do not think so.

1182. Is this owing to the lessees giving up their leases? No; they are using them.

1183. Has the Commission directed you to collect the rent? No.

1184. Have you made any report to the Commission on the subject? Yes, I have mentioned the matter a great many times in my monthly reports. One point on which I had to report was whether the lessees had fulfilled all their conditions. I mentioned that the payment of rent was one of the conditions of the lease, but that in many instances that condition was not fulfilled. No action was taken upon my report.

1185. Do not you think the leasing system could be very much improved? Yes.

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1186. For instance, instead of having those leases in the hands of those ninety-nine people, would it not be better probably to have them in the hands of four or five lessees? Most certainly.

1187. Would not that prevent a lot of pilfering? Yes.

1188. Can you make any proposal which you would like to see carried out with regard to oyster leases? The leases are too small an area. My advice was against granting small areas of 100 yards, because no man could make a living out of such an area, and he would be forced to go and work at something else. My words have come true in that respect. A great deal of stealing is carried on, as the lessees steal one from the other, and also from the Crown lands. The consequence is that oyster-culture is at a standstill. I would certainly recommend that one creek should be given to one man, and that the main river, above the bridge, should be given to one lessee. A person with a little capital and enterprise might go into oyster-culture with some spirit, and he would have a better chance of protecting his lease against pilfering. The law would have to provide that if any man, except the lessee, was found in a creek with oysters in his boat, he should have to account for their possession.

1189. Have the oysters been suffering from one disease or several diseases? I have only seen one disease—that is the one caused by worms? They deposit a lot of mud inside the shell, and the oyster dies. I have seen five worms in one oyster.

1190. Can you suggest any remedy for the disease? No; I believe the only remedy is a good freshet. We had a good one lately, and since then I have seen no more worms.

1191. Have you ever heard of a disease caused by an insect called the borer? No.

1192. In laying down oysters on a new bed where is the spat obtained from? They get it from the Crown lands. They obtain a license and pay 2s. a bag for the spat. They pay nothing for the license.

1193. How long does it take an oyster before it is eatable? That all depends upon the locality and the quality of the spat. If the water is too salt they are very slow in growing.

1194. Do the stinging-rays cause much destruction of oysters? Yes, they live upon them. They are particularly severe on laid oysters. They do not seem to be so well able to get at the rock-oysters.

1195. Are there many oysters sent away from the Hawkesbury at present? Not a large quantity lately. The New Zealand oysters keep the market down.

1196. For how long are the oyster leases granted? For fifteen years. The greater part of them were granted in 1884 and 1885.

1197. *Mr. Nobbs.*] Are you in a position to state what leases are in arrears? Not for this year.

1198. *Chairman.*] Where are the oyster-beds situated? There are a few in Porto Bay. There are some in Mullet Creek. There are a good many in Moonee Creek and Berowra, and the main river, commencing above the Railway Bridge. The uppermost one is at the mouth of Mangrove.

1199. When the fishermen are sending oysters to market are they subject to examination by you? No, not by law.

1200. Is there not a provision in the law that persons who offer oysters for sale which will go through a certain sized ring are liable to prosecution? I could seize undersized oysters. The law says that oysters that can be passed through a metal ring of an inside diameter of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch are not to be offered for sale. I have such a ring. In examining oysters I would, of course, use my discretion, and would not seize a bag of oysters because one or two might be under size. If there are many small oysters I would seize them as a warning. I have done so in several cases, and it has had a very good effect.

1201. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Is there any scarcity of oysters at present? The leases are in a very poor condition, through the lessees not looking after them, and cultivating them as they should have done under the Act, and as they promised to do.

1202. Is there no supervision? I have reported many times that the leases are in very poor condition.

1203. What action have the Commissioners taken upon that? None.

1204. Is it a fact that oysters are now 50 per cent. dearer than they were when the present Commissioners took office? I can hardly remember what the price was when the Commissioners took office, but I do not think that oysters are a great deal dearer now.

1205. Have you heard of some leases having been declined owing to the delay and excessive rent demanded by the Commissioners? There is no excessive rent, because the law prescribes that the rent shall be £1 for every 100 yards.

1206. Have you ever heard of complaints regarding delay in the issue of leases? At first there was a great deal of delay, owing to the great number of applications.

1207. Have you heard of cases in which men have refused to take up leases on account of the delay in issuing them? Yes.

1208. Were there very many of such cases? I think that was given more as an excuse. At first people went nearly mad about leases, but they soon found that they were not so good as it was thought that they would be, and any excuse was good enough for not taking them up.

1209. Is it not a fact that while people were waiting for the issue of their leases other people could go on the Crown lands and take all the oysters away? No.

1210. Is there any law to punish people who take oysters off Crown lands? I am very sorry to say that there is not.

1211. Have not cases come to your knowledge where people did take oysters off the Crown lands? Yes; I brought cases before the Court and they fell through.

1212. Then people did really take oysters from the Crown lands between the date of application and the time of the issue of the leases? Yes; because there was no one to watch them.

1213. Because there was no power to prevent them? A person who applied for the land could have got a working permit.

1214. But how long might he have to wait to get a permit? I cannot say what delay the department might have caused him.

1215. Are you aware that oysters which are more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in size have not come to maturity at that time? Yes; it depends on the locality.

1216. Would not reduced rents help the oyster-culture? I think not.

1217. Do you believe in small people being granted small leases at a merely nominal rent, and that they should pay a royalty on the oysters? I am very much afraid that the only way is to give the whole of the creek to one man. I have reason to believe that if you put up the leases to auction, and gave one creek to one man, you would realize far more rent than under the small lease system.

Mr.
P. Smith.
4 July, 1889.

1218. How often do the Commissioners visit your district? I have had one Commissioner there several times lately—that is Mr. Oliver. Other Commissioners may have been there, but I have not seen them.
1219. Do you remember Inspector Benson visiting your district? I remember that he visited the Hawkesbury to examine the disease in oysters.
1220. Who accompanied him on that occasion? Inspector Gyler, from the Manning.
1221. Why did Mr. Gyler accompany Mr. Benson on that occasion? Mr. Gyler was an old experienced oysterman.
1222. Do you believe that Mr. Benson has any real practical knowledge of oyster-culture? I cannot say, he is a stranger to me.
1223. If he had any practical knowledge would it be necessary to take an assistant with him to afford the information which he was sent up to obtain? I do not know that there was any necessity for Mr. Gyler to come down.
1224. Was it necessary that Mr. Gyler should come in order that his superior officer should obtain information with reference to oyster-culture? I think one man could do it as well as two.
1225. As a practical man, if information had been sought for from you, would you have been quite capable of supplying it? Yes; quite as well as Mr. Gyler.
1226. Did you ever hear of a fisherman named Crosslands? Yes; there are several of that name on the Hawkesbury.
1227. Did you ever seize nets belonging to them? One of the Crosslands was working with a man from whom I took a net.
1228. Can you state the facts of the seizure? The net I seized was in closed waters in broad daylight. I was pulling up the Berowra Creek, which are closed waters, when I saw them hauling. I went to them and seized the net.
1229. Was there any inquiry into that seizure? An inspector came down from Sydney and seized James Crossland's net.
1230. Were you at all connected with the inquiry in connection with the seizure of nets? They called me as a witness at Ryde, but I could give no evidence. I knew nothing about the matter.
1231. What was the result of the investigation? I believe Crossland was fined £1.
1232. Have you ever come into open conflict with the Crosslands with regard to fishing? No; except that one of the Crosslands was working with a man named White, whose net I seized. Of course when I seize a man's net he will look cool at me afterwards.
1233. Were you ever charged with being the holder of, or interested in, oyster leases yourself? Yes.
1234. Did you undergo examination? Yes.
1235. What was the result of the inquiry? The charge was dismissed.
1236. Who held the Inquiry? The Fisheries Commissioners.
1237. What became of the report? I cannot say, but I suppose the Secretary knows. I went home about my business, and I knew nothing more about it.
1238. What did the Commissioners say about it after the inquiry was closed? It was proved that I had no lease. Through being appointed executor in a certain estate I found that there were three oyster leases belonging to it. That is how the case came about. I asked the Commissioners to relieve me of those leases, which was granted, and the leases were handed over to a man named John Wilson, of Brisbane Water.
1239. Did you apply to be relieved of those leases before any inquiry at all was instituted? Yes, long before there was any inquiry.
1240. *Chairman.*] How long have you been in the Service? Close on eight years.
1241. Have you been located at the Hawkesbury all your time? Yes.
1242. Was the area over which you had supervision larger than it is at present? Yes. At first I had charge of Tuggerah Lake and Brisbane Water.
1243. Have you any assistant in the shape of a boatman? No, I have to pull about myself.
1244. Are you allowed any house-rent? No.
1245. Do you simply get bare salary? Yes.
1246. Do you get any travelling allowance? I have got a little book in which I am supposed to get the hotelkeeper to sign his name, if I pay 1s. for a dinner or anything of that sort, but I generally leave the book at home.
1247. Do you remember several complaints having been made by fishermen at the Hawkesbury as to the unjust operation of the Fisheries Act? Yes, I believe there have been some complaints to that effect.
1248. Have there also been complaints about the river being closed against net-fishing, in such a manner as to interfere with their carrying out their ordinary avocations? Yes.
1249. Did you ever make any recommendation to the Commissioners to extend the area of open waters? None, whatever. It would not look well on my part. If they asked my opinion I would give it to them.
1250. Have they ever referred to you? No.
1251. Do you not think it would be better to leave those matters to the local inspectors to decide? Yes, a good deal, providing that you had capable men of experience—proper practical men of sound judgment. Sometimes fish may be scarce, and a man of inexperience might come to the conclusion that the fish were scarce, whereas in reality the fact might be that owing to windy cold weather the fish might have taken to the deep waters, and might not be far away.
1252. Do you remember an application, made some time ago by myself for an extension of the open waters, when the Commissioners extended the open waters to Bar Point? Yes.
1253. Do you not think they might have extended the open waters as far as Mangrove Creek without injuring the interest of the public, whilst, at the same time, it would have been a great boon to the fishermen? I was not asked about it at the time. If I were to give an answer now it might be taken as condemning the action of the Fisheries Commission.
1254. That does not matter; you are protected thoroughly here. We want to bring forward a measure which will give power to relieve the fishermen, and, at the same time, protect the public? If I am to give my opinion about the matter, I may say that a good deal might be done in opening the waters further, but at the same time I would like the mesh of the net to be made a little larger in the bunt, in order that the small fish might be able to get through. At present young mullet would get stuck in the mesh, and in pulling it out of course it would be killed.

- Mr. P. Smith.
4 July, 1889.
1255. Instead of hauling, do not the fishermen adopt the practice of running the net a short distance from the shore, thus meshing the fish? Yes; you can use a meshing-net where you cannot use a hauling-net.
1256. Have they not resorted to this practice in order to get a living, because there is not sufficient hauling-ground available? Yes; there might be a shoal of fish on the rocks where they could not use a hauling-net.
1257. Is there not a particular ground which used to be looked upon by the Hawkesbury fishermen as a place on which they could always depend to get a supply of fish for the market—that is at Dangar Island; and is it not a fact that that hauling-ground has been destroyed? One ground has been destroyed on the north side of the island.
1258. How? The large pontoon was built there, and the bottom is now full of piles, which were sawn off, in order to make a sort of gridiron on which the pontoon might rest at low water. Of course the whole bottom there now is a mass of timber, and it would be impossible to make it a hauling-ground.
1259. Could not the piles have been easily drawn up after the pontoon was built, if the contractors had chosen to do so? The Dangar Island Wharf is also in the road.
1260. Could not the piles have been easily drawn up if the contractors had chosen to do so? Certainly.
1261. Instead of that the contractors sawed the top of the piles off below low-water-mark? They are all dry at low water at spring tide.
1262. Do you not think that the contractors sawed off the tops of the piles to prevent detection? No.
1263. What was their object? I think they simply levelled off the tops of the piles in order to make a gridiron for the large pontoon to rest on. Still the whole concern might have been easily pulled up.
1264. How many fishermen are there at the Hawkesbury? At present twenty-five or thirty get their living by fishing; that does not include Brisbane Water.
1265. Do they send their fish to Sydney by rail or steamer? Both.
1266. Mr. Stevenson.] Who has charge of Lake Macquarie? William Boyd.
1267. Mr. Ritchie.] Is the present rental for an oyster lease £1 per 100 yards? Yes.
1268. Are all of these oyster-beds of equal productiveness? No, some are better far than others.
1269. Are all these beds indiscriminately leased at the same rental? Yes.
1270. Are any of the lessees of the Hawkesbury doing well, and getting great quantities of oysters? No, I cannot say they are doing well, but that is owing to their own neglect, and because there is a great deal of stealing. This disheartens any man of enterprise.
1271. Do you not think the better way would be for the Crown or the Commissioners to appraise those beds according to their productive value? Some are more productive than others.
1272. That is easily known to you and others? Yes.
1273. Would it not be more equitable to appraise them? There might be a good bit of ground between two bad pieces, and when the lessees have worked out their own piece of ground they then work the Crown land, and the Crown gets nothing for it.
1274. Do you not think that if you were authorized to appraise these grounds and cut them up, with your practical experience you could do so with better advantage to all parties concerned? I think not. I could cut up the grounds fast enough, but I think the best plan is to give one creek to one man.
1275. Assuming that you gave a whole creek to one man, would it not be possible for one creek to be much better than another? You would find that out when you called for tenders. That is how I would deal with them.
1276. Is that the way in which the leases are offered now? They were once dealt with in that way, but they are not under the present system.
1277. Is there any better way of leasing those grounds to oyster-culturists than under the present system? Yes; I believe there is a better way, that is, by giving one man a whole creek.
1278. Would you let the leases by tender? Yes; I would call for tenders in the newspapers.
1279. Would you give a man entire control of the creek? Yes; at so much per year; the rents to be paid in advance.
1280. Under the present Act is there no compulsion by the Commission with regard to cultivating those grounds;—are they not compelled to plant the grounds with spat? They are not exactly compelled, but still they are supposed to keep their leases in good condition.
1281. Is it left entirely to the inspector's discretion to decide whether the leases are cultivated properly or not? That seems to be the case under the Act.
1282. Do you ever interfere with regard to cultivation? I have never done so yet.
1283. Have you seen cause to interfere? I believe I ought to have done so in some cases. I gave information to the head office as to how things stood, but I was told that they were going to sue for rent instead of confiscating the leases.
1284. Are not the rents paid in advance? They should have been in the month of January in each year, but there are many in arrears.
1285. Do you know, of your own knowledge, that those leases are not paid for? Yes. I have a list of the rents unpaid for last year, and I have good reason to believe that those rents have not yet been paid.
1286. Are you communicated with by the Commission as to rents in arrear? Not much, but I asked for this list. I received a communication two years ago to the effect that any lessee who had not paid his rent was to be prevented from using his lease. For that reason I wished to know the names of those who had not paid their rents.
1287. Do you look after them at all? Yes; but lately I was told that the Commissioners did not wish to interfere with the lessees, but that they intended to sue for rent. If I once stopped the lessees from working they would not pay any rent.
1288. Do you think it would be advantageous to the oyster-getter if he had to pay a lower rent, but had also to pay a royalty on the actual number of oysters he obtained? That might be the case, if you would put a duty upon oysters coming from New Zealand.
1289. Leaving that out of the question, would it not be better if a royalty were charged upon the actual number of oysters obtained? Under the present system of oyster-culture I have no confidence whatever. It is only by leasing the whole of a creek to one man that you will be ever able to do any good.
1290. Do you not think it would be better to have a royalty on the actual number of oysters obtained, rather than to impose a heavy rental? I do not think it would work very well, because a lessee might buy a lot of New Zealand oysters and lay them down; you would want to charge him royalty on those oysters.
- 1291.

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P. Smith.
4 July, 1889.

1291. Do you think that the present rentals are extra heavy? No; but I believe you could get a large rent by leasing one creek to one man.

1292. Would that not prevent small men entering into the occupation? Yes, it would; but they would have to go as servants to the others.

1293. Do you think that that would be the means of producing a great quantity of oysters? Yes; and it would put all the places in better condition.

1294. What do you think has been the cause of the disease in oysters? Owing to the drought—there was not enough fresh water.

1295. Are you of the opinion that Brisbane Water should be entirely closed from net-fishing? I think it ought to be closed against garfish-netting, but not against larger nets. The garfish-nets are the great fish destroyers; I would not allow garfish-netting above Juno Point.

1296. Do you consider that Brisbane Water is a splendid breeding-ground? Yes.

1297. How many licensed fishermen are there in your district? About thirty.

1298. Have you ever made any seizures of nets in the Hawkesbury? Yes; for unlawful nets and for fishing in closed waters last winter I seized a net.

1299. Since you have been in the Service has a moiety of the moneys received from the sales of the nets confiscated by you been given to you? Yes; when a net is sold the inspector gets half.

1300. Do you get that at the present time? Yes; but I have not seized a net for twelve months.

1301. Are many fish carried up to Windsor? I do not think so, unless they are taken by rail; when the river was open the fishermen used to get a living there.

1302. *Chairman.*] What is the fishing season in the Hawkesbury River? They fish all the year round.

1303. Is there not a particular season during which the fishermen engage themselves more actively than during any other season? I do not think so; in winter the fish go up the river in large shoals, and in summer they come down in what fishermen call the mullet season, when the spawning-time comes on. April is the great spawning month.

1304. Are the spawning-grounds up the tributaries of the Hawkesbury? Yes; I believe they lay their spawn in the mouths of the rivers and so on.

1305. So that the main river might be opened farther up than at the present time? The spawning is done on the lower part of the river, not above Bar Point, where it is closed at present.

1306. Then what is the object of closing the river above Bar Point? A lot of the young fish resort there. The Upper Hawkesbury is of large extent, and there are young fish up there everywhere.

1307. *Mr. Ritchie.*] When a man wants a license for fishing do you recommend him? No; he applies to the head office in Sydney.

1308. Do you get instructions from the Commission, stating that he has been licensed? No; on some occasions I may get a list of the fishermen who have been licensed.

1309. Do you frequently report your doings to the Commission? Yes; I make weekly and monthly reports on the fisheries and oyster-fisheries.

1310. Do the Commission give you any instructions whatever? Yes, through the Secretary.

1311. What are the instructions as a rule? Sometimes about the oyster disease. I have been trying to get the worms which were found in the oysters to put in spirits.

1312. Do they give you any instructions with regard to looking after particular work, such as oyster-culture and fishing? No; unless any particular cases come under their notice or anything has been reported to them.

1313. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Your duty never carries you beyond Bar Point? I must go into the closed waters sometimes to see if anybody is fishing there.

1314. Did you not say that you had not been up to M'Donald or Wiseman's Ferry for the last six months? I think I stated that as an average. In winter time, when the fish go up the river, I go up a good deal—generally at night.

1315. How can you say there is no good hauling-ground above Mangrove Creek if you never go there? From long practical experience I know where all the hauling-grounds are.

1316. Yet you say it is necessary to go up to the closed waters occasionally? There is plenty of fish up there, but they must use meshing-nets.

1317. Are the fish too small? No; there are great shoals of mullet up there.

1318. What is the object of closing the waters if you say there are no good hauling-grounds above Mangrove Creek? I wish to protect those parts for breeding.

1319. Seeing that there is such a large extent of river, 60 miles, exclusive of tributaries, what is the necessity for closing all that? No particular reason.

1320. *Chairman.*] Do you not think that it might be opened for a considerable distance farther up the river, say to Wiseman's Ferry, without any injury? There would not be much harm in extending the open water if you took my advice and made the mesh a little larger in the bunt.

1321. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Have you ever heard complaints from the fishermen that there is too little water given to them? Yes; because at one time the river was closed to the railway bridge and there was very little ground left.

1322. May not a great deal of hauling be done on the closed waters without your knowledge, seeing that there is about 60 miles of water without any supervision? Yes.

1323. Would it therefore not be better to open the river for legitimate fishermen, even if it was necessary to have two inspectors? Meshing-nets would have to be used up there. For men who fish for the Sydney market they are quite far enough when they are at Mangrove Creek. There is one matter which I should like to suggest to the Committee—that is with reference to the spawning season for the mullet. Mullet is our great staple fish. In April they are fully roed, and I think they ought not to be caught when they are like that.

1324. *Mr. Ritchie.*] What months would you close? Only the month of April.

1325. Would not that entail very great hardship on the fishermen? They would have to catch other fish.

1326. *Mr. Stevenson.*] How could that be carried out? That would do more good than all the closing that is carried out now.

1327. But how could you do that? I refer to the shoals of mullet which come in the harbours. Tons of them come in.

TUESDAY, 9 JULY, 1889.

Present:—

MR. FRANK FARNELL,	MR. O'SULLIVAN,
MR. HOWE,	MR. WILLIAM STEPHEN,
MR. RITCHIE,	MR. SEAVER,
MR. STEVENSON.	

FRANK FARNELL, Esq., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. James Charles White called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. J. C. White. 1328. *Chairman.*] Were you at one time connected with the Fisheries Department? Yes; I was assistant inspector at Port Stephens.
- 9 July, 1889. 1329. When were you appointed? I think it was about five years ago—two years previous to Mr. Otway's appointment.
1330. How long did you occupy that position? About two years.
1331. Were your duties confined principally to the fisheries about Port Stephens? Yes, to Port Stephens only.
1332. Are there great quantities of fish caught there and sent to the Sydney market? Yes.
1333. Also oysters? Yes, and crayfish. Port Stephens is the principal depôt for crayfish.
1334. How are they sent to Sydney? Generally speaking the steamer "Kingsley" brings the crayfish and oysters, but there are small timber ketches on the Myall River which bring oysters from some of the beds there. They bring oysters to Sydney, and there is no check whatever on them. I do not think they even paid the royalty when it was in force.
1335. Have you heard any complaints made by fishermen in that district as to the unjust operation of the Fisheries Act? No; I had not very much to do with the fishermen themselves. I did not know who held a license and who did not. I knew who held licenses for oysters, because I put the area down on a map and sent a sketch of the area to the Board in Sydney. I prosecuted a few of the fishermen occasionally for having an illegal mesh of net.
1336. Do you remember what was done with those nets? No; except that they were confiscated.
1337. Did you ever make any recommendations to the Commission in Sydney with regard to affording greater facilities to the fishermen? I do not think so.
1338. Were you ever asked to do so by the Commission? No.
1339. What sort of fish are generally caught in Port Stephens? Generally mullet, blackfish, whiting, bream, and jew-fish occasionally. Schnapper is not caught there by net.
1340. Do you think that the fish caught at Port Stephens are brought fresh to the Sydney market? I can only answer that question in this way: The "Kingsley" is in the habit of leaving Port Stephens in the summer at 6 or 7 o'clock in the evening, and she always waits for the boats to come in. I believe that the boats do not go to fish in summer until 12 or 2 o'clock, but in winter I have known the fishing-boats up the harbour, near Tahlee, to catch fish overnight. Those fish go down to Newcastle at 12 or 1 o'clock the following day, and they do not get into Sydney until the day after.
1341. So that if the atmosphere were close they would be likely to go bad? Yes; a great many of them are completely spoiled. Dalton does not take payment for bringing fish down, but he takes a share after they are sold in the market, and he tells me that he often loses very heavily.
1342. Have you ever heard any complaints made by Dalton or by the fishermen as to the bad accommodation afforded to them in the market for the sale of fish? Yes; I have heard a great deal about the fish being stolen while they are being conveyed to the market. I have heard of instances where the carts had stopped and people have come out with baskets and taken the fish.
1343. Where do the steamers which bring the fish leave to? They go alongside their own wharves—none of them at Woolloomooloo. All the fish are sent from Port Stephens either by the Newcastle Company or the Hunter River Company's boats.
1344. Would it not be more convenient for the public as well as for the fishermen to have another fish depôt somewhere at Darling Harbour for the sale of fish? Yes; I think that would be a good idea. It would be better than the present market. I think that the sooner the fish are disposed of after their arrival in Sydney the better it would be for the public generally.
1345. Do you know any of the Commissioners? The only one I know is Dr. Cox.
1346. As assistant inspector, you had not much power vested in you? No power at all. I had the greatest trouble when I tried to convict a man before a magistrate. They would not go on this Act at all. They could not find out on what clause I was prosecuting under, or anything.
1347. Do you think it would not be much better and more satisfactory if the inspectors and assistant inspectors were charged with some powers without reference to the Commission at all? I am quite sure of it.
1348. You have had a good deal of experience in connection with oyster-culture? At Port Stephens only. I have been there now for fifty-nine years.
1349. Is it not a fact that the best oysters produced on the eastern coast come from Port Stephens? They are always in demand, but I cannot say whether they are the best, not having sufficient knowledge of the other beds.
1350. Can you say that at the present time they are very prolific beds? There is a disease amongst all the oysters resting on the black mud.
1351. If you say that there has been a decrease in the number of oysters at Port Stephens, how do you account for that fact? One reason is that there has been a great deal of stealing going on. Under the 15th clause of the Fisheries Act anyone has power to go where he likes, provided he is not on leased ground. All that he has to say is that he is taking the oysters for his own use, consequently the Government beds are all denuded. The good oysters are sent away, and the small oysters are put on his own beds. I know that is the practice in Port Stephens. My son has never done it. He has set his face against it. He has got 4 or 5 miles of oyster-beds under lease, and he depends upon his own oysters.
1352. Is he ever troubled with people pilfering those oysters at any time? If it were known that the oysters were stolen of course he would look out for it, but I have seen men at other people's beds taking away the oysters. I have seen them doing so from the verandah of my son's house.
1353. Do you not think that the present system of leasing might be improved by letting the whole bank of

of a river or a tributary to one man? Yes. Curiously enough I was asked my opinion with reference to this matter when I was at Auckland the other day. I was asked how the Oyster Act was worked in New South Wales. I made a recommendation in accordance with what you have just suggested. For instance, there is a place called Whangarei, about 80 miles north of Auckland, from which a great many oysters are brought to Auckland and thence sent on to Sydney. I recommended that they should divide that place into four or six sections, giving one section to one individual. That would be by far the better plan to adopt here. The great evil of the present system is this: There are two or three long reaches on a river. A man will take up 100 yards at the top, another in the centre, and another down below. When I would be on the look-out for oyster-thieving, going up the river, I would see a man coming down with oysters, and I knew it to be a fact that on some of those beds there were no oysters at all. If I pulled the man up he would say, "I got the oysters from my bed up at the top of the river," and I could not contradict him. No one can swear to an oyster.

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1354. Do you think it would be better to do away with the provision which allows a man to take up indiscriminately leases for 100 yards here, there, and everywhere? Yes, it would be far better, and I should certainly advocate the system which you have suggested. For instance, there is the north arm at Port Stephens, which is a sheet of water between 2 and 3 miles long, with oyster-beds all round it. If that were divided into two parts, one man might take up the east side and another man the west side, and it would then be worth while for the lessee to employ a person to look after his oyster-beds.

1355. How do you account for the disease in the oysters? When I was the assistant inspector I sent a report to the Commission about it, and no doubt it could be found in the office now. My opinion is that this disease exists only in the black mud. One of the most prolific beds in Port Stephens belongs to a man named Joss. That man, I suppose, has made about £1,000 from his beds, but latterly his oysters are all diseased. A little red worm attacks the oyster. It does not get into the oyster itself, but it burrows through the shell, and lies between the shell and the pearly part inside. When you open that with a penknife the smell is horrible.

1356. Do you think the seasons have a great deal to do with the state of the oyster-beds? I do not think so. All you have to do is to allow your oysters to get old enough—say two to three years. I do not think the seasons have anything to do with it. Fresh water has.

1357. That is what I mean? The rain affects them to a degree, but you seldom see floods up there. Another great thing against oyster-breeding properly in this country is the facility which exists for introducing the New Zealand oysters. When I came across a few weeks ago, in the steamer "Manapouri," there were 300 bags of oysters on deck. When I examined a few of them I found that they were not worth anything. They were perfectly useless as eating-oysters. They are selling in Sydney for half-a-crown a bag. Now you can get them for 15s. a bag of 3 bushels, while my son's oysters have been selling at 45s. per bag.

1358. Are there many lessees of oyster-beds at Port Stephens? A great many. I think the term is for fifteen years, but at the time the beds were taken up originally I do not think it was known what period of lease would be granted, and I know that several of the parties stripped their beds after the first year, and then threw up their leases. Whether they can be made to pay or not now I do not know.

1359. Is there any improvement which you can suggest in the working of the Fisheries Act? I think there is a great deal of red tape about the administration. If you make a suggestion about anything you cannot get a reply for a very long time. I know that in one case there were three abortive sittings of the Commission before I could get a reply to any of them. I think it would be better if the work were vested in one trusty man.

1360. Do you think it would be desirable to abolish the Commission altogether? Yes. As far as I can see, Dr. Cox is about the principal man in the present Commission.

1361. *Mr. Stephen.*] Did you say that the disease in oysters was confined to the mud-oysters? No; to oysters deposited on the mud-beds. They are quite different from the mud-oyster, which we do not eat. The mud-oyster is very large. There are beds in the river which are from 12 to 15 feet deep. The deposit on those beds generally is of gravel. Occasionally mud is brought down, and it covers over the gravel, and that is the time when the oysters get diseased. They are splendid before they are covered with a coating of mud.

1362. Is there any distinction between the oysters got in the beds of that description and those got on the rocks? The rock-oysters are quite different. These are what we call drift-oysters. The spat is brought down, and it lodges on the loose stones, not rocks. They propagate among the stones. The rock-oysters cluster one on top of the other, and are quite different.

1363. You think that this disease does not affect the rock-oysters at all? I know that it does not, because I tried it myself on my son's beds. There is an island in front of Tahlee, and he has got the whole of that. It is 600 or 700 yards in circumference, with rock-oysters all round. There is just about 18 inches of water at low-water, and the oysters are quite good on that sand-bank, until they drop on to the mud.

1364. Are they shifted from the sandy deposits during floods? They are shifted when the water is very rough.

1365. Can you suggest any remedy for this disease? No.

1366. Do you think there is no possibility of discovering any remedy for this worm disease? I am afraid not. If it appeared among any of my oysters I would shift them and put them on drift-beds.

1367. Are you aware that when nets have been seized they have been sold again to fishermen? No; I have never heard of that.

1368. Have you any knowledge of what becomes of the nets after they are seized? I saw several of them in the office, and I recommended that they should give one or two of them to the blackfellows at Port Stephens, who have no means of getting a living.

1369. Do you know if they cut up the nets so as to make them legal for some other purpose? I do not know that that can be done, because the nets are all woven together in a piece.

1370. Do you think that an illegal net could not be made legal for any other sort of fishing? Nets are seized because the mesh is very small, and I do not see how you could make a big mesh out of a small one.

1371. Have you had much experience of net-fishing at Port Stephens? I have seen a good deal of it.

1372. Are you aware that the mesh will shrink a great deal, for instance, after tanning? In tanning a net will shrink, but it expands afterwards when in constant use.

- Mr. J. C. White. 1373. Then the shrinkage caused by tanning is not permanent? No; in my opinion it will stretch to its natural size afterwards.
- 9 July, 1889. 1374. Do you think that nets will shrink to some extent after they are first used? I am quite sure of it. Everything will shrink in tanning. I have travelled a good deal throughout the country, and I always tanned my tents to prevent the blackfellows from seeing them, and I found that they always shrank a good deal.
1375. If a net has been passed as legal, and through tanning it has become smaller than the legal size, do you think that it should always be considered legal after having been once pronounced to be legal? Yes, certainly; provided it has been passed as legal originally.
1376. Mr. O'Sullivan.] Is oyster-culture carried on at Port Stephens or any other place where you have had jurisdiction with the most modern means? No; I think there is very little culture at all. It is left more to its natural course.
1377. I suppose you have heard of the way in which the French carry out their oyster-farms? Yes.
1378. Have you anything like those oyster farms out here? Nothing at all.
1379. Everything is carried on in a primitive fashion? Everything is left to nature. I think a great deal might be done in the way you suggest.
1380. Do you think that by the importation of a few experts we could encourage or establish scientific oyster-culture? Yes; I think that ought to be done.
1381. Do you think it would be worth while for the Government to undertake to get out a few experts from France? Yes; provided the matter was carried out as the Chairman has suggested—that is, that large areas should be granted to the lessees. It would then be worth a man's while to go into oyster-culture.

Mr. Frederick William Smithers called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. F. W. Smithers. 1382. Chairman.] What position do you occupy? Travelling Inspector in the Fisheries Department.
- 9 July, 1889. 1383. What do you mean by that? I am outside supervising officer for the Commissioners.
1384. How long have you held that position? Twelve months.
1385. Did you hold any position under the Commission previously? Yes. Since 1882 I have been Assistant Inspector of Fisheries.
1386. Where were your duties confined to during that period? To Twofold Bay and Port Stephens. I had charge from Cape Howe to Tuross River.
1387. I suppose you are aware of the object of this Committee? Yes—to elicit information.
1388. In connection with the working of the Fisheries Act? Yes.
1389. In your position have you come into contact with a great many fishermen and oyster lessees? Yes.
1390. Where are your duties confined to now? Anywhere in the Colony.
1391. Do you visit at any time wherever you are required to go at the instance of the Commission? Yes.
1392. Can you explain the nature of your duties? At the present time, if there is anything wrong as reported by an inspector, I have to go and make inquiries. If there is supposed to be any breach of the Fisheries Act, I am sent to see if the report is true or not.
1393. You are not sent as any special advocate or agent on the part of the Commission to prosecute in any case at the Police Courts? No.
1394. Have you taken any particular interest in the fishing industry? Yes.
1395. Do you consider that the provisions of the Fisheries Act have applied justly, and have given satisfaction to the people that carry on their callings as fishermen and oystermen? I do not think the Fisheries Act has worked at all.
1396. In what respects has the Act worked disadvantageously or unsatisfactorily? As it is at the present time the fishermen have the best of it if they only knew it, because the Act is so loose in so many sections.
1397. But at the same time there are provisions in the Fisheries Act which do operate very unjustly with regard to the fishermen? I can hardly say that, but they would be if they were carried out in full vigour by the inspectors.
1398. But inspectors are not charged with any special powers, are they? No; I am sorry to say they are not.
1399. Do you think that it would be much better to charge the inspectors with more power, instead of its being a matter of necessity to refer cases which come under their notice to the Commission before any action is taken? I think that would be very much to the advantage of the whole community.
1400. Would it be better, in your opinion, with regard to the closing of certain portions of rivers and tributaries, and also as to the leasing of oyster-beds, that the matter should be left under the control and to the discretion of the local inspectors? I do, most decidedly. Licenses are not issued under the inspectors.
1401. Have you had many complaints brought under your notice by the fishermen or oyster lessees? By oyster lessees I have.
1402. What were their complaints? That the Act treated them very badly—that they got no protection from it.
1403. How do you account for their complaints—was it on account of the administration of the Act, or on account of the provisions of the Act, which give people power to take up indiscriminately 100 yards of a river here, there, and everywhere? It is on account of the Act itself in many respects. Under sections 9 and 11 people can go and rob one another with impunity. If you are an applicant for an oyster lease you may pay down £10 for 1,000 yards, and I, as a private individual, can go and take every oyster on the land you have applied for, whereas if you take one oyster off that ground you can be fined £50. Of course the lessees do not like that. The Act is to blame for that.
1404. With regard to the leasing system in connection with oyster-culture, do you not think it would be better to have a provision so that one side of a river, or a large portion of it, might be given to one lessee, instead of allowing people to take up 100 yards here and there indiscriminately? Certainly.
1405. Has not a great deal of pilfering taken place owing to the present system? Yes. Pilfering has been one of the greatest curses of the Colony.
1406. Have you at any time brought under the notice of the Commissioners proposals to remedy any defects or grievances alleged to exist in connection with the Fisheries Act or the Oyster Fisheries Act? Yes; I have drawn the Secretary's attention to them. 1407.

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1407. In those cases to which you have drawn the attention of the Secretary, have they been remedied, or have your recommendations been carried out? They have been carried out so far as that the Secretary drew up a new Bill, which he very kindly showed to me, and asked me to look through, which I did. I have not seen it since then.

1408. Do you know the members of the Commission? Yes.

1409. Do you ever come into contact with them? Yes, frequently.

1410. You come into contact more directly with Mr. Thompson, and through him you make your recommendations? Yes; but he will not do anything until he sees the Commissioners. He refers me to the Commissioners if I want anything.

1411. There is a provision in the Fisheries Act giving an inspector power to seize nets of an unlawful mesh;—have you had many of those cases brought under your notice? Not many; but I have had some.

1412. What is done with the nets after they are seized? They are brought down to the office, and after remaining there among the rats they are cut up and sold.

1413. Is it not a fact that some nets seized have, in some instances, been sold at the Commissioners' will, while in other cases they have been allowed to rot? They are always kept for sixty days; then they are sold.

1414. Would they not be likely to rot during that time? Yes. Sometimes they are kept more than sixty days—it might be 120 days.

1415. When a net has once been passed as legal under the provisions of the Fisheries Act, do you not think that it should always be considered legal? No.

1416. Is it not a fact that a net after being used shrinks? Yes.

1417. Do you think it would not be rather hard on a fisherman if, after he had used a net for a certain time, to punish him for being in possession of a net which had been passed as legal? No. He should first get a net somewhat larger than the legal mesh, so as to allow for shrinkage, otherwise the destruction of fish would be very great. A man would always say that his net had been passed as legal, and we could not identify the net afterwards.

1418. Do you not think it would be better to have a provision to punish people for bringing under-sized fish to market, rather than be so particular as to the mesh of the net? No; because there would be great destruction of small fish, although the provision might be carried out very strictly at the market. At Tuggerah Lakes, where nets have been hauled ashore, I have seen thousands of small fish thrown on the beach to rot.

1419. Do you come into contact with everyone of the officers of the department? Yes.

1420. Do you think they are all required? No—that is if each inspector had to do his own work.

1421. Do not you think it would be better to locate those men on the particular rivers over which they have control;—for instance, in Sydney, do you not think that the inspectors, who have control over the Parramatta and Lane Cove Rivers, should be located on these rivers? Certainly.

1422. Do you think it would be better to apply that rule in all cases? Yes, in all cases the inspectors should be right upon their work.

1423. How long has the Hawkesbury River been closed? I know it was closed when I came to Sydney two years ago.

1424. Are you aware of any complaint having been made as to the limited space given to the fishermen on that river to carry on their avocation? Yes; complaints were made about the beginning of this year.

1425. I think a complaint was made by myself? Yes.

1426. In response to that complaint did you and the Secretary visit the Hawkesbury River? I went up there.

1427. What was the result of your visit? I reported that a certain portion should be opened to the fishermen.

1428. Was your recommendation carried out? Not that I am aware of. I reported, and I saw nothing of it afterwards.

1429. Do you know the Hawkesbury well? Yes.

1430. Do you think that the main river might be opened, while the tributaries might be closed, for fish-breeding; and do you think that that might apply to all other rivers? Not in all cases. In the Hawkesbury, for instance, there is a very small area of breeding-ground in the main river, but Mangrove Creek is a good breeding-place; and on the right, between Bar Point and Mangrove, there is a stretch of 4 miles which is a very good place for the production of young fish. I should not like to see that bit opened.

1431. Do not you think that much more space could be given to fishermen without any injury being done to the fish or to the public? Yes.

1432. Do you know the Parramatta River well? Yes.

1433. Is it now closed from the vehicular bridge to its source—do you not think that those waters could be well extended to the railway-bridge at Ryde? I see no objection to opening it as far as Ryde.

1434. The breeding-grounds are entirely above the railway-bridge? Yes; at the same time opening the railway-bridge to Ryde would open a very good nursery at Hen and Chicken Bay. That is almost as good a nursery as the Homebush Flats.

1435. But there is not much flat in Hen and Chicken Bay? There is a good deal of breeding-ground around the sides of that bay, but at the same time I would not object to opening the river to the bridge at Ryde.

1436. Do you not think that the Gascoynes, on the Parramatta River, have been rather harshly treated? I do not think so. You are probably not aware of the circumstances, which are that those fishermen located themselves on the river twenty-five years ago. They have been carrying on their avocations over that period, and for the last four or five years they have been confined to certain waters, whereas a few years ago they had the whole of the river open to them, so that they could supply with fresh fish the residents of the northern side of the river, as well as those on the southern side and at Parramatta. Now, owing to the closing of the waters, these people are debarred from enjoying the luxury of fresh fish in the morning.

1437. Do you not think, in order to supply those people in the places I have mentioned with fresh fish, the area of open waters ought to be extended as far as the railway-bridge at Ryde? Yes; I do not object to the river being opened as far as the railway-bridge at Ryde.

1438. Do you think that the fish-market at Woolloomooloo is adequate for the requirements of fishermen? Very far from it.

1439.

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1439. Do you believe that the supervision is good? No; I have had experience of that market, carrying fish with Dalton from 1879 to 1882, and I saw the way the fish were treated there.
1440. Of course you are aware of the mode of transmitting fish from the different rivers? Yes.
1441. Does it come principally by steamer? Yes; but a good deal comes by train now—from the Northern Districts.
1442. In what condition does the fish arrive? It arrives in good order just at present, but in summer the fish arrives in muggy condition. For that a good deal of blame rests with the fishermen.
1443. Have you ever heard the fishermen complain that their original consignments have considerably decreased by the time they reached the Sydney market? Certainly. I saw that years ago, and it is the same now. Pilfering goes on in the carts and in the markets every morning. Here is an instance that has come to my knowledge: A fortnight ago a man at Broken Bay sent up twelve baskets of fish, and when his empty baskets came back to him he found half a basketful of his own fine whiting. It is done in this way: A man takes up a basket in the market and throws down a few fish here and a few fish there, leaving a few nice whiting at the bottom of the basket. Some people help themselves to these whiting that are left and the fishermen are the sufferers.
1444. Do you think that this is due to improper supervision? Yes. I hold that the Government ought to have an officer in the market to see that the fishermen are not robbed. It is no good for the fishermen trying to protect themselves. I think that some protection might be obtained if the following plan were adopted:—The fishermen might put tape round their baskets and seal the tape with wax, or they might lock up their baskets and they should not be opened in Sydney until just before the sale.
1445. I suppose it would not pay a fisherman to come down with his own fish? No, because a man might sometimes have twelve baskets of fish but at other times only two baskets. There is no doubt he is robbed at present, and the public also suffer, because in the market every morning the fish are positively spat upon by half the larrikins of the city. A crowd of people walk all over the fish and spit on it.
1446. Have they not raised tables there? Nothing at all. The fish is sold on the floor.
1447. So that if Inspectors Seymour and Mulhall say that the market is adequate for the requirements of the public, that the interests of the public are protected with regard to cleanliness and health, they are not correct in their statements? No, very far from it. Half of the market ought to be railed off, so as to keep the public outside and away from the fish.
1448. What is the floor composed of? Stone or concrete.
1449. Are there no marble slab tables? There are some tables on which the fish are cleaned.
1450. Do they permit the cleaning of fish at the market? Yes; the fish-dealers are allowed to do so by paying so much for the use of a small table with the water laid on.
1451. Can you give the Committee an idea as to the mode of disposing of the fish, from the time it leaves the fishermen until it gets into the hands of the public? The fish, for instance, comes from Broken Bay, where it is put on board a steamer and brought to Sydney in good order. Then it is handed over to the carter, in whose tender mercies it remains for 5 or 10 minutes. It is brought up to the market, put out on the floor, a few choice fish being left at the bottom of the baskets, which go as pickings. Some of the fish may be left there all night, whilst some may be there only a few minutes before the sale. Then the fish is put up for sale by auction. The people crowd all round knocking each other over the heaps. Any morning you go there you will find a couple of hundred people treading on the fish. They are then put into dirty baskets, with a dirty bag thrown over them, and very frequently they are taken down and washed in the dirty waters of Woolloomooloo Bay. There are cases in which the fisherman only get 1s. 6d. a heap for their fish, but the public do not get the advantage of that. The fisherman gets nothing, and only the dealer gains anything by it. Here is a case which has come to my knowledge: A man went to the market at 4 o'clock instead of 5, and when he got there one of the carters said to him, "I have got a basket of fish, will you take it?"
1452. Where did he get those fish? Of course from some poor unfortunate fisherman.
1453. Do many schnapper come into the market? No.
1454. Are the schnapper caught by a line? Not all of them. I have frequently seen them caught with nets at Lake Macquarie.
1455. Is fish which is caught by net likely to remain fresh longer than fish caught with bait? Yes; if the bait is fresh the fish will keep, but if the bait is bad it will turn the fish immediately. Fish caught in water that is not very salt will not last so long as fish caught in salt water.
1456. In 1886 an Act was passed prohibiting net-fishing in Port Hacking;—do you think that that was a wise provision? No; they might have opened it up as far as the Spit.
1457. As far as oyster-culture in Port Hacking is concerned the law is inoperative? Yes.
1458. An Act was passed by the last Parliament to protect fish in inland waters;—have you directed your attention to the application of that Act? Not as yet.
1459. Have the Commission directed you to take any steps? No; the only thing I have done has been to put trout in some of the waters.
1460. Are you aware that tons of fish are caught in the Murray River and sent to Melbourne? Yes; and they are caught with dynamite too.
1461. Do you not think it would be wise on the part of the Government to establish another fish-market, say on the Darling Harbour side? I think it would be advisable to do so near the railway station. That would also be a great advantage when the fish from Wollongong are sent down by rail.
1462. Would that be more convenient to the public, and at the same time give more security to fishermen in protecting their fish? Yes; it would be a very great benefit to the public.
1463. Have you taken any interest in trawling for fish? Yes.
1464. Do you think that that could be carried on on our coasts? Yes; I am certain of it.
1465. Are you aware of its having been tried at any time? It was tried once in Botany about three months ago. I tried it down at Green Cape about six weeks ago, but I was unfortunate in getting bad weather, and therefore I was not successful, but I am going away again in a fortnight to trawl in Disaster Bay.
1466. With regard to the oyster-beds, do you think it would be a good idea to close all the rivers and beds, say, for three years, in order to resuscitate the oysters? No. I think it would be far better if we let the oyster-beds at reduced rentals, so as to have them all taken up and the grounds worked.

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1467. Are you aware that there is a disease at present amongst the oysters? Yes; in some of the rivers.
1468. Do you know the nature of it? Yes; the worm disease.
1469. Can you suggest any remedy? The only way is to clear the oyster-beds. The mud has got into the oysters; the eggs of the worm have got in with the mud, and they have bred inside the oyster. There is none of the worm disease in the southern district. The oysters there are all off the mud on a rubble bottom.
1470. Do you know George's River? Yes.
1471. Do you not think that might be opened up so as to give the fishermen more room? I hardly think so.
1472. Are you aware that ten or twelve years ago you could catch as many fish as you liked with a line up the Parramatta River? Yes. I have been told that you could catch them with a line many years ago.
1473. Are you aware that at present it would be very difficult to catch one fish there in a day, and perhaps you might not even catch one? Yes; but at the same time there are plenty of net-fish there. Before I left here in 1882 I went up the river, and the fish were rather scarce, but when I came back two years ago to this district I was surprised to see the quantity of fish up the river. There is any quantity of net fish there. I think too much feed comes down to allow fishing with a line.
1474. Do you know the Moruya District? Yes; the fish are plentiful along the coast there.
1475. Do many fish come from there to Sydney? No, very few.
1476. Fish come in different ways, fresh, dried, and smoked? Yes.
1477. Are you aware that an industry is carried on there by drying the fish and sending them to market and that it pays very well? Yes; I was down at Molagoota, in Victoria, and I found that they had a very fine fish-preserving industry there. They can the fish.
1478. You say you know the Commissioners;—do you know of their having made any special visits to the different grounds throughout the Colony? No; I made one visit, I think, about two months ago, out to Botany, and once I went out with Dr. Cox to Port Hacking, to look into the salmon disease, or what is supposed to be the trout disease out there.
1479. Who recommends the closing of the waters—the inspectors or the persons in the office? Persons in the office I think.
1480. Just by looking at the plans without consulting the inspectors? Yes, that is it.
1481. Why was Middle Harbour opened? I know it was closed and it was opened the next week.
1482. I suppose you do not know anything about the appointment of inspectors, as to how their appointments are brought about, on whose recommendation, and so on? No.
1483. Are all the inspectors practical men? No.
1484. Do you think that it would be much better for the department if all the men employed were practical men? Yes; but you would not want to get the fishermen themselves as inspectors.
1485. Do you not think it would be better for the inspectors themselves to issue licenses instead of that being done at the head office? Certainly; the inspector would then know what is going on. The same should be done with regard to the oyster leases.
1486. Do you know Mr. Woodward? Yes.
1487. Has he a large number of oyster leases? Yes.
1488. Has he fulfilled the conditions of every one of them? I do not know; I have had very little to do with the leases.
1489. At the same time do you know that he is one of the largest oyster lessees? Yes.
1490. Is there a steam-launch at the disposal of the Fisheries Department? They call it a steam-launch.
1491. Do you ever use it? Yes, we went round to Broken Bay in her once, but that is the last trip I shall make in her outside the heads.
1492. Is she a proper boat for that kind of work? No; she is unsafe. With regard to oyster-culture, I would suggest that the rent should be reduced, and that the lessees should be compelled to have spat collectors. At present we have no way of preserving spat. The spat is allowed to drift away, to be washed away, or to be destroyed by fish.
1493. How long does it take an oyster to be eatable from the time of the spat? In some places it may be two years. I have known an oyster to be fit for the market in that time. It all depends upon the water. In some places it takes four year.
1494. Can you give the Committee a statement of your views as to what should be done with regard to oyster-culture? Yes; I beg leave to submit the following statement which I have prepared:—"I first point out that there is no inducement given to persons to take up and keep leases, and the most fatal part of it is the rental of £1 for 100 yards, as must be seen by any ordinary or disinterested observer. £1 per 100 yards is the rental claimed for all places, whether good or bad ground—that is, oyster-bearing or not. The consequence is that A takes up 2,000 yards in a first-class oyster-bearing ground, from which he obtains (say) 150 bags of oysters per annum—his rent is £20 per year. B has 2,000 yards at the same rent in another river where there are less oysters growing—he gets, say forty bags from this area. C has 2,000 yards at the same rent, upon which there are but few oysters—he gets fifteen bags per year. D would take up 2,000 yards in a place where there are no oysters to try and cultivate, but the rent being the same, £20—therefore, on the face of this, why charge the same rental throughout? Whilst granting that some of the leases are fully worth £1, or perhaps more, per 100 yards, whilst others are really not worth more than 2s. 6d. per 1,000 yards, it might be that C would take up the 2,000 yards, and have to buy his oysters to lay down for spawning purposes; hence it will be, under very favourable circumstances, four years before he could get a return—this means £80 for rent already. Would a person take a lease of orchard properties and as I describe below at equal rents. One orchard, already with fruit-bearing to large extent, on splendid land; another of equal area, but less trees, and ground not as good; another same size area, with no trees at all. Could the poor man afford this outlay? I assert that it is to the small man we must eventually look to for our supply of oysters. If inducement were given we might hope for farmers and others who have their homes on the banks of rivers or lakes, who might then combine agriculture with oyster-culture, and be a benefit to their families, besides to the benefit of our revenue, as all lands would then be taken up, and not left to the mercy of the man of means. But let us trust to the poor man to take up the areas the same as the selector populates the Colony. The remedy is, the introduction of a nominal rent—say 2s. 6d. or 5s. per 100 yards all round, whether good or bad land;

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land; then charge a royalty of 2s. per bag upon oysters removed from the lease. This would be payment by result, and the only just way of treating fairly with all parties, making them pay according to the production of their ground, as I have clearly shown in the holdings of A, B, C, and D, which prove unequal rights for the same rent—a loss to the Revenue, and injustice to those who were not fortunate enough to get the choice beds already well stocked with oysters, from which returns could be obtained at once—whilst his less fortunate companion has to wait for years for even a small result. How then can the rent be found? Only by taking oysters off his bed where they are but few already, and selling them, thus impoverishing his bed still more. And further than this—he must take the parent oyster from which he should look for the supply of spat. This cannot be called inducement to persons to go in for oyster-culture. Considering the large amount of foreshore which would be taken up at reduced rents, and the benefit it would be to a large number of families, is it not worth trying? As a matter of fact what have we done? Have we increased our supply under the present Act? If not, after eight years, is it not time to change our Act? Before going further I must not omit to draw attention to a very important matter, viz.: in oyster-culturing—the salinity of the water. To give some of our lakes the salinity required, large pipes might be used to let the salt water into the lakes already closed up from the sea. Another suggestion which must not be overlooked is that applicants for oyster-culture should have two bondsmen. This would help to have the oyster-beds worked more honestly. The next step, besides the reduced rent, is of an important nature. It is that every lessee should be compelled to have upon his lease a spat collector, the kind to be approved of by the Commissioners and inspectors. My suggestion is that it should be made in proportion to the size of the lease—say 20 square yards to every 100 yards leased, up to 500 yards, then at the rate of 10 square yards to every additional 100 yards leased, except in cases wherein lessees may have a very large number of leases, or extra large areas, or in cases wherein the salinity of the water may not be considered suitable for spawning purposes; then if sufficient reason be shown it would be advisable to omit the spat collector. Within this spat collector there should be at the rate of 3 bushels for every 100 yards to 500 or part thereof, and 2 bushels for every 100 yards above that, and that such quantity should be kept within such collector. This done we should accomplish the most essential thing concerning our spat supply thereby helping to make our oyster-beds source of the most profitable in the world. For years past lessees and their servants have with but few exceptions been taking all oysters off their areas as soon as marketable or coming to maturity. Is this not destruction of the parent oyster? Thus exterminating the spat supply. If a poultry farmer sold all the adult fowls he had and sold the chickens as they come to maturity, then where could he look for his future supply of eggs to increase his stock? Let lessees in some places scrub the stones with a broom upon their areas before the spawning season to admit of spat attaching itself, as there is but little chance of spat attaching to the rocks covered with accumulation of slime, mud, and sand—upon sand-flats and other places stick in numbers of small branches which have been previously dipped into cement; one part cement, three parts sand, the whole of the area could then be utilized in helping to collect spat.

1495. Are there any other remarks which you wish to make to the Committee? I wish to draw attention to the destruction of fish by dynamite. I have brought the only cases which have been heard of this kind in the Colony. The public give no assistance in this matter, and even the fishermen do not. They will tell you that dynamiting is carried on, but they will not tell you where.

1496. Are you aware that fish are dynamited at Port Hacking? Yes, I have been out there frequently, Sunday after Sunday, but I could never find out who did it, and nobody would give me any information.

1497. Have you known it to take place anywhere else? Yes, at Middle Harbour, but I never succeeded in stopping it.

1498. Did you ever succeed in catching any one? Yes, I caught Peter Jackson, the fighting man, and Dunlop.

1499. Did you take proceedings against them? Yes; they were fined £30.

1500. *Mr. Stephen.*] Do you say that your jurisdiction over the fisheries extends all along the coast? Yes.

1501. Have you ever had any experience in practical fishing? Yes. Before I joined the department I was for four years with Dalton. Although I was a clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Department, I spent all my holidays and did night work with Dalton in the fish trade.

1502. That is in the disposal of fish brought up to the market? No; I used to be on the Hawkesbury River and at the Tuggerah Lakes with Dalton.

1503. As a fisherman? He used to carry the fish to market in the "Kate" and the "St. Albans."

1504. Have you had any experience as a practical fisherman earning your living by it? No.

1505. Consequently you are not thoroughly conversant with every little complaint that the fishermen make? Yes.

1506. You do not thoroughly understand the nature of the complaints that the fishermen make as to being hardly used under the Act? Yes; because I have been associated with the fishermen ever since 1879.

1507. But not as a practical fisherman? No; but I have been with them hauling and with them in their boats.

1508. Do you think that the working of the Fisheries Act bears rather harshly on the fisherman? No; I do not see where it comes hard on the fishermen.

1509. Then you think that if they complain of harsh treatment they have no real grounds for their complaints? No; unless somebody has gone so far as to seize a net when he should not, or it may be that the complaints are made with regard to the closed waters.

1510. What are the real duties of the Fisheries inspectors? They are supposed to go out and see that no one is fishing in closed waters and they have to send in weekly reports as to the quantities of fish and oysters sent away.

1511. Have they any power to seize fishing utensils if found to be illegal? Yes, the Act gives them that power.

1512. Can they do this under the Act independently or have they to wait for instructions from headquarters? No; an inspector or sub-inspector can seize a net and then he reports the matter to the head office.

1513. Then I am to understand that the inspectors are to see that the Act is properly worked and that the work of the fishermen is carried out properly and legally? Yes.

1514. Do you think that the local inspectors have sufficient powers? No.

1515. What way do you think that their powers are too limited? In the first place they should be allowed

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allowed to issue licenses—then they would know who had licenses and who had not. Secondly the rents for oyster leases ought to be paid through them. They would then know who had paid their rents and who had not. All correspondence should go through them instead of through the head office. Then they would know all that is going on in their districts.

1516. Then you think that if the fishermen had any complaints to make they should make them not through the head office but through the inspectors? Yes; let them forward the complaints to the head office. The local inspector is the best one to judge.

1517. Do you think that the fishermen in that case would have any guarantee that their complaints would go to the head office in exactly the same way that they were made to the inspector? They would have to go to the head office in the same way. He would send off the documents to the head office with his own minute written upon them.

1518. You do not think the Fisheries Act is perfect? No.

1519. Can you suggest any amendment or improvement in the Act in the event of a new Bill being passed? I think that the hauling-net might be kept at the same length that it is now, but I think there should be 50 fathoms of $2\frac{1}{4}$ inch mesh in the bunt and on each side of the bunt there should be 25 fathoms of $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch mesh and on the outside 25 fathoms each of 3-inch mesh. That would assist the fishermen. I would restrict the use of the gar-fish net, which is one of our most destructive nets for small fish. I would only allow it to be used in the months of March, April, May, June, July and August. I would not allow it to be used up the rivers.

1520. I suppose you have no desire yourself to be in any way harsh upon the working fishermen? No; I have had a great number of cases and in none of those cases have I ever pressed for a penalty. I have never acted harshly with anyone.

1521. Have you simply tried to do what was fair between the public and the Commissioners? Yes. The Commissioners never said a word to me when I reported that I only asked for a shilling penalty or some small penalty of that kind.

1522. When nets are seized are they dried carefully before they are stacked for 60 or 120 days? I think so. I generally dry my nets, but they get the dry rot at the office.

1523. Is there sufficient care taken to preserve the nets from damage? No.

1524. Does the Act give the Commission power to sell those nets when seized? Yes.

1525. Is there any restriction as to what they are to be sold for? No; they are sold, I think, under the discretion of the Commissioners.

1526. Has it come to your knowledge that nets which have been seized have been sold again for fishing and that the purchaser has been fined? I have never heard of it. They are cut so as to make them legal.

1527. When the nets are cut down before they are sold to the fishermen are they put together so as to make them legal? Yes; a net may be cut into a dozen pieces.

1528. By the employees of the Fisheries Commission? Yes.

1529. And sold after being put together again? They are sold in pieces, and the purchaser is allowed to put them together himself.

1530. Are you aware whether the supply of fish has increased or diminished since the closing of Port Hacking? I think it has increased. I know it has been worked pretty frequently.

1531. Are you aware that reports have been circulated that the fish have decreased? Yes; but it is not correct. The fish have decreased since the last heavy rains.

1532. When the fish are driven out by floods do the same fish return? Yes; I am of opinion that they only go down to the deeper water, and that they come in again.

1533. Have you a practical knowledge of George's River and its tributaries? Yes; that is, I have been backwards and forwards amongst the fishermen there.

1534. What do you consider would be the best seasons for keeping George's River open for net-fishing? As it is now the river is open all the year up to the railway bridge.

1535. Do you think it would be desirable to open up George's River to Salt-pan Creek without including the creek? I think myself that they have sufficient water open there at present.

1536. I have a report from the fishermen with regard to the Woniora River. They say that the greater portion of it is a natural breeding-ground, but owing to its great depth and rough bottom it could not be worked by fishermen, and they think that it might be left open to the crossing. Do you think that it would be advisable to open it as far as the crossing? No; I would not open the Woniora at all. I should say that if it were closed it should be closed altogether.

1537. Do you think it would be desirable to open George's River as far as Salt-pan Creek? No.

1538. Have you a practical knowledge of the habits of migratory fish? Yes.

1539. What kind of fish do you think belong to that class? Mullet, whiting, black-bream, silver-bream, yellow-tail, tailor, king-fish, salmon. I think we might also include schnapper, because I have seen them travelling up and down the coast.

1540. What I mean by migratory fish are school fish? Yes; I thoroughly understand that.

1541. Do you think that those fish generally return to the same waters? Yes; they travel north. When I was in the southern district I have been miles up the coast and I have seen the fish working their way up north. I have seen immense shoals of them working their way north as far as Montagu Island. They seemed then to ease off and in the latter part of the season they work their way south with the whales.

1542. Do all those kinds of migratory fish which you have named migrate in the same season or have they their own seasons? They have their own seasons. The sea gar-fish and the bream come along at one time, the mullet come along at another time, and the whiting come in just about the same time.

1543. Are you aware of the times when the fish migrate? Yes; the mullet come along the coast up to May. They pass the Southern District about March or April, and sometimes we get them here in May. Then the bream, schnapper, and whiting, come along the coast at Christmas, and what we call the hard-gutted mullet come in about the same time. The gar-fish always come along at that time. A great deal of migration takes place when the fish are driven out by heavy rains at one port, and they then go to the next port.

1544. But with respect to schnapper, and most of the fish you have mentioned, can they not be caught along the coast at any season of the year? Yes, but not in large quantities. I have seen them in tremendous shoals, 12 miles off Twofold Bay.

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1545. What means of conveyance have you, seeing that your steam-launch is not very safe? I take the trains where I can get them; I travel by steam-boat and I sometimes take a horse.
1546. What is your salary? £150 a-year.
1547. You get travelling expenses? Yes; 12s. per day.
1548. Do you think that there should be a practical fisherman on the Fisheries Commission as a representative of the fishermen? No, that would not do at all.
1549. Do you think that the fishermen should not have a say in the matter at all? I look at it in this way. A report would come in from one of the fishermen themselves, and I would have to go out and attend to that report, which might affect the Fisheries Commissioner himself, and he would not love me after that. I would not like to have to do my work under those circumstances.
1550. You must not be impressed with the idea that this Committee has met to condemn the Commission or any of its employees? No; but one of the fishermen themselves would only be human.
1551. What we wish you to understand is, that the Committee have not met for the purpose of condemning anyone in connection with the working of the Fisheries Act or to advocate the claims or complaints of any particular class. We simply wish to find out all we possibly can with respect to the fisheries, so that we may be able to make some suggestion as to applying remedies where they are necessary. The fishermen themselves think that they ought to be represented on the Commission, and I wish to find out if it is the opinion of any of the Commissioners or their employees that that should be done. Do you think it ought to be done? No.
1552. *Mr. Stevenson.*] What were you before you were appointed travelling inspector? Assistant inspector at Twofold Bay.
1553. Whom did you succeed at Eden? Mr. Oliver.
1554. Did he resign, or what were the grounds for his removal? Some misconduct on his part. There was a Police Court case against him.
1555. I presume all the papers in connection with that matter would be with the Commissioners? Yes.
1556. Could they be produced? Yes.
1557. When you are travelling I presume you get assistance from the other inspectors in the discharge of your duties? Not in all cases.
1558. Have you ever pointed out any defects in the Act to the Commissioners? Yes, to the Secretary.
1559. What has been the result? I do not know; the Secretary has submitted a new Bill, and that is all that I know of it.
1560. Have you ever heard that the Italian fishermen destroy a large quantity of small fish in their nets? Yes, they are the greatest curse we have in the harbour.
1561. Has nothing been devised to remedy that? No; the only way to do it is to close Sydney Harbour against prawn-netting for so many months in the year.
1562. Who supervises the cutting up of the nets which have been seized? I do not know. One of the boatmen cuts up the nets; but I never saw anyone supervise him.
1563. Do you think it would be a benefit in the working of the Act if inspectors were allowed to have experimental oyster-beds so as to be able to furnish information to the public? Yes; I asked for permission to have one four years ago; but the Commission had no power to sanction it.
1564. As travelling inspector do you approve of the inspectors being removed from one district to another? No; a man would never get to understand his own district.
1565. Is the Southern District a great place for fish? Yes; a great industry could be carried on there.
1566. Do you think that trawling could be carried on with advantage? Yes; all along that coast.
1567. Do you think that it could be done without a survey being first made? I have fished all along the coast between Cape Howe and Green Cape with a line, and I always found a very fair bottom.
1568. Can you suggest any improvement in the working of the Fisheries Act? Yes; I would cut it up and start a fresh one.
1569. *Mr. Howe.*] What is the object of keeping the nets for sixty days before they are disposed of. Is that in conformity with the Act? It is in conformity with the regulations passed by the Commissioners.
1570. Is there any necessity for it? None whatever.
1571. Do you say that they are sometimes kept for 120 days? They generally wait till they have a sufficient number of nets to hold a sale.
1572. You say that the fishermen have the best of it under the Act if they only knew it. How is that the case? Under section 18, of course, we are supposed to prosecute if fishermen are found fishing in closed waters; but the fishermen can go there and use their nets for the purpose of catching prawns with impunity. We have no power to stop that. Then again, if a man is caught fishing in closed waters he can say, "This is my first offence, give me back my net." He then passes on his net to his mate, who can do the same thing, and in that way it can be passed on to eternity.
1573. *Chairman.*] But, as a matter of fact, that has not been done? I am not aware of its having been done. If they knew what they were about they could get the best of it.
1574. They are honest people and do not care about evading the law? Some of them are honest.
1575. *Mr. Howe.*] I heard you make a serious charge with respect to the fish market at Woolloomooloo, namely, that people are allowed to walk over the fish and spit on them. Do you think it would be advisable to rail off a certain space in which the fish could be offered for sale in lots? Most certainly.
1576. Then the whole of the dealers and the public would be excluded? Yes; I would let nobody but the agents and the auctioneer inside.
1577. Has the Government no authority there? They appear to have no authority. We are supposed to protect the fish; but the Corporation get the money for selling what we protect.
1578. Are you aware that a large quantity of saltwater fish is sent into the country? Yes.
1579. Do you think that a fish market should be established at the southern end of the city? Yes; near the Railway Station.
1580. What is your objection to a fisherman being appointed to the Commission? The fisherman who might be appointed to the Commission might be a fisherman living at Botany. I might be sent out to Botany to report, and I might have to seize a net there, and it is not likely that that Commissioner would look on me with loving eyes. Then he might not be well disposed towards fishermen living in another place. There is a certain amount of ill-feeling between the fishermen of Botany and the fishermen of Broken Bay, and I think difficulties might arise in that way.

1581. Where there is taxation ought there not to be representation? That may be so; but it would be very hard to carry on the work under the circumstances I have mentioned.

1582. *Chairman.*] Do you advocate the abolition of the Commission altogether, and the administration of the Fisheries Act by a separate department under a responsible Minister? Some people say that would be better.

1583. *Mr. Howe.*] What is the cause of the dissatisfaction existing amongst the fishermen at Broken Bay? They want more water open.

1584. Is not that the cause of general dissatisfaction? Yes. I would like to point out to the Committee that a large number of whales come up to the Southern District every year. They are caught in Twofold Bay every year. I think that ought to be brought under the Fisheries Act, and also the mutton fishing. The Chinamen make a great living out of the mutton fish down there. When the whales come up they bring a lot of calves with them. Twenty whales were killed there last year. Of course they only pollute the place with carcasses and offal, and they have all the best of it.

1585. You say that you decidedly object to George's River being opened up to Salt-pan Creek? I do not see why they should want any more water open there. They have got a very large quantity of water open at present. If you open up the river to Salt-pan Creek they will then want to have it opened up to the dam at Liverpool.

1586. Do not the fish breed in the estuaries? Yes. If you open up the river as far as you suggested you will want an inspector with half a dozen assistants to watch the fishermen. I do not speak disparagingly of the whole of the fishermen, but I say that some of them want watching.

1587. When you sent in reports and recommendations to Mr. Thompson, have you heard anything more of them? No.

1588. *Mr. Stevenson.*] What is your opinion about opening the Hawkesbury River above Bar Point? I would suggest the opening of Berowra; that would give them a nice bit of meshing and hauling.

1589. Would you object to the river being opened as far as Mangrove Creek? That would destroy a lot of the nurseries of the fish up as far as Mangrove Creek.

1590. Are you aware that there is a great deal of water above Mangrove Creek? Yes; I fell in with the Secretary's views, that it should be opened from Colo up to Windsor.

1591. What is the distance between Mangrove and Colo? About 32 miles.

1592. Would you close that portion? I would leave that portion closed, and I would open the other parts so as to give the people up the river a supply of fresh fish.

1593. Do you not think that it would be better to open the whole of the river? No; because if you opened the river from Berowra up to Mangrove Creek, you would destroy the nurseries for fish, and you would have to incur the expense of an additional man to watch Mangrove Creek all the time, watching the people who live up there. They would have the best of it, while the fishermen, who have to make a living would have the worst of it, because the people up there would fish in the closed waters.

1594. Would you be in favour of opening the river from Wiseman's Ferry to Windsor? Yes; but I would close the Macdonald and Webb's Creek.

1595. *Chairman.*] Have you had a complaint brought under your notice that the contractors for the Hawkesbury Railway Bridge drove piles into the mud, which prevent the fishermen from using one of their best hauling-grounds? Yes; I attended to that matter. The contractors sent a man round with me, and they used dynamite to blow up the only piles I could find.

1596. *Mr. Howe.*] When you went trawling did you do so under instructions from the Commission, or was it an experiment of your own? The first time it was done with some of the Commissioners, Dr. Cox, Messrs. Hyam, and Hill; the second time it was done under myself.

1597. Are those the only occasions on which any attempt has been made in that direction? Some five or six years ago I believe they made one trip outside, but that is the only one I know of.

1598. Was that when the "Kate" was here? No; I think they went out in the "Ajax" or "Thetis."

1599. *Chairman.*] Have they still got those trawling-nets? Yes; I have got one, and I am going to take it south under instructions.

THURSDAY, 11 JULY, 1889.

Present:—

MR. FRANK FARNELL.

MR. STEVENSON,

MR. WILLIAM STEPHEN.

FRANK FARNELL, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. Henry Woodward called in and examined:—

1600. *Chairman.*] What is your occupation? I am everything in the oyster-line. I am a grower, lessec, retailer, and dealer.

1601. Have you had considerable experience in the fisheries of this Colony? For thirty years.

1602. Not alone in the fishing industry, but also in oyster-culture? Yes; a great deal within the last eight or nine years. It is eight or nine years ago since I began to try and cultivate oysters.

1603. During this time have you come into contact with a great number of fishermen? I know nothing whatever about fish and fishermen. My men have been buying fish for me for thirteen years, but I know nothing more about it.

1604. Where are the fish bought for you? At the Woolloomooloo market.

1605. Do you think the market is in the most suitable place? No; I think it would be much better on the Darling Harbour side. There it would be more central and more convenient.

1606. I suppose you know the fish-market well? I have been there three times.

1607. Have you ever been there in the morning when they have been selling fish? Yes.

1608. Do you think that the arrangements are satisfactory for the sale of fish? I do not think it is satisfactory, but I could not tell you how it could be improved. Unless they had stalls or flat tables, like they have at the Billingsgate Market.

1609. If, as stated to the Committee, the fish are thrown on the floor, that they are spat upon and trodden upon,

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- upon, do you not think that state of things could be remedied by having elevated tables at the market? Yes; that is what I say. The present method of selling fish is a very rough way in a town like this.
1610. Do you pay any commission to the auctioneer who sells the fish? No; only the sellers pay commission.
1611. As a rule do you obtain the best fish procurable in the market? Yes; nothing else would suit me. I only get them for the shops in King-street.
1612. Do you only sell fish at your shops? Yes; I do not sell fresh fish at all, only cooked fish.
1613. Have you had considerable experience in oyster-culture? Yes.
1614. Are you a very large lessee? Yes.
1615. How many thousand yards do you lease? I pay £600 a year as rent. In fact, I think I pay a little more, and the rent is £1 per 100 yards.
1616. Where are your leases situated? On six different rivers—the Clarence, the Manning, Wallis Lake, Port Stephens, Shoalhaven, the Clyde, and Moruya.
1617. Which do you consider to be the best river for oyster-culture? Wallis Lake. I believe that is the best in Australia, and I do not believe there is any better in the world.
1618. Have you obtained sufficient supplies from your oyster-beds for your shops in Sydney? No; not even for the shops.
1619. Have you had to import oysters? Yes.
1620. From New Zealand? Yes.
1621. Are the New Zealand oysters superior to ours? No. They bring 15s. as against £3 in Victoria, and 15s. for their best oysters as against £2 for our best in Sydney. That is at the present prices and with the present scarcity. There is no comparison between our oysters and theirs. I have some of our oysters now from the deep waters of Port Stephens, which are as good as I ever saw in this Colony. I am getting eight or nine bags per week from there.
1622. Has there not been a considerable decrease in the oysters on the beds of our rivers during the last three or four years, and how do you account for that? We have had no spawn. That is not an unusual thing. All over the world they go without spawning for some years—for ten or twelve years at a time. It is a common case in Europe that there is next to no spawn at all for years. Many Commissions have inquired into this very question. I have read a great deal lately on this question of the scarcity of oysters.
1623. Can you account for this want of spat? Nobody in the world can. All the great naturalists and zoologists say that there is no accounting for it.
1624. Have you been troubled with any disease in your oyster-beds? Yes, it has been very bad at Port Stephens.
1625. What is the nature of the disease? We have termed it the mud disease. A worm bores into the inner part of the shell and fills it up with black mud. Whether the worm makes the mud, or whether it comes in after the worm, I cannot state.
1626. Will not the late floods be the means of resuscitating the beds to some extent? It cannot do any good to the oysters who are touched with the disease already, but the fresh water has killed the worms. I know that fresh water is fatal to the worms. I have seen the worms taken out of the shell and put into fresh water and they have died instantly. I know that the fresh water now has penetrated to the deep water at the bottom of the rivers, and the oysters have become quite fresh.
1627. Do you not know of any other disease? No; this is the only disease I have heard of.
1628. Have you ever heard of an insect called the borer? This is it. It is called the Leucodore.
1629. Mr. Lindsay Thompson in giving his evidence described the worm disease and the borer as two distinct things. Have you never heard of the disease which is called the borer? There is what is called the boring sponge. That is a little bit of a sponge, and it appears that there is something inside of it or attached to it which bores into the oyster. Fresh water kills the sponges as well as the worms. I had some splendid beds at the Clarence River which were covered with the sponge till 1887, but that was cleared away altogether by the fresh water. A great naturalist was out here some time ago, and the Government asked him what should be done. He recommended that the Government should turn on a lot of fresh water. That was during the time of the worst drought, and he did not say where they were to get the water from.
1630. Do you think there could be any improvement made in the leasing system? I do not see how it could be done.
1631. Do you lease in large areas? They are not all large areas. In some places I have leases only 100 yards in length. Plenty of them are 2,000 yards in length.
1632. Do you find that you get as many oysters, comparatively speaking, from a lease of 100 yards as you do from a lease of 1,000 yards? We have got nothing at all from the leases. It has been a dead loss to us for the last five years since we took up the leases.
1633. Are the oysters pilfered from your beds? I do not think there is so much pilfering as people say. A lot of people cry out about their oysters being stolen, but I do not think they are stolen. A great many people deceive themselves as to the quantity they put down, and then they die off wholesale in the water. I read the other day that in Europe they reckoned that they lose six millions out of every seven millions they lay down.
1634. At the present time there is a royalty charged of 2s. for every bag of spat taken by lessees to be laid down. Does that encumber the lessee in any way? No; I wish I had as many as I could get at 2s. a bag. I paid the department a good deal of money last summer for collecting spat and putting it on some of the beds. 2s. would be nothing to pay for a sack of oysters, especially in places where, if they lived, they would grow into many bags. I think the Government ought to receive a large revenue by selling the spat at 2s. a sack off the Crown lands.
1635. Have you visited any other parts of the world where oyster-culture is carried on? No; I have been to Queensland, but there is nothing there but what we have here.
1636. You have visited the Parramatta River;—have you noticed that it is very difficult now to get a single oyster on that river? Yes; but it was just the same twelve years ago. It is owing to the fact that the river is given up to the public that there are no oysters there. You are aware that before an oyster is fit to eat the public will take it off, and they are allowed to do so.
1637. Do you think it would be a good provision to close the Parramatta River and the Hawkesbury River for three years? I do not think you could ever manage to do so with the large population. There was a time when the river was closed many years ago, but the oysters were taken just the same as they are now.

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1638. Do you suffer from people pilfering your oysters on the different rivers? I do not think I lose many. There are some rivers where there is nothing to lose; they could not rob me. That is the case on the Manning River.

1639. What is the most suitable ground for oyster-culture? Clean stones, jack-stones, or any hard substance. At Cape Hawke the ground is all composed of cockle-shells. That is a very good place.

1640. How long does it take an oyster to be eatable from the time of spat? If it is a nice rainy season oysters will be of full marketable size in twelve months. If there are dry seasons such as we have had of late years they will hang on and neither grow, breed, nor do anything else for any length of time. It is wonderful how they grow when the conditions are favourable. We had all the oysters in the Clarence River destroyed two years ago last February, and none of us have had any oysters from the river since, but they are now becoming marketable.

1641. What was the cause of that? The floods, beyond all doubt. There came first of all a very heavy flood. I am sure they would have lived through that only two or three weeks. Afterwards there came another tremendous flood. Soon afterwards the Government tested the river all over in the most sensible way. They dredged right across the river and took up the oysters. You could easily see the oysters which had recently died and those which were alive; 84 per cent. were dead, and I really believe that the remaining 16 per cent. died afterwards. I have known the floods to frequently kill the oysters in the rivers.

1642. At the same time, if the floods are moderate, they resuscitate the beds? Yes; it does them a world of good. I got a letter from one of my men at Shoalhaven this morning in which he tells me that the young oysters are getting on first rate this season. I suppose that is since the rain came on. Oysters never do any good unless we have had plenty of rain. All I got off that river last year were fifty-eight sacks of oysters, and they cost me over £200 for rent and wages. I lost £300 on this river last year. I put down 300 sacks of oysters from Sydney to lay them on the beds, and I got about one back.

1643. Have you ever tried to cultivate the New Zealand oysters? Yes, plenty of them.

1644. Did you do so successfully? No. The most successful place was on some very shallow rocky places at the Manning River. I sent out seventy sacks there last year, and I got forty-seven bags out of them. I sent 298 bags to Cape Hawke, and I got back seventy-five. I sent 300 to Shoalhaven, and I got 100 from there.

1645. What was the size of the oysters when you sent them? A very fair size—larger than we are allowed to take them by law.

1646. I suppose the object was to give them the opportunity of spawning and increasing? Yes. I have a few now at Shoalhaven. I have sent a lot down to the Clarence this year. I got one of my men to send up a bag a few weeks ago, but they were nothing but black skin and water. A man named Comino has a lease opposite to mine on the Manning River, and he put down 1,480 sacks of oysters, and he only got a little over 400 out of the lot. The rest died.

1647. *Mr. Stephen.*] To whom do you pay your oyster-rents? To the Treasury.

1648. Then it is not paid to the Fisheries Commission? No.

1649. Has the Fisheries Commission anything to do with the supervision of the oyster-fisheries? Yes; they have to supervise the fisheries. The worst of it is that they do not supervise them. They seem to have thrown us up.

1650. And the revenue derived from the oyster-culture is not received by the Fisheries Commission? It is counted to their credit.

1651. To all intents and purposes it is part of their income? Certainly.

1652. How long will oysters remain good for eating after they have been taken from the bed? In winter-time, or when it is cold, six or eight weeks, or even longer. In summer-time, at the longest, it might be a fortnight.

1653. Have you to feed them by artificial means during that time? Nobody can feed an oyster. They talk about doing so in Europe, but I do not believe it is possible.

1654. After you take the oysters from your premises will they remain fresh and eatable without deterioration for the number of days you have mentioned? No; they cannot be as good as when they are fresh. The liquor inside of them tastes stagnant, and I am sure would eventually kill them.

1655. Have you heard of people attempting to feed oysters by putting oatmeal in the water? Yes; but I feel certain that is impossible. When they are in season they want no fattening; and when they are out of season I do not think that anything on the face of the earth could fatten an oyster.

1656. What is the best season of the year for oysters? The bulk of our oysters come at the end of September, earlier or later, according to rainfall, and they go out about April. We have one purely winter fishery in this country, that is at the Koruya River, Port Stephens. That is the only real winter fishery. They come into season in May, and they go out of season in November.

1657. Are there various kinds of oysters on the coast and in the rivers? Yes. I am quite certain that the oysters in this country have yet to be classified. They are nothing like the European or American oysters. If they are found outside I am certain they will be found to be different altogether, and I think I could describe the kind of oyster that would be found. All the deep-water oysters that we have in the rivers are rounder than those taken off the shores in shallow water. They approach more in shape to the European oyster; but they are thicker, and ours have hard shells. In America they are similar to ours; they are longer than they are broad, and they have hard shells.

1658. Are the oysters known by any particular names for the different kinds? No; I believe they will have to be classified and named.

1659. Is any particular kind of oyster more liable to disease than the others? All the oysters in Port Stephens have been touched with the disease from the shore down to the deep-water. I have had oysters obtained from 40 feet of water. I have a diving apparatus there, and the divers get oysters regularly.

1660. Which oysters are the most liable to worm disease? All kinds are liable to it. We have had the disease in the Hawkesbury, and in the Hunter it is dreadful.

1661. Are rock-oysters liable to it the same as the drift-oysters? Yes.

1662. You say that you have never been in Europe, that you have never visited any of the European oyster-culture grounds; in that case, how did you obtain the information in your pamphlet on the subject? I had a magnificent work to read and quote from. I was able to take the scientific knowledge and apply it to my practical knowledge.

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1663. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Do you know the Commissioners pretty well? I have spoken perhaps fifty times to Dr. Cox, and the same to Mr. Oliver. I think I have spoken twice to Mr. Hill, and I think twice to Dr. Ramsay.

1664. Did you ever recommend anyone for employment to the Commissioners? No.

1665. Do you know whether there is anyone employed by the Commissioners who was formerly in your employ? Yes; there is a man named Curran, at Newcastle, who worked for me at one time by the day, but he was not my servant. A. Gylter, at the Manning, worked for a company I was a partner in.

1666. Did you recommend him for employment? No.

1667. Was he employed on any ground where you have leases? No; I have no lease on the Hunter River, where he is.

1668. I understand that you are not a practical oysterman, but that you obtained your information by reading? I have had more practice at it than any man in Australia. I left Sydney for thirteen months and lived at Wallis Lake cultivating oysters. I left my business in Sydney to look after itself in order to do so.

1669. Do you think that the present Fisheries Commission is the best way of carrying out the Fisheries Act? I think it would be better to carry out the work under one head. I believe that anything of that description would be better managed by one man.

1670. Do any of the Commissioners ever visit your leases? Yes; Mr. Oliver visited three of the rivers this time twelve months.

1671. He is the man who interests himself most in the fisheries. What places did he visit? Wallis Lake, Manning River, and Camden Haven.

1671½. Can you say who paid his expenses on that occasion? I do not know anything about that, but I suppose the Government did. I now remember what he went there for. I wrote a long letter about opening some of the old mouths of the lakes so as to let the sea water in. The Commissioners I suppose thought it was possible to do so. I wrote specially about Wallis Lake. Mr. Oliver went down there and took a surveyor with him to see if it was possible to open it to the sea. They measured off the ground, and they came to the conclusion that it was not possible.*

1672. *Mr. Stephen.*] Is the lake closed at any season of the year? It is never open. It is totally closed up, and there is bush growing between it and the sea. I think there is about 120 yards of land between it and the sea.

1673. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Do you know of your own knowledge that Mr. Oliver or any of the other Commissioners has visited the oyster leases besides those you have named? Mr. Oliver goes away in his yacht and knocks about many of the rivers. I do not think that any of the other Commissioners have ever been away. Mr. Oliver really has a practical knowledge of it. He has been pottering over oysters for any number of years on his own foreshore at Shell Cove. He has got a large foreshore there, and he has bought oysters from me several times to lay down there to see if they would do any good.

1674. *Mr. Stephen.*] You believe that the Oyster Fisheries Commission would be much better managed under one head? Yes; I think it would be better managed, if it were under one man who could take something on himself, being responsible at the same time to the Minister of the department.

1675. *Chairman.*] Do you think that the present system of leasing is a very good one? Yes. I do not see that it could be improved.†

1676. Do you remember the time when you wrote condemning the system of leasing the oyster-beds? Never in my life. I was one of the old lessees.

1677. Do you remember the time when my late father brought in a Bill dealing with the oyster-culture? Yes, very well. I was examined before him.

1678. A royalty was then imposed on oysters of 3s. a bag? We had nothing to do with that.

1679. Do you remember writing at that time? Yes; I was always writing, and before I knew what I was writing about.

1680. *Mr. Stephen.*] You think that the imposition of a royalty was not fair? Yes; we pay an enormous rent, and as far as I am concerned I have been paying it for nothing for years. I have lost over £5,000 since this Act came into force in paying rent and wages and in endeavouring to cultivate oysters. Another lessee on the Hunter River has lost over £2,000 on that one river.

1681. Do you think that the abolition of royalty on our own oysters is much better for the cultivation of oysters here than to impose a duty on imported oysters? I am a protectionist. I am a great believer in protection. If we ever pass protection here I shall do my best to have a duty imposed upon oysters. At the present time, however, I would not propose that, because we really require imported oysters in the country. Our beds are not sufficiently productive at present, and it is a blessing to the people that these oysters do come in from New Zealand.

1682. *Chairman.*] Suppose we had a dearth of oysters such as we have now, would you advocate the imposition of a duty on imported oysters? No; I would not put a penny on them. That would be putting it on our own people.

1683. *Mr. Stephen.*] That is not answering what I want to find out. I want to know if it would be more beneficial for the cultivation of oysters in New South Wales to have a royalty charged in connection with a duty, or to have no duty and no royalty, so as to have free trade in all ways? I would sooner have it free trade at present until our rivers get properly stocked, as I believe they will. If I did not believe that that was the case, I would not pay £300 in rent which I will have to do in a day or so. I am sure the rivers will all come round again, and then we will have no reason to fear opposition from New Zealand. The oysters from there will not fetch a penny against our oysters.

1684. That is provided you are not handicapped with a royalty? Yes; it would not be fair to put on a royalty. One half of our oysters will go to Victoria, and then we will be handicapped at the rate of 3s. a bag, because there is no royalty charged on oysters in Victoria.

1685. *Chairman.*] Then it has been a saving to you to have the royalty abolished? I have had no oysters for a long time, and if I did get a few it would be very hard to charge me 3s. for a bag.

1686. But the abolition of the royalty would be a saving to you in the future? Yes. 1687.

* NOTE (on revision):—Mr. Oliver went to Wallis Lake to see was it possible to open a passage to the sea. He took his own boat there, boatman, and a surveyor. He inspected that fishery and two others thoroughly. I suppose he reported on them, but I never saw the report, nor did he ever tell me what it was. I do not know what his expenses were, nor who paid them.

† NOTE (on revision):—It would be better for the country to lease the whole of the beds in a river to one man.

1687. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Where are your principal oyster-beds on the Clarence? I have four-fifths of the Clarence River beds. I have the whole of the lake beds, and I have never made a penny out of them. I pay £43 a year for them. When I was up there last October and November, one of my men gave me an oyster from one of the lake beds, and it was as bitter as gall. I am certain that the water about the lake is more salty than it is in the ocean. There was no rainfall for a great length of time and the lake was like an evaporating pan. The vapour goes up in the air, and the brine sinks to the bottom of the lake. The Manning River has had no oysters since we took up the lease. It is too salty.

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1688. What is the Shoalhaven like? All those rivers when we got them were cleared out under what is known as the licensing system. That was especially the case with the good rivers where the licensees went.

1689. *Mr. Stephen.*] Which do you consider is the best for oyster-culture—where the tide ebbs and flows, or where there is no ebb and flow? No oysters will grow where there is no current. Culture has been a dead failure in Europe. They have opened up all the places they made to the ocean water.

1690. Then you consider where there is an ebb and flow that is the best place for oyster-culture? Yes, if there is a current.

Mr. Richard Hellings called in, sworn, and examined:—

1691. *Chairman.*] What position do you hold under the Fisheries Commission? Boatman.

1692. How long have you been in the service? Seven years last month.

1693. Are you the chief boatman? Yes.

1694. What are your duties? I have general charge of the boats, and I assist Inspector Mulhall.

1695. Have you a good deal to do with the arrangements in the fish-market in the morning? We have nothing to do with the arrangements. We only look after the small fish.

1696. How many boats have you in Sydney? Only one.

1697. Were you in the department in any other capacity before you took your present position? No.

1698. What were you before you joined the service? I had charge of yachts for twenty-five or twenty-six years.

1699. Have you had experience of fishing? Not a great deal in this country; but I had in England.

1700. Have you heard the fishermen on many occasions complain? Yes, very often.

1701. Have you heard them complain of the bad arrangements for the disposal and sale of their fish at the market? Yes.

1702. Have you ever heard them complain of their consignments of fish having reached the market much less in quantity than when they were originally sent? Yes, repeatedly.

1703. How do you account for the pilfering? I can scarcely tell you that; but I can give you an instance which shows how difficult it is to find out: For three or four months I was down at Lake Macquarie doing duty for Inspector Boyd, who was sick. When I was coming back to Sydney I got a nice lot of fish from one of the fishermen, which were put on a string and placed in one of the fishermen's baskets. I went round with the fish in a small steamer to Newcastle. I saw the whole of the fish taken out of the small steamer and put into the Newcastle boat. I came up in the steamer to Sydney, and I marked the basket in which my fish were with a string tied to the handle. I saw the fish taken out of the steamer and put into the carts which took them to the fish-market, and I travelled in one of the carts in which my fish were. When we arrived at the market we opened the basket so that I could get my fish, but my string of fish was gone, and one-third of the fish that were in the basket was also gone. They must have been taken on board of the steamer.

1704. Do you think the markets are unsuitable for the public as well as the fishermen? I think it is rather on one side of the town for the general public.

1705. Do you think it would be a good idea to have a depôt for the fish at Darling Harbour as well as at Woolloomooloo? I think it would be more central to have it somewhere about the Redfern Railway Station. You could not use the Darling Harbour water for the fish, although water might be laid on there.

1706. Have they no elevated tables at the Woolloomooloo fish-markets such as they have at other places? No.

1707. Are the fish simply thrown on the floor? Yes.

1708. Is there any protection such as a railing to protect the fish from damage and to keep the public off? No.

1709. Then it is quite possible, as has been stated to this Committee, that the fish are often trodden on and spat upon? Yes, that is the fact. I think that Mr. Seymour and his assistants do all that they can to avoid that, but of course they cannot watch everyone.

1710. I suppose that the persons who go to the market are rather of a rough class? Yes. The majority of them are.

1711. I suppose that there is not the slightest doubt that a lot of the bruised fish which are spat upon are sold to the people in the suburbs and the city? Yes.

1712. Have you ever heard any of the fishermen complain that the provisions of the Fishery Act bear harshly upon them? Yes, frequently.

1713. In what respect? Generally in respect to the closed waters.

1714. Do you ever hear them complain as to the mesh of the net? Not so much as to the mesh as to the length of the net.

1715. Do they think that the length of the net is not sufficient? Yes.

1716. How do you account for the decrease in the amount of fish in the Parramatta River of late years? I do not know that there is a decrease in the fish. Until the very heavy rain of a few weeks ago all the bays were teeming with fish.

1717. *Mr. Stephen.*] Who has charge of the arrangements for the sale of fish in the market? Mr. Seymour has full charge.

1718. Does he make what arrangements he thinks fit? Yes.

1719. Do you think that the arrangements are satisfactory? As far as the sale of fish is concerned, I think they are.

1720. Do you think that the accommodation is sufficient for the sale of the fish as human food? No. If the fish could be put away from where the people walk it would be a great deal better than at present.

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1721. Do you think it would be an improvement to have a sufficient number of elevated slab tables? Yes, it would be a great improvement.
1722. Do you think that the cost of making the necessary improvements would be very great? Yes.
1723. Are the arrangements at the market satisfactory generally to the fishermen and the purchasers? Yes, but I have heard them complain.
1724. Would the market which you suggest should be established at Redfern be in addition to the present market? Yes. The fish could then be disposed of in a fresher condition. At present a very large quantity of fish come by rail, and, of course, if there was a market at Redfern there would not be so much cartage.
1725. Do you think that a market at Redfern would be in the best position for the fish coming to town from north and south? Yes.
1726. Why? Because there is a great quantity of fish coming in by rail now, and there would be still more in future.
1727. *Chairman.*] Are there not a great quantity of fish brought in by small steamers which heave to at the wharves at Darling Harbour, and would it not be desirable to have a fish-market at Darling Harbour, where those fish could be sent? The most of the fish that come to Darling Harbour are brought by the Newcastle steamers, and I do not think it will be long before they all come by rail. Most of the fish that is brought by the Newcastle steamers come from Port Stephens and Lake Macquarie. A great deal of the Lake Macquarie fish comes by rail, and I believe that a great deal more of it will come in future.
1728. *Mr. Stephen.*] Does the fish that is brought by fishermen in their own boats go to Woolloomooloo? Yes.
1729. *Mr. Stevenson.*] In speaking of establishing a fish-market at Redfern, where would you propose to put it? I only mean that it would be desirable to have it in that vicinity.
1730. Do you mean in the vicinity of Redfern or in the vicinity of the railway? Near the railway.
1731. Are you aware that the trains go right down to Darling Harbour? I know that wood and that sort of thing is taken down there.
1732. If there was a fish-market there, could not the trains be taken right down? No trains do come down the Sydney side where the steamers land their fish.
1733. I am not asking about that. You say that the fish comes by rail. Would it not be more convenient than putting the fish out at Redfern to take it to some depôt at Darling Harbour? I do not know much about the locality. What made me suggest Redfern was because I thought it would be more central, and because Redfern is the terminus.
1734. *Mr. Stephen.*] In the event of a market being established at Redfern, would that prevent a second handling or a carting of the fish? Yes, if the fish-market were placed close to the railway.
1735. *Mr. Stevenson.*] What do you call Redfern? I am referring to the Redfern Railway Station.
1736. If you had a second depôt would you refer to have it in the neighbourhood and not in Redfern itself? No; I mean close to the railway.
1737. *Mr. Stephen.*] Would you have it where a siding could go into the market, so that the fish might be deposited there? Yes; the great thing would be to save handling the fish.
1738. If the fish were brought down to Darling Harbour would they have to be carted to a market? Yes; at present they would.
1739. *Mr. Stevenson.*] When your fish was stolen from the steamer when coming from Newcastle to the market, did you make representations to anyone? No; it is too common an occurrence.
1740. Has any action been taken by the Commissioners to prevent this wholesale pilfering? Not that I am aware of.
1741. Can you suggest any means of stopping it? Not unless there was an inspector or someone of that kind to take charge of the fish, who would never lose sight of it from the time it left the fishermen till it arrived at the market.
1742. *Chairman.*] Could there not be a system adopted by which the baskets could be locked or sealed? The present system of sending open baskets to the market is a very loose one. In England the baskets are packed up, they are covered with straw, the lid goes over that, and they are properly fastened. Here they only put a little bit of string on each side of the basket. The string can be easily loosened and tied up again.
1743. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Do you attend the market every morning? Yes.
1744. How often does Mr. Mulhall buy fish at the market? There was one time when he used to buy fish every morning. That was the time when he used to get fish for the Exhibition.
1745. Do you sometimes buy fish? Very seldom.
1746. *Mr. Stephen.*] Do you ever buy fish on commission for people who use it? No.
1747. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Does Mr. Mulhall buy fish at auction? Yes; I have seen him purchase fish.
1748. Do you know what he does with that fish? No, I do not, but I think he takes it home.
1749. Do you or Mr. Mulhall ever purchase fish and take it to the Commissioners? I do not purchase any; Mr. Mulhall does; that is for the president, Dr. Cox.
1750. Who pays for that fish? Mr. Mulhall pays for it in the market.
1751. Does he buy it at auction or from the baskets? Sometimes he buys it one way and sometimes the other. Sometimes there is such a crush there that you have to be very smart to get in to buy fish. Sometimes Mr. Mulhall arranges with an agent and says he will take a certain heap of fish at whatever price the same sort of fish is sold for at auction.
1752. Does the auctioneer sell the fish in lots, with the right to take one or more lots? That is not always the case. Very often there are ten or twelve heaps in a row of the same sort of fish. Sometimes the auctioneer says you can have one of the lots; at other times he will sell several heaps in one lot. As a rule the heaps of fish are sold separately.
1753. Do you or Mulhall ever get fish free at the market? Yes.
1754. How do you manage it;—do the fishermen make a present of it to you? Yes.
1755. What do you do with that fish;—do you take it to the Commissioners? No. I do not know what Mr. Mulhall does with his, but I take mine home and eat it.
1756. Do you remember an illegal net being seized which was being used by one of the Commissioners? No.
1757. Do you remember a net having been seized while it was in the possession of Mr. Hill, one of the Commissioners? No.

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1758. Were you not present when that net was seized? I never knew that Mr. Hill had a net seized.
 1759. *Chairman.*] Did Mr. Knox have a net seized? Yes.
 1760. Were you present when that was seized? No.
 1761. Do you recollect the circumstance of the seizure? I know that the net was seized by Inspector Quinan.
 1762. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Have you ever had any practical experience in fishing? I have done very little fishing here, but I had practical experience in England.
 1763. Do you know whether Mr. Mulhall ever made his living by fishing? I do not know, but he has not since I have known him.
 1764. With reference to prosecutions which have taken place in the Sydney District, which of the inspectors have brought most cases—generally speaking? I cannot say for certain, but my opinion is that for twelve months or so Inspector Smithers had the most cases.
 1765. Is he not a district inspector? He is not located in Sydney. I believe they call him travelling inspector.
 1766. Do you think he has had more prosecutions in and about Sydney than Mr. Mulhall has had? Not, taking them altogether; I was referring to a certain time extending over twelve or eighteen months after Mr. Smithers first came up to Sydney. Of late he has not been in Sydney.
 1767. But since he has been here he has had a great many prosecutions? Yes.
 1768. How do you account for that being the case, seeing that Mr. Mulhall has had full control over the whole of the Sydney waters? I account for it in this way: Mr. Mulhall is a man who is well known. Mr. Smithers, when he came here was a perfect stranger. Even in the day-time he could go up to a man who was doing wrong, and he would not know anything about Mr. Smithers until he told him whom he was.
 1769. Is not most of the illegal fishing carried on at night? Yes.
 1770. How could they know one man more readily than another at night? Even at night you could see a man and know him at a considerable distance.
 1771. Is it not more likely that the difference can be accounted for by the fact that one man's eyesight is better than another's? Mr. Mulhall's eyesight is not so good as it used to be, but he very seldom trusts to his own sight. It is a rare thing for him to be out in a boat without me if he has nobody else with him.
 1772. Have you had any experience in trawling? Yes; I served my time at it.
 1773. Have you any certificate? No; there were no certificates in those days. It is many years ago.
 1774. *Chairman.*] How old are you? 59 years.
 1775. How many men are there assisting with the boats? One besides myself and the engineer of the launch.
 1776. Do you ever use the launch? Yes.
 1777. How often? She was laid up for twelve months, and we only got her out during the last three or four months.
 1778. Is she safe to go to Port Hacking, Broken Bay, or any of those places? She would be in fine weather.

TUESDAY, 16 JULY, 1889.

Present:—

MR. FRANK FARNELL,	MR. O'SULLIVAN,
MR. HOWE,	MR. SEAVER,
MR. RITCHIE,	MR. STEVENSON.
MR. WILLIAM STEPHEN.	

FRANK FARNELL, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Frederick Nelson called in, sworn, and examined:—

1779. *Chairman.*] What position do you hold? Acting assistant inspector under the Fisheries Act.
 1780. Do you hold any other position in the Government Service? I am Senior-constable of Police at Bungendore.
 1781. Are your duties confined to the waters of Lake George? Yes.
 1782. How long have you held that position? Since 12th June, 1885.
 1783. Are you the only officer in the Fisheries Department there? Yes.
 1784. Had you any previous experience in connection with the fisheries of the Colony? Not previous to my appointment, except practical knowledge of the fresh water fish.
 1785. Do you know Lake Bathurst? Yes.
 1786. Are there any fish there? Yes.
 1787. When did it become known to you that there were fish there? About 1865. I knew of my own knowledge that they were put in there.
 1788. Are you sure that there are any fish there now? Not of my own knowledge, but I do from hearsay.
 1789. Do you know any reason why they should not be there as well as in Lake George? No.
 1790. What sort of fish are in Lake George? Codfish.
 1791. Are there any other sort? Yes; I believe there are a few perch, but it is a very rare thing to catch any. During last summer, I think, there were two perch caught.
 1792. Do you often visit Lake George? Yes; sometimes two or three times a week.
 1793. What is the nature of your duties? To see that breaches of the Fisheries Act are not committed, to see that proper nets are used, to report on breaches of the Act to the Commission, and so on.
 1794. Have you any power to prosecute without reference to the Commission? No; I first report to the Commission, and on receipt of authority I prosecute.
 1795. What is the area of the waters? About 20 miles by 11; that is, at present. When the lake is full to its usual level it is a great deal more. I suppose it is then about 25 miles in length.
 1796. Are the fish very plentiful there? During last season I think there were less fish caught than there were during several years previously, but that was owing to the people not regularly fishing.

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1797. Is there much fish taken out of Lake George? During last summer there was about 1,386 lb. weight taken out.
1798. Where does that fish go to? It is principally sold about Bungendore, Queanbeyan, and Braidwood.
1799. Is any of it sent to Sydney? Yes; some is sent to Sydney, some to Goulburn, and in fact all parts of the Colony. It seems to be rather a choice thing for people to get fish of that kind in Sydney.
1800. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] How long have there been fish in Lake George? I think it is about eighteen years since they were first discovered.
1801. Were they not put in by Sir Terence Aubrey Murray? He first stocked the ponds on the Windereeden Estate; that was before my time.
1802. Did he not also stock Lake George? The ponds of the Windereeden Estate flow into Lake George, and that is how the lake got stocked.
1803. Is not that about thirty-five years ago? Yes, about that time.
1804. I suppose the supply of fish there never fails? No, it was reported that through net-fishing the lake was becoming exhausted of fish, but from inquiries I made I found that such was not the case, and that net-fishing was not detrimental to the supply. However the lake does not appear to be so plentifully stocked with fish during the last year as it was two or three years previously.
1805. To what cause do you attribute the decline? The lake is very boisterous, the wind has a very great effect on it, and consequently I think the spawn is destroyed. During the last two or three years the lake has dried up, and the fish were not able to get up from the lake to the Deep Creek. That is a very fine creek, but at the mouth it is shallow, and owing to the dry season the fish could not get up there.
1806. Is that known as Butmaroo Creek? Yes, it is known by that name higher up.
1807. Do you think that the law as it stands at present is sufficient to protect the fish from anything like indiscriminate destruction? So far as the Act is concerned I think it affords protection enough, but I think fish might be cultivated there. I think the fish might be increased by closing the lake for twelve months, and other kinds of fish might be put into Deep Creek.
1808. What would then become of the occupation of the fishermen? Of course that would be affected.
1809. Would you close a portion of the lake? No, I do not think it would be desirable to close any portion. The whole should be closed.
1810. Are there many fishermen up there? There is only one fisherman there at present who devotes the whole of his time to it.
1811. Do you think that the lake ought to be closed for a period of at least twelve months? I represented that to the Commissioners on one or two occasions, but they did not agree to my recommendation.
1812. What other kinds of fish do you think would flourish there? I think that if perch and bream were put in the creeks they would supply the lake.
1813. What sort of fish are caught in the Molonglo and Queanbeyan River? Perch and Murray cod.
1814. Do they not catch a kind of fresh water bream there? I believe some has been caught there. Bream was put in the Queanbeyan River and in other parts of the district by Mr. Gale, who brought them from Melbourne, but I do not know that any of them have been caught.
1815. Did he not also bring over some salmon? Yes.
1816. Have you any idea whether they are flourishing or not? I have heard that they are. So far as the other fish are concerned in the Murrumbidgee, the Queanbeyan, and the Molonglo Rivers a great deal of fish have appeared during the last twelve months.
1817. Do you think that if Lake George were stocked with Murray cod and other fish it is likely that they could be brought down to Sydney and anything like a trade could be created? Yes; provided that men who understood the business undertook the fishing. I do not think that proper appliances are used at present for fishing.
1818. How do they fish? They use nets, but they do not seem to fish properly out on the lake. The principal fish are caught by placing the nets partly across Deep Creek or wholly across it when they get the chance.
1819. You say that about 1,300 lb. weight of fish was caught last year—what was the size of those fish? From 8 lb. up to 50 lb.
1820. Has it ever come under your notice that the public are obstructed in fishing around the shores of the lake? The owners of the land around the lake have objected to fishermen landing there.
1821. Do they interfere with them at all on the Crown lands around the lake? Not that I am aware of.
1822. Have they quite recently stopped parties from fishing off some of the points on the Crown reserves there? Not that I am aware of. Mr. P. H. Osborne owns Currandooley.
1823. Is he not represented by Mr. Atkinson? Yes.
1824. Has he ever interfered with people on Crown lands? I am not in a position to say that he has turned people off Crown lands, but he claims the land on behalf of Mr. Osborne.
1825. Did he not turn off Mr. Carruthers, the present Minister for Education? Yes.
1826. What area above high water-mark do you consider is Crown land around Lake George? I am not in a position to say. It seems to be a matter of dispute whether the Currandooley Estate runs below high water-mark or not. Ten years ago when I first went to Bungendore the lake extended for half a mile or three-quarters of a mile higher up on the land than it does now.
1827. What do you consider to be the high water-mark on Lake George? I consider that it should extend to the high water-mark of ten years ago. I do not think that even that was the highest mark.
1828. Do the proprietors of Currandooley Estate contend that they go below that? Yes. The water has receded for a quarter of a mile or half a mile, and they claim that their estate goes to the edge of the water. I remember a time when the lake was partly dry, and they claimed it just the same then.
1829. Do they persist in claiming that their estates run out to high water-mark, no matter where it is? Yes; so far as I know.
1830. Is that the reason why they turn people off the Crown lands? I think so. Of course I do not know that they have turned people off Crown lands, but they have turned people off land which they claim.
1831. Have you ever heard of their turning people off the reserve at Deep Creek? There is a large reserve of about 400 or 600 acres there, but the public have no access to it.
1832. Why not? There is no access except by boat up Deep Creek, and that is not navigable.
1833. Is there no road to it? No; the old road which used to lead on to it is closed, and a new road has been made in lieu of it.

William Nicholas Cain called in, sworn, and examined :—

1834. *Chairman.*] What position do you hold in connection with the Fisheries Act? Assistant inspector. I have to look after Tuggerah Lakes and Brisbane Water.

1835. How long have you held that position? Five years in December.

1836. Had you any experience of Fisheries before you joined the Service? Yes; I was a fisherman at home, and in this country.

1837. Have you taken a great interest in Fisheries? Yes.

1838. Do you consider that the provisions of the Fisheries Act have applied justly, and have given satisfaction to the people who carry on their callings as fishermen? No; there is plenty of room for improvement.

1839. Have you at any time made any recommendations to the Commission with a view to remedying alleged defects in the Fisheries Act? Yes; I represented to Dr. Cox that the fishermen complained that the length of 300 yards for the nets they used on Tuggerah Lakes was not sufficient. I represented to him that it would be just as well to let them use nets of 400 or 500 yards in length, provided they were of the lawful mesh. It is just as well to let them make one haul as two or three.

1840. Have you had many cases brought under your notice where nets of an unlawful mesh were used? Yes, several; and I have also detected them using nets of an unlawful length. That has given rise to many rows with the men.

1841. In carrying out your duties have you been obliged to seize those nets? Yes; but since then I have got a tell-tale which tells the weight of the fish. If when the boats arrive I see that there are a great many small fish, I weigh them. That saves a lot of trouble in chasing about after the men. All my duty is to see that the fishermen do not destroy small fish, and I believe that the men do not intend to destroy more small fish than they can possibly help.

1842. When a net has once been passed as being of the legal mesh, do you not think that it should always be considered legal? No; when it is tanned it gets smaller. They make an allowance for that when they obtain the nets first.

1843. Do you think that as a rule it would be better to have a provision for punishing people who catch small fish, instead of being so particular as to the mesh of the net? Yes. When I first visited Tuggerah Lakes I found fifteen baskets of small fish covered up with sea-weed. Those were caught with unlawful nets. The men who used those nets said, "When old Cain and the policeman comes we will give them a piece of lead." I seized their net and took it to Gosford.

1844. Then the main source of complaint by the fishermen is that the net is not of sufficient length? Yes; in some places they would not want more than 300 yards, but in Tuggerah Lakes 300 yards is of no use.

1845. What did you do with the nets which you seized? I forwarded them to the head office in Sydney.

1846. What was done with them? They were sold. I got my compensation for my work, and the rest of the money went to the Treasury.

1847. Do you get a certain percentage for seizing? Yes.

1848. Do you know whether it is likely that any of the nets sold went back to be used again in the Tuggerah Lakes? The men who owned the net at the top of the Lake asked me to intercede so that they might get their net back. I said that I should recommend that every man should have his lawful length of 300 yards returned to him, but that anything over that ought to be confiscated.

1849. Was this particular net of an unlawful length? Yes.

1850. Do you know whether any portion of the net was returned to the man? He got 300 yards back.

1851. Did the Commission retain the other part? Yes; I believe they did.

1852. What was the length of the net? Over 600 yards.

1853. Have you any assistant down there? No. At first my son used to help me, but he got no allowance so I could not keep him. I now have to pull my boat about myself.

1854. What salary do they give you? £150 a year. I get no allowance for house-rent, and no travelling expenses are allowed to me except a railway pass. I have to look after two boats. I have to look after the oyster leases at Brisbane Water. I have to measure the leases and do the principal work.

1855. Are there many fishermen's licenses issued there? During the last six or seven weeks there are thirty at Tuggerah Lakes. I carry the application forms in my pocket. When I come across three or four men I ask them for their licenses. They may say that they have been to the office and that they could not get the license. I supply them with a form of application and get them to sign it. I take the money to the Police Magistrate, at Gosford. He forwards the money on to the head office and gets the license down.

1856. Do you not think that it would facilitate matters and be more convenient for the fishermen if you had power to issue those licenses without sending on to Sydney? Yes. It is no good for me to take out a police constable to give those men in charge. By speaking to them softly I can get many of them to sign an application and the license will be sent out to them. If the license were not sent to them they could easily complain to the head office, so that there would be sufficient check on the receipt of the money.

1857. Have you had any complaints made as to the unnecessary closing of waters? No.

1858. Have the waters which you have control over been closed? Part of them have. The Wyong Creek at the entrance has been closed, but it is open now for a width of $\frac{1}{2}$ mile. Seven weeks ago the fishermen wanted to have the entrance to the Lakes opened; but that would have cost £50 or £60, and I told them to wait a little longer. The last gale took all the sand away, and the entrance is now $\frac{1}{2}$ mile wide. The water is 3 feet deep at the entrance, and it was only 10 inches deep in summer time. Before this happened the fish used to lie on each side of the shallow parts trying to get in.

1859. Would it not be better to give the local inspectors power to determine which waters should be closed and which waters should be left open, rather than leave it to the decision of the Commissioners? Yes.

1860. Have any of the Commissioners visited the Tuggerah Lakes? None, except Dr. Cox. He was there once last November, I think.

1861. Where did Dr. Cox go to? He went to the entrance of the Lake. He went 4 miles from Wyong right across.

1862. What sort of fish do they catch at Tuggerah Lakes? All kinds of fish since it has been opened. A lot of strange fish have come in: mullet, gar-fish, and bream are the chief fish.

1863.

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1863. How is the fish sent to Sydney? It is carried from Wyong to the railway station, and from there to Sydney.

1864. Did it previously come by water? Yes.

1865. Does much fish come from there? The last account I think was over 1,000 baskets. On an average there are thirty-four men working there. They require six baskets each per week to make it pay, so that would give 204 baskets a week.

1866. Are you aware that it is a source of complaint on the part of the fishermen that the fish-market at Woolloomooloo is not worked satisfactorily? I have often heard complaints on that subject by the fishermen.

1867. Do they complain that their consignments are very much reduced when they reach Sydney? Yes; it is a great shame and it ought to be stopped. I have heard several complaints about that.

1868. Have you had any experience with regard to oyster-culture? Yes.

1869. Are there many oyster leases in your district? The oyster leases in Brisbane water want improving very much. A man may have an oyster lease and his next neighbour, who takes up 100 yards, may have a family of seven or eight children. The Act says plainly that anyone can take a peck of oysters. This man's family can go on to Crown land and take as many oysters as they please and put them on their own lease. That cannot be stopped.

1870. Do you think that the Act is defective in that respect? Yes; it wants a great deal of improving. If it is not soon stopped there will not be any oysters in New South Wales. About 60 bags of New Zealand oysters were put down in different parts of Brisbane Water, and if we get a supply from them it will be a very good thing.

1871. Has there been a dearth of oysters in your district for some considerable time? The only oyster in deep water is the cross oyster; the oystermen get them with nets. As for the other oysters there are none fit to eat except on the lessees' ground.

1872. Have you heard anything of a disease amongst the oysters? There is no disease amongst the oysters there.

1873. With reference to the leasing system, do you not think it would be better for the side of a river, or a creek, or a tributary to be leased to one man instead of allowing a man to take up a lease of 100 yards or several leases of that area? I do not approve of the present system at all.

1874. Have you ever heard of any cases of oysters being stolen? A lessee named Brown, who held a lease for ten years, sold his place. He wrote a letter to me stating that he had four bags of oysters ready to be sent to Sydney, but next morning they were all gone and he could not find out who had taken them.

1875. Do you know how many oyster leases there are in your district? About forty or sixty.

1876. Do you know anything about the habits of the fish? The small fish in Tuggerah Lakes want a great deal of looking after. It is a great place for young fish. The Commissioners did one good thing in closing all the rivers. Whenever there is a flood they come down with a rush. They go right up to the fresh water in the creeks, which are great nurseries for them.

1877. Do you know anything of the migratory fish, such as the sea-mullet? Yes.

1878. At what time of the year do they go into the lakes? Generally about March. There have been very few this year, because the lakes have not been opened. Now, all kinds of fish are coming in: fish that were never seen in the lake before.

1879. *Mr. Stephen.*] Is there a great portion of the lake closed against fishing? Yes.

1880. Is there a close season at any particular time of the year? I do not see why they want to close the Tuggerah Lakes at all. In any of the creeks they cannot use a hauling-net; they must use a meshing-net from one side of the creek to the other. I do not see that it would require to be closed at all.

1881. Then you believe it is unnecessary to close any portion of Tuggerah Lakes? Yes; while the entrance is half a mile wide the fish can go in and out as they like.

1882. Is the entrance closed during some portion of the year? It has not been closed since we had a gale of wind lately. Sometimes it is closed.

1883. Can the spring tides flow in at any time? Yes; if a boat comes close to the entrance there is such a strong tide that they cannot fish there.

1884. If the small fish are hauled up on shore does it not do them a great deal of damage even if they are put back into the water? Yes; if they are hauled on shore not one half of them will live even if they are put back in the water.

1885. What is your reason for believing that nets 450 or 500 yards in length should be used on Tuggerah Lakes? The men would not then have to make so many hauls as they have to make at present. They might just as well be allowed to make one haul as to make three or four hauls. With nets only 300 yards long they require to have very long lines.

1886. Do you believe that the same length of net should be allowed on all fishing-grounds as you recommend for the Tuggerah Lakes? No. I think that 300 yards is rather too long for Brisbane Water.

1887. Why do you think that 300 yards is long enough for Brisbane Water? The tide is very strong there and the fishermen have not got such long places to haul as they have at the Tuggerah Lakes.

1888. Can you suggest any remedy for the stealing of fish while in transit to the market? I am afraid that the remedy I would suggest would not pay. I think that every fisherman should have his fish-baskets locked; then when they arrive at the market they could be unlocked by the agents.

1889. Why would it not pay to lock the baskets? I do not know whether or not it would pay. I think it would be better for the fishermen to try it. I think if two or three of the people who steal the fish were caught and an example made of them they would soon drop it.

1890. Why do you think it would not pay to lock the baskets? The fishermen themselves say it would not pay according to the prices they get.

1891. They would not have to provide a new lock every time they sent a basket down to Sydney? They would want brass locks and keys.

1892. Would it not pay them in the long run? Yes.

1893. Is there any worm disease among the oysters in Tuggerah Lakes? There are no oysters in Tuggerah Lakes except at the entrance. There is no disease among the oysters in Brisbane Water.

1894. *Mr. Stevenson.*] You have spoken of an oyster lessee named Brown. Did you ever hear of his applying to the Commissioners for leave to prosecute persons who were destroying his lease? Yes.

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1895. Do you know whether they refused permission? They sent word to the Police Magistrate to issue no summons. Of course that was quite sufficient.
1896. Then virtually they did refuse permission to prosecute? Yes.
1897. Do you not consider that that was a very great injustice to Brown? I do not see what harm the fishermen were doing him because they hauled their nets at low water, and his oysters were on higher ground and they did not interfere with his oysters.
1898. Then it was against the fishermen that he applied? Yes.
1899. And those fishermen had licenses? Yes.
1900. Did you ever apply for a residence or a tent at Tuggerah? Yes.
1901. What was the result of your application? I never got an answer. I have no cover at night.
1902. Are you supplied with any means of protecting yourself from the weather? No; I have to bring up at an hotel.
1903. Are you supposed to be supplied with a macintosh? Yes.
1904. Are the Government supposed to supply you with that? Yes, and a coat.
1905. Have they issued them for this year? No. They ought to be issued at the beginning of every winter, but they have not been issued yet.
1906. Did you recommend the closing of the lakes? No.
1907. Then the Commissioners closed them without consulting you? Yes.
1908. Is that wise? I do not see that it requires closing at all.
1909. What is the object of tanning the nets? It preserves the net.
1910. Does it reduce the mesh? Yes.
1911. Are the nets tanned for the purpose of preservation and not with the object of reducing the mesh? Yes.
1912. Do you not consider it is a very great hardship when a man is compelled to tan his net in order to preserve it that that net should be seized? Yes; but when he buys it he should make allowance for the tanning.
1913. If the net is tanned and it gets below the legal mesh it is liable to be seized? Yes.
1914. Have you any idea whether the pilfering of the fish takes place when it is being sent to market? I have heard that it takes place on the railway as well as in other places.
1915. Are the baskets generally tied with a piece of loose string? Yes.
1916. Do you not think that the pilfering would be prevented if the fishermen put twine tight round their baskets? A man could easily cut off the twine.
1917. Do you not think that the fish would be better protected if every man sewed his basket round with twine? Yes.
1918. As the baskets are tied now, is it not easy for a man to untie the twine and take out as many fish as he likes? Yes.
1919. Have you any assistant? No.
1920. How far have you to pull? On an average I used to walk 30 miles, from Gosford to Salt Water Creek, every week when I was first appointed. I used to go to the top of the Lake.
1921. How far would you have to pull then? 16 or 18 miles. Then I came to Brisbane Water, and I pulled all round there. There is a lot of pulling to do, and I have to do it all by myself.
1922. On Brisbane Water alone what do you think is the average distance you have to pull? From Webb's Reef to the township, which is 7 or 8 miles at the very least. Then I have to go to Cockle Creek. That is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles. From Cockle Creek up to Broadwater is $3\frac{1}{2}$ or 4 miles. Wye Wye is about 7 miles from the township. I sometimes go by train, and then I get a boat to go round.

Thomas Temperley called in, sworn, and examined:—

1923. *Chairman.*] What position do you hold? Inspector of the Northern Fisheries.
1924. How long have you held that position? During the continuance of the present Fisheries Act—that is since 1881.
1925. Were you engaged in the Public Service previously? Not during the previous seven or eight years. I had been teaching up to 1875.
1926. So you had no experience previous to your appointment in connection with fisheries? No practical experience.
1927. What knowledge you have gained is theoretical? As a native of the Colony I was thoroughly conversant with fish and their habits, and I had interested myself much with the oyster question long before I ever dreamt of taking office as Inspector of Fisheries. In fact I had written to the press on the oyster question.
1928. What area does your district embrace? From Cape Hawke to the Tweed River—that is more than one-third of the entire coast.
1929. So it is a very important district? Yes.
1930. Do you consider that the provisions of the Fisheries Act have applied justly to fishermen? In my district the fishermen do not complain so much of the Act as of the difficulties they have to contend with in getting their fish to market. Fish are abundant, and there is no necessity there for any closed waters, nor is there any inducement for fishermen to work with small mesh nets.
1931. Have you any closed waters there? No.
1932. How many fishermen's licenses have been issued? On the Clarence River there were 56 fishermen licensed in 1888.
1933. Are there any licenses issued on the other rivers? No; the fishing industry on the north coast was nothing until 1887.* The principal industry in connection with the northern division up to that time was the oyster production. In 1887 the fisheries began to be developed, and they have assumed large proportions since.
1934. So that your duties were pretty well confined to the oyster culture up to 1887? Yes, in connection with oyster leases.
1935. Have any of the Commissioners visited your district at any time? Yes, Mr. Oliver visited the district on one occasion.

Mr.
T. Temperley.
16 July, 1899.

* NOTE (on revision):—A few fishermen are located at Cape Hawke, and on the Manning and Richmond Rivers.

Mr.
T. Tamperley.
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1936. Have any of the other Commissioners visited it? No.
1937. How long did Mr. Oliver remain there? I happened to be away in another part of my district at the time, but I understand that he was on the Manning River for about a week.
1938. Have not the fishermen complained of the unjust operation of the law in any respect? There is abundance of fish on the north coast and the fishing industry has developed itself during the last two or three years in consequence of the introduction of the mode of transmitting fish in ice-chests. The fishermen do not make any complaints about their nets or about any of the regulations, but they are loud in their complaints about the manner in which the fish are treated on their arrival in Sydney.
1939. Have you never had occasion to take action in prosecuting people for infringement of the Fisheries Act? I have prosecuted for the theft of oysters, for the removal of undersized oysters. Also in one or two test cases where attempts were made to test the validity of oyster leases. I have prosecuted fishermen for fishing without licenses, but I have not had occasion to prosecute fishermen for taking undersized fish or working with undersized nets.
1940. Are you aware that after a net has been passed as being of the legal mesh when it has been tanned once or twice it shrinks below the legal size? Yes.
1941. Do you not think it would be only just that when once a net has been passed as legal it should always be considered to be legal? Yes; but there would always be a difficulty in determining whether it was the same net. You cannot very well mark a net so as to render its identification a matter of certainty.
1942. Have you at any time brought under the notice of the Commissioners or the Government proposals to remedy any alleged defects in the Fisheries Act? Not latterly.
1943. Did you at any time with reference to oyster leases or the fisheries generally? I cannot say that I have.
1944. Have the Commissioners at any time acted with reference to prosecutions, the leasing of oyster-beds, or the granting of fishermen's licenses without consulting you? As far as prosecutions are concerned inspectors are required to procure the permission of the Commissioners before prosecuting. In one case of pilfering I am sorry to say no prosecution ensued.
1945. Therefore it takes some time before a prosecution is initiated if you have to report to the Commissioners first and await their instructions? Yes.
1946. Would it not be much better if the power were vested in you as inspector to prosecute there and then? I think that the inspectors of fisheries in charge of districts should be empowered to prosecute when cases arise. I may mention that the Commissioners have given me a general power recently authorizing me to prosecute in any cases of infringement of the Act.
1947. Do you not think it would be more convenient to give you power also to issue licenses and oyster leases? I think with regard to the issue of licenses that local inspectors should be allowed to receive the money, and that immediately on receipt they should transmit it to Sydney. By that means a fisherman would be allowed at once to proceed to fish pending the arrival of his license. It would be practically issued as soon as he paid the money.
1948. As a matter of fact a fisherman might apply for a license to the Commissioners here and have it granted to him without your knowledge? Yes.
1949. You would have no knowledge of the existence of that license unless you asked him to produce it? Yes.
1950. Then it would be more convenient for the local inspector if he could issue the license? Yes; or even if he were allowed to receive the money.
1951. Have the rents for the oyster leases been paid in your district? No; in many, but not in all cases.
1952. I suppose it is only in cases of default of payment of the rents that the matter comes under your notice? The inspectors know nothing whatever with regard to default in the payment of rent.
1953. Do not the Commissioners at any time ask you to cause inquiry to be made? Not with regard to the payment of rent.
1954. Do they ask you with regard to the condition of the leases and the oyster-beds? Yes.
1955. Is there any system with regard to sending reports to the Commission? Yes, we send monthly reports.
1956. What salary do you get? £240 a year.
1957. Are you allowed an assistant? I have a boatman who also does duty as assistant inspector.
1958. Where? At Palmer's Island, Clarence River.
1959. Do they allow you house-rent? No.
1960. Have you had occasion to seize nets at any time? No.
1961. Do you not think it would be better to have a provision embodied in the Act to punish persons severely for bringing undersized fish to market rather than be so particular as to the mesh of the nets? I certainly think that the restrictions should continue as at present with regard to the size of the nets, and also with regard to the size of the fish when brought into market.
1962. Have you ever heard any fishermen complain that the length of the net is insufficient? Not in my district; but I have elsewhere.
1963. Has Mr. Thompson ever visited your district? Yes.
1964. On many occasions? Only on one occasion.
1965. How long did he stop? About a week.
1966. Are you aware that it is a source of complaint on the part of fishermen that the fish-market at Woolloomooloo is worked unsatisfactorily? Yes, it is the cause of great complaint.
1967. Is it the principal complaint that their consignments arrive at the fish-markets very much reduced? Yes. I find that we shipped from the Clarence River in 1888 10,453 baskets of fish, and the returns from the fish-market only showed 8,580 baskets.
1968. How do you account for that deficiency? Partly through a portion of the fish being bad on arrival, but of course there are causes for that.
1969. *Mr. Stephen.*] Did it arise from thieving? I believe part of it would be caused by that, but I cannot say of my own knowledge.
1970. Can you give the Committee any information with regard to the mode in which fish is sent from the Northern District to Sydney? The fish are placed in large chests with large quantities of ice. The boxes are so large that they are packed on the steamers' wharves. On the Clarence River alone last year the weekly consumption of ice in summer amounted to about 4 tons. The ice-chests on arrival in Sydney are

are landed on the steamers' wharves and are opened there. The steamers arrive in Sydney usually in the afternoon. The shipments are bi-weekly, but the most important arrives on Thursday afternoon at different times, varying from perhaps noon until 9 or 10 o'clock at night. The chests are so large that they are not removed to the fish-market. They are opened on the wharves in Sydney by the fishermen's agents, and the fish are carried in baskets to the fish-market. They are thawed during this transit. When the steamers arrive in the day the ice-chests are left on the steamers' wharves in the broiling sun, and it is only reasonable to suppose that the fish which arrive during the afternoon of one day which have to be unpacked and carried to the fish-market and sold the next morning, are found to be bad in many instances. The fishermen are loud in their complaints as to the mode of treatment the fish receive on their arrival in Sydney. There is no doubt that the proper remedy would be to have the fish sold at Darling Harbour on the afternoon of their arrival, and then they could be distributed over the city and suburbs, and along the railway line on the Thursday night long before the time at which they are now sold.

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1971. So that you would advocate the establishment of a *dépôt* at Darling Harbour? Yes; I think it is only necessary to abolish the municipal restrictions with regard to the sale of fish. Private enterprise would then step in, and the fish would be sold on their arrival in the afternoon. All that would be necessary would be to have an assistant inspector of Fisheries on the spot to pass the fish.

1972. What sort of fish are consigned from the Northern Districts to Sydney? Only the more valuable kinds, such as whiting, bream, and the flat-tailed mullet.

1973. Do you get any schnapper there? Yes; there are fine schnapper-grounds, but the schnapper is not sent to market.

1974. With reference to oyster leases, how many are there in your district? There are 222 leases in sixteen inlets, including a total of 77,300 yards.

1975. Are those leases let to several people? Yes; they are let in large and small areas.

1976. With respect to the issue of those leases to small people, do you not think it would be better to have some provision, whereby leases would be issued only to people in large areas instead of allowing men to take up 100 yards here and there indiscriminately? Yes.

1977. Have you ever heard complaints that the smaller men have been in the habit of pilfering from the larger beds? Yes, in some cases.

1978. Is Mr. Woodward a large lessee in your district? Yes.

1979. What quantity of oysters is sent from your district? From the Northern Division we shipped in 1883, 6,190 bags of oysters; in 1884, 3,186 bags; in 1885, 3,177 bags; in 1886, 3,962 bags; in 1887, 1,226 bags; in 1888, 1,864 bags. It will be seen that there has been a great falling off in the last few years.

1980. How do you account for the decrease? In 1883 there was a very large production as the result of the licensed boat system which was in force in that year. There is no doubt that the oyster-beds were very much damaged by that system. There was a large number of licensed boatmen who went from river to river as the beds were thrown open, and they dredged the beds as long as they could get anything from them. Then they went on to the next place. They did nothing whatever in the way of improving the beds, and they took no interest in them. They took large and small oysters, although they were under the supervision of inspectors. There is no doubt they seriously injured the oyster-beds. The Manning River has never recovered from the severe dredging it received in 1883. The system was abolished in 1884. With regard to the deficiency during the last two years I attribute it to the extremes of rainfall which the Colony has experienced. The floods of 1887 did an immense deal of damage to the oysters, especially on the Clarence River. I made a careful examination of the Clarence River after the flood of 1887, and I found that 84 per cent. of the oysters had been destroyed by the flood.

1981. Have you ever heard of the existence of a disease in the oysters? There is no disease in my division on the Northern Coast. The worm or mud disease does not extend beyond Port Stephens.

1982. So that excessive rainfall is just as likely to affect the oyster-beds injuriously as is the want of rain? Yes, the drought of 1888 was just as disastrous. It prevented the beds from recovering.

1983. Do you not think it would be a good idea to close the different rivers from oyster-getters, for say a period of two or three years, so as to resuscitate the beds? The lessees have done that. No oysters have been taken from the Clarence River since 1887 up to the present time. No oysters have been taken from Camden Haven since November, 1886, and only some eighty-six bags have been taken during the last five years; so that both these rivers have been practically closed by the lessees for a period of nearly three years.

1984. Has any quantity of spat from New Zealand oysters been laid down on the oyster-beds there? Mr. Woodward and Mr. Comino laid down on the Clarence and Manning Rivers and Cape Hawke last year 2,250 bags of oysters which was a larger number of oysters than were raised again from the division during the whole of that time.

1985. Can you suggest any way by which oyster-culture might be more successfully carried on in the rivers? I think the present mode of giving long leases—that is security of tenure—is about the best thing that can be adopted to get the beds properly cared for; but to give a lessee 100 or 200 yards in a river where other lessees have large areas would be in some cases to give the small lessee opportunities to rob the others.

1986. *Mr. Stephen.*] What are the principal rivers or inlets embraced in your district? The Clarence, the Manning, the Richmond, the Tweed, the Hastings, and Bellinger Rivers, Camden Haven, Cape Hawke, and the Macleay.

1987. Had you any experience as a fisherman previous to your appointment as inspector? No, except as an amateur.

1988. You are not acquainted with the real hardships that fishermen have to undergo? I know something of them.

1989. Are you aware that the life of a fisherman is a very hard one? Yes.

1990. Do you think that it is desirable to throw any obstacles in their way? No. On the contrary I consider that the industry should be furthered in every possible way.

1991. Do you consider that the present Act bears heavily and unfairly on the fishermen? I believe that the Act has perhaps been harshly administered in some cases as a result of the system of giving inspectors a share of the fines.

1992. Do you think that it is desirable that inspectors should have a share of the fines? No.

- Mr. T. Temperley. 1993. Do you think that it is an incentive to the inspectors to be rather harsh? I think an inspector should have sufficient salary to remunerate him for his work without his having a share of the fines. While it has the effect of giving an incentive to a man to do his duty, it also tends to cause the regulations to be strained and prosecutions to be undertaken where they otherwise would not be.
1994. Are those fines awarded only to the inspector who may happen to seize? The prosecuting party is entitled to half the fines. Moreover the clerks of petty sessions almost insist that the inspector shall take it.
1995. Are the fines divided *pro rata* amongst all the inspectors? No; the prosecuting party in each case receives a moiety of the fine.
1996. Are there any distinctions between the fisheries inspectors as to position or grade? The Act provides for three inspectors and a number of assistant inspectors and acting inspectors—that is an inspector for each of the three divisions with sundry assistants and acting assistants who are generally pilots on the coast and who receive small salaries.
1997. There are three grades? Yes.
1998. To which of the three do you belong? To the inspectors of divisions.
1999. Then you have assistant inspectors under you? Yes.
2000. Do those assistant inspectors report directly to you or to the Commissioners? To the Department.
2001. Then they may send reports to the Department which you know nothing of? Yes; they often do so.
2002. Are the fish which are sent to Sydney in ice-chests frozen? They are chilled.
2003. When they are sent down in that way, after they are taken out of the ice-chests, are they liable to go bad quicker than if they were brought down without being placed in ice-chests? They will not keep for a very great length of time after thawing.
2004. Do you think that it would be desirable to establish trawl-fishing on our coasts? I think it is very desirable that the experiment should be made, and that the coast should be surveyed for trawl-fishing.
2005. At the present time is there sufficient knowledge of the coast to establish that mode of fishing? No, it would be rather a risky experiment to run a trawl over the ground till we ascertain the nature of the bottom.
2006. Are there different kinds of oysters in the northern rivers? I think they have only one kind of oyster—that is the ordinary drift-oyster. Some people make a distinction between the rock-oyster and the drift-oyster, but I do not think there is any difference between them. I think that they are both the same. The mud-oyster is a different oyster, but that is not known in the northern division.
2007. Mr. Stevenson.] How many assistants have you under you? I have one assistant at the Manning River; one boatman, who is also acting-assistant on the Clarence River, and five acting-assistant pilots.
2008. Do you take the pilots on each of the rivers? Yes.
2009. When you want to do anything, before you take any action have you first to report to the Commissioners? Yes.
2010. Do you find that any delay occurs? Sometimes.
2011. From whom do you receive your instructions when the Chief Inspector is absent from Sydney? From the Acting Secretary, Mr. Ellis.
2012. Do you think he is competent to give you instructions on practical matters relating to fisheries? I do not know anything of Mr. Ellis' qualifications. I have seldom received any instructions from him.
2013. Would it not be better to receive instructions from a gentleman whose duties were not merely clerical? Yes, certainly.
2014. Would it not be better for the oyster lease rents and the fees for fishermen's licenses to be paid to the inspector in each district so that he might have some knowledge as to who held the leases and what fishermen paid for licenses? I do not think it would be desirable that the rents should be paid to the inspectors, but I think that they should be notified.
2015. Do you think that if the Commission were abolished and the fisheries placed under Ministerial control it would be an improvement? I do. I think that it is advisable that the fisheries should be under the control of one person, whether that person be a single Commissioner, inspector, or secretary, as long as he is a responsible officer and has power to deal with matters of urgency as they arise.
2016. Are you aware how often the Commissioners meet? Once a week.
2017. Have you ever heard of business being delayed through there not being a quorum? Yes.
2018. Frequently? Not frequently.
2019. When there is no quorum no matter how important the business may be, what becomes of it. Has it to stand over for another week? In extremely urgent cases I understand that the Secretary visits the members of the Commission.
2020. Does the pilot at the Tweed act for you? Yes, but not at the Richmond.
2021. Who is at the Richmond River? I supervise the Richmond River myself.
2022. There are not many fishermen on the Richmond? Not just now.
2023. When you go to the Bellinger and the Macleay do the pilots act? We generally get the assistance of the police.
2024. Do they give their assistance without salary? Yes.
2025. Is that the only control you have? Yes; but I do not often visit those outlying places. It would be as easy to visit the Manning from Sydney as it is to visit it from the Clarence.

THURSDAY, 17 JULY, 1889.

Present:—

MR. FRANK FARNELL,	MR. RITCHIE,
MR. HOWE,	MR. WILLIAM STEPHEN,
MR. STEVENSON.	
FRANK FARNELL, Esq., IN THE CHAIR.	

Frederick Nelson recalled and further examined:—

- Mr. F. Nelson. 2026. Chairman.] Do you know anything about the boundaries of Lake George? No.
2027. Do you remember any occasion on which persons have been prevented from using the lake or going upon the land above the lake, which is supposed to be a reserve? I know for a fact that they have been prevented from going on the eastern side of the lake. 2028.

2028. Do you know Lake Bathurst? Yes.

2029. Do you know whether Crown lands adjoin that lake? I am not thoroughly acquainted with Lake Bathurst.

2030. Have you said that you could not state positively whether or not there are any fish in Lake Bathurst? I have heard that there are. I know for a fact that fish were put in there many years ago. The reason why I am not well acquainted with Lake Bathurst is that it is in the Argyle District. My duties as inspector of Fisheries do not extend there.

2031. Do you think that fish-breeding could be satisfactorily carried on in Lake Bathurst as well as in Lake George? Yes.

2032. You have spoken of two creeks running into Lake George as good breeding-grounds for fish. Would you advise that those creeks should be closed from fishing? If it was intended to go in for fish-breeding I would strongly recommend that. Butmaroo or Deep Creek and Toralla Creek should be closed.

2033. Have you any knowledge of any other inland fisheries? Yes; the Murrumbidgee, the Queanbeyan, and the Molonglo Rivers. Those are all in the Queanbeyan District, of which I have supervision.

2034. Do you receive any salary from the Fisheries Commission? Yes, £20 per annum.

2035. *Mr. Stephen.*] You said something about high-water mark at Lake George. Do you refer to flood water mark? Yes. Lake George is not influenced by the tide.

2036. What is the quality of the water in Lake George? It is not salt, but it is very brackish. In dry weather it is very much so.

2037. Do you think that the quality of the water is favorable to the production of Murray cod? Yes, because they grow there to such a large size, and are in such good condition.

2038. With respect to high-water mark, is there any defined line showing where the frontages of private properties should cease? It appears that many years ago there were grants on the borders of the lake; but there is no defined boundary as to high-water mark.

2039. Is it the practice of the private owners to say that their properties are bounded by the water of the lake, no matter what height the water may be? Yes.

2040. Do you think that the Government should define a certain line there or let matters remain as they are? I think that there ought to be a defined boundary. That is, certain lands around the lake should be defined for public purposes.

2041. Do you think that the boundaries of private properties around the lake ought to be defined? Yes; it is very necessary.

2042. *Chairman.*] Have you any statement to make to the Committee? With reference to the evidence I gave the other day, a question was asked by Mr. O'Sullivan as to whether if Murray cod and perch were placed in Lake George a market could be got in Sydney for the fish. I think he must have meant Lake Bathurst, because there are perch and Murray cod in Lake George now. Then Mr. O'Sullivan asked if I knew that Mr. Carruthers was turned off Government land. I am not aware that he was turned off Government land, but he was prevented from passing over private property, in order to get to a reserve fronting Deep Creek. That is the reserve which I mentioned in my previous evidence.

2043. *Mr. Stephen.*] Are you aware on what grounds he was prevented from passing over the property? Yes; he was passing over private property. The reserve fronts Deep Creek, but there is no road to it, and no person can travel to it. The road that originally passed over a corner of it is closed and a new road has been made in lieu of it. Therefore there is no access to this creek except by Deep Creek which is not navigable.

2044. Do the private owners of the land fronting Deep Creek claim it as their property? Yes. The land is measured on either side, and I know they claim Deep Creek.

2045. As their private property? Yes.

2046. What kind of fish were placed in Lake Bathurst? Murray cod.

2047. What is the quality of the water in Lake Bathurst? It is rather inclined to be brackish, but it is not so salt as the water of Lake George.

2048. Do you think that the fish that would thrive in Lake George would also thrive in Lake Bathurst? Yes.

2049. What is the extent of Lake Bathurst? I have no practical knowledge of it, but it is 12 miles round.

2050. Is it subject to the rise and fall according to the season like Lake George? Yes; many years ago there was an island in the centre of it which was stocked with rabbits. The late wet seasons, however, have caused that island to be covered with water.

Mr. Thomas Temperley recalled and further examined:—

2051. *Mr. Ritchie.*] In your previous evidence you said that you had no previous experience of fishing before you were appointed inspector;—what do you mean by practical experience? I did not ever earn my living as a fisherman or oysterman.

2052. You do not admit that you had no experience of fisheries or oyster-culture? No; I consider that I had a very good knowledge of them. I had done a lot of fishing from my childhood in Port Jackson, and in deep water, and in the Manning River. I had ample opportunities of becoming acquainted with the fisheries there.

2053. You said that previously you were a teacher;—what classification had you as a teacher? I had the certificate of class II, section A, which I obtained by examination. This classification would entitle me, under the Department of Public Instruction, to a salary of £250 a year and an allowance of £80 for house-rent.

2054. What was your occupation after you left the Education Department? I was the proprietor of a large saw-mill on the Manning River for some years.

2055. Did you then study oyster-culture? Yes; I interested myself in the question during that time.

2056. Did you gain any practical or scientific experience? I gained a lot of experience as to the working of the oyster-beds. The Manning River was a very important oyster district. I also have the benefit of eight years' experience as an inspector of fisheries.

2057. Did large quantities of oysters leave the Manning River for Sydney? Yes, the Manning River was then leased for £1,000 per year.

2058. Were you appointed inspector for the Northern Division when the Act first came into force? Yes; and I am the only one remaining in the department of the inspectors originally appointed. I am senior inspector by length of service.

2059.

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2059. In your opinion what qualifications are necessary for an inspector? The inspector of a division should be a good all-round man. He should have general ability, good clerical attainments, certainly a good knowledge of fish and oysters, of oyster-culture and net fishing. He should be competent to measure oyster leases and make accurate tracings of them. I have had a great deal of that work to do. The inspector must necessarily be a good boatman, also a good horseman and bushman, so that he may be able to travel by compass over the country. I have had to travel where there are no roads and I have frequently camped out, sometimes with a saddle for a pillow, and have swam rivers and creeks where there were no residents to ferry a stranger across. He should also be competent to interpret the Act and the Regulations, and to conduct prosecutions. He should be thoroughly able to report on the various matters referred to him and he should be a good correspondent.

2060. Do you think that the present Commission works well and that the administration is effective? I think that the Commission did good valuable work in organizing the department and in obtaining information, especially the information on which Parliament abolished the licensed oyster-boat system in 1884, but in administration I think that the gentlemen who form the Commission and whose time is valuable should not be required to deal with matters of detail, such as the passing of accounts and the approval of the expenditure of small sums of money. For example: I have a compass which cost 7s. 6d.; when I applied for authority to purchase it the question had to be submitted to the Board.

2061. Whom do you think that should be vested in? In one of the superior officers.

2062. In the inspectors? No; in the head of the department.

2063. That would be the Secretary? Yes, or the chief inspector. I think that important matters of urgency should be dealt with at once, without keeping them till there is a meeting of the Board. I refer to prosecutions and other important matters that often arise, and which require to be dealt with without delay.

2064. You mentioned something about the detection of some person stealing oysters;—did you prosecute in that case? No.

2065. What were the reasons for not prosecuting? The facts were these: I caught a family stealing oysters from a lease belonging to Mr. Gibbins. This occurred on the Evans River. They had a quantity of oysters and they were actually taking them from Mr. Gibbins' lease and loading a cart at daylight when I discovered them. I reported the matter to the department and notified my intention of prosecuting, but the Commissioners declined to allow me. They decided that the lessee should protect his own interests. I had seized the oysters and I wished to prosecute. The lessee who resided in Sydney did not consider that he had time to go so far to prosecute and the matter was left to his agent on the Evans River to carry out the prosecution; but the agent declined to prosecute. The consequence was that the prosecution fell through.

2066. Then the Commissioners did not consider it was their business to instruct you to carry out the prosecution? Not in that case; afterwards they gave me general power to prosecute in all cases.

2067. Did you believe at the time that you had power to prosecute under the Act? No, I have no power to prosecute unless the Commissioners authorize me. The family when caught stealing alleged that the stolen oysters had been procured from a small lease of 100 yards which had been applied for but for which the lease had not been issued.

2068. Then this man, the head of the family, was not actually a lessee at the time? No, but his lease was ready for issue.

2069. He had no legal authority to go on the ground and collect oysters? No.

2070. Was it a clear case of taking oysters off another man's ground? Yes, it was a very clear case.

2071. *Mr. Stevenson.*] What did you do with the lease of this man who you allege stole the oysters? It was cancelled by the Governor on the advice of the Commissioners.

2072. Upon what grounds? I do not know. I had recommended that the lease should be withheld pending the result of the prosecution for stealing the oysters. I presume that it was in connection with the case of stealing the oysters that the lease was cancelled.

2073. But if he had been prosecuted might it not have been shown that the man was taking oysters from his own ground? I do not think there was any possibility of that.

2074. Still there was no case brought against the man? He was not prosecuted but his lease was cancelled.

2075. *Mr. Ritchie.*] In your former evidence you said that the fishermen made great complaints about the means of transporting fish to Sydney. Of course it is no part of your duty to make provision of that kind? It is not.

2076. That rests entirely with private enterprise? Yes.

2077. Do you think it is possible to increase the supply of fresh fish from the northern rivers if some better provisions were made for conveying the fish? Yes, the fishermen have lost so much by the treatment the fish have received in Sydney that numbers of them have actually discontinued fishing. On the Clarence River the number of fishermen has decreased from twenty boats during last year to three or four during the early part of this year. This was owing almost entirely to the fact that the men could not get fair remuneration, and they would have been satisfied to work on for low returns. The fishermen have to purchase the ice in Sydney, pay freight for it to the Clarence River, freight on the ice-packed fish to Sydney, cartage of the fish from Darling Harbour to Woolloomooloo, and then not only pay 5 per cent. to their agents for looking after the sale of the fish, but have to pay the corporation salemen commission as well.

2078. Can you make any better suggestion for the means of conveying the fish to market? The conveyance of them generally speaking is right enough. The important question is the disposal of the fish after their arrival in Sydney. I am satisfied that if the fish were sold at Darling Harbour in the afternoon or evening of arrival there would be a very large increase in the supply of fish for the city and suburbs, and in many instances the fish would be retailed and consumed long before the time at which it is now sold at the Woolloomooloo fish-market.

2079. Are you well acquainted with the habits of fish generally? Yes.

2080. What is your opinion about the migratory fish? We have several kinds of migratory fish. The large whiting comes in on the north coast in November to spawn. The salmon move along the coast in October. I have taken particular interest in the habits of the sea-mullet. One year, 1883, also in 1884, I instructed my assistant inspectors along the coast to carefully note the time when they entered the inlets. It is the general opinion that this fish works from the south towards the north.* I found on these occasions

*NOTE (on revision) :—Monthly reports—April, 1883; also April, 1884.

occasions that the mullet entered first the Tweed River about the early part of March; later on they entered the Richmond, then the Clarence, then, the Macleay, the Hastings, and so on down the coast, showing conclusively that they worked southwards. A current sets along the coast southwards, and whenever the fish began to move, their heads would be turned to the north against the current, and they would appear to be working their way northwards, but I believe that they really work their way from north to south instead of from south to north as is generally supposed.

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2081. In what months of the year does this migration take place? In March, April, and May. They enter down south towards May, but they are found entering the rivers in the north in March and April.

2082. Do you know anything about the natural enemies of fish? There are birds and of course there are the sharks. There is provision in the Fisheries Act for the destruction of cormorants.

2083. Are those birds very destructive in your district? Yes. They are found in some places in flocks, and they destroy the young fish. They are called divers. There is a reward of 4d. a head for the smaller kinds and 6d. for the larger.

2084. Are there many killed? Recently a number have been killed. Twenty-two were paid for on the Clarence River during the month of June, but long periods have elapsed when no claims were made for their destruction.

2085. Are there any rewards given for shark-killing? No, that is not provided for by the Act.

2086. Then I suppose there is no shark-catching? There is not.

2087. Is there any action taken to cure fish in your district? Attempts have been made from time to time by different parties to salt and dry fish, but they have nearly always died out. That work is generally carried on by Chinamen.

2088. Do they cure many fish? A moderate quantity for their countrymen. There was one fisherman, a European on the Clarence River, who used to cure fish and send them to Fiji by the Colonial Sugar Company's steamers.

2089. Is there any canning of fish carried on? Yes, a fish-canning company has been established within the last two years at Iluka on the Clarence River.

2090. Are they successful in their operations? Yes, I find that they consume about 175 baskets of fish in the month; that is the return for last month. They shipped 220 cases of canned fish in June.

2091. Where does it go to? To Sydney. I produce two tins of fish cured by this company; one is bream and the other whiting. The tins are well got up and the fish is of good quality. Each case contains five dozen of 1-lb. tins.

2092. Does it pay? I believe so. They are carrying on their work in a small way.

2093. Is it a co-operative company? The proprietors are working people. They state that they cannot supply the demand.

2094. *Chairman.*] Then if there was another industry of the kind established up there it would flourish? I think it would.

2095. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Would it not be more suitable if the business were carried on at Yamba? I dare say it would, but I suppose it is a question of securing a building. The proprietors state that the great drawback is the difficulty of obtaining a supply of fish regularly.

2096. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Do they dry fish? No.

2097. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Is the industry confined to bream and whiting? No; it includes other kinds; the sea-mullet is exceptionally good.

2098. *Mr. Ritchie.*] When the fishermen want a license do they apply to the Commission and not to you? The inspector is not authorized to take money for licenses, but wherever fishermen are located near the Courts of Petty Sessions they pay their money to the Clerks of Petty Sessions. It is one of the anomalies of the Act that an inspector is authorized to collect money for spat but not for licenses.

2099. Does the Clerk of Petty Sessions issue the license? No; he receives the money and transmits it to Sydney.

2100. Then the license comes from Sydney? Yes; it is sent through the Clerk of Petty Sessions and not through the inspector.

2101. Has the fishermen to wait till the license comes through from Sydney? If the inspectors were to confine themselves to the regulations the fishermen would have to wait, but they invariably allow the fishermen to work, on ascertaining that they have paid the money.

2102. But strictly speaking that is not in accordance with the Act? It is not in accordance with the regulations.

2103. How long does an oyster take to mature? About two years and sometimes three years. It depends upon the locality. There has been a large amount of what I call semi-oyster culture carried on in the northern division. The lessees have taken the small immature oysters from the rocks and twigs on the foreshores, and placed them in deep water, thus stocking their beds with immature oysters. These take about twelve months to develop after being removed to deep water. The time that an oyster takes to grow to maturity depends very much upon the nature of the water. They require a good running tide, and to be placed where there is a good current to bring food to them.

2104. *Chairman.*] At what price does this canning company sell the preserved fish? 4s. 6d. a dozen wholesale. They supply them to one firm in Sydney.

2105. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Are the assistant inspectors under your immediate supervision? Only those whose districts I visit.

2106. Are you responsible for the performance of their duties? No.

2107. *Chairman.*] With reference to oyster-culture do you know the enemies of oysters? Yes; the star-fish is an enemy of the oyster, but whether he eats it or not is a matter of opinion. You will find that star-fish on an oyster-bed collect a great number of oysters together. You will see a mound of oysters collected together and at first sight you would imagine that some person had placed them there. Whether the star-fish collects them to form a home for himself and thus destroys the oysters which are placed underneath and worked into the mud by the weight of the upper ones or by his actions, or whether he destroys them to live upon them is another question. There is no doubt that they are collected and destroyed by the star-fish. Then crabs will destroy oysters, especially small ones, in places where there are muddy foreshores.

2108. Have you ever heard of the stinging-ray as an enemy of oysters? I do not think that they destroy oysters; in fact I never heard it even suggested. Of course there are borers, and then there is the worm that

- Mr. T. Temperley. that gets into the oysters and causes the mud disease. I have known immense damage to be done to oysters by the influx of weeds. On one occasion, January, 1886, a large quantity of oysters was destroyed on the Evans River by a heavy deposit of fine red seaweed which was blown in by a north-east wind. Tons of fish were destroyed at the same time. When there has been an absence of rain for any length of time marine vegetation collects on the oyster-beds and smothers the oysters. Sponges cover the oysters, and frequently large portions of the oyster-beds.
- 17 July, 1889.
2109. *Chairman.*] How many hands are employed at this canning establishment at Iluka? Four or five.
2110. How is the canned fish disposed of? It is sold to one wholesale firm, Robert Harper & Co., who take the whole of it. The men employed in it say that they could give work to a larger number of men if they had some means of keeping the fish in a cool chamber till they clean them. The fish are caught in quantities, but before they have time to clean them and work them up they go bad. They require to be worked up soon after they are caught for this purpose, and the great difficulty is to procure a regular supply.
2111. Is the canned fish always found to be in good condition when opened? Yes; each tin is tested before it is packed by giving it a slight tap with a mallet. If it is bad it can be detected by the sound.
2112. Do you think that if proper appliances were used and if there were means of canning the fish at once a great industry could be developed? Yes, they require a cooling room to put the fish in until they are worked up.
2113. *Mr. Stephen.*] Is there no means of ascertaining whether the star-fish destroy the oysters? It is a very difficult question to determine.
2114. Are there not empty shells found in those mounds? Yes. The oyster probably dies by being forced into the mud or star-fish's hole by the overlying oysters and the movements of the star-fish. When the mound is moved the shells are lying about.
2115. But are not the shells completely empty with no remains of an oyster? Yes; but that is always the case with dead oysters after a time. The small fish are on the look out to eat the oyster the moment the shell opens.
2116. *Mr. Stevenson.*] You state that the fishermen in order to obtain a license have to go to the Clerk of Petty Sessions? Yes, to the nearest Clerk of Petty Sessions.
2117. That would be at Maclean? Yes; on the Clarence River.
2118. How far would that be? From Iluka, where most of the fishermen are, it would be a distance of about 15 miles.
2119. Not only have they to go there to pay the money but they have to go there to get the license afterwards? Yes, generally.
2120. Is that not a great hardship? Yes, I have already said that I think the local inspector should be allowed to receive the money.
2121. A few years ago there was no Clerk of Petty Sessions at Maclean? Yes. If there is no Clerk of Petty Sessions the fishermen send the money to Sydney.

Mr. George Gordon Benson called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. G. G. Benson. 2122. *Chairman.*] What position do you hold under the Fisheries Commission? Inspector of Southern Fisheries.
- 17 July, 1889.
2123. What area does your district embrace? I should like to explain that when I was first appointed Inspector of the Southern Fisheries they were supposed to extend from St. George's Basin to the boundaries of Victoria. Mr. Smithers and I were both appointed at the same time. After being there for some time I wrote to the Commissioners and told them that there was no necessity for me to visit Mr. Smithers' district as it only caused expense, so they gave me the district to a place called Bermagui. Mr. Smithers had to go from Eden to Bermagui and my district was from Bermagui down to St. George's Basin. We have the work to do between us. The district which I have to look after personally is about 100 miles in length.
2124. What are the particular fisheries over which you have control? Tuross Lake, the Clyde River, Narrowwilla Creek, Wagonga River, and several other little creeks: Berara Creek, Tomakin Creek, and the Moruya River.
2125. How long have you held the position of inspector? I was appointed on the 18th December, 1882.
2126. Had you any practical experience of fisheries before your appointment? Only as an amateur.
2127. So that whatever you knew of the habits of fish and the culture of oysters before you were appointed, you simply knew it as an ordinary gentleman going to fish for pleasure? Yes.
2128. Since your appointment have you made it a study to acquire a theoretical as well as practical knowledge in the culture of oysters and the development of the fisheries of the Colony? I have read a little—everything that I could pick up in the papers. I have read Professor Huxley's work, but they tell me that the oysters in this country are very different from the oysters at home.
2129. Since your appointment as inspector have you taken a deep interest in the industry? There is very little fishing in our district. I have taken a great interest in oyster-culture.
2130. Is there much net-fishing carried on in your district? Very little.
2131. Is the work more confined to oyster-culture? Yes.
2132. Have you ever heard any complaints from the fishermen as to the unjust operation of the Fisheries Act? No; there are no closed waters in our district, and that is the principal cause of complaint. When I first went to the district they used to complain, but since the garfish-net has been altered I have not heard any complaints from them.
2133. Have any complaints been brought under your notice by fishermen, oyster lessees, or any one in your district? I have heard complaints from the oyster lessees.
2134. What was the nature of those complaints? They complained of the rents being too high for the leases.
2135. Have you at any time brought under the notice of the Government or the Commission any recommendations or proposals to remedy any alleged defects in the law or the complaints which those people have made? About a fortnight ago I wrote to the Commissioners recommending certain alterations in the Act.

2136. What were those alterations? On several of the rivers there are lessees who hold thousands of yards for oyster-culture and they pay heavy rents. At the same time leases are granted to men for 100 or 200 yards. Those small lessees take advantage of that and steal oysters wherever they can get them, on the other leases or on Government land. They simply pay £1 or £2 a year, whereas the other lessees pay hundreds per annum. I recommended that the Government lands which are at present unleased should be let at a reduced rental.
2137. With reference to the leasing system, has it come to your knowledge that pilfering has taken place by the small lessees both from the Crown lands and from the larger lessees? Yes.
2138. Do you not think it would be better under those circumstances to lease the whole side of a river or half the side of a river or tributary instead of allowing those people to take up 100 yards here and there indiscriminately? Yes; that would be a very good remedy.
2139. How many oyster-leases are there in your district? On the Clyde River there are 20,686 yards leased. 1,200 yards have been applied for, and are now under consideration. At Tuross there are 7,200 yards leased. At Wagongo there are 5,000 yards leased; 300 yards have been applied for, but that is not yet settled. At Narrowilla Creek there are 2,200 leased; at Tomakin River 800 yards are leased. At Berara Creek 100 yards are leased, and another 100 yards have been applied for, but that is not yet granted. At Cullendulla Creek 1,700 yards are leased. That is all.
2140. What is the total number of lessees in the district? Ten men hold all the Clyde River. That is the principal fishery. At Tuross there are eight or nine; Moruya, six; Narrowilla Creek, four; Tomakin River, one; Berara Creek, one; Cullundulla, one.
2141. Do you know whether all the rents have been paid on those leases? They are not.
2142. Are several in arrears? Yes; I have a list of those on the Clyde River, which are in arrear. I sent for a list the other day which has just been sent back to me. There are not many that have not been paid.
2143. Are they long overdue? Some of them have not been paid for over three years.
2144. Have the applications for oyster-leases to come through you? No; they are sent to the head office.
2145. Are you informed after the Commission has dealt with an application? They send up the application to me to report on and to measure the ground.
2146. While those lessees neglect to pay their rent any person who desires to engage in oyster-culture is prevented from taking up the land through those people holding it? Certainly.
2147. Is there no provision by which you could compel those persons to pay their rents? I wrote to the Commissioners some time ago on the subject, but they said they could do nothing. They cannot compel the lessees to pay.
2148. Do you not think it would be much better to give the local inspectors some power with regard to the issue of fishermen's licenses, and with reference to the oyster-leases? Yes.
2149. Would that save a lot of inconvenience to the fishermen and the oyster-lessees, as well as a lot of red-tapeism in the department? Yes.
2150. In your correspondence with the Commissioners have you always found that they dealt expeditiously with matters, or have you found that they are dilatory, or that they have allowed matters to remain in abeyance? In some cases they have been dilatory.
2151. To whom are the lessees supposed to pay the rents for oyster leases? They are supposed to pay them into the Treasury.
2152. The people themselves? Yes.
2153. Is that also done with fishermen's licenses? They are paid to the nearest Clerk of Petty Sessions.
2154. But in some cases may not the Clerk of Petty Sessions be 30 or 40 miles away from the fishermen's home? Yes.
2155. Would that necessitate the fishermen travelling that distance? Yes, but in a case of that sort I think they often send the money direct to Sydney.
2156. It does not go through you at all? No.
2157. When do you hear of the license being issued? In my district I hear it from the Clerk of Petty Sessions who sends me the license and I deliver it to the fisherman.
2158. Would it not be better to give you, as the local inspector, power to issue the licenses? Certainly.
2159. Have any cases of the seizure of nets come under your notice? No.
2160. Have any of the Commissioners ever visited the fisheries under your control? None of them.
2161. Was Mr. Lindsay Thompson ever there? He was down there once. He visited the Clyde River, the Moruya River, and Tuross Lake, in 1883.
2162. Are there very few fish sent to market from your district? Yes, very few.
2163. Can you suggest any way by which the fisheries might be developed there? There is plenty of fish there, but there is no proper steam communication. There is one steamer per week; but she is a slow old boat; she generally gets into Sydney about 10 o'clock in the morning, and the fish have to be put into a cool chamber. They have to pay freight, they have to pay the agents, also cartage, and when the returns come back they find that there is nothing left.
2164. Have you ever heard them complain that the market accommodation in Sydney is not satisfactory? No; but I have heard them complain of the agents—the middlemen. They say the middlemen take all the profit.
2165. Have you heard them complain that their consignments have been tampered with on the road? Yes.
2166. Where does the steamer run from? The Clyde River.
2167. Where are your head quarters? At Bateman's Bay.
2168. Where are the most prolific grounds for oysters? The Clyde River.
2169. Do the fine oysters come from there? Yes.
2170. Are you aware that a great number of oysters are imported from New Zealand? Yes.
2171. Has any oyster-spat imported from New Zealand been taken down to your district? Yes, about 300 bags have been taken to Wagonga.
2172. How have they got on? They have shown good growth; but there is no sign of spat where they are.
2173. What has been the general state of the oyster-beds in your district for the last twelve months? They are very much improved on the Clyde River. About the Tuross River they have been all destroyed.

- Mr. G. G. Benson.
17 July, 1889.
2174. How did that occur? The lake and the mouth of the river have been closed. At Durras Lake they have all been destroyed except the mud-oysters. They seem to thrive in the fresh.
2175. Has there been any disease in the oysters in your district? No.
2176. Do you know of any natural enemies of the oyster? Yes, I think the bream are as great an enemy as any.
2177. Have you heard of the worm disease? Yes, in the northern rivers.
2178. Have you heard that the stinging-rays injure the oyster-beds by crunching the small oysters? Yes.
2179. In the event of your detecting any one pilfering oysters from the Crown lands, or from lessees' beds, have you any power to prosecute without reference to the Commission? No.
2180. Do you think it would be better to vest that power in the local inspectors? Yes.
2181. Have you any assistance at Bateman's Bay? Yes, a boatman named John Hesp.
2182. Do you do a great deal of rowing and sailing about? Yes.
2183. Does this man assist you? Yes, and he takes charge of the river in my absence when I am travelling.
2184. How long has he been with you? Since 1884.
2185. What salary does he get? £108 a year.
2186. Has he lately received an increase? No.
2187. If it has been stated that Hesp has nothing do do but engages himself in ringleading the larrikins, and that he also indulges in gambling at Bateman's Bay—is that true or not? It is untrue.
2188. Do you always find him plenty of work to do? I do not; he has not enough to do.
2189. Then he might indulge in larrikinism and gambling in his spare time after his day's labour is done without your knowing anything about it? I think I should know of it if he did. I have never heard about it. He is respected and liked by everyone in the district as far as I know.
2190. Is the fishing industry carried on in any other way than by oyster-culture and by sending a small supply of fresh fish to market? Yes, fish is salted and smoked.
2191. What particular kind of fish do they smoke there? Generally the black-fish, gar-fish, and bream.
2192. Black-bream? Yes; they also generally smoke whiting.
2193. Is the drying process a good one;—do they dry the fish in the sun? Some of them dry the fish in the sun.
2194. Is there a great quantity of dried or salt fish sent to the market? No, very little.
2195. Are there plenty of fish there? Yes, but there is no sale for them.
2196. Have you any fish-preserving establishments down there? No.
2197. *Mr. Stephen.*] Is there a stated rent charged for oyster leases? Yes, £1 for every 100 yards per annum.
2198. Is there any difference in the quality of the ground leased? Yes, there is a great deal of difference, and the lessees have to pay the same for the bad as the good.
2199. Is that fair? No.
2200. Do you think it would be possible to have different rates? I think the grounds ought to be classified. Of course there would be a difficulty because the pick of the rivers have already been leased and there is only the refuse now left. That would grow spawn, but there is very little of it fit for cultivation. I think the land now unleased should be let at a reduced rental. There is no revenue derived from that land at present but I think it would pay to take it up at a reduced rental.
2201. Would you have a reduced rental on an improving lease? Yes.
2202. Can oyster leases be forfeited for non-compliance with the regulations? Yes, after three years.
2203. Would that apply to the non-payment of rent? Yes; or to not paying proper attention to the lease; that is not keeping it properly stocked with oysters.
2204. You do not know that there is any remedy for non-payment of rent? No, except forfeiture.
2205. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Upon whose recommendation were you appointed inspector? Mr. Want's.
2206. What previous practical experience had you in fisheries and where? In Tasmania and New Zealand, but only as an amateur.
2207. Were you not connected with mining before your appointment? Yes, for a time.
2208. In New Zealand and Tasmania? Yes.
2209. Were you not engaged in mining pursuits in New Zealand and Tasmania before your appointment? Yes.
2210. Were you selected, although you had no previous knowledge of the worm disease, to go up north and report on the worm disease in another inspector's district? Yes.
2211. Why were you specially selected for that duty, seeing that you had no worm disease in your district? I do not know.
2212. Had you any practical experience in the worm disease before? No.
2213. Who accompanied you on that occasion? Mr. Gyler, of the Manning River.
2214. Had he any great experience in oyster-culture? Yes, he had been an oysterer for the last twenty years. I do not know whether he ever had any experience of the oyster disease.
2215. What was the object of sending two of you up there to make a report? I have no idea.
2216. Do you think it was done to afford you the assistance of practical knowledge to enable you to make the report; who made the report, you or Mr. Gyler? I did.
2217. Then you were assisted by the practical knowledge that Mr. Gyler was able to afford you? Yes.
2218. What were you paid for that report? £1 per day.
2219. How long were you away? Thirty-seven or thirty-eight days.
2220. Then you got about £37 to £40? Yes.
2221. Do you get house-rent? I do; office-rent.
2222. Are you aware whether any of the other inspectors get house-rent? I am not aware whether they get it or not.
2223. You also have a boatman? Yes.
2224. Have you any relative on the Fisheries Commission? I have a brother-in-law.
2225. What position does he occupy? President.
2226. When you report on any case to the Fisheries Commission is there any delay in getting an answer? I have found delays occur at times.
2227. Do you ever hear of the Commissioners not having a quorum at their weekly meetings? Yes; often.
- 2228.

2228. Do you think that if the department were under direct Ministerial control and under one head a great deal of time would be saved? I think it is scarcely a fair question to ask me.

2229. You can have an opinion? If I give my opinion straightforwardly it would be that I believe that under one head the department would be managed a great deal better than at present.

2230. Do you consider that the present Fisheries Act is a good one? In some respects I do not. I think there is room for a great deal of improvement.

2231. Do you think it would be an improvement if the rents for oyster leases were reduced and it was rendered compulsory to construct a spat collector? Yes.

2232. With regard to the defaulting oyster lessees have you no means of knowing that there are defaulters except by applying to the head office? That is the case.

2233. They do not furnish you voluntarily with the list? No; the list which I have now I sent for shortly before I came down here.

2234. Are we to understand that the Act makes no provision for compelling oyster lessees to pay their rent? I understand not. I can see nothing in the Act to compel them.

2235. Then anyone can go on with an oyster lease if he likes? Yes; and pay nothing.

2236. Anyone can take up a lease and not pay for it, and still it requires an inspector to look after him? Yes.

2237. Then, what are the duties of an inspector in this case. What is the use of an inspector travelling about if he has no power under the Act? The applications are sent to me; I have to measure the ground for the lease, and every three months I go round the district and report on the leases, as to whether the lessees are making any improvements, and what they are doing.

2238. What becomes of the reports? They are in the office.

2239. Can you give us any idea of the revenue derived from the leases in your district? From the oyster leases about £320 a-year is derived. There are not more than twenty fishing licenses; 10s. a-year is paid for the license, and £1 a-year for each boat.

2240. What is your salary? £240 a-year.

2241. And your boatman's salary? £100 a-year.

2242. That makes £340 a-year, so that by the time the salaries are paid there would be very little left for the Crown? There would not be anything left when the travelling expenses were paid.

2243. What do the travelling expenses come to on an average? I am paid actual expenses, and they amounted to under £40 last year.

2244. So that the whole of the revenue would be absorbed in paying for the inspector? I think so.

2245. And rather more if some of the lessees do not pay? Yes.

2246. *Mr. Ritchie.*] You said you had reason to believe that there was not a quorum at many meetings of the Commissioners. Do you know if any business was ever transacted at meetings where no quorum was present? No.

2247. *Chairman.*] Is there any other information which you would like to tender the Committee? There is one suggestion which I might make, and which I think would save a lot of unnecessary inspection. That would be to increase the size of the oyster ring, and if a man is caught selling illegal oysters, that is under a certain size, make him pay a heavy fine. I would suggest that the ring should be 2 inches in diameter, instead of 1½ inch, as at present.

2248. *Mr. Stephen.*] That would increase the legal size of the oyster very materially? Yes.

2249. *Chairman.*] Have you any idea of the quantity of oysters which are sent from your district to Sydney for sale? Yes; from the Clyde River in 1884, 346 bags; in 1885, 1,240 bags; in 1886, 1,274 bags; in 1887, 597 bags; in 1888, 441 bags. From Tuross in 1886, 335 bags; 1887, 272 bags; in 1888, 44 bags; Moruya in 1887, 96 bags; in 1888, 47 bags. Tomago River in 1887, 35 bags; in 1888, 11 bags. From the other rivers, the Wagonga and the Narrowwilla, they sent their returns direct to the office, and I do not know what they send.

2250. *Mr. Stephen.*] How did you arrive at those quantities? They have to report to the inspector before they ship the oysters.

2251. *Chairman.*] Was that provision made so that the royalty could be charged on the oysters? Yes.

2252. Who used to collect the royalty? The Customs department.

2253. In Sydney? Yes.

2254. Was it not possible that the Customs' duty was evaded? We had to send a telegram to the inspector in Sydney, Mr. Mulhall, and another telegram to the Customs department, stating that oysters were being shipped, and the number from our district.

2255. *Mr. Stephen.*] Did that cause additional expense in the working of the Act? Yes, the cost of the telegrams.

2256. Could you suggest any amendment in the Act? There are a lot of useless regulations under the present Act. It is almost impossible for any man to carry them out.

2257. Are all those regulations authorised by the Act? Yes.

2258. Are they framed by the Commission first? Yes.

TUESDAY, 23 JULY, 1889.

Present:—

MR. NOBBS,
MR. O'SULLIVAN,
MR. RITCHIE,

MR. WILLIAM STEPHEN,
MR. STEVENSON,
MR. FRANK FARNELL.

FRANK FARNELL, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. Thomas Temperley called in and further examined:—

2259. *Chairman.*] The Committee desire to obtain from you a verification of the additions which you have made to the evidence submitted to you for your revision. Have you made those additions for the purpose of making your answers more intelligible and explicit? Yes, giving facts and data.

2260. *Mr. Nobbs.*] Have you omitted anything from your evidence? No; I have simply supplemented my answers by giving facts.

Mr. T.
Temperley.
23 July, 1889.

Mr.

Mr. F. W. Smithers called in and further examined:—

- Mr. F. W. Smithers.
23 July, 1889.
2261. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] I find that you have dealt pretty exhaustively with the question of oyster-culture. In what position is New South Wales to-day in regard to that question? In a very backward position.
2262. What is the ordinary method by which oyster-culture is carried on here at present? A man takes up 100 yards, and he takes everything from it. He leaves it absolutely bare of oysters; he does nothing to stop the spat from getting away; he never takes the trouble of putting anything down for the spat to adhere to,—that is what we call oyster-culture at the present time here. Others take up the same sized area of land, and they take oysters from the Crown lands which are not under lease, and they put those oysters on the land they have under lease and take them up again.
2263. Is that the only process by which they promote the culture of oysters? Yes; robbing Peter to pay Paul.
2264. Have you made a study of the way in which the French and Italians have carried on oyster-culture? Yes.
2265. Do you know the great revolution which was made in oyster-culture in France about 1858, by Monsieur Costé and others? Yes.
2266. The process is simply to clean the bottom of the ground? Yes, they clear it of mud and slime.
2267. And place tiles or fascines or any other rough substance in the beds for the spat to adhere to? Yes.
2268. That system has been very successful in France—have you heard of any marked successes in France? I cannot particularise any case; they are all successful.
2269. Did you hear of the case of Aurary, in France, in which a man planted 2,000 tiles in his oyster-beds, and in one year succeeded in getting 6,000,000 oysters? Yes.
2270. Has the method by which they cultivate the oyster in Lake Fusaro, in Italy, come under your notice? Yes.
2271. Is that a very ancient method? Yes, but it is very efficacious.
2272. They artificially plant pyramids of stones surrounded by stakes to intercept the spawn? Yes.
2273. Faggots and fascines are also used? Yes, all to catch the spat.
2274. Do you know the method by which they cultivate the oyster in Ireland? No.
2275. They plant hurdles and fascines there? It is the same in any part of the world.
2276. These are simple methods? Yes.
2277. And very successful? Yes.
2278. Would it be possible to induce our oystermen to take up those methods in New South Wales? Yes, but by compulsion only.
2279. Do you think it would be assisted by the importation of French or Italian experts? I do not think so.
2280. Do you think that those methods are so simple that our oystermen could learn them themselves? Yes.
2281. As a matter of fact this method was first discovered by a simple stonemason named Bœuf, who lit upon it accidentally? Yes.
2282. By planting little parks in the water he succeeded in establishing the industry? Yes.
2283. Was it then taken up by the French Government under the management of Costé, and it then became a great success? Yes.
2284. Do you think our oystermen could be induced to carry out oyster-culture by those methods, and if so by what means could they be induced? My suggestion is to compel every man to take up 500 yards. At the present time he does nothing to stop the spat from going away. I hold that he should be compelled to have a spat collector, which is a wall of wood covered with cement, or it might be made of stone—it would be a permanent improvement upon the land. Inside the space, enclosed by this wall, there would be a lot of sticks, fascines, and other things, to which the spat could adhere. When it was mature it could be taken off and laid all over the bed.
2285. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Would that wall be up to low-water mark outside? It would be started from high-water mark, and it would be run out according to the size of the bed.
2286. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] I suppose this would be a very cheap method of catching the spat? It would be cheap enough, because I recommend a large reduction in the rents.
2287. Is there any danger of the oyster supply giving out within a reasonable distance of Sydney? Yes, if there is nothing done I hold that we shall have no oysters at all in five years.
2288. Then it is essential that some steps should be taken to cultivate the oysters? Yes.
2289. Do you recommend that a close season should be established to allow the oysters to breed? I cannot recommend that—the only thing I can recommend is what I have already stated.
2290. Have you ever read the works of Mr. Eyton on oyster-culture? Yes.
2291. Does he not recommend close seasons? Yes.
2292. You think it is not absolutely essential to have a close season? Yes.
2293. Do you recommend that the rents should be reduced only on condition that the lessee carries out the improvements which you recommend for promoting oyster-culture? Yes.
2294. Are you aware that there is no restriction whatever in New South Wales with respect to the sale of oysters in the market? There is inspection.
2295. Is that the case in the market? I do not know about the market, but I go amongst the shops myself, in order to see that the oysters are of proper size, but I have no authority to deal with oysters which are unfit for human food.
2296. That is what I mean—is there no inspection in order to protect the public against oysters which are not fit for food? That is the case. As I was passing an oyster-shop the other night I found that there was rather a heavy smell proceeding from the shop. I walked in to examine the oysters, and I found that about 75 per cent. of the oysters were dead and the remaining 25 per cent. were unfit for human food.
2297. What do you do in such a case? I report to the Commissioners, but they can do nothing.
2298. Could not the Inspector of Nuisances of Sydney interfere? Yes, but what I am speaking of occurred at 10 o'clock at night.
2299. Those oysters might have been sold? Yes, goodness knows how many were sold before I appeared on the scene.

2300. Would you suggest that some power should be given to allow of an inspection and condemnation if necessary? Yes, the only power we have got at present is the oyster ring, and that should be a quarter of an inch larger.

Mr. F. W.
Smithers.
23 July, 1889.

2301. Any oyster that will not pass through a ring of an inch and a-half is condemned? Such an oyster is too small for the market, although sometimes it is an old oyster.

2302. How do you manage if there is a clump of oysters stuck together? We do not always interfere unless the case is too glaring.

2303. Are you aware that there are bushels of those small oysters in clumps stolen off Crown lands and sold in the suburbs? Yes, and I have prosecuted in some of those cases myself. We have no law at all to prohibit the stealing of oysters from Crown lands.

2304. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Is there wholesale robbery of oysters from Crown lands going on at present? Yes, and it has been going on ever since 1884.

2305. What steps would you suggest to stop that? The first thing would be to issue new leases, as I have suggested, and secondly to bring in a penalty for oyster-stealing off Crown lands. There is no penalty at the present time.

2306. *Mr. Stephen.*] Is there no means of telling the age of oysters from their appearance? No, you might form an opinion from the roughness of the shell, but that is a mistaken notion.

2307. An oyster might pass through the ring, and although it might be an old one, you would have no means of determining that it was? No. If the oyster is deep and cuppy we let it pass.

2308. Do you measure them as much for the protection of the public as for the protection of the oysters? Yes.

Mr. Peter Richardson called in, sworn, and examined:—

2309. *Chairman.*] What are you? A fisherman.

2310. For how long? Twenty-six years.

2311. Where have you been principally working? Sydney Harbour, Broken Bay, and Brisbane Water, all over Parramatta River, and Hawkesbury River.

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2312. Within the last ten years where have your operations been carried on? In the three places.

2313. Are you an oyster-lessee? No.

2314. Have you been simply engaged in fishing? Yes.

2315. Where are your head-quarters? I used to work the Hawkesbury River most, but now that so much of the river has been closed I have knocked it off. I have not been up there now for eighteen months.

2316. Did you leave on account of the closing of the river? Yes.

2317. Did you find that the field was not open enough for you on account of the Commissioners closing certain waters, and on account of so many people coming into competition with you? Yes; and the railway on the lower part inside the bridge injured the fishing a great deal. There is a place called Dangar's Island, and it was as good a place as any in the Hawkesbury River, but it is spoiled.

2318. Have you got a good knowledge of the hauling-grounds in the Hawkesbury River? Yes; as high as Mangrove Creek.

2319. Do you know whether the waters were closed in accordance with the wish of the fishermen at the Hawkesbury? I do not think so.

2320. Have you ever heard the fishermen complain of the limited space in which they are allowed to haul? Yes. That is a frequent cause of complaint with them.

2321. Do you know whether the local inspector was asked to make a report on the matter before the Commissioners closed those waters? I cannot say.

2322. How has the hauling-ground at Dangar's Island been destroyed? By a wharf, which has been built on it.

2323. Has it been spoilt in any other way? No.

2324. Was that considered to be one of the best hauling-grounds in the Hawkesbury? Yes.

2325. Could you, or any of those engaged with you in fishing, ever tell why the Commission closed the waters of the Hawkesbury in the way they did? No.

2326. Do you think that any serious result would accrue from opening the river so far as the main channel is concerned, up to Wiseman's Ferry? I do not know about Wiseman's Ferry; but I do not know that any harm would be done if it were opened up to Mangrove Creek. I do not believe that there are any hauling-grounds worth speaking of above Mangrove Creek.

2327. Do you remember that at one time it was closed to the railway bridge? Yes.

2328. It was extended on application by myself, I believe, on behalf of the fishermen, to Bar Point. Do you not think that it might have been reasonably extended further? Yes; because by extending it to Bar Point they did not give us much extra work; we only had the channel work.

2329. In carrying out your avocation as a fisherman, have you had to buy boats and nets, and to employ men? Yes.

2330. Have you ever had any of your nets seized? No.

2331. Did you ever know of any nets having been seized? Yes.

2332. For what reason? For being unlawful nets, and for being in closed waters.

2333. Do nets after being tanned once or twice shrink considerably? Yes.

2334. On their first submission to the Commission or inspectors for approval, as to the nets being of a legal mesh, is there any allowance made for shrinkage? Yes? I believe they do allow a little. The nets shrink very much. Hardly six months ago I was fitting out a garfish-net, and it was $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in the mesh; it has now shrunk to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch.

2335. Do you not think it would remove a lot of complaints if there was a law to punish people for bringing fish under a certain weight to market, rather than to be so particular as to the mesh of the net? Yes; that would be a great deal better.

2336. Do you remember Crossland's net being seized? Yes. I was there at the time.

2337. Can you tell the Committee some of the circumstances connected with that case? I do not know whether the man told me the truth or not, but he said that he caught the fish, only a basketful, at Dangar's Island. He went home for some purpose and he was coming down on the ebb tide when the

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- inspector followed him ; he did not know that it was the inspector. As soon as he got opposite the bridge he stopped, and the inspector came up to him. He had his boots on and dry trousers—and the inspector seized his nets.
2338. Because I suppose he found the man with his net in closed waters? Yes, he saw him coming down.
2339. Do you know whether that net was ever restored to Crossland? I asked, and I heard that it was not.
2340. You do not know what became of it? No.
2341. For all you know it may be rotting in the stores? I asked Inspector Smith, and he said it was not restored.
2342. Do you know what is generally done with the nets when they are seized? They are sold.
2343. Are they sold in the state in which they are seized? I believe they are cut up in some way.
2344. Do you not think it would be much better to give the local inspector more power with regard to regulating the fishing-grounds for the fishermen? I cannot say that there is a competent inspector to do so except one. There is only one practical fisherman amongst the inspectors, and that is Smith, at the Hawkesbury.
2345. Do you not think it would be much better to let Smith have charge of the Hawkesbury district, so that he might recommend on his own responsibility the opening or closing of certain waters? I do not think there could be a better one to do so.
2346. When making application for renewal of a license have you ever had cause for complaint for delay in getting a license? No. I never went for any license until this year. I used to send for it and get it. This year I had to go myself, and the license was given to me.
2347. Do you not think that if the inspector had power to issue licenses it would save the fishermen a great deal of trouble? Yes.
2348. During the time you have been fishing at the Hawkesbury River have you sent many fish to market? Yes.
2349. What sort of fish? Black-bream, garfish, whiting, mullet, and jew-fish.
2350. I suppose the fish generally arrive in very good condition? Yes.
2351. Had you ever had reason to complain of the shortness of the quantity which arrive at the fish-market at Woolloomooloo, as compared with the original shipment? I do not know about their arrival at the fish-market; I think the fish disappear after their arrival at the market. I am almost sure of it.
2352. Is it entirely in connection with the sale of the fish that they go? Yes.
2353. You never get returns from your agent for the same quantity of fish that you send down? You get returns for the same number of baskets, but of course you cannot tell the quantity of fish that have been sold. They make two heaps for every basket, but after the fish are put into those heaps the basket is taken away a quarter full of fish. Any private individual going down to the market of a morning, and especially of a Friday morning, can see this done regularly.
2354. You know the fish-market pretty well? Yes; I was the first to put fish into it.
2355. Do you think that the accommodation is sufficient for the requirements of the fishermen and the public? I think there might be a lot of improvement.
2356. Have you been in the habit of sending your fish to market by steamer? Yes.
2357. Where was the steamer generally moored? In Darling Harbour, at Lime-street.
2358. Do you not think that it would be a good idea to have another depôt established for the sale of fish at Darling Harbour, as well as at Woolloomooloo? I think it would be a very good idea; somewhere near where the trains come.
2359. I suppose a great quantity of fish, which is caught in the Hawkesbury River, comes by rail? It ought all to come by rail, as it is by far the cheapest way.
2360. Have you heard other fishermen complain of the shortness of their consignments when sent to market? Yes; all of them.
2361. Have they never arrived at a conclusion as to the best remedy for this state of affairs? I have been trying to make them take some steps, but they do not like to go to the expense. I wanted to employ a detective last winter, but they would not have anything to do with it. The reason is this: I do not think they like to offend Mr. Seymour, or anybody in the market. Last winter, in July, I made a haul of nineteen baskets of fish. A fisherman was coming up with the fish to Sydney, and I asked him if he would put out my fish in the morning at the market. He accompanied the fish up to the quay, and put them on a cart, and he said that up to that time no fish had been interfered with. He went up to the market in the morning at 20 minutes to 5 o'clock to put out my fish, but they were already put out, and he found that there were not half of them there. There were 6 dozen whiting in one basket, and 2 dozen in another basket. The whiting were very large. He said that 2 dozen of the large whiting were not put out in the market at all; the heaps were simply arranged so as to make up a sufficient number of them.
2362. So that the pilfering must have taken place between Circular Quay and the market? Yes; and after their arrival at the market.
2363. Do you not think it would be a good idea to have brass locks and keys on the baskets? Yes. I daresay that it could be done in that way.
2364. It has been stated here that there is no proper provision made for the show of the fish, and that it is quite possible for the people to trample and spit upon them? That is done regularly.
2365. In the interests of the public is it not necessary that some steps should be taken to provide better accommodation? Yes.
2366. Do you know how long the Hawkesbury River has been closed? I think it was closed for two or three years the first time, and for twelve months the last time.
2367. So that it has been closed permanently for three years? Yes.
2368. Might it not be left open for six or three months in each year? My opinion is that if you worked with a lawful net in the Hawkesbury River, and kept it open as far as Mangrove Creek, you would do no harm. From Mangrove Creek up to Windsor there would be 50 miles of ground that could not be worked. In summer-time the Hawkesbury River almost closes itself on account of the blubber.
2369. Do you come into contact with people engaged in the oyster industry? Yes.
2370. Have you ever heard them complain of people stealing their oysters? Yes.
2371. Which do you think are the best fishing-grounds? The Hawkesbury River.

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2372. When are the fish most prolific in the Hawkesbury River? In the summer-time they are very thick.
2373. Do you understand anything about the migratory habits of fish? Yes.
2374. Which are the particular fish that travel? The sea-garfish, mullet, travally, black-bream, and black-fish.
2375. In which direction do they travel? From south to north.
2376. Do you catch many schnapper in the Hawkesbury? No; but there is a place called Cowan Creek where they are very plentiful. I have heard that as many as twenty baskets have been caught in a haul there, but I never caught them myself.
2377. Do you know the coast very well? Yes.
2378. Do you think that trawling could be carried on successfully here? I do not think so. The bottom is too rocky.
2379. Have you had an opportunity of speaking with all the fishermen, and can the views which you have given be pretty well borne out by other fishermen? Yes.
2380. Do you know a man named Izard at the Hawkesbury? Yes.
2381. Has he had a pretty good experience of fishing? Middling. He lives at Brooklyn.
2382. Do you think that there is sufficient length of net permitted to be used? Of course a net that will suit Sydney harbour will not suit everywhere else. In the Hawkesbury River a net 200 fathoms long would not do any harm at any time.
2383. Do you think it would be better not to be so particular about the mesh of the net as about the size of the fish? I think that the mesh of the sinking net does a great deal of harm.
2384. Have you ever fished in the Parramatta River? Yes, a great deal.
2385. How long has that river been closed? For three years, with the exception of a fortnight.
2386. Do you not think that the open waters might be extended to the railway bridge at Ryde? Yes.
2387. Have you noticed any decrease in the number of fish in the Parramatta River of late years? Yes; I do not believe you would find any fish in it at all now worth speaking of. They were very plentiful, but the fresh which came on so suddenly drove them all out, and now you cannot find them anywhere. I think that the mouth of a harbour wants closing instead of the head of the harbour. I think it would do more good to close Sydney harbour for a mile from the entrance.
2388. Are there any good fishing-grounds in Middle Harbour? No.
2389. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] With regard to the stealing of fish, do you imagine it takes place at the fish-market—are you aware that they deny it down there? They deny it, I daresay, but anybody can see it who goes down there. They can see the stealing done.
2390. Are you aware that some time ago they had detectives to watch the fish from the boat to the market, and that they discovered some men stealing? I did not know that they put on detectives, but I knew that a couple of persons were discovered stealing fish. They were tried at the Water Police Court, but they got off somehow.
2391. Did they not get off on account of the fishermen stating that they had given those persons permission to take the fish? I did not give permission; they wanted me to go up, but I did not go.
2392. Were your fish part of those which were stolen? No.
2393. Is it a fact that they discovered that the fish were given away, or rather that they were handed over to different parties on the way to market? Yes; I think that was the way they were found; but I could bring any amount of witnesses to prove that the fish were also taken in the market.
2394. By whom do you suspect the fish are taken? By a great many.
2395. By the hawkers? By the hawkers, and plenty of others. They go round with their little baskets or bags; they go to one man's heap and to another man's heap, and they take a few here and there, until they get a bagful. You can see the inspectors doing it themselves.
2396. Whereabouts is Bar Point on the Hawkesbury? About 19 miles from the mouth, and about 7 miles higher up the river than the bridge.
2397. Do you think that if the waters were opened as far as Mangrove Creek that would offer great inducements to fishermen? Yes. They would be able to make a living then, whereas they cannot do so now.
2398. What is your reason for thinking that trawling cannot be carried on on this coast? As far as I have seen the bottom is too rocky.
2399. Is not trawling carried on off Great Britain and Ireland where the bottom is rocky? I do not know what sort of bottom they have there.
2400. You have been fishing for 26 years and I suppose your appliances and experience are pretty much the same as those of most of the other fishermen? Yes.
2401. How old were you when you began fishing? Seventeen years.
2402. Do you not think that the fishermen of New South Wales are somewhat behind the times with their appliances? I do not know. Trawling was tried here thirty years ago by a man named Malcolm.
2403. If the fishing-grounds were surveyed, and you had something like fair charts to show the nature of the bottom, do you not think that trawling could be carried out? I do not see why it should not be carried out if we get a suitable bottom; but I do not see how a trawl could go on a rocky bottom.
2404. Is there any reason why it should not be carried out by the fishermen of New South Wales as well as the fishermen of Great Britain? I should think not.
2405. If the coast were surveyed they might be able to carry out trawling? Yes, I think if there are any trawling places at all they will be found in Queensland. There is a beautiful bottom there.
2406. But the whole of the bottom along this coast is not rocky? I do not suppose it is.
2407. Do you know that there are many places, such as that opposite Port Hacking, where trawling could be carried on? Yes, with short trawls.
2408. What was the cause of the failure of trawling thirty years ago? They could not get any fish. I noticed in the paper the other day that they also failed in a trawling experiment made in Victoria.
2409. Are you much troubled with sharks in the Hawkesbury? Yes, they are very plentiful.
2410. Are they dangerous to fishermen? No.
2411. Are they sea sharks? No, they are what they call nurses.
2412. They are nothing like the sharks that come into Port Jackson? No.
2413. Do you think that if a bonus were offered for the destruction of sea-sharks in Port Jackson it would lead to their destruction? It might be the case.

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2414. I suppose it would pay the fishermen to destroy sharks if they were paid 10s. per head? Yes, they will not catch them otherwise.
2415. Do the sharks interfere with the fishermen's nets and boats? They interfere with the nets. If you have a shoal of mullet they generally come and bite the net at the back. They do not interfere with the boats.
2416. *Chairman.*] Do you think that the closing of the river has anything to do with inducing sharks to go up after the fish, owing to the fish becoming plentiful through the closing of the river? No. I do not think that the fish are plentiful. I do not think there is a man in Sydney harbour who would say that he could go up Parramatta River and catch three baskets of fish at a haul.
2417. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] You suggested just now that instead of closing the heads of harbours the mouths should be closed? Yes, at the heads.
2418. What would be the good of that, if the men were allowed to catch the fish inside? At present the fishermen will not allow the fish to enter the harbour; for instance, when a lot of fish are coming in at the south reef at the entrance to Port Jackson the fishermen will go out night or day and shoot their nets to catch them. The fishermen will try to make a haul with sea-garfish at night-time when they can perhaps only get five baskets, whereas if they shot their nets in the day-time they would get a boat-load. This drives the fish back again from the entrance, and they do not come in again at all. I have spoken to the fishermen about it, but they say "If we can get three or four baskets of the garfish nobody else will get any so that it will pay us," but they forget that it only pays them for one morning.
2419. *Mr. Stephen.*] Do you think that it is desirable to have some closed waters in the harbour? From the railway bridge upwards it would do no harm.
2420. Would that apply to any river? Yes; in any place I think there ought to be some closed waters. When I speak about closing the entrance to the harbour, I refer to garfish, bream, and whiting. They come in about Christmas time. If the sea-garfish are shot at for two nights running they will never come inside the heads the same year again.
2421. Are you aware of the objects in closing portions of the waters? Yes; for the protection of fish in breeding.
2422. Do you not consider that the heads of rivers are better for spawning than the entrance to harbours? Yes; but how are the fish to get up there unless you let them in at the heads?
2423. Then it would be desirable to have the heads closed as well as the head waters? Yes, for a short distance. If Sydney harbour were closed for a mile from the entrance it would interfere with hardly any work at all.
2424. Does the mesh of the nets shrink a great deal? Yes.
2425. When the nets shrink below the legal size what do you do with them? They are pretty nearly worn out by that time if you buy the net a little larger than the size mentioned in the Act.
2426. Did you say you think it would be better to provide against fish of an illegal size being sold than to prevent nets of a small mesh being used? I would not have the mesh smaller than $1\frac{1}{4}$ and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches.
2427. If you were allowed to fish with a net which had shrunk below the legal size, and there was only a provision for fining fishermen who brought fish of an illegal size to the market, what would you do with the fish below a legal size which was caught with the net—would you leave them to die on the beach? We do not do that. I know many fishermen who do not do it, but there are others who do.
2428. What do you do with the very small fish which you catch? Throw them back into the water.
2429. Under such circumstances would they live? Sometimes they do. It depends upon the size of the net. Once they are meshed in the net they will not live.
2430. If fishermen were allowed to work with nets below the legal size of mesh would it not tend to destroy large quantities of small fish? Yes. I do not believe in working an unlawful net. I was never caught fishing in closed waters nor fishing with an unlawful net.
2431. Is Inspector Smith, at the Hawkesbury, a practical fisherman? Yes. He is a good schnapper-man, and a good net fisherman.
2432. Has he been a long time resident on the Hawkesbury River? Yes; when he was doing the principal part of his fishing he was living at Watson's Bay.
2433. What do the fishermen complain of with regard to the working of the Fisheries Act? They complain that they have not got enough places to work.
2434. Do they complain as to the size of their nets? No.
2435. Do you think it would be any benefit to the fishermen if the Hawkesbury River were opened as far as Wiseman's Ferry, and all the tributaries were closed? I would not say Wiseman's Ferry, but it would be a benefit if it were opened as far as Mangrove Creek.
2436. In which way would the fish best arrive at the market if sent by rail or if sent by steamer? I should say by rail. They would arrive quicker by that means.
2437. Do you say that the migratory fish always travel from south to north? That is the way we have always seen them travel.
2438. Do they never go in an opposite direction? We have never seen them do so.
2439. Can you suggest any amendments in the Fisheries Act which would not be detrimental to the supply of fish, but which would give a better livelihood to the fishermen? I can only suggest the opening up of the rivers.
2440. *Mr. Ritchie.*] How do you know that the fish travel from south to north? We watch for them.
2441. How can you tell? We can see them when they are coming. If we are watching for the mullet we will first hear of them from the south. First from Shoalhaven, then from Port Hacking, Botany, Sydney, and then they enter Broken Bay. When we are looking out for them they always come from the south.
2442. When they are coming from Shoalhaven how do you ascertain that? We get telegrams from different places.
2443. From fishermen? Yes.
2444. Can you tell that the fish are travelling up from the south when you are on the coast yourself? Yes. You can see them—they make a great deal of work in the water; you can see them on a dark night better than in the day-time.
2445. If another person has given evidence that the fish travel from north to south would you think that that is correct? No one about Sydney harbour would say that and tell the truth; he could not say that he had seen them travel that way.

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2446. To whom do you apply for your license every year? I go to Phillip-street, I think.
2447. Do you have to come to Sydney for it? I live in Sydney.
2448. Do the fishermen on the Hawkesbury have to come to Sydney for their licenses? I heard that every man had to come to Sydney to get his own license, and I therefore asked the inspector at Brisbane Water if that was the case, he said no, that the fishermen give him the money there and he gets the licenses for them.
2449. He receives the money? Yes.
2450. No inconvenience arises at any time about obtaining those licenses? The only complaint I have heard was made this year, and that was by the Sydney fishermen. Every Sydney fisherman was compelled to go and get his license himself.
2451. Do you know of any instance where fishermen were delayed for any length of time in getting their licenses? No.
2452. They can always go to fish at once? Yes, I always knew that my license was always forthcoming whenever I wanted it.
2453. Have you not mentioned that you have seen inspectors stealing the fish? I do not know what you would call it, but I have seen them with bags and handkerchiefs going from one heap to another and taking the fish away.
2454. Have you ever seen them do that with your fish? No; the reason is that I had a mate at one time who stopped them from doing it when I was not there.
2455. Whom do those inspectors belong to—to the City Council or the Commissioners? To the Commissioners I think.
2456. They are inspectors of the Fisheries Commission? Yes.
2457. Are you sure? They are a boating crew.
2458. Connected with the Fisheries Commission? Yes.
2459. Not with the market only? No, not with the market.
2460. Who are the other people who steal fish? The carters and those around them. There are six agents in the market, and each agent has four or five men around him. The whole of the commission they get will not give over £30 or £35, and how could they pay those twenty-four or thirty men unless they took the fish?
2461. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Is that their only means of livelihood? Pretty well. They can go to the races and spend as much money as any man.
2462. *Mr. Stevenson.*] How long have you been fishing? Twenty-six years.
2463. Do you know of a fact that large quantities of fish have been lost at the markets? Yes.
2464. Do the fish from Brisbane Water mostly disappear? Yes; I suppose that is because they happen to be the freshest fish that come to market.
2465. Are the men who are in the habit of helping themselves from the fish at the market connected with the Fisheries Commission? Yes; there are never more than three inspectors connected with the Fisheries Commission at the market.
2466. You say that the fish are taken from the heaps—can you say whether the parties who take the fish are in the habit of paying for them? I do not think that they do pay for them.
2467. Can you say that they do not? I believe that they do not pay for them. They may have been doing so lately, within the last week or so; but they did not do it before.
2468. Do you attend the market very often? Yes.
2469. Have you ever seen fish sent away by anyone connected with the markets? Yes.
2470. Very often? Yes.
2471. More particularly on Fridays? Yes.
2472. Then, in your opinion, the fish-market is not properly conducted? I am sure it is not.
2473. Do you know at whose request Middle Harbour was opened? No; I cannot say for certain, but I think it was opened just for the sake of one man. If all the fishermen in Sydney were asked I think everyone of them, except one or two, would say that they did not care whether Middle Harbour was closed or not.
2474. Then you think that Middle Harbour was not opened at the request of the fishermen? I am sure it was not.
2475. Have you ever seen any of the officials connected with the Commission fishing on the fishing-grounds either in Sydney or outside? No.
2476. What is your opinion about prawn-nets? I think it is a very bad net when it is used as a sinking net. When it is used in that manner it kills a tremendous lot of small fish of all sorts. I do not know why the prawn-nets should not be used as floating nets. I have caught a lot of prawns, but I have always done it with floating nets.
2477. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] You have spoken about getting information from Shoalhaven and other places along the coast when the fish are coming up;—do you get that information from friends? Yes.
2478. Will it be better for the fishermen if the Government establish signal-stations from which information could be sent with regard to the movements of the fish? They would not know any sooner.
2479. Suppose the men at the light-house at Twofold Bay or Green Cape telegraphed that the fish were coming up the coast, would not the fishermen in Sydney know it in proper time? Yes.
2480. Would not that be to their advantage? Not much, because they know pretty well at present.
2481. You say that the Woolloomooloo market is not properly conducted;—in what respects do you mean? In different ways; you do not get the returns from the fish that are put into the market that you ought to get, because the fish are not properly sold.
2482. Do they not give you every accommodation—have they not electric lighting and refrigerating apparatus and other conveniences? Yes; but we pay for all that. We pay 2s. in the £—1s. for sale and 1s. for agency.
2483. If you bring fish to the market in the evening can you not keep it in the refrigerating room until next morning? No; unless we pay 1s. in the £.
2484. You are a native, and you have only got experience here? Yes.
2485. Then how can you compare this market with any other markets? I have not compared it with other markets.
2486. How can you tell that it is not properly conducted? When you are robbed you know that things are not being conducted properly.

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2487. Do you think that any improvements can be suggested? Yes; a fisherman must not offend Mr. Seymour. If he does he suffers for about three months afterwards.
2488. In what way? Because when he comes to sell your fish he knocks them down as fast as the dealers can pick them up.
2489. Does he know your fish? The fisherman's name is always sung out.
2490. Could you not number them so as to avoid that? You have to put your name down in full, so that the inspectors can see that you have a license.
2491. Could not that be done irrespective of Mr. Seymour—could you not have some number or token so as to identify your fish, and you could then have protection against Mr. Seymour or anybody else? Yes, that could be done.
2492. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Can you not call in your own auctioneer? No.
2493. *Chairman.*] Do you not think it would be better if there were proper tables, such as they have in other parts of the world, on which the fish could be placed and offered for sale? Yes; that might do. At present, on Friday especially, the fish are packed on to the floor, as they do not want to have a second sale if they can help it, and when a dealer buys a heap of fish in one place he has to tread on another heap of fish to get to it.
2494. So that they are sold to the public in very bad condition, having been trodden and spat upon? Yes, in very bad condition.
2495. Have you noticed whether many people chew tobacco in the fish-markets? You will always see that going on, but smoking has been stopped within the last month.
2496. *Mr. Stephen.*] Would it not be possible to prevent chewing too? It would take a lot of watching to do that.
2497. Are your real complaints directed more against the treatment that the fish get in the market than against the Fisheries Act itself? The Fisheries Act is bad, because we have not got enough water to work in.
2498. But you have greater complaints against the management of the market? Yes.
2499. *Mr. Stevenson.*] What is your objection to the Hawkesbury being opened as far as Wiseman's Ferry? Because I do not know the river about Mangrove Creek. If anyone recommends that the river should be opened above Mangrove Creek they might be right. I know there are very few hauling-grounds above Mangrove Creek.

Mr. James Edwards called in, sworn, and examined:—

Mr. J.
Edwards.
23 July, 1889.

2500. *Chairman.*] What are you? A fisherman.
2501. How long have you been so engaged? Twenty-six or twenty-seven years.
2502. Where? George's River chiefly. I was at Port Stephens for a very short time.
2503. Where are you located at the present time? George's River.
2504. Do you belong to the Botany Fishermen's Association? I am a member of it.
2505. Have you at any time had reason to complain of the operation of the Fisheries Act? Yes; we have had reason to complain of the closing of waters, of the length of the nets, and the size of the mesh.
2506. Are there good fishing-grounds in George's River? There are some good grounds, but the chief part of George's River is very rough.
2507. Where is the river closed? To the railway bridge at Como.
2508. Do you think it could be opened up higher without doing injury to the public? Yes.
2509. To where would you suggest it should be opened? To Salt-pan Creek, on George's River, and to the crossing-place on the Woniara River, that is the sand-bar where they used to cross the cattle from Liverpool on to the Southern Estate.
2510. How high up is that? About 2½ miles from the bridge. Salt-pan Creek is about 5 miles to 5½ miles from the railway bridge.
2511. Are you what is called a master fisherman? Yes.
2512. You have boats and nets, and you employ men? Yes.
2513. Do you send large quantities of fish to market? I have not been in the habit of sending large quantities lately. I have been retailing them myself. I have been hiring men to sell fish, and I sell them myself.
2514. I suppose that pays you better than sending fish to market? Yes; because lately the fish have been bringing very low prices.
2515. How used you to transmit the fish which you caught in George's River to the Woolloomooloo market? By a cart from George's River. I have sometimes driven it myself, and sometimes I employed a man to do so.
2516. So that you are not one of those fishermen who have suffered by pilfering on the part of carters? No.
2517. So that you have no reason to complain of your fish having been stolen? No.
2518. Have you a knowledge of the fish-markets? Yes.
2519. Do you think the accommodation there is adequate? No.
2520. Do you think it could be much improved? Yes; I think a more central place in the town would be a great improvement.
2521. Can you suggest any place which would be convenient for another depôt? Where Mr. Hudson has his timber-yard at Eveleigh would be a convenient place. The fish could be brought in by train, delivered there, and sent straight away without handling. That would save pilfering, and the handling of fish, which turns it bad. At present fish that is sent by train has to be taken down to Woolloomooloo, and it is then sent back to the train to be sent into the country. That does great injury to the fish. I think that if we had a market in a more central place we would have a superior class of dealers. Many respectable men would not care to go down to Woolloomooloo market to deal in fish.
2522. Have you frequently witnessed the sale of fish at the Woolloomooloo market? Yes.
2523. Is the fish thrown in heaps on the floor, and is it open to inspection by everyone there? Yes.
2524. People inspecting the fish, and others who have no interest except to pilfer fish, can spit and tread upon them? Yes; I have seen them do so repeatedly. Any one can handle the fish.
2525. Are any people who desire to buy fish permitted to handle them? Yes; I have not seen any objection made. I have seen dozens of people take them up, smell their gills, and drop them down again.
2526. So that the fish are injured in that way also? Yes, I have often thought it a great shame.

2527. Do you think it would be better to have proper tables—marble slab tables—for the display of fish, instead of their being indiscriminately thrown over the floor? Yes, something of that sort would be a great improvement. I hear that in Melbourne they show the fish in half-baskets, and dealers in that way know what kind of fish they are buying.
2528. They are sold according to sample? Yes.
2529. Have you dealt directly with the auctioneer or through an agent? Through an agent.
2530. Have you to pay the agent a commission? Yes.
2531. Have you also to pay a commission to the auctioneer? I do not know whether it is paid to the auctioneer or to the Corporation; but we have to pay 5 per cent. for the use of the market. I understand that the auctioneer is paid so much per morning.
2532. I suppose you always send your fish in time for the first sale? I try to, but others are doing the same. I have often been there between 2 and 3 o'clock in the morning, and yet I was not in time for the first sale.
2533. What is the time of the first sale? About half-past 5 o'clock.
2534. *Mr. Ritchie.*] What is the meaning of the first sale? The first lot of fish that is sold. The market will only hold so many heaps of fish at a time, and after the first lot is sold another lot is put down, and so on until all the fish are sold.
2535. *Chairman.*] Have you ever availed yourself of the refrigerating process? No.
2536. Have you never had any necessity to do so? Yes, I have had a necessity, but I have always thought it better to throw the fish away than to put them in the refrigerating chamber.
2537. Why? Because they are handled so much, and because they are always looked upon as stale fish by the dealers, and they bring the price down. The dealers bid 1s. a heap, or 2s. a heap for them, and the fresh fish which are sold afterwards, and which ought to bring 5s. or 10s. a heap, only bring the same price. Everyone is rushing to see the fish, and the buyers at the back do not know whether the fish have come out of the freezing-room or not.
2538. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Those fish give a start to the price? Yes, they bring down the market.
2539. *Chairman.*] Have you seen any people pilfering fish at the market? I would not like to say.
2540. This is a very important matter; we do not want you to give names? I have no objection to that. I have.
2541. By what means are they pilfered? I have seen fish tipped out of the baskets, and there might be one-quarter of a basket, or one-half basket which was not tipped out. The fish that are left in the baskets are generally put in the carts afterwards. When I have gone away I have seen them still in the baskets.
2542. It is quite possible that those pilfered fish are sent out and sold to the public? I do not think there is any doubt about that.
2543. Have you ever seen people with small bags going round to the different heaps and taking fish from them? No. I have seen them walking round with bags, but I have kept my eye specially on my own heap.
2544. Have you ever caught anyone stealing your fish? Yes.
2545. Did you prosecute them? No.
2546. Are the people whom you spoke of as emptying the baskets and leaving some in the bottoms connected with the fish-markets at all? Yes.
2547. Not with the Fisheries Commission? No.
2548. Are the fishing-grounds in George's River very prolific? Not in the open waters.
2549. What sort of fish do you catch there? Chiefly mullet; there is very little of anything else.
2550. Do you think that you would be in a much better position, and that you would be able to earn a better livelihood if there were more open waters? Yes, I am certain of it.
2551. Have you any complaints to make as to the size of the mesh or the nets? Yes. Our nets are too short—that is a very great evil. Through having a short net we have to cast it very often, and that drives the fish away. If we had longer nets we might make only one or two hauls a day and get a full freight. At present we do not get a full freight perhaps more than once in twelve months.
2552. Do you ever hear people complain of the unjust seizure of their nets? No.
2553. Have you ever heard complaints as to regulations made by the Fisheries Commission? Yes. There is a complaint as to the shortness of the nets.
2554. Have the fishermen of the Association ever made any recommendations to the Commission? Yes. We had a deputation to the Commission.
2555. Has nothing come of that? No. They promised us that they would give us a month's notice before they closed any waters.
2556. Do you apply personally at the office for your license? Yes.
2557. Would it not be better if power were given to the local inspector to issue licenses? Yes; I have always spoken in favour of that. I could never see the reason why we should not get the licenses from them without having to go to Sydney.
2558. Was George's River closed on the recommendation of the local inspector? No.
2559. It was closed without his recommendation? Yes, he says so.
2560. Do you think it would be a good thing to give the inspector power to decide upon the closing of certain waters and the closing of others? No.
2561. Do you know if any of the Fisheries Commissioners have visited George's River in connection with the Fisheries? I believe they have done so, but I have never seen them.
2562. Do you know anything of oyster culture? No, I am not an oyster lessee.
2563. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Is your association composed of master fishermen or of all fishermen? Of masters and labouring men too.
2564. Is it an organization to protect your interests? Yes.
2565. Have you as a body made any recommendations to the Fisheries Commission? Yes.
2566. Have they been acted upon? No. They never acted upon them further than that they said that they would give us an answer to the deputation as early as possible. They sent us an answer within, I think, a day or two of twelve months from the time we waited upon them.
2567. Was it a favourable answer then? No. They said they would do nothing at all for us in favour of lengthening our nets or opening any waters. The only thing they would do would be to give 25 fathoms in the wings on lakes such as Illawarra, but for the home fisheries they would do nothing.

- Mr. J. Edwards.
23 July, 1889.
2568. Do you think that the members of the Fisheries Commission understand the business? I do not think so. Their actions do not show that they have knowledge. I do not think that they would fix the lengths of nets which we have if they understood it. Any man should know that such a short net would drive the fish away.
2569. *Mr. Stephen.*] Have you any real grievances to complain of under the Fisheries Act? We have to complain of the closing of so much water and of the shortness of our nets.
2570. Those are the greatest grievances? Yes; and the size of the mesh.
2571. Would you be satisfied if more waters were open as hauling ground, and if you were allowed to use longer nets than you have at present? Yes; they allow us to use a garfish-net of 1½ inch; that is the largest size with which we can catch a garfish. If we use a mesh anything larger than that it is impossible to catch garfish, and if the mesh goes below that it is illegal.
2572. When the fish are taken into the market are they sorted? Not that I know of.
2573. Are they thrown out promiscuously on the floor and sold? Yes; sometimes the bream and whiting are sorted out, but that is done by the fishermen before they are sent to market.
2574. What is the total reduction that fishermen are subjected to for fees, charges, and everything of that sort in the market? 10 per cent.
2575. Does that include everything? Yes.
2576. Does that include payment to the fisherman's agent? Yes.
2577. You spoke of the pilfering in emptying the baskets. Is that done by officials who are paid to attend to the work of the markets? Yes.
2578. Are those men employed by the Corporation or by the Fisheries Commission? That is more than I can say. I believe they are employed by the agents, but I cannot say.
2579. Then they are not officials? I mean the six agents.
2580. Are they the servants of the Corporation or of the Fisheries Commission, or are they men employed by the various agents on behalf of the fishermen? I believe they are employed by the agents on behalf of the fishermen.
2581. Then you do not think that it is done by the servants of the Corporation or the servants of the Fisheries Commission? No.
2582. Do you think it would be a benefit for the fishermen to have a practical fisherman to represent them on the Commission? Yes.
2583. Is that the general desire of the fishermen of the Association? Yes.
2584. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Are the agents whom you speak of sent to the market by the Corporation or the Fisheries Commission, or how do they get there? I think anyone can get an office in the market as an agent.
2585. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Who pays the agents? The fishermen pay them 1s. in the £.
2586. They pay 5 per cent. to the market and 5 per cent. to the agents? Yes.
2587. Then I presume those men are engaged by the fishermen? Yes.
2588. They have the appointing of them? Yes.
2589. If you wanted a man to act as agent for you what step would you take? I would ask him to take the situation as agent in the market, and I suppose he would have to apply to the Corporation.
2590. They have to be sanctioned by the Corporation? I think so, but I am not certain of it. The agents are in the market, and I understand that what they get is 5 per cent. for selling.
2591. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Are we to understand that when you spoke of officials in connection with the market pilfering the fish, you mean to say it is always done by the agents? Not by the agents, but by their servants.
2592. Did you ever have a dispute with anyone with reference to your fish being taken? No; I saw a few of my fish taken away, but I did not think it worth while to speak about it. I went up to one man and asked him why he took my fish. He said he took only one, that he knew me, and that he did not think it would matter.
2593. Was that an official connected with the Fisheries Commission? No; it was a man dealing in the market.
2594. Do you think that reduced oyster rents would help oyster culture by small men? I have worked a great deal amongst oysters, and I am of opinion that if the rent were lower than it is at present a great many poor men would take up leases.
2595. Do you think that fish which have been stored in the ice-house at the markets should be sold separately from the fresh fish? Yes.
2596. And should not be mixed up with the fresh fish? Yes.
2597. *Chairman.*] From your experience as a fisherman and your knowledge of the coast, do you think that trawling could be carried out successfully here? I cannot answer that question. I do not understand anything about the bottom outside, and I never saw a trawling-net used. I have heard that there are trawling-grounds that would pay.
2598. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Would it not be an advantage to the fishermen if the auctioneer at the fish-market were under the control of the fishermen instead of being under the control of the Corporation, that is supposing that he sold for the fishermen at so much per cent.? Yes, I think that would be a great advantage.

THURSDAY, 25 JULY, 1889.

Present:—

MR. FRANK FARNELL,
MR. HOWE,
MR. RITCHIE,

MR. WILLIAM STEPHEN,
MR. STEVENSON,
MR. THOMPSON.

FRANK FARNELL, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. James Richard Hill called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. J. R. Hill.
25 July, 1889.
2599. *Chairman.*] What position do you hold in connection with the Fisheries Commission? I am one of the Commissioners.
2600. How long have you held that position? About five years.
2601. Are there four other gentlemen associated with you? Yes.
- 2602.

Mr.
J. B. Hill.
25 July, 1889.

2602. Have you taken any particular interest in the fishing industry of this Colony? If my being one of the most regular attendants at the board meetings is an evidence of it, I may say yes.
2603. How often do the board hold their meetings? Once a week.
2604. Have they lapsed at any time? Very rarely.
2605. How many generally attend the meetings? It is a rare thing for me to be absent unless I am away from town. It has happened on occasions that only two members have attended, but not for a long time past. Three have generally attended. The time when there was not a quorum present on various occasions was about twelve months ago. The terms of office of Mr. Ramsay and Dr. Cox had expired, they had not been reappointed, and they very properly refused to sit until they were officially gazetted. Otherwise we have had a fair number of meetings. As a rule whenever two were in attendance they have gone through the work, and the book has been afterwards taken to one other member, Mr. Oliver or Dr. Ramsay, who would go through what we had done, and confirm it.
2606. How many members constitute a quorum? Three.
2607. Do you not think that the plan of taking the book to a third member was very objectionable? It was the only way of conducting the business. There were only three Commissioners then in existence. Mr. Oliver, being the Parliamentary Draftsman, had his time so fully occupied that he could not always attend, and Dr. Cox and Mr. Ramsay were out of office.
2608. Do you consider that the provisions of the Fisheries Act have applied justly and have given satisfaction to those who carry on their calling as fishermen and oystermen? I think the Act is a fairly good one, but it has not given satisfaction in many respects, because where you have to close waters you will not give satisfaction to those who have been fishing in the vicinity of the closure. It is impossible to get an Act that will give unbounded satisfaction to everyone.
2609. Have the Commissioners worked together harmoniously? Yes, from beginning to end.
2610. Have you any reason to doubt the advisability of continuing the existence of the present Commission? I do not think that matters would be improved by altering the present system. Changes might take place with regard to the staff which might perhaps lessen the expense, but I think the system is a fairly good one, and I do not think that it entails unnecessary expense on the Government.
2611. Have you at any time brought under the notice of the Government proposals to remedy alleged defects in the Act? I was informed when I came into office that a draft Bill had been submitted, and that draft Bill was shown to me showing modifications and alterations. I was informed that that had been submitted to the Government, but that nothing had been done with regard to it. I was of opinion that that Bill contained a number of valuable provisions.
2612. As a Commissioner sitting in Court as it were, have you had any complaints brought under your notice by fishermen or others, as to the unjust operation of the Fisheries Act? Yes, many have objected to the closings. Others to the sale of nets.
2613. Have you taken any steps to remedy those alleged defects? We have always taken them into consideration.
2614. What time has generally been occupied in the sittings of the Commission? We meet at 3 o'clock, and we have been there till 6 o'clock. As a rule we are never away till 5 o'clock.
2615. Have the officers who are charged with carrying out the provisions of the Act power to seize nets of an unlawful mesh? Yes.
2616. Have many cases of that character come under your notice? I cannot recollect particular cases, but such cases have certainly come under our notice.
- 2617-8. Is it not a fact that some nets have been sold after seizure at the Commissioners' will, while at other times they have been allowed to rot? I never heard of a case where they were allowed to rot, or of their having been sold where they have not been made legal. If the net which is seized is partly legal and partly illegal, it is cut up and sold in legal portions. There is one style of net which is legal for one particular sort of fishing which is illegal for another style. A man might be fishing with an illegal bunt, which illegal bunt might, if it were of proper length, be legal, say, for a prawn-net. The Department has always cut the net so as to make it legal. When nets are sold there is a little hand-bill printed containing the auctioneer's name, the number and style of the net, its length, stating whether it is a legal hauling-net, prawn-net, or gar-fish net, or that it is not legal for anything, but suitable only for fruit trees.
2619. Have the officers of the Commission power to seize nets in closed waters? Yes.
2620. Whether they are in use or not? Yes; if they are being or have just been used there.
2621. Do you not think that that is a very harsh provision? I think it is rather the opposite. If a man fishes in closed waters he knows that his net will be seized.
2622. I refer to a case of this kind: If a man has his net in his boat and is pulling through closed waters, and if he happens to have caught fish in the open waters, but is discovered with his net in the closed waters, do you not think that it is a hard case that these nets should be confiscated? I am satisfied that no such case has arisen.
2623. Do you recollect the case of Crossland at the Hawkesbury? I do not remember any particular case, but I am satisfied that no magistrate would convict a man upon insufficient evidence. If a man were inside closed waters, as many of them have to be, because they live there, it would certainly be an unfair and unjust thing because a man had to go to and from his home to seize his net. I have never heard of a case of such injustice, but I have heard of cases where men were caught in the act of hauling, or where they had the fish alive in their boat, and when it would have been impossible for them to have caught fish outside closed waters. It is a matter of evidence before a magistrate, and unless a man is convicted a magistrate cannot confiscate his nets.
2624. The case of Crossland to which I have referred was brought by myself under the notice of the Government some time ago, and they promised to refer the matter to the Fisheries Commission. The circumstances of the case were these: Crossland had gone fishing in open water, and had made a haul. He kept the fish and returned to his home, which was in closed waters. The fish were alive, and the inspector came up to him and caught him with the fish in his boat. He seized the fish and swore that the man had been fishing in closed waters, whereas the man had actually been fishing in open waters. That was a case of hardship that came under my notice? I would like to know what the magistrate said.
2625. I think the case was given against the man? Where evidence had been given on oath, and where the witnesses were subjected to an examination, is it not rather unreasonable to say that this man caught the fish in the open waters. I conclude that before a magistrate would convict a man he would have sufficient evidence to justify him in doing so.

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2626. The man had been fishing in open waters and several men had seen him. When he was summoned he thought that his case was so good that he did not deem it necessary to take witnesses with him to court; however the case went against him, and I am informed that he represented to the Commission that his statements could be borne out by the fishermen associating with him. Do you not think under those circumstances, which were represented to the Commission, the Commission would be justified in investigating that man's case? I do not think the Commissioners would in any degree be justified in going outside sworn evidence before a magistrate. It would be a slur on the administration of justice if the Commission in any way interfered with a case that had been before a magistrate or a justice, where the accused would have every opportunity of being heard.
- 2626½. Are you not aware of cases in other departments where actions have been taken against men and they have been committed, but through evidence having been brought before the Minister of Justice he has released the persons imprisoned or has remitted the fine imposed by the magistrates? I cannot tell you what the individual cases are.
2627. Has a man a right of appeal on these convictions and his net being ordered to be confiscated? No, he has not.
2628. In the face of all these circumstances do you not think that the Commission as the body charged with the administration of the Act would be perfectly justified in investigating that man's case? No, after the case was once before the court I do not think the Commission should investigate it.
2629. Are you aware of any special or particular knowledge possessed by your fellow Commissioners—are they scientific men or men of practical experience? There are men on the Commission who are thoroughly practical fishermen and others who are scientific men. Within my personal knowledge there are practical men on the Commission who know more about fish than any fishermen I knew in my life, and I am thoroughly acquainted with a large number of fishermen. Fishermen as a rule are not of an inquiring turn of mind, and many of them know very little about the habits of fish.
2630. Have you anyone on the Board who has ever earned his livelihood by fishing? Certainly not.
2631. Would you have any objection to have a man placed on the Commission who has had experience as a practical fisherman? It would not be for me to object or otherwise, but I should think that it would be an inadvisable step if a fisherman who was earning his living as such were placed on the Commission.
2632. If the man placed on the Commission as the representative of the fishermen were a master fisherman, owning a lot of boats and nets, would you see any objection to his being a member of the Commission? I do not see that there would be the slightest harm in it.
2633. Have you visited any of the oyster-grounds or fishing-beds? I know well the Harbour, Botany, Port Hacking, Shoalhaven, and various other places; I do not know Broken Bay, but I know the Hunter.
2634. Is it not a fact that nets which have been passed as legal shrink very much, and the mesh becomes smaller than the legal size? Yes.
2635. Have any proceedings been taken against men who have used nets under those circumstances? I am not aware of any particular cases. It is as likely as not that they have taken place, but a fisherman with any sense would allow for the shrinkage when he was buying the net.
2636. Do you not think that when a net has once been pronounced as being of a legal mesh it should always be considered legal? Certainly not; a garfish-net by a process of severe tanning would soon be brought down to half its legal size.
2637. As there have been several complaints as to the alleged unjust application of the provision which enacts a punishment to fishermen who use nets of an unlawful mesh, do you not think it would be much better to provide for a very severe punishment to those people who may bring undersized fish to market rather than be so particular as to the size of the nets? It is a debatable question whether that course should not be adopted. I cannot say myself which is the best course to adopt. The Act already provides a punishment for killing undersized fish.
2638. Has the Commission anything to do with the appointment of inspectors? We do not appoint them directly, but we appoint them subject to confirmation by the Colonial Secretary.
2639. *Mr. Stevenson.*] You simply recommend? Probably that is what it is in effect.
2640. *Chairman.*] Do you know whether all the inspectors are practical men? I cannot say; I only know a few of them.
2641. Do you think that there are too many officers employed by the Commission? I have always held the opinion that the police department might be asked to take charge of some of the places, so as to relieve us of some of the expense that appears to be too large as compared with the number of fish and oysters that come from the various places.
2642. You would not have any objection to police magistrates undertaking the duties of inspectors? Not the slightest; only I do not think that police magistrates would take the same care that sergeants of police would.
2643. Is it customary for Mr. Thompson, the Secretary, to visit the various fisheries and oyster-grounds? We have sent him to view various places, but I do not think it is his practice to go periodically.
2644. Have any of the inspectors been reported to you for dereliction of duty? Yes, one or two; Smith, at the Hawkesbury, was reported once or twice. I do not recollect the other cases.
2645. Were the charges made against Smith proved? I think not. Smith subjected himself to reprehension for one or two trifling things, but the chief charges were not proved. The case was one of his having become executor in an estate where some oyster leases were involved.
2646. Is it a matter of complaint amongst fishermen that the fish-market at Woolloomooloo is not worked satisfactorily? I think that is quite likely. I have visited the market on several occasions.
2647. Have you watched the conduct of the sales in the morning? It is a long time since I was there at a sale; but it struck me that it was a necessarily hurried affair, but that the best was made of the circumstances. There are a great number of fish to be sold, and of course they must be got rid of at a certain hour to be in a fit condition to be retailed.
2648. Have you ever heard of pilfering being very common? Yes; that was reported to me on two or three occasions. I took very strong action on the Commission about it, which resulted in the head of the police being requested to put on a policeman there to search out the matter. One or two convictions took place afterwards.
2649. It has been stated here that the fish are thrown on to the floor of the market, and that they are liable to be trodden and spat upon by the people who are in attendance? I should think they are liable to that; but I think it is less the case now since the Council have built larger premises. 2650.

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J. R. Hill.
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2650. Do you know, as a matter of fact, that the accommodation now afforded is adequate to the fishermen's requirements? I should think it is, because it has been very largely increased. It may not be if the number of fish goes on increasing as it has been. I have always held that there ought to be little shops attached to the market, where people could go and buy their fish. That, however, is a matter within the province of the Municipal Council.

2651. Do you not think that there might be some improvements made by constructing raised tables with marble tops, so that the fish might be properly shown to purchasers? Yes; and the Municipal Council would be justified in having a second market to meet the requirements as the city extends. I think there should be another market established somewhere in Sussex-street.

2652. It has been stated here that if fishermen come into collision with Mr. Seymour, who, I believe, receives a salary from the Commission of £75 a-year, he is likely to have a down on them, and will knock down their fish when selling them for next to nothing. Do you think there is any truth in that? I do not know Mr. Seymour personally, but from what I hear of him I should think that he is the very opposite. He has a very difficult part to play. He has to dispose of a very large quantity of fish in a very small space of time, and he has a very curious class of people to deal with.

2653. Are you aware that many complaints have been made by fishermen that the rivers have been closed unnecessarily? Yes.

2654. In some cases they have been closed for twelve months, according to the Act;—then they have been closed for a further period of twelve months; and in some cases the rivers have been closed for four years permanently? I do not recollect the time for which the rivers have been closed; but I do not think that any closure has been made which is not in accordance with law. If the closure were made outside the law the fishermen would not respect it; it would be *ultra vires*, and the fishermen are quite well up in the law.

2655. Do you remember any complaints against the Commission closing the Hawkesbury River unnecessarily? I do not recollect any special complaints.

2656. Have the Commissioners done anything with regard to administering the Inland Fisheries Act? We have got an inspector near Deniliquin, another was appointed last fortnight on the recommendation of Mr. Chanter, that is Mr. Manton. The head of the police at Lake George has taken a great deal of interest in the matter, and he has reported to us on several occasions with regard to cod-fish and, I think, perch.

2657. Have you two trawls in the possession of the Commission? Yes; we have two, and I am not sure that we have not three.

2658. Have they ever been used? One was used before I was a member of the Commission, but unsuccessfully I understood. I think it got caught in the rocks two or three times and was injured. We made an attempt during the last few months to use a trawl at Botany, we had only one haul and it was unsuccessful. We instructed our men to use it again, but they were unsuccessful also. I initiated the movement because I heard that the place was alive with flounders and flathead; but the experiment did not give hope that fishermen might go on with the industry with success.

2659. Is the steam-launch in the possession of the Commission seaworthy? No, it is perfectly useless.

2660. Do you keep an engineer for her? Yes; I consider that it is absolutely a waste of money.

2661. *Mr. Howe.*] Do you think that the Act is better administered under the Commission than it would be under a responsible Minister? Yes.

2662. Are you prepared to recommend as one of the Commissioners that Port Hacking should be thrown open to the fishermen? The Commission were never consulted about the closing of Port Hacking. My opinion is that it would be wise to keep Port Hacking closed from the spit upwards. I have always thought that it should be open from the spit to Jibben Beach.

2663. Do you know that when the fishermen are using the garfish-net when they catch fish no matter of what weight, they are compelled to throw them into the water again? No; I do not read the Act in that way. If they are undersized fish they have to be thrown into the water. I am sure that no fisherman throws back fish which are above the legal weight.

2664. What is your objection to the length of the net provided the mesh is of a legal size? I think that on several of the flats, especially at the Hawkesbury and Lake Macquarie, there might be no objection to increasing the length of the net so long as the mesh remained the same, and so long as there was decent supervision to see that the small-sized fish were thrown back. In ordinary places, like Sydney harbour and Botany, I think that the present length of the net is quite sufficient for all practical purposes. I think that very few of the old recognized fishermen ever use as great a length of net as the law allows them.

2665. Is the present length 60 fathoms for 2½-inch mesh? No. 90 fathoms for a garfish-net and 150 fathoms for hauling-nets. I think on big flats an extension of 50 fathoms might be allowed for a hauling-net.

2666. Of course the shorter the net the more frequent the hauls? Not necessarily I think.

2667. In a river if there are frequent hauls do they not disturb the fish? No doubt; but the old fishermen of the country do not as a rule haul unless they see fish. It is only since the advent of the Italians who have made a practice of hauling on all occasions and in all places that many of our men have been tempted to do the same.

2668. Have you ever heard objections raised against the use of sinking nets? Yes.

2669. On account of disturbing the bottom? Yes. I think that has been more prompted by jealousy of the Italians than by a knowledge of fish-culture. I am satisfied by a very lengthy experience of fresh water fish in New Zealand, where I had a great deal to do with salmon and trout that very few people in this country know anything as to the hatching of salt water fish. I do not think it has been demonstrated scientifically so as to make certain about it, excepting in the case of the mullet. We know perhaps more about the habits of the mullet than any other fish. We know that they go on to the flats and scrape a hole like that made by the furrow of a plough, only shallow, in which they deposit their eggs, but with regard to schnapper, garfish, bream, and all other kinds of fish the knowledge with regard to their reproduction is in its infancy. Last year I noticed that the schnapper had ova in the month of November up to the end of May, and many of them in the month of November had ova so mature that it was on the point of being deposited. That extended right up to the end of May, and I think as late as July, but during the present year it was altogether different. They had their ova about the month of December,

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but I never found a fish up to the end of March with ova in it. This shows that we cannot count on one season following another in regard to salt water fish. I never met anyone who could give me any information on this subject.

2670. Do you think that it would be advisable to close the entrance to the harbour of Port Jackson, say a mile one side and a mile the other? I think it would be a very serious mistake.

2671. Fishermen living inside the mouth of the harbour when they see a school of fish come in shoot their nets at them and the probability is that the fish turn round and do not come into the harbour again? As a rule they do not go out again. They go across to the other side or they go deep. I have noticed this, that the fishermen who live about the opening of a harbour are anxious that the rivers should be closed, while the fishermen who live up the river are anxious that the other portions should be closed.

2672. Are you aware that in the summer months it is impossible to haul in the rivers on account of the blubber? I have seen that in Botany and in the Parramatta River. It is impossible to haul for all practical purposes.

2673. Does it burn the nets? I do not know that that is the fact, but it is a terrible job for the fishermen to clean their nets, and it causes a great strain on the nets.

2674. What are the present license fees? I think that the fee for a boat is £1, and for each man 10s. or £1, I am not sure which.

2675. Would you be prepared to recommend a reduction of those fees? I do not think it presses hardly on the men. I have never heard them complain of it.

2676. If a fisherman sells his boat and purchases a new one, is he compelled to take out a new license? I do not know; but I think the license ought to be transferable to the new boat.

2677. Would you have any objection to the erection of a fish-market at the southern portion of the city, say at the Redfern end? I think it would be a great boon.

2678. I suppose there would be a large transport of fish to the country districts by rail? There is no doubt that in future there is likely to be an increased traffic in fish by rail. A great deal of that might be intercepted and sold at a market somewhere near the Railway station. The Parramatta River men ought to have a market somewhere about Sussex-street.

2679. Are not many of the places where fishing is carried on connected with the city by rail? Yes; and steamers are going more actively into the business of bringing the fish to market in a decent state. The railway is undoubtedly bringing the fish now from places where it was never brought from before; for instance, Lake Macquarie, the Hawkesbury, and probably a great deal of fish will be brought from Kiama and other places. It would be of very great service to the public if the Council could be prevailed upon to open a market there.

2680. *Mr. Ritchie.*] Does the Commission frequently transact business without a quorum? No. Very rarely. It occurred during the time that Dr. Cox and Mr. Ramsay ceased to be members through their term of office having expired.

2681. Has it ever occurred that business has been transacted with one member being present only? Never that I heard of.

2682. Do you admit that when the meetings were transacted without a quorum they were invalid? No doubt they were illegal.

2683. Do you also admit that the members who were absent would not have a full opportunity to arrive at a proper conclusion by seeing all the papers? They would have the papers sent to them. There would be only one absent member; that would be, perhaps, Mr. Oliver.

2684. Have any of the Commissioners ever acted after their appointments lapsed through effluxion of time? I cannot speak with certainty. I know that Dr. Cox was very particular about refusing to act.

2685. Are the Commissioners appointed for five years? Yes.

2686. You do not know of any case where a Commissioner acted after five years had elapsed? I cannot speak with certainty.

2687. If anyone said that meetings frequently lapsed for want of a quorum would that be true? Yes, we have had many lapsed meetings in five years.

2688. Has business been frequently transacted in the illegal manner you describe? In almost all cases where two attended they did the business and the book was taken to the third.

2689. Is it your opinion that the mode of conveying the fish from the steamer to the market is imperfect? Yes, very imperfect.

2690. Are many fish lost or destroyed in this way? Yes; the fishermen are subjected to great loss by pilfering. It is a very loose, bad system, but fishermen trouble themselves very little about their own affairs, and they do not seem to have enough energy to remedy the evils which exist.

2691. Are large numbers of fish often allowed to be destroyed and become bad through neglect in allowing it to lie about the wharves? I never heard of that.

2692. Do you know that fish from the Clarence and other northern rivers are brought to Sydney in ice-chests? Yes; a certain quantity of ice is put into the boxes in which the fish is carried.

2693. Is it not a fact that those boxes with fish in them are allowed to remain on the wharves all night, and in this warm climate the fish often goes bad? I never heard that. I always understood from the fishermen that as soon as the vessel came in the carts came to take the fish away to market.

2694. Have you ever heard of any inconvenience arising through delay in issuing licenses to fishermen? Never within my recollection. I think we are always ready to issue licenses at all times.

2695. Do you find that by closing the various waters there is a great increase in the fish? Yes; in a marked degree I think they have done an immense amount of good.

2696. Do you know anything about the habits of migratory fish, such as mullet? Yes; nearly all our fish are migratory. I hardly know a local fish except the rock fish.

2697. Which way do they travel? The whole of the fish that I know, especially of the mullet tribe, travel from south to north. I have never found anyone who has observed a mullet to travel south. We never hear of fish in the fry state or the mature state going from north to south.

2698. But it would be possible for them to do so? They might go deep under water. Mullet is a fish intended by nature not to go away from the shores. Schnapper go out to sea.

2699. During what months do they generally travel? The mullet generally commence to travel during March and April. They go right on to the middle of May. When discussing this matter yesterday with the Commissioners, the conclusion they came to was, that after the migrations there are always a certain number of fish left which breed and provide a store of migrating fish for next year.

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2700. I suppose it is generally found by the fishermen that when the fish are travelling that way they keep filling the various rivers and ports as they go on? No; they are somewhat curious in their habits in that respect. Sometimes some will go into Port Hacking, for instance; whilst others will go right past it. The weather has a great deal to do with it. In fine weather they often stay outside the Heads on the rocks for days and days. If it is very rough, especially when the wind is from the south or the west, they will take it into their heads to go straight on. Some will go on to Botany, and some will go right past. They do not always go in and out. Some go into the ports, some go right on, and some remain.

2701. Have you any knowledge of the natural enemies of the fish? Yes; sharks and porpoises are great enemies of the mullet.

2702. Are birds? I do not think so. I never regarded the birds as great enemies, except the cormorants and shags.

2703. Can you recommend anything for the destruction of those enemies? I do not think you can do anything for the destruction of sharks. The offer of head-money for sharks might produce some beneficial results. That was tried in Melbourne for the protection of bathers, and many thousands were killed in twelve months.

2704. I suppose when fishermen catch them they generally destroy them? I think so in every case.

2705. Do you think that any improvement could be made in the present system of oyster-leasing? Yes; I think it would be wise to take rivers and divide them into sections, and then let them by public auction.

2706. Would you lease a whole river? I would not let the whole of a big river to one man. I would divide a river into two or three, according to the number of oyster-beds. The present system is a bad one.

2707. Do you think it would be any advantage to charge less as rent for the land, and to charge a royalty on the oysters gathered? I think that 1s. per hundred yards is a very small rent, and I think that a very serious mistake was made in taking off the royalty on oysters.

2708. On our home oysters? Yes; I think that if a duty had been placed on foreign oysters it would have met the case in a better way.

2709. By putting up the oyster leases to auction they would sell according to their productiveness? Yes; I think it would be much better in every way. It would lead to oyster culture being carried on in a better and more scientific way than at present.

2710. Do you think it would be within the scope of the Fisheries Commission to take means to prevent the worm disease which affects the oysters? I think that nature is the only means of curing that. Floods in the rivers are the only means of preventing the disease. It is found that the disease is only prevalent during droughty seasons. So soon as there is a succession of floods the worm disease is never heard of, and the oysters increase.

2711. Can you suggest any better method of conveying fish from the steamer to the market? As the Municipal Council has charge of the market it is possible that they might consider it within their functions to deal with that matter.

2712. Do you not think it would be within the province of the Fisheries Commission to recommend the City Council to adopt some means of conveying fish to the market in a more expeditious way? I think it ought to be done by a memorial from the fishermen to the Council, because they are the people most interested.

2713. Do you not think that it would be better to have the carts which convey the fish from the steamers to the market under the supervision and control of the Inspector of Nuisances or some other official appointed by the Council? I think that if one man appointed by the Council had full charge of it the fishermen would benefit very largely. I cannot say which is the proper functionary to take charge.

2714. *Chairman.*] You have stated that it is to be regretted that the royalty on oysters is abolished? Yes.

2715. You are aware that the Act was passed in 1887? I recollect its having been passed.

2716. Was there any request made by the oyster-getters or lessees to have the royalty abolished? I believe there was.

2717. Do you remember my taking any action in the House to obtain the abolition of the royalty? No.

2718. It was at the request of the oyster-getters and the oyster lessees that that was done. How do you substantiate your statement that it was a pity that the royalty was not left on oysters and a duty imposed on imported oysters. Do you look on oysters as a luxury? I do not know whether you would call them a necessity or a luxury. Personally I do not care anything for them.

2719. Do you look at the question from a revenue point of view in the interests of the Commission? I was not thinking of it in that light, but I thought it a great pity that those oysters should be allowed to come in from other countries to interfere with our industry.

2720. Do you not think that it was an encouragement to the oyster lessees and an incentive to them to improve the industry to remove this royalty? I think that it is a reasonable thing that a duty should be imposed on oysters. In every young country people are allowed to gather oysters with the growing of which they had nothing to do. The Crown is as much entitled to obtain a royalty on the gathering of oysters as it is to obtain a revenue for a license to cut trees on Crown lands.

2721. Would you apply the same principle to everything coming into the Colony? I am a mild protectionist.

2722. With reference to spat or brood which people are allowed to take off Crown lands to lay down on the oyster-beds, the people are charged so much a bag for this;—do you not think that that tax on oyster culture might be abolished? Practically there is nothing much in it, because the income derived is very trifling.

2723. *Mr. Stevenson.*] You told us that on the representation of the Commission a detective was sent to the market;—why was he removed? I cannot tell you. I think he succeeded in getting two or three cases. He may be there still for all I know.

2724. You are not aware if there is any police supervision at the market at present? No, I am not aware.

2725. Who were the persons who were convicted? I do not know. I think they were hangers-on about the market. They were not I think people attached to the market as employees of the Council.

2725½. On whose recommendation was Middle Harbour opened? I think it was on the recommendation of Mr. Mulhall.

2726. Was it done on the representation of the fishermen? No, not a single fisherman.

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2727. On what ground did Mr. Mulhall make the suggestion to the Board? I forget whether the Commissioners themselves referred the matter to Mulhall. It was considered that Middle Harbour had been closed for a sufficient time, and that there was a very large number of fishermen in Port Jackson, probably far and away more than the water would support, and we thought we should increase the area.

2728. Did you ever hear that the fishermen are opposed to Middle Harbour being opened? No; but it is quite likely that the river men would be opposed to its being opened, because they are extremely jealous of the fishermen at the mouth.

2729. Do you think that Middle Harbour was opened at the suggestion of one man? I do not recollect who initiated it or brought about the discussion. I think I had something to do with it myself.

2730. Do you ever use a net? Not for the last eighteen months or two years.

2731. Did you ever have a net seized? Never, certainly not.

2732. Did you ever hear of a net being seized which was supposed to be in the possession of Mr. Knox, and which was said to belong to you? Never, directly or indirectly.

2733. We have heard in evidence of a net being seized which was said to belong to one of the Commissioners? I never heard of it, directly or indirectly.

2734. Was ever an inquiry held by the Commissioners with regard to a net being seized, and are the papers in the office? I never heard anything of the sort, directly or indirectly. I never heard of a net belonging to a Commissioner having been seized.

2735. You said that some members of the Commission had more practical knowledge than real fishermen;—can you name them? I do not know that I should be called on to name them, but there is one who has practical and theoretical knowledge in a very high degree.

2736. I think an answer should be given to the question? I would prefer not to particularise my fellow-Commissioners, but I think there are very few men in this country who know so much about fish as Mr. Oliver does, both theoretically and practically.

2737. Have you any idea what it costs the Commission to keep up the steam-launch you spoke of? I have always looked on that launch as being useless for the purpose for which it was designed, and I think that she unnecessarily costs a lot of money. She must be a charge on the Commission outside the matter of repairs, and she has been subjected to a great deal of repairs through what we think was the bungling of the Public Works Department or the Harbours and Rivers Department. I think the engineer gets £3 a week. There is only one employed.

2738. *Mr. Thompson.*] Was the launch built for the purpose, or was it purchased second-hand? I believe she was built for the purpose before I was a member of the Commission, and then she was lengthened. She is nothing but a useless incumbrance.

2739. What use is made of the launch? Her chief use during the last year has perhaps been to take Mr. Mulhall and the other men from place to place to see that people were not fishing in closed waters or with illegal nets, except when she was taken by Mr. Oliver to the Hawkesbury to see if there were any places there suitable to trout out in.

2740. Is the launch fit to go to the Hawkesbury from here? They chose their own time and go in fine weather.

2741. To be of real service to the Commission ought it not to be possible to go in the launch in safety to all the rivers? Yes. Mr. Oliver and I have had a good many conversations on the subject, and we have come to the conclusion that the Commission ought to have at its disposal a steamer which could be used by the Government for towing and that kind of thing, and the Commission would only require it for a short period to go to the various rivers or to make experiments in trawling. The launch is useless even for the experiment with a small trawl. She is only about 6 tons burden.

2742. Do you think that the fish on the coast, especially schnapper, have diminished during the past fifteen or twenty years? Yes, very considerably; but they have increased unmistakably during the last year or two. I attribute that to the closing of the breeding-grounds. Within the last year there have been more red bream in the harbour than there has been for the last fifteen years.

2743. Have the harbours and the estuaries been fished so very much more during the last fifteen years than they were previously? Yes, undoubtedly. There must be 100 Italians fishing now, and they are persistently at work at Woolloomooloo Bay, Garden Island, and Shark Island, and other places.

2744. Do they use nearly all sunken nets? Yes. As a rule very small sunken nets with great length of line and a great purse.

2745. Do you know whether there are oysters here of different species—one adhering to the rocks, and the other around the foreshores and deposited in the mouths of the rivers and harbours? From what Dr. Cox and Mr. Ramsay, both scientists, say on the subject, I think the oysters are the same, but I am not an authority on that subject.

2746. With regard to the old mud-oyster, is not that almost extinct about here? Yes. It is an oyster that will not live out of water like the ordinary rock-oyster. With a view of testing the adaptability of the streams here to other species, we imported the magnificent Stewart Island oyster, of New Zealand, and put some of them out on George's River and a few at Shoalhaven.

2747. How long ago was that? About eighteen months ago. Unfortunately most of them died.

2748. *Chairman.*] In what part of George's River were they placed? I think it was not far from Tom Ugly's Point.

2749. Have you ever noticed that the water there is contaminated with deleterious matter from the paper-mills and other places? Yes. I do not know whether it would extend so far as we have put in the oysters, but I have noticed it higher up.

2750. Have you ever taken action against those people? We submitted the matter to the Crown Solicitor, but we found that we had no case.

2751. Regulation 38 says: "Any person who shall discharge any refuse from any saw-mill, paper-mill, gas-works, or any rubbish or blood or offal, or any filth or other thing deleterious to the growth and development of oysters in any tidal waters, or into any watercourse, whether dry or not, leading into the same, or discharge such matter elsewhere in such a manner that it is or is likely to be carried into such tidal waters, shall on conviction thereof forfeit and pay a penalty of not less than £50";—have you taken no action under that? We have taken action to see if we could stop it, but we found that we could not. I think that we submitted it to the Crown Solicitor.

2752.

2752. Do you see any objection to opening the waters of the Parramatta River to the railway bridge at Ryde? I think it would be a great mistake. I think there is enough water open below that. What is wanted is a good sized breeding ground, and if the water were opened to the railway bridge it would require considerable watching to see that the men did not go on to the Homebush flats. The matter was fully gone into, and we came to the conclusion that the vehicular bridge was the best place.

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2753. Was the matter brought under your notice by a request for the opening of more waters? I think so, but I am not sure.

2754. Do you know the Gascoignes? I have heard of them.

2755. Are you aware that the residents on the north and south side of the Parramatta River are unable to get a supply of fresh fish? I do not; I think they are in the same condition as people at Randwick, Redfern, and all those places.

2756. Are you aware that when two or three years ago the Gascoignes and other fishermen were allowed to use more water they used to vend the fish they then got to the residents on the north and south sides of the Parramatta River? I think they could do so now by coming into the open waters.

2757. They complain of not having sufficient water? The cause of that is that there are too many people for the water. In the waters of Port Jackson there are double the number of men that there should be.

2758. *Mr. Thompson.*] With regard to mullet, when they are travelling is it not a fact that they are followed as rule by schools of sharks and porpoises which cut them up very much? I do not think so. They are followed now and again by sharks, but it is a very rare thing for a fisherman to catch a shark in a net when hauling mullet. They are now and again hemmed in on the coast by porpoises and sharks, particularly by porpoises in fine weather.

2759. *Mr. Stephen.*] Are the Commissioners entitled to keep nets and to fish with them? Undoubtedly the same as the rest of the world.

2760. Are there any unlicensed persons holding nets? Yes, as long as they do not sell the fish. I think that everyone that uses a net should pay a license.

2761. Are the settlers on the Hawkesbury and the Macdonald rivers allowed to catch fish for their own use with nets without taking out a license? Yes, while they do not sell the fish and do not fish in closed waters.

2762. Would it not be desirable for them to catch fish for their own use even in closed waters? That would open the doors to evils which you could not put a stop to.

2763. Is it not a great hardship to those people to be prevented from getting fresh fish when they cannot get fresh meat more than once or twice a week? I think if it were permitted the breeding-grounds would be interfered with and a large number of the public would be injured.

2764. Might they not be allowed to use nets of a certain size for meshing purposes only, and not for hauling? It would be equally a mistake.

2765. Then it is your opinion, and probably the opinion of the Commission, that those people should be prohibited from catching any fish? I cannot speak of the Commission, but I think it would be a mistake to allow any persons to fish with nets in closed waters.

2766. To what do you attribute the plentifulness of the bream? To the closing of the breeding grounds.

2767. How far do you think George's River should be closed? I think that the present arrangement is fair, as it gives a large area. There are, probably, not one-sixth the number fishing in Botany that there are in Port Jackson.

2768. Are you well acquainted with George's River? No; not more than 5 miles beyond Tom Ugly's Point. I have never been up Salt-pan Creek, or Woniora River.

2769. Are you aware whether any of the Commissioners have been up there? Dr. Cox, I think, has been right up to Liverpool two or three times.

2770. Have you any objection to opening George's River as far as Salt-pan Creek? I should like to have the matter discussed thoroughly by the Commissioners, and I should like to have a report from the officer in the district.

2771. If the officer in the district gave a favourable report would you have no objection to the proposal? Such a report would have very great weight.

2772. *Chairman.*] Does the Commission always consult the local inspectors before it closes any waters? I do not think there has ever been an occasion when waters have been closed without a report from the local inspector, but I would not speak positively.

2773. You would not say that there have not been cases where the inspectors recommended the opening of waters, and where the Commissioners have refused to recognize their recommendation at all? I do not think there is such a case; there may have been cases where the Commissioners may have gone in opposition to the inspectors' reports, but in those cases perhaps the Commissioners may have had greater knowledge than the inspector.

2774. Might it not have been done in your absence? It might have been done in my presence, and I would not have knowledge of it.

2775. It has been stated here in evidence that the Commissioners had closed waters without referring to the inspectors at all; and that in other cases the inspectors, recognizing hardships which exist, have asked the Commissioners to relieve the fishermen by opening certain waters, but their recommendations have not been taken notice of;—will you say that that is not a fact? I will not say that it is not the fact. If it has been sworn to, no doubt it is true.

2776. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Can you charge your memory with any case where the Commissioners closed waters without referring to the inspectors? I cannot.

2777. Whenever the Commissioners close waters do they have a report from the Commissioners in charge? Yes; I believe that is the case.

2778. Then what they swear is untrue? •No; I say that I believe that that is the case, but I do not say it is so positively.

2779. *Chairman.*] May not the report you refer to come from Mr. Thompson? It may. It certainly comes from the Department.

2779½. *Mr. Stevenson.*] In the case of closing waters as a rule, does the Commissioner always ask for a report from the inspector in charge of the district? My opinion is that we always ask for report. It is just within the bounds of possibility that Mr. Thompson may have made a special recommendation where he is very competent to offer an opinion. He is thoroughly well posted up in many matters connected with the rivers, and he is thoroughly acquainted with them. He has probably a better knowledge of them than some of the inspectors themselves.

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2780. Should the inspectors in charge of the districts be consulted with respect to the closing of waters? Undoubtedly; but as to always accepting their dictum is another matter. They certainly should be consulted, and a report from them sent in.

2781. It ought to be asked for in every case? Yes.

2782. *Chairman.*] Are the fishermen's licenses generally issued by the Commissioners? I think the practice is this: They pay the money into the Treasury, they get a receipt, and come on to our office where the license is issued there and then.

2783. Would it not be much more convenient for the fishermen, and save trouble and expense, if the local inspector could issue the license? If the Treasury has no objection, I should say that it would save a lot of trouble. The course followed now is the one laid down by the Treasury, I believe.

2784. *Mr. Thompson.*] With regard to the length of the nets, was that regulation made during your term of office? No; years before.

2785. Can you see what object is served by diminishing the length of the net, or what harm could be done to the fish or the public if any length of net were allowed? For the reasons I have stated I think that in such places as Lake Macquarie there would be no harm in allowing an extra 50 fathoms.

2786. Putting Lake Macquarie aside and taking such a place as Port Jackson, what harm would be done by using a net say a mile long? I do not see that there would be any greater harm in having one net 300 fathoms long than in having two nets 150 fathoms long each.

TUESDAY, 30 JULY, 1889.

Present:—

MR. HOWE,

MR. STEVENSON.

MR. FRANK FARNELL,

FRANK FARNELL, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. James J. Macfadyen called in, sworn, and examined:—

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Macfadyen.
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2787. *Chairman.*] What position do you hold? Commission agent.

2788. Are you Mayor of Botany? Yes.

2789. Are you president of the Fishermen's Association of New South Wales? Yes.

2790. Where does this Association hold its meetings? At the Protestant Hall, Sydney.

2791. Are all the fishing-grounds represented in the Association? Yes.

2792. How long has it been in existence? About two years.

2793. What is the reason for the establishment of this Association? On account of the men finding a difficulty in making their grievances felt. Many of them expressed an opinion to me that they were afraid to make their grievances known on account of being spotted as individuals. The origin of the Association was a deputation of Botany fishermen who waited upon myself, and asked me if I would help them in forming such an Association; they knew that I had taken considerable interest in the business.

2794. Is there a considerable number of fishermen in the locality of Botany? Yes.

2795. Has your Association ever appointed a deputation to wait on the Colonial Secretary, or other members of the Government, in reference to their grievances? Yes, on one occasion we waited upon Sir Henry Parkes, and he told us it would be better for us to reduce our grievances to writing, and he would then attend to them. I hand into the Committee a printed copy of the document which we drew up, stating those grievances, and which was presented to Sir Henry Parkes. [*Appendix D1.*]

2796. Has any good resulted from your submitting your statement in writing to the Government? None whatever, unless we can say that we may have helped forward the appointment of the present Committee.

2797. As President of the Fishermen's Association, will you be conveying to this Committee pretty well the alterations which the fishermen desire to have made in the Fisheries Act in order to protect themselves, and at the same time to protect the public? Yes; I may say that the paper of grievances which I have handed in was very seriously considered by the fishermen, including representatives from all the different parts of the Colony. Before the matter was entered into at all, the fishermen were instructed that nothing was to be put down in the document except what could be sustained, and it was only after about two months consideration that the matter was completed. The last expression of opinion which I had from the fishermen in the Association, was that that paper of grievances still remained their grievances, and that although there might be some small additions which they might desire to make because they said that at that time they were almost afraid to give vent to everything they desired, yet they would be satisfied if they got all the grievances remedied that were mentioned in that paper.

2798. Where do the complaints come from principally? They come from fishermen in all localities.

2799. Is not your membership confined pretty well to people in and around Sydney, Port Hacking, and the Hawkesbury? We have endeavoured to establish branches in different places, but the principal hindrance to that has been the cold way in which the late Commission have received the Association.

2800. When you say the late Commission I suppose you mean the present Commission? Yes; I refer more particularly to the late interview we had with them.

2801. Have you ever made any recommendations on behalf of the fishermen to the Fisheries Commission in order to remedy alleged defects? Perhaps the best way to answer that will be to say that having waited on Sir Henry Parkes with the document he desired us to draw up, he told us that he had placed the matter in the hands of the Fisheries Commission, and that the best thing for us to do would be to have an interview with the Commissioners to see if we could come to an amicable arrangement. That was a considerable time after the paper had been left with Sir Henry Parkes, and after we had sent two letters, asking what had become of the document. We then waited on the Fisheries Commission, Sir Henry Parkes having arranged with them for a certain day and hour. The Commissioners received us very courteously. I handed in a copy of the paper I have just given the Committee, and said that Sir Henry Parkes told us that he had laid the matter before the Commissioners, and that we had come to them for a reply. Sir Henry Parkes repudiated having any power in the matter, and said that the Commissioners had the power to deal with it. We were met at once with the reply from the Commissioners that

that they knew nothing at all about it; that they had never received such a communication; and therefore they were not in a position to reply to it. On behalf of the association I immediately accepted that reply as I could not expect a reply to such an important document at a moment's notice, they (the Commissioners) not having yet seen it. Some conversation took place, and the Commissioners endeavoured to impress upon us that it was their anxious desire to help the fishermen, but I may say that the members of the deputation felt that there were more words than good deeds in the matter.

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2802. What is the nature of the business transacted at your meetings? Very much the same as at all other society meetings. When we read the correspondence there is generally something in the nature of a grievance or complaint or some matter to be considered by the whole association.

2802½. How many members are there in the association? About 250 or 300.

2803. What is the nature of the more serious complaints which the fishermen have made against the Fisheries Commission, or the provisions of the Act? That too much water has been closed, and that water has been closed unnecessarily where it was detrimental to the interests of the fishermen, and not helpful to the preservation of the fish.

2804. Do they ever make any complaint about the mesh of their nets? There has been a good deal of talk about the different meshes, but that has not been so fully brought out as the want of waters and the shortness of the nets. Then there are the unfortunate circumstances attending the distribution of fish after they leave the fishermen, and the little consideration that the fishermen think that the Commission, which ought to help them as a body, has given them.

2805. Do you know the fish-markets at Woolloomooloo? Yes.

2806. Have you ever seen them selling fish there in the morning? Frequently.

2807. Do you think the arrangements are adequate for the convenience and protection of the fishermen? I have always held an opinion opposed to that.

2808. It has been stated here that the fish when sent from the fishermen to the markets are liable to be pilfered;—have you ever heard of any case of that kind? Very frequently.

2809. It has also been stated that the fish are thrown on to the floor of the market where they are liable to be spat upon and walked upon owing to the bad arrangements made for the distribution of the fish? Yes; the fish are lying on the floor, and people walk on the same place. I believe the argument used by those who consider that that method is the best, is that they can sell a very large quantity of fish in a short time, and that it is an improvement on any method at present in vogue in any other part of the world. I am not of that opinion.

2810. While protecting the interests of the fishermen by having an expeditious sale, do you not think it is necessary to also protect the interests of the public, so that they may get fish in a fresh and uninjured condition? Yes; I have interested myself in this question for a great many years, because I have been most intimately connected with it from my early youth.

2811. What is your opinion as to the establishment of another fish depôt, say at Darling Harbour or somewhere where there are railway facilities? I have agitated that question for a considerable time, and if I had had opportunities I certainly would have tried to form a company. I had a portion of Hudson's works under offer to me for a certain time with that object, but as it required a great deal of time and more capital than I had at my disposal I had to let the matter drop for a time at any rate.

2812. Do you think it would meet with the approval of the fishermen if they had a practical man, one of their own number, appointed as a member of the Fisheries Commission? I am quite certain, from my knowledge and conversation with fishermen, that it is their earnest desire to have one or more practical men as their representatives on the Commission, should it exist as at present.

2813. Are you aware if, at any time when portions of a river have been closed, the inspectors have upon every occasion been asked to report as to the necessity or otherwise for closing those waters? No, I know nothing about what instructions they may have received, but I certainly have heard that the Commissioners have acted in these matters entirely on their own understanding without any practical knowledge that they might have been able to get.

2814. As President of the Association have you had the means of knowing what particular waters the fishermen would like to have opened which are at present closed; for instance, do you think that Port Hacking should be opened to some extent? Yes. I do not know that locality, but fishermen who are conversant with it have told me that they believe it was an entire mistake to close Port Hacking; that it was not done in the interests of the public nor of the fishermen, but in the interests of a company who had land in that district. They have always held that the creeks and tributaries running into that harbour were altogether sufficient for any breeding purposes, and that Port Hacking itself is not a breeding place, inasmuch as they are prepared to prove that the fish come in at one side and go out at the other. They named two points, I think the Limekilns and the Spit, up to which they think the waters might be opened for net-fishing.

2815. Do you know anything about the closing of George's River? The fishermen desire to have the river opened up as far as Salt-pan Creek. They maintain that there is no breeding carried on below that, and that in any waters below that, even if they are breeding places, the fishermen could not do any damage on account of the nature of the bottom and the depth of the water.

2816. In connection with the closed waters in Hawkesbury River, have the fishermen there made any complaints about the opened waters being insufficient? Yes, very considerable complaints have been made, not only with regard to the closed waters, but also with regard to the very great delay and annoyance caused to the fishermen with regard to piles and other things left there by the contractors for the Hawkesbury Bridge. I myself called upon the contractors, who said that the Commissioners had seen them on the matter, and they promised me that all the piles should be withdrawn, but I believe that they have only been cut off at the top and that they are still there.

2817. Has oyster culture come under your consideration as an association? Not much. We have received several inquiries lately notifying that if we made proper arrangements the oyster-men throughout the Colony would be desirous of identifying themselves with us so as to strengthen the association.

2818. Have the fishermen complained at any time of the arrangements made to obtain their licenses? Yes. They agree that 10s. is sufficient for a boat license, and that a less sum than 10s. is sufficient for a fisherman's license, and that they should be able to get a license without being put to the serious inconvenience of leaving their work and proceeding to the Fisheries Commissioners' office to sign their names.

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2819. Would it relieve them to a very great extent if the local inspectors were empowered to issue licenses in each locality? Yes. When a proclamation was read in the fish-markets one morning from the Commissioners, stating that none of the fish agents would in future be allowed to secure licenses for fishermen who might be clients of theirs, I pointed out to the sub-inspector who read the proclamation that it would be a very hard thing to oblige a fisherman to come (say) from Cape Hawke to Sydney to get his license. I think the proclamation was somewhat in error in that respect, because they told us afterwards that we were in error in supposing that it had such a meaning; that it was only intended that the nearest police magistrate or clerk of petty sessions should issue licenses to the fishermen, and I believe that is the case now. With regard to another site for the market, I have always looked upon the Redfern site as the very best site that could be procured, because every day the railway traffic is increasing, and the steam-boat traffic decreasing. Fish should be handled as little as possible. At present fish from Port Stephens are put into a little steamer, from which they are transhipped to the steamer at Newcastle, thence they are taken to Sydney, and from the place where they are stowed near the paddle-boxes, when the steamer arrives in Sydney, the baskets are swept down a plank which is almost at right angles to the quay, so that the fish come down with great violence. Sometimes the fish-baskets are broken open, and in any case the fish are considerably damaged. Then they have to be handled again by being placed in carts which take them to the market, where they are deposited on the floor in the way I have already mentioned. There would be a great improvement if there was a market at Hudson Bros. place where there is a siding already in existence. All the handling which takes place at present between Newcastle and Sydney would then be saved, and the cost of cartage from Darling Harbour to Woolloomooloo market would be saved. I believe it would also do away to a considerable extent with pilfering. With regard to the railway, it is a very common thing in the old country to use wire to close the lid of the box or basket, and to put on the wire a lead tag pressed with pliers, with an impression on it. That makes a seal which, if broken, could be detected.

2820. Something of the same nature is done in trucking cattle? Yes. The railway company weighs all goods which pass over the line, and the same thing could be done with baskets of fish which are sent by rail, so that any pilfering which might take place on the railway could be detected.

2821. *Mr. Howe.*] According to your experience of the working of the Fisheries Act has it had a beneficial effect? My experience of the Act as far as I have seen it is that it has been an association got up for the purpose of watching and hunting the fishermen, and in no way trying to help them.

2822. Do you think that the Act would be better administered by a Government department than by the Commission? I think so; but if proper representation were allowed on the Commission I do not know that I would be in favour of its being managed by a Ministerial department. I mean a practical representation of the fishermen.

2823. Have you in your capacity as president ever heard that the Commissioners disseminated any knowledge of a practical character among fishermen to improve the industry? None whatever. I may say that in the communication that I have just handed in to the committee, which the Fisheries Commission had under their notice for some time afterwards, and ultimately gave us a reply, I think a year after we had sent it to Sir Henry Parkes we mentioned something about persons digging holes and spoiling the fishing hauls at George's River. That is a matter in which the Act empowers them to take action, but hitherto we have never heard that they have done anything to relieve the fishermen even in that small matter.

2824. Do the fishermen complain of not receiving notices of proclamations closing waters so that they might lodge a caveat or objection? Yes, they make serious complaints on that score. When we waited upon the Commissioners they promised that they would close no waters without giving us I think a month's notice. However, when we shortly afterwards informed them that that was our understanding of their reply they said they did not mean anything of the kind; that they could not have said that, because they had to do everything by notice in the *Gazette*, and that we could receive the *Gazette* the same as any other person.

2825. Is it a fact that the fishermen earn large sums of money and that they could earn considerably more if they liked to work harder? Certainly not, as I shall show from the following particulars which I have obtained:—Knowing that I would have to give evidence here, I added up the earnings of two or three different fishermen, and the wages earned by two British fishermen working here are as follows:—Two men earned £78 14s. 3d. in 35 weeks, or at the rate of £1 2s. 6d. per week each. I have also the wages earned in Sydney harbour by three Italians and part of the time four Italians. It amounts to £111 17s. for 27 weeks, or at the rate of about £1 7s. 6d. per week. I have here the wages of two Botany men and a lad, and they earned £30 11s. for eight weeks, which was at the rate of something like 20s. for the lad and £1 7s. 2d. for each man per week. The wages earned by the captain of a boat at Botany for 35 weeks, employing sometimes two and sometimes four and five men, amounted on an average to £7 3s. per week amongst them. I would like to point out that those figures do not show the earnings in any case. The actual earnings being lower on account of one share having to go to replace and repair boats, nets, and gear. I have taken out these figures because I have heard that certain people say that fishermen earn big money. The figures may not be correct to a penny or two, but they are correct enough for all practical purposes.

2826. Have those figures been selected promiscuously? Yes.

2827. What are the chief grounds of complaint by the fishermen against the Italians? As far as I know the complaints are not against the men, but against the system they use in working. They use certain nets that sink in the water and trawl along the ground; the British and Colonial fishermen maintain that the feed which is upon the ground, and any spawn that may be there, are destroyed by those fishermen continually pulling their nets in this manner.

2828. Do you think that the closing of the rivers has preserved the fish? I do not know that I am a good authority on such matters; but from what I do know I should say that it has not preserved the fish. For instance, Port Hacking, which has been closed for a long time, contains less fish, according to the fishermen, since it has been closed, than were to be found there before.

2829. Is it a fact that the fishermen are compelled to return to the water edible fish, which are above the legal weight, if they catch them in a gar-fish net? I have heard complaints that if an inspector finds that a man with a gar-fish net has other fish in his boat besides gar-fish, the inspector will seize those fish, no matter what size they may be.

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2830. What is your opinion with regard to the fish-market at Woolloomooloo? I am not only personally opposed to the present system, because I believe it is not the best, but I also object very strongly to the system of administering the affairs of the market. I maintain that, as a matter of principle, this business ought to be in private hands, rather than in the hands of a City Corporation. I think no officer of the Corporation should have the administration of the affairs of the market. I know, from my own experience, that it hinders anyone from using the enterprise which might be used in improving the distribution of the fish. There is not one-fifth of the fish consumed in New South Wales that ought to be consumed according to the population.

2831. Under the present system at the market do the fishermen get their value for their fish? Under existing circumstances I think they get a fair value, but I think the value is curtailed and crippled very much by the existing system.

2832. When the fish arrive late by train or steamer, what is done with them? If they arrive too late for the sale on the day of arrival, the fish have either to be sold at any price that people choose to give, or they must be put into the cooling-chamber to be kept until another market day. Certain fishermen, with whom I am connected, have given instructions that none of their fish shall at any time be put into the ice-house, as they consider it is of no use, seeing that they have put fish in there on one day and it has been taken out on the next day unfit for food.

2833. Do you think that if a space were raised above the floor, and railed off, and the fish were put out in lots there, that it would be an improvement? Yes; I have always thought that that would be a better system. I am not prepared to say that that is the best system, because I think the fish are sold in the market here too much in a retail way. I have suggested that fish should be sold in larger quantities.

2834. If stalls were erected and rented by fisherman, or by agents, in the same way as market gardeners do in the Belmore markets, would that be an improvement? The situation, to my mind, would make a very great difference. I think the proposed arrangement would be a total failure at Woolloomooloo, whilst in a centre of population it would be a great benefit. Where the market is at present, you must sell the fish in a certain time. For instance, last Good Friday, after the sale was over, there were tons of fish left in the market unsold, and by that time it was too late to distribute the fish anywhere else. It then struck me that a great quantity of that fish might have been distributed in the interior of the colony if it had been sent away by rail on the Thursday evening.

2835. From your experience as a commission agent do you know whether much fish is sent away for consumption in the country districts? There is comparatively little fish sent away in that manner. There is no proper system.

2836. Do you think that method of disposing of the fish might be greatly encouraged? I have no doubt that a market could be created in almost all the principal towns in the interior.

2837. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Do you still represent the Fishermen's Association? Yes; I am still the president of the association.

2838. Have you had any personal experience in fishing? Yes, at home.

2839. You have stated that the fishermen were afraid of making known their grievances. What do you mean by that? They were afraid, as individuals, to make known their grievances for fear that those in power and authority over them might make them suffer.

2840. Since your interview with the Fisheries Commission have you received any communication or reply as to the fishermen's grievances? We received a reply, but it was almost a formal one, intimating that they had received our communication, but saying that nothing could be done in the matter.

2841. On receipt of that reply did the association take any further action? I believe that, as an association, we communicated with the Secretary to the Commission, informing him that the reply was unsatisfactory. I myself waited upon him, and told him that the reply was altogether unsatisfactory.

2842. Did you receive any further communication? No.

2843. Did the fishermen get no redress whatever? No; there was only one matter referred to in the letter, and that was with regard to the length of the nets. They said they had no objection to allowing an extra length of 25 fathoms in such places as the lakes.

2844. If a suitable site could be found at the head of Darling harbour, which could be reached both by trains and steamers, would not that be a more desirable place for another fish-market than the place you have mentioned? There is one reason which influenced me in suggesting a site at Redfern. If you look at the map and take a compass you will find that that is almost the centre for all the suburbs.

2845. Would not that equally apply to Darling harbour, if the fish was dispatched by train? I was referring to the people who would go to the market to take away the fish.

2846. Do you still think that Redfern would be better than Darling harbour? Yes; but I think Darling harbour would be altogether preferable to what we have now.

2847. Where did you obtain the information as to the earnings of fishermen? From my own books; I cannot give names.

2848. *Mr. Howe.*] A question was asked in the House the other evening by Mr. Lyne, with reference to herrings appearing on our coast for two months in every year. Have you ever heard anything about that from fishermen? Yes; I have heard fishermen say that there are herrings on the coast at certain times and in large shoals. Ultimately I saw some of the herrings, and took them home to try them, but I was very much disappointed with them. They are not like the home herring, and I am almost sure they would not cure like the home herring. They are smaller.

2849. *Chairman.*] Is there anything else which you wish to state? No; except that the association that I have the honour to represent has been formed with the sole view of endeavouring to get some pressure brought to bear upon anyone in authority to frame laws such as the fishermen think they should do. I believe that the fishermen are inclined to be entirely fair in this matter and want nothing but what would be fair to the public as well as themselves. It is felt by all the members that the Fisheries Commission have in no way endeavoured to obtain knowledge as to the fishing industry in other parts of the world so as to instruct the fishermen here. Although the fishermen here have to contribute to a large and expensive department they have received nothing from that department but have only been harassed in their labours. There are several matters in the present Fisheries Act that want attending to. For instance, a police constable or any officer is at liberty to go into any person's domicile or shed at any time and search the premises.

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2850. *Mr. Stevenson.*] What for? For nets or anything he chooses. I have heard fishermen complain that an officer has actually been in their wives' bedroom searching for nets whilst they were in bed. In the paper of grievances it will be found that the fishermen regard it as very unjust that they should lose the tools of their trade if they happen to break the laws. That is not done in any other business and they believe they should not be injured in that way more than any other people. They complain that until this association was formed the Commissioners actually sold the nets which they seized, and which were illegal, in the same state, or nearly the same state, as they were seized, to anyone who would buy them. I believe it was only after the paper which I handed in was put forth that the Commissioners commenced to sell on a restrictive principle, stating that the nets when sold were only to be used for certain purposes.

2851. Do you think that trawling could be instituted here? I have spoken to a considerable number of fishermen on that subject, because I hold a very strong opinion that trawling could be and ought to be instituted here, and that if the coast were properly surveyed we would find many fishing-banks on the coast that might be utilized by fishermen. Until a survey is made it would not be safe for the fishermen to attempt anything of the sort, especially for the fishermen on this coast, because, whatever they may have been in the past, they are now certainly a poor class of men, as far as money is concerned.

2852. If we gave a bonus for the encouragement of the fishing industry do you think that would be an incentive to fishermen, and that it would bring out new fishermen here? I certainly think so, and I think the request we made as an association to Sir Henry Parkes, and, through him, to the Fisheries Commissioners, was a very fair one, and that it would help the industry. That was that any information which could be distributed among the fishermen to raise them in their profession should be given to the association, so that it might be distributed among the fishermen. For instance, information might be obtained as to the latest appliances used all over the world. I do not think that would have caused much expense, and it would raise the tone of the fishing industry all over the colony.

2853. Have you received no information from the Government or the Commission to enable you to carry out your objects in disseminating information? No. When we made application to the Commissioners, they said they would grant us any books that they might have in their possession. In fact Sir Henry Parkes promised that, and he sent some books; but we require more than that. We would require to have maps and such things, so that the fishermen might know where the closed waters were. At present they have to go by some placard which may be posted up in the bush 200 yards away when they want to know where the waters are closed or open. Another very serious matter the fishermen talk about, is that as they have to pay for a license they ought to be protected in bringing their fish to market for sale, as it is their means of living; but they say that private persons go fishing for pleasure and catch a great many fish, schnapper particularly, and those fish are resold to the detriment of the ordinary market for fish. The Act of course says that no person shall be allowed to sell fish unless he is a licensed fisherman, but the fishermen say that those private persons do not sell the fish, but they give them away and receive payment afterwards.

William Neal called in, sworn, and examined:—

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2854. *Chairman.*] What are you? A fisherman.

2855. Where are you located? Balmain, or rather Iron Cove, one of the tributaries of the Parramatta.

2856. Is that opened? No; it is closed.

2857. From what point? From the Iron Cove bridge upwards.

2858. What waters have you open to you to fish in? From the Iron Cove bridge downwards to the heads, from the Parramatta bridge at Gladesville downwards, and from the telegraph wire at Onyon's Point in Lane Cove downwards. All those places above have been closed for something like five years; that is from the time that the present Fisheries Act has been in force.

2859. Not closed for five years by one proclamation, but from time to time? Yes; six months at a time, for the first three or four years, and then it was closed for two years, and then there was an extended proclamation for twelve months, that is the present twelve months, which will expire about the 9th of next November.

2860. So that when you originally settled on the Parramatta River to carry out your calling as a fisherman you did not mind so much the rivers being closed for six months if the Commissioners carried out what was supposed to be the intention of the law, and opened the river after the six months had expired? Yes; we did not mind that so much. On one occasion, when I was on a deputation to the Fisheries Commission, that was what we asked for, but they seemed to think that those fisheries were exhausted, and that it would be better to close them for two years, not knowing at the same time whether they were really exhausted or not. It is all very well for those gentlemen to say that a fishery is exhausted, but they do not actually know whether that is the case or not, because they do not go at the right time to know whether or not there are any fish there. I believe that the greatest trouble we have to contend with is the net at present in use amongst the Italians. It is a 15-fathom net, which is legal for prawns, but they work it at all times, both day and night. They work the channel of the river both night and day, and they destroy the best species of fish, namely, bream, black bream, red bream, sand-whiting, trumpeter, whiting, and flathead. They also kill flounder and sole, but they were never very plentiful here as far as my experience goes, and I have been fishing here for twenty-five years. If the Italians are to continue dredging with prawn-nets in this manner, I do not know where the fish are to come from in future. I consider that those nets should be abolished altogether. The only sort of sunken net used amongst the old fishermen belonging to the place was the regular seine net. If they knew any place where they could get a freight of whiting, bream, or ground fish they would take a few corks off the net and sink it. I am sure that all our best fishermen are in favour of doing away with prawn nets altogether. There are a great many of the grounds closed which the Commissioners consider are very important breeding-grounds, but in my opinion there are more important breeding-grounds outside the places which are closed. Then the feeding-grounds are being destroyed, and they are of just as much importance as the breeding-grounds. In the shallow part of the river where there is much steamer traffic, fish cannot be expected to be as numerous as they were. I think that the only fish that actually do spawn and live in the river, unless driven out by floods, are the river garfish and the sand-mullet.

2861. Have you very many good hauling-grounds in the open waters? No; very few. They have been mostly taken up in the last four or five years by reclamations, sea-walls, moorings, old hulks, and other obstacles. The Italians are not particular where they haul. They will shoot their nets amongst ships and steamers, as the nets only come about 2 feet above the ground. The net is only really a dredge, and brings in everything before it.

2862. With regard to the waters of the Parramatta River, do you not think that the open waters might be extended as far as the railway bridge at Ryde? Yes; I think that might be done without any detriment to the breeding-grounds and without decreasing the supply. The waters might also be opened above the Lane Cove Bridge. Mr. W. Neal.
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2863. Would you close the river above Lane Cove Bridge? Yes, I would close it during the winter months and open it in summer. There is very little work to be done above the Lane Cove Bridge. Fully three parts of the Lane Cove River consists of natural reservations which are unworkable with any class of net owing to sunken rocks, snags, and the tide.

2864. Can you see any great object to be achieved by closing the Iron Cove Bay? No; I do not see that there is any great object whatever to be gained. It might have been a very good place at one time, but not now, because there is too much steam-boat traffic and too much sewerage. There is a deposit of black mud which covers all the former feeding-grounds and the fish do not inhabit those waters in such great abundance as they used to. The only fish that comes in in the winter time is the mullet. The hard-gut mullet is migratory and come and go in their seasons. We have been told by our inspectors that when the mullet are all schooled in the river they are there for spawning purposes, but I am of opinion that not one of those fish spawn in the river. They stay in the river until they are full roed and then they go down below. I am of opinion that they all spawn along the deep water shores, the kelpy shores or that they spawn as they go.

2865. Do you say that you have been thirty-five years engaged at this industry? Yes.

2866. Have you any reason to complain of the provisions of the Fisheries Act? Yes; one particular reason is that if we buy a bit of net of the size mentioned in the Act or if we get it one-eighth of an inch above that size by the time it is tanned twice it is under the prescribed legal size. I have now on hand several pieces of good sound net which have not been used for six years for that very reason. It is too small and is liable to be seized at any time if used.

2867. Have you ever had a net seized? No; once in Mr. Quinan's time a garfish-net was taken off a pole where it was hanging up to dry. He took it off and put it in his boat and went on his way down to Sydney. It would appear that the inspectors were talking over the matter in the boat, at any rate they brought back the net and hung it up again. I was not there at the time, but some persons living in the neighbourhood told me about it. I then went over to the Fisheries Commissioners' Office to know the reason why the net was illegal. The inspector told me it was illegal as to the size, mesh, and construction. I took that for granted and cut up the net and never used it any more. In fact, all our nets from the garfish nets forwards, are liable to seizure after being tanned twice.

2868. Would it not be better to have a provision in the Act whereby people could be punished very severely if they brought undersized fish to market, or fish below the legal weight, rather than be so particular as to the mesh of the net? Yes; that would be a most important improvement. The Fisheries Act could then be worked with less men than at present, so many inspectors would not be required, and if a man brought undersized fish to market he should be punished.

2869. Do you take the fish you catch to market in your own boat? Yes; sometimes I bring them down in my boat, or in a cart by way of Pyrmont.

2870. Then you never trust any agents in Sydney to bring your fish to market? No; I have always brought them to market myself, or sent my sons with them.

2871. Then you have no reason to complain personally of your fish being pilfered? No.

2872. It would be impracticable, I suppose, for the fishermen at the Hawkesbury and Port Stephens to do as you do? Yes; they have to trust to agents.

2873. Have you ever heard complaints made by the fishermen living at a distance as to their having been robbed of fish? Yes; I have heard several complaints of baskets coming to the market half empty. I believe the principal part of that happens on board the steamboats.

2874. Have you never heard of the fish being pilfered between the steamers and the market, and even at the market? I have heard of it, but I have never seen it done.

2875. Have you a good knowledge of the fish-market in Woolloomooloo? Yes; I have been attending there pretty regularly for the last sixteen years.

2876. Do you think that the market is in a convenient position? No; I think the market is not central, nor is it adapted for the purpose at all. I would say that some place nearer the railway station, or at the head of Darling Harbour, would be more central. In a few years the great bulk of the fish will come by rail, and the less handling they have the better.

2877. Have the sales been satisfactorily conducted at the market? No; I think Mr. Seymour, in selling the fish, does not treat the fishermen as he ought to. Often fish are sold there which are not fit for food; at other times he will condemn fish that are even better than those he sold the day before. I think there is too much of the Corporation business about the market. I think that if the Government built a market, and the agents had more control over the fish, it would be better. A great quantity of fish comes in in the evening, and they remain in the baskets until the following morning. I think arrangements might be made through the agents by which a great quantity of fish might be sent away into the country over night, and it would then be disposed of advantageously for the agents and the catchers.

2878. *Mr. Howe.*] You mean that the fish would be sold in the country? Yes, for a great many years I did not bring any fish to the market, I could always dispose of it about Ashfield, Petersham, and other suburban towns at very good prices so that I could get fair wages. Since the present Fisheries Act has been in force I have not been able to do that, because I could not get enough fish. I have had to resort to prawning, and I have sometimes had to work at other things; in fact anything I could get.

2879. *Chairman.*] Whereas if you had more water at your disposal you could go on supplying those people with fresh fish as you used to do? Yes.

2880. And those people that you used to supply previously now have to do without fresh fish? Yes; they have either to buy market fish or to do without it. If you take iced fish to them as the majority of the fish is they will tell you they do not want it as it is no good. The Gascoignes and other people up there know what fresh fish is.

2881. Do you know the Gascoignes? Yes.

2882. Have they at any time complained of having insufficient water? Yes; the Gascoignes have been on several deputations with myself and others. The Commissioners told us on several occasions that they could do nothing in the matter. That if we required any alteration we would have to apply to our different Members of Parliament to get it made. They told us moreover that if they had their way they would shut up the whole place altogether.

- Mr. W. Neal. 2883. *Mr. Stevenson.*] What did they mean by telling you to apply to Members of Parliament? They told us they could do nothing with our grievances and that we would have to state our grievances to the Members for the different districts, and see if anything could be done in that way. The fishermen are rather bad hands to go about any business of that kind.
- 30 July, 1889. 2884. *Chairman.*] So I suppose the appointment of this Committee would give satisfaction to the whole of the fishermen? Yes. There is another thing I would like to mention, that is the desirableness of closing the mouth of the harbour for a mile in and a mile out. Schools of fish come in from the sea and there are always three or four boats with nets at Camp Cove Beach, just inside the reef. As soon as the school of fish show round the reef there is a net shot in front of them and there are perhaps a few boat loads taken.
2885. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Whom by? By the fisherman living at the mouth of the harbour. The rest of the school take fright and they go away to sea again, and perhaps they never come back. If those fish had been allowed to come inside they might have settled there for a few days or a few weeks, and have drawn off a few at a time into the channels of the various inlets. Then the hard-gut mullet commonly known as the sea-mullet stop in the river all the summer. But they all leave the rivers and go down below if a gale of wind comes on about March or April, from the southward or south-west. They are all fully-roed or in full bloom, as the fishermen say, and they are caught in such quantities that they become a drug in the market, whereas, if they were allowed to be caught in the rivers in the autumn months, the catcher would be well repaid. They would catch a few baskets at a time and the public would have fresh fish.
2886. *Mr. Howe.*] Is there much of the Parramatta River unworkable owing to tides, snags, and rocks? Yes, fully one-third is unworkable.
2887. Do you know whether it is true that edible fish above the legal weight, if caught in a garfish-net, have to be put back in the water? I have heard it stated, but it has never been done to me. I heard a man named Pat. Sheedy say that he was hauling on Hunter's beach one day in Mr. Quinan's time for sea garfish, and he caught some bream and whiting, and other edible fish, and he had to throw them overboard in the presence of Mr. Quinan, who said that he could take garfish only in a garfish-net.
2888. I suppose that fishermen, for the protection of their own interests, would put back undersized fish? Yes. I do not believe that any fisherman here would destroy edible fish which are under the legal size. They may kill a lot of little hardy-heads which are no good, and because some people who know nothing about it see those fish killed they make a great noise about the destruction of small fish.
2889. What is the season for catching garfish? I should say that the season for river garfish is from the 1st March until the latter end of August.
2890. When does the spawning season commence? Between the beginning of September and the latter end of November, or the beginning of December. That is when I find them full-roed. They do not all spawn at one time; there may be a month or two months' difference in spawning. Sand whiting and trumpeter whiting spawn from March until July.
2891. Do you think that the legal weight of sea garfish, and river garfish and mullet should be reduced? I think the weight of garfish should be reduced. One oz. is a very good size for a river garfish, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. for sea garfish. Not one-third of what has been sold during the last two years would go beyond the weights I have mentioned.
2892. As a fisherman, do you think that there should be no objection to any length of net, provided that the mesh is of the legal size? Yes; I do not think that a fisherman should be bound to any length of net, but that he should be allowed to use his own discretion in the matter.
2893. Does a net shrink in the tanning? Yes; that is one of the severest clauses we have to work under.
2894. If meshing-nets were $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, would that allow for shrinkage? I do not think anybody would object to work a meshing-net until it came to 3 inches, because it could not destroy any small fish. A fish that will stick in a 3-inch mesh, that is $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch below the size prescribed, will weigh 1 lb.
2895. Is it a fact that the shorter the net the more frequent the hauls, and does that disturb the bottom and hunt the fish? Yes.
2896. If a garfish-net were 150 fathoms, would that be an improvement? It would do no harm; the present garfish-net is a mere toy; even were garfish are plentiful, a man has to make three or four hauls to make ordinary wages. The more hauls that are made with a garfish-net the more destruction there is to the small fish.
2897. Can small garfish be caught with a net of $1\frac{1}{4}$ -inch mesh? Yes, but nothing more.*
2898. Have you known nets to be seized because they were the $\frac{1}{16}$ th of an inch under $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch? Yes, I have heard of it.
2899. Was that on account of shrinkage? Yes; the nets were of the legal size when they were bought, and in many cases they were $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch larger. We went to different ship chandlers and told them that when they were sending their orders home they should get the nets made $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch larger than was prescribed by law, but when those nets are tanned three times they are seizable.
2900. Do the fishermen object to stalling? Yes; it is all very well for a week or a month or two, but eventually it would clear out the fish.
2901. Describe the process of stalling? It means going into any of the bays at high water. Of course the fishermen know low-water mark, and if they carried out stalling they would shoot their nets across exactly at low-water mark; they would fasten both ends on shore, and put a stake every 20 yards in the cork line. Everything inside of that which could not go through the mesh would have to stop inside, and at low water the fisherman would gather all the fish up.
2902. You do not know many fishermen who practise that? No; I have not seen any one stalling in Sydney harbour for the last ten years.
2903. Is it prohibited in the Fisheries Act? Yes.
2904. Would the fishermen co-operate with the inspectors to obtain convictions against those who would practise this mode of fishing? Yes, everyone of them would.
2905. Do you experience any difficulty in hauling in the summer months on account of the blubber? Yes; the summer months are of very little use to us. For five months the Parramatta River is of very little use.
2906. Then you are not able to haul at all in summer? Yes. An experienced fisherman by watching the blubber could get a haul occasionally.
- 2907.

* NOTE (on revision) :—The net ought to be not less than 1 inch, and not more than $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch.

2907. What action has the blubber upon the nets? If a fisherman is not particular in washing the nets clean the blubber burns the nets. The next time the net is hauled it will fall off the ropes in pieces. I have seen that happen with inexperienced fishermen. Mr. W. Neal.
30 July, 1889.
2908. Are you satisfied with the fees charged for boats and men? I am very well satisfied myself; it suits us here. I would be even satisfied to pay more in Sydney harbour, because it would keep inexperienced fishermen out of the waters; but I do not think the fees should be increased in other places where they are not bothered with Italian fishermen and boys. Any boy with 10 yards of net can get a license.
2909. If you dispose of one of your boats and you get a new boat, would not the license be transferable? I believe not, but I cannot say for certain; it says on the license "not transferable."
2910. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Would it be an advantage to the fishermen if they were allowed to have an auctioneer responsible to them instead of to the Corporation? Yes, a very great advantage.
2911. Are the nets used by the Italians legal? Yes; but they are not legal for catching fish; they are only prawn-nets, and they are not supposed to catch fish with them, but they do.
2912. Do you think that the inspectors are not doing their duty in allowing the Italians to use those nets? It is very hard to get at them, because the net is legal, and they shoot from 150 to 200 yards with rope at each end of those nets.
2913. Would you close all the tributaries from prawn-net fishing? Yes; I would close all parts of the harbour from sunken prawn-net fishing. I believe every fisherman in Sydney harbour would endorse that.
2914. *Mr. Howe.*] Are they allowed to fish for prawns in closed waters? No.

THURSDAY, 1 AUGUST, 1889.

Present:—

MR. WILLIAM STEPHEN,

MR. FRANK FARNELL,

MR. STEVENSON.

FRANK FARNELL, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

J. M. Chanter, Esq., M.P., called in, sworn, and examined:—

2915. *Chairman.*] Are you one of the Members for the Murray District? Yes.
2916. Have you taken a very great interest in the fishing industry in this Colony? Yes, so far as the rivers of the southern portions of the Colony are concerned.
2917. Do you represent a constituency through which two or three navigable rivers run, in which there are a lot of fresh-water fish? Yes.
2918. A Bill was passed in 1887 to protect the fish in the inland waters;—have you directed attention to its application? As far as the Murray and its tributaries are concerned the Act is a dead letter.
2919. Are large quantities of fish caught in the Murray and transmitted to Melbourne? Yes.
2920. What kind of fish? Murray cod, bream, and perch. Some hundreds of tons per annum are sent to Melbourne.
2921. Are they caught by Victorian or New South Wales fishermen? Principally Victorian fishermen, and only one or two New South Wales fishermen.
2922. What is the mode of fishing? Netting principally.
2923. Do they place a net across the river and catch the fish by stalling? They do not across the river Murray itself, because it is too wide, but the Moira Lakes, between the Murray River and one of its ana-branches, the Edwards River, are the great breeding-grounds for the fish. When the river rises the water flows into those lakes; the fish go into the lakes and return as the waters recede. Their return is interrupted by nearly the whole of these creeks being netted right across from one side to the other.
2924. Do you think that the present system which is carried out by those fishermen interferes with the breeding of the fish? Yes, very largely. I have on several occasions seen tons of fish lying rotting on the banks. The supply for the Melbourne market is so regulated that any excess of fish is thrown on one side.
2925. Is there no provision in the Act I have mentioned to punish people who destroy the fish in this way? I think so, but there is no officer appointed to carry out the provisions of the Act.
2926. Would it not be advisable to get the Government to appoint an officer to superintend the fisheries there? Yes. I have repeatedly forwarded communications to the Fisheries Commissioners, pointing out the state of affairs, and asking them to appoint an assistant inspector to control the river. On the score of saving expense, I have advised them to appoint the chief forest ranger at Moama as assistant inspector. He is already an officer of the Government, and he is constantly traversing the streams in a steamer. However, on the score of expense, the Commission have refused to appoint him.
2927. Do you know whether your communication to the Commissioners went any farther? No. I verbally called the attention of the Colonial Secretary on one or two occasions to the matter, and intimated to him that I communicated with the Fisheries Commission without any effect.
2928. Do you think that if netting were confined only to the main river it would be very destructive? I think that during certain periods of the year the current in the main river is too strong to admit of netting.
2929. In order to encourage fish-breeding, do you think it would be advisable to close the lakes and tributaries during a certain period of the year? Yes. I am not sufficiently acquainted with the question to recommend the particular months when the fisheries should be closed. I would like to point out for the consideration of the Committee another question in connection with the fisheries on the Murray. There is supposed to be a control over the river by the Victorian authorities. Whether they have any right to it or not I do not know. Their control does not extend beyond the southern bank. Any netting or illegality that takes place on that side of the bank they interfere with; but this is defeated by the fishermen simply crossing over the river into New South Wales, and carrying on their operations there.
2930. Are they not amenable to the laws here as in Victoria? They have their special laws. I raise the question so that you may deal with the point as to what right the Victorians have to control the river.
2931. Owing to there being no officer appointed to look after these matters the fishermen are allowed to fish indiscriminately, and do what they like, but if an officer were appointed you would be able to take proceedings? Yes, I presume over the whole river. The river belongs to us, and I think we should control it.

J. M.
Chanter,
Esq., M.P.
1 Aug., 1889.

2932.

- J. M. Chanter, 2932. Do you think that if we had proper regulations with regard to fishing in the Murray we would be able to supply our own markets or the inland towns with fresh fish? Yes. At present there is means of communication from Albury. Certainly Albury is some distance from the lakes, but there is every probability that in a very short time there will be direct communication with the lakes from Sydney. There are only 40 miles required to connect Jerilderie with Deniliquin, which would open up the whole of that country, which would enable our own people to obtain the fish and send them to the Sydney market. There is no more valuable fish than Murray cod in Australia.
- Esq., M. P.
1 Aug., 1889.
2933. The system at present carried out tends to destroy the fish? Yes, unless it is carried on under proper regulations.
2934. How is the fish transmitted to the Melbourne market? By rail. There is a direct line communicating with Melbourne.
2935. Have you a knowledge of any other of the fresh-water rivers where fish are in abundance? There are a great number of rivers leading into the Murray. There are the Edwards and the Darling Rivers, a number of creeks, and so-called rivers which are filled with fish. It is those rivers that are affected by the question I have raised. The Fisheries Commission have dealt with this question by appointing an assistant inspector at Deniliquin, a forest ranger, named Wilshire, but as his duties are subordinate to those of the gentleman I have already mentioned, he is confined to a very limited space, so that his supervision will not extend to the Murray River or the lakes, and other rivers; whereas the chief forest ranger, Mr. Manton, if he had been appointed, would have had supervision over the whole of those places. The cost of that appointment would not exceed, I think, £50 or £60 per annum. I believe that that is about the salary now paid to the assistant inspector at Deniliquin.
2936. To what district are the operations of Mr. Wilshire confined? To a radius of something like 30 miles around Deniliquin. Fish caught in the lake, which is situated 28 or 30 miles from Deniliquin, are outside his boundary. Those fish are driven in carts, and put on the railway at Echuca railway station, in Victoria. He could only take cognisance of fish taken from the lake near Mathoura station, in New South Wales.
2937. Do you know if the Commissioners have ever visited the inland waters? No.
2938. Do you know any waters which might be stocked with fish? No. I think the whole of the rivers in that part of the Colony are naturally supplied with fish.
2939. *Mr. Stephen.*] What kind of nets do they use on the Murray River? They use several kinds of nets. I have seen one particular net used, which is, I believe, forbidden by law, that is the bag-net. There is a series of couplets in the net, running from one space into another, until they form a circular or semi-circular space, where the fish are captured. To show how ruthlessly the fish are destroyed in those rivers, I may state that on one occasion a party of friends and myself took a trip up the river, and seeing one of those nets strung across one of the creeks leading into the river, we lifted the net to see what kind of fish were caught. There were about 6 cwt. of fish in the net, and I should say that most of the fish had been there for two or three weeks. Some of them were putrid. The fisherman who owned the net had evidently got sufficient fish elsewhere, and he left these where they were.
2940. Is there any particular name for those nets? They are called bag-nets. With them there is no escape for the fish.
2941. What style of net would you recommend to be allowed? What they call the straight net. I have not studied the question sufficiently to recommend the mesh that should be allowed. I think the fish in those rivers above 5lb. weight should be captured, because when they are that size they are very voracious and destroy the young fish. They also get coarse. When the fish is from 2lb. to 4lb. weight it is very marketable. 2lb. weight should be the minimum weight for Murray cod.
- 2942-4. What size mesh for the net do you think would be desirable? From 3 to 4 inches.
2945. Do the fishermen return the small-sized fish to the water? No; they take no care whatever about that.
2946. Do you think that if the smaller fish were returned to the water they would live? If they were not too long captured they would.
2947. What is the area of the lakes? Several thousand acres; they are very large; they are plentifully supplied with fish and game.
2948. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Have you any idea how many men are engaged in fishing on the Murray and its tributaries? In the district of Moama I know that there are something like twelve. I do not know how many there are on the whole river.
2949. Are there fifty? Yes.
2950. Where do they obtain their licenses? From the Victorian Government, I think.
2951. Do you think that is right? No; I object to it.
2952. Are you sure that they do not obtain licenses from New South Wales also? In some cases I believe they do, but in many cases I believe that the fish are caught without any license from New South Wales.
2953. Could not fishermen net the tributaries without blocking up the mouth? Yes.
2954. Do you not think that should be prohibited? Yes. I think the law intended it should be prohibited by making provision that the nets should not be stretched from one side of the watercourse to the other; but that is defeated by putting two nets in such a way that they overlap, and so completely close the creek.
2955. Do you think that if the license fees were looked after they would cover the expense of appointing an inspector? Yes, and it would preserve the fish for our own people. I am satisfied that if fish are conserved until railway communication is completed between Sydney and those parts of the country it would be of immense value.
2956. Are there any large populations in New South Wales which could be supplied with those fish instead of sending them to Melbourne? Yes, Goulburn and various other towns.
2957. *Chairman.*] Have you heard of any other means than netting being employed for catching fish? Not in the Murray; but I believe that on two or three occasions dynamite has been used in some of the lakes in Victoria. That is not the only means of capturing fish. Along the banks thousands of lines are put into the river and fastened to rods stuck in the bank. To those rods a little bell is attached, and when the fishermen go along at night they can tell when a fish is hooked by the ringing of the bell.
- The

The river from one end to the other is covered with those lines. There is another system which they call cross lines. They stretch lines right across the river; they sink them from 18 inches to 2 feet below the surface with hooks fixed on the lines. A great many fish are caught in this way in the Murray River. J. M. Chanter,
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2958. Would it be a good thing to do away with that system? Yes.

2959. *Mr. Stephen.*] They are not likely to catch small fish in that way? No, that is done principally to catch the large fish. I do not object to the large fish being caught but a very small cod can be caught with a very large hook.

2960. Do they use any hauling nets such as are used on the coast? No, the snags are too numerous. They use plain nets with stakes in which the fish are meshed.

2961. Do you consider that the Victorian Government have no right to grant licenses to catch fish in the river? That is my impression.

2962. But there are tributaries running into the Murray over which they would have control? Yes.

2963. Do you think that the Government should take steps to have full control of the fish in the river? Yes, because it is very valuable.

2964. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Is it too far to send the fish to Sydney? No. It is only a question of railway communication; and there is only a break of 40 miles. The lakes are the great fishing grounds, but the distance from the lakes to Albury is so great that the fish would not arrive there in good condition. In Sydney we only get the fish in the river which are caught about Albury.

2965. *Mr. Stephen.*] What is the largest size fish that you have seen? 119 lb., but it was a very coarse fish. I have been living near the river since 1865, and during the last few years I have been living on the river. In 1865 the fish were plentiful in the various rivers. If you put in a line anywhere you could get a fish in a few minutes, and repeat the operation. Now it is a most difficult thing to catch a fish with a line in the river. I do not know whether that arises from the fish being captured in such numbers that the river is being denuded of them. Further down than where I live they are more plentiful. It is not from the parts of the river that I describe that the fish are taken exclusively for the Melbourne market. There is a point down the river about 100 miles distant from Echuca where there are other means of railway communication with Melbourne. There are a very large number of creeks there which are breeding grounds like the lakes. I am informed that there is a very large amount of netting going on there. If Mr. Manton were appointed assistant inspector of fisheries he would supervise this part of the river as well as the lakes. The red-gum timber grows in that flat country, so he has to visit that part of the river in any case.

2966. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Do the lakes you refer to traverse the Victorian boundary? No; they are all on this side.

2967. Did the Fisheries Commission ever give any reason why they would not appoint Mr. Manton? No sufficient reason. I think I have reason to complain of the want of attention paid by the Commission to the communications I made. The only reason they gave was on the score of expense.

2968. Did you ever point out what would be the cost? Yes; I said the salary need not exceed that paid to the assistant inspector at Deniliquin. I think that is £60 or £70 per annum.

2969. You must be of opinion that the Fisheries Commission have not acted in the public interest in appointing a gentleman who cannot discharge the duties so efficiently as the gentleman you recommended? That is my opinion, and I gave it to the Fisheries Commission.

2970. *Mr. Stephen.*] Do you think that a Commission such as we have at present, or a department administered by a single head, would be a better way of preserving the fish? Judging by the facts I have stated, I have no hesitation in saying that the Fisheries Commission is a farce.

2971. Do you think it would be much better to administer it by the head of a department? Yes; then he could control the officers appointed in the different parts of the country.

Mr. Phillip Cohen called in, sworn, and examined:—

2972. *Chairman.*] What is your occupation? I am not in business at present.

2973. Were you at one time actively engaged in the fishing industry? I have made it a study for a great number of years. Mr.
P. Cohen.

2974. More particularly in connection with oyster-leases? Yes, in latter years. I have had a practical knowledge of fishing for a great number of years and have made it a study. I endeavoured to resuscitate the oyster-beds on the Hastings River, but, unfortunately, I failed. I commenced it about five years ago, but I gave it up twelve months since. 1 Aug., 1889.

2975. Do you think that the provisions of the Fisheries Act have applied justly? No.

2976. Have you any reason to doubt the advisability of continuing the existence of the present Commission? It has done a vast deal of harm, and has retarded the fishing industry.

2977. In what way? In the first place, the great majority of the members never had any practical knowledge of the fisheries; they never made themselves acquainted with them, nor did their officers. Some of their by-laws have been stupidly absurd. They have closed waters which were of no benefit to the fisheries, and they have kept waters open which ought to have been closed.

2978. Have you at any time brought under the notice of the Commission any proposals to remedy alleged defects? I have written a great deal to the public press, but I have never suggested anything to the Commission, because I knew it would be useless.

2979. Did you ever communicate with the Colonial Secretary as head of the Department? Yes; when Sir Alexander Stuart was Premier.

2980. Have you ever had any complaints made to you by the fishermen as to the injurious operations of the Fisheries Act? Yes; on various occasions.

2981. What were the grounds for those complaints? The regulations having reference to the mesh of the nets are very absurd, and very hard on the fishermen. Then the unnecessary and unjust closing of waters where there is no benefit to be derived, has been a great hardship to the fishermen.

2982. Have any of the Commissioners been to the principal fishing-grounds? Not to my knowledge.

2983. Is there any member of the Commission who possesses practical knowledge? Yes; Mr. Oliver is pretty well acquainted with some of the fisheries along the coast. I know he has been out on fishing excursions, but whether he has any knowledge of the various distant habitats of the fish or of their habits I cannot say. I know he has interested himself a good deal in the fishing industry. 2984.

Mr.
P. Cohen.
1. Aug., 1889.

2984. If the fishermen had a representative on the Commission in the shape of a practical man who would be associated with the four other members, do you think that that would be the means of bringing about a better state of affairs? I do not think so; I do not think that the other Commissioners would listen to anything that the practical man brought under their notice. I consider that the Fisheries Commission is unnecessarily cumbrous, and that it is spending the funds of the country to no useful purpose.

2985. Do you think that the Commission should be abolished, and that better means should be devised to administer the Act? Yes.

2986. If it were placed under one responsible Minister or department, do you think that would accomplish the object? I have been advocating that through the press for six years.

2987. In what respect do you think that the Commission is too expensive? In the first place there is no necessity for all those outside inspectors. Under the Victorian Act water bailiffs are appointed in the coastal and Riverine districts. The police are appointed to those positions. They only get about £5 or £10 a year for performing those duties. The outside inspectors here who are appointed along the coast have nothing to do commensurate with the salaries they receive.

2988. Have you had communication with the Fisheries Department? Yes.

2989. Has there been any delay in attending to your communications? Yes.

2990. Have you ever noticed that those delays were caused through the want of a quorum? Yes, often.

2991. Have you ever heard other people complain of delays and red-tapeism? Yes; I will give an instance: If I am an oyster-bed lessee, and I detect a man stealing my oysters, I cannot prosecute him without first obtaining permission from the Commission.

2992. In the meantime the man would have time to escape? Yes.

2993. Would it be better to have the power vested in the local inspector? Yes.

2994. Are there too many officers in the department? Yes.

2995. Do you think that the local police magistrates would be able to perform the duties of inspectors in some cases? I think it would be better to appoint a senior police officer in each district.

2996. Do you think that would save expense? Yes; and it would be a more effectual way of carrying out the law.

2997. Do you know if any of the Commissioners have visited the fishing grounds? I think there have been one or two junkettings. I believe a party went down south one time, taking with them a trawl. As to visiting any of the stations, and visiting and examining any of the fisheries or taking bearings of the various deep-sea schnapper grounds, I am certain that they never did it.

2998. Do you think that Mr. Lindsay Thompson has any practical knowledge of the fisheries? I should not like to say with certainty.

2999. Has he ever visited any of the fishing grounds? Yes; he once came and settled a dispute for me on the Hastings River. I know that he has been at other places; but I cannot say whether any material good resulted from his visits.

3000. Where did you have oyster leases? On the Hastings River, at Port Macquarie. I had altogether about 8,000 yards, for which I paid rent, somewhere about £80 a year.

3001. Did you find it remunerative? No; I lost a lot of money.

3002. How? In one instance the Commissioners granted a man 200 or 300 yards next to my oyster-beds, in opposition to my entreaties and interests, for the paltry sum of £2 10s. a year. This man was a perfect vexation to me, and I am certain he took my oysters. Then when the floods occurred eighteen months or two years ago, the fresh water was in the river for three months, and destroyed a great quantity of oysters. After trying it for three or four years I determined to give it up. The oyster-beds, as they are under the present system in this country, are not utilized as breeding beds. The old drift oyster-beds, which were grand indeed, have not an oyster upon them. On the Hastings River some twenty years ago the oyster-beds were some of the grandest in the Colony. There was no oyster in the world superior to the drift oyster of New South Wales, and I doubt if any were equal to it; but the rivers have been dredged to death. The oysters now coming to market are merely a bastard oyster, grown upon the mangroves and the stones upon the foreshores. The oyster-getters or lessees take them away at once, and put them down till they are old enough to fatten. The moment they fatten they are sent to market, and they have no chance of breeding. In my opinion, the only way to restore the oyster-beds of the Colony is to close them entirely from one end of the coast to the other for three years.

3003. Had the people special licenses to dredge? Yes. In those days the Government foolishly granted dredging licenses, and leased rivers to those men. To my knowledge in less than eighteen months 30,000 or 40,000 bags were removed from the Hastings River. There were very few steamers then running on the coast, and the oysters used to be taken to Sydney by the timber vessels. The men employed on the oyster-beds used to take up more oysters than they could send to market, and the finest oysters were retailed in Sydney at 5s. a bag of 3 bushels. Hundreds of bags used to be left on the banks of the rivers to rot, and they were ultimately burned for lime. In this way the deep river oyster-beds were completely annihilated years before the present Act came in force.

3004. Instead of indiscriminately leasing 200 and 300 yards for oyster culture, would it not be better to adopt a system whereby the whole side of a river might be leased to one man? I think that even that suggestion might be improved upon. I think that if the Government were to lease each river there would be a chance of bringing back the oyster-beds to their former state. Then one man or a syndicate might have a chance of taking up a river and resuscitating the beds. That will never be done under the present system.

3005. Do you say that oyster culture has not been carried on properly on the Hastings River? It has not been on any of the rivers. I have been on others. All are worked somewhat similarly.

3006. Would it not be possible to carry it on by artificial means? I tried all that. I put up walls along the shores, I sank hurdles, I tried every method, but did not succeed. The spat would not cling, and what I did save were destroyed about two years ago.

3007. Have you ever heard of any disease among the oysters? There are many diseases spoken of. There is a spiral worm, for instance, which is destructive at times. There are a great many enemies of the oyster, for instance the octopus, which is very numerous in the coastal rivers.

3008. Have you ever heard of the stinging-ray as an enemy of the oyster? I have heard of it, but do not believe it.

3009.

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P. Cohen.
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3009. Have you ever heard of an enemy called the borer? Yes; but if the small spiral whelk is meant, I think it is an absurdity.

3010. Did you ever send any of the oysters from your oyster-beds to market? Yes.

3011. It did not pay? No. I would not have sent them at all; but if I had not sent them someone else would have sent them for me.

3012. What was the result of the trawling experiments of which you have spoken? Some sea-weed, I think, and a couple of sting-ray, or something like that, with the further result of a partially destroyed net.

3013. Do you think that trawling could be successfully carried on on our coast? No. I know of only one bank on which I think it might be successfully carried out. It is about 12 miles off the North Head, with the depth of about 45 fathoms of water. It has never been trawled. As for trawling along the coast it would be absurd, because the bottoms are mostly foul. The trawling expeditions in Victoria proved that. Like Scotland, we have an abundance of fish, but this is not a trawling coast.

3014. Do you know whether or not it was carried on successfully on the Victorian coast? It was unsuccessful. I was down there lately during the last trip of the "Lady Loch." On the former trip, when they trawled in shallow water off Port Albert Bight, they caught some fish there the water in that locality being very shallow; there are any quantities of fish on the coast, and we do not want any improved method of net fishing. What we do want is proper transit to market. The home fisheries are fished out, and if the market is to be effectually supplied with fish it must come from a distance, where it exists in great abundance.

3015. Do you think that all the inspectors of the department are practical men? I know some of them who are not. Others I cannot speak of, because I never had an opportunity of judging their capabilities.

3016. If we continue under the present system, should practical men be appointed inspectors or sub-inspectors? No doubt about that. In Melbourne there is only one inspector of fisheries, and the whole department consists of him and two or three subordinates and a clerk; so I am informed. He does the work effectually.

3017. But they have not got the same extent of fisheries as we have? What is the good of having extensive fisheries if they are not properly developed and worked?

3018. Do you think that if the same system were adopted here the department could be worked more economically? Yes, I certainly do.

3019. Have you heard any complaints from the fishermen? Yes; especially in regard to the action of the Commission in closing certain open waters; and also with reference to the mesh and length of the nets.

3020. What would they like with regard to the nets? I think that 150 fathoms is the legal length of a seine net. I do not see what difference it would make if the length of the seine were unlimited. Instead of having to shoot three times with a net of 150 fathoms it would do no harm if they were allowed to shoot once with a net 450 fathoms long if the fishermen desired it. The length of the net ought to be left to the discretion of the fishermen, but the mesh ought to be limited. I would certainly restrict the fishermen from fishing in the lagoons at certain periods, they being the natural breeding-grounds of the fish.

3021. Have the Hawkesbury fishermen complained of the want of open water there? I am not aware, but there is plenty of available water in that locality. I agree with the Fisheries Commission in closing the upper waters of all coastal rivers against netting.

3022. When the Fisheries Commissioners close waters should they in the first instance consult the local inspector as to the advisability of doing so? No doubt a report should come from him if he is competent to advise.

3023. Has it been the case that some waters have been closed against the recommendations of the local inspector? I believe so.

3024. Should not more authority be given to the local inspector so that he could issue licenses? Yes, if he is a practical man, but not otherwise.

3025. Have you ever seen sales conducted at the present fish market? Yes.

3026. Is it suitable for the requirements of the public? They have increased the size of the market, but it is not satisfactory. It is not a market; it is an auction-room.

3027. Have fishermen complained of their fish being pilfered? Yes; I have heard so.

3028. Where does that take place? In the market, unquestionably.

3029. Do you know of any such cases of your own knowledge? Yes, but the perpetrators were never detected. I have heard fishermen complain that, in certain baskets, they have put in very prime fish, and when they were opened for sale in the market, after being in the market all night, those fish were gone.

3030. Have you heard fishermen complain of their fish being pilfered from the steamer or in the transit from the steamer to the market? No; but such may be the case at times.

3031. Do you not think it would be more convenient to have a market established on the western side of the city? No doubt the Woolloomooloo market is out of the way, and in the early mornings it is a perfect pandemonium. No respectable person would think of going there to buy fish, because for an hour or so in the morning the scum of the lazy vagabonds of Sydney collect there. It is a huge monopoly, and the public must get their fish from the retail vendors. If anyone gets a good haul of fish and brings it to the city during the day he dare not sell it until next morning at the market, and in the meantime it may become putrid in his boat.

3032. Have you visited the Melbourne markets? Yes; the public go there and buy fish.

3033. If that system were adopted would it be satisfactory? Yes. In Melbourne fish is brought to the market at any time of the day, and the market is open to the public all day long.

3034. Are not the fish thrown out in heaps on the floor of the market here, and are they not liable to be trodden and spat upon? Yes, if the people are inclined to do so. The people who go there are not allowed to smoke, but they are not prevented from chewing tobacco, and furthermore some of the dealers wash the fish in the dirty waters of Woolloomooloo Bay.

3035. Have you directed your attention to the Inland Fisheries Act 1887? No; but I have fished in inland waters; I know that they are being denuded, and that many tons of fish go to Melbourne every week from New South Wales waters.

3036. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Where? From the Murray and the Murrumbidgee and their tributaries. The fish are netted scandalously, and that ought to be put a stop to.

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3037. *Chairman.*] What sort of nets are used? Graballs, I think. They are most destructive.
3038. Are they bag nets? Some of them may be, but the nets I allude to are stretched across the river from bank to bank at night time. It is a mesh net and nothing can get away. They destroy large quantities of small fish in the same way as the Italians and Greeks are now doing in the home fisheries. Those fishermen are destroying all the little fish we have in the upper harbour and rivers.
3039. Do they haul the ground both day and night? Yes; they are destroying the breeding grounds. I would prohibit them altogether from fishing in this way. They use a sort of bastard trawl. They sink the nets and drag the bottoms. The other day I watched some of them at Lavender Bay, and they must at various times have killed millions of young fish. I spoke to them about it. They were very impudent, and I thought they would knife me. That is done repeatedly in the upper waters of Port Jackson, and I think it ought to be prohibited.
3040. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Did you think it desirable to bring that under the notice of the Commissioners? What was the use of doing that. I wrote to the *Herald* about it.
3041. Was any action taken in consequence? No; the nets are still allowed to be used. If an unfortunate British fisherman is found using a net the mesh of which is a quarter of an inch smaller than is allowed by law his nets are seized and sold. When those nets are taken from the fishermen as being of an illegal size, they ought to be destroyed, instead of being allowed to go into use and to be seized again.
3042. *Chairman.*] There was an association formed not long ago called the Fishermen's Association of New South Wales. Have you had any communication with them? I have been requested to attend some of their meetings, but I never did so.
3043. Do you think that association will be productive of any good? I suppose it will be like all other unions. You must not take for gospel all that the men say. No doubt they have many grievances, but some of them are never satisfied.
3044. In writing to the *Herald* on April 25th of this year, you described the nets used by the Greeks as infernal machines;—are those the same nets that you have just referred to? Yes.
3045. Do you think that the whole Commission should be remodelled or that a new system should be introduced placing the whole department under a separate or one responsible head? Yes, I think that would effect a great deal of good.
3046. *Mr. Stephen.*] Are you in any way concerned in the Fisheries? Not in any way.
3047. I suppose you are not employed as an officer of the Fisheries Commission under any circumstances? No.
3048. Do you think that the Act might be worked to greater advantage to the fishermen without being detrimental to the supply of fish? I think the Act requires a great deal of amendment.
3049. Do you think that the Act is worked more to the disadvantage of the fishermen than it should be? Yes.
3050. Are there any seasons of the year when the breeding-grounds might be opened? In the Australian waters there are no deep sea banks like there are in the European waters, as far as I have read, but nature has supplied us with a number of lagoons along the coast wherein the fish go to breed. The young fish remain in the lagoons and are to be found there in vast numbers all the year through. I would not like to close up places like Lake Macquarie or Tuggera Lake, but I think the small lagoons along the coast should be protected. I would prohibit fishing in the smaller lagoons altogether, and in the others at stated periods.
3051. What is the legal size of the different classes of nets? For the seine, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inch in the bunt and 3 inches in the wings. The gar-fish net is $1\frac{1}{2}$ or $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch in the bunt and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in the wings. That is another foolish affair. The fishermen lose the best part of their haul from such a net. The supply of garfish is diminishing in local waters year after year, although I have seen them in immense schools away along the coast.
3052. Do you think that if a net is once declared legal it should always be considered to be legal, even though it might have shrunk? Yes.
3053. Are you aware that nets which have been declared legal and which have shrunk through tanning have been seized? Yes, and I consider that is cruel.
3054. Can you point out anything respecting which the fishermen might be relieved in the working of the present Act? The injustice in closing open waters is that the greater portion of the fish along the coast are migratory. For instance, sea-mullet make their appearance sometimes as early as the middle of March, and they move around the coast up to the middle of May. Small bodies detach themselves from the principal school and go into every river and estuary to spawn. By closing the lower waters our fishermen are debarred from taking the fish as they travel along the coast and they lose their opportunity altogether.
3055. Do you know how many members compose the Fisheries Commission? Five, I think.
3056. Do you consider that number to be necessary to the proper working of the Act? No; I think it is quite unnecessary.
3057. Have you had any experience of oyster-culture in other countries? No; I made a great mistake when I first entered into the oyster industry. I read a great deal about oyster-culture in other countries, and I worked up to that as far as I could. That is where I made a mistake, because I found to my cost that what was suitable in other countries was not suitable here. If I had stuck to usual practice and my own experience, I would have done better. In the same way the late Mr. Holt lost a great deal of money at Cook's River by adopting the French process.
3058. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Do you consider that the present Fisheries Act is not at all satisfactory? It is very unsatisfactory, and it retards the development of the Fisheries, for the want of practical knowledge.
3059. *Mr. Stephen.*] Can you suggest any amendments in the present Act? Yes; but it would take some time. It would be necessary to have the Act before me, so that I might suggest improvements in the present provisions.
3060. *Chairman.*] Do you think that industries might be established at some of the prolific Fisheries in the Colony in the way of fish preserving, and so on? Yes. There is no coast in the world where there are larger quantities of fish than there are here. Three months ago I went out with a fishing party of seven, and in six hours we got over 400 schnapper. We might have filled the ship. Parts of the coast is alive with them, but the great want is better means of transit. The fishermen have no means. The industry is not developed as it should be, they cannot go out to sea, and go on the schnapper grounds which exist for 2 miles to 10 miles off the coast.

3061. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Do you mean to take the schnapper with nets? No, that would be impossible; the bottoms are too foul.

3062. Do you propose to use well-boats? No; small fast steamers, fitted with cooling chambers, and a market here with cool chamber, where the fish may be kept without being frozen. Well-boats have been superseded in Europe by fast collecting boats fitted up with those chambers. The only fish that you can put in a well-boat are deep sea fish, such as schnapper, but they are always nearly dead when they are hauled up. Some years ago a well-boat came here from Tasmania and I went out in her. We caught 400 or 500 fish, but we only brought in twenty or thirty alive in the well.

3063. Do you think it advisable to close the mouth of Port Jackson to net-fishing owing to the fishermen at the Heads using their nets and frightening them away when they wish to enter? People talk about that sort of thing, but they do not understand it. When a school of mullet goes along the coast they do not all enter the harbours and rivers, only small detachments come in. The sea-mullet have millions of ova, and it is not necessary that all those mullet should breed. The fish go up the rivers, and why should not the fishermen be allowed to take them. The fishermen should not be prohibited from taking them in any quantity from the open waters.

3064. But it is said that when nets are shot across the Heads the fish are frightened and do not come into the harbour, so that they do not go into the inlets and bays, where they would go if they were left undisturbed? They cannot be taken, and do not spawn at the Heads, or in inlets or bays, but in the rivers.

3065. Do you not think it would be a good thing to give them the means of breeding up the river? I proposed this two or three years ago: that Port Jackson should not be fished from Bradley's Head upwards. That would close the whole of the Parramatta River and the whole of the harbour from Bradley's Head across the harbour to the east end of Double Bay.

3066. With what object? Because that would prevent all the young fish being destroyed by the Italians and the Greeks up Lane Cove and Parramatta Rivers, and would tend ultimately to increase the supply of matured fish in the lower waters of the harbour.

TUESDAY, 6 AUGUST, 1889.

Present:—

MR. FRANK FARNELL,
MR. HOWE,
MR. NOBBS,

MR. O'SULLIVAN,
MR. RITCHIE,
MR. WILLIAM STEPHEN,

MR. STEVENSON.

FRANK FARNELL, ESQ., IN THE CHAIR.

Mr. Lindsay G. Thompson recalled and further examined:—

3067. *Chairman.*] The Committee are anxious to elicit some information with reference to the conduct of your proceedings when the Commission are sitting or supposed to sit. You stated that they hold meetings or are supposed to hold meetings once a week? Yes.

3068. Have there been occasions when there was no quorum? Yes.

3068½. How have you proceeded when you had no quorum? Two of the Commissioners present have agreed to certain action on the papers, such being recorded in the minute-book which is sent round to one or more of the Commissioners who were not present to get their concurrence, and the proceedings are then taken as formal.

3069. In every case where the book was sent round were the papers in connection with the different matters under consideration placed before the other Commissioners who were asked to sign? No, that would not be done unless asked for specially.

3070. So that they actually signed that book in some instances without having any knowledge of the facts of the case? Without a knowledge of the details, not the facts.

3071. Do you not think that that was rather a bad proceeding? The difficulty was that if this had not been done the business would have been at a standstill. When there was no quorum the business had perhaps been already delayed, so that if this course had not been adopted it would have been delayed still longer. If papers were required they would have been supplied.

3072. Do you remember a Bill being passed closing Port Hacking altogether from net-fishing? Yes.

3073. Do you say that that suggestion never emanated from the Commission at all? Yes.

3074. Are you perfectly willing to recommend that Port Hacking should be open to a certain point? Yes, up to the Spit.

3075. So that it would be necessary to amend the Bill to a certain extent in order to open those waters? Yes.

3076. With reference to oysters on Crown lands, is there any provision in the Act whereby people could be punished for taking those oysters? No; the Act is defective on that point.

3077. So that it would be also necessary to bring in a Bill to provide punishment for people who take oysters from Crown lands? It is necessary to bring in a Bill to amend the Act in very many ways; the draft Bill which I submitted to the Committee on my last examination would, I think, cure all the defects of the present Act. It is based on the lines of experience; and I am not aware of any point that has been omitted in the Bill. I have endeavoured to make it complete and as fair as possible, as between the lessees and the public. There is a provision in that Bill to punish persons who take oysters unlawfully from Crown lands.

3078. Are you aware of the existence of a fishermen's association in New South Wales? Yes.

3079. Have you at any time had any communications from them? Yes.

3080. Of what nature? We had, I think, a letter setting out what they call their grievances; and a deputation from the Association interviewed the Commissioners on one occasion. The matter was discussed by the Commissioners, who promised that they would give it full consideration, and communicate further with the Association, which they did. A letter was sent embodying the views of the Commissioners as to the various grievances set out in their paper.

3081. Do you know whether the fishermen were placed in any better position than they were before they made the application? No; it was not considered that their grievances were real grievances; matters were stated which we were able to refute.

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Thompson.
6 Aug., 1889.

3082. The text of the reply was that the Commissioners could not recognise the grievances of the fishermen, or their alleged grievances, and that the Commissioners did not see grounds for making any alteration? That was practically the reply.

3083. Are you aware that at the present time in the harbour there are men fishing with sunken nets? Yes; that has been the case for some time past; there is nothing in the law to prevent it.

3084. Would it require a law to be passed to stop that? Yes; I have suggested a sunken net that would be less destructive in its effects than the one now in use. I made that suggestion in deference to the wishes of certain fishermen, but for myself I would oppose the use of sunken nets altogether; they must necessarily be very destructive to fish food and spawning-grounds, modify them as you may.

3085. It has been stated to the Committee that when migratory fish such as sea-mullet are about to enter the harbour fishermen shoot at them with their nets, making a large haul probably, but frightening the greater portion of the fish out to sea again;—do you think that is a fact? I think the instinct of the fish is so strong that although they might be frightened away for a time they would come back again to spawn.

3086. It has been suggested that the harbour might be closed at the Heads, as well as at the sources of the rivers;—do you think that is a good suggestion? I have heard it stated that the fishermen suffer a great deal from certain fishermen at the Heads who, immediately they see a shoal of fish coming in run out their nets and shoot them in the way stated. It might be desirable possibly to close the harbour, not from the Heads right up, but a portion near the Heads, in the same way as at Lake Macquarie; the waters there are closed for half a mile on either side of the entrance, and half a mile into deep water. We might do the same here in Port Jackson, but I am afraid there would be a very great outcry amongst the fishermen who think that their privileges are already too much curtailed.

3087. In connection with the Inland Fisheries Act I believe you have an inspector stationed at Deniliquin? Yes.

3088. What is the area of his district? Principally the Edwards River, and a portion of the Murray River, in the vicinity of the Edwards River. His district corresponds with his forest ranging district. Very little attention has been given to the inland waters so far, and I wish more could be given. I am very much interested in them myself.

3089. Do you remember a communication having been received by the Commission from Mr. Chanter M.P., urging upon the Commission the appointment of a gentleman as Assistant Inspector of Fisheries, who is at present forest ranger in the Murray River district? Yes; his appointment has been recommended.

3090. How long ago? Quite recently. Mr. Chanter made several applications to the Commissioners, who did not see their way to grant them on account of the want of funds, I think. Eventually his appointment was recommended, and I believe it will be shortly gazetted.

3091. *Mr. Stephen.*] With regard to the replies sent to the Fishermen's Association with respect to their grievances, can you tell us the nature of it? I can supply a copy; it is a very lengthy document, and it applies to each of the grievances *seriatim*. The one great point of complaint was the closure of waters, and I think we endeavoured to show that the closures were beneficial, and did not operate harshly against the fishermen; that none of the actions of the Commissioners were intended to operate harshly, but were simply taken for the public good, and in the fishermen's interest.

3092. I presume you are a member of the Fisheries Commission? No; I am Secretary.

3093. What constitutes a quorum? Three.

3094. Have the meetings lapsed very frequently for want of a quorum? Not frequently of late. Some time ago it used to happen pretty frequently, but of late it has not been nearly so frequent.

3095. Do you think it would be an advantage to have the Commission abolished, and to have the Act administered under one official head? I do not know that in my position as secretary I ought to have an opinion in a matter of that kind.

3096. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] In what direction would you suggest that the Fisheries Act should be amended in order to make it more workable? In very many particulars it requires amending. I set out all those points on the Bills which form appendices to my last evidence. I should be very pleased, indeed, if this Committee could give them consideration. I took great trouble with the Bills, and having for years past made it a business to note down defects as they became apparent, I am able to say that these Bills are the outcome of practical experience in the working of the Act.

3097. I presume you would suggest that that Bill should be passed without delay? Yes, I should like it to have been passed last year.

3098. Does not the present Fisheries Act conflict with the inland Fisheries Act? Yes, in one particular; the Fisheries Act specifies the mesh of inland nets to be 3 inches, while the Inland Fisheries Act makes it 4 inches. There are other matters in the Inland Fisheries Act which require amendment; for instance, it gives the Commissioners power to recommend closing of rivers only after they have been exhausted. I think the Commissioners should have power to close those waters, and other waters also, when circumstances seem to warrant it. In the Bill which I submitted I embodied all the provisions of the Inland Fisheries Act, with these and such other amendments as I thought desirable.

3099. Have you any inspector at Port Stephens? Not yet.

3100. Why? We had an inspector there but the Commissioners are contemplating other arrangements. What those arrangements will be I do not know. Only for my summons to attend this meeting I should have been at Port Stephens now, in order to propose some arrangements.

3101. Then you have no supervision over the fisheries or oyster leases at Port Stephens? Not at present, but we shall have in a week or so.

3102. Are you making any fresh appointment? I do not know whether it will be a fresh appointment or whether another inspector will be moved there. I do not know what the Commissioners are going to do.

3103. Do you keep a record of all the oyster leases taken up? Yes.

3104. Have all the rents for oyster leases been paid up? No, I suppose that there are about £2,000 at the present moment owing to the department.

3105. What percentage do the unpaid leases bear to the whole number? I should say the unpaid leases would form two-thirds of the whole.

3106. Then that leaves you without sufficient revenue? Certainly.

3107. Does it considerably hamper you in your operations? It hampers us in this direction that we are not getting the revenue which we ought to have; the matter has been referred to the Crown Law Officers with

with a view of instituting a test prosecution against one of the defaulters, but nothing has been done yet. I am expecting a reply every day.

3108. What you really would like would be power to sue for those rents? Yes.

3109. If you had those powers would they very materially aid your revenue and increase the usefulness of the Commission? Yes.

3110. Do you approve of the suggestion that the inspectors should issue licenses and receive the money? No. I do not think there is very much hardship in requiring the fishermen to come up once a year to Sydney to obtain their licenses. I mean those fishermen living adjacent to Sydney. It is provided that fishermen who live at Port Stephens for instance can obtain their licenses from the nearest Clerk of Petty Sessions. At Newcastle licenses can be obtained from the Clerk of Petty Sessions there. Wherever there is a Clerk of Petty Sessions, a fisherman can take out his license. I do not see that there is any hardship in requiring a fisherman who lives say at Botany to come to Sydney to take out his license once a year. Some of our inspectors are not literate men and might not be able to keep accounts. It is not considered desirable that they should be entrusted with accounts, as not being literate they might make some blunder in connection with the money. I know that one inspector made a great blunder in connection with his accounts. There was no guilt about it; it was simply and purely a blunder; he thought that he had neglected to pay £47, which he erroneously believed to be due to the Government, so he sent up his cheque for the amount, but the cheque was returned by the Treasury, it having been found that there was nothing whatever owing. We have other inspectors who are worse than he is so far as literacy is concerned, very good men so far as regards their duties proper, but I do not think it would be fair to burden them with the responsibility of collecting and accounting for public moneys.

3111. *Mr. Ritchie.*] What is the name of that inspector? He is an inspector in the southern division.

3112. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] It has been shown in evidence that a great deal of inconvenience and more or less evasion of the law may result through the inspectors not having power to issue licenses, and that if they had power to issue licenses themselves they would know in a moment whom the parties were to whom the licenses were issued? I do not think a single case of the kind could be proved against us. What we do is to issue a list of licenses which is sent round to every inspector; by reference to that list he would know exactly to whom licenses have or have not been issued.

3113. Does it not seem a hardship to compel men to come away from Botany or Broken Bay to take out licenses in Sydney? I do not think so.

3114. May they not possibly have to wait for a day to get their licenses? These men are constantly in Sydney, they do not live in one place. Many Botany fishermen go down to Broken Bay. They migrate very much; besides they have a whole month, January, during which they can take out the license. Fishermen do not fish every day; they only fish occasionally.

3115. Is your office always accessible to them? Yes.

3116. Some inspectors seem to hold a very strong opinion that it would be better to give them power to issue licenses, as it would save a great deal of trouble and possibly hardship? There are some inspectors to whom the power might be given; for instance, I see no reason why Inspector Temperley might not have the power given to him. He is an educated and competent man. The same might be done with respect to Inspector Benson and others; but there are others again whom I would not like to entrust with the power. I do not, however, encourage the idea at all.*

3117. Are they not as fit to be trusted with the license fees as the clerk is? It is not a matter of trust at all; besides a clerk does not receive the money; the money is paid into the Treasury; the fisherman brings to the office a receipt from the Treasury for the money. As little money as possible is collected in the Fisheries Department, and the Treasury is used as the collecting medium to the largest possible extent. That is the principle which has governed the department since it has been in existence.

3118. Do you correspond largely with the fishermen? Whenever they write we always reply to them.

3119. Do you give proper attention to their complaints? Yes.

3120. Have you had any complaints made about want of attention? No; sometimes they do not think they are replied to quite quick enough and they write again. They forget that the matter has to go through several hands, and that there are references to the inspector and other departments which cause delay that is really unavoidable.

3121. Do you not think it was an illegal proceeding to send the book round for signature when there was no quorum? The law certainly requires that the affairs of the fisheries shall be administered by a commission, three of whom are a quorum, so I suppose that anything short of that would not in a strict sense be legal.

3122. Do you not run the risk of having many of your proceedings vitiated through not having a quorum present? We have a very convenient clause in the Act which says that the production of certain papers and the production of the *Government Gazette* shall be valid evidence; therefore, unless any case were taken to a higher Court, we would be pretty safe.

3123. *Mr. Ritchie.*] You have said that frequently there was no quorum. In that case how did you confirm the minutes? They were confirmed on the authority of a third signature.

3124. Then you went through the form of confirming the minutes without a quorum being present? No, they would not be confirmed until the quorum was present; if there were no quorum for three successive meetings, at the fourth meeting the minutes of the previous meetings, at which only two Commissioners were present and three had signed, would be confirmed.

3125. On some occasions was some very important business transacted under these circumstances? The business of the department was always brought before the Commissioners; if there was a very important case it was deferred until we got a quorum.

3126. Was the business transacted not of great importance? It was formal business as a rule, about which there could be no doubt as to the directions that should be given.

3127. Do you find from your experience that it is difficult to get a quorum? Of late we have had a quorum pretty generally; that is to say during the last six months.

3128. Is that likely to continue? I do not know.

3129.

*NOTE (on revision) :—Fishing licenses entitle the holder to fish in any tidal waters. If, therefore, a person took a license, say from the inspector at Botany, and afterwards migrated to Tuggerah or Macquarie Lakes—not at all an unusual practice—how could the inspectors there possibly know of his having a license? I am strongly of opinion that the Department or the local Court of Petty Sessions are the places from which licenses should issue. The alleged hardship to fishermen is one in name only, and is by no means comparable with the inconvenience which conditional purchasers residing remote from a lands office have to undergo in attending there to fulfil the requirements of the Crown Lands Act.

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3129. Judging by circumstances do you think so? I suppose so, but I cannot judge what may come.
3130. *Mr. Stevenson.*] Can you tell how many meetings there were at which there was no quorum prior to the last six months? I think a considerable proportion.
3131. Have you any return showing the number? I can supply it.*
3132. Does it not strike you that through your not having a quorum considerable annoyance must have been occasioned to the fishermen? Of course any irregularity in the conduct of business is inconvenient to somebody.
3133. Is it not notorious that complaints have been very numerous amongst the fishermen as to delay and inconvenience, that men are frequently prosecuted and summonses are taken out against them for not having licenses, and every obstacle is thrown in their way unless they come to Sydney, which involves great hardship on them? As a matter of fact they are not always compelled to come, for sometimes the inspector will send the application and the man's money to the head office, and we issue the license and send it up for him. It used to be the practice to do that, but the Greeks about Sydney took to exchanging licenses, so that two or three men would go out one night and fish, who would then hand their licenses to two or three other men who would go out and fish on another night. As their names were Greek names and very much alike, the inspectors could neither read them nor pronounce them; that was the reason why we required people near Sydney to come up to the office and take out licenses here.
3134. What check was instituted in that case. Even though the inspectors may not be very intellectual according to your account, would they not recollect the faces of the men to whom they issued licenses personally? The inspectors know some of the men, but they do not know the Greeks. A little while ago we had a great deal of trouble in that direction, and that is the reason why we required fishermen to come up and take out their licenses instead of allowing agents to take out licenses for them. An agent would take out a number of licenses for very similar names, and those licenses were used by the Greeks in the manner I have described. I think that every fisherman should be made to have a metal license in the same way that railway metal tickets are issued.
3135. Could they not exchange them just the same? Yes, we have a great deal of trouble in this matter, and we are trying to check it.
3136. Every fisherman is supposed on demand to produce his license. Do you not know that the very nature of the fisherman's occupation is such that his license is likely to be destroyed? That is why I say that he should have a metal ticket which would not be destroyed.
3137. When does the fisherman apply for a renewal of his license? From year to year, and it begins on the 1st of January.
3138. You told us just now that a list was furnished to the inspectors by which they could know to whom licenses were issued; yet I find that this list which you produce was issued three months after the first of January. How on earth would it be possible during those three months for an inspector to know to whom licenses had been issued? By reference to the department, unless he questioned the fishermen and demanded to see their licenses. It was in order to give the fishermen as much time as possible to get the licenses issued that the issue of the list was delayed, but if I mistake not there was a previous list issued up to a previous date, and this list which I have now furnished the committee with was issued afterwards.
3139. If an inspector swears that he did not get this list until four or five months after the year had begun, or several months afterwards, is not that a fact? Being only three months it would not be true.
3140. You do not seem to attach any importance to three months? The fisherman does not get into trouble about that; an inspector has to report to the department, so that it is ascertained immediately whether or not a man has a license. If he has a license information to that effect is sent to the inspector.
3141. How long does it take the department to look it up? I suppose an hour; the answer is sent back the same day usually. An inspector cannot prosecute a fisherman for not having a license unless he gets authority from the department; and before the department issue any authority we ascertain if the man has a license or not.
3142. Are we to infer that you do not approve of the inspectors issuing licenses? Yes; decidedly.
3143. Is it not a fact that the reason why the Commission does not approve of the inspectors issuing licenses is that the whole of the returns shall be sent to the head office in order to provide a lot of clerical work which does not aid the protection of the fisheries. Have you not a large staff? We have a clerical staff of three.
3144. Had you not a larger staff some time ago? Yes, we had a larger staff because we were issuing the oyster leases; but the preparation of the licenses is entrusted to a clerk who has a salary I think of about £140 a year. The issue of the licenses only occupies his time completely for the first month or six weeks of the year; at other times he is able to do it with other work, so that it is out of the question to suppose that we want the licenses issued at the head office in order to get clerical work. We do nothing of the kind. We endeavour to keep down the clerical work as much as possible. We should have more clerical work to do if the licenses were issued by the inspectors, because we should have to check all their work and to correct possible errors. We should have to make returns, and it would involve more work than the issue of licenses from the head office.
3145. Have the inspectors to furnish monthly or weekly reports? Yes; weekly reports.
3146. Are they able to do that? Yes.
3147. You tell us that they are not able to issue licenses, and yet that they are able to write weekly reports. How do you reconcile those statements? I do not think they are irreconcilable; the reports are just what they have done, and are a sort of diary.
3148. Would not the other be something of the same kind of thing? No; the other thing is money.
3149. I presume these men are honest? Certainly; but if they made mistakes they would soon be head over ears in trouble with the Audit Department. If there were a penny more in their receipts than there should be there would be as much trouble about it as if there were pounds less.
3150. Has Mr. Oliver always been a member of the Commission? No.
3151. Are the causes of his resignation disclosed in the papers produced before this Committee? Yes.
3152. How did he come to be appointed to the Commission after this strong minute having been written by the Colonial Secretary? I recollect it; it is a very strong minute.

* NOTE (on revision):—During the period from 1st January, 1888, to 30th June, 1889, 74 meetings were called; 13 of such meetings lapsed, and at 17 the business was conducted with less than a quorum present.

3153. Yet we find a gentleman of that class put on the Commission a second time? He was appointed by Mr. Dalley, I believe, the second time. He only came to the Commission. I did not know anything of the arrangements anterior to his appointment.

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3154-5. Do you remember Mr. Macleay resigning? Yes.

3156. Had he anything to do with this? I do not know; I never saw the papers connected with his resignation.

3157. Is it possible to obtain those papers? Yes—in the Colonial Secretary's office, I think.

3158. Was an inquiry held with respect to Inspector Smith holding an interest in oyster leases? Yes; I held an inquiry, as desired. I produce the papers in connection with it.

3159. What was the result of that inquiry? I summarized all those charges, and I furnish the summary.

3160. Were there several cases? Yes; they were all on one charge made by a man named Jordan.

3161. Have you no power to recover the arrears of rents for oyster leases? We do not think we have any power; the matter is in the hands of the Crown Law officers, who alone can sue for rent.

3162. In the event of a petition being sent in against the removal of an inspector, or if representation is made that an inspector's salary is inadequate, what action is taken? It is brought before the Commissioners.

3163. What action is then taken? The Commissioners consider the matter, and direct some reply to be sent to the writer.

3164. Does the Colonial Secretary ever refuse to carry out any request made by the Commission? I do not think he has ever refused.

3165. You have told us that Inspector Temperley is very intelligent, and I think he has charge of the northern districts from the Queensland Border down to the Manning River? Yes.

3166. Do you remember that gentleman making an application, or a suggestion being thrown out, that he should visit the sub-inspectors, and that an expenditure of £20 should be allowed him for furnishing an annual report? Yes; the Commissioners disallowed it.

3167. Seeing that that officer is placed in such a responsible position, do you think that it would have been extortionate for him to have received £20 for carrying out the purpose I have referred to? I simply followed the instructions of the Commissioners. I did not think it was an extravagant sum.

3168. Do you not think he should have carried out what was proposed? I should make all the inspectors travel and see their districts.

3169. Yet the Commission refused to agree to that proposal? I recollect the circumstances very well now. He said he wished to visit the lower part of the district. He asked permission to do so, and said that the cost would not exceed £20.

3170. That was refused? Yes.

3171. Can you tell us how long it is since he did visit the districts over which he has control? I think it is eighteen months or two years.

3172. Is it not a complete farce to give a man control of certain waters and yet prohibit him from visiting them? Really his duty under the regulations is to visit his districts, and he was simply asking permission to carry out his duty.

3173. Did he point out that his salary was quite inadequate to enable him to make this long trip? He is not expected to do it out of his salary; if he travels he must be paid.

3174. How was it that they refused to allow him £20 for travelling expenses;—was the application for £20? He made the application and said he could do it at a cost of £20. I do not recollect exactly what the Commissioners said, but I know they refused to sanction the trip.

3175. Do you consider that that was in the interests of the Fisheries Commission? No. I would have liked Mr. Temperley to have made the inspection; but it was done, I think, on the score of economy.

3176. Do you think that it is two or three years since he visited some of the rivers? It might perhaps be two years.

3177. Then not only Mr. Temperley but also Mr. Benson are in charge of districts over which they have no control, simply because they have not the means of getting there? Mr. Benson visits his waters regularly. He often writes to say that he has visited certain portions of his district, and he furnishes reports of his visits.

3178. Is he not differently situated, as he gets a larger salary? No; he gets the same salary.

3179. Is he not allowed house-rent? Yes.

3180. Are the other inspectors allowed house-rent? No.

3181. Is he not allowed a boatman? Yes; but so is Mr. Temperley; but Mr. Temperley's boatman oversees the Clarence River and Mr. Temperley the Richmond River. Mr. Benson and his boatman are both on the Clyde River.

3182. Have not the whole of the inspectoral staff to abide instructions from the head office in Sydney before they can take any action—even a prosecution? Yes.

3183. Does not that often lead to inconvenience and delay, and should not they have power to prosecute for a breach of the Act? No. I think a reference to Sydney in the first place is always desirable.

3184. Does not the delay often lead to a miscarriage of justice? You can get a reference to Sydney in a very little time.

3185. But if you do not get a quorum, does not delay, occur? If the Commission meets once a week, or if it does not happen to meet on the day appointed, the delay is unavoidable. If the power of directing prosecutions were left with the executive officer that difficulty might be overcome.

3186. In closing waters are the inspectors ever consulted? No; I do not think so.

3187. Then it is a fact that the Commission closes waters just as it thinks fit without reference to the inspectors? The Commissioners close the waters on the ground that the head waters are the fish-breeding grounds. They really do not want a report from the inspectors.

3188. The Commissioners are so well acquainted with all the rivers and creeks that it is absolutely unnecessary for them to ask for a report? It is a matter of principle to protect spawning-grounds, and so conserve the interests of the fishermen.

3189. I ask you to look at this sketch. You will see marked there Pipeclay Creek, Second Creek, and Wallarah Creek on the Tuggarah Lakes. Are not all those places closed at present? Yes.

3190. You tell me it is not necessary to call for reports from the inspectors. Are the Commissioners aware that everyone of those creeks except one is sanded up at the present time, and that an inspector could not find them;—does not that show what a farce it is? I do not think that those creeks have been closed.

3191. I have been told that in the district which I represent, and this sketch has been furnished to me? If allowed I can produce a map in 5 minutes showing the whole of the lake closures.

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3192. But you told us that they were closed? I was talking of the principal creeks. I do not think these are creeks worthy of being classed as such. Moreover, if they have been closed, and are, as you say, now sanded up, it would not, I should think, concern the fishermen one way or the other.
3193. In your opinion, would it not be better, before closing the whole of the waters, to obtain reports from the inspectors, who know all the places? I know most of the places myself. I have not been to Tuggerah, but I know most of the places, and I am able to give an opinion. I have given grave consideration to the question, and I have been led to tell the Commission from my consideration of those matters that I would recommend a modification even of the present closures. For instance, I have recommended a modification in certain closures in Port Jackson, Port Hacking, and George's River.
3194. I can understand your being thoroughly acquainted with the waters in the neighbourhood of Sydney, but do you know all the northern rivers up to the Queensland Border, and can you tell the state of the creeks there? We have not closed any creeks up there.
3195. But are they not liable to be closed? In a case of that kind, where I could not advise the Commissioners myself, I would recommend that a report should be obtained. I do not think that the creeks that you have mentioned at Tuggerah have been closed, because I do not think that more than three creeks and the entrance have been closed at Tuggerah Lakes. If they are sanded up of course it does not matter to the fishermen. Our object in making the closures is not to harass the fishermen, but to protect the public interest and the fishermen's interest also.
3196. How far do you think the Hawkesbury River ought to be opened? I think it ought to be opened as far as Bar Point. I recommended to the Commissioners that Berowra Creek should be opened. I went up there in consequence of complaints from the fishermen as to excessive closures. At first the river was closed as far as the bridge. On my recommendation it was moved back to Bar Point, but including Berowra. I went up recently and recommended that the closure should not affect Berowra Creek. In that I was overruled, and the closure remained as at present. I recommended with regard to the Upper Hawkesbury that it might be opened for net-fishing. I think from Pipeclay Creek upwards.
3197. Do you know Mangrove Creek? Yes.
3198. Would there be any objection to the opening of the river up to Mangrove Creek? Mangrove Creek is a very good spawning-ground, and I should be sorry to see it opened.
3199. But the main river? We have already got the main river and many creeks opened. It would mean so much more inspectoral supervision, and whether the advantages would be commensurate with the cost I do not know. For instance, we have Mullet, Mooney, and Berowra Creeks closed, all of which are separate, and the whole of the main river opening into those creeks is open, therefore we have quite enough creeks to look after without having Mangrove Creek in addition, which is some distance beyond Bar Point.
3200. Have the fishermen often requested that the river should be opened to Mangrove Creek? No. I spoke to a fisherman there who seemed to be a representative man, and he told me that if Berowra Creek were opened the fishermen would be very well satisfied. I saw no objection to that, and recommended it, but the Commissioners did not carry out my recommendation.
3201. Are there not a great many creeks above Mangrove for spawning. What is the distance from Mangrove Creek to Windsor? It is a very long distance—some 50 miles.
3202. Would not that afford plenty of spawning-ground in the creeks above Mangrove? It might, but Mangrove is well out of the reach of fishermen, who could not do much with fish got there in summer. There is a very large area of the Hawkesbury at present open to net-fishing.
3203. How long does it take boats to go from Mangrove Creek down to the railway station at Peat's Ferry? According to the tide; it will take over three hours, perhaps.
3204. Are you aware that a small steamer plies from Peat's Ferry to Mangrove? No.
3205. Did not Mr. Chanter recommend that Mr. Manton, a forest ranger, should be appointed an assistant inspector, and did he not give as a reason that he had a steam-launch, and that he traversed nearly the whole of the waters of the Murray, where it was alleged that there was a very great destruction of fish? I did not hear anything about a steam-launch. I do not know that our department was made acquainted with that.
3206. Did not that gentleman point out in his letter that Mr. Manton would have supervision over nearly the whole of the waters of the Murray, even if he said nothing about the steam-launch? He might have done so, but if he did so without making reference to the steam-launch it would be difficult for us to understand that he would have supervision over waters outside the district which he overlooked as forest ranger.
3207. Is it not a fact that Mr. Chanter made several representations to the Commission on the subject? Yes, several times.
3208. Was no notice whatever taken of his representations, although great destruction of the fish was going on? Each of his applications was replied to, and all to the same effect.
3209. And they were refused? Yes.
3210. Have you not told us that the reason was want of funds? Yes; that was the statement in the letters.
3211. Did Mr. Chanter point out in his letter that the cost of securing Mr. Manton's services would be £50 per annum? I do not recollect that he did; he may have mentioned that sum, but I do not think so. However, we have recommended Mr. Manton at £75 per annum.
3212. After these representations were made by Mr. Chanter, is it a fact that a Mr. Wilshire, whose area of supervision is very limited, was appointed at a salary of £75 per annum? No; he had been appointed for some years at £75 a year. The Commissioners hold this view, that the Murray River is kept and supported for the sole benefit of the Victorian people, and that we can get no control over the fisheries there. Tons of fish are annually sent down to Melbourne from the Murray, and any supervision we exercise over the Murray River is simply for the benefit of the Victorians.
3213. *Mr. Stephen.*] Do you issue no licenses for the Murray? Yes—for fishermen, but not for fishing-boats.
3214. *Mr. Stevenson.*] That was the very point which Mr. Chanter dwelt upon. Did he not point out that we ought to be deriving a benefit from the licenses but no notice was taken of his recommendations? We cannot stop this fishing on the Murray River, nor the fish going to Melbourne;—Melbourne is the market, and it goes there in tons.
3215. Did not Mr. Chanter point out the destruction of fish by tons? Yes.
3216. Did it not strike the Commission that that was a very important thing to arrest? Yes; if we could do it, but where is the power? They can fish on the Victorian bank and laugh at us.
3217. Did Mr. Chanter represent to the Commission that the fishermen stretched their nets from shore to shore

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shore of the creeks from the Victorian border on to the New South Wales border, and have you no power to arrest that? Yes; Mr. Wilshire seizes lots of nets. We never lose an opportunity of seizing those nets.

3218. Mr. Chanter tells us that the district over which Mr. Wilshire has control is very limited, and that he does not reach the parts where the destruction of fish is great? The fish are sent away from Moama; that is where Mr. Wilshire is located; he sends us a return of the fish.

3219. How long is it since Mr. Manton was recommended by the Commission? I suppose within the last month.

3220. How long is it since Mr. Chanter first suggested that Mr. Manton should be appointed? Some-time since; he has written several letters.

3221. Is it six months? I dare say it is.

3222. Is it more than that? I cannot recollect; but I may say that it is six months since the first application was sent in.

3223. Do you not think that Mr. Chanter as a representative gentleman was endeavouring to serve the best interests of New South Wales, and to assist the Commission. Yet his suggestions were quietly set aside. Do you think that was right? I think there is a very large future before the inland fisheries, and I would very much like to see them better supervised.

3224. That is not an answer to my question, which was, did the Commission properly treat Mr. Chanter? If I answered that question affirmatively I should be really casting a censure on the Commission, and I do not think I have any business to do that.

3225. *Mr. Nobbs.*] Are the inspectors directed to exercise a protective supervision over the areas leased for oyster culture? No; the Commissioners consider that when a lease is issued for oyster-culture the lessee should have control over the leased land, and he should not look for any protection from the inspector.

3226. As far as he is concerned there is no necessity for the inspector to supervise any further? Exactly.

3227. In what then do their duties consist? In looking after the fisheries; that really is all their duties. It reduces their duties to a minimum.

3228. What length of experience had you in connection with the fisheries? My experience dates from the year 1872. In years gone by there was but nominal law respecting fisheries, but with regard to oyster-culture there was the Act of 1868. It was administered in the Lands Department, and I had charge of it there. I have had experience ever since. There was a Commission on the subject in 1870 as to the working of the "Oyster-beds Act of 1868," and I had a great deal to do with that. I was secretary to that Commission, and I gained a great deal of experience in connection with it.

3229. Do you think that the management and supervision of oyster-culture in the Colony is sufficient, or would it be an advantage to get the services of an English or French expert? I do not agree with the idea of bringing an English or a French expert here. If one came here he would have everything to learn, and I do not consider it is at all necessary; it would be a very expensive undertaking, he could not supply us with information which we do not possess at present.

3230. Do you know the process of fish-canning? Yes; I have had a little experience in connection with the Melbourne Exhibition. We sent a very large exhibit to Melbourne, and it received very favourable notice; I expect to get an award of merit. Fish-canning was part of the exhibit. That industry might be very profitably carried on here. There is the mullet which frequents our shores in April, May, and June. It is said to be equal to the English salmon. It is certainly very valuable. At present it absolutely goes to waste. A fish weighing 7lb. or 8lb. can be got for 1d. or 2d. in the market. If canning factories were established here all those fish could be cured and exported. The process is very simple, and is just the same as is carried out in connection with meat preserving. We had some of the fish canned by the Meat Preserving Company here. Some also was preserved by Mr. Barnes, of Balmain, and it called forth very favourable notice. There is a canning establishment at present at Iluka on the Clarence River, which turns over about twenty-five baskets a week. There is no doubt also that in Twofold Bay the canning industry could be carried on at a profit.

3231. Was the exhibit you have referred to sent by the Fisheries Commission? Yes; it was an exhibit showing everything in connection with the fish industry, showing how everything could be put to economic use, and how even fish scales could be used for artificial flowers.

3232. What class of fish were they? All kinds of edible fish on this coast.

3233. Are you acquainted with the culture of salmon? I have been giving very great attention to it of late. I induced the Commissioners to allow me to erect a trout hatching apparatus. They allowed £10, which was rather small, but it was enough for the purpose. We are getting some trout ova from Ballarat, and I expect its arrival very shortly, so that I shall have the process of fish-hatching going on in the Department. I am anxious that the Government should by-and-by allow us to establish ponds on a suitable site, in order to propagate fish.

3234. You are not getting enough ova to distribute throughout the various rivers? I should not recommend a distribution in that way; we did in October last distribute fry in certain rivers, but I think it was a mistake. I think that trout fry should be kept in ponds until they arrive at a certain size, and then they should be distributed. Those obtained in October were only $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long when they were distributed; they were left to take their chance amongst unknown enemies, and without our knowing whether the rivers were suitable or not. I believe that a large proportion will be lost. If we can establish trout ponds—and I hope this Committee will help us in the matter—I am sure we can introduce the trout into all the rivers of the Colony, except, of course, in the extreme northern rivers. A few days since I wrote a minute to the Commissioners recommending the introduction of American salmonoid ova.

3235. *Chairman.*] Do you now submit to the Committee the proposition that you have made on that subject? Yes. [*Appendix B 6.*]

3236. *Mr. Nobbs.*] Are you satisfied that trout-breeding would succeed? Yes; I am perfectly certain it would if we could get a proper place for it.

3237. Have you paid inspectoral visits to the rivers, and have you made reports on your observations? Yes; very exhaustive reports. The great bulk of the reports are contained in the annual report for 1883. I went very fully into all the matters in connection with those rivers, and the reports form the appendices to the Commissioners' Report for 1883.

3238. Did you make several recommendations? Yes.

3239. Have they been carried out? I do not think very much attention was given to them. The matters which I recommended have never been mentioned. I do not think the Commissioners entertained them favourably.

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3240. In your Department are there certain hours? Yes.
- 3240½. Who has charge of the Department after official hours? Nobody; it is left in charge of itself. There was a caretaker or watchman at one time, but he was only kept for a couple of weeks, when he was knocked off. It was thought that the expense was too great, and that the office could very well take care of itself. The key is left with the Inspector-General of Police.
3241. So that the Department is without any caretaker after hours? Yes; anyone might break in, and there would not be anyone to interrupt him.
3242. Do the fishermen or the oyster lessees contribute the largest amount of revenue? The oyster lessees contribute the largest amount. The revenue from fishermen and boatmen's licenses does not exceed £700 or £800 per year. The remainder of the revenue is contributed by the oyster lessees in the shape of rents. If the lessees all paid their rents they would amount to something like £3,000, as against £700 or £800 paid by the fishermen.
3243. Do you think that the inland fisheries are sufficiently protected? No; I think there should be a general supervision of the inland fisheries, that has not been done. I also think that attempts should be made to propagate Murray cod and perch in the rivers where they do not exist now. There are Murray cod in Lake George at present, but as far as I am able to ascertain they are not in great numbers. When the local inspector was down here I instructed him to take certain measures to get spawn from the cod, and to telegraph to me when they spawn. He says they spawn in September, but I believe they spawn in December. Whenever they do spawn I shall propose to the Commissioners that I shall visit the lake to see if we cannot manage to get some ova for propagation.
3244. Is the take of cod in the Murray River very large? Yes; tons of it are sent to Melbourne during the year.
3245. By what means do you think the fisheries near Sydney could be best controlled? I would alter the present system a great deal. I would like to have a good steam-launch to patrol the fisheries, and until we have that we shall never have a proper control. It would be also valuable for the purpose of experiment.
3246. Are you aware that the common pilchard has appeared in Botany in large shoals? Yes; *clupea sajax*; Botany Bay is alive with them at present. They are like the common pilchard, and appear in midwinter, travelling north. They are in poor condition. They appear on the coast of New Zealand in December and January, full of roe. It is from those pilchards that the New Zealand bloaters are obtained.
3247. Is it many years since we have had a visit from these fish? No; they come here regularly, but very little is made of them.
3248. Do they come yearly? Yes; and there is another species of herring which visits our shores.
3249. The value of this fish is not known? The herring fishing is the staple industry in England, but here the fishermen will not catch them.
3250. Did Mr. Saville Kent visit George's River to inspect the oyster leases? Yes.
3251. What was the nature of his report? He never made any report. He went there for his own information. We paid his expenses.
3252. Mr. O'Sullivan.] What fish would you suggest as likely to thrive best in Lake George other than the Murray cod? The perch. I am very much afraid that the trout would not do there for the simple reason that there is not much run of water. There is no entrance to the lake, and the trout require a regular run of water.
3253. Did you distribute perch in the various rivers? Yes; about two years ago.
3254. How was it that Lake George was overlooked in the distribution? I do not know. I shall take care that Lake George is not overlooked in any future distribution. I have a very good opinion of Lake George, and it shall always have my best attention.

James J. M'Fadyen recalled and further examined:—

Mr. J. J. M'Fadyen.
6 Aug., 1889.

3255. Mr. Stephen.] Did the Fishermen's Association, of which you are President, send in a report some time ago to the Colonial Secretary? Yes.
3256. What was the result of it? The result has been nil. Sir Henry Parkes promised that something would be done in the matter, but we have received no notification of anything having been done. We asked that the Association should be officially recognised, so that any books, papers, and maps which might be in the possession of the Government might be presented to the Association for the instruction of our members. Sir Henry Parkes let us have a few volumes, but that was all.
3257. What was the result of your deputation to the Fisheries Commission? It was so insignificant that there was no real result except to deepen the impression on the minds of the fishermen that the Commission was altogether opposed to their interests.
3258. Is it your belief that the Commissioners in reply to that deputation have not attempted to ameliorate the condition of the fishermen or to give them better facilities? The only thing they did was to increase the length of the nets in the lakes where the water was shallow.
3259. Are you aware that the nets after being tanned shrink below the legal size, although they have been previously passed as legal? Yes.
3260. Do you consider that the net, when once pronounced to be legal, should be considered as such until worn out? Yes; otherwise the fishermen would be continually buying gear, which they cannot afford to do.
3261. What would be a reasonable time for a net to last if taken ordinary care of? At least two or three years.
3262. What is your opinion with respect to nets that have been seized being resold? That is one of the matters which was taken up by the Association very shortly after it was formed. As I was led to believe that the Fisheries Commission sold the nets after they were seized, in exactly the same state after they had been allowed to lie in a filthy place adjacent to the Fisheries Commission Office.
3263. Are you aware that the Commission cut up the nets into certain lengths and sell them for other purposes than fishing? So far as I am aware, that was not done until the Association sent in their paper of grievances.
3264. Then in that case your representation did have some effect on the Commission? We heard nothing of it, and it was certainly done to disparage us, so as to show that we had not been stating the truth.

3265. Has it come to your knowledge that nets seized by the Commission have been resold, and that fishermen have purchased them? It has come to my knowledge, but I could not give an individual case.
3266. Do you think that the fish are handled in the fish-market in the best possible way to supply the fish to the public for food? No, very far from it. In my opinion, the fish from the time it leaves the fishermen, until it reaches the markets, suffers a great deal of damage, and a great deal more than it ought to suffer.
3267. Is it a grievance with the fishermen that they are not represented on the Commission? Yes; we think they ought to be represented. If the Commissioners are appointed to look after and administer the Fisheries Act, we think that the fishermen should be represented by practical men on the Commission.
3268. Have you a Library attached to your Association? We attempted to form a library, and we have got a few books which we got from the Government. That is what we call our library, but we wanted something more.
3269. Did the Premier promise to furnish you with a collection of books on the Fisheries Question? Yes, and he very promptly furnished us with some books; but some of the very important books which we know to be in the possession of the Government we have never received.
3270. Can you make out a list of the books, so that application might be made to the Colonial Secretary? Yes.
3271. *Mr. Howe.*] Do the fishermen complain of the rates charged by the railway authorities as compared with the rates charged on steamers? Yes, the railway rates are considerably more than the steamer rates.
3272. Is that very much to the disadvantage of the fishermen? Yes. The steamers for instance charge 9d. per basket from Newcastle, and the empties are returned free. If we get a basket of fish down by rail, it costs about 2s. 6d. If we got four or five baskets, they will not cost very much more proportionately. We have to pay the cost of the empty baskets going back again, and that amounts from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 5d. for the carriage of each basket. I have paid as much as 18s. 6d. for the carriage of fish, which at the sale only realised £4. That was good fish.
3273. Is it a fact that fishermen have been misled by Proclamations, which induced them to think that the waters would be opened, in consequence of which they purchased gear for fishing, but that gear was rendered useless through a fresh Proclamation being issued closing the waters? Yes; I have known fishermen myself who expected that on the expiration of the Proclamation they would be able to go to work again, and who consequently got their nets ready, but the reissued Proclamation continuing the closing of the waters prevented them from using the nets they had purchased.

Mr.
J. M'Fadyen.
6 Aug., 1889.

Thomas Gascoigne called, sworn, and examined:—

3274. *Chairman.*] Where do you reside? At Ryde, Parramatta River.
3275. Are you a fisherman? Yes, and so are my father and brothers.
3276. How long have you been engaged in the industry? About twenty years. At one time I used to be engaged with my father mostly; but I have been working on my own account now for about ten years.
3277. Has it been a source of complaint for some time among all the fishermen on the Parramatta River that there is an insufficiency of open water? Yes.
3278. That the Fisheries Commission have closed waters that ought to have been left open? Yes.
3279. Where do you think that the open waters should be extended to? The opinion I have always held is that the river should be opened right through. Closing the waters is no protection. The fishing closes itself if there is too much netting. There are less fish in the river now than when it was first closed. If a bay is closed and a nice lot of fish go in there some one is sure to scoop them all out.
3280. *Mr. Nobbs.*] Do you not think that the waters should be closed at spawning time? I do not think that any fisherman knows which is the spawning time except with mullet.
3281. *Chairman.*] If the river were opened as far up as the Railway Bridge at Ryde, would that give you very much more water? Very little more, because nearly all the water which would be opened would be deep water. There would be no places to fish except in about two bays.
3282. Before the river was closed to such an extent were you able to supply the people on the northern bank of the Parramatta River, as well as those on the southern side, with fresh fish every morning? Yes, but we are not able to do that now.
3283. How long has the river been closed? For three years.
3284. Have you ever complained of your expectations not being realized by proclamations being issued closing the river for six months, and then another proclamation being issued at the expiry of that time, closing the river for another period of six or eight months? On two occasions that happened. Once we had been at work for two months, and at another time fourteen days.
3285. So that there is no encouragement for fishermen to try and earn a livelihood there, and no means left open to fishermen to provide the people of the north and south of the river with fresh fish every morning? No.
3286. Have you ever had your nets seized in closed waters? Yes; on one occasion, a very small net. I went down on Good Friday eve to get a few fish for myself, but somebody else got them before I did.
3287. Where do the fishermen fish now? The fishermen fish wherever they see any. If the fishermen see a lot of nice fish in closed waters they do not leave them there.
3288. Under those circumstances do you think that the river might be just as well left open? Yes; because it is only setting a trap to catch the fishermen, and the fishermen are not caught once in twenty times. It could only be stopped if there was a policeman every half-a-mile; and then it would take them all their time.
3289. Is there a plentiful supply of fish in the river? There were more fish in the river before it was closed than since. Fish protect themselves more when the fishermen are trying to catch them, because they then go into deep water. I have done very little fishing since the river was closed. I have been away at the Tuggerah Lakes, and at other work.
3290. If the river were left open as it used to be four or five years ago would there be an opportunity afforded to you of earning a good honest livelihood, and of supplying the large number of people who live in those districts with fresh fish every morning? Yes.
3291. Would you recommend the river to be opened altogether? Yes.

Mr. T.
Gascoigne.
6 Aug., 1889.

THE WORKING OF THE FISHERIES ACT.

APPENDIX.

[To Evidence of Dr. Cox.]

A 1.

TRANSFERENCE of Inspectoral Staff, Fisheries Department.

I PROPOSE, for the consideration of the Commissioners of Fisheries, the following disposition of the Inspectoral Staff of this Department. I take the coastal waters in the order of their ascertained productiveness :—

Lake Macquarie—Assistant Inspectors Smith and Boyd, and a third (say) Hespe.	
George's River—	do Grant and Boatman Aldrick.
Lake Illawarra—	do D. W. Benson.
Hawkesbury River—	do Curan
Brisbane Water and Tuggerah—Assistant Inspectors Cain and Peter Smith.	
Port Stephens—	do Otway and Boatman Scott.
Newcastle and Hunter River—	do Charles Gordon.
Port Jackson—	do Smithers and Boatmen Glading, Hellings, and Young, engineer.
Travelling Inspector for the coast north of the Hawkesbury—	Mr. Livingston Mann.
Travelling Inspector for the coast south of Botany—	Inspector T. Temperley.
Inspector of Inland Waters—	Inspector G. G. Benson.

In framing this transference I have had in view the facts that the oyster-beds having for the most part been leased, and the royalty charges abolished, the services of the Inspectoral Staff could be employed to better advantage if concentrated within certain limits adjacent to the metropolis.

I have been guided also by the opinion of the Commissioners that the public interest would be served by a removal of the Inspectors from their present respective locations to other districts.

Boyd, Grant, and Cain.—The only Inspectors whose removal I do not advocate are Messrs. Boyd, Grant, and Cain. I consider these men to be capable of best services in the waters they are at present supervising.

Smithers.—Mr. Smithers properly belongs to Twofold Bay, but as he has been so long at head quarters, and is rendering such effective service, I am regarding him as already attached here.

Gyler.—Gyler is a valuable officer. His removal from the Manning River, to assist in the supervision of the extensive waters of Lake Macquarie, and from which our largest fish supply is obtained, would be obviously an advantage.

Smith.—Peter Smith is supposed to be considerably interested in some of the oyster leases at the Hawkesbury, his present district, and although there is not actual proof that this is so, yet the presumptive evidence seems enough to imply the desirableness of removing him to a district where his duties would not clash with his supposed interests. The case will be met by placing him at Illawarra Lake, in the room of Inspector D. W. Benson.

D. W. Benson and Henry Curan.—Some few months since D. W. Benson was for a time placed on special service at the Hawkesbury, and showed considerable aptitude in his manner of performing it. I propose to place him permanently at the Hawkesbury in conjunction with Inspector Curan, who is at present stationed at Newcastle.

Chas. Gordon.—The Newcastle and Hunter River Fisheries I suggest should be placed under the care of Charles Gordon, at present stationed at the Shoalhaven. I consider Gordon to be an efficient officer. His duties at Newcastle would involve the checking and inspection of oysters arriving from the upper portions of Port Stephens and the oversight of the fisheries on the Hunter River and its tributaries.

C. H. Otway and B. Scott.—I propose the removal of Inspector C. H. Otway and Boatman Scott from the Karuah River, at the head of Port Stephens, to Nelson's Bay, at the heads, in order that the supply of fish captured there may be more systematically supervised.

Fred. Smithers, Glading, Hellings, and Young.—I advise the permanent retention of Mr. Smithers at head-quarters, where he has already proved himself very useful. He should be assisted by the present boatmen, Glading and Hellings, and with the aid of the steam-launch now under repairs and alteration should exercise an oversight of Botany and the Hawkesbury.

T. Mulhall.—Should it be that Inspector Mulhall will be retained in the service notwithstanding his advanced age, I think that his duties should be confined to an oversight of the fish at the fish market and on the wharves.

On the general management of the Port Jackson fisheries I propose later on to submit special recommendations.

Mr. Livingston Mann.—I know it is the intention of the Commissioners to nominate Mr. Livingston Mann as a travelling inspector of fisheries. I have done so, therefore, on this paper; but as the oyster-bearing waters are not only each in themselves so extensive, but range along the whole seaboard of the Colony, I consider a second travelling inspector to be necessary.

Thos. Temperley.—For this second inspectorship I know of no one more suitable in point of intelligence than Inspector Temperley, and if he be appointed to oversight of the coast south of Botany, the objection which, consequent upon his supposed interest in oyster-culture leases in northern waters, might be taken to his being placed in such a position, would, I think, be met and at the same time a capable officer retained to the Department.

G. G. Benson.—As Inspector for inland waters fisheries under the Inland Waters Fisheries Act 1887, regarding the administration of which nothing has so far been done, I propose Inspector G. G. Benson, at present located at the Clyde River.

Beyond a visit or two to Lake George, I have not been afforded an opportunity of acquainting myself with the inland fisheries; consequently I am not in a position to suggest a location for Mr. Benson. I should prefer by personal visit and inquiry to ascertain the needs and condition of these fisheries so that I could make recommendations with some degree of confidence.

Under an arrangement such as this it will be possible to dispense with the services of the following officers :—

H. W. C. Windeyer, Acting Assistant Inspector, Port Macquarie.....	£108
Jas. Massingham, Boatman, Clarence River.....	108
Thos. Laman, Acting Assistant Inspector, Nelson's Bay	20

And thus effect a saving in expenditure of £236

By the transference of Inspector Benson to a position under the Inland Waters Fisheries Act I count a further saving in expenditure of £240, the amount of his salary. I am warranted in quoting this as a saving because his services under the Fisheries Act will be thus dispensed with, and it may fairly be assumed that special provision will be made for the administration of the new Act.

This Act was introduced to Parliament by a private Member quite independently of the Fisheries Commission. Manifestly then its working ought not to be made a charge upon the fisheries vote.

I may here invite the Commissioners to consider the desirableness of dispensing with the services of those pilots and others who are paid £20 per annum each for holding the appointment of Acting Assistant Inspector of Fisheries.

Their duties proper, which compel them to a constant look out seawards, prevent them from exercising more than a very nominal oversight of the fisheries in their respective waters; the principal service they have been able to render to this Department has been the receipt and transmission of royalty on oysters. This royalty charge having been abolished I see no reason

reason for the retention of these officers; any small service which from time to time might be required on any of the remoter waters could be rendered by the police or by one of the travelling inspectors. A still further annual saving to the Department of £160 would thus be effected.

By reference to the list of the Inspectorial Staff the Commissioners will observe that in this reduction I have not included Frederick Nelson, the Acting Assistant Inspector at Lake George, nor likewise George Baker, who holds the like office at Sydney, and whose appointment the Commissioners only recently recommended.

I have only now to add for convenience of reference a tabulated statement showing the savings which the adoption of the suggestions herein made will effect —

SALARIES proposed to be abolished

Name	Office	Address	Annual Salary.
G. G. Benson	Inspector	Clyde River	£ 240 0 0
Thos Mulhall	Assistant Inspector	Sydney	150 0 0
H. W. C. Windeyer	Acting Assistant Inspector	Port Macquarie	108 0 0
Jas. Massingham	Boatman	Clarence River	108 0 0
Thos Laman	Acting Assistant Inspector	Port Stephens	20 0 0
Eight Acting Assistant Inspectors at pilot stations, &c., at £20 per annum			160 0 0
To this amount I add the total of salaries in the clerical staff, also proposed to be dispensed with			313 0 0
Total			£ 1,099 0 0
Less salary required for Travelling Inspector			200 0 0
Total saving			£ 899 0 0

Since writing this report I have learned that an extensive fishery, with direct steam communication with Sydney, is about to be established at Cape Hawke. This will require oversight, and in that case it will be necessary to keep Inspector Gyle in his present position, and to retain J. Massingham, the present boatman at the Clarence River, stationing him at Lake Macquarie.

I saw Massingham when at the Clarence, and formed the opinion that he is an active and intelligent officer.

If it be decided to adopt this suggestion the contemplated saving in expenditure will be reduced by £108.

29 February, 1888

LINDSAY THOMPSON.

[To Evidence of Dr. Coy.]

A 2.

The Commissioners of Fisheries for New South Wales recommend to the Colonial Secretary the following Bill, providing for the development and regulation of the Fisheries and the preservation and culture of Oysters, with the view to its being passed into law in lieu of the "Fisheries Act 1881."

46 VICTORIA, 1883

A BILL to provide for the development and regulation of the Fisheries and the preservation and culture of Oysters

WHEREAS the existing Statute Law is insufficient to preserve from exhaustion the natural supplies of marine and other edible Fishes and it is expedient that such law should be repealed and that more effective measures should be adopted to check the wanton or unnecessary destruction of immature fish and oysters and to prevent the disturbance of the various nurseries and breeding grounds during certain months of the year as well as that greater facilities should be given for the establishment of artificial oyster beds and more effective means be supplied for the preservation and development of natural oyster beds. And it is also expedient in order to carry out these and the several purposes herein set forth and to establish a better system of protecting and regulating the said Fisheries that a central and local Boards of Control should be created clothed with the powers and duties hereinafter declared. Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows. —

Preliminary Provisions—Appointment of Commissioners &c.

1 This Act may be cited for all purposes as the "Fisheries and Oyster Culture Act 1883" and its provisions are arranged in the order and comprise the subjects following viz. —

Preliminary Provisions—Appointment of Commissioners &c.—
 PART I.—Net and Line Fisheries—
 PART II.—Oyster Fisheries—
 PART III.—Private Fisheries—
 PART IV.—Legal Procedure—Miscellaneous—
 SCHEDULES

2. In this Act unless the context requires a different meaning the following words within inverted commas shall bear the respective meanings hereby assigned to them —

"Fish"—All or any of the varieties of marine or fresh water fishes enumerated in the First Schedule hereto.
 "Oyster"—Every kind of edible oyster and the spat brood and ware thereof.
 "Lobster"—The salt-water crayfish commonly called "lobster."
 "Crayfish"—The fresh-water crayfish or Murray River lobster.
 "Crab"—Any edible crustacea not including prawns shrimps lobsters or crayfish
 "Governor"—The Governor with the advice of the Executive Council
 "Commissioners"—The Commissioners of Fisheries appointed under this Act.
 "Shore"—The portion of Crown lands situate between high and low water mark.
 "Bunt"—The middle portion of a seine or hauling or garfish net between the wings but not being more than one third of the whole length of such net.
 "Wing"—The portion of a seine or hauling net on each side of the bunt
 "Mesh of net"—The distance from knot to knot measured diagonally from cork to lead line the net being wetted and stretched and prepared for use in accordance with the regulations
 "Lessee" includes every assignee or sub lessee
 "Boat" includes any vessel or punt of any description whatsoever
 "Steamboat"—Any ordinary boat propelled by steam
 "Tidal Waters"—All waters which ebb and flow over Crown lands within the territorial jurisdiction of the Crown in New South Wales and every lake and lagoon in the said Colony ordinarily subject to the influence of the tides (although the communication with the sea may for the time be closed) the soil or bed whereof is the property of the Crown together with in each case the soil of such Crown lands
 "Natural Oyster bed"—Any shore bank bed or place of deposit in any tidal waters wherein oysters which have not been laid down by artificial means are or shall be found
 "Justice"—Any Justice of the Peace
 "Inspector" includes Sub-Inspector or Assistant Inspector of Fisheries.

Repeal of
28 Vic. No. 10
31 Vic. No. 10
31 Vic. No. 20
44 Vic. No. 26

3. The Act twenty-eighth Victoria number ten intituled "An Act to protect the Fisheries of New South Wales" the Act thirty-first Victoria number ten intituled "An Act to amend the Fisheries Act of 1865" the Act thirty-first Victoria number twenty intituled "An Act to regulate Oyster Fisheries and to encourage the formation of Oyster-beds" the Act forty-fourth Victoria number twenty-six intituled "An Act to provide for the development and regulation of the Fisheries of the Colony" and so much of the thirty-eighth section of the "Lands Act Amendment Act 1875" as empowers the Governor in Council to grant leases of Crown Lands for the purpose of a fishery are hereby repealed but without prejudice to the past operation of or to any right lawfully created offence committed or penalty incurred under any of the said Acts.

Constitution of
Fisheries Com-
missioners as a
Body Corporate.

4. The duty of protecting developing and regulating the Public Fisheries of New South Wales shall be vested in five Commissioners to be called the "Commissioners of Fisheries" who by that name shall be a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal with power to hold real and personal estate and to sue and be sued and to take and be the subject of all legal proceedings by such name And the duties power and authority of the said Commissioners shall extend to the territorial limits of the Colony such body corporate shall be composed of five persons to be appointed by the Governor by Commission under the Great Seal each of whom shall hold office for the term of five years from the date of his appointment unless his office become vacant in the meantime by death or resignation but subject nevertheless to removal by the like authority but any Commissioner may be reappointed after the expiration of his term of office The Governor shall either by the original Commission or otherwise as to him seems proper appoint one of the Commissioners to be President and the President or in his absence one of the Commissioners appointed from time to time by the meeting shall preside at all meetings and at any voting shall have an original as well as (in cases of equality of votes) a casting vote any three Commissioners shall be a quorum.

Inspectors of
Fisheries.

5. It shall be lawful for the Governor on the recommendation of the Commissioners to appoint local Boards also so many Inspectors Sub-Inspectors or Assistant-Inspectors of Fisheries and other officers as they may think necessary for the purposes of this Act and to assign to all such officers such salaries as they may think fit And all such officers shall act under the control and direction of and be responsible for the due performance of their duties to the Commissioners.

Assistant
Inspectors at
outports &c.

6. It shall also be lawful for the Commissioners with the consent of the Governor to appoint any officer of Customs or officer in the Department of the Marine Board stationed at any outport or pilot station on the coast of the Colony or other person to act as an assistant Inspector of Fisheries at such outport or station and for such extent of waters as may be placed under his supervision All such assistant Inspectors shall carry out the directions of the Commissioners so far as practicable to the best of their ability and shall act in concert with the Inspectors and shall be paid such sums in addition to their ordinary salaries (if any) as the Commissioners may appoint.

Certain persons
to be Inspectors
ex officio.

7. All Police Magistrates and all members of the Police Force shall within their respective districts be and have the powers and authorities of Inspectors of Fisheries *ex officio*.

Division of
Marine Fisheries.

8. The Governor by proclamation in the *Gazette* may define the various Fisheries of the Colony situated in any tidal waters and distribute the same into divisions as recommended by the Commissioners And each of such divisions shall be placed under the supervision of one or more Inspectors or Sub-Inspectors as the Commissioners may decide Provided always that the Governor on the recommendation of the Commissioners may by a like proclamation from time to time rescind any such definition and alter the boundaries of any such division or subdivide the same.

Regulations.

9. The Governor on the recommendation of the Commissioners may from time to time make such orders rules and regulations as shall be found expedient for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of this Act and may impose and prescribe such other provisions for the development and regulation of the Fisheries and the preservation and culture of Oysters as he may deem necessary And it shall be lawful for the Governor to impose a penalty not exceeding in any one case the sum of *twenty* pounds for the breach of any such rules orders regulations or provisions And all such rules orders regulations and provisions shall on publication in the *Gazette* be and have the full force of law Provided always that a copy thereof shall be laid with all convenient despatch before Parliament if then sitting or if not then in session within one calendar month after the commencement of its next session.

PART I.

Net and Line Fisheries.

Proclamation of
close fisheries.

10. It shall be lawful for the Commissioners to declare by notice in the *Gazette* that any specified tidal waters shall be exempted from net-fishing from time to time as they may think fit The fisheries in all such tidal waters so specified shall be termed "Close Fisheries" and the periods during which the same are so exempt from net-fishing "Close periods" Provided always that it shall be lawful for the Commissioners in like manner to rescind or vary any such periods.

Seine or hauling
net.

11. Every seine or hauling net when used for the purpose of catching or enclosing fish in tidal waters shall be deemed to be an unlawful net whenever or wherever so used if the mesh of such net shall measure diagonally when prepared for use wetted and stretched in accordance with the regulations less than two inches and one quarter in the bunt which shall not exceed fifty fathoms in length or three inches in the wings which in like manner shall not exceed in length seventy-five fathoms each or if the same when cast and shot shall enclose a space measuring more than four hundred yards along the corks from one end of such net to the other unless such net be a *bonâ fide* gar-fish or prawn-net and used for catching gar-fish or prawns only (as the case may be).

Gar-fish net.

12. No net shall be deemed to be a *bonâ fide* gar-fish net of which the bunt exceeds thirty fathoms in length or has a mesh less than one and a quarter inch ascertained in the usual manner but such gar-fish net shall have on each side of the bunt a wing hung on the same cork and lead lines not longer than the bunt of such net and of which the mesh shall not be less than two inches.

Prawn-net.

13. No net shall be deemed to be a *bonâ fide* prawn-net which exceeds fifteen fathoms in length or of which the mesh is less than one inch ascertained as aforesaid.

Meshing net.

14. No net will be permitted to be used as a meshing net the mesh of which is less than three and one half inches ascertained as aforesaid and the length of which exceeds sixty fathoms.

Stalling illegal.

15. Any two or more nets placed behind or near to each other in such a manner as to diminish the mesh or means of escape for enclosed fish shall be deemed to be an unlawful net.

16. The setting of any net of a less mesh than four inches by the process known as "stalling" whereby a net is staked or set across any tidal waters is hereby declared to be illegal.

Nets for inland
waters.

17. The provisions of the foregoing sections as regards size of mesh and length of net shall not apply to the use of drift nets or purse-seines in the open sea.

18. Every net when used for the purpose of catching or enclosing fish in inland waters that is to say in any river or creek not influenced by the tides or in any fresh-water lake lagoon or pond shall be deemed to be an unlawful net if the mesh of such net shall measure diagonally when prepared for use wetted and stretched in accordance with the regulations less than four inches in any part thereof or if such net (whatever the size of the mesh) be staked fixed or set completely across any such river or creek Provided always that nothing in this section contained shall apply to the owner of the soil or bed of inland waters using or setting a net within such waters to capture fish for breeding purposes or for stocking a fishery or for his own consumption only.

Penalties netting
in close fisheries.

19. If any person shall in any close fishery during any close period place shoot cast or haul any fishing-net whatever or stake fix or set any such net for the purpose of catching taking or enclosing any fish enumerated in the First Schedule hereto or in such manner that any such fish might be caught or taken thereby such person shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding *fifty* pounds and not less than *ten* pounds And every person aiding or assisting in the shooting casting or hauling of any such net or being in any boat from which any such net shall be shot cast or hauled in contravention of the provisions of this section shall incur a like penalty And every person convicted under this section shall if holding a license under this Part be deemed by conviction to have forfeited his license And all fish taken in violation of the provisions of this section together with all fishing nets used for the purpose of taking the same shall be forfeited to Her Majesty and shall be disposed of as provided by the Regulations Any inspector constable or officer of Police may with or without warrant apprehend and take before one or more Justices any person found offending against the provisions of this section to be dealt with as hereinafter provided and may in like manner seize every such net.

General penal-
ties for using
unlawful nets.

20. If any person shall catch or attempt to catch any fish by casting hauling or shooting any net having a mesh or length less than the said respective dimensions of the several kinds of nets hereinbefore described for the seine or hauling gar-fish prawn or meshing nets or nets for inland waters such person shall for the first offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding *five* pounds and not less than *two* pounds and for a second or subsequent offence to a penalty not exceeding *twenty* and not less than *five* pounds.

21. The Justices shall in every case where an offender is convicted under any of the preceding sections order all unlawful nets used by or found in the possession of such offender to be forfeited to Her Majesty.

22. If any person shall sell or consign or expose for sale or have in his possession or on his premises any fish of any of the species mentioned in the Second Schedule hereto of a less weight than that set opposite the name of such fish in such Schedule or prescribed by any regulation he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding *two* pounds for the first offence and for the second or any subsequent offence to a penalty not exceeding *five* pounds and not less than *two* pounds. And all such under-weight fish together with all other fish found in the same basket or other receptacle or exposed on the same table or stand or found in the same boat cart or vessel with such under-weight fish shall be forfeited and be disposed of in accordance with the regulations. And any Inspector officer of police or person authorized in writing by him may seize any fish which under this section are liable to forfeiture and take the same before any Justice who upon view thereof shall declare whether or not such fish are under-weight and if he declare them to be so shall order them to be forfeited and to be disposed of in accordance with the regulations. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any Curator of a Museum or Zoological Collector holding a permit from the Commissioners or to any owner of a private fishery in respect of fish taken therefrom or to any person being in possession of fish for purposes of pisciculture or to any aboriginal taking or being in possession of fish for his own consumption but in every such case of exemption the proof thereof shall be upon the defendant or person charged.

Prohibition against taking or selling &c. fish under size.

23. All prawn-fishers and other persons catching prawns shall in order to separate the marketable from the unmarketable prawns riddle or separate them but only in the waters where the same have been caught and in such a manner as to permit the small prawns to escape. And if any prawn-fisher or person shall fail to comply with such directions or shall riddle or separate any prawns after boiling or cooking the same or when such prawns are dead shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding *five* pounds and not less than *two* pounds.

As to riddling prawns.

24. It shall not be lawful for any person to catch or attempt to catch prawns by means of a net or by any other mode of capture during the months of June July August and September in any year in any tidal waters or tributary to the river Hunter or in any other tidal waters to which the Governor shall by proclamation in the *Gazette* declare the provisions of this section to extend. And if any person shall catch or attempt to catch any prawns in contravention of this section in any such tidal waters he shall be liable to the like penalties as are provided by section twenty-one hereof.

Close season for prawns in certain rivers &c.

25. Every boat or steamboat used or intended to be used for the purpose of catching for sale or engaged by hire for the purpose of catching any of the varieties of fish whether marine or fresh-water enumerated in the First Schedule hereto by net or line shall be licensed. The fee for every such boat license shall be one pound for the former and five pounds for the latter which shall be paid to the Colonial Treasurer at a proportionate rate to above according to date of application and payment of such fees shall cover the interval from the date of payment to the thirty-first day of December of the same year.

Licensing of fishing-boats.

26. Every person employed in catching for sale fish lobsters crabs or prawns in or upon any waters shall pay an annual license fee of ten shillings to the Colonial Treasurer. Such fee shall be payable on the dates and according to the provisions expressed in the last preceding section.

Licenses to be taken out by fishermen.

27. If any person shall take or attempt to take any fish whether by line or by net without holding a valid fisherman's license or in a boat not licensed as aforesaid he shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty not exceeding *forty* shillings. But nothing in this section contained shall extend to persons on excursion scientific or pleasure parties fishing for purposes other than sale. But in every such case of exemption the proof thereof shall be upon the person charged.

Penalty on unlicensed persons fishing for sale.

28. It shall not be lawful for any person by the explosion of dynamite or any explosive substance or by means of any poisonous or noxious thing to destroy or take fish in any tidal or other waters in New South Wales and any person so offending shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding *forty* pounds and not less than *ten* pounds. But nothing herein contained shall apply to any person duly authorized by the Commissioners (the proof whereof shall be on him) to explode torpedoes or dynamite in any such waters.

Torpedoes &c. not to be used.

29. If any person without the authority of the Commissioners shall drive or place any stake log stone mooring or other thing whatever likely to damage a fishing-net if dragged over or against it in any water whatever within the reach of a seine of lawful length and if any damage shall be sustained by any lawful fishing-net through coming into contact with such stake log stone mooring or thing or if any person shall sail or drive a vessel or boat over any net legitimately set for purposes of fishing such person shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding *ten* pounds and in addition shall pay such compensation to the owner of such net as may be awarded by the adjudicating Justices.

Penalty for damaging nets by placing obstacles on hauling grounds.

30. Every person who shall be found using a fishing-net of any kind whatsoever in any waters shall on demand give his true name and residence to any Commissioner Inspector Justice officer of police or constable and to any owner or occupier of land bordering such waters or over which they ebb and flow. And if any such person shall refuse or neglect to comply with such demand or shall give a false or fictitious name or residence he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding *five* pounds.

Netters to give name and residence when demanded.

31. Any inspector officer of police or constable and any person authorized in writing by any Justice of the Peace may at any time enter any premises or dwelling or go on board any boat and search for and seize and take away any net which has been used in contravention of the provisions of this Act or which is or is suspected to be of less dimensions in the mesh or of a length not permitted by this Act or the regulations. And every such seizure shall be at once reported to the Commissioner who on being satisfied that the net so seized has been used as aforesaid or is an unlawful net shall direct the same to be taken before a Justice who may order it to be forfeited to Her Majesty.

Search for and seizure of unlawful nets.

32. Any person who shall commit any act in breach of or be guilty of any default or non-compliance with the requirements or prohibitions of any of the foregoing sections shall in every case where no penalty or forfeiture has been in such case provided be liable to a penalty not exceeding *ten* pounds and not less than *one* pound.

PART II.

Oyster Fisheries.

33. Charts or plans of all rivers inlets estuaries creeks and other oyster-bearing waters in New South Wales according to such scale and in such manner as the Commissioners may direct shall be prepared as soon as practicable after the passing of this Act. And the position and boundaries of all areas leased or lawfully occupied under this Act shall from time to time be charted thereon.

Plans of oyster-bearing waters to be prepared &c.

34. All leases granted or promised to be granted under the "Oyster-beds Act of 1868" hereby repealed shall be deemed valid to all intents and purposes although such leases comprise natural oyster-beds or portions thereof. Provided always that it shall be lawful for the Commissioners to make regulations for the management of such natural oyster-beds during such leases and by such regulations to provide for the forfeiture of such leases if such regulations or any of them be not complied with.

Validation of certain leases under the "Oyster-beds Act of 1868."

35. Crown lands lying below high-water mark in any bay river estuary inlet lake or creek or in any tidal waters may be leased by the Governor on the recommendation of the Commissioners for the cultivation propagation and promotion generally of the interests of the oyster fisheries of the Colony. All such leases shall be subject to the following and such other conditions and provisions as shall be decided on by the Commissioners from time to time—

Leases of Crown lands for oyster-beds or layings.

- (i.) The boundaries of all lands so leased shall be determined by the Commissioners
- (ii.) The term for which any such lease may be granted shall not exceed fifteen or be less than ten years
- (iii.) The right to hold such lease shall be determined by auction or tender and all oysters raised from land so leased shall be subject to the scale of Royalties prescribed by the regulations to be approved of by the Commissioners
- (iv.) Every such lease shall contain and be issued subject to such conditions and provisions as may be prescribed by the regulations
- (v.) Occupation under lease shall not give any right or title to the lessee to form or plant oyster-beds or layings on the shore otherwise than included in his lease except for such purposes and during such times as may be prescribed by the regulations
- (vi.) Every such lease shall be in writing or partly printed and partly written and shall define as nearly as practicable the position and boundaries of the land to be leased

(VII.) Every such lease shall vest in the lessee his executors administrators and assigns the exclusive right during the currency of the lease of laying and planting oysters and of dredging and taking oysters except for the purpose of burning for lime in and from the oyster-bed subject always to the right of any inspector or authorized officer to enter upon any land included in such lease and to test the condition of the layings by dredging or otherwise or for any other authorized purpose

(VIII.) The Governor may if so recommended by the Commissioners accept at any time a surrender of any lease granted under this section if it shall appear to the satisfaction of the Commissioners that oyster-culture cannot be carried on upon the portion demised with any reasonable hope of success or where from any other reason the Commissioners shall report in favour of such surrender

Every lease granted under the provisions of this section shall be subject to the provisions of the ninth section of the "Crown Lands Alienation Act of 1861."

Notice before granting lease.

36. Before any such lease shall be granted the Commissioners shall cause a notice of the application therefor to be inserted in the *Gazette* and in some newspaper circulating in the Police District within which the land applied for is situated And any person may by memorial addressed to the Commissioners within thirty days after the date of such notices pray that the lease applied for be not granted on grounds considered objectionable Any memorial so presented shall be duly inquired into and if the Commissioners think fit an Inspector shall be sent to visit and report specially as to the site of the proposed lease and the truth of the allegations contained in such memorial And no lease shall be granted of any land if the Commissioners shall be of opinion that such allegations are sustained.

Penalty for injury to oyster-beds or layings.

37. It shall not be lawful for any person other than the lessee his agents servants and workmen within the limits of any oyster-bed or laying knowingly to do any of the following acts viz. :—

- (I.) To take or interfere in any way with any oysters on such bed or laying without the consent of the lessee or lawful owner or occupier thereof
- (II.) To deposit any stone ballast rubbish or substance on such bed or laying
- (III.) To dredge or drag with any implement upon or over such bed or laying unless by direction of the Commissioners or the proper officer of the Department of Harbours and Rivers or the Marine Board and on payment of compensation for damage done (if any)
- (IV.) To use any implement of fishing except a line and hook on such bed or laying
- (V.) To place any implement or thing prejudicial or likely to be prejudicial to such bed or laying or to any oysters thereon except for a lawful purpose of navigation or anchorage
- (VI.) To disturb or injure in any manner except as last aforesaid any such bed or laying or any oysters thereon

And if any person does any act in contravention of this section he shall be liable for the first offence to a penalty not exceeding five pounds and for the second offence to a penalty not exceeding ten nor less than five pounds and for a third or subsequent offence to a penalty of twenty pounds And every such person shall also be liable to make due compensation to the lessee for all damage sustained by such lessee by reason of such person's unlawful act and in default of payment the same may be recovered by the lessee in any Court not incompetent by statute in respect to the amount or nature of the claim for compensation whether such first-mentioned person has been convicted of an offence under this section or not.

Commissioners may recommend revocation of lease in certain cases.

38. If it shall appear to the satisfaction of the Commissioners that any lessee has not within the period of two years from the date of his lease taken measures proper in the opinion of the Commissioners to carry into effect the conditions of such lease then it shall be lawful for them to recommend the revocation of the lease by the Governor who shall have the power to revoke the same accordingly by notification in the *Gazette* And upon the publication of such notification all the rights and privileges granted by such lease and the term thereby demised shall absolutely cease and determine Provided always that before making such recommendation the Commissioners shall cause a notice in writing stating their intention to make such recommendation to be served on the lessee or person for the time being entitled to the lease or in case such person cannot be found they shall cause such notice to be inserted as an advertisement at least three times in a newspaper circulating in the Police District nearest to the area leased and also to be published once in the *Gazette* And no such recommendation shall be made until after the expiration of one calendar month from the service of such notice or from the date of the last advertisement (whichever shall happen last) Leases of the land comprised within any such revoked leases may be disposed of by public auction or otherwise if the Commissioners shall think fit and all such new leases shall be subject to the provisions of section thirty-five of this Act.

Portions of shore &c. may be exempt from leasing or be declared public oyster reserve.

39. It shall be lawful for the Commissioners by notification in the *Gazette* to declare that any portion of the shore abutting on any tidal waters or that any portion of the bed of any estuary bay lake inlet river or creek influenced by the tides with or without any portion of the shore abutting thereon and being the property of the Crown shall be exempt from the power of leasing conferred by this Act and if they think fit either by the same or by any subsequent notification to declare that any such portion shall be a public oyster reserve Any such reserve may be revoked by the Commissioners by a like notification.

Marking of natural beds and areas under lease.

40. The position of all areas under lease shall be distinctly defined by an officer appointed by the Commissioners.

Dredging licenses.

41. Dredging licenses not transferable may be issued for a term of one year (but renewable from year to year) bearing date as from the first day of January and expiring on the thirty-first day of December in each year Provided that after the thirtieth day of June in any year one moiety only of such fee shall be payable The fee for an annual license shall be ten pounds to be paid in each case by the applicant to the Colonial Treasurer.

42. Dredging licenses issued under the last preceding section shall authorize the holder to dredge for and take oysters in leased lands and in such waters and on such beds or places not under lease and at such times as an inspector may appoint and subject to all regulations made under this Act.

Royalty on dredged oysters.

43. For every bag containing or reputed to contain not more than three bushels of oysters the owner shall pay to Her Majesty a royalty to be determined by regulation.

Penalty on unlawful dredging for oysters.

44. If any person other than an inspector or person lawfully authorized in that behalf not being the holder of a dredging license under this Act shall dredge for or otherwise take from any natural bed leased land or abandoned lease or laying as aforesaid any oysters or shall be found dredging for oysters within the limits of such bed leased land or abandoned lease or laying such person shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds and not less than five pounds and all oysters found in his possession shall be deemed to be oysters unlawfully taken by such person and shall on his conviction be forfeited to the use of Her Majesty.

Oyster-dredgers to be marked.

45. The inspector of each district shall keep a register in which shall be entered the name and registered number of every holder of a dredging-license who shall dredge for oysters within such district And every such holder shall register his name and number of the boat to which he belongs with such inspector and the same shall be painted in white letters not less than three inches long on a black ground on the quarters of every boat or vessel—herein termed oyster-dredger—employed by such holder in dredging for oysters Every person who shall at any time dredge for or take or attempt to take oysters on any such bed or laying as aforesaid in any boat or vessel not marked in accordance with the requirements of this section shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds.

Licensing of oyster-dealers.

46. Every person dealing in or selling oysters whether wholesale or by retail shall for each place of business take out an annual license for each of which he shall pay a fee of five pounds Such license shall entitle the holder to sell and dispose of oysters in any one part of New South Wales during the year commencing on the first day of January and ending on the thirty-first day of December and shall be renewed annually by a like payment within fourteen days after the first-mentioned day Provided that on applications for licenses made after the thirtieth day of June in any year one moiety only of such license fee shall be payable Such licenses may be granted by the Commissioners or by any police magistrate and the fee shall be paid to the Colonial Treasurer And every person who shall deal in or sell oysters without holding a license under this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds and not less than five pounds.

Property in oysters &c.

47. All oysters within the limits of any land comprised in any lease granted under this Act or being within the limits of a private fishery under this Act shall be the absolute property of the lessee or owner of such private fishery respectively and shall for all purposes whatsoever be deemed to be in the actual possession of such lessee or owner And all oysters removed without lawful authority by any person from any land so leased or from any such fishery or laying shall be deemed to be the property of such lessee or owner and he shall be deemed to have the right to the possession thereof for all purposes whatsoever Oysters on a natural oyster-bed or public oyster-reserve shall be deemed to be and continue (until lawfully removed therefrom) the property of Her Majesty.

Penalty on burning live oysters for lime.

48. Every person who shall gather or burn live oysters for the purpose of converting the shells into lime whether he be the holder of a lease or license under this Act or not shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds.

49. No person shall dredge for or take oysters at any time between sunset and sunrise (except an owner upon his private oyster fishery) under a penalty for every offence not exceeding *twenty* pounds. And if such person be a lessee or licensee under this Act his lease or license may be cancelled by the Commissioners.

Oysters not to be dredged between sunset and sunrise.

50. All oysters shipped on board any vessel shall be placed in bags branded in accordance with the regulations. And the master of every vessel on board which oysters are shipped shall enter the same in the manifest stating the quantity and the name of the consignor and consignee and report the same to an officer of the Customs. And any oysters carried in any vessel in contravention of this section may be seized by an inspector officer of Customs or of police and forfeited to Her Majesty. And every such master who shall fail to comply with any of the requirements of this section shall be liable to a penalty of not less than *ten* pounds.

Provisions for sea-carriage of oysters.

51. It shall be lawful for the Commissioners on report that the whole or any portion of a natural oyster-bed or that any group of oyster-beds has by over-dredging or from any other cause been reduced to such a state that the further dredging of oysters from such bed or beds ought to be suspended to prohibit by notice in the *Gazette* for any term not exceeding three years the dredging or taking of oysters from such bed or beds or portion thereof as may be described in such notice by any persons whatsoever other than an inspector or person authorized by him or by the Commissioners.

When natural oyster-beds may be closed.

52. If any person shall without lawful authority—the proof of which shall lie on him—at any time during the period mentioned in such notice take or dredge oysters from any natural oyster-bed or portion thereof described in such notice such person shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding *twenty* pounds nor less than *five* pounds. And all oysters and the bags containing them together with all dredging appliances found in the possession of any person so offending may be seized and upon conviction of the offender shall be forfeited to Her Majesty.

PART III.

Private Fisheries.

53. Any person entitled to an estate of freehold in possession in any land and any lessee of land with the consent in writing of the reversioner (which consent such reversioner is hereby authorized to give) may apply in writing to the Commissioners for a license to establish a private fishery in or over any part of such land.

Private fisheries may be established.

54. The applicant for any such license shall state in his application the nature of his estate or interest in such land and shall describe the area in and over which he proposes to establish his fishery the purpose or purposes for which such license is desired the mode (if any) in which he proposes to admit in and over such area the sea or any tidal waters the distance between high-water-mark and the point at which the admission of such waters has been or is to be effected the position of such area with reference to any harbour river creek bay inlet lake arm of the sea or part of the coast in or near the shore or bank of which such area is situated. And such application shall be accompanied by an explanatory plan or tracing and by any other particulars which the Commissioners may require.

Particulars to be stated by applicants for private fisheries.

55. Such application together with all plans and documents accompanying it shall be referred by the Commissioners to any officers whom they may think fit to consult to report whether any rights of the Crown or the public are likely to be prejudiced or injuriously affected by any work in connection with the proposed fishery. And such officers are hereby required to furnish such reports to the Commissioners within sixty days from date of reference.

Report on application.

56. Upon the receipt of such reports it shall be lawful for the Commissioners to refuse such license absolutely or to grant it in terms of such application or with such modifications thereof and subject to such conditions as they may think fit all of which shall until revoked be binding on the grantee and his successors in title in respect of the area over which such license extends.

Power to grant or refuse license.

57. Any license so granted may be revoked by the Commissioners at any time if they shall be of opinion that the conditions therein expressed or any other terms of the grant have not been faithfully complied with.

Revocation of license.

58. The grant and the revocation of any such license shall severally take effect upon notification in the *Gazette*. Provided that there shall upon every such grant be paid to the Colonial Treasurer the sum of *ten* pounds.

Grant &c. when to take effect. Officer.

59. The grant of a license for a private fishery shall have the effect—

Legal effect of license.

- (i.) Of vesting in the grantee and his successors in title to the area described in the license and as appurtenant to such area the exclusive right during the continuance thereof of stocking such area with fish of any kind whatsoever (including oysters lobsters crabs prawns shrimps whelks cockles mussels and any other varieties of crustaceans or molluscs) and of taking therefrom any such fish and their shells
- (ii.) Of vesting the property (at law or in equity) in any such fish while the same are within the limits of such area in such grantee and his successors in title any rule of law to the contrary notwithstanding
- (iii.) Of vesting in such grantee and successors the right to the influx and efflux of the tide into and over the aforesaid area by such means of admission as the license provides and in case the license provides no such means or the same are doubtful then by cutting a trench or passage through or laying one or more pipes under the shore. Also a right to construct a sluice so as to permit the tide to ebb and flow into and from such area
- (iv.) Of vesting in such grantee and successors a right to enter upon the shore where the works for the admission of tidal waters are situated and to repair such works stopping the traffic thereover (if necessary) for any period not exceeding seven days in any one year in order to repair or renew the same
- (v.) Of abrogating any rule of law so far as it might be held to confer any public right-of-way or of navigation on and over such area or any public right of fishing for or taking fish by nets lines or other appliances whatsoever in or upon such area

In the case of a grant to a lessee the reversioner and in the case of a grant to a tenant for life or *pur autre vie* the remainderman shall with reference to the lessee tenant for life or *pur autre vie* respectively be included under the expression "Successor in title."

60. No trench or passage through the shore for the purpose of permitting the tide to ebb and flow to and from such area shall at any point exceed a width of twelve feet and every such trench or passage shall at the cost of the licensee or his successors in title be bridged by such a substantial bridge or means of crossing as the license shall prescribe or (if none shall be so prescribed) as the Commissioners shall determine. And every such bridge or crossing shall be maintained in good order and repair by such licensee or successors and shall in every case be furnished with substantial handrails on either side and be not less than twelve feet wide between the rails.

Provision for bridge across trenches, &c.

61. In places where at low tides large flats are left uncovered by water or where any land subject to overflow by the tide belongs to the applicant or where the land of the applicant abuts on or is in the vicinity of some tidal creek from which it is proposed to admit the water the terms and conditions of the license (except the sum to be paid for such license) may be modified by the Commissioners so as to suit the special circumstances of the locality.

Terms and conditions of license when to be modified.

62. The limits of a private fishery shall in every case be marked by substantial stakes placed at a distance not exceeding fifty yards from one another or (where such staking is not reasonably practicable) in such manner as the regulations shall prescribe. But in any proceedings taken by the owner of such fishery for larceny or any offence or matter under this Act it shall not be necessary for him to prove that the requirements of this section have been duly complied with.

Marking limits of private fishery.

PART IV.

Legal Procedure—Miscellaneous.

63. All offences penalties and forfeitures under this Act or any regulation made thereunder may be heard determined and recovered and all proceedings therefor may be taken in a summary way by and in the name of any inspector or by and in the name of any person authorized by the Commissioners before any two or more Justices in pursuance of the provisions of the Acts regulating summary convictions before Justices and every defendant shall be a competent witness in his own case. Provided that if any person shall be adjudged to pay any sum by way of penalty or otherwise the adjudicating Justices shall order such sum to be paid (together with costs to be fixed by the said Justices) either forthwith or within such period as the said Justices shall appoint and if such sum and costs (if any) shall not be paid at the time so appointed the same shall be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattels and for want of sufficient distress or in the discretion of such Justices without any such distress such offender may be imprisoned with or without hard labour for any term not exceeding *three* calendar months unless such sum be sooner paid.

Procedure.

Appropriation penalties &c Appeal.

64. The amount of every penalty fine or forfeiture recovered under this Act shall be paid one moiety to the informer or prosecutor and the other moiety to the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

65. Any person aggrieved by any conviction order or adjudication of Justices under this Act may appeal therefrom to the next Court of Quarter Sessions holden in the district in which the subject matter of the appeal arose unless such Sessions shall be held within fourteen days from the date of such conviction order or adjudication and in that case to the Court of Quarter Sessions then next following. And such Court shall have power to hear and determine the matter in a summary way in accordance with the Acts in force regulating appeals from summary convictions. And the decision of such Court shall be final and conclusive. Provided always that the appellant shall have given written notice seven days at least before the hearing of the appeal of his intention to appeal and stating the grounds thereof to the or one of the adjudicating Justices and to the prosecutor and provided that such appellant shall also pay into the hands of such Justice the full amount of any penalty or sum awarded against him together with costs within twenty-four hours next after such conviction order or adjudication and also enter into a bond with two sureties approved by such Justice conditioned to prosecute such appeal with effect and to abide the event thereof and to pay the full amount of all costs which may be awarded against him.

Assaulting &c. inspectors and others in execution of their duty.

66. Any person who shall assault resist or obstruct or encourage any other person to assault resist or obstruct any inspector assistant inspector constable officer or other person whomsoever in the execution of his duty under this Act shall incur a penalty not exceeding *fifty* pounds nor less than *ten* pounds or be liable to imprisonment not exceeding *six* calendar months. And the adjudicating Justices may in addition to any such penalty order a sufficient sum to be paid by the offender to cover any damage or injury sustained by the person so assaulted resisted or obstructed which sum shall be recoverable in the same manner as a penalty under this Act.

Offenders may be apprehended and bailed.

67. Any inspector of fisheries or member of the police force may with or without warrant seize any net dredge or other implement of fishing which any person found offending against any of the provisions of this Act may then be using and may also with or without warrant apprehend and lodge with the gaoler or person in charge of any gaol watch-house lock-up or police station any person found offending against any of the provisions of this Act who on demand made shall refuse to give his true name and address but any Justice or subject to the conditions prescribed by the regulations any such gaoler or person in charge may liberate any person so lodged in custody on such person entering into a recognizance (with or without sureties) in the sum of twenty pounds conditioned for his appearance before two or more Justices at a day and place to be therein mentioned.

Justice may grant a warrant to enter suspected places.

68. Any Justice of the Peace upon an information on oath that there is probable cause to suspect any breach of the provisions of this Act or of any regulation thereunder to have been committed may by warrant under his hand and seal authorize and empower any Inspector of Customs or Police or any officer to enter any dwelling-house or premises or vessel or boat whatsoever for the purpose of searching for and seizing any unlawful net dredge implement or engine or any fish or oysters taken in contravention of this Act or any proclamation or regulation thereunder.

Police to aid and assist inspectors.

69. All members of the police force and all persons employed in the department of the Marine Board the Customs or Harbours and Rivers if called upon to aid and assist any inspector or other officer in the execution of any power or authority vested in him by this Act are hereby authorized and required to aid and assist such inspector or officer in the lawful exercise of any such power or authority.

Larceny from contiguous oyster-beds.

70. Whenever a person shall be charged with larceny of oysters from any oyster-bed lease or laying which may be contiguous to another or others it shall be sufficient in alleging and proving the place from which such oysters were stolen to allege and prove that such oysters were stolen from one or other of such contiguous beds leases or layings and that the same belonged to and were in the lawful possession of one or other of the lessees or owners thereof.

What instruments &c. to be evidence.

71. The production of any of the undermentioned documents writings or publications shall be conclusive evidence in all Courts as to the several matters contained therein and in the case of a lease promise of lease or license that the same was duly issued viz. :-

- (I.) A lease or promise of lease or a copy thereof bearing the common seal of the Commissioners.
- (II.) Any license or a copy thereof bearing the like seal.
- (III.) A copy of the *Gazette* containing any regulation or notification purporting to be made under this Act.

Search for and seizure of fish or oysters.

72. All fish or oysters of which the taking possession exposure for sale consignment or purchase for sale is prohibited by this Act may be searched for seized condemned and dealt with according to law by any inspector or by any person holding the written authority of the Commissioners or of any Justice or any search warrant under the hand and seal of any Justice or authorized by any regulation under this Act.

Operation of Act. Report by Commissioners.

73. This Act shall come into force on the sixtieth day after its passing.
 74. The Commissioners shall on or before the thirty-first day of December in every year report to the Minister charged with the administration of this Act as to the state of the fisheries in the several divisions thereof and such report shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament. The Commissioners shall also furnish to the said Minister such reports accounts plans vouchers and documents relating to any Act or matter done by them or within their control or cognizance as he may by writing under his hand addressed to the said Commissioners require. The Commissioners shall in all matters be subject to the like control by the Governor as any Department of the Public Service.

SCHEDULES.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

Marine Fishes.

Bream.
 Flathead.
 Whiting.
 Tarwhine.
 Blackfish.
 Garfish.
 Long Tom.
 Pike.
 Perch.

Flounder.
 Sole.
 Mullet—
 Sea [including the variety commonly known
 as hard gut mullet].
 Flat-tail.
 Sand.
 Travally.

Fresh-water Fishes.

Murray Cod.
 Golden Perch or Yellow Belly.
 Silver Perch or Bream.

Ordinary Fresh-water Perch.
 Black Perch.

SECOND SCHEDULE.

Lawful Weights for Fish.

Description of Fish.		Weights in ounces avoirdupois.
<i>Marine</i>	Schnapper or Red Bream	16 ounces.
	Bream (Black)	6 "
	Tarwhine	5 "
	Blackfish	5 "
	Rock-cod (Black or Red)	8 "
	Gurnet	4 "
	Flathead.....	8 "
	Mullet—	
	Sea [including the variety commonly known as hard-gut mullet].....	12 "
	Flat-tail	4 "
	Sand	4 "
	Whiting	4 "
	Flounder.....	4 "
	Sole.....	4 "
	Pike	8 "
	Travally.....	6 "
Garfish	2 "	
Lobster Salt-water or Crayfish	10 "	
<i>Fresh-water</i>	Cod (or Murray Cod)	16 "
	Perch	4 "
	The Murray River Lobster or Fresh-water Crayfish	4 "

[To Evidence of Dr. Cox.]

A 3.

COMMISSIONERS of Fisheries for New South Wales, 1888 :—

James C. Cox, M.D., President.

E. P. Ramsay, F.R.S.E., LL.D., &c., &c.
J. R. Hill, Esq.A. Oliver, Esq., M.A.
S. H. Hyam, Esq.*Official Staff, 1888.*

Lindsay G. Thompson, Secretary and Chief Inspector of Fisheries.

Edward J. Ellis, 1st Clerk.

J. A. O'Grady, Clerk.

C. D. St. Pinnock, Clerk.

J. D. Delany, Clerk.

G. F. Hainsworth, Clerk.

L. G. Mann, Draftsman.

L. F. Mann, Draftsman.

W. Lannen, Messenger.

Thomas Temperley, Inspector for Northern Division of Fisheries.

George G. Benson

Southern

Andrew Gylar, Assistant Inspector of Fisheries, Manning River.

Thomas Mulhall, " " Sydney.

Henry Curan, " " Newcastle.

Peter Smith, " " Hawkesbury River.

Charles Gordon, " " Shoalhaven.

C. H. Otway, " " Port Stephens.

William Boyd, " " Lake Macquarie.

John D. Grant, " " Botany and George's River.

D. W. Benson, " " Lake Illawarra.

Richard Seymour, " " Fish Market, Sydney.

W. N. Cain, " " Brisbane Water.

F. W. Smithers, " " Eden.

William M'Gregor, Acting Assistant Inspector of Fisheries, Tweed River.

Thomas Stewart, " " Bellinger River.

W. J. Whitites, " " Nambucca River.

John Jamieson, " " Macleay River.

A. H. Kendall, " " Cape Hawke.

H. W. C. Windeyer, " " Port Macquarie.

Thomas Laman, " " Port Stephens Heads.

A. T. Black, " " Broken Bay.

Bourne Russell, " " Twofold Bay.

Angus Sutherland, " " Moruya.

George Baker, " " Sydney.

Basil J. H. Scott, " " Port Stephens.

George Glading, Boatman, Sydney.

Richard Hellings, " "

Frank Aldrick, " " Botany and George's River.

J. F. Hespe, " " Bateman's Bay.

J. Massingham, " " Clarence River.

F. Young, Engineer, Sydney.

Inland Waters.

Osborne Wilshire, Assistant Inspector of Fisheries, Deuilliquin.

Frederick Nelson, Acting Inspector of Fisheries, Bungendore, Lake George.

[To Evidence of Dr. Cox.]

A 4.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Expenditure on account of the Department of Fisheries, New South Wales, from 1881 to 1888, inclusive.

Year.		Receipts.	Disbursements.	Year.		Receipts.	Disbursements.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1881	Receipts under Fisheries Act	1,554 8 6		1885	Receipts under Fisheries Act	4,988 4 0	
	Salaries		911 12 2		Salaries		4,113 1 10
	Contingencies		576 15 3		Contingencies		1,508 7 9
		1,554 8 6	1,488 7 5			4,988 4 0	5,621 9 7
		1,488 7 5					4,988 4 0
	Excess of receipts over expenditure..	66 1 1			Excess of expenditure over receipts		633 5 7
1882	Receipts under Fisheries Act	2,651 2 0		1886	Receipts under Fisheries Act	7,037 8 10	
	Salaries		2,200 11 1		Salaries		5,032 8 7
	Contingencies		832 15 6		Contingencies		1,093 17 0
		2,651 2 0	3,033 6 7			7,037 8 10	6,126 5 7
			2,651 2 0			6,126 5 7	
	Excess of expenditure over receipts..		382 4 7		Excess of receipts over expenditure	911 3 3	
1883	Receipts under Fisheries Act	2,943 2 10		1887	Receipts under Fisheries Act	5,427 8 0	
	Salaries		2,833 1 11		Salaries		4,108 19 6
	Contingencies		1,042 2 4		Contingencies		2,143 8 6
		2,943 2 10	3,875 4 3			5,427 8 0	6,252 8 0
			2,943 2 10				5,427 8 0
	Excess of expenditure over receipts..		932 1 5		Excess of expenditure over receipts		825 0 0
1884	Receipts under Fisheries Act	5,865 7 9		1888	Receipts under Fisheries Act	3,634 19 8	
	Salaries		3,144 0 0		Salaries		4,436 11 2
	Contingencies		2,037 15 7		Contingencies		1,823 17 7
		5,865 7 9	5,231 15 7			3,634 19 8	6,265 8 9
		5,231 15 7					3,634 19 8
	Excess of receipts over expenditure..	633 12 2			Excess of expenditure over receipts		2,630 9 1

RECAPITULATION.

Expenditure on account of 1881	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Do do 1882	1,488	7	5			
Do do 1883	3,033	6	7			
Do do 1884	3,875	4	3			
Do do 1885	5,231	15	7			
Do do 1886	5,621	9	7			
Do do 1887	6,126	5	7			
Do do 1888	6,252	8	0			
	6,265	8	9	37,894	5	9
Receipts for 1881	1,554	8	6			
Do 1882	2,651	2	0			
Do 1883	2,943	2	10			
Do 1884	5,865	7	9			
Do 1885	4,988	4	0			
Do 1886	7,037	8	10			
Do 1887	5,427	8	0			
Do 1888	3,634	19	8	34,102	1	7
Excess of expenditure over receipts	£3,792	4	2			

[To Evidence of Dr. Cox.]

A 5.

Sir,

Sydney, 16 April, 1888.

I have the honor to inform you that I, accompanied by Hellings and Glading, went up to Ryde Police Court on Saturday, the 14th, for the purpose of prosecuting Thomas Gascoigne for fishing in closed waters. The case was called and the information read to him. He pleaded guilty to the charge, but said he was not a fisherman, and had not had a license for some time, and he was only fishing to get a few to eat. I said it mattered not as he was caught fishing in closed waters. Thereupon the magistrate asked me if I had a written authority to prosecute, and I showed him the Act and said it was my authority; also, I pointed out to him the Commissioner's minute. He asked me if I held the same position as Mr. Assistant Inspector Smith, whose case had been dismissed, and I replied by saying that I held the position as Assistant Inspector of the Home Division. Thereupon the three magistrates consulted together, and the chief one said it would not be fair to fine Mr. Gascoigne heavily when the men in Mr. Assistant Inspector Smith's case had been dismissed (which had just come on before mine); therefore he said he would fine Mr. Gascoigne 1s. and costs.

I think this is very hard, after myself and men working day and night, to be treated in this manner. It appears the fishermen have the privilege to do as they like with us.

I have, &c.,

THOMAS MULHALL,
Assistant Inspector Fisheries.

To the Chief Inspector.

Commissioner's Minute:—Read, 18/4/88.

Court-house, Ryde, 14 April, 1888.

(Before J. E. Manning, J.P., J. T. Rodd, J.P.)

Thomas Mulhall, Assistant Inspector of Fisheries, v. Thomas Gascoigne—hauling a net to take fish in closed waters, on 29th March, 1888. Defendant pleaded guilty; fined, 1s.; costs, 4s. 10d. Fine and costs paid.

JOHN E. MANNING, J.P.
J. T. RODD, J.P.

Sir,

Sir, Sydney, 2 April, 1888.
 I have the honor to inform you that on Thursday evening, the 29th March, I went up the Parramatta River, accompanied by Hellings and Glading, and about 10 o'clock at night we caught Mr. Thomas Gascoigne, of Ryde, on the Flats above Ryde, opposite Homebush, casting and hauling a meshing net in the closed tidal waters of New South Wales. I seized the net and brought it on to Woolloomooloo. Awaiting instructions from the Commissioners. The dimensions of net, 60 fathoms long, 4 inch mesh.
 I have, &c.,
THOMAS MULHALL,
 Assist. Insp. Fisheries, Sydney.

To the Chief Inspector.
Commissioners' minute.—Prosecute. Inquire why it is the ropes used were not also seized.—4/4/88. Assist. Insp. Mulhall, for his information.—L.G.T., Secretary, B.C., Department of Fisheries, Sydney, 5/4/88. Gascoigne fined 1s. and costs.—T. MULHALL, 14 April, 1888.

Sir, Sydney, 30 April, 1888.
 I have the honor to inform you that I went up to Ryde on Saturday to the Court-house to have the net confiscated (which I seized from Thomas Gascoigne on the 29th March last). The Magistrate there refused to confiscate the net, saying the Commissioners had to do with it.
 I have, &c.,
THOMAS MULHALL,
 Assist. Insp. Fisheries, Sydney.

To the Chief Inspector.
Commissioners' minute.—Make another effort to get net confiscated.—2/5/88. Assist. Insp. Mulhall.—L.G.T., 3/5/88.
 In reference to the confiscation of this net I called to see Mr. Jeannerett three times, and on the last occasion I took the Act with me, and he said he could not see anything in it to give them power to confiscate the net; also that the Commissioners had to do with it. He promised to call to see Mr. Thompson.—T. MULHALL, Assist. Insp. of Fisheries, Sydney, 23 May, 1888. Submitted, 31/5/89. *Commissioners' minute*.—Sell the nets.—7/6/89.

PENALTIES for net-fishing in closed waters.
 Fisheries Act, 1881.

Section 10.—Penalty under section 10, not exceeding fifty pounds (£50), and not less than ten pounds (£10), for first offence of fishing.
 Section 18.—Penalty under section 18, for first offence not exceeding ten pounds (£10).
 Penalty for second or any subsequent offence not exceeding twenty pounds (£20), and not less than five pounds (£5).
 Magistrates who tried the case Inspector Mulhall v. Gascoigne, fishing in closed waters:—J. E. Manning, Esq., J. T. Rodd, Esq. (Case tried 14 April, 1888.)

PARTICULARS of prosecutions against Thomas, Robert, and John Gascoigne for breaches of the "Fisheries Act, 1881."

Date.	Prosecuting Officer.	Name of Offender.	Offence.	Result of prosecution.
25 Sept., 1882 ..	Inspector Quinan ...	Thomas Gascoigne ...	Having under-weight fish in his possession.	Fined £2 and costs.
16 Jan., 1883 ...	" ..	John Gascoigne	" ..	" ..
16 .. 1883 ..	" ..	Thomas Gascoigne	" ..	" ..
14 April, 1888 ...	Inspector Mulhall ...	" ..	Fishing in closed waters	Fined 1s. and costs.
28 .. 1888 ...	Inspector Smithers...	Robert Gascoigne ...	Using an illegal net	Dismissed.
28 .. 1888 ...	" ..	" ..	Fishing in closed waters	" ..

[To Evidence of Dr. Cox.]

A 6.

APPLICATIONS to lease Land for Oyster Culture by R. R. Armstrong and Sons.

Lease No.	Name.	Area.	Locality.	Deposit.	Action.	Rent due.
95	R. R. Armstrong	yards. 1,000	Port Stephens	{ £10—28/2/85 } { £10—6/9/86... }	Refund, £12 18s. 4d.— Forfeited.	£ s. d.
99	L. F. M. Armstrong	2,000	Middle Harbour	Nil.....	Refused.	
113	R. R. Armstrong	1,500	Hawkesbury	"	" ..	
120	W. G. Armstrong	2,000	do	"	" ..	
129	R. C. F. Armstrong	2,000	Middle Harbour	"	" ..	
148	R. R. Armstrong	400	Hunter River	"	" ..	
153	R. F. C. Armstrong	500	do	"	" ..	
154	L. F. M. Armstrong	400	do	"	" ..	
156	W. G. Armstrong	1,200	do	"	" ..	
280	R. R. Armstrong	2,000	Port Hacking	"	" ..	
283	Do	1,100	Botany	"	" ..	
405	Do	2,000	Womboyn River	"	" ..	
406	Do	2,000	do	£20—21/11/84 ..	Cancelled, 3 May, '87.	
407	T. D. C. Armstrong	2,000	do	Nil.....	" ..	
408	L. F. M. Armstrong	2,000	do	"	" ..	
409	W. G. Armstrong	2,000	do	"	" ..	
476	R. R. Armstrong	1,500	Hawkesbury	"	" ..	
477	Do	1,500	do	"	" ..	
502	Do	500	Clyde River	"	" ..	
505	Do	400	Port Stephens	"	" ..	
524	R. C. F. Armstrong	2,000	George's River	"	" ..	
525	W. G. Armstrong	2,000	do	"	" ..	
526	R. R. Armstrong	2,000	do	"	" ..	
527	L. F. M. Armstrong	2,000	do	"	" ..	
589	R. C. F. Armstrong	200	Betangabu Bay	"	" ..	
591	R. R. Armstrong	1,000	Womboyn River	"	" ..	
592	L. F. M. Armstrong	900	do	£9—25/11/84 ..	" ..	
593	T. C. Armstrong	600	do	Nil.....	Refused.	
594	W. G. Armstrong	600	do	"	" ..	

Lease No.	Name.	Area.	Locality.	Deposit.	Action.	Rent due.
		yards.				£ s. d.
733	R. R. Armstrong	800	Port Stephens	Nil	Refused.	
1,004	Do	900	do	£9-5/1/85	Lease issued, 29/1/86...	27 0 0
1,005	Do	600	do	£6-	" 28/1/86...	18 0 0
1,025	W. G. Armstrong	400	do	£4-12/1/85	Cancelled, 27/8/87.	
1,081	Do	300	do	£3-4/2/85	Ready to sign, 6/7/86...	6 0 0
1,082	L. F. M. Armstrong	300	do	£3-	Cancelled, 27/8/87.	
1,130	Do	500	do	£5-19/2/85	"	
1,131	Do	300	do	£3-	"	
1,129	W. G. Armstrong	500	do	£5-	"	
1,132	Do	100	do	£1-	"	
1,133	R. R. Armstrong	100	do	£1-	Cancelled, 30/1/89.	
1,134	Do	100	do	£1-	"	
1,135	Do	100	do	£1-	"	
1,233	Do	200	do	£2-21/4/85	Cancelled, 27/8/87.	

[To Evidence of Dr. Cox.]

A 7.

To the President of the Fisheries Commission,—
Sir,

Sydney, 17 June, 1889.

I have the honor to inform you (except in times of heavy weather) there has always been a good supply of fish at the Woolloomooloo Fish-market; so much so, in several instances the quantity has been rather greater than the demand, and had to be sold at so cheap a rate not sufficient, I believe, to pay the expenses attached to them, and at other times had to remain unsold in the fish-market, and in the end had to be carted away as unfit for food.

I have, &c.,

THOMAS MULHALL,

Assist. Insp. Fisheries, Sydney.

RETURN showing the total number of Baskets of Fish sold at the Sydney Fish-market in 1885, 1886, 1887, and 1888; also the amount realized each year by the sale thereof.

1885.—	Number of baskets,	38,162½;	amount realized,	£31,674 18s. 1d.
1886.—	do	45,583;	do	£34,331 18s. 9d.
1887.—	do	51,275;	do	£31,594 3s. 3d.
1888.—	do	54,997;	do	£37,775 6s. 11d.
Total number of baskets,		190,017½;	total amount realized by sale thereof, £135,376 7s.	

RETURN showing the average weight of a Basket of Fish; also the average number of Fish which make up a Basket:—Garfish, whiting, bream, mullet:—Average weight per basket, 70 lb.

The average number of fish to a basket:—Garfish, 25 dozens; whiting, 5½ dozens; bream, 4 dozens of moderate size; mullet (small), 7 dozens; mullet (large), 2½ dozens.

[To Evidence of Dr. Cox.]

A 8.

RETURN showing the number of Applications to lease shore for Oyster Culture made in 1883 and subsequent years. Also, the number of Leases accepted by Applicants, and the number on which rent is paid to date; and persons employed in the Department.

	1883.	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.
1. Applications for shore for oyster culture	198	715	1,491	339	146	84	41
2. Applications accepted by applicants	69	214	271	172	79	36	6
3. Leases on which rent is paid to date	45	103	120	78	44	31	.....
Number of persons employed in the Department—							
Office	3	6	7	8	8	8	6
Inspectors	3	3	3	3	2	2	2
Assistant inspectors	8	11	11	12	13	13	13
Acting assistant inspectors	9	12	11	10	11	10	9
Boatmen	4	3	*6	7	7	7	6
Engineer	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Messenger	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total	29	37	40	42	43	42	38

* Including 1 aboriginal.

[To Evidence of Dr. Cox.]

A 9.

COMPARATIVE Return showing the quantity of Fish brought to the Fish-market, Woolloomooloo, and the price realized therefor, from the 1st January to the 31st July of the years 1886 and 1887:—

	1886.	1887.	REMARKS.
Number of baskets of Fish	28,705	32,028	It will be observed that whilst the supply shows an increase of 3,323 baskets, and 7,302 dozen, there is a decrease in the price realized of £2,129 2s. 6d.
Number of dozens of Fish	2,076	9,378	
Amount realized at auction	£ 20,692 19 9	18,563 17 3	

NOTE.—The heavy increase in the dozens of fish received in 1887 is caused by the large number of sea-mullet caught during the months of April and May, viz., in April, 6,920 dozens, and in May, 1,070 dozens—in all 7,990 dozens.

[70

[To Evidence of Dr. Cox.]

A 10.

RETURN showing the quantity of Fish brought to the Fish-market, Woolloomooloo, and the amount realized for sale thereof during the years 1884, 1885, and 1886 :—

	1884.	1885.	1886.
Number of baskets of Fish.....	32,956	38,163	45,583
Number of dozens of Fish	5,280	5,646	3,161
Amount realized at auction £	30,115 17 1	30,789 0 0	34,331 18 9

[To Evidence of Lindsay G. Thompson.]

B 1.

Proposed new Legislation for Regulation of Fisheries.

MEMORANDUM.

In furtherance of the Commissioner's minute requiring a report showing the amendments necessary in the existing fisheries laws, I submit two Bills which I have prepared on the basis, and, as far as possible, after the lines of the present Acts. I found that the amendments and additions which experience had suggested to me were so numerous and required such careful and particular statement that I could not embody them in a report with much assurance that my meaning and intention would be made clear and intelligible beyond doubt, and this is my apology for exceeding the directions of the minute by submitting Bills instead.

I now proceed to explain and comment upon the Bills, showing section by section wherein they differ from the existing statutes.

Section 1 defines the title, the Fisheries Regulation Act, 1888, and the order and arrangement of the measure.

Section 2 embodies the interpretation of terms when used in the Bill, and regard has been had to their adaptability for shortening the verbiage and giving precise application to the intention of sections of the Act.

Section 3 provides for the repeal of the existing enactments, excepting Part II (private fisheries) of the Fisheries Act, 1881, but including the recent measure—"An Act for the better preservation of fish in inland waters." It will be found that in the Bill now submitted every provision of that Act has been embodied, so that no reason exists for its retention on the Statute-book.

Section 4—"Constitution of Fisheries Commission as a body corporate"—stands the same as in the Fisheries Act, 1881.

Section 5 provides for the appointment of officers. It differs only from section 5 in the present Act in so far that it provides that the Chief Inspector and the Secretary shall be statutory appointments.

Section 6 confers on all officers of police and constables the position of local Inspectors of Fisheries *ex officio*.

[NOTE.—In view of the recent proposal to dispense as far as possible with local Inspectors and to provide oversight by means of a travelling Inspector, I have thought it desirable to expunge section 6 of the existing Act, which provides for the appointment of Customs or Marine Board officers as Inspectors, as well as section 8, distributing the Fisheries into Division.]

Section 7 takes power to make regulations. It is like section 9, Fisheries Act, except that it provides for rewards for capture of sharks.

PART I.

Net and Line Fisheries.

Sections 8 and 9 define the several kinds of nets proposed to be used and the penalties for infringement. They take in the provisions of sections 11, 12, and 13 of the Fisheries Act, but separately specify the meshes and dimensions of all the nets therein named, and, in addition, provide for the use of a deep-water prawn-net and a sunken bag-net. I confess I am not partial to either of these nets. I have included them only in deference to the known desire of certain fishermen to use them; and in limiting their length, providing ample mesh, and enacting that they shall terminate in a ring floating upright in the water, I have had in view the purpose of making them as little destructive to young fish and fish food as possible.

Section 10—As to hanging of nets—is a new provision. It is the practice of the Greeks to hang their nets on an equal length of line, the result being that as soon as the nets are subjected to a hauling strain the meshes close, and the chance of escape for small fish is very much diminished.

Section 11—Waters not to be stalled—is in part a new provision. The interception of the passage of fish by the setting of brushwood is now practised in suitable creeks, and it seems desirable to legislate against it.

Section 12—Two or more nets not to be set together.—This provision is very similar to one to be found in section 11 of the existing Act, and the necessity for its retention is obvious.

Section 13—Penalties for having under-weight fish—is practically the same as section 14 of the Fisheries Act, the difference being that it excludes from the proviso of "nonapplication" persons having in possession fish not intended for sale.

Section 14—Prawns to be riddled in their own waters only—is practically the same as section 15, Fisheries Act.

[NOTE.—Prawns having been included in the Schedule defining what under this Act are fish, the necessity for retaining section 16, Fisheries Act, is avoided.]

Section 15—Proclamation of close fisheries—is similar to section 10, Fisheries Act, except that it gives direct power to the Commissioners to exempt tidal and inland waters also from net-fishing, and line-fishing as well, when thought necessary. It seems desirable that the Commissioners should have this direct power, in order to avoid the delay of a reference to the Governor and Executive Council.

Sections 16 and 17—Closing waters against fishing-nets, and penalties for infringement—are in a measure equivalent to sections 17 and 18, Fisheries Act, except that they embrace inland waters. They give wider power for closing, and enact more stringent penalties.

Section 18—Persons not to have fresh caught fish or wetted nets in closed waters—is a new provision suggested by experience of the difficulty in procuring the conviction of persons found fishing in closed waters.

Section 19—Crew of seized boats to assist Inspectors—is also new, and suggested by experience. An Inspector when single-handed has often been prevented by want of assistance from taking away a seized net to a place of safe custody.

Sections 20 and 21—Licensing of fishing boats and men—are similar to sections 19 and 20 of Fisheries Act, except that they provide against any sale of a boat carrying with it the transfer of the license; also that persons fishing in inland waters shall be licensed.

Section 22—Penalty for fishing without a license—is the same as section 21 of the Fisheries Act.

I have not amended this section, as I am not aware what views the Commissioners entertain in respect to it. My own opinion is that the fee should be increased, and an attempt made to compel persons who go in chartered boats on pleasure fishing excursions to contribute to the cost of protecting the fisheries from which they derive enjoyment. The imposition of a small fee would not create a hardship upon the individual, while it would provide a legitimate source of revenue. If one person who has to earn his living by means of fishing be required to pay a fee, surely another who follows the pursuit as a pastime should not be exempted.

Section 23 is new. Its object is to put a check upon the joining of nets. It may be desirable to make two the limit number of nets which may be carried in one boat.

Sections 24 and 25—Prohibiting use of dynamite and placing obstacles on hauling grounds—are very similar to sections 22 and 23, Fisheries Act. Section

Section 26—For protection of fishermen netting-fish—is new, and is suggested by experience.

Section 27—Netters to give name and residence—is like unto section 24, Fisheries Act, but the latter clause of it is new, and suggested by experience.

Section 28—Inspectors may search for and seize nets used in contravention of the Act—is equivalent to section 25, Fisheries Act.

[NOTE.—It is not proposed to interfere with Part III, Fisheries Act (Private Fisheries). This part has not so far been availed of by the public, but will doubtless be found of great value in future time.]

PART 2.

Legal Procedure—Miscellaneous.

Section 29—Procedure—is similar to section 58, Fisheries Act, except that provision is made for offences committed in any part of the Metropolitan Police District being heard at any one of the Courts in that district; this provision is essential, not only in the convenience of the Department, but in the interests of the fishermen themselves, for their attorneys very frequently set up the technical plea of “no jurisdiction,” with the result that the cases have to be dismissed only to be brought forward again to the advantage of none but the attorneys, who of course obtains a second fee for a second appearance.

I submit for consideration whether it is desirable to retain the provision that “every defendant shall be a competent witness in his own case;” it is quite possible for unprincipled persons when obviously guilty to swear themselves out of Court through this provision.

Section 30—As to appropriation of penalties—is the same in substance as section 59, Fisheries Act.

Section 31—Appeal—is grounded upon section 60, Fisheries Act, except that it forces the appellant to notify his intention to appeal within seven days from date of adjudication.

Section 32—Assaulting Inspectors—is a similar provision to that contained in section 61, Fisheries Act.

Section 33—Apprehension of offenders—is equivalent to section 62, Fisheries Act, except that it gives more ample powers to Inspectors.

Sections 34 and 35—Justices to grant warrants to enter suspected places, and Customs and Marine Board Officers to aid Inspectors—are respectively similar to sections 63 and 64, Fisheries Act.

Sections 36, 37, and 39—Relating to instruments in evidence—search for and seizure of fish—report by Commissioners—are respectively alike unto sections 66, 67, and 69, Fisheries Act.

Section 38—Penalty on breach of Act—is new, and is intended to cover omissions which may occur in the passing of this measure into law.

The schedules to the Act have been amended so as to bring within the varieties of fish protected, the jew-fish, the sampson-fish, the kingfish, the prawn, the lobster, the tench, and fish not indigenous to the Colony, which may be introduced, or be in any inland waters.

52° VICTORIA 1889.

A BILL to provide for the development and regulation of the Fisheries of the Colony.

Preamble.

WHEREAS the existing statute law is insufficient to preserve from exhaustion the natural supplies of marine and other edible fishes; and it is expedient that such law should be repealed, and that more effective measures should be adopted to check the wanton or unnecessary destruction of immature fish, and to prevent the disturbance of the various nurseries and breeding-grounds and to regulate the operation of fishermen: Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled and by the authority of the same as follows:—

Preliminary Provisions—Appointment of Commissioners, &c.

Short title and arrangement of Act.

1. This Act may be cited for all purposes as the “Fisheries Regulation Act, 1889,” and its provisions are arranged in the order, and comprise the subjects following, viz. :—

*Preliminary Provisions—Appointment of Commissioners, &c.—ss. 1-7.*PART I.—*Net and Line Fisheries—ss. 8-28.*PART II.—*Legal Procedure—Miscellaneous—ss. 29-39.*

SCHEDULES.

Interpretation terms.

2. In this Act, unless the context requires a different meaning, the following words within inverted commas shall bear the respective meanings hereby assigned to them:—

“Governor”—The Governor with the advice of the Executive Council.

“Commissioners”—The Commissioners of Fisheries appointed under this or the repealed Act.

“Fish”—All or any of the varieties of marine or fresh water fishes enumerated in the First Schedule hereto; also fish not indigenous to this Colony which may be introduced or be in any inland waters.

“Lobster”—The crayfish commonly called “lobster.”

“Hauling grounds”—Any Crown land proclaimed as such for the purpose of netting fish.

“Bunt”—The middle portion of a general working garfish or bag-net, between the wings, but not being more than one-third of the lawful length of such respective nets.

“Wing”—The portion of a general working, garfish, or bag-net, on each side of the bunt, but not being more than the respective lawful length of the bunt of such nets.

“Boat”—Any vessel or punt of any description whatsoever.

“Tidal Waters”—All waters which ebb and flow over Crown lands, within the territorial jurisdiction of the Crown in New South Wales, and every lake and lagoon in the said Colony ordinarily subject to the influence of the tides (although the communication with the sea may for the time be closed), the soil or bed whereof is the property of the Crown; together with, in each case, the soil of such Crown lands.

“Inland Waters”—All rivers and creeks for that portion of their watercourse which is beyond the influence of the tides; also all fresh water lakes, lagoons, and ponds.

“Justice”—Any Justice of the Peace.

“Inspector”—Inspectors or Sub-Inspectors of Fisheries, and Inspectors *ex officio* appointed under this or the repealed Act.

Repeal of 44 Vic. No. 26
46 Vic. No. 25,
51 Vic. No. 26.

3. The Parts I, II, and IV of the Act forty-fourth Victoria number twenty-six, intituled “*An Act to provide for the development and regulation of the Fisheries of the Colony*” not already repealed; the Act forty-sixth Victoria number twenty five, intituled “*An Act to amend the Fisheries Act, 1885*,” and the Act fifty-first Victoria number twenty-six, intituled “*An Act for the better preservation of Fish in Inland Waters*,” are hereby repealed, but without prejudice to the past operation of, or to any right lawfully created, offence committed, or penalty incurred under, any of the said Acts.

Constitution of Fisheries Commissioners as a body corporate;

4. The duty of protecting, developing, and regulating the public fisheries of New South Wales shall be vested in five Commissioners to be called the “Commissioners of Fisheries for New South Wales,” who, by that name, shall be a body corporate, with perpetual succession and a common seal, with power to hold real and personal estate, and to sue and be sued, and to take, and be the subject of all legal proceedings by such name. And the duties, power, and authority of the said Commissioner shall extend to the territorial limits of the said Colony. Such body corporate shall be composed of five persons to be appointed by the Governor by Commission under the Great Seal, each of whom shall hold office for the term of five years from the date of his appointment, unless his office become vacant in the meantime by death or resignation, but subject nevertheless to removal by the like authority. But any Commissioner may be reappointed after the expiration of his term of office. The Governor shall, either by the original Commission or otherwise as to him seems proper, appoint one of the Commissioners to be President. And the President, or in his absence one of the Commissioners appointed from time to time by the meeting, shall preside at all meetings, and at any voting shall have an original, as well as (in cases of equality of votes) a casting vote. Any three Commissioners shall be a quorum.

Appointment of officers.

5. It shall be lawful for the Governor, on the recommendation of the Commissioners, to appoint a Chief Inspector, Secretary, and so many Inspectors and Sub-inspectors of Fisheries and other officers as he may think necessary for the purposes of this Act, and to assign to every such officer such salary as he may think fit, and as Parliament may vote. And every such officer shall act under the direction of, and be responsible for the due performance of his duties to, the Commissioners.

in accordance with the regulations. The provisions of this section shall not apply to any curator of a museum or zoological collector holding a permit from the Commissioners, or to any owner of a private fishery in respect of fish taken therefrom, or to any persons being in possession of fish for purposes of pisciculture, or to any aboriginal taking or being in possession of fish for his own consumption; but in every such case of exemption the proof thereof shall be upon the defendant or person charged.

Prawns to be riddled in their own waters only.

14. All prawn-fishers and other persons catching prawns shall, if they require to riddle them so as to separate the marketable from the unmarketable, so riddle or separate them immediately upon being caught, and in such a manner as to permit the small prawns to escape. And if any prawn-fisher or person shall fail to comply with such direction, or shall riddle or separate any prawns after boiling or cooking the same, or when such prawns are dead, he shall be liable to the like penalties as are provided by the last preceding section.

Proclamation of close fisheries.

15. It shall be lawful for the Commissioners to declare by notice in the *Gazette* that any specified tidal or inland waters shall be exempted from net or line-fishing, or both, during any specified months in any year. The fisheries in all such waters so specified shall be termed "Close Fisheries," and the months during which the same are so declared exempt from net-fishing, "Close months." And if any person shall, in any close fishery, during any close month, place any line or shoot, cast, or haul any net whatever, or stake, fix, or set any such net or line for the purpose of catching, taking, or enclosing fish, or in such manner that fish might be caught or taken thereby, such person shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds and not less than ten pounds. And every person aiding or assisting in the placing, shooting, casting, or hauling of any such net or line, or being in any boat from which any such net or line shall be placed, shot, or cast, in contravention of the provisions of this section shall incur a like penalty. Provided always that it shall be lawful for the Governor, or the Commissioners, in like manner, to rescind or vary any such proclamation.

Proclamation closing waters against use of fishing-nets.

16. It shall be lawful for the Governor, from time to time, to declare by proclamation, to be published in the *Gazette* and in some newspaper circulating in the nearest Police District, that the whole or any defined portion of any inland water or tidal river, inlet, estuary, lake, lagoon, or arm of the sea shall be closed against the use of fishing-nets or lines, or both, for such term as the Governor shall think fit. And any such proclamation may be renewed by the Governor, if so advised by the Commissioners, for a further period, or may in like manner be varied or rescinded at any time whatever.

Penalty for fishing in closed waters.

17. If any person, after the expiration of thirty days from the date of any such original proclamation as is described in the next preceding section hereof and during the currency thereof, or at any time after any renewal or variation of such proclamation, and during the currency thereof shall cast, haul, stake, fix, or place any net or line of any kind whatever for the purpose of taking or capturing fish, or by which fish may be taken or captured, within the limits of the waters or area defined in such proclamation, such person shall be liable for the first offence to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds and not less than five pounds, and for the second or any subsequent offence to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds and not less than ten pounds; and every person aiding or assisting in the casting and hauling or otherwise fixing of such net or line, or being in any boat from which any net shall be shot in contravention of the provisions of this section, shall incur a like penalty. And every person convicted under this section shall, if holding a license under this Act, be deemed by conviction to have forfeited his license. And all fish taken in violation of the provisions of this section, together with all fishing-nets, lines, and boats used for the purpose of taking the same, shall thereupon become forfeited to Her Majesty, and shall be disposed of as provided by the regulations. Any inspector may, with or without warrant, apprehend and take before one or more Justices any person found offending against the provisions of this section, to be dealt with as hereinafter provided; and may in like manner seize every such net and boat.

Persons not to have fresh caught fish in closed waters.

18. If any person shall be found with fresh caught fish or a wetted net in his boat or in his possession in waters which by proclamation under this Act are exempted from line or net-fishing or closed against the use of fishing-nets or lines, such person shall be deemed to have been unlawfully catching or attempting to catch fish in contravention of the provisions of this Act, and every person convicted under this section shall be subject to the penalties and forfeitures provided by the next preceding section hereof. Provided always that a right shall be reserved to the defendant to prove that he was not upon such waters for any unlawful purpose under this Act.

Crew of seized boats to assist Inspector.

19. In every case where a seizure of any fish-net, boat, or other article is made under the provisions of this Act, the inspector making the seizure may direct the owner thereof or his boat's crew, or any of them, to forthwith convey such boat, net, and other seized articles to some point convenient for further conveyance by land or sea carriage, and any such person refusing to obey such Inspector's direction shall be liable to a penalty of not less than three nor more than five pounds.

Boats to be licensed.

20. Every boat used, or intended to be used, for catching for sale any of the varieties of fish enumerated in the First Schedule hereto, by net or line, shall be licensed. The fee for every such boat license shall be one pound, which shall be paid to the Colonial Treasurer or some officer authorized by him to receive license fees under this Act; and payment of such fee shall cover the interval from the date of payment to the thirty-first day of December of the same year, unless such boat shall in the meantime have been sold or disposed of by the owner, in which case the license thereof shall be deemed to have expired. Provided that after the thirtieth day of June in any year one moiety only of such fee shall be payable. Every boat licensed under this section shall have painted in legible letters in such conspicuous place as may be prescribed by the regulations the name of her owner and the words "Licensed fishing-boat."

Fishermen to be licensed.

21. Every person catching for sale (the proof to the contrary whereof shall be upon such person) fish in or upon any tidal or inland waters shall pay an annual license fee of ten shillings to the Colonial Treasurer or some officer authorized by him to receive license fees under this Act. Such fees shall be payable on the dates and according to the provisions expressed in the last preceding section.

Penalty for fishing without license.

22. If any person shall take or attempt to take any fish within such waters as aforesaid, whether by line or by net without holding a valid fisherman's license as required by the next preceding section hereof, or shall take or attempt to take any such fish, whether by line or net, in a boat not licensed under section twenty hereof, he shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty not exceeding forty shillings. But nothing in this section contained shall extend to persons on excursion or pleasure parties fishing for purposes other than sale. Provided always that it shall lie upon the defendant to prove that he is within the saving in this section contained in any case where, not being the holder of a license under the next preceding section, he shall be found fishing in a boat licensed under this Act.

Boats to carry one net only.

23. It shall not be lawful for any person to carry more than one lawful fishing-net in any fishing-boat licensed under this Act.

Dynamite not to be used.

24. It shall not be lawful by the explosion of dynamite or any explosive substance, or by means of any poisonous or noxious thing, to destroy or take fish in any tidal or inland waters in New South Wales. And if any person shall explode any dynamite or any such substance under such waters, or place or cause to flow thereinto any poisonous or noxious thing, such person and all other persons at the time in his company shall for every such offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding forty pounds and not less than ten pounds. But nothing herein contained shall apply to any person duly authorized (the proof whereof shall be on him) to explode torpedoes or dynamite in any such waters.

Penalty for damaging lawful nets by placing obstacles on hauling ground.

25. If any person without lawful authority (the proof of which shall lie on him) shall drive or place any stake, log, stone, or other thing whatever, likely to damage a fishing-net if dragged over or against it in any tidal water proclaimed as a hauling-ground within the reach of a fishing-net of lawful length, and if any damage shall be sustained by any lawful fishing-net through coming into contact with such stake, log, stone, or thing, such person shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding ten pounds, and in addition to pay such compensation to the owner of such net as may be awarded by the adjudicating Justices.

Penalty for disturbing fish in process of being netted.

26. It shall not be lawful for any person, by the wilful firing of guns, or by the production of other disturbing noises or sounds, to frighten fish around which nets are being set by any person holding a valid fisherman's license. If any person shall offend against the provisions of this section he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds nor less than three pounds.

Netters to give name and residence when demanded, &c.

27. Every person who shall be found using a fishing-net of any kind whatsoever in any waters in New South Wales shall, on demand, give his true name and residence to any inspector or Justice, or to any owner or occupier of land bordering such waters, or over which they ebb and flow. And if any such person shall refuse or neglect to comply with such demand, or shall give a false or fictitious name or residence, he shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds.

Inspectors may search for and seize nets used in contravention of Act.

28. Any inspector may at any time enter any premises or dwelling, or go on board any boat and search for and seize and take away any net which has been used in contravention of the provisions of this Act, or which is, or is suspected to be, of less dimensions in the mesh or of a length not permitted by this Act or the regulations. And every net so seized shall be viewed by a Justice, who, on inspection thereof, shall, if satisfied that the same has been so used as aforesaid, or is an unlawful net, order the same to be forfeited to Her Majesty.

PART II.

Legal Procedure—Miscellaneous

29. All offences, penalties, and forfeitures under this Act or any regulation made thereunder may be heard, determined, and recovered, and all proceedings therefor may be taken, in a summary way, by and in the name of any Inspector, or by and in the name of any person authorized by the Commissioners, before any two or more Justices, in pursuance of the provisions of the Acts regulating summary convictions before Justices, except that, in the discretion of the prosecuting officer, offences committed in any part of the Metropolitan Police District may be so heard at any one of the Courts in that district; and every defendant shall be a competent witness in his own case. Provided that if any person shall be adjudged to pay any sum, by way of penalty or otherwise, the adjudicating Justices shall order such sum to be paid (together with costs to be fixed by the said Justices) either forthwith, or within such period as the said Justices shall appoint, and if such sum and costs (if any) shall not be paid at the time so appointed, the same shall be levied by distress and sale of the offender's goods and chattels, and for want of sufficient distress, or, in the discretion of such Justices, without any such distress, such offender may be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding *three* calendar months, unless such sum be sooner paid. In all cases where the defendant or person charged with any offence under this Act shall plead any of the exemptions therein contained, the proof thereof shall be upon such defendant or person charged. Provided also that no information or conviction under this Act shall be quashed through any defect or want of form.

30. The adjudicating Justices shall have power to award to the informer, seizing officer, or prosecutor, an amount out of every penalty, fine, or forfeiture, not exceeding in the aggregate thereof one moiety, and the remainder shall be paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund. Appropriation of penalties, &c.

31. Any person aggrieved by any conviction, order, or adjudication of Justices under this Act may appeal therefrom to the next Court of Quarter Sessions holden in the district in which the subject matter of the appeal arose, unless such Sessions shall be held within fourteen days from the date of such conviction, order, or adjudication, and, in that case, to the Court of Quarter Sessions then next following. And such Court shall have power to hear and determine the matter in a summary way in accordance with the Acts in force regulating appeals from summary convictions. And the decision of such Court shall be final and conclusive. Provided always that the appellant shall, within seven days from the date of such aforesaid conviction, order, or adjudication, have given written notice of his intention to appeal, and stating the grounds thereof to the, or one of the, adjudicating Justices, and to the prosecutor, and provided that such appellant shall also pay into the hands of such Justice the full amount of any penalty or sum awarded against him, together with costs, within twenty-four hours next after such conviction, order, or adjudication, and also enter into a bond, with two sureties approved by such Justice, conditioned to prosecute such appeal with effect, and to abide the event thereof, and to pay the full amount of all costs which may be awarded against him. Appeal.

32. Any person who shall assault, resist, or obstruct, or encourage any other person to assault, resist, or obstruct, or shall use abusive language to any Inspector, or other person whomsoever in the execution of his duty under this Act shall incur a penalty not exceeding *fifty* pounds nor less than *ten* pounds, or be liable to imprisonment not exceeding *six* calendar months. And the adjudicating Justices may, in addition to any such penalty, order a sufficient sum to be paid by the offender to cover any damage or injury sustained by the person so assaulted, resisted, or obstructed, which sum shall be recoverable in the same manner as a penalty under this Act. Assaulting, &c. inspectors and others in execution of their duty.

33. Any Inspector of fisheries may enter any fish-market, premises, place, or dwelling, or go on board any boat, and seize any underweight fish, nets, boat and gear, or other implement of fishing which any person found offending against any of the provisions of this Act may then be using, and may also, with or without warrant, apprehend and lodge with the gaoler or person in charge of any gaol, watch-house, lock-up, or police station, any person found offending against any of the provisions of this Act, who, on demand made, shall refuse to give his true name and address, or whom such Inspector may have reason to suspect has given a fictitious name and address or incorrect information as to the ownership of any net or other article seized under any of the provisions of this Act; but any Justice, or subject to the conditions prescribed by the regulations, any such gaoler or person in charge may liberate any person so lodged in custody, on such person entering into a recognizance (with or without sureties) in the sum of *twenty* pounds conditioned for his appearance before two or more Justices at a day and place to be therein mentioned. Offenders may be apprehended and bailed.

34. Any Justice of the Peace, upon an information on oath that there is probable cause to suspect any breach of the provisions of this Act or any regulation thereunder to have been committed, may, by warrant under his hand and seal, authorize and empower any inspector to enter any dwelling-house or premises or boat whatsoever for the purposes of inspection, and of searching for and seizing any unlawful net, implement, or engine supposed to have been used, or any fish taken in contravention of this Act or any proclamation or regulation thereunder. Justice may grant warrant to enter suspected places.

35. All persons employed in the department of the Marine Board, the Customs, or Harbours and Rivers, if called upon to aid and assist any inspector in the execution of any power or authority vested in him by this Act, are hereby authorized and required to aid and assist such inspector in the lawful exercise of any such power or authority. Customs officers, &c., to aid inspectors.

36. The production of any of the undermentioned documents, writings, or publications shall be conclusive evidence in all Courts as to the several matters contained therein, and in the case of a lease or license that the same was duly issued, viz. :— What instrument, &c., to be evidence.

(i) Any license or a copy thereof bearing the like seal.

(ii) A copy of the *Gazette* containing any notice, regulation, or proclamation purporting to be made under this Act.

37. All fish of which the taking possession, exposure for sale, consignment or purchase for sale is prohibited by this Act may be searched for, seized, condemned, and dealt with according to law by any Inspector or by any person holding the written authority of any Justice, or any search warrant under the hand and seal of any Justice, or authorized by any regulation under this Act. Search for and seizure of fish.

38. Any person who shall commit any act in breach of or be guilty of any default or non-compliance in or with the requirements or prohibitions of this Act shall in every case where no penalty has in such case been provided be liable to a penalty of *forty* shillings and to the forfeitures prescribed by section seventeen hereof. Penalty on breach of Act.

39. The Commissioners shall as soon as possible after the thirty-first day of December in every year report to the Minister charged with the administration of this Act as to the state of the fisheries of the Colony, and such report shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament. The Commissioners shall also furnish to the said Minister such reports, accounts, plans, vouchers, and documents relating to any act or matter done by them, or within their control or cognizance as he may, by writing under his hand addressed to the said Commissioners, require. The Commissioners shall in all matters be subject to the like control by the Governor as any Department of the Public Service. Report by Commissioners.

SCHEDULES.

FIRST SCHEDULE.

Marine Fishes.

Bream.
Jew-fish.
Sampson-fish.
Kingfish.
Flathead.
Whiting.
Tarwhine.
Blackfish.
Garfish.
Long Tom.
Pike.

Prawn.
Lobster.
Perch.
Flounder.
Sole.
Mullet—
Sea [including the variety commonly known as hard-gut mullet.]
Flat-tail.
Sand
Travally.

Fresh-water Fishes.

Murray Cod.
Golden Perch or Yellow Belly.
Carp.

Tench.
Silver Perch or Bream.
Ordinary Fresh-water Perch.

Fish not indigenous to the Colony which may be introduced or be in any inland waters.

SECOND

SECOND SCHEDULE.
Lawful Weights for Fish

Description of Fish		Weights in ounces avoirdupois
	Schnapper or Red Bream	12 ounces
	Bream (Black)	6 "
	Tarwhine	5 "
	Blackfish	5 "
	Rock cod (Black or Red)	8 "
	Gurnet	4 "
	Flathead	8 "
	Mullet—	
	Sea [including the variety commonly known as hard gut mullet]	8 "
	Flat-tail	4 "
<i>Marine</i>	Sand	4 "
	Whiting	4 "
	Flounder	4 "
	Sole	4 "
	Pike	8 "
	Travally	6 "
	Garfish	2 "
	Lobster Salt-water or Crayfish	10 "
	Jew fish	4 pounds
	Sampson fish	2 "
	Kingfish	3 "
	Cod (or Murray Cod)	16 ounces
	Perch	4 "
<i>Fresh-water</i>	The Murray River Lobster or Fresh water Crayfish	4 "
	Carp	
	Tench	

[To Evidence of Lindsay G. Thompson]

B 2.

Proposed new legislation for Regulation of Oyster Culture.

I HAVE made this a separate Bill, to be brought forward after the Bill for the Regulation of the Fisheries shall have been passed into law, and I have applied to it the legal procedure provisions of that Bill. I am not aware of the Commissioners' views on the point, but I myself should much prefer to have both Bills embodied in one enactment, and, if approved, this can be very readily done now.

Section 1 defines the meaning of the terms used, and, as in the Fisheries Regulation Bill, care has been taken to adapt the terms to the provision in the section, so as to reduce the verbiage and supply the precise meanings intended.

Section 2 repeals the existing enactment—the Oyster Fisheries Act, 1888.

Section 3 prescribes the conditions on which leases may be issued. It is similar to section 4, Oyster Fisheries Act, except that it provides a minimum of area to be leased and of rental to be charged.

Section 4—Notice before granting a lease—is identical with section 5, Oyster Fisheries Act.

Section 5, which is a new provision, prohibits the removal of oysters from any applied for area. The necessity for this has for a long time been apparent.

Section 6, requiring that lessees taking up new area shall not be in arrear with their rents, is also a new feature, and will doubtless commend itself.

Section 7, as to forfeiture for mismanagement, is practically the same as regulation 28, Oyster Fisheries Act. It seems desirable to include it in the statute.

Section 8—Penalties in respect of injuries to leased areas—is practically the same as section 6, Oyster Fisheries Act, but, going beyond that section, it provides against the straying of cattle, lopping of mangroves, &c.

Section 9—Revocation of leases in certain cases—is practically identical with section 7, Oyster Fisheries Act.

Sections 10, 11, and 12—Declaring Public Oyster Reserves—Oysters not to be dredged after sunset—Penalty on burning oysters for lime—are practically the same as sections 8, 10, and 12, respectively, of the Oyster Fisheries Act.

Section 13 is an amplification of the power to close oyster beds taken in section 14, Oyster Fisheries Act.

Section 14—Penalty for unlawful dredging of oysters—is based on section 9, Oyster Fisheries Act, but its provisions are extended to oysters on Crown lands not under lease.

Section 15, like section 15 in existing Act, allows persons to take oysters for their own consumption, *but on the spot only*. It likewise prohibits the taking of oysters for such purpose if in spawn or spat.

Section 16—Penalty on disorderly persons—is a new section, and is suggested by experience.

Section 17 provides for the making of regulations, and is generally similar to the like section in the existing Act.

Sections 18, 19, and 20—Instruments to be used in evidence, larceny from contiguous oyster beds, and application of certain provisions of the Fisheries Regulation Act—are similar, respectively, to section 66 (part of), Fisheries Act, 1881; section 63, Fisheries Act, 1881, and section 18, Oyster Fisheries Act.

52nd VICTORIA, 1889.

A BILL for the more effective protection of Oyster Culture and the regulation of Oyster Fisheries.

Preamble

WHEREAS the existing statute law for the promotion of Oyster culture and the regulation of Oyster Fisheries is found to be insufficient for its purposes, and it is expedient that such law should be repealed, and more effective measures adopted for the protection of persons holding leases under it, and of the deposits of oysters on Crown lands not under lease. Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

Short title and interpretation

1 This Act may be cited as the "Oyster Culture Act of 1889," and for the purposes thereof the expressions—

"Commissioners" means the Commissioners of Fisheries

"Governor" means the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council

"Inspector" means any inspector or sub-inspector of Fisheries, or inspectors *ex officio* appointed under the "Fisheries Act, 1881," or the "Fisheries Regulation Act, 1888"

"High water mark" means the mean line between high water at spring and at neap tide

"Prescribed" means prescribed by this Act, or by regulations made thereunder

"Foreshore" means the portion of Crown lands situate between the line of high and low water mark

"Lease" means any lease issued under this Act or the Act hereinafter repealed

"Lessee" means any person holding a lease for oyster culture under this Act or the enactment hereinafter repealed

"Oyster" means every kind of oyster of and above the size which from time to time by regulation under this Act may be declared to be marketable

"Spat" means the spat, blood, and ware of every kind of oyster of and below a size which from time to time by regulation under this Act may be declared

"Leased area" means any portion of land leased for oyster culture under this Act or the Act hereby repealed

"Lawful authority" means an authority the nature and effect whereof must be proved by the person who sets it up by way of exemption

2. The Act forty-eighth Victoria, number six, is hereby repealed, but no act done, offence committed, or proceeding commenced before the passing of this Act, under such enactment shall (save as is hereinafter expressly enacted) be affected by the repeal thereof. All regulations and proclamations made under the authority of such repealed enactment shall be, and until rescinded by the Governor as hereinafter provided continue to be, of the same force and effect as if this Act had not been passed.

Repeal of enactments.

3. Oyster culture leases of Crown lands in any tidal waters, or in any lake or lagoon communicating therewith, may, on application, be granted by the Governor. Such leases shall be subject to the conditions and provisions following:—

Application for leases of Crown lands for oyster-beds or layings.

- (i) In any case where two or more persons have applied for the same area the application to be first dealt with shall be that which was first lodged; and if several such applications were lodged at the same time the right to priority shall be determined by lot in such manner as the Commissioners shall direct. If after the satisfaction of any application entitled to priority any residuary area remains, such area may be allotted to the applicant next in order of time, and so on.
- (ii) The term of any such lease shall not exceed fifteen years, renewable from time to time, on the application of the lessee during the twelfth year of the term, if the Governor shall be satisfied after report by an Inspector to the Commissioners that the area leased is fairly stocked with oysters, and has been properly worked in accordance with the conditions of the lease and the regulations.
- (iii) No leased area measured along the foreshore shall be less than two hundred nor shall exceed two thousand linear yards, unless upon special recommendation of the Commissioners the Governor shall think fit to enlarge such length. But nothing in this section contained shall prevent the Governor from granting leases of areas containing natural beds or deposits of oysters according to prescribed dimensions and areas; provided that no such area shall be less than five acres nor exceed twenty-five acres, or be leased at a less annual value than two pounds per acre.
- (iv) The annual rent shall be at the rate of not less than twenty shillings for every linear hundred yards or portion thereof, measured along the foreshore in the prescribed manner; and in any case where the foreshore on both sides of a tidal water is included in a lease such foreshore shall be measured on both sides for the purposes of ascertaining the rent, which shall be calculated from the date of approval of application.
- (v) Leases may also be disposed of by auction or tender should the Governor at any time so direct.
- (vi) Occupation under any lease shall not give any right to the lessee to occupy or use any portion of the Crown lands abutting on but not included in his lease except for such purposes and during such times as may be prescribed.
- (vii) Any leased area may be described in the lease by reference to posts, stakes, buoys, marks, or natural features showing the limits of such leased area in a manner sufficient to allow of their identification.
- (viii) Every such lease shall vest in the lessee, his executors, administrators, and assigns all oysters within the area leased, and as well the exclusive right, during the currency of the lease, of laying and planting oysters on, and of dredging and taking oysters from, the area leased, but subject always to the several provisions of this Act and the right of any inspector or authorized officer to enter upon such area for any authorized purpose.
- (ix) The Governor may, if recommended by the Commissioners, accept a surrender of a lease, after the third year of its currency, in any case where it shall appear, to the satisfaction of the Commissioners, that oyster culture cannot be carried on upon the leased area with any reasonable hope of success, or where, from any other reason, the Commissioners shall report in favour of such surrender.
- (x) Every such lease shall be subject to such conditions and provisions as may be prescribed by the regulations or approved by the Governor.

Every leased area shall be subject to all reclamation rights conferred by the ninth section of the "Crown Lands Act, 1885," or any Act amending the same.

4. Before any such lease, applied for under this Act shall be granted, the Commissioners shall cause a notice of the application to be inserted in the *Gazette*, and in some newspaper circulating in the Police District within which the land applied for is situated. And any person may, by memorial to the Commissioners within thirty days after the date of such notice, pray that the lease applied for be not granted on grounds to be therein stated.

Notice before granting lease.

5. All oysters within the limits of any area for which application to lease has been made in accordance with the regulations under this Act shall, for the purpose of protection, be deemed to be in the actual possession of such applicant. And all oysters removed without lawful authority by any person from any such applied-for area may be seized by any Inspector. And any person who shall be found dredging, taking, or attempting to take oysters from any such applied-for area, shall incur a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds and not less than five pounds, and all oysters found in his possession shall be deemed to be oysters unlawfully taken by him, and shall, on his conviction, be delivered to the applicant for such area.

Property in oysters, &c.

6. Any lessee who shall be at any time in arrear with the rent due on any one or more leased areas shall, notwithstanding anything in this or the repealed Act provided, not be entitled to take oysters from off such areas, or to apply for a further area until such overdue rent shall have been paid.

Lessees in arrear with rent not to apply for further areas.

7. Upon receipt of a report by an Inspector that a leased area is being so stripped of oysters or otherwise mismanaged by the lessee that the production of oysters thereon has, in such Inspector's opinion, been so reduced as to threaten its destruction as an oyster-bearing area, further dredging may be thereupon stopped by the Commissioners, and the Commissioners may call upon the lessee to show cause why they should not recommend the Governor to declare the lease of such lessee to be forfeited. And upon the receipt of a recommendation by the Commissioners, recommending the forfeiture of any such lease, the Governor may, by notification to the *Gazette*, declare the same to be and the same shall thereupon be forfeited accordingly.

Forfeiture for mismanagement.

8. It shall not be lawful for any person other than the lessee, his agents and servants, within the limits of any leased area to do any of the following acts, viz. :—

Penalties in respect of certain injuries, &c., to leases.

- (i) To take or in any way disturb or interfere with any oysters without the consent of the holder of the lease.
- (ii) To allow cattle to stray, to cut or lop mangroves or any timber.
- (iii) To deposit or remove any stone, ballast, rubbish, or substance.
- (iv) To dredge or drag with any implement, unless by direction of the Commissioners, or the proper officer of the Department of Harbours and Rivers, or the Marine Board, and in any such case on payment of compensation for damage done (if any).
- (v) To use any implement of fishing except a line and hook.
- (vi) To place any implement or thing likely to injure oysters, except for a lawful purpose of navigation or anchorage.

And if any person does any act in contravention of this section he shall be liable for the first offence to a penalty not exceeding five pounds, and for the second offence to a penalty not exceeding ten nor less than five pounds, and for a third or subsequent offence to a penalty of twenty pounds. And shall be liable to make compensation to the lessee for all damage sustained by such lessee by reason of such person's unlawful act, and in default of payment the same may be recovered by the lessee in any Court not incompetent by statute in respect to the amount or nature of the claim, and whether such person has been convicted of an offence under this section or not.

9. If it shall appear to the Commissioners that any lessee has not within a period of two years from the date of his lease taken proper measures to carry out the condition of his lease, or that upon inspection by any inspector appointed under this Act the condition of the leased area is such as to disentitle the lessee to a renewal of the lease, they may recommend the Governor to revoke the lease. And the Governor shall have power to revoke the same accordingly by notification in the *Gazette*, and upon the publication of such notification all rights and privileges granted by such lease, and the unexpired term thereof, shall cease and determine. Provided always, that before making such recommendation the Commissioners shall cause a notice in writing, stating their intention to make such recommendation, to be served on the holder of the lease, or in case such person cannot be found, they shall cause such notice to be inserted at least three times in a newspaper circulating in the police district nearest to the area leased, and also to be published once in the *Gazette*. No such recommendation shall be made until after the expiration of one calendar month from service or the publication of such notice in the *Gazette*.

Commissioners may recommend revocation of lease in certain cases.

10. The Governor, by notification in the *Gazette*, may declare any portion of Crown lands, whether applied for under this Act as an oyster lease or not, to be a public oyster reserve, and to be exempt from the power of leasing conferred by this Act, either absolutely or for a limited period, and on the recommendation of the Commissioners in like manner may cancel any such notification wholly or in part.

Portions of certain Crown lands may be exempt from leasing, or be declared public oyster reserves.

11.

Oysters not to be dredged between sunset and sunrise.
Penalty on burning live oysters for lime.
When natural oyster-beds may be closed.

11. If any person shall dredge for or take oysters from any leased area, or from any beds or deposits on Crown lands not under lease, at any time between sunset and sunrise, except under special permit, he shall incur a penalty for every offence not exceeding *fifty* pounds.

12. Every person who shall gather or burn live oysters for the purpose of converting their shells into lime, whether he be the holder of a leased area or not, shall incur for every such offence a penalty not exceeding *fifty* pounds.

13. Whenever the Commissioners report that the whole or any part of any oyster-bearing area, whether under lease under the repealed Act or this Act or not, has by over-dredging or from any other cause been reduced to such a state that the taking of oysters therefrom ought to be suspended, or that the oysters thereon are in such a condition as to be not fit for consumption as food, the Governor may prohibit, by proclamation in the *Gazette*, for any term not exceeding *three* years, the taking of oysters from such area. And if any person shall without lawful authority, at any time during the period mentioned in such proclamation, take or attempt to take oysters from any area described in such proclamation, such person shall incur a penalty not exceeding *twenty* pounds and not less than *five* pounds. And all oysters and the bags containing them, together with all dredging or other appliances for the taking of oysters, found in the possession of any person so offending may be seized, and upon conviction of the offender shall be forfeited to Her Majesty. And the Governor may in like manner rescind any such proclamation, or any proclamation made under the hereinbefore repealed Act, relating to the opening or closing of oyster-beds.

Penalty for unlawful dredging of oysters.

14. Oysters on a public oyster reserve, or on Crown lands not under lease under this Act, also oysters taken therefrom without lawful authority, shall be deemed to be the property of Her Majesty; and if any person, without lawful authority, shall dredge for or otherwise take from any public oyster reserve, or Crown lands not under lease, any oysters, or shall be found dredging for or attempting to take oysters within the limits of such reserve or Crown lands, he shall incur a penalty not exceeding *twenty* pounds and not less than *five* pounds, and all oysters found in his possession shall be deemed to be oysters unlawfully taken by him, and shall, on his conviction, be forfeited to the use of Her Majesty.

Persons may take oysters for their own consumption.

15. Nothing in this Act shall render liable to a penalty any person who takes oysters from any oyster reserve or the foreshore above low-water-mark from the Crown lands not leased under this Act for his own consumption on the spot, unless such oysters shall be in a spawning condition, or shall have spat in quantity attached; in which case it shall be within the discretion of any Inspector to prohibit the taking of oysters from any such Crown lands; and any person who shall take oysters therefrom after being warned against doing so by any Inspector shall, on conviction, be liable to a penalty of not less than *three* pounds.

Penalty on disorderly person.

16. Any person employed by any lessee or applicant under this Act for a lease of land abutting on or near to occupied premises, or any lessee or applicant himself who shall, either within view or hearing distance of such premises, conduct himself in a disorderly manner, or use obscene language, to the annoyance of the occupier or other person on such premises, shall for every such offence incur a penalty of not less than *three* pounds. Proceedings under this section may be taken by and in the name of any person in whose sight or hearing such offence shall have been committed.

Regulations may be made and rescinded.

17. The Governor may, from time to time, make regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of this Act in all matters of detail whatsoever. And among such purposes shall be included the following, namely:—

- (i) For taking oysters from Crown lands, not under lease, under such limitations as to number of licensed dredgers as the Commissioners shall deem fit, and subject to the payment of the prescribed license fees and inspection, and for the seizure and disposal of seized and forfeited oysters, and oysters unlawfully removed from Crown lands.
- (ii) For marking the boundaries of and periodically inspecting public oyster reserves and leased areas. And to give due effect to the intent of this sub-section every Inspector and every officer duly authorized by the Commissioners shall have a right of entry on all lands whatever for purposes of survey, or of erecting and maintaining beacons or other marks for, or in connection with, the boundaries of leased areas or public oyster reserves.
- (iii) For the allotment or sale of young or foreshore oysters on public oyster reserves and Crown lands, not under lease, to the holders of leased areas.
- (iv) For determining the size of marketable oysters, and the penalties for selling, or exposing for sale, undersized oysters and oysters not in condition fit for food, and for disposing of, or selling oysters, boats and gear, dredges, and other appliances seized or forfeited under this Act.
- (v) For the protection and regulation of public oyster reserves and Crown lands, not under lease, for the limitation and regulation of dredging by divers on such reserves and Crown lands, and for the protection and regulation of all boundary beacons, buoys, or other marks.
- (vi) For compelling lessees to place and maintain a sufficient stock of oysters on their areas, and to return all spat and undersized oysters and oysters not in a condition fit for food, together with all dead shells, cultch, and substances dredged up from beds in such a manner as may be most beneficial for the preservation of such beds, and for enforcing payment of rent overdue on leased or applied for areas.
- (vii) For preventing the destruction of oysters by refuse from saw-mills, paper-mills, gas-works, or by any other deleterious matter, and for prohibiting such matter from being deposited in tidal waters.
- (viii) For preventing lessees and others from disposing of cultch or any dredged refuse so as to impede the access by water to Crown or private land abutting on leased areas.
- (ix) For prescribing the amount of penalties for breaches of any such regulations.

Provided that no such penalty shall exceed *fifty* pounds. And all such regulations shall be published in the *Gazette*, and when so published shall have the force of law, and a copy thereof shall be laid before each House of Parliament within fourteen days after the making thereof if Parliament be then in Session, and if not, then within fourteen days after the commencement of the then next ensuing Session. The Governor may, in like manner, rescind any regulation made, or purporting to be made, under the authority of the enactment hereinbefore repealed which he may consider inconsistent with the meaning or intent of this Act.

What instruments, &c., to be evidence.

18. The production of a lease signed by the Governor or a copy thereof bearing the common seal of the Commissioners shall be conclusive evidence in all Courts as to the several matters contained therein, and that the same was duly issued.

Larceny from contiguous oyster-beds.

19. Whenever a person shall be charged with larceny of oysters from any oyster-bed or laying which may be contiguous to another or others, it shall be sufficient in alleging and proving the place from which such oysters were stolen, to allege and prove that such oysters were stolen from one or other of such contiguous beds or layings, and that the same belonged to, and were in the lawful possession of, one or other of the lessees or owners thereof.

Application of certain of the provisions of the "Fisheries Regulation Act."

20. The sections twenty-nine to forty inclusive of the "Fisheries Regulation Act, 1888," shall be applied to this Act with as full effect as if they had been herein specially enacted. And wherever in the sections so declared to be applied the words "this Act" occur, such words shall be taken to include this present Act or the enactment herein repealed and any regulations made under them.

[To Evidence of Lindsay G. Thompson.]

B 3.

Sale of Forfeited Fishing-nets.

Gentlemen,

Department of Fisheries, 9 January, 1889.

I have the honor to request that you will be good enough to sell by public auction, without reserve, on Thursday, the 17th instant, the forfeited fishing-nets enumerated on the accompanying slip.

I would invite your attention to the foot-note on the slip, and ask that in submitting the nets for sale you will state that they can be legally used only for the purpose specified against each lot.

It is desired that the advertising may be confined to one advertisement in a morning and evening paper.

I have, &c.,

Messrs. Duff and Collins,
Pitt-street, Sydney.

LINDSAY THOMPSON,
Secretary.

TO FISHERMEN AND OTHERS—SALE OF FORFEITED FISHING-NETS.

THE undermentioned fishing-nets, which have been forfeited in pursuance of the provisions of the "Fisheries Act, 1881," will be sold by public auction, at Messrs. Duff and Collins' Auction Sale Rooms, 109, Pitt-street, on Thursday, the 17th instant, at 11.30 a.m. :—

Lot 1.—1	Net, 2½ inch mesh, 18 fathoms long—	Legal for bunt of hauling-net, or wings of garfish-net.
" 2.—1	" 1 "	A legal prawn-net only.
" 3.—1	" 1 "	do do
" 4.—1	" 1 "	Legal for prawn-net only.
" 5.—1	" 1½ "	Legal for bunt of a garfish-net.
" 6.—1	" 2½ "	Legal for bunt of hauling-net, or wings of garfish-net.
" 7.—1	" 3 "	Legal for wings of a hauling-net.
" 8.—1	" 2 "	Legal for wings of a garfish-net.
" 9.—1	" 1 "	Legal prawn-net only.
" 10.—1	" 1 "	Legal for prawn-net only.
" 11.—1	" 2 "	Legal for wings of garfish-net.
" 12.—1	" 3 "	Legal for wings of hauling-net.
" 13.—1	" 2 "	Legal for wings of a garfish-net.
" 14.—1	" 1 "	A legal prawn-net only.
" 15.—1	" 2 "	Legal for wings of garfish-net.
" 16.—1	" 2¼ "	Legal for bunt of hauling-net, or wings of garfish-net.
" 17.—1	" 1 "	Legal for prawn-net only.
" 18.—1	" 3 "	Legal for wings of hauling-net.
" 19.—1	" 2 "	Legal for wings of garfish-net.
" 20.—1	" 2¾ "	do do
" 21.—1	" 4 "	Legal for meshing-net.
" 22.—1	" 3 "	Legal for wings of a hauling-net.
" 23.—1	" 3 "	do do
" 24.—1	" 4 "	Legal for meshing-net.
" 25.—1	" 2¾ "	Legal for wings of garfish-net.
" 26.—1	" 1 "	Legal for prawn-net only.
" 27.—1	" 2½ "	Legal for bunt of hauling-net, or wings of garfish-net.
" 28.—1	" "	A legal hauling-net.
" 29.—1	" 1¾ "	Legal for bunt of garfish-net.
" 30.—1	" 2 "	Legal for wings of garfish-net.
" 31.—1	" 1 "	Legal prawn-net only.
" 32.—1	" 1 "	do do
" 33.—1	" 1 "	Legal for prawn-net only.
" 34.—1	" 2¼ "	Legal for bunt of hauling-net, or wings of garfish-net.
" 35.—1	" 2 "	Legal for wings of garfish-net.
" 36.—1	" 2 "	do do
" 37.—1	" 2 "	do do

LINDSAY THOMPSON,

Chief Inspector of Fisheries.

Department of Fisheries, Sydney, 4 January, 1889.

N.B.—The above described nets, to be sold in pursuance of the provisions of the "Fisheries Act, 1881," are legal only for the purposes specified against each lot.

MEMORANDUM.—Forfeited fishing-nets sold at auction this day, realized £31 13s.—C.D.S.P., 17/1/89. The Chief Inspector of Fisheries. Secn.—L.G.T., 17/1/89.

[To Evidence of Lindsay G. Thompson.]

B 4.

OFFICERS in the Department of Fisheries.

Name.	Office.	Date of Appointment.	Salary.
Lindsay G. Thompson.....	Secretary and Chief Inspector of Fisheries	1 May, 1881	£ 440
Edward J. Ellis	1st Clerk	1 January, 1883	290
John O'Grady	2nd do	1 April, 1882	100
Livingston Mann	Draftsman	23 November, 1885	} 10s. per diem each.
John D. Delaney	Temporary Clerk	14 February, 1885	
Thomas Temperley	Inspector, Northern Division	12 July, 1881	240
Geo. G. Benson.....	do Southern do	19 December, 1882	240
Thos. Mulhall	Assistant Inspector	18 January, 1881	200
Andrew Gyler	do	19 August, 1881	150
Henry Curan.....	do	19 " 1881	150
Peter Smith	do	19 " 1881	150
Chas. Gordon	do	19 " 1881	150
Fred. W. Smithers	Travelling Inspector	6 December, 1882	150
William Boyd	Assistant Inspector	1 January, 1882	150
John D. Grant	do	14 December, 1882	150
C. H. Otway	do	1 May, 1886	150
Wm. N. Cain	do	9 December, 1884	150
Dav. W. Benson	do	1 September, 1884	150
Osbourne Wilshire.....	do	20 March, 1883	75
Richd. Seymour	do	14 January, 1882	75
Bourne Russell	Acting Assistant Inspector	26 February, 1884	20
Angus Sutherland	do do	21 May, 1884	20
Wm. M'Gregor.....	do do	16 August, 1881	20
John A. Jamieson	do do	16 " 1881	20
A. H. Kendall	do do	15 November, 1883	20
Thos. Stewart	do do	16 August, 1881	20
W. J. Whites	do do	16 " 1881	20
A. T. Black	do do	3 July, 1883	20
Fred. Nelson.....	do do	12 June, 1885	20
R. Hellings	Boatman	19 " 1882	120
Geo. Glading.....	do	28 August, 1882	120
F. Aldrich	do	17 November, 1884	108
John F. Hespe	do	3 May, 1885	108
Jas. Massingham	do	July, 1886	108
B. J. H. Scott	do	1 October, 1887	108
F. G. Young	Engineer	1 November, 1885	150
Wm. Lannen	Messenger	21 January, 1882	114

[To Evidence of Lindsay G. Thompson.]

B 5.

Memorandum from Chief Inspector as to residence for Inspector Grant.

I DESIRE again to bring under notice of the Commissioners the question of providing residences in suitable positions for the use of the Inspectors. I am quite sure that if the men were judiciously located, the supervision would be much more effective than it is at present.

The particular case I have in view, and which, with the Commissioners' approval, might be undertaken as an experiment, is that of Assistant Inspector Grant.

This Inspector has to remove from his present house, as it is in process of demolition by white ants, and he represents that, except at Botany, he cannot find other suitable quarters.

To locate him at Botany would mean the cessation of further oversight of the closed waters of George's River.

On a peninsula near the railway bridge are reserves half an acre, on one of which might be obtained, and on it, a weather-board house of four rooms and out-offices erected at comparatively small cost. If a rental calculated on a percentage of the cost were charged to the Inspector, there would be no loss to the Government, and the Fisheries interests would be better served.

I have similar views in respect to other waters in the Home Fisheries, especially the Port Jackson tributaries, if the Commissioners would entertain the idea.

LINDSAY THOMPSON,
Secretary.

Department of Fisheries, 16/1/89.

Commissioners' minute.—Defer for the present, 16/1/89. Submitted to the Commissioners, 27/3/89. *Commissioners' minute*.—Bring the subject forward again, and as applicable to cases where the Inspector cannot find quarters for himself.—27/3/89. End of April.—L.G.T., 28/3/89.

Transference of Inspectoral Staff—Fisheries Department.

I PROPOSE for the consideration of the Commissioners of Fisheries the following disposition of the Inspectoral Staff of this Department. I take the coastal waters in the order of their ascertained productiveness:—

Lake Macquarie—Assistant-Inspectors Tyler and Boyd.

George's River—Assistant-Inspector Grant and Boatman Aldrich.

Lake Illawarra—Assistant-Inspector Peter Smith.

Hawkesbury River—Assistant-Inspectors Curan and D. W. Benson.

Brisbane Water and Tuggerah—Assistant-Inspector Cain and Boatman Hespce.

Port Stephens—Assistant-Inspector Otway and Boatman Scott.

Newcastle and Hunter River—Assistant-Inspector Charles Gordon.

Port Jackson—Assistant-Inspector Smithers and Boatmen Glading, Hellings, and Young, Engineer.

Travelling Inspector for the coast north of the Hawkesbury—Mr. Livingstone Mann.

Travelling Inspector for the coast south of Botany—Inspector T. Temperley.

Inspector of Inland Waters—Inspector G. G. Benson.

In framing this transference I have had in view the facts that the oyster-beds having for the most part been leased, and the royalty charges abolished, the services of the Inspectoral Staff could be employed to better advantage if concentrated within certain limits adjacent to the metropolis.

I have been guided also by the opinion of the Commissioners that the public interest would be served by a removal of the inspectors from their present respective locations to other districts.

Boyd, Grant, and Cain.—The only inspectors whose removal I do not advocate are Messrs. Boyd, Grant, and Cain. I consider these men to be capable of best service in the waters they are at present supervising.

Smithers.—Mr. Smithers properly belongs to Twofold Bay, but as he has been so long at head quarters, and is rendering such effective service, I am regarding him as already attached here.

Tyler.—Tyler is a valuable officer. His removal from the Manning River to assist in the supervision of the extensive waters of Lake Macquarie, and from which our largest fish supply is obtained, would be obviously an advantage.

Peter Smith.—Peter Smith is supposed to be considerably interested in some of the oyster leases at the Hawkesbury, his present district; and although there is not actual proof that this is so, yet the presumptive evidence seems enough to imply the desirableness of removing him to a district where his duties would not clash with his supposed interests. The case will be met by placing him at Illawarra Lake, in the room of Inspector D. W. Benson.

D. W. Benson, Henry Curan.—Some few months since D. W. Benson was for a time placed in special service at the Hawkesbury, and showed considerable aptitude in his manner of performing it. I propose to place him permanently at the Hawkesbury, in conjunction with Inspector Curan, who is at present stationed at Newcastle.

Charles Gordon.—The Newcastle and Hunter River Fisheries, I suggest, should be placed under the care of Charles Gordon, at present stationed at the Shoalhaven. I consider Gordon to be an efficient officer. His duties at Newcastle would involve the checking and inspection of oysters arriving from the upper portion of Port Stephens, and the oversight of the fisheries in the Hunter River and its tributaries.

C. H. Otway and B. Scott.—I propose the removal of Inspector C. H. Otway and boatman Scott from the Karuah River, at the head of Port Stephens, to Nelson's Bay, at the Heads, in order that the supply of fish captured there may be more systematically supervised.

Fred. Smithers, Glading, Hellings, and Young.—I advise the permanent retention of Mr. Smithers at head quarters, where he has already proved himself very useful. He should be assisted by the present boatmen—Glading and Hellings—and, with the aid of the steam-launch now under repair and alteration, should exercise an oversight of Botany and the Hawkesbury.

T. Mulhall.—Should it be that Inspector Mulhall will be retained in the Service notwithstanding his advanced age, I think that his duties should be confined to an oversight of the fish at the fish-market and on the wharfs.

On the general management of the Port Jackson Fisheries I propose later on to submit special recommendations.

Mr. Livingstone Mann.—I know it is the intention of the Commissioners to nominate Mr. Livingstone Mann as a travelling Inspector of Fisheries. I have done so therefore in this paper; but as the oyster-bearing waters are not only each in themselves so extensive, but range along the whole seaboard of the Colony, I consider a second travelling Inspector to be necessary.

Thomas Temperley.—For this second Inspectorship I know of no one more suitable in point of intelligence than Inspector Temperley; and if he be appointed to oversight of the coast south of Botany, the objection which, consequent upon his supposed interest in oyster-culture leases in northern waters, might be taken to his being placed in such a position would, I think, be met, and at the same time a capable officer retained to the Department.

G. G. Benson.—As Inspector for Inland Waters Fisheries under the Inland Waters Fisheries Act of 1887, regarding the administration of which nothing has so far been done, I propose Inspector G. G. Benson, at present located at the Clyde River.

Beyond a visit or two to Lake George I have not been afforded an opportunity of acquainting myself with the Inland Fisheries, consequently I am not in a position to suggest a location for Mr. Benson. I should prefer by personal visit and inquiry to ascertain the needs and conditions of these fisheries, so that I could make recommendations with some degree of confidence.

Under an arrangement such as this, it will be possible to dispense with the services of the following officers:—

H. C. Windeyer, Assistant Inspector at Port Macquarie.....	£108
J. H. Massingham, Boatman, Clarence River.....	108
J. Laman, Assistant Inspector at Nelson's Bay.....	20

And thus effect a saving in expenditure of..... £236

By

By the transference of Inspector Benson to a position under the Inland Waters Fisheries Act, I count a further saving in expenditure of £240, the amount of his salary. I am warranted in quoting this as a saving, because his services under the Fisheries Act will be thus dispensed with, and it may fairly be assumed that special provision will be made for the administration of the new Act.

This Act was introduced to Parliament by a private member, quite independently of the Fisheries Commission. Manifestly then its working ought not to be made a charge upon the Fisheries vote.

I may here invite the Commissioners to consider the desirableness of dispensing with the services of those pilots and others who are paid £20 per annum each for holding the appointment of acting Assistant Inspectors of Fisheries.

Their duties proper, which compel them to a constant lookout seawards, prevent them from exercising more than a very nominal oversight of the fisheries in their respective waters. The principal service they have been able to render to this Department has been the receipt and transmission of royalty on oysters. This royalty charge having been abolished I see no reason for the retention of these officers; any small service which from time to time might be required on any of the remoter waters, could be rendered by the police, or by one of the travelling inspectors. A still further annual saving to the Department of £160 would thus be effected.

By reference to the list of the Inspectors staff the Commissioners will observe that in this reduction I have not included Frederick Nelson, the Acting Assistant Inspector, at Lake George, nor likewise George Baker, who holds the like office at Sydney, and whose appointment the Commissioners only recently recommended.

I have only now to add for convenience of reference, a tabulated statement showing the savings which the adoption of the suggestion herein made will effect.

Salaries proposed to be abolished :—	
Inspector J. J. Benson, Clyde River	£240
Assistant-Inspector Mulhall, Sydney	150
Acting Assistant Inspector Windeyer, Port Macquarie	108
Boatman Massingham, Clarence River	108
Acting Assistant Inspector Laman, Port Stephens	20
Eight Acting Assistant Inspectors at Pilot Stations	160
To this amount I add the total of salaries in the Clerical staff, also proposed to be dispensed with	313
	£1,099
Less salary required for travelling Inspector	200
	£899

Fisheries Department, 29 February, 1888.

Since writing this report, I have learned that an extensive fishery, with direct steam communication with Sydney, is about to be established at Cape Hawke; this will require oversight, and in that case it will be necessary to keep Inspector Tyler in his present position, and to retain H. Massingham, the present boatman at the Clarence River, stationing him at Lake Macquarie.

I saw Massingham when at the Clarence, and formed the opinion that he is an active and intelligent officer.

If it be decided to adopt this suggestion the contemplated saving in expenditure will be reduced by £108.

[To Evidence of Lindsay G. Thompson.]

B 6.

Chief Inspector of Fisheries.—Proposing the introduction of American Salmonoids into New South Wales waters.

I DESIRE to suggest that an attempt be made to introduce some species of the American salmon into New South Wales waters and I urge immediate consideration of the subject upon the Commissioners, because (if favourably entertained), unless arrangements are concluded at once, there will be a possibility of the present season being lost.

The species I propose are the Californian salmon, *Salmo quinnat*; the Schoodic salmon, *Salmo sebago-salar* (var.); the Californian Mountain or Rainbow trout, *Salmo irideus*.

Amongst the places into which the quinnat has already been introduced are New Zealand and Victoria, and even the Sandwich Islands, but with what success I have not been able to precisely ascertain. I believe, however, its acclimatization to New Zealand has been accomplished. Some of the characteristics of this fish are hardness, greater vitality, and more rapid growth than the English salmon; also greater capability of development in waters of a comparatively high temperature, such as would be certainly fatal to the English species; each of these characteristics seems to point to this fish as eminently suitable to our waters, and coupled with the fact that both as a food-fish, and for purposes of sport, it is considered quite the equal of the salar, its acclimatization appears very desirable.

The Schoodic salmon, so named from its habitat, the Schoodic Lakes, is but a variation from the normal type of the salar, its peculiarity being that it has lost its migratory instinct, and propagates and thrives in waters remote and separate from the sea; its growth is more rapid than that of the salar, and the flesh is described as rich and of a more delicate flavour. This fish is much sought after in the United States, taking perhaps in public favour the lead of all fresh-water fishes species. According to the waters in which it is placed, it reaches a weight of from 5 lb. to 12 lb., ranging in exceptional cases as high as 18 lb. and 20 lb. It has a preference for deep streams, and is very highly prized for food.

The Rainbow Trout (*irideus*) is a hardy game fish and it too will thrive in streams having a higher temperature than is suitable for the common trout (*fario*). It also hatches out in larger percentage, it is not as handsome as the *fario*, having no canine specks, but it lives well in captivity, and grows rapidly.

It may be fairly assumed therefore that these fish will readily adapt themselves to our waters—and if the Commissioners, regarding my proposal in a favourable light, will invite the Colonial Secretary to procure a stock of ova from California or New Zealand (if, as I believe is the case, they are already acclimatized there), I have little doubt of being able to secure a successful hatching; I am progressing very favourably with the trout-hatching apparatus and see no reason to apprehend failure.

I wish however to put on record that I should not be satisfied to have the fry liberated as was done with the supply obtained from Victoria last October. I think that to insure success it is essential to establish ponds for the trout, and for the salmon also (if we are to have them), in some suitable locality, and I am inclined to propose the selection of a spot on the Upper Nepean River at as high an altitude as can be obtained, so that eventually the Hawkesbury River may be available as a means of passage to the sea. I claim this course as far preferable to exposing the fry to the risk of destruction by other fish and unknown enemies.

When they become of an age to protect themselves, I should be inclined to liberate some, retaining a portion in the ponds as stock fish for purposes of observation as well as comparison of habits and development. The cost of constructing ponds which, by the way, are already established in Victoria, New Zealand, and Tasmania, need not be great, and all the oversight and care necessary could be given, for the present at any rate, by one man.

I have of late been bestowing much attention to this matter of trout and salmon culture, and I seem to have such a confidence of success that I do not hesitate to submit it to the notice of the Commissioners, very respectfully urging the desirability of immediately securing the consent of the Colonial Secretary towards making the attempt on the lines I have suggested.

As the quinnat spawn in August very early application for the ova becomes imperative.

Department of Fisheries, 31st July, 1889.

LINDSAY G. THOMPSON,
Chief Inspector of Fisheries.

[To

[To the Evidence of R. Seymour.]

C1.

RETURN showing the quantity of fish received and sold by auction at the Eastern Fish Market, Sydney, from the year 1872 to 31st December, 1888, inclusive.

	Net Fish, including Flathead and Whiting.	Schnapper.	Kingfish.	Jews.	Groper.	Traglin.	Nanagai.	Salmon.	Sea Mullet.	Flounders.	Lobsters.	Prawns.	Oysters.	Crabs.	Rock Cod.	Murray Cod.	Mackerel.	Soles.	Sweeps.	Eels.	Garfish.	Smoked Fish.	Dried Fish.	Frozen Fish.	Turtle.	Barracouta.
	Bushels.	Doz.	No.	No.	No.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Baskets.	Bags.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Bushels.	Doz.	Doz.	Boxes.	No.	
1872	117	.....	.....	.....	..	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	.....	..	..	..	..	..	.....	..	..	.....	.....	.....	..	..	..
1873	1,000	31	.....	.....	..	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	.....	..	..	..	..	..	.....	..	..	.....	.....	.....	..	..	..
1874	1,100	40	.....	240	..	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	.....	..	..	..	..	..	.....	..	..	.....	.....	.....	..	..	..
1875	1,200	36	.....	268	..	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	.....	..	..	..	..	..	.....	..	..	.....	.....	.....	..	..	..
1876	1,600	50	.....	560	..	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	.....	..	..	..	..	..	.....	..	..	.....	.....	.....	..	..	..
1877	1,590	55	60	340	..	.....	..	.....	.....	..	.....	.....	..	..	..	..	..	.....	..	..	.....	.....	.....	..	..	..
1878	14,090	1,721	1,032	1,324	19	583	31	374	1,379	..	.....	44½	..	..	19	..	217	102	42	..	.....	.....	.....	..	..	..
1879	13,901	1,689	685	1,423	15	516	27	311	1,412	..	453	17	..	..	17	..	28	113	51	..	.....	.....	.....	..	..	..
1880	14,249	1,715	702	1,159	16	611	79	423	1,398	..	519	22	..	..	22	..	57	134	63	..	.....	.....	.....	..	..	..
1881	15,510	1,734	564	1,491	38	316	68	523	2,811	..	443	..	..	78	..	..	22	121	46	59	662	.....	.....	..	..	..
1882	14,092	1,239	376	934	41	214	59	485	3,820	..	912	241	..	130	..	..	..	409	40	73	.....	1,560	.....	..	..	..
1883	26,849	1,067	317	1,213	44	295	180	1,074	5,970	..	496	228	..	109	..	..	..	857	121	91	1,174	.....	562	..	5	..
1884	33,925	1,196	1,440	1,516	..	.....	..	547	892	..	806	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....	..	..	..	.....	7 cwt.	101	3	..
1885	37,195	1,022	924	2,400	..	74	3	940	3,249	..	2,039	85	109	120	..	..	..	.....	52	..	.....	.....	14½	..	12	..
1886	44,607½	1,030	732	3,000	..	67	13	715	1,020	..	2,589	66½	400	130	..	..	..	.....	150	..	.....	.....	14	..	7	..
1887	51,073	1,469	2,109	1,506	..	33½	51½	639½	7,560	..	3,590½	1,011	405	..	..	8	..	.....	..	..	.....	.....	.....	..	3	..
31 Dec., 1888	57,094	1,820¼	1,446	1,557	..	98	46½	1,236½	10,830	40	6,117	2,368	28	..	..	28½	..	.....	..	..	.....	.....	.....	..	1	..
TOTALS	339,192½	15,914¼	10,387	18,931	173	2,807½	958	7,268	40,341	40	17,964½	3,883¼	942	567	68	36¾	324	1,736	565	223	1,836	1,560	562 doz. and 35½ cwt.	101	31	..

R. SEYMOUR.

APPENDIX.

RETURN showing the quantity of fish condemned as unfit for human food and seized under the Fisheries Act at the Eastern Fish Market, Sydney, from the year 1872 to 31st December, 1888, inclusive.

Year.	Net Fish.	Schnapper.	Sea Mullet.	Lobsters.	Salt Fish.	Smoked Fish.	Dried Fish.	Frozen Fish.	Oysters.	Salmon.	Jews.	Turtle.	Seized under Fisheries Act.
	Bushels.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Doz.	Boxes.	Bags.	Doz.	No.	No.	Net Fish—Bushels
1872.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1873.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1874.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1875.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1876.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1877.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1878.....	119	3	48	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1879.....	57	13	44	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1880.....	49	2	39	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1881.....	258	61	.....	25	60	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1882.....	278	15	27	46	.....	213	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1883.....	1,110	13	111	.....	.....	.....	94	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1884.....	507	23	.....	.....	.....	.....	7 cwt.	101	.....	.....	.....	.....	17
1885.....	436	3	.....	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	.....	10	13
1886.....	1,243	20	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46	5	.....	73
1887.....	2,329	26	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	39½
Dec. 31, 1888	1,629½ & 6 cart loads	10	100	.....	8	36	.....	10	3	.....	.....	1	44
	8,015½ & 6 cart loads	189	369	85	68	249	94 and 7 cwt.	111	13	46	5	11	245½

R. SEYMOUR.

RETURN showing the amount of Revenue received from various sources at the Eastern Fish Market, Sydney, from the year 1872 to 31st December, 1888, inclusive.

Year ending.	Amount of Sales.	Commission on Sales.	Rent of Stalls.	Cooling Chamber Receipts.	Total Revenue.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
31 December, 1872.....	1,174 0 0	58 14 0	Nil.	Nil.	58 14 0
„ 1873.....	10,315 8 4	515 15 5	.....	.....	515 15 5
„ 1874.....	11,620 16 8	581 0 10	.....	.....	581 0 10
„ 1875.....	13,545 0 0	677 5 0	.....	.....	677 5 0
„ 1876.....	16,465 11 8	823 5 7	.....	.....	823 5 7
30 November, 1877.....	15,987 16 8	799 7 10	.....	.....	799 7 10
„ 1878.....	14,591 13 6	730 4 3	149 10 0	.....	879 14 3
„ 1879.....	15,238 13 9	762 15 2	149 10 0	.....	912 5 2
„ 1880.....	16,047 0 0	803 12 1	149 10 0	.....	953 2 1
„ 1881.....	17,949 14 7	889 5 5	136 15 0	.....	1,026 0 5
„ 1882.....	23,715 5 9	1,188 12 6	128 10 0	.....	1,317 2 6
„ 1883.....	24,709 1 8	1,235 9 1	186 12 6	.....	1,422 1 7
„ 1884.....	30,115 17 1	1,510 16 6	440 0 0	.....	1,950 16 6
„ 1885.....	30,789 0 0	1,539 9 0	486 0 0	.....	2,025 9 0
„ 1886.....	34,256 17 3	1,712 18 0	508 12 6	275 14 3	2,496 14 9
„ 1887.....	31,309 17 3	1,565 10 5	561 5 0	144 12 4	2,271 7 9
„ 1888.....	33,057 16 0	1,903 19 3	605 10 0	149 7 2	2,658 16 5
31 December, 1888.....	2,583 1 3	128 3 5	49 0 0	17 6 11	194 10 4
	£ 348,392 11 5	17,426 3 9	3,550 5 0	587 0 8	21,563 9 5

R. SEYMOUR.

[To Evidence of James J. Macfadyen.]

D.

THE following has been sent to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, and is now printed for distribution amongst the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the representatives of the people, and we crave their careful consideration with the view of having removed the many disabilities under which this great native industry languishes :—

NEW SOUTH WALES FISHERMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

To the Right Honorable Sir Henry Parkes, K.C.M.G., M.L.A., Colonial Secretary for New South Wales, &c.

Sir, Town and Country Chambers, Elizabeth-street, Sydney, 24 March, 1888.

In accordance with a desire expressed by yourself to a deputation which waited upon you on Friday, the 17th February last, that you should be furnished with written particulars of certain grievances then mentioned to you, we now do ourselves the honor to place before you such records for your consideration, to enable you to judge as to the merit of our complaints.

First—As to the closing of Port Hacking.—We would point out to you, that though this place has been closed so long, it is one of the most important for net-fishing, in consequence of its close neighbourhood to Sydney.

Port Hacking—the fish in which are mostly of a migratory character—is not a breeding-place, as may be shown by the bare sandy nature of the bottom, and the strong run of tide, which would prevent any spawn from remaining even if placed there by the fish; but the adjacent rivers, as the natural spawning and breeding ground in this locality, should be closed.

In fine weather, the school fish coming in from the southward, go into the harbour and continue on into the river, and in both arms, or branches of the river, deposit their spawn. Having done so, and immediately on the return of stormy weather, the great majority, if not all of the fish, leave again for the ocean.

In stormy weather, the fish entering the harbour do not proceed to the river at all; but, making a circle within the harbour, head again for the ocean, close by the Oaks, and are lost as food, proceeding to the ocean on their journey northwards.

Such prohibition, therefore, is no protection to the fish; and, as can be adduced by abundant proof, when net-fishing was allowed in Port Hacking, the fish were more plentiful than they are at present, after being so long closed. Yet, while the fishermen are so debarred from using these waters, private persons have boats—their own or otherwise—for fishing purposes; and frequently, persons, though prohibited, have used dynamite, &c., which, when used, destroys more fish, spawn, &c., than would supply the markets of Sydney.

Second—

Second—As to the closing of George's River.—This river nearly takes second place to Port Hacking, inasmuch as it is the only refuge for the fishermen in boisterous weather, and is the only sheltered place in that locality.

George's River is teeming with fish, which if not caught, will, like their fellows in Port Hacking, disappear on the return of stormy weather, and be lost to the fishermen and, of course, to the public.

This river should be open from the mouth to the Saltpan Creek, because it is above this point on the river that the fish deposit their spawn and breed. From Saltpan Creek to the head of the waters of the river whereon the spawn is deposited, there is from 20 to 30 miles of deep water, exclusive of inlets, creeks, bays, &c., and with such an area of closed waters for spawning and breeding purposes, the opening of the river to the point named—viz., Saltpan Creek—can in no way whatever interfere with the breeding, the increase in number, or the natural spawning ground of the fish.

With regard to the *Wynora River*, the greater portion of it is a natural breeding ground, and, on account of the rough nature of the bottom, and great depth of water, cannot be disturbed by fishermen: However, below the crossing place it should be left open, as on account of the strong run of tide preventing the deposit of spawn, the working of this part of the river cannot interfere with the spawning ground or the breeding of the fish; but further, in the hotter months of the year, neither of the above rivers can be worked on account of the great quantity of blubber floating in the water, which effectually prevents the fishermen from working, as nets and gear, worked where this matter is, will be entirely destroyed.

Though these rivers have been closed to fishermen, private boats are in the habit of getting from fifteen to thirty dozen of whiting per boat in a single day, and there are dozens of boats daily on the river. Again, many of these people dig holes in the shoal places at the mouth of the river for the purpose of getting worms for bait. These heaps of sand, and the holes alongside, destroy the natural hauling grounds of the fishermen in that portion of the river, now open to them.

Third—As regards the closing of the Rivers and Tributaries of Port Jackson.—The experience of men working in these waters proves that closing the river—from Gladesville bridge upwards on the main river, about 50 miles of foreshore; the whole of Lane Cove from its opening, some 30 miles of foreshore; Iron Cove, above bridge, about 8 miles of foreshore; Johnson's Bay, from Glebe Island bridge upwards, an extent of some 6 miles of foreshore; Middle Harbour, from Spit upwards, an extent of about 50 miles of foreshore, making a total of 144 miles of foreshores reserved from fishing—is too great an area to reserve, more particularly as a great extent of the open waters or foreshores are taken up by reclamations, moorings, and other purposes, precluding the possibility of being used by net-fishing. These latter act in themselves as breeding grounds, and it would be desirable in the interests of the fishermen, as well as the public generally, that the above reservations should be considerably reduced in extent, when it can be proved that doing so would not in the slightest degree interfere with the breeding, spawning, or accumulation of the fish. Consequently, we would suggest that the limits for reservations should be as follows:—The main river from Ryde bridge upwards, and Lane Cove from the bridge upwards.

Middle Harbour.—These waters are very limited in hauling grounds above the Spit, and the foreshores being very steep, nets cannot be used. The only suitable and practicable place for hauling is up the main arm to a point known as "Fishermen's Point," about a mile from the orange groves. We would consider it advisable to close above this point, leaving the whole of the remainder open as we have suggested. The other portions unworkable would, in themselves, be natural reserves. These reservations, however, should be closed only in the winter months, from April to the 1st of October. By this means, the market of the metropolis could be supplied with the freshest of fish, when not procurable from long distances, which, when attempted, has caused a serious loss, and destruction of good edible food.

Experience has taught us that after the summer months the larger fish in their migratory character leave these waters, and during the winter the small fry left behind congregate in the creeks and shoals of the extremities of the rivers and their tributaries, and grow and become marketable in summer. The fish, mullet, which the men are precluded from catching during the summer months—the river being closed—leave the locality at a time when they are caught in such quantities as to become a drug in the market. They are almost unsaleable, and decidedly not profitable. With this knowledge and experience to guide us, the remedy suggests itself—viz., to allow the fish to be caught in the summer months when the market is scantily supplied, and the fish have not commenced to leave the rivers.

The rivers as now reserved, apart from the reasons already adduced, do not allow of the men being able to procure a living, not to speak of supplying themselves with the necessary appliances to carry out their avocation, and keeping same in repair, consequently they have to resort to prawn catching, which has been the only thing that has supported them. Failing this, many of them have had to relinquish their occupation, thus throwing out of employment from eighty to 100 men on these rivers alone, not to speak of the capital lying idle in the shape of fishing gear.

Fourth—As to the closing of Broken Bay and the Hawkesbury River.—The natural hauling grounds are from the Barranjoey into Pittwater, as far as Newport, to its fullest extent on its eastern shores, and thence along the western shores to West Head. From this point on the southern shore, the hauling grounds are very limited. The distance between West Head and Cowan-Cowan is about 5 miles, and on the whole of the shore there is only one place which can be made use of for hauling. Of the waters of Cowan-Cowan, in consequence of the bold nature of the foreshores, no use can be made with the present nets allowed or legalized, and only with certain kinds of nets, which are prohibited, these waters are seldom or ever used by fishermen with the nets, but almost solely for line fishing, and the creeks and tributaries to these waters are seldom or ever used by fishermen excepting in very bad weather. The river on either side of Cowan-Cowan, to the site of the Hawkesbury River bridge, offers little or no facilities for net work. For example, in Porter Bay, where great numbers of fish congregate, it has been experienced that in consequence of the uneven nature of the bottom, fish escape under the nets; consequently, this locality has been almost relinquished by the fishermen.

Danger Island was a very good place to haul nets on, but since the contractors there carrying out the bridge works by building their punts, &c., have staked the place to such an extent, it has become totally unfit for working. The same is applicable to Mullet Creek. In this latter place there remains but one haul, or place that can be used for that purpose. The residue of the river, as far as 1 mile above Mangrove Creek, can consistently be proclaimed open, as from the bridge to this point, there are a number of places which offer themselves as natural reserves for fish unassailable to nets.

Berowra Creek.—As regards Berowra Creek, it would be desirable to have same open to a point known as Craft's Creek. The residue of this creek could be closed, as likewise the upper or extreme portion of these tributaries.

Considering the facilities now offered by rail—between this most important river and the metropolis—every facility should be offered for the fishermen to ply their avocations. The many objections shown as existing in the other rivers, apply to this river also.

Fifth—In re Tuggerah Lakes.—The grievances the fisherman labour under in these waters are numerous. The reserves proclaimed are such as to thoroughly paralyse the industry, in consequence of the hauling grounds, which have, up to the last proclamation, always been left open, being now in almost every instance closed, and the unreserved portions, from their formation of bottom and foreshore—either excessively *weedy*, *shoaly*, *rocky*, and full of *drift-wood*, or *mags*—are in themselves natural reserves, and totally unworkable by nets, or other appliances. The area of the lakes, or rather its foreshores, must at least represent some 60 or more miles, not to speak of creeks, or other inlets. Of this there is fully a third closed to fishing, and it would appear to any observant person that the manner in which these reserves have been worked out, would lead to the belief that no regard or consideration had been taken as to the nature of the locality, its bed, foreshores, &c., but simply carried out haphazard. It is an established fact that the Commission have not had any survey of the lake, consequently are quite ignorant as to its character, and where the reserves should be justly proclaimed.

It can be shown beyond dispute that the greater portion of the open waters of these lakes, unreserved from fishing, are natural reserves unassailable by nets; hence the small fry can grow there undisturbed. The many creeks emptying themselves into the lakes are breeding grounds, and should be kept closed for that purpose, and the whole of the foreshores of the lakes should be kept open. As regards the entrance from the sea to the main or Tuggerah Lake, the current is so strong in its vicinity, that little or no fishing can be done; and further, it can be proved by observation, that a great amount of fish enter and leave the lake through the passage, plainly showing that the lake is not supplied by fish that are spawned or bred in it, but by a mass of fish that enter it from the sea.

In conclusion, we may mention that in consequence of the character of numerous reservations made on these lakes, the fishing industry has been paralysed, and the fishermen compelled to retire, not making sufficient to subsist on—not to speak of keeping their costly gear fit to carry out their calling.

Sixth—With reference to Lake Macquarie.—We would observe that many of the statements made in this communication, when speaking of the other fishing grounds, apply with equal force to Lake Macquarie.

We would, however, desire specially to draw your attention to the act of the Government in selling 9½ miles of the foreshores of this lake to a building society, much to the detriment of the fishermen, as the whole of the 9½ miles of foreshores sold is good hauling

hauling ground. We would, therefore, respectfully request the Government to resume this land, and in no case to alienate the foreshores of any of the harbours, rivers, lakes, &c., of New South Wales (when the ground is not taken up by wharves, or other works of a similar nature), as that would empower private owners to debar fishermen in the pursuit of their calling from using the foreshores.

Length of Nets.—With reference to nets, it is felt to be a great hardship that fishermen should be debarred in open waters from using the length of net they, as practical men, deem necessary to carry on their business.

On some fishing grounds the legal length of net is sufficient, and more than sufficient in many cases, but on other fishing grounds, by reason of the nature of the bottom, the position of the hauling gound, the depth of water, &c.,—to have to use the short legal length—simply means in such cases, that no matter how plentiful the fish may be, a day's work will not return a day's wage. This is incontrovertible, and it may be pointed out in this connection that practical fishermen will take all care that they do not add to their labours, by increasing, unnecessarily, the length of the nets they use. We are not now, in any way, referring to the size of the mesh. Our contention is, that with the necessary restrictions—such as prohibiting the casting of a net from shore to shore, across a river or a creek, &c.,—fishermen ought to be allowed to judge for themselves what length of net they should use under certain circumstances.

And now with reference to what has been said in the preceding remarks, we would say, generally, that the great want felt by the fishermen is that there is too little ground open to work upon, and this, not because it is naturally so, but because, as we believe—and our beliefs in this matter are based upon intelligent and extensive practical experience—that fishing grounds have been closed where closing would have no beneficial effect in the direction intended—viz., the preservation and multiplication of the fish—for the reasons given before, which reasons summarised are: Many of the grounds closed are not spawning or breeding grounds, and therefore the closing of such will not do good in the direction intended; and such places, as we have pointed out in a previous part of this paper, such as Port Hacking, and portions of the rivers, &c., mentioned, should certainly be thrown open as suggested. Again, natural hauling grounds have been closed, and natural reservations have been left open, as witness Tuggerah Lakes. Such actions as these mean to the fishermen simply, that to a lesser or greater extent, they are shut out from their legitimate employment. Sydney harbour, to a very great extent, has been decreased in area to the fishermen by the silting up of the harbour, the amount of ground taken up by moorings, and the foreshores by wharves, &c. Again, some of the places referred to have been closed at the wrong time, and in some cases, one at least, the utility of closing at all is very questionable. For instance, George's River, with its many natural spawning grounds or reservations, apart from the main river, and the tributaries of Sydney harbour, much the same. Why should these places be closed when fish are to be caught, which, if not caught, will, to a very great extent, be lost to those interested—viz., the public and the fishermen; for when the fish leave the rivers, as has already been referred to, they go towards the ocean in such numbers that big catches have to be made in two or three days during the season, and though many are caught, the fishermen receive only a small price for the fish sent into the market. A great portion go bad, as there are more fish than the market can use, and the great body of the fish from the rivers, which if caught at the proper time, and in small quantities, would have kept the market supplied, at a cheap rate, with good edible food, is lost to everyone concerned by proceeding to the ocean.

It is a well known fact that in the summer season great quantities of fish are lost in carrying the fish from long distances to the metropolis.

Again, we would respectfully draw your attention to the existing law, and to that part of it bearing upon the punishments to be inflicted for breaches of the same. We refer to the fact that under certain circumstances the Commissioners are empowered to demand the confiscation of the nets of a fisherman who has broken the law. Surely it is a harsh, not to say cruel law, which takes away from the offender his tools of trade; without which he is, so far as the law is concerned, placed in a position of total inability to earn his living; but what can we think of a law that empowers these same Commissioners who have seized a net because it is illegal, to turn round deliberately and with the sanction of the law sell to whomsoever will buy that which is illegal—viz., the net that they have just seized. We beg to assure you that we do not for a moment desire to excuse the law-breakers, but we do earnestly desire that the law may be altered, and that its administration may be such, that practical fishermen will not be tempted to break laws which their experience and intelligence tell them, to not tend in any way to achieve the ends aimed at, though they, the fishermen, cannot by working as hard as they please within the four corners of the Act, maintain those dependent on them with the necessaries of life, not to speak of its comforts. One of our aims as an association is in the words of the constitution (to which we beg to refer you, and a copy of which is enclosed)—“To have the laws of the Colony, relating to the fishing industry, and to the distribution of fish, put on a fair and equitable basis.” We, as practical men, conversant with the habits of the fish on this coast, the nature of the grounds over which they live and breed, the time and manner of their spawning, &c., are prepared to prove that many of the methods used by the Fisheries Commission for the preservation of the fish, have not been the best methods; rather, we regret to state, very much the reverse. We do not desire to say a word against the gentlemen forming that Commission. We believe that they are gentlemen whose desire it is to deal fairly between the public and the fishermen, but we point out, and we do so with the greatest respect, that however honest their intentions, without practical men on the Commission, they cannot possibly administer the Act intelligently, or indicate wherein the Act is opposed to the very objects for which it was passed. In reply, it may be stated that they have practical officers to guide them, but we beg to state that it is not so in all cases, and when the officers are intelligent practical men, we are safe in saying that they will agree with what we have suggested in this communication as the right way to deal with the different fishing grounds. We therefore beg that you will arrange to have the fishermen represented on the Commission by two of their own number, to be elected by themselves. If this is conceded, a way will be opened to reduce the friction that at present unhappily exists. As an association, our only desire is to have equitable and intelligent laws surrounding the fish industry, for it cannot be in the interests of any body of men more than ourselves to have good laws passed, and see them properly and intelligently administered. Our rules are so framed that we shall be able to act as detectives ourselves, and punish those who would selfishly pursue a course that would be detrimental to the interests of the whole body; and, we would point out, that to preserve from destruction the fish on the coast, comes home with a keener and greater interest to us as professional fishermen than it possibly can to any other body.

We will not here take up your time in giving reasons why we should be represented on the Commission, further than to remind you that “there should be no taxation without representation,” and that is as true to-day as on the day the phrase was first used, and when we tell you that many fishermen—the man from “Tipperary,” notwithstanding—have this year had to pay the tax out of the mouths of their children, you will see that it is a serious item to many of our members.

Official Recognition.—In connection with this association, we beg that you will grant us such official recognition, and give such instructions as will enable the executive of the association to receive from time to time a copy of all proclamations, gazettes, maps, plans, &c., connected with the fishing industry, or in which fishermen, as a body, may be interested, and which in the future may be issued from the Government Departments.

Library.—We have the honor to inform you that for the purpose of carrying out the objects of our association, we are forming a library to diffuse sound practical information among our members. We have many friends who are willing and who have promised to assist us in this matter—amongst whom are several Members of Parliament—and we would now respectfully ask that the Government would be pleased to present to the association such publications in the shape of books, blue books, maps, &c., as are at the command of the Government, and would be useful for the purposes named. They will be well and faithfully kept in our room, at the Town and Country Chambers, Elizabeth-street, and will be placed in the custody of the trustees of the association, which has been duly registered.

Trusting we shall soon hear favourably from you.

We have, &c.,

The Executive:

President—JAMES J. MACFADYEN.

Vice-Presidents { F. NEWTON.
J. MALLETT.
F. WOODS, senr.
H. PEARCE.

Committee { C. HASTIE.
T. GASCOIGNE.
E. BARBOUR.

Treasurer—E. FANNING.

Hon. Secretary—F. C. COX.

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

REPORT

OF THE

CASUAL LABOUR BOARD INQUIRY COMMISSION;

TOGETHER WITH

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

AND

APPENDICES.



Presented to Parliament by Command.

SYDNEY: CHARLES POTTER, GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

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Commission.

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

To our trusty and well-beloved—

ALFRED JOHN CAPE, Esquire, M.A., Solicitor, &c., President ; FREDERICK AUGUSTUS FRANKLIN, Esquire, C.E., J.P. ; THOMAS FRANCIS WALLER, Esquire, J.P.,—

Greeting:—

KNOW YE, that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your ability, zeal, industry, discretion, and integrity, do, by these presents, authorize and appoint you or any two of you, as hereinafter mentioned, to make a diligent and full inquiry into the working of the Casual Labour Board, consisting of The HONORABLE JOHN DAVIES, C.M.G., M.L.C., FREDERICK WELLS, Esquire, and DAVID HOUSOX, Esquire, from the time of its appointment until the twenty-third day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine : Into the mode in, and the purposes for, which public moneys have been expended by the said Board, or any members or member thereof, or under their or his authority : Into the manner in which the said Board and the members thereof have performed their duties in that behalf ; and to include in such inquiry, but not by way of restriction of the terms or scope thereof, an examination into the truth of all charges and statements which have been made before Parliament, or before any Select Committee thereof, touching any alleged improper expenditure by the said Board, or any members or member thereof, or under their or his authority, of any public moneys in the improvement of, or the making or construction of roads or other works upon the property of any person, partnership, or Company : And We do, by these presents, grant to you, or any two of you, at any meeting or meetings to which all of you shall have been duly summoned, full power and authority to call before you all such persons as you may judge necessary, by whom you may be better informed of the truth in the premises, and to require the production of all such books, papers, writings, and all other documents as you may deem expedient, and to visit and inspect the same at the offices or places where the same or any of them may be deposited, and to inquire of the premises by all lawful ways and means : And we do give you power at your discretion to procure such clerical and other assistance as you may deem necessary for enabling you duly to execute this Our Commission : And our further will and pleasure is that you do within two months after the date of Our Commission certify to us, in the office of our Colonial Secretary, under your, or any two of your hands and seals, what you shall find touching the premises : And we hereby command all Government officers, and other persons whomsoever within our said Colony, that they be assistant to you, and each of you, in the execution of these presents : And we appoint you the said ALFRED JOHN CAPE, Esquire, to be President of this Our Commission, which said Commission We declare to be a Commission for all purposes of the Act 44 Victoria No. 1, intituled “ An Act to regulate the taking of evidence by Commissioners under the Great Seal.”

In testimony whereof, We have caused these Our Letters to be made patent, and the Great Seal of our said Colony of New South Wales to be hereunder affixed.

Witness, Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Councillor, CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Our Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Our Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies, at Government House, Sydney, in New South Wales aforesaid, this twentieth day of February, in the fifty-second year of Our Reign, and in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine.

CARRINGTON.

By His Excellency's Command,
GEORGE R. DIBBS.

Entered on record by me, in REGISTER OF PATENTS, No. 13, pages 311-12, this twenty-first day of February, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine.

For the Colonial Secretary and Registrar of Records,
CRITCHETT WALKER,
Principal Under Secretary.

Instrument of Extension.

CASUAL LABOUR BOARD INQUIRY COMMISSION.

WHEREAS it is necessary to extend the time by which the Commissioners are to make their Report in the above matter: Now, therefore, I do hereby, with the advice of the Executive Council, extend the time by which the said Commissioners are to make such report to and for the period of one month beyond the time in and by the said Commission appointed for such purpose—to take effect from the 20th instant.

Given under my hand, at Government House, Sydney, this 30th day of April, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine.

CARRINGTON.

By His Excellency's Command,
HENRY PARKES.

Gentlemen,

Dated 30th April
1889.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 30 April, 1889.
In reply to your communication of the 11th instant, I am directed by the Colonial Secretary to transmit herewith an Instrument, under the hand of His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, extending the time within which the Report of the Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission is to be made for a period of one month beyond the time appointed for the purpose.

I have, &c.,

CRITCHETT WALKER,
Principal Under Secretary.

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A.; F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.; and T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

Instrument of Further Extension.

CASUAL LABOUR BOARD INQUIRY COMMISSION.

WHEREAS the time appointed for the return of the Commission in the above matter was, by an Instrument dated the 13th *ultimo*, extended for a period of one month: And whereas it is necessary to extend the same still further: Now, therefore, I do hereby, with the advice of the Executive Council, extend the time *with* which the Commissioners are to make their return to and for a further period of fourteen days beyond the time in and by the aforesaid Instrument appointed for such purpose, to take effect from the 20th instant.

Sic.

Sic.

Given under my hand, at Government House, Sydney, this 20th day of May, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine.

CARRINGTON.

By His Excellency's Command,
HENRY PARKES.

Sir,

Dated 20th May,
1889.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 20 May, 1889.
In reply to your letter of the 17th instant, I am directed by the Colonial Secretary to transmit herewith an Instrument, under the hand of His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, extending the time within which the Report of the Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission is to be made for a further period of fourteen days beyond the time appointed for the purpose.

I have, &c.,

CRITCHETT WALKER,
Principal Under Secretary.

A. J. Cape, Esq., President of the Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission.

Letter Transmitting Commission.

Sir,

F. A. Franklin,
Esq., C.E., J.P.,
and T. F. Waller,
Esq., J.P.

Dated 20 February,
1889.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 22 February, 1889.
I am directed by the Colonial Secretary to transmit herewith an Instrument under the Great Seal of the Colony appointing you, in conjunction with the other gentlemen named in the margin, to be a Royal Commission to inquire into the working of the Casual Labour Board, and setting forth the terms in which the inquiry is to be conducted.

2. I am desired to add that His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to appoint Mr. Charles R. Burnside to be Secretary, and Mr. James Haddon Taylor to be Shorthand-writer to the Commission.

I have, &c.,

CRITCHETT WALKER,
Principal Under Secretary.

Alfred John Cape, Esq., M.A., President of the Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission.

EXTRACTS FROM MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS of the Royal Commission appointed on 20th February, 1889, to make inquiry into the working of the Casual Labour Board, from the time of its appointment until 23rd January, 1889, into the mode in and the purposes for which public moneys have been expended by the Board, or any members or member thereof, or under their or his authority, into the manner in which the Board and the members thereof have performed their duties, and to include in such inquiry an examination into the truth of all charges and statements which have been made before Parliament or before any Select Committee thereof touching any alleged improper expenditure by the Board, or any members or member thereof, or under their or his authority of any public moneys in the improvement of, or the making or constructions of roads or other works upon the property of any person, partnership, or Company."

MONDAY, 25 FEBRUARY, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met at 11 a.m., at Commercial Union Chambers, Pitt-street, Sydney.

The President reported the receipt of a letter from the Principal Under Secretary forwarding the Writ of Commission and notifying appointment of a Secretary and Shorthand writer.

The Commission was read by the President.

The President reported the receipt from the Principal Under Secretary of a letter from Mr. Burrowes, addressed to Mr. J. B. C. Miles, dated 9th February, 1889, which, it appeared from a note thereon, had been referred by the Honorable the Colonial Secretary to the Commission.

It was resolved that application be made to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary for delivery to the Commission of any departmental reports, and all books, accounts, vouchers, order books, letters, and papers bearing on the Inquiry, and any documents that might serve as affording particulars or evidence for their guidance.

Further resolved :—That, in view of the Inquiry which the Commission is directed to make extending to an examination into the truth of all charges and statements which have been made before Parliament or before any Select Committee thereof touching any alleged improper expenditure by the Board, or any members or member thereof, or under their or his authority, of any public moneys, in the improvement of, or the making or construction of roads or works upon the property of any person, partnership, or company, it is essential that the Commission should be furnished with particulars of any such charges and statements which have been made before Parliament or any Select Committee thereof; and that this resolution be communicated to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, with a request that such particulars may be furnished to the Commission as early as conveniently may be.

The Secretary was instructed to make all necessary arrangements and attend to the official detail, to enable the Inquiry to be proceeded with.

The following letters were written to the Principal Under Secretary :—

1. Acknowledging receipt of the writ of Commission.
2. Asking for all documents, &c., in accordance with the first resolution.
3. Forwarding a copy of the second resolution.
4. Asking for instructions to be given to the Government Printer to carry out all printing.
5. Asking for a supply of O.S. postage stamps.

Further resolved :—That the consideration of Mr. Burrowes' letter to Mr. Miles be deferred, pending the receipt and examination of other relevant papers and evidence.

The Commission deliberated.

The meeting adjourned at 12.30 p.m. until Monday, 4th March, at 2 p.m.

MONDAY, 4 MARCH, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

Mr. J. H. Taylor, shorthand writer to the Commission, attended, and was informed he would be notified when his services would be required.

The President reported the receipt from the Principal Under Secretary of the Auditor-General's letter, dated 8th February, 1889, and addressed to the Casual Labour Board.

Letter read, and resolved that its further consideration be postponed.

The Secretary reported having received a parcel of printed papers from the Principal Under Secretary, in answer to letter, embodying the resolution passed at the first meeting.

Papers numbered 1 to 17 received, read, and considered.

The Commission deliberated as to further proceedings.

The meeting adjourned at 5.33 p.m. until such a day as the President should appoint.

THURSDAY,

THURSDAY, 7 MARCH, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

The President reported that he had called on the Honorable the Colonial Secretary with reference to obtaining the production of all the Casual Labour Board's books, papers, &c.; that he was informed that these books, &c., had been handed to Messrs. Miles and Mason with instructions to close the business of the Board and to report; that the Honorable Colonial Secretary had instructed the Principal Under Secretary to forward to the Commission all papers referring to the Inquiry; that the Principal Under Secretary had undertaken to do so, and also to send Mr. Ormiston, at present engaged visiting the various stations of the unemployed, to give information.

The President also reported having seen the Clerk of the Assembly with reference to the production of the manuscript evidence of the Select Committee on works of unemployed on roads at Hornsby and Holt-Sutherland Estate.

It was resolved to proceed with the examination of witnesses on Monday next, 11th March, and that the following witnesses be summoned :—

F. W. Webb, Esq., Clerk of the Assembly, to produce manuscript copy of evidence of the Select Committee;

Critchett Walker, Esq., J.P., Principal Under Secretary;

Frederick Wells, Esq.; and

David Houison, Esq., Members of the Casual Labour Board.

The Commission deliberated.

The meeting adjourned at 4.15 p.m. until Monday, 11th March, at 2 p.m.

MONDAY, 11 MARCH, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

The minutes of the three previous meetings were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported having received from Messrs. Mason and Miles, certain books, papers, letters, &c., belonging to the late Casual Labour Board.

The following witnesses were called in, and examined :—F. W. Webb, Clerk of the Assembly, and David Houison, a member of the Casual Labour Board.

It was resolved that the witnesses already summoned, viz. :—Critchett Walker, Principal Under Secretary, and Frederick Wells, a member of the Casual Labour Board, should be examined at the next meeting; and also, that the Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., late Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, should be summoned for Wednesday, 13th March.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, 12th March.

TUESDAY, 12 MARCH, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Critchett Walker, J.P., Principal Under Secretary, was called in, and examined.

Resolved, that Frederick Wells, a member of the Casual Labour Board, be requested to attend to-morrow, Wednesday, at 2 p.m., in accordance with summons already issued.

Resolved, that J. W. Deering and T. C. Hinchcliffe be summoned to attend at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, 13th March.

The Commission proceeded to examine the papers and letters of the Casual Labour Board, and it was resolved that Mr. Franklin be requested to examine all letters, plans, &c., and report to the Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 5.30 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Wednesday, 13th March.

WEDNESDAY, 13 MARCH, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

The Secretary reported that Mr. T. C. Hinchcliffe was waiting for examination in obedience to summons.

The Commission decided to defer other business, and to proceed with his examination at once, in view of the witness being material, and it appearing that he having ceased to hold office, his attendance might not be readily obtained another day.

T. C. Hinchcliffe was called in, and examined.

The Secretary reported the receipt of a letter from W. M. Robertson, offering evidence as to alleged irregularities at National Park, and on Heathcote section.

Further

Further reported that Mr. H. T. Saunderson had called as to certain alleged irregularities in connection with the Casual Labour Board, and that he would forward written statement on the subject to the Commission.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Mr. Franklin reported progress in arranging plans and correspondence pursuant to previous resolution.

The Secretary reported having called on Mr. Deering, and obtained the only plan he had in connection with the works of the unemployed—being a plan of roads in the Hornsby district.

The President reported receipt of the following letter from the Principal Under Secretary—

Gentlemen,

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 13 March, 1889.

I am directed to state that the Colonial Secretary desires to be informed how far you have progressed in your inquiry into the proceedings of the Casual Labour Board, and whether any distinct charge or complaint against the members of that Board was submitted to you for investigation by the late Government, as Sir Henry Parkes cannot find any charge or complaint in the papers in this office.

I have the honor to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

CRITCHETT WALKER,

Principal Under Secretary.

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission deliberated.

Resolved that the President draft a letter in reply to be submitted to a meeting to be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, 14th March.

And that reply be signed by the President on behalf of the Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Thursday, 14th March.

THURSDAY, 14 MARCH, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met at Commercial Union Chambers, Pitt-street, at 2 p.m.

The Commission further deliberated on the Principal Under Secretary's letter of 13th instant.

The President, pursuant to the resolution passed at the previous meeting, submitted draft letter in reply, in the following terms:—

Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission,

Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 14 March, 1889.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, addressed to Messrs F. A. Franklin, T. F. Waller, and myself, stating that the Colonial Secretary desired to be informed how far we had progressed in our inquiry into the proceedings of the Casual Labour Board, and whether any distinct charge or complaint against the members of the Board had been submitted to us for investigation by the late Government, as Sir Henry Parkes could not find any charge or complaint in the papers in your office.

Assuming that that letter was addressed to Messrs. Franklin, Waller, and myself in our capacities as the Commissioners appointed by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the Colony, on the 20th day of February last, I brought it under the attention of the Commission at the sitting next following its receipt.

I have now to report for the information of the Honorable the Colonial Secretary that the inquiry, which by the terms of the Writ of Commission, embraces an investigation into "the working of the Casual Labour Board from appointment to 23rd of January, 1889, the mode in, and purposes for, which public moneys have been expended by the Board, or any member thereof, or under their or his authority; the manner in which the Board and the members have performed their duties in that behalf; the truth of all charges and statements which have been made before Parliament or any Select Committee thereof, touching any alleged improper expenditure by the Board or any member or members or under their or his authority of any public moneys in the improvement of the making or construction of roads or other works upon the property of any person, partnership, or company," has progressed to the extent of an examination by the Commission of several material witnesses, the consideration and study of numerous books, letters, plans, and records that have been obtained from the office of the Casual Labour Board and other sources, the perusal of the Parliamentary evidence and records relevant to the subjects of inquiry, and the necessary arrangements for obtaining evidence to test the truth or otherwise of several written and verbal statements and charges of a detraction character affecting the Casual Labour Board that have been brought under the attention of the Commission since its appointment.

I have further to report as to the second requisition in your letter now under reply that, on the 25th February last, I caused to be written to you a letter of which the following is a copy:—

Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission,

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 25 February, 1889.

Sir, I have the honor, by direction of the President of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the working of the Casual Labour Board to inform you that at a meeting of the Commission, held this day, it was resolved, "That, in view of the inquiry which the Commission is directed to make extending to an examination into the truth of all charges and statements which have been made before Parliament or before any Select Committee thereof, touching any alleged improper expenditure by the Board or any members or member thereof, or under their or his authority, of any public moneys in the improvement of, or the making or construction of roads or other works upon the property of any person, partnership, or company, it is essential that the Commission should be furnished with particulars of any such charges and statements which have been made before Parliament or any Select Committee thereof"; and that this resolution be communicated to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary with a request that such particulars may be furnished to the Commission as early as conveniently may be.

I have, &c.,

C. R. BURNSIDE,

Secretary, Casual Labour Board Commission.

The Principal Under Secretary.

On the 27th of February last that letter was returned to me, noted on fold, as follows:—"All papers in the case are forwarded herewith.—C.W., B.C., 27/2/89. The President of the Commission." Accompanying it was a parcel of papers, seventeen in number, being partly papers noted as having "not been laid before Parliament," and other papers which appeared to have been laid before Parliament. These papers are now in the possession of, and have been under the deliberation of the Commission.

They were submitted to the Commission for investigation under the circumstances above stated, and, as is therefore assumed, by or at the instance of the late Government.

The Commission are now diligently engaged in investigating into the charges and complaints appearing on the papers which were so submitted.

I have, &c.,

ALFRED J. CAPE,

President of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the working and proceedings of the Casual Labour Board, &c.

The Principal Under Secretary.

which was agreed to, and the President was requested to sign the same.

The

The Secretary reported receipt of further letter from W. M. Robertson, pointing out the nature of the evidence he could give in reference to the alleged irregularities on the part of persons named by him in connection with the Casual Labour Board, and alleging that Mr. Davies was aware of such irregularities.

Letter read and action thereon deferred until further examination of witnesses.

Copy of a letter from Mr. John McElhone to Mr. J. F. Burns, with copy of a letter from J. H. Moore, late time-keeper at Narrabeen, in reference to alleged misappropriation of public moneys, and as to overcharges for rations on public works at Narrabeen, read and considered, and further inquiry thereon deferred until evidence taken.

The Secretary was instructed to examine all the papers and records obtained from the Casual Labour Board Office, and prepare a *précis* thereof to assist the Commission in future examination of witnesses.

The Secretary applied for instructions as to delivering up any papers in his charge.

Resolved, that the Secretary be instructed not to deliver up any papers or letters without the written order of the President.

Resolved, that Mr. F. Wells be requested to attend on Monday, 17th instant.

And that Sir John Robertson, Mr. G. F. Want, and the Honorable John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., be summoned as witnesses for Tuesday, 19th instant.

The meeting adjourned at 3 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Monday, 18th March.

MONDAY, 18 MARCH, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office at 2 p.m.

The minutes of the two previous meetings were read and confirmed.

The President reported the receipt of a letter from the Principal Under Secretary stating that Sir Henry Parkes desired to be informed how long, in the opinion of the President, the inquiry was likely to last, and pointing out the necessity of despatch.

Letter read and consideration thereof deferred until next meeting.

The President reported the receipt of a letter from Sir John Robertson.

Letter read and Secretary instructed to write to Sir John Robertson that he would be again notified when the Commission desired his attendance.

The Secretary reported the receipt of a letter from Thomas Buckley, stating that a petition purporting to be signed by the unemployed in Mr. Dyson's district, but really signed by permanent men on the roads, and by them in fictitious names for a supply of blue metal spalls, was sent in to the Minister for Works in September, 1888.

Letter read and consideration thereof deferred until evidence further proceeded with.

Mr. Frederick Wells, a member of the Casual Labour Board, was called and examined.

Mr. Wells' examination not being completed, he was asked to again attend on the following day at 2 p.m.

Resolved, that a meeting of the Commission be held on 21st March, at 2 p.m., instead of 20th March.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19th.

TUESDAY, 19 MARCH, 1889.

PRESENT :

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The President submitted to draft of a letter in reply to the Principal Under Secretary's letter of 16th instant, which, after discussion, was amended and adopted as follows :—

Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission,

Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 19 March, 1889.

Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, intimating that Sir Henry Parkes would be glad to be informed of the probable time which, in the judgment of the Commission it will occupy.

That letter, which was handed to me on my return to town on Monday, 18th instant, I brought under the attention of the Commission of that day's sitting.

The Writ of Commission, dated 20th February last, under which we derive authority, directs that we certify our finding within two months after its date.

It is most difficult, at this stage of the inquiry, to estimate its probable duration, as one cannot guess the time that the evidence of any known, yet unexamined, witness may necessarily and properly take. My colleagues, however, concur with me in the opinion, from what has already come under our notice, that we will at least require all the time allowed by the Writ of Commission.

While entirely agreeing with the expression of the Honorable the Colonial Secretary's opinion that such an inquiry cannot be protracted to an indefinite period, and being fully sensible—to use the language of your letter—of the necessity for expedition, as well in the interests of justice to those affected as in the saving of public expenditure, we might point out that the Writ of Commission itself expressly defines the period of our action.

Will you convey to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary the assurance of myself and colleagues that we are most solicitous to bring our labours to an end with as much despatch as is compatible with the due fulfilment of the commands laid upon us by the Commission.

The work is not so congenial or attractive as even to suggest a protraction for an hour longer than may reasonably appear necessary with due regard to our responsible duties.

We feel confident that if the various Government Departments, to whom we have proper occasion to apply for information and assistance relevant to the inquiry, will respond to our own efforts to speed the investigation committed to us, the end will be more readily and satisfactorily attained.

I take this opportunity of reminding you that the Commission has not yet received from you, as promised on the 12th instant, "the reports as to certain works done by the unemployed," which you stated in your evidence were in your office, as also the progress report of Messrs. Mason and Miles. I may also add that the Commission has not, as yet, had any funds placed at its disposal to meet the necessary disbursements incurred in the conduct of the inquiry. Until

Until some determination is come to in furtherance of my personal interview with the late Colonial Secretary of the 5th instant, at which you were present, and my letter of 6th instant, the Commission is unable to arrange for necessary visits of inspection to the localities, or for the attendance of such witnesses who may be entitled to expenses.

In addition I gathered from the interview referred to that the Commission was expected to arrange for the payment of the salaries of the secretary and of the shorthand-writer, who were appointed by the Government in connection with the Commission.

I have, &c.,

ALFRED J. CAPE,

President of the Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission.

Memorandum from Mr. H. F. Sanderson, alleging irregularities in connection with Cook Park Relief Works, read and left in abeyance until further evidence was taken.

Mr. F. Wells, member of the Casual Labour Board, further examined.

Mr. Wells applied for leave for the Chairman or some member of the Casual Labour Board to be present throughout the inquiry, at the examination of witnesses, for the purpose of watching the case on behalf of the members of the Casual Labour Board.

The President stated that the Commission was in the nature of an inquiry, but would endeavour to allow opportunity for explanation.

Mr. Wells pressing his application,—

The President stated that the Commission would take time to consider, and therefore reserved their decision.

Resolved, that Sir John Robertson, K.C.M.G., and Mr. G. F. Want be requested to attend at 2.15 p.m., in accordance with the summonses already issued, and that Messrs. Mason and Miles be summoned to attend at 3 p.m., and Mr. A. Larnach at 4 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Thursday, 21st March.

THURSDAY, 21 MARCH, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

Minutes of previous meeting read, and confirmation thereof postponed until the next meeting.

The President reported receipt of a letter from the Principal Under Secretary, as to amount to be placed to the credit of the Commission for expenses.

Also the receipt of a letter from the Principal Under Secretary, forwarding report and returns of the Casual Labour Board and a Progress Report of Messrs. Mason and Miles.

The Secretary reported receiving foregoing letter reports, and returns, at 4.40 p.m., on Wednesday, 20th instant.

Letter read, and consideration of reports and returns deferred.

The Secretary reported the receipt of two parcels of plans and letters from the Hurstville office of the Casual Labour Board.

The Secretary was instructed to examine the same.

The Secretary reported the receipt of a letter from Mr. G. F. Want, stating that he was unable to attend this sitting of the Commission.

The President brought Mr. Wells' application for the attendance of a member of the Casual Labour Board at the sittings of the Commission to watch the interest of the Board under the consideration of the Commission.

The Commission having deliberated.

Resolved that it was inexpedient to grant Mr. Wells' application, and that Mr. Wells' be informed at a subsequent meeting.

The following witnesses were called in, sworn and examined :—Sir John Robertson, K.C.M.G., and Mr. J. B. C. Miles.

Resolved, that Mr. E. A. Rennie, Auditor-General, be summoned for Monday, 25th instant, at 2 p.m., to produce vouchers, pay-sheets, &c., of the Casual Labour Board.

Resolved, that, in pursuance of their former summonses, Messrs. F. W. Webb, G. F. Want, A. Larnach, and W. Mason be requested to attend on Monday, 25th instant.

Further resolved, that Mr. E. M. Burrowes, Mr. G. R. C. Neale, Mr. A. E. Hibble, and Mr. A. Houison be summoned for Tuesday, 26th instant.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, 25th March.

MONDAY, 25 MARCH, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

The minutes of the two previous meetings were read and confirmed.

The Secretary reported the receipt of a letter from J. H. Moore as to alleged irregularities in connection with the supply of rations on the Narrabeen Relief Works.

Letter read, and its consideration deferred until further evidence taken.

Secretary reported receipt of further letter from Mr. W. M. Robertson.

Letter read, and the Secretary instructed to write Mr. W. M. Robertson thereon.

Mr. F. Wells having been called in, the President delivered the decision of the Commission on his application—refusing to grant it.

Mr. C. Boydell attended on behalf of Mr. F. W. Webb, and produced two Petitions presented to the House by the Hon. J. F. Burns, dated 8th January and 6th March, 1889, respectively; also papers referring to the unemployed work on Hornsby and Holt-Sutherland Estates, laid on the Table of the House on 1st, 8th, 13th, and 14th November, 1888, and 13th December, 1888, and 8th and 11th January, 1889.

The following witnesses were called in and examined:—A. E. Rennie, Auditor-General; Wm. Mason, C.E.; and Mr. A. Larnach.

Mr. A. Larnach's examination not having been completed, he was requested to attend again on the following day at 2 p.m.

Mr. James H. Taylor, shorthand writer to the Commissioner, was granted leave to employ an assistant.

Resolved, that Mr. G. F. Want be requested to attend the following day, and

Mr. J. H. Wood, from M'Lean, Brothers and Rigg, and Mr. J. H. Springall be summoned to attend on Wednesday, 27th March.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, 26th March.

TUESDAY, 26 MARCH, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

Secretary reported receipt from Messrs. Mason and Miles of a number of letter-books and documents connected with the Casual Labour Board.

Mr. A. Larnach, being recalled, was further examined.

The following witnesses were called in and examined:—Mr. G. F. Want; Mr. A. Howlison; Mr. G. R. C. Neale; and Mr. E. M. Burrowes.

Mr. E. M. Burrowes' examination not having been completed he was requested to attend again tomorrow, Wednesday, 27th March.

Mr. A. E. Hibble was requested to attend Wednesday, 27th March, at 2 p.m.

Resolved, that the Commission hold a meeting on Thursday, 28th March, 1889, at 2 p.m.

Also resolved, that Mr. Thos. Wearne and Mr. C. Robertson be summoned for Thursday, 28th March.

The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Wednesday, 27th March.

WEDNESDAY, 27 MARCH, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

The following witnesses were called in, and examined:—Mr. A. Freeman, Mr. C. W. Begg, Mr. J. H. Wood, and Mr. F. J. Lawn.

Mr. Lawn's examination not being completed, he was requested to attend the following day at 2 p.m.

Mr. E. M. Burrowes, Mr. A. E. Hibble, and Mr. J. H. Springall were requested to attend on the following day (Thursday).

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Thursday, 28th March.

THURSDAY, 28 MARCH, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A. President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | F. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

Mr. J. B. C. Miles attended, at the request of the Commission, in order to advise the Commission with regard to any questions relating to accounts.

The following witnesses were called in, sworn, and examined:—Messrs. Wm. Duchesne, E. B. Cooper, Wm. Jarrett, Abraham Searle, J. Ashton, and C. Robertson.

Mr. F. J. Lawn being recalled was further examined.

Mr. E. M. Burrowes, Mr. A. E. Hibble, and Mr. T. Wearne were requested to attend on Monday, April 1st.

Mr. J. H. Springall was requested to attend on Tuesday, April 2nd.

The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Monday, 1st April.

MONDAY, 1 APRIL, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

Mr. J. B. C. Miles was called in and further examined.

Mr. Thomas Wearne was called in and examined.

Mr. E. M. Burrowes was called in and further examined, and requested to attend on the following day at 2 p.m.

Resolved, that Mr. Michael Bell and Mr. C. Sandon be summoned to attend on Wednesday, and that Mr. Hibble be also requested to attend on that day.

Also resolved, that Mr. W. M. Robertson be summoned to attend on Wednesday, 10th April, at 2 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, 2nd April, 1889.

TUESDAY,

TUESDAY, 2 APRIL, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.
 F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

Mr. E. M. Burrowes called in and further examined.

Mr. J. H. Springall called in and examined, and his examination not being concluded, he was requested to attend again on the following day at 2 p.m.

Secretary reported receipt of letter from the Principal Under Secretary, as to rate of fees to be paid to shorthand-writer.

Secretary reported receipt of letter from Mr. G. R. Dibbs, enclosing letter from Mr. H. T. Sanderson.

The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Wednesday, 3rd April.

WEDNESDAY, 3 APRIL, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.
 F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

Minutes of the three previous meetings were read and confirmed.

Secretary reported the receipt from Mr. G. R. C. Neale of two sets of accounts for sales of wood on account of the Casual Labour Board.

Mr. J. H. Springall called in and further examined.

The following witnesses were called in and examined:—Mr. C. Sandon and Mr. M. Bell.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Thursday, 4th April.

THURSDAY, 4 APRIL, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.
 F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

The Commission deliberated.

The following witnesses were called in, sworn, and examined:—Mr. G. W. M. Johnson, Mr. A. E. Hibble.

Resolved,—That the following witnesses be summoned for Monday, April 9th:—Mr. Wm. Tindall, Mr. J. W. Cheney, Mr. H. J. Goodman, Mr. F. J. Josephson, Mr. A. M'Pherson; and for Tuesday:—Mr. James Kidman, Mr. P. G. Boylan, and Mr. F. O'Donnell.

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Monday, April 8th.

MONDAY, 8 APRIL, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.
 F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

The following witnesses were called in and examined:—Mr. Wm. Tindall, Mr. J. W. Cheney, Mr. H. J. Goodman, Mr. F. J. Josephson.

Mr. A. M'Pherson was requested to attend on the following day at 2 p.m.

Resolved, that Mr. H. Little and Mr. H. T. Sanderson be summoned to attend on Wednesday, 10th April.

Also, that the Hon. Geoffrey Eagar be summoned to attend on Tuesday, 9th April.

The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, 9th April.

TUESDAY, 9 APRIL, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.
 F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

Secretary reported receipt of letter from Mr. E. M. Burrowes.

The following witnesses were called in and examined:—The Hon. Geoffrey Eagar, Mr. P. J. Boylan, Mr. James Kidman, Mr. A. M'Pherson.

The examination of Messrs. Jas. Kidman and A. M'Pherson not having been completed, they were requested to attend again on the following day at 2 p.m.

Resolved, that the following officers of the Treasury be summoned to attend on Wednesday, 10th April, at 2 p.m.:—Mr. S. R. Corkhill, Examiner, and Mr. J. D. Cronin, Paymaster.

Secretary was instructed to draft letter applying for an extension of two months within which to report findings under Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Wednesday, 10th April.

WEDNESDAY,

WEDNESDAY, 10 APRIL, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.
 F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

Mr. James Kidman, being called in, was further examined.

Mr. A. M'Pherson, being called in, was further examined.

The following witnesses were called in and examined:—Mr. S. H. Corkhill, Mr. J. D. Cronin
 Mr. W. M. Robertson, Mr. H. T. Sanderson.

Mr. W. Newcombe and Mr. H. Pearson attended, and arranged to produce certain vouchers for the information of the Commission.

Mr. H. T. Sanderson's examination not being completed he was requested to attend again on the following day, at 4 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6.30 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Thursday, 11th April.

THURSDAY, 11 APRIL, 1889.

PRESENT :—

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

A letter, addressed to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, as to extending the time within which to report, was signed by all the members of the Commission.

Mr. H. T. Sanderson, being recalled, was further examined.

Resolved, that Mr. J. E. Ormiston be summoned to attend on Monday, 15th April, and that
 Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. H. Little be requested to attend on that day.

Further resolved, that Mr. Hinchcliffe and Mr. A. M'Leod be summoned to attend on Tuesday, 16th April, and that Mr. John Davies be requested to attend on Wednesday, 17th April.

The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Monday, 15th April.

MONDAY, 15 APRIL, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President,

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m., and deliberated.

The question of employing a reader to read the printed proofs of evidence with the Secretary, to ensure greater accuracy, was considered and deferred.

Resolved to summon the following witnesses for Tuesday, April 16th :—Mr. James Flemming and
 Mr. Robert Dick.

The following witnesses were called in and examined:—Mr. W. Newcombe, Mr. H. Little,
 Mr. J. E. Ormiston, Mr. F. Crosslwaite, Mr. F. O'Donnell.

Mr. F. O'Donnell's examination not being completed he was requested to attend on the following day, at 2 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, 16th April.

TUESDAY, 16 APRIL, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

Minutes of the six previous meetings were read and confirmed.

Mr. F. O'Donnell called in and further examined.

The following witnesses were called in and examined:—Mr. J. Flemming, Mr. R. Dick, and
 Mr. A. M'Leod.

The Commission deliberated.

The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Wednesday, 17th April.

WEDNESDAY, 17 APRIL, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

The Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., was called in and examined.

Mr. Davies examination not having been completed he was requested to attend again on 23rd
 April, at 2 p.m.

The Commission deliberated on the Holt-Sutherland memorials and the history of the roads thereon as disclosed by the papers.

The Secretary was instructed to engage a reader for comparison of manuscript with printed evidence.

Resolved,

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Resolved, that Mr. Hinchcliffe be requested to attend again on Tuesday, April 23rd, at 3 p.m.
 Secretary instructed to write to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, for statement of their dealings with late Casual Labour Board, between 2nd May, 1887, and 25th January, 1889.
 Resolved, that the Commission adjourn at termination of this sitting over the Easter holidays, until Tuesday, 23rd April.
 Meeting adjourned at 6.30 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, 23rd April.

TUESDAY, 23 APRIL, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.
 F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.
 The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.
 The Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., was called in, further examined; examination not being completed he was requested to attend again on following day, at 11 a.m.
 Mr. G. R. C. Neale, being called in, was further examined, and he was requested to attend on following day and produce certain documents.
 Resolved, that Mr. Wm. Neill be summoned to produce certain documents.
 The Commission deliberated.
 The meeting adjourned at 7.15 p.m. until 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 24th April.

WEDNESDAY, 24 APRIL, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.
 F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.
 The Commission meet in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 10.30 a.m.
 Secretary reported receipt of letter from C. Arthington to Mr. E. M. Burrowes, minuted and forwarded to the Commission.
 Also receipt of letter from Richard Ryan, forwarded by Mr. E. M. Burrowes to the Commission.
 The following witnesses attended and were examined:—The Hon. John Davies, C.M.G.; Mr. G. R. C. Neale; Mr. W. Duchesne.
 Mr. S. R. Corkhill attended, and produced certain Treasury Vouchers, representing £12,203 1's. in adjustment of final advances to the late Casual Labour Board, but declined to part with their possession.
 Resolved, that Mr. Davies be requested to attend again, on Tuesday, 30th April, and that Mr. Wm. Hillier be summoned for that day, at 2 p.m.
 The Commission deliberated as to bringing up a Special Report on matter disclosed by the evidence given by Messrs. Neale, Begg, Duchesne, Cooper, and the Hon. Jno. Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C.
 Draft of a Special Report considered and approved, subject to certain alterations.
 Resolved, that the Commission proceed on Monday next, April 29th, to inspect the works carried out under the late Casual Labour Board on the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
 The meeting adjourned at 6.30 p.m. until 12 noon on Monday, 29th April.

MONDAY 29 APRIL, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.
 F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P., | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.
 The Commission met at Commercial Union Chambers, Pitt-street, at 12 noon.
 The Special Report, as amended, was read and signed and the Secretary was instructed to write a letter to the Colonial Secretary forwarding the Report for the information of His Excellency the Governor.
 The Commission proceeded to Sutherland and inspected numerous roads, on which the unemployed work had been engaged.
 The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Tuesday 30th instant.

TUESDAY, 30 APRIL, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.
 T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.
 The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office at 2 p.m.
 The Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., and Mr. T. C. Hinchcliffe again attended and were further examined.
 Mr. William Hillier was called in and examined.
 Mr. S. R. Corkhill again attended with the vouchers produced on a previous occasion, representing £12,203 10s., but still declined to part with their possession.
 Resolved, that the following witnesses be summoned to attend on the following day:—Mr. James Murphy; Mr. S. A. Want; Mr. J. W. Johnson; Mr. E. P. Simpson.
 Meeting adjourned at 6.30 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Wednesday, 1st May.

WEDNESDAY,

WEDNESDAY, 1 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office at 2 p.m.

A letter from the Principal Under Secretary enclosing an instrument under the hand of His Excellency the Governor extending the time within which to report, for one month, was read.

The following witnesses were called in, sworn, and examined:—Mr. J. W. Johnson, Mr. S. A. Want, and Mr. James Murphy.

Resolved, that the following witnesses be summoned to attend:—

For Thursday, 2nd May:—

The Hon. J. H. Carruthers, M.P.; the Hon. W. McMillan, M.P.; Mr. J. S. Jamieson;
Mr. M. McRae, M.P.; Mr. V. Parkes, Mr. A. W. S. Gregg; Mr. F. Farnell, M.P.

For Friday, 3rd May:—

Mr. J. W. Deering, Mr. W. M. Gordon, Mr. W. C. Bennett.

For Monday, 6th May:—

Mr. J. F. Burns, M.P.; Mr. G. Withers, Mr. R. B. Smith, Mr. C. N. J. Oliver.

For Tuesday, 7th May:—

Mr. C. B. Dawson, Mr. H. Gorman, Mr. J. Whitton.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Thursday, 2nd May.

THURSDAY, 2 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met.

Minutes of six previous meetings read and confirmed.

Secretary reported the return of Mr. C. N. J. Oliver's subpoena, with memorandum thereon, to effect that he would be absent from Sydney until 13th instant.

Secretary instructed to proceed with sending out the printed evidence to witnesses for perusal.

Secretary reported receipt of letter from John Smith in reference to alleged irregularities at Rookwood.

Secretary instructed to draft letter to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, requesting further consideration of former application for extension of time.

Secretary instructed to make arrangements for visit of inspection by the Commission to Hornsby on Saturday, 4th May.

The following witnesses were called in, and examined:—The Hon. J. H. Carruthers, M.P.; the Hon. W. McMillan, M.P.; Mr. V. Parkes; Mr. Myles McRae, M.P.; Mr. H. B. Jamieson.

The Commission having been informed that Mr. J. S. Jamieson was absent from the Colony, requested Mr. H. B. Jamieson, one of his sons, to attend, to identify signatures to memorials.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Friday, 3rd May.

FRIDAY, 3 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

Letter read from Mr. J. F. Burns, M.P., stating his inability to attend before Tuesday, 7th May.

Secretary instructed to write him requesting his attendance on that date.

Letter read from Messrs. Richardson & Wrench, *re* Mr. Gregg's attendance on Wednesday, 8th May.

Secretary instructed to write and request his attendance on that date.

Letter to Honorable the Colonial Secretary signed, requesting reconsideration of application for time for return of the Commission, in terms of the Commission's letter of 11th April last.

Secretary reported progress in sending out evidence for perusal of witnesses.

Mr. J. W. Deering was called in, and examined.

Meeting adjourned at 6 p.m. until 10 a.m. on Saturday, 4th May.

SATURDAY, 4 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT:—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met at 9.45 a.m., and proceeded to Hornsby and inspected numerous roads there on which unemployed work had been engaged.

Meeting adjourned at 6 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Monday, 6th May.

MONDAY,

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MONDAY, 6 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

Mr. S. R. Corkhill, Examiner at the Treasury, handed in to the Commission the vouchers representing the final advance of £12,203 10s. made by the Treasury to the Casual Labour Board, for which individual members of the Commission gave their receipt in terms of request made in that behalf.

Mr. J. W. Deering, being called in, was further examined.

Mr. George Withers was called in and examined.

Secretary reported receipt of letter from Mr. H. T. Sanderson.

Secretary reported receipt of letter, stating that Mr. Whitton was absent from office through illness.

Mr. R. Burdett Smith attended at 3.30 p.m., and having stated he could not conveniently attend and give evidence to-day on account of other duties, he was requested to attend on the following day at 2.30 p.m.

Secretary reported that Mr. E. P. Simpson could not attend to give evidence on account of his partner's absence in Melbourne.

Secretary further reported Mr. W. C. Bennett's absence from office through illness, and also that Mr. A. W. S. Gregg was absent from Sydney.

Commission deliberated.

Resolved that Mr. H. Prince be summoned to attend on Thursday, 9th May, at 2 p.m.

Meeting adjourned, at 6.30 p.m. until 2 p.m. on the following day, 7th May.

TUESDAY, 7 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

The following witnesses were called in, and examined :—Mr. J. F. Burns, M.P., Mr. R. Burdett Smith, Mr. C. B. Dawson.

Mr. C. B. Dawson's examination not having been completed, he was requested to attend again on Thursday, May 9th, at 2 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Wednesday, May 8th, 1889.

WEDNESDAY, 8 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

The following witnesses were called in and examined :—Mr. Farnell, M.P.; Mr. A. W. S. Gregg; Mr. W. M. Gordon.

Mr. C. M. Palmer attended, and produced deed of assignment.

The Secretary was instructed to attend at Richardson, Wrench, & Co.'s office, and to obtain from Mr. Gregg subdivision plans of Holt-Sutherland Estate, with portions lately sold marked thereon.

The meeting adjourned at 6.30 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Thursday, May 9th.

THURSDAY, 9 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

The minutes of the seven previous meetings were read and confirmed.

The following witnesses were called in and examined :—Mr. L. C. Palmer; Mr. H. Prince; Mr. E. P. Simpson.

Mr. C. B. Dawson attended, and his examination was continued.

The Secretary reported that Mr. W. C. Bennett was still absent from his office, and too ill to admit of his being examined.

The Commission deliberated.

The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Monday, 13th May.

MONDAY, 13 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

The Secretary reported Mr. Bennett's continued inability to attend owing to his state of health.

The Secretary was instructed to write and request Dr. Pockley to attend to-morrow, Tuesday, 14th inst. The

The Secretary reported the receipt from Mr. Kidman of a return of all moneys received by him on account of each distinct camp.

The Secretary reported that Mr. Neale had made an application to him for the return of his books. The Secretary was instructed to request Mr. Neale to allow them to remain for a short time longer in the custody of the Commission.

Mr. C. N. J. Oliver was called in and examined.

Mr. D. Houison attended and was further examined.

The Commission deliberated.

The Secretary was instructed to write and request the attendance of Mr. Inglis, M.P.; Mr. Sutherland, M.P.; Mr. Roberts, C.M.G., M.P.; Mr. Abigail, M.P.; Mr. Garrett, M.P.

The meeting adjourned at 7 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14th.

TUESDAY, 14 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

The Secretary reported the receipt of a letter from Mr. T. W. Garrett, stating that Mr. T. Garrett, M.P., was unable to attend through illness.

Mr. T. C. Hinchcliffe and Mr. F. Wells attended and were further examined.

Mr. Abigail, M.P., and Mr. J. Inglis, M.P., were called in and examined.

Dr. F. A. Pockley, M.B., attended, and stated that it was inadvisable that the Commission should visit Mr. Bennett to examine him.

The Commission deliberated.

Further examination deferred, pending reply to letter to the Hon. Colonial Secretary of 3rd instant, and to the President's letter to Sir Henry Parkes of the 13th instant, asking to be informed when it would be convenient for him to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 5.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, 21 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met in the Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 2 p.m.

Minutes of the three previous meetings were read and confirmed.

Secretary reported the receipt of a letter from Mr. C. J. Roberts, C.M.G., M.P., regretting his inability to attend owing to his absence from Sydney.

Secretary reported receipt of a letter from Mr. J. W. Deering as to contract for cutting firewood at National Park.

Secretary instructed to inform him that the Commission would receive and consider any written statement he might wish to make.

Secretary reported the receipt of a letter addressed to the Principal Under Secretary from Messrs. Mason and Miles, and referred to the Commission, *re* payments made to T. Boulden, a ferryman.

Secretary reported the receipt of a letter from Mr. H. T. Sanderson, having reference to his claim against the Government.

Secretary reported that in absence of any reply to the Commission's letter of 3rd instant a further letter was written by direction of the President to the Principal Under Secretary on the 16th instant, as follows :—

Sir,

Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission, Sydney, 16 May, 1889.

Referring to the letter of the 3rd instant, addressed by this Commission to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary on the subject of extending the time for bringing up their Report on the matters entrusted to them for inquiry, and having regard to the fact that the time expires on Monday next, 20th instant, I am directed to inquire whether any decision has been come to on their application for a further extension.

The Commission think it necessary to examine certain witnesses on the matter mentioned in Messrs. Mason and Miles' letter of 11th instant, and which was on the 13th instant referred by the Honorable Colonial Secretary to this Commission.

In addition, Mr. J. F. Burns, M.L.A., has to-day intimated his desire to give further evidence.

Should the time not be extended, the Commission will be without power to take the further evidence next week.

It is therefore of importance that they should know how to proceed in regard to the issue of summonses for witnesses.

I have, &c.,

C. R. BURNSIDE,

Secretary.

The Principal Under Secretary.

Secretary reported receipt of a letter dated 15th inst. from Mr. J. F. Burns, M.P., addressed to the President, intimating his desire to be further examined, and that

Reply sent by direction of the President informing Mr. Burns that the Commission would meet on Tuesday, 21st instant.

The President reported the receipt from the Principal Under Secretary of the following letter :—

Sir,

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 17 May, 1889.

I am directed to request that you will be good enough to state for the information of the Colonial Secretary the amount of expenses incurred on account of the Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission up to the present date, and also whether fourteen days from the 20th instant will be sufficient extension of time to enable the Commission to conclude their labours.

I have, &c.,

CRITCHETT WALKER,

Principal Under Secretary.

The President of the Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission.

and that the following reply had been sent thereto :—

Sir,

Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission, Sydney, 17 May, 1889.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date inquiring as to the amount of expenses incurred on account of this Commission up to the present date, and as to whether fourteen (14) days from 20th inst. will be sufficient extension of time to enable the Commission to conclude their labours.

In

In reply, I beg to state that the payments we have made to date for shorthand-writer's fees, Secretary's salary, witnesses, and other incidental expenses of the Commission amount to £333 6s. 9d. Besides this there are outstanding shorthand-writer's fees for work done—account not yet rendered—Secretary's salary for current month, and some minor expenses.

If the Government Printer will be authorized to at once proceed with the printing he has now in hand, and speed the other printing work that will be shortly placed in his hands, I believe a fourteen (14) days extension will be all that is required.

I have, &c.,

ALFRED J. CAPE,
President.

The Principal Under Secretary.

Secretary reported the receipt of a letter dated 20th inst. from Sir Henry Parkes, addressed to the President, being in reply to letter of 13th inst., in which the President asked that Sir Henry Parkes would name a day and hour when it would be convenient for him to attend.

Secretary reported the receipt from the Principal Under Secretary of a letter addressed to the President, enclosing an instrument under the hand of His Excellency the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council extending the time within which to report for a further period of fourteen (14) days.

Letter read, and Secretary instructed to acknowledge to receipt of the same.

The Honorable Sir Henry Parkes, G.C.M.G., M.P., Premier and Colonial Secretary, attended and was examined.

Mr. J. F. Burns, M.P., attended.

Messrs. A. M'Leod, A. E. Hibble, and James Murphy attended for further examination.

T. Boulden was called in and examined.

The Commission deliberated.

It was resolved that no further evidence be taken, and that the Commission adjourn to consider evidence and prepare their Report.

The meeting adjourned at 6.30 p.m. until such day as the President should name.

WEDNESDAY, 22 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met at Commercial Union Chambers, Pitt-street, Sydney, at 2.30 p.m.

Draft Report on one branch of the Inquiry brought up and considered.

The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Thursday, May 23rd.

THURSDAY, 23 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

Commission met at Commercial Union Chambers, Pitt-street, Sydney, at 2 p.m.

Draft Report on Branch of Inquiry, as prepared by the President, brought up, read, and considered.

Several amendments discussed, and matter of approval deferred pending preparation of same, and revision of draft.

Terms of report on Roads Branch of Inquiry debated.

Part of draft as prepared by President, read and considered.

Further consideration postponed to allow of President proceeding with draft.

Meeting adjourned at 7 p.m., until such day as the President should name.

TUESDAY, 28 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

Commission met at Commercial Union Chambers, Pitt-street, Sydney, at 2 p.m.

Mr. Franklin reported a special inspection he had made of Holt-Sutherland Estate, and roads and other works thereon.

His memoranda and particulars read.

The President brought up Draft Report, which he had prepared.

Read and considered.

Further consideration deferred until printing completed.

The meeting adjourned at 4.30 p.m. until such day as the President should name and the Report printed.

WEDNESDAY, 29 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

Commission met at Commercial Union Chambers, Pitt-street, Sydney, at 2.30 p.m.

President reported complaint as to certain letters enclosing evidence for perusal, apparently properly directed and stamped, having gone into Dead Letter office.

Secretary instructed to write to Secretary of General Post Office, requesting an inquiry into the matter.

Mr. Franklin brought up memoranda prepared by him, as to work on Holt-Sutherland Estate and Hornsby property, to be schedules B and C to the Report.

Draft Report further considered, and amendments proposed.

Consideration to stand over, to admit of separate perusal of Draft by Members of the Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 4.30 p.m. until 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, 30th May.

THURSDAY, 30 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

Commission met at Commercial Union Chambers, Pitt-street, Sydney, at 2:30 p.m.

Draft report further considered and amended.

The President reported receipt of a letter from Mr. J. W. Johnson, which was read and considered and the Secretary was instructed to reply thereto.

The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m. until 2:30 p.m., on Friday, 31st May.

FRIDAY, 31 MAY, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

Commission met at Commercial Union Chambers, Pitt-street, Sydney, at 3:30 p.m.

The President reported the receipt of a further letter from Mr. J. W. Johnson as to his firm's connection with the Holt-Sutherland Memorials, which was read and considered.

Also, subsequently the receipt of a document, signed by Messrs. J. W. Johnson, S. A. Want, A.R. Minter, and E. P. Simpson.

Proof of Report as amended brought up and considered.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m. until 11 am. on Monday, 3rd June.

MONDAY, 3 JUNE, 1889.

PRESENT :—

A. J. Cape, Esq., M.A., President.

F. A. Franklin, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. Waller, Esq., J.P.

The Commission met at Board Room, Colonial Secretary's Office, at 11 a.m.

Minutes of six previous meetings read and confirmed.

Report brought up, approved, and signed by all the Members of the Commission.

Secretary instructed to forward the same with Minutes of Evidence, &c., to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary for presentation to His Excellency the Governor.

Resolved, that a letter be written to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, and signed by the Members of the Commission, commendatory of the service of the Secretary, Mr. Burnside, and Mr. J. H. Taylor, and Mr. W. R. Pratt, the shorthand-writers.

Resolved, that the President be authorized to arrange as to the disposal of papers and documents, and do all other things necessary for the closing of the affairs of the Commission.

The Commission adjourned at 1:30 p.m. *sine die*.

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REPORT.

To His Excellency The Right Honorable CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, Her Majesty's Commissioners, appointed by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the Colony, dated the 20th day of February, 1889, have the honor to submit to your Excellency the following Report:—

Our Commission authorized and appointed us or any two of us to make a diligent and full inquiry into—

The working of the Casual Labour Board, consisting of the Honorable John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., Frederick Wells, Esquire, and David Houison, Esquire, from the time of its appointment until the twenty-third day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine.

The mode in, and purposes, for which, public moneys have been expended by the Board, or any Members or Member thereof, or under their or his authority.

The manner in which the said Board and the Members thereof have performed their duties in that behalf.

And to include in such inquiry, but not by way of restriction of the terms or scope thereof,—

An examination into the truth of all charges and statements which have been made before Parliament, or before any Select Committee thereof, touching any alleged improper expenditure by the Board, or any members or member thereof, or under their or his authority, of any public moneys in the improvement of or the making or construction of roads or other works upon the property of any person, partnership, or Company.

And, we were by such Commission enjoined, within a time therein named, to certify what we should find touching the premises.

The Commission was forwarded to us on 22nd February last. As it was not accompanied by any reports or particulars that would instruct us as to the nature or history of the case submitted for our investigation, we addressed the Principal Under Secretary, requesting him to obtain for our information any departmental reports, letters, books, and accounts bearing on the inquiry, or any documents he might have that would assist us in carrying out the investigation.

Various

Various returns and letters were subsequently forwarded to us. For the rest, we were referred to the records and papers then in the office, in Goulburn-street, which had been occupied by the Department known as the Casual Labour Board.

It became, therefore, necessary for us, as a preliminary, to examine into the mass of records, books, plans, and documents that had been collected during the existence of the Board, selecting such as then appeared to us to require special attention, and instructing ourselves as we proceeded with their perusal sufficiently to acquaint ourselves with the history of the Department, and to enable us, as well to decide as to what witnesses should be summoned, as to conduct their examinations without being at a disadvantage.

It will, we think, be conceded that this was no light task, especially in view of the importance of the interests involved, and the commands laid upon us to make "a full and diligent inquiry," and it will, we hope, coupled with the large number of witnesses whom we have found it necessary to examine, sufficiently account for the time which we have occupied in the matters and in concluding our labours under the Commission.

During the Session of the Commission 47 meetings have been held, at which the evidence of 80 witnesses has been obtained.

We have, in all respects, prosecuted the inquiries entrusted to us with all the diligence and care that we could bring to bear on the matter.

From the large range of inquiry indicated by the Commission, it might be claimed, that our investigations should have extended to a close examination of every item of the Board's working during its existence—such for example as the scrutinizing of and taking evidence on all the pay-sheets, vouchers and similar transactions. But, as the time and expense, which such an exhaustive investigation must have involved, would have been very considerable, and more, perhaps, than the results might have justified, we have, in the exercise of our judgment, confined our attention to such features as we believe will answer the ends of our Inquiry.

Our Report will, we think, be found to embrace the more important questions involved.

During the conduct of the Inquiry, several voluntary statements were made by different persons, in the form of letters addressed to us, alleging irregularities in pay-sheets, disposal of stores and rations and such like, and involving other matters of complaint similar in their features to those we have investigated in other districts, and which were said to have occurred at Rookwood, Eckersley Road, Narrabeen, and other places where the Relief Works had been carried on. We have not attempted to investigate every one of these, nor, indeed, could it have been properly done within the time that has been allotted to us.

In considering, at the outset of our labours, the best and most expeditious course of procedure, and after reading the evidence of the various witnesses that had been examined before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly, appointed on 15th November, 1888, we determined, wherever the same witnesses came before us and the circumstances appeared to us to justify the course, to incorporate their previous evidence on our proceedings.

This appeared to us a desirable course, as well on the score of economizing time and expense, as for the purpose of enabling us to contrast their testimony and report on the whole evidence.

In

In such an investigation as this, partaking of an inquiring nature, it was obviously impossible to confine witnesses to strictly legal evidence. Considerable latitude had to be allowed them in giving their evidence, and many documents were produced in the course of the evidence for their assistance and for facilitating reference.

We have not deemed it necessary to include in the Appendix to this Report, copies in full of all the Exhibits that were put in. Those only, that appear to us important for a proper apprehension of the evidence, are fully copied. Others have been shortly particularized.

In many cases as we proceeded, and evidence was given, making various disclosures, we deemed it our duty to call all necessary witnesses on the point, with a view, if possible, to clearing up the matter and to elicit the truth before we came to deliberate on our Report.

We now proceed to the subjects of Inquiry, dealing with them according to the order indicated in our Commission.

The Working of the Board.

The Department, which afterwards became known as the Casual Labour Board, appears to have come into existence in the month of May, 1887.

The members constituting the Department—Messrs. John Davies, Frederick Wells, and David Houison—rely on a document directed to them, and signed by Sir Henry Parkes, dated 2nd May, 1887, as evidencing their appointment and authority.

This document is in the following words :—

In respect to the Unemployed.

THE chief object I have in view, ultimately, is to draft the men off in parties of 400 to 600 to permanent works where their labour may be of value to the country, and from which they may be gradually absorbed (or, at least, a portion of them) by private employers.

In furtherance of this object, work will be provided in the Northern, Southern, and Western divisions of the Colony, in making tanks, works for irrigation purposes, deepening water-courses, and the like. Besides these works, commenced sooner than they might have been under other circumstances, but still of a legitimate character, there will be the construction of the North Shore Railway within a short time, and the conversion of the Lachlan Swamp into a public park, and some limited employment under municipal bodies.

By these various means it is hoped that employment may be found shortly for all industrious men, and that the difficulty will be practically removed.

In the meantime I wish a kind of Labour Bureau opened in Sydney, where a proper register shall be placed in charge of a careful and trustworthy person. I assume that a suitable office may be obtained in Hyde Park Barracks, and one of the clerks there hitherto employed may be detailed off for this duty. In this register the name of every applicant must be entered, with the following particulars :—

Name in full—
 Address—
 Trade or calling—
 Age—
 Nationality—
 Married or single. If married—number and ages of children—
 Date of arrival in the Colony—
 Where from—
 How long unemployed—
 Name of last employer—
 Substance of any certificate of character—

In connection with this principal office in Sydney communication will be established with local authorities in the principal country districts, with a view to obtaining employment for individuals.

All temporary assistance must be given after due inquiry, and in view of the ultimate objects arrived at.

2nd May, 1887.

HENRY PARKES.

John Davies, Esq., C.M.G. ; Col. F. Wells ; D. Houison, Esq.

We

We have been unable to discover any other appointment or authority, and we do not believe there is any such.

Mr. Davies' evidence on this head is :—"I received no instructions whatever, except what are contained in the formal appointment in the printed papers. That was the only instructions that we had of any character." He then identifies the document of 2nd May, 1887. Later on in his evidence he says, consequent on a letter he received from the Colonial Secretary, he called on that gentleman and was asked if he "was prepared to accept the position." The Colonial Secretary "explained the nature of the duties. He asked if I would relieve the Government "of the thousands of people who were clamoring for work for the construction of "railways, public roads, buildings and a variety of works that he named. I said I "was prepared to do so. Then, subsequently, I received the official communication, "which is to be found amongst the papers appointing the Board, coupled with the "duties that were previously suggested, and which we should have to carry out, &c."

Mr. Davies also gave the following evidence on this part of the case :—

- President.*] 10818. Did you make any bargain with the Colonial Secretary ; or did the Colonial Secretary make any offer to you ? Yes ; the Colonial Secretary intimated that we should be paid for our services at any rate.
 10819. Was there any special rate fixed ? No.
 10820. Then the first you knew of it was a short note from the Colonial Secretary asking you to call upon him ? Yes.
 10821. Do you know Sir Henry Parkes other than officially ? Yes.
 10822. Intimately ? Yes ; for thirty years.
 10823. Has he ever been to your house ? Yes ; he has been to my house.
 10824. And have you been to his ? Yes.
 10825. And you are on friendly terms ? Yes.
 10826. You say that there was a distinct understanding on this occasion that there was to be remuneration for your services ? Distinctly ; it was announced in the House several times.
 10827. Are you quite sure ? I have stated distinctly to you already.
 10828. There was to be some remuneration—it was not some gratuitous State service that you were entering on ? No.
 10829. Was anything said about your personal expenses ? Yes ; all my travelling expenses had to be paid.

NOTE made by witness after perusal of the printed evidence as to answer to Q. 10818.—After "intimated" insert "in answer to questions in Parliament," and omit "at any rate."

Mr. Wells' evidence on this head is that Mr. Critchett Walker, the Principal Under Secretary, sent for him and asked if he would act on a Commission to undertake the dispersion of the labour trouble. He adds, "At first I demurred and said that it would interfere with my own Departmental duties, but as he appeared to desire me on account of my previous experience in dealing with these men I acceded to the request." That shortly afterwards he received the original document of 2nd May, 1887, and that he had not previously seen the Colonial Secretary. On the question of remuneration for the duties he performed, extra those of his office in the Roads Department, his evidence is that he had not received anything, and that he had no understanding at all.

Mr. Houison's evidence as to his appointment is, that Mr. Darley was originally appointed, but was unable to undertake the duties—that he was asked if he would accept the appointment—that he did accept it, and subsequently received an unsigned copy of the document of May 2nd, 1887, and that he had no other instructions beyond what was stated in that document. As to remuneration, he stated that he had never received anything, that he had never had any conversation with reference to the matter, and had never asked for anything.

The

The evidence of Sir Henry Parkes and Mr. Critchett Walker may be usefully referred to in connection with this.

The creation of this Department, and the issue of the document of 2nd May, 1887, appears, from the evidence, to have been the act of the Premier and Colonial Secretary. The administration of the Unemployed Relief had previously come under the Colonial Secretary's Department.

Almost immediately following upon the receipt of this document, which was considered as their appointment, Messieurs Davies, Wells, and Houison, having taken upon themselves the duties of the Labour office, held a formal meeting, at which Mr. Davies was elected Chairman of the Board, and to him was delegated what was termed "the executive work" of the Department, but what, substantially, appears by the evidence to have amounted to, almost the entire administration of the office and the control and expenditure of the funds placed at the disposal of the Department.

The Department thenceforth became to be recognised under the name of "The Casual Labour Board" with Mr. Davies as "The Chairman of the Board."

It does not in any way appear that these gentlemen had any express authority to so delegate to one of their number such large powers and responsible functions. Mr. Wells states, that, on the day of the election of the Chairman, he reported what had been done to the Principal Under Secretary, but no formal confirmation of such action has been produced to us. It was, however, known and apparently acquiesced in, for thereafter Mr. Davies always appears in his capacity as Chairman of the Board, and is so recognized in all the official communications that passed between his office and the Department of the Colonial Secretary, which was the Ministerial Department under which the Board came.

From this time until the Board was dissolved on 25th January last, Mr. Davies assumed to exercise and did exercise most of the important duties of the Board, acting in very many instances, and in matters involving considerable expenditure, on his own sole authority.

Notwithstanding his evidence on this point to the contrary, it is quite clear to us from the evidence of Messrs. Wells and Houison, and from the evidence of the officers and clerks in the Casual Labour Department, that he was virtually the Board, and that Messieurs Wells and Houison did not actively engage themselves in the working of the Department. They had other important duties to perform, in connection with their respective offices in the Roads and Bridges Department, and the Harbours and Rivers Department. To the extent they could, they appear to have, whenever asked, given their professional advice, assistance and supervision, and to have bestowed some time and labour on certain of the works where their professional skill was required; but, in most other matters, they appeared to have mainly relied on Mr. Davies, and where their concurrence or signature was necessary or desirable, to have given it without much inquiry.

The mode in and purposes for which Public Moneys have been expended by the Board, or any Members or Member thereof, or under their or his authority.

The moneys required for the purposes of the Board were, it appears, supplied from the Colonial Treasury upon a requisition signed by the members of the Board, forwarded through and sanctioned by the Colonial Secretary's Department. The moneys so supplied were mostly advanced by the Treasury in sums of £6,000, and were paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank to the credit of an account called "The Casual Labour Board."

As further moneys were from time to time required, they were supplied by the Treasury on what, the Examiner of Accounts in the Treasury informed us, was "a guarantee or obligation of the Board to account for the money to the Auditor-General."

In pursuance of this obligation, vouchers supporting expenditure of each £6,000 were at various times furnished by the Board Officers to the Audit Department.

But after a time, according to the evidence of Mr. Corkhill, the amount of the Relief Works Vote became exhausted, and the Treasury had to allow the Board an overdraft, necessitating, according to the Treasury requirements, that all the vouchers covering such overdraft should be sent to them.

We may mention in passing that these were the vouchers supporting payments of £12,203 10s., furnished by the officers of the Board just at the close of the Board's existence, which are referred to in the evidence of Mr. Corkhill, Mr. Eagar, and Mr. McMillan, and which only came under our consideration at a late period of this Inquiry.

The Board's current account with the Australian Joint Stock Bank was, in its early stages, kept in funds by the various £6,000 advances from the Treasury, but subsequently it became overdrawn to a considerable extent. In December, 1887, the Board's overdraft on this Bank account stood at over £18,000. The account was then replenished from the Treasury by an advance of £18,000. It again became overdrawn, the amount of overdraft increasing to £77,722 14s. 8d. in December, 1888. Early in January last a payment from the Treasury of £72,000 was made to the credit of the account. At the time the Board was dissolved the Bank account showed an overdraft of £12,203 10s.

In addition to these advances from the Treasury, moneys in the aggregate, amounting to £334 16s. 3d., had been at various times paid in to the credit of the Board's account in the Australian Joint-Stock Bank, representing seven amounts of £38 4s. 2d., £66 12s. 6d., £41 12s., £5 4s. 6d., £40 1s. 1d., £36 3s. 10d., and £40 12s. 3d., received for sales of firewood, and three amounts of £42 5s. 11d. received for sleepers, £4 received from one Hanley for wood, and £20 received from Carlingford residents for bridge.

A voucher for this amount, £334 16s. 3d., signed by Mr. Davies, was at the termination of the Board's existence left in the Board's office for purpose of making adjustment with the Colonial Treasury. This sum comprises the payments which were

were incidentally referred to in the Special Report presented by us on 29th April last, and which are touched upon in the evidence of Messieurs Hinchcliffe, Hibble, and Davies.

Since this Special Report we have examined William Hillier, the contractor for cutting the firewood. His evidence, though it may not materially affect the matter there reported on, confirms what we then supposed was the course of dealing as regards payments. But his evidence, taken with the evidence of other witnesses on the firewood subject, at once shows how futile it is to attempt to trace with any success the amount of wood cut, where it was delivered, and to whom and for what sold. He says all his books and accounts relating thereto were destroyed. Some wood appears to have been consigned to Mr. Neale, some went to Ashfield, some to Waterfall. The Board only appears to have their knowledge by Hillier coming for payment of his account, and their receiving Mr. Neale's cheques and account sales. But for aught we know or can find out, through the absence of any system of record, there may have been much more wood than the payments we have had evidence of represent.

It is pertinent to the matter of this Special Report to mention, that on finding by the evidence that various payments had been made to the Treasury on account of the Board whilst our Inquiry was proceeding, we, on 15th April last, wrote to the Treasury, requesting that any moneys that might thereafter be tendered for payment should be placed to a Suspense Account pending the Inquiry.

Before finally closing our evidence under this Commission, we, on 21st May last, further examined Mr. Newcombe, an officer of the Treasury, to ascertain what, if any, further payments had been made. He stated that on 7th May last a cheque for £26 17s. 7d., drawn by Mr. Davies on the City Bank in favour of the Treasury, had been paid in by Mr. Davies' son, that the amount had been placed to a Suspense Account as requested, and that no other payments had been made.

The other earlier payments by Mr. Davies into the Treasury of £8 10s. and 10s. (part of £52 13s. 2d.), on 15th February and 25th February last, he stated in his evidence, represented some surplus stores—sugar and crockery—he took over from his predecessors at the time the Board was formed; that the storekeeper, Springall, or Johnson valued them for him, and he bought at that value, according to his evidence, some six months previously. The evidence of Springall, Johnson, and other witnesses on this point does not confirm Mr. Davies' account of the purchase.

As regards the three particular amounts that Mr. Davies received,—When he was examined on 23rd April he stated, that after paying the amounts into the City Bank he cashed cheques for similar amounts at his bank, and held the amounts in cash during all the period. He claimed that this was done “because cheques, neither his nor anybody else's, would be taken at the Treasury”; and, further, “that he was justified in using the money for the purposes of the office”; that “he had to spend sometimes as much as £20 in a week.” Again, “that money was required to pay men who might come in and claim their wages.” Yet it is clear on the evidence that he received at various times, during the existence of the Board, quite independently of these firewood amounts, different sums on account of unclaimed wages, and which he said that he also kept in cash in his safe, available for payment to any claimant. These unclaimed wages sums, it appears, were paid into the Treasury by him on 25th February last, and amounted to £86 11s. 7d. It is also equally clear, that Mr. Hinchcliffe always had petty-cash in the office for supplying office and personal expenses, as will hereafter appear. His

His evidence that when the Board's services were dispensed with, no opportunity was afforded him to look into papers and arrange matters, and that he was not in the Board office after 25th January last, is in direct conflict with Mr. Miles' evidence on the subject which may be usefully referred to, not only on this matter but for his professional opinion as to the office affairs and accounts, so far as he had then gone into them. He states: "Mr. Mason and I had no desire to treat him "with incivility, and we thought that a man like him, as head of the establishment, "might require some little time to fix up his affairs. He remained until the end of "the month, when the pay-day came."

The moneys actually expended by the Board, up to the close of its existence on 25th January last, amounted to £252,424 8s. 10d. In addition to that, there were then outstanding liabilities amounting approximately to £7,256 4s. 9d.

The evidence throughout of those who were competent to speak on the subject, in our opinion, establishes that the expenditure of moneys and all operations on the Bank account were almost entirely controlled by Mr. Davies. Mr. Hinchcliffe, the senior clerk, it is true had to countersign all cheques; but this precaution must have been purely a formal one. Mr. Davies had at the outset been authorised by Messrs. Wells and Houson to draw and sign cheques, and we have no doubt that Mr. Hinchcliffe's confirming signature would follow on Mr. Davies' as a matter of course.

Mr. Wells on this point states, in answer to the question, "You told us that the cheques were signed by Mr. Davies and countersigned by Mr. Hinchcliffe; did you sanction the expenditure from time to time, or did you leave the matter with Mr. Davies?" "We trusted entirely to Mr. Davies. It was much better not to complicate matters. During the time I was on the Board I was away 146 days altogether, from Sydney."

The record of the payments made by cheque, as well as those made in cash, is contained in the Board's cash-book, which upon examination by us presented some curious features.

The evidence of Messrs. Hibble, Hinchcliffe, and Davies bears upon these; Mr. Hinchcliffe, according to the evidence of the members of the Board, was the responsible Accountant. Mr. Hibble, however, appears to have kept this cash-book, while Mr. Hinchcliffe kept the actual cash, which, for convenience of reference, although at times it was a considerable amount, we will call "the petty-cash." Mr. Davies states that he never looked into the books, or checked them or the cash, or in fact interested himself in the matter at all. He regarded Mr. Hinchcliffe as solely responsible. This book shows that between May, 1887, and January, 1889, a sum of £2,921 4s. 9d. was available for treatment as petty-cash. It was made up of cheques drawn against the Board's bank account and cashed—amounting to various sums at a time from £100 to £5—and also of sums which appear to have arisen from returns from pays where, from some cause not clear to us, cheques had been drawn to make pays in excess of the actual requirement, and the amount in excess had been brought back in cash by the clerk who made the pays.

Mr. Davies states, "In the earlier days large sums would be brought back. I have known the Paymaster bring £40 or £50 back, and he utilised it in paying small contingent vouchers."

This course of practice appeared to us extremely irregular, and we pressed our investigation on this head. These

These items are entered in the cash-book in the same column as the petty-cash cheques, appearing as "Refund from Beecroft cheque," "Refund from National Park cheque," "Refund, Rookwood cheque," and so forth. The moneys appear to have been handed to Mr. Hinchcliffe, and placed by him in his petty-cash box with the full knowledge of Mr. Davies.

It appeared in the course of the investigation that at various times, from 10th May, 1887, to 2nd February, 1888, in different pay-sheets sums of money, varying in amounts from £14 to a few pence, were returned, probably through the claimants at the pays not coming up to the pay-table for them, and were handed to Mr. Davies, who signed for the claimant, and held the money, as he says, in his hands in trust and, according to his evidence, with the knowledge of the Audit Department.

Of these moneys, portion was paid over to such of the claimants as called for payment. But the larger portion, amounting to £86 11s. 7d., was, as already stated, paid into the Treasury by Mr. Davies on 25th February last, under the Revenue head of Unclaimed Moneys. Mr. Davies states that he kept these moneys in cash in the drawers in his office-safe, to which nobody had access—that he held it "in order that when we wound up the affairs of the Casual Labour Board it might be adjusted in due form to the Treasury."

We had no way of testing whether this was the case or not, as Mr. Hinchcliffe did not appear to know much about it.

But the peculiarity was, so far as the cash dealings of the office were concerned, why considerable sums of money, returns from pay-sheets, should in some cases be taken over by Mr. Hinchcliffe for petty-cash, in other cases be handed to Mr. Davies, and, as it appeared from a statement furnished us by the Treasury, in other cases of some unclaimed sums paid direct into the Treasury.

Mr. Davies' explanation of the inconsistency in the practice was unintelligible, at least to us. He says in one place "some were held back to feed the petty-cash, and others were paid in simply to adjust vouchers." And in many other parts of his evidence, to which reference can be made, he endeavoured to supply an explanation which we have quite failed to grasp.

The practice of retaining such moneys either intact, or in aid of office cash operations, was, we think, altogether wrong, and we cannot believe obtains in any other Government Department. Mr. Ormiston's evidence on this head might usefully be referred to.

The payments out of petty-cash were entered in an inner column of the cash-book but not on every line. Throughout the book available spaces appear. The payments by cheque were entered in an outer column. So far as the petty-cash column shows, it would not seem that entries were made at the time the payments were, and we could not find any other petty-cash book.

Mr. Hinchcliffe, in one part of his evidence states, as follows:—

President.] 769. Were any other large cash payments made beyond those to the labourers? No; there would be small ones. We would perhaps draw a cheque for £50 or £100 for cash, because some of the men would be dissatisfied and throw it up, and ask to be paid when they came in under what is called *interim* vouchers. We used to draw a cheque, perhaps for £100, to pay these in cash. That is shown in the cash-book. There are two columns, and the whole of the amounts paid in cash appeared in the cash column.

770. Did you always keep a large sum of petty-cash in the office? Not a large sum—from £10 to £50 [*on revision by witness altered to £100*] perhaps; but never more than £50 [*on revision by witness altered to £100*]; of course we would use that before we drew any more.

We

We found, according to the cash-book, that Mr. Hinchcliffe's evidence, that they used up proceeds of one petty-cash cheque before they drew any more was not supported.

The following tabulated particulars will show the state of the cash-book in several instances on or just before the drawings of petty-cash cheques:—

Date of drawing of cash-cheque as per cash-book.	Amount of cheque.	Amount at credit.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
13 June, 1888	50 0 0	343 4 8
29 June, 1888	100 0 0	364 5 2
28 July, 1888	100 0 0	390 18 3
7 September, 1888	50 0 0	416 1 6
17 September, 1888	25 0 0	451 11 4
27 September, 1888	50 0 0	472 5 10
15 October, 1888	50 0 0	462 15 2
23 October, 1888	10 0 0	515 4 6
1 November, 1888	50 0 0	493 3 8
13 November, 1888	25 0 0	535 16 1
22 November, 1888	25 0 0	536 16 1
3 December, 1888	100 0 0	549 5 9

This apparent anomaly was pointed out to Mr. Hinchcliffe, and his evidence, in the main, was, the cash-book did not correctly show the state of affairs—he always had a lot of contingent vouchers in his box.

Mr. Hibble, who, it will be recollected, kept the cash-book, gave the following evidence:—

- President.*] 7000. Had Mr. Hinchcliffe anything to do with the accounts except the petty-cash? Yes; not with the cash-book.
7001. Did he examine it? I believe he did.
7002. Did Mr. Davies examine it? I do not think he could have done so if he had tried. I do not think he is well enough up in figures.
7003. When Mr. Hinchcliffe wanted money for petty-cash, do you know how he arrived at the amount he wanted? Only by his books.
7004. Did he ever compare his petty-cash with your book? Never to my knowledge.
- * * * * *
7010. Do you know what was the largest amount of petty-cash in the office at any one time? Whatever the largest cheque is drawn for. The largest one, £150; but you could not call it a petty-cash cheque. It was drawn at Centennial time to make payments, but it did not remain in the office more than two days.
7011. Was that the largest? Yes.
7012. What were the others? £100, £75, £25.
7013. Mr. Hinchcliffe says from £50 to £100? It never exceeded £100, excepting on that one occasion, as far as I know.
7014. I think he stated in his evidence that he never had in hand, as petty-cash, more than £100;—would that be about correct? No; he must be wrong, as the book shows different to that. He must be a lot out there.
7015. Look at page 80 of this cash-book [*Exhibit E 8*];—what is the balance to the credit of petty-cash there? £390 18s. 3d.
7016. On what date? On July 27.
7017. What is the entry on the debit side of the cash-book? The other side shows a cheque obtained for petty-cash £100.
7018. According to this book, then, on the date that petty-cash cheque for £100 was obtained there should be £390 18s. 3d. of petty-cash in hand? Yes.
7019. Can you understand that? Mr. Hinchcliffe should have had that money in his box.
7020. This showed then that there was £490 18s. 3d. in hand? Yes.
7021. Is not that an extraordinary thing? Yes, it is; but it was no business of mine.
7022. Did you know of it? I did.
7023. Did you not consider it part of your duty to mention it to him in the interests of your employers? I could never tell what vouchers he had in his possession. I did not know but that he had vouchers for all that money.
7024. It does not require a skilled accountant to see that it was a strange thing that £100 should be drawn for petty-cash when there was £390 18s. 3d. in hand? He might give me £200 of vouchers to enter up.

7025.

NOTE made by witness after perusal of the printed evidence:—Q. 7002.—For “I, &c.” to “tried” read “It was not in his province to do so.” Add “and certainly he was not the Accountant.” Q. 7014.—Add “taking his vouchers into consideration.”

7025. Is it not irregular on the face of it? Yes.
 7026. Has your attention been called to it? Yes.
 7027. By whom? By Larnach.
 7028. During the time this was going on? Yes.
 7029. How long ago is it since Larnach drew your attention to it? I cannot say; about six or seven months ago I should think.
 7030. I have just taken one instance, I have no doubt there are many others, where large cheques were drawn for petty-cash when the book showed already a large credit to petty-cash. Were you aware of that? No; because I could not tell how the vouchers stood. In one instance I spoke to Mr. Hinchcliffe on the matter.
 7031. What was the balance in hand then? I believe from £250 to £300. He told me himself.
 7031½. Of the office money? Yes; and he said he was that much out of pocket by being secretary in charge of the cash.
 7032. How? He said he had paid vouchers which had been sent up to the park, and never returned.
 7033. When did he tell you that? At the beginning of the year.
 7034. Of this year? Yes.
 7035. Did you ever hear of him being short in his cash before? He never told me he was short.
 7036. Was he to your knowledge? According to the books I knew he must be short.
 7037. You knew he was? I could not swear he was.
 7038. Were you not responsible for the books? Yes.

NOTE made by witness after perusal of the printed evidence :—Q. 7025.—Add “not entering up the vouchers at once.”
 Q. 7036.—Add “unless he had vouchers.”

Later on in his examination comes the following evidence :—

- President.*] 7292. Had you a petty-cash box? Mr. Hinchcliffe had the key.
 7293. Have you seen it? Certainly I have.
 7294. Have you seen the amount of cash in it? I could not tell what was in it. I never touched it.
 7295. You were aware that Mr. Hinchcliffe drew for petty-cash when you had over £300 to credit shown in the cash-book? Yes.
 7296. Did you know what the balance was? No, because I never knew how things were. Mr. Hinchcliffe did not put in the vouchers in a proper way. If things had been worked according to proper routine one would have known.
 7297. Did Mr. Hinchcliffe ever tell you he was short in his cash? Yes.
 7298. About the new year? Yes.
 7299. Before or after his Melbourne trip? After.
 7300. What amount? Between £250 and £300.
 7301. Did you not say he said that he had to make it good by drawing on his own private account? He told me he had to make it good, and I believe that he drew on his own bank, the London and Chartered Bank.
 7302. How did you get that belief? Because I have seen him draw cheques out.
 7303. Will you swear he told you that he made it good? Yes, I will.

NOTE made by witness after perusal of the printed evidence :—Q. 7302.—Add “on that bank.”

It should here be noted, that Hibble, when his evidence was, some time after it was given, submitted to him for perusal, made corrections which are noted at foot of his evidence in Minutes of Evidence attached to this Report. Further, that when recalled for further evidence on 21st May last, he stated that his previous evidence on this point was “wrong” “not untrue”—“a certain part of it true, a certain part not.” He was then asked if he had had any discussion with Hinchcliffe since giving his previous evidence—He said, “He had,”—“About a week ago”; that Hinchcliffe had said, “I think you put me away”; I said, “I don’t think I have.” He also said the expression “put me away” was Hinchcliffe’s.

The point about “the lost vouchers” mentioned in Hibble’s evidence is also touched upon in the evidence of Messrs. Davies, Burrowes, and Larnach, and in the evidence of Burrowes there is also reference to the shortness in cash; but Mr. Hinchcliffe denies it, and claims that he always had vouchers.

Be this as it may, in December last, shortly after Mr. Hinchcliffe’s return from Melbourne—Mr. Hibble having had charge of the petty-cash in his absence, and when the petty-cash as per book showed a balance of £549 5s. 9d., and without the drawing of any fresh cash cheque—cash vouchers began to be entered up pretty freely, some of them for different officers’ personal expenses, and others for items

that had always previously been paid by cheque. In the end, the book is balanced up, and there is a credit of £5 5s. 10d., which was duly paid into the Treasury on 14th February last.

Amongst the other items charged in the cash entries is an item on 27th December, 1888, entered, "Hon. J. Davies, Genl., £261 10s.," which is, according to Mr. Davies' evidence, the amount of his personal expenses as Chairman, and the payment of which was approved of by the Colonial Secretary on 14th January, 1889. Mr. Davies said he had not any memoranda or record of what these expenses were—that he thought "they were destroyed when the money was paid."

We discovered in one of the books an account headed "Chairman in account with Secretary," showing several items of payments in May, June, July, and August, 1887, and a note at foot, "Acc. made up to 29/10/88, £155 7s. 8d." Mr. Hinchcliffe confirmed this; Mr. Davies did not dispute it, at any rate so far as we can detach what his evidence is meant to convey. Mr. Hibble, when examined as to this payment, spoke of Mr. Davies having a "little bye-account" with Mr. Hinchcliffe. Yet not one single entry of the items we discovered—which must have been charges against cash—appears in the cash-book until the lump sum of £261 10s. on 27th December last.

With this before us, we cannot unreservedly accept the entries in this cash-book as faithfully recording the way in which moneys have been expended, nor, on the other hand, have we evidence which would entitle us to reject the vouchers that have been advanced in support of the cash payments. Many of them are for personal expenses and payments made to the clerks and to the officers in the field under the Board, which appear to have been allowed somewhat liberally. For example, in Mr. Hinchcliffe's case, as he had the sole charge of the cash it would appear he paid himself. Mr. Hibble's evidence on this point is instructive:—

President.] 7308. What had Mr. Hinchcliffe in the way of allowances? He would be allowed half-a-sovereign when he went away and his expenses.

7309. What are his expenses? His meals.

7310. You say half-a-sovereign and his other expenses? It is a Government allowance. It is £1 by right, but they only allow 10s. in this case.

7311. Where would he get the money from? He would pay himself.

7312. Did you see the vouchers for these drawings? Yes; they went through my books.

7313. Had you any means of checking what Mr. Hinchcliffe saw fit to allow himself for expenses? None whatever. Whatever he liked to allow himself he could.

7314. As far as you know these allowances might have been bogus? I had no means of checking them.

7315. He could have taken £5 instead of 10s. if he had chosen? Yes.

The total payments to Mr. Hinchcliffe for salary, allowances and personal expenses during the existence of the Board, amount, so far as we can gather from, and relying on the cash-book, to £837 2s. 10d. He stated, that if his monthly salary of £29 3s. 4d. were deducted from the total payments, the balance might fairly be taken as his allowances and personal expenses, which, however, it is fair to state sometimes included payments for the Board. Making all allowances though, his extra receipts must have been fully £200.

With such knowledge of the workings of the Board as we have been enabled to gain, we cannot understand where so large an expenditure for personal expenses could be justified. For it must be borne in mind that there are in addition, quite independent vouchers for buggy and cab hire, a cab also being permanently engaged by the establishment and paid for by separate voucher. It appears several of these cab-hire vouchers had, previously to our investigating them, attracted the attention of the Auditor-General as he wrote to the
Principal

Principal Under Secretary, on 25th February last, for information as to approval, and pointing out that "the vouchers enclosed exhibit apparently excessive daily charges for cab-hire, 176 days, at 18s. 3d. per day."

As a not unimportant amount of the expenditure of the Board has gone in the payment of salaries, allowances, and personal expenses to clerks and officers employed in connection with the Casual Labour Board, it appears to us convenient here to allude to them.

The clerks and officers employed in the head or town office of the Board were:—T. C. Hinchcliffe, F. J. Josephson, A. E. Hibble, and A. Larnach, with detective officer Tyndall and constable Cheney, who were detailed for duty in connection with the Board.

They have all been examined by us, and from their evidence, with that of the members of the Board, the working and departmental history of the head office can be gleaned. We have found it impossible, after many attempts, to make a summary of their evidence with any satisfactory result. The whole of it should be read, and we ask that it be taken as incorporated in this Report.

Mr. Hinchcliffe was the senior clerk. He was designated Secretary and Paymaster, and, notwithstanding some of his evidence, he was considered by all the members of the Board to be the responsible Accountant. Mr. Davies unquestionably so regarded him, and throughout Mr. Davies' evidence it will be seen he placed the responsibility on him, stating that he was appointed by the Government. Mr. Davies said, "The Board made no appointment of officers. The Colonial Secretary made two appointments, but we made none."

This is not altogether correct. From the records it would appear that in the latter part of May, 1887, the Chairman of the Board wrote some letter as to Mr. Hinchcliffe's appointment, upon which Sir Henry Parkes wrote the minute which appears in the Appendix hereto [*Exhibit B 9*]. That letter was withdrawn, and apparently Mr. Davies' letter of 31st May, 1887, in the Appendix hereto [*Exhibit B 8*] was substituted. This letter recommended the appointment of Mr. Hinchcliffe and Mr. F. J. Josephson, and his recommendation appears to have been confirmed on 3rd June, 1887.

Mr. F. J. Josephson was Registrar and Assistant Pay-master. Messieurs Hibble and Larnach were appointed by Mr. Davies, apparently without reference to the other members of the Board. The office duties of Messieurs Hinchcliffe, Hibble, and Larnach were conducted in the same room as Mr. Davies occupied. While Mr. Josephson's duties as Registrar engaged him in another room, and were of a nature somewhat distinct from the other clerks. This gentleman appears from the evidence to have satisfactorily performed the duties entrusted to him.

Mr. Hibble seems to have given satisfaction to the Chairman, but his and other evidence submitted to us show that, though he was aware of many irregularities and defective departmental administration, he made no report of it, as he said, not considering it his duty to do so.

Mr. Larnach is spoken of in strong depreciatory terms by Mr. Davies and also by the clerks. In many respects his evidence did not favorably impress us; nor indeed can we say that our conclusions from the evidence of Messrs. Hinchcliffe and Hibble are altogether favorable to them.

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The field or district officers and clerks were F. N. Oxley, E. M. Burrowes, A. M'Pherson, H. T. Sanderson, F. O'Donnell, H. Little, J. H. Springall, and a number of overseers and assistant storekeepers, whose evidence is appended hereto, and which we cannot satisfactorily summarize, though a perusal of it is necessary to properly understand this Report.

There can be no doubt that the Board, if not the Chairman, had the power at any time either to dismiss or recommend for dismissal any of the clerks or officers.

Mr. Burrowes, on the field staff, appears to have given great dissatisfaction to Messieurs Wells and Houison at an early stage in the discharge of his professional duties. At a later date Mr. Davies generally condemns him. It appears, from the evidence of Mr. Deering, that when the supervision of the unemployed was passed over from him to the Casual Labour Board he left records, and he thinks reports, affecting adversely Burrowes and Springall. From Mr. Davies' and other evidence it would seem that Mr. Davies was aware of these records or reports, as he was, later on, aware of Burrowes' imperfections and shortcomings. Yet no proper action was taken either in his case, or in that of Springall, or of Larnach. In fact, it would appear from the evidence that the whole staff was working satisfactorily and in harmony until the latter part of last year, when discord and accusations arose.

It is beyond doubt, on the evidence, that Burrowes, the Superintendent of the Southern District, had and exercised extraordinary powers of ordering tools and plant, regulating the disposition and terms of payment for the work of large numbers of men throughout his district, and reporting on and recommending to the Chairman construction of roads and other work, and which were carried out, involving very large expenditure. Also that Larnach was entrusted with fairly important duties, and in some cases acted as Paymaster; although Mr. Davies' evidence is "He simply acted as messenger, and had to index the records."

It is therefore unaccountable to us, that with the opinions that the members of the Board had, and especially with the opportunities that the Chairman had, these officers were retained in the service, and we cannot believe that Mr. Davies was not aware of their irregularities until the latter part of last year.

The only other district officer we need here specially allude to is J. H. Springall. He was Principal Storekeeper in the Southern District, and as such was permitted, without any substantial check or proper precaution, to order rations, deal with the stores, make out pay-sheets, and generally manage the whole store, and pay department of an extensive district, which he did apparently with a free hand, and to an extent which led to a vast and, we think, as will hereafter appear, an improper expenditure of the moneys which the Board were entrusted to administer.

According to Mr. Deering's evidence, he left with his successors the Casual Labour Board papers about Springall, which ought to have prevented his being retained in so responsible a post, at any rate without regular and competent supervision. It can be no justification that the Board simply continued him on from their predecessors because they found him there.

A large amount of the expenditure went in the supplies of rations. Mr. Kidman, the contractor, gives the total amount of payments to him on account of rations supplied £53,020. His contract specified that he was to deliver, "at his own expense, whenever, wherever, and however demanded by the Board or officers acting for them."

His

His evidence is, that he complied strictly with this, and probably he believed that the expense of delivery to the proper places was always borne by him. Yet, we found vouchers for payment for cartage of rations, and such payments appear in the pay-sheets, continued up to the discovery of the charge by Messieurs Miles and Mason, as pointed out in the evidence of Mr. Miles. There can be no doubt that but slight inquiry and supervision would have detected this, and thus this expenditure would have been saved.

In dealing particularly with the rations question and irregularities that the evidence discloses, we have been obliged by reason of the large range of our Inquiry to limit our attention more particularly to the Southern District. Beyond some voluntary written statements that were forwarded to us, which we did not think we could usefully expend our time and energy on, we have not become aware of any ration irregularities in the Northern Districts.

But, in the Southern District we discovered some serious irregularities. Springall, as clerk and storekeeper at the National Park, gave the orders for stores on his own responsibility, took delivery, and had the sole charge, and disposal of them, keeping such books and records as he thought fit and apparently without any other than, at most, a very superficial inspection.

According to Mr. Kidman's evidence, throughout the existence of the Board, although the members of the Board disclaim any knowledge of it, Springall was supplied on private account by Mr. Kidman with goods and stores; and although the dealings were not large, they were quite sufficient, in view of other irregularities, to justify a suspicion that there was not fair play.

The evidence of Springall, G. W. M. Johnson, and H. J. Goodman, should be read on this branch of the subject. But as the matter brings us to the consideration of some of the pay-sheets, in which the rations are taken into account, we propose to consider their evidence with that of Bell, Burrowes, M'Leod, M'Pherson, Crossthwaite, W. M. Robertson, Flemming, and Dick.

The evidence goes to establish that for a considerable time, apparently as far as we could discover from June, 1888, probably earlier, and up to December, 1888, a man named Flemming appeared on the pay-sheets, and was paid sums varying from £14 to £20 every fortnight as though a ganger with a gang of eight, seven, or five men at different times—his name appearing as a ganger, or representing work of a gang, sometimes on the Sutherland-Loftus Road pay-sheet, principally on the Heathcote Agricultural pay-sheet, and sometimes on the Woronora River Road pay-sheet.

The draft or abstracts from which the fair copy pay-sheets were compiled, and which were handed in to Springall by the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and different overseers, did *not* contain the name of Flemming. The original pay-sheets in Springall's handwriting did, and frequently the name appeared last on the pay-sheet.

Springall did not satisfactorily explain this; he admitted the pay-sheets in question were false. He stated that he got the information to put in the pay-sheet from Mr. Bell or Mr. Burrowes. Later on in his evidence he named Burrowes, and said he got written instructions first and followed it up the same way afterwards.

It appears from Springall's own admissions that Flemming paid him back at least some portion of the money, between £20 and £22, but if, as we are inclined
from

from the evidence to think it is, the whole thing was a fraud, it is probable that the repayments were not so limited. At the time, Flemming is stated to have been "a rouse-about" "grooming Burrowes' horse," and such like, but not a ganger, and so employed at a considerable distance from the places where the pays were made and he appeared to receive them. In December last Springall resigned his office and took Flemming into his service.

Flemming was examined, and claimed that he was a ganger, and that his name and amount on the pay-sheets were correct. Dick, whom he claimed to be one of his gang, on examination disclaimed the position. The police officers, Tyndall and Cheney, whose duties sometimes brought them to the pays, were examined, but were not able to throw any light on the matter.

Flemming's name appears in the National Park pay-sheets from July, 1887, until February, 1888, sometimes with three and sometimes with one man, and he probably was on these pay-sheets correctly—a few odd men about the camp being placed with him for convenience of pay. From December, 1887, to February, 1888, he appears in an individual capacity on the pay-sheets. But thereafter he appears as a ganger with a gang of five, six, or seven, or he is down on the pay-sheets simply as "metal-breakers" or as "Flemming and gang," in each case showing amounts and rations, &c., which would be properly due to a gang of that number.

The form of pay-sheet has the following heads:—Name—amount of work done—rate—amount earned—deducted for rations—cash paid—received payment—date—witness.

Frederick Crossthwaite, whose evidence appears in the Minutes of Evidence attached to this Report, deposed as to other irregularities he discovered in March, 1888, in regard to pays and rations, in which, according to him, Springall was implicated, and that he brought the matter officially under the attention of Mr. Davies. He speaks of Flemming "as one of Springall's factotums."

W. M. Robertson, from whom the Commission received several letters at the outset of their labours, was examined with a view of testing the value of the statements he made. It appeared, though, he was only on the works for about three months at the start. He gave evidence of irregularities involving Springall, which he claimed to have reported frequently to Members of the Board. Mr. Davies, in his evidence, stated that Robertson was dismissed for drunkenness, and he apparently had no recollection of any reports having been made to him as indicated by the other witnesses.

After we had closed the taking of evidence on this head a report of apparent irregularities on George's River pay-sheets was, on 13th May last, referred to us by the Colonial Secretary. It disclosed that one Thomas Boulden, puntman at George's River Ferry, and in receipt of salary on the staff of the Roads Department, had been paid on the George's River pay-sheets as a labourer on the Relief works. We examined overseer M'Leod and Boulden. We found that Boulden's name did appear on the pay-sheets as a labourer at 5s. a day, with a deduction for rations. The evidence disclosed that he never was a labourer on the Relief works, never received rations, and the overseer (M'Leod) said the pay-sheet was false. This pay-sheet was signed at foot by Superintendent Burrowes. The payment appears to have been made by T. C. Hinchcliffe, and witnessed by J. H. Springall. In addition to this, Boulden had sent in contingent vouchers for claim for ferry dues, which were certified to by Burrowes.

Mr.

Mr. Davies says that "he went to the pays in order to adjust any grievance between the men and the overseers and superintendents, that he examined the stores and supplies, and dealt with complaints"; and again, that "he checked Springall's books and returns." If any such examination and checking were made—as to which we have no satisfactory evidence—it must have been of the most superficial character.

Mr. Davies states he was present at most of the large pays, but there was a large number of other pays made by Hinchcliffe, Hibble, Josephson, and Larnach in different districts, at which considerable sums of money were paid away.

The system adopted in making the pays was, it seems, satisfactory, if it was strictly carried out in all cases, which we have much reason for doubting.

Mr. Ormiston, who since the dissolution of the Board has been attending to the pay branch, gave evidence which can be usefully referred to on this point—that he was following the same system, but in every instance he referred the men to the superintendent and overseer who were present, and each ganger had a docket.

We have no doubt there was careless supervision in many of the pays and want of precaution in the selection of the officers who had the compiling, verification, and carrying out of the pay-sheets, resulting—we have much reason for believing—in the misapplication of moneys.

It will be seen from the foregoing, and in a greater degree from a perusal of the whole evidence, how unreliable—as records—are the pay-sheets, store and ration books, and other accounts in the Southern District. We could not, therefore, trust them as affording a faithful ground-work for our Inquiry on this branch, or for enabling us to accurately arrive at what was the legitimate expenditure.

But we submit, for your Excellency's consideration, as to whether the evidence of the witnesses to whom we have specially referred, should not be laid before the Law Advisers to the Crown to determine whether any further action should be taken in the premises.

The expenditure for tools and plant forms a considerable item.

From a return furnished us by Messieurs M'Lean Brothers and Rigg (Limited)—one of the firms who supplied the Board—the payments to them between July, 1887, and January, 1888, were £4,670 6s. 1d. In addition, they claim a balance still due to them for goods supplied of £1,610 6s. 4d., making, in all, an expenditure of £6,280 12s. 5d.

M'Lean Brothers and Rigg did not supply the Board under the Government contract schedule prices. Mr. Davies said he did not find that out till about six months after commencement of the Board, and that he then adopted a practice of deducting $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., acting on some information of Mr. Hinchcliffe. Mr. Wood, manager of the firm, stated they had a schedule of prices for the general Government contracts, but not for the Casual Labour Board. He did not know of any arrangement for $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. deduction. His firm looked upon the Board as a wholesale buyer.

It is noticeable that Mr. Davies took prompt steps to obtain fair terms by calling for tenders in the case of rations, but no steps were taken as regards supplies of tools and plant. The reason he gave for not so doing was because he "did not anticipate

anticipate that the Board would last more than a few months." The other Members of the Board do not, from the evidence, seem to have known of the terms under which M'Lean Brothers and Rigg were supplying. A considerable amount of money might have been otherwise saved, and on this point the evidence of Mr. A. Freeman might be usefully read.

The ordering of tools and plant, at any rate in the Southern Districts, it appears from the evidence rested in a large measure on Superintendent Burrowes and Storekeeper Springall. Requisitions were freely made, and often, it would seem, responded to by the persons supplying, in larger quantities than were requisitioned for. Deliveries of the tools, plant, and similar supplies were made in most cases to the railway station. But after that the arrangements for receiving, checking, storing, and distribution appear to have been of the very loosest kind. The evidence of Burrowes, Springall, G. W. M. Johnson, and of the clerks in the head office, sufficiently establishes this.

The practice that the Casual Labour Board claimed to prevail was—when plant, tools, powder, or such like were requisitioned for or considered by Mr. Davies to be necessary, a printed form of order for the articles or stores required was filled up in the head office and signed by Mr. Davies, the articles or stores ordered being also written in the butt of the order-book.

The order would then be forwarded to the firm or tradesman with whom the Board did business. Apparently nothing further would be heard—except casually in some cases—that the order had been complied with and goods received, until the firm or tradesman sent to the head office the usual printed form of Government pay-voucher for contingent expenses, with the particular articles ordered written in, the date, the number of the order, and the cost—the contingent voucher being signed by the claimant, and, as was stated, with the original issue order attached. The head office, after *to a certain extent* checking it, then sent the voucher to the Superintendent of the District, to which it would appear the goods had been forwarded. The Superintendent then signed as "*the officer incurring the expense,*" and returned it to the head office, after which it would be paid, then signed by Mr. Davies as head of the department.

The evidence discloses that these contingent pay-vouchers were not properly checked. They were not compared with the butts of the order-book. Neither Mr. Hinchcliffe nor Mr. Hibble took this precaution. Mr. Hinchcliffe disclaimed any responsibility beyond seeing that the different names and signatures were on the document. Mr. Davies' evidence is that it was done, but we are satisfied on the evidence it was not done. Hibble states he simply checked the computations and castings.

In the case of the Southern District, and as regards the contingent vouchers of M'Lean Brothers and Rigg, the Superintendent signing above the title on the voucher, "*Officer incurring the expense,*" was "E. M. Burrowes." He appears to have signed as a matter of course, regarding it, apparently, as quite a form, and without making much, if, indeed, any, inquiry whether the goods had been properly ordered, whether they were required, and whether they had been received.

Mr. Davies said that the practice was always to send written orders—if verbal orders were given they were generally confirmed by written orders. Many of the cases that we have examined do not bear this out.

Mr.

Mr. Miles tells us in his evidence that he and Mr. Mason were appointed to take over charge on 25th January last—that Mr. Davies remained at the office until 31st January—that on the day afterwards Mr. Hinchcliffe saw him and handed him a number of M'Lean Brothers and Rigg's accounts or contingent vouchers, and asked him to sign a cheque for them so that they could be paid. Mr. Miles said "they could not be paid." Mr. Hinchcliffe's and Mr. Davies' evidence to a considerable extent is confirmatory as to the handing over to Mr. Miles of these vouchers.

These vouchers, it is admitted on the evidence, bore on their face all the signatures that were required to secure their payment, and most probably they would have been paid in due course without further inquiry had it not been for Mr. Miles' intervention.

We examined the vouchers and took evidence on them, as we found in many cases the particulars therein did not tally with the butts of the order-book. In some cases there was not any record at all in the order-book. In other cases the particulars in the voucher were in excess of, and differed from, the particulars in the butt of the order-book; while in one somewhat peculiar instance the contingent voucher of Messieurs M'Lean Brothers and Rigg, with a number corresponding to that in the butt of the order-book, and which voucher had all the signatures and authority on it to warrant its immediate payment, contained absolutely different articles.

In this instance the order 552, both as per butt of order-book and as per the order itself, which we obtained and found to have been duly signed "John Davies, Chairman," was for "*one hamper-basket*," while the contingent voucher, similarly numbered in its margin (552), and duly signed by "J. H. Wood" as claimant, "E. M. Burrowes," as "*officer incurring the expense*," and "John Davies, Head of the Department," was for "6 coils Manilla rope, £3 10s."

The matter became more mixed when in inquiring as to another contingent voucher of M'Lean Brothers and Rigg—which comprised the following: "24 long-handled shovels, £4 16s.; 4 hammers, £1 14s.; total, £6 10s."—we could not find any order or other record of any requisition for the articles.

Mr. Wood, M'Lean Brothers and Riggs's manager, could not explain either of the vouchers. We examined Mr. Lawn, the firm's clerk, whom Mr. Wood referred to, as the clerk who had special charge of the Government Orders Department. Lawn admitted that the particulars written in the body of the contingent voucher, "6 coils Manilla rope, £3 10s.," were in his handwriting, but he could not produce any entry in any of the books to justify it, but only an entry on that day with the same number, as follows, "One hamper-basket, £3 10s."

As to the items in the other voucher for "24 long-handled shovels, £4 16s., and 4 hammers £1 14s., total, £6 10s.," of which we found no record amongst the Board's papers, Lawn also identified the particulars in that as being in his handwriting. He searched his books, but could not find any entry for the item, or produce any receipt evidencing delivery of the goods. But he gave evidence that there had been two hamper-baskets supplied; the cost of the first was £6 10s., the cost of the second was £3 10s., the amounts in each case corresponding with the amounts in the shovels and hammers' voucher, and the Manilla rope voucher. He stated that both of these baskets had been returned, and that there were pencilled credits in their books for the amounts that had escaped observation.

The explanation as to these vouchers is on all sides unsatisfactory. The evidence of Larnach and Burrowes is that the two vouchers were deliberately, with the connivance of Hibble and Davies, substituted for the hamper baskets. Hibble's and Davies' evidence in no way confirms this version. Hibble states, "I know nothing of them, excepting what is upon them." He denies that Davies asked for the vouchers in Burrowes' presence, or that he handed them for signature, or that he gave any explanation to Burrowes or anyone as to their meaning, and adds, "Vouchers were always posted out to the works." But he admits having obtained one picnic-basket, and believes there was another. Davies' evidence is that the articles in the £6 10s. voucher were actually ordered and delivered, while the £3 10s. voucher is, so far as he is concerned, virtually without any explanation, and he claims that the vouchers were signed by Burrowes at the works, not at the office.

The following is an extract from Mr. Davies' evidence on this matter:—

President.] 10707. Here is another of M'Lean Brothers and Rigg's contingent vouchers for £6 10s.—twenty-four long-handled shovels and four hammers. Will you tell me where the order is for that—this is one you recognized as having been left by you with Mr. Hinchcliffe? I could not say anything at all about it. The order ought to be in the book.

10708. We have searched, and can find no order in the book? I think that as regards these things, instead of being sent to Hurstville they were delivered at the office, for the purpose of going to the men employed in clearing the dam at the Little Bay Hospital. One of the inmates of the hospital was found drowned, and the water was found polluted, and under the direction of the Colonial Architect we put on some thirty men, and these shovels were ordered for them.

10709. Who ordered them? They should have been ordered by Mr. Hibble. Some of the shovels were left in the office when I left at the end of January.

10710. Then you say that these twenty-four long-handle shovels and four hammers were delivered at the office? Yes; I think they were.

10711. Can you account for our not finding any written order for them? No; my impression was that you would have found it. I thought you would have found an order for everything that was ordered.

10712. Will you look at this document, [*Exhibit E 2*]—a contingent voucher for £3 10s. M'Lean Bros. and Rigg—six coils of Manilla rope;—its number is 552, and if you compare that with the butt in the order-book you will see that the corresponding entry in the order-book is a hamper-basket;—will you explain that? The hamper-basket that I used for going these journeys for twelve months—it was my own private property—got the handle broken through going out to these different works on pay-days, and I sent Mr. Hibble to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg to see if they could provide me with a basket. They sent me a basket, but it was too expensive; and I immediately told them that I would have to return it, and that I wanted a less expensive basket, and that the price would be between £3 and £4. I returned the basket myself, taking it in a cab and returning it. I told the man in charge there to credit the office with the basket as being returned. They sent me another one, but it was too small, still expensive, and no use; I returned that; I told the ledger-keeper and told Mr. Lawn that we must be credited with these. There has been no voucher passed by me for them. I should have thought it no crime if I had got a basket for 25s. or 30s. to go out to these different works, to have charged the Government with it. I should have thought it no crime seeing that I was getting nothing for my services. That is my explanation.

10713. Do you recollect what the price of the first basket that you returned was? I think it was about £3.

10714. Do you recollect what the price of the second was? £2.

10715. Did they credit you with these baskets? I went myself to the shop and told them they must credit us with the basket. I went to the ledger-keeper. You will find no voucher passed by me for a hamper-basket.

10716. Will you explain what is the meaning of No. 552 in the order-book being one hamper-basket, and the corresponding number on M'Lean Bros. & Rigg's voucher, signed by you, is for six coils of Manilla rope? No. I must say I have explained to you the whole of the hamper-basket business. You could send for the firm. I do not suppose a respectable firm like that would care to tell a lie. They would not sully their trade reputation.

10717. I want your evidence; you are the man that we have to deal with now. Do you on your solemn oath tell me that you know nothing further about this hamper-basket and these six coils of Manilla rope than you have told us? Certainly.

10718. Who signed the voucher for these six coils of rope? Mr. Burrowes.

10719. Where were the vouchers signed by him? At the works.

10720. Nowhere else? No; he never signed them in the office. If it were my last words, I would say, on my oath, that he never signed them in my office.

10721. I never asked you that; that is a piece of voluntary information on your part. Who asked anything about his signing them in the office? You asked me if he signed them in my presence.

10722. I did not ask you whether he signed them in the office. I simply asked where Mr. Burrowes signed, and you answer me that he never signed them in the office. I hope
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the shorthand-writer has got it down as you said it. Now let us get a little more about this. Do you notice that these vouchers have not got the stamp of the Southern District upon them? They often do not have the stamp of the Southern District.

10723. The others have got that stamp? Not all of them.

10724. Do I understand you to say that both these baskets were returned? Yes; both were returned.

10725. If one of the witnesses has given evidence to the contrary, what do you say to that? It is not true.

10726. Do you recollect the date that you left your office in Goulburn-street? It was on the 25th of January, the day before Anniversary Day.

10727. Not the 31st? No. I was in the lower part of the office two or three times for a day or two after that, but not where the business was being done.

10728. Were you ever told that the price of one of these hamper-baskets was £6 10s.? No.

10729. Will you swear that one of those baskets did not cost £6 10s.? I will swear it did not.

10730. Will you swear that one of them did not come to £3 10s.? I will swear it did not.

10731. After all these different vouchers I have shown you, and the many inaccuracies in them, what check had you against cooked, or bogus, or improper accounts? We had to do the same as other people; we had to trust to people outside.

NOTE made by witness after perusal of the printed evidence :—Q. 10715—*For* “the basket” *read* “the return of the baskets”.
Q. 10731—*For* “people outside” *read* “our officers.”

Against this, is the fact that neither of these vouchers has on them the Southern District office stamp, which appears on most of the others; that M'Lean, Brothers, and Rigg cannot justify the vouchers or the delivery of the goods, and, as will be seen from Mr. Miles' evidence, do not now claim payment for the amounts of them. Further, that other witnesses, including Mr. Hinchcliffe, have stated that in some instances Burrowes had signed vouchers in the head office.

We examined several officers in M'Lean Brothers and Rigg's establishment—Messieurs Wood, Lawn, Jarrett, and Ashton—and inspected such of their books as related to their dealings with the Casual Labour Board, and as the Government contractors. It was noticeable that in their Government day-book while these officers were under examination, and we were inspecting the books in their hands, there were numerous erasures and alterations throughout in the Casual Labour Board Orders—but with one exception—and that in a private order of Mr. Springall there were not any alterations in the orders of other customers, or in other contracts. Many of these alterations and erasures occurred in cases where the order butts did not correspond with the contingent vouchers sent in. The explanation was, that orders of the Casual Labour Board were not unfrequently altered by subsequent verbal orders.

The evidence of the different officers and clerks of the Board with the evidence of the officers from M'Lean Brothers and Rigg, establishes that the practice of ordering and the system of checking deliveries and charges was of a most loose description.

As it would seem that Messieurs M'Lean Brothers and Rigg still have claims outstanding against the Board, and as in many cases, both in past vouchers and in those still unpaid, there are discrepancies between the vouchers and the order-book, and in some cases no record of an order at all, we submit, and we believe a perusal of the evidence of the officers of the firm fully justifies our conclusion, that no further claims on their part be entertained without a rigid examination of their accounts and proof of the ordering and delivery of the goods for which payment is demanded.

In supplying vouchers to the Audit Office to support advances made under the usual obligation to account, it was so arranged,—according to Mr. Hinchcliffe, on the strength of some rule of the Service,—that in each case a batch of vouchers was sent in to the Auditor-General making up the exact advance of £6,000. This appears

appears to have been done on forty different occasions, whenever an advance of £6,000 was vouched for. Vouchers were always forthcoming to make up the exact amount neither more nor less. Unless this was done by supplementing cash vouchers that Mr. Hinchcliffe held in reserve to make up any odd difference, we confess, that we are entirely unable to understand the process, though several of the witnesses who had so adjusted the vouchers claimed that it was very simple. It seemed to us an odd chance that on forty different occasions vouchers should exist to so nicely balance the advance.

Whether it is a rule of the Service or not it occurs to us that if it were necessary to vouch exactly for £6,000, the straightest mode would have been to divide a voucher and carry over the balance to supporting the next advance.

The results of the expenditure of the moneys placed at the Board's disposal are to be found in the construction of the different roads and other works, shown by the evidence to have been undertaken by the labour the Board had the control of.

It would be impossible for us, within the limits of this Inquiry, and of the time allotted to us to investigate each of these various works with a view of ascertaining if the expenditure was in any respects irregularly or improperly administered.

In the general inquiry we have made, it has appeared to us, that many of the works entered upon were not of the nature of Relief works either necessary or useful in the public interest—that many persons, and in particular carters with their plant and ordinary labourers were employed at full rates who were not in pressing need or from the ranks of the so termed “unemployed”—that to a considerable extent there is nothing left of benefit to the community to support the large outlay of public moneys; and that the expenditure throughout has not been guarded with that care and consideration which the public was entitled to expect from those who accepted the responsibility of its administration.

The manner in which the Board and the Members thereof have performed their duties.

In discussing this head of the inquiry, it should be borne in mind that two of the members of the Board, Messrs. Wells and Houison, held, at the time of their appointment, and throughout the existence of the Board, important and responsible positions in the Public Service, and that their duties in connection with their respective departments naturally demanded their first attention.

They were, therefore, unable to give that time and assistance to the working of the Board that was properly necessary for its administration. Their evidence shows that at times they were frequently absent from Sydney in the discharge of the duties of the Departments to which they were attached. In the case of Mr. Houison, he states he was absent on one occasion for over five months. In Mr. Wells' case he says he was absent from Sydney 146 days, sometimes as long as thirty-six days at a time.

Whilst in Sydney, each of them appears to have rendered professional advice and assistance to the extent of their ability, and the time at their disposal, in regard to such works as came under their notice. They state they occasionally visited the
offices

offices of the Board, and inspected the works that were going on. It is obvious, though, that such casual and intermittent attention and inspections were, from the nature and extent of the works and the expenditure, insufficient, even though zealously performed.

They both recognised that they were unable, from the exigencies of their own departments, to give regular or proper attention to their Board duties and obligations, and were desirous and spoke of resigning their post as members thereof. They appear to have remained on the Board in deference to the wish of their Seniors in the Service whom they consulted on the subject, and under a belief, which they were, perhaps, justified in holding, that the Relief Works would be closed and the Board dissolved at an early date.

But while debarred from taking an active part in the administration of the Board, and in controlling and supervising its large expenditure, we think, they erred in delegating their powers to so large an extent to Mr. Davies.

The evidence shows that they were cognizant of irregularities, and were aware that in many respects the Board's affairs were being loosely conducted. Under such circumstances, the proper course was to resign their trust, without respect to personal consequences.

As regards Mr. Davies, the evidence, in our opinion, establishes that he discharged his duties in a perfunctory manner, without due regard to the important trust which he had accepted and the responsibility attaching to the expenditure of the vast amount of public moneys that was placed at the Board's disposal.

Although, in his evidence, he states that he diligently carried out his work, and that the time he has expended and labour he has bestowed, in connection with his duties as Chairman of the Board were very considerable, we cannot find, upon a consideration of the whole evidence, that such a conclusion is supported. His administration of the Department was defective and culpable.

There was throughout no proper organization and supervision. Though in the field and district camps there may have been some system prevailing and precaution taken, which, if regularly and properly administered, might have successfully prevented imposition and misapplication of moneys, yet, in the head office, where the main expenditure was controlled, the system, organization and checks were imperfect and unsatisfactory, the business of the office being conducted in a loose and irregular manner.

In the result, in almost every branch of the Department, according to our finding, a wide door has been opened affording opportunities for peculations and for practising frauds and impositions, which we are inclined to think have been availed of in some cases.

It seems clear, on the evidence, that Mr. Davies was not only lax in the performance of the particular functions that the other members of the Board had confided to him and which he had accepted, but that he was a party to many irregularities of which the clerical staff and officers under the Board must have become aware, inducing in them, or such of them as were so disposed, an equal laxity and carelessness in the performance of their duties.

The truth of all charges and statements which have been made before Parliament or before any Select Committee thereof touching any alleged improper expenditure by the Board or any members or member thereof, or under their or his authority, of any public moneys in the improvement of, or the making or construction of, roads or other works upon the property of any person, partnership, or company.

Having regard to the large range of subject that this covered, the Commission, at their first sitting, on 25th February last, resolved,—

“That it was essential that they should be furnished with particulars of any such charges and statements which have been made before Parliament or before any Select Committee thereof, and that such Resolution should be communicated to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, with a request that such particulars might be furnished to the Commission as early as conveniently might be.”

This Resolution was submitted in a letter from the Secretary to this Commission, addressed to the Principal Under Secretary, on 25th February last, and on 27th February last such letter was returned to us noted on fold as follows :—“All papers in the case are forwarded herewith.—C.W., B.C., 27/2/89. The President of the Commission.”

Accompanying it was a parcel of printed papers which we have enumerated in the Schedule A hereto.

Conceiving that the official reply to our letter of 25th February last, asking for particulars of the charges and statements confined us to an examination of those papers, for the ascertainment of the charges and statements, which we were directed to investigate the truth of, we came to the conclusion, after perusal of all the papers and careful deliberation, that in the main the charges and statements in question were resolved into two branches, and could be conveniently arranged for purposes of consideration and report under two heads.

- (1.) Alleged improper expenditure of public moneys in the improvement of making and construction of roads and other works upon the property of the Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company (Limited).
- (2.) Alleged similar expenditure upon the property of Messieurs J. F. Burns, G. Withers, and R. B. Smith, at or near Hornsby.

Treating of this branch of the Inquiry, therefore, in the order above indicated, we come first to the consideration of

Expenditure upon the property of the Holt - Sutherland Estate Land Company (Limited).

We cannot attempt here to make a summary of the evidence which has been given on this head. We refer more particularly to the evidence of Messrs. J. Murphy, M. McRae, E. M. Burrowes, A. MacPherson, Sir John Robertson, G. F. Want, V. Parkes, F. Farnell, H. T. Sanderson, J. H. Carruthers, S. A. Want, E. P. Simpson, H. Prince, H. B. Jamieson, and the members of the Board. We ask that the whole of it may be here read and taken as incorporated in this Report.

Further,

Further, we have inspected the property of the Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company (hereinafter spoken of as "the Company") and the improvements, roads and other works thereon which have been effected or constructed by an expenditure of public moneys.

We may add that, in our opinion, the perusal of the full evidence that has been obtained in this matter can give but an inadequate idea of the nature and extent of the improvements, roads, and works on this Estate. To properly appreciate the evidence a visit to the Estate is necessary.

The authority for the bulk, if not all the work here, is to be found on five Memorials or Petitions that were presented to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, and which are printed *in extenso* in the Appendix to this Report. (Exhibits S 1, I 26, R 2, R 3, and R 4.)

The history of these Petitions is somewhat unique.

Mr. James Murphy is the registered manager of and the largest shareholder in the Company.

His evidence is that he initiated the making of the roads and got up the memorials.

Alluding to the first memorial, he says that Mr. Davies suggested that he (Murphy) should get an authority. He states Mr. Davies said, "If you can get me a letter, or anything I can get sanctioned, I will recommend it; I have no doubt they will do it."

All the five memorials appear to be in the same handwriting, prepared in Mr. Murphy's office. Mr. H. Prince, a shareholder of the Company, and a member of the firm of Prince, Ogg, & Co., stated, in accounting for some of the signatures in the memorials, that Mr. Murphy was an intimate friend of his and had free access to his firm's office at all times. An examination into the signatures to these memorials established that they were mainly composed of shareholders of the Company, clerks in Messrs. Prince, Ogg, & Co.'s, and in Messrs. Want, Johnson, & Co.'s and other offices, and that they had all been obtained by Mr. Murphy. In the case of one of these memorials, Mr. H. B. Jamieson, a son of Mr. J. S. Jamieson (member of the firm of Prince, Ogg, & Co., and also a large shareholder of the Company), identified forty-three out of the whole forty-nine signatures that appeared on one memorial as being either members of the firm of Prince, Ogg, & Co., or clerks in the firm's office at the time.

In the other memorials, it will be seen from the evidence of Mr. Murphy, and of Mr. Want and Mr. Simpson, that the names of a number of Want, Johnson, & Co.'s clerks were amongst the signatures, the ten clerks signing in two cases, the other signatures being chiefly shareholders in the Company. The signatures of two, in some cases three, Members of Parliament were also obtained to these memorials, and from the appearance of the original documents in some cases such signatures appear to have been obtained after the other signatures, a space for the purpose being left at the head of the other signatures. Mr. Varney Parkes, then Member for Central Cumberland, who had signed the memorial of 19th August, 1887, stated he believed he signed at Mr. Murphy's request, and that places were kept at the head of the signatures for the Members of Parliament. Mr. Farnell,
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also Member for Central Cumberland, who had signed three of the memorials, stated, "It was the custom of Mr. Murphy to bring these petitions, and get them signed "by the Members for the county according to seniority. Mr. McCulloch was senior "Member, Mr. Varney Parkes next, and I was junior Member."

It will be seen on reference to the evidence that several persons, and amongst them shareholders of the Company, when applied to by Mr. Murphy, refused to sign the memorials, or some of them, for the reasons that, proposed works were not proper in the public interests. We may mention Mr. Simpson (of the firm of Want, Johnson, & Co.), Mr. Carruthers, Sir John Robertson, and, in one case, Mr. Myles McRae, having been applied to and refused to sign.

Mr. J. S. Jamieson, who, according to the share list supplied to us, held 48 shares in the Company, appears to have been active in regard to obtaining early consideration for these memorials, two of which were also signed by him. We were unable to obtain his evidence, as he had left the Colony for Europe on 20th February last.

Mr. Myles McRae, who was a large shareholder of the Company, and owned land in the district, but was not then a Member of the Legislative Assembly, signed three of the memorials.

The evidence of Mr. McRae should be read in connection with this part of the report.

Mr. McRae and Mr. Jamieson appear to have presented some of the memorials to the Casual Labour Board and afterwards gone to the Colonial Secretary's Office on the matter.

From Mr. Murphy's evidence it appears he went to the Casual Labour Board Office with each of the memorials.

It will be seen that in each case the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, within a short time of, in three cases apparently on the same date as—the date of the memorials—recommended the carrying out of the works requested by the memorials for approval of the Colonial Secretary, and they received such approval.

Whether they were previously reported on or not by any competent officer does not clearly appear.

If reference be here made to the evidence of Mr. F. Wells, it will be seen he states, he took objection to the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate being undertaken by the Board, and saw the Principal Under Secretary about them. He adds: "They were ultimately undertaken. The Colonial Secretary gave the authority for the work being done, and I was relieved from responsibility in the matter." Later in his evidence he states "Mr. Davies and I were in consultation over some of the "roads, I was quite in accord with some of them being undertaken. I saw no "objection to the Main Illawarra Road, the Port Hacking Road, and, in fact, I "would not have objected to the Corunulla Road, leading to the Noxious Trades site. "These three I approved of." He adds, as to the other roads, "As they were on "private property, I did not think we ought to undertake them. At any rate, I "deprecated making the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate. As soon as they were "confirmed by superior authority I ceased to object to them."

From the evidence of Sir John Robertson and Mr. G. F. Want, both shareholders in the Company, and of Mr. Critchett Walker, the Principal Under Secretary, which can usefully be read in connection with this matter, it appears that special attention

attention was called to this road-work that was going on in the Holt-Sutherland district, and that it appeared public moneys were being spent on the Company's property. It further appears that the work was at one time stopped; that Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Murphy saw Mr. Walker, and remonstrated against the works being stopped, and that they were afterwards resumed.

The first memorial of 7th July, 1887, requested the Board to have the Main Illawarra Road aligned, cleared, and stumped, for its full width 2 chains, and properly formed for half a chain.

The second memorial, 19th August, 1887, was to clear, stump, and form Malvern Road and Sylvania Road.

The third memorial, 22nd September, 1887, was to have six roads, there particularly named, and also there described as being public roads, "cleared and stumped to their full width, and properly formed with water-tables, &c., fit for vehicular traffic for 33 feet wide on each road."

The fourth memorial, also dated 22nd September, 1887, commences with a reference to the Illawarra Road, but it goes on to define with much particularity a number of proposed works which we do not enumerate here, but ask that the document itself [Exhibit R 3 in the Appendix] be read, as it is important for a proper appreciation of the matter.

The fifth memorial, 10th May, 1888, was to clear, form, stump, gravel, and culvert twenty-three roads there particularly named, and to break stone in a quarry on Government Reserve, Sutherland.

We think it proper to point out that in this and the previous memorial, as it appears printed in the "Return respecting Roads through Holt-Sutherland Estate," ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed on 13th December, 1888, being one of the Returns mentioned in Schedule A to this Report, we found important omissions when comparing with the original memorials.

The evidence of Messrs. V. Parkes and F. Farnell establishes that these gentlemen only signed the memorials that bear their signatures in their capacity as Members for the Electorate in which the property was situate, and that they had no other interest.

The evidence of Mr. J. H. Carruthers, then Member for Canterbury, who signed two of the memorials—namely, the first relating to Illawarra Road, and the second relating to Malvern Road and Sylvania Road—establishes that he so signed because he knew the roads, on which, by the memorials, work was requested to be put were public roads, and that it was for the public benefit. He explains that the Sylvania Road, he some time afterwards saw on the Holt-Sutherland District map produced before the Select Committee was not the road he took to be the Sylvania Road, and that what he understood to be the Sylvania Road when he signed the memorial was the road leading from Port Hacking to Sylvania. Mr. Carruthers states that two of the other memorials were presented to him for signature and he refused to sign them because, as he states, he "would not mix himself up with what appeared to be private roads."

As it appeared from the Select Committee proceedings and also from the evidence of some witnesses examined under this Commission, that there was some statement that Mr. Carruthers' property was particularly benefited by some of the works,

we think it proper to express our opinion that there is no foundation whatever for such statement, and that the action and interest taken by this gentleman in regard to having works done on certain roads were disinterestedly taken and entirely in the general interests of the District.

It appeared from the records of the proceedings of the Select Committee, that reference had been made to the interest that Sir Henry Parkes had in the Company upon whose Estate the roadwork had been sanctioned.

The facts as to this interest appear from the evidence of Messieurs J. W. Johnson, S. A. Want, E. P. Simpson, and J. Murphy, and are briefly as follows :—

According to the Share Register of the Company Sir Henry Parkes is, on 10th September, 1885, shown as a holder of ten shares; on 3rd July, 1886, as a holder of two further shares on a new issue; on 6th July, 1887, as a holder of two further shares on a second issue; and on 13th July, 1888, there is a record of a transfer of four shares to J. S. Jamieson and ten shares to Messieurs Johnson, Want, Simpson, and Minter.

According to documents produced by Mr. S. A. Want, it appeared that Sir Henry Parkes had, on 26th September, 1885, charged the shares he then held in the Company in connection with an advance from the Colonial Mutual Assurance Company, and that Messieurs Want, Johnson, & Co. held the shares to indemnify them against any loss they might be called on to make good to their clients, the Colonial Mutual Assurance Company, in respect of some mortgage that had been given by Sir Henry Parkes. On 1st October, 1885, Sir Henry Parkes wrote to Messrs. Want, Johnson, & Co., sending endorsed transfer in blank of the ten shares signed.

It would therefore appear that after 26th September, 1885, and until 12th October, 1887, when Sir Henry Parkes assigned his estate, his interest in the ten shares, and perhaps of the four new issue shares, was charged with and subject to the arrangement under which Messieurs Want, Johnson, & Co. held the shares, but that after 12th October, 1887, he ceased to have any interest at all in the shares, which thenceforth—subject to Want, Johnson, & Co.'s charge—became vested in the Trustees of the Deed of Assignment of 12th October, 1887.

If reference be made to the dates on which the recommendations in the five memorials were approved, namely, 8th July, 1887, 22nd August, 1887, 30th September, 1887 (two approved together), and 21st May, 1888, it will be seen that the interest above described existed at the dates of the first four of the memorials, but had ceased when the last memorial was considered.

Sir Henry Parkes, in his evidence, to which we ask that reference may be made, absolutely and emphatically disclaimed the idea that, in approving of the works memorialized for in the five memorials before alluded to, he acted otherwise than in his capacity as Premier and Colonial Secretary, or was prompted by any other than the purest motives, and such as should be dictated by a high sense of duty in conserving the public interests. We unreservedly accept such disclaimer and believe a contrary conclusion would be unreasonable.

We deemed it within our duty and pertinent to make the inquiry, as testing the origin and propriety of the authorized expenditure, and to clear away an imputation on a distinguished public servant that might be drawn from questions placed on the records of the Select Committee proceedings. We humbly submit ourselves to your Excellency's forbearance if we have erred in the premises.

Mr.

Mr. Murphy appears to have interested himself not only in working up and getting effect given to these memorials, but also to a considerable degree in connection with the performance of the Road Works and improvements on the Estate.

Mr. Burrowes, the superintendent in charge of the district, produced, in his evidence, a series of letters he had received at various times from Mr. Murphy, some marked "private." These letters having, in our opinion, an important bearing on the matter under our consideration, are printed in the Appendix to this Report (Exhibits I 4 to I 25, and S 2 to S 6). They disclose that Mr. Murphy, the Manager of the Company, was interesting himself to a considerable extent, both suggesting and directing. According to some of the evidence before us, Mr. Burrowes had complained to Mr. Davies of Mr. Murphy's interference. This is borne out by Mr. Murphy's "private" letter of 8th September, 1888 (Exhibit I 19).

Mr. Murphy's evidence as regards these letters is not altogether satisfactory; and there is some evidence that the communications and Mr. Murphy's working in the matter with Mr. Burrowes were not altogether unknown to Mr. Davies.

In the result, however, extensive and in many respects costly road-work—both clearing, formation, ballasting, and culverting—was carried out on the Estate of the Company.

We have found a difficulty in locating many of these roads by the names given to them in the memorials, and especially the series of twenty-three roads named in the memorial of 10th May, 1888. It will be seen by reference to the evidence that the witnesses conversant with the District, and some, too, who signed the memorials, did not recognize many of the roads by their names.

Two of the roads, however, named in the memorial of 10th May, 1888—Burraneer and Wotonga—appear to have connection, if they are not identical, with what has been termed "Gannon's Road," which appears to have received a separate Ministerial sanction, following upon a letter of 23rd January, 1888, written by Mr. W. Lovel Davis, then a Member of the Legislative Assembly, to the Principal Under Secretary. We found, what we were informed is, Wotonga Road, leading off the Port Hacking Road in an easterly direction, bounded on one side by property now, we understand, belonging to Mr. McRae; and, after some distance, we found a road turning off in a southerly direction, which we were informed is Burraneer Road—both roads being formed and gravelled from the Port Hacking Road to a gateway leading into property stated to belong to Mr. Gannon, and where the gravelling and formation end. According to a statement supplied to us by Mr. Surveyor McPherson, the extent and nature of work there, is as follows:—"Length formed and gravelled, 79½ chains; cleared, 111½ chains; gravelling, 14 feet to 15 feet wide; formation, 33 feet wide; clearing, 66 feet wide, with a bridge, 3 pipe culverts and a timber culvert. This appeared to us to be rather an exceptional piece of road-work, but we failed to obtain any evidence which would justify the work in the public interests.

In many other respects, and to an extent involving large expenditure, road-work and other improvements appear on this Estate which the evidence established had been constructed by the Relief men, and which, in our opinion, cannot be justified as having been done in the public interest.

In addition to the visit of inspection paid by us to this Estate, Mr. Franklin, associated with us in this Commission, recently made a second inspection and examination of the work done, in order that he might place before us his professional report on the matter. We submit, in Schedule B to this Report, the memorandum prepared by him.

Expenditure

Expenditure upon the Property of Messrs. J. F. Burns, G. Withers, and R. B. Smith, at or near Hornsby.

The evidence bearing upon this matter was obtained from Messrs. J. W. Deering, W. M. Gordon, F. O'Donnell, H. Little, L. C. Palmer, C. B. Dawson, C. N. J. Oliver, J. F. Burns, G. Withers, R. B. Smith, and A. W. S. Gregg, which, as in the other cases, being unable satisfactorily to summarize we ask may be here read and taken as incorporated in this Report.

A reference to the plan which we used in the taking of evidence, and which we were informed was prepared from actual survey (noted in the Appendix to this Report as *Exhibit D 4*), may also be made to properly appreciate the position.

We have inspected this property, and the roads and other works thereon which have been constructed, as it appears from the evidence, by an expenditure of public moneys.

In this case, so far as can be gathered from the evidence and our examination of various records, there was not any Ministerial sanction to or approval of the initiation and construction of the roadworks now under review. The Members of the Board claim that they carried out work here that had already been initiated when they came into office.

The evidence, in our opinion, establishes that at the time the Board took over the duties from Mr. Deering the only place on the Estate upon which work had been done was the road over the railway, marked road A on plan [*Exhibit D 4*], through the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith leading to Crown lands. That road appears from the records to have been surrendered by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith in November, 1886, in lieu of a road previously agreed upon, and in respect of which the Government were to relinquish all claim. The formal dedication of this road was gazetted in August, 1887. The only other condition attached to the surrender was that the road should be "surveyed and cleared for traffic in a reasonable time." Mr. Deering states that when he gave up supervision, road A had been surveyed and cleared for traffic, and the condition complied with.

Mr. Surveyor Gordon an officer under Mr. Deering had been connected with the works in the District previously to the appointment of the Casual Labour Board, and Mr. Deering was asked by the members of the Board to assist them with Mr. Gordon's services in the taking over other works then in hand, and explaining as to the position of affairs. This was done but Mr. Deering does not otherwise appear in the matter after the Board came into existence.

It will be seen by reference to the plan [*Exhibit D 4*] the extent and number of the various roads under consideration.

How or under whose authority the work came to be initiated on this property and the roads constructed is not by any means clear. It appears to us from the evidence that this system of roads was independent of road A, and that it cannot properly be urged that the other roads followed as of course on the authorization for road A.

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So far as we can gather from the evidence, the first road commenced was the Junction Road (G on plan *Exhibit D 4*). This road is in the same direction as what is named on the plan Boundary Road, the line of Boundary Road being in parts impracticable. The Boundary Road is on Crown land and skirts the north boundary of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's property, and there can be no question that going east from the railway the line of road becomes impracticable at or near its junction with road marked D on the plan.

There is some evidence that there was a document that in some way accounted for the opening of the Junction Road and some of the tributary roads going thence north to Crown lands. Both Messieurs Wells and Houison speak of such a document. We have not been able to discover any such, or any copy or record of it, nor could any evidence of its alleged contents be given by any of the witnesses who spoke of it. So far as we can judge from the evidence, there is not any document authorizing the commencement of the work, or to evidence the giving up by the owners of the land for Junction Road.

There is a conflict of evidence between Mr. Deering and Mr. Surveyor Gordon as to the origin of the work. Mr. Gordon speaks of it being initiated by Mr. Deering, and refers to a particular interview Mr. Deering had with him as to the roads, and that immediately, notice was sent to his field assistant, Mr. Palmer, to start the work. Mr. Palmer was examined by us, but his evidence did not confirm Mr. Gordon to that extent. In fact Mr. Palmer's evidence was confined to road A, and instructions to continue it south-easterly "as the country might permit," to strike the Vanceville or Great Eastern Road. He said the tracing sent to him showed a continuation of road A in "a direction easterly from Bellamy's," but he was quite clear it did not show Junction Road (G) or any of the tributary roads (B, C, D, E, F), so that, while not supporting Mr. Gordon's recollection, he to some extent confirms Mr. Deering's account.

That there was some intention of extending road A can be seen from a letter of 11th August, 1887, from Mr. Burns to the Minister for Lands, when forwarding the approval of himself and co-partners to the plan of road A. He says:—"I think right to remind you that it is obligatory on the part of the Government to extend the road to the Great Eastern or Vanceville Road, and to put it in fair passable condition for traffic." Noted by an officer of the Survey Department on that letter, for the information of Mr. Bennett, the Commissioner and Engineer for Roads, is a memorandum that there was no such obligation. And Mr. Symonds, to whom this was forwarded, reported inspection, and that he found "that the work of clearing, culverting, &c., had been undertaken by the Casual Labour Board, who have a number of men employed upon it."

We think, however, the position can be gathered from the evidence of Mr. Burns and of Mr. C. B. Dawson, his surveyor. Mr. Burns says application was made to him for some roads. He handed the matter over to his surveyor, Mr. Dawson, and gave him discretionary power. Mr. Dawson states:—"Mr. O'Donnell, overseer in the charge of the unemployed at Hornsby, called at my office one morning and told me the men were doing nothing, and that they wanted a road through the Estate in lieu of Boundary Road. He said Mr. Burns had allowed him to lay it out. I went up next morning and laid it out in position. They had laid out the Boundary Road, but found they could not get across the gullies, as it was very precipitous in places."

Mr.

Mr. O'Donnell's evidence is:—"I believe we started Junction Road on our own authority. Having the men there we had to do something, and we started; I had some authority; I believe I got it from Mr. Davies." Further, he says, as to forming Junction Road, "I had authority from Mr. Davies to do it. I think after clearing it we had word from Mr. Gordon—I am not certain. I think it mentioned about ballasting, forming, and putting culverts in where necessary." Mr. O'Donnell, who is not a surveyor, appears to have had rather a wide discretion, for the work once started on this Estate seems to have proceeded in various directions, and to rather an elaborate extent.

Mr. Surveyor Gordon appears to have received instructions at various times from the Casual Labour Board, of which Mr. Deering, his superior officer in the Survey Department, states he knew nothing. On 17th October, 1887, Mr. Gordon, writing to the Chairman of the Board, encloses a tracing showing roads cleared and in course of completion, and other roads which he proposes to clear. This tracing shows roads, which correspond to those marked B or C (which, is not quite clear), D, E, F, G, H, I, and J on plan [*Exhibit D 4*].

The Casual Labour Board, through Mr. Hinchcliffe, thereupon wrote to Mr. Burns, enclosing tracing and intimating that if he and his co-partners have no objection to the opening of three roads—which correspond to D, E, and F on plan [*Exhibit D 4*—they will be commenced. Mr. Burns replies on 19th October, 1887, on behalf of Burns, Withers, and Smith, that he has no objection to the roads shown on tracing there enclosed being opened for public use. This, so far as the evidence before us goes, appears to be the only letter from Mr. Burns in the matter of this road work—excepting one as to the extension of the Great Eastern or Vanceville Road.

The work is proceeded with and carried to completion, other roads in addition, as will appear by reference to the plan [*Exhibit D 4*], being also gone on with and constructed without any particular sanction or authority that we could find.

In January, 1888, some inquiry appears to have been made consequent on some question as to the propriety of the work. Mr. Burns, who was then Colonial Treasurer, states:—"I brought the whole question of these roads before the Cabinet." * * * * * "In consequence of my letters and representations, and my desire that the Cabinet should consider whether these roads were all in the public interest, Mr. Bennett," the Commissioner and Engineer for Roads, "was desired to report upon their necessity from a public point of view." Mr. Bennett having, it appears, examined the locality and the road works done, wrote a minute thereon on 8th February, 1888, of which the following is a copy:—

Minute by the Engineer-in-Chief.

I have examined the locality of Hornsby and the road works done by the Department and the unemployed. The roads from the main or Junction Road to the Peat's Ferry Road have been cleared at private cost by the owner of land on either side.

The Boundary Road, which has been cleared to show more definitely the Crown lands, is impracticable, unless at a large outlay, and has no direct access to the station, as private property intervenes. This Boundary Road, crossing the gullies low down, has undulations which can only be made passable at great cost, and even then with very steep grades and extensive bridges over the gullies which intersect it.

To obviate this, on the representations of the Officer of the Survey Department, Junction-street was made the main road to those back lands from the station; the owners of the lands, Messieurs Burns, Withers, and Smith, having given five roads of access, which have all been cleared so as to give access to eligible points for the continuation of roads at summits of ranges through the expanse of Crown lands to Cowan Creek. By this arrangement the public estate is decidedly benefited, as easy roads with practicable grades are obtained to this Crown land, and direct access given to the station without necessity for passing through other private property. The

The Vanceville road, joining this Junction Road, was made by the Department two years ago as far as Billyard Road or Street, and was recently extended by the unemployed to afford direct access by one of the short branch roads to the Crown lands from the Lane Cove Road and the Gordon Railway-station. One of the other two cross roads recently cleared was to give direct access from the church and junction of the Lane Cove Road and Peat's Ferry Road, Pearce's Corner, to the Crown lands. The other intermediate road gives access from Lane Cove Road, half-way between Gordon and Hornsby, to the land in question. All will be ultimately required, and will enhance the value of the Crown land beyond by rendering it easy of access, and have been located in the best positions and defined by clearing, instead of their selection in the future being hampered by sale of allotments through which it might be necessary to force the roads at considerable cost for compensation and fencing.

If it had been possible to exercise this provision and precaution in other cases miles of bad road, large outlay for works and compensation, would have been saved, and larger revenue from land sales would have been secured.

Had this land been reserved Crown land not to be sold, all the roads would have been desirable in the interests of the Crown lands beyond, and I fail to see why the possession of the property in question by private individuals should be a bar to necessary improvements because they incidentally enhance its value.

As Mr. Burns relied particularly on this minute, we gave it our special attention.

Unfortunately, we were unable to obtain Mr. Bennett's evidence, owing to his state of health, and Dr. Pockley, his medical adviser, assured us that it would be very inadvisable to examine him.

It appears from Mr. Gordon's evidence, and a letter of his to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, dated 28th January, 1888, that Mr. Davies requested him to meet Mr. Wells and Mr. Bennett at Hornsby; that he did meet them, and that Mr. Wells and he (Gordon) pointed out the different roads. Mr. Wells, besides being a member of the Casual Labour Board who had had to do with these roads, was Assistant Engineer, and second in command in the Roads Department. Mr. Surveyor Gordon, as already appears in the Report, had previously recommended several of the roads. After his visit of inspection with Mr. Bennett and Mr. Wells, he reported fully by letter of 28th January, 1888, to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, as to the work that had then been done.

It appeared from our inspection of the locality, and it also appears from the evidence of Mr. Gordon, and Mr. Burns, that Mr. Bennett is under some misapprehension, when, in the first paragraph of his minute of 8th February, 1888, he refers to the roads from the Junction Road to the Peat's Ferry Road. The Junction Road is on one side of the railway line, running through the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, now under consideration; the Peat's Ferry Road is on the other side of the railway line.

As to the second paragraph: The Boundary Road has been cleared, and it has been made, and is available for traffic in a direction from the road A over railway up to its junction with road D on the plan [*Exhibit D 4*], thus, as it appeared to us, minimising the necessity of a continuation of Junction Road (which is parallel to it) westward to the railway.

As to the third paragraph, we have been unable to discover that Junction Road originated with the Survey Department, but rather, as already stated, by arrangement with Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Dawson. Unless Mr. Burns' letter of 19th October, 1887, before referred to, can be taken to cover all the roads, it would seem by reference to Mr. Hinchcliffe's letter of previous day that three roads and not five had been given.

As to the fourth paragraph, according to some of the evidence, Vanceville Road to its junction with Billyard Road was made by the proprietors of land in its vicinity. Mr. Burns' evidence is that "it was"—"roughly made." Its continuation from Billyard Road to Junction Road was petitioned for in November, 1887, and the

the petition was referred to the Casual Labour Board, but the evidence before us did not show that that work had been formally authorized. The continuation of Vanceville Road beyond the Junction Road which has been done is not referred to in the minute. The "two cross-roads" and "the other intermediate road" which Mr. Bennett refers to in this paragraph we could not, in the absence of his evidence, satisfactorily locate.

The roads of which Mr. Bennett makes no mention, and which appear to have had work done on them by the "Unemployed" are:—

1. Burns' Road and its continuation across the Vanceville Road proceeding in an easterly direction bounding Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's property, then southerly skirting the same property, and then easterly.
2. The continuation of road E joining Burns' Road with Junction Road.
3. A road parallel to the railway, George-street, on the plan [*Exhibit D 4*].
4. Several roads near the railway, shown on plan [*Exhibit D 4*].

It does not appear on the evidence whether or not the work on these had been done at the time of Mr. Bennett's inspection. If it had been done they may have escaped his attention. At any rate, we submit from the foregoing, that Mr. Bennett's conclusions were not based on sufficient premises.

Other than we have already pointed out in connection with Mr. Dawson's and Mr. O'Donnell's evidence, there is not any evidence before us to show that Mr. Burns interested himself to have this road system, as it now appears on the Estate and as shown on plan [*Exhibit D 4*], carried out.

Mr. Oliver gives some evidence of an official visit he made to Hornsby while Under Secretary for Lands, at which Mr. Davies, Mr. Burns, and Mr. Deering were present, and that there was some discussion as to the propriety of forming a road parallel to the railway (George-street on plan) between him and Mr. Davies, but that Mr. Burns did not take part in it.

Mr. Burns was the manager of the Estate, and principally looked after its affairs and expenditure. He occasionally visited the property, and was aware that the roads were being made, and as to the nature of the work done.

The petition before referred to, as to the continuation of Vanceville Road to Junction-street, is the only petition we have had produced affecting this District. It was signed by Mr. G. Withers, and according to Mr. Burns' evidence it was presented to him for signature, but he refused to sign it.

Mr. Burns was Colonial Treasurer during the years 1887 and 1888. He states, that when the petition was presented to him he was acting for Mr. Sutherland, Minister for Works, and he did not sign it because he was a Member of the Government, and because he was interested in the matter of the petition. He further states that applications for advances to the Casual Labour Board went to the Colonial Secretary, who authorized the Treasury to pay, and that, as Colonial Treasurer, he had neither the control of the expenditure allowed to the Board nor did he interfere in it.

Mr.

Mr. Burns, after he had given his evidence before this Commission on 7th May last, expressed a wish to give further evidence, and produce papers. He accordingly attended before us on 21st May last, and made a statement which appears in the Minutes of Evidence attached to this Report, and to which we direct attention.

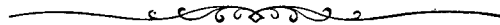
Mr. Withers was a Member of the Legislative Assembly during the time these road works were going on. He states he only knew in a general way what was being done, and thought the roads were being constructed in the ordinary way; his first definite knowledge was when he went up after giving his first evidence before the Select Committee. With the exception of the evidence respecting road A, and its subsequent dedication, Mr. Burns does not appear, from his evidence, to have had occasion to discuss the Estate matters with Mr. Withers, and he says that from the commencement of the public discussion about the Hornsby Roads the relations between them have become strained.

Mr. R. B. Smith, who was also a Member of the Legislative Assembly at the time, states "he was opposed to the roads being opened or given without compensation;" that "neither directly nor indirectly had he anything to do with the initiation or direction of the work," and that he left everything to the management of Mr. Burns. It is probable, therefore, that neither Mr. Withers nor Mr. Smith had any particular knowledge of the roadwork that was going on on their property until it or the bulk of it was completed.

As to the nature of the work done, it is in many respects substantial and costly, especially on the Junction Road and Burns Road; and we cannot, upon the evidence and after inspection, conclude that it was all necessary and justifiable in the public interests.

The estimates of expenditure given by different witnesses vary, owing, perhaps, to their measurements being taken from sketch plans, as no survey-plan appears to have been prepared until that which was produced before this Commission. [*Exhibit D 4.*]

We append, in Schedule C to this Report, a memorandum prepared by Mr. Franklin.



The conclusion we have come to on the Road Expenditure branch of the Inquiry is that in both instances—that of the Holt-Sutherland Estate, and that of the Estate of Messieurs Burns, Withers, and Smith—there has been an improper expenditure by the Casual Labour Board of public moneys, in the improvement of and the making and construction of roads and other works upon the respective properties; and that in the former case—the Holt-Sutherland Estate—it is more serious both in principle and amount than in the latter.

It seems clear on the evidence that there were many other avenues open for the employment of the Relief Labour on Crown lands in places equally convenient, from which the public would have derived benefit, and that there was not any necessity or justification for employing the labour on these properties to the extent that has been done.

We ask that the Special Report, which was presented by us on 29th April last, be taken as read and incorporated in this Report. In

In submitting for Your Excellency's consideration, in compliance with the terms of our Commission, what we have found touching the premises, we ask Your Excellency's forbearance, if, in the extensive range of subject that we have had to inquire into and deliberate upon, we have omitted to deal with any matter contemplated by the Commission, or have in any way misconceived or gone beyond the scope and purposes of the Inquiry. We have, and often in the face of many difficulties, striven conscientiously to discharge the responsible duties entrusted to us, and to conduct the investigation, reporting our findings, without favour, fear, or partiality. We have endeavoured to execute the commands laid upon us with all the industry and ability that we were capable of exerting, and we venture to express the hope that in the results it will be found we have not quite failed.

Certified under our hands and seals, this third day of June, 1889.

ALFRED J. CAPE, (L.S.)
President.

F. A. FRANKLIN. (L.S.)

T. F. WALLER. (L.S.)

SCHEDULE A.

1. RETURN as to ROADS and other works carried out by the Casual Labour Board in the parish of Manly Cove, county of Cumberland.
2. PAPERS in connection with various roads and other works carried out by the Casual Labour Board at Ryde, Eastwood, Carlingford, Beecroft, Hornsby, Dural, Coolah, Thornleigh, and Berowra.
3. CORRESPONDENCE, &c., respecting roads through Crown Lands at Hornsby. Ordered by Legislative Assembly to be printed, 14th November, 1888.
4. PETITIONS and Surveyors' Reports respecting Roads at Hornsby.
5. RETURN as to ROADS and other works carried out by the Casual Labour Board at Holdsworth, Heathcote, Sutherland, Peakhurst, Unwin's Bridge Road, Cook Park (Sandringham), Bankstown Park, Bankstown Common, Drutt Town, and Campbelltown.
6. CORRESPONDENCE, PLANS, &c., respecting Roads passing through Holt-Sutherland Estate. Ordered by Legislative Assembly to be printed, 13th December, 1888.
7. PETITION from Hon. J. F. Burns praying to be heard, either in person, or by Counsel or Attorney, before Select Committee sitting on Work of Unemployed on Roads at Hornsby and Holt-Sutherland Estate.
8. PETITION from the Unemployed to be heard at Bar of the House.
9. RETURN showing Roads constructed by the Unemployed. Ordered by Legislative Assembly to be printed, 1st November, 1888.
10. PARTICULARS respecting the Unemployed. Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 23rd November, 1887.
11. RETURN as to AMOUNT expended for Relief Works and relief to the Unemployed. Ordered by Legislative Assembly to be printed, 28th June, 1887.
12. RETURN as to PAYMENTS on account of Relief Works for the Unemployed. Ordered by Legislative Assembly to be printed, 28th June, 1887.
13. RETURN showing Applicants for work to the Casual Labour Board, where they came from, and how dealt with, from 2nd May, 1887, to 31st December, 1888.
14. RETURN showing Applicants for work to the Casual Labour Board, where they came from, and how dealt with, from 2nd May, 1887, to 30th June, 1888.
15. CORRESPONDENCE respecting the Discontinuance of Services of the Unemployed. Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 11th January, 1889.
16. PROGRESS REPORT from the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly on Work of Unemployed on Roads at Hornsby, Holt-Sutherland Estate, together with proceedings of the Committee, Minutes of Evidence, and Appendix. Ordered by Legislative Assembly to be printed, 21st December, 1888.
17. SECOND PROGRESS REPORT from the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly on Work of Unemployed at Hornsby and Holt-Sutherland Estate, together with Proceedings of the Committee and Minutes of Evidence. Ordered by Legislative Assembly to be printed, 16th January, 1889.

SCHEDULE B.

Memorandum as to Roads, &c.

Holt-Sutherland Estate.

SINCE the official inspection made by the Commission, on the 29th day of April, I have personally, with assistants, visited the locality and examined the work done in road clearing and formation, under direction of the Casual Labour Board, on the Holt-Sutherland Estate.

From the measurements taken on the ground, and by adopting the lengths of roads given in Mr. Burrowes' statement G, appended to his evidence before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly, and based on the schedule rates obtained in evidence before the Royal Commission, the accompanying statement of extent and nature of works has been prepared.

The total estimated expenditure thus obtained is £13,423 Os. 6d.; but, if the Main Illawarra, Port Hacking, Coronulla, and, as stated by some, the Malvern Roads, are to be considered public roads, and expenditure on them justifiable (within the ordinary limit allowed for such roads), the total would be subject to deduction, as shown in summary.

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
Expenditure as stated	10,284	6	2
Special work on Woronora Road "(e)"	1,188	3	6
Other additional work "(a), (b), (d), (e), (f), (g)"	1,194	19	0
Supervision, 6 per cent.	759	0	0
	<u>£13,426</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>

SUMMARY.

Amount expended	£13,426	8	8
<i>Deduct</i> Illawarra Road, part expended, excess	£	s.	d.
width deducted	1,131	14	3
Port Hacking	1,429	0	0
Coronulla	823	11	7
Malvern Road (stated as necessary for approach to beach from Railway)	655	4	6
If admitted public roads, deduct...	<u>4,039</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>4</u>
Total expended on other roads	<u>£9,386</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>4</u>

N.B.—The cost of tools, powder, and contingent carting, in connection with above works, could not be ascertained.

FRED. A. FRANKLIN, C.E.

LIST of Roads Cleared, Formed, and Improved on or in connection with Holt-Sutherland Estate.

No	Name of Road.	Length in Chains.	Width cleared.	No of Acres	Rate.	Amount (Clearing)	Formed Chains	Rate	Amount (Forming)	Gravelled Chains	Rate	Amount (Gravelling)	Ballast Chains	Rate.	Amount (Ballast)	No of Culverts	Amount Culverts)	Bridges	Amount. (Bridges.)	
			chains.		£ s.	£ s. d.		s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.				£ s. d.	
..	Woronora	260 00	1-50	39	8 10	331 10 0	244	17 6	213 10 0	130 00	2 4	286 0 0	...	.....	.....	8		1	180 0 0
...	Coronulla	180 00	feet. 80	21½	8 10	184 17 6	157½	17 6	137 16 3	180 00	2 4	396 0 0	.	..	..	7		...	.....
	Malvern	165 00	chains. 1-50	24¾	8 10	210 7 6	157	17 6	137 7 6	93 00	2 4	204 12 0	..	.....	.....	7	Average price at £15 each	...	.....
..	Sylvania	261 00	1-50	39	8 10	331 10 0	261	17 6	228 7 6
...	Yowie	92 00	1-00	9	8 10	76 10 0	77	17 6	67 7 6
...	Port Hacking	320 00	1-00	32	8 10	272 0 0	320	17 6	280 0 0	310 00	2 4	682 0 0	13			1	180 0 0
...	Main Illawarra	330 00	2-00	66	8 10	561 0 0	330	17 6	288 15 0	57 00	2 4	125 8 0	15	2 8 0	36 11 3	8		...	.....
...	Burraneer	144 00	1-50	21½	8 10	182 15 0	144	17 6	126 0 0	37 00	2 4	81 8 0	...	.....	.....	3		1	60 0 0
...	Wotonga	180 00	1-00	18	8 10	153 0 0	180	17 6	157 10 0	45 00	2 4	99 0 0	..	..	..	4		...	.....
...	Lilly Pilly	150 00	1-00	15	8 10	127 10 0	150	17 6	131 5 0									...	.....
...	Euronga	30 00	1-00	3	8 10	25 10 0	30	17 6	26 5 0									...	.....
...	Orara	64 00	1-00	6¾	8 10	54 8 0	64	17 6	56 0 0									...	.....
...	Karimbla	67 00	1-50	10	8 10	85 0 0	67	17 6	58 12 6									...	.....
...	Bath	110 00	1-50	16¾	8 10	140 5 0	110	17 6	96 5 0									...	.....
...	Boulevard	319 00	1-50	47¾	8 10	405 17 6	319	17 6	279 2 6									...	.....
...	Forest	250 00	1-50	37½	8 10	318 15 0	250	17 6	218 15 0									...	.....
...	Corea	175 00	1-50	26¼	8 10	223 2 6	175	17 6	153 2 6									...	.....
...	Station	40 00	1-50	6	8 10	51 0 0	40	17 6	35 0 0	40 00	2 4	88 0 0	..	..	..	...	.....	...	.....
...	Eton	60 00	1-50	9	8 10	76 10 0	60	17 6	52 10 0									...	.....
...	Ivanhoe	85 00	1-50	12¾	8 10	108 7 6	85	17 6	74 7 6									...	.....
...	Willaree	160 00	1-50	24	8 10	204 0 0	160	17 6	140 0 0									...	.....
...	Kamira	19 00	1-00	2	8 10	17 0 0	19	17 6	16 12 6									...	.....
	Total	3,461 00	.....	487	...	4,140 15 6	3,399½		2,974 11 3	892 00	...	1,962 8 0	15	...	36 11 3	50	750 0 0	3	420 0 0

NOTE.—The foregoing shows a total expenditure of £ s. d.
 10,284 6 2

Add Work carried out and not included in Labour Board Return —

(a) { Yowie Mistake Road, cleared 42 chains = 4 acres @ £8 10s. 34 0 0
 " " " formed 42 chains @ 17s. 6d. 36 15 0
 (b) Clearing of Wooloowarra Road, 1 mile, from Coronulla Beach, 80 chains = 8 acres @ £8 10s. 68 0 0
 (c) Extra heavy work in rock cutting, Woronora Road 1,188 3 6
 (d) " " " Yowie Road 22 10 0
 (e) " " " and stone walls, &c, Coronulla Road 303 11 6
 (f) " " " on Malvern Road 21 15 0
 (g) " " " in double width gravelling, cuttings, and side-cuttings, &c., Illawarra Road 708 7 6

Total estimated expenditure on Holt-Sutherland Estate £12,667 8 8
 Add cost of supervision @ 6 % 759 0 0

Deduct for roads claimed to be public roads:—
 Part expenditure, Illawarra Road £1,131 14 3
 Port Hacking 1,429 0 0
 Part expenditure, Coronulla Road 823 11 7
 Malvern Road (stated as necessary for approach to beach from railway) 655 4 6

4,039 10 4

Total expenditure on Estate (less amount claimed to be for public roads) £9,386 18 4

SCHEDULE C.

Memorandum as to Roadwork, &c., on Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate.

THE work done on this Estate under direction of the Casual Labour Board is given in the statements attached, and is computed from a plan of actual survey by Mr. W. M. Gordon, Government Surveyor, under instructions of Mr. District-Surveyor Deering, which comprises strictly all the roads traversing or forming boundaries of the said Company's land.

The statements also show the works chargeable to other private owners whose lands are adjoining and benefited, in addition; the three roads marked H, I, K, extending north from Lane Cove and Pennant Hills roads to south boundary of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's property, complete the system shown on plan.

The following estimate is made by measurements from plan on schedule rates given in evidence.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
Chargeable to roads on Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate	2,519	4	9
Chargeable to roads on other estates	508	12	5
Do roads H, I, K	160	15	9
<hr/>			
Total expenditure on east side of railway and south of Crown lands	£3,188	12	11
<hr/> <hr/>			

SUMMARY.

Amount chargeable to roads on Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate	2,519	4	9
Less cost of Vanceville Road and Junction Road to Boundary Road, if a public road	336	0	10
	<hr/>		
	2,183	3	11
Amount chargeable to roads on other private estates	508	12	5
Do roads H, I, K	160	15	9
	<hr/>		
Total	£2,852	12	1
<hr/> <hr/>			

N.B.—The cost of tools, powder, and contingent carting, in connection with above works, could not be ascertained.

FRED. A. FRANKLIN, C.E.

LIST

LIST of Roads cleared, formed, and improved on or in connection with properties of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, as per measurements made by Mr. Gordon, L.S.

Road Letter on Map.	Name of Road	Length	Estimated Cost	Amount.	Names of Landowners	One frontage to Burns, Withers, Smith, &c., Estimated half-cost.	Entirely through Burns, Withers, and Smith's			
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
B	CLEARED, FORMED, BALLASTED, AND BLINDING.	Chams.		0						
	Road B	15-69	4 8 9	69 12 6	Burns, Withers, & Smith on each side of road.	P	R			
	Junction road between D and F roads	80-79	4 8 9	358 10 1						
	Along portion 14 of Burns, Withers, & Smith's land	10 00	4 8 9	44 7 6						
	From junction of J-street west along Burns Road	5-00	4 8 9	22 3 9						
	Road A	40-00	4 8 9	177 10 0						
	Total chains	151-48	...	672 3 10				672 3 10
	CLEARED, FORMED, AND PART BALLASTED AND BLINDING									
	Sherbrooke-st. from Boundary Road to Road A—							Burns, Withers, & Smith on one side, Crown property on other.	P	R
	Cleared and formed	27-00	1 14 6	46 11 6						
Part ballasted and blinding within above length (6-88 chains)	...	2 14 3	18 13 3							
Total chains	27-00	..	65 4 9	...	32 12 4½	...				
E E F J J	CLEARED AND FORMED.									
	Part George-street from Junction-street North	34-08	1 14 6	58 15 9	Burns, Withers, and Smith on each side of road	P	R			
	Burdett-street	31-10	1 14 6	53 12 11						
	Road E, from Junction Road to Boundary Road	18-16	1 14 6	31 6 6						
	Road E, between Junction and Burns Road	24-37	1 14 6	42 0 9						
	Road F, J, J, between Burns-street and Bill-yard-street, being part Vanceville Road	21-60	1 14 6	37 5 2						
	Total chains	129-31	...	223 1 1				223 1 1
	CLEARED.									
	Florence-street between Albert and Sherbrooke Road	17 70	0 17 0	15 0 11				Burns, Withers, & Smith on each side	P	R
	George-street from 34 chains north from junction with Junction Road to Road A	9 29	0 17 0	7 17 11						
Mistake Roads—32 55 chains, and 7 36 chains..	39 91	0 17 0	33 18 5							
Total chains	66 90	56 17 3	56 17 3				
C D M F	CLEARED AND FORMED.									
	Boundary Road, between B and C	21 61	1 14 6	37 5 6	Burns, Withers, and Smith on one side, various owners on other.	P	R			
	Road C	15-99	1 14 6	27 11 8						
	Road D	17-96	1 14 6	30 19 7						
	Road from Burns Road, turn at M towards Bobbin Rock	11-71	1 14 6	20 4 0						
	Part Burns Road between J and M	7-38	1 14 6	12 14 8						
	Road F	18-46	1 14 6	31 16 10						
	Total chains	93-11	..	160 12 3				...	80 6 1½	...
	CLEARED, FORMED, BALLASTED, AND GRAVELLED									
	Junction Road, between Roads D and F	80 79	6 5 3	505 18 11				Burns, Withers, & Smith on each side	P	R
*Burns Road, from Junction with E Road at J... * No gravel on this length	7-00	4 8 9	31 1 3							
Total chains	87-79	..	537 0 2	537 0 2				
J H	CLEARED, FORMED, BALLASTED, AND GRAVELLED.									
	Junction Road from George-street to Road I	52-26	6 5 3	327 5 6	Burns, Withers, & Smith on one side, various owners on others.	P	R			
	Road J, between Junction and Burns Road	24-50	6 5 3	153 8 7						
	Part Burns Road, between J and M	5-00	6 5 3	31 6 3						
Road H, between Junction and Burns Road	25-77	6 5 3	161 7 8							
Total chains	107-53	673 8 0	336 14 0				
H	CLEARED.									
	Burns Road, from D to F Roads	79-99	0 17 0	67 19 10	Burns, Withers, & Smith on one side.	33 19 11	...			
	Total chains	743-11	Total..	£ 2,456 7 2	£ 483 12 5	1,489 2 4			

Clearing, 100 links wide; formation, 42 feet wide; ballasting, average width, 13½ feet.

Prices allowed	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Clearing, 17s. per chain—£8		
10s. per acre	0 17 0	} 1 14 6
Forming, per chain	0 17 6	
Ballast (17 c. yds. to the chain)	2 8 9	
Blinding, per chain	0 5 6	
Gravel, per chain	2 2 0	

NOTE.—£2,456 7s. 2d.—The money column marked O denotes the total estimated expenditure (culverts not included) on 743 chains of road, passing through Burns, Withers, and Smith's property, or along the boundary of such
 £483 12s. 5d.—The column marked P shows half-cost of works on those roads, fronting Burns, Withers, and Smith's on one side, and various owners on other.
 £1,489 2s. 4d.—The column R gives the estimated expenditure on roads passing entirely through Burns, Withers, and Smith's property.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
P R and cost of culverts and bridges—Equals an estimated expenditure, with an addition of 6 per cent for supervision, of	2,519 4 9	
Deduct for roads, if allowed—Vanceville Road extension, Junction Road, Boundary Road, clearing and culvert	336 0 10	
Total to Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate	£2,183 3 11	
		£ 408 10 0

FRED A FRANKLIN, C.E.

SCHEDULE of Roads cleared, formed, and improved. Burns, Withers, and Smith, one side ; various owners other side.

Road Letter on map	Name of Road	Length.	Estimated Cost	Amount.	Names of Landowners.	Proportionate charge to owners. Estimated at half cost.			
						Crown	Brown.	Mrs Edwards	Land Coy.
	CLEARFD, FORMED, AND PART BALLASTED AND BLINDING.	Chains.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Sherbrook-street from Boundary Road to Road A—				} Crown on one side ; Burns, Withers, and Smith on other	32 12 4½	... ..	.....	.....
	Cleared and formed	27 00	1 14 6	46 11 6					
	Part ballasted and blinding 6 88 chains.....		2 14 3	18 13 3					
	Total chains... ..	27 00		£65 4 9					
	CLEARED AND FORMED.								
	Boundary Road between B and C	21 61	1 14 6	37 5 6	} Do do do	47 18 4½	.....	.....	.....
C	Road C	15 99	1 14 6	27 11 8					
D	Road D	17 96	1 14 6	30 19 7					
M	Road from Burns Road at M towards Bobbin Rock	11 71	1 14 6	20 4 1	} Brown one side, and Burns, Withers, and Smith on other.	.....	32 7 9	.....	.....
	Part Burns Road between J and M	7 38	1 14 6	12 14 7					
F	Road F	18 46	1 14 6	31 16 10	} Brown on one side; and Burns, Withers, and Smith on other.				
	Total chains	93 11		£160 12 3					
	CLEARED, FORMED, BALLASTED, AND GRAVELLED.								
	Junction Road from George-street to Road I	52 26	6 5 3	327 5 6	} Land Company one side; Burns, Withers, and Smith on other	.....	.....	.....	163 12 9
	Road J between Junction and Burns Road	24 50	6 5 3	153 8 7					
	Part Burns Road between J and M ..	5 00	6 5 3	31 6 3	} Brown one side; Burns, Withers, and Smith on other] ...	.....	92 7 5	.....	.....
H	Road H between Junction and Burns Road ..	25 77	6 5 3	161 7 8					
	Total chains	107 53		£673 8 0					
	CLEARED.								
	Boundary Road from D to F Roads ..	79 99	0 17 0	67 19 10	} Crown on one side; Burns, Withers and Smith on other.....	33 19 11	.....	.....	.....
	Total chains... ..	307 63		£967 4 10					
						114 10 8	124 15 2	80 13 10	163 12 9

Prices allowed	{	Clearing, 17s. per chain = £8 10s. per acre	£ s. d.
		Forming, per chain	0 17 0
		Ballast, per chain	0 17 6
		Blinding, per chain	2 8 9
		Gravel, per chain	0 5 6
			2 2 0

Total estimated expenditure on 307 63 chains of road, £967 4s. 10d., half of which, as per the sum of the four money columns shown on right-hand side, is fairly chargeable to various owners other than Burns, Withers, and Smith, as shown (say) £483 12 5
 Supervision, 6 per cent 25 0 0

Expenditure chargeable to private owners of land adjoining the Estate of Burns, Withers, and Smith £508 12 5

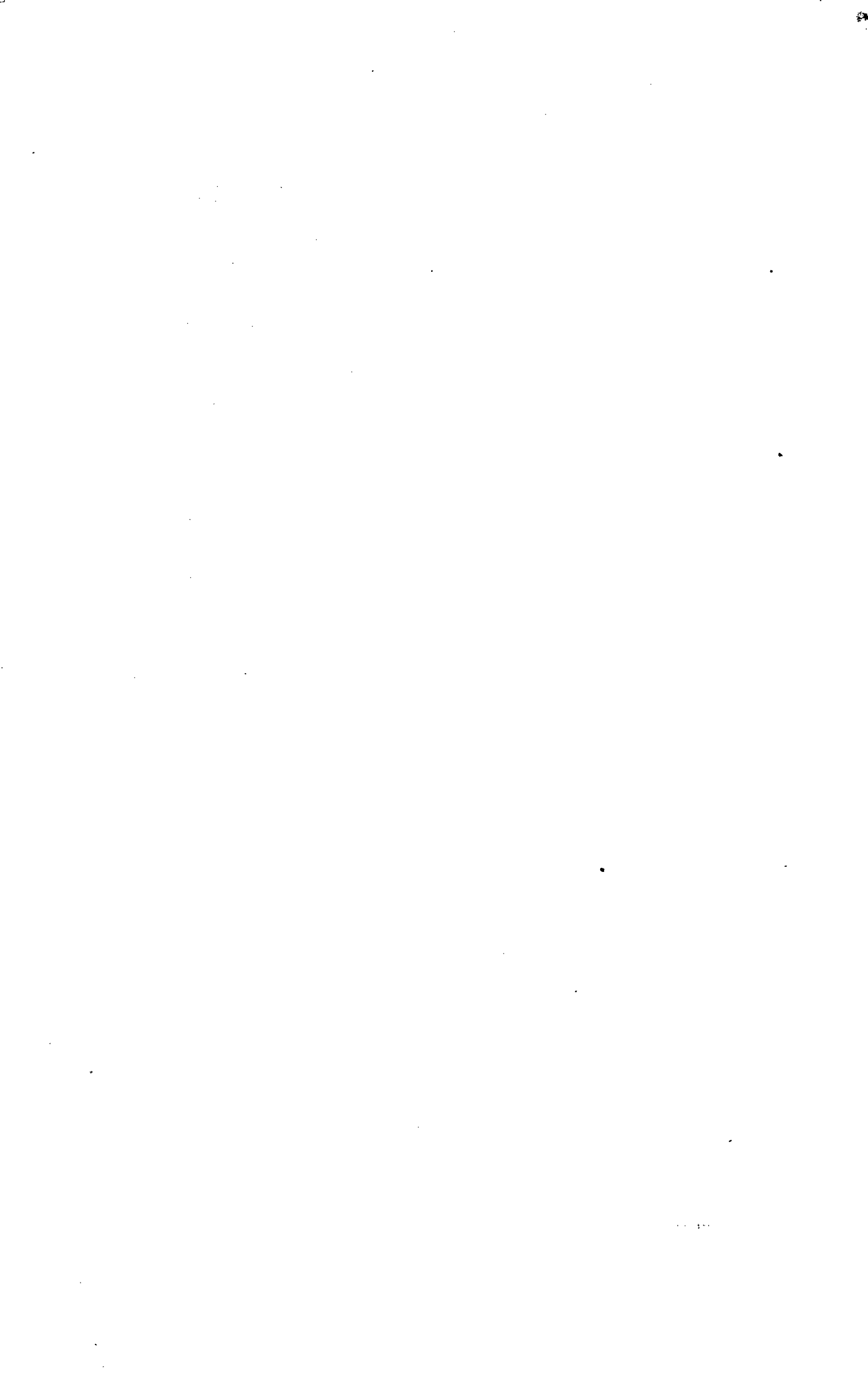
SCHEDULE of Roads cleared and improved on, or in connection with, Private Property other than that of Burns, Withers, and Smith.

Road Letter on Map.	Name of Road.	Length.	Estimated Cost.	Amount.	Name of Landowners.	Chargeable to each.	Amount.
KK	CLEARED. From Junction Road to Road from Pennant Hills.	Chains. 86.79	£ s. d. 0 17 0	£ s. d. 73 15 5	Land Company on each side	Land Company	£ s. d. 73 15 5
	CI Palmerston Road, from Junction Road to Pearce's Corner.	57.15	0 17 0	48 11 6	Foster on one side, Land Company on other.	Land Company Foster	24 5 9 24 5 9
II	From Burns Road to Lane Cove Road	34.64	0 17 0	29 8 10	Brown, Ebsworth, Noonan, Lucas, and Dobson on one side, and Armstrong on the other.	Brown, Ebsworth, Lucas, Dobson, Noonan, Armstrong.	29 8 10
				151 15 9			151 15 9

Prices allowed—Clearing, 17s. per chain.

Total expenditure chargeable to Roads K, I, H, clearing only ...	... £151 15 9
Supervision, 6 per cent. ...	... 9 0 0
	<u>£160 15 9</u>

FRED. A. FRANKLIN, C.E.



1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

CASUAL LABOUR BOARD INQUIRY COMMISSION.
(SPECIAL REPORT BY.)

Presented to Parliament by Command.

A SPECIAL REPORT presented to His Excellency the Governor, by the Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission, upon a particular matter arising during the progress of the Inquiries directed by the Commission.

To His Excellency The Right Honorable CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, Her Majesty's Commissioners, were appointed by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the Colony, dated the twentieth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, to make a diligent and full inquiry into the working of the Casual Labour Board, consisting of the Honorable John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., Frederick Wells, Esquire, and David Houison, Esquire, from the time of its appointment until the twenty-third day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, into the mode in and the purposes for which public moneys have been expended by the said Board, or any members or member thereof, or under their or his authority; into the manner in which the said Board and the members thereof have performed their duties in that behalf; and into the truth of all charges and statements which have been made before Parliament, or before any Select Committee thereof, touching any alleged improper expenditure by the said Board, or any members or member thereof, or under their or his authority, of any public moneys in the improvement of, or the making, or construction of roads or other works upon the property of any person, partnership, or company.

We received our Commission on the 22nd day of February last.

We

We have since that date diligently prosecuted the inquiry intrusted to us and we are still actively engaged in the examination of witnesses, whose evidence is, in our opinion, material and necessary for the purposes of the investigation.

We have held twenty-seven meetings and have examined fifty-two witnesses.

Excepting so far as the subjects referred to us for inquiry, and above indicated, trench upon and are unavoidably imported into that branch of the inquiry which relate to the charges and statements which have been made before Parliament or before any Select Committee thereof, as mentioned in the Commission, we have, we believe, unless other material witnesses are presented, concluded the actual taking of evidence, on what may be termed, for purposes of division of subject matter, the Departmental working.

We defer bringing up our Report on this head until we are in a position to present our Final Report upon the whole subject matter submitted for investigation, as, in some important respects, we are unable to come to a proper conclusion until evidence on the latter branch of the inquiry is completed.

In the course of the inquiry, a matter, in our judgment, of serious import has arisen, involving the Chairman of the late Casual Labour Board, the Honorable John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C.

We have, so far as we are able, investigated this matter, with the result that, in our opinion, the evidence taken and the examination of such books and documents as are available to us, disclose grounds for the belief that, at least, a grave irregularity, implicating Mr. Davies, has been committed.

We, therefore, after the fullest and most anxious deliberation, and in view of the responsible nature of our duties and the public interests, deem that the circumstances demand that we should submit a Special Report on the particular matter hereinafter indicated.

We, for reasons that will appear obvious, refrain here from pronouncing our definite finding on the matter.

We submit this Special Report, with the documents that are annexed to, and are to be taken as incorporated herein, in order that, if your Excellency sees fit the same may be referred for the opinion and advice of the Crown Law Officers, as to whether any further action shall be taken.

We have, as will be found later on in this Special Report, taken upon ourselves the responsibility of impounding certain books and documents which have been produced in evidence by various witnesses.

These books and documents are the property of certain persons and companies.

We doubt whether we have power, either inherent to our office as Commissioners, or by virtue of the statute 44 Victoriæ No. 1, to warrant the impounding of such books and documents.

But, in the general interests, and to save what possibly might lead to a miscarriage of justice, we have assumed the authority to detain the books and documents, believing that our action in this respect will be supported.

The consideration of this has, in a large measure, induced us to the conclusion that the circumstances justify our submitting a Special Report, and on this point we seek to be directed as to what course we are to take, if the return of these books and documents is demanded and insisted upon by their owners. We

We propose in this Special Report to refer to or quote only such evidence as, in our judgment, bears upon and is material for the purpose of conveying a clear comprehension of the particular matter to which this Report relates.

The Casual Labour Board, the members of which were Mr. John Davies, Mr. Frederick Wells, and Mr. David Houison, appears to have been appointed by Sir Henry Parkes, then Colonial Secretary, in or about the month of May, 1887.

The members of the Board rely upon a memorandum or minute under date 2nd May, 1887, signed by Sir Henry Parkes, and directed to them as conveying instructions for their guidance.

Messieurs F. Wells and D. Houison, at the time of the creation of the Board, and throughout its existence, held important, and, we believe, responsible offices in the Public Service, the former as an Assistant Engineer in the Roads and Bridges Department, the other as District Engineer in the Harbour and Rivers Department.

Shortly after the creation of the Board, the members thereof appointed Mr. John Davies to be the Chairman, and subsequently, what has been termed by different witnesses "the executive work," or general administration of the Department, was entrusted to him.

Messieurs F. Wells and D. Houison thenceforth, though in many respects bestirring themselves in regard to the professional working, did not actively and continuously engage themselves in the duties of the Casual Labour Board Department.

Mr. John Davies, on the other hand, assumed the active management of the office, and administered its affairs, virtually appearing and acting throughout as the responsible head of the Department.

He and some of the subordinate officers on the staff of the Department appear to have had almost the entire control of the funds which were placed at the disposal of the Casual Labour Board by the Government, and the application of the various moneys belonging and coming to the Department.

Amongst other things, Mr. John Davies was empowered to sign cheques, which were countersigned by Mr. Thomas Cooper Hinchcliffe, the senior clerk in the establishment, and in other respects Mr. Davies appears to have had and exercised a very wide discretion.

From our examination of the books of the Department, and from evidence we have taken on the subject, the practice appears to have obtained for the Colonial Treasurer to pass to the credit of the Casual Labour Board at the Australian Joint Stock Bank various sums from time to time, each amounting to £6,000.

For some months the bank account of the Board was thus kept in funds by periodical payments from the Treasury of £6,000, but at a later period the account with the Australian Joint Stock Bank became and remained for a considerable time overdrawn to the extent of several thousands.

For example: In December, 1887, the Board's current account with the Australian Joint Stock Bank was overdrawn upwards of £18,000. In July, 1888, the same account was overdrawn upwards of £29,000; and this overdraft went on increasing to the end of the year 1888, when it reached £77,722 14s. 8d., as shown by the Bank pass-book.

The

The account was then partially put in funds by a payment from the Colonial Treasurer of £72,000. But at the close of the Board's existence in January last there was again an overdraft, amounting to £12,203 10s.

The total payments made by the Casual Labour Board during the time of its existence, as taken from the cash-book kept by one of the officers of the Department, were £252,424 8s. 10d.

These facts and figures are mentioned to illustrate in a measure the extent of the control and responsibility of Mr. John Davies as the Chairman of the Board who administered the Department.

They are not further relevant to the special matter herein reported on, beyond noting that the Colonial Treasurer was, with certain exceptions to which we refer below, the source from which this Bank account was fed, and that the Casual Labour Board's Bank was the Australian Joint Stock Bank.

In examining the Bank pass-books, three in number, at an early stage of the inquiry we discovered in addition to the Colonial Treasurer's payments at various times of twenty-five sums of £6,000 each to the credit of the account and of the payments £18,000 and £72,000 from the same source, there were in the months of June, July, August, and September, 1887, and of June and September, 1888, six credit items appearing simply with the name "John Davies" before each item.

On referring to the cash-book of the Casual Labour Board, we found these entries in name, date, and amount, agreeing with the entries in the Bank pass-books, but we could not find amongst any of the other books or records of the Casual Labour Board Department anything to throw light on the items.

Mr. T. C. Hincheliffe, the senior and responsible clerk employed in the Casual Labour Board office, and immediately under Mr. John Davies, was examined by us.

In his evidence, he claimed the position simply of Secretary and Paymaster to the Department, and distinctly disclaimed the position of Accountant, or full responsibility for the accounts, though he admitted that it was his duty to see the books were properly kept, and he said he sometimes checked them.

Several other witnesses, including members of the Board, described him as the responsible Accountant to the Department.

In the course of his examination he was asked whether moneys were received for or on account of the Casual Labour Board from any other source than the Treasury, and he replied: "Small sums sometimes."

In eliciting his knowledge on this point further by close questioning, we obtained the clue to the transactions to which some of the entries related.

In answer to a question, "What became of the moneys?" he replied, "They were paid into the Bank to the account of the Casual Labour Board. That, I may tell you, was irregular. I told the Chairman so with regard to several other sums, I think about £300 altogether, that the course he adopted was against the rules of the Department. He said he would take the responsibility, but when I left the office I got him to sign a voucher, transferring it from the Bank to the Treasury. It was simply an irregularity on his part. He said he would take the responsibility, and I let him do so. There is the voucher in the office, simply transferring the amount from the Bank to the Treasury."

Mr.

Mr. Hinchcliffe further said—Such moneys were paid to the Chairman, sometimes by cash and sometimes in cheques. He was asked—Whether such moneys would go through the books of the Department, and, in reply, he said, “No; that is where the irregularity came in. We were not allowed to receive any moneys, except from the Government, that is, the books did not show any money that we received. We were supposed to pay it into the Treasury, into the Miscellaneous Account, or wherever it had to go.”

He repeatedly affirmed that these amounts appeared only on the Bank deposit receipts and Bank pass-books, but on no book that was kept by the Casual Labour Board Department.

As a matter of fact, these items did appear as and in the way mentioned above, in the cash-book of the Department. This was pointed out to Mr. Hinchcliffe at the close of his evidence, and he explained that he did not know the items appeared there.

On further interrogation, Mr. Hinchcliffe said “That firewood was sold by auction. That the auctioneer sent accounts of the sales, which he saw when they came in but not afterwards. That the Chairman had possession of these accounts, and would keep them in his own drawers. That the Chairman would receive the moneys for the sales, and pay them into the Bank” (meaning the Australian Joint Stock Bank) “to the credit of the Casual Labour Board, and they would become absorbed in the balance of the £6,000 advances.”

This witness also stated, “The Chairman, when he received the *first* cheque, paid it into the Bank. I told him that that was not the usual way, but that it should be paid into the Treasury”; and further, “That the Chairman paid similar moneys in all the time, in spite of his (Mr. Hinchcliffe’s) remonstrances.”

Following this information up, we ascertained that men had been employed at or near the National Park from time to time in cutting timber, apparently the property of the Government, for firewood, which was sent on for sale to Sydney; that Mr. George Robert C. Neale, of Engine-street, was the auctioneer employed, who alleged that he had made several payments to the Casual Labour Board, and had always with such payments sent in account sales to the Chairman of the Board.

Mr. J. B. C. Miles, one of the gentlemen appointed in January last to take over and wind up the affairs of the Casual Labour Board, was examined before us, and stated that he had been unable to find any account sales in the office, and had applied to Mr. Neale for copies of same, but that he (Mr. Neale) had refused to furnish copies without payment therefor.

We accordingly summoned Mr. G. R. C. Neale to attend before us with his books, &c. He was examined by us on 26th March last. As he had not then with him certain cheques, on which the evidence he then gave bore, we required him to attend again and produce them.

On the following day, 27th March last, Mr. Charles William Beggs, the partner of Mr. G. R. C. Neale, attended before us and was examined. He produced nine cheques, which it was claimed had been paid over to the Casual Labour Board, and represented proceeds of sales of firewood.

Subsequently, occasion arising, Mr. G. R. C. Neale was again called and examined on 23rd April instant, and on 24th April instant with reference to a further payment that had turned up in the course of the taking of evidence.

As

“timber to the Casual Labour Board. Hillier got it because before they (the Casual Labour Board) gave him (Hillier) his cheque they (the Board) had to have Neale’s.” It is supposed, the Board wanted Neale’s cheque and account sales to check Hillier’s work.

We should here remark that we have not yet found where Hillier is for the purpose of obtaining his evidence, though we don’t think it can in any way materially affect the matter presently under report.

The Casual Labour Board cash book discloses a payment to Hillier, on 17th May, 1887, of £29 1s. 6d. This may relate to the same timber as the payment by Neale, but we have not yet been able to connect it with the particular transaction.

We do not think it affects the consideration of the evidence.

The evidence of Mr. Duchesne, of the City Bank, supported by the original deposit slip he produced, establishes that on the 16th May, 1887, apparently two days after its receipt by Mr. John Davies, as Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, this particular cheque of £26 17s. 7d., which Neale had paid to the Casual Labour Board Department, as proceeds of sale of firewood, was appropriated by Mr. John Davies to his own use, and paid into his private bank account in the City Bank, with special directions as to how it with other moneys then paid in should be applied, that is to say, according to the deposit or credit slip in Mr. Davies’ handwriting, “£50 in special reduction of Osborne’s bill, and £5 7s. 7d. account C. R., £5 7s. 7d. on 18th instant,” being evidently purposes connected with his (Mr. Davies’) private business, and in no way pertinent to or arising out of his position as Chairman of the Casual Labour Board.

We next come to the consideration of the sixth item in the foregoing statement of amounts, the item of £33 3s. 2d. It will be noted that Mr. G. R. C. Neale, when examined before us on 26th March last did not disclose this item. On the contrary he stated he had not anything further on his books than what he had just then previously stated to us in evidence, and that he did not know of any further sales.

Having, subsequently to Mr. Neale’s examination, of 26th March last, learnt that certain sums had been paid into the Colonial Treasury on account of the Casual Labor Board, we summoned the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade, and subsequently, Mr. Newcombe, an officer in the Treasury Department.

From them, we received a statement of the moneys so paid in, and the receipt vouchers, which had been handed in, when certain payments-in had been made, describing for what the particular payments-in purported to have been made.

The last item on this Treasury statement was £33 3s. 2d. ; the date on which it had been paid in and credited at the Treasury was 29th March, 1889. The Department receipt voucher No. 4,635 was signed “John Davies,” and showed under the head of “Particulars of sums received” the words “Sale of firewood at National Park.”

This was the first clue we obtained to any further firewood transactions than what Mr. G. R. C. Neale had stated to us on 26th March last.

We followed it up, with the result that we discovered and the evidence established that in July, 1887, a sale of firewood was effected by Mr. G. R. C. Neale, on account of the Casual Labour Board; that the proceeds, amounting to £33 3s. 2d., were duly paid over by Mr. G. R. C. Neale by his cheque on the Bank of New

South Wales, Haymarket Branch, dated 19th July, 1887; that that cheque was received by Mr. John Davies, and by him appropriated to his own use, such cheque having been paid by him personally into his private Bank, the City Bank, with a special direction written on the credit or deposit slip: "To provide for cheque to be drawn on Thursday."

We next come to the consideration of the payment of £52 3s. 2d., on or about 22nd September, 1887, being the tenth or last item in the foregoing statement of amounts. Though apparently trivial, it is worthy of notice that Mr. Neale, giving evidence on 26th March last, with his auction sales book in front of him, stated the amount, *as it does in fact appear there*, to be £52 3s. 2d., but when Mr. Beggs next day produced the original cheque given in payment it was found to be for £52 3s. 1d.

This circumstance is relied on as assisting to explain a matter later on in this Special Report.

Mr. Neale says—In all cases he sent the account sales and always paid by cheque

That the sales for which he accounted were all on account of the Casual Labour Board, and that the Casual Labour Board generally got his account sales and cheques before they settled with Hillier.

A reference to the cash-book of the Casual Labour Board shows a payment to Hillier on 22nd September, 1887, of £38 1s. 6d., thus supporting Neale's evidence as to the practice. For this would appear to be in respect of the transaction he had accounted for to the Board that day.

When asked if he had seen Mr. Davies recently, Mr. Neale said, "About a month ago as near as possible." He was asked what Mr. Davies saw him about. His reply was, "He asked me whether I could give him a memo. of what cheques I paid to the 'Board.' I said, 'I can give you a rough one.' I did so far as I could. He said, "'That is about the same as I have, but I have a little more.' I looked it up and "found I had omitted something whilst copying from one book to the other."

Taking a month back from the time the witness spoke would bring the interview to nigh the end of February.

The evidence is that Messrs. Miles and Mason were appointed to take over control of the unemployed on 25th January last, and that Mr. Davies remained at the office for some days after that time.

He would probably become aware later on of the fact that some examination would be made into past transactions.

Messrs. Miles and Mason took some time to master the details of the office, and probably it was well on in February before mention of any firewood sales would come up.

Mr. Davies was not, we believe, in the office after January, but we are disposed from the evidence to think he had friends, or at least one there who would mention to him what was going on.

Apart from that, we readily believe, from what has happened in the course of this inquiry, that Mr. Davies would not lose an opportunity of inquiring what was being said or done by his successors.

This will probably account for his visit to Neale, and his anxiety to obtain from him a memo. of the payments.

Now

Now Mr. Neale says he was then asked for a memo.; that he gave a rough one; that Mr. Davies said he had more; Mr. Neale then said he looked it up and found he had omitted something.

Mr. Davies, in the course of giving his evidence before us, which is hereinafter referred to, produced the memorandum he said he had got from Mr. Neale, and also a memorandum he had obtained from the office of the Casual Labour Board.

This latter was in the handwriting of one of the clerks in the Board's service, for which probably Mr. Davies had asked after giving up charge.

It comprised a list of all the payments that had been made by him to the Australian Joint Stock Bank other than the moneys which had been paid into that Bank by the Treasury.

But the memorandum he got from Mr. Neale, and which he (Mr. Davies) produced did *not* contain either the items of £26 17s. 7d. and £33 3s. 2d.

This probably is what Mr. Neale meant by his evidence "he found he had omitted something in copying from one book to the other."

We have Mr. Neale's books, and we have observed that the item of £26 17s. 7d. is not carried into some new ledger account he opened, and that the item of £33 3s. 2d. appears on a different page to that on which all the other payments are noted, only a figure reference at foot of page being noted to direct attention to the separate entry.

We can readily understand how these entries might be overlooked in the hurry of supplying information on Mr. Davies' call. We are quite satisfied as to Mr. Neale's books.

Mr. Neale had in his book—as he gave it in evidence—£52 3s. 2d.; but when Mr. Beggs produced the cheque it was £52 3s. 1d.

Mr. Neale evidently had not noticed in his book the small discrepancy between the return of proceeds as per his book and the cheque he drew. It is clear though, now, from this small discrepancy, that when Mr. Davies paid the £52 3s. 2d. into the Treasury on 15th February last he got his information then recently from Mr. Neale, and not from the cheque which he had received in September, 1887.

As to this £52 3s. 1d. the evidence of Mr. Duchesne, and the original deposit slip in Mr. Davies' own handwriting, establishes that this sum of £52 3s. 1d. was on 26th September, 1887 (four days after the date of Mr. Neale's cheque for that amount), appropriated by Mr. John Davies to his own use, and paid into his No. 2 account in his own bank (the City Bank).

According to the statement we received from the Treasury Mr. John Davies, on 15th February last, paid into the Treasury a sum of £52 13s. 2d., of which £52 3s. 2d. is described in the departmental receipt voucher, signed by "John Davies" as "September 26th, amount received for sale of firewood from National Park."

As to Mr. Neale's omission of items in the memorandum he gave Mr. Davies in February last, it may be the first item of £26 17s. 7d., or it may be the item of £33 3s. 2d. It seems to afford some explanation for the items of £52 3s. 2d. and £33 3s. 2d. coming in separately when they appear in the statement we obtained from the Treasury—the one on the 15th February, 1889; the other on 29th March, 1889.

1889. But this can in no way explain the appropriation of these moneys in the months of July and September, 1887; while as to the £26 17s. 7d., there does not appear to have been ever any payment thereof made to the Treasury. So far as the evidence goes that money has never been disgorged.

It is beyond doubt that the payment-in to the Treasury of £52 3s. 2d. was made by Mr. Davies after he saw Mr. Neale in February last, and that the amount differing from the actual amount he received and paid into his own bank in September, 1887, was obtained from Mr. Neale's book.

Mr. Davies was examined by us on 23rd April instant specially in regard to any moneys he received or property he held for or on account of the Casual Labour Board or the Government in respect of the premises.

His evidence on this point is hereto appended.

It may appear unaccountable that Mr. John Davies should select only certain of Mr. Neale's cheques for proceeds of firewood sales to pay to his own bank for his private credit, while the bulk he paid to the Board's account in the Australian Joint Stock Bank.

There is this distinguishing feature:—All the seven of Mr. Neale's cheques—except one small one for £5 4s. 6d.—that were paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank, credit of account Casual Labour Board, were made in favour of—(1) Government Wood; (2) The Casual Labour Board; (3) Government Relief Works; (4) Casual Labour Board; (5) Chairman of Labour Bureau; (6) Government Labour Bureau.

Such cheques, if paid to a private account in a bank, might naturally excite question or remark at the time, or some talk amongst the officials.

The three of Mr. Neale's cheques that were at different times passed by Mr. John Davies to the credit of his private account in the City Bank were made in favour of “(1) Mr. T. S. Hinchcliffe, (2) Mr. E. M. Burrows, (3) Mr. Burrowes.”

We may add that, in a measure, to test the value of the evidence as regards cashing cheques and “holding particular moneys in hand,” we inquired whether, between 1st May, 1887, and 31st March, 1889, any cheques had been drawn by Mr. Davies on any of his accounts in the City Bank for £26 17s. 7d., £33 3s. 2d., £52 3s. 2d., or £52 13s. 2d., and in reply we were informed that not any cheque for any of such sums had been drawn during the periods named.

The evidence given by Mr. Davies just at the close of his second day's examination came after we had had the bank's officer in attendance and under examination.

Mr. Davies' evidence on the whole matter herein referred to, is, in our opinion, extremely unsatisfactory, and does not alter the facts established by the evidence of Messrs. G. R. C. Neale, W. C. Beggs, and W. Duchesne,—

As to the misappropriation, on 16th May, 1887, and the absolute retention of £26 17s. 7s.

As to the misappropriation, on 26th September, 1887, of £52 3s. 1d., and its retention from that date until 15th February, 1889.

As to the misappropriation, on 19th July, 1887, of £33 3s. 2d., and its retention from that date to 29th March, 1889.

It

It has already been mentioned that, during a considerable portion of the period of the Casual Labour Board's existence, the account in the Australian Joint Stock Bank was overdrawn, and probably paying interest, while Mr. John Davies had the use of the above moneys for his private banking purposes.

It will be seen from Mr. Davies' evidence that he distinctly and frequently denies that he has now any money or property in his possession or under his control, or in the control of any person or company on his behalf, belonging to the Government or the Casual Labour Board.

It is proper for us to add that there is not any evidence whatever to connect the other members of the Board, Mr. Wells or Mr. Houison, with the matter herein specially reported on, and we believe they have not any knowledge of the same.

It will be gathered from the foregoing, the reasons that have induced us to impound the several books, cheques, and credit-slips, pending any further action that may appear to Your Excellency proper in the premises, or pending Your Excellency's commands or directions to us, which we humbly ask may be issued to us in this respect.

We certify this to be a Special Report made upon a particular matter arising during the progress of the inquiries entrusted to us by the Commission before referred to.

Certified under our hands and seals, at Sydney, this 29th day of April, 1889,—

ALFRED J. CAPE,
President.

F. A. FRANKLIN.

T. F. WALLER.

1889.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE

TAKEN BEFORE

The Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the working of the Casual Labour Board, the mode in and purposes for which public moneys have been expended by the Board, the manner in which the Board have performed their duties, and to examine into the truth of charges and statements made before Parliament or any Select Committee as to alleged improper expenditure of public moneys by the Board or any Member thereof.

MONDAY, 11 MARCH, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P.,

T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Frederick William Webb called in, sworn, and examined:—

1. *President.*] You are Clerk of the Legislative Assembly? I am.
2. And as such you have custody of all papers and records produced before the Assembly? Yes.
3. Do you produce minutes of all the evidence taken by the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly, appointed on the 15th November last, as to work of unemployed on roads at Hornsby and Holt-Sutherland Estate? By leave of the House, I produce progress reports and evidence as laid upon the table of the House on the two occasions upon which progress reports were brought up.
4. Does that include the whole of the papers produced—the whole of the evidence given before the Select Committee regarding the work done upon the roads at Hornsby and on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes, to the best of my belief.
5. Does it include the whole of the papers—the returns laid upon the table of the House and ordered to be printed on the 8th, 13th, and 14th November, and on the 19th December, 1888? Yes, if they appear as appendices to the report.
6. Do you produce the whole of the returns and Parliamentary papers submitted to the Committee? I have not got the whole of the returns here, but I would be able to produce them if necessary. I was merely requested to produce the minutes of the evidence of the work performed at Hornsby and on the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
7. Have you any petitions presented by Mr. Burns, and can you produce them? Yes—do you mean the one presented during the present Session?
8. I mean one last Session and one during the present Session? Yes; I can produce them.
9. The papers you have got here are mainly the papers connected with the Select Committee, and nothing else? Precisely; the papers produced before the Committee and the evidence given before the Committee, the two progress reports of the Committee, with the evidence taken.
10. Do you know of any other papers besides what you have mentioned—those I have been asking about relating to the inquiry on the Hornsby and Holt-Sutherland Estate roads? I am not aware of any others; I have no recollection of any others.
11. You can leave these papers with us, I presume? Yes, on receiving your undertaking that they will be kept in safe custody and returned to me after the Commission has done.
12. Yes, we will give you that undertaking.
13. *Mr. Waller.*] I presume you will have a schedule of all the documents? There is connected with each report a schedule or table of contents.
14. *President.*] I would like to get the returns which were laid upon the table of the House? I can produce them at any time they may be required.
15. *Mr. Franklin.*] Do you remember if any plans were given in by the Casual Labour Board to the Committee? Yes, and they appear with the papers. Some plans I believe were returned to the Department on a motion made in the Committee itself.
16. Are you aware whether there were any working tracings or plans? No, I am not aware. Some plans were returned to the Department; and, if so, there will be a note to that effect on the proceedings of the Committee.
17. Which Department do you refer to? Whichever Department produced them; I could not say which. It may have been the Casual Labour Board or one of the Government Departments. Mr. Wells, I think, produced them from his own Department or the Casual Labour Board.
18. Do you think Mr. Wells is their custodian still? I think so; at all events it would appear in the evidence.

Mr.
F. W. Webb.
11 Mar., 1889.

David Houison called in, sworn, and examined :—

- Mr. D. Houison.
11 Mar., 1889.
19. *President.*] I believe you were a member of the Casual Labour Board? Yes; but my appointment was not signed by Sir Henry Parkes.
20. When were you appointed? On May 2nd, 1887.
21. Who appointed you? Sir Henry Parkes. I produce a letter, dated 2nd May, 1887, purporting to be a copy of a document signed Henry Parkes. The other two letters of appointment were signed, but that one was unsigned.
22. You have seen the original of this? I have seen Mr. Davies's letter of appointment. I might make an explanation. I believe the reason that was, not signed was that Mr. Darley was to be a member of the Board. He could not be on the Board because he could not give the time required for the duties, and they wrote and asked me if I could take his place on the Board.
23. Mr. Wells's appointment was signed by Sir Henry Parkes? I have seen the other two copies, and they are signed by Sir Henry Parkes.
24. What position do you occupy in the public service? That of District Engineer in the Harbours and Rivers Department.
25. Did you hold that position at the time that you were appointed to the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
26. Were any particular instructions furnished you for your guidance? These are in the paper I have handed in to you. [*Copy of letter of 2nd May, 1887, handed in and marked A.*]
27. You had no other instructions beyond what are stated in this document? Nothing beyond what are in the document.
28. You were examined before the Select Committee on the work of the unemployed on roads at Hornsby and Holt-Sutherland Estate on the 21st November last and on the 12th December last? Yes.
29. Is this your original evidence? Yes.

Evidence before Select Committee.

281. *Chairman.*] Are you a member of the Board called the Labour Bureau? Yes; I am a member of the Casual Labour Board.
- 281½. Have you been a member of the Board since its origin? Yes.
282. How long ago is it since the Board was formed? Since May, 1887.
- 282½. Can you tell us how you became connected with the Board? I know nothing further than that I was appointed with Mr. Davies and Colonel Wells.
283. Were you consulted before the appointment was made as to whether you would accept it or not? I was asked to take Mr. Darley's place. He was originally appointed, but was unable to undertake the duties, and he asked me if I would accept the appointment.
284. Before you were asked to take the appointment? Yes.
285. Are you a civil servant? Yes; I am connected with the Harbours and Rivers Department.
286. Do you know whether you were appointed to this position because of your connection with the Harbours and Rivers Department? I have no knowledge.
287. How soon after its appointment did the Board meet? At once.
288. At the office of the Board? Yes.
289. Have you held regular meetings since? No. We did at first; but our duties would not permit of our constantly meeting.
290. At the first inception you held regular formal meetings? Well, you can hardly call them formal; there were no regular minutes taken. I was in constant attendance at the office for an hour every morning when I was in Sydney, before going to my regular duties.
291. Were you there by yourself at these times? No; Mr. Davies was always there, and Colonel Wells sometimes.
292. Then you have no record whatsoever of any of your meetings? The chief clerk has a record of every thing that has been done.
293. But I mean of any consultation? No; there was no regular record kept.
294. What was the nature of the instructions given to you as a member of the Board? I received such short notice—I only got a telegram last night—that I had not time to bring any papers with me, and there was no one at the office to-day.
295. What were your instructions, as far as your memory can serve you? I could not give the precise wording, and I would prefer not to say without giving the precise wording.
296. Of course, you do not always carry your instructions about with you; but you know what you can do, and what you are expected to do. When you took office, what was your understanding as to your powers and limits of those powers? To find employment for the unemployed.
297. There was a general power given to you? I could not describe it now.
298. You state that your instructions were to find work for the unemployed? Yes. We took over the unemployed from those who had charge of them at the time.
299. What I mean now is, when you took over the unemployed, had you any instructions given you as to the way in which these unemployed should be utilized? There were general instructions given.
300. Can you remember any limitations to those instructions? No; I cannot at present.
301. So far as your memory serves you, had you any power to dispose of those men according to your own discretion? Yes, we had.
302. As far as you can recollect, what work were the unemployed engaged upon when you took them over? Clearing, as a rule, and also upon roads.
303. They were working upon roads? Yes, and clearing.
304. *Mr. Copeland.*] Clearing Crown lands? Crown lands.
305. *Chairman.*] They were not in any particular district? They were scattered about.
306. In large numbers? Yes; there were a great number of them when we took charge.
307. What was the first effect of your taking them over—to concentrate them? To concentrate them at National Park as a depôt—to distribute them from there as the men were selected.
308. Did you call in any of those who were at work on any of the roads of the Colony? No; I do not think there were any called in.
309. Then, in concentrating them, where did you get your largest supply from? From Sydney streets.

310. Was your first task then to take them to National Park, and to distribute them from there, or did you send them direct from Sydney? Some went from there, and some went direct from Sydney afterwards.

Mr.
D. Houston.

11 Mar., 1889.

311. In considering where the men that you had at your disposal should go, did you receive any instructions of any kind from any of the Government officers? In what way?

312. Well, you had so many men at your disposal; you were intending to send them where they were most needed;—did you get any representations as to where they might be required from any Government officers? We had notice from the Roads Department if men were required in a particular district.

313. How did you ascertain that men were required in these districts? They forwarded us returns from the road superintendents. Copies of the reports referring to the works were sent to us with regard to the special requests.

314. That is from places where men were already at work? No; where men were required. We always had a statement as to the state of the labour market in these districts furnished to us by the Roads Department. It came from the head of the Department.

315. Did you issue instructions for the Roads Department to furnish you with these? No; we had no power to do so.

316. Then you acted upon the reports sent to you by the roads superintendent? Yes. If the contractors required any men they wrote for them.

317. How did you make it known? It was advertised in the daily papers.

318. And in the subsequent disposal of these men have you had any communication from any Government source? Not that I know of.

319. In sending your men to any locality, did you submit your proposals to the Colonial Secretary? His approval was invariably sought before any men were sent anywhere.

320. When you say invariably, are there any exceptions? There may be. I could not say positively, because I was not constantly in the office. Mr. Davies was our executive.

321. You say that Mr. Davies was your executive? Yes; he attends to all requirements of the office, sees to all the papers, and everything.

322. Has Mr. Davies the power to dispose of men without consulting you or your colleague, Colonel Wells? He does, as a rule, consult us.

323. Have there been instances where he has not consulted you? Yes.

324. And when he consults you does he convene you for the purpose? No; I am generally in. I call at the office every time I am in Sydney.

325. When you speak of "consults," you mean that he has some conversation with you when you call in casually at the office? Yes.

326. Does he ever talk with you outside the office, in the streets, on these matters? No.

327. Have you any knowledge of the work of the unemployed upon an estate owned by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith at Hornsby? I could not localize the ground, but I know the roads at Hornsby; I have been over them all.

328. Have you been over the district shown on the map before you? Yes.

329. From whom issued the orders for the unemployed to clear and form these roads? I could not say positively about that.

330. Did they issue from you? From the Board altogether, I think.

331. Who has charge of the unemployed out there? Mr. O'Donnell.

332. What are the instructions from the Board to Mr. O'Donnell in the matter? He gets instructions as to what to go on with, what roads to clear; and after he has cleared these roads, as an expert and an engineer, I, or Colonel Wells, go on to the ground and point out any portion that may require slight ballasting to improve the roads or the grades.

333. What was the object of the Board in forming these roads? To get access to the Crown lands at the back.

334. Did you authorize any roads that are not simply to give access? No.

335. Does that map show all the roads constructed? That shows all the roads.

336. Is it possible that orders may have come from your Board that you are not aware of, and that roads may have been cleared of which you are not aware? I do not think so.

337. Look at the map before you. There is a road between the road marked A and the Junction Road, marked G, running parallel with the railway line, and bordering the railway line? I do not know of any road there.

338. You are not aware that that road exists? No; I have not been there for some months.

339. *Mr. Copeland.*] How long is it since you were there? Four or five months. It must be four months, at the least, since I was there.

340. *Chairman.*] If such a road has been formed, it has not been done by your instruction? I do not know anything about it.

341. If it has been done by the instructions of the Board, it is still unknown to you? I do not know anything of it.

342. Take the Boundary Road. Are you aware whether any instructions have been given to continue that road as far as the railway line? No; I do not know of any.

343. Have any instructions been given to construct a road to the north of that line, towards the railway? No.

344. Or to the south of it? No.

345. Or to construct a road running off Junction Road, between the first letter G and the railway line, to the south? No; I have not been out there for so many months that I cannot tell you.

346. If these roads were formed, you would consider them roads of access? Well, unless I personally inspected them, I could not say.

347. In making any of these roads what object had the Board? To get to the Crown lands I suppose.

348. Would you consider the road H H D a road of access? Yes; that is one of the roads. There is a claim for compensation in respect to that road, I believe.

349. From whom? From Mr. Harnett, if I remember rightly.

350.

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D. Houston.
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350. Is that necessary as a road of access when you have the road I C? Yes; certainly.
351. And the road J F? That goes to the Boundary Road; it is the principal road almost—the Vanceville Road.
352. Is the object of that road—the Vanceville Road—to give access alone? For purposes of access.
353. What was the object in laying out the Boundary Road? That road was almost inaccessible. When I went on to it at first I would not, as an engineer, go through with its construction because of the expense it would incur.
354. Are you aware that it is being formed as a road now? I think I put in a crossing on it at the first creek, but I would not go on any further with it.
355. Are you aware whether there are any unemployed working on it now? No; I could not say.
356. If there were any unemployed engaged on it, considering the existence of Junction Road, would you consider the work justifiable? I do not think they can make this road. I do not think it is possible to grade it so as to make it an accessible road for ordinary traffic. I have been over it. The other road beyond it again to the north is still worse; it is utterly impossible to make a road there. That is what they call the population boundary road, a short distance further north.
357. Are there any roads formed on the Crown lands? The Boundary Road is the only one I have been on yet.
358. What is the nature of the Crown land—is it good land; what is the character of it? It is not first-class land; there are portions of it pretty good, the rest of it is rather poor.
359. What do you think the comparative expense would be of making the roads B, C, D, E, and F, and the opening up of the Boundary Road—which work do you think would be the most costly? The Boundary Road would cost ten times more than the other. You cannot make a road there that would ever be used by traffic—the grades are too steep. It is right enough at the end near the Hornsby junction; but when you get more to the eastward it is almost impassable.
360. *Mr. M. Millan.*] What about the country further north? It gets worse and worse as you go north.
361. Then you could not make a road at all through the Crown lands? No. I stopped the Boundary Road.
362. *Chairman.*] Does it go as far as D? No; not as far as D—to the first creek, I think. There is a stone crossing there, which is the limit to which I went.
363. If the road goes as far as that, would you consider the road C a necessary road, considering that B opens into the Boundary Road? I think they are all necessary. They are all easy roads to make.
364. If the Crown lands are so poor, and it is impossible to make roads upon them? There is very good land at the back.
365. But it is impossible to reach the back portion? You can reach the whole of it through these roads. These are the roads to give access to it, between the creeks. You cannot cross the creeks from east to west; but you can go in between each creek, and that is the object of these roads. These roads would have to be taken up eventually to get access to the Crown land.
366. None of these roads are continued on Government lands; I could not say; but I have not been there for five months.
367. Would it not have been more to the improvement of the Crown lands to make roads on the Crown lands, instead of these other roads? You could not get the Crown lands without these other roads.
368. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] You say that you held some meetings of the Casual Labour Board? At the first.
369. Do you remember how many? No; I could not say.
370. How long ago is it since you had a meeting there? The last meeting was about a week ago.
371. How many meetings have you held altogether? I have been there every morning for the first twelve or fifteen months.
372. But how often have you held regular meetings? I could not say.
373. As a matter of fact, until last week, you had had no regular meetings? No; I have not been able to attend at the office.
374. No minutes of the business have been kept? Well, of course we have our minutes in the office; but they are not like the ordinary minutes of meetings, they would be simply records of the office.
375. During the absence of yourself and Mr. Wells, Mr. Davies would act as a kind of dictator? He does nothing without consulting us or letting us know. When we come into the office we see all the back papers and everything.
376. You act more in the form of advisers than as members of the Board? We act as experts,—to give advice. There is no engineering work carried on without our advice, and we visit the work before it is paid for.*
377. The Board is almost a fiction, practically? I do not think so.
378. From your experience of Crown lands and of the laying out of roads, do you not think it possible that the private owners of this estate would have laid out these roads without the Government doing the work? The work would have had to be done eventually, and if not by the labour under our command it would cost six times as much.
379. But they would have subdivided the land and made roads? I could not say. 380.

* NOTE (on revision):—To explain this more fully, sections and cross-sections of roads that were very difficult to make were prepared by myself, and handed to the chairman for the guidance of the superintendents, and to enable them to let the work in small contracts and have correct measurements of the work. I may name specially Narrabeen, Dobroyd, and Unwin's Bridge Road.

380. As a matter of fact, you know they began one road called Burns' Road,—they had begun the construction of Burns' Road? Well, it was cleared, I think.

381. And the probability is that in the ordinary way of subdividing estates, as all private owners do, roads would have been constructed across it, in order to make the land more saleable? I do not know, I am sure. They might have been opened up in the same positions.

382. What has been your experience of the subdividing of private estates? I do not know anything about it at all.

383. You have been present at land sales? No.

384. You do not know the method they adopt in cutting up streets? Yes; I know that.

385. Probably the same plan would have been carried out by Burns, Withers, and Smith? They might have done so.

386. Do you know who authorized the roads I and H? I cannot say exactly; I have not had access to any of the papers.

387. You never authorized them? I cannot remember it.

388. You cannot remember authorizing these roads? I cannot remember having authorized them.

389. Then if you cannot remember having authorized them, and Mr. Wells did not authorize them, who was the party who would have authorized them? Mr. Davies, I suppose, if they were authorized without our knowledge.

390. Did Mr. Davies consult you about the roads I and H? I cannot say without seeing the papers.

391. Have you any recollection? No, I have not. We have our own work besides to attend to.

392. How long ago is it;—about twelve months ago? I cannot say positively.

393. You say you knew most of the roads on the Hornsby Estate? Yes.

394. There may be some roads there of which you have no knowledge? Yes.

395. You say you have no knowledge of this road running parallel with the railway? No.

396. Are you aware that there are half-a-dozen other roads besides these shown on the plan? No; I am not aware of any. The roads on the plan are the roads I have seen when I have been out there.

397. If the roads running down to B, C, and H have been constructed by the unemployed, and have the unemployed working upon them, who has authorized these roads? I could not say. I do not say that the unemployed have made them.

398. Supposing that they are there, and that they admit that they are unemployed, working under Mr. O'Donnell, who has authorized the roads? Probably Mr. Davies.

399. You say that all plans were submitted to the Colonial Secretary—plans of roads? No. All requisitions and representations by the residents were forwarded as a rule to the Colonial Secretary for his approval.

400. Do you know if this request for the road on the Hornsby Estate was submitted to him? I could not tell you.

401. In the ordinary way of business these requests would have been submitted? We generally do submit anything of the kind.

402. Then, probably, he would be the Minister who authorized the making of these roads? The Colonial Secretary is the only Minister they would come to.

403. *Chairman.*] In an answer given yesterday by Colonel Wells, he says that he was frequently away for two or three weeks at a time, and that you were away for a like period? There are times when I could not possibly attend to the duty.

404. Is the sole management of the Board, and the initiation and continuation of work, in that case left in the hands of Mr. Davies? During the time we are absent.

405. Whatever work is carried on you know nothing of? We are informed of it the moment we attend, and receive the whole of the papers.

406. *Mr. M'Millan.*] Everything in the way of roads, I suppose, has gone through your hands? Not the work of clearing or anything of that kind. I never interfere with that. Mr. Davies and the superintendent would look after that, and Colonel Wells or myself would probably look over the work after it was done.

407. Has the clearing of these roads on this estate not been brought under your notice as one of the experts on the Board? Yes; I think it was. At that time we were constantly meeting.

408. Speaking of the last six months, have these roads been brought under your notice as a Board during that period? Not for the last five or six months, I think.

409. I take it that a lot of work has been done there during the past six months? During the past five or six months I have had very little time to attend to the work of the Board.

410. But a great deal of expenditure for metalling and so forth has been incurred during that period, I suppose? No metalling has been done, only ballasting.

411. But a great deal of that kind of work has been done during the past six months? I do not think much has been done during the past six months. I think I saw pretty well the whole of it. I think I should be better able to give you the information you require after visiting the land with Colonel Wells, as I intended to do.

412. You disclaim any connection either with the initiation or the supervision of the laying out of these roads during the last six months? Well, at any time when I have called at the office I have spent an hour or two in looking over the back papers.

413. As far as the real management is concerned, except that it was in your power to see the papers, you have for all practical purposes had no direct connection with the work? Not during the last five months. I have been unable to attend to the work.

414. *Chairman.*] I suppose Mr. O'Donnell can show us what roads have been cleared, formed, and ballasted by the unemployed in addition to those shown on the plan? Yes; I think he would be able to give you all the information you require on that branch of the subject.

Mr.
D. Houston.
11 Mar., 1889.

Mr.
D. Houston.
11 Mar., 1889.

415. *Mr. Copeland.*] Do you keep no record whatever in the office of the Casual Labour Board? The secretary has a record of the correspondence and so forth. Everything is kept in just the same way as in other departments. As far as I have been able to see, this record is quite as accurate as that of any other department in which I have been.
416. In order to obtain information connected with this record it would be necessary to call Mr. Hinchcliff? Yes; I should think so.
417. Do I understand you to say that the Boundary Road is quite impassable? Well, it is not exactly impassable, but it would cost a mint of money to make it; and when it was made the grades would be so steep that it would not be possible to work traffic over it.
418. Do you make that statement with due regard to the nature of the ordinary up-country roads? Yes. I myself examined this particular road in company with Mr. O'Donnell.
419. *Mr. M. Millan.*] As I understand you, the roads here must go north and south; it is not practicable to take them east and west? Exactly.
420. *Mr. Copeland.*] You said that this Boundary Road is impassable, and that the road further north, the Population Boundary Road, is utterly impracticable. Is this on account of the extreme roughness of the land? No; the depressions there are very deep, some of them fully 300 feet in depth. Running parallel to these gullies you get access to the whole of the country on the table-land.
421. If this land is so very rough, and irregular, and uneven, do you think it was worth while expending so much upon the outside land? The land at the top is good table-land, through between the creeks; but the gullies are precipitous and inaccessible.
422. You think there will be no approaches made across these particular creeks? Not from an engineering point of view. No one would ever sanction it.
423. Looking at the map, do you see a road marked A, which crosses the railway. Would not that road give you access to Crown lands? Not across the creeks. You cross the creeks directly you get on to the Crown lands.
424. So far as the land recently sold is concerned, would not the road A give access to it, and to the railway. Would not the road, in fact, give access to the land on both sides of the railway? Well it would give access to a portion of the land.
425. And to the railway-station? Yes; but it does not give any frontages.
426. Has it not been the practice in the Department to make their own frontages by subdividing the Crown lands, and making the roads on those Crown lands? I do not know. I have never belonged to the Survey Department.
427. Do you know of any instance, except what has occurred during the last few months, where the Government expended money in making the roads through private property instead of through their own Crown lands? I do not know of any case. I have been employed principally upon the main roads of the Colony when in the Roads Department; this is the first time that I have had any connection with work of this kind.
428. Supposing the Government had made roads through their Crown lands, do you think that the proprietors of this subdivision would not have made roads to connect with them? I do not know. They could not have made them so cheaply as we have made them.
429. You see this road marked A. Are you aware that between road A and the Junction Road it is all private property, belonging to Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? I could not say.
430. Admitting it to be the case that that road was formed by the Government to give access from the Crown lands on one side of the railway to those on the other, making a bridge across the line, was it necessary, in your opinion, in the interests of the Crown, that other roads should be carried from the railway between A and G, making five roads in the space of (say) three-quarters of a mile? I have not seen any of those roads.
431. If these roads are made—and, as a matter of fact, they are—would you consider it necessary, in the interest of the Crown, that the public money should be expended in giving access to this piece of Crown land? I do not think that the unemployed have done it.
432. If they had done it? I think not.
433. If the whole control of this work was in your hands, and you were responsible for it would you be inclined to pay men wages for constructing these roads through private property? I think not.
434. When you were given in charge of these unemployed, were there no roads to be constructed on which you could employ this surplus of labour, on subdivisions belonging to the Crown that occupied the same position that this private subdivision did? We had numbers of men engaged at other places; at Narrabeen, for instance, we had an immense crowd.
435. We have a number of subdivisions here, perhaps you could give me some information about them; take Beecroft and the Field of Mars; there is a large amount of Crown land on these divisions still unsold;—have you ballasted or formed any of those roads? That is all clearing.
436. Some are still uncleared? Yes.
437. Have you ballasted or formed any road there? They are all formed.
438. *Chairman.*] And ballasted? They are ballasted where the roads are soft. Ballast is not used as a rule where there is a good foundation.
439. *Mr. Copeland.*] Have you ballasted any of these roads at Beecroft and the Field of Mars by the Casual Labour Board? I could not say about Beecroft and the Field of Mars.
440. There is a subdivision of Crown lands at Harbord, near Manly, where a large amount of land is still unsold there? Yes.
441. Have the Casual Labour Board made roads there or at Heathcote, on the Illawarra line? Yes. We are making roads at Heathcote now.
442. I understood you to say just now that this is not metalling, that it is only ballasting; is not this metalling, or ballasting, or whatever you call it, what is generally used on the country roads? No. The ballasting is put on the roads prior to the metalling. It is a sort of foundation for the metal. It is the kind of ballasting we generally put on in places where the road is soft or sandy.

443. Were you in the Roads Department? I was for eleven years a first-class road superintendent. Mr.
D. Houston.
444. Do you not know of hundreds of miles of country roads which have nothing but this ballasting, with blinding thrown on to it? No; I never met with any in my eleven years' experience as a superintendent. 11 Mar., 1889.
445. Were you ever on the road going to Copeland? No.
446. Have you been on the road between Grafton and the table-land? I made the Newton-Boyd Road, and I know that there is no ballast on that; it is all blue-metal. There is no sandstone in the district.
447. You said that for the last five months you had taken no active part in these works? I have been unable to do so.
448. Are you sure that the period is only five months, or would it be more than that? No; it was about five months.
449. Prior to five months ago you took an active part in the works? Yes; I did all the engineering as a rule.
450. I suppose that during the last five months your professional duties have interfered with your work on the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
451. So that this work has been left to Mr. Davies, who is not a professional man? He has professional men under him.
452. Who are they? He has as assistant superintendent Mr. M'Pherson, an engineer. I look upon him as a very clever fellow.
453. *Mr. Henry Clarke.*] What would be the cost of this ballasting per chain? It varies very much.
454. *Mr. Carruthers.*] What would be the average cost? About 3s. a yard.
455. Where do you get the ballast? We bring it from the road-side.
456. From whose land? From whatever land we are passing through; we generally ask permission to take it.
457. I suppose that the ballasting in this case then would come off the land of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? Yes. As a rule we pay 1s. 6d. for getting and 1s. 6d. for breaking. I daresay it would cost from £2 to £3 per chain.
458. *Chairman.*] Do you think that would be a fair average? Yes. The ballasting is not continuous; it is only put in soft places; the road where it is good is left.
459. Is the material sandstone? Yes; different qualities of it. We generally use the hardest sandstone we can get.
460. *Mr. Street.*] When you first commenced work at Hornsby, were you informed to any extent as to what was the object of the forming of these roads? I understood that they were to give access to the Crown lands.
461. Was the Crown land there about to be brought into the market for sale? Yes. Mr. Gordon, the surveyor, recommended these roads. The land, I think, was all being prepared for sale.
462. Do you consider that the formation of these roads increased the value of the Crown lands? Most decidedly.
463. You think that the price of the Crown lands, to which these roads gave access, was increased? Yes; you could not get access without these roads. We should have had to take them eventually in order to give access to the land.
464. The nature of the Government land is too rugged to permit of your making a road from east to west? Yes.
465. Do the gullies increase in depth as you go northward from the Boundary Road? Yes, until they become quite inaccessible. What is known as the Population Boundary Road is quite inaccessible from east to west. I doubt whether you could walk over it.
466. You have been asked some questions about roads in connection with land at Harbord, Beecroft, and the Field of Mars;—had you anything to do with the preparation of those properties for sale by the unemployed? I had nothing to do with it.
467. You are aware that they were prepared for sale by the unemployed? Yes.
468. Prior to their preparation for sale, was there not ample access to them by public roads? Yes. I think there was access to the whole of those lands.
469. Therefore it was not necessary to go through the adjoining lands of private owners to make roads of access? I am not aware of any being made in that way.
470. Therefore these lands cannot be compared in any way with the Crown lands at Hornsby? No.
471. *Mr. M'Millan.*] I suppose it was in view of the railway line principally that these roads were made—that is to say, the construction of the Pearce's Corner line brought about the idea of these approaches to the Crown lands? Yes.
472. That would be the direct line of communication with this part of the country? Yes.
473. *Mr. Brunker.*] I understood you to say just now that requisitions were made by the Colonial Secretary before any roads were made? As a rule.
474. What is the form of requisition? The papers are sent on for approval. The requisition would be from the inhabitants of the various districts.
475. Not from the Casual Labour Board to the Colonial Secretary? No. The papers which are sent to us are generally forwarded.
476. Is there no general form of requisition? Well, the communications which are received by the Chairman of the Board are forwarded to the Colonial Secretary for approval.
477. Was any such communication sent by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? Not to my knowledge.
478. The Colonial Secretary would not have any knowledge of the details of the work? No.
479. The fact of the matter is that the whole of the responsibility in connection with the construction of these roads rests with the Casual Labour Board? Yes. Our recommendations were

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were generally adopted. Mr. Gordon, who had been with Mr. Deering, acted for us when we first took charge. He had been with the unemployed for some time previously, and he had a greater knowledge than any of us could possibly have.

480. I understood you to say that there had been a claim for compensation by Mr. Harnett in respect of a road at Hornsby? Yes.

481. *Chairman.*] When was that claim for compensation sent in? I could not say. I merely heard of it.

482. *Mr. Copeland.*] I suppose it is a mere rumour? I do not know the facts.

483. *Mr. Bruncker.*] Do you know whether the whole of the land between the II and I road belongs to Mr. Harnett? I only know the owners from passing round the land with O'Donnell. He knew the whole of the owners, but I had no personal knowledge on the subject.

484. *Chairman.*] Had you ever a personal interview with any of the owners in that district? No; I never saw any of the owners there.

485. *Mr. Bruncker.*] Have you at any time, as a member of the Board, been consulted by Messrs. Burns, Withers, or Smith, with reference to the construction or formation of any of these roads? I do not know Mr. Burns further than this, that I was once introduced to him by Mr. Davies. I do not know Mr. Smith at all. I knew Mr. Withers some years ago, but I have not spoken to him for years. I have not seen either of these gentlemen about the roads.

486. Have the men employed under the Casual Labour Board done any work except under the instructions of the Board? None; except the work under the municipalities. I think that some work has been done by them in nearly every municipality in the Colony.

487. *Mr. M. Millan.*] As far as you are concerned you know of no direct application from Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith to have roads made by the unemployed through their land? No.

488. *Mr. Bruncker.*] Have any of the Crown lands in that neighbourhood been cleared? I know that some of the Crown lands have been cleared, but I do not know about the laying out of the roads.

489. What would be the cost of grubbing and clearing this land? About £7 per acre. That would be 10 chains. These roads are 1 chain wide. That would be £56 a mile.

490. What would be the cost of forming? About 12s. a chain.

491. Would that include the water tables? Yes.

492. What is the cost of the ballasting per mile? I do not think there is a mile of it on the land.

493. Is it ballasted from point to point or only in soft places? Only here and there.

494. In the worst places on the roads? Yes.

495. You could not say what would be the cost per mile for ballasting, because it is so unequal? Yes; just so. The ground is of a very rocky character, and in many places it would be cheaper to ballast over the rocks than to cut through.

496. What did you mean when you said that the approval of the Colonial Secretary was needed before the men were sent to any work? The papers are sent on, that is to say, if any requisition is received for a road it is sent on to the Colonial Secretary for his approval.

497. How is Mr. Davies the executive then? What I meant when I applied that term to him was that he did the whole of the office work for us. He is permanently there.

498. You are sure that the Boundary Road is impracticable? I do not think I used the word impracticable. I think it would never be utilized for a road even if it were made; because the grades are too steep.

499. You think in the interests of the public that the Junction Road should have been made, instead of the Boundary Road? Certainly, from an engineering point of view, because the Junction Road is always a good road.

500. *Mr. M. Millan.*] You think that the Junction Road should have been made in the interests of the future sale of the Crown lands? Yes.

501. *Mr. Henry Clarke.*] How much of the Crown lands here do you consider good? Well, it is pretty good on the table-lands between the creeks.

502. If that is so, do you not think that a continuation of road A would have been sufficient to give access to the Crown lands? That would be quite impracticable for the reasons I have already pointed out.

503. *Chairman.*] Looking at the plan, do you consider that the roads coloured red are amply sufficient to give access to the Crown lands? I think so. The idea with regard to roads B, C, D, E, and F, is that a road should be taken up between each creek on to the better portions of the Crown lands.

504. If any other roads have been constructed, they are not, in your opinion, necessary to give access to the Crown lands? Any more than to give more frontages in opening up the land.

505. Take the bend in H road running from the Lane Cove Road—if a road were continued further to the northward, and if about 4 or 5 chains further on a road ran east and west intersecting, it would be a necessary road of access? I do not think so. These roads depend upon the surveyor laying out the roads. The roads shown give general access to the land.

506. And are amply sufficient? For opening up the land.

507. Have you any knowledge of the amount of clearing and road forming which has been done by the Casual Labour Board upon this estate? I think there is about 2½ miles, if I remember right.

508. If it has been stated that there have been only 24 chains of road forming, and 53 chains of road formed and ballasted, would that be a correct answer? The clearing, of course, is outside that. I think the answer you have read is about right. Mr. O'Donnell knows—he is the one who ought to know.

509. You would rely on Mr. O'Donnell's statement? It can be easily verified in the office.
510. *Mr. Brunker.*] If Colonel Wells furnished and initialled the answer given by me in the House, and read just now by the Chairman, would it be likely to be correct? Yes.
511. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] You say that there are only $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles of road formation and ballasting on this property? I am speaking from memory.
512. Do you know the length of road I? I do not.
513. Do you know the total length of the Junction Road? No.
514. When you say $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles, you refer to the whole of the property here—to the property belonging to Mr. Harnett and others, as well as to the property belonging to Mr. Burns? I daresay there would be a greater length than I have given on the whole of the property.
515. As a matter of fact, is there not nearly 7 miles? No.
516. What should you make the distance approximately? $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles.
517. *Mr. Copeland.*] Do I understand you to say that no petitions have been presented in connection with these roads? I could not say that from memory.
518. You will find a petition among the printed papers—can you tell us whether the signature of George Withers to that petition is the signature of George Withers, one of proprietors of the Hornsby Estate? I could not say.
519. You will find that this document is sent from one official to another, and that it eventually finds its way to Mr. Burns from the Casual Labour Board with the following intimation:—"Enclosed herewith you will please find tracing of roads recommended to the Board by their local officer at Hornsby, to give better access to the adjacent Crown lands. Should yourself and partners have no objection to the opening of these roads marked A, B, and C, instructions will be given to have them commenced forthwith;" which are the roads referred to as A, B, and C? I think you will find that they are shown upon the plan on Appendix B.
520. Can you tell the Committee how any of the other roads have originated? I could not say.
521. You cannot tell us who authorized them and who applied for them? I could not say from memory.
522. You remember about roads A, B, and C? Yes, I remember Mr. Gordon's letter.
523. How wide are these roads ballasted? Generally 18 feet, but sometimes only 15.
524. The roads are cleared a chain wide? Yes; when I first took charge they were forming them 40 feet wide; I reduced it to 30 feet and sometimes to 27 feet; in some cases we have ballasted only 15 feet wide, allowing just room for a dray to pass.
525. What is the cost of clearing? £7 an acre.
526. And of forming? It varies. Sometimes it is as low as 8s. a chain. Generally it would be about 12s.
527. What did you pay for the metal? About 1s. 6d. for getting, and 1s. 6d. for breaking.
528. You mean by the cubic yard? Yes; it runs about a cubic yard to the yard lineal.
529. The yard lineal would be about 5 or 6 yards in width? Yes.
530. And the ballasting would be about 6 inches thick? Yes; we put it on as thin as we can. It is in reality only a skin.
531. How do you calculate the cost of the culverts? They are tendered for, and the lowest tenders accepted. In some cases we have put in causeways.
532. You say that you do not know Mr. Burns? I was introduced to him once, and seeing him the next day I did not know him.
533. Did he ever meet you on the ground? I never saw him or any member of the firm on the ground. Mr. O'Donnell, our own officer, is the only person I ever met on the ground.
534. You are not in the habit of going there frequently? I go only when there is heavy work to do.
535. *Chairman.*] Where were you when you were introduced to Mr. Burns? It was in the street somewhere. I was with Mr. Davies at the time.
536. And Mr. Burns came up? Yes; I was simply introduced. I do not think I spoke to him.
537. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Let me call your attention to road H. Can you tell us why it is made in this peculiar dog-legged fashion? Mr. Gordon is responsible for that.
538. You cannot tell us any reason for that? No. We relied upon him greatly at the start as the officer who had been in charge. He knew the unemployed, and he knew the whole of the roads in the district. We were to a great extent dependent on him for information in regard to the laying out of the roads.
539. You implied in answer to Mr. McMillan that roads H and I might have been made to touch the railway? As a matter of fact they cross the railway.
540. Are there any stations or platforms at the end of these roads? Not that I am aware of.
541. *Mr. Brunker.*] Are the platforms and stations defined yet? That, I could not say.

David Houison recalled and further examined—12 December, 1888:—

2692. *Chairman.*] You have been out again to inspect these roads at Hornsby? Yes; I have been out since I was here.
2693. Did you find the roads that were not marked on the tracing? There are roads there that I was not aware of when I was here before.
2694. You surveyed none of those roads? No; I have had nothing to do with surveying. Mr. Gordon pointed them out to us as a rule.
2695. The roads that were constructed or finished? I saw roads not cleared when I was up before.
2696. *Mr. McMillan.*] How long is it since you were up there before? Five months.
2697. *Chairman.*] Did you consider the roads you saw when you were up on this recent visit roads of access? They were all necessary as roads of access, every one of them.

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2698. Do you consider the roads near the station as roads of access? Unless they run straight against the fence, and cross direct into the railway premises. It gives greater access to follow the fence.

2699. Do you consider that No. 1 T shaped road necessary? Those roads I knew nothing of, or of the road running parallel with the railway line.

2700. Do you consider those roads necessary? These roads, from what I can learn, were all recommended by the Crown Lands Ranger. I do not know anything about them.

2701. Do you consider them roads of access? I cannot express an opinion about that. They were done on the recommendation of the Crown Lands Ranger. They were half finished before.

2702. Do you consider the lower road a road of access? No; I would not consider it so.

2703. Do you know that it was recommended by the Crown Lands Ranger? Yes; both roads were recommended by him, and by the auctioneer.

End of Evidence before Select Committee.

30. *President resuming.*] This evidence which has just been read over to you was afterwards submitted to you for revision? Yes.

31. And I think you signed it? Yes.

32. After having heard it read to you now, do you wish to correct any portion of it, or to give any explanation regarding it? There are some minor corrections which might be made, but they are hardly worth while mentioning. They would take up the time of the Commission unnecessarily. There is one place where it mentions that I was in constant attendance at the office of the Casual Labour Board for an hour every morning when I was in Sydney before going to my regular duties—that is in the answer to question 290. That was in a general way. I have since that time found that I paid 255 visits out of 312 days.

33. You have an actual record of that? I have found since I last gave evidence that I had actually been upon the work of the Board 255 days.

34. Then except as to some minor matters of detail your evidence as read is correct? It is. I see here, I say in reference to ballasting that it was only done in patches. That was before I was on the ground at all—after that the roads were ballasted all through.

35. You said you had taken no active part in the works for the last five months before you gave evidence to the Select Committee; how do you fix that time? I have a record. I was not there after June 15. It was exactly five months according to my record.

36. In answer to question 408 you said these roads had not been brought under your notice for the last five or six months? I was speaking then from memory. I find from the record that the 15th June, was the last date—five months and about a week.

37. Anything else you wish to tell us as to your evidence before Select Committee? In reference to one of the plans that was submitted to me by the Select Committee there were roads shown upon it, but they were not on the ground.

38. Can you refer us specifically to that plan? No; I have not got the plan; but there were more roads shown upon it than were actually upon the ground. One road did not exist that I saw on the plan.

39. Did you concern yourself about the routine of the office of the Casual Labour Board? Not after the first month of my appointment. It rested with Mr. Davies; he was constantly there. For instance, I had to go there in the morning as I had to attend to duties elsewhere—professional duties in connection with the Harbours and Rivers Department.

40. Then you cannot give us any information as to the system adopted in the office? Oh, I saw everything day after day. It was exactly similar to any other Government Department—it was more like a Department than a Board, with Mr. Davies at the head of it for the time being.

41. Can you give us any information or particulars as to the mode adopted in obtaining and paying money? In obtaining money Mr. Davies, Mr. Wells, and myself signed a requisition asking for the money required. £6,000 was the amount asked for. This was done when we had not got sufficient money in the bank to carry us over the payments.

42. Were all such requisitions signed by the Board? There was only one requisition. I think that was not so signed.

43. Was the amount generally asked for £6,000? £6,000 at a time always.

44. With regard to payments made by the Board, how were they arranged? The payments were made by the Paymaster, and if possible one of the Board always accompanied him. Mr. Davies went very often, but sometimes the whole Board went.

45. Who drew the cheques? Mr. Davies, countersigned by the Secretary.

46. Was any resolution or arrangement come to at an early period after your appointment apportioning your duties? Mr. Wells proposed that Mr. Davies should be Chairman, and I seconded it. Then afterwards we found that it was impossible for us to be constantly in the office. They were grumbling in our own offices about our absence from duty, and when we found we could not do it, we appointed Mr. Davies executive head in the office, and we gave him the assistance that he required when we called. Everything was then put before him.

47. Then you consider that Mr. Davies had the whole work in this office under him? The whole work, but he took our advice about anything that wanted it.

48. Are records kept in the office of correspondence? That was left entirely with him. Our advice was asked for in all matters, and if things had to be dealt with when we were not there, everything was shown to us afterwards.

49. Who were the officers under the Board? Mr. O'Donnell had charge at Hornsby; Mr. Burrowes, the head superintendent, was in charge at the National Park, where there were 4,000 men. He had Mr. M'Pherson under him as assistant engineer. At Narrabeen we had Mr. Oxley. These were the superior men who received instructions from the Board.

50. What other staff had you? We had the secretary, Mr. Hinchcliffe; the registrar, Mr. Josephson; and latterly when the work got heavier we had Mr. Hibble, corresponding clerk; Mr. Larnach, who was in the office for checking vouchers and things of that kind, and besides that, we had two detectives there during the whole time that the Board was in existence. Their duty was to see that no men who were discharged were allowed on the works again, and to keep a close watch on things generally.

51. Who appointed these officers? They were appointed, most of them, before we took charge.

52. Do you know by whom? No; I could not say who they were appointed by. Mr. Burrowes was in charge at the National Park when we took charge, Mr. O'Donnell was at Hornsby, and Mr. Oxley at Rookwood. They were all appointed by our predecessors.

53. Can you name any of the officers who were appointed by the Board or by Mr. Davies? Well, they were all junior officers that had been in the employ before at 6s. per day. Mr. M'Pherson was the only man that we raised—we raised him to 10s. per day. He was the best man we had.

54. Mr. O'Donnell for instance, did you make any alteration with regard to him? His pay was reduced by the Board.

55. Who appointed him? I cannot say; it was before our time.

56. Were there any other reductions? Our general object was to reduce all through.

57. There was Mr. Hinchcliffe; what were his duties? He was secretary.

58. Was he appointed before you took charge? No; he was appointed from the Immigration Office—he was connected with the unemployed previously—he and Mr. Josephson. Both came from the same office.

59. What was his salary? I think £350 a year. It was decided to give him a good salary in consequence of his having large responsibilities—such large sums had to be taken out to pay the men—sometimes he had between £2,000 and £3,000, so we decided to give him a good salary.

60. You considered him a responsible officer? He was a most responsible officer.

61. What were the amounts you said he sometimes had charge of? A couple of thousand pounds, and sometimes more. I could not say exactly how much.

62. Would that be in cash? Yes; Mr. Davies was always with him when he took these amounts out.

63. What was the duty of Mr. Burrowes? He was superintendent of the whole of the men in the National Park district. He had others under him who had charge of the work.

64. I think you said he was there before you took charge? He was in charge of the National Park.

65. He was appointed by Mr. Dibbs, I believe? I have always understood so.

66. Do you know anything of Mr. Burrowes? I do not—any further than our connection with him.

67. At any rate you considered he had been so appointed as far as the Board was concerned? I did.

68. Did he give satisfaction? Not always, from an engineering point of view, especially.

69. Can you define what his duties were? His duties were to take out the measurements—to see after the men on the ground—he had some 4,000 of them there. He had to locate the men into different positions on the ground, to specify their work, to say what they were to do, and the rate of pay that they were to get, principally for clearing; to attend to the rations, to see that everything was delivered properly. He had to look after the men and report to the Board generally on the work. He had also to certify to all the measurements of the officers who were under him; to verify and to find out whether there was any diversity in them.

70. Was that as regards all the works? Oh, no; only as regards that particular locality. He had nothing to do for instance, with Mr. O'Donnell or Mr. Oxley.

71. What were Mr. O'Donnell's duties? His duties were similar to those of Mr. Burrowes, but they were confined to Beecroft and the Field of Mars, where he had charge of the works.

72. And Mr. Oxley? Mr. Oxley had charge of Narrabeen, with the same powers in that district as Mr. Burrowes had in the southern district.

73. How about Mr. M'Pherson? Mr. M'Pherson was responsible to Mr. Burrowes until very lately. He was called assistant superintendent. Before that he was with Mr. Burrowes.

74. When you spoke in your evidence before the Select Committee of the chief clerk having a record of everything that was done, whom did you mean? I meant Mr. Hinchcliffe, the secretary.

75. You stated in your evidence before the Select Committee that at the commencement you held regular and formal meetings? Yes.

76. Can you say how long that lasted? Only about a month. We had full meetings repeatedly and regularly, but they were not called. It was found that the Board could not possibly go through the whole of the correspondence.

77. All this time you had your official duties to attend to in your own department? I had my own official duties, and in addition to that I had to work in the field, and do the best work that I possibly could—surveying, levelling, and getting out plans at night independent of the day work that I did.

78. Did you find it impossible to attend to the whole? I could not do it. I intended resigning in May, when I was appointed to the present work I have charge of. Foolishly, however, I did not do it. I spoke to Mr. Davies and Mr. Wells because after that I could not pay attention to it. Mr. Davies, I think it was, pressed me to continue until the Board was broken up. He expected it would have been so, long before the time it actually took place. That was in May, 1888.

79. Can you tell us the course that was adopted in considering applications for initiating any particular work? If a petition came in for any road to the Colonial Secretary it was forwarded to us for report. It was then sent on to our officer, whoever he might be, in the district, whatever the district might be, to report whether it was necessary or not. If his report was favourable it was returned to the Colonial Secretary and recommended.

80. Do you mean it was forwarded to each member of the Board? No; it was forwarded to the chairman, and by him sent to the Colonial Secretary.

81. That was in the case of petitions coming in to you? No; to the Colonial Secretary. Petitions coming from him were sent to our officers for report and their report would come back to the Board, and the Board's recommendation would go to the Colonial Secretary, who would say whether the work was to be carried out or not, as the case might be. It was the same as in all departmental routine. I looked upon it more as a Department than as a Board—that we were in fact a Department for the time.

82. The Colonial Secretary's Department was the Ministerial Department you were under? The Colonial Secretary was the Ministerial head.

83. When these recommendations went forward did they represent the recommendations of the Board? Yes.

84. Were they the result of meeting and consideration, or of separate consideration by the members? Of separate consideration.

85. Did you see the whole of them? I saw nearly every paper that went through up to the time I spoke of.

86. Did you see these papers each day as they were dealt with? I could see every paper each morning I was in. I went there formerly, regularly every morning, as I was on my way from my work to the office.

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87. Did you manage to get through all this in your ordinary day's work? As I was saying, I was only in the office an hour or two in the morning. Some days I was at the Casual Labour Board the whole day; some days only a few hours. My work lay at Cook's River, and I went to the office in the morning about 10 or 11 o'clock.
88. In the case of applications made direct to the Board for initiating work what course was adopted? They were forwarded to our superintendent for report, and then forwarded to the Colonial Secretary for approval if we thought the work necessary.
89. Do I understand you that all work that was initiated was approved of by the Colonial Secretary? No. I think some portions of the Hornsby Estate were without his approval. I do not remember distinctly but I fancy in every other case the work was executed with his approval. The Hornsby roads were, many of them, in progress before we went there.
90. You say some portions of the Hornsby work was in progress when you took over the duties? Yes.
91. Can you specify what parts of the Hornsby work was not approved of by the Colonial Secretary? No; I cannot say from memory.
92. Could you refer the Commission to any records or department where that information could be obtained? All the information was prepared in Mr. Davies' report or Mr. Hinchcliffe's evidence before the Committee of Inquiry.
93. Were any applications made for the initiation of work to individual members of the Board? No; not that I am aware of. None were made to me most certainly.
94. Mr. Davies may have had personal applications? I could not say.
95. As to correspondence passing between the Chairman of the Board and the Colonial Secretary, would it be opened by any member of the Board? Most of the letters addressed to the Chairman were opened by any member of the Board.
96. Do you remember the number of unemployed you took over when you commenced your duties? I think there were about 4,000, if I remember right.
97. Where were they? Principally at the National Park and Rookwood.
98. What were they doing? Clearing principally, and scrubbing.
99. Were they doing any other work? It was impossible to find them work; we had to put them to almost anything to keep them from being idle.
100. Do you regard clearing and scrubbing as profitable work? I do not. I regard that as very unprofitable. In our instructions we were informed that works in the northern, southern, and western districts—more reproductive works—would be brought into existence. We never had any irrigation or any works of that character to do—nor any tanks, nor anything of that kind. In the foolish hope that these and others of a like character would be undertaken, we kept the men at the National Park Depot, hoping to provide them with these other works, but we never had an opportunity of doing so. The Lachlan Swamp was to have gone through our hands, but we had nothing to do with it. We had simply to find the men work wherever we could.
101. Is it not generally admitted that clearing and scrubbing on Crown lands is unprofitable if not followed up by sale or other work? It is not profitable work—they were working at it when we went there.
102. In fact it often does more harm than good? Well, my experience in the matter is, that it is more like sowing the seed for bringing up fresh young trees, which grow more vigorously than before, but the ground there was thoroughly cleared, and there was a great deal of work in laying down grasses, &c.
103. Were there no other places to put them to? We could do nothing else unless we just fed and kept them there.
104. Speaking generally, what class of men were they? Some of the men were as good workmen as I have ever had, but there were classes there who were physically unfit, who were cripples, and could not do this work. It was utterly impossible to get a day's work out of them. The rule that we adopted with these men was to pay them a day's wages, give them 3s. 6d., and get what we could out of them. We reduced wages when we took charge; they were getting high wages, and we reduced them to 4s. and 3s. 6d.
105. As a body, what could you say of them? As I told you, we had 10 or 15 per cent. of them as good workmen as you could wish, others were fair workmen, but their work was not continual, and others of that character I have just mentioned.
106. Of what classes were they? They were of all classes—tradesmen, saddlers, harness-makers, cooks, in fact everything you could name, as the records will show.
107. Were many of the men unfit for work? They were never used to out-door work; nevertheless we had to find them work; when it had to be done, we gave them piece work. We laid down a scale of wages ourselves. The scale of rates that we paid for clearing was such that the limit of earnings would be 4s. or 3s. 6d. We gave the superintendents instructions, what rates to allow for the different classes of work upon inspection. That was the object of our personal visits to the works.
108. Looking at your answer to question 312 before the Select Committee, what were the notices you received from the Roads Department? We have written notices—written copies of the road superintendents' reports. Each road superintendent reported monthly as to the condition of the labour market, and a copy of that report was forwarded to us by the Commissioner for Roads to enable us to judge the state of the labour market.
109. They were not applications from contractors? Oh, no. They referred entirely to superintendents' reports as to the labour market and as to the condition of the work.
110. Because I see that immediately afterwards in your evidence you referred to contractors? No. If a contractor sent us an application, we dealt with it and sent a number of men to the contractor at a certain rate of wages.
111. Did you keep a record of these men? Of every man that was sent away from the field a record was kept.
112. Did any men you sent away come back to you? They have come back, but unless they could give a satisfactory account of themselves and good reasons for coming back, they were not allowed on the field again. The number was very small of those who were put on again. If we found that a contractor treated them harshly we put them on again.

113. Did you take any steps to ascertain whether the men went to the contractors who required their services? Sometimes they never went at all. We did take steps to see that they went to their work; in several instances they did not go.
114. Was that frequently the case? The full number scarcely ever turned up. They had their tickets, but did not get on the railway train. When the man went there he would not get the full number of tickets, and then he would report from the Railway Department if they had gone.
115. Were there records showing the number of tickets used? There was the number given to this man. A requisition was made out giving the number of tickets required and the number we actually got.
116. Did you take such men back into the ranks again? No. That is what the detectives were there for, to prevent these men being taken on again. They would come disguised, with their faces shaven and their clothing changed. We adopted every safeguard to find them out.
117. Were these detectives in the employ of the Board the whole time? We applied to the department for them the very first day we were in office. We applied for them because we had no other protection.
118. What were their duties? To detect any one who tried to pass in a second time, or any notorious character that might be upon the works; and upon occasions to go with the paymasters, and accompany them when they went to their places to pay the men.
119. You say you took every precaution to prevent people coming back; do you think it worked satisfactorily? We had every protection possible.
120. Since giving your evidence before the Select Committee, have you discovered any instance of labour being sent to any district without the authority of the Colonial Secretary,—I mean other than the few cases at Hornsby you mentioned? No; I don't know of any. My principal work lay on this side; Mr. Wells attended more to the other side.
121. Do you know of any cases where the Chairman authorized work without reference to you? I could not tell you of any; I don't think any would be authorized. He would tell me of anything he had done within a day or two, and expose every paper in connection with it. I knew wherever men were on the ground every time I went to the office.
122. Did you visit the works? I visited them, and did engineering work there. That was what stopped me giving so much attention to the Board as I had done. I was doing actual field work that no one else could do; I mean when there were any heavy grades requiring special attention, where larger engineering skill was required. I might mention the Unwin Bridge Road, French's Forest Road, and Dobroyd. I had all the engineering, the cutting, preparation of plans, and everything to do.
123. During your office time? I would take it now and then, when I could get away from my own work. We had to do it. No one else could do it.
124. Were works let out on contract, or was it all day work? On contract, at a scale of charges, which would give 4s. a day to the men. Of course, there were men who did make more, because they worked on moonlight nights. Plenty of men on the works were anxious to work hard to make a little money to get away from the work.
125. Did you estimate the cost before these works were commenced? We could not well estimate it. Very often a piece here and a piece there was started at different times to get the work off. It was easy to estimate them roughly, because we fixed the cubic yards that were to be paid for.
126. Are you prepared to say that the work was done economically? I say positively that it was done more economically than work of a similar character was ever done in the Colony before.
127. Was it done properly? It was done properly where I had any connection with it. There was some work in hand before we took it up, with which we were rather puzzled. At Waterfall, for instance, at the head of the Waterfall Road.
128. Do you think it was too substantially done? It was a waste of money; it was so badly graded that it was impossible to pass over it. When we inspected the road I wanted to make a detour, and Mr. Wells thought it would be better to leave the road for the present and draw attention to it.
129. Did you continue it afterwards? From the point that was done; at that time we made out the grades.
130. That was from a place where something was going on when you commenced your duties? Yes; it was nearly completed.
131. Where was that? It was at Waterfall—it was virtually done before our time. That was the most objectionable work I saw in which any expenditure was made.
132. Who was the engineer? Mr. Burrowes was, I believe, the engineer.
133. During the five or six months you were unable to attend to the duties of the Board, were you away from Sydney? Yes; I was away from Sydney—at Rookwood. I never left the work.
134. Was it possible to communicate with you and get an answer in a short time? Yes; and every time I came into Sydney I called at the office.
135. Whenever you got an opportunity, I understand, your evidence is that you attended at the office and examined all the papers and records going back to the previous meeting? Yes.
136. Did you satisfy yourself that all records and books were being properly kept? So far as I remember they were exactly kept, and I was in the office constantly.
137. Would they be such records as you would keep in a department over which you had control? Exactly the same as in the department I am now working under.
138. With reference to the five roads within the space of three-quarters of a mile, spoken of in question 430 before the Select Committee, have you ascertained since giving that evidence whether that is so or not? I have. I was not asked about any of these questions at the next meeting of the committee which I attended. You will understand that there was a lapse of time, and I was not asked the question after I visited the whole of the works.
139. You say, in answer to question 432 before Select Committee, "I think not"—did you mean that you would not think it necessary in the interests of the Crown that the public money should be expended in giving such access to this piece of Crown land? I was not aware at the time that these roads were being ballasted. It is rather a mixed way the evidence is given there; but it is all in reference to ballasting.
140. Has your answer to that question reference to whether the roads were necessary or not? I have answered in another place that I consider that they were necessary in the public interest. I recommended them,

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140 $\frac{1}{2}$. Are you of opinion that the public money has been properly expended there? I think so. There was not a single road too many.

140 $\frac{3}{4}$. Was it economically expended? As economically as it could possibly be. I have so held all along. I was not asked the question before the Select Committee, and as I confined myself there to the questions asked, I said nothing about it; but I have always held as an engineer, that on ground such as we had up there it would be only a waste of money to form the roads without ballasting. The roads would be cut up in no time and would become practically of no use. I tried to impress upon Mr. Davics the necessity of ballasting all the roads. I hold that it is a great mistake to form roads wholesale over the country and not ballast them.

141. Do you think that the work done was too elaborate for the district? I do not. It was very plain work, considering the nature of it. If this ballasting had not been put on, the heavy rains would have damaged them and the traffic would have cut them up.

142. During the five months that you were unable to attend regularly to this Board work, are you aware if Mr. Wells was in Sydney? He was absent for a time. Three weeks.

143. At the same time as yourself? He was. At the same time as myself. He was away once, I know.

144. Would it have been possible for the Chairman to have obtained yours or Mr. Wells' sanction to anything that may have been necessary during the interval? He could have found me at any minute. An hour's notice would have been sufficient.

145. In making these roads, had you to cart the material any distance? Yes; at some places.

146. Who did the carting or carrying? The ballasting was let at so much, and the contractors would have to do that themselves; the unemployed would carry some of the material. There were some carts; but I would not be sure whether they were not on-day work. They were not on for any length of time, I know.

147. Could you say whether the carriage work was done by the unemployed or not? A considerable deal of it was contract unemployed work. There were drays on at one time; but they were absolutely necessary to keep the unemployed going.

148. Had you any carrying plant? No; absolutely none.

149. Whatever carriage was done was done by outside work? Yes; it was outside work.

150. Would that be charged against the unemployed? Yes.

151. Was there any quarrying done for the material? I cannot call to mind whether there was or not. There was stone obtained at Hornsby for the work—rubble stone.

152. Who would do any quarrying? The men who supplied the stone were the unemployed.

153. Were there any fixed rates for that work? The general rule was 1s. 6d. for cutting the stone, 1s. 6d. for bringing it, and so much for spreading it.

153 $\frac{1}{2}$. What I want to get at is whether there was any work done outside the unemployed that has been paid for out of the money charged to the unemployed? None but what was absolutely necessary to keep the unemployed going. The ballasting was let to the unemployed only.

154. For example, if a contract was let to the unemployed and they sub-let work to carters who were not unemployed, is it not clear that some moneys would go to other sources than they were intended for? Yes; but still it was absolutely necessary if they could not get the material on the ground.

155. Who is Mr. Gordon, whose name appears on the evidence before the Select Committee? Mr. Gordon is a surveyor under Mr. Deering. He had charge of a number of the unemployed before we took them over. The work that was being carried out at Kurnell was under his direction.

156. Was he employed solely by the Board? No, he was not. He was under Mr. Deering, but I understood that he was to give us all the assistance that he could, as he knew the district. We did not know the district and had no time to look round, and in order to set to work at once we had to depend upon him for information.

157. Did he remain carrying out these works all the time? No; he just carried them out for a short time after we took charge.

158. He was not under you? Oh, no; but he was more like our officer than anything else.

159. Was he detached from the Survey Department? No.

160. What is his profession? A surveyor.

161. Do you know anything of his qualifications? I know he is a good surveyor.

162. Was he a capable man for the work you employed him to do? Yes; I have the very highest opinion of Mr. Gordon. For instance, there was French's Forest Road; he had marked that road all through. He was a most valuable assistant to us.

163. The whole time you were performing your duties? Just when his services were called into question. For instance, at Narrabeen he altered roads on my advice. I pointed out that there were better roads, from an engineering point of view, to be got by adopting a certain course. He took my advice. He altered those roads; had them described afresh, so as to give better access from the Crown lands to Narrabeen.

164. Your evidence is that he did his work well? He did. I will speak very highly of Mr. Gordon in everything in which I have had any connection with him. I certainly think a great deal of him.

165. But so far as the Casual Labour Board was concerned he was not their servant? He was not paid by them.

166. Was he paid any expenses or overtime? He was paid by the Board on two or three occasions, but it was merely a nominal sum. He was most straightforward in every action.

167. Can you tell the Commission where they can obtain a plan which will show all the works that the unemployed have done? I do not think it would be possible to get one. To have one made out would involve a large expense. In many cases I have tried to get a complete plan, but it was so mixed up with what had been previously done, or so interlaced in other places where land had been marked for sale, or with what they call underscrubbing previous to sale, that the same ground had to be gone over.

168. Did you not keep any plans in the Casual Labour Board office? We had surveys of the Crown lands—plans showing the blocks that were for sale.

169. But are there no plans which would show all the roads at Narrabeen, Illawarra, National Park, and other districts where the unemployed worked? Yes.

170. As distinct from private roads? Yes.

171. Where could we get these? I think from the Casual Labour Board. My attention was chiefly devoted to the works at Narrabeen and on this side.

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172. You said in your evidence before the Select Committee that Mr. Davies introduced you to Mr. Burns. Will you say when that was? I could not. I think it was about the beginning of the work. I saw Mr. Burns in a cab, and Mr. Davies introduced me to him. Only a few words passed between us.
173. Can you say whether Mr. Burns was a Minister of the Crown then? He was in the Government at the time. It was a casual introduction in the street—simply an act of courtesy on Mr. Davies' part.
174. Was any reference made to these road matters? Not the slightest. I passed Mr. Burns in a cab next day, and I did not know I had passed him until I was told of it afterwards.
175. Was the work at Hornsby pretty well advanced then? Most of the ballasting was done at that date. In my evidence I stated that I did not know all these roads that were ballasted. I saw them afterwards when I went up there. June 15th was the date I spoke of.
176. Can you tell us the various districts where any large unemployed works were entered upon? From Narrabeen to French's Forest Road—9 miles through there were ballasted—Kurnell, Rookwood, where there was a lot of clearing, Gordon, where there was a lot of work done in clearing, Field of Mars, Beecroft, Berovra, Carlingford, Dobroyd, where a good deal of work was done, Unwin's Bridge Road, Tempe, and Cook Park. These, I think, were all, the only two I have not mentioned being the National Park and Waterfall. I attended more to those on this side—down the Narrabeen way.
177. Was there much work done in the Liverpool district? I do not know anything about that. I never was on it.
178. After May did you know anything about the initiation of it? I saw a petition in connection with the initiation, but I could not say from memory who it was from.
179. Do you know anything about the district? I never was in it at all.
180. I mean independent of the Casual Labour Board? No; very little.
181. Do you know where Mr. Davies lives? Yes.
182. Can you say whether the work done particularly benefits his neighbourhood? No; I do not think so, from my knowledge of it. A road was opened past Mr. Davies's before.
183. Had you much to do with the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No; I never attended to that district. Mr. Wells would know more of that district than I do.
184. Do you know that part of the country? I know the National Park, but I do not know any particular portion of the work. I was on the Illawarra Road—the main road upon the estate, because there was some heavy engineering work to be done, and I gave advice.
185. Does your knowledge enable you to state whether the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate gave access to any Crown lands? I could not say.
186. Who was it that settled the rates that were to be the contract prices? Mr. Wells and I, some times together. In fact the superintendents sought our advice as to the pay they should give, we having a much better knowledge than they had of the value of the work.
187. Can you tell us when the services of the Board were discontinued? I can hardly tell you. I know that I was so disgusted that I took no notice of it.
188. Did you get any official notice? I did not, I merely knew that the Chairman had got one.
189. Have you taken any action since then? I called once, there was no one there but Mr. Davies. I asked him if it was necessary that I should appear there. He said, "no."
190. Did you personally take any steps as to the disposal of the books, &c.? Not the slightest. Messrs. Miles and Mason had been there in charge for some considerable time.
191. Have you received any remuneration for your services? I have not received a copper—either for expenses or anything else. I have incurred expenses to the amount of some £60 or £70, but I have not sent any claim in, and I have not received a penny.
192. Were you given to understand that you would be remunerated? The only knowledge I have, is what Sir Henry Parkes stated in the House. I have never had any conversation with regard to the matter, and I never asked for anything. In fact, I am out of pocket £60.
193. Was that for work done within your official time? No; apart from my official time.
194. How long did the duties in connection with the Casual Labour Board occupy you? I prepared plans, made out reports, and worked overtime. Those reports were always written at night. I was put to heavy expenses too sometimes.
195. Have you seen this return before? Yes; it was made out at the office.
196. This is a return showing the applications for work, from May, 1887, to December, 1888? Yes.
197. That covered most of the time you were in office? Yes.
198. So far as you know that is a correct return? Yes. [*The return put in and marked A 1.*]
199. What was the reason for the Board employing all the labour so close to Sydney? We had no option. The Board were always expecting work outside Sydney. We had no option but to find this work. We had great difficulty in keeping the men from idling about. The main object was to keep them employed at works.
200. Were you expecting that work of more importance would be required to be carried out? We expected, according to the tenor of our instructions that work of a different kind was to be carried out; that irrigation works, the construction of tanks, and other works in the interior were to be provided for these men almost immediately; that such works were to be pushed on almost before they were necessary on account of the urgency.
201. Do you know whether the accounts of the Board were audited at any time? For every £6,000 that we paid, vouchers were sent to the Treasury and audited by the Auditor-General. They were sent to the Audit Office and audited there. Each £6,000 that was made up went through the same process that all departmental vouchers go through.
202. You said that sometimes as large a sum as £2,000 in cash has been entrusted to Mr. Hinchcliffe? It was always locked in the safe over night, and Mr. Davies went with Mr. Hinchcliffe in the morning when the men were to be paid.
203. Was it possible that any of that money could be retained without proper vouchers being given, and without your knowing it? No; it had to be accounted for to the Treasury. It could be seen at any time whether any amount had been kept back.
204. Do you know whether any money ever was kept back? Mr. Davies has held money in his hands when the men have not appeared to sign for it. The vouchers were sent to Mr. Davies, who took the money from the Secretary, and held it for the men. Mr. Davies would sign the vouchers, and acknowledge the amount to the Treasury.

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205. Is that the usual custom in the Government service? According to all previous departmental experience that I have had, such money should be paid into the unclaimed wages account at the Treasury. I have had moneys of the same kind myself, and I have followed that course with regard to them.
206. Were they large sums? Small amounts of 4s., 3s., and 2s.
207. Were you aware that at various times vouchers were handed in by Mr. Davies, and the money received by him in this way? I am aware of it myself.
208. Do you know whether any money has been retained in this way now? Mr. Davies has got moneys in his hands retained for that purpose.
209. The Auditor-General writes that he cannot complete the examination of the accounts owing to different sums for wages not having been receipted for? Mr. Davies's signature will be found to all these, whatever they are.
210. Where would that money be now? In Mr. Davies's hands, I suppose.
211. In cash? In cash.
212. Who was the assistant superintendent? Mr. M'Pherson. That was at the National Park.
213. Who is Mr. Springall? He was storekeeper; he looked after the rations at the National Park.
214. Who appointed him? Mr. Burrowes. I saw him at the National Park when I went there.
215. Do you know anything about him? Yes; I know we had a bother with him. He kept a store there, and we told him to do away with it. He was keeping a store there and selling things to the men. We would not allow this to go on. He was looking after the rations at the same time that he was keeping a store. He gave up the store—cleared it right out.
216. Did you continue him afterwards? Yes; we had nothing against him, and he remained with us up to the last. We found him very careful with his accounts.
217. Have you any reason to doubt that he was a good officer? I never had the slightest reason to doubt him; but Mr. Davies paid more attention to that department than I did.
218. Do you know anything of a person named Flemming? No; I do not know anything of him.
219. Mr. Hinchcliffe, you say, was the secretary? Yes.
220. Did he always give satisfaction? Always. He was a very intelligent accountant.
221. Can you tell us whether he was appointed by the Board? He was handed over to us by the Immigration Office; he was with Mr. Wise.
222. Was Mr. Hinchcliffe responsible for the keeping of the accounts? Yes.
223. Did you ever hear anything about his being short in his cash? No, never, further than that he over-paid someone at Rookwood.
224. To any extent? No; only a pound or two, and he made it good out of his own pocket.
225. Who was Mr. Hibble? He was a sort of corresponding clerk, and assistant to Mr. Hinchcliffe in making out the papers.
226. What salary did he receive? He was only getting 6s. a day.
227. Did he ever pay the men? Sometimes, in the minor places; he would, perhaps, be sent to some of these.
228. Do you know of any complaint or charge against him? Nothing; I think he is as straightforward a man as we had in our employ. I would trust him to-morrow, from my own personal knowledge.
229. Are you aware of any difference that existed between the Chairman and any of the officers? No. I know Mr. Burrowes was continually getting into scrapes with Mr. Wells and myself. Mr. Wells refused to allow him to do any engineering at all. That arrangement was supposed to be made with the approval of the Board; still, he got kept on.
230. Why did you continue him? Because he was such a good superintendent otherwise. His control of the men, for instance, was excellent; but he was no engineer, or anything of that kind. He just had the peculiar position he was fit for, and nothing else.
231. What was the particular scrape you referred to? Mr. Wells insisted upon his discharge once, and Mr. Davies begged him off. Mr. Davies, however, threatened him. I have seen letters from Mr. Davies threatening him on his own account. Every time we met there was something wrong—simply from an engineering point of view. It was not the class of work that we would have liked to have seen done, especially on the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
232. Are you aware of any other difference, difficulty, or ill-feeling on the part of any of the other officers of the Board? No.
233. So far as you know, the whole Department worked harmoniously? So far as I know. I never knew of any quarrelling or anything of that kind. I know that there was ill-feeling between Burrowes and M'Pherson in a professional way. Burrowes saw that things were being taken out of his hands, but we were compelled to do so, for M'Pherson understood engineering work better.
234. Do you know Mr. Larnach—was he in the employ of the Board the whole time? Not all the time; he came on some considerable time after we took charge.
235. Do you know whether he had any ill-feeling against Mr. Davies? I do not think he knows much about him.
236. Did you know him in the office? I knew him in the office; he was employed checking vouchers and things of that kind.
237. *Mr. Franklin.*] You say that some time after you took charge of the work it was done almost the same as a department? Yes.
238. The works that would be initiated—especially with the assistance of yourself and Mr. Wells—would be works of construction? Yes.
239. And therefore required very considerable attention? They required professional skill.
240. And from the nature of your ordinary professional duties you could not give all the attention you would think necessary? Well, I gave so much that I began to consider whether I would not have to give up either one or the other. We devoted so much time to the Board that they were complaining in our Department in both cases—both in Mr. Wells's case and my own.
241. Did it occur to you then that you were incurring responsibility over which you had not got full control? We had control; they were under our direction. We were always seeing these works—paying casual visits.
242. But as the works were spread over these large areas it would have been better if you had had more time to devote as field officer? I proposed that we should have a regular officer, but it was thought that
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we were not justified in taking people from the Department and paying them high salaries, which I would have done unhesitatingly. I think it would have been far better to have obtained men from the Department than to have had the unemployed doing the work.

243. Do you know that in the expenditure of large sums of money in works it has always been considered necessary to get a field officer—to put them into professional hands? Yes; and they have always had our advice on every subject. No work has been done without it. The clearing was in their power, but when they went beyond that the work came under us.

244. But you could not give much time. You were quite satisfied that the officers carrying out the work were fully competent? Precisely; and for that reason, when I found a competent officer I gave him a plan that he could not get away from, with cross-sections and everything complete.

245. You have told the President that you were not satisfied with the principal officer's engineering work? No; but Mr. McPherson I have been thoroughly satisfied with.

246. As your visits were not very frequent, was it not possible that Mr. Burrowes might have made an engineering mistake sometimes? No, hardly. There were no works of an engineering or heavy character that were not looked after either by Mr. Wells or myself.

247. Who would you hold responsible for such work as ballasting the roads at Hornsby and on the Holt-Sutherland Estate, as to the necessity for it? Mr. Davies. That work was done in May. He had my advice that wherever roads were formed it was especially necessary to ballast and protect them. The ballasting was put on as a protection, to save expense afterwards.

248. You know that the formation there is very good? The formation is sandstone—long sandy hills, with cuttings.

249. A portion of the Vanceville Road has been a long time in existence? That is all clay on that side. The country changes entirely when you get into Hornsby; one side is clay and the other sandstone.

250. You have seen the ballasting used on these roads;—do you think that an improvement? I do.

251. Do you think that the road is sufficiently ballasted? Not sufficiently, but it is sufficient for travelling over. It is not what I call a fully-formed road. I think, looking to the future, that the ballasting was necessary. The ballast was of course the foundation of the road, and over that the metal was put.

252. Considering the light nature of the traffic, do you think the ballasting was required? I do. It would be sufficient to make a small cutting, and then the rain-water would go through at once and wash away the foundation. The lighter it was the easier it would be cut through.

253. At any rate, in a portion of the estate, would it not have been better to have left the simple formation? I think not, from an engineering point of view. On my recommendation most of the roads were ballasted there; but there were some done the first time I was up. Until then I had no idea what was done.

254. Do you think any ballasting material for your work was laid down during the time of the construction of the Northern Railway—were the works carried on simultaneously? Most of it was done during the time I did not give so much attention to the Board. I suppose they must have been going on about the same time.

255. At the time the railway was going on the highest rates were paid for cartage in that district? I could not say. That might possibly be so; but at French's quarries the men had hand-barrows; in other cases they carried the material, and they broke the boulders on the road. But the vouchers will tell every penny that has been expended. I know I grumbled about a portion that was done at Narrabeen. It would appear on the one voucher, and the next voucher would show only for the stone broken. I grumbled about it myself; it was inevitable.

256. In all cases where it was impossible to get material near the road there was cartage? As a rule; but, as I have said, they used hand-barrows. In many cases I have seen them carrying material with ordinary sacks with two poles attached.

257. However, at that time there was no want of labour to induce them to work at unemployed prices? No.

258. *Mr. Waller.*] Do you think that it was right, within the meaning of the instructions that were given to the Casual Labour Board, to expend the public money in cartage? We had no other means of employing them; without doing this it would have been impossible to go on.

259. Do you think it was right? I cannot say.

260. Were these men employed with their carts at this work? Some certainly were.

261. Did they come to you for work as unemployed? Some of them did.

262. Did they go about with their horses and carts? They may have been there with carts or without them.

263. There are no carters entered in the schedule statement of the men actually on the register books in the office as unemployed? They may have been there as carters without going through the books as carters.

264. Then they would not really go through the books? I do not think that any of the carters went through the books.

265. Did you give them the wages of the unemployed, or did they have the ruling wages? I think they had the ruling wages, unless where it was otherwise contracted for amongst the unemployed. I would not be positive as to details.

266. Can you tell us where we could obtain information as to the absolute staff of the unemployed—you told the President the heads of the Department? The names of everyone can be obtained from the voucher sheets—of everybody employed in the office.

267. Have you those of the branch offices as well as the main office? Well, you could not call them branch offices, except the National Park. We had the camps, the superintendents, and clerks.

268. Would the vouchers and papers pass in from the branch offices? Yes.

269. And would they contain all particulars? Yes.

270. From your own knowledge of the whole of the transactions, you can say that the books and papers would give full information? Yes.

271. I want to know if it is your opinion that the Board, constituted with two professional men, yourself and Mr. Wells—who, of necessity, had other occupations in the Government service demanding frequently your absence from the Board work—and the third member being a non-professional man, was able to do justice to the expenditure of such a large amount of public money? No; I always held that one professional member should have been permanently appointed to the Board. That was always my opinion.

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272. In your opinion, a Board constituted as that was had not the proper supervision of public moneys? Well, as I told you, except in the minor details, everything of importance was attended to by us; but in minor details, such as clearing, a professional head was not required.
273. You say, however, that you were absent five months? No; I was present twenty times during the five months.
274. You mentioned at one time that the Colonial Secretary approved of all the work that was deemed necessary with the exception of the work at Hornsby? Yes; I would not be positive about that.
275. Why was it that he should not have had the approval of the work at Hornsby? I could not say positively.
276. Taking it for granted that it was necessary to have his approval for all the other works, was it equally necessary to have his approval for this? Yes; but you must remember that the men were there on these roads. These works had been initiated before we took charge.
277. Who recommended them? Mr. Gordon, the surveyor, I believe, recommended these roads, and I have been over some of them with him.
278. Do you know who recommended these Hornsby roads, for instance? I would not like to say positively, because there is a paper in the office missing, and it cannot be found. I think, however, it was Mr. Deering. I hunted it up some time ago, and I remember seeing it. It strikes me that Mr. Deering had something to do with the recommendation. I do not give this as positive, but my recollection is to that effect.
279. Did you approve of these roads as handed over to you? I did; except as regards Boundary Road, which was cleared right through. I refused to allow it to go on, although Mr. Deering had laid it out, because it was impracticable from an engineering point of view. As I have already said, it was right enough at the end near the junction.
280. Who recommended these roads on the estate? I understood it was Mr. Gordon. I understood that it was at his recommendation that every road was done.
281. In opening up or making roads, did you ascertain whose authority they were made by? Yes, and saw all the papers.
282. Then we may take it for granted that with the exception of the Hornsby Road, you were conversant with all the others? I was during the time I was in office. The petitions were always handed to me to read through.
283. Was the Colonial Secretary's approval always in writing? It was always "Approved, H.P."
284. How many men did you find on the Hornsby Road when you took charge? I could not say from memory.
285. Have you any means of ascertaining? Yes; the office books will tell.
286. Did you increase the number when you took charge? No; men were always leaving, and we always kept them up to the limit. We got a standard number at each place, on account of having the camp and the fittings there.
287. Am I to understand then that whatever number of men was at Hornsby at the time you began, you kept up that number? Yes; while the work was going on.
288. Talking about scrub-clearing, what was the pay for that? It ranged from £6 to £10 an acre.
289. Did that include the clearing, gathering, and burning? It included clearing, gathering, and burning.
290. What is the usual price for this under-scrubbing? We have paid £30 sometimes, leaving the majority of the trees in.
291. Have you had any experience of clearing generally in the country? Of road-clearing; of course I have.
292. That is much the same I suppose? Yes, it is the same; I have done hundreds of miles of it.
293. What is the difference, in your opinion, between the cost you paid the unemployed, and the cost as you have had the work done before? We paid considerably under.
294. How much under? Well, 50 per cent. under. In fact I do not know how some of them made wages.
295. Taking into consideration the class of men that you had at work, and the class of men who receive the usual current rate of wages, what do you think the difference in the cost between the two classes of work would be? As four to seven—that is about the ratio.
296. Were any contracts let by the unemployed for clearing? Not to my knowledge. Such a thing never came under my notice.
297. Did some of the unemployed gangs take clearing contracts? Yes; contracts were let out in the National Park direction.
298. Is there any evidence to show what the rates at those works were? The papers would show.
299. Are there papers showing the rates you paid for these works? They are on the vouchers, and the books with the accounts—all of them are at the Audit Office.
300. You said that sometimes Mr. Davies kept money in hand under certain circumstances. Have you any idea how much these moneys might amount to at any time? No; I could not individualise any of them. I may say that I have seen a paper in the office of the Auditor-General asking for a proper acquittance for these amounts.
301. Had he no stated sums? The sum was on the vouchers, 3s. and 4s., small amounts; I saw these amounts in the office myself.
302. Would the total amount be considerable? No.
303. You say he has some of the money now in his possession; would that be considerable? No; I would not like to take it for a month's "screw."
304. I think you said Mr. Springall was the storekeeper at the National Park. How did he come to represent Mr. Kidman? I do not know; we were not there you know when he commenced. There was the canteen there at the time the military forces were at the Park; and in fact he was in the dual position of storekeeper and a sort of agent for Mr. Kidman. It was only a temporary matter however.
305. I understood you to say that you at once saw the impropriety of his holding the dual position? I saw it instantly, and said to the Chairman, "We will put an end to this at once."
306. Who do you mean by "we"? The whole Board—all the members were on the ground. I think it was on the 23rd of May the conversation took place.
307. Referring again to the constitution of the Board, I ask you, did you feel that the position you occupied gave you the full control, power, and authority that you would like to have in undertaking any work that you are responsible for? Yes; I consider that I had my full share of responsibility and control.

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308. That is, in other words, that you are perfectly prepared now to accept the responsibility for all acts which have been done, either with your knowledge and consent, or during your absence by your colleagues? I accept every responsibility for the work.
309. During your presence or otherwise? Yes.
310. Had Mr. Davies power to deal with things during your absence? Yes; clearing and things of that kind in a locality where the authority of the Colonial Secretary was obtained for; they were all referred to us, and in fact they were undertaken knowing that the authority would be given in a day or two.
311. I want to refer you to the absences of yourself and Mr. Wells; how could you, during those absences, have been in a position to object to works which you might think were unnecessary? I was always at hand; I was at Rookwood.
312. It amounts, therefore, to this, that you say that no works were undertaken or carried out without your knowledge within a day or two? Yes, if Mr. Davies did not consider it necessary to call me. I paid about twenty visits to Sydney during the last five months.
313. From your evidence before the Select Committee it appears that you stated that the reason for certain roads not being formed through Crown lands, and other roads being made through other property, was the enormous cost that they would have been to the Colony? Yes.
314. Have you made any estimate of that cost? It is impossible for us to make an estimate; the reason these roads were made was to give access to the Crown lands; you could not cross the creeks from east to west; it was impracticable—like going down a roof and straight up the other side; a very large extent of the lands there are table-lands, and getting in between the gullies and creeks and their tributaries you intersect Crown lands, running in long parallelograms, while you could not go through the whole length of Government land upon any road that could be made.
315. These parallel lines—do they extend far? They go right through to the Hawkesbury; the deer they go the more impracticable they become—the more precipitous and inaccessible.
316. Is the soil good? On the table-lands the soil is good; their area I could not give; I saw some splendid orchard lands on the top, in places running back about an eighth of a mile.
317. Is it land that would be easily sold? The orchard land would.
318. Is it all orchard land? All orchard land, and some very pretty sites for residences.
319. In making these roads I presume you had an eye to the value of the lands on either side, and the return that would be realized when the lands were sold? The Government surveyor told us that the value of the Crown lands when these roads were made would be very great.
320. Who was the surveyor? Mr. Gordon, and he told us this in the course of conversation.
321. Do you remember what value he mentioned? No amounts were named.
322. May we take it that these roads were made to enhance the unknown value of Government lands? Yes; land that was utterly valueless without roads.
323. Why was it valueless? Because it could not be sold.
324. Was there no attempt made by an experienced person to see what the value might be? Mr. Deering valued the land, I suppose, but I had no object in valuing it.
325. What I have been endeavouring to obtain is whether money was judiciously laid out, and whether it would be returned in some shape or form by giving access to property, the value of which would be materially increased by the roads? I say that so far as my knowledge goes the land was practically valueless without these roads.
326. Have you any idea of the value of the roads that were made? I do not know. I have no knowledge.
327. Do you know if anybody connected with the Government or the Board went into that question—is there nothing to show their value? Mr. Davies estimated all that. I think the value is on record.
328. Then there was a calculation made? Mr. Davies has one of all the lands.
329. I do not know that I clearly understand who was actually responsible for the laying out of the roads in the absence of yourself and Mr. Wells? We never laid out any roads at all. All that we did was to see the roads after they were laid out. We had nothing to do with the surveying. I did not know whose land we were passing through. I never knew either Mr. Burns or his land.
330. Then, as a matter of fact, you were responsible only for the carrying out of the roads? Yes.
331. Did you refuse to carry out the roads as laid out by these Government surveyors? Only in the case of the Boundary Road. The Boundary Road was actually cleared; but I would not go on with it from an engineering point of view.
332. Then you are not responsible for the roads as laid out? I, myself, am not, personally, further than the engineering is concerned—in saying what class the road should be and how it should be made.
333. That is, a first or second class road? Yes.
334. Regarding these roads, I presume that you did as you always do in the Government service—you made the necessary reports as to the cost? We knew in these roads, where the men were having fixed rates. We found so much a yard for ballasting, so much for forming, and we gave an estimate of the whole according to the nature of the ground. Where we had a certain depth of cutting in rock the rate was different to that allowed where there was a shallow cutting; and so on through the work we valued everything—this section 3s. 6d., that 4s.—so that we got the estimate of what would give to the men 4s. a day.
335. Is there any documentary evidence that would show the amount allowed for these different sections? The engineer and superintendent would have records, I suppose.
336. Did you not give them to the superintendent in writing? No; we let them know it as they went along.
337. Then how could you locate any particular section of land. The superintendent would know that for a certain section a certain price was fixed, and how could he locate that particular section? By his own plan; his own sketch plan would be sufficient.
338. Could a man who had no practical knowledge understand the prices to be paid for these sections? If we marked them on the plan at the time.
339. Some of these men, not being surveyors, could not make a correct plan? A sketch plan would be sufficient.
340. How many were formed into parties for a section? Each party was formed into a gang of eight, and the requisite number of tools was handed to each of those eight.
341. Who was responsible for the tools? The head of the gang; one whom the men would recognize as a ganger.

- Mr. D. Houston. 342. What was the system adopted with regard to the tools? The superintendent was responsible for them in each district.
- 11 Mar., 1889. 343. What was the nature of his responsibility? Seeing that the tools were repaired, and that a proper record was kept of them.
344. Is there anything to show what tools there were? The vouchers will show every tool in the service.
345. And all the tools used by each gang were returnable to the head office or the superintendent? The superintendent was supposed to be responsible for the return of them. I know, however, that lots were lost in clearing and burning.
346. Do you know of your own knowledge that a proper system of supervision was kept to check the men who went for all these tools? I know that there was in one particular instance, for I insisted upon a record being kept of the Waterfall tools when they came in with a request for more.
347. Then we may infer from that that a proper record was not kept? I do not think that there was a proper record or supervision kept. Men were constantly leaving, and we could not send the police after them. Any man might leave, taking his tools with him, and he did not come back with the tools.
348. How did you pay the gangs—every week? Every pay was fortnightly, and the men were paid according to the measurements sent in by the superintendent.
349. Was it necessary that each of the Board should sign cheques for the money to pay the gangs? No; it was arranged from the first with the Treasury that the signatures of the Chairman and the secretary were to be the signatures of the Board,—that is Mr. Davies and Mr. Hinchcliffe.
350. Would the signature of another member of the Board, with the secretary countersigning it, be sufficient? No; it was distinctly understood by the Treasury that Mr. Davies and the secretary were to be responsible for the signature of the Board.
351. I think you said in one place in your evidence before the Select Committee that, as a matter of fact, you and Mr. Wells had to go and look at these works as they were going on, to see that they were practicable and necessary? Mr. Davies used to send me a note when my services were necessary in a particular place, and I so arranged my own work as to be able to go.
352. Can you state as a fact that you gave the same attention to looking after these works that you would think necessary for works under your own control? No; because I think the works under my control require more attention fifty times than the works the unemployed were engaged upon. The works that the unemployed were doing could constantly be seen; but the work I am doing is covered up and never seen again. I have given full attention to matters connected with the Board that came under my supervision.
353. Do you think you gave as much attention as you ought to have done to this work? I do.
354. In the roads you were laying out at Hornsby, was there any work done upon any road which did not lead to Government land? No; there were some partly between the private lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith and the Government lands.
355. Is it possible or was it possible to get any frontages to the Government land without having made these roads? No; I do not see how you could.
356. There is a difference between the ballasting of these roads and ordinary roads? Yes; the one costs 12s. and the other 3s.
357. What traffic would there be on these roads? I could not say.
358. I am not asking you to tell me exactly? It would be a small traffic. When the railway is opened it will be heavy, but at present it is light.
359. Would spring-carts be the principal traffic that would go over it? Yes.
360. Is it your experience in road-making that ballasting is necessary where there is a sandstone formation and the traffic is light? It is not the traffic that damages the roads, it is the rain that does it. If the road is ballasted the water does not affect it.
361. Are there any drains? There are water-tables right through. There is a drain above, but you cannot, as a rule, drain off the water. The water-tables do all the duty.
362. What is Mr. M'Pherson's christian name? I cannot tell you in full; it is A. M'Pherson.
363. Is he a surveyor in the Lands Department? He is not now, but he was. They speak of him there as a very clever fellow and attentive to his duties.
364. You mentioned to the President some time ago about requisitions? That should be petitions—petitions from parties to the Colonial Secretary's Department.
365. In answer to question 496, before the Select Committee, did you mean the word requisition or petition? Petition is the word that ought to have been used. Requisition has the same meaning in one way; it was an application for roads to be made.
366. Can you tell the Commission what became of those petitions after they received the sanction of the Colonial Secretary? I mentioned that these petitions were forwarded to the Board for report, and by the Board sent to our officers for report. If the report was favourable the work was recommended to the Colonial Secretary, and the Colonial Secretary approved of it. The petitions then came back to us and the works were initiated by the full Board. The petitions were then left in the custody of the Casual Labour Board. Some of them, I think, were returned, but a great many were left with the Board.
367. Do you mean that the petitions were either returned or kept by the Board? Yes.
368. Had you the same system as they have got in all Government offices of minuting the letters sent away? Yes, certainly.
369. So that if the Commission wish to inspect the books they would see all the petitions that were returned, what were not returned, and what became of them? Yes; the information will be all there. I found one or two of the petitions were not there. I could not specify which, but they were on record. I know there are some of the papers about the Hornsby roads which I have looked up, but they cannot be traced.
370. Does it not strike you as being strange that there seems to be no authorization so far as appears now for these roads at Hornsby, whereas in all other parts it seemed to be considered necessary to obtain the sanction in writing of the Minister? In all other cases the works were actually initiated under our control. In the Hornsby case they were initiated by our predecessors, and merely continued by us.
371. Are we to understand that you carried out previously authorized roads? No; as mentioned by Mr. Gordon, he recommended those works.

372. Pardon me, that evidence was not given by Mr. Gordon ;—was Mr. Gordon on the ground all that time? He had charge.
373. I will put it in another way to you ;—did you suppose that Mr. Gordon had authority for these roads? No; we never supposed there was an authority. We took his recommendation.
374. Without considering whether he had a higher authority? He was responsible to Mr. Deering for his action.
375. Do you suppose that Mr. Deering had any authority? I suppose that Mr. Deering, being the district surveyor, was perfectly conversant with these roads.
376. I want to know whether you suppose he had authority? I never questioned whether he had authority.
377. That being the case, why did you take more pains to have authority for all other works? Because in one case we were only carrying out works that were already commenced; in the other, works that we initiated.
378. Do you hold that Mr. Gordon and Mr. Deering are actually responsible for the roads being made? No; I don't say that positively. I say they were Mr. Gordon's recommendations to us. We asked him about these roads.
379. Somebody must take the responsibility for making these roads ;—you, as a Casual Labour Board, so far as I understand, give as your reason that they were in course of construction when you came into existence? Men were working on them.
380. And, therefore, in your opinion your predecessors are the people who were responsible for them? No; these roads were recommended by Mr. Gordon after we took office. I saw the roads—went on the grounds with Mr. Gordon. We saw them necessary, and went on with them.
381. Then there was no absolute authority for these roads? No absolute authority. They were necessary to give access to the Government land. That was the light that we looked at them in.
382. What I want to get at is—was there any authority for making of these roads? There was that paper that is missing ;—I fancy there was Mr. Deering's name on that paper.
383. But it cannot be produced? No.
384. *President.*] Have you any recollection of the contents of this missing document? No; but I think the records will show that it referred to these roads.
385. Did it refer to all these roads? I do not say all these roads, but it referred to these roads.
386. Your recollection is, that there is a document signed by Mr. Deering? There is a document, I think, signed by Mr. Deering. It cannot be found, but that paper was in our office.
387. I omitted to ask you for particulars of your record of the visits you paid to the Board ;—will you kindly give them? There are other visits besides these, but these are the actual records made :—National Park, 7 visits; Waterfall, 3; Gordon, 5; Field of Mars, 1; Rookwood, 7; Beecroft, 1; Prince Alfred Hospital, 1; Hornsby, 6; Illawarra Road, 1; Narrabeen, 39; Carlingford, 1; Dobroyd, 1; French's Forest, 17; Tempe, 18; Johnson's Creek, 5; Pennant Hills Quarry, 1; Cook Park, 16; Cook's River, 32 visits. To the offices I made 161 direct visits. For instance, every time I went to Tempe I went to the office. These come to about 250 visits altogether. That is only speaking up to the 12th May.
388. Can you tell us the total amount of money that the Board had placed at their disposal? I think it was £220,000; I could not tell exactly.
389. Can you tell us the amount annually voted to the Roads Department? No, I cannot; but it is over half a million.
390. Have you any papers or records in your possession belonging to the Board? I never touched a single paper. I have not taken a single paper out of the Casual Labour Board Office.
391. Did you ascertain the name of the engineer that made the road called the "shoot"? Mr. Burrowes.
392. Do you produce a tracing showing the roads cleared, formed, and ballasted at Hornsby? Yes. I produce a plan showing the Government land sold near the Hornsby station, the whole of the roads made by the unemployed, and the price of the land sold, with the names. That is not an official plan; it belongs to me. [*Plan put in and marked A 2.*]

TUESDAY, 12 MARCH, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P., | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Critchett Walker called in, sworn, and examined:—

393. *President.*] What position do you occupy in the Public Service? Principal Under Secretary.
394. How long have you held that position? Ten years.
395. Do you know when the Casual Labour Board was appointed? It was some time in May; I think on the 2nd May, 1887.
396. By whom was it appointed? By the Colonial Secretary.
397. Who was the Colonial Secretary? Sir Henry Parkes.
398. Will you tell us who the Board consisted of? The Hon. John Davies, Mr. Wells, and Mr. Houison.
399. Have you any record of the appointment in your office that you can produce? No; because the minute was sent in the original to Mr. Davies; but I have a copy of it.
400. Will you allow me to see the copy? This is the copy.
401. Do you know whether an original was supplied to each of the members of the Board? This was sent to the Chairman.
402. But you don't know whether a duplicate or copy was sent to each of the members? No; I don't suppose there was.
403. Can you tell us anything of the circumstances that led up to the appointment of the Board? No; I cannot.
404. I mean generally the circumstances that necessitated the appointment of the Board to manage this department? No; I cannot give you any information upon it, beyond the fact that Sir Henry Parkes, the

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C. Walker.
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the Colonial Secretary, appointed the Board. I presume it was thought advisable by him that something should be done in order that there might be some place where the unemployed could be dealt with—a kind of bureau.

405. Had your department been dealing with the unemployed before that time? Yes; for years.

406. Did they occasion you much work? A great deal—a great deal of work and a great deal of trouble.

407. I suppose you had frequent personal applications? Not only that, but deputation after deputation—a dirty rabble, who were first relieved by soup tickets and the establishment of a kitchen at Hyde Park barracks, and who gave us a deal of trouble.

408. Was it because the work and annoyance were so great in connection with them that it was thought desirable that a separate department should be created? I could not tell you.

409. Under what Ministerial head was the Casual Labour Board? Under the Colonial Secretary's Department.

410. Can you tell the Commission anything of the work that the unemployed were engaged in before the appointment of this Board? Well, they were in various parts; I cannot enumerate all of them.

411. Can you speak of the class of work in any particular district? Oh, clearing and stumping. That was the principal work.

412. Had they been engaged on any productive work? Well, I cannot say that. The work would be productive hereafter, in the shape of the land they cleared; but I cannot say that it would be immediately productive.

413. Were there any particular instructions or regulations issued for the guidance of the Board that you are aware of? Nothing more than the document which appointed them.

414. Are you aware whether any instructions were issued that work should not be initiated without reference to your department? I do not know of any such instructions.

415. As a matter of practice, was it required that proposed works should not be initiated without reference to your department? Not that I know of.

416. Can you give us any information as to the system adopted as regards the initiation of work? No; the whole thing was in the hands of the Board.

417. Do you think the Board had full power to act without reference to your department? I think so. I think they had full power to act. They would come to me from time to time, and I might tell them where to put the men; when they put the men to National Park, for instance, where there was a kind of depôt formed, where they began clearing.

418. Do you know who had charge of the unemployed before the Board was appointed? Well, they were under the charge of different people. They were in batches. Nobody had exclusive charge of them, but they were under our department. Nominally we had charge of them. There was a kind of mixed authority.

419. When recommendations were sent in by the Board, did you take action solely on their recommendations, or did you make independent inquiry? As a rule we used to act on the recommendations of the Board.

420. Did these recommendations come in the shape of written papers and reports, or in what form? Well, I cannot say; sometimes they would come verbally, and sometimes in the shape of a letter.

421. Would the Board send reports in? Yes. They would send what would be termed a report in the shape of a letter with certain things that they wanted to be done, and it would be approved. Sometimes it would simply be a verbal statement: "I think so-and-so wants clearing, and you had better shift the men over there"; and the authority was given. I am speaking now of the Crown lands.

422. You say these requests came frequently in the shape of a verbal application? Yes, as regards different parts of the National Park.

423. Your evidence on this point relates simply to Crown lands? Purely to Crown lands. I know nothing of private property.

424. Do you know of any work that was done on land that did not belong to the Crown by the unemployed? No; not officially.

425. What became of the papers that were from time to time submitted by the Board to the department? They got all of them back again.

426. You gave them back to the Board? Yes.

427. Then we ought to find amongst the records of the Board all the papers that have been submitted to you? Everything that has been submitted to me has gone back again.

428. You have nothing in your department? No; nothing at all.

429. We are told that expensive works have been initiated, and in some respects completed on the Holt-Sutherland Estate and at Hornsby;—can you say whether these works came before your department in any way for authority or otherwise? The Hornsby roads I know nothing whatever about; they never came before our department. The Holt-Sutherland roads were brought to us on the representation of a number of Members of Parliament, brought in by the chairman of the Board, Mr. Davies, and approved by the Colonial Secretary. As regards one of the roads, it was pointed out to me, I think by Sir John Robertson and Mr. Want, that it was a private road, and I immediately stopped the work. On the full assurance being given that it was a public road it was afterwards gone on with.

429½. Was that the Malvern Road? The Malvern Road was the one.

430. Did Sir John Robertson call upon you on that occasion? I cannot say that. He sent word to me and came in afterwards. I cannot say that he came in at the time.

431. Do you recollect what the purport of his statement was? No, I cannot tell you. I remember he said they were working on a private road as he thought.

432. Did his remonstrance relate to that particular road? Yes; that was all. He might have meant others; but I took it that he meant that one road, and I stopped it. I know I instructed all the works to be stopped until Sir Henry Parkes, who was away in Adelaide, returned. Sir Henry Parkes was in Adelaide attending the Exhibition. Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Murphy called and were very angry with me because I stopped the works. They said they were sure Sir Henry Parkes would not have done so had he been here. I said, "That shows how little you know about it," and I showed them a telegram I had received from Sir Henry Parkes approving of my action in stopping the works until he returned.

433. You were examined before the Select Committee on the 15th January? Yes.

434. Is this your evidence? Yes.

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363. *Chairman.*] You are the Principal Under Secretary? Yes.
364. Have any recommendations come through your office in regard to the work done upon roads by the unemployed under the Casual Labour Board? Yes; but not in respect of every road.
365. But in regard to such roads as are of importance, I suppose you would say? No, I cannot say that. The roads upon the Holt-Sutherland Estate have come through the Department—in fact, roads in various parts of the Colony.
366. Does that apply to any of the Hornsby roads? No.
367. None of them? Not that I am aware of.
368. In the case of the Holt-Sutherland Estate, what was the routine through which the roads had to pass in your department? The Board would recommend the roads, and they would come to me. I would submit them to the Colonial Secretary, believing them to be public roads.
369. Were any representations of any kind made to you as to the nature of the roads, at any personal interview, or in any other manner, by the chairman of the Casual Labour Board? No; nothing beyond the circumstance of the roads being public roads, and the work being necessary for the public convenience.
370. It was stated to you by the chairman of the Board, either by letter or by personal interview, that the roads were for the public convenience? As a rule; but in one or two instances, I think it is stated in the papers laid before Parliament, that the roads were works of public necessity.
371. Did you ever at any time have any suspicion as to the public necessity for any of the roads so submitted? No; certainly not. I took it as a matter of course that they were to be public roads, especially when a number of Members of Parliament signed the requisition and urged the matter.
372. Did you ever object to approve of any of them? Yes. On one occasion I heard—I cannot tell you from memory when—that the road was a private road. I immediately stopped the work and telegraphed to the Colonial Secretary, who approved of my action until he returned. On his return, upon proper representations being made, it was discovered that the road in question was not a private road—that it was a public road. It was, to the best of my recollection, the Malvern Road, on the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
373. That is the only road about the approval for which you hesitated? Yes.
374. You objected to it upon your own authority? Upon my own authority I stopped it, and two members of the Holt-Sutherland Company came to me. I cannot remember now who they were, but I think Mr. Murphy was one and that Mr. Jamieson was another. They were angry that I had stopped the road. I have not yet obtained a copy of the telegram, but I telegraphed immediately to Sir Henry Parkes, and I had received a reply when they came. Unfortunately I have since destroyed the telegram but I have tried to get a copy of it, and I daresay I shall succeed in the course of a day or two. I remember the words as clearly as possible: "Approve of your action *re* Holt-Sutherland Roads."
375. Is that the only instance in which you disapproved? That was the only instance in which I had cause to disapprove, as far as my knowledge would permit.
376. In no instance had you any knowledge? None whatever.
377. That is beyond the representations of the Board? Just so.
378. In each instance it was represented to you that the roads sent for approval were actually public roads or were roads of such a nature as to be of public convenience? Yes. The papers will show that, I think.
379. Had the Colonial Secretary, from your knowledge, any means of ascertaining the character of any of these roads? I do not think so; that is no more than I had.
380. Did he do more than act upon the representation which you conveyed to him from the Casual Labour Board? No more than that.
381. You acted upon the *bonâ fides* of the representations made to you? Yes; by the Board and other persons concerned in the roads. What I mean by that is, Members of Parliament and those who came upon deputations urging the making of these roads.
382. You refer, I suppose, to Members of Parliament signing petitions for roads. Can you recollect any instance in which a Member of Parliament signed for what might be termed a private road? I do not think I can. The papers will show you the names.
383. Have you seen the Progress Report of this Committee? Yes.
384. The signatures of the Members of Parliament, I suppose, would be in reference to roads of which the Committee approve? Yes; I imagine so.
385. And not in reference to other roads? No.
386. Perhaps you have in your mind the clearing of the railway track to the noxious trades sites? Yes. That was approved of, I think, upon the representation of some seventy-eight Members.
387. *Mr. Carruthers.*] I suppose that in your private capacity you know that locality pretty well? I know it now but I did not know it when the roads were being made.
388. You have frequently been in the Park? Since the roads were made, but not before.
389. I suppose you have seen the plan which has been placed before the Committee? Yes.
390. You know the extent of the settlement at Como? Yes.
391. Are there many people living there? I should not say very many.
392. Are there more than fifty people there? That would be as many as there are, I should think. I doubt if there are fifty, but there may be.
393. Is there any settlement at Sutherland? Yes.
394. How many people are living there? I should say there are over 100 there.
395. There are a couple of hotels there? I believe so. I should say there were between 100 and 150 people there.
396. You know Sylvania, where the punt crosses? Yes.

397.

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397. Are there many people living there? About as many people as at Como, I should think.
398. You think there are fifty people there? I should say there would be about fifty there and at Ewey Bay, because I suppose you would take in Mr. Frederick Want's place.
399. I suppose you know the locality from Richardson's place up to Davis' and Burraneer Bay;—are there fifty people in that locality? I do not think there are. I do not know the locality very well. I have not been down at Mr. Gannon's place. I have been in a boat in the Bay, but that is all.
400. You say that you have seen the Progress Report submitted by the Committee? Yes.
401. Did you observe the statement in the Report that there were only fifty families living in the vicinity of these roads? There are a great many more than that.
402. Are you aware that the main Illawarra Road is a road which has been maintained by the Government for some time? Yes.
403. For how many years can you remember that road being maintained by the Government? I think I remember it for something like fifteen or sixteen years, if not more. I cannot tell you the exact time but I have always known it as a public road.
404. Maintained by the Government? Yes.
405. You know what is called the Port Hacking Road? I have never been over it, but I know where it turns off from the other road. It may have been a road for years, but it is only newly made. It may have been on the map for a number of years, laid out as a permanent road, but I do not think it has been made or used for more than (say) three or four years—perhaps a little more.
406. *Mr. McMillan.*] When this Board was appointed, consisting of two public officers and Mr. Davies, your department looked upon it, not merely as an Executive carrying out this work, but also as affording some proof of the *bonâ-fides* of all the work done? Certainly.
407. So that when their reports came before the Colonial Secretary's Department, with the initials of these gentlemen appended, it was taken for granted in the main that full inquiry had been made, and that everything was perfectly correct? Certainly.
408. I take it that it would be absolutely impossible for a department like yours, with such multifarious duties, to in any way go into detail? Quite so.
409. Especially in a case where a special Board has been provided to take the responsibility, more or less;—it was understood that you would have to carry out their recommendations? Yes.
410. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Referring to the statement in the Progress Report, that there are only about fifty families resident in the vicinity of these roads, are you aware that that statement was made by Mr. Murphy, the Manager of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No; I was not aware of that. I have not read the whole of the evidence.
411. Who would be more likely to have the best knowledge of this fact—you yourself, or Mr. Murphy, the manager of the estate? I think that I know just as much about it as Mr. Murphy, although he is the manager of the estate.
412. Considering that Mr. Murphy is the gentleman who got all the petitions signed for these roads, do you not think that he will be in a better position than you are to give an opinion as to the number of residents? I do not think I can answer that question.
413. *Chairman.*] We do not want to get at the population surrounding the roads which are approved of. It is admitted that some of the main roads—the Sylvania Road, for instance—would serve a large population, but there are other roads—subsidiary roads, running north and south;—what about the population in their vicinity? I saw them for the first time on the plan. I certainly was not aware that they were the roads alluded to in the recommendations.
414. Would you say that there were over fifty families served by these subsidiary roads? I should say there certainly were, as far as my memory serves me.
415. You say that there are over fifty families? I am certain there are.
416. Are you aware if any audit has been made of the accounts of the Casual Labour Board? I understand from the Auditor-General that a number of accounts have been audited,—in fact they are going through them now.
417. Since this inquiry started? No; I think they have always been audited from the commencement.
418. But you say that they are going through them now? Not more than formerly, as I understand.
419. There has been no general audit? There has been no special audit on account of the sitting of this Committee.
420. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] What I want to arrive at is this: I do not want to know about the audit of detail payments;—has there been a general audit of the accounts of the Casual Labour Board? I do not quite understand you.
421. The Board has been in existence for twenty-two months;—has there been an audit of the accounts of the Board—that is, the whole of the accounts, for any specific time,—that is to say, a year or six months? I cannot say; the matter would not come through me.
422. *Mr. Burns.*] All payments in connection with the unemployed have been made upon the order of the Department of the Colonial Secretary? Yes; that is to say, the Board would apply to us for a certain advance, ours being the office under which it is supervised. We approve, as a matter of form, and send the warrant back to the Treasury for payment.
423. Are you aware that these accounts of the Casual Labour Board have been regularly checked at the Treasury from time to time, and that a second advance would hardly be made unless the first account had been checked? That I believe is correct.
424. Are you aware also that the accounts, in the regular course, find their way into the hands of the Auditor-General? Yes.
425. There has been no special audit? No.
426. *Chairman.*] What is the form gone through in asking you for an advance? It is merely a formal request for a further advance of such and such an amount, as occasion may require. The last advance applied for I think was for about £6,000. 427.

427. *Mr. Burns.*] Are you aware that there is an officer at the Treasury to examine all the accounts of this kind? Yes.

428. The accounts must pass through his hands? Yes.

429. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Do you remember when the unemployed were first banded together under the administration of Mr. G. F. Wise? I think, if my memory serves me right, that would be over three years ago.

430. Do you remember at that period what course was adopted for their relief? I think they were relieved principally by soup tickets.

431. And free feeding? Yes; they had orders upon Barnett's and some other eating-house. There was afterwards a special kitchen got up for them at the Hyde Park Barracks, where they used to be fed in grand style. They used afterwards to lie down in the park and enjoy their smoke.

432. Do you remember Mr. Wise complaining to the Government that some of these men were earning at the work upon which they were engaged as much as from 9s. to 15s. per day? Yes; I heard it, but I do not think it was correct.

433. At all events you remember Mr. Wise writing a letter to the Department? I could not say whether it was a letter or a memorandum, but I know there was some communication of the kind. I do not think the statement was correct—that is, it was not a fair way of putting it. Some of the men, it is true, used to work eighteen hours a day, and make sometimes 15s.; but you could not say that that was what they were making a day. Some of them would go to work grubbing trees by moonlight. They would work from a very early hour in the morning until late at night. These were a few honest hard working men who had got in among the unemployed.

434. Some of them at all events were doing very well? I should say that the greatest average from an ordinary day's work would be from 7s. to 8s.—anything beyond that would be overtime.

435. Are you not aware that a lot of the men were working overtime, and that it became a matter of current report that many of them were making these excessive wages? I know that that report got about; but the question is, whether it was true. I do not think it was.

436. Do you think it had any effect in attracting men to the body of the unemployed? Certainly it did. One object of spreading the report was to make more men throw up their billets. A lot of them I know did so.

437. How many of these feeding tickets as a rule were issued every day? A large number. It would not be safe for me to say how many.

438. Do you think the number went up to 1,000? I really could not say. If I said a 1,000, I might be making a mistake. I know that the number was very large.

439. Was any contract entered into with any person to supply these meals at a certain rate? Yes, with Mr. Kidman.

440. What was the rate? I do not know.

441. Was it 6d.? There were several people. I know that Mr. Barnett in Pitt-street did it for 6d., and there was another man higher up who also did it for 6d. The men used to come round twice and get several tickets; then they would dispose of them without going near the place at all. They would sell them to other men for 3d., and buy beer with the proceeds.

442. For how many months or weeks was this sort of thing going on? It would be hard for me to say; but I should think that it would be at least two or three months.

443. Was any work done in return for these tickets? No.

444. They were an absolute drag upon the State? Yes; the money was thrown away, so to speak.

445. I believe it was principally upon your recommendation that the men were sent to a depôt at the National Park? Yes.

446. From that time to this there has been no recurrence of the free feeding? No.

447. Has the work been rendered less attractive by lower wages? Yes.

448. And the anomalies to which I have referred have been removed? Yes; to a large extent.

449. Has any report been made, showing that the unemployed have diminished in numbers? When they went out to the National Park, I think there was something like 2,500 or 3,000. They gradually increased until they reached about 5,500.

450. How long ago is it since the highest point was reached? About twelve months. When they found that it was not easy work they began to clear off. Now I believe there are not 1,000 left.

451. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] When the men were enjoying free feeds, and living in this sumptuous easy style, was it not while they were waiting for Crown land work to be prepared for them? That certainly might be said of them; but I do not know that there was any work for them to do.

452. *Chairman.*] Had you not great difficulty at first in the Colonial Secretary's Office in determining how you should dispose of the men? Yes.

453. It was a new difficulty springing up then? It was very great indeed.

454. It was not until you had time to mature your plans that anything could be done;—meanwhile you could not do otherwise than feed them in this way? Certainly not. I wanted for a long while to have them shunted out to a depôt away from the stump orations, which attracted a large number of men. They would listen to the speeches, and then they would telegraph over to Adelaide, "There is a good champion here," and so on.

End of evidence before Select Committee.

435. *President resuming.*] Had you any opportunity of revising it? I had afterwards; after it was laid on the Table of the House.

436. Having now heard it read over; is it correct in every particular? In substance it is correct.

437. You say in your answer to question 398 before the Select Committee, as now read to you, the words, "there and at Ewey Bay" have been left out? Yes; but, as printed, it is correct. 438,

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438. With reference to your answer to question 412 before the Select Committee, you made some remark just now that since giving the evidence about the number of residents on the Holt-Sutherland Estate you had made inquiry? Since giving that evidence I made inquiry through the police, and I find that there were more than twenty-nine families—about 150 people—on what is called the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
439. You said something when your evidence was being read over just now with reference to your answers before the Select Committee to questions 416 to 419, respecting the auditing of the accounts? I do not think that the Chairman of the Select Committee knew what I meant when I said that I understood from the Auditor-General that a number of accounts had been audited, and that they were going on now. From the question, "But you say you are going through them now," to which I answered "Not more than formerly." I do not think that the chairman understood the fact that there were a number of these accounts, and that the audit was still going on. The evidence was not submitted me for revision, in accordance with the usual practice. I got it afterwards and revised it, but it appeared in the *Herald* and *Daily Telegraph* as read in the original.
440. With these minor exceptions, is your evidence correct? It is true in every particular.
441. Did the chairman, or any member of the Casual Labour Board, ever wait upon you personally to urge the consideration of any matters before the department—to urge any of the Board's recommendations as to work? I cannot say that he did not in a sense urge them on. Sometimes he would bring a recommendation and ask if it could be carried out.
442. Was that generally the Chairman? Generally the Chairman.
443. Do you recollect whether Mr. Wells or Mr. Houson asked you about any? They sometimes called. Mr. Wells may have done so, Mr. Houson never did.
444. Can you recall any case where they were particularly urgent to get any recommendation confirmed? No; I do not know that any one of them was urgent about any matter. It would be in the ordinary run of events. It would be something like this. Supposing they were clearing out one patch in the National Park, then there was another bit up there that ought to be done.
445. You are speaking now of the time they were at National Park? I am speaking now of the whole time they were a Casual Labour Board, not merely of the National Park.
446. Do you remember at any time a member of the Board coming to urge any private work? No. I was never interviewed upon any occasion, except as regards a public road or public land.
447. Everything related to a public road or to public land? Everything that was represented to me was a public matter. The Hornsby roads never came through me at all.
448. Are you quite clear on that? Quite clear.
449. Did any other persons—Members of Parliament or anybody else—see you officially on any of these works? No; I do not remember.
450. Do you recollect whether any deputation waited upon you? No; never that I know of.
451. Are you aware of any personal application being made to the Colonial Secretary? No.
452. In the ordinary course, would you hear of them? I think I should hear of them if they came in about these roads.
453. Did this Casual Labour Board from time to time make any reports as to the working of the department generally, and the progress they were making? I do not think that there were any that you would term regular progress reports, or reports of any kind made—nothing in the shape of reporting upon the works. We used to get communications occasionally relating to different matters, but I would hardly call them reports.
454. Had you any reports as to the general working of the Board—as to the carrying out of their duties? Not while they were in progress with the work.
455. Did the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate come before your department—the making of these roads? Yes; they came under our department, and they received the sanction of the Colonial Secretary—that is, the public roads did.
456. I am speaking of the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes; they were approved by Sir Henry Parkes.
457. In every case was it represented to you that they were public roads? Yes; in every case, except in the case I have mentioned.
458. You say the recommendations were given effect to by the Colonial Secretary? They were only just approved—approved and initialled H.P.
459. Wherever we see any papers without that approval or those initials, are we safe in assuming that they have not been submitted to the Colonial Secretary? Well, I do not know that; there might have been a verbal authority.
460. Did he give verbal authority? Yes.
461. To you? No; I cannot say to me.
462. To the Chairman of the Board? Yes; he used to come out to me and say such and such a thing was being done.
463. That amounted to a sufficient approval when the Chairman got a verbal authority like that? Yes.
464. Was it probable that the Colonial Secretary would give a verbal authority without reporting to you in any way? I do not think so. For instance he would say take this Mr. Walker. I approve of it. Then I would act.
465. That was the usual official mode? Not always; the usual official mode was to approve of it, and initial it.
466. Was that the usual mode your department adopted in sanctioning work? No; the usual mode was a written approval, but he might adopt the other course when he was busy.
467. Were these verbal authorities exceptional? Quite exceptional. They would simply be carried out to me by Mr. Davies, or Mr. Wells in the absence of Mr. Davies.
468. Had you any petitions and letters sent to you direct asking the unemployed labour to be put on any properties? No, not on any properties, certainly not. But from the municipalities we had requisitions.
469. Did these petitions from the Holt-Sutherland and Liverpool districts and various other districts mentioned in the printed papers sent to us from your department go direct to you or to the Casual Labour Board? They would go to the Board.
470. What was the practice as to any requisitions that came direct to you. Did you send them down to the Board? Yes; immediately.
471. Had the Board full control? Yes.

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472. On the occasion when you took upon yourself to stop some work, I think you said that was owing to some representations made by Sir John Robertson? Yes.
473. Do you recollect whether anyone was with him when he called in? He sent a message and came in afterwards. Mr. Fred. Want was with him when he came in. The first time he sent in; the second time he came in himself with Mr. Fred. Want.
474. In your evidence before the Select Committee you say the remonstrance was confined to some particular road? Yes; not to the whole of the roads.
475. Do you recollect his saying anything about the roads being of an unusual width? No.
476. Can you tell us approximately what amount of money was expended on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No; I do not think it was very large. I could only give you a surmise that it was £6,000 or £7,000.
477. Where could we get that information. Do you think we could get it at the Treasury? I do; or you could get it out of the papers from the Board. The Treasury, however, would be the quickest way.
478. How was it that Mr. Murphy and Mr. Jamieson were so angry at your stopping the work? I cannot say.
479. Who is Mr. Murphy? I cannot say, beyond that he is the manager of the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
480. Did you ever see him before? Yes; I had met him before.
481. Do you know if he is a shareholder in the company? I do not.
482. Do you know whether Mr. Jamieson has any interest in the company? I know he belongs to Prince, Hogg, and Company, but I do not know whether he has got any shares in the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
483. How did they show their anger? Only in the way that I told you; they said that they were quite sure Sir Henry Parkes would not have approved of the stoppage of the works. They said they were quite sure the road was a public one. I showed them the telegram, which was in effect, "Approve of your action *re* Holt-Sutherland Estate." I have since obtained a copy of the telegram from the Electric Telegraph Department, and it confirms my evidence before the Select Committee.
484. How did you stop the work, by letter or by telegram? Verbally; I sent word to Mr. Davies, and he took the men off at once.
485. Do you know whether Mr. Jamieson had any particular reason for taking such an interest in the matter? No; I do not know what his object was.
486. Had you seen him in reference to the Holt-Sutherland roads before? No.
487. Do you know whether Sir Henry Parkes had? No.
488. With reference to the payments to the Board, were all the accounts and warrants for payment sent through your department? No. They would apply to the Treasury, and then it would come over for the formal approval of the Colonial Secretary.
489. Do you think any moneys could be obtained by the Board without reference to you? They could not get money except from the Treasury. They would apply to the Treasury, and they must apply to us either officially or non-officially. In the majority of cases it used to come to us, and we used to forward it to the Board.
490. Can you tell us when the services of the Casual Labour Board were dispensed with, and how it was done? Well, it was done in a rather peremptory way when this other Board was appointed. Sir Henry Parkes virtually terminated the Board on the 31st of this month; but in the interim Mr. Dibbs stopped it at once. It was terminated in this letter of mine, dated 29th December, 1888. Since then Mr. Dibbs appointed another Board, telling the Casual Labour Board to hand over to them all papers and books.
491. Where is the original of that letter of the 29th December? It is, I think, in our own office.
492. Can you, looking at this copy letter, say whether it is correct? Yes; I know it is correct. [*Document put in and marked B.*]
493. Document marked B is a copy of the letter of the 29th December, 1888, the other copy purporting to be a letter from Mr. Davies, of the 31st December, is also in your department? Yes.
494. That is a copy too? Yes.
495. Following on that Mr. Dibbs terminated the services of the Board by the appointment of other gentlemen? Yes.
496. Who did he appoint? He appointed Mr. Miles, public accountant, and Mr. Mason, formerly an engineer of the Railway Department.
497. Is there any document evidencing the appointment that you can produce? I can produce the written appointment of the Board.
498. Do you produce a minute by Mr. G. R. Dibbs, dated 23rd January, recommending that the services of the Casual Labour Board be terminated forthwith? Yes.
499. And that Messrs. Miles and Mason be appointed to wind up the business? Yes. [*Document put in and marked B1.*]
500. Do you produce letters of 24th and 25th January last from Mr. John Davies to the Principal Under Secretary, and the reply thereto; a letter from Messrs. Miles and Mason, dated 31st January, 1889, to the Principal Under Secretary? Yes. [*Documents put in and marked B3, B4, and B6.*]
501. Do you produce a copy of a letter of the 25th January, 1889, to the Hon. John Davies, informing him that the Government had decided to forthwith terminate the services of the Board? I do. [*Document put in and marked B5.*]
502. Do you also produce a copy of a letter of the 24th January, to the Principal Under Secretary, and another letter from Mr. Davies to the Principal Under Secretary, enclosing a newspaper paragraph headed "Casual Labour Board"? Yes. [*Document put in and marked B7.*]
503. Do you produce a minute of Mr. Lackey's? Yes. [*Document put in and marked B2.*]
504. You produce a letter of Mr. John Davies of the 31st May, 1887, to Mr. Hinchcliffe? [*Document put in and marked B8.*]
505. Is this a minute by Sir Henry Parkes as to Mr. Hinchcliffe's salary, undated? Yes. [*Document put in and marked B9.*]
506. And a minute of Mr. G. R. Dibbs' of 6th February, 1889? Yes. [*Document put in and marked B10.*]
507. Have you any other papers? No; I have no others bearing on the case.
508. I suppose you cannot give us any evidence respecting this correspondence which has been put in beyond what the documents say themselves? No.
509. Have you received any report from the Casual Labour Board since its appointment up to the present time, any general report? There are some reports as to the works done by the unemployed in our office.
510. Have you got these now? I have not got them with me; but I could get them. 511.

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511. Will you let the Secretary to the Commission have them? Yes. I will get my record clerk to look them up.
512. Have you any report from Messrs. Miles and Mason? Yes; there is a report which came in this morning—a progress report.
513. Can you let the Secretary to the Commission have that? Yes; I can let him have that, or a copy of it.
514. *Mr. Franklin.*] I would like to know what immediately led up to the change in the system of the Casual Labour Board? I cannot tell you.
515. Do you know whether it was that the works in the future were to be those of construction instead of simple clearing? There was no definite idea given as to what they intended to do in the future in that respect, so far as I know.
516. Did any contemplated change in the character of the work lead to the necessity for two engineers being appointed on the Board? Not that I know of.
517. When Messrs. Wells and Houson were appointed it was well known that their services were fully employed in their several departments? I think so.
518. Therefore, of the three members, Mr. Davies would be the one most likely to have the greatest leisure and the least experience? I cannot say that. He may be a practical man, although not an engineer. I do not know what his qualifications are.
519. But at the time of the establishment of the Board there were already in the field professional men? That I do not know.
520. There was a professional staff engaged working in the field on the different works at the time the Casual Labour Board was appointed? Mr. Deering was there.
521. Mr. Deering was withdrawn, I think? Mr. Deering was withdrawn from certain operations when this Board was appointed.
522. At the time the Board was appointed, were there professional men in the field to be administered to by the Board—supervised in other words—surveyors and engineers? I cannot say that at all. But I know Mr. Deering was there. He is a professional man. He was superseded immediately the Board took office.
523. Did not Mr. Deering initiate some of the works further than the clearing of the Crown lands—such as at the noxious trades site? No; there is nothing but clearing at Kurnell—and very bad clearing, too.
524. Was it not contemplated to extend the operations of the unemployed to profitable works, such as road construction? I do not think so.
525. As a matter of fact such works did commence immediately the Board was established? Not immediately after. Some of the roads were made some time after the Board was appointed.
526. The Holt-Sutherland roads? Yes.
527. Does that road-work in the aggregate represent a large item in the general expenditure? I do not think so. I think it is a very small item—a very small item in the expenditure, indeed.
528. Well, I suppose returns will be available to show the exact amount that has been spent? I think they can be got from the Treasury. The item must be small, because I think it is only about £15,000, and there has been £250,000 spent.
529. But whatever proportion of the expenditure may have gone towards work and construction, it was necessary that it should be professionally expended under an engineer? I cannot say that.
530. Do you know of any cause—any reason why those gentleman had been appointed on the Board? I cannot tell the reason they were appointed.
531. I suppose there were no complaints that their services were not at all times available to their Chairman? No; I never heard of any complaints of that kind from any one.
532. I suppose you are aware that Mr. Wells and Mr. Houson were for long periods away? I was not aware of that until lately; but I heard that they had not done so much as Mr. Davies did.
533. Were Messrs. Wells and Houson the gentlemen originally nominated to the Board? I think so.
534. You are not aware of any other? No.
535. Had they felt that these duties would have been more than they could have undertaken, would it have been competent for them to have refused? I think that it would certainly have been competent for them to have said that they could not undertake them.
536. Without prejudice to their positions? Yes.
537. Do you think, when they accepted the appointments, they knew anything of the responsibility they would incur, or the time which would be required of them? I do not know.
538. Do you think that at that time they estimated that an expenditure amounting to over £200,000 would come under their supervision? I do not think that they saw the enormity of the work that they accepted.
539. You are not aware of a desire on their part to be relieved of the responsibility? No; I never had representations of that kind made to me.
540. Nor did they express themselves dissatisfied with the construction of the Board? No; I never heard that there was any evidence of a want of accord in working.
541. *Mr. Waller.*] In answer to Question 372, in your evidence before the Select Committee, you stated that you stopped certain work because it was represented to you that it was not a public road? Yes.
542. Have you ascertained since whether that representation was correct or not? I think that is answered a little further on. I took it for granted that the representation was correct, but since then it was discovered that it was a public road, and work was proceeded with.
543. Then did the Colonial Secretary, Sir Henry Parkes, subsequently, as it were, cancel the telegram, and permit this work to be resumed? I do not think so, because I have stated here that, on proper representations being made, the work was proceeded with. I stopped it because there might be danger ahead.
544. But it was resumed after Sir Henry Parkes returned? Yes; I have stated that in my printed evidence.
545. You stated to the President just now that all petitions and requisitions had gone from your office back to the Casual Labour Board. We have it in evidence that the greater proportion of these papers would go from them and remain with you? What kind of papers?
546. Petitions and requisitions, and the like? I do not think so.

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547. The evidence was that they sent them to you for authority, and they returned them? No; it does not run on all-fours; where would be their authority for undertaking the work?

548. If they are in your office they can be found? If they are in our office I will find them out. The usual course is for them to send the papers in to get the thing done, and we return them again.

549. Would they have gone back to the Board? I think they are with the Board; I do not think that they came back to us.

550. Can you state from your own knowledge where the authority is for doing the work on the Hornsby roads? No; I know nothing about it at all.

551. Was not the work of such a character that it was necessary to obtain authority from some person in your position, or that of the Colonial Secretary? I should think so.

552. You do not think such work could be taken up and carried through without the approbation of some person in authority? No; I do not think the Board would take upon themselves to do that.

553. If there was such authority, could you find it out? I do not think so. If the Board had done the work they certainly would have had some authority, but it did not come from us; I do not remember it coming from us.

554. Would there be any record in your office of sending such an authority to the Board? I do not see how there could; the authority did not come from us at all.

555. If it did not come from you, where could it have come from? I do not know.

556. Could the Treasury give such authority? It would be a very wrong thing for them to do.

557. Could the Department of Lands give such authority? I cannot say, but that also would have been wrong.

558. If there was such authority, you are the proper person it should have emanated from? I think so.

559. And would that authority have been in writing? I think so.

560. Can you state whether any estimate was made by a responsible officer under instructions from your office as to the original value of the Crown lands adjoining the Hornsby Estate, the cost of making these roads, the estimated increase of the value of the lands after the making of the roads, and the estimated expenditure of public money upon them? I do not know that anybody in our office was told to make such a calculation.

561. Do you think it would be a reasonable thing to undertake such an expenditure without such an estimate being made? I think an estimate of the amount might be made, specifying the expenditure of a large sum of money upon roads of that kind.

562. To see whether it was justifiable or not? I think that might be done.

563. If you will kindly turn to Appendix A to the evidence taken before the Select Committee you will notice there that the Premier, Sir Henry Parkes, gives his reasons for the constitution of the Casual Labour Board, and amongst the reasons he gives are the advantages which will be derived from doing certain works, which he there describes, in different parts of the country, which we might call reproductive works, and at the same time find employment for a large number of persons who were stated to be actually starving? Yes.

564. Can you tell us, of your own knowledge, whether any portion of the works indicated by that expression of opinion of his has been carried out. So far as the evidence has gone that has been brought before us, the chief portion of the work and money has been expended on private lands and on unproductive works? I am not aware that it has been spent on private lands.

565. Are you aware that it has been spent on unproductive works? No; I am not aware of that.

566. Are you aware whether the works indicated by the Premier have been carried out? I am not aware, but a large portion of that has been carried out in the conversion of the Lachlan Swamp.

567. Pardon me; that work has not been carried out by the unemployed? The unemployed were put upon it.

568. But the money which was expended by the Casual Labour Board has not been expended on the Lachlan Swamp, or any of these works? That is right enough.

569. Have you any knowledge whether this large sum of money has been expended as foreshadowed by the Premier? No; I have got no knowledge. To a small extent some of it has been done in the making of the tanks at the National Park.

570. But in a general sense, works for irrigation purposes, the making of tanks, the deepening of water-courses, and the like have not been done? Not so far as I know.

571. Can you tell me the amount of money expended by the Casual Labour Board? I think it is something over £200,000. I cannot give the exact amount in evidence.

572. I will draw your attention again to Appendix A to the evidence taken before the Select Committee. Can you tell me if any of the money which has been expended by the Casual Labour Board has been expended in the making of tanks? Only in the way I say in connection with the National Park, and that is in a very small way.

573. In irrigation works? Not that I am aware of.

574. In deepening watercourses? That is a very wide expression. I don't know what you would call deepening watercourses.

575. I suppose they would be creeks and small rivers leading into larger ones? I do not think, in accordance with this statement here, any money has been expended on that. They have expended money in the construction of the North Shore railway.

576. Under the Casual Labour Board? No; I do not think so.

577. Can you tell me if any application was made by any member of the Casual Labour Board for the sanction of such work as is mentioned in said Appendix A? I cannot tell you from memory, but I do not think so.

578. Did you ever see any proposal to provide any of the work that was mentioned there? Not beyond this. This is really an offer from our department, telling them what work was to be done.

578½. Did you give them the means in themselves or instructions to carry out this work? They had the money, but I do not think they applied for authority.

579. Could they have done it on their own authority? I do not think so. I do not think they would have attempted to do so.

579½. Were the Board so constituted that they could do what they liked on their own authority? I do not think so.

580. Then they would of necessity have come to you for instructions? Yes.

581. Was it their duty as a Board to have made application to your office for authority for such works as would involve the expenditure of public money in the interests of the public? I should say so.

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582. It was clearly their duty to undertake such works as would be for the benefit of the Colony at large? I think they have always done so.
583. Apparently they did not, if they never applied for authority to carry out their instructions? This is the natural authority. They would not go headlong on without reference to us.
584. Was it their duty to have applied to you for authority for any particular portion of this work? They have done so. They have applied to us.
585. Do you think that the work which has been done under the authority and supervision of the Casual Labour Board, with the money they have expended is as valuable as if they had carried out the whole or some portion of the works here recommended or foreshadowed by Sir Henry Parkes? Quite.
586. As regards remunerativeness? If the land had been sold that has been cleared it would have been far more valuable.
587. Do you consider that the money spent at Hornsby and on the Holt-Sutherland Estate has been more valuably expended than on these works? I do not say that. I say that the work that the unemployed did will be equally remunerative.
588. Do you consider that the work done by the Casual Labour Board on the Holt-Sutherland Estate and at Hornsby is as valuable to the Colony at large as if the works in part or in whole had been carried out as foreshadowed by Sir Henry Parkes? I do not think so.
589. Have you any knowledge of the enhanced value of the Crown lands by reason of the roads made on these estates? I have no knowledge at all.
590. I notice here, in answer to question 434 in your evidence before the Select Committee, as regards wages, that you say that the greatest average for an ordinary day's work would be from 7s. to 8s., anything beyond that would be overtime;—now, if 7s. or 8s. was fair pay for labourers in the position that those were, who were working under the Casual Labour Board, what would have been the current rate of wages at that time for outside labour per day? Well, that is a very hard thing to say. I presume it would be about the same price; but I do not gauge my evidence on the current price of labour at the time.
591. Do you know the usual rate of wages for that kind of work? You mean the ordinary labourer?
592. Yes? I think it ranged from 6s. to 7s. and 8s. per day.
593. Then I ask you was it the intention that this Casual Labour Board should find employment for men at the ordinary rate of wages, or simply to try to prevent a lot of men actually starving for want of some employment? It was simply done to keep them from starving, and this is not the rate of wages paid at so much per day; it is piece-work. They had got amongst these men a lot of good hard-working fellows, who wanted to complete their block of land, and they would simply go at it. It would take two or three crawlers a week to do what they would do in twenty-four hours.
594. Do you think it was contemplated by Sir Henry Parkes, or whoever created this Casual Labour Board, that these men should be given work which would bring them in an absolutely greater amount per day than those who were engaged at ordinary work of the same character could possibly make? No; I do not think so.
595. Do you think it was desirable or correct for the Casual Labour Board to so manage the business of the Board as to absolutely make it a better thing for workmen to obtain work from them than to obtain legitimate work elsewhere? But they did not do so.
596. They did by working overtime? I explained that. There were only a very few instances of that. Some of the men did not make 3s. a day; hundreds did not make even half-a-crown.
597. We have it in evidence that they did make more wages? Oh, that was a few only.
598. But do you think it was right for even a few to make more money? I cannot answer that. I do not think it was done for any purpose of that kind at all. It was done by those men who wanted to get away as soon as possible. I do not think it was done by improper work.
599. But do you think it was right for them to make money at forced work of the State than they could do outside? I do not think it was the correct thing altogether.
600. That is what I wanted to find out; because those men outside would not be allowed to work one minute before or one minute after certain hours. Their time would be regulated by the Unions? Yes.
601. Have you any communications, which might have been made from time to time, by any one member or all the members of the Casual Labour Board as regards requisitions for authority for work, or certain work to be authorized, and the amount fixed when they are undertaking it? Do you mean communications from people outside?
602. No; I am asking about the Casual Labour Board? I have had no communications beyond what I have already stated—none that I know of.
603. And have you had any from outside people? No; not beyond those I have stated. The Holt-Sutherland representatives.
604. I think you said it was the 2nd of May, or some time in May that this Board was created? Yes.
605. Have you any knowledge as to who were the shareholders at that time in the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Not the slightest. I do not know any individual from another.
606. Who would the Casual Labour Board be responsible to? I think they would be responsible to us, or to the Colonial Secretary in person.
607. You mentioned some time ago to the President that occasionally verbal authorities might be given by the Colonial Secretary? Only to me. Somebody might be in the room, and he would say, "Mr. Walker, get this carried out, and then I would get the authority afterwards." I do not think, however, that any verbal authority ever emanated from our office for the carrying out of the work of the unemployed.
608. But would it be possible that some of the written authorities which you sent out would not have Sir Henry Parkes' approval on them? I do not think so.
609. Will you look at this paper marked No. 2 from the Casual Labour Board. In the paragraph marked A, "Frank Farnell, Esq., to the Colonial Secretary," you will notice that there is no approval by the Colonial Secretary? Quite so. I think this approval must be there somewhere; the papers are incomplete. [*Paper put in and marked B 11.*]
610. I call your attention to B in the same paper, which also appears to be wanting the signature of the Colonial Secretary? This appears to have the approval of the Minister for Lands upon it; it bears the initials "T.G."

611. That is further on? Yes; but it may be connected with the other part for all that. That at the Field of Mars might have been done by Mr. Garrett or Mr. Deering, and that may have been the reason why there is no approval there, but there must have been some other approval elsewhere.

612. Will you look through the whole of these papers and find out where the Colonial Secretary has approved of any roads? I think "K" you will find he has approved of.

613. Are there any others except "K"? No; I do not think so.

614. Can you tell me whether it is more necessary that his approval should have been obtained for "K" than for any other? I think the approval to "K" covers the whole lot of them. I think it is the bad way they have arranged them that makes them appear like this.

615. Here is an application from a number of residents at Campbelltown; I will ask you to read it. [*Application put in and marked B 12.*]

616. Will you tell me whether his approval is endorsed upon it? I do not know that; I never saw that paper.

617. Has it got Sir Henry Parkes' approval on it? No.

618. Do you know the district? Very slightly.

619. Does the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board live there? I understand he lives up there.

620. From that paper it would appear that he has approved of that work himself? Unless it is covered by some other paper.

621. Is it covered by some other paper? Not that I know of. It looks very bad as it appears here.

622. It looks as if Mr. Davies had given instructions to Mr. Burrowes? I do not know what instructions he may have to cover this in any way at all.

623. Presuming that there are no other instructions to cover that work or work of that nature, do you think that the Board had authority to undertake such work without the approval of the Colonial Secretary's Department? I do not think they had.

624. If there is any authority to cover that it would be before us? There may be authority to cover that somewhere.

625. I think you told me before that you had no knowledge who authorized the work on the Hornsby Estate? Yes.

626. Have you any knowledge of any applications having been made since the creation of the Casual Labour Board for the continuation of such works? Not that I remember. I do not recollect anything of the kind.

627. Have you any knowledge of applications being made for other works? Not from any private sources

628. Oh, no; I mean from the Board. I may tell you that they admit that they have had many applications, but what I want to know is whether it strikes you as peculiar that applications should have been made as they have been for the approval of the Colonial Secretary for certain works to be performed, but there is an entire absence of any authority or approval for the work done on the Hornsby Estate. Does not that strike you as extraordinary? It does, but I cannot explain it. The only explanation I can give is that some of the works had been going on there before the Board was appointed, and that they continued them, assuming that their instructions authorized them to go on with them. I think the whole thing has been a lot of blundering.

629. There must have been a commencement—there must have been some authority? Well, it does not follow; there may have been some authority. Their instructions may have been misunderstood, but they did not get them from us.

630. In your opinion, was it contemplated, in the creation of the Casual Labour Board, that the works which were to be undertaken by the unemployed were to be of a character requiring great engineering knowledge? I do not think so.

631. Or were they to be only works of a simple character, to give temporary relief at the time? I understood that the work was to be of the ordinary kind.

632. What Sir Henry Parkes stated in his minute here was altogether otherwise—on a very much larger scale. What you have stated being the case, can you tell me why it was considered necessary to appoint two of the highest officers of the Roads and Bridges, and the Harbours and Rivers Departments, for the supervision of works which did not require large engineering skill? No; I cannot tell you.

633. Does it not seem peculiar that it should require men of such high standing? No. In the one case Mr. Wells had been always mixed up with the unemployed, and I think the engineers in the Harbours and Rivers Department had always had to do with the work at Cook's River.

634. Are you aware that Mr. Houison's was not an original appointment to the Casual Labour Board at all? I was not.

635. That he was subsequently appointed, but not at first? No.

636. The appointments made were Mr. Wells and Mr. Darley. Mr. Darley stated to Mr. Houison that he would be glad if he would take his seat on the Casual Labour Board, as he (Mr. Darley) had not the time to give to it? All this is new to me; I know nothing of that. The appointments, as I know it, is Messrs. Davies, Wells, and Houison.

637. Therefore does it not seem strange that a man like Mr. Darley, then next to the Engineer-in-Chief of Harbours and Rivers, and now actually the Engineer-in-Chief, should have been appointed to such work? I do not see anything strange in it. I think the reason he would be appointed would be because he was a man of great integrity and great ability as well, but not having the time to attend to the work he asked that this other man should take his place. The same rule would apply to Mr. Bennett.

638. My reason for drawing attention to this fact is that you said these works were not to be heavy engineering works; and these gentlemen, being the highest in the Civil Service, their time would naturally be thoroughly occupied with works of a more important character in their own offices? Certainly. The works I understood you asked me about were works about Sydney, not the works in the Colonial Secretary's minute. As regards the works about Sydney, there was no great engineering skill wanted for them; but in making tanks and wells there would have been engineering skill required, and the Colonial Secretary may have had that in view when he appointed these engineers.

639. I ask you how is it that the Board, knowing that the work which was contemplated as mentioned in Appendix A to the report of the Select Committee, has in effect not been undertaken at all, and that the money, instead of being expended on public works which would have been of great advantage to the colony,

has

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has been expended on works of a very minor character, and which would to a very large extent benefit other people's property? I cannot answer that. As I have said before, the amount spent on private property is very small compared with the works on the public estate, and, compared with what would be realised by the public estate. I believe that two and a half millions sterling could be realised from the land that is cleared now.

640. Considering that Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison were actively engaged in their own professional business for the Government, and had of necessity to leave for a very considerable time at different periods—sometimes weeks at a time—do you think that they were in a position to properly supervise the work that was to be carried on? I hardly think that they could have given that attention to the work which they should have given, judging from the character of their duties.

641. The evidence before the Select Committee, which perhaps you have seen, shows that Mr. Houison for a matter of five months was unable to attend? Yes, I have seen it.

642. *President.*] Do you know whether, during the time the Board was in existence, any important public works were undertaken outside the Board? Not to my recollection.

643. Do you know anything of the Yanko cutting? No; I do not—not officially.

644. Can you say whether that work was undertaken by the Government during the existence of the Board? I could not tell you that from memory.

645. Do you consider that the work that you speak of here has enhanced the value of the land very much? I do.

646. Do you consider that the work of clearing is productive work? If the land is immediately sold, certainly it is.

647. But if it were cleared now and sold twelve months hence you would scarcely call that clearing productive? I would if it were done properly.

648. The trees and scrub cut down spring up again quickly? That is not so with the clearing at the National Park.

649. But clearing is not generally recognised as productive works? It is not what would be regarded as productive works generally. But in this instance, if it only cost £5 an acre, and £20 an acre could be got for it, I think it would be very productive.

650. Do you know whether Mr. Davies has had any remuneration for his services? No.

651. Nor Mr. Wells nor Mr. Houison? No. Mr. Davies has had his expenses paid—his travelling expenses.

652. Are you aware whether Mr. Houison has had his travelling expenses? I do not think he has. I suppose if he makes a claim he will get them. They have had no remuneration for their services.

653. I see in some of the papers reference to a payment, or recommendation for payment, at the rate of 10s. a day? Yes; that is to Mr. Davies for travelling expenses. I do not think it was much to give a man for his services.

654. That has been paid, then, I suppose? A portion of it was paid, not all of it, because I have got another claim from him now.

655. You don't know whether Mr. Wells has got any travelling expenses? I do not know that either he or Mr. Houison made any application for them, or they would have got them.

656. *Mr. Waller.*] Do you think it was contemplated that the Casual Labour Board should have engaged horses and carts and paid for them at the usual current rate of wages for the work that they were doing, or was not the Casual Labour Board appointed merely to find employment for the unemployed? I think that was part of their duty; for instance, they could not get the unemployed to take the stones up.

657. I mean the bringing up of stones for ballasting? I think that would form part of their work.

658. Do you think it was contemplated to go outside for work of that kind for works that were intended to give labour to the unemployed? I do not understand what you mean.

659. I wish to know if the Casual Labour Board had any right to go outside and engage carts and horses and give contracts for quarrying which was not employment to the unemployed or employment to the general run of working men? What I take you to mean is whether it is part of their duties to hire horses and carts to quarry and form roads that the Roads Department could do. Well, it would all depend upon where the roadmaking was. I do not think they went out of their province in this, because there would have been confusion and friction if they had asked the Department to do it.

660. Do you think it was contemplated in the course of the formation of the Board that it was to do otherwise than simply to find labour for these people at a less rate of wages than the ruling wages? No.

661. *President.*] Do you know Mr. Burrowes? Yes.

662. Do you know anything of his qualifications? I have got from his own statement that he went to Queensland or Victoria and passed as a surveyor, and then he was in Queensland until he came down in a reduced and starving state and I gave him work as a kind of unemployed. This was before the Board was appointed, and then I got him put under the Board after that. It was more as an act of charity than anything else.

663. Do you know anything of his character? I did not know anything of him then. I have heard a great deal of him since, and I have not a very exalted opinion of him now.

664. If Mr. Burrowes made a statement involving other people would you be inclined to give it much credence? I certainly would not place much value upon it.

665. Do you know whether Mr. Hibble made any statement to the late Colonial Secretary? I do not know.

666. In this office? I never heard of him coming here.

667. Was there any departmental examination here at the office that you have heard of? I cannot call it an examination, but one day Mr. Burrowes and Mr. Larnach were brought up.

668. You don't know whether Mr. Hibble made any statement to Mr. Dibbs? No; I don't.

WEDNESDAY,

WEDNESDAY, 13 MARCH, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P., | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Thomas Cooper Hinchcliffe called in, sworn, and examined:—

667. *President.*] What position did you hold under the Casual Labour Board? I held the position of Secretary and Paymaster.

Mr. T. C.
Hinchcliffe.

668. Who appointed you? I was appointed by the Colonial Secretary.

669. When? On the 2nd May, 1887.

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670. Was that appointment conveyed to you by letter from the Colonial Secretary? By Mr. Wise. I was then in the Immigration Office, and Mr. Wise, who had charge of the office, said that myself and Mr. Josephson were to be detached together to the Casual Labour Board.

671. Have you that letter? No; I saw Mr. Wise this morning and asked him for a copy, but he had not got one. Mr. Walker, the Principal Under Secretary, has a copy.

672. Where is the original? Mr. G. F. Wise has it. It was addressed to him as head of the department. All that we knew was that we were to be detached to the Casual Labour Board.

673. He was the head of the Unemployed Department before the establishment of the Casual Labour Board? No; Mr. Deering was the head; but I did the principal business previous to that.

674. How long previously to that were you employed by Mr. Wise, or any other officer, in connection with the unemployed? I could not say how long; I think about ten months. The initiation of the unemployed was entrusted to Mr. Treatt, and then to Mr. G. F. Wise; and then Mr. Deering was appointed, and he applied for my services. Mr. Wise told him I could not go to the position without resigning my position in the Immigration Office. He then asked for my services to go and pay the men, and I paid the men on several occasions.

675. Was your salary fixed by the Colonial Secretary or the Casual Labour Board? The Board fixed the salary, which was approved by the Colonial Secretary. Under Mr. Wise I received fees and allowances which brought my salary up to £420 a year. The Casual Labour Board suggested that I should have £350 per annum and 10s. for each pay. I was allowed £1 for each pay by Mr. Wise.

676. Were all the members of the Board present when this offer was made? Yes.

677. Will you detail to the Commissioners as concisely as you can the duties of your office as Secretary and Paymaster to the Board? I had charge of the office; was the official retained to look after the correspondence and see that it was inserted in the books; to take minutes of any meetings that the Board might hold; to pay the men and get the vouchers; to look after the accounts and send them to the Auditor-General; to see that money was placed periodically to the credit of the Board before they ran out; and all the usual incidentals in connection with a Government office.

678. To see that money was placed to the credit of the Board;—what money? The money with which they paid accounts and wages.

679. Where did that come from? We used to apply to the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade for the money.

680. Were these applications made irregularly or periodically? When we found that we were running to the end of the amount at our credit, we used to apply for £6,000 at a time—that is to say, when we found that we had spent about £5,000 we applied for £6,000 to be placed to our credit a few days hence. I made out the form to go to the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade, and it was signed by the members of the Board.

681. Do you know what routine these applications went through afterwards? I could not say.

682. Do you know the Ministerial Department under which you were controlled? The Colonial Secretary's Department.

683. Are you aware whether the applications for advances went to the Colonial Secretary's Department? I believe they sometimes did for approval, but I am not sure whether on all occasions they went or not.

684. Was it part of your duties to keep the books of the Board? Yes; to see that they were properly kept.

685. What books of accounts had you? Cash-book and ledger, that is all. You see as we got a second advance we always squared up the first advance, and of course we got a receipt from the Auditor-General for that.

686. You had nothing but a cash-book and ledger;—were these the only books kept in the office? Yes; in connection with the accounts.

687. What books outside accounts were kept? We had a letter-book, a record diary, in which we kept a note of all pays that became due. We had to go through the usual process to get the money out of the bank to send to the different places to pay the men.

688. Where was the money kept that you drew out of the bank to make these payments? In the office of the Casual Labour Board, 82, Goulburn-street.

689. When did you cease to be Secretary to the Board? On the 12th of last month.

690. Did you leave the office then? Yes.

691. Did you hand over the books that had previously been in your custody to Messrs. Miles and Mason, personally? Yes; that is their receipt for the vouchers I left.

692. Was there any schedule of the books and records handed over? No; there was still one of the clerks remaining in the office who had been there all the time. He understood everything. He filled my position temporarily.

693. What was that clerk's name? Mr. Hibble.

694. You obtained a receipt from Messrs. Mason and Miles, and do you produce it? Yes. [*Document put in, and marked C.*]

695. Do you produce a letter dated 12 February, 1889, from the Principal Under Secretary, informing you that your services would not be required after that date? Yes. [*Letter put in, and marked C 1.*] I replied to that, and made application for three months' leave of absence on full pay, and also for compensation under the 49th section of the Civil Service Act, which has been approved by the Minister. That letter is down at the Casual Labour Board Office; I saw it there to-day. The application was approved of by Mr. Dibbs before he went out of office.

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696. Whatever you had under your control you handed over to Messrs. Miles and Mason? Yes.
697. Have you any papers, records, books, or writings, in connection with your late duties now in your possession belonging to the Casual Labour Board? Only these two I have produced.
698. You were examined on the 30th November and 7th December last, before a Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly, I believe? Yes.
699. Is this your evidence; I will have it read over to you? Yes.

Evidence before Select Committee.

1237. *Chairman.*] Are you the Secretary of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
1237½. How long have you occupied that position? Since the commencement of the Board. I think they started on the 2nd May, 1887.
1238. Are you in constant attendance? Yes.
1239. What are your duties in connection with the office? I have to look after all the correspondence, the records, pay all the accounts and wages, send the vouchers to the Audit Office, and all the incidental work connected with the office.
1240. What kind of records have been kept? The ordinary official records, the same as are kept in any other Government Department.
1241. Are there any minutes of any meetings that have been held by the Board? There are a few at the commencement. At the commencement of the Board we had only a small room, about 6 feet x 8 feet, at the Immigration Office, and the very scanty information here was put down by myself at the time or next day. The office was besieged by hundreds of men every day, and we had to answer all sorts of questions. After the end of May the Board said they did not want any minutes kept. They appointed Mr. Davies to do all the executive work, and the other two members of the Board being professional gentlemen were appointed to inspect and lay out the works and give professional advice.
1242. *Mr. Brunker.*] Who were the other two gentlemen? Colonel Wells and Mr. D. Houston.
1243. *Chairman.*] After that you did not keep minutes? We recorded all the papers that came in and the work that was done.
1244. But as to the proceedings of the Board? No. Of course the papers would show what was done.
1245. You say Mr. Davies was appointed executive head;—was that at a general meeting of the Board? Yes; they were all present.
1246. Was it done by resolution? No; I do not think so. They seemed to talk matters over and agree among themselves.
1247. Did petitions or requests to have work done come to you as Secretary? They were generally addressed to the Chairman. The Chairman opened all the correspondence, but in his absence I would open it. Then it would be entered in the record-book, and I would write any official communication that was required, and he would sign it, and it would be sent, perhaps, to the local surveyor for report, or to the nearest superintendent. When his report was received the Chairman would make a recommendation, favourable or otherwise, and send it on to the Colonial Secretary for his approval.
1248. Do you recollect how many full meetings of the Board there have been? I could not say.
1249. Have they been numerous or few? As I told you, after the first month Mr. Davies used to do the executive work. The other members would drop in occasionally, and ask me what was being done, and I would show them the papers. If the papers had gone out, I would show them the records. If they had any objection, I suppose they would communicate with Mr. Davies about it. They seemed to work very well together.
1250. Had you any petitions or requests for the making of roads on the lands near Hornsby? I could not tell that, because I did not take any more notice of that than of any of the others. I could only go by the report that is here. There are one or two petitions here.
1251. Are those one or two all that there are? All that I know of.
1252. Would you be likely to remember if there were more? I could not say. I would not try to recollect any particular paper; there were so many papers coming in; I suppose two or three thousand in the year.
1253. Have you any recollection when the formation of the roads commenced near Hornsby? No. Of course I had nothing to do with the executive management—only to do what I was told, principally office work. I was paymaster as well as secretary, and that would take up all my time, being responsible for the money—as much as £5,000 on one pay-sheet.
1254. Had you anything to do with engaging the men? No.
1255. Do you know anything at all about the construction of roads at Hornsby? Nothing at all.
1256. You were never present at any meeting when these roads were discussed, to keep the records? No, not to keep any records. I might have been present when they were being talked or, but I do not recollect any particular meeting.
1257. Your attention was never called to them officially in any way? Only as it might appear here (in the papers). I see there is a letter in my name addressed to the Hon. J. F. Burns. That is the only one I see in connection with it.
1258. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] You say you have kept no minutes or records of what was done since May last? We keep the records, but these minutes were in addition to the records, because the Board met at first as an ordinary Board would meet; but after the first month the other two members arranged with Mr. Davies that he was to do the executive work, and they, when he let them know, or they received information from me, would superintend the outside or professional work, such as the making of bridges, roads, or culverts, or anything of that sort.
1259. What record could we get to find out who proposed and seconded or authorized any particular work? You would only find it from the papers, the same as in any other Government office; they would be initialled by the Chairman on behalf of the Board.

1260. Would it be correct to say that you have held thirty meetings of the Board? There have been a great number of meetings; there was no particular record kept.

1261. Would it be correct to say that there have been thirty regular meetings of the Board? About twenty-four I see here; for the first month they were held pretty well daily, except on Sundays.

1262. There were no regular meetings after May? No; the business they did would be shown on the papers. The Chairman would act for the three, and put his initials on as the head of the department.

1263. Would it be correct to say that there had been one hundred meetings of the Board? Not formal meetings.

1264. What do you mean by the meetings after May;—when one of the others dropped in to consult with Mr. Davies? Yes; they would drop in perhaps daily, perhaps once in two days; or one of them might be away for four or five days at his departmental work; then when he came back, he would come in to see what had been done.

1265. How long would they remain consulting with Mr. Davies? Sometimes a couple of hours.

1266. Do you keep all the applications that have been made to the Casual Labour Board for the construction of works? Yes; all the official papers are registered and stamped with a number, the same as in the other departments.

1267. Is there any means by which we can arrive at the cost of the different works? Yes; we have the total cost of each work.

1268. Have you vouchers for all the expenditure? Yes; at the Auditor-General's.

1269. Have you ever had any complaints from the men of unfair treatment? Numerous; but when we have investigated them, as a rule nine out of ten were without foundation.

1270. Have you had any complaints about their being unfairly treated by the contractors who supplied the provisions? Very seldom. I think the provision contract was about one of the best the Board ever had—most liberal considering the large number of men that would have to be supplied at short notice.

1271. Have you had any complaints from the men about money being kept back from them? Sometimes; but there would be a reason for it. Perhaps they had not finished their work. When the superintendent went round, perhaps, he would say, "That stump must be taken out before you are paid;" and then when I went out to pay he would tell me to hold the money till it was properly finished, and then he would give me a memo. to pay the money.

1272. Do you remember a man named O'Brien, a sort of a ganger down near Waterfall? Yes.

1273. Why was he dismissed? I forget. I could not tell you exactly, because I did not post myself up in anything with regard to the office. I thought this was only an inquiry about certain roads, and I do not know anything about the roads.

1274. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] The inquiry deals with the operations of the Casual Labour Board as well as the roads. Do you remember any complaints about sly-grog selling on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? There was one complaint, I believe. Someone was convicted of sly-grog selling; but I fancy that was before the Casual Labour Board was appointed.

1275. You get all the petitions and letters? Yes; they are all kept and registered.

1276. Then if I were to ask you to produce the request for road H and road I on this plan, could you do it? All the petitions in reference to these roads they say are printed in these papers. I have been away; but these were handed to me as the papers in connection with it. Of course, without going personally through all the papers in the office, I would not know if there were any more.

1277. You say Mr. Davies was in the habit of opening all letters? Yes.

1278. And acting on the contents? He generally instructed me to write what we call a B.C. communication, and he initialled it.

1279. Mr. Davies appeared to be a kind of dictator of the establishment? No; what we would call the head of the department.

1280. He appeared to do things without regard to being kept in check by anybody else? I do not know; there was nobody there to keep him in check that I was aware of.

1281. He seemed to have the sole power? The other members appointed him to do that, they seemed to have thorough confidence in him. When they came and I told them what had been done, they said, "All right, Hinchcliffe." They always seemed quite content with what had been done.

1282. Was the effect of this understanding among them that Mr. Davies had sole charge of the Casual Labour Board, and called them in merely as advisers or experts? They would walk in any time they wished to. Of course they were professional men, and they attended to any work that required professional supervision outside. In the office they were not required, except occasionally they had to sign some documents to get money from the Treasury, or anything of that sort.

1283. These gentlemen were very often away for a week or a fortnight at a time? Colonel Wells had to go away visiting roads in the various districts.

1284. And Mr. Houison, too? Occasionally.

1285. During the absence of both of those gentlemen, would new works be gone on with by Mr. Davies without consulting them? No; I do not think they were both away at the same time.

1286. *Chairman.*] Has it ever happened? It might have happened; I could not say; I do not think so.

1287. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Did Mr. Davies give any reason for not wanting the minutes kept after May? No; they were no formal meetings. They met every day in May, and then the works got started, and Mr. Houison and Colonel Wells found they could not attend at any stated time daily.

1288. Did you keep a record of the consultations or meetings after May? Not after May.

1289. There is absolutely no guide whatever as to the number of times they met or consulted after you ceased to keep the record? Only by the papers.

1290.

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1290. Which papers? The papers have to go through a certain routine that generally takes a few days, and they would be sure to come in before anything was actually done on the papers, and they would see what was being done.
1291. That would be no guide as to the number of meetings held? No.
1292. So that there is no guide whatever as to the number of meetings or consultations they held after May? No.
1293. I suppose vouchers for all the expenditure were forwarded to the Auditor-General's office? Yes.
1294. And everything is kept in the proper manner? Yes.
1295. How would you settle these complaints about non-payment of wages and other liabilities? They would always be settled, either by the superintendent or by the Board, if there was anything very particular. There was always a good reason for stopping any money, and it would only be stopped for a time.
1296. *Mr. Brunker.*] Who are the members of the Casual Labour Board? The Hon. John Davies, Mr. David Houison, and Colonel Wells.
1297. What is Mr. David Houison's business? I think he is an engineer in the Roads and Bridges Department.
1298. And Colonel Wells? I think he is an engineer in the Roads Department.
1299. They are both Civil Servants? Yes.
1300. You say no records of the proceedings were made after a month? Only the papers which would show what was done. There were no formal meetings.
1301. The minutes were not kept in the ordinary way? No; the papers were all registered, and the action of the Board would appear on them.
1302. I suppose Messrs. Wells and Houison were treated as professional guides in carrying out the works? Yes.
1303. Did Mr. Davies, as Chairman of the Board, to your knowledge, exercise any powers beyond those which seemed to be in accord with his position? No.
1304. Were you present at all the meetings of the Board that were held at the Casual Labour Office? Yes; unless I was away paying wages.
1305. Generally? Yes; generally I would be there.
1306. What action would be taken prior to works being undertaken by the Board;—what would induce them to have the work carried out;—how would they gain the information that it was necessary? By letters being sent to the Board or to the Colonial Secretary by various Members of Parliament or by the local residents. The papers would be sent to the Board; they would recommend that the works be undertaken or otherwise; and the Colonial Secretary would approve of it or otherwise, and send the papers back.
1307. These letters all passed through your hands? Yes; through the office.
1308. Can you say whether any of these letters came from Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, asking that these roads should be constructed on their land at Hornsby? Not that I am aware of.
1309. Can you say;—you ought to be aware? The only letter with their name attached that I know anything about is the one giving the land to make the road. To the best of my memory and belief there was never any communication received from Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith as to making any road. A communication was made to them asking if they would give the land, and their answer is the only communication I am aware of.
1310. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Have you a list of the works carried out by the Casual Labour Board? I think it is in the office.
1311. Will you send it down? Yes.
1312. Have you a list of the applications made by Members of Parliament? I could get it from the records.
1313. Will you supply that, with special reference to the county of Cumberland? Yes; I think nearly all the works are in the county of Cumberland.
1314. *Mr. Brunker.*] The whole of the applications will be with the correspondence? Yes.
1315. You can produce them at any time? Yes; with a little time to search for them. Some of them might be in some of the other departments.
1316. Then you will have the record of them? Yes.
1317. The papers are all numbered and stamped? Yes, in the usual way.
1318. *Chairman.*] Did ever Mr. Withers or Mr. Smith call at your office? Not that I am aware of.
1319. Were all the applications that reached your office forwarded on to the Colonial Secretary? Unless it was some very trivial matter.
1320. How would you define a trivial matter? Perhaps an application to increase a number of men from fifteen to twenty, or something small like that; when the Chairman would take the responsibility on himself.
1321. Would the clearing of a road be considered trivial? No.
1322. For every road that was cleared there was a consultation prior to its being cleared, either by letter or in some other way, with the Colonial Secretary? I think so.
1323. Are you sure? I am not exactly sure. Of course the Board has been in operation a year and eight months. I should think so myself.
1324. Were there any applications sent in for the clearing or formation of any roads that were not complied with? I believe so; I could not say for certain. I know there has been an application made to clear a common at Liverpool that has not been complied with. I believe several roads were applied for, but the applications were not complied with on account of being too expensive, or something of that sort.
1325. The common at Liverpool would be Crown property? Yes; public property.
1326. That has not been cleared? No. That is one of the cases I can recollect when an application has not been complied with. It has not been refused.
1327. Have you any record or accounts to show exactly how much has been expended
on

on the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith at Hornsby? No; the wages-sheet for Hornsby would come in in a lump sum—£250 or £300 for the fortnight. It would only show that such and such a gang was entitled to so much money. It would only be headed Hornsby.

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1328. Then there is nothing to show exactly how much has been spent on property belonging to private owners? The local superintendent might have the details; they are not put on the wages sheet.

1329. Do the papers show by whom any work was originated? No; not in all cases.

1330. You said the papers would show what was done;—would they show how such and such a road came to be initiated or originated, by whom it was authorized, and why it was authorized? I should think so. There is just one little item referring to these roads at Hornsby which perhaps would not be on the papers. It is in this minute book:—"28th May, 1887.—Board met 426, Pitt-street. Present: Mr. John Davies, F, Wells, D. Houston. Mr. John Davies visited Hornsby in company with Mr. Deering, and approved of certain roads being laid out and formed." That, of course, would show there had been a consultation over roads in the district, and the Metropolitan District Surveyor had been consulted and approved of them; but there are no particular roads mentioned.

1331. Do you recollect now what Members of Parliament have applied for work to be done in any particular district? There are about sixty on one application—clearing the railway track to Kurnell.

1332. I mean in the matter of roads? I could not say from memory.

Thomas Cooper Hinchcliffe recalled and further examined, 7 December, 1888:—

2092. *Chairman.*] Have you been able to obtain any further information for the committee? In reference to the pay-sheets you wanted, I went to the Audit Office, to which I told you the papers had been sent. The Inspector of Accounts told me that it would take some little time to get out all the pay-sheets, and that he could not give them to me; but that if the committee were to spend a subpoena to the office they would send up a clerk with them, if you gave them two days' notice. I produce the last three pay-sheets in the office, and they would be similar to all the others. One is being paid up at Hornsby to-day. They do not show any particular roads; they simply show that the work has been done at Hornsby. If you were to send for the clerk and storekeeper or for the superintendent, they would be able to give you details. I know that the work extended for miles beyond the Hornsby Station.

2093. What we want to know is the number of men who have been working upon the estate of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, or in its vicinity? Mr. O'Donnell or Mr. Little would be the only gentleman who would be able to give you that information.

2094. It would be impossible for you to state how many men had been at work upon these roads? Totally impossible.

2095. Or how much money has been paid? I can only give you the gross total of the money paid for the whole of the work.

2096. When you say the gross total, that would include all the work in the Hornsby District? Yes.

2097. Does that include all the roads upon the tracing which you saw the other day? It would take in a great many other roads not shown upon the tracing. It would include also the clearing of the Crown lands.

2098. *Mr. Copeland.*] With roads on the western side of the railway line? Yes.

2099. Can you give us any idea of the number of men employed upon the land of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith at the time of the appointment of this Select Committee? No; I see from the pay-sheets that from the 12th to the 26th October, eighty-four men, including officers, were employed altogether.

2100. That is upon the roads shown upon the tracing? No; that is upon the whole of the works at Hornsby. From the 26th October to the 9th November, eighty-three men were employed, and from the 9th November to the 23rd November, 102 men.

2101. But you cannot say how many of these men were employed upon these particular roads? No; the superintendent or Mr. Little could tell you that.

End of Evidence before Select Committee.

700. *President resuming.*] Was that evidence as now read sent to you for revision after you gave it? Yes; the only thing that was not revised was a statement made by Mr. O'Sullivan.

701. Having now heard that evidence read over, do you wish to make any correction or explanation? No, sir. I would merely point out that in asking question 1274, Mr. O'Sullivan said, "The inquiry deals with the operations of the Casual Labour Board as well as the roads." I said that according to the resolution as passed by the Assembly this was not correct, and I did not go prepared with any other evidence. The Chairman said the witness is correct. I altered it in the revision, but I see they left the evidence there as it was. Mr. Walker turned round to the gentleman who was taking notes, for the copy, but before there was time to get it Mr. O'Sullivan went on, and no further notice was taken of it.

702. With this exception your evidence before the Select Committee is true and correct in every particular? Yes.

703. With reference to your answer to question 1274 you say that on your revision you made an alteration? Yes; but the words that the Chairman said, "I think the witness is right," which I put in on revision, have been struck out.

704. Who struck them out? I cannot say.

705. What you mean then is that you did not wish to keep back information, but you did not go there prepared with anything beyond evidence as to roads? I had not brought evidence that was altogether irrelevant.

706. With that exception you adopt your evidence before the Select Committee as your evidence before this Commission? Yes.

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707. What experience had you had in any Government or large department before you undertook your duties in connection with the Casual Labour Board? I had been in the Stock Branch for nearly nine years. I was appointed in July, 1875. It was then under the Lands, and was afterwards transferred to the Mines.
708. Then you have been in the service thirteen years? Nearly fourteen.
709. What was the practice adopted by the Casual Labour Board as regards the drawing of cheques? I drew all the cheques. They were signed by the Chairman and countersigned across the face by me as Secretary.
710. Was that in pursuance of any regulation made by the Board? Yes.
711. Were you present when the regulation was made? Yes.
712. And all the members of the Board? Yes.
713. Were many cheques drawn of this kind? Yes.
714. What was the largest sum that you recollect that a cheque was drawn for? £5,000 odd, for the pay-sheet at the National Park. By the instructions of the Colonial Secretary or Principal Under Secretary the Board were told to make that the depôt. There was a large number of meetings held about the statue at the top of King-street, and they used to go in deputations to the Colonial Secretary. We were instructed to get all the men out of the city, to give them work of some sort; and we were told to make the National Park the depôt and to draft them from there to other works afterwards.
715. Were large numbers of the men congregated there? I think nearly 4,000 at a time, so there was a pay-sheet for £5,000.
716. Was the cheque for that an open cheque? Yes.
717. Who got the cash? I did.
718. How long did you have that in your possession? While I went down from the bank to the office in a cab; then I would go out in a train in the morning accompanied by the Chairman, or perhaps another member of the Board.
719. And between the drawing of the cheques and the following day where was the cash? In a big safe in the office. We also used to write a note to the nearest inspector of police telling him that the money was there, and asking him to watch the place. Of course there was a man and his wife looking after the place there.
720. Were any other large cheques drawn besides this £5,000 cheque? No; only the wages cheques. They would be open because we had to get the money for them. The business cheques, such as the contractor's, would be paid into his account. I would always cross them and mark them "bank."
721. How did you carry this money out? In a large bag—the office bag.
722. Who was with you? Always the Chairman, and sometimes a detective or plain-clothes constable.
723. Did you make the payments yourself to the men? Yes.
724. To all the men? Yes.
725. How many times did you pay visits to the works with large sums of money in your hands? Well, there would be every fortnight to the National Park, and to Narrabeen and other places. I should think about twice a week. Small pays I gave to the assistant paymaster.
726. Was it necessary to draw so large a cheque as £5,000 to pay any particular branch? Yes; on one particular occasion. That would be the exact amount of the National Park wages-sheet. In all the cheques that I drew I always put who it was for and what it was for.
727. Who had the keys of the safe? I had them myself.
728. Had any other person access to the safe? No.
729. Was there a duplicate key? The duplicate key I lodged at the Joint Stock Bank.
730. What other amount of money had you personal control over during the time the Board was in existence? The total amount that went through my hands?
731. Yes? I think about £240,000. All the money went through my hands; but I would only have £6,000 at any one time.
732. *Mr. Franklin interposes.*] How many months were your duties in existence? Twenty months.
733. *President.*] Were you responsible for all this cash during that time? Yes. I may mention that in addition to the other precautions which we took when there were large sums of money in the safe, the Chairman used to sleep on the premises when there were large amounts there. Instead of going to his residence at Campbelltown he would stay in town and sleep on the premises. This, perhaps, was not so much on account of the money as because he would not otherwise be able to get into town in time to go out to pay the men. He slept in the private house which formed part of the office premises.
734. Had you in any previous departments control of such large sums of money? No; I was not in charge before. Mr. Wise was in charge of the Immigration Department, and he used to sign the cheques.
735. Do you know any department in the Government where an individual officer has control of so large a sum of money? I do not know; I cannot say one way or another. It would be only of course from the latest time we could get money until we paid it to the men that the money would be in my possession or in the safe.
736. Can you tell me whether it is the practice in the Government Departments to have fidelity bonds or guarantee bonds for the clerks who are employed? Yes.
737. Was there any fidelity bond in your case? Yes, £1,000, I had to give a bond for.
738. Was it in force while you were in the Casual Labour Board Office? Yes.
739. What is the nature of the fidelity bond; is it under any guarantee company in Sydney? Yes; the one approved of by the Government. It is one of the usual guarantee companies; I believe there are two.
740. Does that cover any duties you were employed at? Yes; I believe so.
741. Or does it refer to some particular employment? I cannot say.
742. How long has it been in existence? While I was with Mr. Wise it was a £500 guarantee; since then I have had to find one of a £1,000.
743. The greater the responsibility the greater the risk to the company? I do not know.
744. An officer who had no responsibility as regards receiving and paying money would be a less risk to the guarantee company? I could not say.
745. With regard to the amount received from the Government from time to time, was no less a sum than £6,000 ever obtained? No; we had it always in sums of £6,000.

746. And the practice was to make application to the Treasury for it? We had to send a receipt by all three members of the Board for it.
747. What became of it then? The money was placed to the credit of the Casual Labour Board in the bank. Mr. T. C. Hinchcliffe.
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748. Were vouchers taken for all payments made? Yes.
749. What became of these vouchers? They were sent to the Auditor-General.
750. As the payments were made? No; in sums of £6,000, with the balance of the previous £6,000. The vouchers were brought to me; we added them up, and then there was an abstract made out and signed by the Chairman. It is in copying ink; they are all in the ledger; a few days afterwards these would be checked by the Audit Department, when the vouchers covering the cash advances made on such and such a day had been received.
751. Were these vouchers sent in only when you had exhausted the advance? Yes.
752. In batches? Yes; in sums of £6,000, similar to the advances.
753. Who checked the vouchers in the office? They were checked by myself.
754. Nobody else? Perhaps by Mr. Hibble.
755. Are you satisfied that in every case where the vouchers came before you they were correct? I could not say that; the ordinary voucher came in signed as being correct by the superintendent of any particular work. On his certifying to the voucher being correct I would draw the cheque.
756. Then your drawing of the cheque was dependent upon the certificate of some other officer? Yes.
757. Did you ever hear of any voucher of M'Lean Brothers and Rigg having its correctness questioned? No.
758. With reference to certain items—shovels and hammers on the voucher? No; I believe the gentlemen appointed to wind up the affairs of the Board had some experience of the kind. I heard some talk of the affair, but it did not come before me. I do not know anything about it. Any voucher I would certify for I would see that it was certified by the proper officer, before drawing the cheque.
759. Whose duty would it be to certify to the correctness of the vouchers of Messrs. M'Lean Bros. and Rigg? The superintendent of the work that might be carried out. It might be any of the four or five different superintendents.
760. You say in your evidence before the Select Committee that no minutes were kept after a certain time, and further that the Board did not want any minutes kept? Yes.
761. Who instructed you not to keep any minutes? As I explained in my evidence, the two professional members of the Board gave their attention to it during the first month; but then they found that their own departmental work was getting in arrears, and they told the Chairman that they could not attend any particular meeting at any particular time. So it was left for the Chairman to take the executive work in hand, and consult them when it suited their convenience. They had to attend to their own work, and the heads of their departments were I believe dissatisfied with their being away so much.
762. When you, in your evidence before the Select Committee, say that they appointed Mr. Davies to do the executive work, what do you cover by the expression executive work? The whole of the work appertaining to the Board, that is, to act on his own responsibility for the three.
763. Was it understood that Mr. Davies had sole power to act in everything as the Board? It was understood, I believe, between them. I never saw for certain, but I imagine that in any case that required their consultation he would consult them, but any small matter—any trivial thing would go through in the ordinary way—that is anything for which there would be a precedent in the office.
764. Going back to these payments; there is a question or two I want to ask you regarding them. Were any payments ever made by you at the works without Mr. Davies being present? Yes, I think so; but I am not sure.
765. Large payments? No; not very large. If Mr. Davies was not there someone from the office would be with me.
766. Where were they made? Generally on the works, they would be small amounts, paid in the presence of the superintendent, overseers, and some members of the police very often.
767. Were any other large cash payments made, beyond those to the labourers? None. The largest item would be the Government contractor for rations.
768. Was that cash? No, crossed cheque.
769. Were any other large cash payments made beyond those to the labourers? No; there would be small ones. We would perhaps draw a cheque for £50 or £100 for cash, because some of the men would be dissatisfied and throw it up, and asked to be paid when they came in under what is called *interim* vouchers. We used to draw a cheque, perhaps for £100, to pay these in cash. That is shown in the cash book. There are two columns, and the whole of the amounts paid in cash appear in the cash column.
770. Did you always keep a large sum of petty cash in the office? Not a large sum—from £10 to £50 perhaps; but never more than £50. Of course we would use that before we drew any more.
771. Do the books show how that was distributed? Yes.
772. And the petty cash? Yes.
773. By whom have these books been audited? By Mr. Miles, the professional accountant, appointed by the Government.
774. Did they go to the Auditor-General? No; only the vouchers would go to the Auditor-General.
775. Were the records and the papers that you kept in the Casual Labour Board Office in any particular order? Yes; the same as in any other Government Department.
776. Can you tell us the order in which you kept them, to facilitate our reference? They would be kept in numbers from 1 up to 100 with a stamp upon them. In the record book would be a *précis* of each of the papers, and entries would be on the margin.
777. The record book, I understand you to say, contains a *précis* of all the correspondence; what was done with that correspondence, and what action was taken by the Board? Well, the book would not show the action taken by the Board; that action would appear on the original papers.
778. Can you tell us whether the applications to initiate works originated in your department, or in what other department? They would come from the outside.
779. Would they come to you direct, or through any other department? Very frequently they would come from the Colonial Secretary, but the bulk of them would come direct.
780. Did Mr. Davies generally take action in these matters himself? He would take the initiatory steps. That

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That is, after an application was made (say in the Hornsby district) for a particular road, he would send out to the superintendent at Hornsby to report upon it in the first place. Then, after the report from him came in, very likely he would consult the other members of the Board, and then he would submit the recommendation upon it for the approval of the Colonial Secretary.

781. Was the approval of the other members of the Board obtained before or after the work was begun? Before the work was begun.

782. In all cases? Perhaps not in all, but shortly afterwards. Mr. Wells might be away for a couple of weeks, but he could know from the books exactly what was being done.

783. In your answer to question 1259 before the Select Committee you say that a record of who proposed and seconded or authorized any particular work could be found from the papers initialled by the Chairman on behalf of the Board;—where are these papers? That is hardly correct. The record, I presume, referred to the initiation of the work; there was no proposer or seconder. I believe you have the minute-book here; it shows the thing very slightly. There was no such thing as a proposer or seconder, even when they held formal meetings; they simply debated over the matter, and recommended certain things that were done.

784. Where can we find a record of the authorization of any particular work? The papers ought to be in the office; you can trace it from the record-book; it ought to be indexed, and you will get it from the index.

785. If we find no paper authorizing a particular work, or no record in the office of any such authority, can we conclude that there was no application? No; it might have been this way: it might have been a work handed over to the Board which was already in existence when they took office; they would not appear; they would simply appear as having been carried on by Mr. Deering or Mr. Wise.

786. But in reference to any new work? Any new work ought to appear in the book.

787. If there is a new work, and no authority for it amongst the records of the Casual Labour Board, and no record at all of it, can we conclude that there was no authority? I should think so.

788. Who had access to the papers in the department? The Board would have access—Mr. Davies, Mr. Houson, Mr. Wells, and two clerks in the office, Mr. Larnach and Mr. Hibble.

789. Anyone else? That would be all who would have access to the papers.

790. Any gentlemen from the Roads Department or the Survey Department? They would have no right to touch our papers.

791. Could they get at your papers without your knowledge or the knowledge of one of your staff? No.

792. You have been asked whether there is any means of arriving at the cost of the different works, and you replied that you had the total cost of each work;—can you refer us to a book or record in the department that will give us that? Yes, the ledger.

793. Will that give the total cost of each work? Yes.

794. Will you tell us if you know the course adopted with regard to dismissing men;—would that come within your province in any way? No; I don't exactly understand you; do you mean in large numbers?

795. No; regarding any of them? I don't suppose any men would be dismissed until the work was ended. Of course in December we received a letter from the Colonial Secretary, telling us to dismiss the whole of them—one third at the end of January, one third at the end of February, and the remainder at the end of March.

796. You were asked before the Select Committee about a man named O'Brien—do you know anything of that case? Yes; I know there was a man of that name dismissed.

797. Do you know anything of the works on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Not much.

798. Do you recollect their being stopped? No; I think they are going on at the present time, to the best of my knowledge.

799. Were many personal applications made at the Board Office, to your knowledge, that the unemployed labour be put on any particular work? There were.

800. Can you mention any persons who made personal applications? Yes; Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Chapman, and various Members of Parliament; but they would be referred to the Colonial Secretary, and asked to put their request in writing unless it was an ordinary matter.

801. Do you know Mr. Burns? Yes.

802. Do you recollect whether he called at the office on any occasion? No; I never saw him in the office.

803. Mr. Jamieson? I have seen him in the office.

804. Often? Two or three times.

805. Mr. Withers? I have not seen him.

806. Mr. R. B. Smith? No; I have not seen him.

807. Mr. Murphy? Yes, with Mr. Jamieson.

808. Could you say frequently? Not frequently.

809. How many times? A few times.

810. Mr. Cook? I do not know Mr. Cook.

811. Have you any list made of the works carried out by the Board? No; it could be made up.

812. Have you a list of the applications made by Members of Parliament? That could be made up from the record-book.

813. Will you look at your answer to question 1330, before the Select Committee? Yes.

814. The abstract quoted there is from your minute-book, is it not? Yes.

815. Made shortly after the appointment of the Board? Yes, on the 28th May; the Board was appointed on the 2nd.

816. Do you know whether the work referred to there had been initiated before that? Yes; I believe it was. The men were up there working before that.

817. Do you know how long before? I could not say for certain, but they had been a long time in the district. I had been there to pay them for Mr. Wise, and at Carlingford and Beecroft.

818. Were you present when the minute was made? Yes.

819. Was any particular authority given to Mr. Davies on that occasion? Not that I am aware of. Mr. Davies may have mentioned that he was going up with Mr. Deering to see about the making of roads at Hornsby.

820. Did you go to Hornsby with Mr. Davies? No.

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821. Your report is that "Mr. John Davies visited Hornsby in company with Mr. Deering, and approved of certain roads being laid out and formed";—how did you get that information? From Mr. Davies.
- 821½. Is there any record of his approval being confirmed by Mr. Wells or Mr. Houison? No. There would be no record beyond the fact of its being in the minute-book.
822. Do you know whether that work was approved of? I could not say what work it was; it only referred to some roads there; I imagine it would have been proceeded with.
- 822½. Did the Inspector of Public Accounts ever visit your office? No. We applied to the Government twice to send one, but the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade said he had seen all the vouchers, which had been doubly checked, and it was unnecessary to send one out. Then the Chairman demanded from Mr. Dibbs that he should send somebody before he handed over the papers, but that was not complied with. That was quite lately. Before Mr. Dibbs came into power we applied to Mr. Burns to send some one, but he said it was not necessary.
823. You applied to Mr. Burns—who was Mr. Burns? Colonial Treasurer. All that they required was that the vouchers should go in for the advances. It is only where large sums have been received that they bother about sending an Inspector.
824. Did you receive moneys from any other source than the Treasury? Small sums sometimes.
825. For what? I could not tell you from memory; I could tell you in a moment if the books were here.
826. How much do you suppose these sums would amount to? I could not say. Down in the office I have got all the Treasury receipts.
827. Was it a hundred pounds, do you think? I could not say.
828. Do you know whether any money was received for the sale of any sleepers? Yes.
829. Do you remember from whom it was received? From the Works Department.
830. Do you know how much? About forty odd pounds. It was not received by me, but by the Chairman.
831. What became of the moneys—were they paid into the bank to the account of the Casual Labour Board? Yes. That I may tell you was irregular. I told the Chairman so with regard to several other sums—I think about £300 altogether—that the course he adopted was against the rules of the department. He said he would take the responsibility; but when I left the office I got him to sign a voucher transferring it from the bank to the Treasury. It was simply an irregularity on his part. He said he would take the responsibility, and I let him do so. There is the voucher in the office simply transferring the amount from the bank to the Treasury.
832. Would these amounts be forwarded by letter, or would some person call and pay them? Yes, generally somebody would call and pay them. We received small sums—one of £20 for a bridge from some local residents, who said they would give £20 for the construction of a bridge if the Casual Labour Board would take the matter in hand.
833. Would that money be paid over in cash? Very likely in cash. The cash or the cheque, whatever it was, was paid into the bank by the Chairman.
834. Then when he received the money would it not go through your books? No; that is where the irregularity came in. We were not allowed to receive any money except from the Government—that is, the books did not show any money that we received. We were supposed to pay it into the Treasury—into the miscellaneous account, or wherever it had to go.
835. Then all these amounts appeared on the receipts of the bank? Only on the deposit receipts and bank-book.
836. On no book that was kept at the Board office? No.
837. Then if any payments came to you or any member of the Board at your office they were not entered in your books at all? They would not be entered in the books in the ordinary way, but should be paid into the Treasury.
838. Can you say whether these receipts were principally cash or cheques? I think they were principally cheques.
839. Were any sums ever paid to you? Yes.
840. To any one else? Not that I am aware of. Sums paid to me would be for rations. For instance, one day a man put £2 on the table. I kept it for some time, not knowing the man, and thinking he would come back for it; but he did not return, and I paid it into the Treasury.
841. Did you receive any sums of money for sleepers for the Centennial Park? Yes; the Chairman did. That would be paid by the Chairman into the bank. The Public Works Department paid that.
842. Outside of these, would any other people pay moneys? Only those I have mentioned.
843. Was there some firewood sold? Mr. Deering initiated that, and all the cheques for that were paid direct into the bank by the Chairman.
844. Can you say whether the Board were in the habit of visiting the works? Yes, frequently.
845. Did you accompany them? Sometimes.
846. I don't mean when you went to pay, but on other occasions? I very seldom accompanied them unless it was to pay the men; but I know they did go on a great many occasions.
847. Do you know whether there was any work paid for by the Board which was outside the unemployed labour? In what way? I do not understand.
848. For example, cartage of stone, hire of drays, and so forth—material for roads? I am not aware of any.
849. Had the Board any carrying plant? No.
850. Can you tell us who carried the material? I do not know. The names would appear on the pay-sheet.
851. What has become of the plant and tools the men had? I suppose while the works were in existence they would be on the works; when they were closed they would be sent to Hurstville.
852. Who would be responsible for them? The superintendents.
853. Do you know whether any list was kept? They kept a stock account.
854. Were you responsible for them in any way? No.
855. Was any report ever submitted to the Board as to the amount of the plant? Yes; they were called upon occasionally for an account of the stock in hand.
856. Are you aware of any check being kept to prevent losses or thefts? No; only that the superintendents would be in charge and responsible. The papers in the office would show what they had in hand at any particular time.

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857. Do you know of any case in which a contract made by the Board at any time was sublet? I knew of a case under Mr. Treatt's management, but I had nothing to do with it.
858. Do you know of any case in the Liverpool district where a contract was sublet and profit made out of it? No; I am not aware of any.
859. Have you been examined by any officer of the Colonial Secretary's Department recently, or by the Colonial Secretary, as to the working of the Board? No.
860. Did you see Mr. Dibbs? No.
861. Do you recollect, in the latter part of January, being at the office with Mr. Davies when reference was made to taking electoral rolls to the railway-station? There were electoral rolls taken to the various works, but I do not recollect anything about one particular occasion. It was usual to send the electoral rolls out to the works and let the men come in to vote.
862. Do you remember Mr. Davies asking you to take the rolls and drive up to the railway-station? No; I do not think he did.
863. Did you drive up? No.
864. Did you ever go to the railway-station in a cab with Mr. Burrowes? Mr. Burrowes has often been in the office. I cannot say for certain. I might have done so.
865. In the latter part of January, with some electoral rolls? No, I did not.
866. Did you ever speak to Mr. Burrowes with reference to the appointment of Mr. Mason as a member of the Inquiry Board? Yes.
867. Do you recollect when that was? It would be shortly after Messrs. Mason and Miles were appointed.
868. Do you recollect making any remarks to Mr. Burrowes to the effect that Mr. Mason was thoroughly investigating the working and the business of the Board? No. I told him I thought the new Board was going to be very economical. That was the remark I made.
869. Did you ever speak to Mr. Burrowes about your being short in some cash? No.
870. Did you ever suggest to him to claim that certain vouchers had been lost? No.
871. Any such statement is untrue? It is untrue. There were no vouchers lost that I am aware of. If there were a cash voucher lost the value would simply come out of my pocket, as I was answerable for the money. If it were a cheque voucher it would not be so.
872. Did you ever use such an expression to Mr. Burrowes as "Mr. Mason has got his knife into you"? I never used such an expression.
873. Will you kindly tell us the names of the different members of the staffs that were employed by the Board? Yes; myself, Mr. F. J. Josephson, Mr. Hibble, and Mr. Larnach in the office.
874. The outside staff? The superintendent at Narrabeen, Mr. Oxley, and the clerk—Mr. Neads. The superintendent at Hurstville, who controlled the whole of the works along the Illawarra line, Mr. Burrowes; the assistant-superintendent, Mr. M'Pherson; the storekeeper and clerk at Hurstville, Mr. Springall, succeeded by Mr. Larnach. At Hornsby, Mr. O'Donnell, superintendent, and Mr. Little, clerk and storekeeper. At Liverpool and Campbelltown the works were under Mr. Burrowes, with an overseer in charge. There were no clerks up there, so far as I know.
875. Have you ever had any quarrel with Mr. Burrowes? No. I always kept him, as I thought, at a safe distance, because I was given to understand that he was a very dangerous man to have much to do with.
876. Did the Board ever complain of his neglecting his duties? Yes.
877. When? I could not tell only from the letter-book. It would be entered in the letter-book.
878. Was any remonstrance sent to him? Yes.
879. That is on record? Yes, it is on record.
880. But he was not dismissed? No.
881. What are you doing now, Mr. Hinchcliffe? I am doing nothing; my three months' leave of absence is not up yet.
882. What is your present address? Nos. 103-105, Oxford-street.
883. I suppose if the Commission wants you further a summons sent to that address will find you? Yes.
884. *Mr. Franklin.*] Your position, Mr. Hinchcliffe, was somewhat analogous to that of Chief Clerk and Accountant? No; I don't claim the title of Accountant. Secretary and Paymaster, that was my title.
885. You found that the operations of the office grew into something like the dimensions of an ordinary department? Yes.
886. Therefore it was necessary to adopt the ordinary system in regard to correspondence, and you had the sole control of that? Yes; all the papers that came into the Department passed through my hands.
887. And were dealt with by Mr. Davies, as the head of the department? Yes.
888. The works of the department or Board grew into the proportions of works of construction—roads, bridges, and culverts? Yes.
889. Requisitions for such works were pretty continuous? Yes.
890. And the attendances of the professional members of the Board were frequently interrupted by absences necessitated by the work of their own departments? Yes. Mr. Wells, I might say, was frequently absent; Mr. Houison not so frequently.
891. And during their absence cases of immediate necessity were attended to by Mr. Davies? Yes.
892. And the works were divided over several sections in the county of Cumberland, north and south? Yes.
893. Administered to in the field by skilled officers? Yes.
894. And these officers were administered to by the head officers of the Board? Yes.
895. And you say that during about twenty months you spent about £220,000? I think it was about £240,000, but the books will show that.
896. And during the time of that expenditure the professional members of the Board were of necessity frequently absent? Yes; they were Civil Servants, and they had their own departments to look after.
897. Are you aware that one of the two was absent for a period of five months out of those twenty months? No; I have no knowledge of that.
898. You have no record of it? No. The members of the Board would often meet outside the office. For instance, the Chairman lived at Campbelltown and Mr. Houison at Parramatta, and they would meet often in the trains.

899. You have had considerable experience of Government Departments? Yes; but not as head of a department. Mr. T. C.
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900. You know their internal working? Yes.
901. Would you consider £12,000 a month detailed expenditure a large sum? As ordinary expenditure? 13 Mar., 1889.
902. Yes? I do not know.
903. I mean an ordinary department. I don't mean railways for example. The ordinary expenditure of a department is what I mean? I am sure I do not know.
904. You say your expenditure was recouped by the Treasury at intervals in sums of £6,000? Yes.
905. That would make it necessary to have a fresh credit every fortnight during the whole time? About that. Of course it gradually got less towards the close.
906. While you were holding the responsible position, had you full opportunity of checking the demands made for money in the shape of vouchers and ascertaining the *bonâ fides* of each claim? I would simply be guided by the officers who signed the vouchers. But I would not sign a voucher or draw a cheque unless it was properly certified to by the proper officer.
907. From that I conclude that you had every confidence in the officers who were working with you? Yes.
908. You had no reason to doubt them at all? No.
909. Which officer on the field staff drew most largely upon you? Mr. Burrowes.
910. But you say he would not handle the money at all? He would simply send in the vouchers, and I would go out and pay it in the presence of witnesses.
911. You had no reason to doubt that the items certified were perfectly correct? None whatever; I could not tell anything about that.
912. In the matter of small payments—interim payments, such as wages for the days in the intervals between the ordinary pay-days—these sums would be paid at once by cash? Yes.
913. Would the individual signatures of the men be taken on the face of the vouchers? Yes; the men signed the vouchers.
914. In furnishing these vouchers to the Treasury, it was necessary to give a full acquittance before you got a fresh credit? Not always; we would get a second £6,000 before there was an acquittance for the first. We might have a thousand pounds lying to our credit. We would have to find out that next day.
915. In the case of absentees from any causes, how did you deal with small amounts left on the pay-sheet? In the first instance the chairman signed for absentees. Then I put them in the book and I took his receipt for the amount, mentioning the name and the date. If the man came in in the meantime the Chairman would pay him, and sign on the margin of the book. In a certain time the Auditor-General asked for these receipts, and he objected to this system. He said that where money was not received by the men it was to be paid direct into the Treasury. That has been done ever since.
916. Have these sums been all paid into the Treasury? I saw, at the Auditor-General's to-day, that they had been paid in and an acquittance given.
917. In the expenditure of £12,000 per month there would be approximately £2,500 or £3,000 per week? Yes.
918. There would be tools and rations and so forth? The number of men varied from 6,000 down to 1,000.
919. In allowing for the proportion of the £12,000 per month what would the amount be for tools, stores, and camp equipment, and what system of storekeeping had you? I cannot say. The superintendents had charge of that. They used to send in a list from the stock-book, and we had a printed order-book, and on requisitions coming in we sent orders for what was required.
920. Then orders were issued to the Government contractor? Yes.
921. Who supplied the tools at the ordinary contract rates? Yes. There was no particular rate for ours.
922. Am I to understand that the tools were not got under the ordinary yearly tender schedule? Yes, frequently; but sometimes where an item was pressing we had to go somewhere else.
923. Who ordered them? I ordered them through the head office. They were all ordered through the head office.
924. Are you aware when Mr. Davies took the whole responsibility that the other members found it inconvenient to attend? They said they could not make it convenient to attend daily, as they had done during the first month. There was a large number of matters to be dealt with daily, and they stated that their own work was getting into arrears, and they could not be there at any particular time, but they would give every attention they could, and when anything was pressing they could be sent for.
925. You were of opinion that this work pressed rather heavily upon them in addition to their ordinary duties? Yes, if they had attended to it as they did during the first month.
926. Do you think that when they relaxed their energy the service suffered in consequence? Well, I cannot say that.
927. If you won't say that, do you believe Mr. Davies was fully competent to attend to all the duties of the Board, professional or otherwise? I think so.
928. You don't know whether these officers would have liked to be relieved from their duties? I do not know.
929. You could not gather that? No.
930. Do you think it would have been better if a professional head had been appointed when the thing grew to such dimensions? Well, I think it would.
931. It would have been better? Yes; I think so.
932. Did you know, when you undertook the responsibility, that the work of the unemployed might be extended to water-conservation, irrigation works in the interior, water-storage, and tank-sinking? Well, I think it was mentioned in the appointments of the Board; but I did not pay much attention to that.
933. You don't know, as a matter of fact, that the money was voted for the purpose? No; it was voted for the purpose of giving employment to these men;—clearing Crown lands was mentioned.
934. You think the intention of the resolution was met by the one item—clearing of Crown lands? Yes, and the making of roads.
935. You think it would have been too large a matter to go into the conservation of water, because it could only have been done by professional men, who could make surveys and things of that kind? I do.
936. Do you know the ordinary expenditure of the Roads and Bridges Department? I do not.
937. You don't know the expenditure of the staff? I do not.

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938. Would not the duties in your offices have been very much assisted if you had been in strict accord with the officers in the field? We were in accord with them.
939. You mentioned that there was a sort of strained relationship between yourself and Mr. Burrowes; you said you did not care about mixing up with him more than you could help? No; but you could be on good terms with a man without doing that.
940. What I mean is that a comparatively small staff, in strict accord, would have been attended with better results? I do not think so. I treated Mr. Burrowes the same as any other superintendent; he was always civil and polite to me, and I treated him the same.
941. *Mr. Waller.*] You told the President the names of certain officers;—have you told the names of all the employes of the office? I think so.
942. The clerks? The whole of them.
943. Do you know every branch office? Only at the camps. A branch office would only be in connection with the principal camp. The superintendent would appoint clerks to assist him in making up the pay-sheet, or anything else.
944. What would be the other duties of these clerks at these branches? I could not say. I presume it would be to look after the stores and issue the rations, but I could not say. I was never on the works for any length of time. I simply went to pay the men and came back again. I had nothing to do with the inspection of the works, nor with the arrangements there in any way.
945. How many branches were there? They varied from time to time.
946. What was the greatest number and the least? I should think about twenty to twenty-five. They would be spread over the works, occupying particular places. Of course seven or eight of these would be under one superintendent.
947. Would it be a ganger or the superintendent who would appoint these clerks at these different places? The superintendent.
948. And there were how many superintendents? Four. These superintendents had the power to appoint clerks at these different places.
949. Well in the ordinary way the appointments would come from the Board? I really do not know how it was with some of them. They were not clerks really. I do not think they devoted the whole of their time to that work.
950. I asked you whether the superintendents had power to appoint these clerks? They would do so, and perhaps refer to the Board for approval.
951. In all cases? Well, I could not say; I would not be sure.
952. Would there be documentary evidence of the nominees of the superintendents? Yes; I think so.
953. I mean would there be written applications to the Board afterwards to confirm the appointments? Yes; in the ordinary way.
954. Shall we find that in the correspondence? Yes; I think so.
955. What steps were taken to ascertain the character of these assistants appointed by the superintendents? I could not say.
956. Would it come under the province of these superintendents or their assistants to make out the vouchers of the payments to be made to the different gangs? Yes.
957. And also the names of the men who were working on the different gangs? Yes.
958. And also the piecework which these different men did? Yes.
959. And also the time when they went on to work and the time they left? Yes.
960. How would the overseers be appointed? In the ordinary way, subject to the approval of the Board.
961. Would the Board be asked to approve of the appointment of overseers? In the ordinary way they would.
962. What do you mean by the ordinary way? I mean that it was customary for the Board to approve of the appointments of the superintendents.
963. As a rule, do you think the superintendents appointed them on their own responsibility, or on the authority of the Board? It was both ways. I know on several occasions the superintendents made appointments themselves.
964. May the Commission take it for granted that where they fail to obtain written evidence of these appointments such appointments were made by the authority of the superintendents themselves? Yes.
965. When the pay-sheets came in to you for payment, your duty, I apprehend, was simply to see that they were in order? Yes.
966. Did you initial them? I signed them in full.
967. Before or after they were paid? After they were paid. They were filled up from the pay-sheets, with the name of the man and the amount received. Under the column I used to put "T. C. Hinchcliffe."
968. Previous to that, what steps were taken to ascertain that the amount stated in the pay-sheets was correct? The pay-sheets would have to be made out, in the first place, from the time-books of the overseers, made out by the overseer or clerk, checked by the superintendent, and certified by him, and then sent on to me to be re-checked in the office and paid.
969. Who checked them in the office? The clerks or myself.
970. Did the clerk who re-checked the voucher initial it after he re-checked it? As a rule, yes; but it was not an absolute rule. It was generally ticked, and we understood the ticks.
971. Do you think it was an advisable thing to pass a pay-sheet or an account as correct without having absolute proof? I cannot see how we could get absolute proof.
972. Do you think it was a wise thing to do in the absence of proof;—to pay it without having an officer to check it? But we did not do that.
973. Do you think it business-like or advisable to pass accounts before you were satisfied as to their correctness? I would not think it was business-like to do so.
974. Then in the case of your receiving certain pay-sheets not having the initials of the checking clerk, what proof have you got as to their being correct? Of course we would not have any absolute proof of the correctness of the accounts that came in. The only proof would be that we had the signature of the superintendent.
975. And your own clerk? Yes, our own clerk in the office.
976. What other check had you? We had to get the money—however much we wanted to pay the men—so many sovereigns, half-sovereigns, half-crowns, shillings, and coppers. That would be a check.

977. That would be a check as to the correctness of the sum total, but it would not be a check as to the correctness of the amount. What check had you as to the correctness of the account that the superintendent made out? Only the fact of its being rechecked in the office.

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978. And by his assistant, who might or might not have been his own appointment? Yes.

979. Under these circumstances would it be possible for any fraud to creep in in the way of the men being paid for over-time that they had no right to be paid, or in the way of men being paid who absolutely were not on the works at all? I do not think so, unless there was collusion amongst the whole of the officials—the overseers, clerks, and superintendents—and even then it would be detected when the men came up to be paid. The men were paid for block so and so. They were numbered previously. It was known who were working there, so there would be a considerable amount of risk of their being found out even by the other men.

980. What I mean is, that on this pay-sheet there are 300 men or 1,000 men, as the case may be; do you mean to tell me that each man as he comes up is cognizant of what would be correct against each man's name—would it be possible, under such circumstances, that Smith could be paid £4 6s. 8d., when Smith was only entitled to be paid £1? If there were collusion between all these officers.

981. Where is the necessity for that? There would be the overseer, he stands there calling the names of his own gangers. He would know what the amounts were, and so would the superintendent. I think as good precautions as could possibly be taken were taken in the payment of the men.

982. Do you know anything of the authorities given to make roads on the different works? Only by the papers.

983. What became of the papers? They would all be in the office.

984. They did not go back from your office to the Colonial Secretary's Office? No.

985. Have you got in your office the papers relating to the authority to make roads on the Hornsby Estate? I think so; they were all printed in these books.

986. By whom was the authority signed? I cannot say without reference. The Chairman signed on behalf of the Board, and I think the papers were signed by the Colonial Secretary.

987. I notice in your answer to question 1250, in the evidence before the Select Committee, that reference was made to certain petitions. I want to ask you whether these petitions can be found? I think so, if they are in the office.

988. But if they were sent out of the office would there be records where they were sent and when they were sent? Yes.

989. And of all petitions and correspondence? Yes.

990. I notice that in answer to question 1257 of the same evidence, that you say there was a letter addressed by you to the Honorable J. F. Burns—was that letter produced? Yes; it is in the printed matter.

991. You told the President that you had a considerable amount of experience in the Government offices; and you told him that everything was carried on under the Casual Labour Board, which was a sort of Government department, in exactly the same manner as in any other Government department? Yes.

992. Can you tell me the reason why, in a very short time, all records in the shape of Minutes and Proceedings of the Board were stopped? They were stopped by order of the Board.

993. What was the reason? Because the whole Board could not meet regularly—the two professional members could not meet at stated times.

994. Don't you think that the minutes might have been kept by the executive head? The Board did not see the necessity for it, and I do not myself, for the reason that everything appears on the papers as to what was done.

995. But as to what was not done, how about that? Of course then there would be nothing to record.

996. Do you think that is the usual way in which a department is conducted? Well, I never had charge of a department before.

997. Do you think it is the usual way business is conducted, without any record as to the Minutes of Proceedings? I think so.

998. You told the President, I think, that there were some estimates of cost made on all road-work? I do not recollect saying that.

999. Were there any estimates? Oh, yes; the superintendents would fix the price when the work was laid out.

1000. And the probable total cost, that would be estimated before the approval was given? I think so.

1001. Can we find evidence of that? I should think so.

1002. You do not know from your own knowledge? Oh, yes; it was stated in a rough way. There was some attempt made to ascertain the cost of different kinds of work. In sending the papers to the superintendent he would be asked to state what would be the probable cost.

1003. Who made these estimates? The superintendents.

1004. Who checked them? I cannot say, perhaps his assistant. The only estimate he would send in would be the statement that he had gone over this road, that it was 2 miles in length, as the case might be, and it would cost so and so.

1005. Would no one else check that? Very likely some of the members of the Board would check the actual cost.

1006. Have you any knowledge of its being checked? I have knowledge of its being checked in a great many cases.

1007. In all cases? I could not say in all.

1008. Owing to the frequent and enforced absence of the professional members of the Board, was it possible that these estimates made by the superintendents might pass unchecked? It is possible.

1009. Do you think the superintendents were men to whom that kind of work might be safely entrusted? One or two of the superintendents are very good practical men; and their reports have been found strictly correct. In this case their reports would probably be checked—the professional members of the Board would be consulted, and if a work which was estimated to cost £600 finally cost £650, it would be paid without demur. If that estimate were an improper estimate it would be inquired into, and they would be able to arrange matters. There was a check kept upon undue payments in this way. Every fortnight a check was kept on the average earnings of each man. If a man earned more than 4s. or 4s. 3d. a day,
it

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it would be marked and sent to the superintendent, who would be asked why these men earned so much. He might explain that by saying that these men stopped up late, and were up early in the morning.

1010. That is the only check the Board would have—they would ask for an explanation why a man's average earnings were so much. Now, as a matter of fact, were not the superintendents the men who laid out the work, who estimated the cost of the work, and at the finish sent in the absolute cost, and generally were judge and jury in the matter, or had the Board a responsible officer, of known integrity and position, who went out and surveyed it and gave proper returns as to the cost? The two professional members of the Board, it was their duty to look after that.

1011. Did they do it? They did it to the best of their ability. Of course, the superintendents, I may tell you, with the exception of Mr. O'Donnell, were all surveyors.

1012. They were surveying their own work though;—was the work measured by a responsible head, I do not mean by the superintendents, by other responsible heads? I cannot say.

1013. Were certificates sent in by professional heads;—I do not care whether it was Mr. Wells or some other gentleman appointed to certify that certain sections of land had been measured, and the measurement was so much and the charges correct? No; it was the superintendent that did that as a rule. The members of the Board would simply go and inspect the work done.

1014. But they could not tell the measurement? The number of cubic yards would be taken out and the amount would be checked. In the first instance the distance would be given, and the total payments would be made according to the distance.

1015. But that was given by the superintendent? Yes.

1016. In answer to question 1310, in your evidence before the Select Committee, you told Mr. O'Sullivan that a list had been made out and the works carried out by the Casual Labour Board;—did you forward that list? No; it was not required.

1017. Have you any knowledge what lands or roads were surveyed or works undertaken on the Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate? No; I never saw them.

1018. Nor the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I have seen the Holt-Sutherland roads—some of them.

1019. Have you any knowledge who made the application for the roads? I have no particular knowledge. I believe that one of the works was handed over from Mr. Deering, and that there were some petitions from local residents; but they will appear on the papers.

1020. I suppose your appointment did not cease in the Service, so far as the Immigration Office was concerned, when you were appointed to the Casual Labour Board? Yes; I presume so. I was told that I could go back to the Immigration Branch.

1021. Could you have returned then? Yes; I could have elected to go back there, but I preferred to take leave of absence.

1022. You said you had to pay wages;—had you to pay any other moneys? Yes; all moneys.

1023. Were there any moneys that you would pay without there being, of necessity, anybody else present? No; there was always somebody else present.

1024. How was it that you kept only a ledger and cash-book? Because they were the only books required. There were the vouchers; the whole of these were kept and sent to the Auditor-General. I received no instructions from the Casual Labour Board that anything else was required. If there was a £6,000 advance on the 18th there would be an acquittance sent in on the 30th.

1025. Do you think, with your experience of book-keeping, that these were all the books required? I have not had experience of book-keeping.

1026. None at all? I am not an accountant.

1027. You had from time to time a considerable amount of petty cash in your possession? From £50 to £100.

1028. Were all the payments made on account of petty-cash payments made in the presence of somebody else? I should think so.

1029. Would the vouchers be witnessed by anyone besides the one who passed them? Every voucher bore the signature of the party who received it; but besides the party who receipted it, there must be someone else to witness the signature of the person receiving the money.

1030. Is there any account of postage and cab-hire? As regards postage, we used the Government stamps. Cab-hire was receipted for by vouchers.

1031. And all other payments? There was one exception to that. The Chairman from time to time asked me to give him a cheque or cash to be receipted for by him. He would want it for expenses from time to time. Of course it was stated at one time that the Board were to be paid for their services.

1032. How much would he receive, under those circumstances, from time to time at different times? £25 at a time, perhaps; but he would tell me on account of what expenses the sum was drawn. It was to be refunded or a voucher given when the fees were received.

1033. Has he ever given a detailed account of the sums? No. He was allowed 10s. per day to cover his expenses, and when he got the 10s. per day from the Colonial Secretary, I added up the advances that had been made to him, and handed him the balance. His voucher came to £260 for one year and eight months at the rate of 10s. per day.

1034. I want you to give your attention to what you stated to the President regarding the timber and sleepers. Was there any other sort of timber, such as posts and rails for fencing, which may have been sold? There were some posts and rails for fencing near the Unwin's Bridge Road; but they were used by the Government.

1035. Was it not possible that some of these may have been sold? I do not think so; but, of course, I cannot say.

1036. Have you any reason to suppose it was done—have you any suspicion it was done? No.

1037. Did it ever strike you that such a matter might be going on, as the sale of timber, without authority? It did not.

1038. Who would have the opportunity of selling this timber? The local superintendent.

1039. Nobody else? No.

1040. Could the Chairman of the Board give the authority as executive head without reference to you or anybody else? No; I do not think so. There would be a memo. sent by the superintendent, and an account of the sales.

1041. Was the timber all sold by public auction? I think so.

1042. Could sales not have been effected privately? That might be so.

1043.

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1043. Were there any private sales? I cannot say.
1044. Was any money received by the Board for timber other than for which you got auction-sale returns? Possibly there may have been some payments for sales by private contract and not by public auction.
1045. That is possible? It is possible.
1046. And the sale would be made by the superintendent, and not the Chairman? I do not say that.
1047. What became of the moneys? The Chairman would receive the moneys for certain sales and pay them into the bank to the credit of the Casual Labour Board, and they would become absorbed in the balances of the £6,000.
1048. And entered in the book's balances as so and so? No; not entered in the books at all except in the bank-book. They should not appear in the books. The Chairman when he received the first cheque paid it into the bank. I told him that that was not the usual way, but that it should be paid into the Treasury.
1049. In spite of your remonstrance he continued to adopt the same system of paying into the bank? Yes; all the time he paid it in.
1050. Have you any knowledge of the amounts that came into his possession in this way? I would know the auctioneer would pay the money because I would get a duplicate slip.
1051. Would you always see the auctioneer's account of the sales? Yes.
1052. Who had possession of them? The Chairman.
1053. What became of them afterwards? I did not see them afterwards. The Chairman would keep them in his own drawers.
1054. Could anything else be disposed of besides timber? Of course they could dispose of anything belonging to the Government if they had the opportunity and wished to do it.
1055. I mean so far as the clerical operations of the Board were concerned, was it possible for property belonging to the Government to be disposed of without your knowledge? It was quite possible, but I do not think that anything of that sort was done.
1056. Were these applications for the refreshment of the account by £6,000 signed by all the members of the Board? Yes.
1057. In every case? In every case but one, when Mr. Wells was away; and I do not know that he did not on that occasion sign it afterwards. He was away and we wanted money. There would be two members of the Board to sign it, and my name was attached to it.
1058. There would be no case in which your signature and that of the Chairman would be sufficient? No.
1059. Can you tell me whether Mr. Wells carefully examined the books and vouchers? I do not think Mr. Wells examined the books.
1060. Did Mr. Houison? No.
1061. Did Mr. Wells check the proposed expenditure in the shape of purchasing plant by the different superintendents and their gangs? There would only be the tools, and there was a schedule price for all the tools.
1062. By whom was the schedule made out? It is printed.
1063. Would there be any supervision as to the propriety of a requisition for a certain number of different tools for a gang—whether it was too large or too small? The tools would not be ordered for any particular gang.
1064. How many men would be in a gang? There would be about eight in a gang.
1065. I will put it in another way, whether the requisitions sent in for tools, or for anything else—tools, tents, water-tanks—anything that was required—were checked, and if checked, who checked them to see that there was not more asked for than was needed? Generally the Chairman.
1066. But when he did not do it, who did it? The superintendents. We had to rely upon their word for it: so many men would require so many tools.
1067. When the Chairman examined these, did he initial them and take the responsibility? No; he would send out to the clerk to sign the order.
- 1067½. Would he initial it? No, he would not initial it.
1068. If he said he never examined these requisitions, would there be any proof that he did examine them? Not that he examined any particular requisition.
1069. So that the requisitions might pass unchecked by any person? They might.
1070. Have you any conception of the cost of the tools required on one of these requisitions—that is, in any particular case at one time? I could not say. Latterly the requisitions have been very small as regards the number of tools.
1071. We will take it at the first when you had a large number of tools, would it be £100? Oh, yes; more than that.
1072. £1,000? No; it would not be that—perhaps it would be £200; that would be, perhaps, for 500 men.
1073. Have you any knowledge of how many of these tools would be lost? We could not possibly go into these details. We had to depend upon the superintendents.
1074. If the superintendent sent a second request within a very short period of the first one? No; we trusted to Mr. Burrowes not ordering anything that he did not require. He was responsible.
1075. Yet you say that Mr. Burrowes was a dangerous man? I did not say that to be used as evidence. I had no idea it was to be put down.
1076. *President.*] You may depend upon it that everything you say will be put down? Then I should like to withdraw that. I have no reason whatever to doubt the honesty of Mr. Burrowes. I was advised that he was a man to steer clear of; but I have always found him very nice and gentlemanly. The only words I have had with him were in the interview I have told you of.
1077. *Mr. Waller.*] Is it your opinion of Mr. Burrowes that he is thoroughly trustworthy—that if he makes certain statements to the Commission they might be looked upon as perfectly true? No; I would not say so.
1078. You would not say that he is a man in whom implicit reliance could be put? I would not place a great deal of reliance upon him.
1079. And yet this is one of the men who would sign requisitions for large amounts, and you would accept them as being correct without inquiry? These requisitions would be in his letter-books, and they would be seen by the assistant superintendent, overseer, and storekeeper, and if there was any looseness it would soon be detected.
1080. Where were the tools principally obtained? From M'Lean Bros. and Rigg. 1081.

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1081. Under contract? Not exactly under contract. They are the Government contractors, and the prices were agreed upon. They objected in the first instance when the vouchers were sent in to supply the articles at the terms provided in the Government contract, so they sent us schedule prices, but not under the regular contract. They said the quantities were so small that they could not do it.
1082. What is the difference between the contract and the schedule prices? I could not tell you; they vary at different times. Kegs of powder, for instance, cost more at one time than at another.
1083. You had to pay them the prices that they chose to charge? Yes.
1084. As to those orders that went to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg;—did orders of the same description go to any other firm? Well, we always dealt with them. They supplied the bulk of the requisitions.
1085. What means were taken to ascertain that they would supply the tools at a cheaper rate than any other house in town? I do not think that any means were taken.
1086. Who authorized dealing with M'Lean Bros. and Rigg? They were the Government contractors.
1087. Who authorized giving a monopoly of the tools to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, they having refused to accept the position as Government contractors? The Chairman would authorize that.
1088. Did the Chairman sign the orders to initiate dealing with M'Lean Bros. and Rigg? That was initiated before the Board came into existence.
1089. Did they deal with them previously under schedule prices or at the market rates? At the market rates.
1090. Do you know whether any attempt was made by calling for tenders to ascertain whether some of the other large houses were prepared to enter into a contract to supply the articles at schedule prices? No; the only contract we had was for rations.
1091. About what money did M'Lean Bros. and Rigg receive from the Casual Labour Board;—would it amount to £5,000? I could not say.
1092. Is there any account with M'Lean Bros. and Rigg? The accounts are all kept together for each district, and you could see the amounts there. Their account for Hurstville would appear under the Hurstville account, and their account for Campbelltown under the heading Campbelltown.
1093. Is it not strange that you did not open an account with the one firm from whom so much was purchased? ———
1094. You say they were paid by voucher? Yes.
1095. Do you think that the Commission would be justified in supposing that M'Lean Bros. and Rigg from the different works would have got £2,000 or £5,000? No.
1096. If we require your assistance to find these items out, can we rely upon having it? Oh, certainly.
1097. Don't you think it would have been well to have kept these different items in one book? I don't know; I was not an accountant.
1098. You occupied the position of accountant? No; I did not.
1099. What was your official standing? Secretary and Paymaster.
1100. You had no accountant? No.
1101. Do you say that you had no knowledge of keeping accounts? Not beyond cash-books and ledger.
1102. What experience had you in the Mines Department in keeping books? I had no books to keep.
1103. What experience had you in the Immigration Office in keeping books? I simply kept a cash-book there after Mr. Wise had charge of the unemployed.
1104. What is the different class of work that you have had to do for the Government? It has been various. Under Mr. Wise I had charge of the correspondence; I had the correspondence and records, and when I took charge of the unemployed I had those books.
1105. What reason was there for your receiving a situation which was eminently a situation belonging to an accountant, where everything that had to be done relied upon figures? Well, I kept all these accounts for Mr. Wise. There was no elaborate system of book-keeping required.
1106. Fancy yourself a merchant in the city, and would you say if you were doing a business worth £250,000 in 20 months, would you say that it would not require careful book-keeping? These were all the books that were kept.
1107. Here is simply a question of how much a certain firm received for goods sold and delivered, and the only answer you can give is that it can be picked out of the books. You cannot ask a man to believe that there can be a proper system of supervision when you say the amount received by a firm can be picked out of the books? I told you I did my best in the position; I was not instructed to do anything more than I did.
1108. Who appointed you? The Colonial Secretary.
- 1108½. Who recommended you? I do not believe I was recommended at all.
1109. How did you get the appointment then? It was simply a letter saying that myself and Mr. Josephson were to be detached to go with the Casual Labour Board.
1110. Did you know the members of the Board? I knew Mr. Davies by sight as a public man; I did not know the other gentlemen.
1111. Do you think Mr. Wise had anything to do with it? I do not think so; the letter came from the Colonial Secretary.
1112. I do not say this disrespectfully, but do you think if you had a business of your own the transactions of which amounted to £240,000 in twenty months, that you would like to appoint a man with so little financial knowledge as you have to the important position of looking after and checking these accounts? I could not answer that.
1113. If we want a statement of the goods and plant supplied by the different firms to the Casual Labour Board, how are we to ascertain that fact? It can be got out of the cash-book.
1114. As regards individual firms? Yes. You see we would have required a large staff to have kept a complete system of books showing all these things; we understood that this was to be only a temporary thing.
1115. The Commission understand from you that there is nothing to show that either the executive head or Mr. Wells, or Mr. Houison, systematically and regularly checked these accounts? There is nothing at all.
1116. You said that pay-sheets were sent in checking the amounts paid to every man on the works? Yes.
1117. Did Mr. Wells or Mr. Houison attend the office irregularly? Yes.
1118. How often did they attend? Sometimes once, sometimes twice in a week.
1119. How long did they continue to attend twice in a week? I could not say.
1120. Did they attend twice in a week even when the Board was in full swing? Yes.
- 1121.

1121. Mr. Wells was away two or three weeks at a time, and Mr. Houson tells us that he was away for five months at a time? I suppose that would be so, but if they were not at the office, these gentlemen would meet occasionally in the train.

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1122. But could they have an opportunity of checking the accounts in the train? I do not think that Mr. Houson or Mr. Wells ever attempted to check accounts.

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1123. Do you think they attended so frequently to the official duties as to have a thorough knowledge of the internal arrangements of your office? I could not say. They are better able to answer that question themselves.

1124. I will ask you if, in your opinion, you think that the books of the Casual Labour Board were so kept and so examined that the Board could at all times check orders for goods and the disposal of those goods after delivery? Yes; they could tell at any time.

1125. Would it be possible under the system that existed for men who were dishonest to order more goods than were required to take delivery of those goods and dispose of them for their own benefit? If they chose to be dishonest they could do so.

1126. In fact some of the goods charged for need not be on the ground at all? They would have to be on the ground, because otherwise the order-books would show that goods were ordered that were never there.

1127. Did you notice in to-day's paper, in the examination of the man Webster at the Court-martial, that a system was in vogue some time ago as to the supplying of tunics,—that the Government paid for three tunics, and out of that the man who supplied the tunics kept one and gave the soldier two. I want to know whether it would be possible under this arrangement for a system of a like character to exist? No; I think not.

1128. Why not? Because the goods would have to be addressed to places where they would have to go. The storekeeper was always on the ground, and he would see the order that had been sent by the superintendent.

1129. Could the superintendents order the goods on their own authority? No; they could not order them on their own authority. They had to send their requisitions to us.

1130. You also said that one of the superintendents was a man you could place no reliance on? I said I would not believe all the statements he would make.

1131. I want to know whether, under such circumstances as you have described, a man who was not honest might make use of these goods to his own advantage? Yes; if he chose to be dishonest I believe he could.

1132. In certain payments which were made by cheques for vouchers received, did it ever happen that you handed the Chairman the cheques, and he would bring in the vouchers afterwards? No.

1133. Did you ever pay the Chairman for anything before you got his voucher? I would draw the cheque in the ordinary way when the voucher was produced before me and certified by the proper officer.

1134. Did the Chairman ever produce vouchers to you for other payments than the wages of the men? He might produce vouchers and ask me for certain cheques.

1135. What vouchers? Any vouchers.

1136. Would he take the cheques when they were drawn? In one or two instances he did—for instance, he would take Mr. Kidman's cheques.

1137. Did he ever take anybody else's cheques? I think he has taken cheques to M'Lean Brothers and Rigg.

1138. Would there be others? I cannot think of any at the present time. They would be drawn out in favour of Mr. Kidman or M'Lean Brothers and Rigg, as the case might be.

1139. I simply want to know if in certain cases he would produce the vouchers of these people and take their cheques? Yes.

1140. Would there be any other cases;—in matters of refreshment at this Holt-Sutherland Estate, who would take the cheque for expenses? I do not know of any case. To my knowledge there was no case.

1141. What sort of an establishment was kept at the office of the Casual Labour Board? It was a private house, part of which was converted into the Board's offices.

1142. You say that the Chairman was so anxious to be at his work constantly at early hours that he stopped there? I do not know that he was "anxious." He stopped there on some occasions rather than go all the way to Campbelltown.

1143. What sort of accommodation was there? He had a single bed there. He had a housekeeper, the wife of a man who went out working. The woman gets about 6s. a week, and is allowed to live there rent free.

1144. What is the name of the man? The name of the man who kept the house was Baker.

1145. What did he work at? I could not say.

1146. Was he working for the Board? Not that I know of. I never saw his name on the books.

1147. Who owned the house? Burrows & Gleeson.

1148. Had this man who lived in the house access to the papers and documents? Yes; he had access to those that were left out.

1149. You say you are not aware whether he was in the Government employment or on the books, and yet he had access to the books? Anything of importance would be locked up in one of the two safes. We had one upstairs and one down.

1150. That man might be actually in receipt of payment from the Board? Not to my knowledge. I believe these people are well known to the Chairman. That is all I know.

1151. I should think it was your duty, taking the place of accountant, to see whether his name was on the pay-sheet? He was not working in the office; that is all I can tell you.

1152. You told the President that you had a guarantee of £500 a year in the Immigration Office, where you had no monetary responsibility? Oh, yes, I had monetary responsibility. Mr. Wise had £2,000 or £3,000 passing through his hands when the unemployed were under him.

1153. Mr. Wise was responsible for that? But I had responsibility too.

1154. And when you came to handle £5,000 or £6,000 you required a guarantee only of £1,000? That rests entirely with the Treasury; they regulate that.

1155. What means did you adopt to ascertain the correctness of any voucher? The only means of ascertaining the correctness of any voucher is by the name attached to that voucher.

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1156. The officer's name, I presume, you mean? Yes. Of course the voucher would give all the details, and any one looking at the voucher, if it were very far out, would be able to tell if there were an over-charge or anything of that kind.
1157. But there was no check upon the articles supplied? The voucher would be certified by the proper officer and checked in the office. We could not go out to the bush and look up the details. That would be too much to do.
1158. Had you requisition-books? Yes—order-books. They had butts in them.
1159. Who signed for the delivery of the goods? The various storekeepers wherever the goods would go on to.
1160. And who appointed them? They would be appointed by the superintendents, subject to the approval of the Board.
1161. You say they were all in office when the Board took charge? No, not all. If a superintendent appointed a storekeeper he would send word that he had appointed so and so subject to approval. Things of that kind had to be done in a very quick manner.
1162. Can you tell me how many men were storekeepers at the time you took over the business, and who continued to be storekeepers right through? There are only two of those who were there when we began still there.
1163. How many more were appointed under the Board's rule than were in existence when the Board took possession? I could not say. The superintendent will be able to give you better information about the storekeepers than I can do.
1164. What pay would they get? They would only get about 5s. or 6s. per day.
1165. Do you know where they were picked from—out of the unemployed, as a rule? Yes.
1166. Do you know that these men were not appointed as storekeepers without the approval of the Board? I could not say.
1167. Had these men a considerable amount of stores under their control? Not a considerable amount. You see the works were spread about a great deal.
1168. About how much would a storekeeper have? I really could not say. The stores now along the Illawarra line are sent to Hurstville.
1169. What would stores include? Simply tools, shovels, and other implements, and powder, &c.
1170. And also food? Yes. We know that when we send fifty men to a different place we know that rations have to be provided for them.
1171. Were there any other sources from which money could be obtained by the Casual Labour Board than by the sale of timber? No; except that item I mentioned where local residents gave £20 towards a bridge. That is the only case I can think of.
1172. Did you get any money from municipalities, for instance? No; the system adopted with regard to municipal councils was set forth in the following letter:—"I have to inform you that the Board approve of twenty married men being employed for one month, provided they do not interfere with the men employed on the ordinary municipal work, the Government undertaking to pay one-half. The daily wage not to exceed 6s. per day."
1173. Do you know whether there was any plant or goods of any sort on the ground when the Casual Labour Board took possession or took up the general business of the unemployed at the National Park? There would be a lot of goods there.
1174. Was stock taken of those goods? I should think so; but the superintendents would be able to answer the question better. I imagine they did. They had a lot of stock in hand.
1175. How often was stock taken by the superintendents? I could not say. It would be generally when they were told. They would be asked for a return occasionally.
1176. Who checked the stocktaking? I could not say.
1177. Do you know whether stocktaking was checked or not? I could not say.
1178. *President.*] Is this cash-book all in your handwriting? No; that is Mr. Hibble's writing.
1179. Is there any writing of yours in it? No.
1180. Did you have anything to do with the keeping of the accounts there? Only to see that they were kept. I checked them, and saw that they were kept correctly.
1181. Can you, looking at this book, tell us the total amount of money you received from the commencement to the end of your labours? Yes; £240,334 16s. 3d.
1182. I think you told us that these amounts were received always in sums of £6,000? Yes.
1183. Look at this, one of the bank pass-books of the Casual Labour Board. Do you see an entry of £18,000 on the 30th December;—will you explain that? That £18,000 was received in three separate amounts by letter of credit. That is simply a matter of book-keeping at the Treasury, when they have been squaring up at the end of the year.
1184. And they have not lodged all that cash in the bank at one time? No; we never got any other sum than £6,000.
1185. Will you look at this, another bank pass-book of the Casual Labour Board—the entry on the 3rd January, 1889, how much is that? £72,000
1186. Was that in one payment? No; in several payments—each of £6,000.
1187. But as a matter of fact these sums were all placed to the Board's credit in one sum? No; the money was all spent before that. That is simply a matter of book-keeping between the Treasury and the bank.
1188. The receipts of money from other sources—such as from sales of timber—you said in your evidence above do not appear in the books of the Casual Labour Board? No; only in bank books.
- 1188½. I do not want to lead you into any misstatements, but look at this cash-book—look at page 5 of the cash-book. You see an item £38 4s. 2d.? Yes.
1189. Was that a sum paid into the bank by Mr. Davies—you see it does appear in your books? Yes; it is not in my writing, and I did not know it was there.
1190. Look at page 13. There is an item, John Davies £113 9s.;—what is that? That is one of the items which amount in all to about £319, paid by Mr. Davies into the bank. I did not know that Mr. Hibble had entered them.
1191. That represents a sum that Mr. Davies received for the sale of timber and other things? Yes.
- 1191½. Look at page 19, an entry John Davies £76 4s. 11d.;—is that the same? Yes, the same style of moneys.

1192. Also at page 24, an entry John Davies £40 12s. 3d.? Yes, still the same. These are amounts received by Mr. Davies and paid into the bank by him.
1193. Also an entry, page 73, John Davies £46 5s. 11d., is that of the same nature? Yes.
1194. Also page 91, an entry John Davies £20, is that the same? Yes.
1195. Do you know what the total of these moneys is? £334 16s. 3d.
1196. Is that what you believe to be the amount received by Mr. Davies from these outside sources, and paid into bank? Yes.
1197. With these exceptions all the other moneys you received came from the Treasury? Yes.
1198. Was there any other bank besides the Joint Stock Bank that you dealt with? No.
1199. Then your former evidence so far as these moneys not appearing in the books is concerned is not quite correct? It is correct so far as the rough cash-book is concerned. Mr. Hibble has made these entries; I did not know they were here.
1200. Did you go into the position of Secretary and Paymaster immediately the Board was appointed? Yes.
1201. Were you present at any Board meeting when your position or salary was discussed? Well, they discussed the salary, and the Chairman came to me and told me that they were going to offer me £300 a year. I told them that I did not care about taking it, as my salary, with the fees I was allowed, amounted to £420 a year when I was with Mr. Wise, for I was then allowed a pound for each pay, and the Board only proposed to allow 10s. They said they could not give me more than £350, and as they said that this would be a permanent billet, I took it.
1202. Do you know whether Mr. Davies referred to the Colonial Secretary with reference to that? I know it would go to the Colonial Secretary to be approved of.
1203. Were you informed of the result of the application to the Colonial Secretary? I saw the result in the papers when they came back.
1204. Do you see this document. [*Exhibit B8*]? Yes.
1205. Do you see the minute attached to it in Sir Henry Parkes' handwriting? Yes. I may mention as regards my appointment that I never applied for the appointment; I told them that unless I retained my continuity on the permanent staff I would not take it. Mr. Davies said that would be all right.
1206. Can you say whether the orders that came in from Mr. Burrowes for supplies or plant were more frequent than those of the other superintendents? Yes. He had the largest number of men under his control; he has had 4,000 men there.
1207. Was any remark ever made as to his numerous applications for plant and so forth? It was mentioned, sometimes jocularly, over the amount of stationery he wrote for.
1208. Had you any reason to doubt the *bonâ fides* of the different applications? No. I would not give the orders on my own authority, so of course I had no reason to doubt them.
1209. Did you accept the vouchers he sent in as correct? Yes.
1210. Had you any means of ascertaining that these vouchers were correct beyond the fact that Mr. Burrowes had certified to them? Nothing beyond the fact that they had gone through the ordinary routine of the overseers, the clerk, and the superintendent, Mr. Burrowes.

Mr. T. C.
Hinchcliffe.
13 Mar., 1889.

MONDAY, 18 MARCH, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P.,

T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Frederick Wells called in, sworn, and examined:—

1211. *President.*] What position do you hold in the Public Service? I am an assistant engineer, second in command in the Roads and Bridges Department. Mr. F. Wells.
1212. How long have you held that position? The exact position, it is hard to say. I have been thirty years in the Public Service; I should say I have been assistant engineer twelve or fourteen years; but I have been practically second in command for the last twenty years. 18 Mar., 1889.
1213. I believe you were appointed a member of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
1214. And you held the same position in the Public Service then that you do now? Yes.
1215. Who appointed you as a member of the Board? I received a notification from the Colonial Secretary, a copy of which I hand you. I have the original, if you wish it. I produce the original, letter of appointment, signed by Sir Henry Parkes, dated 2nd May, 1887, addressed to John Davies, Esq., Colonel F. Wells, and David Houston, Esq.
1216. Do you know if there was any duplicate of this? I think each member of the Board had one.
1217. And you think that the original was issued to Mr. Davies? Yes.
1218. Was that the first intimation of your appointment? Well, not exactly.
1219. Who had you seen before? Mr. Critchett Walker, the Principal Under Secretary.
1220. Did Mr. Walker send for you? Mr. Walker sent for me, to the best of my recollection. I saw him in his own room, or in the corridor adjacent to his room.
1221. What was the substance of the discussion? He asked me if I would act on a Commission to undertake the dispersion of the trouble we had here in connection with labour.
1222. What are these pencil marks in your original letter of appointment? They were my own notes upon the advisability of what was suggested in the appointment—mere pencil notes that I marked at the time.
1223. Did you intimate to Mr. Walker that you would accept the position? Yes. At first I demurred, and said that it would interfere with my own departmental duties, but as he appeared to desire me, on account of my previous experience in dealing with these men, I acceded to the request.
1224. And shortly after that you got this letter of your appointment? Yes.
1225. Within two or three days? I think it was only a day or two before the Board was begun.
1226. Did you see the Colonial Secretary on the matter at all? Not prior to that.
1227. Previously, had your duties any connection with the management or work of the unemployed? Yes.

1228.

- Mr. F. Wells. 1228. How had you been brought into contact with them before? I was brought into contact with the unemployed for the first time, I think, about seventeen or eighteen years ago. We had the Military Road on the North Shore done by them. That was one of the first outbreaks, and off and on since then we have had the trouble going on. I had even then the unemployed, as they were called, working under me.
1229. Did your Casual Labour Board duties come additional to those of your ordinary official duties? Yes.
1230. You were expected to do both? Yes; I was not relieved of any of my ordinary work.
1231. You did not devote yourself exclusively to the Casual Labour Board? No.
1232. Were you examined before a Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly on the 20th November and 12th December last? Yes.
1233. Is this your evidence? Yes.

Evidence before Select Committee.

1. *Chairman.*] You are next to Mr. Bennett in the Department of Roads, and are, I believe, connected with the Labour Bureau? Yes; I am a member of the Board.
2. How long has the Board been in existence? Since the 2nd of May last year.
3. What are the functions of the Board in relation to the unemployed, so far as finding them work is concerned? Our first duty was to disseminate the unemployed. There were a large mass of them in Sydney, and our first duty was to get them out of town, the free feeding which they had hitherto been receiving being abolished. The first depôt to which we took them out of town was at the National Park. We were able to employ them there on work which was not immediately reproductive, but it was the only place where we could establish a depôt, and do something on the public estate until we could disperse them.
4. Had none of the unemployed been working at the National Park prior to that? Yes; but only in a desultory way, I believe.
5. Some of them were at the National Park before you joined the Board? Yes; but there was no large camp there such as there afterwards was.
6. Your first step was to concentrate them at the National Park? We wished to get them where we could place them at work under supervision, and where, if they did not work sufficiently to earn their rations, they would not receive them.
7. In carrying out this work, did you receive any instructions at all from the Government? Yes; we were instructed from the Colonial Secretary's Office.
8. What was the nature of these instructions? Well, there were our appointments, combined with the desirableness of making a depôt somewhere out of town, and the National Park was suggested.
9. Do I understand that the Government suggested the National Park as a depôt? Yes.
10. Did they issue any definite instructions as to the ultimate disposal of these men at the time you took office? No; it was understood that we were to dispose of them in the best way possible, in view of the public interest.
11. Then, from the time you took office, the whole management of the unemployed was in your hands? Yes; with the exception of receiving instructions and approval, and they came, in every case, from the Colonial Secretary.
12. In every instance then where you disposed of the unemployed in any special manner, had you to submit the matter to the Colonial Secretary? Yes; or the matter emanated from him—one or the other.
13. That is to say, you had no power to do anything without the Colonial Secretary knowing of it? Of course, in regard to the details of roads in connection with the subdivision of Crown lands, as at Gordon, Narrabeen, and Hornsby, for instance, we used our own discretion as to which roads we cleared, having the advice of the Government surveyor.
14. Do I understand, then, that in the case of the clearing of a road it was always necessary for you to submit the matter to the Colonial Secretary? Yes, if the road were a separate road, and away from the Crown lands subdivision upon which we were engaged.
15. But suppose the unemployed were working at a given point, clearing a road, you would then and there, without any further consultation with or notice from the Colonial Secretary, authorize another road to be made in the neighbourhood? Yes. We put them on to such roads as we considered best or necessary in the subdivision.
16. Will you give us an instance? Well, take Gordon, for instance. I have brought with me a map showing the design for the subdivision, and the works which have been carried out. I cannot speak of all the works, because I have not visited them all myself. Mr. Houson has dealt more particularly with that work. The design of which I speak is for a subdivision extending from the Hornsby railway station right through to the sea at Narrabeen. The alienated lands have the owner's name attached; all the other lands are Crown lands.
17. But will you speak more particularly with reference to the Hornsby District—will you give us particulars as to the work done there by the unemployed? Some of the unemployed were there I think when the Board came into existence.
18. Before you took office? Yes. I know that they were in the neighbourhood of Hornsby. I have prepared a statement which will be shortly added to the printed papers on the subject, which will explain the matter to some extent. It is a paper describing the way in which the Hornsby roads were cleared, that is, the roads which I understand from the subject of inquiry.
19. Before you proceed to describe the paper further, I should like to have one point cleared up. When you took over the work of the management of the unemployed you found that there were a large number of them at Hornsby? Yes; in that neighbourhood.
20. Do you know if the lands upon which the unemployed were working at that time were private property or Crown lands? They were at work on the Crown lands.
21. Having them there at work on the Crown lands, had you authority, by virtue of your office, to authorize the making of roads by them on any private property? Yes. I consider we were authorized to make any roads of access to the Crown lands which we thought advisable and advantageous.
22. You were limited to road of access? Certainly.

23. You had no power to authorize the clearing of a road which was not distinctly a road of ^{Mr. F. Wells:} access? No; it would be contrary to all our instructions.
24. Then you were actually prohibited from making any roads beyond those which would ^{18 Mar., 1883.} give access to Crown lands? We prohibited it in our own office, and I am pretty certain that none were made.
25. Had you any instructions upon this point from the Colonial Secretary? We had no definite instructions of the kind; but we considered it our duty to expend the money only for the benefit of Crown lands.
26. Then, so far as I can understand, the matter was left entirely to your own discretion? I think in most cases—in fact, in nearly every case, all the roads cleared and the work done had been submitted for the approval of the Colonial Secretary.
27. I suppose you could, if you chose, have authorized the making of those roads without consultation with the Colonial Secretary? Well, if we were in a subdivision of Crown lands—take the reticulation of roads at the back of Narrabeen, for instance—we should not ask for authority in the case of every road. We should clear all the roads which we thought necessary in the subdivision. Of course the same would apply to the subdivisions at Gordon and Hornsby.
28. *Mr. Copeland.*] In speaking of Hornsby, will you be good enough to let us understand whether you allude to the Government subdivisions or to the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? Of course when I referred to Hornsby I referred to the Crown lands.
29. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] When the Casual Labour Board took over this work at Hornsby, how many roads had been made by the Government under the supervision of Mr. Deering? I cannot say how many. Mr. Houison will be better acquainted with that branch of the subject than I am. I know a good deal of the clearing had been done in the region of the main camp, which was on the Stony Creek road, when we first took charge.
30. That clearing was on the Crown lands? Yes; I am under the impression that a good deal of scrubbing and road-clearing had been done.
31. *Chairman.*] Had there been any clearing or forming of roads on property there belonging to private owners when you took charge? There was a short piece of road leading from the Stony Creek road. That we immediately stopped.
32. I notice that all these plans and tracings have been submitted to the Honorable John Davies? Yes; they were addressed to him because he was actually the working and business head of the Board.
33. Had he the power to alter those plans and to say where roads should or should not go? I think not. He interfered scarcely at all with the direction of the roads. That rested with Mr. Houison and myself.
34. But had he the power to do so had he chosen? I never heard of his doing so.
35. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] You say that all these plans were addressed to the Honorable John Davies? He never interfered with the roads at all—not as to subdivisions.
36. I understood you to say just now that you constructed only roads of access to the Crown lands? That is all.
37. Let me draw your attention to the road marked HHH in the plan shown on Appendix E of the papers;—do you consider that that road is absolutely required as a road of access? It was considered by Mr. Gordon to be a desirable road of access, and at his instigation it was cleared.
38. He is responsible for the road, then? Yes, and also for the boundary road marked I. I do not know much about those roads, but I am perfectly conversant with the others from Junction Road northerly.
39. Does this plan on Appendix E show the whole of the roads authorized on the Burns-Withers property? Yes; I believe so. It shows all the work which I know to have been done by the unemployed.
40. Then if any roads have been carried out by the unemployed other than those shown upon the plan they have not been carried out with the authority of the Board? Certainly not, as far as I know.
41. Would you be astonished to hear that there are some such roads? I have not seen them.
42. *Chairman.*] A portion of the road leading up from the Lane Cove Road to the Vanceville Road is not coloured red—what does that mean? The road was constructed along that portion by the Roads Department for a certain distance, extending it in a northerly direction to meet the work done at Junction Road and the Crown lands.
43. Turn your attention to the east side of the Hornsby Station—to the land running up from the Junction Road to the road marked A? No road has been cleared by the Board there, or if it has been done it has been done without any authority.
44. Would you be astonished to hear that the unemployed are working on that road? They have no right whatever to be working there. This plan is supposed to show all the work we have had in hand.
45. Have you entire control of the unemployed? Yes; the Board have.
46. Would it be possible for the unemployed to be working anywhere without the cognisance of the Board? Certainly they should not be, because the superintending officers report regularly to the Board what the men are engaged upon.
47. *Mr. Copeland.*] Is Mr. Gordon, the surveyor, under your control? To a certain extent he is; he reports to the Chairman of the Board.
48. Of whom is the Board constituted? It is composed of the Honorable John Davies, Chairman, of Mr. Houison, and myself.
49. You and Mr. Houison are the two professional men? Yes.
50. Mr. Gordon is a surveyor in the Lands Department also? Yes.
51. At the present time he is subordinate to yourself? Yes; he is carrying out the work under our direction.

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52. Then for any work which he has carried out, you, as his superior officer, of course would hold yourself responsible? Yes; we have taken his advice in regard to anything which he has suggested as to where the men could be profitably employed.
53. I think you said just now that Mr. Gordon considered that the road marked HHH was necessary to give access to the Crown lands? I think you will see that he mentions it in the papers.
54. What is your opinion as to the necessity for constructing this road? Well, I think it is a very desirable road of access.
55. Notwithstanding the fact that it passes right through private property? Yes. I do not see that the fact of its passing through private property renders it any less valuable as a road of access to certain Crown lands. In order to reach the Crown lands it is necessary to go through private property somewhere.
56. Would it not have been a better policy to run the roads through the Crown lands themselves, instead of taking them through private property? Roads in many directions through the Crown lands were quite impracticable.
57. For what reason? There are very deep gullies running into the Cowan Creek. The road marked "Boundary Road" on the plan is purely impracticable on that account.
58. Would you be surprised to hear that the Committee were driven over the Boundary Road yesterday in a buggy, and that we did not find it at all impracticable? I do not think the Committee can have been on the portion of the road to which I refer. It would entail very heavy work.
59. Since you consider that road impracticable, how does it come about that it is already constructed, and that a portion of it is metalled? I am not aware of its being constructed. There may be a road for some distance; but I do not think it extends any length.
60. *Chairman.*] Is it possible that a number of roads can be constructed without your knowing anything of it? Roads might have been constructed out there without my knowing anything of the matter; but it should not have been done without an order emanating from the Board.
61. Can any one of the members of the Board authorize the construction of a road? The Chairman might authorize the construction of a road if he had the authority of the Colonial Secretary.
62. But could the Chairman of his own motion, without consulting you as a colleague, authorize a new work? Yes; he would probably inform me afterwards that it was being done.
63. Then, as I understand matters, he could, without consulting you in the first instance, authorize works which he might think necessary? Yes.
64. Then, in short, you would have no voice in the matter, excepting the approval of it when it was done? I might be spoken to about the work after it had been started; but in such a case the Chairman would probably have received instructions from the Colonial Secretary. Of course he would not wait either for myself or for Mr. Houison to be there. I am frequently away for weeks at a time.
65. And is Mr. Houison, to your knowledge, away for a similar period? He is frequently away. He cannot now attend the Board very regularly. He attends only now and then as a practical expert.
66. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Do I understand that you sit merely as advisers? Well, we assist to control the expenditure. We fix the price of work done, we set out work, and we see that our officers are doing what is correct from an engineering point of view.
67. *Chairman.*] Is it possible for you to authorize a work upon your own authority? No; I should never do so on my own authority.
68. But have you the power? No; I do not think I have the power. I should probably say to the Chairman of the Board, "Such and such a work is desirable, and had better be done."
69. But you would do that as a matter of courtesy, apart from your knowledge as to your own powers in the matter? I think I have no power to originate a work in the first instance.
70. You do not appear to be quite sure as to the limits of your power? No. Of course, if men were at work upon a subdivision of Crown lands, I should naturally direct any roads to be made which I might think it desirable to clear and open, but I should not think of authorizing work outside of the limit of the Crown subdivision.
71. As a matter of fact you have not authorized any work on your own responsibility? No, except as stated.
72. Of your own knowledge, has Mr. Houison done so? I do not think so. If it were the case of a Government subdivision, and I thought it necessary to alter a line from an engineering point of view, I might order it to be done.
73. Then you think you have power to alter a line of road without consultation with your colleagues? Within the Government subdivision, yes, after consulting the surveyor.
74. When the Board was appointed, how was the Chairman elected? He was elected by ourselves; neither Mr. Houison nor myself could give our time to it. It would be utterly impossible for either of us to undertake the duty.
75. You elected Mr. Davies Chairman of the Board? Yes.
76. You say that the Chairman has power to authorize the construction of roads without consulting you? Yes. He has done so with the approval of the Colonial Secretary. I think that in every case in which he has acted he has had the approval of the Colonial Secretary.
77. How were your powers defined to you? I understood that I was to find employment for the unemployed, and to use them in the best manner possible. I will hand in a copy of my appointment, and you will then see for yourself. [*Appendix A.*]
78. How did you arrive at the conclusion that you yourself had no power to authorize a new piece of work, while you felt sure the Chairman had that power? Because the Chairman is in constant communication with the Colonial Secretary; he receives his instructions from him.
79. The letters come to the Chairman? Yes.

80. But are not the letters and the instructions addressed equally to the Board? They are addressed generally to the "Chairman of the Casual Labour Board." Mr. E. Wells.
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81. But Mr. Davies receives his instructions simply as chairman of the Board? Yes.
82. Would not that of itself imply that he had no power to act of himself? No. It might be necessary at times to take action without waiting for the members.
83. Have you ever, at any time, by resolution or speech, given the chairman to understand that in your opinion he has this power? No. The chairman would inform us that he had received instructions for a certain piece of work to be done. I think in one or two instances I raised objections, and I subsequently found out that there were reasonable grounds for his action. I found out, moreover, that he was acting under direct instructions and in compliance with a petition which had been approved of by the Colonial Secretary. In every case I think he had this approval or instruction.
84. I want to make this matter perfectly clear. I understand from your answers that the chairman has from the first had the power to initiate works without consulting you? If we were available he would probably consult us; but if we were not he would carry out the work and inform us after that a certain thing had been done.
85. If you were about you mean that he would have consulted you? Yes.
86. But if you were not present he would act without you? Yes; he would act, and inform us that the work had been started.
87. In what instance was it that you objected to a work which he had initiated? I forget now; it was in some trifling item. I suggested that it was perhaps not in his province to do it; but Mr. Davies was able to show me the Colonial Secretary's instructions, and I made no further objection. It was pointed out, I think, that the road was made under instructions to give access to Crown lands or for public convenience.
88. Had the Board any power to refuse to act upon the instructions of the Colonial Secretary? I do not think so.
89. You did whatever he ordered? If he instructed us to do a thing I considered that we were bound to carry it out. Our duty was to see that the labour was profitably employed and that the money was not wasted.
90. I will put you a question, which you can answer or not, as you like? Supposing the Board thought that the instructions issued from the Colonial Secretary's office were detrimental to the public interest, or involved a misapplication of the public funds, would they have carried out those instructions? I do not think we would have done so without remonstrance; I feel pretty sure not.
91. You feel that they would have refused to carry them out? They would have remonstrated, and have pointed out they did not consider the work advisable.
92. Would you, as a member of the Board, consider that you had no power beyond that remonstrance? I think I should have no further power.
93. Are you aware of any cases where, without a communication from the Colonial Secretary, work has been undertaken, and roads have been made? Only within Government subdivisions, where we have general instructions.
94. With reference to the roads at Hornsby which are not upon a Government subdivision, did the order issue in every case from the Colonial Secretary's Office? I believe the approval did, if not the order.
95. I am speaking now of the roads on the estate of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? The roads H and I, to which I have already referred, were carried out upon Mr. Gordon's representation, but I think I gave recommendations with reference to the Junction Road and the Vanceville Road as long ago as 1885 or 1886.
96. You recommended both of those roads some years ago? When I say I recommended them, I ought to add, perhaps, that they never came before officially. I was in conversation with Mr. Burns with reference to the Northern Railway, and, speaking with regard to the access to the Hornsby station, Mr. Burns said that if the Government would clear and form a road he would give them the land right through his property. That was long before the time of the unemployed. I think I was travelling somewhere up in the Hunter District when this conversation occurred, and we were talking of the Northern Railway at the time. The Roads Department had already made the Vanceville Road a certain distance, and whether the road was to be taken across to the station diagonally or the other way was not, I think, mentioned at the time.
97. What I want to understand is this: Were the roads marked H, I, B, C, D, E, and F authorized from the Colonial Secretary's Office, or were they made at the instance of the Labour Board? I think they came from the Labour Board. H and I at Mr. Gordon's recommendation. The others were the result of Mr. Houison's examination more particularly than mine. I knew the locality sufficiently to know that the Boundary Road was a very expensive road to make—in fact, that it was almost impracticable; but Mr. Houison specially examined the locality in order to see the best way of giving access to the Crown lands.
98. Do you recollect having any of these roads brought before you for consideration—I refer more particularly to the roads that are marked? Yes; two or three times when we first went to the camp. No one brought them before us that I know of; but they were brought up by myself and Mr. Houison.
99. What roads are you referring to? The Junction Road and the roads B, C, D, E, and F.
100. Has there ever been a proposal that you are aware of, emanating from yourself or from Mr. Houison, to clear a road parallel with the railway line between the roads A and G? I am not aware of any.
101. Do you know whether such a work has ever been considered by the Board? No. I believe there was a proposal for a diagonal road made some years ago by Mr. Symonds, but it would not have gone to the station. I think it would have gone to the overbridge.
102. The road to which I refer is alongside the railway fence, parallel with the railway, between

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- between the Junction Road and road A? It may possibly have been made. I see it is not shown on the plan.
103. Has that been done without your knowledge? I am not aware of its having been done; it has not come before me.
104. It has not been considered by the Board, sitting as a Board? No. Our meetings are generally very short. We make a call at the office for an hour or two to talk over the work immediately before us, and then we separate.
105. Do you keep any minutes of your meetings? No.
106. In the absence of Mr. Davies, the chairman, did you ever hold any meeting for consultation? Not in office; I have met outside on various subjects with Mr. Houison. We have gone together to different localities when we have had to take notes of the work being done.
107. Have you had meetings convened for the purpose of consultation in connection with any particular proposal? No. I think at first we had one or two appointed meetings, but afterwards the members of the Board would call in at the office and see Mr. Davies and see what business was proceeding.
108. Was no record of those meetings ever kept? There has been no record of those meetings that I know of.
109. There were no movers or seconders to anything done? No.
110. Look at the Boundary Road upon this plan. Has a proposal ever come before you to continue the Boundary Road to the railway line? I do not remember any.
111. Take a point about the centre of road B. Has any proposal ever come before you to make the road between the railway station and that road? Not that I am aware of.
112. Have you ever had a proposal brought before you for a street between the end of the road marked street B and street A? No; I never heard of any there. I do not believe any have been done by us there at all—in fact, I am nearly sure we have done none. If we have done any work there I should have been sure to hear of it.
113. Take the Junction Road between the railway station and G. There is a road running to the south. Have you ever had any consultation about a road there? I know of none there.
114. The road to which I refer runs north and south? I know nothing of it. The roads marked red on this plan are the only roads I know to have been constructed by the Board.
115. Look at the road marked H, running out from the Lane Cove Road towards the north, and taking a turn into Burns Road. Has any proposal come before you to continue the road to the Lane Cove further to the north and into Burns Road? No; none that I know of.
116. Look at the road, marked H D, running right into the Boundary Road. Has any proposal ever come to you to make a road parallel with Burns Road some chains to the north? No; I know nothing of it.
117. Would it be possible for any member of the Board to have authorized roads of this kind to be made without your knowledge? It is possible, but not very likely.
118. Do you know Mr. O'Donnell? Yes.
119. Has he charge of the unemployed in that district? Yes.
120. If there are men working on any roads there they are under his charge? Yes.
121. Is he responsible to your Board? Yes; he takes his instructions from us. A certain amount of license is allowed him in Government subdivisions as to where he shall distribute the men for scrubbing and clearing; but that would only apply to Government subdivisions.
122. He himself can originate no roads? No.
123. He can employ his men only upon work which has been already decided upon? Exactly, on work authorized by the Board.
124. If there are men at work on portions of these roads, of which you appear to know nothing, under Mr. O'Donnell's supervision, from whom would he have received his instructions? I do not know. He has not received them from me. If Mr. O'Donnell has received them from any member of the Board, I think I should have been acquainted with them.
125. Does Mr. O'Donnell receive orders from any other source? No.
126. If he has received orders to employ men for clearing and forming these roads they must have come from the Board? Yes.
127. If such orders have come from the Board you know nothing about them? Nothing.
128. It must be the act of some member of the Board without consultation with you? The orders could have emanated only from the chairman; but I cannot credit that they have been given.
129. Could they not have originated from Mr. Houison? No; he would not be likely to do that.
130. You are positively certain that the Board knows nothing about the roads I have mentioned? Quite, as far as I am concerned.
131. Would it not be possible for Mr. Davies to do these things while you were away? Well, he might have done so.
132. His taking the action would be equivalent to the Board taking the action, would it not? Yes, of course.
133. Then you are willing to admit that these works may have been authorized by the Board, in the person of its chairman without your knowledge? It is possible, but I think we should have been informed of them—in fact, I feel certain of it.
134. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] If there are any men working on these roads now they are not working there by the authority of the Board? Well, I suppose that if the men are there they must be there under instructions from Mr. O'Donnell, who may have received instructions of which I am not aware.
135. Do you know of a road running from the Noumea Estate at Campbelltown towards Hurstville? I do not know that particular road, but I know that work has been done at Campbelltown by the unemployed.

136. Can you tell us the character of the great portion of the Crown lands to which access is given by these roads at Hornsby? It is poor barren land. Mr. F. Wells.
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137. When do you think that the land is likely to be sold? Some of it has been sold recently.
138. But I mean some distance at the back of the Boundary Road, where we saw yesterday so much rock and scrub;—do you think this land will be sold within thirty years? I think a great deal of it will be sold.
139. Do I understand that you have no responsibility whatever for road J? Oh, yes, responsible for road J.
140. But not for H and I? They were done without my knowing it. They were considered desirable by Mr. Gordon. I did not know that they were done until I went over the Junction Road and saw them. It was pointed out to me that they were desirable as roads of access from the Lane Cove Road, and I fell in with that view.
141. If these gullies and other obstacles in the Boundary Road were known to exist, why was that road laid out? That is a question which only the surveyors can answer. They lay out roads in all directions, and some of them are very impracticable. In this case there are gullies which it would take an enormous sum of money to bridge.
142. *Chairman.*] In a memorandum of yours, dated 13th September, you mention a conversation with Mr. Burns in reference to granting access to the railway, in view of the line being opened to Hornsby, and you say that Mr. Burns stated his willingness to give the land? Yes.
143. What was your intention at the time, as far as you can recollect, in carrying the road to the railway-station? There was an absolute necessity to give access to the station. There was no access except by going along the Boundary Road or through Mr. Burns's land to get to the road the Department had already made.
144. Having formed the conclusion that it was necessary to have an access to the station, did you think that the road since constructed would be the nearest cut? Of course there might have been a diagonal road, but I doubt if they would have given us the land. I think we should have had to pay for it.
145. But if the road had been necessary, it would have been the nearest and best? The existing line accommodates a number of people, but the other would probably have been shorter.
146. When the conversation to which you have referred took place, did you meet for the purpose? No. I believe I was travelling with Mr. Burns in a railway carriage in the Hunter District somewhere. There was an accidental conversation, which, I think, was introduced by the subject of the Northern Line. The matter never came before me afterwards.
147. *Mr. Copeland.*] What salary do you receive in your position in the Roads Department? £700 a year.
148. I presume that you do not receive anything extra for your duties in connection with the Labour Board? I have received nothing yet.
149. Do you think that you are entitled to anything? That depends upon whether the Colonial Secretary considers that I have done my duty satisfactorily. I have no understanding at all. All that I know in connection with the matter is, that the Colonial Secretary stated in the House that, if the members of the Board did their duties satisfactorily, and managed to disperse the unemployed, and get rid of the trouble, he considered that they would be entitled to some reward for their services.
150. *Chairman.*] Have you any land in the vicinity? I do not own a foot of land in the Colony.
151. *Mr. Copeland.*] Can you state whether, had this land, known as Burns, Withers, and Smith's land, belonged to yourself, you would, in your position as a public officer, paid by the public to see that public money was properly expended, have dared to employ the unemployed in making roads through the property? If I had been a member of the Casual Labour Board, I certainly should have felt some delicacy in doing anything of the kind; but if the matter came before me in the Roads Department, I should have been only too glad to accept the land required for road as a gift instead of having to pay for it.
152. Was the question of constructing these roads through this private property ever submitted to the Colonial Secretary? I think it must have been. I am pretty sure of it.
153. Do you not know that it was? I do not know for certain that it was. I only know that access was needful. The first time we went up to the camp Mr. Koebke was supervising the clearing being done for Mr. Deering. I suggested that the first thing to do was to connect the clearings with the railway-station. It was then mentioned that the Boundary Road was impracticable. I had some knowledge of it before. I knew that the country was very rough. Mr. Houison went out, I believe, and closely examined it.
154. From your knowledge of the country, you believe that the Boundary Road is too rough for a continuous road right through? Yes; and the road would be too expensive.
155. Are you aware that it is already metalled, and that they are making the bridges upon it at the present time? I was not aware of that.
156. Do you know that the Committee drove over the road in a buggy yesterday? I could not have thought it; but perhaps you did not go far down.
157. Are you aware of a culvert existing in the Boundary Road? I am not aware of it.
158. Are you aware that they are making a second culvert there? There may be a small culvert near road C, and one near road B, but I do not think you will find any more.
159. Have you yourself been along the Boundary Road? No. I have been along part of it. Mr. Houison went specially to examine it. I think he has been along the whole of the line. He made a close personal examination.
160. If these Crown lands, a portion of which is shown on the plan, are so broken up, how is it that you have sold a portion of them? I do not know which is sold and which is not.

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161. Would it not have been as easy for you to construct a road on the Crown land as lower down? I have been given to understand that roads leading north from the Boundary Road are already extended into the Crown lands.
162. I mean the road running parallel with the Junction Road. Would it not have been possible to use the unemployed in making a road on the Crown land, instead of on the other side through private property? If the other road had been equally practicable that might have been done, but it was not an equally good road.
163. Do you say that of your own knowledge? I know that some parts of it were very much worse than the country lower down.
164. As an officer of the Department, would you consider the Boundary Road a bad road? Yes, certainly.
165. Is there any portion of it over which, without its being made, a buggy and pair of horses might not be driven? Yes; I am sure there is.
166. If the Boundary Road was so bad, would not that be a strong reason for the employment of these men in improving it? Heavy work of that description is very much out of their line. You can get them to do clearing and light forming with some advantage, but it is no use to put them on heavy roadwork.
167. Your impression is that some of the roads on the Crown lands have been cleared? Yes.
168. Does it not appear reasonable that if the men had been able to make roads through the Crown lands they should also have been able to make this road at the junction of the Crown lands and private property? I do not see what advantage would attach to making this expensive road along the boundary, especially when we had the other road, that is, the Junction Road, given to us.
169. In making that Junction Road, would you not be very much enhancing the value of the land abutting on to it? I have no doubt we have done so.
170. If it had passed through this strip of Crown land, would it not have immensely enhanced its value? If we had adopted the Boundary Road we should still have enhanced the value of one of the frontages of the Burns-Withers estate and others.
171. But you would also have increased the value of one of the frontages of the Crown lands? Yes; but the cost of making the road would not have been worth it.
172. I understand you to say that the Crown land is so broken up that it is impossible to make roads? I do not say that it is impossible to make roads, but it is sufficiently rough to preclude us from making roads with the labour of the unemployed.
173. What is the use of making roads through this private property to bring people to country which is so impassable? The roads do not lead to wholly impassable country. There are tributary roads leading up from the Boundary Road on to the plateaux between the gullies.
174. Do you tell the Committee that you could not have given access to the railway by continuing the A road through the Crown lands? It would have been worse there; the gullies there are perfect precipices when you get more to the northward.
175. Would there have been no chance of continuing the street to the northward of Hornsby Junction? It would have been impossible.
176. Why? Because the gullies deepen so rapidly.
177. The Committee were unable to discover yesterday that this land was so exceedingly rough; but supposing that it is, what chance is there of the Government being able to sell it? That I do not know. As I have just pointed out, you can get access on to the plateaux between the gullies.
178. But there are no means of access through the Crown land? It would be very expensive to do it. In taking the Junction Road we came up to the head of the gullies as far as we could.
179. Are you not surprised to hear that the Committee had no trouble in driving along the Boundary Road? I do not think you can have driven along the road very far. You may go a short distance along from the railway-station end, but that is all.
180. Having regard to the road marked C and I, and connecting the Boundary Road with the Lane Cove Road, what necessity was there to construct road H? That I cannot tell. As I said before, I did not know that these two roads were cleared until I saw them. I found that they had been done upon the recommendation of Mr. Gordon.
181. Do you think there was any necessity to have four roads in this short distance between the Junction Road and road A, making five roads in all to the railway in a distance of less than three-quarters of a mile? I do not believe these roads had been constructed or cleared or even touched by the Board at all. I think that is a matter of private subdivision. I believe it has been done entirely by private people. I shall be very much surprised to learn that it has been done by the Board.
182. Are you aware that this road marked Burns Road, although not coloured on the map, has been metalled? Not by the Board.
183. Are you sure that it has not? No; but I do not believe that it has.
184. No authority was given by the Board, so far as you are aware? No.
185. Were you ever along that road? No; I have merely seen it from the end of the other road; then it was not ballasted.
186. Mr. Gordon is subordinate to the Board, not to the Roads Department; he is an officer of the Lands Department? Yes. Since the constitution of the Casual Labour Board he has been acting under the orders of the Board as far as our work is concerned.
187. Therefore he is subject to you? Yes. We took him over when Mr. Deering gave up charge. Mr. Gordon was managing for Mr. Deering.
188. Do you consider that Mr. Gordon's position warranted him in determining to construct any of the roads without the question being submitted to you as the professional officer of the Department? He would recommend roads to the Board as a matter of access. He would not undertake the works on his own responsibility.

189. *Chairman.*] Would he recommend it to the Board without recommending it to you, or without consulting you in the matter? I do not think he would have come to me. It was simply a matter of access—a matter of clearing. There was no engineering work in it. If there had been any work in it apart from the clearing it would have been left until Mr. Houison or myself had reported upon the matter. Mr. F. Wells.
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190. *Mr. Copeland.*] You and Mr. Houison are professional gentlemen? Yes.
191. Whereas the chairman of the Board is a non-professional man? Yes.
192. Do you not think it rather singular that the non-professional member of the Board should have decided upon these works without submitting them to the professional members of the Board? Whenever professional work has been required I think we have been consulted.
193. Would you not consider these roads work of a professional character? Hardly. The simple clearing could be done by the superintendent on the field—that is, if the work were determined a right thing to do.
194. But would it not be a practical question for you to determine if the road were a right thing to construct or not? I think the surveyor would be as good a judge of that as myself. No professional work would be required. It was only a clearing. It was simply a question of the advisableness of making the road.
195. *Chairman.*] Who decides upon the advisableness? I presume the chairman, on Mr. Gordon's recommendation.
196. *Mr. Copeland.*] I understood you to say that the first proposal in connection with these roads emanated from you in 1885 or 1886? I hardly know whether it was from Mr. Burns or myself. He told me that he was the proprietor of the land. I did not then know that Mr. Withers or Mr. Smith had any connection with it.
197. Which do you suppose was the first batch of these roads to be cleared? I should imagine the Junction Road, being the most essential, and the continuation of the Vanceville Road.
198. You know nothing about road A? No.
199. Is there any official correspondence as to the road emanating from your conversation with Mr. Burns in 1885 or 1886? No; we simply had a conversation. I had no official correspondence. If I had I should have recommended the matter at the time in the Roads Department. The first thing I remember is Mr. Ives' petition to get a road continued from the Vanceville Road to the Hornsby Station.
200. What is the date of that? I cannot say. It is since the establishment of the Board.
201. Is not the petition in the papers marked B the petition to which you refer? Yes.
202. What is the date? 11th November, 1887.
203. That is the first official communication you are aware of? Yes.
204. That is with reference to these roads through the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? Yes, that is the first I know of. I thought at one time there was a petition before, but I have looked into the records and I cannot find it.
205. Do you know whether the signature of George Withers asking for this road through the property of Burns, Withers, and Smith is the signature of one of the owners of the property. That I cannot say. I should think that it very likely was.
206. *Chairman.*] Do you know whether those signatories are living in the neighbourhood? I cannot tell you. I looked very little at the petition to begin with. I know that such a petition came in. It was sent on to us by the Commissioner to be dealt with, and we dealt with it.
207. *Mr. Copeland.*] You say that the Crown lands to which these roads are to give access are very barren? Yes; it is barren rocky land.
208. Is it more barren than the private land adjoining? No; I should think it was very much the same kind of land. I think it is very poor, the whole of it.
209. Of course it gets rougher as you go to the northward. Do I understand that you are the chief officer in the Roads Department next to Mr. Bennett? Yes.
210. Can you tell the Committee what the probable cost per chain for grubbing and clearing these roads would be? In some parts perhaps it would cost from £4 to £5 an acre. I do not think it would go as high as £10 an acre in any case. In some places it might cost £8, but it certainly would not go £8 all through. I can supply you with all the information you require as to cost at a subsequent date.
211. The estimate you have given would be for merely grubbing and clearing the roads? Yes.
212. What would be the cost of forming the roads? About 15s. a chain.
213. Would that include the cutting of the drain and the whole forming of the road? Yes; I do not think it would cost more than that.
214. *Chairman.*] You are not speaking as, I understand, from accurate knowledge? No; because we pay these men less rates than we should pay under ordinary circumstances. We do not want the work to be too attractive; we want it to be somewhat punitive.
215. *Mr. Copeland.*] With reference to metalling? None of the roads have been metalled. Some of them have been ballasted with sandstone.
216. You do not term that metalling? No; it is only rough ballasting.
217. What would be the cost per chain for ballasting? It would probably run into about from £1 to £1 2s. a chain.
218. What thickness of ballast would that provide for? There would be about 6 inches of ballast—perhaps scarcely as much. I know that the roads are only very lightly ballasted. I can tell you the exact cost later on from our own books.
219. Does your estimate of £1 or 22s. include the procuring and breaking of the metal? If you were to include that I suppose the cost would be about £2 a chain. If ironstone were used it would be more costly, but I do not think there is any used there. I am pretty certain that there is only sandstone ballasting.

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220. If one officer of your department has estimated the work at £9 a chain, and another £15 a chain, both of them are very wide of the mark? Yes; it would cost about £2, besides forming and blinding, say £3.
221. At the next meeting of the Committee, will you supply information as to what has been the actual cost of the grubbing, clearing, forming, and ballasting of the roads? Yes; I think I can give you the whole of that information.
222. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Granting that the Boundary Road would be costly to construct, would it cost more than the Junction Road and all the tributary roads together? A long way more.
223. Can you explain why the H road takes such a peculiar shape? I cannot explain that road and the I road. As I have already said, they were adopted on Mr. Gordon's representation. I was not aware of their being cleared until I saw that all the work had been done.
224. *Chairman.*] Are you aware whether the Boundary Road, the Vanceville Road, Burns Road, and the road marked HD would cut that portion of the Burns and Withers' Estate into a square block? Well, yes, a rectangular block.
225. Do these roads bound the estate? I do not know where Burns and Withers' boundaries are. I should imagine, however, that Burns Road was the boundary to Burns' property.
226. Are you aware whether any bridges had been made by the unemployed on any of the roads? There are culverts, I believe, on the Junction Road and on the Boundary Road. I cannot think of any bridge, and I do not know whether the culverts were done by the unemployed.
227. Do you know if there are any bridges on the Burns Road? I do not think we have done any work on that road.
228. If it came to your knowledge now that the unemployed were constructing and making passable the Boundary Road, would your opinion be that a mistake had been made in constructing the Junction Road at all? If they could make a good road there, decidedly but I am certain they cannot.
229. *Mr. Brunker.*] You said, I think, that from the time of the establishment of the Board instructions have emanated from the Colonial Secretary? Yes.
230. Is the Committee to infer that the whole of the work has been carried out under the instructions of the Colonial Secretary? I cannot say whether that is so.
231. I mean generally? Not in matters of detail. These we generally deal with ourselves upon our own responsibility.
232. Not under instructions from the Colonial Secretary? No.
233. I suppose it would be impossible for the Colonial Secretary to give instructions unless certain propositions were made to him? That I cannot say. I believe that we have obtained Ministerial authority for all the roads which we have made through private property. Mr. Davies, however, will be able to give you better information on this point. I saw a number of approvals yesterday in our own office. I was under the impression that all the works undertaken outside of Crown lands had received Ministerial approval.
234. But it would be impossible for the Colonial Secretary to say that certain work was necessary, in the absence of a suggestion from the Casual Labour Board? Of course he would not be aware of what was necessary.
235. You say that the unemployed were at work at Hornsby before you commenced there? Yes, under Mr. Deering.
236. If the land between road A and the Junction Road has been cleared, and if roads have been formed there, that has been done apart from instructions from the Casual Labour Board and from the Colonial Secretary? Yes; all that has been done there must have been done, I think, by private owners. I am not aware of any authority for roads there. There is no authority for any work in that block at all. I thought that the road along the railway might have been cleared by Mr. Deering. It was not done by the Board.
237. I suppose that the first consideration of the Board in making these roads was to give better access to the Crown lands? That was the only thing we considered. Of course we took into consideration to some extent the desirability of access from the Lane Cove Road to the railway station.
238. Do the members of the Board consider that the expenditure which has been incurred upon these roads has increased the value of the Crown lands adjoining? Most decidedly. They would be almost worthless without access.
239. Are you, as a member of the Casual Labour Board, able to say whether the Board have had any communication with Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith; and, if so, whether any of these roads have been constructed as the result of that communication? I am almost positive that there has been no such communication. I know, so far as I am concerned, that since I spoke to Mr. Burns on the subject in 1885 or 1886, I have had no communication with him whatever on the matter. I feel pretty certain that Mr. Houson, upon whose recommendation the Junction Road was made, has not had any. I am nearly certain that no member of the Board has had any such communication.
240. As a matter of fact, so far as you can tell as a member of the Board, these roads have been constructed upon the sole responsibility of the Board? I think so, decidedly.
241. And under their advice and control? Yes.
242. As to this Boundary Road, you say that the inequalities of the surface are so great that it would be almost impossible to construct a road in that direction? Well, it would be too costly.
243. But not too costly if you had skilled labour? I think so—even with skilled labour. Mr. Houson will be better able to answer that question, because he made a close examination of the road.
244. Is it not a fact that with these men under your control you are not able to carry out such works as you could carry out under other circumstances? It is. 245.

245. *Mr. Copeland.*] As a professional man, and as second in command of the Roads Department of this Colony, you say that it would be impossible to make a road fit for traffic in the direction of the Boundary Road? I believe it would be impracticable; or, at all events, if it were not impracticable, it would be much too costly. We should have to make a deviation at each of the gullies. We could not cross the gullies on the line of the road. We should have to make side-cuts down the gullies. It is not so bad at the station end. I am referring more particularly to the gullies further along.
246. Do I understand that as soon as you get away from the Burns property on the Crown lands they become impassable? Yes; the further north you go the more precipitous the gullies become.
247. *Mr. Brunker.*] Can you tell the Committee what action was taken after the receipt of the petition of Mr. Ives? It was referred to the Casual Labour Board by the Commissioner for Roads. It was sent on, I presume, and approved.
248. Mr. Burns was communicated with by the Casual Labour Board? Yes; he was asked to give his consent to the making of the road, and he agreed to it.
249. *Mr. Copeland.*] The minute of the Casual Labour Board on the subject is dated 18th October, 1887? Yes.
250. And was approved of by Mr. Burns on the 19th October? Yes.
251. *Mr. Brunker.*] Were the propositions of Mr. Davies, with reference to the construction of roads, objected to any time by any other member of the Board? I am in doubt as to whether there was not some little matter in which we had a difference of opinion.
252. What road was it about? I do not know now, but it was not one of the Hornsby roads. Mr. Davies showed me that he had the Colonial Secretary's authority for the work being done. I am nearly sure that it was one of the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
253. Do you know whether a large area of the Crown lands at Hornsby have been subdivided? Yes; and a portion of the land has been sold.
254. It has been subdivided and is ready for sale at any moment? A large portion of it is.
255. The bulk of the Crown lands in that locality, I suppose? Yes.
256. Do you know anything of the extent and character of the population about Hornsby? There are a great many fruit-growers about the Vanceville Road, and there are some settlers at the back.
257. Are the roads which have been made by the Casual Labour Board likely to serve the public? Yes.
258. They will more especially convenience the people in the surrounding locality? Yes; I think the roads H and I would be of service to the people on the Lane Cove Road going to Hornsby.
259. If the Crown lands are as rough as you describe, the means of access would considerably improve their value, as they would also improve the value of the private lands? Yes. I ought to mention that roads H and I are merely cleared.
260. I understand that some roads on the Crown lands are cleared? Yes.
261. You were speaking about the unemployed doing some work at Campbelltown;—is it not a fact that they were sent to various localities on condition of the municipal councils offering subsidiary aid? Yes. I know that some were sent to Wallsend, Campbelltown, Parramatta, Leichhardt, &c. The municipalities paid one half of the wages, and the Government paid the other half, to employ local labour.
262. *Mr. Copeland.*] You were saying that roads H and I were merely cleared? Yes; when I saw them.
263. Are you not aware that road H is ballasted along its entire length? No; I was not aware of that. When I last saw it it was only cleared. The only ballasted road I remember seeing was the Junction Road.
264. If a great deal of this road had been ballasted, and if a number of culverts have been formed in it by the unemployed, it has been done without the instructions of the Board? Yes; so far as I am aware, no instructions have been given. Some culverts may have been put in, because Mr. O'Donnell had *carte blanche* to put in whatever he thought necessary for the crossing of the creeks.
265. Although you are a member of the Casual Labour Board, you are not aware that culverts have been constructed along the whole of this road? No; I was not.
266. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] If Mr. O'Donnell has been authorized to construct culverts along this road, and if he has done so with the labour at his disposal, how is it that he is unable to carry out the work to which you have referred on the Boundary Road? Crossing the gullies on the Boundary Road is a very different thing from crossing the water-channels on a comparatively good road.
267. Have you seen some of these culverts? I have seen them on the Junction Road. They are not very big there.
268. Have you seen the culvert in the gully across Boundary Road near C road? I have not seen that.
269. *Mr. Brunker.*] To whom was Mr. Gordon responsible for the work he carried out? He was answerable to us directly for the work. He would recommend and carry out certain work. He would advise as the surveyor engaged on the design for the subdivision of the land.
270. Was the Junction Road recommended by Mr. Gordon? Yes.
271. And approved by the Board? Yes.
272. Do you consider that a road constructed there is as beneficial to the Crown lands adjoining as a road constructed higher up would be? More so, on account of the nature of the ground. You get access by the tributary roads.
273. So far as giving increased value to the Crown land is concerned, you think that the construction of Junction Road is just as advantageous as the construction of Boundary Road would have been? Yes; I consider that the Boundary Road is an almost impracticable road.

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274. Although the road gave increased value to the private land, the Board considered that they were acting in the public interest in carrying out the work as it appears on the plan? Yes, decidedly. If we could have got a diagonal road across the land it might have been shorter, but we should have had to pay for the land. If there had been no Crown lands to clear I should have recommended the Junction and J Roads.

275. *Mr. Copeland.*] Is it not rather a coincidence that the only points of access from the private lands to the Crown lands should be just on the division lines of this property? These lines of road were selected by Mr. Gordon to give access.

276. *Chairman.*] You can see no coincidence in it? No.

277. *Mr. Brunker.*] Is it not true that these boundary lines are also the boundary lines of property belonging to Messrs. Brown, Harnett, Ebsworth, and others? Yes.

278. *Mr. Copeland.*] Was not that property included in the estate originally? Not that I am aware of.

279. Then how is it that the boundary, as shown on the plan, is all coloured yellow? I do not know. That is what puzzled me at first. Vanceville I know is an old subdivision. I do not know the boundaries of the Burns property. The plan also shows property belonging to Mr. Forster, Harnet (Edwards), and Want, I believe.

280. Would that be Mr. Justice Foster? Not that I know of.

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2742. *Chairman.*] Have you been out to the Hornsby District since you were examined previously? Yes.

2743. Have you discovered any roads not on the tracing at that time? Yes. I wish to hand in an Appendix of the roads I know now to be done, in contradistinction to the roads shown on the plan upon which I gave my evidence. The Appendix also shows the estimated cost, at the rate we pay. (*Vide Appendix H.*)

2744. Is the shape of the road cleared by mistake shown on the plan correct? I cannot say. As far as I know from Mr. O'Donnell, he started from road H across to the other road.

2745. Mr. O'Donnell's evidence is that that road does not take this shape? That may be.

2746. Mr. O'Donnell shows that he joined with the road running to the north? Yes.

2747. This tracing does not show that? I did not go down the road; I just drew it into the map to show its situation.

2748. What is this marking in pencil? That is a road that has nothing to do with us, if such a road exists. I do not believe it does exist. I did not see it on the ground, and it was not done by us.

2749. You do not know that it is not there? No; but I do not believe it is there. I did not see it when going along Junction-street. It was not one of our works.

2750. You do not know that it does not exist? I am pretty certain that it could not. I said before that there was a lot of work that I was pretty sure could not have been done, because I was not informed of it, but I found that it had been done.

2751. Will you explain generally the roads that were not on the plan before? I was only cognizant at the time of my last being here of the Junction Road having been cleared, and of the Vanceville Road, and the roads H and I. Of course the roads B, C, D, and F were all cleared. I expected those to be cleared. When I was out on the 1st February I saw that the roads H and I had been cleared; but I was not aware of any other roads than those at that time.

2752. Will you kindly describe the roads you saw on your last visit? The roads I saw work done upon my last visit are the Western Road, that is, the western boundary of the Crown lands, the continuation of road B—that had been done since my visit in February—a portion of Boundary Road, which has been formed as far as road D, the continuation of road A, which has been formed, and the junction to road C on the Boundary Road. The Boundary Road has also been formed from the station.

2753. *Mr. M'Millan.*] That is a road coming from Boundary Road from the station? Coming from the station as far along Boundary Road as practicable. From road D to the Junction Road had been cleared when I was there last; but it has been formed since I was there. The ballasting of these roads had been nearly altogether done since I was there. The ballasting is shown in colours on this map which I now hand in. The whole of the ballasting along Burns Road has been done since I was there; the clearing had been done previously by the owners. The clearing, forming, and ballasting of this road that I have marked here as K—that is, from the Junction Road down to the hotel, the short cut to Pennant Hills—that was all cleared and ballasted since I was there in February. This continuation of road E across to Burns Road I was perfectly ignorant of. I did not go over it; but I saw it from the end of the road, and I was told that it was cleared and formed right through.

2754. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Do you consider that the whole of those roads you recently discovered were in the interests of the public? There is one road that I do not, and cannot account for. I think the others are useful roads in the interest of the public. The road I refer to is the continuation of road E. I do not think that that road is essential in the interest of the public.

2755. Do you think that peculiarly shaped road at the end of Burns Road is required? That is absolutely necessary, only it is badly shown on map. It is not ballasted along there.

2756. *Mr. Copeland.*] Have you not been out to see for yourself? No. I saw it was ballasted from the start; but it is not ballasted all along. I have put it down as ballasted. It is to connect with the Bobbin Rock Road.

2757. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Why did they require a double connection? There are not two roads there. It is shown like that because the road goes round one way or the other; I do not know which.

2758. Why do you want to get a connection with the Bobbing Rock Road when you can meet the Peat's Ferry Road? That was a work recommended by one of our superintendents; it was a voluntary recommendation that it should be cleared. Mr. F. Wells.
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2759. Have you made a reinspection of Boundary Road? As far as road D. I went down the road some little distance, and of course I saw sufficient to know that we should not have made it any further.
2760. Do you think it could have been made passable for a fair amount? No; it would cost a deal of money. I do not think £2,000 would make that road.
2761. If a surveyor who has laid out these roads has stated it could be made passable for about £1,200? It would be a very peculiar "passable." It could not be made a road at all or anything like for the money. If it had been the motive of the Board to do anything to benefit Burns, Withers, and Smith's property, it certainly would have been more advantageous to expend a large sum of money on this road along their property than merely to have made a road which Burns, Withers, and Smith could have cleared for £100; because it need not have been more than cleared by them. It would have been more to their advantage if we had made this impracticable road at a cost of £2,000 or £3,000.
2762. *Mr. Copeland.*] Are you not overlooking the fact that in one case they get only one frontage, and in the other they get a double frontage? I am not overlooking that.
2763. In Junction Road do they not get a double frontage? Yes; for over a mile—for 82 chains.
2764. Would they get a double frontage to Boundary Road? They have one frontage to Boundary Road, which is impracticable.
2765. Who provided the land for that road? I believe it was from the Government Estate. It was laid out by the Surveyor-General's Office.
2766. They not only get a road presented to them by the Government, but they get the road cleared by the Government, and they get a frontage without contributing anything? I believe it is an old Government road along the boundary of the Crown lands.
2767. The evidence shows the reverse? What I am guided by is the plan of distribution of Government lands in saying that it was left along there. It is essentially a Government road, and was left as one.
2768. You have supplied information here with reference to the expenditure? This table shows that there has been £2,365 10s. expended on these various Government roads? I think that is the total.
2769. And then you deduct from that a sum of £56 10s. for the labour of clearing done by the owners, leaving a net amount of £2,309;—have you arrived at that estimate as the actual expenditure, or merely as the estimated expenditure? I have arrived at that as the estimated expenditure.
2770. Being a member of the Board, why are you not in a position to give the Committee the actual expenditure? That it is impossible for me to do. The resident officers pay for all work at piece-work rates.
2771. On what scale have you paid them? You will see by the note in the margin.
2772. That is, clearing 15s. a chain? Yes; £7 an acre.
2773. That includes the grubbing of stumps, the burning off, and everything? Yes.
2774. For 15s. a chain? Yes, and those are very liberal estimates in comparison with what we have been paying.
- 2774½. Ballasting, three-quarters of a cubic yard at 1s. 4d. = 1s. a lineal yard;—by that you mean a lineal yard the full width of the road? Yes; the ballasted portion.
2775. What is the average width of these streets? I do not think they will run above 15 or 16 feet—the ballasted portion. I stepped two or three of them, and they ran about 15 or 16 feet.
2776. What would be 48 square feet to the lineal yard? I have not run it out. I judged it by stepping it at three-quarters of a yard to the yard.
2777. How many inches would that require? For an 18-foot road it would require a solid 6 inches.
2778. What is the roadway? The road is formed wider, but it is ballasted 15 or 16 feet.
2779. You say that three-quarters of a cubic yard would cover a lineal yard, and allowing the road to be 15 or 16 feet wide, that would give 48 square feet? I am not in the habit of measuring that way. I can work it out for you.
2780. What thickness do you reckon this metalling is done? I do not think it would average 4 inches. I do not think it would average more all over.
2781. That is those parts ballasted? It is not very heavily and but roughly ballasted.
2782. Do you give this evidence from your own observation? From my own observation.
2783. And you state here you do not think it would average—? I do not think it would average more than three-quarters of a yard to a yard.
2784. Which would give a covering of what? A sure test would be to take up some yards and stack it and measure it. If you wish you can have it taken up.
2785. How many inches would that give? About 4 inches; I did not calculate particularly; but it is a single stone thick in some places. The stone is very crude, and the roads roughly ballasted. It is not such stone as we would accept anywhere else.
2786. Does that apply to every road? To Burns Road and the Vanceville Road as far as I travelled it.
2787. Did you not see in any parts such a thing as stone 8 or 9 inches thick? No; I do not think so. It is very crudely done: in some places it is a little thicker than in others; but I do not believe, and I am a pretty good judge, that if you take it up it will go more than three-quarters of a yard to a yard.
2788. You estimate it at from 3 to 4 inches? Not three. They are mostly big stones, and have not been properly broken up.
2789. They cannot be very big stones if they average 4 inches? They are not very thick. You could not measure stone like that on the road. 2790.

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2790. If the average is 4 inches, in some places it would be 6 inches thick and in others 2 inches? Very possibly it is; but the only possible way to check the measurement is, as I have said, to take up some yards of the road, stack the stone, and measure it.
2791. Carting, spreading, and blinding, at 1s. a lineal yard;—in this estimate have you included the draining? The draining is included in the forming.
2792. Have you included the culverts and bridges? I have not included the culverts and the bridges.
2793. Do you not know their cost? No; I should have had to take out every one of them.
2794. Do you not think that in preparing a statement like this you should have shown so many culverts and bridges? I could not spare the time to prepare a very full statement.
2795. You hand this paper in as an estimate of the total cost of the work done? Of the roads and ballasting.
2796. Is that a fair way of doing the thing? If you want further particulars I can procure them for you.
2797. But we wanted it now? Well someone will have to get it and take it out for you.
2798. But you as an officer of the Government, went out to ascertain the total cost of the making of these roads? I did nothing of the kind. I went out as a member of the Labour Board, to see what had been done since I last saw it.
2799. Is not that under the Government? No.
2800. Who pays you your salary? I get no salary for it at all.
2801. *Chairman.*] Do you not expect it? If I do get some I shall be very thankful.
2802. *Mr. Copeland.*] At the time you went out there you were receiving a salary from the Government for your services? Yes; but to get that information I should have had to spend more time than I could afford to lose from the department.
2803. Even if you had not time, could you not have stated that there were so many culverts and bridges that you had not estimated? There are one or two I have marked here on the map that I know to exist, but without considerable trouble I could not have arrived at their cost. They would not have made a very large item at any rate.
2804. I understand from this column that you estimate the total cost of the work done on the roads to which Burns, Withers, and Smith have one frontage only is £374 5s.? No, £563 17s. The other figures are after the deduction made by the Roads Department.
2805. The cost of the roads through Burns, Withers, and Smith's property where they have both frontages is £535 10s.? Yes.
2806. In this calculation you seem to have omitted several roads;—have not Burns, Withers, and Smith a double frontage to A road? Yes; but that is a Government road, and the only crossing of the railway.
2807. But have they not a frontage to both sides of this road? Yes; but I do not think we have a right to charge it to them.
2808. You have given in this estimate the cost of all the roads done in that neighbourhood, as I understand it; it assumes to be so;—why did you not include road A? I do not know; it was not done by us. The cost is put down in another column; but I do not think it would be right to charge it to them. You can put it down if you like.
2809. No; I am not going to do your work. This paper presumes to show the cost of the roads entirely through Burns, Withers, and Smith's property;—has not that road A been made by the Government? It was made by Mr. Deering before we took charge at all. Road A was done not by the unemployed under the control of the Board; I believe it was done by Mr. Deering when he had charge.
2810. You know it was done by the unemployed? I do not know by whom it was done; but it was not done by the Labour Board.
2811. *Mr. McMillan.*] I understand that this schedule is made out as to the work done since you were a body? Since we were a body.
2812. *Chairman.*] In your schedule you have omitted to mention road A as being upon the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith—as a matter of fact the road does pass through their property? It does, and is shown on schedule, but not charged to Burns, Withers, and Smith.
2813. Then why have you omitted to include it in the roads in this schedule? It is included in the roads in the schedule, but it is not put against their estate because it is a Government road. I do not think it is in the same position as the other roads which I have charged against their estate.
2814. But the road passes through their property? Yes.
2815. Is there any other road passing through their land which you have not put against their property in this schedule? I will look through the schedule and see. I do not think there is any other—that is, any other in the same category. * * * * Well, I find that a portion of the Boundary Road, to which Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith have one frontage, is not charged against them. The clearing has not been charged against the estate of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, although it is along their frontage. You see it is a Government road.
2816. Although you have a column there showing charges on account of one frontage you have not included this road in that column? No; it is a Government road, cleared entirely at the instance of the Government.
2817. Have you included the cost of the culverts and bridges in your schedule? No.
2818. Or the drain-pipes? No. I do not see any other roads but these two which are in that position.
2819. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] You have included in these columns only the roads which have been constructed since the unemployed have been in the charge of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
2820. Have you any objection to add to the schedule the words, "While under the charge of the Casual Labour Board?" No, I will add those words. I remember that road A was cleared and formed before our Board was formed; but we have ballasted it since.

2821. *Chairman.*] Have not men under your Board done work upon the Boundary Road? Yes; but I am doubtful whether they did any of the clearing. I think that was done by Mr. Deering before we took charge. Mr. F. Wells.
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2822. They have not been upon the work under you? No; not in clearing, but they have done some forming between the railway station and the road marked D.

2823. Is that portion of Burns, Withers, and Smith's frontage under its proper heading in this schedule? One half of the clearing is charged there.

2824. *Mr. Copeland.*] Notwithstanding the fact that the work was done by the unemployed? The work has been done there under Mr. Deering.

2825. But Mr. Deering had charge of the unemployed? Yes.

2826. You are aware that this inquiry is as to the work done by the unemployed? Then I think the better way, if you are going to refer to the whole of the work done there, would be for Mr. Deering to prepare a schedule of his own. It is not at all likely that for the sake of a few pounds I would neglect to make these charges against the estate if I thought that the roads were properly chargeable against it. The charge for the road over the Railway Bridge would be £131, and the other item omitted would amount to £30 15s. The £161 15s. would not make very much difference in my estimate. It is scarcely worth considering. It certainly would not be worth my while to keep these amounts back for the purpose of misleading the Committee.

2827. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] But you have admitted in your evidence that you have not included the culverts and bridges? I am not, as I have said, in a position to give you that information.

2828. Will you add a note to the schedule stating that that is the case? I will do so with pleasure.

2829. We have had it in evidence from the surveyor who laid out these roads, and who kept the books, that the total cost of the roads was nearly £4,000; you say now that the cost was only £2,309? May I ask who was the surveyor who said so?

2830. *Mr. Little.* He would probably be in a better position to give you definite information than I am, being on the ground; I can only give you the amount from my knowledge of the rates we pay, and having regard to the work which I saw had been done.

2831. Do you think the amount Mr. Little has given would be right? I can scarcely credit it.

2832. *Mr. Copeland.*] Are you aware that Mr. Little has given evidence that the total cost of this work on the private property has been nearly £4,000? I am not aware that he has given such evidence.

2833. If he has given such evidence would it be correct? I can scarcely credit that the roads have cost so much, unless the officers have been paying considerably more than the rates which they were authorized to pay.

2834. Which do you think is more likely to be more correct—Mr. Little's evidence from his books or your estimate? Of course I cannot answer for his books, but his answer should be the more correct. If he has been able to distinguish the roads the items of his estimate should be correct.

2835. You are a member of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

2836. Is it not one of your duties to see that the public money is properly and judiciously expended? Yes, as far as it is possible for us to exercise any check.

2837. Would you not consider it part of your duty as a member of the Board to see that proper accounts of the expenditure were kept? Yes; we see that the sheets are kept, but it would be utterly impossible for us to exercise supervision over every detail.

2838. But this is not a question of detail? It is with us.

2839. Is not this a batch of work upon which you have a certain number of men employed? No; we have a lot of work all round that camp. The work paid from that camp extends to Berowra, and half way across to Narrabeen.

2840. If the superintendent keeps an account of the money paid to these men who are working on these roads is he not able to supply the Committee with accurate information? He should if he could distinguish the roads, but I very much doubt whether he would be able to do that, unless he has been to the Audit Office and obtained the sheets.

2841. You think the superintendent's information is not likely to be more reliable than your estimate? I should not give it more credence myself.

2842. On what do you base your rates? On what our officers are authorized to pay.

2843. That is so much per cubic yard for ballast, and so much for other work? Yes.

2844. When the men have natural difficulties to contend with are they paid at the same rate? Such an article as ballast would come to much the same price. You appear to think that I should exercise supervision over these things, but I have no chance of doing so. It would require a far larger number of men to exercise this supervision. We can only estimate what the cost of work is from the rates we authorize our officers to pay.

2845. Do you authorize your officers to pay the same rate over the whole of the work irrespective of the ease or difficulty of the work? The rates in some places would of course differ from the rates in others. For instance the clearing would differ. In my estimate I have taken that at an average of £7 per acre, and I think that would be a fair average for the clearing which has been done upon this ground. I have taken 14s. a chain, and I have added 1s. per chain, so that I may be within the margin.

2846. *Chairman.*] Have you ever had any audit of your accounts? No; never. The sheets are audited by the Auditor-General. They are passed directly on to him; I may say that I have asked the Treasury for an audit of our accounts.

2847. But you have never had a certified audit? Never. I have applied once or twice to the Treasury officers, but they have told me that the matter has not been one of revenue, and that as it was merely a matter of expenditure if the Auditor-General was satisfied with the vouchers which were sent in, it would be considered sufficient audit.

2848. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Is the estimate which you have handed in based upon any previous experience which you have had? Yes; of course.

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2849. You have made roads before similar in character to these? Never similar in character, because they are roads of a character which I should never allow to be made under my own supervision.
2850. Are these prices higher or lower than those which you generally pay in your management of the Roads Department? Very much lower. We want the work to be somewhat punitive. For that reason we only sanctioned a rate which would give the men something like 6d. per hour. We want to get rid of the men. That is our primary object.
2851. Is it usual when you are making roads in the department to pay for the ballast which you take off private property? We have to do so in many cases. In other cases we take the ballast.
2852. When you let the roads out by contract do the contractors have to pay for the ballast? That is their own look-out. That depends upon the terms which the contractor can make with the adjoining landowner. We have a section in the Act empowering us to obtain the authority of the Surveyor-General to enter upon land and to take what we require, but we rarely ever force it. We allow the contractor to do the best he can for himself.
2853. Is this statement made regarding what you know from your connection with the Casual Labour Board only? Yes; it is made in accordance with the rates which we pay.
2854. You offer no opinion as to what has been done before by Mr. Deering, or any other person having charge of the unemployed? No.
2855. Although road A is included in your statement of work done under the Casual Labour Board—has any part of that work been done by the unemployed? Only the ballasting by the Board—the forming and clearing was done under Mr. Deering.
2856. *Mr. Copeland.*] By the unemployed? Yes.
2857. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Does this £131 5s. represent the cost of what was done under the Casual Labour Board? I put that down as being the total cost.
2858. That represents all that has been done on the road? Yes.
2859. By you or by any one before you? Yes.
2860. *Chairman.*] Excepting the culverting and the bridges? Yes.
2861. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Do these prices fairly represent the value of the work done? They do not represent its fair value, because it has been done by somewhat punitive labour; our men earn on the average only 3s. a day. Do not misunderstand me; the value does not represent the value of ordinary roads. If ordinary labour had been paid to do the work, it would have cost much more. The work, of course, would have been much better done; but it would have cost double as much.
2862. *Mr. Copeland.*] Do you think 3s. a day is a fair wage to allow the unemployed to earn? I think 6d. an hour is as much as we ought to give them. Of course, some of them earn 4s. or 5s. a day, but 3s. is the average. The bulk of them are very poor hands.
2863. *Mr. Carruthers.*] You have a note here that the Junction Road and the Vanceville Road are not charged here, as they would most probably have been made by the Roads Department? Yes. Vanceville Road had been made up to a certain point by the department; it was necessary to get through the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith somewhere in order to get to the station. I might have tried for a diagonal road, in the first instance, but I do not think the proprietors would have given it to us on account of the injury it would have done to their property.
2864. As an experienced officer of the Roads Department dealing with applications for making new roads, would you have approved of an application for making these roads under all the circumstances? Yes; that is the Vanceville and the Junction Roads.
2865. And the cost of making them is as you have stated? Yes.
2866. Is that putting aside the unemployed? The work could not have been done at the price named here except with the assistance of the unemployed.
2867. *Chairman.*] In cases where the roads made only give one frontage you have put down only half the cost of making the road? Yes.

End of Evidence before Select Committee.

1234. *President resumes.*] Was that evidence submitted to you for revision after you gave it? Yes.
1235. Do you wish now, having heard it read over, to make any alteration or give any explanation in regard to it? There are one or two little matters that appear to have been omitted in my answers to the questions, and the questions themselves have gone a little away from the form in which they were originally put; but upon the whole it is correct. The answer to question 42 before the Select Committee reads, "The road was constructed along that portion by the Roads Department for a certain distance extending it in a northerly direction to meet the work done at the Junction Road and the Crown lands." That is scarcely a correct answer, because it would imply that the Junction Road had been made first, whereas the Vanceville Road was done before anything was done with the Junction Road. With regard to question 204, in the answer I stated that I thought at one time that there was a petition, but I had looked into the records and could not find it. I now wish to add that my reference was to the Roads records.
1236. I want you to detail for our information, as concisely as possible, the routine or system you adopted for conducting your business on the Casual Labour Board? Yes. In the first instance, after appointment, we met tolerably regularly; in fact, we had regular meetings of the Board. Some minutes at that time were also taken, and resolutions were passed, that is at the commencement. After a time it was found that action was more necessary, and the members of the Board contented themselves with only occasionally coming together. It was found necessary that one member of the Board should be constantly in the office, as we had hundreds of men in the streets to deal with, and it was therefore necessary that there should be one member in constant attendance. So it was necessary that the Chairman should undertake the executive work and be constantly in the office. The first duty that we found incumbent on us was taking over the plant that was left at the barracks from the Soup Kitchen business, and the other paraphernalia for the free feeding of the men, and it was arranged for the distribution of them where they would be away from their old meeting place at the Statue. So as soon as we met some drafts of these men were taken away, and we took offices down at the Haymarket, where they could assemble for work openly

openly; in fact, these offices were afterwards known as "The Casual Labour Bureau." A register was kept and also forms, upon which was entered the particular circumstances of the men who sought employment. The men were then drafted into the Park, and arrangements were made to ration them and supply them with such utensils as could be got together and given to them. They were sent out through Mr. Burrowes, who was superintendent at the National Park dépôt. Work being given them there as soon as they arrived, they had to earn the rations before they got them. Of course at first it was impossible to measure out every particle of the work, as they were sent in drafts of 200 a day. The work that we found for them was paid at the rate of 5s.; but this lasted two or three days only, until such times as there was opportunity given to measure out the work for them. As soon as piece-work could be arranged, they were put on to it. At first they were put on at rates that would give 4s. and 5s. a day, but we found that the pay at that rate was too attractive, and we did not appear to be getting rid of them. So we had to issue instructions to our officers to lower the rates and emoluments, and we have since kept up the practice of giving the men about 6d. per hour. Of course in starting this work we had to take over the ration contract as it existed at the time we took charge. Mr. Kidman was at that time, I think, the ration contractor, and he was receiving 1s. 3d. for a ration smaller than we thought was a fair thing for a working man. We thought we would get better terms by calling for tenders. We called for tenders, and the lowest tenderer for National Park rations was Mr. Kidman, who offered to supply them at 1s. 1d. per day per man, a considerable saving thereby being effected. The ration contract at Rookwood was let to a local man; but all the other contracts fell to Mr. Kidman. At Rookwood the local man was lowest. Our storekeeper gave instructions for rations according to the number of men he had employed, and they were issued under direction of the superintendent. The men had to pay for their rations whether they received them or not; that is to say, they were compelled to take the ration that was supplied by the Government. If they did not take the rations they were, nevertheless, deducted from their wages; but it is needless to say that all these men were in necessitous circumstances, and that they took the rations provided for them. It was compulsory that they should take these rations, including the superintendents and their officers. The payments were made for the men's work by cash on the ground. The money was supplied by drafts made on the Treasury for amounts of £6,000, which were placed to the credit of the Board in the bank. This account was operated upon by the Chairman, solely with the counter signature of the Accountant and Paymaster, Mr. Hinchcliffe, who gave security for £1,000. The pay-sheets of the men came from the superintendents into the office, and they were there signed or checked, and a calculation was made of the quantities, and the exact amount was drawn and taken in specie to the grounds. At first, on large pay-days, we would make it our business for the whole Board to go out to the National Park, partly for the reason that we would be present in the event of any disturbance, and partly that we might have an opportunity of going over some parts of the work and seeing what the men were doing. These payments were made once a fortnight. The pay was then given out by the Paymaster and Accountant, in the presence of Mr. Davies, the Chairman of the Board, who was nearly always there. I think I may say that Mr. Davies was constantly present. Each man received a slip—there are probably printed slips amongst the papers here—he received a slip upon which the value of his work was made out. These slips showed the quantity of work done, the amount due for the work, the amount due in respect of rations, and the balance that had to be handed to the men. The ganger took the money which he received to the men, and it would be seen how the money had been expended. They would settle all disputes there. The gangs varied in number from four and five to eight and ten, as they would agree amongst themselves. The receipts, of course came back on the pay-sheets and were handed in to the Treasury, but they were first examined by Mr. Houison, who generally checked the sheets, more particularly with the object of seeing what the average pay was. These sheets were then transmitted to the Auditor-General. They were witnessed by three or four persons, and they were dealt with just the same as those of any other Government Department, by the Auditor-General. The arithmetic was checked, and the quantities taken out. Although they had been checked before that, still, I presume, they were checked there, and the signature taken the same as if they had been from any other department. With regard to the audit, I was under a misapprehension, when I gave my evidence before the Select Committee, that they had been audited at the Treasury. I asked some of the Treasury officers if they would come and take possession of our books. They told me that there was no occasion for it, but it would be sufficient if they went to the Auditor-General. Of course if the accounts had been examined at the Treasury they would be passed to the Audit Office, so that they would go through the ordeal of the Treasury as well as a subsequent one at the Audit Office. There could not be any simpler or better form adopted by a Government Department than was adopted by us. The forms in which the pay was made out and the amount that every ganger got would be found amongst the papers that were left in the office. Correspondence, of course, was kept in a letter-book, in the same manner as obtained in any other Government Department.

1237. What officers did the Board appoint as distinct from the officers you took over when you were appointed? I do not know; possibly two junior clerks, Mr. Hibble and Mr. Larnach, who may have been appointed by the Board. These are the only two.

1238. Who appointed Mr. Hinchcliffe? Mr. Hinchcliffe was appointed by the Colonial Secretary at the time of the appointment of the Board.

1239. Did you have any say in the appointments that the Chairman made? Yes. When Mr. Hinchcliffe was appointed to the Board, he was appointed with Mr. Josephson to assist us, but their relative positions were not stated, and after we met at the Immigration Barracks it was considered by Mr. Houison, myself, and the Chairman, that Mr. Hinchcliffe was by far the most suitable man to appoint as Accountant and Paymaster. For the office of registrar and assistant Mr. Josephson was appointed.

1240. They were appointed by the Colonial Secretary, but who apportioned their duties? The Board apportioned their duties.

1241. What were Mr. Hinchcliffe's duties? Accountant and Paymaster.

1242. Did you make inquiry as to his ability as an accountant? I had some knowledge of him before. He was in the Immigration Department, and he was engaged in similar work when there. That is how I knew him.

1243. Were you satisfied that he was qualified for the position? Yes. I felt certain that he was a thoroughly qualified man for it.

1244. Then you spoke of Mr. Larnach and Mr. Hibble;—were they appointed by the Chairman? Yes.

1245.

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Mr. F. Wells. 1215. Without your knowledge? Yes, without my knowledge. They were merely copying clerks. The two responsible men who had charge were, of course, Mr. Hinchcliffe, the accountant, and Mr. Josephson, the registrar.

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1246. Did the Chairman mention their appointments to you? Not officially,

1247. Did he have the fixing of their salary and all their routine duties? Yes.

1248. You mentioned Mr. Larnach, who appointed him? That was, I think, one of the appointments made by the Chairman, unless he was sent from the Colonial Secretary's office.

1249. Did you have any say in regard to the keeping of the books at the office? No; very little. I used to look at the bank-book occasionally, and occasionally at the letter-book and the pay-sheets, but more with the view of seeing the average rates that the men were earning than anything else.

1250. Who determined as to the moneys to be applied for from time to time? As soon as we had run out of one amount we made application for a similar advance.

1251. Was that done at a meeting of the Board? Yes; it was done there.

1251½. Are you quite sure that no application was made without the sanction of all the members of the Board? Yes.

1252. How was the amount arrived at for which you applied? The method was a very simple one. We owed £6,000 until we had expended it.

1252½. Had you an overdraft at the Bank? Yes; the bank allowed us an overdraft, and every time that we had an advance we returned the remainder of the previous £6,000 that we had not spent to the Treasury.

1253. Latterly the overdraft was larger than that? Yes; it was some £60,000 or £70,000. That was at the Joint Stock Bank. I think that was a matter of arrangement with the Treasury people; but this amount was made available for us to carry on our payments.

1253½. You told us that the cheques were signed by Mr. Davies and countersigned by Mr. Hinchcliffe;—did you sanction the expenditure from time to times, or did you leave the matter with Mr. Davies? We trusted it entirely to Mr. Davies. It was much better not to complicate matters. During the time I was on the Board I was away 366 days altogether.

1254. Then the Chairman and Mr. Hinchcliffe had the power to draw any cheques they liked? They had the power to draw on the bank account.

1255. Without any reference to you at all? Yes; except that occasionally we saw the bank-book and the money that was drawn.

1256. Have you any private record, or official record, to show how many regular meetings of the Board were held? No.

1257. Have you any record of the number of times you attended? No. From what I can make out from my own diary I attended about 200 times. Some of the visits were longer than others. Some of the visits were only for a short time. In some cases I have been for half an hour at the office; in others an hour, or even two hours.

1258. With regard to this arrangement for expenditure, it was quite possible for expenditure to be made without your knowledge at all? It was quite possible. We had to trust to the *bonâ fides* of the Chairman and the Accountant.

1259. Did you expend any money yourself? No.

1260. Did you ever make inquiry during the existence of the Board as to the way the books were being kept, and as to the arrangements that were being made for paying? Yes; I looked over the books, and I saw all the arrangements for the paying from the start, because I had had considerable experience before in dealing with the unemployed. I proposed that we should adopt as nearly as possible the same system that had been carried out previously.

1261. You have had considerable experience of the working of a large department? Yes.

1262. Do you consider the departmental system and organisation in connection with the Casual Labour Board was as efficient as that in any other Government Department? Yes; it was exactly on the same lines, with the exception that the Chairman was the head of the department.

1263. Both system and organization were efficient? I think so.

1264. And were proper checks kept upon the ordinary expenditure of moneys? I think so.

1265. Are you saying that from your own observation or from what you learned from the Chairman? No. I am saying it from my own observation, and more particularly so from what I observed at the commencement of the Board, when I attended the meetings of the Board regularly.

1266. When reports and statements were made to you by the Chairman with a view to initiating some expenditure, did you take any independent action in the matter for testing the reports, or did you accept them? Sometimes we had a difference of opinion, once or twice, as to proper expenditure.

1267. Can you recollect any case in which there was expenditure on the part of the Chairman in which you took a different view? Yes. I cannot tell the exact road; but, as regards the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate, I took objection to them—in point of fact, I saw Mr. Walker about them.

1268. Are you alluding to the roads that were ultimately undertaken? Yes, they were ultimately undertaken. The Colonial Secretary gave authority for the work being done, and I was relieved from responsibility in the matter.

1269. Then you did exercise your independent judgment? Yes, when it was necessary, and I recollect this as a particular instance. We had a difference of opinion in regard to one of the officers at one time. I wanted to discharge him, and I think Mr. Houston was of the same opinion as myself; but Mr. Davies was anxious to be lenient to the officer in question, so I did not press it. I wrote some very sharp memos. and rather sharp letters expressing my annoyance. I should have retired on one or two occasions—in fact I had determined to retire—but the Chairman stated that it was undesirable in the public interest for me to retire.

1270. Why were you anxious to retire? Because I could not give attention to the work. It was taking me too much away from my own duties.

1271. Was that all? That was all.

1272. Not because of want of harmony in the Board? Oh, no.

1273. What was the name of the officer you objected to? It was Mr. Burrowes, who disobeyed some instructions I had given him imperatively. I wrote to Mr. Davies and complained about him.

1274. Was any attention paid to your representation? He got a rebuke, but the matter was allowed to rest there.

1275. Who was Mr. Burrowes appointed by? He was handed over to us. We found him there on the ground when we took charge. Mr. F. Wells.

1276. One of the legacies you got from the Government? Yes.

1277. Do you know anything of him? No; I do not. I have been informed he was the son of Major Burrowes, who was Deputy Surveyor-General here many years ago.

1278. Is he a professional man? That is why I fell out. I objected to him on account of his want of professional knowledge. He was a very fair manager. He could keep the men well in hand; but when he went to interfere with any of the engineering work he made a mull of it.

1279. Was your objection to him solely with regard to his professional work? Yes; that was what I objected to. I objected to his interference with professional work; and my second complaint against him was his disobedience of orders. I told him to leave professional work alone, and he did not do so.

1280. What were his duties? To supervise generally what was going on. He had 3,000 or 4,000 men at various places on the National Park to look after. He had to see that the men were engaged at the particular work they were put to, to measure out their averages, and see that every man was doing his duty.

1281. Did he supervise the distribution of rations? The rations were issued under the supervision of the storekeeper of the camp generally. At one time he, Mr. Burrowes, began some roads that I objected to. Ordinary roads he could do pretty well, but whenever he came to anything where professional knowledge was required he was not up to the mark.

1282. With the exception of this imperfection in professional knowledge, were his other duties satisfactorily performed? Yes. I considered him a very good man and a very efficient officer. He was good at clearing ordinary gravel roads.

1283. Were not his duties of a highly responsible character—I mean as regards the money he controlled? Yes, they were responsible, because we had to pay on his voucher. As a matter of fact, we had to pay on his voucher always, so far as the National Park was concerned.

1284. Had you to accept his certificate as final? Yes. He signed for the measurements made up by his officers and surveyors.

1285. Was it possible for him, had he been so minded, to rob the department of considerable sums? I do not think that is likely; it would have leaked out.

1286. Would it have been possible? It would have been possible in that or in any other department of the Service.

1287. Then he had highly responsible duties? Yes; his duties were highly responsible.

1288. Had you any check upon him beyond his own honesty? No; with this exception, that men are always ready to cry out when anything is wrong. If there had been anything wrong there would have been checks enough, and some very sharp ones.

1289. Are you able to say from your knowledge of him whether he is a man whose word can be taken? I have no reason to doubt it.

1290. Supposing he made certain reports of a somewhat sensational character, would you feel inclined to give credence to them or not? I should feel rather inclined to doubt them until I first investigated them. He is a man who never tried to deceive me; but he is a very bumptious and particularly talkative individual.

1291. Is the occasion you speak of the only occasion on which you had cause to complain of him? Well, the first occasion I had to find fault with him was on account of the work. I objected to him carrying out work when I told him to leave road work alone altogether. I had to find fault with him always on this account. Two or three times I had to find fault with him.

1292. What is your opinion of Mr. Hinchcliffe as an officer? From what I saw of him he appeared to be a steady reliable officer. He did his work to my satisfaction. So far as I can judge, I think he is a good officer.

1293. Are you aware he had very large sums of money under his control? I was not aware. I do not think he could have very large sums.

1294. Are you aware that he had £5,000 in cash on one occasion? Yes. I have known him to have all that, and he was bound to have it in order that he might pay the men next day.

1295. Would he go alone to pay the men? No; the Chairman would go with him.

1296. What protection had you at the office for such a large sum of money? It was placed in a safe, and we had two constables there at night.

1297. Can you tell us how often you visited the Casual Labour Board offices in a week? I cannot tell you; perhaps about twice a week I might be going down; I counted about 200 attendances on duty, as near as I can judge.

1298. Whenever you went, was the Chairman there? Not always, but nearly always; I generally timed my visit so as to try and catch him; he used to go there about 9 o'clock in the morning, and stay until 11, when he would probably go to see the Colonial Secretary; a little after that he would go down to the office, and be there until nearly lunch-time. On Thursdays he would have a Board meeting in the afternoon, which he used to attend, but he would be there on other afternoons.

1299. When accounts and claims were submitted to the Board for payment, did you satisfy yourself as to their being genuine? They were checked in the office by Mr. Hinchcliffe. I presume you speak of ration accounts.

1300. Not only of ration accounts, but of all accounts? Mr. Hinchcliffe would check these by the receipts given by the officers in the field. Of course you could also check them by the orders given. The orders would be given by Mr. Hinchcliffe for what was required.

1301. Did you adopt any means, personally, to satisfy yourself whether these accounts were or were not genuine? I took no further trouble than this—to see the system was carried through.

1302. Did you satisfy yourself that there was a sufficient check? Yes; otherwise I might have been in the office altogether.

1303. Have you brought with you to-day any documents or records that would be useful to the Commission? Well, I do not know of anything that would be of particular value. I produce a tracing of a comparative section of the Junction and Boundary Roads at Hornsby.

1304. When did you prepare this? It was taken by Mr. Gordon about the time of the examination before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly. [*Section put in and marked D.*] I produce a sketch showing the designs of subdivisions of Crown lands in Manly Cove and Gordon. 1305.

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- Mr. F. Wells. 1305. Do you know the history of the construction of these roads at Hornsby? At the time of the appointment of the Casual Labour Board I went to visit the camp and the works near Stony Creek road, from information I received from Mr. Koebke, who had charge of the work, as to the impracticable nature of the Boundary Road, connecting with the railway station, and I requested Mr. Houison to visit the Junction Road. I had an interview with Mr. Burns some years ago with reference to the Northern Railway, and Mr. Burns said that if the Government would clear and form the road he would give them the land right through his property. I remembered this offer, and I informed the Board of what Mr. Burns had told me a year or two ago. Upon receiving Mr. Houison's report it was determined by the Board to ask Mr. Burns to allow them to take advantage of the Junction Road.
1306. At that time had anything been done on the Junction Road? Nothing at all.
1307. Was it cleared? No, nothing had been done. The Junction Road had not been touched. Vanceville Road, and Burns Road leading up to it, had been formed.
1308. Had anything been done on the Boundary Road at the time you speak of? At that time the Boundary Road had been cleared the whole length as far as the Crown land went.
1309. Then the result of your visit on that occasion was to try and get the road which is now Junction Road, in place of doing anything to the Boundary Road? Yes.
1310. And why? Because of the impracticable nature of the Boundary Road, as reported to me by Mr. Koebke. As I have said, I got Mr. Houison to thoroughly explore it, and he came back and reported to us that we should take advantage of the Junction Road, and run roads of access between the gullies.
1311. Then was the Junction Road gone on with after this? Yes; Mr. O'Donnell had moved his camp up to Hornsby, as the base of the operations—removed from another part of the district.
1312. Previously to that, had anything been done at Hornsby? Nothing.
1313. Nothing on Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's estate? No; the first work done there in the way of road-making was the Junction Road.
1314. Who was Mr. O'Donnell? He was our surveyor.
1315. Appointed by the Casual Labour Board, or by whom? No; I think appointed by the department as a kind of officer. We had him at Eastwood, and then he was transferred to Mr. Deering, and then he was transferred back when the Board took charge.
1316. What course did the Board take as to initiating any particular work which they thought necessary in any particular district? In this case I took the advice of Mr. Gordon as to what roads were necessary. The Junction Road was made on the suggestion of Mr. Houison.
1317. Was any systematic course adopted? No; Mr. Houison would go out there and inspect the district and see where he could recommend work.
1318. Would that be sufficient to warrant the initiation of work? No; he would recommend to the Chairman—speak to the Chairman about it.
1319. Had any member of the Board power to initiate work on his own responsibility? No; not outside the piecework we had already been engaged upon. For instance, in clearing subdivisions, any one of us who went out there might make an alteration, and, if necessary, we would get the Surveyor-General's Department to make the alteration.
1320. Do you know whether the construction of the Junction Road, for instance, was done under any particular authority? No; it was done with the authority of the whole Board.
1321. Before that work was gone on with, was anything further done in the way of getting authority beyond the Board? No; we had Mr. Burns' authority and his offer of the land. I think there was only one letter from Mr. Burns giving us permission to make that road.
1322. Did you undertake it immediately you got Mr. Burns' consent to give the piece of land? Some officer up there commenced to make this road. I think Mr. Dawson was the surveyor who laid it out.
1323. Can you say positively that the officer would be instructed by the Board? Yes.
1324. Would it be in writing? Very possibly not. He would simply be told to clear the road which Mr. Dawson had surveyed.
1325. Do you think the Board would act on their own responsibility in the matter of giving authority? I think so.
1326. Without reference to any other department? I do not think they would confer with any other department.
1327. Do you not think they would ask for Ministerial sanction? I do not think they would ask for Ministerial sanction in such a case as this.
1328. With reference to all the other roads up there that were made by the unemployed during the existence of the Casual Labour Board, were they initiated in the same way as this Junction Road? Which other roads do you mean?
1329. The roads on Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's estate? Oh, they were all initiated by the Board in the same way. We were only allowed permission as regards one road; I do not think we got actual permission for the other. We simply put some of the roads there.
1330. Will you particularise, as concisely as possible, the works that were in existence when the Board took charge of the unemployed? There were clearances being done at the National Park, at Rookwood, at Gordon, and near Hornsby, some works near Heathcote, some work on the line near Carlingford, and at the Field of Mars and Beecroft.
1331. Did you continue these works? Yes. We carried on the works that were begun, just the same as Mr. Deering carried on the works when he took them over from the Roads Department.
1332. Who amongst the officers was responsible for the supervision of the men, and for seeing that the work was actually done? Mr. O'Donnell would be responsible for Hornsby camp; Mr. Koebke, as long as he had work to do at Stony Creek; Mr. Oxley was responsible at Narrabeen; Mr. Burrowes was responsible for the National Park and at Hurstville, and also for the Liverpool Roads; and Mr. M'Pherson was responsible for the road works in the National Park above Waterfall.
1333. Who did the road from Campbelltown to Heathcote? That was Mr. Burrowes, and a man called Boylan. That is known as the Eckersley Road.
1334. Were these officers responsible for carrying out the orders of the Board, and seeing that the men did their work properly? Yes. Of course, the officers were very poorly-paid men.
1335. Had you any occasion to complain of these officers other than the occasions you have given already? No.

1336. Is it your opinion that they efficiently performed their duties? Yes; they were a very efficient body of men. They were not of a sufficiently good class if the work had been going to continue for any length of time, but taking them altogether they carried out their duties very well indeed. They managed to squeeze work out of these men, just about what you would expect from them. Mr. F. Wells.
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1337. Were their duties of a responsible nature? They were responsible for looking after the money and the measurements.

1338. When the men were paid by Mr. Hinchcliffe, was he attended in all cases by the Chairman or another member of the Board? Mr. Hinchcliffe had always one or other members of the Board when there was a big pay. When there was a small pay we have sent Mr. Larnach out and a constable with him; but whenever there was a big pay either the Chairman or one member of the Board—sometimes Mr. Houison, sometimes myself—were present. Sometimes at first when we had a really large pay we all three of us would go.

1339. Did you get signatures on the pay-sheets for all the money disbursed? The signature of every man was given on the pay-sheets. The pays were made in the presence of the storekeeper and Mr. Davies. Mr. Hinchcliffe used to call over the names, and very likely one or two of the officers would be there at the same time.

1340. Would each man get his pay? No; the ganger of each gang would get the pay due to that gang. We would get the amount from each ganger, how much the work would be, how much was due, how much for rations, how much for breakages of tools, and how much had to be given to each man.

1341. Who would know the number of men in each gang? The officers would know that, and Mr. Burrowes would know the number of men under the ganger.

1342. Was it not possible under that system for a ganger and a sub-officer to collude? It is possible that might occur once, but it could not occur again.

1343. How would you discover it? It would be discovered in a minute; if any man was getting any more money than he was entitled to, and there would be a "holloboloo" about it.

1344. I believe several petitions and applications were sent in to you to initiate work? Yes.

1345. What course did you adopt as regards these? I have not seen all of these yet. Some of them I objected to. Some of them came in through the Colonial Secretary's Office. Some were petitions from municipalities seeking to get a grant. I was frightened not so much at the largeness of these grants, but I was frightened that other municipalities would follow the same lines and make application for men. In one case application was made in connection with some sewers which I was not satisfied with, and I raised an objection, and sent in an objection to the Colonial Secretary; but the Colonial Secretary approved of the work.

1346. You objected, but gave way when you saw that it had been approved by the Premier? Yes.

1347. Have you any knowledge of the steps that were generally taken to procure the Colonial Secretary's approval? No. In one instance, I think, the matter was taken to the Colonial Secretary by the Chairman, and that the Chairman recommended it. I think that was the one I objected to. I had a little difficulty with him on the matter. I spoke to Mr. Walker about it, and I think Mr. Walker telegraphed to Sir Henry Parkes on the subject, he being away at the time.

1348. Was there any other petition or application brought before you which you objected to? No; there was a proposal for doing some road-work at Campbelltown. I objected to it, and it was not done at the time; but I think it was done afterwards. I think the petition came from the Mayor of Campbelltown on that occasion. I said to Mr. Davis, "If I were you, I would refuse it, as the road is so near your place."

1349. What was the work? A road for Campbelltown. I think the work was asked for by the Mayor of Campbelltown, if I remember rightly. The road was afterwards carried out.

1350. Then in all these cases, can I take it, you exercised your independent judgment, and did not take the *ipse dixit* of others? I know I exercised my own judgment in every case.

1351. And with regard to the cases you objected to, you only yielded when you saw there was superior authority? Yes; when there was superior authority.

1352. Do you know how it came about that the Holt-Sutherland roads were authorized? I have seen more of it in the newspapers than anything else. I know Mr. Davies and I were in consultation over some of the roads. I was quite in accord with some of them being undertaken. I saw no objection to the main Illawarra Road, the Port Hacking Road, and in fact I would not have objected to the Coronella Road leading to the noxious trades site. These three I approved of.

1353. With reference to these petitions and applications, did any of them come in after the work was authorized? When we were about to start them. As they were on private property, I did not think we ought to undertake them.

1354. Did you call at any time at the Colonial Secretary's Office and represent your opinion about this? No. I called in to see Mr. Walker about the road.

1355. About a road or several roads? I am not certain whether it was one or several roads. At any rate I deprecated making the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate.

1356. Was that before you expressed your opinion to the Chairman? I think it was afterwards.

1357. You felt it your duty to press your opinion still further? I mentioned it to Mr. Walker. I had some conversation with him on the subject.

1358. Was any application ever made to you by any person or company to start or influence any particular work? No; not at any time.

1359. Were you in the habit of visiting the works that were going on? Some of the works I visited, but not very often.

1360. Did you go by yourself, or were you accompanied by any of your colleagues? I went sometimes with Mr. Houison. Sometimes I went down and spent the night at the National Park.

1361. Did you ever go with the Chairman? Oh, yes. I have gone to the National Park. At first when there were a good many men I went tolerably frequently over the works, but afterwards I could not spare the time, and I should have been glad to have been relieved of the work altogether. In fact I went so far as to ask the Commissioner of Roads on one occasion whether he did not think it would be advisable for me to see the Secretary for Works, our Minister, and ask him whether it would not be well for me to retire; but he appeared anxious that I should continue a member of the Board, so I did not like to press the matter further.

- Mr. F. Wells. 1362. You did not wish to retire because of any want of harmony between you and the Chairman? Oh, dear no; Simply because I could not do justice to the business as I would like. Of course, I satisfied myself by visits that things were going on all right, otherwise I should peremptorily have retired. We expected weekly that some action would be taken to close the works. I expected the thing would have been closed long before I had notice. As soon as we got down to 1,000 men I thought they would be closed.
1363. Had you got the number down to that limit? Yes; we had got it down for some time.
1364. Did you think that the works ought then to have been closed? I did. I am certain I mentioned to the Chairman that it would be quite as well to give them notice to close the thing, and he appeared to be of the same way of thinking. There was a time when it might have been conveniently done; just as conveniently as at the time it was done afterwards.
1365. I suppose you are aware that large sums were spent from time to time—do you think that the public were getting a good return for their money? They were getting the best return we could give; but not such a return as I would have liked to have seen.
1366. Do you think that the men might have been employed at more profitable work? I do. If we had had canal work, or something of that kind, we could have managed to have obtained good work out of these men; but if we had put them on railway work I would have been inclined to tell the bulk of them to sit down and smoke and keep outside the fence.
1367. In carrying out different works, was any other labour employed than that of "the unemployed"? They were all "unemployed" from the superintendent downwards.
1368. I mean in the construction of the roads, was there any quarrying or carting of stone or such like done by outside labour? We did employ carters; you could scarcely call them unemployed.
1369. On any large scale? No; not on a large scale. We had no works of magnitude to require them on a large scale. In regard to the carrying of stone for roads, and ballasting and so forth, our fellows barrowed and humped the material, and then we found it advisable to put horses and carts on and make a proportionate reduction from the men.
1370. Did you hire or get contracts for the supply of the carrying work? No; we hired.
1371. Did you employ outside labour and make the unemployed account for it? There would be a reduction in the wages. There would be only so much for the clearing and dragging of the stone.
1372. Was a separate account kept of these items? Oh, no; it would all be met in the value paid to the men.
1373. Was there any deduction made in the contract price or wages of the men? No; I do not think so. The reduction would be in the value of the work. If they got so much for the work, if we got horses and carts, we would pay them so much less. Mr. Houison and Mr. Oxley settled this particular matter.
1374. When you took over the unemployed, do you know what steps were taken to ascertain the amount of plant that you had on hand? Yes; I think there was an inventory handed by Mr. Burrowes to the officers at the time.
1375. Where? At the National Park principal depôt. There were some few things at the Immigration Barracks when the unemployed were there, but everything was sent to the National Park.
1376. What course was adopted to check the plant; were plant-books kept? Mr. Burrowes would keep a man in the head depôt who would keep account of the plant received and schedule it.
1377. Was there any other check? The only check was the supply.
1378. Would Mr. Burrowes have control of any other district but the southern? No; only his own.
1379. The officers of the other districts—Mr. Oxley, for instance—would be each responsible for the plant in his district? Yes.
1380. And for the repairs and renewals? Yes.
1381. Was there any considerable amount of plant purchased from time to time? Yes.
1382. What became of it? Some of it is there at present, or at the main depôt, which is now at Hurstville, but I do not suppose it is worth very much.
1383. Supposing a requisition came in for 100 picks, how did you satisfy yourself that it was a necessary application? I would look up the last supplies and see from them if it was necessary; at first we checked them.
1384. Who checked them? Mr. Burrowes, I think.
1385. Did you do it? No. I have done it once or twice. When there were exorbitant orders, we have gone out to see, and made the men work with some old tools.
1386. Who is Mr. Gordon? Mr. Gordon is a surveyor in the Survey Department. He is the officer who managed for Mr. Deering when he had charge of the casual labour, so his services were allowed to us for sometime longer, as he knew all about the district and the work. For sometime he acted under our directions, but he was not with us actually.
1387. Was he detached from the Survey Department? No; I do not think he was detached.
1388. Who was his superior officer? Mr. Deering.
1389. Even at the time he was working for you? Yes.
1390. Had you any control over him? No.
1391. Had he power to start the construction of, or to clear or ballast, a road? Not under the Board; he had prior to the Board's appointment.
1392. Without reference to anyone else? No; he would recommend.
1393. Had he power without reference to Mr. Deering? I do not know that Mr. Deering had charge; what his powers might be I cannot say; nor can I state what relations he stood in to Mr. Deering.
1394. Have you experienced any difficulty in working with him by reason of his acting in a twofold capacity? No; he gave us advice, and we were glad to receive it.
1395. In the answer to question 18, in your evidence before the Select Committee, you said you had prepared a statement which would be shortly added to the printed papers, as to the work done in the Hornsby district by the unemployed. Have you got that? I cannot lay my hand on it just now, but I will look it up.
1396. Since you gave your evidence before the Select Committee, have you ascertained whether any roads or other works were carried out or constructed without the Board's authority? Not since my last evidence.
1397. You do not wish to explain your evidence in that respect in any way? No.
1398. There was a question asked you with reference to the Boundary Road. You were asked whether it was now constructed? I suppose, as a matter of fact, it has not been, only to a certain length, which I can show you on the plan.

1399. Is it still your opinion that the course of that road was an impracticable one? Oh, yes. Impracticable to make it. It has a gradient of 1 in $4\frac{1}{2}$ going up the hill, and it would cost a mint of money, besides destroying all the frontage. Mr. F. Wells.
1400. Do you know Mr. Burns personally? Yes.
1401. Intimately? No. I know him as an acquaintance; I have met and shaken hands with him at the Club.
1402. Are you members of the same Club? No.
1403. Have you had any discussion with him in reference to these roads since that railway conversation you alluded to? No; only that one discussion.
1404. Did he, or anyone on his behalf, urge you to have these roads constructed on this property? Certainly not. I was ignorant of the country until I gave my second evidence. I knew with certainty the Hornsby Railway Station.
1405. Can you tell us where we are to look for the authority that led to the construction of these roads? I have given you the inspiration of them.
1406. You have given us your version, but where are we to look for the authority, or the records initiating them? There are no authorities or records. Mr. Houston only gave in a verbal report when he examined the roads, and the only authority is the letter written by the Board to Mr. Burns asking for permission to construct the road and his consent. But in regard to these other roads we took possession of them, and I do not think we had any authority for making them.
1407. Did you ever see any authority of the Colonial Secretary? No.
1408. Do you know whether that authority was obtained? No; I do not think that the Colonial Secretary ever gave any authority.
1409. Are you aware that in a great many other cases where work has been initiated his authority is forthcoming? Oh, yes; but not in these cases.
1410. Can you account for this? Simply because it was not deemed necessary to ask where we had got Crown lands to connect with a railway station, and when it was necessary to have practical access to them.
1411. That is only as regards one road, but there are four? And I would have pressed very hard for some of them. There are one or two of the roads that I should not have recommended, but I do not think there is £150 worth of work that I would have objected to.
1412. Does it not appear to you a singular coincidence that there is an absence of Ministerial authority here, and that Ministerial authority has been given as regards almost all other roads that have been constructed? I cannot say that. You will find a number of other roads that have no Ministerial authority at all.
1413. You say then that you took possession of this land and improved the land on your own authority? I think so; it was after Mr. Gordon had surveyed the road. I am not aware whether Mr. Dawson, who was Mr. Burns' surveyor, surveyed this road, or whether it was Mr. Gordon.
1414. Then you are not aware whether Mr. Dawson was the surveyor or Mr. Gordon? I am not. Mr. Gordon was there in the Government interest, and I think it very likely that he did it.
1415. Had Mr. Gordon power to initiate such a work? He would not initiate construction.
1416. You point out two roads on the Hornsby Estate which you object to? I did not object to them, but I should not have agreed to them. I object to them now.
1417. With these exceptions, do you believe all the roads there were necessary and useful works in the interest of the Government? Yes. With regard to the main roads, we shall have to spend in our department at least £2,000, to make good work of it. It is only roughly ballasted now.
1418. Then the work done on these roads was not of a substantial character? No; very poor.
1419. Were they not metalled? No; they were what we called ballasted.
1420. Then it is not productive, it is not likely to be of much service? No; if it came to have heavy traffic on it it would not be much good, and the rain would go through it.
1421. Speaking still of this Hornsby property, and the Crown lands on the other side of Burns, Withers, and Smith's property, could that have been approached in any other practicable way than by making these roads? No.
1422. Are you quite certain of that? Yes; the approaches there are precipitous and inaccessible.
1423. Did the roads constructed on the Holt-Sutherland Estate give access to Crown lands? They gave access to the National Park and the waters of Port Hacking.
1424. But they were not required for the ordinary purposes of the public? No; there were no Crown lands there for sale. But there is the Coronulla Road, which should be continued, and the Port Hacking Road is one which has from time to time received endowments from the Government.
1425. Will any of these roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate be useful roads to the public? The Coronulla Road, the Port Hacking Road, and the Main Illawarra Road will be useful roads.
1426. But in the main they are pleasure roads? Yes.
1427. For picnic parties and so forth? Yes.
1428. Have you seen the subdivision plan of that estate? No.
1429. Do you know that it is a private estate? Yes, I do; that is the reason I objected to the roads.
1430. Were the roads constructed there without any reference to you? I do not think they were commenced. I think we were about to consider them. They had been working previously on the Illawarra Road.
1431. Can you pick out any of the roads you don't object to? Yes; the Port Hacking, the Illawarra, and Coronulla roads, and I think there is another road which would have been constructed with my approval.
1432. How many roads did you object to? I objected to all I saw done, excepting these four.
1433. Do you know how many? There are not a large number of them.
1434. Why did you object to them? Well, I objected to them because they were on private subdivision, and I do not think they were yielding the public an income.
1435. Do you accept any responsibility in regard to these roads? No, except in regard to those I have mentioned.
1436. Your evidence is—you took the course of objecting to them, but they were confirmed by superior authority? Yes. As soon as they were confirmed by superior authority I ceased to object to them.
1437. Are not some of these roads of an unusual width? Yes; some of them are very much wider than was intended.

- Mr. F. Wells. 1438. Much wider than necessary? Not wider than necessary. I understand that some of the roads that were to be only a chain wide were made 100 feet—a chain and a half.
- 18 Mar., 1889. 1439. Did the Holt-Sutherland Company bear any portion of the expense? Not that I know of.
1440. Are you aware what number of settlers there are there? There are a few settlers about Port Hacking, where the pleasure-seekers resort.
1441. Do you think there is sufficient to justify these roads? Not sufficient to justify these subdivisional roads.
1442. Are the roads you made there all of a substantial kind? Yes; they are good, serviceable, gravel-made roads.
1443. Can you tell us the amount expended there? No.
1444. Do you recollect the work being stopped there? No—unless it was stopped at the time I spoke to Mr. Walker about it.
1445. Did you ever hear that Sir John Robertson had remonstrated against the work being carried out? No.
- 1445½. Then you do not know whether the work was stopped or not? No. The work might have been stopped without my knowing anything about it.
1446. How long were you away from town or unable to attend to Board duties during the existence of the Board? I have been 146 days out of Sydney, sometimes as long as thirty-six days on one visit.
1447. Have you been long distances away? All over the Colony, from the far north to the far south and far west.
1448. At places where it would have been inconvenient to communicate with you? It would have been impossible; if they had wired for me in some places they could hardly have found me.
1449. Have you any share in any land syndicates or companies or any interest in any land in these districts? I have no share or interest in any land at all.
1450. Is Mr. O'Donnell an efficient officer? No; he is rather a slow officer.
1451. Is he a man you can trust? Oh, yes, he is trustworthy

TUESDAY, 19 MARCH, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P., | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Frederick Wells called in and examination continued:—

- Mr. F. Wells. 1452. *President.*] Do you wish to make any alteration or explanation in your evidence given yesterday? I do. Circumstances have come to my knowledge since I was here yesterday with regard to Mr. Burrowes which certainly render my opinion of his character for truthfulness different from what I expressed it, and I have also some doubts, which I never had until this morning, as to his absolute integrity. I said yesterday, in respect to Mr. Burrowes, that the only fault I had against him was his want of professional knowledge and disobedience of orders. I find, on looking back to the records, that I had occasion to find fault with him in July, 1887 for laxity in returning pay for one of our officers, who was incapacitated at the time from duty through drink.
- 19 Mar., 1889. 1453. Have you any objection to tell us the circumstances which have led you to change your mind as regards Mr. Burrowes since giving your evidence here yesterday afternoon? None whatever. I asked Mr. Davies this morning for papers in relation to faults I had to find with Mr. Burrowes, and amongst other things this question of the laxity cropped up. I have press copies, made at the time, of two complaints I had to make referring to professional incompetency and disobedience. The first is as follows:—“30th August, 1887. Dear Mr. Davies,—I think so seriously of our ground of complaint against Mr. Burrowes that I cannot refrain from writing to impress on you further that my minute on his report would convey the absolute necessity of recalling all the men from Waterfall that can possibly be drawn, leaving only such quarry hands as are competent to undertake piecework; further, to insist on all road-work in the way of cutting or formation at the National Park or its neighbourhood being stopped until proper supervision can be arranged. I am of opinion the best thing that could be done would be to transfer Mr. Burrowes to Narrabeen, and put Mr. Oxley on at the park instead. We should have, however, in such case to give the latter a fair start to finish the existing map on piecework. Mr. Houson might be able to spare a day or two to do this.—Yours sincerely, F. WELLS.” The following is the second letter:—“25th October, 1887. Dear Mr. Davies,—The more I think over Mr. Burrowes' wilful insubordination in attempting to interfere with road works, after the plain instructions that were given him not to do so, the more angry I feel. I told him in your presence of his utter incompetency on such work, and reminded him of the wasteful expenditure he had already committed the Board to. I subsequently, in the course of our ride, repeated instructions that Mr. M'Pherson was to undertake all road works without interference or control by Mr. Burrowes, but that Mr. M'Pherson would make requisition to him for men. I now hear of Mr. Burrowes having entered on the supervision of Unwin's Road, and having placed a perfectly incapable man in charge there, the result, as might have been anticipated, being a disgraceful mess. I recommend Mr. Burrowes' immediate suspension until further facts are elicited, and a full meeting of the Board determines whether his services should be retained.—Yours truly, F. WELLS.”
1454. Have you seen Mr. Davies since yesterday? I saw him this morning.
1455. Did he give you any papers? No; none. These papers I had in my own drawer. I asked him for any other papers he might have in connection with Mr. Burrowes in order that I might correct anything that was wrong.
1456. These letters were written in October and August, 1887; did you take any subsequent action in the way of getting rid of Mr. Burrowes through his having lost your confidence? Well, he was let off on Mr. Davies's intercession. Mr. Davies urged on behalf of his wife and family that he should be kept on.
1457. With reference to your answer to question 18 before the Select Committee, do you produce the statement referred to regarding the work done in the Hornsby District? I do. This statement is dated 13th November, 1888, signed by me as a member of the Casual Labour Board, and headed “Memorandum by

- by Mr. Wells. Roads cleared by Casual Labour Board near Hornsby." [Copy put in and marked D 1.] Mr. F. Wells.
 1458. In your answer to question 140, before the Select Committee, as to two roads mentioned there, you stated that they were considered desirable by Mr. Gordon, but you did not know they were done until you went over the Junction Road and saw them? No. 19 Mar., 1888.
1459. Before they were finished you knew nothing of them? Before they were cleared I knew nothing of them. It was when I went over the Junction Road in February, 1888, that I saw them. The Commissioner for Roads, Mr. Gordon, and I were in company.
1460. Then they were done without your knowing it? The clearing was done without my being acquainted with it. I did not go down them. I saw from the Junction Road that they had been cleared all the way from the Lane Cove Road; but as I have said, I did not go over them. The roads to the northward I know nothing about.
1461. In your answer to question 151, before the Select Committee, you distinguished between what you would have done as a member of the Casual Labour Board and what you would have done had the matter come before you as an official in the Roads Department? Yes. I said that if the matter had come before me in the Roads Department I should have been only too glad to accept the land required for a road as a gift instead of having to pay for it.
1462. Do you consider that in the gift of the road the Government got substantial value? I do. May I quote a case in my neighbourhood to illustrate this?
1463. Certainly? I quote a case in which there was a great agitation, and pressure was made on the department for a road at Ryde. A gentleman who owned some intervening lands was pressed for 10 chains, and although his property would have been improved by the road in the same way as that of Mr. Burns has been, he pressed for £500 per acre. The Roads Department has no power to enforce what was required except through the Crown Lands Acquisition Act, and the Survey Department has no power either. So that I answer the question that we have got full value for the roads given.
- 1463½. Are there any claims of that kind with respect to these roads? There are claims with respect to road H which will yet have to be settled up.
1464. With reference to question 18 before the Select Committee, you say you did not know these roads were cleared;—are they constructed now? C and A are formed only.
1465. What is formed? Merely shaped, with water-tables thrown up and drainage in the centre.
1466. With reference to your answer to question 196 before the Select Committee, did Mr. Burns commence the conversation with you as regards these roads? It was a general conversation as to the northern line of railway. I believe we were sitting in a railway carriage at the time. He informed me then that he was the proprietor of land surrounding Hornsby station; that it would be absolutely necessary to secure an approach to the station that we should get a road through his land, and that he would give us the land there if we made the road through it. As an officer of the department I remember that conversation.
1467. Was he in office then? No—at least I am pretty sure not. It was in 1885 or 1886. I am nearly sure Mr. Burns was not in office then.
1468. How did you recall that offer? When I went to Mr. Koebke's camp at Stony Creek, and was informed that the Boundary road was impracticable, I suggested to Mr. Davies and Mr. Houison that as Mr. Burns had spoken to me about this, and had offered the road through his land, Mr. Houison should go and inspect the land, and consider whether it would be advisable to accept the offer.
1469. Do you recollect how long a period elapsed between the two events? I think it was on the 10th May, 1887, I went to Stony Creek.
1470. Between the time of the conversation with Mr. Burns you refer to and the occasion of your visit to Stony Creek, had you any other conversation with Mr. Burns on the subject? No. I never had any other conversation with Mr. Burns at all; that was the only conversation I had with him.
1471. Mr. Franklin.] Your duties as principal assistant engineer would necessitate your frequent absence from head-quarters? Yes.
1472. And when at head-quarters your duties were of an absorbing nature and fully occupied your time? Yes.
1473. It was difficult to spare time from your ordinary duties to undertake the work in connection with the Board? Yes; I had to make up for a good deal of it in my own time.
1474. You were under the immediate direction of the Commissioner for Roads? Yes.
1475. Is that gentleman solely instructed by the Minister for Works in regard to operations of a special character? So far as I understand, he is solely responsible to the Minister for Works.
1476. Did you receive instructions from the Commissioner for Roads to act on the Casual Labour Board? No.
1477. Did you get his permission? I mentioned it to him. I was requested to do so, and he assented to my becoming a member of the Board.
1478. Upon your acceptance of the position, were you relieved of any portion of your regular duties in the Roads Department? No.
1479. Did your letter of appointment specify the nature of the work for which your services were required, or the expenditure which was to be made? It specified certain works it was intended to employ labour upon, which intention was never afterwards carried out.
1480. Were you well acquainted with the mode proposed for the expenditure of the funds of the Casual Labour Board? I could reasonably conceive what was intended. Of course I was not made well acquainted with it. I could reasonably conceive what was contemplated by the letter of appointment.
1481. But the general proposal of expenditure would have extended over a great area of the Colony, would it not? Yes.
1482. Assuming that the expenditure would have been in water conservation and works of a like character, would not the responsibility of supervision have been more than you could have afforded time for in addition to your ordinary duties? Certainly.
1483. If anything of that kind had been undertaken it would have been absolutely necessary to reorganize the whole Board or department, and to employ a very different class of assistants? Yes.
1484. At the commencement of your duties, were you satisfied with the field officers or staff handed over to you? Not from an engineering point of view. Mr. Burrows appeared a capable man in dealing with the men—in classifying them, distributing them, and in arranging for their encampment or quarters.

- Mr. F. Wells. 1485. Was the storekeeper a faithful man? He appeared to me to be a faithful and trustworthy man. The other officers and assistants were really of very little account at the National Park. At Rookwood we had Mr. Oxley, an officer with whom we had every reason to be satisfied up to the present time. We have never had any trouble with him at all. But none of these assistants were officers of such status or standing, or in receipt of such pay as to render them thorough reliable assistants. I may state that our Board is an exigency produced in a period of great popular excitement. These men were going down besieging the Public Offices 600 or 700 strong. They even broke into Parliament House, held disorderly meetings round the statue, from 2,000 to 3,000 of them being present. It was not a time at which the Board could readily hesitate in doing the best they could to get them out of the city, with the object of averting danger. That was our first trouble, and then when we got them settled out it became manifest to Mr. Houison and myself that there was a weak point in the system. In the first instance the Board did the duty that they were called upon to perform; we cleared the town of these people in three days. In four days there was not another meeting.
1486. When this settlement was effected, did you take any steps to reorganize or devise additions to the staff? No; we were in hopes from the first that it was only a temporary measure.
1487. Did you make any objection to any individual or to the presence of any one on the staff? No, not until my first rebuke, which took place a month or two afterwards. Then I found fault with Mr. Burrowes for laxity in returning pay. Some two overseers I had to find fault with for quarrels originating amongst themselves. Sometimes minor cases of insubordination had to be dealt with, but nothing more than you might expect amongst a large crowd of men.
1488. Was Mr. Burrowes your principal field officer? Yes. I very soon found he was inefficient in engineering work.
1489. What were his duties? The general management of the camp, the supervision and management of the rations, the supervision of the overseers and surveyors, the marking off of tasks, and we had to take his report as the final officer who measured the work, and to get from him as much of a check as he could give, by riding over at the time and seeing that as much work was done as the overseers certified for. Of course, he was the court of appeal that the men had against the judgment of the overseers.
1490. He was the district officer, in fact? He was the district officer in full charge.
1491. You have stated that the works of construction were first suggested by the Government surveyor; what works of construction were they? These roads.
1492. You say Mr. Gordon proposed the construction of the roads? He recommended the lines of roads to be adopted—that is at Hornsby. Those near the National Park were the first roads we constructed. They were recommended by Mr. Freeman, the Secretary to the National Park Trust. They were recommended in the old times when Mr. Deering had charge of the unemployed.
1493. When did you find the first evidence of Mr. Burrowes' failure in road matters? When I went out there I found that the work that he had carried out there at great expense on the Waterfall Road was a very great mistake from an engineering point of view. It cost a lot of money, and I stopped it; the character of it was so very bad.
1494. Was that road laid out by the surveyor? It was laid out by Mr. Burrowes before the Board came into existence.
1495. In your long experience as an engineer, have you throughout the Colony followed the lines laid down by the Government surveyors? In very many cases we have to differ from them, in matters of gradient especially. Of course, when surveyors used to lay out roads in the first instance they would lay them over a range and right up the tongue of a spur, at an impracticable angle, or necessitating deep cuttings. Subsequently, when money had to be expended, a deviation was necessary.
1496. Would it not have been better, under all the circumstances, to have appointed a road engineer, under your immediate supervision, to have taken control of these works? Decidedly; that was what was wanted—a good officer at a good salary.
1497. Did you advise the adoption of such a course? I spoke of it to Mr. Davies, but he looked upon the Board as a temporary thing that would close very soon after it started, and never be wanted further. It would have been difficult to have got one, inasmuch as we had got our hands full in our department.
1498. You say that your appointment to the Casual Labour Board was made by the Colonial Secretary? Yes, that was so.
1499. Would you have felt competent to decline your appointment without prejudice to your position? I could have absolutely refused it, but at the same time I should have been withholding necessary services at a crisis when I should not withhold them.
1500. You really did not enter any protest to the Colonial Secretary? I demurred some little time to the Principal Under Secretary, and said I could not give the necessary attention to the work; but as I was told that it was the wish of the Government I should take it, I took it.
1501. Having entered upon the duties, did you find work press heavily upon you? No; not at first. There was a good deal of work thrown upon me; but there was a good deal of consideration shown to me by my Chief Commissioner during the busiest part of the time in the first month or so.
1502. On the other hand, if Mr. Bennett had demanded your full average time, it would have pressed you heavily? Oh, yes. I could not possibly have carried it out. It was only possible by the forbearance of the Commissioner that I could have carried it out during the first month. After that I began to resume my old duty.
1503. At what period did you appoint the Hon. John Davies as executive head of the Board? Almost immediately after our appointment—almost on the first day that we took possession of the office. Mr. Houison and I agreed that we should appoint Mr. Davies as head of the Board and as Chairman. On my return I reported what I had done to Mr. Walker, and I told Mr. Walker that we could not give the whole of the time that Mr. Davies was able to give to the appointment.
1504. You do not know whether any such action was indicated to you as the proper thing to do? No.
1505. Was it not somewhat for the purpose of relieving the professional members of the Board of a portion of their responsibilities? Yes; we could not have attended to the executive work. I was thirty-six days absent from Sydney at one time on my official duties, and two or three times I have been eighteen or nineteen days away.
1506. After this first month were arrangements made for the Chairman to act independently in your absence

absence with the full authority of the Board? Yes, but he would endeavour to see the other members. Mr. F. Wells.
Mr. Houison was able to attend more than I could do. If I knew Mr. Houison was away, I gave whatever assistance I could, and attended to anything that might require attention. 19 Mar., 1889.

1507. Was it understood that each of the members were equally responsible? Yes; about equally.

1508. Could the chairman act upon his own responsibility, reporting things periodically to you and you approved? Yes; it would not have done to have kept everything waiting until we returned or until a quorum of the Board could be formed.

1509. You had every confidence in the Chairman? I had every confidence in him—I never had any reason to doubt him.

1510. Had he the ability to initiate and carry on the work to your satisfaction? Yes. Of course in any large work he would wait until he saw Mr. Houison or myself.

1511. And you were always willing to accept the responsibility of any action taken by the Chairman during your absence? Yes; except where, in the cases I have mentioned, I raised objection.

1512. There were cases in which you raised objections, and then your objections ceased? Yes.

1513. It has been shown in the evidence that the expenditure reached a sum of £240,000 during the twenty months' time that the Board existed? Yes.

1514. This amount was expended within a radius of 30 miles of the metropolis? Yes.

1515. Taking the coast-line as a base, would not this represent a semicircle containing an area of 1,410 square miles? Yes.

1516. That would take in the extreme limits? Yes.

1517. What is the approximate area of New South Wales? The approximate area of New South Wales is, I think, 250,000 square miles.

1518. That would represent 177th part of the whole area of the colony. Then the expenditure of the Casual Labour Board would be proportionate to the expenditure of about £25,000,000 per year on public works in the Colony? Yes.

1519. What is the amount of the expenditure of the Roads Department on the whole of the works throughout the Colony now? Half a million pounds.

1520. What amount of this would be expended on the area supervised by the Casual Labour Board? There was not a very large expenditure on that particular area, or, rather, the areas upon which the moneys of the Board were expended, because their labour was not utilised upon any of the heavily-endowed roads. Nothing had been done to them.

1521. I suppose a fair proportion of the annual vote would be expended within the metropolitan semicircle? Yes; I may state that these works, being the nearest to Sydney, and many of them being roads that would have been done by the department, if they had found time, they would have been the easiest taken up by the Casual Labour Board. To send these men distances into the interior would have been useless.

1522. You would not send them into the interior with the field staff you had to manage then? No; at the same time, when our works were going on in the Roads Department we employed a large number of the unemployed.

1523. On your own account? Yes; I had a number of unemployed, quite detached from the others, working on the Military Road from Watson's Bay to Bondi, and Mr. Coleman had a large number at work at the Spit Road. We also sent a goodly number of men to contractors, and to different places where works were going on; but on these works we had a better class of men. The men out at the National Park were scrubbing and clearing and learning to work.

1524. Did these men work under the supervision of the officers of the Roads Department? Not those at National Park. The other works I have spoken of were done under the department and the supervision of the officers of the department.

1525. What amount of supervision is given over the area in the semicircle by the Roads Department at the head-quarters and in the field. What number of officers would be employed by the Roads Department in that area? Only three—Mr. Dayson, Mr. Gunter, and Mr. Miller would cover all the area.

1526. Would those three be equal to the men who had charge of the Casual Labour Board work? They were superior, better men, more experienced in the class of work.

1527. Considering the limited area upon which expenditure was made, don't you think the sum of £12,000 per month was rather extraordinary? The expenditure was not regulated by the work, but by the men we had to find employment for.

1528. Was not the work very much greater than in the largest district in the service? Yes; very much greater.

1529. In your experience, does not the construction of a railway greatly enhance the value of agricultural lands? Yes; very much.

1530. And in a greater ratio near a railway station? Yes.

1531. Under such circumstances, is it not a common thing for speculators to purchase unimproved forest lands for subdivision and sale? Yes.

1532. And is it not usual to cut up land to produce frontages to the extent sometimes of one-fifth of the area? I cannot answer as to the amount; it is the custom to cut them up. A good deal would depend upon the nature of the ground.

1532½. And in many cases this simple superficial clearing is all that is done to such roads? Of late years it has been the custom to clear them in this superficial manner, but in some cases they have been thoroughly cleared.

1533. In any case, by this simple expedient is not the value of the land greatly enhanced? The land is seen, and it certainly causes it to attain a higher price at a sale than it otherwise would do, but I do not think it increases the intrinsic value of the land.

1534. It shows what the land is like. In fact, for simple bush land they would give a small price, and with scrubbing and clearing and laying out roads they would get a good deal? Yes; I imagine so.

1535. Have not the operations of the Casual Labour Board placed the Holt-Sutherland Estate and the Hornsby Estate in a similar position to that to which I have referred—I mean the clearing of these roads and the division into sections? There is no doubt it materially enhances the sale price of the land.

1536. As a matter of fact they never attempt to sell until the lands have been cleared? Well, it is not very many years since the practice first obtained of clearing. It was a novelty when they began clearing the roads on this Holt-Sutherland Estate.

- Mr. F. Wells. 1537. That was a very great improvement when they began to clear these roads? You must remember that these roads were cleared before.
- 19 Mar., 1889. 1538. But any further clearing would enhance the value of them? Yes.
1539. And that was done by the Government? It was done by the Casual Labour Board. The Holt-Sutherland was one of the first estates I saw laid out in that way.
1540. It is a common practice now. They never attempt to sell until so much work has been done? No.
1541. Is it not a fact that in these districts additional work has been done, such as ballasting and the construction of bridges and culverts—that, in fact, more improvements have been carried out than those of the ordinary character, such as speculators would effect? Yes; forming and that kind of thing is beyond the practice of the speculator.
1542. You stated in your evidence before the Select Committee that the cost of clearing was 14s. per chain—£7 an acre? Yes. It would, however, be from £4 to £5 per acre in places.
1543. It would be safe to state £7 as an average for the long line roads? Yes.
1544. Forming would be 15s.? Yes.
1545. Ballast— $\frac{3}{4}$ cubic yard to the yard—at 1s. 4d. per yard, £1 2s.; carting, spreading, and blinding, 1s. per lineal yard, would bring the amount in all to £3 15s.? Yes. Those are generally the rates we paid. I know I have given the full value, having regard to the inferior character of the work, because, as I have stated before, the work is such that in the department we would not tolerate it. It was inferior work; but of the roads that we put down, £3 15s. a chain was a fair estimate of their value.
1546. That is nearly £37 an acre? Yes, at the reduced rates that we were paying the men.
1547. If this land was given, as it has been said, without charge, in the case of the Hornsby roads, by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, it seems that the Government has given over to these men per acre the full value of it? That would be very much less than the value of the land.
1548. Oh, yes, but is it not very much more than the usual speculators would do? That has nothing to do with the agreement that Mr. Burns made with us. If it had been made with us—I am alluding to the Roads Department—it would have been a matter of £2,000, because we should have made it after our own fashion, and we shall have to do it yet: Either the Roads Department will have to make them, or if there is a Local Government Act passed, the local governing body will have to make these roads at very considerable cost.
1549. At any rate, they have got the advantage of the clearing of these roads with the parallelograms and frontages, more than any speculator would have done for a sale? Certainly no speculator would have done more than the clearing; £120 would have done all that they required in merely clearing the roads. That would have left the land open.
1550. Assuming that the Boundary Road was necessary for the traffic from the railway station to the back lands, this land would have remained in its original state of forest land without a road crossing it? It would have remained so unless Mr. Burns chose to make a road for himself.
1551. The land lying near a railway station, bounded by two lines of railway, it would have been to their interest to have cleared as soon as possible? I cannot say what their interest was. I was glad indeed to get the consideration I did—the right to form a road through the property. They decidedly have an advantage, but the general public have a very much greater advantage. I do not know that the owners are satisfied.
1552. They cannot have any complaint against the Government surely? Well, their consent as regards the Junction Road was a clearly defined thing between Mr. Burns and myself when he made his offer to me that he would give us the road to the Roads Department if we properly cleared and made it. Then in regard to the tributary roads, Mr. Houson and Mr. Gordon suggested those, and I do not know what terms we are getting them on. I think we took possession of them without Mr. Burns' consent.
1553. Did it not occur to you that it was a large expenditure on a small estate? No; I do not think that the few hundred pounds spent on the estate is a very large sum. The amounts actually expended on the Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate are £347 5s., £228. I produce a document the same as Appendix H in my evidence before the Select Committee, showing the expenditure in detail. I would also add that in the document I made a special note that I had not included the cost of the bridges because I had not been able to ascertain it. I have ascertained since that the cost is £408 10s., signed by Mr. O'Donnell. These are the bridges upon the whole of the roads, and there is included crossings, culverts, pipes, and causeways. I give the following summary of the costs:—1 set of drain-pipes, £63; 11 crossings, £33; 1 causeway, £70; 6 bridges, £176 10s.; 5 culverts, £58; 2 culverts redecked, £8; total, £408 10s. £450 would represent the total expenditure on culverts, bridges, &c., on the Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate and private properties adjoining at Hornsby.
1554. Can you tell how many chains of road have been formed on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Not from memory, but it is in the evidence. There is the list, from which it appears that there are 3,461 chains on the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
1555. And how many chains are formed on Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's land? On Burns, Withers, and Smith's and the adjoining private lands there is a total of 463 chains, including some Government roads that are ballasted.
1556. Do you consider the Boundary Road from the overbridge near the Railway Station to be impracticable? The road to the overbridge is a passable road down to point D.
1557. It is practicable for traffic? Yes.
1558. The extension of Vanceville Road to that part of Boundary Road you consider was justifiable? Yes. That is the natural road to the railway.
1559. The extension from the Vanceville Road, nearly westward to point D, was perfectly justified? Yes; that is part of the continuation of the road across the railway line to the overbridge—the continuation going to the railway station.
1560. What is the length of the extension of the Vanceville Road to the Junction and Boundary Roads? I cannot tell you.
1561. Could you undertake to put in the figures? No; because it would have to be specially taken.
1562. Was any portion of the Vanceville Road ballasted? It was all ballasted along the Junction Road, but not ballasted above that. The northern roads have not been ballasted.
1563. As you feel that this road was justified, why was the Junction Road extended towards the station parallel to the Boundary Road? Because one was the means of access to the back of the station.

1564. You do not consider that the road leading to the practical part of the Boundary Road was a sufficient approach to the station? No; not without making a sufficient extension of the Junction Road.
1565. At what date was it determined to deviate from the Boundary Road? It would be in May, 1887. I think on the 10th May when we went to the camp at Koebke's. After that Mr. Houison explored the road and reported to me in the office.
1566. On what date did Mr. Gordon take the angle of the incline showing the obstruction on the Boundary Road? I cannot tell you that.
1567. Will you look at Appendix marked D, showing the section of the obstruction—you will see that it is shown to have a grade of 1 in $4\frac{1}{2}$;—does that grade represent the actual formation? It represents the ruling grades through the cliffs. There are stiff cliffs and rock barriers there. The total rise is 100 feet.
1568. It was not contemplated to raise the level by a bridge or to reduce the top of the hill by cutting? You could not have cut to any great depth. It would have been possible to have raised the level of the road by a bridge 20 feet, and to have reduced the top by 5 feet, but it would still have been a very steep grade.
1569. The works at Hornsby and on the Holt-Sutherland Estate would be carried on simultaneously with the construction of the railways? No; works on the Holt-Sutherland Estate were going on where the railway passed through.
1570. Not at the hands of the Directors? Oh, yes.
1571. That would not be the case at Hornsby? At Hornsby the North Shore line of railway runs parallel with these works.
1572. Was not the North Shore railway under construction during the progress of this work on Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate? Yes.
1573. So that the cartage of material would be brought into competition with the cartage on the railway works? No, there was no carting at the railway works. The ballasting was brought in by train. I do not think that in the carting there could be any competition.
1574. You say you approve of three of the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I approve of the three I have mentioned, and I think of a fourth.
1575. But there are a number of roads which I suppose you do not know any particulars of at all? There were a number of roads cleared which were not done with my knowledge or sanction at all.
1576. And you, so far as possible, opposed those works? I protested against them to the Chairman, and upon his showing Sir Henry Parkes' authority for their construction I said nothing further. We had to find work for the men; we were obliged to keep them at work.
1577. Beyond those works I have asked you about at Hornsby, there are extensions that you were not acquainted with until more recently? Oh, yes.
1578. Did you approve of these? I approve of all that was done at Hornsby with the exception of one or two roads, and they were insignificant—only small matters of clearing. I might as well say that I do not think I would have sanctioned the ballasting of Burns' Road.
1579. Do you say that the ballasting is very rough as it is laid on? Yes.
1580. But having cost a certain amount of money, will it not be valuable? Oh, yes; it will tend to make a foundation for a proper road, which will have to be put down.
1581. It is of value on the ground? Yes.
1582. You said, in answer to a question put by the President, that you thought the operations of the unemployed should have ceased a year ago? Hardly so much as that, but they should have terminated some months ago when we got down to a thousand men. They might have terminated then without any more trouble than we have now.
1583. And you have expressed a wish from time to time to be relieved from a responsibility over which you had not regular control? I have expressed it on two or three occasions. I told Mr. Walker I thought it advisable that I should retire as I could not give the time necessary to do justice to the work. I also told the Commissioner for Roads once or twice that I would rather be relieved of the work. Of course it was only a matter of expense to me—a matter of trouble and annoyance, on account of my having to work overtime in my own department—and do extra work, besides the worry and annoyance of dealing with these men.
1584. Are you aware that Mr. Deering, the Metropolitan District Surveyor, has stated that the only road that he has any knowledge of having been cleared was that over the bridge leading through Bellamy's grant—a short road? Yes.
1585. That is marked A on the lithographed plan? Yes. The road crosses the railway on the overhead bridge, about a quarter of a mile north of the station.
1586. Are you aware that Mr. Surveyor Deering throws the responsibility of all the other roads upon the Casual Labour Board? I think he does, and I think he may justly do so, with the single exception of the Boundary Road, which was cleared by Koebke before we took charge.
1587. *Mr. Waller.*] Referring to the Holt-Sutherland Estate, what was the nature of the work done there when you accepted a seat on the Casual Labour Board? I do not know of any work done by the unemployed there.
1588. None? No.
1589. On the Holt-Sutherland Estate, then, was all work on private lands, as well as Crown lands, initiated under the régime of the Board? All the Holt-Sutherland roads passed through private lands, but two or three of them are public roads. The Holt-Sutherland Estate is intersected by the main Illawarra Road and the Port Hacking Road.
1590. Was all the work done on the Holt-Sutherland Estate on private lands done by the Casual Labour Board? Yes, it was.
1591. Did the Board receive authority for such work? Yes; they received authority from the Colonial Secretary.
1592. Before commencing? I presume before commencing.
1593. How was that authority obtained? I cannot tell you, except that I saw the authority on the papers marked, "Approved.—H.P." I believe it was obtained by the Chairman of the Board.
1594. Not by the Board as a body? No; by the Chairman of the Board, because I objected, first to the Chairman, Mr. Davies, and afterwards, in the Colonial Secretary's Office, I objected verbally to Mr. Critchett Walker.
1595. What was the ground of your objection? That they were private roads, which the Board ought not to undertake.

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- Mr. F. Wells. 1596. May I ask if the Commission would be correct in supposing that you objected to the expenditure of public money for the benefit of private individuals? Yes.
- 19 Mar., 1889. 1597. You thought they would benefit the subdivision only? Well, yes, until I saw from the papers that several Members of Parliament had declared that the roads were for the public benefit, and approval was given to them.
1598. You mention, in answer to question 6 of your evidence before the Select Committee, that you desired the unemployed should work sufficiently to earn their rations;—did you give them other pay besides rations? Of course, they got whatever they earned beyond. For the first day or two no work was measured out to them, and they received 5s., until piecework could be measured.
1599. Was that exclusive or inclusive of rations? These rations were deducted from it every day. If they did not do any work they did not get any rations.
1600. What was the value of the rations per day? The charge at that time was 1s. 3d. We called for tenders afterwards and got larger rations for 1s. 1d. per day. We were paying the rate that the Government had been paying before. We had nothing to do but to order the rations to supply the men with food.
1601. So that you desired that the unemployed should have sufficient work to relieve the Government and the country of the cost of paying 1s. 3d. or 1s. 1d. per day for food? Yes; to relieve the Government of the cost of feeding 2,000 or 3,000 men who were being fed for nothing in Sydney.
1602. Did you apprehend at that time or desire that the unemployed should not only work sufficiently to cover the expenditure of public money, but also to be able to make a fair wage? We had no objection at first that the men should make 5s. a day, but it appeared afterwards that the camaraderie of the camp made that class of work attractive to men, and we began to reduce the allowance in order that they should not earn more than 6d. per hour. A great many of the men had not been earning more than from 9d. to 1s. per day after their rations were deducted. By working long hours some of them could make fair wages.
1603. But so long as they cleared their rations the Board was satisfied? Yes; we were satisfied.
1604. Are you aware that a system of overtime had obtained for a certain period, if not altogether? There was no overtime paid for by us.
1605. At no time? I do not think so. There was never any day-work, except at the first.
1606. Whether there was a busy time or a slack time the evidence shows that there was overtime, and overtime paid for, and it shows a state of things that had no business to exist? In the whole camp I do not suppose you will find a hundred men who were receiving day wages. Amongst the overseers you will find men paid by the day, and the superintendents.
1607. If overtime was paid for, was it without your knowledge and consent? I am opinion that it did not occur. It could not occur except in the case of some of the "supers." They might have some overtime with the consent of the Chairman.
1608. Then it resolves itself into this: that if overtime has been paid for it was without your knowledge or consent; however, your opinion is that it has not been paid? Yes.
1609. If payments have been made for overtime they are without your knowledge and consent, or else there has been a false charge made on the pay-sheets? Yes; but it is more likely to be without my knowledge or approval.
1610. Do you know of your own knowledge about the average that these men made? Yes. From the sheets that I have compared they made from 3s. to 3s. 6d. per day on an average. Some of the men made 5s. and 6s. When the rations were taken off the average would be from 3s. to 3s. 6d.
1611. Do you find rations to regular gangs of road men? No; not those working under the department.
1612. Does your knowledge of things in general as regards prices lead you to suppose that the men who worked for the Roads Department, could purchase their rations at a greater or less rate than you supplied them to the unemployed? Well, I do not think they could purchase them so cheaply, as they could be supplied by a contractor who supplied a large quantity at the ration-scale that has prevailed since we called for tenders.
1613. What is the rate of wages you pay for road-making? It varies from 6s. 8d. to 7s. In some instances it might even be a little more where there are a better class of men. 6s. 8d. is our lowest rate. A road contractor won't get a good man to work for him under 7s. We get our men who have constant employment entered at 6s. 8d.
1614. Do you produce a form of contract for supplies for the relief works, dated 6 June, 1887, with the form of tender attached, dated 13 June, 1887? Yes.
1615. Was this the rate charged from that date up to the present time? Yes. [*Document put in and marked D 2.*]
1616. Taking into consideration the fact that the unemployed received rations at the rate of 1s. 1d. per day, and could, if they chose to work, make 3s. and 3s. 6d. per day after cost of rations had been deducted, what do you consider was the difference between what was paid to the unemployed simply for the purpose of finding them work and keeping them from starvation, and what was paid to the regular workers employed by the Roads Department? The one man would do double the work of the other.
1617. But what is the difference in the money? Whatever the difference in the money would be by deducting the rations from it.
1618. What would those other men have to pay for living? For road-men, living in the country costs them 7s. or 8s. per week. I know that for 7s. per week I have lived for a long time in camp. Men living in the bush are accustomed to pay about 7s. or 8s.
1619. Can you say of your own knowledge whether the Chairman of the Board, in deference to your verbal remonstrance regarding the work to be done or proposed to be done on the Holt-Sutherland Estate, carried your remonstrance to a higher authority? I do not think he did. I am not aware of his having done so.
1620. That being the case, I presume we are justified in supposing that he did not concur in your views? I presume you may consider that to be the case, seeing that he recommended the Colonial Secretary to give his approval.
1621. Did the other member of the Board, Mr. Houison, agree with him? I don't exactly know; but I think Mr. Houison's opinion was the same as my own.
1622. I will ask you a question about the Burns, Withers, and Smith's estate. I am anxious to find out, if

if possible, the authority for the work done there? I am not aware of any authority. We wrote and asked them to allow us to make this road. It was my suggestion to the Board that Mr. Burns should be asked to give this road. Mr. F. Wells.
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1623. Whom did you write to? The Board wrote to Mr. Burns.

1624. Was there a written reply to that communication? Yes.

1625. Giving sanction to it? Yes, on the condition that the road should be properly formed. The same condition applied to the overhead road that they gave Mr. Deering.

1626. What I want to know is whether that work was carried out upon the written approval or consent of Mr. Burns, or on a verbal condition agreed upon between you? No; it was carried out by Mr. Burns' written consent.

1627. And the conditions were therein named? I do not think that there are any conditions beyond what I have said.

1628. Will you produce the letter in which Mr. Burns gives his sanction to the Board to make a road or roads through the Burns, Withers, and Smith estate on certain conditions? Yes.

1629. Did that permission apply to other roads than the Junction Road? I think only to the Junction Road.

1630. By what authority did you proceed to work on the other roads? We took possession of them.

1631. I don't understand what you mean; will you explain? I do not think that there was any formal action taken.

1632. You simply went to work upon them as trespassers? As trespassers.

1633. And that is how the thing stands now? I think there has been sanction given verbally for these roads since.

1634. Supposing that there is no letter agreeing to any particular terms as to the work to be done in return for the giving of the road, upon what agreement would this improvement have been made? On a verbal agreement.

1635. Supposing that the letter which you have promised to procure does not contain any formal minute or entry of the work to be done upon the Junction Road, upon whose authority would the work have been done? It would have been, I presume, by the authority of the Chairman of the Board.

1636. Do you recollect the powers that were given to the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

1637. And did you consider that they had the authority vested in themselves to expend money upon private property without any more authority than that which was in themselves? I think so, where it was for the advantage of the public.

1638. They were to be the judges? Yes; where there are Crown lands and access had to be given to them.

1639. Therefore you could go to any part of the Colony and commence such works? We had not the authority to go to any part of the Colony. We had the authority to go there, because it was the first place we started upon. It was from the Minister for Lands that authority was first given to Mr. Deering.

1640. Was any authority given by the Colonial Secretary for any work in that part of the district? No; none whatever. They were undertaken before we took charge.

1641. Was it not a peculiar feature of the business that there should be no signed authority of the Colonial Secretary for all the work done except the part on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I do not think it is a peculiar feature. The unemployed had been making roads and approaches to the railway at Beecroft and Carlingford, and other roads had been done by Mr. Deering before we commenced.

1642. I am referring to that portion of the Crown lands adjacent to Hornsby and Narrabeen, and you say you got no special authority for those? No; we got no special authority. The Minister for Lands instructed Mr. Deering, I think.

1643. What was the date of your meeting with Mr. Burns, when you got into conversation with him about this road? It was, I think, in the year 1885.

1644. Was he then in Parliament? Yes.

1645. But he was not a Minister? No.

1646. Have you got a paper "Casual Labour Board, roads and other works carried out in the parish of Manly Cove, county Cumberland," amongst your papers there? No.

1647. Will you look at that letter marked B, dated 19th July, 1887, and addressed by Under Secretary for Lands to the Principal Under Secretary—are these roads made in the subdivision of Narrabeen that have not got approval? That has got the approval of Sir Henry Parkes.

1648. Is not that one of the roads on that portion? That is the whole of the Narrabeen subdivision. It gives authority for any road, and we should have cleared any road upon that authority.

1649. Is not that in the same category as the Hornsby roads? It is in the same category.

1650. Is it not in the same county? Yes; but not in the same parish.

1651. Why was it necessary to get that authority for this work? Because I suppose that was the first action taken there.

1652. Are you sure whether this was subsequent or prior to your Board being instituted? It was in July, 1887. July, 1887, would be subsequent to the appointment of the Board.

1653. And should we not therefore find similar authority for the commencement from the beginning of the work on the Hornsby Estate? Yes; but you must go back before the days of the Board. You must go to Mr. Deering for that. Very possibly Mr. Deering will be able to tell you that.

1654. Am I correct in understanding that you stated that no work had been commenced on the private lands on the Hornsby Estate before the Casual Labour Board was brought into existence? Yes; except road A, which I don't call a private road.

1655. That is the Government road started for by Mr. Deering? Yes.

1656. Will you look at your answer to question number 31 before the Select Committee? Yes.

1657. Why did you stop the piece of road leading from Stony Creek? That was on our driving back from the Gordon Camp. We saw the road being cleared through two farms, and we asked whether that was private property, and we were informed that it was, and that it was going nowhere—between two farms. I thought it better not to continue the work, but to go on with work that would give access to Crown lands.

1658. Who was the man who owned the farms? I don't know.

1659. Did you ascertain by whose authority that road was commenced? We did not know, but it was probably carried out by Mr. Koebke. It was commenced in Mr. Deering's time. 1660.

- Mr. F. Wells. 1660. You made no further inquiry? We knew it was Mr. Koebke. We knew very well who had done it, and we sent him a message back.
- 19 Mar., 1889. 1661. Did you express the disapproval of the Board? We sent a message back to him, and told him not to put men on any road without ascertaining the opinion of the Board and obtaining their approval.
1662. Were any other works commenced without your sanction in the same manner? None that I know of.
1663. In the same evidence, in answer to question 34, you were asked if the Chairman had power to alter plans and to say where roads should or should not go; and your answer was, "I never heard of his doing so." I ask you now had he the power? No; he had not the power. If we wanted any road altered we did it ourselves—either Mr. Houison or myself.
1664. You did not give him that power as the executive authority? No.
1665. And if he altered any roads he exceeded his power? Yes; he would be acting *ultra vires*.
1666. Have you, since giving your evidence, known of his altering any roads? No; I have no reason to believe that he ever did. The only man who altered any was Mr. Houison.
1667. In the same evidence, questions 39 to 41, you were asked a question as to the existence of certain roads not shown on the plan, and of the existence of which roads you expressed a doubt. Is it a fact that other roads did exist, and that you did not know of them? They had been cleared, and I did not know of them.
1668. By whose authority? I presume by that of the Chairman and Mr. Houison.
1669. Did you consider that they were entitled to do that without your knowledge? Oh, I do. I do not think there was any occasion to advise me of that, so long as Mr. Davies and Mr. Houison agreed upon the matter.
1670. Who commenced the Vanceville Road? It was commenced by the Roads Department, and finished about half-way up to the Junction Road.
1671. Prior to the commencement of the Board? Oh, yes. A long time prior to that. I think it must have been before the time Mr. Burns spoke to me, because he spoke of the junction that could be effected with it.
1672. Did the Chairman of the Board ever construct or order the construction of any roads without reference to the Board before commencing the work? I am not certain about that. I am not sure whether he conferred with Mr. Houison about the construction of the Campbelltown Road, from Liverpool by the Woolwash and Eckersley. He did not confer with me until it was under way.
1673. If he had constructed the road in the first instance without consulting Mr. Houison he would have exceeded his authority? Yes. I do not think he would have commenced the road without consulting one of us.
1674. You named roads as being constructed without you personally having been asked about them—particularly the Campbelltown Road, and you presume the Chairman consulted Mr. Houison before it was started? Yes, the Eckersley Road.
1675. Did you approve of it afterwards? Yes; with one single exception. There was one thing I did not approve of, and that was the hasty manner in which they were about to construct a dam across the river. And Mr. Burrowes was checked until Mr. Houison was able to go up and make a proper survey, and see whether it was necessary.
1676. Where was that road situated? Between Liverpool and Campbelltown, on the east bank of George's River.
1677. That was your only objection to it? Yes; my objection was to its having been so hastily commenced.
1678. Was there any other road that was begun that you disapproved of? No.
1679. What was the cost of the Eckersley Road? It is incomplete still.
1680. Do you know what was the extent of it? No.
1681. I presume you knew the system in vogue for checking the requisitions or orders for plant? Yes.
1682. Would you explain it? The system was perfectly plain. So much plant was sent to the superintendent, who signed for it and took the men's receipts.
1683. Who applied for it in the first instance? It was applied for by Mr. Burrowes from the camp.
1684. Had Mr. Burrowes the distribution of the plant amongst the men? Yes.
1685. Was Mr. Burrowes the only man who applied for plant? It might be that Mr. M'Pherson would do so; but Mr. Burrowes was responsible for the custody and distribution of the plant.
1686. What further check was there? There was no further check except the storekeeper.
1687. How was the storekeeper nominated or appointed? He was appointed before we took charge. He was a very decent class of man; he was an ex-sea-captain.
1688. How many storekeepers had you? I cannot call to mind. I am speaking now of the storekeeper at the camp at the National Park, Mr. Springall.
1689. What was your opinion of Springall? I rather distrusted him myself at first. He was inclined to trade. He was a sort of representative of Kidman. We checked him from selling. I am not sure that it was not at Mr. Kidman's instance.
1690. What did he sell? Small luxuries to the men.
1691. Kidman had a man there keeping a store? Yes; that was prior to the creation of the Board. This man was keeping the store, and at the same time he was selling on his own account to the men goods that he had purchased from Mr. Kidman.
1692. Do you think it was the correct thing for him to set himself up in that way? No. It was not the correct thing. It was not long before we stopped him; but that militated against him in my opinion.
1693. Would it be possible, do you think, from the knowledge that you now have of Mr. Burrowes and the knowledge that you have of Mr. Springall, for there to have been collusion between those two persons, whereby the Board would be robbed of plant and other things? It is quite possible that there might be a robbery effected in the way of rations, but it would be with some difficulty and at very considerable risk. These people were under the survey of a number of eyes, and a number of people were ready to spy upon them.
1694. Was Mr. M'Pherson not over Mr. Burrowes? He was second in command; he was under Mr. Burrowes. I give him the credit, so far as road-making is concerned, of being far more competent than Mr. Burrowes; but if he wanted men for the works, he had to obtain them from Mr. Burrowes.

1695. Were his professional attainments superior to those of Mr. Burrowes? Yes; he was superior to Mr. Burrowes from a professional point of view. He was a good surveyor, and I got him to do engineering work. I looked upon him, too, as steadier and more reliable than Mr. Burrowes. Mr. F. Wells.
19 Mar., 1889.

1696. Was he a man of whom you could have obtained a character from any department of the Service? Yes.

1697. He is a man that you could trust? Yes; I think you could trust him. He is a hard-headed, deaf, dry Scotchman, who sticks to facts.

1698. Will you turn to question 46 in your evidence before the Select Committee? Yes.

1699. Will you answer that question now to me—"Would it be possible for the unemployed to be working anywhere without the cognizance of the Board"? Certainly, it was possible; but it was not likely that they would be.

1700. Was it possible that the returns in the pay-sheets showing the number of men working at a time might not be absolutely true and correct? It was possible.

1701. I mean would the Board have no opportunity of ascertaining that the returns were true? Yes; there would be the officers.

1702. You would have to trust to this superintendent? Yes; we would have to trust to one officer against another. There was no very cordial feeling between three or four of the principal officers, and if there had been anything wrong we should have been sure to have heard of it.

1703. You do not think that anything of that kind could have existed? Not even for a week.

1704. Do you know how often the other members of the Board used to make this inspection that you have already spoken of. Well; they generally made an inspection on pay-days. Of course, they could not go over the whole of the ground. They would make an inspection generally. Mr. Burrowes would have to inspect the whole of the work—he was officer in charge; and he was occasionally visited by the Board, but not very often.

1705. Mr. Burrowes would inspect the outlying places? Yes.

1706. Consequently, if Mr. Burrowes was not a trustworthy man, the result would follow that his inspection would not be of very much importance as regards malpractices? Certainly not. He would receive the returns on the ground from Mr. Sanderson, whose books they were put in, showing how much had been done, how much had been cleared, and how much each gang was entitled to.

1707. Had Mr. Burrowes the most responsible position of all your sub-officers? Certainly.

1708. Was it not absolutely necessary that a man occupying that position should be above suspicion and reproach? Yes, undoubtedly he should; and we should have had very superior officers to those we had if we had contemplated that the Board would have been likely to last so long as it did. I should have been more resolute in seeing that my recommendation was carried out.

1709. Was it not essential for the proper carrying out of the work, as regards the time of the work, the number of kinds of work, the distribution of the rations, and the due care of the tools, that you should have had a man of the most absolute probity—a man upon whom the utmost reliance could be placed occupying that position? Most certainly we should have had.

1710. Can you say that Mr. Burrowes was a man of that description? I have not had the same confidence in him of late; but I have no fault to find with him.

1711. Would you advise this Board to accept a statement made by Mr. Burrowes as being true? I have grave doubts about that.

1712. Would you have recommended him for a position of that sort now? No; if I had stopped on the Board he would not have been there; I recommended his removal twice.

1713. I notice here, in answer to question No. 60, in your evidence before the Select Committee, that you say roads might have been constructed out there without your knowing anything about the matter; but it would not have been done without an order emanating from the Board. What do you mean by the Board? I mean from the Chairman or some member of the Board. It would not have been right for the Chairman to do it verbally; it should have been in writing.

1714. In question No. 73, before the Select Committee, the question was asked whether you think you have power to alter a line of road without consultation with your colleagues, and your answer was—"Within the Government subdivision, yes, after consulting the surveyor." Is that any particular surveyor? That is the surveyor who had charge of any particular subdivision. For instance, Mr. Gordon, who had charge at Narrabeen, struck a road straight up a hill; I would alter it to make a detour round it.

1715. Will you tell me how you elected Mr. Davies Chairman—have you any records of it? No; I am sure of that. When we first commenced we took over a little crib, 6 feet by 8 feet, in the Hyde Park Barracks, before we shifted out. The notes kept there, I think, just mentions the fact that Mr. Davies was appointed Chairman.

1716. Did you approve of your responsible work being undertaken with an absolute absence of minutes and records? I do not see how it was possible to keep minutes.

1717. Did you approve of the system? No; I did not approve of the Board system at all. I consider that the Board as constituted was a mistake; I think it ought to have been made a department.

1718. Did you think that the Board as it was constituted could properly supervise the expenditure of such a large sum of money? They could not supervise it very closely.

1719. You could not supervise it so closely as if it had been a department? The affairs were managed in the same way as a department, with the exception that the officers would have been more reliable men and of higher status.

1720. Is that because the officers that you would have employed would have given the supervision that you regarded as necessary? Yes.

1721. Which was lacking in this case? Yes.

1721½. Do you know of any petitions that came in for private roads? Only those in the papers of the Select Committee.

1722. Not of any others? They were shown to me from time to time when I visited the office.

1723. I draw your attention to your answer to question 87 before the Select Committee, when you said you objected to a work which Mr. Davies had initiated. Do you now recollect the road which you stated there you had made an objection to Mr. Davies about? No; I do not remember the exact road. It was one of the Holt-Sutherland roads, and I objected to most of those roads.

- Mr. F. Wells. 1724. Have you any knowledge of how money was drawn for the payment of wages, &c.? Yes. It was drawn by cheque, which was cashed on the afternoon before pay-day, and the money was put in the safe until the next morning, when it was carried out by train.
- 19 Mar., 1889. 1725. Was it not a custom that payments were made to A on account of B and C when B and C were not present? No; it was made a *sine quâ non* that a ganger should be there to receive his money,
1726. Supposing accounts came in from other quarters, besides the payments due to the labourers, do you know if money was ever received by any person on account of these people? Very probably. Each amount would be received by the clerk or paid into the bank, but not to anyone except a duly authorized receiver.
- 1726½. Do you know whether Kidman would send down a clerk to receive his account? I do not; nor am I aware whether the ironmonger who supplied the tools would send a clerk.
1727. Do you know of any member of the Casual Labour Board taking them and paying them? No; I do not know of anyone doing so.
1728. In speaking of the ironmonger, had you a schedule price for what you might pay for tools? Yes; but I do not remember rightly about it. The tenders were invited before the Board was formed.
1729. Who was the ironmonger? It was the firm of M'Lean Bros. and Rigg.
1730. Did they supply the goods at the regular Government schedule price? I do not know that. They supplied it from a schedule price.
1731. Would you be surprised to learn that they refused to supply them at the schedule price that they supplied the Government with other things at? I have not heard of it.
1732. It is Mr. Hinchcliffe's statement that they refused? Mr. Hinchcliffe would know, at any rate.
1733. Do you think that the firm having refused to supply the articles at the Government contract rates, it would have been the proper thing to have called for tenders? I should have called for further tenders if that had been the case.
1734. Of your own knowledge you were not aware that they were not supplying goods according to schedule? I was under the impression that they were supplying them under regular schedule prices.
1735. You mean the regular schedule prices at which they supplied the other Government Departments? Yes.
1736. And if such was not the case, it is new to you? Yes, quite new to me.
1737. After your remonstrance with the superintendent, did the superintendent, or any other superintendent, in spite of your remonstrance, continue to lay out any roads without your authority? You mean Mr. Burrowes?
1738. Did Mr. Burrowes or any other superintendent? He was the only one who was ever struck off the works. I struck him off from superintending the road works after. I was very much annoyed that he had undertaken the position on his own responsibility. I had him brought into the office and insisted upon his dismissal. Mr. Davies interceded for him for the sake of his wife and family. I was very wroth about the matter.
1739. I did not quite gather whether he laid out the work on his own authority? He undertook work that I had prohibited him from undertaking.
1740. Supposing he said "we want a road here," would he begin it? No.
1741. I mean he never commenced work on his own authority? No; he did not lay out the lines or anything like that, except in the case of the Waterfall Road.
1742. Will you turn to question 141 in your evidence before the Select Committee. Did you ever make a calculation of the enormous sums of money which you said it would take to bridge over the gullies in the Boundary Road? It was unnecessary to calculate that. The road was not worth even taking into consideration. The road was beyond all reason.
1743. Are you satisfied in your own mind that the roads, as made on the Hornsby Estate, for tapping these Crown lands between these deep gullies, are the best that could be made, whether public or private? Undoubtedly.
1744. In answer to question 171, before the Select Committee, you state that if you had adopted the Boundary Road you would have increased the value of one of the frontages of the Crown lands. I will ask you then whether you made any calculation at any time of the increased or enhanced value of the Crown lands by reason of the roads made on the private lands? The Crown lands would have been worth little or nothing if it had not been for the roads made on the private lands.
1745. What are they worth now? They have been sold as high as £70 an acre.
1746. What is the cost per acre of making these roads? About £37 or £38.
1747. And the Crown lands, what would they have been worth before. I merely want a general estimate? I do not think they would be worth £5 an acre.
1748. According to that, including the price of the work, you have doubled the value to the Crown? Yes.
1749. What do you consider the increased value of the private lands on the Hornsby Estate would be? It is utterly impossible for me to say. I should, roughly speaking, think that the land itself was worth £100 an acre—taking it in the block, but I should think it would fetch more now considerably. There is no doubt the clearing of the roads has increased the value of the Burns, Withers, and Smith Estate; but I do not think it has increased it more than if they had spent £150 themselves in clearing. If they had spent £150 upon their lands, they would have made their property as valuable as it is now.
1750. If there is £500 spent by the Board, you can only debit them £150? No; I debit Burns, Withers, and Smith with the total cost of the opening up of the Crown lands. It will come to very little more than the value of the ground they gave.
1751. In question 177 before the Select Committee, it was stated that the Committee were unable to discover that the land was so exceedingly rough, and in another part it was said they had no trouble in driving along the Boundary Road. You said you did not think they could have driven along the roadway far? They could only go down to point D as far as it was open. They could not drive any further.
1752. In answer to question 185 in your evidence before the Select Committee, you said that it was not ballasted as far as you could see. Have you subsequently found out that the road was ballasted? Yes; it is ballasted. It was ballasted without my having seen it. That is one of the things I should have objected to. I should have ballasted the Junction Road, but I do not think I should have ballasted the Burns Road.
1753. It was not done with your consent? No; but it is done now. 1754.

1754. Who gave the authority for ballasting that road? I cannot tell. Very probably the Chairman. Mr. F. Wells.
1755. Do you know if Mr. Houison concurred in the ballasting of the road? I do not think he was asked. 19 Mar., 1889.
1756. Is it your opinion that it was done on the sole authority of the Chairman? I think it was.
1757. Without reference? Without reference. I knew that they were ballasting roads there.
1758. In question 221 before the Select Committee, you were asked to supply the Committee with certain information as to the cost of grubbing, clearing, forming, and ballasting of roads—did you supply it? I supplied it to the best of my ability—it is in the schedule.
1759. Has the population largely increased about Hornsby since this work has been done there? Yes; but not altogether from that cause.
1760. It has increased though? Yes.
1761. Is there much traffic? There is a good deal of traffic on the various roads that go through there; but I should hardly expect very much traffic yet.
1762. Taking into consideration the class of work that you have had done by the unemployed, and general expenses entailed by their management, do you think that you got anything like an equivalent in comparison with the work that you would have had done by the regular roadmen? Yes; but it was of a rougher character. The clearing is pretty fairly done.
1763. Do you think they were overpaid in comparison with the pay of the regular roadman? Oh, no; these men worked at lower wages. They were cheaper than other men would have been.
1764. They did not do as much work for their money, and they were not so skilful at it? No.
1765. Will you turn to question 2742 before the Select Committee? Yes.
1766. There seems to have been some doubt in your mind regarding certain roads, and you were asked by the Chairman if you had been out to the Hornsby district since you were previously examined—if you had discovered any roads not on the tracing at the time? Yes.
1767. And you said you had discovered some roads? Yes.
1768. I simply want to ask you whether your want of knowledge of these particular roads was not owing to your inability, through your other duties, to be as frequently over the ground as you would otherwise have been? Yes; it was simply because I could not attend.
1769. In answer to question 2750 before the Select Committee, you said that the road inquired about could not exist? It does not exist; I have ascertained that.
1770. Is there any written evidence or records as to the visits of inspection paid by the Board? No. There was a visit every fortnight at pay-time by one member of the Board, or perhaps two. Mr. Davies would most probably be there once in each fortnight.
1771. In your evidence before the Select Committee, and also in answer to a question by Mr. Franklin, you stated that the average cost of clearing was about £7 an acre;—that is the usual rate for clearing forest land? A good deal would depend upon the kind of clearing.
1772. That is taking up stumps by the roots, to the depth of about 12 inches below the surface, and cutting and burning;—it would be pretty heavy timber where you would have to pay £10 an acre? Yes.
1773. What was the thickness of the timber there? There are some very large trees that £10 an acre would not nearly pay for.
1774. Is not £10 an acre a high average? No, not a high average; grubbing and clearing would cost a great deal more than that.
1775. In answer to question 2788 before the Select Committee, you say that, in ballasting, mostly big stones have been used, which had not been properly broken;—what is the usual gauge for stones? These stones have no business to be broken small, but they ought to be broken regularly; it is sandstone.
1776. What is the usual gauge? We generally use a 4-inch gauge. In places we are not very particular to gauge the breaking of it down on a road where it is intended to cover it with metal. The covering over metal has to be broken to a small gauge. These stones had been pitched on the roads in a way that would not be tolerated by the department.
1777. If we were told that there were contracts taken or contracts let by the Board or their officers for the quarrying and carting of stones, would that be correct, do you think? It is possible. I think the carting is most likely to have been done for the men by day labour.
1778. And would this quarrying be done at the usual market rates? No, at less. I have a list we made out for Mr. M'Pherson; you will see the prices given there.
1779. Would that be extra to the amount allowed for piece-work on particular roads, or would it be calculated in what they would get for making these particular roads? They might let the forming and ballasting together. In this statement here you have a memo. of the piece-work rates and schedule of the prices we gave for the work.
1780. Who fixed these? These are the prices I fixed with Mr. M'Pherson down at our larger works. I settled these prices with him.
1781. And would it be different in different parts? It would not make much difference. There is little distinction there; it is all sandstone. [*Memorandum of piece-work rates put in and marked D3.*]
1782. In question 2832, before the Select Committee, it is stated that Mr. Little has given evidence that the total cost of this work on private property would be nearly £4,000;—is that correct? I took the trouble to ask Mr. Little what he meant, knowing that half the way to Narrabeen the work did not come to that. He explained to me that he meant the other works. In any case his statement is incorrect. You will see that the total expenditure, as I have put it down there to you, is £2,300 on all the private roads.
1783. When you accepted your seat on the Casual Labour Board, did Mr. Walker give you any idea of what the duties and responsibilities would be? No; none whatever.
1784. Were you told by Mr. Walker or anybody else before you accepted the position? The first intimation I got was the letter of appointment. I did not fear any great trouble in the matter, for I depended upon proper supervision being given and qualified assistants.
1785. Were you told of the amount of supervision you would be expected to give? No.
1786. Regarding these pay-sheets—can you say that either you or Mr. Houison always checked them? No, not always. We never thought of checking them as regards the amounts. We checked them for the purpose of ascertaining the average.
1787. Can you prove before the Commission which sheets you checked and which you did not? I did not check any for purposes of account. The only check I would give would be to see the rates paid.
1788. Do you know who did check them? They were checked by the clerks, Mr. Hibble, Mr. Hinchcliffe, and Mr. Larnach. It was their duty to check the pay-sheets. 1789.

- Mr. F. Wells. 1789. How do you know that they were checked? They were ticked with their initials upon them.
1790. Do you know that they initialed the pay-sheets? I conclude that they did; they carried on the work as if it had been a department.
1791. Was Mr. Hinchcliffe the accountant? He was the accountant.
1792. Do you know how he was appointed? No.
1793. Do you know of any special reason why he was appointed? Only that he had been with the unemployed before; he had been under Mr. Wise and under Mr. Treatt.
1794. Did you consider that he was a qualified accountant? Yes.
1795. Would you be surprised to hear that Mr. Hinchcliffe states in evidence himself that he was not an accountant; and never was, and does not accept the responsibility of being an accountant? Perhaps not in the light you regard an accountant, but he is fully qualified to keep a set of books; and knows how to keep them properly.
1796. As regards his experience and knowledge of book-keeping he led us to form an opinion that his experience was limited. Do you think that for such a position it was necessary that he should have a good knowledge of book-keeping—a good knowledge of disbursements? Yes.
1797. There was a large sum of money going through his hands? Yes; but it is as easily manipulated as a smaller amount; if the arithmetic was correct I do not see how he could get far wrong in his sheets; they were simple books he had to keep.
1798. Do you know that the money that was operated upon by the Casual Labour Board was in the form of a bank overdraft, and that there was no check upon it? The bank had always a check. We paid on overdrafts to the Treasury for £6,000. The Treasury arranged for the overdraft at the A.J.S. Bank. At first the amounts were paid in the ordinary way; but latterly it was found more convenient to let the Board draw against the overdraft.
1799. What I say is that, as a matter of fact, with the presentation at the bank there was not the same check or guard as there was on presentation at the Treasury. They must have received intimation from the Treasury, because at one time you were £70,000 overdrawn. There must have been a guarantee that the bank would be recouped. So that, as a matter of fact, there was a credit at the bank, and it was not likely the bank would question any cheques as they were presented; so that the Board really had no check whatever upon their expenditure. Their cheques would always be paid? As soon as we drew one £6,000 we made another overdraft at the bank, and sent our vouchers for what had been expended.
1800. But still there was no check, because the Treasury did not pay the amount until it amounted to £70,000 at one time.
1801. Regarding the number of men that would be employed on a particular piece of work, you being necessarily absent very much on account of your other duties, and the other professional member of the Board being also frequently away engaged in professional duties, what check was there upon Mr. Burrowes making the payments to the proper number of men for particular works? The only check was that the men were on the ground doing certain work, for which the overseers made up the pay. He had a knowledge of the number of men on the ground. We from time to time were keeping a check of the men who were at different places and saw what they were put to do.
1802. Granting that system to prevail, wherever you checked these things have you found Mr. Burrowes quite correct? I found him nearly correct. Of course to ride over the National Park alone to visit all the men would have taken a man two or three days of one week. I found his figures generally correct.
1803. Did you find that he was inclined to have too many men for a piece of work, or was he inclined to economise? He had no occasion to economise. The difficulty was to find employment for the men.
1804. Did he apply for more plant in particular places than you thought requisite? No. I am not sure whether, on one occasion, he did not make a request for plant and we thought the requisition was unduly large.
1805. If Mr. Houson made recommendations for certain work to be done in your absence, when he and Mr. Davies formed the Board, would they be in writing or verbal? Oh, they would be verbal communications, and the next time there would be a meeting I would be informed of what had been done.
- 1805½. Who appointed the overseers, heads of gangs, and those men you call storekeepers? They were appointed by the Board, very probably through the officer or superintendent in charge of the camp.
1806. Virtually their nomination or suggestion would be approved by the Board? Yes; they would be supposed to have some knowledge of them, having seen them there. They would have to have trustworthy men for their own sakes.
1807. Is there any record of any proposals for these men to be appointed? No. Very possibly they would be appointed on personal application. Some of them would be written to, but generally they were men that were left on us.
1808. How would the approval of the Board be obtained? Simply verbally.
1809. What wages would they receive? 6s. or 7s. per day, perhaps. The rates would vary.
1810. Would the Board arrange the rates of these men? Yes; and if they were too high we would reduce them.
1811. Do you think that if the money that has been expended by the Casual Labour Board had been expended in the way sketched out by the Colonial Secretary in his letter of the 2nd May, 1887, the country would have received larger benefit from that expenditure than it is likely to receive now? Decidedly.
1812. Do you think that that was work of a character that would have come more within the province of finding employment for the unemployed, and getting rid of them from the city, than the means adopted? If they had been works of water conservation, yes. If they had been the making of railways, they would have been a failure.
1813. In your opinion, such work as that would have drawn the good men, and got rid of the bad? All our work did that.
1814. The poorer men were left on your hands;—the system you adopted kept the useless men to be fed, and do as little work as they liked to do? Well, they were better there than talking at the statue. You have just got the alternative.
1815. I think I understood you to say to the President that a reduction was made from the unemployed in respect of cartage? No. The cartage would be included in the work, and if they did not do it they would not be paid for it. It would be deducted from their earnings in wages.

1816. Would you show us how that was? Supposing they had a certain road to clear and form, according to how they worked they would make so much an hour—as a matter of fact, about 6d. Supposing that road was ballasted, the ballasting of that road being an extra price and separate contract would not affect the clearing and forming. The men who did the ballasting would have to find the cartage, and if they did not the Board would not pay them for it as if the cartage had been done. They would only pay them for spreading, cutting down, and getting.

Mr. F. Wells.
19 Mar., 1889.

1817. How would you pay for carting? It would be paid for at the ordinary rates—most probably 12s. per day.

1818. Carters would not be paid at the unemployed rates? No; they would be paid at the current rates per day.

1819. I suppose the same system of supervision which was in vogue at the Burns, Withers, and Smith camp would be in existence at all the different camps? Yes; just the same.

1820. With regard to the knowledge which you have now of Mr. Burrowes as a superintendent occupying a position of trust and responsibility, is it possible that you, with your other duties occupying you so much, might possibly be mistaken in the characters of some of the other persons who occupy positions similar to Mr. Burrowes, or even more subordinate ones? A man might be mistaken in anyone's character. If I had had any amount of supervision—all my time to devote to it—I could not have had any more opportunity for official detection than we had.

1821. But you would have had better knowledge if you had been brought more frequently into contact with the officers? I do not know that I should.

1822. What I mean to say is that there are storekeepers, and clerks, and superintendents, and if you had with your knowledge and experience full charge of these works for some time you would have had better opportunities of knowing the men than you had? Decidedly.

1823. I refer you to the press copy of the letter you have handed in, addressed to Mr. Davies on the 30th August, 1887;—you use the words, "I think so seriously of our ground of complaint against Mr. Burrowes";—who is "our"? That is the Board generally.

1824. You say further that all road work in the way of cutting or formation at the National Park should be stopped until proper supervision can be arranged;—I want to know what you mean by proper supervision? Until we got a better man for the work.

1825. Therefore you don't consider that Mr. Burrowes gave proper supervision? He could not give proper supervision to road works.

1826. And he still, after that, was continued in the place that you objected to him occupying? Yes.

1827. I will ask you now to turn to the press copy of the letter dated 25th October, in which you again express your disapprobation of Mr. Burrowes being in the position he held;—was any notice taken of that? Yes; he was brought into the office, and I gave him a great wiggling, and Mr. Davies recommended his being kept on.

1828. Did you acquiesce in his being kept on? Oh, yes.

1829. *President.*] Will you look at this plan;—what does it purport to be? A plan of the roads on the properties of Burns, Withers, Smith, and others. [*Plan put in and marked D 4.*]

1829½. Will you look at a petition presented by Mr. Ives, on the 11th November, 1887? Yes. [*Petition put in and marked D 5.*]

1830. That petition purports to be signed by a number of persons, amongst others by G. Withers;—can you tell us from your own knowledge what course that petition went through? I imagine it went to the Honorable John Sutherland, Minister for Works, then up to the Commissioner for Roads, back to the Public Works, probably with a minute on it, on the 15th November, to the Colonial Secretary on the 21st November.

1831. Is there anything on it to indicate what was done with it in the Colonial Secretary's Department? Nothing.

1832. Is there anything to show how it got to the next department? It came to the Casual Labour Board from the Under Secretary. I imagine that that would be the Under Secretary for Works, because if it had been from Mr. Critchett Walker, it would have had Principal Under Secretary upon it.

1833. Is there anything to show how it got out of the Colonial Secretary's Department? No; except that it is referred to us.

1834. Who referred it to the Casual Labour Board? I presume the Colonial Secretary.

1835. Is there anything on the paper to show that it was the Colonial Secretary? No.

1836. But it went to the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

1837. Have you any independent recollection of what was done when it came to you? I have not.

1838. Will you look at this letter of the 18th October, 1887? Yes. [*Letter put in and marked D 6.*]

1839. Do you recognize the letter of the 18th October, 1887, written by Mr. Hinchcliffe—does that recall anything to you? No.

1840. Will you look at a letter of the 19th October, 1887, apparently unsigned? Yes.

1841. Whose is that letter do you think? I presume it is Mr. Burns's. [*Copy put in and marked D 7.*]

1842. Does that recall anything to you? No.

1843. Is that the letter to which you referred in the early part of your evidence as the authorization of the Junction Road? No; I do not think so.

1844. You still think there is another letter? I am certain there is another letter.

1845. Looking at the plan, does G G G G represent the Junction Road? Yes.

1846. Is your evidence that roads H and I on that plan were objected to by you? No; they were done without my knowledge, but I approved of them. The road on this plan of Mr. Deering's—the continuation of road E—I objected to, but it was done before I objected.

1847. You told me at the commencement of your evidence to-day that, in consequence of something you had heard, you had changed your opinion of Mr. Burrowes since yesterday, and you afterwards said it was through having seen Mr. Davies? Yes.

1848. Where did you see Mr. Davies? I saw him at my office this morning, and I went over with him to the Casual Labour Board office.

1849. Did he come to see you accidentally? He called upon me.

1850. Did you discuss with him the evidence that you had given here yesterday? A little, not much.

1851. What happened? I went with him to the Casual Labour Board to hunt up this paper.

- Mr. F. Wells. 1852. How did it come to pass that you discussed Burrowes with him? I forget. Just in the course of conversation Mr. Davies expressed himself dissatisfied with Mr. Burrowes, and I asked him how that was. He reminded me of these things, and said he believed him to be untruthful, and told me of untruthful matters in which he had found him out.
- 19 Mar., 1889. 1853. Was this conversation led up to by remarks of yours or inquiries of his? I think by remarks of mine.
1854. Are the papers that you have before you relevant to our inquiry or likely to assist us? No; I do not think there is anything. If I can send any to you I will do so.
1855. In connection with the petition presented by Mr. Ives, there is a letter by Mr. F. O'Donnell, dated 1st December, 1887, reporting on the petition? Yes.

THURSDAY, 21 MARCH, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P., | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Sir John Robertson, K.C.M.G., called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Sir John Robertson, K.C.M.G. 1856. *President.*] You are one of the trustees of the National Park, I believe? Yes.
- 21 Mar., 1889. 1857. I believe you are not now in Parliament? No.
1858. Do you hold any office under the Government or under the Crown? No.
1859. Are you aware that in 1887 a department was created known as the Casual Labour Board? I know there was a department created to deal with the unemployed. I do not know exactly what it was called.
1860. Do you know who were the members? John Davies, C.M.G., was Chairman. I do not know who the other members are. I always thought John Davies was the Board.
1861. Have you been in the habit of visiting the National Park frequently during the last two years? Not often during the past two years. Unfortunately a little over two years ago when I with Messrs. G. F. Want and Walter Bradley was making a road from the river to the top of bluff near Loftus, a rock broke from under me, and in springing from it, as it went down, I so severely injured the sinews of my legs that I was obliged to retire from public life. I have not been very often at the Park since.
1862. During the years 1887 and 1888, I suppose you were there? Oh, yes; up to quite lately.
1863. More than once? Yes; several times.
1864. Do you know the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes; I am a proprietor or shareholder in the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
1865. Is that estate the property of a private company? Yes; it was formed by Thos. Holt.
1866. We have been appointed by the Crown to inquire into the working of the Casual Labour Board, consisting of John Davies, C.M.G., Frederick Wells, and David Houison, from the time of its appointment until the 23rd January last, into the mode in and purposes for which public moneys have been expended by the Board, or any members or member thereof, or by any one under their or his authority; into the manner in which the Board and the members thereof have performed their duties; and including in such inquiry an examination into the truth of all charges and statements which have been made before Parliament or any Select Committee thereof, touching any alleged improper expenditure by the Board or any members or member thereof, or under their or his authority, in the improving, or making, or construction of roads or other works upon the property of any person, partnership, or company. Are you aware of any instance where any roads or other works have been made, improved, or constructed by the unemployed on the estate, or for the benefit of the estate of any person, partnership, or company? I cannot say whether roads were constructed for the benefit of the Holt-Sutherland Estate, but I am quite sure they were constructed, and they do benefit the estate; I do not know whether they were made for that purpose, but I am quite sure they are a benefit.
1867. The question is, on any estate or for the benefit of any estate? On the estate—yes.
1868. What was the nature of the work on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? You see it is a very large property—16,000 or 14,000 acres. The lands were subdivided by Mr. Holt, and the roads were laid out and marked. These roads, to the extent of some 43, 44, or 45 miles, have been made or cleared by the unemployed.
1869. Is that during the last two years? It is since the unemployed were sent there.
1870. During 1887 and 1888? Yes; I know that absolutely it was done by them under the Casual Labour Board.
1871. Since the Casual Labour Board was appointed? Yes.
1872. Can you tell us when you first observed this? It is, I feel sure, from nine to twelve months ago. I observed very expensive works on the roads through the place—a road from a place we call Tom Ugly's Point to the National Park boundary. This was a very wide road, and it was made in a most expensive manner, with culverts and ballast, and the middle of the road is a chain wide—good enough for Sydney; and on either side of this chain width half a chain wide was cleared to be planted with trees, or some arrangement of that kind. When I saw that I was very angry indeed, because I thought that our money—the company's—was being wasted. I never dreamt that any other money than ours was being expended on it. I was very wroth, and I met Mr. Want, another proprietor, and I said, "These people will ruin us." "In what way?" he asked. "In spending our money in this way," I replied. He said, "That is not our money; that is the Government money." I said, "That cannot be"; he said it was so. I then said, "That is worse, to my mind." He took pretty much the same view of it as I did, or at least he said he did. When I came back to Sydney I went to see Mr. Walker, the Principal Under Secretary. I asked where Sir Henry Parkes was, and Mr. Walker informed me that he was away. I went first to Mr. Walker and I told him that a terrible scandal had arisen, that public money had been spent on our property, and that he had better discontinue it, as I felt sure there must be some mistake. He said he thought it must have been done in mistake. I said, if I were you I would telegraph to Sir Henry Parkes informing him of what was going on, and he said he would do so. I believe he did so, and the work was stopped, but subsequently it was again proceeded with. I believe there are some 43 or 44 miles of roads made there.
1873. Do you know that of your own knowledge? I have no doubt about it. All our people tell me so.
- 1874.

Sir John
Robertson,
K.C.M.G.

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1874. Did you confine yourself to any particular road in your conversation with Mr. Walker? I had only been on one road, the road leading from Tom Ugly's Point to the National Park. I have not been otherwise on the estate, but I know that that road and others have been made.
1875. How do you know it? We all know it—everyone knows it.
1876. Do you know why it was done? I think the reason for the Casual Labour Board doing it, although I have never seen it put forward on their behalf, was that we allowed the unemployed to camp on the National Park, and this was the nearest work to the National Park. The work was merely done I thought for the purpose of giving employment to these men.
1877. Did your remonstrance with Mr. Walker cover only a particular road or all the roads? The roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate. I thought it was not right that public money should be spent there. I considered that it was scandalous.
1878. Mr. Walker, in his evidence, states that the remonstrance made to him only had reference to a particular road called the Malvern Road? I am not aware of any remonstrance. I did not remonstrate. I did not object to the work being done. I only said it would be a great scandal, and that the work ought not to be continued. I do not know which is the Malvern Road. I know the road between Tom Ugly's Point and the National Park. I do not know whether that is the Malvern Road, but it is the road I had been on.
1879. I think you said you are a shareholder in this Holt-Sutherland Estate Company? Yes; I am a shareholder. I cannot say what the shares are worth. I will give my twenty shares for £150 a share, not a penny less.
1880. Do you consider that the value of your interest in the company has been increased by the work of the unemployed? I think it has very largely increased—about a third.
1881. Taking the estate as a whole, what do you consider that the enhancement of value has been through the construction of these works? I do not know, as I have been practically a cripple for a long time. I have not been about so much as I used to be, and, therefore, I could not give you a correct estimate.
1882. Is there any public land on the other side of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No; there is a reserve which I understand is intended for a Noxious Trades Site, which goes down near the water, but there has been nothing done there lately I am told.
1883. Are you aware whether the company had subdivided their land? No; we had not. Before we formed the company Mr. Holt did that.
1884. Are you aware whether the roads which have now been constructed are the same roads as are shown on the subdivision? I cannot tell that. I know that we were bound by our subdivisions, because I hold a large quantity of land from the Holt-Sutherland Estate. I hold a 10-acre block here and a 10-acre block there, amounting altogether to about 250 acres.
1885. Can you tell us who the directors of the company are? Mr. Sydney Want is one; I think Mr. Simpson is one; Mr. Samuel Cook down at the *Herald* office is one; Dr. Atherton is one; Mr. Newton is one; and Mr. Jackson is one.
1886. Have you been a director? No; I never attended a meeting when the directors were appointed. I always let them elect who they liked.
1887. You are not now a director, then? I never was; but I have been a shareholder for many years.
1888. Have you seen the plan of the subdivisions? Yes.
1889. Do you know what width the roads on the plan are? I think nearly everyone of them was a chain wide.
1890. Do you know the Act known as Reid's Act? Yes.
1891. Are they the width required by Reid's Act? I think that width was fixed before we heard of Reid's Act. I think some of the roads have been actually made two chains; the one between Tom Ugly's Point and the National Park is two chains.
1892. You do not know the name of that road? I simply call it Tom Ugly's Road.
1893. When you noticed these men working, were you driving through the place? I was riding.
1894. Did you go over more than one road? I do not think I did. I was mainly there visiting the National Park, and I observed this work. On seeing the men, I followed the work up for nearly a mile.
1895. How do you know that these roads were done by the unemployed? I know they were. Everybody knows it.
1896. For aught you personally know to the contrary, these roads were not done by the unemployed? I never saw the unemployed working on them; but you may as well say I don't know there is an island called New Zealand or Norfolk Island. I do know.
1897. Who was with you when you saw this work on the road from Tom Ugly's Point? No one. When I subsequently saw Mr. Want, I said to him, "This looks like a swindle, keep your hands clean;" and I believe he did.
1898. Was your conversation with Mr. Walker after or before you saw Mr. Want? After.
1899. Do you know a road called the Illawarra Road? I know the old Illawarra Road, if that is what you mean.
1900. There are three roads spoken of to us—the Illawarra Road, the Port Hacking Road, and the Coronulla Road—Do you know these roads? Not by name.
1901. Did you notice any bridges or culverts on this road you went over? Yes; that was why I was so annoyed, when I thought our money was being wasted. I don't say that the improvements were not good and valuable; but no one likes to see money wasted where it is not necessary.
1902. Were the road improvements in your opinion too extravagant and elaborate? Well, they were very good. They were fit for the city.
1903. Can you give us any idea of the settlement in that district? Oh, it was little or nothing.
1904. By whom would these roads be principally used? By visitors.
1905. Are you aware that the work was stopped when you remonstrated against it? Mr. Walker told me so, and again he told me that it was resumed.
1906. Do you know anything of the circumstances that led to the resumption? No.
1907. Do you know Mr. Jamieson? Of Prince, Hogg, & Co.; yes, I know him.
1908. Do you know whether he is a shareholder in this company? Yes; he is a large shareholder.
1909. Did you ever see him in reference to this work? No. There is another man a large shareholder. The Holt-Sutherland Company's manager has grown up in a short time to be a large shareholder.

- Sir John Robertson, K.C.M.G.
 21 Mar., 1889.
1910. What is his name? Mr. Murphy.
1911. Can you say whether or not Mr. Jamieson took any action in the matter of these roads? I cannot say that. I do not know anything about that.
1912. Or Mr. Murphy? I do not know anything about that.
1913. On the occasion of your visits to the National Park, did you observe gangs of unemployed at work? Yes; at the park.
1914. At any other place? No.
1915. Did you observe them sufficiently to form an opinion as to whether the superintendence or supervision was satisfactory? I think it was as good as it well could be. They were necessarily very inferior workmen. They were culled from all parts. They were not men who were used to that class of work, nor were they men whom anyone would care to employ. Although the cost was great, the work would not have been like that if done by competent men. The superintendents were competent enough, I believe, but the men were not so good. They were not the kind of men you would employ. In fact, all manners of men were there.
1916. Do you know anything of the superintendents? I have seen one of them. I think he was a very good man.
1917. Do you know his name? I have forgotten his name.
1918. Was it Mr. Burrowes? Yes. He seemed to be a very intelligent man.
1919. Did you ever see him in the performance of his duties? Yes; but I could not judge of that.
1920. Did you ever meet the Chairman of the Board or any member of the Board out there? Oh, yes; I have met the Chairman.
1921. Did you meet any other member of the Board? I do not know any other member.
1922. Mr. Houison? No.
1923. Mr. Wells? I have met Mr. Wells out there—a very excellent man.
1924. Have there been any particular occasions when you have met the Chairman there? I have met him often.
1925. Was there any time when, as Chairman of the trustees of the National Park, you met the Casual Labour Board officially? No; I never did meet them as Chairman of the National Park.
1926. Were you ever asked to meet them? I might have been asked, but I think not. I would have been there and have met them had I been asked. Since I have been injured in my leg Mr. G. F. Want has done the main work.
1927. Can you recollect any occasion on which the Casual Labour Board, or any member of it consulted you or any of your co-trustees as to what they would do with the unemployed? Oh, yes; they used to ask us and we used to point out as trustees what we thought it was desirable to have done. We did not allow them to go and do as they liked.
1928. That work was confined to the National Park? Yes.
1929. And to the improvement of the park? Yes.
1930. Nothing else? No.
1931. Had you anything to do with the devising, initiation, or construction of any works outside the National Park? No.
1932. Do you know anything of any work they have undertaken outside the park? Only the work on the Holt-Sutherland Estate; that is all.
1933. Did you ever remonstrate with the Chairman or Mr. Wells as to the work on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No. I went to the chief of the Colonial Secretary's Department. I was not going to talk to them about it. I told Mr. Wells so. I said I am afraid there will be a great scandal created out of this.
1934. Were you examined before the Select Committee of the Assembly? No.
1935. Were you asked to attend? No.
1936. Do you think the Casual Labour Board was justified in the interests of the public in making a road from Tom Ugley's Point to the park? No. Of course, they would have been justified in making the road passable, but that was a very different thing from making such a road as this.
1937. *Mr. Franklin.*] If the trustees had requested that the road be formed and made by the department, and if it had been a classified road, do you think it would have been justified? The trustees of the National Park have nothing to do with the Holt-Sutherland Estate. We did not want this road; it is not a direct road. We have got the railway.
1938. You know a good road? I think I do.
1939. Do you consider this an extra good road? No. I think it is much wider in the centre portion of the road than there is any necessity for. The centre portion of the road is a chain wide laid with ballast.
1940. You know the laying out of roads in making subdivisions of land, that such work greatly increases the value of land? It does.
1941. Do you know that it is the practice in the city for people to purchase unimproved land for the purpose of subdivision with a view to selling it again? Yes. I bought a lot of the Holt-Sutherland land. I have got 250 acres there, but it was subdivided before I purchased it.
1942. When you are getting such good work done upon your property as this, you know you must lose a proportion of the land to make thoroughfares through it? Of course, if the land were not subdivided.
1943. If the Government were to give you these improvements on a much superior scale to what you thought necessary for the sale of the property you would get equal value in the return for the land you would have to give for the making of the roads? Unquestionably; but if I wanted my land subdivided I would have to pay for it. I am sure the Government would not. If I have a road on the south side of my property and if I choose to get another road there I can do so, but surely it is not for the Government to make it.
1944. I only want to know whether the land is very much improved in value by these roads having been made through various parts, and the land subdivided? Unquestionably.
1945. Therefore the condition of the Holt-Sutherland Estate has been improved by the action of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
1946. The roads were laid out by Mr. Holt, and the Casual Labour Board made them, and thus there is an increased value thrown upon the land? Of course there is.
1947. *Mr. Waller.*] Would there have been any mistake made by Mr. Walker if he said that your objection was not against the expenditure of public money upon these roads generally, but upon one particular

particular road? Of course there would. Why should I object to that road more than to any other. I objected to public money being spent upon our property. But then always fair play; that was not being done for the sake of the roads or for the sake of the proprietors of the land adjoining the road, but for the purpose of finding employment for the unemployed. They had been giving these men dinners and breakfasts and teas in the city, but they gave them no work. The incoming Government of Sir Henry Parkes sent them away to the National Park. There they were made to do work for their food, and it seems to me the least objectionable way of employing these men. They were employed on the National Park, and they were removed from there to the Holt-Sutherland Estate.

Sir John
Robertson,
K.C.M.G.
21 Mar., 1889.

1948. Did you ever mention to the Colonial Secretary, Sir Henry Parkes, your objection to these roads? No. I had spoken to the Principal Under Secretary, and it was not for me to go further in the matter.

1949. Do you know that Sir Henry Parkes insisted upon the resumption of the work after it was stopped? I know that Mr. Walker telegraphed to him about it, but I do not know that he insisted upon the resumption of it. It may have been his colleagues. I do not know what action Sir Henry Parkes took nor how far he may have been concerned in the matter, if at all.

1950. Do you know the names of the shareholders in the Holt-Sutherland Estate? There is a list of them published in the Appendix to the proceedings of the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly appointed to inquire into the work of the unemployed. It was handed in by the manager.

1951. Do you know if there was a lunch or anything of the description of a lunch at the National Park at any time during the time of the Casual Labour Board? I do not know. We have had many a lunch there.

1952. I mean a lunch given by the Casual Labour Board? I never heard of the Casual Labour Board having anything of the kind. I have had many a lunch there, but I would not inquire who paid for it. I have paid for many a lunch there myself.

1953. Do you know by whose desire or authority the work was commenced on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I have no idea. If I had known how it arose I should not have gone to see Mr. Walker. I thought it was done inadvertently. I went to see Mr. Walker as the permanent head in the Colonial Secretary's office. I thought I had better let him know, as it seemed to me they had been acting inadvertently in spending public money there. Otherwise I would not have taken the liberty of interfering with the action of the Government.

1954. What I wish to know is whether this Commission would be justified in understanding that the proposal to do this work did not emanate from the proprietors of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I don't know; I would ask them if I were you.

1955. Did you see any of the petitions that were signed and forwarded to the Casual Labour Board asking them to do this work on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I have seen them since they were printed in the book containing the evidence taken before the Select Committee. I read almost everything that appears in connection with public matters.

1956. Did you ever sign any of them, Sir John? No.

1957. Were any of them ever submitted to you for approval? No; they knew me too well. They would have more sense than come to me.

1958. Were the names attached to the petitions of such a trustworthy character that a Government would be likely to consider them? I think they were, when one of them was signed by about thirty members of Parliament. That ought to be good enough.

1959. Were they all familiar with the property? I believe ten of them have been there.

1960. Are there any petitions which have been signed by *bonâ fide* residents of the estate? They are *bonâ fide* members of Parliament.

1961. I mean *bonâ fide* residents? I am not going to run down a member of Parliament.

1962. They were not *bonâ fide* residents about the estate? No.

1963. They were generally living in Sydney? A great many of them were. They pay taxes though, and as the money was expended from the Consolidated Revenue of New South Wales it was a matter upon which any man might petition.

1964. Do you know about the value of each share in the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I will sell mine at £150 each, and not a penny less.

1965. Do you consider that each share has been enhanced in value as much as your own? They were all alike.

1966. You don't consider yours any better than anybody else's? No; they were all enhanced in value about a third.

1967. Can you tell me of your own knowledge whether Sir Henry Parkes was or is now a shareholder in the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I know he was a shareholder, but I understand he has sold out. I think his shares are now in the hands of Sydney Want. He could tell you.

1968. Do you know whether there were any dead-head shares in the company—I mean free shares? No; I know that there were none.

1969. I suppose, Sir John, you do not know anything of the general working of the Casual Labour Board? No.

1970. From what you know of him, do you think that Mr. Davies was a suitable man for the position of Chairman of the Casual Labour Board? I do not know a more suitable man.

1971. *President.*] Will you kindly tell us the names of your co-trustees at the National Park? Mr. G. F. Want, Mr. Cameron, Mr. A. H. McCulloch, junr., Mr. Walter Bradley, Mr. Charles Bradley, Mr. John Graham, Mr. Charles Moore. There are thirteen altogether. I cannot recollect all the names now. Only a few of them attend.

John Balfour Clement Miles called in, sworn, and examined:—

1972. *President.*] What is your profession, Mr. Miles? Public accountant.

1973. What is your experience as a public accountant? I think I have been practising myself about thirteen years in Sydney.

1974. Are you in any way connected with the department recently existing as the Casual Labour Board? Yes; I am one of the present Board who took over the control from the late Casual Labour Board.

1975. When were you appointed? On the 25th January last.

Mr.
J. B. C. Miles.
21 Mar., 1889.

1976.

- Mr. J. B. C. Miles.
21 Mar., 1889.
1976. What was the nature of your appointment? I think it must have been an Executive appointment. It came under the signature of the Principal Under Secretary.
1977. Have you got the document? No; but I think Mr. Mason has his, and mine was exactly similar.
1978. Would you kindly tell us what the nature of your instructions were? We were to adjust the accounts of the late Casual Labour Board, and to close the relief works.
1979. When does your appointment terminate? Well, our duties ought to terminate shortly—on the 31st March. That is the last date upon which the men are to be at work.
1980. What action have you taken since your appointment? Well, we took over the control of the office and the accounts from the late Casual Labour Board, and followed our instructions by dismissing a number of the men on the 31st January, and again on the 28th February, and we will take steps to dispense with all the men on the 31st of this month.
1981. Did you discharge any of the officers of the staff? No.
1982. Can you say whether the present staff of the Department consist of the same officers that it did before your appointment? Almost without exception. There are the same three superintendents at the different places, and I know that they have nearly all the same men that were under their control before.
1983. What are the names of the superintendents? Mr. Burrowes was the superintendent in the Illawarra district. He is not acting as superintendent now. He calls himself superintending surveyor. Mr. M'Pherson is in his place. Mr. Oxley is at Narrabeen, and Mr. O'Donnell in the Hornsby district.
1984. Who have you got in the office? Mr. Hibble is the only clerk that we have there now.
1985. Who are the storekeepers? Mr. Larnach is the storekeeper on the Illawarra line.
1986. Have you gone into the books and accounts of the late Casual Labour Board? We have inquired into the books as we found them there, and into such of the accounts as were open to our investigation.
1987. Did you find all the necessary information and particulars there to enable you to make a full investigation? Well, I think we must say that there were sufficient books of account kept.
1988. Would you state to the Commission as concisely as possible the result of your investigation of the accounts up to the present time? The investigation was not very minute with regard to the principal part of the expenditure because the vouchers had been taken from the office and were lying partly at the Auditor-General's office and partly at the Treasury, so they were not accessible to us; but we did all that we could do. We checked their expenditure with the bank-book; saw that they had handed over to the Auditor-General vouchers for the money that had been placed at their disposal, and it would rest with him to say whether the vouchers were sufficient or not. Then, still further, with regard to the accounts, we made it our business to inquire into the accuracy of such accounts as had been incurred by the late Casual Labour Board, but left unpaid by them. We had some little difficulty about some of these.
1989. Have you had any experience as an accountant in the working of a large department? Yes.
1990. In this Colony? Yes; I have seen the working of large mercantile and other establishments.
1991. Are you enabled from your investigation to form any judgment—to express any opinion as to the system adopted as regards the books and accounts of the office, and the way in which they were kept? Yes. I think they can be said to have kept books that were sufficient if they applied them to their proper purpose, and if they had a proper method of checking the amounts when the accounts were received.
1992. So far as your opinion goes, can we take it that quite sufficient records have been kept of all moneys disbursed by the late Casual Labour Board? Oh, yes; that is to say, that for every cheque they paid away they had a voucher properly attested.
1993. So that when they say they disbursed a certain amount they can show a voucher for it? Yes.
1994. But the amount is dependent upon the voucher? Yes.
1995. And if the vouchers were tampered with or incorrect, the accounts would be made to correspond? Oh, necessarily.
1996. Can you state the amount of money that went through the department from 2nd May, 1887, the date of the appointment of the Casual Labour Board, until the 23rd January last? I find from my own inquiries that the late Casual Labour Board had placed at their credit by the Government, from first to last, a sum of £252,000. There has been a small expenditure beyond that, which has been allowed by the Bank without the Government authority.
1997. Was the whole of that expenditure incurred by the late Casual Labour Board during their existence? I believe so.
1998. Have you expended any moneys out of the £252,000? No. Our Board have had placed at their disposal £18,000, of which about £14,000 have been spent.
1999. Is this money additional to the £252,000? Yes.
2000. Are you aware, speaking generally, of the objects or purposes for which the moneys at the disposal of the late Casual Labour Board were applied? Yes; I know for what they were professedly applied.
2001. Could you state what? They were chiefly for the formation of roads through various properties, some of which we know from the inquiry by the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly, were conducted through private lands, the making of bridges in different parts, and the damming of streams.
2002. My question relates rather to the labour employed on these works, whether it was the unemployed or not? It was supposed to be all done by the unemployed.
2003. Have any accounts come before you showing the payment of moneys outside the unemployed, such, for example, as accounts for carting, carrying, and so forth? Yes.
2004. Which was not the work of the unemployed? Well, I suppose, as regards the matter of cartage, it was not directly unemployed labour, but the outside people were necessarily employed, having horses and vehicles.
2005. Is there anything in the books which will enable us to separate the cost of that class of work and the cost of the unemployed work? Oh, yes; the pay-sheets will enable that to be done.
2006. Can you say whether it was a considerable amount? It must have been heavy, because there were a number of men engaged in cutting and excavating for roads, and a good many carters were employed in removing the earth and stone taken out of the cuttings.
2007. Can you say whether or not, from your investigation up to the present time, proper checks were kept, and the usual precautions taken to prevent irregular, improper, or extravagant expenditure of money by the late Casual Labour Board? No; proper precautions were not taken.

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2008. Where was the defect? The defect was, I think, in most of the control over all the work being left to Mr. Davies by the other members of the late Casual Labour Board, and the absence of co-operation with him. They have appeared to have held themselves almost aloof from him the greater part of the time, and to have let him conduct the affairs of the late Casual Labour Board almost as he chose.

2009. With reference to the payment of moneys, does it seem to you that proper checks were taken to prevent any irregular expenditure? No. So far as I can see they were particularly careful to have it vouched, that a certain sum of money set down to a certain man on a certain day was actually paid to that man. That is to say, if a man received £10 on a certain day, a voucher would show that it had been paid on that day.

2010. Where do you think there was a defect in the check as regards payment? Well, information has reached us of a man being put down as a ganger and receiving money as a ganger, when he was no ganger at all, and was entitled to receive money for his own labour only.

2011. Could such a thing as that be discovered by an examination of the pay-sheets and books? No, because you would have to take it for granted that the man being returned as a ganger he would necessarily be so—without information from people outside you would have no means of proving that he was not.

2012. Do you think, when such a thing as that occurred, the Chairman or any member of the late Casual Labour Board was responsible for it? No; I do not think that he or any member of the late Casual Labour Board would know of it. The superintendent, who returned the man as a ganger when he was not a ganger, would be responsible.

2013. I suppose in a department like this the heads of the department would of necessity have to trust to the honesty of some of their officers? Yes.

2014. If therefore such a thing as that occurred it might be purely and simply from the dishonesty of the superintending officer for which the head of the department was not responsible, and could not have protected himself? Well, it all depends upon what a man is supposed to do when he signs a paper authorizing the expenditure of a considerable sum of money. Is he merely to affix his name and be relieved of the responsibility, when the mere glancing over the paper and comparing it with the rough draft that he might have, would be sufficient. I do not think that the superintendent is absolved from blame if there are errors in the pay-sheet prepared by his subordinate from his draft.

2015. Has any actual case been brought under your notice where a pay-sheet has been signed by a ganger, representing a number of men, instead of being signed by the man as an individual worker? Yes. There is one pay-sheet where a man named Flemming has been returned as a ganger. Mr. Burrowes, the superintendent, who signed the pay-sheet, informed me that this man was working as a labourer, a knockabout, and that he was entitled to receive pay only for his own services.

2016. Do you know what amount that involved? He was paid from £20 to £22 for a fortnight for a gang, instead of receiving 4s. or 5s. a day for himself.

2017. That arose from his being represented as a ganger and claiming payment for several men? Yes. The explanation made by Mr. Burrowes was that the wrong was done by his storekeeper, who prepared the fair copy of the pay-sheet, and who knew that the man was not a ganger.

2018. Who was the storekeeper? His name was Springall.

2019. Mr. Burrowes, when questioned about this, threw the responsibility upon Mr. Springall? Yes. Burrowes handed him the rough sheets of the pay, which he said he had not had time to look at afterwards and compare with the copy prepared by Springall, and so the amount was paid.

2020. How did you discover this case? Well, the discovery was not made by us. Mr. Larnach, the storekeeper, supplied the information to us.

2021. For aught you know to the contrary, or for aught the vouchers or pay-sheets show, this might have occurred on many other occasions? Yes.

2022. In other districts? Yes; it is quite possible.

2023. Could not that have been checked in any way? Well, it could have been checked if they had had anybody for the special purpose, by making a comparison between the number of men that received wages and the number of rations distributed. But they might have been wise enough to have managed it in this way,—to have ordered rations for the number of men that were apparently to be supplied, that is to say, for the extra number that was represented to be in the gang.

2024. Then it was possible for a system of swindling to have gone on, and worked so skilfully as to have almost prevented detection? Oh, yes; it would have been easy to have prevented detection.

2025. With these exceptions, does it appear that the usual checks were adopted? No. Among other duties to which we succeeded was the examination of a number of accounts of a firm of Government contractors, who supplied large quantities of material to the work. The material was supplied to orders which were issued from the office of the Board, and in due course the accounts came in from the firm and were settled. The accounts appeared to have been signed by the head of the department. I suppose they were nearly all signed by Mr. Davies, and signed by the officer who incurred the expense. They were also signed by the clerk, Mr. Hibble, and it was Mr. Burrowes' duty to receive the articles, and he was responsible, and ought to have known whether the things were received or not. On comparing the accounts with the orders we find in several instances that they do not tally. I put these in my books as accounts upon which we are engaged inquiring into. There is an order sent for the delivery of twenty-three kegs of powder, and the account was rendered for twenty-eight kegs. It may be capable of explanation afterwards; for instance, they may be able to show a receipt for the delivery of twenty-eight kegs. There is another case, where six kegs were ordered and eight charged for. There is another, four kegs of powder and sixteen coils of fuse, and they charge for double the quantity. There are a good many accounts like these, about which I am in communication with McLean Brothers and Rigg, who supplied the articles. They make various explanations with regard to these. They get out of the difficulty by saying that the orders were sent for so much, but Mr. Davies verbally ordered an additional quantity. But before the accounts are paid they must produce receipts to show that they delivered the full quantity they have charged for. If four kegs were ordered and they delivered eight kegs, we wish to have the orders, and we wish to see the delivery notes. But, even in that case, we shall not pay the amount without the sanction of the Colonial Secretary. Here is another account for three bars of iron, and the account is for six bars. The explanation in that case is that three bars were ordered, but the firm sent six half bars. But a man would not call them bars when they were only half bars. There are a number of accounts

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accounts like that. Two of the most remarkable things, however, are order No. 552, entered in voucher as being six coils of Manilla rope, the order-book showing the same No. 552 is one hamper-basket, the date of that order being the 10th September, 1888. You will see that the voucher is signed by the superintendent as having received it, and signed by Mr. Davies. Before passing away from that, there is another matter which seems very singular. In this case we find no order at all, but we find a voucher for twenty-four long-handled shovels and four hammers, 31st August, £6 10s. We found that there were a number of accounts unpaid, and there was the bare possibility of others having been rendered. I wrote to them asking them to furnish us with a statement of the various amounts due to them. Their statement came in, and from that statement was omitted these two accounts. They omitted these in their statement, and said there was no record of them in their books. The tale we had from Larnach, the storekeeper, was that the hamper-basket was for Mr. Davies' own private use, and that the account came in the first instance for hamper-basket, £6 10s., and that he made some mention of it in the office, and they sent in a Government account for £6 10s., the one with the long-handled shovels and hammers; but I think Larnach must have made some mistake, as the one for £3 10s. is the one that was numbered with the order. The explanation of the £3 10s. amount was that the basket was returned and credited, being too small, and a larger basket sent, and against that they charged the long-handled shovels and the hammers.

2026. Is there anything else? With regard to some moneys that came into the hands of Mr. Davies, a number of men were employed at the National Park from time to time in cutting firewood, which was sent down for sale to Sydney. It was sold by Mr. Neale, whose office is in Engine-street. We found that certain amounts had been paid into the credit of the late Casual Labour Board in the Joint Stock Bank. We found with regard to the firewood that instead of the proceeds being paid into the Treasury Mr. Davies called personally on Mr. Neale and paid them to the credit of the late Casual Labour Board at the Joint Stock Bank. Well, I wanted to see if the proper amounts had been paid into the bank, and I asked the clerks for the account sales, and they said they never had seen any, and as we could not find them we thought it was right to get Mr. Neale to furnish us with copies. I wrote to him asking him to do this, but he refused unless we paid him for doing so. He said he had furnished the Chairman of the late Casual Labour Board with copies. We did not carry the matter further, as your Commission was appointed, and you could obtain them much more readily from this man than we could.

2027. What is his name? G. R. C. Neale, Engine-street. It is just possible that these are the correct proceeds, but there is nothing to enable us to judge.

2028. What is the amount? Over £270.

2029. For firewood? Yes. The first five items of the account passed through the hands of Mr. Neale.

2030. And you have been unable on application to obtain an account of the sales? Yes. He said he had furnished the Chairman with copies, and if we wanted more we would have to pay for them.

2031. Anything else? This is a memorandum which was handed to me one day by Burrowes and Larnach and I had an interview with these men respecting it. The memorandum was prepared by a man named Charles Robertson, and states that on a certain date he packed up a case of ale, wine, porter, and spirits. Mr. Larnach's accusation, supported by Burrowes, is that there was a picnic given by Mr. Davies to which certain people were invited, that the Government paid the sum of £30 through the late Casual Labour Board for refreshments, and that this quantity, which was unconsumed, Mr. Davies had packed into a case and sent to his own residence at Campbelltown. Mr. Burrowes, to make quite sure, wrote across the face of it the date upon which it was despatched. I made an effort to ascertain whether an amount of £30 had been paid to Mr. Kidman by the Casual Labour Board for this, but whether it was so or not we have no means of ascertaining.

2032. Could you find no vouchers for that at all? No; the vouchers had been sent to the Auditor-General long before our appointment, so we never had an opportunity of seeing it. These same men also made a statement that when the Board of which Mr. Davies was Chairman took over the relief works from Mr. Deering, the Metropolitan District Surveyor, there were large quantities of stores at the National Park, such as sugar, flour, cheese, and a quantity of crockery that had been received from Sydney when they gave up feeding the men at the Immigration Barracks. These men say that Mr. Davies ordered twenty bags of sugar, some cheese and flour, and a large quantity of crockery, to be sent to his private house. Whether that was done or not I cannot say, but they profess to be able to vouch for the accuracy of their statements by the records of the Railway Department?

2033. Anything further? I will mention, so far as our investigation has gone, that the only carelessness I find in the office is that the vouchers have been paid without comparing the accounts with the butts of the orders. In other respects, from what we have seen, the books have been properly kept. This material thing the Board seems to have neglected.

2034. If these vouchers had been compared with the butts of the order-books, mistakes might have been discovered that could not have been discovered from memory? Oh, yes. Just as we have discovered this account for £3 10s. and one for £6 10s. with regard to the shovels and hammers and the Manilla rope. Then there are numerous others in dispute between us, where there is a charge for a larger quantity of things than was ordered.

2035. There are numerous others which you are still inquiring into? Yes. There is one case where there were ten casks of powder ordered, and they charged forty-six, and the explanation is that Mr. Davies ordered the extra quantity. In one case there were five coils of rope charged for and half a hundredweight was ordered. They say that five coils were required, and they sent that quantity. It appears to me to be a very singular thing that five coils should be required and only half a hundredweight ordered.

2036. Will you mention any other item that is now being inquired into? There is one there—three dozen picks, and four dozen are charged for. They said in regard to that that picks came out in two-dozen boxes, and Mr. Davies agreed to take the additional dozen. There is another case where twenty-three kegs of powder were ordered and twenty-four were charged for. They say they sent the kegs out two in a bag, and they sent twelve bags with two kegs each. These cases are still under investigation. Hitherto, whenever there has been a discrepancy between the amount ordered and the amount charged for, they say that it was consequent upon some verbal orders given by Mr. Davies.

2037. Can you tell us who was the member of the firm or officer of the firm who had charge of these accounts? Yes; his signature is upon all these vouchers—Mr. J. H. Wood, for McLean Bros. and Rigg.

2038. Have you discovered any other irregularity or defect up to the present day, other than those you have stated? There were irregularities in the retaining and handling of a large amount of petty cash over and above what would be reasonably required for the working of the office. It has been subsequently accounted for, but it appears that at one time they had between £500 and £600 of petty cash in hand. 2039.

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2039. Do you know who had charge of the petty-cash books? Yes; the petty cash was formerly in the hands of the late Paymaster and Secretary, Mr. Hinchcliffe.

2039½. Did you find anything to indicate that at any time he had been short in his cash, and that he had to make it up? We are not sure that he was short in his cash, because we never had the opportunity of counting it. But according to his own book he showed that he must have had at one time £450 in his box for petty cash, and at that time he got a cheque for another £100 for petty cash. That being the case he could not want any more I should think.

2039½. Did the books show how this petty cash was disbursed, or was there anything to suggest a reason for holding such a large amount as that? Nothing at all; it was quite an incomprehensible thing to me how it should have been allowed by the Chairman.

2040. Do you know if there are vouchers for the payments shown in the petty cash? Yes; for everything. He explains a portion of that amount in this way: He says that he subsequently put in an entry for the payment to Mr. John Davies of £260, which Mr. Davies calls personal expenses, and in respect of which he was allowed 10s. per day. One voucher was put in for the total amount drawn by Mr. Davies. Hinchcliffe says that portions of that amount were paid from time to time to Mr. Davies during the currency of the Board—that he did not give Mr. Davies the £260 at one time, but £25 at one time and £25 at another. But even supposing that were so, he had still £250 petty cash which was not required. Another remarkable thing in connection with these accounts is that they sent in accounts to the Auditor-General with everything vouched and witnessed for the exact amount of the advances they obtained. The remarkable point is this, that the late Casual Labour Board, the same as ourselves, obtained from the Government, votes of £6,000, for which they accounted to the Treasury—that is to say, they accounted for one £6,000 before getting another. The late Casual Labour Board were always able to send vouchers for £6,000 exactly. It would strike me as a remarkable thing if we were able to send vouchers to the Treasury once for the precise amount of the advances made. When we got to the extent of our money in hand and had not sufficient to meet the next pay-sheet we would get another advance, but we would refund some small amount to the Treasury. With the late Casual Labour Board, however, the previous amount always totalled up exactly to £6,000.

2041. That struck you as being very extraordinary? Exceedingly so. I am quite certain I could not have done it. If the directors of any company I manage gave me a round sum to expend, I am quite certain that I could not spend it exactly.

2042. Has any explanation been asked for with reference to that? I asked the late Secretary and the clerk, Mr. Hibble. They protested that it was the easiest thing in the world to do this. When they got nearly to the end of the £6,000 they would take small vouchers and put them in until the exact amount was made up; but I cannot believe it. I do not believe it is possible. Once or twice it might have been possible for them to have done it, but that it should have been done in all cases is something beyond my comprehension.

2043. Have you seen those adjustment forms and vouchers for the £6,000 sums? No.

2044. Where are they? They are all in the Government offices. I do not think they have been sent over from the Treasury to the Auditor-General yet; but I think the Treasury has operated with nearly all of them now.

2045. But they had, as far as we have learned, an overdraft at the bank? That is how we are being treated too. We get a credit for £6,000, and then we ask for a second sum and get an authority for another £6,000, when, as a matter of fact, the Treasury has not covered the account yet.

2046. In no instance would they have control over more than £6,000? No; but the Treasury would not cover them until several payments had been made.

2047. That accounts therefore for the credits in two cases of £18,000 and £72,000? Yes.

2048. What is the nature of this document which shows the vouchers for the £6,000 exactly—what is it called, or by what name is it known in the department? An abstract for the adjustment of advances and recapitulation of vouchers.

2049. You say that in every case they showed vouchers for the exact amount of £6,000? Yes.

2050. Is there any other matter you wish to state? No; I think I have exhausted everything.

2051. Do you wish to say anything about a matter appearing in your progress report as to a double payment for some seed? I think that was purely an accidental circumstance. The man who rendered the account for the seed is I think an honest man. The man's name is Howlison, who is a partner with Mr. Joseph Graham in the market. The amount when first paid was passed to the credit of their cash-sales account; by a new clerk who was employed, and he afterwards found a certain invoice unpaid by the Casual Labour Board. The account was sent out, and by carelessness the amount was twice paid. The vouchers were sent on to the Auditor-General's Department, and there they looked into the matter and saw that both accounts bore the same date. The matter was discovered by a clerk in the Auditor-General's Office.

2052. You believe from your investigation that this has been entirely explained? Yes.

2053. If you were in the position of auditor, you would be satisfied with the explanation you have already received? Oh, quite; there is this peculiarity, that Mr. Graham of the markets should be one of the trustees of the National Park.

2054. Have you had any official experience of the qualifications of the Board's officers—Mr. Hinchcliffe, for instance? Yes.

2055. Do you think he is a capable man? He struck me as being a very good officer—quite exact in all that I saw.

2056. Mr. Hibble? He also is a very good clerk, so much so that when a Cabinet minute came out, dismissing Mr. Hibble at once, I sent in a remonstrance saying that he was of great service to me, and that, whatever he may have done in former times, he could do no harm now, and that we were anxious to retain his services. The sanction came down at once, and we have kept on Mr. Hibble till now. He is powerless to do any wrong now.

2057. Did Mr. Hinchcliffe remain with you? No; he was dismissed in accordance with instructions received from the Colonial Secretary's Department early in February.

2058. Have you had opportunities of observing his work? Yes.

2059. And your opinion is that he is a competent man? Oh, yes; he is quite a capable man.

2060. What can you say of Mr. Larnach? My opinion of him is not a favourable one. He is a man of very

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very flighty temperament, and given to great outbursts of anger. He is called the storekeeper, but nearly all the work is done by a clerk, named Goodman. Mr. Larnach does practically nothing at all.

2061. Have you been brought into contact with Mr. Burrowes? Yes; I have had many interviews with him.

2062. What are his duties? Mr. Burrowes was the superintendent under whom all the men in his district worked at one time—in fact, until we were appointed. On our first interview with Mr. Davies, which was on the same date as we took charge, Mr. Davies told us that Mr. Burrowes was incompetent and generally untrustworthy. I had not seen Mr. Burrowes at that time, and I asked Mr. Davies how long Mr. Burrowes had been so. He said he was always incompetent, always untrustworthy. I asked him why he had kept him on if he was incompetent and untrustworthy, and Mr. Davies did not give any satisfactory explanation. Mr. Mason, when you examine him, I think will tell you that Mr. Burrowes is not at all competent, and does not attend to his instructions. At one time Mr. Burrowes (until we took charge) was in the habit of drawing very freely for personal expenses. He used to make up £4 or £5 a fortnight, sometimes £6 or £7 a fortnight, for personal expenses.

2063. He is still under you, is he not? Yes, he is; we were desirous to discharge him, but we were requested to keep him on until the 31st of March. Mr. Mason to utilise his services thought he would keep him on survey work. Burrowes is now employed in plotting work.

2064. Have you any reason to doubt his trustworthiness? Only from this report that he had been in the habit of borrowing money from the men, which in itself is a very bad thing, and he does not carry out the instructions that we give him.

2065. I believe he had almost the entire control of the district, had he not? Yes, and large sums of money were paid on his certificate.

2066. Do I understand that Mr. Davies made a complaint of him directly you went there? Yes; within half an hour of our presenting our appointments to him he spoke of both Burrowes and Larnach being unreliable.

2067. Do you know how long Larnach had been there? Larnach had been there much less time than Burrowes, but I cannot say when he came on.

2068. Then there was Mr. Josephson;—do you know anything of him? He was there acting in the capacity of registrar, but there were no duties for him to perform except when there was a pay. We recommended that he should be returned to the department from which he was withdrawn to go to the Casual Labour Board, and he was taken away from us.

2069. Have you any books at the office of the Casual Labour Board which will help us in our inquiry? Nothing that I know of.

2070. There is some record-book that we would like to get? That you will be able to get.

2071. I suppose at the conclusion of your labours you will furnish a final report to the Colonial Secretary? Yes.

2072. *Mr. Franklin.*] Did you find on the books that the amounts of money expended had been divided into districts—north and south? Yes.

2073. Can you ascertain what had been expended by Mr. Burrowes? Yes; there is a kind of ledger showing that. It would take some time to work it out, but I think it could be ascertained without difficulty.

2074. You have never seen the acquittances which have been received by the Auditor-General? No; I have seen a few of them which have been sent back to the office for completion on account of some little irregularity—either the want of a proper signature, or something of that kind.

2075. In those that you sent out, did you remark that many of the signatures were marksmen? No; I saw that there was a small proportion of marksmen. At one time they had about 9,000 men paid through the Casual Labour Board.

2076. You know, in connection with the pay-sheets, that the signatures were taken on each pay-sheet showing the correct expenditure? Yes.

2077. Do you think it possible that in the confusion of paying so many men a substituted signature might appear? I hardly think so, especially from the reports I have received from Mr. Ormiston, who now pays the men. He says that if the pays had been made in a manner similar to his pays he did not think there could be any doubt but that all the men received the moneys entered against their names.

2078. You don't think that a claimant being absent, would authorize anybody to sign for him and take his money? No; sometimes the money was brought back, and the absent man either got it through the superintendent of the works, or the money was paid into the Treasury to the unpaid-wages account there.

2079. But it might happen that a moderately industrious man might be absent during the period of two pays? Yes. Then I take it that a return should be made to the Treasury.

2080. Don't you think, if these men continued to be absent, that there must have been some means adopted by which a voucher would be supplied for the incomplete signatures? No; the Auditor-General would not accept an incomplete voucher.

2081. Have you found that any moneys have been paid into the unpaid-wages account? Oh, yes; some sums have been so paid.

2082. Would it be practicable, within the terms of your inquiry, to ascertain the amounts that have been paid into the Treasury and compare them with the amounts on the papers sent to the Auditor-General? I think so. Of course it would take some time, and it would all depend upon whether the Auditor-General would give me access to the accounts that would be there.

2083. Do you know that the expenditure during the existence of the Casual Labour Board extended to £12,000 per month? Yes.

2084. From your experience as a financier, don't you think that is a very large amount? Yes; it is a very large sum.

2085. That is, to be paid away in services rendered? Yes; and material.

2086. What proportion of the expenditure would be represented by material? I have no means of judging, because we really were not asked to do anything of that kind in our appointment.

2087. You could not give it, I suppose, approximately? I should estimate that there would be about two-thirds for services rendered probably, but I cannot say.

2088. With your knowledge of the present staff, and also the knowledge that you found it in nearly its full force, do you think proper supervision could be given to this large expenditure? Certainly not, so far as I can judge from the people they employed.

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2089. Do you think that, in view of these enormous amounts spent in the Southern District, the large expenditure in the hands of one man, Mr. Burrowes, with a very small staff, that there was sufficient supervision over every man in regard to his vouchers? No; I do not think there was.

2090. Have you come to the conclusion that there was little or no professional supervision during the time of this expenditure? That is what I have gathered from what Mr. Mason has told me. When the Board was appointed there was a preponderance of professional skill, but I know that Mr. Houson and Mr. Wells gave scarcely any professional assistance at any time.

2091. Did you ascertain that their legitimate duties in the Government Service prevented their giving that attendance to the work of the Board which its importance demanded? Yes; Mr. Wells was represented to me as having, on account of his other official duties, to be frequently absent from the work of the Board.

2092. Of course, in the responsible position of making your inquiry, that would be one of the important things that you would give your attention to, and you are satisfied that they were unable from some cause or other to give the amount of supervision required? That is really what I have ascertained, that Mr. Wells was kept busily employed in his own department.

2093. Then with that small amount of check such a very large aggregate amount of money as £250,000 would be expended, and the vouchers coming to the office of the Board would come in the form of a bill, over which no check could be had beyond the statement that somebody at a distance had received the goods? Yes.

2094. It would have been possible for a responsible officer to have gone there and kept a check upon these things? It certainly was.

2095. A proper check could not have been kept by Mr. Burrowes; for instance, if Mr. Burrowes ordered a certain quantity of powder for the works, it has never been known that that quantity of powder was received? You could only trust to Mr. Burrowes.

2096. Are you of opinion that an individual having the authority to order the expenditure of nearly one-third of this large sum of money would be in a position to be at least tempted to little irregularities? Well, the opportunity would be there; but there is an opportunity for all of us.

2097. Still it is an unusual position for a man to be in? I do not know that it is altogether unusual, unless a man has a very large establishment by which a system of complete record can be kept. The expenditure was very large for the small amount of establishment that appears to have been kept here.

2098. At any rate, orders may have been given for things not absolutely required? Oh, yes.

2099. In furnishing particulars of the National Park the item of sleepers was mentioned? Oh, yes; the amount received from the Roads Department for sleepers from the National Park is £42 5s. 11d.

2100. Have you ascertained how these sleepers were ordered, and to what account they were paid;—have you found any request for the sleepers, or any correspondence that led up to their supply? I think the reply that we got was that these sleepers were supplied to the Centennial Park on the order of the Government, and that the Board received £42 5s. 11d. for them. I am told that it cost about three or four times as much to cut them.

2101. I suppose you are not aware whether it was the system of the Casual Labour Board that the butts of orders should be checked with the vouchers after presentation? No; I do not know. I have not heard that that was the custom, but I think it ought to have been. The accounts that came in for the months of January or February were not accompanied by the orders.

2102. Don't you think that would have been a very simple check indeed? Yes; but the butts are the things that I should be referring to, for the reason that when the municipal frauds were discovered the perpetrators were discovered through the butts being referred to.

2103. Were you not surprised that there was no sort of initialling of the butts then in the office? Yes; I inquired why it was not done, and Mr. Hibble, the clerk, says he did not do it because he never had time.

2104. Does it not appear to you that it would be the simple duty of any man in the smallest way of business to adopt this precaution? Certainly. There is this to be said for Hibble, that it may not have been his duty, because he really was very much overworked.

2105. Assuming that he had authority over a very large sum of money, it would be one of the most important things in the office? Yes; it would have been one of the first things I should have done in the office. It is only what I am having done with the accounts that have come in under our administration.

2106. I suppose you have not been in the field to see what has been done? No; Mr. Mason will be able to give you some information about that.

2107. *Mr. Waller.*] From what I can gather from the questions that have been asked and answered, although there were sufficient books for the actual keeping of accounts, so as to give you upon entering your examination an insight into the operations of the Board, was there not a great want of records by which you could positively give assurance that the accounts were correct? Yes; the accounts themselves have been sent out to the Treasury.

2108. As regards these vouchers, was there anything on them to prove to you satisfactorily that the proper officers of the Board had really examined into these vouchers for the order of goods? Yes; every voucher that I saw gave me the impression that the proper officer had examined the account.

2109. The consequence would be then that you, in the capacity which you are in at present, would hold them responsible that all these vouchers were for goods honestly required, and they were properly checked? Yes.

2110. And if it should appear that these vouchers are not correct, it would not be the result of an accident in your opinion? No; it ought not to be the result of accident.

2111. It would be deliberately doing what is wrong? Yes, wrong—either conniving at an unjust account or a dereliction of duty.

2112. Have you made a demand at the Treasury or Audit Office to permit you to view these vouchers by which their methods of working out this expenditure of £6,000 could be exactly obtained? I went to the Auditor-General's Office and saw two or three packets of vouchers. They appeared to be all genuine, as far as I could gather.

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2113. Have you checked these accounts against the documents in the office to enable you to say that they are not cooked vouchers that will not agree with the butts of the corresponding dates? No; because they have never been available for us. Nor, indeed, were we asked to do that in our appointments.
2114. As accountants and investigators, don't you think it is highly necessary in order to prove whether this is so or not? Yes; I suggested that to Mr. Dibbs, and he concurred in my opinion that as the accounts had passed to the Auditor-General he would have an investigation by his own officers.
2115. Such an investigation will go a great way to prove or disprove the honesty or dishonesty of the transactions of the Board? Yes.
2116. Do you consider that any business house would have been satisfied with their business manager who had no better checks upon his subordinates who were directly in some cases and indirectly in others the means of the expenditure of such a large sum of money? No; I think there was very defective management and very defective supervision.
2117. Would the misappropriation of funds, either in the shape of ordering goods which were not required, or the non-delivery of goods charged for, be a simple matter under the system carried out by the Board? Yes.
2118. And if men were not dishonest it was not from a want of means, but from a want of desire to be dishonest? I think so.
2119. The means were available without very much difficulty? Yes; without any trouble at all.
2120. And without very great probability of detection? Yes. One thing just occurs to me as a rather singular thing. Kidman had a contract for supplying the works with rations. One of the clauses of the contract was that he was to deliver the rations at the various camps. Of course he calculated the expense of so doing, and fixed his price accordingly. He has always been paid that price. The first pay-sheet that came into us, which was prepared by M'Pherson, who was Burrowes' successor, contained an item for carting rations, and Mr. Mason on seeing this struck it out; and then we set to work to inquire of Mr. Burrowes if he had paid for this in the past. Yes; we found the carting had always been paid at the expense of the Government, and then we asked him how he returned this in the pay-sheets, and we found that it was described not as so much for carting rations, but so much for carting alone—inferring that the charges were for ordinary carting. Mr. Burrowes could not say whether the men were described in the pay-sheets merely as carters, but the probability is that they were so put down.
2121. Will the Commission be justified in taking this statement as an indication of the ease with which malpractices could be carried on? They may.
2122. Referring to these contracts, do you know the nature of the contract with M'Lean Bros. and Rigg? No; not yet.
2123. Have you had any reason to wonder at that contract? No; I made inquiry of Mr. Dibbs with regard to them, and in my interview with him I mentioned that these people had been sending in accounts with a suspicious appearance. He said they were the Government contractors, and they appeared to be reputable people.
2124. Perhaps you are not aware that we had some evidence before us that they are not supplying the Casual Labour Board under the Government contract? No; I did not know that.
2125. And that they were supplying the Board at the market prices? I was not aware of that.
2126. That being the case, do you think that the reason given to the Board was the right one, that the supply of goods was so small that it would not be worth M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's while to supply them at the contract prices? I would not believe that at all.
2127. I will put it to you in another way: Do you think that if tenders had been called for the contract to supply the Casual Labour Board with goods, other merchants would have been willing to tender? Everyone in the same line as M'Lean Bros. and Rigg would have tendered—all the wholesale ironmongers.
2128. So you don't think it was necessary to give M'Lean Brothers and Rigg any premium? No.
2129. Have you interviewed M'Lean Brothers and Rigg over any of these accounts personally? Yes.
2130. What sort of a reception did you get? The man I saw was very civil about it.
2131. Did they seem to court inquiry or otherwise? No; they did not appear to be anxious. I took these accounts into the office and gave them notice that there were a number of discrepancies, and that if they would send a clerk to my office one of my clerks would go through them with him. The clerk came and passed some time with one of my clerks last Saturday. The last information furnished with reference to the matter is that where there was a difference the extra quantities of goods were authorized by Mr. Davies. The explanation was unsatisfactory.
2132. Don't you think it likely that the head of a house in a large line of business would say in such a case that the best thing you could do would be to go through the entries in the books yourself? Well, the entries in the books would not be more satisfactory than the accounts themselves, because if there was anything wrong the entries in the books would correspond with the accounts.
2133. What course, then, do you think they should have taken? What we would have asked them to do would have been to produce the order, and in the event of it showing a less quantity than the invoice, then we might fall back and ask them to produce the railway receipt.
2134. In offering to show the books, they should have produced the order at the same time;—Do you think that would have been a businesslike thing to do? Yes. A person would naturally wish to have a thing like that cleared up at once. I would have brought the order and the receipt at once.
2135. It would not have been an unreasonable thing to have expected a firm to do? No.
2136. Would not an investigation of that kind disclose the facts about this peculiar hamper? If the order was for the hamper it would have been produced.
2137. What would be the weight of these coils of rope? I could not say. Some of the coils would be so small that you could carry them in your hands. I should think the five coils charged for must be at least four times the value of the half-hundredweight ordered.
2138. What would be the weight? They do not give the weight. I know from my clerk that half a hundredweight would be worth about a quarter of what is charged.
2139. Do you come across the storekeepers at all? Only Mr. Larnach—he is the chief storekeeper; but there are storekeepers at the different camps.
2140. Have you come into contact with them? I have not. Mr. Mason has come into contact with one or two of them.

2141. Have you any records in the office about the appointments? Mr. Burrowes was appointed by the Colonial Secretary.

2142. In writing? I believe so; because I believe we had to get notice of his suspension from him.

2143. Did he give any guarantee, do you know? I think not.

2144. Did all the officers of the Casual Labour Board give guarantees? I never heard of such a thing being in existence.

2145. Had Mr. Hinchcliffe one? No; I do not think he had. I think I should have heard if he had one.

2146. Is Mr. Hinchcliffe a man that you could say was a competent accountant and book-keeper? I would not engage him as a competent accountant; but he is a clever clerk, and can do a large amount of general work well, quickly, and accurately; but he could keep books with a very little practice, and keep them well too.

2147. Is he a man that might fairly be held responsible for the duties of the position he had? I think so.

2148. He would have no right to claim indulgence on account of his want of knowledge? No. He used to call on Mr. Hibble to initial all the vouchers and pay-sheets that came in to him.

2149. What does that initialling mean? It merely indicates that the computations are correct.

2150. His superior officer was Mr. Hinchcliffe? Yes; Mr. Hibble was not responsible for anything more than the computations. It would appear to me, that knowing that, Mr. Davies allowed accounts to pass through without being properly checked. Mr. Hibble and Mr. Hinchcliffe may be held responsible; I should say the blame must rest with Mr. Davies.

2151. Why? Because it appeared to be no part of Mr. Hinchcliffe's duties to in any way assist in checking the accounts.

2152. Mr. Hibble in checking the accounts had no knowledge whether they were fraudulent or not. He simply went into the computation? That is what he says.

2153. There is the account for the Manilla rope instead of the hamper-basket, would it not strike you, from the amount of evidence before you, that he is corroborated by M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, when they say that the changes and discrepancies in the accounts arose through the verbal orders received from the Chairman. That being the case, how could he be responsible for the correctness of accounts which would differ from the order-book in the office, as regards the transaction of the order? Yes, it certainly gives colour to the statement.

2154. Consequently, if the Chairman changed these orders, and did not take the trouble to acquaint his officers with the alteration, and to initial each alteration to make the order correspond, does he not take upon his shoulders the whole responsibility of anything that may occur, either in the way of malpractices or anything else? I think the blame must be cast upon him if he commits these acts.

2155. The character of Mr. Burrowes, I think you said, was not so favourable in your eyes? No.

2156. Is he a man whom you would engage in a similar position of authority and responsibility? Decidedly not.

2157. Is he a man whose statements can be relied on? I always doubt him very much.

2158. You would not like to take for absolute truth statements he might make of other men? No; I would not.

2159. I notice you said there were £252,000 expended by the Casual Labour Board. Does that include the debts left unpaid on account of Mr. Deering? I cannot say.

2160. If the accounts were properly kept surely that would be shown? No; we have all the accounts of the expenditure, but we have nothing to show how that expenditure was incurred.

2161. But could they not have separated these accounts? I do not see how very well they could have done that.

2162. They could have told the contractors with whom Mr. Deering was acting to close up all books to a certain date and open fresh accounts with the Casual Labour Board? I should think this expenditure of £250,000 is the Casual Labour Board's own expenditure. That is the system we have adopted. There are accounts of M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's left unpaid which we shall have to discharge.

2163. But you are in the position of liquidators? Well, we have entirely separate accounts opened for ourselves.

2164. Have you any records in the office by which you can verify the statement of large quantities of goods such as you describe being left by Mr. Deering? No.

2165. Did you apply to Mr. Deering? No. It was just after your Commission was appointed, and knowing that you had the power to compel attendance and take evidence on oath, we thought we would leave it to you.

2166. But your books would show if the Casual Labour Board immediately gave large orders for goods such as those left by Mr. Deering? No; because just after that a contract was entered into with Mr. Kidman to supply rations at so much per day. We did not know what was in the store, this contract being entered into at once, and there being no more orders for groceries.

2167. If there had been a large quantity of goods it would have been unnecessary for Mr. Kidman to have begun to supply the rations under the contract at once? These men do not profess to say that there was a large quantity. In the matter of sugar they say there were only twenty bags. It is merely a matter of honesty or dishonesty.

2168. Can you supply the Commission with an abstract statement of the money paid for cartage? We cannot, as the vouchers are not in our possession.

2169. If you had them, could you do it? Yes.

2170. The same answer could be given as regards quarrying? Yes.

2171. And as I am on this subject, I would ask you whether a statement could be prepared with reference to the total amount paid for different descriptions of plant; take, for example, barrows, rope, powder, general tools in the shape of picks and shovels, &c.? Oh, yes. The vouchers are at the Treasury, and from any official in the service, who might be asked to go through them, that information could be got.

2172. The value of that you can at once see, as it might assist the Commission to form their own judgment as to whether there has been any undue quantity of tools used during the time the Board was in existence? The Commission would be required to allow liberally for breakages and so forth. I can say that Mr. Mason has an idea that the requisitioning for powder was in excess of what it need have been. We had a requisition for powder after we took charge, and we sent a smaller quantity than was requisitioned for, and they did not stop the works which are going on as if there had been a larger quantity required than we sent.

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2173. Did it strike you since you have made this investigation that there has been a very large amount of money expended on tools—that the requisitions for that sort of thing were large? Yes; considering the number of men and the kind of work done; but my opinion is not of much value.
2174. I suppose that generally the opinion of road contractors would be about as valuable as any that we could get as to the necessity existing for the tools ordered? Yes.
2175. Regarding the distribution of money, we have it on evidence that as much as £5,000 would be in the safe at one time (say) on Tuesday night, for distribution on Wednesday. In your opinion, was it necessary to have such large sums at one time? I never knew that they had such large sums in the safe. I knew that when they first took over the relief works they must have had a large sum. They have had to start by early train in the morning, just as we have had to do; so that it was necessary to have the money in the safe on the night before. So far as we are concerned we have had over £1,000 in the safe at night.
2176. Was there no avoiding it? No.
2177. Were there other payments made besides the payments of wages proper—payments like those to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg. Have you had any evidence brought before you that such payments should have been made, not to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg personally, or their clerks, but to some other person who took the amount to them? No.
2178. Have you got evidence to show that absolutely on every occasion the amount was paid to the person to whom the money was due by the officials of the Casual Labour Board? I have not evidence, but I have never heard otherwise.
2179. Have you any proof that it was paid to the people for whom it was drawn? Nothing beyond the receipts of the people to whom the money was due.
2180. Were the payments made in the office? Ordinarily in the office; but some of the amounts were paid out of the office by the Chairman of the Board, Mr. Davies.
2181. Then you have got proof that Mr. Davies did himself take cheques around to pay the persons in whose favour these cheques had been drawn? Oh, yes.
2182. Then he must have given himself a large amount of additional trouble in so doing? Yes.
2183. As a matter of fact, have your researches shown you that people generally came to the office and signed in the office for these cheques, or, on the other hand, that Mr. Davies was generally kind enough to take them to them? No; I think people generally came to the office.
2184. I do not want what you think, but what you know? Then I do not know, because I was not there at the time.
2185. But there are the signatures. Would you have any knowledge as an accountant whether these persons came to the office and were paid the moneys, got the moneys in the office, and signed receipts for them? No; I cannot say that.
2186. Do you know that in some cases they have not done that? In some cases they have not done so—I have been so informed. For instance, I do not know personally whether Mr. Davies took the money round to Kidman's; I was not there.
2187. Supposing these vouchers disclosed signatures purporting to be those of collectors, have you any means, from other writing in the office, of verifying those signatures? No; I should think not.
2188. And, therefore, before you could satisfy yourself that the signatures were actually those of the persons they purported to be, you would have to get further proof? Yes.
2189. And that as a Board you have not had to prove? No. I might mention this as a circumstance which ought to come before you. We were appointed on the 25th January. Mr. Davies was informed of our appointment on the same day. He did not leave the office immediately after our appointment, but remained there until the 31st of January. Mr. Mason and I had no desire to treat him with incivility, and we thought that a man like him, as head of the establishment, might require some little time to fix up his affairs. He remained until the end of the month, when the pay-day came. I then wrote a letter to the Colonial Secretary, inquiring whether the pay was to be made by us or Mr. Davies—stating that Mr. Davies was still in the office, but that we were quite prepared to act at once. Mr. Dibbs upon that, wrote a letter to Mr. Davies, which led to his withdrawal on the day afterwards. On the day afterwards, Mr. Hinchcliffe came down with us with the money for the unemployed, and then he pulled out of the bottom of his bag all these old accounts of M'Lean Bros. and Rigg. He asked me to sign a cheque for them so that they could be paid, but I told him they could not be paid. Had I signed for those, we should have paid for the hamper-baskets, and the other things to which I have drawn attention. Mr. Davies, it seems, had these in his possession, and I was told that it was no unusual thing for him to have them, and to accept payment for other people's accounts. Hinchcliffe asked me to sign a cheque to enable him to pay these.
2190. Had the moneys been due to those people for a long time? Oh, yes. The accounts had been in the possession of Mr. Davies for some time.
2191. Did Mr. Hinchcliffe ask you for this on account of anything that Mr. Davies had said to him? He did say that Mr. Davies had told him that some of these had been owing for a long time, and that they ought to be paid. I said that although they had been lying over so long they must remain a little longer.
2192. You mention an amount which was obtained by a man for wages as a ganger when he was only a labourer? So Mr. Burrowes says.
2193. Have you any proof that he was ever on the labour sheet? Oh, he was on the labour sheet, because he was returned as a ganger.
2194. What was the wages he was receiving as a ganger? Well, he drew some £22 on one sheet for only a fortnight's pay.
2195. Do you recollect how many men were in the gang? There would be eight—seven and the ganger.
2196. Can you give us any evidence as to how long this kind of thing had been going on? I cannot.
2197. Is it impossible to obtain this? No; all this can be obtained from the pay vouchers at the Auditor-General's Office.
2198. Could you get them from there? Well, we could if we had time and assistance, but our hands are pretty full; but you only want a clerk. I should say any clerk in anything like a good position would be able to pick these out for you. There is one man in this case who could very well get this information, and that is Mr. Ormiston.
2199. Could the same information be obtained in the same way as to whether the rations were delivered,

or

or if not delivered were charged for in respect of these men who were supposed to be under this ganger? Well, it might be a little more difficult for Mr. Ormiston to get that for you; but Mr. Larnach could get that. He has been inquiring into matters connected with the rations. When you get Mr. Larnach before you he will very probably make a statement to you about the rations being improperly drawn.

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2200. What wages were these gangers paid? They ranged from 4s. to 5s. per day.
2201. Each man? Yes.
2202. They were a portion of the unemployed? They were.
2203. Do you know Mr. Springall? I know him by name.
2204. Have you seen anything of him which would lead you to form an opinion regarding him? No. The report that Mr. Burrowes and Mr. Larnach gives is, that he used to draw large quantities of stores for his own private use. He was a man who was able to build a public-house for himself. You could obtain better information as regards Springhall from Larnach and Burrowes.
2205. Do you think that Burrowes is a man who can be relied upon? Well, he ought to be able to substantiate any statement he may make from the storekeeper's books.
2206. Was it possible for goods to be ordered, paid for, and not delivered under the system that prevailed? I think it was.
2207. Was it possible for goods to be ordered, delivered, and sold somewhere else? Yes; that could have been done if the storekeeper and superintendent were dishonest men.
2208. In fact, a general system of swindling could have prevailed with undoubted ease? Yes.
2209. Do you, from your examination of the books, think that such a system was pursued? No; I cannot say that such a system was pursued.
2210. Not to any very large amount? No.
2211. Have you found all the order-books with the butts? Yes; I have them in my private safe. They are all in order from first to last, and I have got them safe.
2212. You have still charge of them? Yes.
2213. Was there no book in the form of what we might call a delivery-book—a book that the receiving clerk might sign for the delivery of goods? No.
2214. He never kept a book showing what he had received? I do not think so; but I really do not know.
2215. Have you inquired for it? No. It has not been required.
2216. Will you inquire for it? I will inquire to-morrow.
2217. In your opinion, was this a most necessary book? Certainly.
2218. It was a check upon frauds? Yes.
2219. Have you seen at M'Lean Bros. & Rigg's establishment, or any other store, their carter's delivery-book for the delivery of goods? No. They have not been produced.
2220. They would be of great aid to you and to us? Yes, as being corroborative of the accounts.
2221. And would show who received the goods? Well, as a matter of fact, nearly all the receipts would be railway receipts.
2222. Have you found any receipts for goods, such as wines, that ought not to have been delivered? No; but there may have been accounts for that kind of thing paid, and if they had been bought from Kidman all that we would see would be certain vouchers for goods supplied to the relief works.
2223. Have you met with any plain discrepancy between Mr. Davies's orders and the quantities actually charged, as regards Kidman's accounts? No. I have not had an opportunity of dealing with them.
2224. Have you spoken to Larnach about that? No.
2225. You have not spoken to any of the unemployed about it? No.
2226. You have given us particulars of the sales of firewood;—do you think it would have been easy for other sales of a like character to have been made? Oh, yes; it was quite possible that such may have taken place.
2227. Without the knowledge of the Casual Labour Board, provided the Chairman was aware of it? Yes.
2228. Could the Chairman have sold the wood and not have accounted for the proceeds? He could have sold the wood and not have accounted for the proceeds.
2229. By auction as well as privately? Yes; he might have sold some by auction and put the cheque in his pocket. It was so easy to suspect that these amounts were wrong that I asked Mr. Neale, the auctioneer, to furnish me with correct accounts of each sale.
2230. Would it not be equally possible for the superintendent to have done that? Yes; the superintendent might have done so without the Chairman or the Casual Labour Board knowing anything about it. As a matter of fact, there is a sum of £4 received from a man to whom Mr. Burrowes sent firewood. It was intended by Burrowes that he need not pay for it, and he told the man so. The man, however, became a little bit alarmed, and he went to the office of the Casual Labour Board and paid £4 for the firewood.
2231. Do you know the man's name? Hibble, I think, will be able to tell you his name. Hibble, I think, learned that Mr. Burrowes sent some firewood to somebody at Ashfield named Underwood.
2232. To whom did this man pay the £4? I am not sure whether he paid it to Mr. Davies or Mr. Hibble.
2233. Had this £4 been paid into the bank? It was received in the bank in June, 1888.
2234. That was previous to your appointment? Oh, yes; our appointment was not made until the 25th of January, 1889.
2235. Do you know what the date of this little picnic to the National Park was? Well, it must have been about the date mentioned in the slip I gave to the President—that is, the 21st September, 1887.
2236. Have Kidman's accounts passed through your hands? Yes. We have paid one lot, and we are settling another lot.
2237. Have you noticed anything unsatisfactory with regard to them? There is nothing beyond that trouble about the carriage. The only objection that we have had to them was the charging for cartage, when they undertook to deliver the rations at the camps.
2238. How have you checked Kidman's accounts? Well, Kidman's accounts have been checked by the local storekeeper, who compared the number of rations supplied with the number of men employed at the works during the month, and they came out as closely as the ration accounts could come out. For instance, there would be a certain number employed to-day, and the storekeeper would order an equal number for to-morrow. For the last month, and for that period we have had to pay, the accounts are quite correct.

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2239. I am speaking now of Mr. Davies's time? We have not had an opportunity of checking them, for they have been out of the office.
2240. Have you checked the accounts at all during the time Mr. Davies was there? No; even if we had the desire and the time we had not the opportunity.
2241. Therefore you cannot say whether Mr. Kidman has been overpaid or underpaid, or whether it has been the custom to not only pay him for the rations at the rate agreed upon, but also for the delivery of those rations, which, under the agreement, he ought to have delivered free of additional charge? No; but I think Kidman will always be able to show that the accounts he rendered agreed with the requisitions that were sent to him every day.
2242. What you have stated as regards this gang of Flemming's would show that there has been no checking of accounts? Yes; that the accounts were not properly checked.
2243. And it will also show that the man who put Flemming's name down as a ganger was in collusion with the man who ordered the goods? Yes.
2244. Do you think the Casual Labour Board, as a Board, allowing for two to form a quorum, could have met very constantly during the year and ten months it was in existence? Yes; it could have met.
2245. Do you think it did meet frequently? No.
2246. It does not require any great amount of ingenuity to think that its affairs would be left largely in the hands of Mr. Davies? No.
2247. There is no evidence to show that the business of the Casual Labour Board was conducted by these professional gentlemen? No; Mr. Wells himself has assured me that it was not.
2248. Have you any evidence to give us as to the date the crockery and sugar and cheese, &c., went to Mr. Davies? No; but Mr. Larnach and Mr. Burrowes say that they can state the date, and show by the railway books that these things were actually sent.
2249. Goodman's name you mentioned;—who is he? He is the man that prepares all the work that Larnach was expected to do.
2250. What is your opinion of him? He is a trustworthy man; and, in fact, all the work that was to have been done up there by Larnach has been done by Goodman.
2251. You are therefore of opinion that this Commission would be justified in accepting the evidence of Mr. Goodman as to the character of others? I think so.
2252. Was he in the position of being able to swindle if he chose? Well, he could not do anything except with the connivance of one of his superior officers.
2253. But it was possible? He could do something that was dishonest with the connivance of Burrowes.
2254. Do you think he would be likely to know if swindling was going on? Yes.
2255. And he would be likely to give us evidence upon that? I think so.
2256. How many men would Burrowes have under him? At one time I should think Burrowes must have had over 1,000 men under him.
2257. Do you know Mr. M'Pherson? Yes.
2258. Is he there at work now? Yes; he holds the position that Mr. Burrowes formerly occupied.
2259. Do you think he is a man that could give good evidence to the Commission? Yes.
2260. And you think that he is a man whose evidence would be thoroughly reliable? I think so.
2261. You mentioned that Mr. Davies had got certain advances at one time from Mr. Hinchcliffe—do you know what these advances were for? I made inquiry, and the information given to me was that they were for personal expenses at the rate of 10s. per day. I began to wonder what the personal expenses could mean. It could not be for cab-hire, because they kept a cabman almost constantly employed, and his account was paid by voucher. It was not railway or tramway fares, because Mr. Davies always travelled free, and whenever he went on an inspection of the works he was met at the station by a buggy which was paid for by the Government. When he went with the Paymaster and Secretary at the times that the pays were being made Hinchcliffe paid for refreshments out of the cash. So it appeared to me that Mr. Davies was making 10s. a day. This payment of 10s. a day was absolutely for travelling expenses; but there must have been many days when Mr. Davies never left his office, except to drive in a cab down to the Colonial Secretary's Office.
2262. You said that Mr. Burrowes had a failing that way for personal expenses? Yes; he had that weakness.
2263. Can you tell us what they were for? They must have been for the times that he was asked to come to Sydney to see the members of the Board. We have paid him small amounts since we have taken charge of the office, but they are very much less than they formerly were. He has been much offended with us because we have asked him occasionally for vouchers to support his claims.
2264. Can you give the Commission an account of Mr. Burrowes' personal expenses? No; I cannot understand what they were for.
2265. Can you give the total amount of them? I cannot now, but that can be obtained from the vouchers.
2266. Did Mr. Burrowes ride about much during his work? Oh, yes; he must have had to travel about a good deal.
2267. Was he found in horses by the Government? Yes.
2268. And allowed for the keep of his horses? I should think so, but perhaps you will be able to ascertain that from Mr. Larnach or Mr. Hibble. They will tell you; but I am almost certain he was allowed for the keep of the horses.
2269. You mentioned that the petty cash amounted to £500 at one time, yet absolutely there was no petty-cash book kept? No; it was all kept in the big-cash book.
2270. Can you tell what amount was drawn? Oh, the book shows all the different cheques that were drawn. The book is a record of all.
2271. So that when this man asked for another £100 petty cash the book shows that he already had between £400 and £500? Yes.
2272. That being the case, is there anything in the books to show any expenditure during the time that this £400 was lying in the cash-box—is there anything to show that any expenditure was made in petty cash? There could not have been, or he would have had it entered in the petty-cash account.
2273. Did you take notice of the length of time between the drawing of the first cheque for that amount of £400 and the first payment from it on account of petty cash? No.
2274. Is this the cash-book which you found in the office? Yes.

2275. Does it show the petty-cash account just as an ordinary petty-cash book kept for the purpose would? Yes; there was another book for the ordinary petty cash, kept by Hinchcliffe, but he found that it entailed too much work, and Hibble thought it would be better to have the book all in one handwriting, and he wrote this entirely. I believe that what is here appeared in the other book, so that there is no alteration. Mr.
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2276. But this is the only cash book kept; the other book was cancelled? Yes; Mr. Hinchcliffe cancelled it himself.
2277. Supposing some small item of petty cash was expended at any time, how would it be shown in the book? It would be put in when they made up their vouchers for the Auditor-General.
2278. Who would sign that voucher? Mr. Davies would probably sign it as head of the department, and Hibble or Hinchcliffe as incurring the expenditure.
2279. The stamps were supplied by the Government, I suppose? I really do not know.
2280. How do you find your stamps? We require so few that it is impossible for me to say.
2281. Do you know if the stamps you have been using have the Government brand on them? I cannot say; I know we use very few.
2282. In this cash book which you produce you show an entry of 28th July, by which it is shown that Mr. Hinchcliffe had up to that date £2,405 8s. 2d. in petty cash? Yes.
2283. And up to that date he had expended £2,014 9s. 11d., leaving a balance to the debit of petty cash £390 18s. 3d.? Yes.
2284. Yet, in the face of that, he, on that same day, obtained another cheque upon the petty-cash account for £100? Yes.
2285. Can you understand the reason for Mr. Hinchcliffe so acting? No; I have not heard any satisfactory explanation of it.
2286. The Chairman of the Board, I presume, must have either signed these cheques without any knowledge as to the condition of the accounts, or he must have been cognizant of the state of the accounts? Yes.
2287. There was no concealment? No; you can see from the book the state of the accounts.
2288. The cash book was closely written up? Yes.
2289. If such was the state of affairs as regards the petty cash, there was nothing to prevent the same liberal drawing of cheques in other cases? No, indeed.
2290. Do you know anything of the establishment where the Casual Labour Board met? Yes.
2291. They are the present offices? Yes.
2292. Who is in charge of the place—I mean as regards the housekeeper or attendant? There is some woman, whose name I am not sure of, looks after it, and she gets 6s. per week.
- 2292½. Has she got a husband? I believe she has, although I have never seen him.
2293. Do you know whether his name is on the pay-sheet of the Casual Labour Board? No; I am quite sure it has not been on the pay-sheets since the 25th January.
2294. If Mr. Hinchcliffe stated that he never had a large sum in petty cash at a time, and that he only drew cheques for sums not exceeding £100 from time to time as they became exhausted, he would not be quite correct in that statement? No; he would be stating what his own book shows to be incorrect.
2295. Did Mr. Davies offer you unsought his information as regards Mr. Burrowes? Entirely so.
2296. Did you accept that as a warning that you were not to trust the man? Oh, I looked upon it in that light. I looked upon it as Mr. Davies's opinion that the man was incompetent and untrustworthy.
2297. Did you think the statement was peculiar? I thought it was an unskilful statement for him to make, that it was strange he should have discovered this while the works were going on, and yet have retained this man in a position of responsibility.
2298. Did he give you any reason for keeping him on? No; he gave me no reason, at least, none that I can remember. He might have said he did not like to sack him or something of that kind.
2299. Did he tell you that any other member of the Casual Labour Board objected to this man? No.
2300. Could you separate the expenditure of money on the Holt-Sutherland Estate from the expenditure of public money on the Crown lands adjacent thereto? I hardly think we could do that because it might be difficult to take the labour from the pay-sheets, to ascertain what amount of labour had been expended on the Holt-Sutherland Estate. The pay-sheets might have been so rendered as to enable that to be done, but I am doubtful whether it could be ascertained.
2301. So that the only way would be to value the amount done? Yes; it would take time, and you would have some difficulty in getting a proper estimate, because the work has been badly, or at any rate unsubstantially done.
2302. As regards the statement as to the amount expended in the different directions for plant and things of that kind, do I understand that you would give us these? We could do it, but we have not got the vouchers for one thing, nor have we the clerical assistance. The Auditor-General's staff would be the proper people to do that. As the vouchers are now in the Auditor-General's Office, a clerk in that office would do all that you required for you.
2303. Of course, from your own knowledge of the books, you would be better able than a stranger to identify the vouchers as against particular payments in the Casual Labour Board's books? Oh, yes; I think so.
2304. You could easily identify them as against a particular order? Yes.
2305. In fact you are the only person that could do it now? Yes.
2306. Do you know of your own knowledge, from the books or otherwise, that Mr. Davies sometimes, at least, retained in his own possession unpaid wages—amounts that were not claimed as wages upon the pay-days? Yes; I know it from the record-book in the hands of the Auditor-General.
2307. What would they amount to in the aggregate? Well, I never saw the book until it was in the hands of the Auditor-General. But having looked through it at the time, I should imagine that Mr. Davies could not have had more than £30 in his possession.
2308. All small sums? Yes.
2309. When was that? That was about ten days after our appointment—some time early in February.
2310. There was nothing to show that he had at any time a considerable amount of unpaid wages? No. That would not be likely to arise.
2311. Why did he retain them? I do not know. He was in the habit of sending similar sums to the Treasury, and he might just as well have sent these.

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2312. *President.*] This original pay-voucher for £58 15s. is a voucher in respect to which you are still making inquiry? Yes. [*Voucher put in and marked E.*]
2313. And this original pay voucher for £6 10s.? Yes. [*Voucher put in and marked E 2.*]
2314. And this original voucher for £3 10s.—six coils of Mauilla rope—is the voucher referred to in your previous evidence, about which you are still making inquiry? Yes. [*Voucher put in and marked E 3.*]
2315. And this original voucher for £5 11s. for six bars of steel? Yes. [*Voucher put in and marked E 4.*]
2316. And this original voucher for £18 3s.? Yes. [*Voucher put in and marked E 5.*]
2317. And this original voucher for £20 19s. 6d.? Yes. [*Voucher put in and marked E 6.*]
2318. And this document described as “miscellaneous,” showing a total amount of £334 16s. 3d., is the document you referred to as showing the proceeds of sales of firewood, &c., and about which you are still making inquiry? Yes. [*Document put in and marked E 1.*]
2319. Is this list of “liquor in case” the document referred to in your previous evidence as having been handed to you by Mr. Burrowes? Yes. [*List put in and marked E 7.*]
2320. Whose is the writing which appears across this document, “21/9/87, J. Davies, Esq., C.M.G., Lleumeah, Southern Line”? It is the writing of Mr. Burrowes.
2321. In whose writing is the list of the liquor? That is the writing of the man named Robertson, who packed the case.
2322. Whose pencilling is this at the foot? The pencilling £30 odd, paid for refreshments, of which the above is the balance, is a note made by me upon something Mr. Burrowes told me.
2323. The book in your hand is the cash-book of the Casual Labour Board? Yes. [*Cash-book put in and marked E 8.*]
2324. That is the book referred to in your previous evidence as containing the petty cash and all the other accounts? Yes.
2325. And is this the book to which Mr. Waller referred you at page 80? Yes.
2326. What other books were kept at the office of the Casual Labour Board? There was a ledger into which was posted all the moneys that had been expended at the respective relief works, so that if you want to know what has been expended at Hurstville you can turn up Hurstville.
2327. Are there no other books showing receipts and payments of money beyond the cash-book and ledger? No; these are the only two books.
2328. Were these, in your opinion, sufficient for the purposes of the Casual Labour Board? I think so.
2329. Was there any need for more elaborate accounts? They could not have been kept with the staff they had there.
2330. Have you had the cheques that were drawn on the bank account produced to you for examination No.
2331. You do not know how they are signed then? No; but I believe they were signed by Mr. Davies, and countersigned by Mr. Hinchcliffe.
2332. Do you know what course Mr. Ormiston takes now with regard to the payment of the men? Just the same as was pursued by Mr. Hinchcliffe; he takes with him a witness, and the money is paid as the amount appears on the pay-sheet. There are the signatures of the men who receive the money, and the two witnesses who see the money paid to the men. There is just the same precautions taken now as there was in the old time. When it was suggested by Mr. Dibbs that Mr. Ormiston should go out and pay the men, Mr. Ormiston found upon going out that no improvement could be made upon the system previously adopted by Mr. Hinchcliffe, and he continued it.
2333. Who is Mr. Ormiston? One of the officials in the Government Service—in the Colonial Secretary’s Department.
2334. Is he high up in the service? Yes.
2335. A very responsible officer? Oh, yes. So much so, that I wonder they sent Mr. Ormiston to make the payments—he is so good an official.
2336. Is there anything in the Casual Labour Board office to show you what amount of wood or sleepers was disposed of by the Board to the Roads or any other department, or to any person? Not so far as I can ascertain; those I have mentioned are the only moneys, so far as I can see, that have come into the hands of the Casual Labour Board from sales.
2337. What is the usual practice in a department as regards moneys paid for realisations, should there not be some separate record or credit book kept? The credit record would be the cash-book, but the moneys ought not to have been passed into the bank to enable the late Casual Labour Board to draw cheques against them, but into the Treasury. They were not authorized by the Government to draw against these amounts.
2338. Do you know of any practice in any of the large establishments in Sydney of giving commission on sales to their staff? I know such a custom does exist.
2339. Are you aware whether such a custom exists in M’Lean Bros. and Rigg’s? I am not, but it is quite likely it does. I know it prevails in other houses in the same line of business.
2340. Have you ever heard of such a commission being divided between the clerk who obtains and the person who brings the order? No; I cannot say I have heard of the division. I have known of a person who took an order not dividing the commission with the clerk, but receiving it from the principal direct.
2341. I think you said you were not aware, of your own knowledge, if Mr. Davies paid the accounts himself? No.
2342. You have not made any inquiry from the people the Casual Labour Board was dealing with? No; I have asked Mr. Howlison, the man who was twice paid for the seed, and he told me that Mr. Davies had taken cheques to him.
2343. I have a letter here, written on the 15th December, 1887, from the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board to the Roads Department, stating that the total number of sleepers forwarded from the National Park to the Centennial Park was 3,905. In the ordinary course of events, I suppose the Casual Labour Board should be paid for these? Yes.
2344. Is there any book in the office where that would be recorded? Yes, because the Department of Roads would only pay upon account being rendered. The account would be rendered from the office, and there ought to be a record of it there.
2345. Could there not have been several sums of money received by the Casual Labour Board without any entry being made in the book? Yes; a man could receive money and make no entry.

2346. Are you aware of a practice of allowing discount on payment of accounts? Yes.
2347. Have you known of cases where discount has been returned in cash—where the full account was paid by cheque? Yes, I have known of cases where that has been done.
2348. Do you produce the four order-books of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
2349. Do these, so far as you know, represent all the order-books that the Casual Labour Board has had during its existence? Yes.
2350. These are the books referred to in the previous part of your evidence as not having been employed to check the vouchers? Yes; there is no mark upon them except such marks as we ourselves have put.
2351. And the danger of not keeping that check is that goods might be twice paid for? Yes, and that the proper quantities might not be sent. [Four order-books put in and marked E 9, E 10, E 11, E 12.]
2352. Mr. Waller.] How many men would the payments made to the ganger Flemming represent? The gang was supposed to consist of eight, including the ganger himself.
2353. What would be a fair average wage per man per day? I think something between 4s. and 5s. for a working man; Mr. Davies used to calculate it at less, because the Government paid for the rations of the men. He boasted that the men's average wage was so much per day, but he appeared to forget to add the 1s. 1d. that was deducted from the wages for rations.
2354. So it is your opinion, after an examination of the books, that any evidence which we have received that the average earnings of the men was from 3s. to 3s. 6d. is a mistake? I think Mr. Davies makes his average upon a mistaken principle. I consider that a fair average would be from 4s. 6d. to 5s.
2355. We may take it then that Flemming's gang would represent a payment of about £24 for the fortnight? The amount runs sometimes from £20 upwards. Sometimes a man would be away a day or something of that kind, and thus the amount would vary.

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MONDAY, 25 MARCH, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P.,

T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Edward Alexander Rennie called in, sworn, and examined:—

2356. President.] You are the Auditor-General, I believe, Mr. Rennie? Yes, sir.
2357. Do you produce the vouchers, pay-sheets, and accounts of the Casual Labour Board? I have not got them all here. I have just brought a sample with me, but I have them all locked up in my office.
2358. Do you say that is only a sample? Yes, but I can produce the whole of them.
2359. We will require to have produced here and left with us all the vouchers and pay-sheets if you have no present occasion for them? No; I have a list here and statement that I will hand in, and any vouchers and pay-sheets that you may wish I can supply at once.
2360. What statement do you produce? It is a statement fixing the dates of the advances, the dates of the adjustment, the number of queries upon them, the surcharges raised, the surcharges recovered, so far as the accounts for the adjustment and advances have come from the Treasury.
2361. Is that statement prepared by you for our use or for any use of your own? No; I had it made out for your use. [Document put in and marked F.]
2362. Have you amongst those papers any forms of recapitulation of vouchers and adjustment of advances? There is one.
2363. Will you allow me to see it? Yes.
2364. This represents £6,000 and the vouchers mentioned there I have here? They were furnished to us in amounts representing £6,000 each, except when I had twelve of these at once, representing £72,000. That came from the Treasury, not from the Casual Labour Board.
2365. Have you got with you to-day the whole of the recapitulation of vouchers, or only one of them? No; this only refers to this particular parcel of vouchers.
2366. Have you any objection to forward the others to this Commission? None whatever.
2367. You have no present occasion for them in the office? None whatever; they have all been examined, and with the exception of some few queries have all been dealt with.
2368. Can you give us the name of the particular officer of your department who has had these under his consideration? Yes,—Ambrose Freeman.
2369. Personally, I suppose, you know little about them? I look at the queries, and the rest of them, I conclude, have been examined by my examiner and found correct.
2370. Personally you can give us little information beyond what the head of a department can give, but you say they have been all examined? Oh, yes; they have all been examined, and bear the initials of the examiner.
2371. Can you tell us what the nature of that examination is? First of all, we see that we have all the acquittances of the parties to whom the moneys have been paid; then after that the vouchers that are paid are examined as to their objects, as to their castings, as to the rates, and I think that is all.
2372. And added up to see that the totals agree with the recapitulations? Yes.
2373. Do you go outside the vouchers at all? I scarcely understand.
2374. Do you go outside the vouchers or accounts to inquire as to their correctness or otherwise? No; not unless I find something on them to indicate the necessity for further examination.
2375. For example, a receipted account is produced to you vouching a payment to a tradesman, do you inquire into the items of the account in any way? Yes; to see that they are according to the contracts they are under. Of course there are certificates given with every voucher that the services have been performed and duly authorized.
2376. Where, for example, an account represents goods supplied, would you inquire whether these goods were supplied? No, we do not do that; we could not very well do that. For example, there is a voucher for rations; the certificate first of all is vouched for by the contractor who supplies, and then certified by the

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the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board and another officer, by the clerk, I think, or superintendent of works where the men are. That certificate goes to the effect that the service has been faithfully performed and the expenditure duly authorized. The services faithfully performed mean, of course, that the supplies have been furnished. We do not go behind that, unless there is something which would lead to further inquiry, but the voucher would not show that. Sometimes we get to know that by side-winds, and then we take whatever action may be necessary.

2377. Supposing these goods had been supplied on written orders from a particular department, would you consider it any part of your duty to examine the butts of the order-book? No. As regards goods supplied for the stores, which are paid for by the Treasury, those are made upon requisitions, which are approved by the Treasurer or some other particular officer. These requisitions are produced to us with a statement from the department that the stores were received, but that is only a special case.

2378. Can you say from your examination of these Casual Labour Board papers whether the recapitulations of vouchers, and the vouchers in support, covered in every case £6,000? Yes.

2379. In every case? Yes.

2380. Exactly? Yes; all the vouchers in each case represented the sums mentioned there.

2381. Is there anything extraordinary in that? Well, no. Doubtless there must be one voucher, or two or three, that may be divided so as to carry the balance to the next account. That is often done, and their object has been to adjust each £6,000 for the purpose of getting another advance from the Treasury.

2382. Would not that necessitate some dividing of the voucher? Well, I would not know that, because there might be two vouchers together, and I would not know from them if they divided the amount so as to balance the £6,000. There is nothing in the vouchers produced to show that there has been any dividing, but it is just possible that there may have been other supplies in September, which would not be included in this account.

2383. Do you know how many sets of £6,000 advances were made? Some of them would represent twelve; we had £72,000 in one lump.

2384. Will you kindly look through these and tell me how many sets of £6,000 advances there were? There were forty altogether.

2385. Can you say whether, in every case, the vouchers produced exactly made up £6,000? Well, I conclude so, because they are all shown here. They appear to have been all adjusted, and on each occasion there would be a complete set of vouchers to make up the £6,000.

2386. Does that occur in any other department? Well, there is no other department that has advances in that way.

2387. Has it occurred in any previous case, in your experience, where advances were made in such sums that, on each occasion of an advance, the vouchers produced exactly made up the sum? I do not know of any case where the advances were carried on over such a long period.

2388. Does it not strike you as strange that here there are forty advances of £6,000 each, and the vouchers produced in each case represent an exact amount of £6,000? Well, I think there is this to be said on that point, that these vouchers are not so much for the adjustment of each particular advance, but vouchers representing the sum required to carry on the business of the Casual Labour Board. At the time they sent these vouchers for £6,000 very likely they had advances for a considerable sum more. It is not so much an adjustment of each particular advance as an evidence to the Treasurer that they have spent the £6,000 and want more. That is the way I look at it. I think, in other cases, the same kind of thing is done where fixed advances are made of large sums. The Treasury does not usually advance any money until they know that the particular sum advanced before has been expended. All that they want to know is that the £5,000 or £6,000 or £7,000 has been received and expended.

2389. Would it be necessary, according to the practice of your department, that an exact supply of vouchers should be given to support an advance? No; it would not be necessary. It might be a little more or a little less.

2390. Suppose for an advance of £6,000 there were vouchers produced for £6,559, would not that be a sufficient justification for the advance? Oh, yes.

2391. Supposing that a sum of £6,000 had to be adjusted, and there was a balance of payment over or under. If there was a surplus they might return it to the Treasury, or a voucher might be sent to the Treasury later? I do not think there is any particular need for that at all. It simply shows that they spent £6,000 and want more.

2392. You have had very considerable experience, I suppose, in the accountant's branch—I am speaking generally of your professional experience? Oh, yes; I have had to deal with that ever since I have been in the office.

2393. And you have had large experience as accountant in connection with the various Government departments? Yes.

2394. Does there not appear to be, in your opinion, some difficulty in selecting vouchers on each occasion to exactly make up a £6,000? I do not suppose it could be done regularly, except, as I have explained before, by the detention of the voucher. I do not know that that has occurred in any of these cases, but most likely that is the way. They have divided the voucher and carried the balance over to the new account.

2395. Can you show that this has been done? I do not think that I could find out, without a great deal of trouble, that this was the case.

2396. In one of the £6,000 advances I see that there are two amounts, one for £4,000 and one for £2,000,—can you explain how that has come to be divided? I do not know for a fact, but I can explain it in this way. They have found, on going to the Advance Account of the Treasury, that they could not give the £6,000. There might be £2,000 available from the revenue, and the other £4,000 might be taken from the Trust Fund. It was simply that the Treasury had not the money to pay the whole sum, and this £6,000 was divided in that way.

2397. Has the audit been completed for these accounts, so far as the requirements of your office are concerned? There are two or three queries here which have not been answered, but they are of no great matter—acquittances and the like.

2398. I refer you to the bank pass-books, which have been sent to your department. I want to know, regarding these sums of £6,000, whether the amounts appear on the bank pass-books? I do not think they would
They

- They might, certainly, but the Treasury might draw only one cheque for the £6,000, and they would pass it into their books in two sums—one from the revenue and one from the Advance Account.
2399. Have you with you, to-day, any vouchers from M'Lean Brothers and Rigg, for January, 1889? No, I have not. These are further back than that—from the 31st August, 1888 to the 25th September, 1888.
2400. What is the last date? 25th September, 1888. It is numbered 552.
2401. I suppose you have the others in the office? I am afraid not. We queried them to the Casual Labour Board, because the price charged was higher than the contract price. We wrote asking them for an explanation, and they said that these services were not included in their contract with the Government, and consequently we referred the matter to the Treasury.
2402. It is very material for the purposes of this inquiry that we should have these vouchers produced—are these you have the original vouchers from M'Lean Brothers and Rigg? These are not paid yet.
2403. Where are their accounts—you would not have those? No, I have not got them. We always send the vouchers with the query to the sender of the goods, to answer the query, or the whole of the facts upon which the query is based.
2404. Have you got the original vouchers for all the other payments? They are all there—a pile of great bulk, about the height of this table. I will have them all looked out, and they are at your service whenever you desire to see the Examiner.
2405. *Mr. Franklin.*] I would like to know if the acquittances are in the shape of detailed pay-sheets, giving all the particulars? No; they are all summaries. There is a summary in the front, showing the total amount for the week. These acquittances are carefully examined by us, to see that they are really genuine.
2406. I suppose there are no means by which you can satisfy yourself that the signatures are genuine? These are witnessed by Sanderson and paid by Hibble.
2407. Do you think the check was sufficient over the payments to absentees? In almost every case there are absentees, and if these acquittances have to be signed by the parties, on the fortnightly pay-days, it is quite possible that some of the men may be absent.
2408. Do you know what the practice in a case of that kind is—who signs for absentees? I am not very sure whether it was not the Chairman himself who signed for them, as unclaimed money at the date of payment.
2409. Has he paid these into the Treasury? Yes; he has paid all these into the Treasury.
2410. How much would they amount to? It was £40, £50, or £60. I am not certain as to the exact sum.
2411. You are not aware that at any time these vouchers were incomplete owing to the want of signatures? Oh, well, we have had to ask for these, you know.
2412. There is one acquittance here signed "C. Burgon, 9s."—an acquittance for the full amount required; you would be satisfied with the explanation that this man was absent and the money would be paid? We should get the receipt for the money, and that would be satisfactory.
2413. After approved signatures like these the signature of the recipient would be a full acquittance? Oh, yes; we could not get beyond that.
2414. As regards the present custom of the adjustment of advances, is it not usual in making advances of lump sums to trustees to close their accounts after the actual expenditure of the amount, and carry forward the balance? Oh, yes; it would be considered proper to exhaust the vote by the payment of several other sums.
2415. And from the custom followed by a great many of the road trustees in this respect I presume that it would not be irregular to close the amount of the advances by payments on account, so long as the account is not closed? Oh, no; that is very often done.
2416. *Mr. Waller.*] Do you produce any vouchers here to-day other than vouchers for the payment of wages? Yes.
2417. Have you got any vouchers here for goods sold and delivered to the Casual Labour Board by any of the merchants in the city? The only other vouchers I have here are for rations.
2418. *Mr. Kidman's?* Yes.
2419. As to the vouchers you have produced for rations supplied by Mr. Kidman, have you any further information than is contained in the voucher itself? None whatever.
2420. Are we to understand that if a voucher is presented to you in your capacity of Auditor-General for the supply of rations from Mr. Kidman no description is given of what was supplied;—did the Casual Labour Board not require that the voucher should have attached to it the account for which that voucher is made out? No, it is not required in this case, where the rations are supplied at a particular rate. If rations are supplied at different prices, as in the case of some public institutions, then we have a statement showing the number of items in a detailed form, but where there is only a single price, as in this case, we do not require that; we simply get a certificate that this number of rations has been supplied.
2421. What proof have you as Auditor-General that the amount of rations as stated in the voucher and charged for in the voucher is correct, you not having any detailed account to show any particular quantity of rations delivered at any particular time or times to the different camps? We have no means of proving that.
2422. In your opinion, does not the fact of the rations having been delivered in different quantities to different numbers of men, who may be at work in different camps, bring the case pretty well on all-fours with having, as you stated just now, different rates for different kinds of goods? No, not exactly; the price is the same for all.
2423. I observe that these vouchers are vouchers for different places—one is for Waterfall, one for Narra been, and one for some other place—these represent the number of rations supplied to the number of men who were employed at Waterfall and at Narrabeen during the month of September; what I want to draw attention to is the absence of any proof of the receiving of these rations which are stated in the vouchers? That is the delivery of them?
2424. Yes? Well, we have no other documents in support of the vouchers; all that we take is the certificates of the officers—in this case of Mr. Burrowes and Mr. Davies—in the other case, of Mr. Oxley and Mr. Davies.
2425. I will tell you a case that presents itself to us as showing the necessity for something in support of these vouchers. Supposing it is possible that the receiving officer in this case did not take the trouble or had not the means at his disposal, and no other arrangements having been made to take delivery of the goods,
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he simply took it for granted that the exact quantity ordered had been sent on a certain date, and the Chairman of the Board attached his signature to it, would not that be a very peculiar sort of document to pay away large sums upon? Well, so far as I am concerned, if I had to go into these details and particulars, I would never do my work.

2426. Quite so; but as a matter of business, do you not think that the vouchers should be attached to a document for reference in a case of this sort? Well, I conclude that the officers who were engaged in the distribution of these rations must have some books and documents in which all these things were recorded. We think that in a matter of this kind these men would not have signed this document unless the goods were supplied.

2427. Quite so; but you think that there ought to be precautions taken? Oh, yes.

2428. With regard to the goods supplied by M'Lean Bros. and Rigg and others, have you any documents in support of these vouchers? No; I think not. As a rule we do not get any documents in support of what we call supply vouchers.

2429. Just now you told us that it was not necessary in the matter of Kidman's vouchers, where the rations were supplied at fixed prices, but that would not apply to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, for the simple reason that their charges, so far as I can ascertain, were not in accordance with the contract prices for goods supplied by the Government, but that some other arrangement was made? I was not aware of that.

2430. We have it in evidence that their prices were not in accordance with those fixed in the usual Government contract; that being the case, do you not think that these vouchers ought to have been supported with accounts from M'Lean Bros. and Rigg for the different classes of goods supplied? All that we require are the vouchers that have been supplied to me.

2431. You have not got at any time the originals from which the vouchers were made out? No.

2432. You do not know whether there are any? We conclude that they are taken from their books, or something of that kind.

2433. With regard to the advances to the Casual Labour Board through the bank, were these requisitions for fresh advances sent in at particular stated periods or at any time? I could not tell that, because it would be a matter for the Treasury to deal with.

2434. What I mean is—would these requisitions come at any time during the month? Yes; whenever the money ran short they would ask for more.

2435. Supposing the Board made a requisition for £6,000, and sent in vouchers which showed that they still had to their credit at the Joint Stock Bank, £456 19s. 6d., would the Treasury, with a knowledge of the large amount of money they were spending daily or weekly, have raised any objection to refreshing that account, knowing that there was £456 19s. 6d. to their credit? I am not very sure whether that might be the case. So far as I know, the bank would have had authority to allow the Board a further advance under those circumstances.

2436. I am supposing that they have not exhausted all the £6,000—that they have still left £456 19s. 6d., would any objection have been raised by the Treasury to grant a fresh application for another £6,000, before the first sum was exhausted? I do not think that for a small sum like that they would raise any objection, because the amount would not be sufficient to enable the Casual Labour Board to meet its next wages payment. We know very well that parties getting advances, when they find that their expenditure has outrun what they anticipated (say before they complete their account), want £200 or £300 more.

2437. That being the case, I would like to know why the Casual Labour Board deemed it necessary to so manipulate the vouchers as to make the sum total £6,000 exactly—neither more nor less? I do not know that. I simply found the vouchers for the £6,000 duly assorted.

2438. In your capacity of Auditor-General, does it generally come to pass that the amounts are made up to a penny in that way? Well, I am inclined to think that if the amount of the vouchers and of the advances agreed in every case it is certainly unusual. It is surprising that they should continue to do that for month after month for a period of twenty months; but such a thing as that would not justify me in returning the accounts.

2439. Can you suggest a possible mode under which the peculiar result would obtain of having vouchers to the exact amount of £6,000? Yes; in the smaller vouchers that is very often done in the adjustment of the petty cash, when they get near the amount they have to make up. Then they do not present accounts for these until they get another advance—amounts perhaps of £10, £20, or £30.

2440. Supposing that was the system they adopted, would it be correct that the next voucher should show on the face of it a balance of account due to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg as per voucher so and so? Yes.

2441. Was this done? I could not say that.

2442. If it did not appear on the face of the next voucher, would you consider it a correct way of manipulating the accounts? No; but I do not see any harm in dividing the accounts, if you show where the division occurs, and show the division.

2443. If it was not done in that way, and the system adopted was to shuffle the accounts backwards and forwards until by a series of shuffling you brought the amount to £6,000, does it not strike you that it would be a matter almost of impossibility to shuffle accounts every time that you get an advance to bring them to represent £6,000 exactly? It would be almost impossible.

2444. Without manipulation? Yes.

2445. If it were done once, it certainly could not be done twenty times? No.

2446. You might get your figures by shuffling a lot of accounts to come out exactly once or twice, but not oftener. Therefore, if it was always done in the way I have mentioned, it must simply be by manipulation? I think it must be so.

2447. Was there any necessity for making up the vouchers to represent the amount of the £6,000 advance exactly? No.

2448. Have you got any officer in your establishment who could go through these vouchers and check them against the particular accounts which they represent? Yes; the Examiner of Accounts will come down any day you like and go through them.

2449. He could go through the whole of the documents voucher by voucher? Yes; that is, if the Commission get at the original accounts for which the vouchers represent grants of money, he could identify the vouchers in each case.

2450. Supposing we get the vouchers, and we get M'Lean Brothers and Rigg's account for them, would he be able to identify them? Providing the items corresponded with the lines in the other accounts he could do so. Mr.
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2451. But if the supply of the number of articles were divided, he could not do that? If they were divided and no division shown on the face of them, you might club the dates and figures together to see if they agreed with the original. It often happens with dates—and it is one thing we are very particular about to have the dates of service always furnished to us—that in many instances we have double claims, and it very often happens that for the same dates the same supplies are brought with the accounts. I have a system of registration by which any double payments would be detected in a moment.
2452. Do you not think it would be an advantage with Government vouchers to have printed memos. or printed remarks upon them as per folio so-and-so, so as to appear against so-and-so, which would have to be filled up by the person presenting the voucher, so that at any time you could check that particular voucher against the original account, and thus prevent the possibility of double payment in any case? Oh, that would not prevent it, because the book-keeper in the shop would copy his account from the ledger, and that would involve sending a clerk down to compare with the ledger.
2453. Not necessarily; but you would have the information before you at any time you might require it. Have you had any cases in connection with the Casual Labour Board where there are double payments? No; I do not think so.
2454. Could you get one of your officers to dissect these vouchers, to place all the entries from M'Lean Bros. and Rigg in their order from the earliest date, the same with those from Kidman, or any other merchants, and the same with other money expended? Yes.
2455. Will you have that done? Yes.
2456. My reason for asking this is, that if we have to go through these accounts we will lose such an enormous quantity of time, whereas, if we had the accounts separated into batches we would be able to see each bundle as we required it? That would be easily done. I will set them to work at once. There is a large pile to go through, and I dare say it will take a couple of days before we get them all done.
2457. Could you let us have them by Wednesday or so? I will try.
2458. Regarding M'Lean Bros. and Rigg supplying goods, do we understand that they at any time supplied goods under the usual Government contract? I cannot say that, but my impression is that they supplied none under contract.
2459. Were there any other firms besides M'Lean Bros. and Rigg supplying goods to the Casual Labour Board? I cannot say that.
2460. And you cannot say whether they were supplying under contract or not? No.

Charles Boydell called in and examined :—

2461. *President.*] What are you? Acting Clerk of Records in the Legislative Assembly.
2462. Do you produce the returns laid upon the Table of the House on the 8th, 13th, and 14th November, 1888? Yes. There are one or two more returns here than those specially asked for. I produce returns ordered to be printed on the 8th, 13th, and 14th November, and also the returns ordered to be printed on the 13th December, 1888; in addition, a return ordered to be printed on the 1st November, 1888, and a return ordered to be printed on the 8th January, 1889, another on the 11th January, 1889, and two petitions presented on the 8th January, 1889, and 6th March, 1889, on behalf of J. F. Burns, M.P., presented respectively by Messrs. C. J. Roberts and A. J. Gould, and received on the dates mentioned. Mr.
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William Mason called in, sworn, and examined :—

2463. *President.*] What is your profession? Civil engineer.
2464. What is your experience? I have had a long experience in the profession—from the time I was 17 years old. Mr.
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2465. Are you in any way connected with the department recently existing under the name of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
2466. I believe you were appointed at the same time as Mr. Miles? I was.
2467. Have you inspected the work done in the construction of roads and such like by that department? I have inspected portions of them—some of the heaviest portions of them that were in progress at the time we took charge.
2468. Are you enabled to speak as to the works done during the twenty months that the Casual Labour Board has been in existence, in the nature of constructing roads, and such like? No, I cannot speak as to that. I can only speak of the operations I have seen since we took charge—only the works actually in progress. The heaviest parts of the works I examined. The roads in progress at some parts were almost complete.
2469. What is the result of your observation as regards the works that were in progress—as to the character of the works and the manner that they have been carried out? Well, they have not been carried out in a very satisfactory manner, nor in the way that I should have carried them out.
2470. Do you speak with regard to the construction or the originating of them? With regard to the construction only and the laying out of them.
2471. Can you say whether or not the labour that has been spent upon them has been properly directed? Well, I do not think it has. I do not think it has been skilfully directed.
2472. I mean in order to secure a satisfactory and productive return? I do not think so.
2473. Do you know anything of the system of supervision that prevailed under the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
2474. What do you think of that? Do you mean the general supervision of the men on the works?
2475. Yes? Well, in some instances it has been very fair. For instance, in the way that the men have been dealt with, but the works have not been carried out as they ought to have been, because they have had to take men as inspectors or superintendents, as they are called, who were not skilled workmen, and these were supposed to be under the direction of the two professional engineers who were members of the Board. They have had to make overseers—to take these out of the ranks of the unemployed generally. I believe in

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in some cases they were skilled, and in other cases unskilled men. Under the circumstances, perhaps, they could not have done very well otherwise unless they had got some that were not returned as unemployed. My view of the case is this,—that if they had properly-skilled inspectors and men used to the work, the works probably would have been carried out in a different manner. You could hardly expect men who knew nothing about road-making to make the roads in the same way as engineers or skilled labourers would do.

2476. Can you say anything about the system adopted for supervising or superintending the labour? That seemed very good.

2477. Do you think the organization of the department in regard to the working was satisfactory? Well, so far as the organization of the department goes, there were two engineers and one Chairman, and that ought to have been sufficient to carry out the works properly.

2478. With regard to the subordinate staff,—was that satisfactory? No; I do not think it was. They probably got the best men they could out of the unemployed, but they were inexperienced men, and they have had great difficulties to contend with in training those men to any kind of work.

2479. Did it appear to you that much opportunity was afforded for imposing upon the officers by making up bogus claims or preparing false pay-sheets? I cannot say.

2480. Was any unusual opportunity offered of imposing upon the officers by making up bogus claims or preparing false pay-sheets? Well, not if provision had been made for looking after them properly by those in charge.

2481. Is it your opinion that every precaution was taken to prevent this? That I cannot say. I could not give an opinion upon that, or say what precaution has been taken, because I am not acquainted with their acts from the commencement. So far as I can see I have reasons to suppose that precautions were taken.

2482. Have you discovered or been made aware of any irregularity or improper expenditure of moneys in the construction of works? Oh, no; I know nothing of any improper expenditure. I only know this,—that money has been expended in a way it need not have been, and it might have been better applied under better supervision.

2483. *Mr. Franklin.*] Do you think that the staff of engineers of the late Casual Labour Board was sufficient. I understand that the engineers had dual duties to perform,—should that be taken into consideration? It was not like an engineer having nothing else to do but to attend to the work. They might probably have given more attention had that been so.

2484. But are you aware that these engineers gave little time to the affairs of the Board? I am not aware of that, but in some cases the inspectors appeared to have been left entirely to themselves.

2485. Do you think that that was the proper thing? If the engineers had been unable to give attention, and if I had been in the Chairman's place, I should have made application for some one that could have given the attention that they could not give.

2486. Then, under the circumstances, in the absence of these officers there would be every opportunity for laxity in the field? Yes.

2487. And, of course, much more so from the fact that the officers in the field were not experienced men? Oh, yes.

2488. As a matter of fact, do you really know anything at all about the professional supervision that was given? Nothing.

2489. Nothing previous to your taking charge of the Board? Nothing at all.

2490. You are simply supposing that with a professional staff of two that the supervision ought to have been sufficient, but you do not know whether it was so or not? Yes; I know this much,—that they have not had the assistance that they required from the engineers—they have been left to themselves. I will give you an instance. At Foxground Road they were left entirely to themselves. They were told to find a road between such and such a place, and they did so to the best of their ability. In another instance, the road from Hornsby to Dural, the case was similar. They were going in a direction that I considered very absurd, and I recommended that the work should be stopped, and it was stopped accordingly.

2491. Just now you told the President that you disapproved of the laying out of the work and the money expended upon certain roads—that being the case, do you think that if proper supervision had been there, these causes for complaint would have arisen? Well, no; if proper supervision had been there, I do not suppose anything of the kind would have occurred.

2492. Do you know the Boundary Road at Hornsby? Yes.

2493. Do you know that it has been stated in evidence on several occasions and by a number of persons that to make that road was impracticable? I have heard it said that it was impracticable.

2494. Have you any knowledge of the country beyond where the road has been made? No; I have not. I have been along the road so far as it has been made, and I went a little further to see the description of the country that it was intended to go over. That is all I know about it.

2495. Taking into consideration that portion of the road that is made, would the balance of the road that is to be made be, in your opinion as an engineer, very much worse than what was made? Oh, yes; considerably. It would require very steep gradients, and be very expensive. It intersects very deep gullies, and to cross those gullies, and to make a tolerable road, would be a very costly affair.

2496. If you knew that the inclination was 1 in $4\frac{1}{2}$, would you consider it practicable? No.

Albert Larnach called in, sworn, and examined:—

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2497. *President.*] What position did you hold in the Casual Labour Board? I was record clerk in charge of the correspondence, and I adjusted the paid vouchers for the Auditor-General.

2498. When were you appointed? On the 16th May, 1887. I commenced work under the Casual Labour Board shortly after its commencement.

2499. By whom were you appointed? John Davies.

2500. Have you any letter or minute evidencing that appointment? None; I might mention that before that I had been sent up by the Colonial Secretary in charge of the unemployed to the National Park, under Mr. Wise. Mr. Wise knowing that I had been brought up in a bank, and that I knew nothing of clearing bush, recommended that I should have charge of the store, but that I refused. 2501.

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2501. Then I understand you had something to do with the unemployed before your appointment by the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
2502. Where? At the National Park and at Gordon.
2503. What were your particular duties before your appointment by the Casual Labour Board? In connection with the unemployed.
2504. Yes? Well, I used to go out and measure their work with Mr. Dallas; I was supposed to be Mr. Dallas' assistant superintendent. I used to go out and measure up the work and see the returns made out.
2505. What salary were you getting then? Ten shillings per day.
2506. What salary did you get under your new appointment? Six shillings. I was told by Mr. Hinchcliffe, the secretary, that I was sure to be made registrar of the Board at a salary of £250 a year, and that was why I went on working.
2507. You said something about being in a bank, what bank was that? Oh, about twenty-three years ago I was manager of the Australian Joint Stock Bank at Deniliquin.
2508. When did you cease banking? About twelve years ago.
2509. Why? Simply because I went to take charge of my father's place.
2510. What bank were you in when you gave up? The Bank of New South Wales.
2511. What position did you hold when you left? I was manager at Roma.
2512. What salary were you getting? £350
2513. Did you resign voluntarily? Yes, I did.
2514. What other bank were you in? The Australian Joint Stock Bank.
2515. Did you resign your office there? I did.
2516. Voluntarily? I did.
2517. How long had you been under Mr. Wise? Only a few months—I suppose about six months.
2518. What were you doing before then? I had been a contractor. I did the extension of Macquarie-street.
2519. What other class of work have you been doing since you have been in the bank? I have been doing anything I possibly could.
2520. You have not been successful in life? Far from it.
2521. How was it you came to give up your position in the bank? Only that I expected to have my father's place, and I might have had it only for some mistake in the will.
2522. What are you doing now? I have charge of the stores at the Casual Labour Board.
2523. What check is kept over these stores? How do you mean?
2524. I mean as regards the checking of what is coming in and going out? The receipts of the stores and the rations I send down at the end of the month with the total amounts—the rations that have been sent from Kidman's to these particular stores.
2525. Where are your stores? At Hurstville.
2526. Have they always been situated there? No; only from the beginning of this year.
2527. Where were you before that? I was the record clerk in charge of the correspondence at 82, Goulburn-street, and before that in Lower Pitt-street.
2528. When did you leave the head office of the Casual Labour Board? The last day I was in the head office was on the 27th December last. On the 28th I went to Campbelltown. I acted as paymaster in several places. They allowed me 6s. extra for expenses on that occasion. As I arrived at the railway station from Campbelltown on the 28th I met Constable Cheney, and he said, "You are wanted at the office to take over some cash. You are wanted to go out again to-morrow." I thought it was an unusual thing for me to have to go away two days running. There was some money at the office to pay the Bankstown men. I locked it up in a safe. I paid the men, and on coming back I found a letter written by Mr. Hinchcliffe, appointing me in charge of the stores in the southern district, and informing me that I was to go out there and present myself first thing on Monday morning. I left the office there and then.
2529. You were originally appointed on the 16th May, 1887? Yes.
2530. Then between the 16th May, 1887, and 27th December, 1888, you were in the head office of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
2531. What were your particular duties there? I kept the records, had charge of the correspondence, checked any voucher sent in for payment, and very often I used to go out and pay the men; I also had to check vouchers, such as McLean Bros. and Rigg's, or Kidman's—what were called contingent vouchers. They had to come to me, and I checked these also.
2532. Then do I understand that you had nothing to do with the stores until the beginning of this year? That is so, sir.
2533. Had you anything to do with the stores when the unemployed works existed previous to the Casual Labour Board? Nothing. I have had the looking over of the accounts of the stores since I went out there.
2534. Can you give us any evidence as to what became of the plant, stores, and such like that were in existence at the time the Casual Labour Board took office? No, only from hearsay.
2535. I do not want hearsay? Well, I know nothing about that myself. I can say that they were sent out to the National Park, and the superintendent would be the only person who could tell you what became of them.
2536. Who is the superintendent? Mr. Burrowes.
2537. Then you don't know what stores were there? I know that there was a lot of sugar and a lot of crockery there.
2538. How do you know? I know, because it was sent down there.
2539. Do you know the quantity of sugar? I don't know beyond what other people have told me. I know very little about the sugar.
2540. What were your office hours? I was always in the office at a quarter to 9 o'clock, and left at 5 o'clock, and sometimes later.
2541. Did you find yourself constantly occupied with the work that you have detailed to us? I did as much as I could do of it.
2542. Who were your superior officers? John Davies, the Chairman, and Mr. Hinchcliffe, the Secretary of the Board.

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2543. Anyone else? No, that is all. I used to apply for the £6,000 advances from the Treasury, and I used to adjust the vouchers for that amount.
2544. Did you always adjust the vouchers? Yes. I used to make them up exactly for £6,000, not a penny more and not a penny short; and I made the recapitulation of vouchers out.
2545. You made them all out? Yes, every one of them.
2546. You were responsible for them? I was.
2547. You accept the responsibility? I do.
2548. The last lot that were made up were sent in on the 31st December? I was not there then, but up to that time I had made them out. I was responsible.
2549. There are some forty sets of recapitulation of vouchers, and every one of them is for the exact amount of £6,000? Exactly. I made them out.
2550. Every one of these is for the exact sum of £6,000, and is vouched for the exact amount without anything being left over? Yes.
2551. How did you manage that? Simply this way: I had been asked several times by people in the office how to make up these amounts. I put these vouchers down to the amount, say of £6,700, and when I had the vouchers adjusted up to nearly the £6,000 I looked over for small amounts, £16 or £17, and other like amounts. Of course that could not be done by everyone, but anyone who knows anything at all about banking could pick out the ones required to make exactly the £6,000. I have done that every time, and have come out always clear. I never had any trouble in doing it. I consider it as simple as the ABC.
2552. Had you done similar work before? I never did it until I went there.
2553. Had you any instructions to do it? I was told that the vouchers should come to £6,000. The first time I saw it was the first time the £6,000 was made up. I was then in the office until 10 o'clock at night, picking these out. I always had more than £6,000 in hand—generally £6,700 or £7,000; but after the first time it was as easy as anything. The only thing was to pick this one out and put another one in.
2554. Will you undertake to pick out for me, if I put these vouchers before you—these forty lots of recapitulations of vouchers—a set of paid accounts in each case, making up exactly £6,000? I would.
2555. That is your evidence? That is so.
2556. I will probably ask you to do it before we close our Commission. I will have the vouchers here? Very good, I am prepared. I will do it with the greatest of pleasure. Any schoolboy, I should think, will be able to do it.
2557. Can you give us any information as to the form in which the requisitions were made to the office for the supply of plant—through whom did they come? Well, sometimes they would be addressed to the Chairman; at other times they would be addressed to the Secretary. I have known O'Donnell, Burrowes, and other superintendents come in and leave on my table requisitions. They would say, "Will you kindly see that these are sent out to us?" And then they were handed over to the Chairman for his approval, and he signed the order to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, and others. If it was for the barrowman who made the barrows, the same course was adopted, and if it was Mr. Horsey, who used to sell grain and fodder for horses, it would be sent to him. Then there were the coal merchants. We sometimes got coal and wood. The orders were always sent for these things.
2558. Did they, in all cases, go before the Chairman? All that ever I have seen. I never sent one on my own account.
2559. Are you aware of any orders being sent out without the Chairman's authority, or the authority of some member of the Board? No; never.
2560. Then tell me what the process was by which these orders were carried out. Take for example the ordinary case of an order for goods (say) from M'Lean Bros. and Rigg? Shortly after the goods were sent out we used to get an account for a particular order. It was on a contingent voucher form that the account was conveyed. We used to take 2½ per cent. off M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's accounts. The Chairman used to put them in a pigeon-hole until they were paid. The accounts for Hurstville, Liverpool, Campbelltown, Narrabeen, and Hornsby were all pinned together, and generally added up on the first voucher. Seven, eight, or nine vouchers were added up, and the total put on the first voucher; and that was the amount put on the cheque.
2561. What knowledge had you that the goods were supplied? They were all sent out to the overseers with the vouchers. Those that were sent to Narrabeen, Mr. Oxley signed for as correct. Those that went to Hurstville, Mr. Burrowes signed for as correct, and so on with the different superintendents.
2562. Were these contingent vouchers sent out to the superintendents before they were passed in the office? Oh, yes. I have seen one or two cases where they were not sent to the superintendents, and they were handed to the superintendent in the office. He demurred to signing them, and he was told that they were initialled by Mr. Hibble. The Chairman said they were correct, and the superintendent signed them without them going out to his camp. That was done one time, I remember.
2563. Give me the particulars of that? Well, there were six contingent vouchers that came, I think, in November last to the Casual Labour Board office in Goulburn-street, from M'Lean Bros. and Rigg. They were all on Hurstville. Mr. Burrowes, the superintendent, came in. John Davies said, "Hibble, you had better get those vouchers for Burrowes to sign"; and they were brought out by Hibble, and Burrowes said, "They had better be sent out to the storekeeper." But Mr. Davies said, "They are initialled by Hibble, and are all right." Afterwards we discovered that they were not all right.
2564. Who was the storekeeper? Springall.
2565. Who discovered that they were not right;—now keep to your own knowledge? Just before the Melbourne Exhibition in August, a contingent voucher came in from M'Lean Bros. and Rigg to the office for a hamper-basket. I would not be certain whether it was for £6 10s. or £3 10s. I showed it to the Secretary, and said, "What is the meaning of this? We have had no hamper-basket." He said, "I suppose the Chairman had it, and took it to Melbourne to the Exhibition." I threw it on one side. When I saw the six vouchers that were presented to Mr. Burrowes to sign, I observed one was for £6 10s., and another for £3 10s. I said to Hibble, "What is the meaning of these vouchers?" He said, "I have got the hamper-basket changed for twenty-four long-handle shovels and eight napping-hammers, which came to £6 10s." There was another contingent voucher, which came in with so many coils of rope, £3 10s. There were three or four other vouchers. There were one or two of these had been changed from

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from a hamper-basket to these things that were required at Hurstville. The things had never been to Hurstville—Burrowes was annoyed at having signed them. "Well," he said, "The Chairman told me they were all right, and I cannot be blamed for doing it."

2566. Who was it you said had got these vouchers changed? Hibble.

2567. Who was he? He was a clerk in the office. Latterly he has been doing the work that I had been doing. He used to go to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg. I do not know why Mr. Davies always sent him to do it. I used to do it originally.

2568. Was he subordinate to you? No; he was just the same, only he happened to be down with the registrar down-stairs. I was up-stairs in the Board-room.

2569. What became of the voucher for the hamper? I cannot tell you; Hibble would know.

2570. Did you see it? I saw it.

2571. In the usual Government printed form? I did.

2572. Was it a form like that? Yes; that is the same, exactly the same.

2573. That is what you are calling a contingent voucher? Yes.

2574. In the regular form? Yes.

2575. And it was dated 31st August? Yes.

2576. Was it signed by anybody else? No; it would not be signed by anybody else, because it was for the office. It was made away with, and this one was put in its place.

2577. How do you know it was not for a private hamper of Mr. Davies'? Because it was addressed, Casual Labour Board.

2578. Do you recollect the amount? I believe it was £6 10s.; but some one said it was £3 10s., and that was the price of six dozen long-handle shovels and eight napping hammers.

2579. You told us that you used to receive these accounts, and take off 2½ per cent.? Yes.

2580. Who told you to do it? I understood that it was some arrangement with the Government. I was instructed to do it in the office. Of course I know the Government got the benefit of that, because I know the cheques used to go for the amount, less 2½ per cent.

2581. Do you recollect who it was that told you that was the arrangement? Yes; Hinchcliffe, the secretary.

2582. Was there a similar arrangement with any of the other trades people? Not that I am aware of.

2583. Who calculated the discount? I used to do it. I was told to do it. I had a sort of little table, and could tell exactly what were the amounts to deduct.

2584. Who are the officers that were responsible for these goods—the supplies and so forth that were ordered from time to time. Who were responsible for them after they were supplied; you say they were sent out to the different works? Those that were sent to Hurstville, Mr. Springall would be responsible for.

2585. Where is Mr. Springall now? He has built a hotel down at Coronulla Beach. He was the chief storekeeper at Hurstville. Everything that was sent to the Southern District he should see delivered properly to the different places.

2586. And who in the other districts? Some one of the name of Neads, at Narrabeen, and Little, at Hornsby.

2587. Did those gentlemen initial the vouchers that came in? They initialled the vouchers before the superintendent signed them, except the particular ones that were signed in our office.

2588. Did you ever pay any accounts for the Board other than for wages? No; they never gave me any. Mr. Davies used to pay the accounts of Mr. Kidman, Mr. Graham, the seedsman, and M'Lean Bros. and Rigg.

2589. Were you entrusted with any moneys? Yes. I have had to pay £800 at Berowra, Hornsby, and Ryde.

2590. Has anyone been with you? Yes; and I have been by myself at one time to make the Payments, for which I received the amount of 6s.

2591. What vouchers did you bring back for them? The pay-sheets at Hornsby, the pay-sheets at Ryde, and the pay-sheets at Berowra. These were handed to the Paymaster, Mr. Hinchcliffe, and they were duly witnessed by some one up there, and written across them "paid" by A. Larnach. Three signatures were attached to every one of them.

2592. How did you do in the case of absentees? Of course, if there was no payment made there was no signature. On one occasion I had to go to Hornsby, and I had to take gold to pay the men with. There were two sovereigns found on the table, which I brought back and handed to Mr. Hinchcliffe. I could not tell how they got there, and I told Mr. Hinchcliffe to put them in the Paymaster's surplus cash. That was on the 22nd December. I do not know whether he did or did not do so.

2593. Did you see after the payment of these moneys yourself? I paid them myself to each man.

2594. Did you know the men? The superintendent stood by and identified every man.

2595. Were you ever under Mr. Burrowes? Never.

2596. Have you had much to do with him? No; except that I have seen all his pay-sheets after they came in.

2597. Have you had many conversations together? Very few.

2598. When did you see him last? This morning.

2599. Before that when did you see him? Last Friday.

2600. And before that? Well, I think he was at the office.

2601. Where is the office? My office is at Hurstville.

2602. Have you seen him pretty frequently lately? Oh, yes.

2603. Have you discussed with him at all the inquiry now being made? No.

2604. Have you talked over with him in any way the evidence that you or he might give? No; never.

2605. Are you quite clear on this? Quite certain.

2606. With reference to this voucher for the hamper, where did the conversation you speak of take place? In our office in Goulburn-street. I told Burrowes that he was a fool to sign vouchers without seeing that they were correct.

2607. Did you see it being done? I saw it done.

2608. Were you in the office at the time? I was.

2609. Did you remonstrate? I happened to be sitting with my back to them at the time. I knew he was signing the vouchers. Davies told him that they were all right. Afterwards I said to him, "You are just

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as bad as the others." He said, "I do not care; Davies told me that they were quite correct; he is my superior officer; I did not know that there was anything wrong in them." Hibble laughed, and said, "That's the hamper-basket."

2610. Was it your duty to check the vouchers of M'Lean Bros. and Rigg? It was at first, but Mr. Davies, for some reason or other, used to put them into Hibble's hands.

2611. Up to what time did you examine them? Oh, about the first twelve months I was in the office. After that they were all handed over to Mr. Hibble. I never could tell why or for what reason.

2612. Was it a regular practice of Mr. Davies to pay these accounts himself? Ever since he has been there he has always paid them. The Secretary mentioned to me one day that it was too bad of John to go and pay these accounts always himself and never give us any show of the good things for ourselves.

2613. What other accounts did he pay? Those of Mr. Kidman.

2614. Which Mr. Kidman was that? Mr. James Kidman.

2615. Was it only in the case of M'Lean Brothers and Rigg that the 2½ per cent. was taken off? That is all.

2616. Were these vouchers always signed or initialled by the Chairman? Yes; he signed them all as the principal man—John Davies.

2617. Did you see anything of them after they were paid? Oh, yes. After they were paid they were handed to me; and then I made up this wonderful adjustment for £6,000.

2618. Who told you that it was necessary to make this wonderful adjustment? I think Hinchcliffe told me, because he thought I could not do it. Of course I could not have done it unless I had always vouchers for £700 or £800 more than the £6,000, and sometimes we had £700 or £800, or even £1,500 worth of vouchers on hand, and we would pull them out and fit them in. Someone said to me it was a difficult thing, but I told him it was easy enough.

2619. According to the practice of the office, was it usual for requisitions for goods, plant, and supplies to pass through your hands in the same way? Not through my hands. Whoever had the order-book used to order them.

2620. Who had the order-book? Mr. Hibble had the order-book of late. I have not sent an order to M'Lean Bros and Rigg for some eighteen months. I had plenty to do in checking the returns.

2621. Do you know whether all the orders that were sent out were in writing—were there any verbal orders? They had no right to be verbal orders. I have seen papers come in for goods with no butt in the order-book for them.

2622. Was that the practice in the office? No; it was not. Why it was done I cannot understand. I have seen contingent vouchers there for powder when there was any amount of powder on hand. I do not know what they wanted such a quantity of powder for.

2623. Are you aware whether the other members of the Board attended at the office at all? Sometimes they did, but I always considered that the Chairman took everything upon himself. Sometimes he asked their advice.

2624. Frequently or otherwise? If they were there he asked them out of courtesy; if they were not there he did everything on his own account.

2625. How many rooms had you in the office in Goulburn-street? The room up stairs—the Board-room I called it—and two rooms down-stairs.

2626. Did you sit in the same room as Mr. Davies? Yes.

2627. Had you an opportunity of seeing the other members of the Board whenever they came? I did; and, unless there was something of special importance, I remained in the room. When there was anything special I went down-stairs of my own account.

2628. Do you know anything about supplies of rations and so forth—did they come within your province? I have looked at the rations several times; that is, the amount which we have had to pay at the beginning of each month. I have brought it before the Chairman's notice several times, seeing that he had answered questions in the House to the effect that they had only 710 men on the works, and that there were over £2,000 worth of rations. There were only 710 men that were supplied with these, and these 710 rations could not be possibly more than £1,100 or £1,200. I pointed that out again and again.

2629. What I want to know is, did the ordering and receiving of rations come within the scope of your duties? I used to get a return every month, and I saw that they agreed, and that the issues and receipts were within a few rations of each other, and we could only have a few on hand. I also noticed that those that were received were a great many more than were used by the men who were said to have been on the work.

2630. I will ask you to look at this paper, purporting to be signed by Mr. Springall—an abstract of rations for the month of July, National Park Relief Works? Yes.

2631. You see that on the first day it states the rations ordered were 6,200, the rations received were 3,100, and the rations issued were 3,000. What is the meaning of that? If that is a return that has been sent in to our office the explanation would be that the 1st July would be on a Friday, when 6,200 rations would arrive. The rations would arrive on the Saturday, and that would be 3,100 for the Saturday's issue and 3,100 for the Sunday's issue. On Fridays double rations were always ordered.

2632. Take the next item;—it states rations received, 6,200; rations issued, 5,470? Well, of course they have not issued quite the amount of the rations that they received; perhaps some of the men may have fallen off, but that seems pretty fair.

2633. Have you any books or papers in connection with the store at Hurstville? No. Mr. Springall and John Davies took possession of all the books and papers, and brought them to town. I got some valuable information from some of the books, and it was through their being examined that I became suspicious.

2634. How do you know that Mr. John Davies took them? Because when he was out there Springall took them away with him by his directions.

2635. When was this? When I went out in the beginning of the year. Springall said it would be just as well that I should not have the books in the office to overhaul.

2636. What books are these? There is one of them, the letter-book, with all the returns for pay-sheets copied into it. It is a book that will be of great service. You will be able to see some discrepancies in it when you see it. It shows the vouchers and the amounts that have been paid.

2637. Any other books? Yes; there is a book called the ration-book, showing the different rations issued at the different camps. I got hold of it, and took some extracts from it.

2638. Anything else? These are the only books that I know of that I wanted.

2638½. You say that Mr. John Davies went and got them himself? Oh, no; I said he gave instructions to Springall to bring them. Springall told me.

2639.

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2639. What length of experience had you in the banks that you were telling me of? About twelve years.
2640. Do you know anything of the working of a large department? I do.
2641. Now, Mr. Larnach, are you aware of any irregularity having at any time occurred in the office, or any improper expenditure having been certified to, or any laxity in checking the accounts, other than the particular cases that you have referred to? I know this,—that the books of the Casual Labour Board were never kept properly.
2642. Is that your answer to the question? Yes. I say that they have never been balanced properly.
2643. Have you any knowledge of any practice or action during the time of your employment with the Board that would lead you to suppose that there had been any misappropriation of money? I always knew that there was £1,000, or nearly that amount, being used in some way or other.
2644. What gave rise to that belief? I said before that I adjusted all the paid vouchers under the Casual Labour Board. I made them up again and again, and had all the vouchers from the Secretary, and there was £1,000, or nearly that amount, short. And when I left at the end of the year to go up to Campbelltown, and came back on the 28th, and was sent to another place, I asked Hibble if they had balanced the books for the end of the year, and he said they had got a voucher for £250, but there was some £800 or £900 more. He had got some contingent vouchers from the Secretary, but nearly £800 was still short. I might mention that in October last the Secretary got a month's leave of absence and went to Melbourne, and he drew two months' salary at the end of that month. It was at the time that he was away for a month that I discovered that he was nearly £1,000 short. He returned at the beginning of December, and the cheque-book was kept out of my hands for some reason or other. I looked at the cheque-book the first chance I got, and I found that there was a cheque for £100 drawn on the 31st. I imagine that was to meet bills of his.
2645. Do you say that you are aware, of your own knowledge, that they were frequently short in their cash? Yes; I have been short in that way—nearly £1,000 of vouchers short; and they could not have any cash in hand. Another thing, they had no right to have £1,000 cash in hand.
2646. Who was the Secretary? Thomas Hinchcliffe.
2647. If it has been stated by him that he never was short in his cash, is that correct? I would say that it is not correct. Nothing could be greater proof than this: Mr. Josephson, who was paid every time by cheque, was paid in gold on one occasion, and Hinchcliffe borrowed money to my certain knowledge to make up his deficiency.
2648. How do you know that—speak from your own knowledge, and recollect that while in giving your evidence you have the same protection you are subject to the same liabilities as if you were giving evidence before a Judge. Recollect also that you have already said some things very damaging to the reputation and credit of certain people, and consider well before you make any statements, because they may lead you into trouble if incorrect. I ask you now are you aware of your own knowledge that Mr. Hinchcliffe was at any time short in his cash? Yes. I have heard him say that he had not money in the cash-box to pay certain things, and at that time he should have had, by my showing in my books, £700 or £800.
2649. Are you aware of any misappropriation of plant or stores? No; only from hearsay.
2650. Had you ever any difference with any of the officers of the Board? No.
2651. Have you never quarrelled with anyone? No.
2652. Was any complaint ever made on account of the way in which you performed your duties? No; never any single thing—in fact, I was offered this change as a sort of promotion. He thought he was doing me a great favour.
2653. You were in the employ of the Board at the head office at the time? Yes. He offered me this as promotion. I thought it was to get rid of me.
2654. What reason had he for that—were you so particular in your duties? Well, Mr. Houson made a remark one day. He said, "I am afraid you know too much, Larnach. You have got everything at the tip of your fingers."
2655. Have you any feeling against Mr. Davies? None whatever.
2656. He has never done you any wrong? No; not a bit of wrong—in fact, he was so well disposed towards me that he made me a present of a new hat, and I discovered afterwards that it was charged to the Government as gratuities to officials.
2657. How did you discover that? Mr. Hibble told me. He told me how these contingent vouchers were made up.
2658. Where is Mr. Hibble now? He is in the office there with Mr. Mason.
2659. Can you tell me how those vouchers were made up? I can tell you every item in them—cab-hire, and that kind of thing.
2660. Do you know of those vouchers for cab-hire? I know Hinchcliffe had six contingent vouchers made up for balancing the cash at the end of the half-year.
2661. Do you mean to say that there were six bogus vouchers made up? I mean that there was a good deal owing, and that he was drawing £29 per month from the Government. He got £17 out one pay in November, and this was made up with vouchers. There was cab-hire, 35s., although we had a cab of our own. This consisted of sums of 2s. 6d., 6s., 3s., 3s. 6d., amounting to 35s. There were amounts of 18s. 6d., 12s. 6d., 18s. There were all expenses, breakfasts, dinners, at each of six places that he went to pay the men, and for paying at each of these places he got an allowance of 10s. That was only one voucher.
2662. You saw this? I saw it. There were six vouchers to my certain knowledge made out, and they amounted to £100, and that assisted him in making up his cash. I think there was 18s. for tram-tickets, and they all went in at the end of the month.
2663. When did these difficulties occur? At the end of the month. It was only when the Committee was sitting at the Legislative Assembly that they began to get frightened. John Davies came down one day, and said, "The idea of them saying that the books have not been audited. Some one came down from the Treasury." Hibble looked at me, and I looked at him, and Hibble laughed. We knew well enough that the books had never been written up until the last few days of the year. Hibble took them home to his own house night after night.
2664. Who was Hibble? Well, Hibble was supposed to have charge of the books—in fact, that was how he was brought up-stairs. Mr. Davies said to me, "Larnach, you do not mind my bringing Hibble up? I do not want to get rid of him, and there is not enough for him to do down-stairs."

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2665. Had Mr. Hinchcliffe nothing to do with the books? He never touched them. He left them all to Hibble to do. He never did anything. He used to make out the adjustment of vouchers, and then I did that.
2666. Then according to your opinion Mr. Hinchcliffe's was a useless office? I do think so. I do not think he was worth his salt. He used to come there at all hours of the day. The way I was paid, and the way others were paid who did work, compared with the amount he received, was shameful.
2667. Can you give us any evidence as to the sources from which money could be obtained other than the Treasury—for example, from the sale of firewood, and so forth? Yes, I can. I myself gave John Davies on the 15th December, 1887, £6 10s. for firewood that had been sold at Carlingford. After I had done so I thought I had made a mistake, as he never offered to give me a receipt. I felt rather queer about it, as Mr. Hinchcliffe had told me once or twice to pay the moneys to Mr. Davies. I was determined to get an acknowledgment from him that he had received the money, so I asked Hinchcliffe if he would ask me when Mr. Davies came in if I had received certain moneys from Carlingford? Hinchcliffe did so. Davies said, "He handed them to me. I have them."
2668. I suppose he would pay the amount into the bank? I do not know what he did with it. I also know he received moneys for firewood and charcoal that came from the National Park. These are items that Mr. Burrowes would know more about than I would.
2669. Do you know of any other payments that were made to Mr. Davies? No.
2670. Was it not possible that the money that you gave to him was paid into the bank with some other money? It might have been; I could not say what was done with it. I have got an entry here of the transaction.
2671. What is that you are looking at? It is a law almanac upon which I made an entry at the time—on the very day I paid it. It is dated 15th December.
2672. Are you aware of any other payments having been made to Mr. Davies by any other clerks? No; I cannot tell you anything about any other.
2673. The cash-book shows payments, or rather receipts, amounting to £334 16s. 3d., purporting to have been the proceeds of sales and so forth, which Mr. Davies paid into the bank;—could you give us any evidence as to how that was made out? No. I think it was for firewood. But by a rough memo. that I have got there should be about £500 for firewood paid in. Mr. Burrowes will explain that.
2674. What rough memo. is that? Some of these weigh-bills I took down.
2675. When did you do it? Oh, a long time ago. I have it in lead pencil. When I went up to Hurstville there were some weigh-bills there. I stuck them down and valued them. That is exactly what was sent down, and I entered it at a low value. I know it is only half of what was sent down during the whole period.
2676. Was it chiefly firewood? Yes, and charcoal.
2677. Have you any idea what became of these different consignments? They were sent down to Neale & Company, and Wearne—Wearne, the Government contractor. I think the charcoal was sent to him, and the firewood to the other.
2678. Am I to understand that you cannot tell us how this £334 16s. 3d. is made up? No. I suppose it was for firewood. There was some that Mr. Davies was paid for at Hornsby and at Carlingford.
2679. Who will give us evidence about that? O'Donnell.
2680. Do you know of any other firewood? Only those supplied to Wearne and Neale.
2681. Where ought we to find an account of the sales? John Davies ought to find that. He took delivery at the railway-station, and he used to have the cheque sent to John Davies. Neale would sell the stuff.
2682. Who ought to have an account of the sales? Neale would have that. Mr. Burrowes was the superintendent; he sent all the wood down. I know that Mr. Davies received more than is represented by the amount you have stated.
2683. I have a letter of the 16th August, 1887, from the station-master at Darling Harbour to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, stating that there are consigned to him thirty-five bags of charcoal;—would that be the charcoal you speak of? That would be the charcoal. He wrote to Mr. Wearne to take possession of and send the money to the Board.
2684. Did he send the money? If the money came I never saw it.
2685. Then we should find in the letter-book of the department a letter written by Mr. Davies to take possession? Yes.
2686. *Mr. Franklin.*] Were you responsible for keeping records in the office of all sorts of accounts? Yes, and the letters that came, and I entered them in the register—those that became records.
2687. In a comparatively small establishment you would know pretty nearly everything that was done? Yes; I knew nearly everything.
2688. Did you keep a record of the requisitions that came in for stores? At first I did, and then they were handed to Mr. Hibble. At the time I kept the record I entered the requisition in the order-book.
2689. And on these requisitions there were instructions for action to be taken—given by whom? By John Davies.
2690. He signed these requisitions? Yes.
2691. And the substance of these requisitions was entered in the Government order-book? Yes.
2692. These orders would be for tools, powder, and stores on the general works? Yes.
2693. They made out the orders upon these requisitions upon the different storekeepers? Yes.
2694. Did you make yourself acquainted afterwards with the fact that these orders had been supplied? Yes.
2695. Accounts were sent by M'Lean Bros. and Rigg for the supplies, and then they were forwarded to these particular camps to be initialled as having been received correctly, and then these receipts were sent back to the office? Yes.
2696. And then, of course, you might see from the butts of the order-book that the orders had been supplied? We did not trouble about the butts.
2697. Oh, you never bothered about the butts at all? No.
2698. If a voucher came back, and you saw that it agreed with the butt, and it was initialled by the party receiving the supplies, you did not put the same mark upon the butt? No.

2699. Don't you think it was a necessary check? It might have been a good idea if we had had a proper person at the head of the department—if we had had a man who understood his position the thing could have been properly arranged.
2700. You have had experience in a banking institution—have had a banking education—and you knew how important it was to check the smallest expenditure in a bank, and how careful the records ought to be kept, and you do not think it was necessary to initial the butts to satisfy yourself that they checked with the voucher? No; I initialled the voucher, and the voucher having my initials to it showed that it agreed exactly with the butt. That was sufficient.
2701. After what you saw when Mr. Burrowes happened to be in the Board-room signing the vouchers, do you think that that check was sufficient? No doubt if I were head of the department and had everything going on over again I would alter a good many things.
2702. Would you not, for your own credit's sake—having regard to your long experience and the responsibility of the position—would you not have suggested many other systems of check? Oh, there never was an error in any order that ever I sent out.
2703. Don't you think that an error was likely to occur? I have checked them all—initialled vouchers—and know that they are right.
2704. And you don't think it possible that during the time that you had charge that there could be any difference between the original order and the amount passed by the Superintendent? No, not during all the time I had charge.
2705. During all that time was Mr. Springall the storekeeper? Yes.
2706. Although you are satisfied that the orders given for the stores were correct, you had no check? I had no check.
2707. At the time that you were responsible for the payment of the men at the several camps that you mentioned, have you ever found that there were absentees—that the men could not be found to take up their money? Never.
2708. What would be the number of men you would pay? About 300.
2709. What would be the average payment? I suppose about £3 per week per man. O'Donnell gave the order; he supplied it to John Davies for so much contained in voucher so-and-so, and then he would have the signature at the back, and sign his name. That would be sufficient identification—seeing the signature on the back of the pay-slip.
2710. Would that be satisfactory to the Auditor-General? Well, we would witness it then. I could witness it with the greatest safety.
2711. You state that Mr. Springall is no longer storekeeper? No.
2712. Where is he now? He has an hotel at Coronulla Beach.
2713. What was the rate of his wages or salary? £3 per week.
2714. Do you know how he was employed before he entered upon these duties? He had been on board the "Tomki"—chief officer, or something of that kind.
2715. Do you think he was very much reduced before he would be induced to take a position at £3 per week? He was. He was in very poor circumstances indeed when he joined the unemployed.
2716. He must have been a very industrious, steady man to have saved in twenty months a sufficient amount to enable him to build an hotel and go into business? He must have been a very steady, saving man.
2717. This business that he has entered into is the result of his savings? Yes.
2718. You have never found any difficulty with regard to the stores? No; I do not know of any difficulty.
2719. You do not know that more rations were used than were actually required? I got hold of an order at one time showing that he got the rations of a hundred men down there.
2720. But you would know the number of men absolutely on the works—on the different works? No; not at all times.
2721. Would it not have been easy for you to have a record showing that the rations ordered agreed with the number of men on the works? I told Mr. Davies, on several occasions, that there were more rations consumed than there were men on the works.
2722. Then you got a periodical return from Springall showing that there was an accumulation of rations? No; they used to balance them somehow.
2723. Will this Commission be able to see exactly the daily return of men on the different works and the daily rations? Yes; exactly.
2724. And will they find that the number of rations will balance with the number of men daily at work? I think that sometimes the men were fewer than the rations.
2725. Do I understand that we shall be able to find a record that will balance with the number of men at each camp with the issue of rations by Mr. Kidman? Yes; that ought to be shown on Mr. Springall's books and papers.
2726. You say that it did not give you very much trouble to bring your vouchers to £6,000? I say it is as easy as doing a common addition sum.
2727. Do you think that there was an absolute necessity for doing that? I was told that Mr. Geoffrey Eagar wanted £6,000 to be paid into the Auditor-General.
2728. But why did you not, with your knowledge as a banker, tell them that there was no necessity for that? They would have told me that although I knew something about a bank I knew nothing about Government work. I believed it was thoroughly correct to make up the vouchers to amount to £6,000.
2729. You did not know that it was your duty, as it was a current account, to render as nearly as you could the acquittances? No, I did not.
2730. Do you think, from your knowledge of banking, that the system of expenditure and the general accounts were perfect? No, I do not.
2731. Or that the records in connection with the stores were properly kept? I think they might have been improved.
2732. You say that in joining under the Board, after your former services in connection with the unemployed, you were put on at a reduced rate? Yes.
2733. You were rather aggrieved at that? No. I was very hard up. I had been struck off by Mr. Deering, and I thought I was done for and would get nothing at all, and I had my wife and family depending upon me.
2734. You were reinstated by Mr. Davies? Yes.

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2735. Did Mr. Davies take any opportunity he could of improving your position? No; but Mr. Davies and I never had any words. I never felt in any way aggrieved, but I always thought I was entitled to a better position than I was in.

2736. *Mr. Waller.*] As regards this abstract of rations, I do not quite understand it now. I see on Thursday, 28th July, the rations ordered were 2,250; rations received, 2,340; rations issued, 2,627? The rations received would be the rations ordered on the day before that, on the Wednesday. Those issued would be merely those issued that day.

2737. My difficulty is that you issue more rations than you got? Those received would be issued the next day.

2738. I will take another case. On Monday the 4th there were 2,250 rations ordered, 3,100 rations received, and 2,716 issued. How did you receive more than you ordered? Because the 3,100 were ordered on the Saturday. If you can understand, the rations that would be ordered on the Saturday would be received on the Monday.

2739. That does not explain; if they were ordered on Saturday, you need not receive more than you ordered. How did you get your appointment in the Casual Labour Board at all? I saw Mr. Walker, and was appointed by him under the late Board.

2740. Was that your first experience? No; first of all I got an appointment in connection with the unemployed under Mr. Wise. From that, when Mr. Dibbs was Colonial Secretary, I was appointed superintendent at the National Park.

2741. And then you passed from Mr. Wise to Mr. Deering, and from Mr. Deering to the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

2742. Was your first appointment in writing, or was it verbal? There was a memo. sent up to Mr. Wise, signed by the Principal Under Secretary and initialled by the Colonial Secretary.

2743. I understand that your evidence to-day was, and I would like you to give it again, that you had something to do with the accounts—the checking of paid accounts? No; I did not say checking paid accounts; I said adjusting paid accounts for the Auditor-General.

2744. What do you mean by adjusting them? Placing them in batches of £6,000.

2745. How many accounts would you require to have in your possession—I am not speaking of their value, but of their number—in order to do the shuffling to bring them out £6,000? Well, as nearly as I can guess, there would be sixty-nine or seventy. I had generally a piece of foolscap, and made the calculations in two columns. There would be about seventy.

2746. Having become such an adept at manipulating accounts as to bring out the £6,000 exactly, you must have got to the stage of knowing that with a certain table of facts certain results would follow? No; I used to take a batch of vouchers out of a pigeon-hole, and I would see that I had very nearly £6,000. I would put a lot more down and a lot more, until I had about £6,700. Then I would see what had got to be left out; that would leave exactly £6,000.

2747. Did your banking experience ever teach you such things as these? No.

2748. Would it be considered a proper principle to work an account upon? No.

2749. If you were asked by a bank to make a return, would the bank be satisfied if you were keeping up certain tables of returns by putting in certain other returns—would the bank be satisfied if you shuffled the accounts about—bringing some in and leaving some out? If a bank had £6,000 to pay away, I could shuffle so that we could pay so many thousands in one lot and so many in another. There would be no objection to making up the £6,000 in that way.

2750. Did it ever strike you that if it was an absolute necessity that there should be £6,000, neither more nor less, a more straightforward and simple manner of business would have been to deduct from the last voucher the amount which was necessary to make it £6,000, and to put the balance of the voucher in your next account, endorsed as part of voucher so-and-so? It might have been so, but I was acting under the instructions of Mr. Hinchcliffe. David Houison told me the same thing. He asked me if I had much trouble in making up the exact amount of the advances, and I replied that it was easy enough now.

2751. How many vouchers would you have over after sending in payments for £6,000? I have seen in some cases only seven. I have even gone so far as to ask the Secretary if he had got any of the vouchers paid with petty cash that did not require checking. If you got any of those small ones when the amount was nearly balanced you could always make up the money.

2752. These vouchers that were left out, were they paid in the next account? Well, I stuck these first into the next account, but I have seen them crushed out again.

2753. Those petty accounts that you adjusted, had you any previous knowledge of their correctness before you used them for adjustment? None, except that they were signed by the Secretary and signed by John Davies as Chairman.

2754. Did you use many of them? No; I did not use many of them, but I have seen a good many of them. I was nothing there except a supernumerary clerk, and I was there to do as I was told.

2755. You told us that you were in the Board-room, and of necessity saw everything that was going on;—would you of necessity also have known all about the accounts passing in? No; for instance, I used to be away sometimes at Campbelltown, and therefore vouchers would come in that I would not know about.

2756. Can we take it for granted that when you were in the office you had every opportunity of seeing documents? Yes.

2757. Were you much in the office? I was always in the office except when I was away at Campbelltown or some other place paying. I have been away twice a week—twice in one week.

2758. How did persons other than labourers receive the money which was due to them? Those who were at Campbelltown, such as the blacksmith who had been mending the tools, would have their accounts sent down and signed by the superintendent as being correct. After that, when I went to pay, I would take the man's money up to him.

2759. You, personally? Yes, I, personally.

2760. And it would be paid before whom? The overseer, who would be a witness.

2761. How would accounts due to such people as M'Lean Bros. and Rigg be paid? They would be paid by cheque.

2762. Were there other firms paid that way? Yes; Graham, the seedsman, and Kidman, the grocer.

2763. Any others? No; I do not remember any others.

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2764. Did M'Lean Bros. and Rigg deliver the goods under a regular contract? Yes; with 2½ per cent. taken off; we always looked for that.

2765. Was that done all through? All that ever I saw. I had a list there.

2766. I want to know something about these accounts; did M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, and Kidman, and Graham, the seedsman, send in their invoices to the office for goods ordered? M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, except on a few occasions, sent in contingent vouchers with the orders attached, and the contingent voucher agreed with the items mentioned in the order.

2767. That is the order which emanated from the Board in the first instance? Yes, except on a few occasions. On looking over there vouchers I discovered that there were no orders attached to them at all.

2768. Can you name these occasions? Well, I picked the vouchers out and gave them to Mr. Miles.

2769. So, then, what you call contingent vouchers were the first documents that came from M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, backed up by the original order? Yes.

2770. Where did they go to? They were generally rolled up in a big envelope, and addressed to the Chairman.

2771. Direct to the Chairman? Yes.

2772. Did they come immediately after the order was sent? No; they did not; they came at the end of the month.

2773. Might that be a considerable time after the order? It might be a month after the order.

2774. Or it might have been the last order—only a day previously? Yes; it might have been the last day in the month.

2775. Where did these goods from M'Lean Bros. and Rigg go to? They might have been sent to Redfern or to Manly by boat, as the case might be, according to the places they were intended for.

2776. What was their contract of delivery for? There was no contract of delivery. They were merely to send to the railway-station.

2777. What about Kidman's rations? At first they were delivered at the different railway-stations, and we carted them to the camps, but now I make out slips, showing where they are to deliver them.

2778. Where is the contract to deliver them to—is the contractor to deliver them at the different camps? When Mr. Kidman undertook the contract there was only one large store, and he was to deliver the supplies there.

2779. Do you think, if your idea was correct, that Kidman would refuse now to deviate from his original plan of going to the trouble and expense of delivering at the different camps? Oh, no. I fancy Mr. Davies and he may have made some arrangement, but it had nothing to do with any of us.

2780. I am asking whether Kidman, if his contract were not to deliver the goods at the different camps, would be likely to agree with the present Board to deliver the things at the camp? He does not dispute it. He says he delivered them where he was ordered to.

2781. Then, as a matter of fact, the Casual Labour Board were paying railway freights where there was no necessity for their being paid? No; Kidman delivered by rail; it was only cartage that we paid for; we never paid any railway rates.

2782. That might easily be; one Government department would not charge another one with rates, but the carriage would be entered all the same. If Kidman had delivered the goods, in accordance with the contract, at the different camps, would not the Government have been saved a loss that they now sustain by having these goods carried on the railway? Of course if they have been paying railway fare, but I have seen nothing of that. I do not know what the custom is as regards the carriage of goods for delivery in connection with a Government Department.

2783. Has there been any account from the Railway on account of rations delivered by Kidman? Yes; but there have been accounts sent on to the Board for goods delivered by M'Lean Bros. and Rigg.

2784. As regards Kidman's accounts for rations, were they sent to the Board? Yes; and they were then sent to the National Park and to Narrabeen, where they were signed by the superintendents in both places and returned to the Board.

2785. Did Mr. Kidman attach to his vouchers the orders for the rations that he received? No; he did not.

2786. Never? No never.

2787. How then did you check the vouchers? I have a sheet of foolscap with Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday—every day in the week entered in it and headed Illawarra Road, Waterfall, Bulgo Camp, Bell's Camp, &c., as the case may be, on each particular day, and the total agrees with the total of Kidman's vouchers; then I have had them all made out and the total shown.

2788. Kidman's vouchers would be for how many days' rations? For all the days in the month except the last day.

2789. Each account would contain rations for the month? Yes.

2790. Who orders the rations? I do; each camp sends a card to me. The order would be seventy-one rations required for Thursday, and they would be sent.

2791. Do the overseers send detailed statements of the rations required? Yes; they generally send down a slip of paper for the rations to be ordered for the next day.

2792. How do they show that the rations which they stated would be correct? Because we knew exactly the number of men that were in the camp. It might be one ration, or it might be two rations. In many of these camps we have a day's rations or two days' rations in hand.

2793. I did not ask that—How did the superintendent prove to you that the order was a correct one? By the order and the list of men made out by the superintendent at Hurstville.

2794. When were those lists made out? Every fortnight.

2795. So that your list would be thirteen days old, and the rations for the 14th would be the same as on the first? Yes.

2796. What proof had you that the number was the same? They would send me down a return of the rations used on the twelve working days, and make the total for the fortnight, and that agrees within one or two rations of the rations that have been ordered by me and charged to the men on the works.

2797. How do you know from the second day that the number of men for whom the rations were demanded were in existence at all? Simply because I knew that they were still on the works.

2798. How do you know that? Because for every man that leaves, down comes an advice saying so-and-so has left or has been dismissed.

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2799. That being the case, how is it that you said to the President that you knew, of your own knowledge, that there were rations far in excess of the number of men at work? Oh, I was speaking then of the time before I took charge.

2800. Then you were speaking of a thing that you did not know anything about? I am speaking of what I saw in the books.

2801. You know that such a thing did occur? Yes. I issued a return that I gave to Mr. Mason, where 439 rations had been going to Springall.

2802. So before you took charge there were opportunities for swindling there in connection with the rations, and those opportunities were made use of in some cases? I fancy there was something wrong from the books.

2803. I do not want your fancy, I want you to say whether the books prove that? Yes.

2804. Have the books disclosed to you that there was absolute swindling, and that absolute swindling took place by accounting for rations delivered far exceeding the number of men at work? Yes; they have.

2805. What are these papers? These are some papers that were handed to me by Johnson, the assistant storekeeper, showing where 439 rations had been obtained by the late storekeeper, Mr. Springall, from Johnson's store at Illawarra Road. I know nothing more about it. He obtained these papers.

2806. Where did you get them from him? Johnson handed them over to the superintendent, and the superintendent, Mr. Burrowes, as I was in charge, handed them to me. That was on the 27th January, 1889.

2807. What did you do with them? I handed them over to Mr. Miles.

2808. Do they give us any information as regards irregularities in the supply of rations? They show that 439 rations have been taken away from Johnson's store by Mr. Springall.

2809. He was the storekeeper at the end of the year? Yes.

2810. Can you show by the books to this Commission that these irregularities, that you say existed before you took charge, actually took place? Yes. Here is the ration-book.

2811. Are you quoting now from the ration-book? Yes. I find on the 24th September and the 6th of October that a man named Flemming is entered as a ganger, who was a labourer at the main camp, drawing 85 rations for a fortnight. He was supposed to be under one Napier, overseer. Of course that is bunkum, but it appears in the book. On the 10th September and the 22nd September, he draws 98 rations again, and he appears in the book as a stone-breaker—Napier, overseer. On the 13th August and 25th August, he appears working as Flemming and others, under Michael Bell, overseer, and they together draw 98 rations for the fortnight. I have seen Michael Bell, and he says it is a fraud. He is a gardener, belonging to Mr. Moore, and placed in charge there. On the 30th July and 11th August, he draws 80 rations. On the 16th July and 28th July, he draws 80 more. I will repeat. He drew from the 21st May to 2nd June, 56 rations, the National Park; from the 3rd June to 16th June, 98, National Park; from the 17th June to 30th June, 80, Meadows, Sutherland, and Loftus Roads; from the 1st July to 14th July, 80, Meadows, Sutherland, and Loftus Roads; from the 15th July to 28th July, 80, Illawarra Road; from 29th July to 11th August, 80—he was a carter at that time; from 12th of August to the 25th August, 98, Michael Bell, Flemming, and others; from 26th August to 8th September, 98, stone-breaker—Napier, overseer; 9th September to 22nd September, 98—Walsh, overseer; 23rd September to 6th October, 85—Napier, overseer. The total number, 1,253, at 1s. 1d., equals £67 17s. 5d. This man obtained wages for the fictitious gangs as well as rations. I see his name down (Flemming) for the last six months. In a word he has been drawing from £18 to £20 every fortnight that he was not entitled to. He has generally been put down amongst Bell's men. Bell was the overseer.

2812. Where did you see this? There is the book that the Casual Labour Board have a press-copy of—where all the pay-sheets have been copied into by the parties who made them out at the Hurstville camp. I immediately mentioned the thing to Mr. Burrowes, and we turned up the original draft of the pays made out by Burrowes, and discovered that no such gang or man was on the pay-sheet. It was Burrowes' practice when he made out this draft-sheet to hand it to Springall, who took charge of the pay-sheets. He always got out Bell's pay-sheet, and he must have put Flemming's name down as ganger; and he has been drawing £18 to £20 on each pay.

2813. Burrowes would see this? Oh, no; he would not see it. The other signature being attached to it he would take it for granted that it was all right.

2814. This man Bell, what did he do? He was an overseer. The man Flemming was not a ganger at all.

2815. Who brought the money out to pay these gangs? Hibble.

2816. When Hibble went to pay the men of which Bell was overseer, where was Bell? He was outside. The men were paid in a sort of shed on the railway line.

2817. And where would Bell be? He would be walking about outside.

2818. Who was there to check the correctness of the pay-sheet? Springall. He was there every time.

2819. Did the men come up individually for the money? No; the ganger came up and drew for the gang. For instance, Johnson, when he was a ganger, would draw money for himself and his men.

2820. Would these men come always in the same rotation for their money? They would come as their names appeared upon the sheet. The names always appeared to have been made out with Flemming at the foot.

2821. Be careful over this. From your examination of the pay-sheets, do you now swear that Flemming's name always appeared at the bottom of the papers? I swear that it did nearly always.

2822. In connection with the draft pay-sheet, would there not be some suspicion excited from the fact that this man Flemming so often appeared at the pay, and he not being a ganger, and it only being customary for a ganger to appear? I put the same question to Bell, and he said he had mentioned to Springall that he did not like this man coming there, Bell knowing at the time that he was a labourer and not a ganger. He believed that there was a ganger who had not come in.

2823. You say the books will disclose this system for quite six months? Yes. I believe if anyone went further into it it may be found to have gone further still.

2824. That being the case, do you think there would be the same notorious system existing in the other camps? No.

2825. Would there have been any difficulty from your knowledge of the system adopted in the way of its having been carried on elsewhere? No; I believe it could have been.

2826. How was it that you discovered all this? I may tell you that I was suspicious when I joined the

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Casual Labour Board, when Hinchcliffe went out and brought £60 or £70 or £80 in money back. I said there was something rotten in the way things were done at the National Park. I believe there is money there put down to men who are bogus men, and somebody was there working it. I believed that there was something wrong, and the first thing I did when I went to Hurstville was to go over the particulars in the books.

2826½. Did not a detective always attend these pays? Not regularly; it is not true that they were always present.

2827. Could this swindling have gone on without the knowledge of the Board? Well, I do not really think they knew.

2828. Do you hold that you are quite clear of any responsibility in this matter? Certainly I am. I was not an official like Mr. Hinchcliffe or Mr. Davies.

2829. Do you think if Mr. Hibble had taken due precautions he could have discovered this? I will not say that at all. When more evidence comes out perhaps he will be found to be to blame as well as others. I will not say who is to blame.

2830. Do you think that if you had occupied Mr. Hibble's position that the swindle could have gone on with the same impunity? I occupied that same place twice when Mr. Hinchcliffe was away and I did not discover it; I did not even know the men.

2831. You were imposed upon? Yes. I paid there twice myself without discovering anything.

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TUESDAY, 26 MARCH, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P., | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Albert Larnach called in and examination continued:—

2832. *Mr. Waller.*] I think you gave evidence as to swindling that had taken place, and one case where a man named Flemming received pay as if he were a ganger? Yes.

2833. Is it a fact, then, that it only required collusion between the superintendent and another man for such swindling, owing to the want of a proper system of checks, to take place, and that neither the Board nor the paying clerk could detect it? Such a thing could and did happen.

2834. Now, in your evidence you stated, yesterday, that M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, and, I think, Kidman, used to send in their requisitions and original orders for goods at the end of every month? They sent their vouchers in on the first day of the month, and M'Lean Brothers and Rigg always had the order attached to each voucher.

2835. If that be the case, what documents went out to the camp to the receiving clerk with the goods that were delivered? I do not know what M'Lean Bros. and Rigg sent out. I never saw them.

2836. Were orders to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg invariably given in writing in the order-book? I always did so.

2837. A duplicate of that order remained in the butt of the book? It did.

2838. Of your own knowledge, were those orders ever extended or lessened verbally by the Chairman or other person belonging to the Board? I never knew of a case.

2839. You understand my question. Were they ever altered after going from the office? Not to my knowledge.

2840. Can you tell me how the superintendent knew of the orders given to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, so as to be able to check the delivery, as corresponding with the order? No, I cannot tell you what was sent out. I suppose they sent out invoices with them.

2841. That is not the question. It is how did the superintendents know what was ordered from M'Lean Bros. and Rigg? I cannot tell you.

2842. At the end of the month, when the documents came in, did the superintendents come in to the Board, to see that the contingent voucher was correct, so far as the delivery of the goods was concerned? Not that I am aware of.

2843. Did you therefore pay the contingent voucher, provided it agreed with the order on the butt of the order-book? No; it had to be signed by the superintendent.

2844. First? The Chairman first signed it as being correct.

2845. How could he sign to its being correct if he had no checks or cart-notes in his possession to show that the goods were delivered on certain dates? From what I have seen I should think he put down what he received in a memo. book at each camp.

2846. That is imagination on your part? That is all.

2847. Did you see that? No.

2848. You have no knowledge whatever that the superintendent adopted any means of checking the delivery of goods? No; I cannot say so.

2849. Do you, of your own knowledge, know of goods being sent down to Mr. Davies' private house? Only from hearsay.

2850. You know nothing of your own knowledge? No.

2851. Did you ever tell anyone you did know it? I may have mentioned that I heard it.

2852. That you did know it? I felt certain that the parties told me the truth, and I feel certain it is true.

2853. Did you mention that you could prove it? No; only that those parties told me.

2854. Who told you? The superintendent of the National Park.

2855. What is his name? Burrowes.

2856. Did he tell you? Yes; he saw them taken away, and the crockery too. Springall told me that was what became of one of his bedsteads.

2857. Springall told you that? Yes.

2858. Sent to whom? He had orders from John Davies to send it to him. If I may mention it, I may say I had a 40-candle burner lamp in the office. He took a great fancy to it and asked me to get one on his

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account. He told me his was not as good as the one I bought for the Board. As soon as we removed into the other office the lamp disappeared, and the kerosene-oil lamp with it. I have my own idea where it has gone to, but I know nothing more.

2859. Did the storekeeper initial the vouchers acknowledging the receipt of the goods from M'Lean Bros. and Rigg? They were signed by the superintendent, and that was sufficient.

2860. The goods went into the possession of the storekeeper? Yes.

2861. No check was taken from the storekeeper? No.

2862. What check was adopted for taking stock of the plant of all sorts and descriptions on the ground? None at all. We have never taken any stock since I have been there.

2863. You do not know what quantity was on the ground? No.

2864. Were those long-handled shovels in lieu of the hamper account? They were in lieu of the hamper account.

2865. They took the place of the original account for the hamper? Yes.

2866. Why did you think it hard you should not be allowed to pay the accounts? It was something to get out of the office. I had a good deal of sitting there, and I should have liked a run up to Kidman's, or some other place. We have often talked the matter over, and said, "There was no fear, John would not let us pay the accounts."

2867. Were you intimate with Mr. Davies? We used to laugh together, and I told him anecdotes, and he told me some.

2868. Called each other John and Jack? No; I called him Mr. Davies. I looked upon him as my superior officer.

2869. What did Mr. Davies' personal expenses consist of? I cannot say.

2870. Do you know whether he obtained money for incidental expenses? I do not remember telling you anything of the kind. I may say that cheques of £50 were drawn occasionally to pay sundry accounts. That may be to pay my small salary and Mr. Hibble's.

2871. I understood you to say to the President that you did not know what the charges were for, as there was a camp kept? I was not alluding to Mr. Davies. You asked me something about the Secretary's cash. I said I was sure it was not correct for certain reasons. There were six vouchers made out to my certain knowledge by Mr. Hibble, and they amounted to nearly £100. These vouchers consisted—one of them I know of £3; then £1 1s., 8s. 6d., and 10s. 6d.—expenses for breakfast, lunch, and dinners; 35s. for cab-hire—3s. 4s., and 5s. at a time.

2872. Your reply was not about Mr. Davies? No; I was speaking about the Secretary.

2873. Do you know whether Mr. Davies had any allowance for expenses? No; excepting that when out with the Secretary he got some of those lunches.

2874. Do you know of any? No; I do not know.

2875. Do you know whether Mr. Burrowes was allowed anything? Yes; I have seen contingent vouchers from Mr. Burrowes, but they were small ones as compared with the others.

2876. Was Mr. Burrowes allowed a horse for going about? He was allowed forage.

2877. Who found him the horse? Mr. Houson.

2878. Were you allowed anything? I never got anything except a few tramway tickets and a free railway pass when I went to pay the men.

2879. You said something regarding timber that was sold and charcoal;—was there any other class of timber sold besides firewood? Not to my knowledge.

2880. No sleepers? Yes; there were some supplied to the Engineer-in-Chief for Roads, Mr. Bennett, who was making the tramway in the Centennial Park. We got the sleepers and supplied them. I really forget the amount of money now. It was paid to Mr. Davies, and I think paid into the bank.

2881. You remember about that charcoal lying at Darling Harbour? I got a receipt for it from J. T. Wearne, who received it.

2882. How many bags? All the charcoal that came down, he was to get it.

2883. Mr. Wearne got it all? Yes.

2884. Did you ever instruct an auctioneer of the name of Neale to sell charcoal? No, never. I believe he had something to do with selling the wood, but I think that was through Mr. Burrowes.

2885. You are certain that the charcoal you referred to yesterday, and said was given to Wearne, could not be given to Mr. Neale? No; I wrote to Wearne about it.

2886. Where did it come from originally? From Burrowes' place at the National Park. It was said to be excellent charcoal by Wearne himself, so he took the lot.

2887. Do you know the average wages of the unemployed a day? 3s. 6d. or 4s.

2888. Was Mr. Springall a sober steady man? I should say he was a most steady sober fellow. A hard-working man, I should say too.

2889. The sort of man the Board could put reliance in? Yes; unless they knew otherwise. They found him there. I believe they found certain things when they took the affair over, and gave him a severe reprimand.

2890. As regards the books of the Board, do you think the system adopted was such as would have made it easy for a competent man, with a thorough knowledge of books, to cook the accounts? I consider they were not opened in the way I should have opened them if I had had to do it.

2891. But they might be opened well enough to prevent any cooking going on or hiding of true transactions; do you think the system was sufficiently good to prevent a man who understood books cooking the accounts or cloaking the transactions? No; I do not.

2892. It was not good enough? No.

2893. You said that Mr. Davies made returns to Parliament that the expenditure was only something about £1,200 a week, when, to your certain knowledge, it was £2,000? I said he sent a return in to Parliament, in answer to a question, in which 910 men were mentioned, and when the return came in for the rations I called attention to the fact that £2,000 was due to Kidman. If there were only 910 men there the amount should be only £1,200.

2894. You spoke to Mr. Davies yourself about it? I did, before Mr. Hibble. I have spoken to him when the returns came in, pointing out that, although the men were being reduced, the rations account was never reduced.

2895.

2895. Do you state positively, from your own knowledge, that the rations account remained in the same state when there was a considerable reduction of the men employed as when the full quantity were employed? I do not say it was exactly the same, but it was not sufficiently reduced according to the reduction of the men.

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2896. Give us an idea at what ratio the reduction took place? I think about November there were 910 men on the works, and three months before that there were 1,500; and the reduction between that and the amount paid Kidman was not, as I suppose, small enough in comparison with the reduction of the men.

2897. Is this what you mean to say: When 1,500 men were at work and when 900 were at work, the reduction of the rations as between 1,500 and 900 was very small indeed? Yes. There was hardly any reduction at all. The reduction was very small indeed.

2898. Did you find it often occur? I pointed it out three times to him. I tried to work it out once in the office. He said it was no matter, although there might be more of it. If there were less men to-day, there were more men to-morrow; that they fluctuated.

2899. You no not think there was a proper reduction? No; I never did. I have shown you here where rations were drawn that never should have been drawn at all,

2900. *President.*] Can you tell me whose handwriting this is? The handwriting in the copying-book in the pay-sheets for the Southern District under Mr. Burrowes is Mr. Goodman's. Some of it is in Mr. Springall's handwriting. All the pay-sheets that have Flemming's name on them are in Springall's writing.

2901. Can you give any information about this pay-sheet beyond what it shows itself. Were you out there? I was not.

2902. Are you a married man? Yes.

2903. With a family? Yes.

2904. Have you any testimonials you can produce to us, or any references? Yes; I have two. There is one in the Australian Joint Stock Bank belonging to me.

2905. Presented you on leaving the bank? Yes.

2906. Can you refer us to a gentleman who has known you? Yes; Mr. William Laidley.

Alexander Howlison, called in, sworn and examined:—

2907. *President.*] What are you? Nurseryman and seedsman.

2908. Are you in business on your own account? In partnership with J. Grahame & Co., of George-street A. Howlison.
markets.

2909. Did you ever have any dealing with the Casual Labour Board? Yes; I supplied a great quantity of grass and clover. 26 Mar., 1889.

2910. Can you tell us the amount of the account in the aggregate? Well, no; I might have looked it over in our own books. All papers were given to the Casual Labour Board before I got paid.

2911. Do you recollect a sum of £125 17s. 8d.? Yes; that was my mistake.

2912. Was there any peculiarity about that account? Purely a mistake on my clerk's part.

2913. What happened? He put it down as a cash-sale, instead of amongst the cheques from the National Park account. It appeared in the cash-sales, but when we went over the accounts we found two lots of grass that had not been charged for. The occurrence would not have happened if we had had the old clerk, but we had just engaged a new clerk. It was a mistake.

2914. It was purely accidental? It was entirely accidental.

2915. How was it discovered? Mr. Miles came down, and I showed him how it had happened. He said: "Did you get a cheque on a certain day?" As soon as we turned over the accounts I saw how it was done. We knew it was not amongst the cash-sales, as that was not our day for doing such business.

2916. Your evidence is that it was entirely accidental? Purely a clerical mistake on my clerk's part. It had nothing to do with the Board.

2917. Who used to send you orders—were they in writing or verbally? In writing.

2918. Who used to bring them? One of the men, I am not sure of his name, in the Casual Labour Board.

2919. Who used to pay for them? I have been paid by one of the clerks, and on one occasion by John Davies.

2920. Himself personally? Himself.

2921. Do you allow any return commission? No commission. It was done by contract, and it was put as low as it possibly could be put in.

2922. *Mr. Waller.*] How many payments did you get at the time you were serving the Casual Labour Board? I can tell you within half an hour. I can get you the whole of the items from the clerk.

2923. Were there a good many? Yes.

2924. Who paid them? The clerk paid most of them.

2925. Paid them in the Board's room? No; he has brought them down.

2926. As a rule the clerk paid you? The clerk.

2927. Do you know his name? I do not know. I know Mr. Josephson. There are three of them altogether. It was the little red-faced one.

George Robert Cartwright Neale called in, sworn, and examined:—

2928. *President.*] I believe you had several transactions with the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

2929. What was their nature? Selling wood for them.

2930. Only wood? I think I sold one little lot of charcoal.

2931. Nothing else? Nothing else.

2932. What are you? An auctioneer.

2933. Carrying on business where? Engine-street.

2934. Will you refer to your books and give us the account of the first transaction you had with the Casual Labour Board? I fancy that was made out on account of Mr. Deering. The first lot that came down was sent

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- sent from Mr. Deering, and the party that was cutting it used to come and get the account sales and take them to the Casual Labour Board. Until I went there on one occasion I did not know that Mr. Davies was one of the Board at the time.
2935. Give us the first account you had with the Board if you can? The first was, I think, about the 7th of May, 1887.
2936. What was that for? That was for wood.
2937. And the amount? The first cheque was drawn in favour of Hinchcliffe for £26 17s. 7d. on the 14th May, 1887.
2938. Did you say there was a previous account? I do not think there was a previous account.
2939. The first time the wood was sold for Mr. Deering? I think that was the commencement of it.
2940. You need not go back before 1887? Very well.
2941. Take the beginning of 1887, and give me the first amount after 1st January, 1887? The first time in 1887 was on 6th April. That was payable to Mr. Deering.
2942. How much was that? £2 15s. 1d.
2943. To whom was it paid? Mr. Deering.
2944. When was the next? The next payment was £14 6s. 11d., on the 14th April, 1887.
2945. To whom paid? The cheque was made in favour of Mr. Deering.
2946. And the next? £2 14s. 1d., on 15th April, 1887.
2947. And the next? I think they went from there to the National Park.
2948. When was the next cheque given? The next cheque was for £26 17s. 7d., on 14th May, 1887.
2949. Whom did you give that cheque to? That cheque was taken by the cutter to the Casual Labour Board.
2950. Who was the cutter? Mr. Hillier had the contract for cutting the timber.
2951. Did you give it to Hillier? I did. He used to come every week. Before they gave him his cheque they had to have mine. When they got my cheque they were able to check his work.
2952. Did you get any receipt for it? No, none. Of course the cheque would be a receipt of itself. It should go through the Bank to the credit of the Board.
2953. What Bank was it drawn on? The Bank of New South Wales, Haymarket Branch.
2954. What was the next cheque, the amount and date? £38 4s. 2d., on the 31st May, 1887.
2955. Whom did you pay it to? To the Casual Labour Board through Hillier.
2956. Have you the butt of your cheque-book here? No.
2957. Have you anything to show that you paid the £26 17s. 7d.? I have the butt of the cheque-book at home. I thought that was not necessary if I showed the cash-book. I can produce the bank-book with it in. It was only yesterday morning I knew of this inquiry. I can look up all these things in a few hours.
2958. Do you know Hillier? Yes.
2959. Who is he? He was a wood and coal merchant. He has moved from Sutherland to Ashfield. At the time he was there he had the first contract with the Government to cut wood.
2960. Have you got any receipt for the £38 4s. 2d.? I never got any receipt for any cheque.
2961. How did you know they went to the Casual Labour Board at all? I know Hillier went there. They said they could not pay him until I sent my cheque over. He used to come down and get his cheque once a fortnight or once a week. They said they wanted the account rendered when he came down for them. They used to give him sometimes so much on account. I think he has got a book of his own which would show what they paid him.
2962. Have you any account sales? This book here is the account sales-book.
2963. Are you giving your evidence from your book? Yes; it is copied from the sale-book into here.
2964. Did you send in account sales? Every one of them; we never omitted them.
2965. Tell me the next payment after 31st May, 1887? £66 12s. 6d.
2966. When? On 23rd June, 1887.
2967. How did you pay that? By cheque.
2968. To whom? To the Casual Labour Board.
2969. Who took it? I fancy I did myself. I went over with it because I told Hillier I would go with it myself. That is how I first came to know Mr. Davies was there. It was only on that occasion I saw Mr. Davies.
2970. When was the next payment? 7th July, 1887, £41 12s.
2971. What was that for? For wood.
2972. Whom did you pay that to? The same party.
2973. To Mr. Davies himself? I can hardly tell you that. If you want to verify this I can get the cheques, or the old butts. I can get them from the Bank, and see what Bank they passed through.
2974. I ask you to do that;—when was the next payment? 19th July, 1887.
2975. Are you quite sure this is all on account of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
2976. How much on 19th July? £5 4s. 6d., for wood.
2977. After that? I think you will find the next amount is £40 1s. 1d., on 4th August, 1887.
2978. What for? For wood.
2979. Whom was it paid to? It was paid in the usual way to the Casual Labour Board.
2980. To any individual you can name to us? I will get you the cheques as far as that goes. I think they are all made out to the Casual Labour Board.
2981. What was the next payment? £36 3s. 10d., on 18th August, 1887.
2982. The next? £40 12s. 3d., on 2nd September, 1887.
2983. The next? £52 3s. 2d., on 23rd September, 1887.
2984. The next? I think that is the last.
2985. Nothing else? That is the lot.
2986. Since 23rd September, 1887, can I take it, you have not sold anything on account of the Casual Labour Board? I have not paid them anything. There were a few bags of charcoal I sold for them. I had paid the Casual Labour Board for a truck of wood I never got paid for, sent by Mr. Burrowes to Ashfield. I never sent the wood to the parties. I said to Mr. Davies that the charcoal and that wood would about tally. That is the only thing that has not been paid to them. The twenty bags of charcoal sold at 1s. 6d. a bag.
2987. Is that something you have not accounted for? It is.

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2988. When was it sold? On 21st September. I dare say it might have come down before, but I have no account of it until then. It was represented as being good. It was not good.

2989. What became of the proceeds? I got them. As I told you, I never paid anything to the Labour Board for it. The weight of the wood was given me to charge a certain party for it, and I never got paid for it. There were four trucks of wood sent to a man of the name of Hanley, at Waterfall. I billed him for it and gave an order to get the money. I sent a man for it, and he said he would sue him for it.

2990. Was that wood you got from the Casual Labour Board? No; I never got it at all. I never ordered it to be sent. I sent the bill in for it. I said, "The charcoal I have in hand will pay for the truck of wood." Twenty bags of charcoal would be £1 10s. Hanley said he would not pay. Hillier told me this. I gave him an order to collect the money. He said, "I have nothing to do with Neale at all. I did not buy the wood from him."

2991. Can you tell whether, between August, 1887, and the end of December, 1888, you received any charcoal for sale by order of the Board? That was the only lot I ever received.

2992. What was that? Thirteen hundred weight and a quarter (twenty bags). That is the only lot I ever got, and some of this was broken.

2993. Did you in every case send the account sales with your cheques? Yes.

2994. Did you always pay by cheque? Always.

2995. Do these represent all sales of timber? Yes, of wood.

2996. Except one you mention about charcoal? That is the only thing.

2997. Can you recollect any instance in which you saw Mr. Davies personally and handed him a cheque? Well, I saw him on several occasions and handed him a cheque, but what the amount was I cannot say. I think there was a £66 12s. 6d. cheque that I handed to Mr. Davies. It was only then that I knew Mr. Davies was on the Board. The man who cut the wood informed me there was a Mr. Davies there, but I did not know it was John Davies.

2998. Is there any other information you can give us as to sales effected by you on behalf of the Casual Labour Board? Nothing further.

2999. Have you anything further on your books? No.

3000. Has Mr. Davies seen you lately? About a month ago, as near as possible.

3001. What about? He asked me whether I could give him a memo. of what cheques I paid to the Casual Labour Board. I said, "I can give you a rough one." I did, as far as I could. He said, "That is about the same as I have, but I have a little more." I looked it up and found I had omitted something whilst copying from one book to the other.

3002. That was this year? A few weeks back.

3003. *Mr. Franklin.*] I cannot understand how Hanley got this truck of wood? I believe it was sent to him from the Park.

3004. That would be a loss to you if you were the salesman? If you called Hillier, he would tell you he never got paid for cutting it. I smoothed him down and said, "Think yourself lucky you got paid for what you did."

3005. You lost your commission on the wood? Yes.

3006. You were so far interested? Yes. I said I would not pay them for any more until I got the money myself.

3007. What would be your commission on the sale? Well, it would only be a matter of 5s.; it was cheap wood.

3008. So that you only lost 5s. by that transaction? Yes.

3009. Did you lose by other transactions? Yes. The trifle I lost I did not care about. Only Hillier said, "Why don't you bill these people?"

3010. Did you think, when you impounded 30s., you were justified in doing it for loss of commission? Not for loss of commission, but because I did not get paid for the wood. After this matter of Hanley's I said I would not pay for any more until I got the money. I could not summons the man for it, as I never sold it to him. I sent the bill to him, and I also sent Hillier, who was well known up there, to receive the money.

3011. Were there any other contractors for cutting wood on the ground besides Hillier? No. He had the only engine. He got nearly 3,000 tons—1,000 at 3s., the remainder at 2s. 6d.

3012. Is it not a fact that wood was sold in the stack on the ground? I know nothing about anything sold at the park excepting this one truck and another truck that went to Heathcote or Waterfall. The reply I got from Hillier was that Hanley would settle with Burrowes.

3013. *Mr. Waller.*] Where was that charcoal? It was at Darling Harbour.

3014. How did you know? I applied to Mr. Davies for some charcoal for Mr. Gillies, a wood and coal merchant. I fancy someone told me they had charcoal.

3015. About what time? I really could not tell you.

3016. Was there a written answer or application? I fancy it was Mr. Davies I talked to about it. It appears this truck of charcoal had been lying some days at Darling Harbour. It was a bad lot; the water had got into it.

3017. That is how you became acquainted with the charcoal being there? Yes.

3018. You are sure you did not get any letter about it? There may have been a letter saying it was there.

3019. You are sure there were twenty bags? Yes.

3020. Suppose you found burst bags? I would not pay for burst bags.

3021. Would not the Railway know how many bags there were broken or unbroken? Yes; sometimes they invoice them "more or less." There were either twenty or twenty-five.

3022. You say Hillier said that certain persons paid Burrowes? I made out the accounts for the wood to Hanley.

3023. You say Hanley refused to recognize you? The answer was he would settle with Burrowes.

3024. Did not you say that in some cases Hillier did not get paid, and that settlement was made with Burrowes? I did not say settlement was made with Burrowes. I did not say any of them paid.

George Frederick Want called in, sworn, and examined :—

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3025. *President.*] You are one of the trustees of the National Park? Yes.
3026. Have you been a trustee long? From the commencement of the Park.
3027. When was that? About eight years ago. I cannot say the exact date from memory.
3028. Are you in the habit of visiting the Park very frequently? Yes, constantly; on the average about once a fortnight.
3029. Can you recollect the early part of 1887—the time of the unemployed agitation? Yes, distinctly.
3030. Do you recollect seeing the unemployed out there? I recollect when they were sent out there.
3031. Are you aware that in 1887 a department was created known as the Casual Labour Board? Yes, about then.
3032. Do you know who were the members? Mr. Davies was Chairman, Mr. Wells, and Mr. Houison.
3033. Did you ever meet the Chairman, or any other member of the Board with reference to putting the unemployed on any particular works? Yes; I have been referred to on several occasions as to what portion of the Park it would be well to put the unemployed on.
3034. Have you had any opportunity during the past two years of forming an opinion as to the organization and supervision of the unemployed there? Yes, a very fair opportunity.
3035. Do you know any of the staff officers who controlled them? Yes, several.
3036. What was your opinion of the system of supervision—satisfactory or otherwise? It would not have pleased me.
3037. What fault was there? A general want of good supervision. I say that advisedly. Roads that have been passed as completed under contracts within three months have shoots of different branches of trees coming up again 3 and 4 feet high, although it was paid for the stumps to be extracted.
3038. I mean more particularly as regards the organization for prevention of imposition; can you give any evidence as to that? You mean as to organizing the gangs.
3039. Quite so? The only thing was that in gangs of eight they might have four good men and four incompetent men. The gangs were not properly organized.
3040. Do you know anything of the superintendents for the district? I fancy there were three—Burrowes, M'Pherson, and another.
3041. Do you know Burrowes? Personally, yes.
3042. Do you know him sufficiently to form an opinion as to his capabilities and character? I have met him on different occasions when I have been there.
3043. What is your opinion? Do you mean as a surveyor or overseer of works?
3044. Both professionally and as a man? As a man he is a good fellow, but professionally I cannot say. He is supposed to be a surveyor. I have always found him looking after his work when I have been out there.
3045. Do you know the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I do.
3046. Are you a shareholder? I was.
3047. Not now? No.
3048. When did you part with your shares? Twelve months ago. I was an original shareholder.
3049. Did you ever see the unemployed at work on that estate? Yes.
3050. Frequently? I should think they have been there in batches from about July or August, 1888.
3051. Are there many roads on that estate? What do you mean by many roads?
3052. Are there more than one? Oh, yes.
3053. How many? I cannot say. I should think some twenty or thirty.
3054. Are you aware whether those roads were constructed by the unemployed? I should think nearly all of them. I should like to explain, if I am allowed. Sylvania is a township. The road leading to the present Noxious Trades Site was always in existence. It is what they call the Kurnell Road. Mr. Holt used it for his sheep and cattle. The only other road in existence was the road which ran from Sylvania; it is better known as Simpson's Road.
3055. Were those the only two public roads? The only two roads I know of.
3056. Are all the other roads on the private estate? There was a track from the Heathcote station which formed the road down to the head of Ewey Bay. There is a place there known as Canterbury Rock; we used to go fishing there. It was a well-known road.
3057. Are you very familiar with that part of the country? Every inch of it.
3058. Do you think that all the roads which now exist on the Holt-Sutherland Estate are necessary roads in the interest of the public? No.
3059. How many are necessary in the interest of the public? I should like to know whether you include the road of which I am trustee. That is the main road from Sylvania to the National Park.
3060. Take all the roads the unemployed have been working on, and tell us which of them are necessary roads? One road I consider is a necessary road. It is a road, if I may explain it, that has always been used in the time of the encampments. It is the main Illawarra Road, before the railway-station was there from Sydney. That is one road I consider a necessary public road.
3061. That goes right through the estate? Yes; from Sylvania to Sutherland.
3062. Tell us another? The road which I have before described as Simpson's Road.
3063. Do you know what that road is called now? I really do not know what it is called now. I think it is the Hacking Road.
3064. Is it the Port Hacking Road? I do not know about the "Port"; it is a main public road to what they call Burrameer Bay.
3065. Tell me any other necessary roads besides these two? I know no others.
3066. Is the Coronulla Road a necessary road? Certainly not.
3067. The Malvern Road, is it necessary? I should not think so. It is practically useless now.
3068. Do you recollect being out there with Sir John Robertson? I do not recollect any particular occasion, because I have been there hundreds of times with him.
3069. When particular attention was directed to these roads? No; I was never with him when any particular attention was directed to them. I joined him one day when he was riding out. I met him by appointment.
3070. What was the object of that appointment? To go to the National Park.

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3071. Do you recollect any particular remarks of his with reference to these roads? I recollect he asked me what all the men were doing on the road. He said, "We ought to have something better to do for the National Park men." I said to him, "They are not National Park men." He said, "Are they Holt-Sutherland men, because, if so, I shall have a row with the Board." Not in the same words, but something to that effect. I told him they were neither National Park nor Holt-Sutherland men, but were the unemployed. He said he intended to put in a protest against the men being employed on private roads through private estates. I told him it was a public road, and that I was one of four trustees.

3072. Is that the Illawarra Road? That is the main Illawarra Road.

3073. Was that the road you were on at the time? That is the road we were on at the time.

3074. What further took place? I think he asked me whether I was a trustee of the road, and whether it was a proclaimed road. I said I was a trustee. He said something to the effect that if money was granted for a road, why did they want the unemployed to make it 2 chains wide.

3075. Is your recollection that his remarks were confined to this particular road that you were then on? I think his remarks were made as we passed on it. The camp was within half-a-mile of Sutherland, where the Malvern Road turns off. He asked whether it was Simpson's Road or Port Hacking Road. I said, "No." He said they had no right to be working on private estates, and he intended to report it to Mr. Walker.

3076. Are you aware whether he did report it? I think I went with him. I am not sure whether I did or did not; but I went to some inconvenience and saw Mr. Walker about it. Mr. Walker asked me whether I was sure they were working on private roads or estates. I said I was sure they were working on a road of which I was a trustee, for which money had been granted by the Government. Mr. Walker said, as nearly as I can recollect, "I will stop the work, and wire to Sir Henry Parkes what I have done. He can confirm it or not, as he likes." Next day he said that Sir Henry had wired back confirming what he had done.

3077. Do you know whether the work was proceeded with? Not at that time. All the men were taken off.

3078. Are you aware whether it was renewed? It was renewed and finished.

3079. But was that work on a public road? No; that was work on the Malvern Road and a main public road of which I am trustee.

3080. Is your evidence that the work that was stopped had reference to private roads as well as your own road? Yes; certainly.

3081. Do you know what brought about a renewal of the work? No, I cannot say. I merely say, from my best recollection, that was what Mr. Walker told me. I know the men were stopped working.

3082. Is the Malvern Road a private road? I think it is a dedicated road.

3083. Does it run through the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes.

3084. Is it a useless road? It is very useful.

3085. Do you know the Sylvania Road? That is the main road—the Government road.

3086. Do you know a road known as Venetia-street? I do not know it; I may have seen it.

3087. I hold in my hand a petition, dated 19th August, 1887, addressed to the Casual Labour Board, requisitioning the Board for men to clear, stump, and form the Malvern Road, Venetia-street, and Sylvania Road. I see your signature amongst others on the petition. Will you refresh your memory by that. Perhaps you can point out the road on the plan? Yes; I recognize my signature.

3088. Are these roads necessary in the public interest? No; I should not call them necessary roads in the public interest.

3089. Do you think that the work that the petitioners sought for was proper work for the unemployed to be set upon in the interest of the general public? No.

3090. Can you tell us how you came to sign that petition? To tell you the truth, I do not recollect signing it.

3091. Have you any recollection who brought it to you? No; I have not the slightest recollection.

3092. Do you recognize any of the signatures to it as of persons who own land there, or are interested in the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I see Mr. Reading's name, F. J. Jackson, and S. A. Want, then a director; Mr. Jamieson, part owner; Mr. Carruthers is part owner of a large estate at the Heads. I see Mr. Murphy's name; he was a publican and storekeeper at Sutherland; I also see Murphy, the manager of the Holt-Sutherland Company. Maloney is secretary of the National Park.

3093. Is Mr. Murphy interested otherwise than as manager? He is the largest shareholder in the company.

3094. Do you know any of the others? No.

3095. Do you recollect signing any other petition? No; I do not. I recollect Mr. Murphy asking me to sign a petition about one of the roads one day, and I signed it without looking at it. I think that is the only one I signed. Indeed I think I told my clerk to sign it for me, as I was in a hurry.

3096. Are you aware whether Mr. Murphy took any unusual interest in the matter? I know he took a certain interest up to a certain day—up to the time I left the company.

3097. Were you examined before the Select Committee? No; I asked to be, with reference to some evidence of Murphy's with reference to a Government road.

3098. Were you summoned? No; I was not asked to be examined. I went up on two occasions. I was told by Mr. Walker, the Chairman, that they were not going to take any more evidence. I went up with Mr. Critchett Walker.

3099. What was the evidence you wished to give before the Select Committee? I wished to give evidence before the Select Committee with reference to my being a trustee.

3100. Mr. Murphy, in answer to a question (No. 2505.) before the Select Committee, said that certain roads were initiated by memorial. "We got a memorial," he said, "signed by a large number of persons. It arose in this way: When we took possession of this estate the main Illawarra road was in a very bad condition, and we said to the trustees—Mr. Fred. Want was one of them, and it was through him it was done—'This road ought to be made';—have you any remark to make on this? I think he further says, "It was not then surveyed, and it is not shown on any map now." We said, "Suppose we make this road 2 chains wide instead of 1 chain; if we give another chain will you get it made." They said they had arranged with the Minister of Lands to do that. That was seven years ago, and it has never been done until now. I never recollect any conversation of the kind occurring.

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3101. Is there any other point on Mr. Murphy's evidence you want to comment on? I recollect saying that if the unemployed made a road 2 chains wide I would be glad to be relieved of the expenditure, as far as my trust was concerned.
3102. Was there any necessity to make it 2 chains wide? Not the slightest.
3103. Has it been done? Yes; gravelled and rolled.
3104. Are you able to say whether the work on the estate has been of a satisfactory nature or otherwise? I would not have passed it as a private individual.
3105. *Mr. Franklin.*] You have had good practical experience in the formation of roads? Yes.
3106. You have had the supervision and control of matters? Yes.
3107. You know the value of ordinary-formed roads? I do.
3108. Have you any recollection of what your main road in the Park cost per chain? You refer to the Carrington Road.
3109. I take that as the best? It cost from £4 10s. to £5 per chain. It was a very mountainous road. That was the average. It ran from £3 10s. to £7 10s.
3110. Is it a better road than those made by the unemployed? Infinitely better.
3111. How much in value? Well, I should think three times as good a road. It has been there four years, and we simply keep two maintenance men on it.
3112. If your road improved the land £50 per acre, the work by the unemployed would be equal to a third? £16 10s. or £17 per acre. That is, if it had been a good road.
3113. First of all, the road is cleared? Supposed to be cleared.
3114. Not satisfactorily? Well, no. All the shoots are coming up.
3115. It has not been properly grubbed? No.
3116. They did not fill the holes with stones? They never made any holes.
3117. After the clearing was done, did they execute anything in the way of formation? Yes, the operation of formation. They crowned them by throwing either side of the road to the crown of the road to hide the faults of the road.
3118. Do you think it would be worth 16s. a chain? Nothing like it, I should think.
3119. How was your work generally done? The work was done by contract.
3120. You returned work with schedule rates attached to each contract? Yes; for clearing we paid £3 10s. an acre, and I think the unemployed got £6 10s. an acre for it.
3121. During the operations of the unemployed you did not come into competition with them? In no way. We put our men on to other works.
3122. Did you find the unemployed interfere with your prices of labour? Not in the slightest. Three of my men left to join them; but beyond that I have the same men I had at the start.
3123. What were your rates for ordinary labour? Seven shillings a day.
3124. They were good men? All picked men, perhaps with the exception of the carpenter and blacksmith.
3125. That road which came from Tom Ugly's Point was the old Illawarra Road? It was the main road to Wollongong; it passed through Heathcote and Waterfall.
3126. Was it recognized as a military road? Yes, it was. I went there with the Lancers four years ago.
3127. You do not know whether the military authorities requested a wider road there? I am certain they did not. When I say that it would naturally have come to me as the trustee of the road, and I never heard anything about it.
3128. Then the additional width of the road would be in the interest of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I cannot say that. It would not make much difference. A road 1 chain wide would be more valuable, because if it is 2 chains wide you are giving away half a chain on either side of the road for nothing.
3129. Of course the work would be of double value because of its increased width? The road has not been formed 2 chains; it has only been formed half a chain through. Either side of the centre of the road has been formed and stumped.
3130. Say, formed for 33 feet? From 30 to 35 feet.
3131. They are usually formed about 16 feet? About 16 feet.
3132. It is formed double the ordinary width of roads like that? Double that kind of road.
3133. You said that beyond these two roads you did not think that the others were useful roads in the interest of the public? I do not say that. I say that they are not public roads. I had an interest in the estate when the unemployed started, but still I say they are not necessary roads for the public convenience.
3134. If we except those roads for which justification might have been found, all the other roads would be going to improve the estate instead of giving benefit to the public generally? I have not been over the roads, but two or three I have seen I would certainly say they are not absolutely necessary. For the sake of argument, the Corea Road is about 2½ miles. Forest Road is another road. There is a road 5¾ miles which has been cleared and formed in the usual way—the Woronora Road—to Coronulla Beach; the Forest Road is part of it. There is a branch road running from the last point of Ewey Road and Ivanhoe Road; and these roads are not necessary in the interests of the public. The two roads are 1¾ mile in length.
3135. Do you know anything about the Montrose Road; it measures about 1½ mile;—is it in the interests of the public? I should not think so; it is inaccessible.
3136. There is a road marked "Grafton-street," measuring a chain or so under 2 miles—say, 1¾ miles;—do you know how that road is formed? It is simply cleared.
3137. The Corea Road, measuring 45 chains—do you know how that is formed? It is simply cleared.
3138. That is not in the interest of the public? No; I think not.
3139. There is a road called the Burranong Road; it measures about 1½ mile;—what has been done on it? Cleared and stumped the same as the others, with the exception of those formed.
3140. There is a road running between a road and the Hacking Road called Holt's Road? I do not know that road; I have never been on it. The work on that is clearing and stumping.
3141. There is a road running eastward from the railway-line called the Boulevard Road, running down to John Connell's measured portion? I think I have seen that.
3142. That would be 4 miles to the beach;—is it cleared and stumped? It was cleared and stumped, I think, by the unemployed.
3143. You see it is a road running to one of the boundaries of a subdivision;—do you believe it to be in the interest of the public? I do not.

3144. There are three roads near Como railway station? I have never seen them.
3145. But if evidence is given that these roads have been cleared by the unemployed, do you think that is in the interest of the public from their isolated position? I cannot say, because I have never seen them.
3146. There is a road—Willaree—which is 2 miles long;—have you seen that road? Only passing round by the river.
3147. You do not know what work has been done on it? Exactly the same work as appears to have been done on all the roads.
3148. Can you say if it is in the interest of the public? No; the only public road I know is the Hacking Road.
3149. Can you see any advantage to the public in giving a frontage to the water? No.
3150. Do you think the land is improved by forming these frontages if done on an arranged plan? Certainly.
3151. Land laid out like this must be increased in value? I should think so.
3152. Do you know to what extent? Very materially.
3153. The proportion? Double.
3154. You do not think any of the roads we have been traversing are at all required in the interests of the public? No; I should say not.
3155. *Mr. Waller.*] Do you consider the Malvern Road a public or private road? I call it a public road. For instance, Mr. Cooper has sold his land at Point Piper, and the land was dedicated and handed over to the municipality. So it would be in the case of the Malvern Road. The road that I call a public road is that which runs from Tom Ugly's Point to Wollongong.
3156. Was the work done equal or better than the class of work done at the National Park? About the same.
3157. Were you ever asked by the Chairman of the Board to meet him, and I think some of the directors of the Holt-Sutherland Estate at the National Park? He was asked to meet us.
3158. He was asked to meet you? Yes, or rather he heard that we were going down, and he asked that he might be permitted to join us.
3159. Was there anything in the shape of a picnic or luncheon? Yes; there always is.
3160. At whose expense was the luncheon? Well, I should have to go a little further into particulars to explain it. Sir John Robertson, Mr. Bradley, and two or three of the other trustees intimated their intention of going to the park. This is the only occasion on which I recollect that the President of the Casual Labour Board was there. I met Mr. Burrowes, Superintendent of the Board, and he said that he heard that the trustees were going down, and that he, Mr. Davies, would like to be there. I said I would be glad if they came down. In the course of conversation, I said I had to go up and send down the usual hamper. Mr. Burrowes said, "You need not do that, it is all arranged; Mr. Kidman is going to send down. Mr. Davies has arranged it." I said I did not care about anyone catering for our party, and that unless the bill was sent to us I would not have anything to do with it. He said that would be arranged. I thought it over, and went and made our own arrangements with the man who was caretaker there. They did send some refreshment in the shape of champagne, and whisky and soda, &c., and I believe a portion of it was opened when it got there. But the trustees always kept their own.
3161. Did you instruct Mr. Robertson to provide the usual refreshment? All but the wines.
3162. Did you bring down the usual hamper at that time? Of wines only.
3163. That was provided, as usual, by yourself? Yes.
3164. In excess of that, there was wine provided by Mr. Davies? Or his overseer.
3165. You saw it? I saw it there.
3166. Did you make any remark about so much wine being provided? I think I said I wondered what it was for.
3167. Did you think it in excess of necessary refreshments? I really did not know what it was for.
3168. When you made a remark about it, did you desire to know whether it was provided by your man or not? No; I told the caretaker to keep tally of what had been used.
3169. Of whose wine? Oh, our own was all in the cottage, but they broke the bulk of the other lot, and, thinking that it might have been sent by Kidman, I said that what was not used must be returned.
3170. Did you keep a tally? Yes; I got it from the overseer.
3171. Can you remember now? I really could not. You can imagine what four or five men would consume. About half a dozen champagne and a bottle of whisky.
3172. Was there anything besides champagne in the way of drink provided? My caretaker told me ale, whisky, brandy, and soda-water.
3173. Was there any food? None that I can recollect.
3174. Do you remember how that drink was brought to the ground? By train.
3175. From the train? By one of my carts.
3176. Was it a large quantity of drink? It struck me that it was.
3177. You would pretty well know what to provide. Was there provision for twenty people? I should think thirty. For a great deal more than we had. It would all depend on the thirst they had.
3178. For thirty thirsty people? Yes, for thirty thirsty people.
3179. Can you ascertain how much bulk was broken? Only by giving you the name of the caretaker. Charles Robertson, 3, O'Connell-street, will find him.
3180. Can you state the date of that visit to the National Park? I should think it was four or five months ago. Robertson would know the date and everything.
3181. Was it this year, or 1888? It was 1888.
3182. Can you tell about the month? I cannot from memory.
3183. Do you keep a book at the National Park,—a visitor's book? No; but Robertson kept the names of everyone who went down.
3184. Do you know what became of the surplus drink? No; I cannot tell what became of it.
3185. You do not know of your own knowledge? No.
3186. Do you know whether it was left at the National Park? The caretaker got instructions from the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board what to do with it. He told me Mr. Davies told him what to do with it. I told him to take it back to Mr. Kidman's.

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- Mr. G. F. Want. 3187. *President.*] Can you tell us approximately what the settlement is about these roads? On the roads themselves or in the proximity—the people who use them.
- 26 Mar., 1889. 3188. I mean the permanent settlement? The permanent settlement would be about fifty or sixty people resident on or about the roads themselves; fifty people on Sutherland township. There are travellers by Simpson's coach. He has had as many as forty people down there in a day. The residents on the different roads would be about forty or fifty families.
3189. Did you ever have any work done by the unemployed yourself? Yes; on the Park as a trustee.
3190. For your own individual use? No.
3191. Did you ever buy any firewood or timber? Never.
3192. Were you aware of any practice existing for the unemployed or the superintendents to sell it? No. The only occasion I ever heard of it was when they were deserting a camp, when Mr. Burrowes told me there was a lot of bark on the huts and I could have if I sent for it, but I preferred to have nothing to do with it.

E. M. Burrowes called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. E. M. Burrowes. 3193. *President.*] What is your profession? Surveyor.
- 26 Mar., 1889. 3194. How long have you been a surveyor? The last sixteen or seventeen years.
3195. Where did you qualify for the office? In Queensland.
3196. What position did you hold there? Road surveyor for a time under the Roads and Bridges Department.
3197. For how long? For nearly twelve months I had charge of a flying survey party. I was assistant railway surveyor under Mr. Roger North. I was assistant to him under Mr. Stanley.
3198. What did you leave the Queensland Service for? I thought I could better myself here. I was one of twenty-nine surveyors got rid of in one day, so I came here thinking I could do better.
3199. How long have you been in this Colony? I am a native of this Colony.
3200. How long since you came from Queensland? It was in the year 1881 that I came down.
3201. Were you in the employ of the Casual Labour Board throughout the whole of its existence? Yes. I was appointed superintendent at the National Park on the 26th November, 1886.
3202. You are aware that the Casual Labour Board was created on 2nd May, 1887? I am.
3203. From that time until the end of its existence, am I to understand you were employed by the Board? Yes.
3204. Exclusively? Yes.
3205. Were you examined before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly? I was.
3206. Is this your evidence? Yes; I believe it is.

Evidence before Select Committee.

Edward Matthew Burrowes called in, sworn, and examined, 12th December, 1888:—

2628. *Chairman.*] You are stationed with the unemployed at the National Park? I am the superintendent for that district.
2629. For how long have you held that position? For over two years.
2630. Prior to the existence of the Casual Labour Board? Yes; I was appointed by Mr. G. R. Dibbs in November, 1886.
2631. Had you sole charge? Yes; I had full power and control at that time.
2632. Had you full power at the time the Casual Labour Board came into existence? Yes; I think I may say that I had full power then.
2633. When they came into existence you ceased to have full power? Yes; it was then vested in the Chairman of the Board.
2634. What do you mean by that? Well, he would give instructions to me.
2635. From that time you initiated nothing? From that time I promulgated no new work.
2636. Everything came to you in the shape of orders? Exactly.
2637. Have you received any instructions from Mr. Davies to do any work on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Oh, yes.
2638. Carrying out his orders, will you show us on the plan you produce what roads you have cleared, formed, and ballasted? The roads coloured red on this plan are those to which you refer. I prepared this plan for you at your request.
2639. Can you give us a statement as to the total number of roads you have made together with the total length? I have here a tabulated statement, which I think will give you all the particulars you require as to these roads. (*Vide Appendix.*)
2640. That statement shows that you have made a total length of 43 miles 21 chains? Yes.
2641. *Mr. Copeland.*] The work contained in this statement represents the work done by the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
2642. It does not include any work done previously by the Holt-Sutherland Company? That is a matter which I must explain. The Holt-Sutherland Company had cleared some of the roads; take the main Illawarra Road, they had cleared and formed it in some places.
2643. You found that the work had been done? Yes; the road was cleared and culverts were made.
2644. This statement shows the additional work which you have done? Yes.
2645. Do you remember whether they had done any work on the Port Hacking Road? A good deal of work was done there. It was cleared and it was gravelled in places.
2646. How wide? From 21 to 28 feet.
2647. Does that apply to the whole of the present road? No; only a portion.
2648. Can you give the Committee any idea of the total expenditure on the whole of these roads? I can by referring to some notes which I have made. I find that up to the 1st of December last the total expenditure has been £8,413 4s. 7d.
2649. Does that include bridges? It includes everything, and it gives an average price of £2 8s. 7d. a chain.
2650. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Can you tell us how much money has been expended on the Port Hacking Road? No; I have not taken out the roads separately. 2651.

2651. On what roads has the largest amount of work been done? On the Port Hacking Road, on the main Illawarra Road, and on the Coronulla Road.

2652. They would give a total of about 800 chains? Yes.

2653. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] You still have some men working on the ground? I have 180 men there.

2654. Working up to date? Yes; up to yesterday.

2655. What number of men have you generally had employed? For some little time I have not had so many men. When we started work down there we were very glad to find a loop-hole to get some of the men away from the park. In July, 1887, I had 4,700 men at the National Park; that was too many men to have there for unremunerative work, and I was glad to get them on to these main roads.

2656. *Chairman.*] But a number of roads shown on the plan are not main roads? A number of the roads are what you would consider main roads. The Port Hacking is a main road, the main Illawarra Road is a main road, and I should call the Worenora Road a main road when completed.

2657. That leads to Kurnell? Yes.

2658. How would you define the roads running north and south from water to water? I should call them accommodation roads—that would be the proper professional term.

2659. Have you any road upon which you had any cuttings to do with the unemployed? Yes; there is a cutting at Yowwie Creek, on the Worenora Road.

2660. Had you any bridges to make there? Yes. There is one bridge 20 feet high.

2661. What would be the length of it? 196 feet.

2662. What cutting had you to do? There is a side cutting with a face of about 18 feet.

2663. Is it through solid stone? No; it is interlaced with mullock.

2664. What gradient would it be? From the levels I have taken now, unless some alteration is made, I hope to get up at from 1 in 15 to 1 in 18.

2665. Was all the work done by the unemployed? Yes; under the Casual Labour Board.

2666. By the men you superintended? Yes.

2667. Did you see any difficulty in utilizing the men for work of that kind? None at all.

2668. What particular object is there in making the Worenora Road? It leads direct from the railway goods sheds at Sutherland to the Coronulla Beach Road, which would be the nearest line to the proposed noxious trades site.

2669. Did you survey that? I made no survey. I only took the levels of the sections of the road.

2670. You are by profession a surveyor and civil engineer? Yes.

2671. If you had been constructing this road would you have made this cutting or would you have deviated the road? I should have deviated the road.

2672. With the object of saving expense? Yes; certainly.

2673. By whose instructions did you carry the road through this part of the country where it was so difficult to make? I received instructions from the chairman of the Casual Labour Board.

2674. Did you point out to him the difficulties of the work? I showed it to him before I commenced, but I was instructed to carry out the work as surveyed.

2675. Have you any knowledge as to who surveyed these roads? I have been told—I think perhaps it was the company's surveyor.

2676. I presume he surveyed the roads under instructions from the company? I presume so.

2677. *Mr. Copeland.*] Do you know the name of the company's surveyor? Mr. Curtis; I believe that Mr. Nibbs is the Government Surveyor.

2678. Mr. Curtis surveyed most of the roads? Most of them.

2679. *Chairman.*] Are any of the roads such as you would have recommended in the interests of the Crown? Some of them I might

2680. Are there any of them which you would have objected to make, having regard to your public responsibility? Yes; some of them.

2681. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] You can identify the Holt-Sutherland Estate on the plan before you? Yes.

2682. And you see that the great majority of the roads are on that estate? Yes.

2683. Out of the 43 miles and 21 chains referred to in your paper how many miles would not be on this estate? From 3 to 4 miles.

2684. *Mr. Copeland.*] Have you made any roads on the Government Reserves? Yes.

2685. Which of them? Part of the main Illawarra Road passes through a reserve.

2686. How many chains of that road passes through Government land? A little over half-a-mile. Sylvania Road and Boulevard Road about on the reserve.

2687. Have you done any work upon this reserve out at Kurnell? Not yet.

2688. Have you done any work on the proposed railway from Sutherland to Kurnell? No, not yet; we are waiting for a railway survey to be made.

2689. *Chairman.*] Are there any Crown lands in this vicinity upon which you could have used the unemployed without putting them on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? We are employing men now between Liverpool and here, and between Campbelltown and here.

2690. *Mr. Carruthers.*] On what roads has the bulk of the money being expended? On the main roads.

2691. Which do you call those? On the Coronulla Road, the Port Hacking Road, the main Illawarra Road, and the Worenora Road.

End of Evidence before Select Committee.

3207. *President, resuming.*] Was that evidence, which has just been read to you, submitted to you for revision? Yes.

3208. Having heard it read, do you wish now to make any correction or explanation? No; I do not think so. The answer to question 2648—the money portion of it, £8,413 4s. 7d.—was taken from the vouchers in the office—from the abstracts in the office. It was done hastily.

- Mr. E. M. Burrowes.
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3209. Is that evidence, which has just been read over to you, true and correct in every particular? Yes.
3210. Do you know who appointed you to the office you held under the Casual Labour Board? I consider I was appointed by Mr. Dibbs. I was under Mr. Wise, then Mr. Deering, and then came Mr. Davies and the Casual Labour Board.
3211. What were you doing when Mr. Dibbs appointed you? I was working in the Board of Health office, assisting them there. They sent for me to come up-stairs one afternoon. It was on the 28th November, 1886. Mr. Dibbs sent for me.
3212. What were you doing after that? I went out to the Park at 9 o'clock next morning.
3213. What were your duties? Clearing.
3214. Had you all unemployed there? All unemployed.
3215. Were your duties altered in any way from that time up to the time of your working under the Casual Labour Board? No, sir.
3216. How did you find out that your master was the Casual Labour Board? Mr. Davies came out and told me he had been appointed. I received no intimation from the department.
3217. Was your salary altered? Yes. About a couple of months afterwards they increased my salary from 10s. a day to £5 per week.
3218. Up to that time you had been working at 10s. per day? Yes.
3219. What was the particular district you had charge of? The National Park. That is the only place we had men.
3220. But during the whole of the time the Board was in existence? The National Park and Waterfall. We called it Southern District.
3221. You had nothing to do with any other districts? No.
3222. Nothing to do with the Northern District? Nothing at all.
3223. What were your duties whilst in the employ of the Casual Labour Board? To look after the men, regulate the work, give out the work, point out new work to be done and so on, see that the officers carried out their duties, visit from one camp to another, and be always on the move.
3224. Did you live out there? At the National Park.
3225. Under canvas? Partly under canvas. They sent me out a kind of German military hut.
3226. Who were your officers? They were Sanderson, Frazer, Underwood, M'Pherson (my head officer at the time), Walsh, the clerk and storekeeper, Springall; of course, there were dozens of other assistants and officers.
3227. Do you consider you were the senior officer in the district? Yes; I was head officer of the whole lot.
3228. Did it come within your powers to initiate works? I used to initiate them, but not without recommending them to the Chairman in some way or another. I would not start on my own responsibility.
3229. Did you ever? No.
3230. What are you engaged in now? I have been surveying and making a plan of the Holt-Sutherland roads.
3231. Under whom? Mr. Mason.
3232. Who has charge of the unemployed now? Mr. M'Pherson, my assistant, that was.
3233. How was that change brought about? I do not know; I cannot tell who brought it about; I was simply told by Mr. Mason in the office that my services would not be required. I said, "I do not understand you telling me my services will not be required." He said, "We have made other arrangements. There is only going to be one superintendent." I said, "I am that one superintendent." He said "I have made other arrangements." I said "I will not take my dismissal from you; I was appointed by the Colonial Secretary." I came down and spoke to Mr. Critchett Walker about it. I was kept on. Mr. Mason was seen about it, and I was kept on until the end of this month. No letter was written to me that the change would be made.
3234. Was any letter written to you appointing you? Yes; I have got that now.
3235. Is this the plan you referred to in your evidence before the Select Committee? Yes.
3236. Who made it? I put the roads in.
3237. Can you tell us the total expenditure on the whole of these roads up to the end of last year, or if you cannot tell us can you procure it? I cannot tell you; the nearest approach to it is in the evidence before the Select Committee.
3238. You believe that to be fairly accurate? Mr. Goodman, one of the clerks in the office, and Mr. Springall got it out for me.
3239. To whom did you consider yourself responsible? To Mr. Davies, as Chairman, but to Mr. Critchett Walker as my head.
3240. What has Mr. Walker to do with it? I was appointed by the Colonial Secretary.
3241. You never had any intimation you were to be controlled by the Casual Labour Board? No written intimation.
3242. Had you verbal intimation from anyone but the Chairman? Yes; I think Mr. Walker, on one occasion, told me I should have to go under the Casual Labour Board, which was composed of Mr. Davies, Mr. Wells, and Mr. Houison.
3243. He gave you instructions? He told me I should take my orders from them.
3244. Are you quite sure there were no written instructions? I never received any.
3245. After that you looked to the Casual Labour Board as your masters? Yes.
3246. Will you tell the Commission what system you adopted as regards ordering supplies, stores, and plant? I used to requisition the Board; there was no regular form, but I used to enter it in my letter-book, "To the Chairman of the Board.—Required, for the use of such and such work," as the case would be. He would then order the goods.
3247. As to supplies of rations, how did you order them? I never ordered rations.
3248. Then your orders only referred to plant? Yes, to plant.
3249. Did you ever order any plant yourself? Yes; I ordered some oil the other day, which the Chairman refused to pay for, from Fell & Co.
3250. Who did order then? Mr. Hibble, I believe, ordered for the Chairman. I know little of what took place in the office.
3251. How did you satisfy yourself that plant was required? I would know by the number of men I had at work.

3252. Do you take the responsibility of all the plant you ordered being necessary? I did not order it without it was necessary. I never ordered any that was unnecessary—at least I do not think so.

3253. What check was kept on the tools and plant you received? The storekeeper always had an inventory of everything and kept that posted up in his book. Mr. Springall I mean.

3254. What check had you to prevent thieving? By the men or by the officers?

3255. By the men? Nothing. If a man bolted and took his axe with him I could not help it.

3256. Did you ever have a tally of the plant? Two or three times since I have been there.

3257. Had you anything to do with the ordering of the rations? Nothing whatever.

3258. Who had to do with it? The storekeeper, Mr. Springall.

3259. Did not the requisition for rations come before you in any way? No, never.

3260. Can you tell us when plant or tools or powder was ordered from Sydney what course was adopted about the delivery? It used to come out mostly from M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, and come on to the Park.

3261. Who took delivery? They were put out on the platform, and the storekeeper came down and saw what came.

3262. Were any receipts taken? I cannot tell you.

3263. Who can tell us? Mr. Springall.

3264. Did you get any advice of the despatch of the goods? Sometimes Mr. Davies would say, "I have sent you so and so."

3265. Verbally? Verbally.

3266. Did you ever have any written information? No.

3267. Was this not a rough and tumble way of doing business? Rather so. I think I never saw any vouchers with the goods from M'Lean Bros. and Rigg.

3268. Supposing, for example, twenty kegs of powder had been ordered and fifty kegs came out to you, would you take delivery in the natural course? Yes; we would take it, thinking it came from the office.

3269. Had you any means of knowing whether the accounts that were sent in were in excess of or less than the amounts actually ordered? I would know if I ordered twenty kegs, and thirty kegs came in, that the requisition had been altered.

3270. Did cases occur in which larger amounts came out than you ordered? Yes.

3271. How did that come about? We presumed that the Chairman had sent them out. Sometimes I would order a line of picks or shovels, and Mr. Davies would curtail it.

3272. Could you tell when a large difference existed? I have known a lot of tools come out that were never ordered at all, so as to have them in store to fall back upon.

3273. What did you do with them? We kept them in the office.

3274. Was this a case when you did not requisition for them at all? Yes.

3275. Could they have been requisitioned for by anyone else? No one except the storekeeper and myself. No one else had authority.

3276. Can I take it you had no check whatever beyond your own requisition for particular goods? The storekeepers would know all these things. I never used to interfere with them. My time was taken up in surveying work.

3277. Did you consider the checking business had nothing to do with you? No; because if I had an authenticated officer to look after it it was his duty, and it was mine to supervise.

3278. Mr. Springall was your storekeeper? Yes, up to the end of last year.

3279. Was he storekeeper the whole of the time you were there? Yes; before I went out there.

3280. Do you know who appointed him? I think he was appointed by Mr. Wise. He had been out at Gordon before he came to the Park.

3281. Did you look to him entirely for checking these things? Yes.

3282. What were his duties? He was storekeeper and clerk. He would make up all the vouchers and keep the time of the men. An officer would bring in the time and he would check it.

3283. Did you check the calculation in any way? We used to make out the pay-sheets together.

3284. Did you take his statement as gospel? No; I have often found fault with him and found him wrong.

3285. Did he perform his duties, in your opinion, in a proper way? I think he was a smart and intelligent officer.

3286. Did you ever make any complaint about him? Who to?

3287. To the Casual Labour Board? No.

3288. Where is he now? He lives at Hurstville.

3289. What is he doing? He has just finished building a large hotel.

3290. How long has he been out of the employment of the Board? Since January last.

3291. What pay did he have? Ten shillings a day all the time.

3292. How long was he in the employ of the Government? I think he was a couple of months up at Gordon.

3293. During the whole of the time you were there, he had 10s. a day? Yes; he was allowed his rations of course.

3294. Is this a large hotel? Yes; it is a large place.

3295. Do you know whether it is his own? I do not know anything about it. There has been a slight coolness between us for some time.

3296. How did it arise? Through Mr. M'Pherson, my assistant superintendent.

3297. Did you have any difference with Mr. M'Pherson? Yes; because he would interfere with things had no right to.

3298. Professionally? Yes.

3299. How did he interfere? With my officers. I would tell an officer to do a certain thing and would go away, and while I was away he would alter my orders, and I objected to that.

3300. And you say your coolness with Springall arose out of the difference you had with M'Pherson? Yes.

3301. Were the duties entrusted to Springall of a responsible nature? I should say they were responsible. A man who had the ordering of the rations and that sort of thing would have very responsible duties.

3302. Were not his duties more responsible than yours? I do not think they were. They were both responsible. I do not consider his duties were more responsible than mine.

3303. However, so far as his duties were concerned and your supervision went, you were satisfied? Yes.

3304.

Mr. E. M.
Burrowes.
26 Mar., 1889.

- Mr. E. M. Burrowes.
26 Mar., 1889.
3304. Give us your own opinion ;—was he a capable and competent officer ? I think he was a competent, smart, intelligent officer.
3305. Would you take him into your own service ? No, I would not.
3306. Why not ? If I were a wealthy man I should not care about having him, because he is too sharp. He would be too sharp for me.
3307. Do you think he is a man to put in charge of a lot of money ? No, I do not think so.
3308. Or a lot of goods ? I should not care to do it.
3309. Is that opinion formed from what has arisen whilst in the employ of the Government ? It has arisen from things after he left. It has been reported to me by my officers.
3310. Do you not think, he being an officer under you, and his duties being of a responsible nature, that you did not keep quite enough check on him ? I do not think that, because I was told by Mr. Wise that there was a properly-authenticated officer out there to look after the rations. I should not have anything to do with the rations. My duties would be for field duties alone. I was to confine myself to my duties and not interfere with him.
3311. Were you not the responsible officer on whom the Board relied ? I believe I was ; but Mr. Davies always got orders from Springall or gave them to him direct. He would send to Springall, and not through me.
3312. What was the system that obtained as regards making payment to the men ? My *modus operandi* with regard to paying was, first of all, to call out on the ground all the men for clearing. On the Thursday or Friday previous to the last day of the fortnight we measured up their work to see what they were entitled to. I would make out an abstract list of the amounts due for road-clearing, ballasting, or what might be done. I would hand it in to the clerk or storekeeper for him to put in his rations and deduct that from the total amount. The final amount would be shown in a third column, and the account would be made out from that abstract.
3313. Did you send that to the Board ? There was an average-sheet sent in.
3314. Was it initialled by you ? Yes.
3315. What did your initials cover ? Only the actual work done and the gross amount earned. It had nothing to do with the rations.
3316. How did you arrive at the amount to be paid ? The rations would be deducted from the amount and the breakages, and that would leave the amount due to the men.
3317. To whom was it paid ? We used to make them up into gangs of eight. First of all we had ten ; but ten was not a good number. They would pick their own ganger. Call a man Christy for argument sake. He was paid, and had to divide the money afterwards.
3318. How did you know he had seven men ? We kept account of the rations issued.
3319. Some of the gangs might not always be of full strength ;—what system did you adopt in order to ascertain how many men you had to provide for in your pay-sheet ? I would go round and ask a man how many men there were in his gang. He would say eight, and I would see them working. Perhaps I would see five, and I would say, "How is it you are not up to your full strength ; I see you are drawing eight rations ?" They would say, "No, only so-and-so." After pay-day I would fill up their gangs to the proper strength. There was great difficulty, as the men would clear off. That has always been a difficult problem to solve.
3320. Are you aware of any case where a man has been paid as a ganger and he was not a ganger at all ? I have heard of one case.
3321. Of your own knowledge ? No.
3322. Have you been made aware of any case, and what is it ? I have been made aware of a case at Heathcote.
3323. When ? Last month.
3324. Who told you ? Goodman in the office.
3325. Who is Goodman ? Larnach's assistant.
3326. Do you know anything of a man named Flemming, whose name appears as a ganger on the numerous pay-sheets we have before us ? That is the man I spoke about.
3327. Do you know anything of Flemming ? I know the man very well. He was a labouring man in the field, and when we came to Hurstville he was taken on as a handy man about the yard. He ran messages or did anything. I was much astonished when told by Goodman about this. It led me to make inquiries. Goodman told me he appeared in Bell's Heathcote sheets. I said it was impossible. He said, "Yes, I know he has been drawing money from him as a ganger." Springall sent all the papers into the office. All the papers had been taken away ; when I was away two or three days all the papers, books, and ledgers were cleared out. They had been taken away by Springall. Mr. Goodman says by Mr. Davies' orders, but I do not know.
3328. Have you seen them since ? I have seen one book in the Casual Labour office.
3329. What is it called ? I do not know the name. It is in Mr. Springall's handwriting.

WEDNESDAY, 27 MARCH, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Ambrose Freeman called in, sworn, and examined :—

- Mr. A. Freeman.
27 Mar., 1889.
3330. *President.*] What is your position in the Public Service ? Examiner of Expenditure Accounts in the department of the Auditor-General.
3331. Do you produce some papers relating to the Casual Labour Board from your department ? Yes.
3332. Will you describe generally what they are ? They are principally pay-sheets for wages and other expenses of the Board, to the extent of about £240,000.
3333. Have you been through these adjustments of advance papers ? I cannot say that I have looked at every one personally ; I have been through most of them.
3334. What is your experience in the department that you are in now ? I have been twenty-three years in the Service.
3335. Is there anything that seems peculiar to you in these adjustments of advance-sheets that have been presented

presented to you by the Casual Labour Board—something like forty different adjustment-sheets for £6,000 advances? Yes; they are peculiarly adjusted, inasmuch as they are exactly adjusted. There is no portion of any of the advances—no balance—carried forward.

Mr.
A. Freeman.
27 Mar., 1889.

3336. Is it an unusual occurrence to have adjustment-sheets presented in that way? Where there are a number of advances made to one individual in succession it is, I believe, an unusual occurrence.

3337. Is there anything in the vouchers that are produced to warrant this peculiar adjustment? Nothing that I can see.

3338. Were all the different vouchers apparently genuine? Yes; they are all receipted documents.

3339. Does it appear on any occasion that the Board divided a voucher so as to show that a portion of some amount had been held back for a subsequent advance, or are all the vouchers for full amounts? In every case, I believe, the vouchers to have been complete.

3340. Has the audit of these accounts been completed? No; there are several outstanding queries, and there is a matter in reference to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg under reference to the Treasury.

3341. What is that? The contracts for the supply of ironmongery to the public service generally we take to include all Government supplies, and these contracts are subject to rates of discount. M'Lean Bros. and Rigg have supplied articles to the Casual Labour Board on which they have not deducted the usual discount, and the question was referred to the Treasury as to whether they considered it right for the vouchers to pass that way. The question was raised, not on any advance to the Casual Labour Board, but on a previous payment of a similar character under Mr. Wise. There are several vouchers and payments by the Casual Labour Board that were not considered satisfactory by us until a reply from the Treasury was received.

3342. Do these vouchers cover all the payments to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg that have been made since the Casual Labour Board existed, or only recent payments? All the payments, as far as I know.

3343. *Mr. Franklin.*] Supposing that the Treasury made an advance to trustees for any purpose, in adjusting that account to the Audit Office, the adjustment might be made so as to close the advance and leave the balance for the first item of the next advance? Yes.

3344. *Mr. Waller.*] Do you remember, Mr. Freeman, if these goods were supplied by M'Lean Bros. and Rigg under the usual contract rates for the Government? I cannot say that. I don't recollect.

3345. What is the usual rate of discount under the contract rates for the Government? I cannot say from memory; I have not looked at the account for some time; but there was a rate of discount, and the price would have been different had they supplied at the Government contract rates.

3346. They supplied the Casual Labour Board at a higher rate than the Government contracts generally; they were not supplying the Casual Labour Board under the usual contract rates? No, they were not.

3347. Is the usual contract rate net, or subject to discount? Subject to discount.

3348. Always? Not always; sometimes the supplies are taken at the schedule price, and sometimes at schedule price less discount.

3349. Is it the case that M'Lean Bros. and Rigg failed to give either schedule price or allow discount? I cannot recollect at what rates they supplied the articles; but we found, on computing, that there was a loss to the Government.

3350. That the rates were higher? Yes.

3351. Considerably higher? Yes, considerably higher.

3352. There must have been a considerable difference when the Auditor-General disapproved of passing the accounts without further authority? Yes.

3353. Are you aware of a tender from M'Lean Bros. and Rigg which was in existence at the time that the Casual Labour Board was in operation? Yes. There is a tender in the office, and it is from a comparison with that particular tender that our knowledge is obtained as to the difference in the price.

3354. That applied in all cases? I believe so.

3355. Did you notice on any of these contingent vouchers of M'Lean Bros. and Rigg that a discount of 2½ per cent. had been taken off the price? I believe that was taken off in some cases, but even taking that into consideration the price would be higher than the Government rates.

3356. Would it be considerably higher? Yes, considerably higher.

3357. *President.*] Have you produced here to-day all the papers that you have in connection with the Board at the Auditor-General's Office? Yes.

3358. Are you aware whether there are any other vouchers at the Treasury? I believe that further advances have been made by the bank.

3359. Not to the Casual Labour Board, I suppose, but to the Board that took their place? Oh, that may be. At any rate there are accounts not yet rendered to the Audit Office.

3360. Can I take it that so far as you are aware all the vouchers in support of the advances to the Casual Labour Board have now been handed to us, with the exception of some half a dozen under query? Yes.

3361. Are those that are under query only M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's? No.

3362. What others are there? There are a few minor objections raised, or queries, and they have been sent to Messrs. Miles and Mason, and are not yet returned.

3363. Will you look at these four sets of papers, purporting to be vouchers, in support of four separate advances of £6,000? Yes.

3364. Looking through the vouchers for these different advances, can you say whether or not they were all in support of accounts paid immediately preceding or a long time preceding the advance? I cannot say. So long as the vouchers in these parcels amount to £6,000, no further objection would be taken.

3365. Then you do not care when the payments were made? Not so long as they supply us with vouchers for the amount.

3366. In other words, in support of an advance of 13th September, 1888, a series of vouchers might be presented taken out of the previous eight or twelve months payments indiscriminately, and in the next advance of October a number of other vouchers indiscriminately taken out might also be produced? Yes.

3367. And yet they are satisfactory? Yes. We are not supposed to know what was the reason for detaining the vouchers.

3368. Have you taken any steps to inquire as to the genuineness of the vouchers? That does not come within our province. The signature of the Chairman of the Board is our authority for the articles having been supplied.

3369. You accept that as conclusive? Yes.

Charles William Beggs called in, sworn, and examined :--

- Mr. C. W. Beggs. 3370. *President.*] Are you a partner of Mr. G. R. C. Neale, who was examined yesterday before this Commission? Yes.
- 27 Mar., 1889. 3371. Do you produce some cheques, drawn by Mr. Neale, in favour of different persons? Yes.
3372. How many cheques are there? Nine.
3373. What is the first cheque? £26 17s. 7d., in favour of T. S. Hinchcliffe, dated 14th May, 1887.
3374. Can you say what became of that cheque? No.
3375. Looking at the cheque itself, can you give us any information? Only that it has gone through my partner's bank.
3376. Is there anything to show what other bank it has gone through? Yes; the City Bank.
3377. What is the amount of the next cheque? £38 4s. 2d., dated 31st May, 1887, in favour of the Government wood.
3378. What became of that? It appears to have gone through the A.J.S. Bank.
3379. The next? £66 12s. 6d., dated 23rd June, 1887, in favour of the Casual Labour Board.
3380. Has that gone through the A.J.S. Bank? Yes.
3381. The next? £41 12s., dated 7th July, 1887, in favour of the Government Relief Works.
3382. Has that gone through the A.J.S. Bank? Yes.
3383. The next? 19th July, for £5 4s. 6d., in favour of Mr. Burrowes, gone through the A.J.S. Bank.
3384. The next? 4th August, £40 1s. 1d., paid to the Casual Labour Board, through the A.J.S. Bank.
3385. The next? 18th August, £36 3s. 10d., to the Chairman of the Labour Bureau, through the A.J.S. Bank.
3386. The next? 2nd September, 1887, £40 12s. 3d., to the Government Labour Bureau, through the A.J.S. Bank.
3387. The next? 22nd September, 1887, in favour of E. M. Burrowes, £52 3s. 1d., paid into the City Bank.
3388. They all appear to have gone through the Australian Joint Stock Bank except two? Yes.
3389. Can you say whether that mark across the cheque is your stamp or the bank's stamp? I cannot say. That probably is our stamp in a different ink.
3390. All these cheques appear to be crossed cheques? Yes.
3391. *Mr. Waller.*] Do you ever pay cheques that are not crossed? No, not as a rule, unless we miss stamping some of them.

Joseph Holden Wood called in, sworn, and examined :--

- Mr. J. H. Wood. 3392. *President.*] What are you? A merchant.
- 27 Mar., 1889. 3393. In what business? McLean Brothers and Rigg, ironmongers.
3394. What position do you hold in that company? Manager.
3395. Is that a limited company? Yes.
3396. Registered in this Colony? No.
3397. How long have you been in this Colony? Four years, or thereabouts.
3398. Is that the extent of your trade experience in this Colony? Yes.
3399. Have you been always in this line? Yes.
3400. Are you the contractors for the New South Wales Government? We have been.
3401. Are you now? Yes, in some lines.
3402. I believe your company has received a large number of orders from the Casual Labour Board? We have.
3403. Were the goods supplied according to any particular contract, or according to market price? According to the market price, I understand.
3404. Do you know how your company came to be employed in the first instance to supply the goods? I do not.
3405. Have you a schedule of prices for supplying goods to the Government? We had for the general Government contracts.
3406. And you did not supply according to these prices to the Casual Labour Board? I do not think so. I may tell you that I am not fully conversant with the working of the Government orders, but I have brought up the clerk who has charge of that department, so that he may answer any inquiries that I am not conversant with. He is better able to speak upon these points than I am.
3407. Can you tell me what your practice was as regards the delivery of the goods to the Casual Labour Board? The orders were sent in to us, and the goods were delivered. The voucher was attached to the order and sent out. The orders that we received were attached to the vouchers of the goods.
3408. Did you obtain any receipts? Yes; receipts for everything.
3409. Then you can produce receipts for all goods that have been ordered by the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
3410. Whose receipts are they generally? Oh, the various superintendents.
3411. The officers of the Board? Yes; the people out there where the goods were delivered.
3412. Something more than the railway receipts? Yes; some one in charge at the works.
3413. Have you got these receipts with you to-day? Yes.
3414. Will you tell me whether these receipts were obtained on the delivery of the goods or subsequently? Of my own knowledge I cannot answer that question, but I believe on the delivery of the goods. We would not be likely to let the goods out of our hands until we had a receipt for them.
3415. Do I understand that you cannot give me any reason why the Casual Labour Board was not supplied with goods according to the schedule prices? I cannot give you any reason.
3416. Can the clerk who is here in attendance? I do not think so.
3417. If he cannot, is there anybody in your service who can? If he is not aware of it, I do not know who else would be.
3418. At what time did you commence doing business with the Unemployed Department? Mr. Treatt, I think, had it in hand first of all. When I first became aware of the existence of such a thing as the Casual Labour Board it was under the control of Mr. Treatt. Perhaps it might not have been the Casual Labour Board then. I think it was the unemployed,

3419. When did you first become acquainted with the department called the Casual Labour Board? Oh, I cannot answer that question.
3420. Did you know any of the gentlemen connected with the Casual Labour Board? I did by sight.
3421. Can you name them? Mr. John Davies, and within the last three or four days, Mr. Hibble.
3422. Do you know Mr. Houison or Mr. Wells? I do not.
3423. When any one called in to pay the accounts of this Board, who in your company's service would they be likely to see? The clerk in charge of the department—Frank Lawn.
3424. Is he here? Yes; he is here now.
3425. Do you know Mr. Davies? Yes. I simply know him in a general way. I have called for accounts several times myself at the Casual Labour Board. I did not know Mr. Davies from anyone else, until twelve months ago.
3426. Did you ever receive a cheque from him? No, sir. The cheques have been taken to the office, and the accounts have been brought down to me to sign.
3427. You have never received a cheque personally? No; not personally.
3428. Is there any practice in your trade of paying commission to a person who brings in orders or procures custom? Oh, yes; there is such a practice.
3429. What is the general rate? Broker's commission, if the broker brings in the order—1 per cent.
3430. Do you know whether anyone else but brokers get commission;—supposing an architect or contractor brings an order, would you pay him commission? I have heard of such a thing, but it is uncommon.
3431. Do you allow it in your company? We might, if asked, reckon upon the price, but I cannot myself recall any such cases.
3432. Can you recall any case where your company has paid commission to any individual for bringing or causing orders to be brought to you? No, sir, I cannot.
3433. Nor any discount or consideration in the way of money or goods? No.
3434. Will you look at this contingent pay-voucher;—is that signed by you? Yes.
3435. Can you produce the counter receipt for that, and the issue order for the goods? Yes.
3436. Are you quite sure the orders are returned to the Casual Labour Board office? Yes. They are attached to the vouchers and sent back to the Board.
3437. Can you produce your book of accounts, or journal, or whatever it is in, which that order would be reorded? Yes. I produce my day-book, for number 681, showing twenty-eight kegs of powder, fourteen bags, Casual Labour Board account, Hurstville and the National Park.
3438. Does the note on your book show the trainage on that? Yes.
3439. How much? 14s. 6d.
3440. The contingent voucher shows 16s. 6d.? Yes.
3441. Which is right? I cannot say. I have no means of telling.
3442. Do you produce the railway receipts for these goods? Yes.
3443. What is the date of that? The 15th January.
3444. For the same goods that are in the order? Yes.
3445. Have you any other document or record in your office showing that this contingent voucher is correct? I do not know that we have. I cannot say.
3446. Will the gentleman who is here be able to tell us? Yes; he will be able to tell you.
3447. What is your practice in this day-book as regards the noting of the orders? The number of the order is entered and the goods are entered. In respect of this particular order, the number would be entered on the margin of the day-book.
3448. And that number, 681, appears written in the day-book before the particulars you have just given? Yes.
3449. Will you turn over the page of that book? Yes.
3450. Is there any other order in the margin of that page numbered the same, 681? Yes.
3451. Is that the same or another order? That would be the same order.
3452. What is the amount of the second order? Unless you have the account I cannot tell from here.
3453. What is the order? Twenty-three bags, containing forty-six kegs blasting-powder and one cask of zinc, account, Liverpool.
3454. Is not that numbered the same as the previous order? It is.
3455. Is not that an anomaly? It might not be. It may have been the same order.
3456. If we had the order itself it would clear the anomaly away? It would certainly.
3457. Now, what I want to get at is the delivery receipt for that order;—can you lay your hand on the delivery receipt for the second order, No. 681? I produce the railway receipt, dated 17th January, for twenty-three bags, containing forty-six kegs of powder.
3458. Is there anything on your books to show that you have sent in any voucher for that? Yes.
3459. Are you enabled to say that you have sent in a voucher for that? Yes.
3460. That is to say, a voucher for twenty-three bags containing forty-six kegs of blasting-powder? Yes.
3461. Will you swear that there has been one sent in? I believe so. Of course I am all at sea with regard to many of these matters. I simply sign them when they come before me.
3462. Will you look at this contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 5*] ? Yes.
3463. Will you show me the entry for it in your day-book? Yes; that is it.
3464. Will you show me the entry at page 33 of your day-book—order, 604? Yes. Casual Labour Board account of Eckersley, Liverpool Road,—eight kegs powder, thirty two coils fuse; rail to Liverpool.
3465. Will you look at the item immediately preceding that in your book? Casual Labour Board, 603 account, Hornsby Junction—eight kegs of powder, thirty-two coils of fuse—train on.
3466. Are you enabled to state whether separate contingent vouchers have been sent in respect of each of those two items? Not of my own knowledge; but I should think so.
3467. Will you look at the next item? 602, Casual Labour Board account of Woolwash Road—eight kegs of powder, forty-eight coils of fuse—to Campbelltown.
3468. Should there be a separate contingent voucher for that? Yes. There should be vouchers for all these.
3469. Will you look at these entries in your day-book, and tell me whether any one of them has been altered since they have been originally written in? Yes; they have been altered apparently.
3470. Every one of these figures has been altered? Yes.

Mr.
J. H. Wood,
27 Mar., 1889.

- Mr. J. H. Wood: 3471. There is an erasure in one instance, and in some instances they have been written over? Yes.
3472. Is it not a fact that there is not a single figure there that has not been altered? That has been altered—not erased.
- 27 Mar., 1889. 3473. Look at that by the light, sir? I think it has been erased.
3474. Will you look for the railway receipt, which will give us the particulars of this voucher No. 605? I am unable to find it. There is this receipt for the fuse;—Hornsby Junction, Liverpool,—one parcel of fuse, Campbelltown, one parcel of fuse.
3475. This receipt only speaks of a parcel of fuse. How do we know whether it was one coil or twenty coils? We don't know that.
3476. This is not an acquittance to you for thirty-two coils of fuse? When a parcel is made up it goes to the man who takes delivery.
3477. Can anybody in your office tell us whether there are thirty-two coils in it? Yes.
3478. Is there anything extraordinary in the alteration of these three sets of orders? I do not think so.
3479. You said there was only one erasure. Hold it up to the light a little. I think you will see it has been erased in three places? Yes.
3480. Will you look at the next page—35; you will see Casual Labour Board Account, Waterfall,—twenty-four kegs blasting-powder;—has that been altered? Yes.
3481. How many pages are there in that book that you have before you? 201.
3482. Looking through it, can you show me other alterations in the book? There is one erasure on page 181; there is another on page 180.
3483. Whose order is that? Mr. Springall's.
3484. Is that a private order or a Casual Labour Board order? I could not say.
3485. Is there an alteration upon it? Yes.
3486. There is another alteration upon page 103;—whose order is that? Casual Labour Board order.
3487. What is the alteration? From four to six crowbars.
3488. Then, with one exception, unless Mr. Springall's private order is an order on behalf of the Board, the only alterations in that book are in the Casual Labour Board's orders? Yes.
3489. Can you produce the delivery receipt for the eight kegs of blasting-powder? I have not been able to find it in the delivery receipts which I have here.
3490. Here is another one. Will you look at this contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 6*], order No. 579, £20 19s. 6d. Will you kindly show me the entry in your day-book for that? No. 579, Casual Labour Board account, Hornsby, eight kegs blasting-powder, three dozen coils fuse, three dozen pick-handles, two dozen mattock-handles, one dozen axe-handles.
3491. Can you lay your hand on the railway receipt for that? I cannot identify amongst my railway receipts any receipt for the contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 6*]. It is possible my clerk may be able to do so.
3492. Now, will you kindly look at this contingent voucher for six bars $1\frac{1}{2}$ octagon steel £5 11s, order No. 496 [*Exhibit E 4*], and let me see the entry in your journal for that? The entry is Casual Labour Board account, Heathcote, six bars $1\frac{1}{2}$ octagon steel, weighing 1 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb.
3493. Can you lay your hand on the railway or delivery receipt for that? I produce the railway receipt, dated 14th August, for six bars of octagon steel.
3494. Will you look at contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 2*], no number, dated 31st August, 1888, 24 long-handle shovels at 4s.—£4 16s.; 4 hammers at 8s. 6d.—£1 14s.; total, £6 10s.;—is that signed by you? Yes.
3495. Can you show me the entry in your day-book for that;—do you know where the goods went to? I know nothing whatever about it, except that it is signed by me and the other gentlemen whose names appear upon it. There are several entries here for two dozen shovels in August. On 5th August there are two dozen long-handle shovels for Hornsby and one dozen napping hammers.
3496. The first item in that last order you mention has been altered in your book, has it not? Yes.
3497. From one to two? Yes; there are four hammers down there.
3498. But that does not correspond with this voucher [*Exhibit E 2*]? There might have been only four sent; that frequently happens.
3499. That entry you have just read is for goods sent to Hornsby? Yes; in the account at Hornsby.
3500. Does this butt in the order-book, No. 482, dated 31st July, 1888, correspond with that entry in your book? Yes, it does.
3501. Then apparently it is not the entry in support of voucher [*Exhibit E 2*]? It does not follow; we must get the entry and see whether it agrees with it before we can say that.
3502. Do I understand that that entry at page 239 of your day-book, on the 5th August, 1888, is the only entry you can produce in support of that? Oh no; there are others here, as I have before explained. Here is another voucher on the 16th of August, No. 513, Casual Labour Board, Illawarra Road, two dozen long-handle shovels, consigned to Sutherland.
3503. But that has no hammers in it? No; here is another entry, 17th August, No. 519, Casual Labour Board account, Waterfall, two dozen long-handle shovels, two dozen muck picks and handles, and half a dozen quarry picks and handles. Here is another entry, No. 524, Casual Labour Board, 22nd August, Bankstown, three dozen long-handle shovels. That appears to be all in August. Here is an entry for hammers on the 28th August, No. 553, page 261, Casual Labour Board to Campbelltown, two 7-lb. striking-hammers, two 10-lb. spawling-hammers, Woolwash Road.
3504. Is that the same entry as on the previous page? Yes; I think there is only one entry.
3505. I have got here, "Casual Labour Board, Campbelltown, two striking-hammers (10 lb.), two spawling-hammers (14 lb.);"—does that appear to be the same entry? Yes; I cannot identify that particular entry you ask for in this book.
3506. Do you think your clerk can do so? He should do so.
3507. Who had charge of this book;—had he? Yes.
3508. Do you rely upon any of these other items in your book that you have called my attention to as supporting this contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 2*]? I simply point them out to you; I don't rely upon them. I don't know whether they are part and parcel of this voucher or not.
3509. I suppose if we have in our possession vouchers signed by you for each of these other items you have mentioned from your book, it is a proper conclusion to come to that they must be independent of this voucher. [*Exhibit E 2*]? Yes, sir.

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3510. Can you, from your papers, show me the railway or any other receipt for this? Probably I can. I take it that this delivery receipt dated 14th August, for one parcel of hardware; and 17th August, two doz. long-handle shovels, both for Hurstville, are the items in the contingent voucher.
3511. Are you positive about that? No; I am not.
3512. Can your clerk give evidence on this point? Yes; he ought to be able to do so.
3513. Now will you kindly look at this contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 3, Order No. 552*] for £3 10s., dated 25th September—"six coils of Manilla rope"—That is signed by you, is it not? Yes.
3514. Will you kindly show me the entry for that in your book? I do not see it entered in the book, except this be it—one coil, three-quarter Manilla rope, order No. 552 or 553; I am not sure which—Casual Labour Board account, Rookwood.
3515. But the item in the contingent voucher I show you is "six coils of Manilla rope"? Yes; that is so. I see no other entry for rope but that.
3516. Whose writing is this, "six coils of Manilla rope," in the contingent voucher I show you? I cannot say.
3517. Do you know whether or not it is the writing of any clerk of yours—Is it Mr. Lawn's? I cannot say; I am not sure.
3518. What is the number of the order on this contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 3*]? 552.
3519. Now will you look at page 272 of your day-book? Yes.
3520. Is there an order numbered 552 on that page, the entry being "552, Casual Labour Board account office; one hamper-basket"? Yes.
3521. Is not that number the same number as is on this contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 3*], which is for six coils Manilla rope? Yes, it is the same.
3522. And this contingent voucher bears your signature? Yes.
3523. Is that the way you do business? I cannot follow up the voucher.
3524. This is a voucher that is sent in for payment to a Government Department signed by you, and it shows on the face of it six coils of Manilla rope, £3 10s., while the corresponding entry in your day-book is one hamper-basket? Yes.
3525. I have no further questions to ask you—perhaps my colleagues may have.
3526. *Mr. Waller.*] Who made the arrangement for supplying the Casual Labour Board with goods? There was no arrangement made that I know of.
3527. Who, from the Casual Labour Board, entered into an arrangement with M'Lean Bros. and Rigg to supply the goods? I do not think that any arrangement was made.
3528. Did you spontaneously send the goods without being asked? The orders were spontaneously brought to us, without our going after them.
3529. Why? I presume because we have been the Government contractors and known to sell cheaply.
3530. Was it the supposition of the Board that being Government contractors they should single your firm out to give the orders to, thinking you would treat them as a Government Department? No such arrangement was made.
3531. Was that the supposition on the part of the Board? I cannot say.
3532. Did anything arise afterwards from any member of the Board which would give you the impression that they did expect to be treated the same as other Government Departments? I would like to know what you mean by other Government Departments.
3533. I mean supplying them at the schedule prices? There was nothing to lead us to infer that.
3534. They simply came and sent you orders for goods, being satisfied to pay the same as any chance customer would for the goods ordered? I suppose so.
3535. You made no difference between them and any outside customer in the city? Oh, yes. They were looked upon as a wholesale department—they were looked upon as any wholesale buyer in the city would be looked upon. That is, the Government business is dealt with in the wholesale part of our store.
3536. Did you treat them as you would any other wholesale buyer in the city? No; not exactly in every case.
3537. Did they gain much advantage over other customers in dealing with you? I really could not say.
3538. As a matter of fact, from your knowledge of business, is it not usual in dealing with large customers to give them advantages? That is so.
3539. But in this case you are not aware that they received the usual advantages that are allowed in trade? I am not aware.
3540. Nor are you aware of any application being made for the usual allowance? No.
3541. Have you got all the documents here relative to all orders for goods supplied on account of the Casual Labour Board? They are here in this room.
3542. Have you parted with any at any time to any person? Not that I am aware of.
3543. Would it be contrary to your desire and knowledge if you found that any document had been parted with? It would be contrary to my desire and contrary to my knowledge.
3544. How did you deliver these goods to the Casual Labour Board? We sent them to the railway-station.
3545. Always? Well, for goods that had to go up country there was no other way.
3546. And you took the usual delivery-note from the railway, signed by the railway clerks? Yes.
3547. You, as usual, sent out your firm's delivery-note? There is the Government delivery-note, and that is like this.
3548. Did you deliver any goods at any place other than the railways? Not as a rule.
3549. How would you deliver goods for the other side of Manly? I presume it would be by boat, but the clerk will tell you about that. I am not posted in these matters.
3550. You do not know whether your own clerks went out direct to the camps? No; I do not know.
3551. Would your employees, whoever they might be, carters or otherwise, who delivered the goods either at the railway or at the Manly boat, take them out without receiving a receipt for the goods? It is extremely unlikely.
3552. That is the only check that the goods have been delivered? Yes.
3553. If you found such a practice obtaining in your establishment, you would very soon put an end to it, I suppose? Yes.

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3554. Have you got any carters' delivery-note books in your establishment? Yes.
3555. Have you got any here? I have none here with me.
3556. Do you think it possible that you have got some carters' delivery-books that will show the delivery of goods to the Casual Labour Board? If any of the deliveries were made by the carters we would have them.
3557. Will you be good enough to have the carters' delivery-books sent here from the dates mentioned in your subpoena? Yes.
3558. Do you know Mr. John Davies? I know him by sight. I have spoken to him on several occasions.
3559. How long have you known him by sight? Roughly speaking, about twelve months.
3560. Have you not known him before that? No.
3561. How often have you spoken to him? About half a dozen times. Once or twice in my office in the store, and once down at the Casual Labour Board Office, and I think that is about all.
3562. Can you tell me what he went to the shop about? He came always to pay accounts, although he did not pay them to me.
3563. Who took the payment? It was taken by the accountant.
3564. What is his name? M'Clintock.
3565. Is he with you now? Yes.
3566. Is he a man that you know well? Yes.
3567. And a man that you can rely upon? Yes.
3568. And the other times Mr. Davies went to see you;—what did he go about? I really could not tell you; perhaps to hunt up some orders.
3569. At the time you went down to the Casual Labour Board Office to see him, what did you go down for? I went down for money.
3570. Did you get it? No; I did not then.
3571. Why did you not get it? I suppose it was not ready. The accounts were not passed.
3572. Who did you see? Mr. Davies.
3573. Did he give you any reason for not paying? I could not say now. He was in a temper at the time. He flurried me, and I had to walk out at the door.
3574. He did not pay you? I was not paid at the time.
3575. What date was that? I could not tell you the date.
3576. Is it six months ago? Yes; about twelve months ago.
3577. Since then, have arrangements been comfortable between the Board and your firm? No; we think we have been hardly used in the matter of money.
3578. You have had a difficulty in getting money? Yes. Some of the accounts now have been owing eight months.
3579. Can you furnish us with a statement of what is still owing to you by the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
3580. Have you had reason to complain of the deductions that were made on any of the accounts, taking the commission off or discounts? I never heard of such a thing.
3581. Do you mean to tell me that he paid the accounts in full? Yes; I think so.
3582. When you sent an account (say) for £120 7s. 6d., would he give you a cheque for that amount? I could not answer that question without referring to the books.
3583. So far as you believe yourself there were no deductions on the accounts? I could not say. I do not know really.
3584. Was there any arrangement made about paying commission to Mr. Davies? None whatever.
3585. At no time? Not by me.
3586. By any of your employees? I do not think so. No one has any authority to do that but myself.
3587. I have a voucher here dated 31st August, 1888, signed, I think, by you;—is that so? Yes.
3588. Look at the foot of that and tell me whether that has been paid net? There has been 2½ per cent. deducted from that. It is written in red ink by some one—by whom I do not know.
3589. Do you think that the entry 2½ per cent. was there at the time you signed your name, "John Wood"? I do not think so.
3590. Here is another one, dated 28th August, 1888, signed also by you [*Exhibit E 4*]. Do you see anything at the foot of this contingent voucher? Yes, 2½ per cent. discount.
3591. They are all the same I may tell you—all these discounts of 2½ per cent. Is what I have mentioned information to you? I would not like to say that. It may have come before me and I have not noticed it.
3592. But so far as your memory serves you, did you believe that there was discount at the foot of these documents? No.
3593. Had I asked you without showing you that there was such a thing at the foot of the document, what would you have told me? I should probably have told you that I had never seen it.
3594. Have your clerks got permission from you to deal as they like with accounts in that wholesale manner without your authority? It might have been arranged at some previous time, and I had forgotten it.
3595. Could they have done it without your authority? No; I should have arranged it in the first instance.
3596. Would your clerks occupying positions of trust have power and authority to make arrangements with a good customer—to give him a commission on a good business—sooner than let the business slip? There are only three people in the establishment who would be likely to do such a thing. There is Mr. Payton, a partner in the business, myself, and Mr. Anderson, the manager of the retail establishment.
3597. Now, as a matter of fact—as an old business man in Melbourne and Sydney—you know that business is now cut very fine? That is a fact.
3598. And a business house would, having regard to the keenness of competition, give commission to any one who brought them an order, sooner than lose a good line? That might be.
3599. And is it not a fact that heads of departments are men of experience and knowledge, who are aware of the absolute cost of the goods, and know what they can sell them for? Yes. The smallest boy in the shop has the means of knowing the cost of goods.
3600. Is it not a common thing in business houses that these men sooner than let business pass them would cut down the price, and make arrangements with a customer? Yes; I have known that.

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3601. Could such a thing be done in your establishment without your knowledge and consent? It is extremely unlikely.

3602. How is it that that cannot be done when they can give discount by arrangement? I might have arranged the matter of discount on a previous occasion; although I do not remember about it.

3603. The vouchers brought under your notice a few minutes ago where all unpaid vouchers? Yes.

3604. I produce a voucher of the 31st August last, order No. 543, a paid voucher on which you will find 2½ per cent. is taken out, was that voucher ever brought before you? Oh, yes; it has been brought for me to sign.

3605. Are any other vouchers then in a similar condition, and you have receipted them? Yes, I have receipted them.

3606. For the amount of the account less 2½ per cent.? Yes.

3607. That being the case and seeing how utterly you forgot the system that obtained, might you not forget or not be aware of other matters of a similar nature? No.

3608. You might forget about the discount, but you would not forget about anything else of the same kind? The discount is not much.

3609. It means a good deal of money at the end of the year? Yes.

3610. Do you say that the accounts were always paid for goods delivered to the Casual Labour Board to Mr. M'Clintock? Yes.

3611. Always? Well, I cannot say that. You see my office is on the downfloor under the front shop, and I do not see everything. The accountant's office is in the wholesale store at the back, were the accounts were taken to him from the Government Departments.

3612. How could you find out? By simply asking Mr. Lawn, who is here now.

3613. You have stated more than once that you never had made arrangements directly or indirectly with Mr. John Davies or any member of the Board as regards supplying them with goods? Yes.

3614. You have never made any arrangements, directly or indirectly to supply goods, but do you know if any of your employees have made any such arrangements? No. I cannot conceive of its being possible without my knowledge.

3615. Has Mr. Lawn, your clerk, been with you ever since you have been dealing with the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

3616. Was he quite conversant with all the affairs in connection with the Board? He is quite competent to answer every question you have asked me to-day.

3617. I want to get at the system as nearly as I possibly can in which the business was carried on between you and the Board. What was the first intimation you got of goods being required? I cannot call to mind. As to the goods required, the general practice is that the order is made out by the Board and sent from them. If it is posted I open the letters personally and sort them out for the different departments, and they are taken upstairs to the several departments of the business. The transacted orders are entered first into the rough day-book, next they are looked out and sent away, and there is a voucher accompanied by the order sent to the Board. The voucher is sent out, and we get our receipt by-and-bye. The voucher is signed by the overseer who receives the goods, and the money is sent into us in due course.

3618. Do you ever get verbal orders? I cannot tell you that; they would not come to me.

3619. Who can tell? Mr. Lawn.

3620. Will you tell me what is the usual practice in business when goods are ordered either by any other house in the city, or suppose the business was by any private individual in the city, what is the general system? If they are ordered by a business house the probability is that the order is accompanied by a written order, or the written order may be sent in afterwards, although that is not always the case. The goods ordered by private customers are generally ordered verbally, and the order is taken into the salesman, who executes it in the usual way.

3621. Yes; and what do you do then? The goods are sent out, signed for, and the invoice forwarded in the usual way.

3622. How would you do for a merchant or business man ordering goods? We would look up the orders and send them in, accompanied by the invoice in this case, and get a receipt for the goods. As a matter of fact, the merchants in the town will not take goods unless they are accompanied by invoice.

3623. What I want to get at is this: Suppose you sent away all the usual written orders with the goods, would not possibly a great difficulty arise if a person chose to dispute the correctness of the orders and you had not the original order to refer to? We refer to the original order as entered in our books.

3624. But, instead of sending the original order away, would it not be more reasonable to refer to the absolutely received original order? Yes; it would be safer, certainly.

3625. Do you, as a rule, and is it a practice amongst business men to part with the original order? Never.

3626. Otherwise, you could only refer to the orders in the book as taken from the original order? Yes.

3627. If the book showed scrapings out with a knife and scratchings with a pen, would that be a satisfactory ground for you to fight upon; that is, do you think you would be in a position from that to fight a case, in the event of there being a dispute as to the order? Oh, yes; there is the evidence of the clerk. In the case of a dispute, probably the invoice would be sent in at the time, and the amount would be disputed at the time, when it would be quite within any person's memory.

3628. But supposing there was no invoice sent in, as in the case of the Casual Labour Board? Well, I should think that was very unbusiness-like.

3629. Now, how long do you take, after you transact an order for the Casual Labour Board, to send back the order you receive from the Board attached to the contingent voucher? It is a matter of practice in which I am not competent to give you an answer.

3630. Mr. Lawn can? Yes.

3631. Would you be surprised to hear, or would you think it a correct statement, that you had not sent them back for a month? I know, as a matter of fact, that accounts are sent out at the end of the month, and these vouchers come in a bundle about 2 inches thick for me to sign.

3632. What warrant would there be that the goods for the Casual Labour Board were as per order; how would the overseer or superintendent of each camp be able to know that they were right? That is a matter for the department; not for us.

3633.

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3633. You are quite satisfied that whenever you delivered the goods you got a receipt from the person receiving them? Oh, yes.
3634. Quite satisfied? Yes.
3635. I fancy you told the President some time ago that you transacted the order sent for the goods and at the same time sent vouchers with the original orders attached to the Casual Labour Board? Yes; that was so.
3636. Then, if that is the case, how is it you tell me that a month used to elapse? They might have been all made out at the same time at the end of the month. As I explained before, at the end of the month the whole file of vouchers would be signed.
3637. Perhaps you do not quite understand me. I want to know what was the practice, as a matter of business;—you say that where you failed to send the invoices when the goods were sent to the Casual Labour Board, you transacted the order and sent direct to the Board the contingent voucher with the order attached; and now you tell me that probably, and as a rule, the contingent vouchers with the orders attached would not go out until a month afterwards? It might be so.
3638. But the two things cannot agree? It might be that the accounts would not go out for a month. There are instances where goods might be supplied on the 5th of the month, and then the orders sent out on the 31st.
3639. Then we may take it that there would be no particular rule in the matter? Yes. I know that the orders were sent out for this reason, that two orders from the Casual Labour Board were incomplete. These papers were from Mr. Lawn, and I wanted to know the reason why he could not supply these orders, and his reply was that the orders were attached to the vouchers.
3640. But supposing the orders did not go out immediately you transacted the order, how would the Casual Labour Board know that the order had been executed? By the voucher and receipt.
3641. But what is to enable them to know. There is an example in one of the vouchers, of steel being sent $1\frac{1}{8}$ instead of $1\frac{1}{4}$ —there is the receipt and the railway note, but the railway note does not give the weight? The railway note ought to agree with the invoice.
3642. But, take another instance: There are two coils of rope, or two coils of wire, and that would appear on the railway note as an entry “wire” 17 cwt.? If it were charged to you 17 cwt., and it had to be paid as such, you would have all the particulars you wanted.
3643. If the railway charge is 17 cwt., and the invoice comes in showing 32 coils, and there are only 30, how is the railway receipt to teach me that you sent 32? I cannot say.
3644. Presuming that you paid by weight it would be all right, but you do not pay by weight; presuming that you paid by quantity, and the railway receipt showed quantity. Here, for instance, is a receipt—“Parcel hardware”—does that present any guide to the quantity? No.
3645. There is another receipt—“One coil of rope”? Unless the weight is there it is no guide.
3646. Here, again, is “a parcel of fuze”—is that any guide to me? None whatever.
3647. So to return to what I have said, these railway notes were valueless to the Casual Labour Board, as documents showing either the weight, number, or value of packages, unless they were supported by invoices showing what was sent. There was no guide whatever? No guide.
3648. Do you think it is a business-like plan to send out goods, small or great, without the invoices of such goods? Well, that opens up a wide field. We never send out invoices with retail goods, for instance. It is more a matter of practice than business, I think.
3649. Is it a matter of practice? Pretty much, it is.
3650. Have you anything beyond the books which you have brought to-day to show that those goods were ever ordered? I do not know of anything. Perhaps Mr. Lawn might be able to point out something to you.
3651. Supposing I disputed that particular order, have you any evidence beyond the order in the rough day-book? Mr. Lawn will be able to answer that question.
3652. This rough day-book, is it simply a book which you would place upon the counter of your clerk, and into which would be entered the orders from each of the departments from which the goods might be ordered? That rough day-book is in charge of the clerk who has charge of the Government orders.
3653. Have you got separate classes of books for the different departments? Yes.
3654. I notice in the rough day-book, page 248, August 16th, in lead pencil, the number 259—I take it that is an entry in the clean day-book? That is, in the journal or general day-book—I think it is.
3655. What set of books do you keep in the shop? There is a rough day-book or order-book, then there is a day-book into which are copied the entries in the rough day-books; there is one general day-book from which we copy into the ledger.
3656. Have you a journal as well as a general day-book? Yes.
3657. So that you have a rough day-book, a general day-book which comprises the general orders in the different rough day-books; you pass all the orders from the rough day-books into the general day-book, then into the journal besides, and after that you have the ledger? Yes, the entries are copied from the journal into the ledger.
3658. These figures here in lead pencil, I suppose, refer either to the ledger or day-book? Yes; I think to the general day-book.
3659. Would the entries in the general day-book contain all the entries in the rough day-book? Yes, the whole of them, absolutely.
3660. That being the case, when they are entered into the general day-book, what becomes of the accounts? They are transferred into the ledger.
3661. Brought into the ledger then by item? Yes.
3662. So that the ledger then is a strictly accurate record of the accounts? Yes.
3663. That being the case, supposing there were entries in the rough day-book of certain goods sold and delivered to certain people, and two or three entries appeared of the same goods in the rough day-book, would these entries in duplicate or triplicate forms be passed from the rough day-book into the general day-book, and from that into the ledger? Yes, that would be so.
3664. Otherwise it would not be correct book-keeping? No.
3665. I would draw your attention to the rough day-book, date January 10th, 1889—do you see there “order 681”? Yes.

3666. Is the item "28 kegs of powder," charged to the Hurstville account, entered into the general day-book? Yes.

3667. And from that into the ledger? It should be so.

3668. Will you look at page 128 of the same book, January 12th, 1889. There is a number there as against the order 681 on account of the Casual Labour Board—"46 kegs of powder, one cask of zinc"—are these two, apparently from the same order, from the Casual Labour Board? I think so.

3669. Will that also appear in the ledger? Yes.

3670. Would you be able to produce the order from the Casual Labour Board for No. 681? I have not got the orders—they were returned.

3671. Are mistakes often made in a book like the rough day-book? I do not see why there should be.

3672. Mistakes I suppose might arise from a customer giving a verbal order and afterwards changing his mind, telling you to give him four dozen instead of six dozen, or six dozen instead of four dozen? It is possible in such a case as that.

3673. Do alterations often occur in the rough day-book? I won't say often, but they do occur.

3674. From what causes? Well, an alteration of an order for instance. An order might come for a certain line of goods, and the quantity be altered. It might be a written order. We might get an order from a customer up country this morning, and he might suddenly change his mind, and order double the quantity or half the quantity, as the case might be.

3675. In that case, would it not be a common practice to notify the alteration in the rough day-book,—as so and so, and the reason for the second order? It is too much worry to go into all these things—life is too short for that.

3676. But when the alteration occurred through the purchaser changing his mind, would it not be worth your own or your clerk's while to show your authority for changing the order—you say no. But how can you reconcile that with the fact that it is worth your clerk's while to go to the trouble of using his knife in changing the orders in the book. It is a fact that this has been done, is it not? Yes.

3677. It is a fact that in two or three cases these figures have been scratched out with a knife? Yes.

3678. Does it not strike you that in the rough day-book it is more natural for the clerk to put his pen through an entry than to scratch it out with a knife? It would doubtless seem much more natural

3679. Then does it not strike you as peculiar that the clerk should make an erasure like that in the rough day-book? No; I do not think so. He might make a blot; or he might explain it in two or three ways.

3680. I draw your attention to page 33 in this rough day-book, dated October 16—were there not four distinct figures altered? Well, there is some scratching of the paper where those figures are.

3681. Do you think that was done simply on account of a blot? I do not think anything about it.

3682. Do you think clerks, as a rule, are so particular about rough day-books that they would take the trouble to scratch out a blot? Well, the rough day-book must be clearly written, and there must be no hesitation about the figures, because they have to go into the day-book at the end of the day.

3683. You say it is quite necessary the figures should be plain—do you call these figures plain? Yes; they are readable now.

3684. Would you be prepared to swear to this figure (*indicating one*) without any hesitation? Yes; it is "8."

3685. Can you explain what it was before? No; I cannot give the slightest opinion.

3686. Well, I could. Can you swear to the figure underneath? No.

3687. Do you call that clearly written—do you call this figure "10" clear? Yes; I take that to be quite clear.

3688. Do you not think it a most reprehensible thing for a clerk to do business in the way that it has been done here—erasing his figures by means of a knife, and then blotching figures all over, so as to make it next to impossible to ascertain what they were? No; I do not think it reprehensible; a great deal depends on his reason for doing it. He might have made a wrong entry for instance.

3689. Is it usual in any business to allow a knife to be used in the books? No; it is not. It is very seldom done in the rough day-book; it is usual in the ledger; but I should not feel inclined to rap anyone over the knuckles for it.

3690. But it is not businesslike? I admit that.

3691. Would you be inclined to get rid of a man who did such a thing? I do not know that.

3692. I suppose, however, I may take it for granted that you do not allow the books to be mutilated in the manner in which this has been mutilated; I have already explained to you my feeling in the matter before. I do not care to see it, but I should not rap anyone over the knuckles for doing it once or twice.

3693. Will you read order No. 602? Yes. "16th October, Casual Labour Board account—eight kegs of powder, forty-eight coils of fuse, to Campbelltown."

3694. Have you any doubt in your own mind that you have read those figures correctly? No.

3695. Has there been any alteration made in those figures? Yes.

3696. Has that eight kegs of powder always been eight? I should not think so.

3697. What does it look as if it had originally been? I think ten.

3698. Would you say that the forty-eight coils of fuse was originally forty-eight? Yes.

3699. You are quite satisfied now that they are as you have read them? Yes; eight and forty-eight.

3700. Did you supply anything else to the Casual Labour Board but tools, fuse, and gunpowder? I could not say. I am not acquainted with what went out there at all. I know nothing whatever about it.

3701. Mr. Lawn would know? Yes.

3702. There was an order, I think you said, from Mr. Springall? Yes.

3703. And I think you told the President that you could not ascertain whether that was on Mr. Springall's private account, or the Board's? I think I told the President I was not aware.

3704. Do you know if that account has been paid? I could not tell you.

3705. Do you think it would be a proper thing to take orders from persons in the employ of the Casual Labour Board without ascertaining whether it was for the Board, or with the authority of the Board, or for themselves only? I should say it would be decidedly improper if they gave an order for the Board. I should think that the orders from the Casual Labour Board generally came through one channel, but that could be ascertained from the clerk.

3706. You anticipate, perhaps, that Mr. Lawn could tell us? Yes.

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3707. Of course you cannot go into these different items in the accounts? I know very little about them.
3708. Personally you would not supply on the order of the officials of the Casual Labour Board without first ascertaining whether they had authority to give the order, or the goods were for themselves or for the Board? I want to qualify that. If the employee of the Board had been in the habit of ordering the goods verbally, supported by a written order, I should say it would be quite proper to take his order if he came in at any time. It all depends upon his authority. We would not give supplies to any employee of the Board.
3709. What authority did you get in the first instance for receiving orders from the employees of the Board? I cannot tell you.
3710. Why did you adopt the system of returning the original orders to the Casual Labour Board? I presume under instructions.
3711. Do you know of your own knowledge? No. I believe the practice is adopted by another department in the Government.
3712. How can you identify any of these particular vouchers with any particular order? I cannot tell you, but I should think the number would do that. Generally speaking, I should say the number would be the mark.
3713. If you got an order, we will say dated 21st May, 1888, ordering eight kegs of powder and five coils of rope, and so on, how would that order be entered in the rough day-book? The number of the order, the department where it was to go to, if it were necessary to put that in, and the goods themselves would be placed opposite.
3714. Would you put the date of the order that you received? Not necessarily; but I really do not know.
3715. For instance, take this book. You see the 16th October entered here. I want to know whether, supposing that the 16th was the date upon which the order arrived, and the 14th the date at the head of the order, the 14th or 16th would be the date entered? Oh, we would date it as the 16th.
3716. Do your contingent vouchers disclose upon the face of them for what particular places these orders were transacted? I do not think so.
3717. We had some difficulty in finding one or two things this afternoon. This appears to be a grave omission in the clerk's entry? No; it appears to be a weakness in the entering of the books.
3718. Call it a weakness or what you like, it prevents the identification of the voucher, and makes it difficult in most cases. I will take page 33, order No. 602, which you read as being for eight kegs of powder and forty-eight coils of fuse. If the order should disclose that it was for eight kegs of powder and for thirty-two coils of fuse, which do you think would be most likely to be correct—the original order or the rough day-book? The rough day-book, because the original order may have been altered by another order or verbally.
3719. Is there anything in the rough day-book to show whether such an alteration was made or otherwise? It has been altered.
3720. Is there anything to show the authority for the alteration? No.
3721. Does not that suggest to your mind the advisability of what I said was necessary just now—that you should put in the day-book the reasons of such alteration, in place of scraping out the original number with a knife? Well, you know if you were to follow everything to its extremity you could not do any business at all.
3722. Very well. Supposing I refuse to pay you on this order, who is going to force me? We would have to get evidence as to the quantity supplied.
3723. Where are you going to get it? From the person who executed the order.
3724. You have nothing here in the Government railway delivery-notes to show that;—where then is the evidence you are going to get that you ever delivered them at all? Well, we have evidence as to the delivery of so many kegs of powder.
3725. Where? We have the railway receipt.
3726. Where? That I cannot tell you; but in a general way we would have the receipts.
3727. Supposing, as in this particular instance, you have not been able to find the cart-note for them, I ask you how you are to prove that they were supplied—how are you going to identify these contingent vouchers that in no way disclose where the goods are going to be delivered? With the delivery-note of the railways.
3728. What use is that? It is proof that the goods were delivered if they were signed for. Nobody would sign for them without their being delivered.
3729. We have got no proof of the delivery, and we have got no proof of the order having been given;—here is a case for example: There is a system obtaining between your establishment and the Casual Labour Board about the sending out of goods that makes it nearly impossible in some cases to trace the supplies, and causes a great deal of time to be wasted before you can identify your contingent vouchers with the cart-notes? It is not fair to argue from that one instance that the whole system is wrong.
3730. In a great many cases that the President asked you about—I do not know how many cases there were—you failed to identify them? But they are here marked on the railway receipt.
3731. In the absence of the original order, and the contingent voucher not showing the destination for which the goods were intended, and the contingent voucher not agreeing with what is stated on the butt of the order-book, does it not appear to be a very difficult matter to say that all these accounts are correct? No, I do not think so.
3732. If an entry appears in your ledger as from the original rough day-book, and the Board say that they had cancelled that order for the goods there described, would we find the order cancelled in the rough day-book? I think it is extremely likely, but I am not sure about that, because the goods may have been supplied before the entry went there, and in that case they would have to go through our credit-book, because having already appeared to the credit of the stock they cannot be debited to the stock.
3733. If a statement was made to this Commission that some item of these goods that you debited the Board with was a mistake and had been cancelled, where would you find evidence from your accounts of of their being cancelled? I cannot say.
3734. You know Messrs. Miles and Mason, who took over the affairs of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
3735. Was any application made by them to you about some difficulties they had with the accounts that they wanted to have explained? Yes.
3736. What did you do for them? At once sent our clerk down to explain them.
3737. What was his name? Frank Lawn. The same clerk that I have here now.

3738. You did not send them the books in the office? He may have done so; I do not know.
3739. Has anybody been talking with you lately as to the late Board and this Commission of Inquiry—I mean anybody connected with the Board? No. Mr.
J. H. Wood.
3740. There has been no one connected with the Board up to see you about anything? Oh, some one that was examined here yesterday said he was up there. 27 Mar., 1889.
3741. Who was that? I forget his name.
3742. Larnach? No.
3743. Neale? No.
3744. Hibble? Yes. He was up there to-day.
3745. Did you see him? Yes.
3746. What was he up about? He was giving some explanation about the accounts.
3747. There was nobody else there about the accounts? I went down myself two or three times to the Casual Labour Board.
3748. Nobody has been up to your place about them? No.
3749. *Mr. Franklin.*] Do the Government furnish your firm with these contingent voucher forms? Yes.
3750. Is it not a condition of the contract for the supply of stores that all stores paid for through the Treasury are at the Government contract rates? No; I do not think so. That would depend upon what department it is. We have no contract at all with the Casual Labour Board.
3751. I am asking you whether you don't understand by the conditions of the contract, no matter where you send the stores to, if they are paid for through the Treasury, they were to come under schedule rates? No.
3752. Then, in forwarding your account, did you note at the head of your account on the voucher that the goods were not under contract, as provided by the foot-note of the voucher? No.
3753. Will you read that foot-note? Yes. "Supplies of articles or services by a contractor, but not contracted for, are required to be stated separately, with the heading note—'not in contract.'"
3754. Would it not occur to you that this note applies to all exemptions from the Government contracts, and were you exempt in supplying the Casual Labour Board? I should look upon that as relating to a different service, and altogether out of the schedule. For instance, we had the Government contract at the time of the Soudan expedition, and we supplied a great many articles that were outside the contract—articles that we got from other firms, such as Lassetter's, and then we marked these articles as being outside the contract.
3755. Then I understand that you don't consider that you were bound to supply the Casual Labour Board as coming under the terms of your contract? No.

Frank John Lawn called in, sworn, and examined:—

3756. *President.*] Are you in the employ of Messrs. M'Lean Brothers and Rigg? Yes.
3757. How long have you been there? Four years in April last.
3758. Do you recognize these books? Yes.
3759. What do you call them? The rough day-books.
3760. Who kept these books? I did.
3761. Is all the writing in these books yours? I believe in one of the day-books there might be a leaf or so not written by me, and that would be about all.
3762. Do you recognize these forms of contingent vouchers? Yes.
3763. Who filled these up? I did.
3764. Are these in your writing? Yes.
3765. Your firm did a large amount of business with the Casual Labour Board, did it not? Yes.
3766. Were you in the habit of receiving their orders and entering them in your rough day-book and afterwards making out these contingent vouchers? Yes. I did not make all of them out.
3767. Will you look at this one [*Exhibit E*], Order No. 681? Yes.
3768. Is the body of that in your handwriting? Yes.
3769. Who is it signed by? It is signed by Mr. Wood.
3770. Will you turn up the entry of that in your rough day-book? Yes. "Casual Labour Board Account, Hurstville. 28 kegs of powder, National Park."
3771. Where did you get the information from that you put in that book? From the order.
3772. Can you lay your hand on the railway receipt for that? Yes. I produce the railway receipt, 15th January, 1889, for fourteen bags, containing twenty-eight kegs of powder; and I also produce the Ordnance permit-book, showing that twenty-eight kegs of powder were ordered to be sent to this address by us. This is a copy of it. They have the receipt; that is in the name of J. Springall, National Park.
3773. Did you take these orders yourself? Well, I generally took the orders when I was there. Of course, if I were absent at all, the orders would be given to one of the other salesmen, and I would give the necessary information.
3774. Were written orders always given to you? No; not always.
3775. Who gave the other orders? Mr. Davies or Mr. Hibble.
3776. And was the entry you made in the rough day-book from a verbal order or a written one? It would only be from a verbal order in very urgent cases.
3777. Did you not ask, after getting verbal orders, to have them put in writing? I asked for that as soon as possible.
3778. And did you in all cases get the written orders? I could not say in all cases; but I do not think there was more than once or twice that we failed to get the written orders. We got them eventually before we sent the order in.
3779. Look at this contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 5*], Order No. 604—in whose writing is that? It is in one of the clerk's handwriting.
3780. Could you swear to it? No; I could not swear to it. It is signed by Mr. Woods.
3781. Will you look in your rough day-book and show me where that is entered? Yes.
3782. In whose writing is that entry in the rough day-book. Mine.
3783. Is that the way in which it was originally entered? No; it was ordered as four kegs of blasting-powder and

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and sixteen coils of fuse. The order was brought up in that way ; but before the gentleman left me he told me that he would want double that quantity, and he asked me to send the second four kegs on the next powder-day.

3784. Was that a verbal order ? I believe that this order was verbal, and that I received a written order afterwards.

3785. Do you know who the gentleman was ? I think it was Mr. Hibble ; but I could not say whether it was Mr. Hibble or Mr. Davies. I think they came in together. They said the powder was very urgently required.

3786. Did you get written orders for these afterwards ? Yes. That is order No. 604 that I produce, showing eight kegs and thirty-two coils. These are the quantities that we have the receipts for.

3787. And if the order butt I have here shows four kegs and sixteen coils, which is right ? This book is right, because we have got the usual receipts for everything in these books. I produce three railway receipts of different dates, 18th October, 1st November, and 27th October. One of those represents a parcel of fuse.

3788. Is that the only receipt that you have got for the 32 coils of fuse ? Well, I counted them and saw that there were thirty-two, to the best of my knowledge.

3789. Will you look at contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 6*], order No. 579—is that in your handwriting ? No ; it is not in my handwriting. It is for eight kegs of blasting-powder, three doz. coil fuse, three doz. pick-handles, two doz. mattock-handles, and a dozen axes.

3790. Can you show me that in your rough day-book ? Yes.

3791. Is that entry in the book in your own handwriting ? Yes ; I produce the railway receipt of 18th October for eight kegs of blasting-powder.

3792. Where shall we find the order for that ? The Casual Labour Board would have that.

3793. Did you send the original orders back in all cases to the Casual Labour Board ? Yes.

3794. Is there anything to show that there has been any alteration on that ? There is no alteration, except that I have added four bags on to the powder, which they never thought of writing on the order.

3795. Look at this contingent voucher, 25th September, 1888, order No. 552 [*Exhibit E 3*—is that in your handwriting ? Yes.

3796. Will you find that entry in your rough day-book ? Yes ; I supplied a hamper-basket, but it was returned and credited.

3797. The entry in your book is about "one hamper-basket," but this contingent voucher is "six coils of Manilla rope" ? Yes ; but I made one entry in the order day-book, "six coils of Manilla rope."

3798. Where is it ? I do not know.

3799. Now, sir, is there any entry in your book for "six coils of Manilla rope" ? No ; I can find none.

3800. Where did you get this order for six coils Manilla rope from ? I cannot recollect.

3801. Is it in your handwriting ? It is very much like it, but I could not swear that it is my handwriting.

3802. Have you any reason to doubt as to its being in your handwriting ? I have some reason, because it is not in my books. I have the hamper-basket, but that I remember was returned.

3803. Do you believe that the document I have placed in your hands is an original document or not ? I do not know how it is ; it should have been entered, but it is not there.

3804. If it is not in your handwriting is it not in the handwriting of somebody who writes very like you ? Yes ; I remember them having the rope, but it is a great mistake my omitting to enter it.

3805. Look at page 272 of your rough day-book ; is there a note of any number on that page showing the same number as contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 3*], order No. 552 ? Yes ; "Casual Labour Board 552— one hamper-basket."

3806. In whose handwriting is that ? It is in my handwriting.

3807. Now, sir, have you any reason to doubt that the writing in that contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 3*] is your handwriting ? No ; I could swear that that is my handwriting.

3808. And the entry in the rough day-book is your handwriting ? Yes.

3809. How do you explain the entry 552 in the rough day-book, which is a hamper-basket, and 552 in the contingent voucher, signed by Mr. Wood, which is six coils of Manilla rope. Can you give this Commission any information about it ? I cannot.

3810. On your oath ? No. I do not know how it has got there. I know it was written by me, that it was supplied, and returned, and that we never charged for it. The only explanation I can give is that I have sent the rope and sent the voucher, and omitted to make the entry.

3811. Will you produce to me any receipts, whether from carters, the railway office, or the steamer, for these goods in the contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 3*] ? I have only got the railway receipts here.

3812. Just look and see ? No ; there is nothing here. We might have it in the receipt-books.

3813. Have you ever been asked about this item before ? I never saw this before.

3814. Is it not an extraordinary thing that you should have before you a document, apparently in your own handwriting, for six coils Manilla rope, of which there is no record in your books ? That is what I cannot make out—I cannot make it out at all.

3815. Can you recollect anything about it. The date is the 25th September, 1888 ? No, I do not remember.

3816. Is your memory bad ? No ; but I have got a good deal to think of.

3817. I do not suppose you have got so much as I have to think of, or as any gentleman in this room has to think of. Let us have your own story about the hamper-basket. Did you get a written order for the hamper-basket ? Yes ; that is the order—552.

3818. Who sent the order ? The Casual Labour Board.

3819. Have you got the original order in your possession ? No ; it was returned.

3820. What is the history of this basket ? It was returned because it was too expensive, I think.

3821. What was the price of it ? £7, I think.

3822. Have you anything here that will show what you charged for the basket ? No.

3823. Have you any entry in the office ? I do not think so.

3824. You cannot recollect what it cost ? I know it was marked retail for about £7 ; and we had it in stock for a long time and could not sell it.

3825. You sent that basket in response to a request, and they sent it back to you ? Yes ; and we credited it.

3826. *Mr. Waller.*] Who said the hamper-basket was too dear? Mr. Hibble, I think; he brought it back.
3827. Are you sure? Well, I am not certain whether it was Mr. Hibble or Mr. Davies.
3828. You will swear it was one or the other? Well, I believe so.
3829. You believe so—don't you know them both? Yes; I know them both.
3830. Why do you say you believe? The hamper-basket may have been brought into my room when I was out. Someone told me it was brought back. It did not come back in the ordinary way.
3831. Where were the goods supplied to? The hamper was, I believe, addressed to the offices of the Board, at Goulburn-street.
3832. Would the books disclose the fact that it was directed to the office? Well, I know it went to the office.
3833. Is there the same mystery about all the goods that leave your office, as to where they are going to, as there is about this basket? No.
3834. Do you usually know when goods leave your stores where they are going to? Well, we are supposed to do so.
3835. Do you take precautions to know that they are delivered? Well, it all depends where the goods are going to. Supposing they are going to Hurstville, I enter them in the despatch-book, and state where they are going by rail.
3836. But if you were sending them to me, you would send them out without taking any note of the receipt of them? Well, we would not do it in every case.
3837. Don't your carters get receipts? Generally.
3838. But it was not done in the case of the Manilla rope or the hamper? No.
3839. Do you know the date the hamper was brought back? No.
3840. In fact, you know nothing whatever about it? Nothing beyond the fact that I sent the hamper, and it was brought back.
3841. How is it that you made the order number in the contingent voucher correspond with the number of the entry in the book as against the hamper? I could not say. All I know is we received the order for the hamper basket. It was returned and credited, and we never charged the Casual Labour Board with it.
3842. Can you show the entry of the credit in the rough day-book? No; it would be in the ledger.
3843. Who is the ledger-keeper—is he near you in the office? He is within 20 yards of me.
3844. And is it the usual plan, that you take the article to the ledger-keeper, and tell him to credit it? Yes.
3845. You were not there when the hamper was returned? No.
3846. Were you absent long? No; I was not out long.
3847. Who received it? I could not remember.
3848. Could you tell whether Mr. Davies or Mr. Hibble returned it? No; some of the employees said it was returned from the Casual Labour Board. That was all.
3849. How was it credited? I would tell the ledger-keeper.
3850. Who told you that it was too expensive? The next day, or a couple of days afterwards, when they came up, I asked why the basket was returned.
3851. Who came up? I think it was Mr. Hibble or Mr. Davies—either one or the other.
3852. And they told you what? That the basket was too expensive.
3853. Did they get another one? No. They got one a long while afterwards, but it was too little.
3854. Will you swear that there is an entry in the books crediting this particular hamper? Yes.
3855. Which book do the credits pass into first? The ledger direct.
3856. How long ago would that be? I could not say.
3857. How long would it be from the present time—speaking generally? It must have been before the end of September.
3858. Will the credit appear in a straightforward manner without any interlining. Will it be a credit that will show the thing fair and true, with the entries before it, and the other entries following afterwards in their natural order? Yes.
3859. Is it such credit as will not raise suspicion in anybody's mind as to the credit being an after thought? Oh, yes. I told the ledger-keeper to credit it.
3860. Who is the ledger-keeper? Mr. Jarrett.
3861. Did he make an entry in the book at the time? I don't know whether he made an entry in the book on that occasion; he used generally to make an entry in the book of anything of that kind.
3862. What authority had you received for supplying goods to the Casual Labour Board at all? I don't know; we got orders to do so.
3863. Who were they signed by? By Mr. Davies, the Chairman.
3864. Always by Mr. Davies? I could not say that Mr. Davies always signed them.
3865. How do you know that Mr. Davies was Chairman of the Board? I did not know until he brought two or three orders.
3866. Did you supply anything previous to that for the unemployed. Who signed that particular order? I think it was Mr. Wells.
3867. Had you any means of knowing that Mr. Wells had anything to do with the Casual Labour Board? I did know that he had.
3868. Were any arrangements made by the Board as to the delivery of goods to orders signed by the superintendents and other officers of the Casual Labour Board? Yes; I got strict injunctions to supply no goods without proper orders from the Chairman.
3869. Did you ever honor any orders without his signature? Not that I can remember.
3870. Did you know a man named Springall? Yes.
3871. Did you ever honor any of his orders? Not that I can remember.
3872. Will you turn to page 180, I think, in your rough day-book? Yes.
3873. Do you see an order there by Mr. Springall? Yes; that is a private order.
3874. Has it been paid? No; that has not been paid.
3875. You are quite sure that there was no voucher sent to the Casual Labour Board in respect of that order? Quite sure. He said he would pay it himself.
3876. What made you send back the orders to the Casual Labour Board? Mr. Davies gave an order verbally

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- verbally to me that we should do so. He stated that unless we sent the original orders the Board would not recognize our accounts.
3877. Do you think it is a good thing to part with the original orders? I do not.
3878. Why did you not suggest sending them invoices, as was the custom of the trade, and let them compare them with the butts? Well, we sent them back to the Colonial Architect's Office in the same way.
3879. Will you look at page 33 in the rough day-book? Yes.
3880. Do you notice these three entries there numbered 603, 604, 602? Yes.
3881. What are the orders? Eight kegs of powder and thirty-two coils of fuse.
3882. Have these figures been tampered with? Yes.
3883. What system has been adopted? It looks as if I had scraped out the number underneath and written "8."
3884. You say "it looks";—have you any doubt about it? No; it was scraped out.
3885. Why did you scrape it out? Well, that was the regular practice.
3886. Just look a little lower down—"600—ten kegs";—what was that originally? I could not say.
3887. What is next? 48. That is altered to 60.
3888. You altered that? I scraped 48 through with a pen and put 60.
3889. Can you read the 48 quite plainly? I can read it fairly.
3890. Have you any doubt that it is 48;—standing here in the light, you can see quite plainly? No.
3891. Why did you not adopt some straightforward manner of altering the orders, by passing your pen through them, instead of scraping them out? I don't know. This is only just a rough book.
3892. Whether it is a rough book or not, there is no reason why you should have been constantly using the knife? That is because the goods had been ordered verbally; afterwards they used to alter the orders by asking for twice the quantity.
3893. Why is it done by knife? I cannot say.
3894. Do you use knives as a rule in the other entries? There might be a few instances where I have used the knife.
3895. Show me them? I might find a few other entries where I used the knife here. [*Witness examined the entries.*] No; I never had occasion to alter the others.
3896. Can you see any alterations in the other entries, except where the Casual Labour Board has been dealing with you? No.
3897. Can you account for that? All the other orders are sent in by post and entered from the orders into the book; but in the case of the Casual Labour Board they had the orders in their own hands. I would enter them in, and they would come half an hour afterwards—Mr. Hibble or Mr. Davies—and constantly alter the orders.
3898. How soon would they return and make these alterations? Perhaps that day or the next day.
3899. How long was it before you commenced to transact these orders? As a rule these orders were supposed to be got away at once. I think they always were.
3900. Then what was the good of altering an order verbally to you, and you altering the order in your rough day-book, if the order was already transacted? Well, in the case of the powder, for instance. There are only one or two powder-days in a week. They would know that these alterations could be made for the next powder-day.
3901. So the alterations would only be in the case of powder? Yes; but there might be one or two other cases. Nearly all the alterations, however, were in powder.
3902. Did you often get these verbal orders? Yes, very often, and then the written ones the next day. I would never take a verbal order, except from Mr. Davies or Mr. Hibble.
3903. Have you got power to make arrangements with anybody as to concessions to be given in dealing with a firm or with people who bring you large orders? No; I would not do it unless I spoke to Mr. Wood.
3904. Did you make any agreement with the Casual Labour Board? No; I did not.
3905. You never paid commission? I never paid a shilling.
3906. Who paid the cheques for the goods? They were paid at the office by Mr. Davies. He would come to me, and I would take him into the office and leave him there.
3907. And he would go perhaps to Mr. Wood, or someone else? No; he only went to the accountant or receiver.
3908. You are quite sure there was no commission and no concession? Yes.
3909. Did you deal with this Casual Labour Board according to the schedule prices of the other Government departments? No; we did not, because most of the orders were for articles that were not under contract. They were really different, and we would have sometimes to purchase the goods elsewhere and pay a much higher price than we would get.
3910. Did you supply any other things for the office besides this hamper? Yes; buckets, and a few odd things.
3911. Anything like wines or spirits? No, sir; never.
3912. Have you private accounts with any members of the Casual Labour Board or their officers? I believe there was one private account with Mr. Hinchcliffe; and Mr. Davies got a few things.
3913. Had you an account in his name? Yes, we had an account.
3914. How does the account stand now? I do not know.
3915. Do you think that any of these private accounts would have by mistake gone upon the contingent vouchers of the Casual Labour Board? No; they could not have done that.
3916. *President.*] Have you anything beyond your books to show that the goods were ordered that were included in the various contingent vouchers? Nothing.
3917. Did you ever act on verbal orders without getting written orders afterwards? If I acted on the verbal orders I always got a written order afterwards.
3918. Then if we find contingent vouchers for goods supplied for which there is no written order, we can conclude that the goods were not ordered at all? Yes.
3919. Can you tell me how long you kept these issue orders before you sent them back to the Casual Labour Board? Well, it all depends upon how long it would take to make out the vouchers. We have often kept them to the end of the month.

3920. Have you been down to Mr. Miles's office, or the office of the Casual Labour Board, lately about any items in dispute in the accounts? Yes. They asked McLean Bros. and Rigg for a statement of all outstanding accounts, and I brought it down to them.

Mr.
F. J. Lawn,
27 Mar., 1889.

3921. Did they ask you for any explanation? They asked me about one particular line. I think it was the hamper-basket.

3922. I thought you said to me you had never heard anything about that? I never heard until lately.

3923. Then it has been inquired into? I was asked whether I knew anything about a hamper-basket.

3924. Who asked you? It was Mr. Mason or Mr. Miles; I could not say which.

3925. Did you spend some little time there with the clerk? I know Mr. Hibble, and I spoke to him.

3926. Did you go into these matters with him? No; he never asked me about them.

3927. How long did you spend there? About a quarter of an hour.

3928. Can you not tell us what particular items they inquired about? No.

THURSDAY, 28 MARCH, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Frank John Lawn called in and examination continued:—

3929. *President.*] I want to call your attention again to this contingent voucher of 25th September, 1888, Order No. 552 [*Exhibit E 3*]—"Six coils Manilla rope, £3 10s.";—are you now in a better position than you were yesterday to give us any evidence about it? No. I simply turned up the entry for that date, and found there was an entry on that particular day "one hamper-basket, £3 10s."; but I told the ledger-keeper to credit it afterwards when we found it was returned.

Mr.
F. J. Lawn,
28 Mar., 1889.

3930. Is that all the explanation you can give? That is all.

3931. Do you know Mr. John Davies' signature. Is this it on the contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 3*]? That resembles the signature on the order received by us.

3932. Do you believe that to be Mr. John Davies' signature? I believe it to be.

3933. Do you know Mr. Burrowes' signature? I never took any particular notice of the signature.

3934. This purports to be signed by Mr. Burrowes? Yes.

3935. Have you any doubt now as to the rest of the writing in the voucher being in your own handwriting? I looked again to see if I could find any trace amongst my old papers, but could not find any papers or orders concerning it.

3936. Is the amount of this voucher [*Exhibit E 3*] the same as you have charged in your books for a hamper-basket? Yes.

3937. Is the order number on this voucher [*Exhibit E 3*] the same number as you have entered in the margin of your day-book as a hamper-basket? Yes.

3938. Have you any recollection whatever as to what led you to write in this voucher [*Exhibit E 3*] "Six coils of Manilla rope," instead of a "hamper-basket"? I remember sending the order back with a voucher for a hamper-basket; but I do not know what became of the order or the voucher. I simply credited it when returned, knowing we might never expect payment for it.

3939. Will you look at this order for the issue of stores, dated 18th September, numbered 552, signed by John Davies, Chairman? Yes.

3940. Did you ever see that before? Yes, I have. [*Original order put in and marked H.*]

3941. Did you have this before you when you made that entry in your rough day-book? I believe so. I must have had it then to make the entry.

3942. You believe you had this document before you when you made the entry? I would not swear I had this document.

3943. What is your evidence? When I made the entry I may have made it the day before and omitted to put the order number in until I got the order. Mr. Davies may have sent up for it and sent the order next day, and I simply made the entry "one hamper-basket," and left room for the order number.

3944. This is a most important matter,—it may seem a trifling one to you; you can have no object in withholding information? I simply speak the truth.

3945. It is important I should know whether your evidence or belief is that you had this before you when you made this entry in your rough day-book? I must have had this before me at the time to get the order number from. I must have had it in my hand and compared it with the book. Whether I received it a few hours before I wrote the order I cannot state.

3946. What age are you? Twenty-four.

3947. How many years have you been in business? Eight years.

3948. What was your age when you left school? Sixteen.

3949. You have had a fair education? Yes.

3950. Does it not strike you as an extraordinary thing that you should write into the contingent voucher "six coils Manilla rope, £3 10s.," when you had before you an entry in your rough day-book, an order, with a corresponding number, for one hamper-basket? Yes; it is a most extraordinary thing, and I cannot account for it.

3951. Has such a thing ever occurred before in your business experience? No, it has not.

3952. Is it not an extraordinary thing that the price you charge in your books for a hamper-basket is exactly the same as you charge for the six coils Manilla rope? Yes, it is.

3953. How many months ago is that? About six months.

3954. And do you tell me that in so short a time as that your memory is an entire blank as to this? I do not remember anything at all about it.

3955. Is this Commission to take your evidence to be that your memory is an utter blank as to how you came to treat a hamper-basket as six coils of Manilla rope? I have no entry for six coils of rope, but an entry for one hamper-basket, which I charged for and credited.

3956. Do you know Mr. Hibble? Yes.

3957.

- Mr. F. J. Lawn.
28 Mar., 1889.
3957. Has Mr. Hibble ever seen you about that hamper-basket? I do not know whether Mr. Hibble or Mr. Davies came to select it. That is the only time he said anything about it to me.
3958. Have you any recollection of mentioning these items to any of your superior officers in the firm? No.
3959. Then whatever you have written there you have written on your own responsibility? Yes; if I have written it.
3960. Have you any doubt that it is in your handwriting? It looks like my handwriting, but not having any entry in my book—
3961. Have you the slightest doubt it is your handwriting? I would almost swear it is my handwriting, but having nothing here, I cannot make out how it is there unless I saw the rope taken away and omitted to enter it, and simply sent a voucher out.
3962. Who filled the vouchers up? I filled some of them up.
3963. Did you not fill up the majority of them? I cannot say about the majority; I filled up a great many.
3964. Do you now swear that this is your handwriting. Let us have a distinct statement about it. Examine it as much as you like? Well, I can swear it is my handwriting; I never saw anything come so near to it.
3965. I think you told us yesterday that one hamper-basket was returned because Mr. Davies said it was too expensive—what was the price of that? £6 10s.
3966. Will you produce the ledger of your employers to show the entry of that £6 10s., or whatever entry there is regarding this hamper-basket? I never opened the ledger before. I have brought the ledger-clerk with me to turn it up.

[*President*.:—*Call in the ledger-clerk.*]

- Mr. W. Jarrett
28 Mar., 1889.
- William Jarrett called in, sworn, and examined (*his evidence being interposed by the President*):—
3967. *President.*] What are you? Clerk to M'Lean Brothers and Rigg. My duty is to keep one of the ledgers.
3968. You have brought the ledger up here, I believe? Yes.
3969. Will you look at the ledger and turn up the account of the Casual Labour Board for the latter half of 1888? Yes.
3970. Is this account, at page 1251 on your ledger, an account against the Casual Labour Board for the months of August and September? Page 1251 is August, and page 1252, September.
3971. Will that account show any credits you have given the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
3972. Is there a credit for £3 10s.? There is an item of £3 10s., and against it, written in pencil, the word, "Credited."
3973. Is there an amount of £6 10s. charged there against the Casual Labour Board? Yes; there is an amount of £6 10s. on 31st August.
3974. Is the amount of £6 10s. credited? It has written against it, in pencil, "Credited."
3975. How will that credit be shown? That credit order ought to have come up in a book we have kept for that purpose showing credits alone.
3976. Who keeps that book? That book is kept by the invoice clerk.
3977. What is the name of the invoice clerk? Mr. Searle.
3978. Is he in your office now? He is at present in our office.
3979. Have you got that credit-book here? No; I did not bring it here.
3980. Should those two amounts, looking at that book, appear to the credit of the Casual Labour Board? Yes; if the order came in the usual way.
3981. Can you swear whether or not they have been credited? I cannot swear whether they have been credited. My instructions are written in the book.
3982. Will that book be the guide from which you got the two debits of £6 10s. and £3 10s.? They would be in a book called the Government day-book. We keep it for nothing else than Government work.
3983. Where did you get the information for that entry, page 1252, on your ledger, as follows:—"25th September, Casual Labour Board Office, £3 10s."? Where did I get my information. I got it from the general day-book.
3984. Was it from the same book you got the information on page 1251, 31st August item, "Casual Labour Board Office, £6 10s."? Yes, the same book.
3985. This book, the ledger, you produce does not show any credits at all? No; nor the day-books.
3986. Only those pencil-marks? Yes.
3987. Do you know whose handwriting these pencil-marks are in? They are in my own handwriting.
3988. Have you any recollection about them? Yes. I recollect Mr. Lawn coming to me and saying the goods were returned and would have to be credited; would I mark it in the ledger, and he would see and get the credit through.
3989. And you considered you were carrying out his instructions by putting that pencil-mark? I just put it there as a pencil memorandum for myself.
3990. How would the gentleman who had charge of the credit-book know it would be credited? He would only know by Mr. Lawn telling him to put the credit through.

Frank John Lawn resumes his evidence:—

- Mr. F. J. Lawn.
28 Mar., 1889.
3991. *President.*] Will you look at this contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 2*], dated 31st August, 1888, for £6 10s., which I hold before you? Yes.
3992. In whose handwriting is the upper part of that voucher? Mine.
3993. You are sure of it? Yes.
3994. Is there any number for that voucher? There is no number on it.
3995. Whose signature is that on it? Mr. Woods'.
3996. Manager of your company? Yes.
3997. Have you any recollection of getting any order for that? I got orders for a great many shovels and hammers. I do not recollect that particular quantity.
3998. Will you turn up your rough day-book you have before you and find me that? No, sir; I cannot find an entry for this particular item. There is another—two dozen long-handled shovels sent to Sutherland, I do not know whether they would be the same.
- 3999.

Mr.
F. J. Lawn.
28 Mar., 1889.

3999. What is the number for that Sutherland entry? No. 513.
4000. Is that the order for the goods in this contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 2*]? No.
4001. You are sure it is not the order? Yes.
4002. Do you find any particulars in your rough day-book to justify this order of 31st August, 1888? No.
4003. Can you produce the railway, carter's, or any other receipt showing the delivery of these goods in voucher of 31st August, 1888? I could not turn up a receipt, because I have no entry in my book.
4004. Have you any recollection about it? I recollect supplying a great number of hammers and shovels, but I cannot say anything about that quantity.
4005. What is the total amount of that voucher? £6 10s.
4006. What was the value of that one hamper-basket which was said to be too expensive? £6 10s.
4007. What was the value of the other hamper-basket? £3 10s.
4008. Look at these two contingent vouchers again for £3 10s. and £6 10s., one being for six coils of Manilla rope, and the other twenty-four long-handled shovels and four hammers [*Exhibits E 2 and E 3*];—look at both carefully, and let me know whether there is any connection with these and the hamper-baskets? They are exactly the same amounts. That is all the information I can give concerning it.
4009. On your oath? On my oath.
4010. You see the items £6 10s. and £3 10s. in the ledger Mr. Jarrett brought up? No; I have not seen them.
4011. Look now in the ledger for them? Yes.
4012. Are not these items in the ledger £6 10s. and £3 10s., with pencil marks "Credited" opposite them, exactly the same amounts as in these vouchers? Exactly.
4013. Now, on your solemn oath, knowing the pains and penalties of giving false testimony, will you tell me that these two vouchers have no connection with the hamper-baskets? Not that I know of.
4014. Do you believe that those coils of Manilla rope for £3 10s., and those long-handled shovels and hammers for £6 10s., were properly charged to the Casual Labour Board and the goods delivered? They were not properly charged, or else I would have an entry of them.
4015. Who is responsible for that? I am. If the goods had been ordered I should have had a note of them in my book.
4016. Has your Company been asked to supply Messrs. Mason and Miles with a statement of the outstanding accounts due by the Casual Labour Board? I believe they were.
4017. Do you know whether the statement was supplied? I brought it down.
4018. Did you prepare it? No.
4019. Do you know who prepared it? No; but I believe it was Mr. Jarrett.
4020. The gentleman who was here just now? Yes.
4021. Did you look at the statement? No, I did not.
4022. Do you recollect whether after that statement had been sent down any further particulars were required by, or information supplied to, Mason and Miles? Yes. I forget whether I had to go down and explain something about some powder to Mr. Miles. I went down to the Board and was told he was in his office, in Hunter-street. I was shown into Mr. Miles' room, and he asked me some questions about powder.
4023. Did he not ask you about these two accounts? I could not swear that he did.
4024. How long ago is that? About a month ago.
4025. Your memory is not a bad one, is it? I have so much to think of.
4026. Do you not think it likely that two items of this somewhat sensational kind—as to which you say you have no recollection at all, but which you charge for, and get your senior officer to certify for, would remain in your memory since Mr. Miles' inquiry? There are so many vouchers at the end of the month, and Mr. Wood never looks when he signs. He keeps signing away until they are finished.
4027. Has Mr. Wood said anything to you about this matter since yesterday? No.
4028. Has he made any inquiries about it? No; I have not been in the warehouse since.
4029. Can we take it that these are samples of the rest of the vouchers that you make out—are these two vouchers for £6 10s. and £3 10s. a sample of the correctness of the other vouchers you made out? Well, I did not think there was a mistake in all my work; I cannot make this out at all; I do not think you would find many mistakes in my work; I cannot make out how this came about. I check them to the best of my ability.
4030. You surely do not claim this as a clerical mistake? It looks like it. It looks as if it was neglect on my part.
4031. Is the insertion of long-handled shovels, hammers, and rope for a hamper-basket a clerical mistake? If they had a hamper-basket they would be charged for it. I could not make a mistake and read shovels for a hamper-basket very well.
4032. Look at this original order for issue of stores, "No. 552, 10th September, 1888, to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg. Please issue the undermentioned article, viz., one hamper-basket"; signed John Davies, Chairman, with the seal of the Casual Labour Board and No. 82 Goulburn-st. on it;—~~now, with all the romance and fiction you are capable of bringing to bear on the matter, do you think it possible to make a clerical error out of that by issuing in its place two vouchers, one for rope, the other for long-handled shovels and hammers, the order being for a hamper-basket?~~ No, sir, it is not a clerical mistake.
4033. What kind of a mistake is it? The only way I can see is, I have sent the goods away and made out a voucher without entering it in the book.
4034. If it turns out that the Board was debited with £6 10s. and £3 10s., and that vouchers for these items were duly sent in, signed by Wood, your superior officer, by Mr. Davies, the head of the Casual Labour Board Department, and by Mr. Burrowes, the officer alleged to have incurred the expense—if it turns out that these two items have never been credited (as you say) to the Government, is it not something more than a clerical mistake? It looks like it.
4035. What does it look like? A great mistake on someone's part.
4036. Not more than a mistake; if you send a person an account, claiming that the goods have been delivered, and seek payment for the amount, especially in the case of a Government Department, where you know an officer is dependent on other officers, is that nothing but a mistake? It is more than a mistake, if we know the goods were never supplied.

[*President*:—*Call in the clerk who keeps the credit-book.*]

Abraham

Abraham Searle called in, sworn, and examined (*his evidence being interposed by the President*) :—

- Mr. A. Searle.
28 Mar., 1889.
4037. *President.*] What are you? Clerk to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg.
4038. What are your duties? Invoice clerk.
4039. Do you keep any books? Only the day-book.
4040. Do you have anything to do with the book called the "credit-book"? Yes.
4041. Will you let me see it? Yes.
4042. Will you open the book about August, September, or October, 1888, and see whether there is any credit there for the Casual Labour Board for items of £6 10s. and £3 10s. To save time I will call your attention to the item on page 1251 of your Company's ledger, £6 10s., and another item on page 1252, £3 10s., the first on 31st August, 1888, and the second on 25th September, 1888;—you observe against each of these items written in pencil the word "credited." I want to find out whether in your credit-book these items appear? I cannot find any credit.
4043. Are you able to state whether these two amounts have been credited to the Casual Labour Board? I cannot state that.
4044. Why? Because I do not keep credits for the Government.
4045. Who does? Mr. Lawn.
4046. This gentleman here? Yes.
4047. Do you keep that credit-book you have got in your hand? As a rule.
4048. Where do you get your information from? From the different salesmen.
4049. Did Mr. Lawn ever tell you, in your recollection, to credit these items of £6 10s. and £3 10s.? No.
4050. You swear he did not? No; he did not.
4051. Will you show me the Government day-book, 31st August and 25th September, 1888. Do you keep it? No.
4052. Who keeps it? Mr. Lawn.
4053. I suppose you have had some practice in book-keeping? A little.
4054. What is the name of the book we are looking at? The Government day-book.
4055. Is there any item of £6 10s., appearing in August, 1888? Yes. Page 267, "Casual Labour Board Account Office, to hamper-basket, £6 10s."
4056. Is that a debit? Yes.
4057. Is there another item for £3 10s. in September, 1888, page 278? Yes. "No. 552, Casual Labour Board Account Office—one hamper-basket, £3 10s."
4058. Is that a debit? Yes.
4059. Is there anything in any of the books to show that either of those accounts have been credited at any time? Both items are marked "Returned," as far as I can see, in lead-pencil.
4060. How is that marked? In blue lead-pencil.
4061. Do you know whose handwriting it is? I think it is Mr. Lawn's.
4062. Is there anything in this book to show that these two items have been credited to the Government? Nothing at all.
4063. *Mr. Waller.*] Do you see any entries made in the credit-book for credit for Government accounts? Some.
4064. None for the Casual Labour Board? There are some.
4065. What is the rule to show you, as keeper of the credit-book, what accounts are to be sent in to the Government and what are not? They do not as a rule make credit for the Government. Mr. Lawn does that.
4066. By whose orders? I cannot say.
4067. Your duty is credit-clerk in charge of the credit-ledger? Yes.
4068. Should not all credits, properly speaking, come through your book? They ought to.
4069. Have you any reason to suppose there were any instructions given by any of the firm that exception was to be made for the Casual Labour Board's accounts passing through your book in the ordinary way? No.
4070. Did it strike you as being peculiar or did you ever think of the matter? No.
4071. Has your attention ever been drawn by the ledger-keeper or any other book-keeper to the fact that credits belonging to the Casual Labour Board did not appear in your book? No.
4072. Did you make any remark when credit was given to the Casual Labour Board that they were doing an unusual thing in not giving them to you? I never had them come to me.
4073. Will you show the Commission some of the credits you have passed for the Casual Labour Board through your book? I do not think I have passed any.
4074. Is it usual for all credits given to customers to appear in that book? Yes.
4075. That book would be a true record? Yes.
4076. That book has no credits so far as the Casual Labour Board is concerned? It does not seem to have.
4077. ~~If there are credits given to the Casual Labour Board that book is not correct? I cannot say so.~~
4078. Does it strike you as peculiar that these credits fail to come through your book? They ought to have gone through the book in the proper manner.
4079. Does it strike you as peculiar that they do not? Yes.
4080. You never heard there was credit to be given or that it had been given? No.
4081. *President.*] Recall the ledger-clerk.

William Jarrett recalled, evidence further interposed :—

- Mr. W. Jarrett.
28 Mar., 1889.
4082. *President.*] I want to call your attention again to these pencil marks. Have you ever seen them before to-day? I noticed them when going through the books every month.
4083. How long ago? About the beginning of December I had instructions.
4084. What instructions? Mr. Lawn gave them to me.
4085. What were they? I wrote this word "Credited."
4086. And that other word "Credited"? Yes.
4087. Are you aware that neither of these items appear in the credit-book? I am certain that they are not in the credit-book.
4088.

Mr.
W. Jarrett.
28 Mar., 1889.

4088. Do you know of any application ever made to you by Messrs. Mason and Miles for a statement of the outstanding accounts? Yes.
4089. Do you know whether such a statement was prepared? Yes.
4090. Who prepared it? I prepared it myself.
4091. Were these items in it? These items were not in it.
4092. How comes it then they are charged against the Government in your ledger and yet omitted from the statement of account? It is carelessness on Mr. Lawn's part in not putting the credit through the book.
4093. Is that the way you have the books kept in your establishment? It is an oversight on his part. The credits are usually made at once.
4094. Are you aware that after this statement of accounts was furnished Messrs. Mason and Miles sent back for some further information? Yes.
4095. Will you look at a letter I hand you, 15th February, 1889, addressed to your company, from Messrs. Mason and Miles;—have you ever seen it? Yes.
4096. Will you look at the second page of it—in the margin you see some pencil marks;—do you know whose they are? They are my own.
4097. What is marked against 31st August, Hurstville? "No account."
4098. And 25th September, Hurstville, £3 10s.? "No account."
4099. Is that true? Yes.
4100. Look at contingent voucher [*Exhibit E3*], whose signature is that? Mr. Wood's.
4101. Look at this voucher [*Exhibit E2*] for £6 10s., whose signature is that? Mr. Wood's again.
4102. Do you still say there is no account for those items? I marked that letter, "No account" because I had the word "Credited" alongside of the amount. That is as much as there being no account in the book.
4103. You still say there is no account against the Board? No; there is not an account.
4104. Are these vouchers correct or incorrect? I should say they are not correct. They are supposed to be "nil."
4105. How comes it that Mr. Wood signs them and sends them in to the Government? They were taken down to him with another big bunch of these vouchers and he signed them along with the rest. He takes Mr. Lawn's word for it.
4106. Are you consulted at all before he signs? No. Mr. Lawn takes them to Mr. Wood himself.
4107. This gentleman here? Yes.
4108. Where did you copy these particulars from that are in your ledger-book:—"Casual Labour Board Office, £6 10s.?" I got it out of the general Government book.
4109. Will you look at the general Government book? Yes.
4110. There you have this:—"One hamper basket, £6 10s.?" Yes; Casual Labour Board Account Office, one hamper basket, £6 10s.
4111. Is there any connection between that and twenty-four long-handled shovels and four hammers? None whatever.
4112. What is the entry in the Government day-book from which you got the item entered to the Casual Labour Board Office, £3 10s.? "Casual Labour Board Account Office, one hamper-basket, £3 10s."
4113. Is there any connection between that and six coils of Manilla rope? No.
4114. What is the number of that order in the Government day-book? 552.
4115. What is the number of the order on this contingent voucher [*Exhibit E3*]? The order is 552 again.
4116. The numbers are the same? The numbers are the same.
4117. The amounts are the same? The amounts are the same.
4118. The items are different? The items are different.
4119. Have you any knowledge of it? No.
4120. Have you ever heard of them before? I heard of £6 10s. and £3 10s. from Mr. Lawn when he told me to credit them. I put a mark against them for my own guidance.
4121. *Mr. Waller.*] This book is the Government day-book? Yes.
4122. In whose writing is this £6 10s. and £3 10s.? Mr. Lawn's
4123. Where is that information procured from? It would be from an entry in the rough day-book that Mr. Lawn keeps for the purpose.
4124. Suppose it is not in that book? Then I could not say it would be in any other book. These are the only two books we have.
4125. Is the rough day-book supporting evidence of the Government day-book being correct? We take it as such.
4126. Is it usual to put things in the Government day-book which you do not find in the rough day-book? No; I believe Mr. Lawn enters them in the rough day-book first.
4127. How long have you been with M'Lean Bros. and Rigg.? Going on for five years.
4128. Did you ever, in your experience, know a case similar to this crop up; there is an entry in one book for which there is no supporting evidence in another book? No; I never knew it before.
4129. Do you believe that if you searched through you would find such an omission? There is no such an omission as I know of.
4130. The entry is not in the rough day-book, but you still find it in the Government day-book? No; so far as I know there is no other case.
4131. Is it usual in the book-keeping department of M'Lean Bros. and Rigg to make entries in pencil? No, it is not usual.
4132. Can you open this ledger, going back from page 1251, and find any other of like character to that in pencil? No; there are no entries like that.
4133. Do you possess a book in the establishment called a "Returns" book? We use the credit-book.
4134. The credit-book we have been just looking at? Yes.
4135. Have you any book which shows so much wire or other things returned to regular store—a book to balance the store account? We use the credit-book for that purpose.
4136. For goods passed into the store? It is understood they are back into stock.
4137. How is the storekeeper of a particular store-room to be responsible for his goods, after going out and coming

Mr.
W. Jarrett.
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coming back, and having no entry to show that they ever came back ;—how would you make him responsible. I will put it more plainly. Take this particular case, where there is no entry in your credit-book for returned goods ; how can you make him responsible for their having been returned ? The storekeeper himself may keep a book.

4138. Will you swear he does ? I do not know whether he does or not.

4139. Do you think it likely that Messrs M'Lean Bros. and Rigg are so slipshod in their management that they are unable to say by their store-books what is in stock and what is out ? The storekeeper himself may have a book ; I cannot say.

4140. You think it probable that he has ? It is very likely he has.

4141. Did you ever sign a credit-note of the Casual Labour Board and support the credit again in the ledger ? That is out of my line altogether.

4142. Have you ever been called on to do so ? No.

4143. When was that writing put in, "credited" ? It is found now that it was put in at the beginning of last December. As far as I can recollect it was after I returned from Melbourne that he came and spoke to me.

4144. You have a clear recollection of it ? Yes.

4145. What room were you in ? In the office, at the ledger.

4146. What peculiar circumstance was there to bring it to your memory now ? I was entering up the Government account for one thing.

4147. Why has it ever since remained in pencil ? I never bothered about it. It was Mr. Lawn's oversight.

4148. Is it not a common practice where you want to draw attention to an item and are confined for space to put it in red ink ? We do not use red ink.

4149. Do you always write as lightly as that in pencil ? Yes.

4150. Is that a fair specimen of your writing in pencil ? Yes.

4151. Was this other entry made the same day ? At the same time.

4152. How did Mr. Lawn come up to you ? He came up to me in the ordinary way ; told me to turn up the Government account and look up these two accounts. He said they had been credited. I understood he was to go straight away and credit them.

4153. Did you make any demur ? No. It was at the beginning of December he told me that.

4154. Did it not strike you as strange that it should be from the 31st August to December before you should be told to put in credits for a class of goods like hamper-baskets ? It did.

4155. It struck you as being peculiar ;—did you make any remarks about that ? None whatever.

4156. You did not say, "Why has this length of time elapsed between the purchase and the credit ?" No.

4157. Is that the usual way ? No. Anything like that is supposed to come in at once.

4158. Have you any other items that Lawn has given you to give credit for months after the purchase ? I do not think so.

4159. This is a solitary case ? A solitary exception.

4160. *President.*] Is there any commission on sales given to clerks in your establishment ? No commission at all.

4161. Did you ever see Mr. Miles ? Yes ; a week or ten days ago.

4162. Do you recollect what you told him about these items marked no account ? As far as I can recollect, I do not think I said anything about them. A clerk there drew my attention to the amounts, £6 10s. and £3 10s.

4163. Did you not say you had no record of it ? No.

4164. Are you certain of that ? Certain.

4165. What is the name of your storeman ? Johnston Ashton.

4166. Is he at the shop in George-street ? He is.

4167. Is he responsible for any goods returned ? Well, a certain class of goods. The salesman is held responsible for small amounts. He is responsible for bulk.

4168. Does he keep a book of returns ? I cannot say.

4169. How long has he been in your employ ? He has been there the same time as myself.

Frank John Lawn resumed his evidence :—

Mr.
F. J. Lawn.
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4170. *Mr. Waller.*] Did you often meet Mr. Davies ? Only when he came in with the orders.

4171. Do you know him particularly well ? No.

4172. Have you seen him any number of times since the late Casual Labour Board has been abolished ? I met him one day in George-street. He shook me by the hand, asked me how I was getting on, and passed on.

4173. Have you had any conversation with him with reference to these accounts ? None.

4174. Did Mr. Davies often alter the orders ? Sometimes.

4175. Who else ? Mr. Hibble and Mr. Davies.

4176. Referring to these hamper-baskets—the date for the £6 10s. hamper on the contingent voucher is 31st August, and that for the £3 10s. hamper is 25th September—what are they ? They are large baskets.

4177. Are they known as picnic-baskets ? I know them as hamper-baskets, but they are picnic-baskets, and fitted up with knives and forks, &c.

4178. Have they flasks ? They have compartments for them.

4179. Regular picnic-baskets ? Yes.

4180. Have you generally a good memory or a bad one ? I never had it taxed before.

4181. Do you find you make omissions and forget to correct them ? A few.

4182. Are you found fault with by your employers for being a careless clerk ? They never say anything to me.

4183. Would not the inference be, if you are not found fault with, you are a pretty careful clerk ? Yes.

4184. And your memory is not bad ? I think not.

4185. I ask you, is it not a peculiar thing that your memory, which is a blank as to how you obtained the order for making out the contingent voucher, is yet so good that about the month of December, some months after the order, you were able to recollect these baskets were returned ? I believe Mr. Davies or Hibble would remind me that the baskets were returned.

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F. J. Lawn.
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4186. When were they returned? I cannot say; it may be a couple of weeks afterwards.
4187. Then you had a return three or four days after the purchase, and never mentioned about a credit until December? No; I forgot about it, and they jogged my memory.
4188. Are you quite certain now how these hampers went out? I am not quite certain.
4189. Are you certain how they came back? No.
4190. How are you certain you were told to credit them? I was told afterwards to credit them, perhaps when they were up with some orders. I asked them why they returned the hampers, and they said they were too expensive.
4191. Yesterday afternoon you said that one basket was sent back because it was too expensive? And the other one I sent was too small.
4192. Where did these two picnic-baskets finally go to after they came back? I cannot say.
4193. Did you put them into the store? They went back into stock.
4194. *President.*] Do you know of your own knowledge they went back? Yes.
4195. You saw them? Yes.
4196. *Mr. Waller.*] Is it not in your evidence that you found them there, but how they came there you do not know? Yes; I thought it was Mr. Hibble who brought them back.
4197. Do you know who brought them back? No.
4198. Where did you find them? In my room.
4199. *Mr. Franklin.*] You are speaking of two baskets now? Yes.
4200. *Mr. Waller.*] Which came back first? The £6 10s. one.
4201. Where were the goods usually delivered? At the railway.
4202. Did you deliver the goods? We sent them either to the railway or to the Port Jackson Steamship Company's wharf.
4203. Did you deliver by carts? All our own carts. We delivered to the Manly steamer wharf, Port Jackson sheds, No. 1. Jetty.
4204. How did you get them there? By our own carts.
4205. What was the rule of your carters when they delivered goods? They got a receipt.
4206. In a book? In a slip of a book, because with a book the slips might be torn out. Suppose we sent goods to-day and again next week, the men who signed for the stuff might take one out.
4207. What became of the carters' receipts? We have them. We have the receipts of everything that went from our place and was charged for, excepting the powder, which was delivered by the Ordnance Department.
4208. How are you able to fix on or about the date these baskets were returned? I should think they were returned a week or so after they were supplied, or perhaps not so long.
4209. Will you swear it was not three months? I will swear they were credited before three months afterwards.
4210. Will you swear it was six weeks afterwards? I cannot.
4211. You cannot swear you saw them returned? They came back.
4212. Why did you not credit them at once? I forgot.
4213. Have you often forgotten to give credit? I have often forgotten to give credit until I was reminded about them.
4214. Then the evidence of the last clerk that he has not got credit in the same way would be incorrect? There are very few credits to make. I may make one or two. If the book is close by, I make it. If it is not, I don't bother.
4215. How do your customers like that system? They don't pay the accounts, I suppose.
4216. Do they object to the amounts because you have not given them credit? No one ever had occasion to say so that I can remember.
4217. You say you give credit if the book is handy, if not you don't bother? I very seldom give credits.
4218. Have you charge of these baskets now? No.
4219. How long were they in your possession after they were brought back? I put them into stock.
4220. You are responsible for them now? I am not responsible for them.
4221. Who is? No one. They are put into stock. Any salesman can sell them.
4222. Do you mean to tell us that the management of M'Lean Brothers and Rigg is such that goods are taken out and sold, put into stock again, and no one is liable for their being put into stock? No; they take stock every June.
4223. What happens between January and June as regards things that come in? I have my own work to look after.
4224. Do you tell us that Messrs. M'Lean Brothers and Rigg's business is so managed that when goods are sold to customers and are returned there is no check by which any person in their employment can be made responsible for goods returned to stock? Yes; the salesman is.
4225. Who was the salesman in this case? I was.
4226. Were you liable? Yes.
4227. Had you no book to enter them in. Is there no check as to goods that have been brought back? Only by the salesman knowing they have been brought back.
4228. *President.*] Have you those baskets now? We have some of the same sort.
4229. Do you know whether Mr. Davies had any baskets on his own account? I cannot say.
4230. You have heard that no credit has been passed for these two items? Only by me.
4231. You have heard the evidence that no credit has been passed in the books? It is an oversight on my part.
4232. So far as your books are concerned there is still liability on the part of the Government for the items? No; there is the mark "credited" put to them.
4233. But you have seen the vouchers that have been sent into the Government? Well, if we were paid that amount we would not know what it was for; we would have to ask.
4234. *Mr. Waller.*] Do you remember my asking you this. In reply to a question as to the entries in the ledger you said "yes" to this. I said, "If those entries are not in the book in a straightforward manner, line after line in their proper place, they will be cooked"? I do not remember you saying that. I said they ought to be. The President said I had better bring the ledger down with me.
4235. I distinctly asked if they did not appear in their proper place line after line they would be cooked, and your answer was "yes"? I did not understand what you were saying.

- Mr. F. J. Lawn.
28 Mar., 1889.
4236. On page 267 in the general daybook, whose writing is it? Mine.
4237. What is it? "Returned."
4238. There is another entry for £3 10s., whose writing is that in? Mine too.
4239. Can you show in the whole of that book where you have ever made a similar entry in pencil for goods returned? No; I cannot see any.
4240. Who keeps that book? I do.
4241. Why did you deviate from your usual practice of putting in entries in ink? I had no particular rules. I never had any rule laid down to me to put them in in ink.
4242. Why did you deviate from your practice? I suppose those are about the first cases in which I have had returns given to me.
4243. Do you remember when you wrote that? A little while after they were returned I suppose.
4244. If you put that credit in immediately after the baskets were returned, how was it when your book was posted that they were not posted too? I cannot say.
4245. Whose fault was it? It was Mr. Jarrett's fault.
4246. If it was not written before the book was posted, what was the good of writing it after the book was posted? I suppose I was looking through it for some other information.
4247. Would it not have been a good thing to have gone up and had it posted? I suppose I intended to put the credit through, but forgot.
4248. Is it a usual thing for you to keep running through your books, seeing what is posted and what is not? No; the book is taken away about once a month to get it posted.
4249. So as a matter of fact, you did not place that entry there when they were returned? I cannot say I made that blue pencil mark immediately they were returned, but seeing they were charged in the book, and knowing they were returned, and going through the book for some other information, I marked it.
4250. If you did it yesterday you would remember? Yes.
4251. It was not yesterday? No.
4252. I see the writing is a heavier hand in blue pencil? The point of the pencil is larger than a pen's.

Johnston Ashton called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. J. Ashton.
28 Mar., 1889.
4253. *President.*] Are you a storeman? Yes; at M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's.
4254. How long have you been storeman? Four years.
4255. Do you keep any books showing goods returned? None at all.
4256. Is there any record kept of goods returned? Only Frank Lawn's. It depends what department it is in.
4257. In what department are they kept? I think the invoice clerk keeps them.
4258. What book is that you have brought? The despatch-book, in which I see that orders are sent away.
4259. Do you see what goods are despatched and sent out of the store? Yes, in bulk.
4260. Have you any entry in September or August showing the despatch of goods to the Casual Labour Board? No. This book closes on the 25th September, 1888, and we thought it advisable afterwards to use tickets.
4261. If goods are purchased one day and are returned two or three days afterwards, do you keep a record of them? It has nothing to do with me at all.

William Duchesne called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. W. Duchesne.
28 Mar., 1889.
4262. *President.*] You are clerk in the City Bank? City Bank, head office.
4263. Will you look at this cheque for £26 17s. 7d., drawn on the Bank of New South Wales, Haymarket Branch, purporting to be signed by George Robert Neale, in favour of Mr. T. S. Hinchcliffe or bearer, and tell me whether it passed through your bank? It formed part of £55 7s. 7d. paid in by John Davies to his own account on 16th May, 1887; it was put through in the usual manner, and, of course, he received credit for it.
4264. Will you look at this cheque for £52 3s. 1d., purporting to be signed by George Robt. Neale, drawn on the Bank of New South Wales, Haymarket Branch, dated 22nd September, 1887, in favour of E. M. Burrows or bearer. Has that cheque passed through your bank? That cheque was handed in by John Davies for credit of his own account on the 26th September, 1887. We put it through in the usual manner and credited him with it.
4265. To the same account as the previous cheque? To the same person's name, but to No. 2 account; the previous one was to John Davies C.M.G. account.
4266. The cheque, £26 17s. 7d., went to John Davies No. 1 account? To John Davies only. The second account is No. 2, to distinguish between the two accounts.
4267. The second cheque went to John Davies, No. 2? To John Davies No. 2.
4268. Can you tell me how many accounts John Davies has in your bank? At the time of this transaction John Davies had two accounts.
4269. What were they called? John Davies, and John Davies No. 2.
4270. What position do you hold in the bank? Well, general clerk.
4271. In the course of business would these cheques come before you? In the course of business they might come before me; but I am able to say what has been done, because I can recognize our marks on the back of the cheques, and the cheques would not be marked unless they had been treated in the usual manner.
4272. Do you know John Davies? Not personally.
4273. By sight? I have seen him, but I do not think I should recognize him again.
4274. Are you in a position to say whether the John Davies with whom your bank does business is the Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., late Chairman of the Casual Labour Board? He is known to us as John Davies, C.M.G., only.
4275. Can you say from your own knowledge of the bank's arrangements what the difference is between these accounts, John Davies and John Davies No. 2? I am not aware that there is any difference, we simply credit either account in accordance with the marks on the slips. The first slip is John Davies, C.M.G.,

C.M.G., that would be paid to the credit of John Davies, C.M.G., only. The second slip is John Davies, C.M.G., No. 2, and, therefore, we should credit No. 2 account.

4276. Do you produce the deposit slip which includes the sum £26 17s. 7d.? This is the deposit slip [Deposit slip, marked G, for identification].

4277. Do you know who filled that up? John Davies.

4278. Do you know his handwriting? I know from his handwriting, and the fact that it is marked paid in by "self," shows it was paid in by John Davies.

4279. That slip shows that in addition to the cheque there were notes and gold paid in at the same time? £28 in notes and half-a-sovereign.

4280. That amount went to a private account? To a private account, and part of it for a particular purpose.

4281. Can you tell us what that foot-note on the deposit slip means? The total amount paid in was £55 7s. 7d. on the 16th May, 1887. Mr. Davies marked the slip to the effect that £50 was in special reduction of Osborne's bill, and the balance, £5 7s. 7d., to meet an account on the 18th instant. That second part is rather foggy, but we should judge it to be to meet an account on the 18th instant; but we cannot be quite clear about that.

4282. Do you know what that Osborne's bill means? I cannot answer clearly; but I should presume it was a bill drawn by or accepted by John Davies.

4283. Do you know what that C. R. £5 7s. 7d. means? I cannot understand what is the meaning of that; it is not quite clear.

4284. Do you produce a deposit slip, £52 3s. 1d.? I produce that slip. [Deposit slip marked G1 for identification.]

4285. Is there anything particular about that? Nothing unusual.

4286. Whose handwriting is that in? John Davies'.

4287. You believe it to have been paid in by himself? It is marked to the credit of account No. 2 by himself.

4288. Are you in a position to say what that No. 2 account is? Not at present; but there may be a note in the ledger that it is to operate with any special class of accounts. I am not certain. I can ascertain.

4289. Can you tell me whether John Davies is a regular customer of yours? John Davies has been for some time past, and is at present a customer of ours.

4290. Can you tell me whether his account is in funds or is in debt as a rule? It is an operative account.

4291. Is he overdrawn? Yes, overdrawn.

4292. Has he had an overdraft for any time? I cannot answer for what time without referring to the ledger.

4293. Can you say whether he has more than two accounts at your bank? These are the only two operative accounts I know of.

4294. Is there any dormant account there? There is a dormant account which is largely overdrawn.

4295. In the name of John Davies? In the name of John Davies.

4296. Can you recollect the amount of the overdraft approximately? I do not like to speak definitely, but if I am not mistaken the account is between £7,000 and £8,000 overdrawn.*

Ernest Grant Cooper called in, sworn, and examined:—

4297. *President.*] What are you? Ledger-keeper in the Australian Joint Stock Bank.

4298. Are you aware that the accounts of the Casual Labour Board between May, 1887 and January, 1889, were kept in your bank? Yes.

4299. Do you produce any deposit slips for any amounts lodged in the bank to the credit of that Board between those dates? Yes, I have several here.

4300. Do you produce six deposit slips for amounts paid in to the credit of the Casual Labour Board? Yes, for £38 4s. 2d., £113 9s., £76 4s. 11d., £40 12s. 3d., £46 5s. 11d., and £20.

4301. Have you brought any books with you? The teller's cash-book.

4302. What does that show? Simply that these deposits have been passed through.

4303. I understand that the book simply goes to prove what became of this money? Yes, that is all—simply records.

Charles Robertson called in:—

The President intimated that he would administer the oath to witness.

Witness declined to be sworn, stating that he had no evidence to give; he did not know anything about the matter, and did not know why he should have been summoned.

President.—Do you decline to give evidence?

Witness.—I want to know whether you are going to pay my expenses. I cannot come here for nothing?

President.—Are you a country witness?

Witness.—No; I am not living in the country, but I am in no one's employ, and I have to neglect my own work.

President.—We cannot allow expenses for a town witness. I wish to know whether you refuse to be sworn and give evidence?

Witness.—Oh, well, I had better come in with the rest.

Witness was then sworn and examined:—

4304. *President.*] What are you? I am a mariner, but have not been to sea for some years.

4305. Were you ever at the National Park? I held office out there. I was timekeeper and storekeeper for the National Park trustees for three years.

4306? Do you know Mr. Davies? Yes.

4307. When did you see Mr. Davies? The last time I was in the Colonial Secretary's office, a few days ago, and he was just coming out of Mr. Critchett Walker's office.

4308.

* NOTE (on revision):—I found on referring to the ledger that the overdraft of from £7,000 to £8,000 was on account of a Mr. Davies, but not the John Davies, C.M.G., about whose account I was being questioned.

Mr.
W. Duchesne.
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Mr.
E. G. Cooper.
28 Mar., 1889.

Mr. Charles
Robertson.
28 Mar., 1889.

- Mr. Charles Robertson.
28 Mar., 1889.
4308. Did you have any conversation? He bade me good-day, and asked me what I was doing.
4309. Did he ask you whether you had been summoned as a witness? No.
4310. When was this? It must be three months ago, previous to my leaving the Park.
4311. Do you know Mr. Want? Yes.
4312. Did you make any statement to him about anything that took place at the National Park in which Mr. Davies is concerned? Not that I am aware of. I was catering for picnics generally. I may have spoken to him about that.
4313. Will you look at this paper [*Exhibit E7*]? Yes.
4314. Do you recognize it? Yes.
4315. Whose writing is it? Mine.
4316. What is the meaning of that paper? It is the remainder of some liquor I had from a picnic I was catering for when the wines were sent down by the gentlemen themselves. That is a list of the wines that were left over and sent back.
4317. What picnic was it? I cannot tell you exactly. I think it was a park excursion, if I am not mistaken. I cannot swear positively what it was; to the best of my belief it was an inspection. It was not a picnic exactly.
4318. Did you keep an establishment there? I was in charge of the building belonging to the trustees, and I had the privilege of catering for the public at picnics in lieu of a larger salary.
4319. Do you recollect an occasion upon which Sir John Robertson, Mr. Want, and Mr. Burrowes were at the park? That is the time I sent in that stock.
4320. Who was it charged to? I had nothing to do with it. Mr. Want sent it down to me. I only catered for the food. Gentlemen used what wine they wanted, and I sent back the remainder.
4321. Do you know where the wine came from? No; it was addressed to the care of Mr. Burrowes, from Sydney, and Mr. Burrowes forwarded it to me. To the best of my recollection there was a label on the case, but I did not notice it.
4322. What does this list represent? The remainder of the wines that were there after the dinner was over.
4323. Do you know what became of it? I do not know whether I sent it to Mr. Burrowes or to Mr. Davies. Mr. Want told me to take Mr. Davies' order as relating to it, and I did so.
4324. What were those orders? To the best of my recollection it was to send it to his office in Liverpool or Goulburn-street.
4325. Did you send them? I sent them.
4326. How? I sent them by our own buggy; but I do not know whether I sent them to Mr. Burrowes to be forwarded or direct by train. I gave them to the groom and told him to take them up.
4327. To what station? Loftus.
4328. Did you put any address on them? I think so. I think I addressed them to Mr. Davies. I put some address on them most certainly. I would not swear what address it was.
4329. If Mr. Want has told us he went to give you instructions, and you said you already had instructions from Mr. Davies, is that correct? I did not tell you that.
4330. I say, if Mr. Want has told us that he went to give you instructions, and that you said you had already received instructions from Mr. Davies, is that or is the account you give us correct? I went to Mr. Want and asked him what to do with it. He said, "Take Mr. Davies' orders." Mr. Want was the managing trustee and my principal employer.
4331. You gave them at the National Park to the groom and he took them away? Yes.
4332. What is his name? Owen Duffy.
4333. Where does he live? At the National Park.
4334. Can you give us the date of that? No; I have not got it. I might have some entry in my book.
4335. Have you any recollection of the date? I cannot tell you, not even what month it was in.
4336. Can you tell us how we can find the date? By sending to the trustees for the bill I have sent in to them. That is the only way I know of.

MONDAY, 1 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

John Balfour Clement Miles recalled and further examined:—

- Mr. J. B. C. Miles.
1 April, 1889.
4337. *President.*] After you were appointed to take over the Casual Labour Board's duties, did you make any application to Messrs. Lean Bros. and Rigg for a statement of outstanding accounts? Yes.
4338. With what result? They wrote a short letter, dated 13th February, enclosing a statement of all accounts that they alleged were due to them.
4339. Did you examine that statement? I did. I examined it by the light of the accounts that I found left in the office. I found that they were charging in their statement a number of items for which I had no invoices; and I found on the other hand that I had some invoices, handed to me as unpaid, for which they did not charge.
4340. Did that strike you as being a coincidence, or did you suspect some irregular business? I did suspect some irregularity from what I had previously heard.
4341. Did you communicate with them further? Yes.
4342. And with what result? They furnished copies of such invoices as I had not, and made various explanations with regard to some of the invoices which were not included in their statement.
4343. Can you particularize any of the items? The items £6 10s. and £3 10s.
4344. To make it clear on the evidence, what were these items? The item £6 10s. was for some long-handled shovels and some hammers, and the item £3 10s. was for some coils of Manilla rope.
4345. What was the result of your inquiries? A clerk from their office attended at my office, and went through the accounts, taking particulars of them. Eventually they returned to say that they could not understand how they had been rendered, as they had no accounts in their books, and they found that the goods charged for had not been ordered.
4346. Are you quite clear upon this? Yes.

4347.

4347. Have you a clear recollection of the conversation? Yes. It was with the clerk who admitted having made out these invoices.

4348. Do you know the clerk's name? His name, I believe, is Lawn.

4349. I believe since you were examined before this Commission on the last occasion you have had an opportunity of seeing in this room the ledger, the Government day-book, and the rough day-book of Messrs. M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, as well as the credit book of that Company, and these are stated to comprise the whole of the books which that Company kept to evidence their transactions with the Casual Labour Board Department? Yes.

4350. Did you notice anything peculiar in the ledger? I noticed that the debits for £6 10s. and £3 10s. are there. The examination I heard disclosed that the items were for hamper-baskets.

4351. Were those debit entries in the ledger, in your opinion, inconsistent with the statement made to you by one of their officers that they had no record of the accounts? The statement to me was that they had no record of the accounts for long handled shovels, hammers, and the Manilla rope.

4352. Were the entries you saw inconsistent with the statement to you that they had no claims of £3 10s. and £6 10s.? Well, it was hardly consistent, for they had not the credits written in ink, which they ought to have had.

4353. You noticed in their rough day-book some alterations pointed out to you, some erasures and strikings out of figures. Did these erasures and strikings out of figures occur in regard to items that had been ordered, or were alleged to have been ordered by the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

4354. And did they occur in orders in respect to which you had noticed discrepancies between the contingent voucher and the butts of the order-book? Yes.

4355. In your opinion, as an accountant of many years experience, is that suspicious? It appears so to me.

4356. In examining the rough day-book of M'Lean Bros. and Rigg we have found, and the evidence of Mr. Wood is to the effect that, with very few exceptions, the only orders altered in that book are the orders of the Casual Labour Board? I think, with three exceptions, the only alterations throughout all the book are in connection with the Casual Labour Board orders, and many of them occur with regard to the particular contingent vouchers that you have brought under our notice. In your opinion, as an accountant and auditor, does that strike you as being extraordinary, for, if the order were afterwards increased, one would have thought the increased order would have been noted on the butt of the order-book? Yes.

4357. If you were examining, in your capacity of auditor, these accounts, and such vouchers for these accounts were produced to you, would you feel justified in passing the accounts? I would not. As a matter of fact, Mr. Mason and I have declined to pass the accounts for that reason. You understand that there are a number of other accounts, but I simply brought these as a sample.

4358. Have you a number of other accounts in addition to exhibits E, E 2, E 3, E 4, E 5, E 6? Yes, I have a number of other accounts, where there are differences of a similar character.

4359. Referring again to this rough day-book of M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, the evidence of the clerk who made these entries is that he copied the items from the orders into this book, and the items copied were in his own handwriting? Yes; I heard him say that.

4360. Did you notice that some of the alterations were erasures as well as strikings out? Yes.

4361. Did you notice that there was considerable difficulty—in fact, in some cases, almost an impossibility—in discovering what figures had been in the book before? I did; yes.

4362. Did you observe in the book that where other alterations had been made in some orders they had been struck out so as to leave an opportunity for discovering what had been there before? No; I did not observe that.

4363. In examining the book (which, I may tell you, I have done myself), I have discovered that other alterations—I will say most of the other alterations in the book have been strikings out, and the figure substituted placed above, so that the amendment could be easily identified, but in the cases of the Casual Labour Board erasures had been made, so that it was impossible to discover what was there before, except by surmise. Would that strike you, as a man accustomed to examining accounts, as being suspicious? Well, it would seem somewhat peculiar.

Thomas Wearne called in, sworn, and examined:—

4364. *President.*] What are you? I am a contractor and engineer. I am building locomotives for the Government now.

4365. Have you had any transactions with the Casual Labour Board during the years 1887 and 1888? Yes, a few.

4366. Will you detail what they were? In all I got eighty bags of charcoal for the meat-market.

4367. What is that you are looking at? A letter from the Board.

4368. Will you allow me to see it after you have read it yourself? Yes. I happened to find it yesterday.

4369. Have you had any other transactions with the Casual Labour Board excepting those relating to the eighty bags of charcoal? That is the only thing I know of. I have had a man or two from there.

4370. What became of the charcoal? I had it put in the refrigerating rooms of the meat-market at Darling Harbour.

4371. How did it come into your hands? For the carrying out of my contract.

4372. Was it consigned to you? I do not know. I won't say it was consigned to me. However, it was sold to me by the Casual Labour Board. My contract was for the meat-market at Darling Harbour, and the charcoal was in the yard.

4373. Did you pay for it? No.

4374. Have you paid for it to this day? I merely paid the freight, and I owe £5 7s. 6d.

4375. Which you are willing to pay? Yes. The Government owe me some £3,000 on other transactions, so I thought there was no hurry for a settlement of this account.

4376. Do you know Mr. Davies? Yes.

4377. Have you seen him lately? I have seen him; but I have not spoken to him further than to bid him "good morning" coming out of the train.

4378. Where do you live? I live in Sydney, but I very often go to Cabramatta.

4379. Have you had any conversation with Mr. Davies as to your being subpoenaed here? No.

4380. Have you had any claim made upon you by the present Board for this charcoal? Yes, which I have disputed.

Mr. J. B. C.
Miles.
1 April, 1889.

Mr. T.
Wearne.
1 April, 1889.

Edward Matthew Burrowes called in and examination continued:—

- Mr. E. M. Burrowes.
1 April, 1889.
4381. *President.*] Who prepared the abstracts of the pay-sheets? I prepared the abstracts of my pay-sheets so far as I am concerned.
4382. Do you recollect Flemming's name being on any of them? No, sir,
4383. What was the practice you adopted in preparing these abstracts? I used to look through them when I came into my office, and after I was thoroughly satisfied with them, I used to hand them over to Mr. Springall as accountant and clerk.
4384. And what became of them after that? Then he prepared the pay-sheets.
4385. That is to say, he copied them? He prepared an abstract from them for the men to sign the vouchers and pay-sheets. That was on a different kind of paper.
4386. What kind of paper did you use? I used to write my sheets on ordinary foolscap.
4387. Are you sure that in none of your abstracts Flemming's name appeared? No; I positively swear it.
4388. On none of the abstracts handed to Mr. Springall? No. I never put Flemming's name on any abstract, because I knew he had no right to be there. In fact, I looked upon Flemming as a common labouring man. He never came to me at all.
4389. Would Flemming's name properly appear on any pay-sheet? Yes; it ought to appear on the Hurstville sheet as a labourer or rouse-about.
4390. Do you know whether it did appear there? I could not positively swear whether it did or not; but it ought to do so.
4391. When Mr. Springall made out these pay-sheets did he bring them to you? I will tell you exactly how the thing was.
4392. I want you to tell me your whole course of practice? Yes. After I made out the abstracts I would hand them in. Sometimes I would come in late in the evening with the last of the sheets—perhaps on the very evening that they were preparing the pay-sheets. I would hand them to Mr. Springall after having examined them myself, and he would have to look them through, and proceed to make them out. As he made them out they would be laid on one side until he finished the whole lot. I would have other matters to attend to in connection with the office. When he finished—perhaps it might be at 11 or 12 o'clock, perhaps 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning—he would hand them to me in a bundle, and say, "These are ready for your signature, Mr. Burrowes." Mr. M'Pherson would hand them, as a rule, to me and say, "These are all right." I would sit at my table, as superintendent, and sign these vouchers, and they would be then rolled up or placed in an envelope, to be sent in to the Chairman of the Board for examination and correction by their officers. After that I do not know what became of them until the pay took place. I think that bears out the *modus operandi* as shown in that I see you have in front of you now.
4393. Do I understand that you accepted Springall's pay-sheets without any examination? I had to do so, sir; simply because I had not the time to go through a personal examination.
4394. Were you not the senior officer in the district? Yes.
4395. And did you not consider it was your duty to examine these pay-sheets? No.
4396. Why? Simply because I always had such implicit faith in Mr. Springall. There were so many officers assisting and superintending in the work that I thought they were sure to be correct. I would never get them until late in the evening, and then the vouchers would have to go away early next morning, in order to be in the Chairman's office previous to the pay taking place the next day. That never gave me any time to examine these vouchers.
4397. Did you accept all the responsibility for them? No; I cannot say I did.
4398. Who is responsible? I presume I am, but I cannot accept the whole of it; it is too much responsibility placed on my own shoulders. Had I been allowed another day I should have accepted the responsibility.
4399. Does it not occur to you that you were putting your superior officers in a very false position? I do not know who my superior officers were, except the Board.
4400. They would look to you for a check, and I must say they would have a perfect right to look to you, and yet you look to somebody else for the check. Responsibility must begin somewhere? Yes. Well, I look upon the responsibility as resting upon the head of the department—the Chairman of the Board. I cannot see that I undertook any responsibility in that respect. It was quite a different arrangement when I first started the work.
4401. What was the arrangement then? The arrangement was then that we had ample time to examine the work. I had a large number of men—you must bear in mind I had 4,700 under me at one time. These pays were made out up to the Saturday evening, and on the Tuesday morning these sheets had to be in. Just imagine two men having to make out the pays for 4,700, and have them into the office on the Tuesday morning, having only the time between Saturday evening at 6 o'clock and Tuesday morning at 9 o'clock to do the work. That was the responsibility that I had.
4402. Who told you to deliver them with such expedition? That was the orders from the department.
4403. Did you ever represent that the time allowed to you was not sufficient? Yes; frequently.
4404. Without any result? None whatever; except that the pay-sheets had to be in. They said we could take a man out of the ranks and use him, and we did so.
4405. I will leave this part of the inquiry for the present, while our Secretary is turning up the pay-sheets. Did your duties take you into the Casual Labour Board office often? Not very frequently.
4406. How often? Sometimes once a fortnight; sometimes once a month; sometimes not that.
4407. Can you recollect the last occasion on which you visited the Board office, before the Board ceased to exist, and can you tell us what took place, and give us, as nearly as you can, the date? I cannot give you the exact date; but I had occasion to call upon the Board just about the time that Messrs. Mason and Miles were taking possession.
4408. And what took place? I saw Mr. Davies, Mr. Hinchcliffe, and Mr. Hibble. I had occasion to see Mr. Hinchcliffe in the office. I wanted to get away for the purpose of meeting my wife. I had an appointment with her at North Shore, and I wanted to get away from the office. Of course you can understand that if a man has to meet his wife he does not want to be stuck in the office, and I said I wanted to get away. Mr. Davies wanted me to go up to the station. After a while he said, "Wait a bit," or words to that effect, and Mr. Hinchcliffe volunteered to go up with me. Mr. Davies wanted me to go to the station,

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station, and Mr. Hinchcliffe went with me. I went up in a cab with Mr. Hinchcliffe, at Mr. Davies' request. I then had a conversation with Mr. Hinchcliffe. He said that Mr. Mason had his knife into me. I said that was extraordinary, as I never had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Mason in my life. In going down the street in the cab, Mr. Hinchcliffe told me that Mr. Davies had received £270 as a bonus or gratuity from the Colonial Secretary's Department. He then asked me—he said he had got into a bit of a mess or something—I did not pay much attention to it—that he had got into a bit of a mess or something—I forget the exact words now—I think I have them all in the report that I made in my letter-book. At all events, the sum total was this, that Mr. Hinchcliffe wanted me to give him bogus vouchers—that he was in trouble in the office, do you see. I forget the exact words now, but he wanted me to give bogus vouchers for his deficiency—at least that was the interpretation I put upon it, do you see. Of course I declined most emphatically.

4409. Is that all? That is all I can remember at the present moment. Perhaps if you were to refresh my memory with anything, I might be able to answer you; but, at the present moment, I do not remember anything more. Mr. Hinchcliffe said something to the effect that Mr. Davies had received £270, and he did not care who sank so long as he swam. I remember that remark.

4410. Anything else, Mr. Burrowes? Well, then, there is something with reference to Mr. Hibble and Mr. Davies.

4410½. Let us exhaust this conversation. Do you recollect anything else—did he tell you as to any fix he was in? Yes, he did. He told me he was in a bit of a dilemma, you see—that he was in trouble, and that he was, as nearly as I can remember, some £270 to £280 in trouble, that he could not account for in his cash, and that he wanted me to rig out some bogus vouchers, and of course I declined most emphatically to have anything to do with it.

4411. Did he suggest any way by which you could help him? Yes; he told me that he knew I could help him out of this trouble. I felt rather indignant at him making such an offer to me, because I had never done such a thing in my life, and hope never will.

4412. Did he make any particular suggestion? No; he did not do that.

4413. Are you quite clear? I am quite clear that he made no mention of a particular way of getting out of that.

4414. Did you make a report upon the subject? Yes.

4415. Are you aware that you state there that you should bring in some drunken messenger at the Park? Yes; he wanted to make out that we had a drunken messenger at the time the Casual Labour Board came into existence—a messenger that we used to send into the office. I said I never knew him. When he wanted me to place it upon this poor old messenger, I said I never knew this messenger miscarry a message—that he always carried the messages right, and brought the answer back.

4416. Well, then, he did make a suggestion? Yes, he did make a suggestion.

4417. What about your previous evidence, in which you say you are quite clear that he never made a suggestion? I never said that I was quite clear he never made any.

4418. I understood you to say so. Was there anything further? He made some remark to the effect that this messenger had lost paper and envelopes.

4419. Then you recollect that after having your memory refreshed from the letter you wrote to Mr. Miles? Exactly, sir; that is thoroughly correct.

4420. Are you prepared to pledge your oath that the statements in that letter to Mr. Miles, in respect of Mr. Hinchcliffe, are true? I am, sir. I wrote it down immediately after leaving Mr. Hinchcliffe, and so many things have transpired since, and so many matters have come under my attention, that this passed from my memory.

4421. This statement you have made is, you must be aware, of a damaging nature? Yes.

4422. And if it is not absolutely true, it is very unfair of you to give it in evidence? I know it is, unless it is absolutely true; but I will take my oath on everything that I have stated there.

4423. Mr. Hinchcliffe has sworn that it is untrue. In the face of his oath, do you stake yours against his? I declare most honestly and conscientiously that the statements I made before Mr. Miles, which were written for Mr. Dibbs at his request, are correct. I will swear to them.

4424. You are aware that while you have the same protection as a witness here you are subject to exactly the same penalties as if you were giving evidence before the Supreme Court? Yes.

4425. And, with that knowledge, you adhere positively to your evidence? I do, sir.

4426. Have you ever had any difference with Mr. Hinchcliffe? No; none whatever.

4427. You have always been on the most friendly terms? Yes.

4428. And you are still? Well, I have not seen him since the breaking up of the Casual Labour Board. I have not seen him for some time now—not since I received notice that my services were not required.

4429. Do you recollect any other occasion on which you attended at the office when something unusual occurred? No. You mean with reference to Mr. Hinchcliffe?

4430. No; I say something unusual? Yes, I do; when I was called upon to sign certain vouchers.

4431. Let us have the whole of that interview, please? I was called upon to sign certain vouchers by the Honorable John Davies —

4432. Will you give us, as nearly as you possibly can, the date? I cannot give you the date.

4433. Will you give it, as nearly as you can, and state the actual conversation, detailing to us every word, as nearly as your memory will permit? Yes; you have no objection to my referring to my book?

4434. No, if it is a note made by you at the time? Well, very nearly at the time. About the beginning of October, in the year 1888, I was called upon by the Honorable John Davies, who placed before me some five or six vouchers to be signed. He stated that they were correct. Mr. Hibble, the clerk in the office, handed them to me. I said, "Well, I would like to check these with our storekeeper." Mr. Davies replied that it was all right. "That's all right," he said. I signed them, of course, naturally enough, on the representation of Mr. Davies. I did so in the presence of Mr. Larnach, who was likewise a clerk in the Board office. Mr. Hibble said to me, "These things that you signed were for Davies' hamper-basket." I think the date of the voucher was the 31st August, 1888. I am not quite certain. It was about that time. Twenty-six long-handle shovels and three napping-hammers.

4435. Do you recollect anything further that took place? Yes. There were several vouchers placed in

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front of me for my signature, as the officer incurring the expense. I demurred, as I have said, to signing them, and Mr. Davies, the Chairman, told me it was all right. They were initialled by Mr. Hibble, the clerk, and they were initialled as correct. After I had signed them and gone downstairs, Mr. Hibble, in the presence of Mr. Larnach, said, "Do you know what you signed for?" You signed for the hamper-baskets that Mr. Davies had. I said, "Had I been aware of that fact I should never have signed for them."

4436. Anything else? No; I do not think there is anything else.

4437. Who was present when Mr. Davies asked you to sign them? Mr. Hibble, Mr. Larnach, and Mr. Hinchcliffe.

4438. Were all these gentlemen within hearing? They should have been; it was only a small room.

4439. Who was closest? Mr. Hibble and Mr. Larnach—in fact, I signed them on Mr. Larnach's table.

4440. Do you recollect how many vouchers there were? There were four or five.

4441. How long afterwards was it when Mr. Hibble told you what they were for? About an hour.

4442. Who was present when he told you? Mr. Larnach.

4443. Anyone else? No—in fact, I do not know whether Mr. Larnach was present then.

4444. What book is that you have been reading from? It is my private diary.

4445. Have you any objection to let me see it? No.

4446. Is this what you were reading from just now? Yes.

4447. Do you say that you made this note about the time of the conversation? Yes.

4448. You are sure of that? I can positively swear to it.

4449. Can you tell us whether that was one of the vouchers that was handed to you? I could not positively swear to it.

4450. You are not certain? Not of that one.

4451. That is signed by you? Yes; that is my signature. I believe that is one of them [*Exhibit E 4*].

4452. Were you in the habit of signing these vouchers generally? I was generally in the habit of signing these vouchers when they came into the office at Hurstville after they had been initialled by Hibble. I would never sign them unless they bore his initials.

4453. Are these his initials in red ink? Yes. I never signed a voucher unless it was initialled.

4454. Looking at this voucher, are you prepared to say whether you signed it at your own office or at the office of the Board? Well, now—

4455. Is there anything on it to suggest to you that this was not signed as the others were signed? Yes. There is the stamp of the Casual Labour Board, Southern District. According to my idea, however, that could be very easily put on after I signed.

4456. In that stamp you recognize the impression conveying that you signed it at your own office? Yes. That is the impression I have upon it. If it had been at my office, I presume that my clerk would have initialled it instead of Mr. Hibble.

4457. Now, looking at this voucher [*Exhibit E 5*], is that signed by you? Yes.

4458. Is there anything about that to indicate that it was signed out of your own office? Yes; the absence of the stamp.

4459. Do you believe that is one of the vouchers you were asked to sign on the special occasion you have referred to? I do.

4460. Did you sign that voucher without making any inquiry? Yes, certainly, after I was told by the Chairman that it was correct.

4461. Do you think you ought to have signed a voucher without knowing whether it was correct or not? I would sign it as coming from my extreme head.

4462. Without knowing whether it was correct? Yes, after Mr. Davies told me it was all right.

4463. Then what is the object of getting your signature? It means that I sign as head of that department. I certify that the amount charged on the voucher is correct, and that the service has been given.

4464. Then am I and my colleagues to take it that you are ready to put your signature on any document like this without looking into it, and on the *ipse dixit* of anybody? Well, you are bound to do it at times. There is no tradesman in Sydney but would have done the same thing. Mr. Davies tells me it is correct; Mr. Hibble tells me it is correct; the storekeeper tells me that it is correct. I don't believe that there is a head of a department in Sydney who does not sign in the same way.

4465. Do you recollect how many vouchers were shown to you on that occasion? I think four or five—there might have been six. All the other vouchers I signed ought to bear the impress of the Casual Labour Board, Southern District. If they don't, they must have been signed in the office in Sydney.

4466. Is that seal kept at the Southern District office? Yes; it never leaves the office.

4467. Has it never left it? To my knowledge, it has never left the office.

4468. Now look at these two vouchers. This is contingent voucher, order No. 552, 25th September, six coils of Manilla rope, £3 10s.; and this other one is contingent voucher, dated 31st August, 1888, twenty-four long-handle shovels, £4 16s., and four hammers, £1 14s., total £6 10s.;—are these signed by you? Yes, they are. This one here, I recognize it now. This is the one that is supposed to represent the hamper. I remember the voucher as well as anything.

4469. You recognize both these vouchers? Yes. I recognize this voucher, and the other was one that accompanied it at the same time.

4470. What have you to say about them? I simply say that Mr. Hibble and I signed them.

4471. Look at the signatures and see if they are exactly the same? Yes; these vouchers are the ones I signed in the office, at Mr. Davies' request, when he told me that they were perfectly correct. This is the one Mr. Hibble told me that represented the hamper-basket that Mr. Davies got to proceed to the Melbourne Exhibition.

4472. You better be careful in what you say? I am careful, because I know I am speaking the truth. Mr. Larnach was present in the office at the time I put this signature to it.

4473. Do you know anything about the £3 10s. voucher? No. I remember the voucher; I remember looking at it at the time. I turned them all over, and Mr. Davies said they were perfectly correct.

4474. Are we entitled to assume, from seeing your signature there, that in the ordinary course they should represent goods that went out to the district of which you had charge? Exactly.

4475. Otherwise you should not have been asked to certify for them? No. I would not have certified for anything that was not in my own district.

4476. Then may I take it that you signed a certificate of the correctness of these vouchers—in other words, that you lent your hand to a fraud on the Government without making any inquiry? I beg your pardon. I asked Mr. Davies, the head of the department, if they were correct, and he said, “Yes, they are perfectly correct.”
4477. Then if I were your superior officer, and asked you to commit a felony, you would do it? No, I should not. If you were the head of my department, and asked me to sign a certain document, upon your bearing the responsibility I would do it. I am a subordinate officer to you.
4478. Can you say whether these vouchers were signed by Mr. Davies before you signed them? I can positively state that they were, otherwise I would not have signed them. I would not have signed anything in his office without seeing his signature.
4479. Do you think all the vouchers you saw on that occasion were signed by Mr. John Davies? Yes; as regards all others, if I got my storekeeper and clerk to initial them, I signed them.
4480. Do you state that all the vouchers which you were asked to sign on this occasion were signed by Mr. Davies? To the best of my belief they were.
4481. Do you swear positively that they were? I do. I was so indelibly impressed with what they contained that I remember every instance.
4482. And you say that you found out within an hour from one of the clerks in the office, that you had signed something that was incorrect? Yes. I will tell you how it was that I found it out. I was going up to the bank; I expected some money for myself. I noticed the peculiar amiability of Mr. Davies on that occasion. He said, “I have got some vouchers here I want you to sign.” Previous to signing them I said, “I suppose they are all right?” “Yes,” he said, “they are all right.” Mr. Larnach was sitting there, and afterwards, previous to going to the bank, I saw Mr. Hibble. He said, “Do you know that you have signed in the presence of Mr. Larnach for that hamper?” I said, “By God, if I had known I would never have signed for it.”
4483. Did you ever take any steps to recall what you had done? I simply mentioned to Mr. Hibble and Mr. Larnach that if I had known it I would never have done it.
4484. Did you not conceive it to be your duty, as a citizen, to say nothing of your being an officer in a Government department, to immediately take steps to recall what you had done? I did. I mentioned it to one or two that I had been led into such a fix. I mentioned it to Mr. Sydney Want, to Mr. Frederick Want, and others, that I should not have done it had I known.
4485. In a serious matter like this, did you take no other steps, when you had to support your testimony the evidence of those gentlemen in the office? I do not see what I could have done by myself.
4486. Well, you had Mr. Larnach’s evidence to confirm yours. Do you think Mr. Hibble will confirm what you have told us here to-day? I do not think he can do otherwise.
4487. Will Mr. Hinchcliffe confirm it? If he speaks the truth he will.
4488. What are your relations towards the members of the Board? I have no relations.
4489. Were they friendly or otherwise with Mr. Davies? Mr. Davies was friendly up to the end of October last.
4490. With Mr. Houison? Mr. Houison and I have had one or two bits of rows.
4491. With Mr. Wells? I have had one or two bits of rows with Mr. Wells.
4492. Are you aware that at one time a member of the Board recommended your dismissal? Yes.
4493. Do you recollect what time that was? I think that was in the early part of the arrangements.
4494. Do you know who the member of the Board was? Mr. Wells, I believe.
4495. Do you know what was done on that occasion? I know something about it.
4496. You were not dismissed? No.
4497. Was any complaint made officially? I do not know; I cannot say. It was never conveyed to me officially if there was any.
4498. Did the Hon. John Davies ever make a complaint? Never. He made a remonstrance with me about November last.
4499. Did Mr. Houison ever complain about you? Yes; and I have complained about him.
4500. What did you complain of him about? Well, simply when he got on to me at Waterfall about a certain bit of road, I told him that he was not in a sufficiently sober state to remonstrate. We had a few words, and I got my way. That was at the commencement of the arrangement. Mr. Gordon was present, the party that was with Mr. Deering when he had charge of the unemployed previous to the Board being formed. Mr. Houison made some complaint about the road, but he was too intoxicated for me to take any notice of it. We went into the hotel, and had one or two more refreshers there, and afterwards we got into the train and came down together, I getting out at Loftus Junction, and he going on to Sydney.
4501. You had one or two more refreshers then? Yes; I had one or two. I was perfectly *compos mentis*.
4502. Was it while you were on the road that he made the complaint? Yes. He made one or two suggestions. We afterwards went into the hotel—Mr. Palmer, Mr. Gordon, Mr. Houison, and myself.
4503. And you, being of opinion that Mr. Houison was the worse for liquor, after that went and had one or two more refreshers with him? Yes.
4504. Your evidence then is that you, finding your superior officer the worse for liquor, went with him to have more. Do you think that was a proper thing to do? I will say that I did not consider him to be quite *compos mentis* altogether on the works. We went to the hotel and afterwards caught the train. I got out at Loftus Junction, and he went on to Sydney.
4505. By himself? In the company of these gentlemen.
4506. You say that Mr. Palmer and Mr. Gordon were there;—were they in the same state? They were largely in, but I would not say that they were drunk.
4507. Mr. Houison was not sufficiently sober to instruct you? That was so.
4508. Do you know any other occasion of that kind? On the occasion of the Select Committee’s visit to the Holt-Sutherland Estate, in the beginning of December, I went over the estate with them. Afterwards I saw Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison at the hotel. Mr. Houison came out and said, “You have been over those roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate with the Committee?” I said, “I have,” and I commenced to tell them what I said about the roads. He said, “I don’t believe it; it is a b—y lot of lies.” I turned to Mr. Wells and said, “Mr. Wells, Mr. Houison is not in a fit state to go over the ground with me,

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me, and the man that accuses me of lying I decline to go over the ground with." Mr. Lunny, the publican at Sutherland asked me what was the matter, and I said, "This man has accused me of lying, and I will see him damned before I go out with him." I am pretty rough. He said, "What is the use of taking it like that." Mr. Wells asked me to go back. I said, "I did not want to go back after having been insulted like that." He said, "Oh, don't take any notice of Dave." He also said, "Dave Houison is a little bit excitable; come back"; and I went back, and Dave Houison apologised. He said, "You can't stand any borax." I said, "No; I cannot stand borax." He said, "You know I did not mean anything." I said, "I did not know about that; this is not the first occasion that you have insulted me," but he said, "It's all right, come along." I went over the ground then, but we only went over certain roads. We went over the Port Hacking Road and another road. After a few hours spent in this, we returned, but we had not time to see half the work which was done there, and I have not seen him since then.

4509. You say that on two occasions he was so much affected by liquor as to be incompetent to give you proper instructions? I do. Mr. Houison has only been on the ground three or four times since he has been a member of the Board.

4510. I want to go back now to these vouchers. Did you consider when you saw Mr. Hibble's initials upon them that they were correct? I considered that they were absolutely correct; that he had drawn the orders out; that he had initialled them, and that the orders had come in from the contractors all right.

4511. Would Mr. Hibble know about the delivery of the goods? I do not know.

4512. When goods were ordered, who would get delivery of them? The storekeeper wherever they were sent to. The storekeeper or overseer would report upon them. They would be reported on by Mr. Springall at Hurstville, and by the overseers at Bulgo, Campbelltown, and Waterfall.

4513. Would that come under your notice? No, decidedly not; I am the supervising officer.

4514. Would anyone at the Casual Labour Board Office be advised as to the despatch of those goods? I am not aware of anyone. They would advise the storekeeper who sent in the requisition for the goods.

4515. Could he requisition for anything be liked? Decidedly.

4516. You knew nothing about them? Nothing. If I wanted anything, I would send word to Springall.

4517. You knew nothing of the delivery? No.

4518. Then if fifty kegs of powder were ordered you would know nothing of it? No; if I were up at Liverpool I might send word to Springall, if I wanted a ton or half a ton of powder, but the requisition would go through in the proper form. I have on one or two occasions sent word to the head office that I wanted these things, but I never got them any quicker.

4519. And if these requisitions are sent out by other people than yourself, the goods may be delivered to other people than yourself? No; in every case the goods are checked by the contingent voucher.

4520. And that voucher bears your initials or signature? Very true, it bears the initials of the responsible officer, and underneath it bears the signature of the officer incurring the expense.

4521. So that you, as being the officer at the head of the district, represent to the Audit Office or the Treasury, as the case may be, that these vouchers are absolutely correct? Yes.

4522. And yet you say that you had no responsibility for requisitions or anything else? No; the records will prove that.

4523. Now, what would Mr. Hibble's initials convey? They would convey this, that Mr. Hibble had the order-book, and that he could give the order for what he very well pleased. His signature or even initials going to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg would fetch the whole shop down.

4524. Did you make any statement to the late Colonial Secretary? I did. You have got it in your hand now, sir.

4525. Did you make it in writing? I made it first to Mr. Miles.

4526. Did you see the late Colonial Secretary? I did.

4527. Did you make any verbal statement to him? I did.

4528. What did he ask you to do? He asked me to write the letter that you have got now before you, and to hand it to Mr. Miles for him.

4529. Do you know whether any of the other officers of the Casual Labour Board made any statements? I do not know exactly what you mean.

4530. Were you present when Mr. Hibble was at the Colonial Secretary's office? I was.

4531. Did he make any statement? Yes, several statements.

4532. Is this the statement you made to Mr. Miles? Yes; this is the statement. [*Statement put in and marked I.*]

4533. I want to go back to that conversation at the Casual Labour Board office;—you say in that letter which I have just handed to you, that it was in reference to some electoral rolls that you were asked to go to the railway-station with? Yes, I believe it was. I was asked to take these rolls up.

4534. You say you believe it was—are you not certain? Yes; I am certain.

4535. Were you ever in a cab with Mr. Hinchcliffe? Yes; he went up to the station with me with these electoral rolls.

4536. Do you swear that Mr. Davies asked you to drive up to the station with him? Yes.

4537. And did you drive up? Yes. At the same time I wanted to go across to my wife at North Shore. I was to meet her there.

4538. Mr. Hinchcliffe has sworn, in answer to this question, "Do you remember Mr. Davies asking you to take the rolls and drive up to the railway-station? No; I do not think he did"; and again, in answer to the question, "Did you drive up? No." Is that evidence true or false? It is false. Mr. Hinchcliffe was present, and we handed them on to the railway-station platform.

4539. I asked Mr. Hinchcliffe as follows:—"Did you ever go to the railway-station in a cab with Mr. Burrowes?" He replied, "Mr. Burrowes has often been in the office. I cannot say for certain. I might have done so." I asked, "Do you recollect in the latter part of January being at the office with Mr. Davies, when reference was made to taking electoral rolls to the railway-station?" He replied, "There were electoral rolls taken to the various works, but I do not recollect anything about one particular occasion. It was usual to send the electoral rolls out to the works, and let the men come in to vote." I asked, "Did you ever speak to Mr. Burrowes with reference to the appointment of Mr. Mason as a member of the Inquiry Board?" He replied, "Yes." I asked, "Do you recollect when that was?" He replied, "It would be shortly after Messrs. Mason and Miles were appointed." I asked, "Do you recollect making any remarks to Mr. Burrowes to the effect that Mr. Mason was thoroughly investigating the working and

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and the business of the Board?" He replied, "No. I told him I thought the new Board was going to be very economical. That was the remark I made." I asked "Did you ever speak to Mr. Burrowes about being short in some cash?" He replied, "No." I asked, "Did you ever suggest to him to claim that certain vouchers had been lost?" He replied, "No. Any such statement is untrue. It is untrue. There were no vouchers lost that I am aware of. If there were a cash voucher lost the value would simply come out of my pocket, as I was answerable for the money. If it were a cheque voucher it would not be so." Now, is all that correct or incorrect? Mr. Hinchcliffe told me that he wanted me to rig up bogus vouchers. He told me that he had to borrow money from a friend that you (he said) know very well; that he had asked John Davies to assist him, but John Davies declined, saying that he did not care a d—n who sank so long as he swam.

4540. I further asked Mr. Hinchcliffe—"Did you ever use such an expression to Mr. Burrowes as, 'Mr. Mason has got his knife into you.'" He replied, "I never used such an expression";—is that evidence true or false? It is false.

4541. Do you tell me that Mr. Hinchcliffe's evidence on these matters is false? It is false. I never went so far as to ask Mr. Mason about that purposely.

4542. I want to go back to the pay-sheets; will you look at the abstract of payments made from the 4th November to the 17th November? Yes.

4543. Is that in your handwriting? No; that is in Mr. Springall's.

4544. Will you look through that, and tell me whether Flemming's name occurs there at all? In my writing?

4545. In any person's writing; is the whole of that in Springall's handwriting? So far as I have gone, with the exception of one page, it is all in Springall's writing. One sheet is in M'Leod's handwriting.

4546. Is Flemming's name in any of these abstracts? I cannot come across it.

4547. Would these abstracts, in the ordinary course of your business, be shown to you? No; not necessarily.

4548. Do these abstracts bear any note to show that they have been before you? They are the abstracts to compare with the pay-sheets for every letter.

4549. What I want to get at is, where did your responsibility begin as regards these, and where did it end? As regards these that bear my initials, I will show you.

4550. Is that the only one that bears your initials? That is the only one. M'Leod's is the only pay-sheet that bears my initials.

4551. Will you look at this, headed "Public Relief Works, Heathcote Agricultural, abstract of payments to contractors and others employed, from the 4th November to the 17th November, 1888";—is that the original pay-sheet which would be sent in to the head office? Yes.

4552. By whom would it be sent in? It would be sent in a letter or blank-cover; sometimes with and sometimes without a letter.

4553. Will you look at that, and tell me whether it represents the whole or any part of the rough abstracts that you have got before you? It includes a part, but not the whole.

4554. Would the information that is given in this pay-sheet, as sent in to the Casual Labour Board office, be obtained from those rough abstracts that you have in front of you? Yes; all the information would be obtained from these.

4555. Is there any discrepancy of an important nature, that you discern, between the pay-sheets sent in to the Board office and the abstract before you? Yes; there is the insertion of a man named Flemming, between Blackall and Robinson. He has drawn £18 1s. 5d. The total amount is £23, and there is a deduction of £4 18s. 7d. for rations, leaving £18 1s. 5d. as the actual cash paid, purporting to be to Flemming and gang.

4556. Can you give this Commission any information whatever with respect to that man's name appearing on this pay-sheet. Is it correct or incorrect? I believe it is incorrect.

4557. Can you give any explanation as to this matter? No; because this overseer (Mr. Bell) was not working under me.

4558. Do you know if Flemming was a ganger at any time? I never remember him as a ganger.

4559. If we find him constantly on these pay-sheets, with a considerable amount opposite to his name as having been paid as a ganger, is it correct or incorrect? Incorrect. The man has never been anything else but a labourer.

4560. Where is Flemming—can you find him? No. If Mr. Miles or Mr. Mason had taken my advice they would have had him close enough by this time; but they seemed to take little notice of what I said or what my friends said.

4561. Look at this pay-sheet: Number 1,356, Heathcote Agricultural—do you see Flemming's name there? Yes. The total amount is £20 18s. 6d., and there is £5 4s. for rations, leaving £15 14s. 6d. cash paid.

4562. Is that correct? No.

4563. And yet you certified to it? How could I do otherwise. Place yourself in my position. You must trust to your officials. I had to do it.

4564. I should be very sorry to do it. Did you prepare these abstracts? All these abstracts with my initials to them are mine.

4565. E. M. B. Are those your initials? Those are mine.

4566. Will you look at this pay-sheet: Heathcote Agricultural, No. 1,595, abstract of payments, 18th November to the 1st December, 1888. Is Flemming's name there? Yes.

4567. Is it correctly there? No; it is not correctly anywhere. He is put down as a stonebreaker. He appears on the list, 240 cubic yards for the fortnight's work. To receive that, he must have been a ganger. He is put down for £24, and deducting the £4 11s. for rations, £19 9s. is the actual cash paid.

4568. Do you believe that at that time the man was in your employment? Yes. He was grooming my horse, and knocking about the yard.

4569. That is signed by you too? I do not know whether you look upon it as a grievous complaint, but as head of that department I signed them after they were initialled by other persons.

4570. Will you look at this pay-sheet—Heathcote Agricultural, No. 1,323, from the 26th August to the 8th September—does Flemming's name appear there? Yes.

4571. For what? For 186 yards, for which he was entitled to £20 18s. 6d., and deducting £5 6s. 2d. rations, the amount of cash paid, £15 12s. 4d. It is signed by Flemming, the last name on the sheet.

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4572. Is that correct? No, decidedly not; it is false.
- 4572½. You believe that the Government have been wrongfully deprived of these amounts? I do.
4573. What do you think this man should have been entitled to receive? If the man got from £2 to £2 4s. it would have been all that he was entitled to.
4574. Here is another, will you look at it? Yes. Heathcote Agricultural, 21st October to 3rd November.
4575. Do you see Flemming's name there? Yes; 240 yards at 2s., £24; rations, £5 4s.; cash paid, £18 16s.
4576. Is that true or false? It is false, although my signature is at the bottom of it.
4577. Your explanation then is that the documents were brought to you by Springall at the last moment, and that you signed them off-hand without making any inquiries? Decidedly, after I saw them drawn up by four or five officers who had nothing to do but to check them. That is how I am placed in such an invidious position, because I have to sign for every man's wrongs.
4578. Will you look at this same pay-sheet—you will see payments, £10 10s., Hay, and £10 10s., Hamilton? Yes.
4579. Is that correct? I believe it is correct.
4580. Could you certify to this being correct? Yes.
4581. How do you know that those names are correct when Flemming's is incorrect? Because Flemming was at my individual work, whereas Hay and Hamilton were doing carting.
4582. Will you look at No. 1,114, Sutherland-Loftus pay-sheet, 17th June to 30th June;—do you see Flemming's name there? Yes. There is J. Flemming and gang, £18 12s.; rations, £4 6s. 8d.; leaving £14 5s. 4d. cash paid.
4583. Is that correct? I could not swear to that, but I do not believe it is.
4584. Did you ever know Flemming as a ganger? No; I never did.
4585. Here is another—No. 1,230, Heathcote Agricultural, 29th July to 11th August, 180 cubic yards at 2s. 3d., £20 5s.; rations, £4 6s. 8d.; cash paid, £15 18s. 4d.;—is that correct? That is not correct. To draw this to a conclusion, I can positively swear that this man never did any of that kind of work, and never did any kind of work similar to that returned in these vouchers.
4586. If we find on examining the pay-sheets the name of Flemming as a ganger, can we then, in your opinion in every case, reject it as untrue? Yes.
4587. You say you have not attended the pay-table for months and months;—did you attend any of these pays? No; none of these pays. I never attended yet at Heathcote.
4588. Are you prepared to state that all of these pay-sheets with regard to the other amounts are correct? So far as I am personally acquainted with them, this is the first instance of anything wrong that has come within my knowledge.
4589. When did you first become acquainted with this? About the beginning of January this year. That is the first time I became acquainted with it, and I should have been in utter ignorance of the fact had it not been for Mr. Goodman. I went to Mr. Bell, Mr. Sandon, and others after hearing about it.
4590. Will you look at the abstract of payments to contractors and others, employed from the 14th August to 27th August, 1887, at the National Park relief works. Is Flemming's name on that? Yes. James Flemming and three men—amount earned, £8 15s. 6d.; rations, £2 12s. 2d.; cash paid, £6 2s. 4d.
4591. Will you look at the original pay-sheet for Waterfall between the same dates,—the 14th August to the 27th August? Yes.
4592. Is the name of Flemming on that? Yes. James Flemming, £3; rations, 15s.; cash paid, £2 5s.
4593. Do you think these are the same men? Yes.
4594. Each of these bears your signature? Yes; each of them.
4595. The signatures on the Waterfall pay-sheet appear to be witnessed by Cheney, who is a detective, and the probability is that if a man had come forward for pay while he was there, and represented himself as a ganger, when he was not a ganger, he would have been detected? He might have been there as an ordinary labouring man; so that payment is probably correct and the other is incorrect.
4596. Do you recollect on any occasion meeting Mr. G. F. Want at the National Park? I have met Mr. Want there on many occasions.
4597. Do you recollect meeting him officially on any occasion? I do not remember.
- 4597½. Do you recollect any occasion on which the Chairman of the Board went out to meet him? I met Mr. Want and the Chairman of the Board on so many occasions.
4598. Do you recollect making any request to Mr. Want upon instructions, as you alleged, from the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board? Yes. Do you allude to road works or picnics?
4599. Do you recollect any occasion upon which you made a request to him about a picnic? Well, I was requested by Mr. John Davies to consult Mr. Want. Mr. Davies was about to give a picnic to Sir John Robertson and some others of the nobility, so I was asked if I would suggest what wines would be required, and to consult Mr. Fred. Want about it.
4600. Who asked you? John Davies. I asked Mr. Want, and he told me what he thought would be the best thing to get. I made out a list, and it was approved of. There were one or two slight excisions.
4601. You settled the list with Mr. Want? Oh, yes; we arranged it.
4602. And submitted it to Mr. Davies? Yes. Mr. Davies said he was not much of a judge of this kind of thing.
4603. And was it obtained? Yes; I obtained it from Mr. Kidman.
4604. Which Mr. Kidman? Mr. James Kidman.
4605. At which shop? At the George-street shop.
4606. Do you recollect what it came to? I never asked them that. I do not recollect to this day what it came to.
4607. Did Mr. Davies tell you to take the order to Mr. Kidman? Yes, he told me.
4608. Was any order-form filled up for it, I suppose it was a private order of Mr. Davies? I considered it such at the time.
4609. Then it was an order on his private account? I thought so at the time.
4610. Have you any reason to think differently now? Only remarks I have heard dropped. I do not know for

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for a positive fact. I was under the impression that Mr. Davies was giving this picnic to a few of his friends, and he asked me, as I was a judge of these things, to order them.

4611. Do you know what year this was? The year 1887.

4612. Then up to the present moment you have no reason to suspect but that it was the private order of Mr. Davies? Oh, no.

4613. Did you go to the picnic yourself? I was there; I spent the evening there. I did my duty, and in the evening I was sent down to attend the banquet at the Loftus pavilion.

4614. How many were there? I suppose from twelve to fifteen. I could not mention all their names.

4615. I suppose you know nothing about the payment of this? No.

4616. Do you know what became of the residue of the stuff that was sent down—of your own knowledge? The greater part of the residue remaining after the picnic Robertson made out a list of, and I sent it in to Mr. Davies in Sydney. He said that it was his.

4617. And for aught you know to the contrary it was his private property? I do not know, and could not tell you.

4618. Do you know anything about the stores;—can you say whether any particular individual drew more or less rations than he was entitled to? No; I could not say. I had nothing to do with the stores. I do not know what was drawn or what was not drawn.

4619. Who can tell us? Mr. Springall, the storekeeper, and George Johnson, the assistant storeman.

4620. If George Johnson and Mr. Springall thought fit to take stores for themselves in large quantities, who can give us any information? Nobody else could that I am aware of.

4621. You hold yourself clear of all responsibility as regards these stores? Yes.

4622. You say you had nothing to do with them? Nothing at all.

4623. Do you know anything about Mr. Springall now? Nothing, except that he is living down at Coronulla Beach.

4624. Do you know how long he was in the employ of the Government? He was under the Government three months in 1886, previous to going out to the Park. He would be in the employ of the Government a little over two years.

4624½. What was his pay? 10s. a day.

4625. Is he a married man? Yes. He has lost his wife since he has been out there. He has got grown-up children and one married daughter.

4626. Do you know whether the storekeepers kept books? Yes.

4627. Do you know where the books are? They were sent in to Mr. John Davies on the last day of last year, or on the first day or second day of January this year.

4628. I want to examine those books. Do you know anything of some firewood which was sent to a man named Underwood, at Ashfield? Yes; Underwood wrote to me, asking if he could have a truck of firewood sent to him. It was sent to him. I acquainted Mr. Neale of the fact, and asked him to send to Underwood and charge him the same price as he was getting from other people. He was to collect the money.

4629. Is that all you know about it? That is all I know about it. I do not know whether it has been paid or not.

4630. Do you recollect any remark being made that he need not pay? No.

4631. Were you out at the works when the Casual Labour Board took over these unemployed? Oh, yes. I have been there since November, 1886.

4632. When did the Casual Labour Board take office? About the 2nd of May, 1887.

4633. Can you tell us whether there was any large amount of plant or stores in hand then, or if you cannot tell us, can you tell us who can? I cannot tell you what amount there was at that particular time; but Mr. Springall could tell you, or Mr. Johnson, or any of the overseers.

4634. Do you know anything of the stores that were in hand? No, sir; nothing at that time.

4635. Were you camping at the National Park at that time? Yes.

4636. Who was responsible then? Mr. Springall. I camped by myself then.

4637. Can you not give us any information as to what became of the stores? No; you see that was a very busy time.

4638. You mentioned Mr. Goodman, what was he? He was simply a ganger then; but more recently, since November and December last, he has been connected with us at Hurstville.

4639. Before that he was a ganger? Yes.

4640. What is he doing now? He is assistant storekeeper—assistant to Mr. Larnach.

4641. Was he under the Casual Labour Board during the whole time of its existence? Yes; as a labourer.

4642. What arrangement was made as regards your personal expenses? You mean travelling expenses.

4643. Your personal expenses. What you charged above your claim for salary and rations? Of course my salary was raised from 10s. a day to £5 5s. a week, or 15s. per day, and then my rations amounted to 1s. 1d. Under the new tariff that amount was not included in the salary. It was put in by contingent voucher by Mr. Davies' orders. Well, my contingent voucher was to cover my assistant and the surveyors under me. I said to him, "I rather object to my vouchers having to cover Mr. Springall's, Mr. Sander-son's, and Mr. M'Pherson's allowance, because the Auditor-General might think the whole amount was in respect of myself." I rather objected to carry these men's burdens on my vouchers, and so after that I commenced to carry my own. We each put our amounts separate.

4644. Did you send them in regularly? Every fortnight.

4645. Can you give me any idea of what your fortnightly claim was? Well, recently I had so much travelling, it would amount to from £5 to £7. I would have to go to Liverpool, Campbelltown, Eckersley, and sometimes I would have to include the rations for these men.

4646. Would your claim appear on the contingent voucher correctly? Yes.

4647. You say that they averaged over £5 a fortnight? Yes; £5 or £6.

4648. Would that be merely for personal expenses—hotel expenses and travelling? Yes, and rations.

4649. Was any complaint ever made about the amount? No.

4650. Do you know if any complaint has been made since the Board ceased to exist? I am not aware of any.

4651. Have you since the Board ceased to exist been receiving personal expenses at the same rate? No; they

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- they objected the other day to my claim for money actually out of pocket. They objected to pay me, and I had to go without expenses that had been incurred. I rather demurred against this, but they said that M'Pherson did not make the same charges. I demurred because I considered that my expenses when I was ordered into town ought to be paid.
4652. What course was adopted with regard to rations, as to advising the Board what was required, and as to the amount of rations ordered, received, and issued? At the end of every month Mr. Springall used to send in a list.
4653. To whom? Sometimes through me, he used to send the list in to the Chairman. Sometimes Mr. Springall himself would send the list, but on more frequent occasions it would be sent through me. Take this occasion. Here is a letter written on the 1st August, 1887, from the National Park Government relief works—"Sir,—I have the honor to forward you vouchers for the fortnight ending 30th July, also contingent vouchers. Item groceries 11s. was omitted from the list. You are requested to put it in now.—E. M. BURROWES, Superintendent. To John Davies, Esq." Attached to that is rations ordered, rations received, and rations issued. But this has nothing whatever to do with me.
4654. Do you take no responsibility for the correctness of this ration-sheet? No; certainly not.
4655. Is it correct? I believe it is correct.
4656. Would you have signed it if it was not correct? I don't believe I would, because Mr. Springall showed me the list of rations by Kidman, and they compared with the number received. So far as this item groceries is concerned, it was for the entertainment of Mr. Varney Parkes. He came unexpectedly upon us. The rations were not sufficiently good to entertain people that came, and we had to send for others.
4657. With regard to personal expenses, is this statement here one of your claims, amounting to £7 11s., in which rations, railway fares, cab-hire, paper and envelopes, and the carriage of packages are charged? Yes.
4658. Do you always pay your railway fare? No; I got a free pass.
4659. What is that one there? A return ticket to Liverpool. That was at a time I had not a pass.
4660. There is another—rations, forage, expenses Liverpool, £1 2s.—what are the fares in that? These are the fares of men that have come to me.
4661. Do you say that all these items charged for your fortnightly expenses were for actually necessary payments? Yes. I signed a declaration to that effect every fortnight.
4662. When you sent in any requisitions yourself, how did you know that they were complied with? Well, I did not know they were complied with until I went out to some of the camps. I would say that I sent in for them, and if they had not got them they would say so. That would necessitate dropping another note to the office.
4663. How did the overseers know that they got what you required? They would know when they got them.
4664. Who would order these things? I would order them, and Mr. Springall, and sometimes Mr. Davies.
4665. Were these orders conveyed by letter or verbally from you? They were generally written.
4666. Would it not be possible for an order to be sent in for an enormous amount of goods—largely in excess of what was required, which would really go into somebody else's pocket or somebody else's place? I do not think so.
4667. Would it not be possible under the arrangements existing that Mr. Davies could send these goods where he liked? Yes.
4668. And would it not be possible for anybody to send large quantities of the goods to other places than they were intended for? Yes.
4669. And the goods might go there and nobody be a bit the wiser? Yes.
4670. And the same with regard to rations? Yes. Well, the rations would be delivered where they were ordered for. If they were ordered for the railway-station they would be delivered there.
4671. During the time you have been connected with the Board, have any cases of imposition come under your notice? Imposition! I do not know what you mean.
4672. It is an English word. I will be bound to say you would know if I imposed upon you. You were an officer of the Board, the senior officer in that district. We will assume that, as such, you were responsible for something. During the time that you were this responsible officer, did any cases of imposition come under your notice, where your employers or the Government were being robbed or imposed upon? I cannot say directly that I know of any particular case.
4673. Do I understand that you relieve yourself of all responsibility in connection with the southern district, except the professional part of the work? Yes.
4674. You assume that you were placed there entirely as professional supervisor, and not responsible for any details at all? Not for the rations.
4675. Have you any letter or memorandum or minute appointing you to the office you held? I have.
4676. I would like to see it. This is a copy of memorandum dated 28th November, 1886, under which you took office? Yes. It reads as follows:—"National Park.—Memo. for approval.—I would suggest that Mr. Burrowes be placed in charge of the whole of the men on the National Park, with full power and control over them. Mr. B. is a surveyor, and has had experience with men in field-work. If this is approved of, Mr. Newstead's services can be dispensed with, and he can be paid up to date. He might be paid at the rate of 10s. per day and rations.—(Signed) C.W. Approved.—G.R.D."
4677. Was that the first appointment you held? No. I held an appointment in the office of the Medical Adviser of the Government.
4678. Did you hold that office when you got Mr. Walker's appointment? Yes.
4679. What salary were you getting then? Seven or eight shillings.
- 4679½. How long had you been there? Well, through Mr. Walker's influence, I was put in temporarily there until something turned up.
4680. Were you then in a needy way? I was indeed.
4681. After getting that letter, and after the Casual Labour Board was appointed, did you get any other document appointing you to the Casual Labour Board? No.
4682. Did you get any other instructions? No; only verbal instructions.
4683. I suppose you notice that that letter that you have shown me covers the supervising of the men? Yes.

Mr. E. M.
Burrowes.
1 April, 1889.

4684. It gave you control over the men ;—did you have any checks or take any precautions to regulate their affairs? The words I used when I was informed of this were, "If I am going to take charge of these men I wish to be relieved of all monetary responsibility before I have charge of the men in the field-work."

4685. Who did you say that to? I said it to Mr. Dibbs in the presence of Mr. Walker. I was sent up then to Mr. Ninian Melville and Mr. Wise for my instructions.

4686. How did you become aware that you were to look to Mr. Davies for instructions? Mr. Walker told me so. I knew Mr. Davies would not come out there to assert his authority.

4687. Did Mr. Davies, or anyone, give you authority to regulate the works in the district? Yes.

4688. With regard to the supervision of details? No; in all matters of detail they went to Mr. Springall.

4689. Did you exercise any precautions at all? No; I had such undoubted confidence in Mr. Springall that I thought he was a thoroughly fit man to go on with the thing. I found quite enough to do in attending to the field-work without attending to any details.

4690. Did you ever hear that Mr. Wells had recommended your dismissal, and that Mr. Davies begged that you might be allowed to remain? I did hear something about it, but I placed little credence in the thing. I never bothered my head about it.

4691. When did you hear about it? When this thing occurred.

4692. Did you and Mr. Davies get on very well? Yes.

4693. Had you ever any words, or was there any want of harmony between you and the Chairman? No. 4694. Was he friendly towards you? He was very friendly, indeed.

4695. What did he call you when he addressed you? He used to call me Ned and Burrowes.

4696. Have you any reason to think that his opinion about you has altered? I have great reason; and then nothing was too bad. He gave me credit for giving the information to Messrs. Walker and O'Sullivan and the other members of the Select Committee. You asked me the other day, Mr. President, whether I had ever had anything to do with the works in any other district, and I said no; but I recollect since that I was called upon by the Chairman of the Select Committee to report upon certain roads on the Hornsby Estate.

4697. Can you fix about the date? About the end of November,

4698. Now, you say that up to that time you had been on the best of terms with Mr. Davies? Yes.

4699. And so far as you knew he entertained no feeling against you? No.

4700. Were you ever up at his private house? Yes; on two occasions. One night I slept there, and on the other occasion I spent the evening there.

4701. Was there much interval between these times? There was an interval of about a fortnight.

4702. What time would that be? It was previous to the starting of the Campbelltown roads.

4703. I want to know about the time? I cannot remember; it is some few months ago.

4704. Was that on an invitation from him? Yes; he asked me to stay there because there was no camp in the district.

4705. At that particular time he was on the best of terms with you, and had no feeling against you? No.

4706. I have got in my hand a series of letters written, apparently, in August, 1888. From the correspondence it appears that some sharp letters had been written by the Chairman of the Board. I will read an extract from this of 14th August, 1888:—"I have to inform you that Underwood wrote to me direct, at my request, therefore you had no occasion to be annoyed, but I am very much annoyed. I have, &c." Then again, on 16th of August, 1888, he writes pretty sharply to you, saying that some time previously he had given instructions to proceed with certain work, and asked you why you had not carried out his instructions. Then there is the 20th August—that same month—*re* main road, Leumeah. He says that upon receipt of your communication, he telegraphed to you, and you do not appear to have received it. Then on the 27th August, he says, "I learned that you had paid no attention to my instructions; that gangs of men had been employed clearing and forming in a direction opposite to my instructions, in consequence of which an amount of expenditure without authority is worse than wasted." That shows that the relations between you were somewhat strained? Oh, no; not at all. I paid little attention to his letters, because he was most friendly when we met.

4707. What is this work at Leumeah. Is that where Mr. Davies lives? Yes.

4708. What is the name of that road? I call it the Leumeah and Eckersley Road; but he calls it the Campbelltown and Eckersley Road.

4709. Leumeah is a station, is it not? It is a platform at Mr. Davies' house.

4710. Mr. Davies' platform? Yes.

4711. Any other house there? Not within some distance.

4712. Here is the letter of 20th August, in which he speaks of the new road to Leumeah;—does that road begin at his house, or does it pass his house? It commences on Mr. Davies' property, and then runs away in an easterly direction.

4713. This letter states that he telegraphed to you to proceed with the road through the reserve, and he adds that upon his paying a visit to the works he found that the men were carrying on the old road; and that he told the overseer under you to proceed in the other direction? If we had carried out Mr. Davies' instructions, the road would have gone through Messrs. Phillips' property. The road, as we got it, branched at a right angle off from the road, and then took a northerly detour into the common, which Mr. Davies objected to, as he considered that it was not the most direct route. Some time afterwards I asked Messrs. Phillips for permission to go through their property, which they gave me. Mr. Davies then instructed me to carry it easterly through the reserve.

4714. However, about that road, you appear to have had some difference with Mr. Davies? Just because it did not benefit himself and his friends sufficiently. We wanted to take it through Government property. He wanted to take it through private property.

4715. Do you say that after these angry letters he would meet you on friendly terms? Oh, yes; since that time he has taken tea at my own private house.

4716. It has been stated to us that you kept an account or schedule of the plant, tools, and so forth in your district? Whoever told you that told you what was incorrect.

4717. Do you hold yourself responsible for the plant? Decidedly not.

4718. About this Holt-Sutherland Estate—did you prepare that plan that is attached to the Parliamentary evidence? Yes.

4719

- Mr. E. M. Burrowes.
1 April, 1889.
4719. Is it correct? As nearly as possible. It is not so correct as I would like it to be.
4720. Did you have anything to do with the initiation of this work on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No; the roads were all done by letter.
4721. Did you ever see or hear anything of a petition got up for starting the work? I have seen the originals, and took copies of them.
4722. You reported upon them, I suppose? I was told to do that.
4723. Did you report upon them all? Not upon the Port Hacking Road and Coronulla Road. I proceeded with them. There is the original letter, where the leaf is turned down. A slight report is made about it.
4724. Do you know now all the signatures to those petitions? I have seen them.
4725. Do you know anything of the circumstances which led to these memorials being presented? No.
4726. Do you know Mr. Jamieson? Yes.
4727. Do you know whether he had any connection with the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I always imagined that he had, but he told me that he had not.
4728. Have you ever seen him out there? I have been out there with him, in company with Mr. Davies.
4729. How often? Twice or three times.
4730. What object took them out there? His object was to inspect this crossing-place at Ewey Creek on the first occasion, to look at a piece of land on Coronulla Beach on the second, and to go over the estate with Mr. Davies.
4731. Driving? Oh, yes; driving.
4732. Did they invite you to attend the party? Yes; I knew every inch of the country, and they asked me to join them.
4733. Was any inquiry made about these roads? They asked about where this road was going to and where that road was going to, and said that this was very nice and that was very nice.
4734. Did Mr. Jamieson appear to take a great interest in the work? Very great interest, and was thoroughly pleased with everything he saw.
4735. Do you know Mr. S. A. Want? Sid Want?
4736. I choose to call him Mr. S. A. Want? I have seen him at Mr. Fred. Want's cottage.
4737. Do you know Mr. Carruthers? I do.
4738. Have you ever seen him out there? Yes.
4739. Have you ever spoken to him about these roads? Yes; he has spoken to me about the Port Hacking Road.
4740. Is that the road that is 2 chains wide? The Main Illawarra Road is 2 chains wide.
4741. Did he speak of any others? No.
4742. Did you know Mr. Murphy, the manager of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes.
4743. Do you know where he lives? No.
4744. Did you ever see him out there? Yes.
4745. Frequently? Yes, hundreds of times.
4746. Did he appear to take much interest in this work? Yes. I have had letters from him about it.
4747. Did you forward these letters to the Board? No. They were sent to me privately. I never handed them in to the Board.
4748. Have you any objection to allow this Commission to have them? No. There is nothing in them but what has reference to the roads.
4749. They all refer to the roads? Every one of these letters has reference to the roads.
4750. To all the roads? To the roads made. They were marked private, and I have, up to the present, treated them as confidential; but as the Commission requests me to produce them I will do so.
4751. I ask you to bring these letters here, and produce them to us to-morrow at 2 o'clock? Yes.
4752. Do you know whether any work was done by the unemployed in your district, in cutting wood, sleepers, building cottages, or clearing allotments, for private individuals? No.
4753. Do you know of any cases where they have sold wood to private people, or given free labour? No.
4754. Or where there has been any return of goods gratuitously, or anything of that kind? No. I know of this, that one man, who was a bricklayer, was engaged by Mr. Want to put up a chimney. Mr. Want paid him separately, and we did not pay him.
4755. Is not Mr. Want's place alongside the National Park? He has got a cottage there.
4756. Was that built by the unemployed? God bless my soul, no.
4757. Were you aware of any sales of firewood that had been made by the men under your charge? No. Nothing except what was sold through Mr. Neale.
4758. Who had to do with these sales;—who was responsible for sending the wood? Mr. Elton was the clerk who sent it.
4759. What was it—only firewood? Only firewood and charcoal. We made the charcoal and sent it to Sydney. I believe it was sold to Mr. Wearne.
4760. Was any record kept of the firewood that was sent in to Mr. Neale? Yes.
4761. Where shall we find the record? In the Casual Labour Board Office.
4762. What kind of a record is it? A list giving the number of the trucks and everything.
4763. Would it be sent by railway? Yes.
4764. Was that done under your supervision? Yes. It was sent on to Neale.
4765. That was something you *did* attend to. With reference to these vouchers that were signed by you, am I to take it that it was a mere matter of form your signing them? Yes.
4766. You did not guarantee their correctness? No. You can imagine supervising 4,500 men. What time would I have to supervise if I attended to these pay-sheets.
4767. Did you make that plain to the Board? Oh, I grumbled and growled.
4768. I believe that complaints were frequently made by the men to the Casual Labour Board of you and other officers;—are you aware of that? No.
4769. Oh, you have reported upon them;—here is a complaint made by a man named Frederick Cook, a ganger, dated 11th July, 1887;—I suppose you were bound to have men grumbling; when you had a large number under you, may I take it that various complaints came before you at different times for report? Oh, yes.
4770. What course used you to adopt with regard to them? I used to give the thing every consideration, and go into the matter as far as I could.

4771. Here is apparently a complaint by one W. M. Robertson;—you complained of his working on the Sabbath, and your complaint seemed to be that he wanted to build a meat-house on the Sabbath;—do you recollect the occasion? I remember it.

4772. Do you recollect the man—what became of him? He was a drunken brute. I had to dismiss him for drunkenness.

4773. Could you put your hand on any document that bears his signature? It ought to be on the pay-sheet.

4774. Were you at various times asked to report upon the propriety or otherwise of initiating work? Yes.

4775. Did you, in those cases where you had to report, visit the locality? Oh, decidedly.

4776. Always? Yes.

4777. Did anybody ever speak to you or write to you with a view of your commencing or getting any particular work completed? No, never.

4778. Did you ever borrow money from any of the men? No.

4778½. Are you sure? Oh, I have known Mr. Walsh, when we have been travelling together, borrow money from me; and then on another occasion I have borrowed from him. He might lend to me and I might lend to him.

4779. Did you ever borrow from anybody else? I am not a bank; but if I do borrow from anybody I like to return it again.

4780. These borrowings from Walsh, what would they be? They might be a pound or two—never more.

4781. Was it a common practice of yours to borrow? Decidedly not.

4782. Did you ever borrow from any of the other officers? I borrowed of Mr. Davies, and so would Mr. Hinchcliffe, and so would Mr. Hibble do the same thing. Mr. Hibble now owes me money.

4783. Can you tell us anything about the charges for rations, as to whether or not cartage or trainage was charged on the delivery of rations? I know that Kidman delivered the rations wherever they were ordered for. If they were ordered for Campbelltown he would deliver them there; if they were ordered for Hurstville they would be delivered at Hurstville.

4784. Are you quite sure that Kidman paid all the expenses to the places where they were ordered? Yes.

4785. Am I to understand, with reference to this man Flemming, that you never knew that he was charged upon the pay-sheets until quite recently? Never until the beginning of January.

4786. You swear that? I swear it most positively. I always thought the man was on the sheet as a day labourer.

4787. Can you give us any evidence as to whether goods that we find were ordered were delivered or not? No.

4788. You have prepared a list, I believe, of the work done on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I have.

4789. Is this it [*Exhibit G*], to your evidence before the Select Committee? Yes.

4790. You say that every road on the Holt-Sutherland Estate is not mentioned there? Yes; there is one not mentioned.

4791. What is it? I cannot say from memory; but there is another road.

4792. Where can we get a list of all the roads constructed there by the unemployed? I can give you one.

4793. Will you bring it to-morrow? Yes.

4794. Do you know anything about Unwin's Bridge Road? Yes.

4795. Did you have anything to do with it? I started it; but it was taken out of my hands by David Houson, and put into M'Pherson's.

4796. Then M'Pherson could give some evidence about it? Yes.

4797. Were you and M'Pherson good friends? No; far from it.

4798. Have you quarrelled? I cannot say that we ever fell out; but I have not been on speaking terms with him for months now. First of all he opened some private letters of mine when I was away, and when I came to the camp I objected. He said he was sorry for having done so. A fortnight after that I was at Campbelltown, and when I came back I found they were opened again. I was greatly annoyed, and expressed my annoyance in unmistakable terms. He did it a third time, and I threatened to kick him.

4799. How long ago is that? About five or six months ago. He has always been trying to get into my shoes ever since I was appointed. I recommended Mr. M'Pherson to be appointed assistant. I had too much to do. I had to work Sundays and Saturdays—all night sometimes—to get sufficient work for the men to go on with. He was working with Springall and the others to get me out of the position, and naturally enough I resented this.

4800. Here is a report, prepared apparently by you, dated 12 November, 1888, speaking of the Woronora Road, the Peakhurst Road, the Eckersley Road, and the Woolwash Road;—what was this report prepared for? It is a report made by me consequent upon something that had been said to me by the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board.

4801. Does that give information as to what roads you had dealt with outside the Holt-Sutherland property? Oh, no; it is only just a patch, and very disjointed.

4802. These are three papers, which Mr. Mason informed us in his evidence Mr. Larnach handed to him;—can you give us any information about them? Yes; I can give a little. The letter dated 25th January, 1889, signed by George Johnson, storeman, refers to some rations I do not think Springall was entitled to. The other document is a document to Mr. Johnson from C. Walsh, telling him not to send certain rations, countermanded by Springall. The next is a letter of the 12th November, 1888, signed by J. H. Springall to G. Johnson, assistant storekeeper.

4803. Have you any reason, from your observation or your knowledge, to suspect that there was any connivance between Mr. Johnson and Mr. Springall? Well, I can hardly say. I never knew of any.

4804. Do you believe Mr. Johnson is a reliable man? I believe so.

4805. You cannot give us any information about any stores that were at the National Park when the Casual Labour Board came into office? No; I cannot.

4806. When did you see Mr. Davies last? I saw him in Mr. Ormiston's room here last week.

4807. When did you see him to speak to last? The day I received my dismissal from Messrs. Mason and Mills.

Mr. E. M.
Burrowes.

1 April, 1889.

- Mr. E. M. Burrowes.
1 April, 1989.
4808. Did you receive it through them? I did. I was asked to go three times. He said, "Good day, Mr. Burrowes." I said, "Good day," and away he went.
4809. Have you any reason to suspect that his feelings against you have changed very much within the last month or two? Yes; because when Mr. Dibbs sent for me he sent for Mr. Miles too. Mr. Miles said to Mr. Dibbs, "Davies says that Burrowes is a very bad man." He said, "One would have thought he would have got rid of him before this if he was such a very bad man." Mr. Miles laughed it off, and, in the presence of Mr. Dibbs, Mr. Slattery, and Mr. Fletcher, talked about the matter.
4810. You were threatened with dismissal once, and what advantage was it keeping you there? I suppose he thought he had got an able assistant, who could get plenty of oysters to send in to him.
4811. Did you attend to him in that respect? Oh, yes. I would send a man to get oysters for him occasionally.
4812. Have you any grounds for believing that he has become seriously changed in his opinion of you? I have.
4813. Why? I do not know why; and I do not care very much. I don't consider that Mr. Davies is one of my equals in any shape.
4814. Who attended to the pay-sheets? Mr. Springall, Mr. Goodman, a man named Davey, and one of Springall's assistants in the stores, Mr. Johnson.
4815. Can you tell us from your own knowledge of routine whether Mr. Springall's pay-sheets would come in examined or not? I always understood that Mr. Springall took particular care in making out the pay-sheets.
4816. Don't you see the singularly false position in which you place the members of the Board. They tell us they paid on your voucher; you tell us that you paid on Mr. Springall's? I simply signed as head of the department.
4817. Do you think that Mr. Davies or any member of the Board was aware, when you signed your name on these vouchers or pay-sheets, that it was purely as a matter of form? Mr. Davies, Mr. Deering, Mr. Wise, or anybody in the same position, would have had to do as I did.
4818. Do you think that Mr. Davies was aware that you did not concern yourself at all about the checking of these things? I think Mr. Davies was aware.
4819. Do you think Mr. Wells was aware of it? Mr. Wells had not the time to trouble about these things.
4820. Can you tell us whether you were present on any pay-days? Not for months. I used to be present at the pay-days when we held them at the National Park.
4821. How many there? During the Casual Labour Board's existence, I never attended the pays at any camp since.
4822. Can you tell us who should know whether a man was a ganger or not, and what pay he should receive on each pay-day? It would all depend upon what works he was employed.
4823. Holt-Sutherland? Johnson would know that.
4824. I suppose Mr. Hinchcliffe cannot be charged with any knowledge of a matter of that kind? I have been rather led to believe that he had, and Hibble too.
4825. Was it likely that these two gentlemen on a pay-day would know that a certain man whose name appeared upon the sheet was or was not a ganger? Oh, no. The overseer of each particular camp would vouch for his men.
4826. Who would be the overseer of this Heathcote work? Mr. Michael Bell and Mr. Sandon.
- 4827-8. Would Michael Bell be present on the pay-days? Oh, yes.
4829. If Michael Bell was present on a particular pay-day, and saw a man get £20, knowing at the same time that he was not a ganger, would he not in the ordinary course of business call attention to it? And so he did to Mr. Goodman, but not to me. Mr. Bell, however, was under the impression that this man was drawing the money to pay the sailmakers and labourers at Hurstville. Instead of that, he was drawing for a different purpose altogether.
4830. Do you know who used to go round with these payments? Mr. Hibble and Mr. Springall always. Mr. Hinchcliffe would pay at Sutherland, and then go on by the afternoon train to Hurstville.
4831. Were any members of the Board present? Yes; Mr. Davies generally travelled with Mr. Hinchcliffe.
4832. Does it not strike you as a marvellous thing that a man should go up and represent that he was a ganger with seven men under him, when there were people there watching the pay-knowing the contrary? Yes, it does. It knocked me "kite high" when I heard of it.
4833. Who do you say would be responsible for it? I should tackle Mr. Springall, because the man was actually working under him.
4834. If the man Flemming has been represented on twenty pay-sheets as a ganger with seven men under him, I suppose, in the ordinary course of events, in addition to getting the wages of seven men, he would get the rations of seven? Yes; that was deducted. But from what I have heard from the storeman, these rations were never issued.
- 4835-6. Then you are of opinion that there was a fraud committed to the extent of the wages, but not to the extent of the rations? Yes.
4837. But although the rations might not have been supplied to Flemming and the seven men, the Government contractor would have supplied the rations to the store? I should think so.
4838. So that there is a missing link somewhere? Yes.
4839. Do you know anything about Coleman, timekeeper at the National Park? Yes; he was a very good man. He got sacked through having some misunderstanding with Mr. Davies and Mr. Springall. He got sacked ignominiously. I put him on again. I believe Mr. Springall was to blame on that occasion, and so did every other officer. I put him on again at Liverpool.
4840. Do you know a man named M'Intyre? He was in Wood's employ on the Heathcote section.
4841. Do you know Mr. Sanderson? Yes.
4842. What are your relations with him—friendly or otherwise? I saw him to-day coming out of the Metropolitan Hotel. He threatened to sue me on behalf of the Casual Labour Board for a sum due to him. He wrote some letters to the papers about not getting his money.
4843. Did you ever hear of Mr. Davies being informed of these irregularities in the pay-sheets? I give you my word that I never heard about them until the first week in January.

4844. Did you know anything of a man named Yule? He was a man we had dismissed for incompetency. He was a seafaring man, and a great friend of Mr. Springall's. He might have been a good man if he had only kept sober.

Mr. E. M. Burrowes.
1 April 1889

4845. Do you recollect any complaint that Robertson made to Davies about irregularities? I do not remember about irregularities. I remember about some bad language and trivial things.

TUESDAY, 2 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Edward Matthew Burrowes called in and examination continued:—

4846. *Mr. Franklin.*] Is this plan the plan in your evidence before the Select Committee? Yes.
4847. You stated to the President that you are a civil engineer? Yes.
4848. In both capacities, were you engaged to take charge of the work of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
4849. You knew they were responsible duties at the time you took charge? Yes.
4850. That was since May, 1887? Since the 2nd May, 1887.
4851. What experience had you on work as a civil engineer before that? I was at Sanga, in Brisbane, on the railway line, in construction and survey, and previous to that I was in the Roads and Bridges Department, in charge of a flying survey.
4852. You had really done practical construction in roads? Oh, yes; I had constructed roads there, but not before I was road surveyor.
4853. In taking over the duties, you were aware you would be the professional head of the department? I was.
4854. And that you would at all times have gentlemen to refer to for advice in works you were to undertake? Yes.
4855. Those two gentlemen were Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison? Yes.
4856. Those two gentlemen were senior engineers in the Government service? Yes.
4857. Were you at all times appealed to as to the nature of the work you were to undertake? No.
4858. In what way were you moved in order to direct works? By direct communication from the Chairman.
4859. By letter, or verbally? Sometimes by letter, sometimes verbally.
4860. And there were propositions that you should examine and report upon projected work sometimes? Sometimes, not always.
4861. Did you not as a rule submit a report to the Chairman upon works, either verbally or by letter to the Board, as to probable work and probable cost? I have at times.
4862. As an engineer, you know it is the rule? Things were not always carried out strictly in accordance with professional etiquette.
4863. You knew that roads should be submitted to you for your report? They were in some cases.
4864. Did you always obtain approval in commencing works? Yes, as soon as the Casual Labour Board came into existence. The instructions from the Chairman were that I was to commence nothing without his authority. That has always been carried out.
4865. Were those approvals conveyed to you by letter? He would come out and go over the place, and say go on with this or that.
4866. The professional members of the Board were not very frequently on the works? The professional members were not; I could almost tell you the times they were there.
4867. You are not aware whether they endorsed the orders you received from the Chairman? I cannot say—in fact, I have been told by the Chairman not to take any notice of them.
4868. Would you not have felt more secure if you knew the work had professional sanction by the Board? Nothing would have given me greater pleasure as a professional man. It would have relieved me of a great amount of responsibility had they done so.
4869. You never threw any obstacle in the way of their seeing what you did? I have asked them to come out. They have made arrangements to come out, but have not kept those appointments.
4870. But you did sometimes receive direct instructions from the professional members of the Board? On one occasion I had to hand certain things over to Mr. McPherson. Afterwards I never interfered with the portion of work given to him, in any shape or form.
4871. You do not remember an instance where you deviated from instructions given you? No, certainly not. I believe I am too good a disciplinarian.
4872. Do you remember some case of complaint by Mr. Wells? Mr. Wells' complaints generally came in a most extraordinary manner. Perhaps the least said the soonest mended on the matter.
4873. What are we to understand? When he has come out he has never been in a fit state to give instructions properly.
4874. You are making a charge? I am not making any charge.
4875. He must have come out to assist you? I have never received any assistance from Mr. Wells or Mr. Houison. From Mr. Houison on one occasion, but from Mr. Wells never.
4876. Did this occur almost immediately that you were appointed. You do not remember either of these members conferring with you as to recommending works? Only Mr. Houison went out with me once to Cook Park. We checked Mr. Sanderson's measurements, and found them perfectly correct, so far as the levels were concerned.
4877. Well, under such circumstances, as an engineer, did you consider yourself competent to professionally advise Mr. Davies as to projected works? Decidedly.
4878. You had no hesitation in undertaking the responsibility? None whatever. I was appointed with full power and control, and I have always carried out my professional duties to the best of my ability.
4879. The Southern District was considered a large division? Very large.
4880. What proportion of the £240,000 did you expend on work, rations, and stores? The greater portion.

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4881. What proportion? Fully two thirds of the whole expenditure.
4882. That would be £160,000? About that.
4883. How much did you expend at the National Park? I cannot tell you from memory. It would require a lot of going into.
4884. You never kept a record? No.
4885. What other works were there? About thirteen other camps.
4886. Name them? The nearest to the city was Unwin's Bridge Road, where there were forty men; Cook's Park, 150 or 200; Holt-Sutherland Estate, 700 or 800; National Park, at one time, 4,500—you might put the average number down at that time at about 2,000—Como Road, 100; Peakhurst, George's River, 100 or 120; Woronora River Road, 150; Heathcote, 200; Liverpool Road, 130; Campbelltown, about the same; Woolwash, 35; Waterfall, about 220 altogether; Camp Creek, 80; Bulgo, 80; Waterfall Garie, 80; and Meadows, 150.
4887. You would have the Commission believe that the aggregate of these men would be the number under your command? You can take them at about the number.
4888. In what way would they fluctuate? In July and August I had nearly 5,000 men. Shearing took place up the country and we got rid of a lot. Public works up country also took a number away. By the end of last year there were 1,500 or 1,800 men left; perhaps 2,000.
4889. I should like you to give a mean. Over that area, what would you have to supervise? I suppose you may take it at about 2,000 men.
4890. You were the senior officer in charge of the Southern District? I was superintendent.
4891. You know as district engineer the other officers were subordinate to you and under your control? Yes.
4892. You also know what the general rule is with regard to public works as to supervision? Yes.
4893. That having advised the nature of the works to be constructed, and the funds having been provided, that the engineer in charge is responsible for the whole expenditure until final acquittances are given? Well, they hold us responsible, but whether we are so or not I cannot say.
4894. Do you know that to be the rule? I believe it is, but when you are subservient to a Chairman you have to obey the Chairman's orders. Had we had a professional Chairman things would have been different.
4895. Having such complete authority and control over subordinate officers it is a rule for the engineer to finally sign all vouchers in connection with the work and to accept every responsibility? I cannot say you accept every responsibility.
4896. Well, there could be no other authority, you see? I simply signed vouchers on the strength of my authenticated officer. Every head of the department has to do that. He cannot swear to every voucher he signs.
4897. I am referring to an officer who is absent, and whose report must be relied upon for the district which he supervises. You know it to be the rule? It is the rule, I know.
4898. Would it be so all the world over? I believe it is when the person is in charge.
4899. Would any laxity in the making of minor returns to you be immediately noticed and reported to head-quarters? Yes, by me.
4900. Would you report them to head-quarters? Oh, yes; I should report them. I have always done so. I have summarily dismissed them.
4901. Have you had occasion to? Oh, yes; I have summarily dismissed them.
4902. Were your reports always attended to? Yes, always confirmed; but there was an exception in one case. In one case a man was assistant-overseer, and Mr. Davies took my assistant-superintendent's word against mine and kept the man on. He was reported to me as being an habitual drunkard; but Mr. Davies put him on again. That is one of the matters that led to coolness between Mr. Davies and I. It was like taking my assistant's word before mine. He was reported to me, not only by the police but by other overseers, and I felt hurt in the matter.
4903. The expenditure would be your greatest responsibility? It was a great responsibility.
4904. What checks would there be over the payment of money for wages, general accounts in the camp, and the issue of stores and rations? In the issue of stores and rations I accepted no responsibility.
4905. You say it is usual for the superintendent to take that responsibility? I never saw the stores, excepting when I ate them.
4906. But if the stores were placed in your charge? I could not have looked after them. If I looked after the field-work properly it would be impossible for me to look after the rations as well. I have never had a day's leave, from November, 1886, until now.
4907. Then there was divided responsibility? There was divided responsibility, and it was always understood to be so.
4908. It was a complete deviation from all the rules as to district supervision? I simply signed for them as the head of the department. They were laid before me as being correct, and I signed them.
4909. You could not have control over men unless they were responsible to you for all returns? When you have an authenticated officer handed to you to take charge, and they say this is correct and that is correct you sign it, you have sufficient confidence in them. If not you get rid of them. That has been my position.
4910. You have stated you have not that confidence? At that time I had confidence. My confidence was shaken in the beginning of last January.
4911. Up to that time you were satisfied with the system of check you had adopted? Yes, up to the beginning of January this year.
4912. Of this year? Yes.
4913. You had no reason to suspect that things were not going right before that? No; none at all.
4914. Under that belief you did not hesitate to attach your name to every document placed before you? Not every document. There are documents I have refused to sign.
4915. Can you name them? No; I cannot name them.
4916. The dates? No; I cannot. Mr. Davies has them in his department.
4917. I am speaking of your district? That would be my district. They would not ask me to sign documents belonging to another district.
4918. Do you want the Commission to understand they were offered for signature to you in your camp? No; in the office.
- 4919.

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4919. I am speaking of documents laid before you by officers in your own camp? There are documents I have refused to sign. I have said, "I know nothing about them, you had better take them to those who ordered them."

4920. Suppose you had not time to look into the whole of the vouchers before you. I suppose you know that when you sign your name as officer incurring the expense you are responsible? I believe I am; but I signed them as head of the department. How could I see to details when I was travelling about—perhaps not at head-quarters more than two days in a fortnight. If papers were handed me to sign, and I am told by my officers, assistant-superintendents and store-keeper, "these are correct," I sign them to facilitate business. I have to take my officers' word for their being correct. They were appointed by the Government.

4921. Did you feel you had not any right to interfere or check what they were doing? I felt it was my duty to do so, but time would not permit me to go into minutiae.

4922. Time would have permitted you to have got more officers? I think they were the best that could be obtained.

4923. Did you complain that the staff was not sufficient to carry on the whole of the work? I have asked Mr. Davies, but he has cut the officers down indiscriminately. Mr. Davies had no idea of their necessity.

4924. Did you tell the other members of the Board? I only thought it the business of the Chairman.

4925. I ask you whether you ever distinctly told him you had not sufficient time? I have told him.

4926. You had your reasons? My reasons were, I thought more supervision necessary.

4927. You have reported that? Yes.

4928. But you have told the President that you were satisfied, under these circumstances, that your returns were furnished satisfactorily, and were correct? I believed they were when I sent them in.

4929. You were not aware until recently there was anything wrong? No.

4930. You say distinctly you could not give time to look into the whole matter and satisfy yourself your vouchers were correct before they were sent into the Board? No.

4931. Had you requested that better supervision should be made? I asked to have one of the officers sent from the office in order that I might have more experienced men round me.

4932. Holding such a responsible position, you were frequently appealed to by the residents for work they required? For all sorts of things.

4933. You know the people intimately? Not very intimately.

4934. There are very few living there? There are a good many scattered about.

4935. How many? I cannot tell you.

4936. Between the sea-coast and the railway? Not many.

4937. You would have no difficulty to recognize any one you have seen connected with the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I know most of them I think.

4938. Do you know the shareholders? Not personally. I know some of them.

4939. You know Mr. Murphy? Yes.

4940. Mr. Jamieson? Yes.

4941. Mr. Sydney Want? Yes.

4942. Mr. Prince? I know who he is.

4943. You have seen the petition for work to be done there;—did you notice the names of the trustees of the Holt-Sutherland Estate on it? I don't know who the trustees are.

4944. You know the names of the shareholders? Yes.

4945. Did you see their names? Yes.

4946. As signatories to a petition for work to be done on the estate? Yes.

4947. Were you at any time influenced by any of these gentlemen to push on work on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I have been asked to push things on by Mr. Murphy, as a lot of letters I have received will show.

4948. Have they not asked you to bridge certain roads? Mr. Murphy has—no one else.

4949. No one but him? No.

4950. Do you know that he is the largest shareholder? I do not know.

4951. He took great interest in the estate? Rather too much so. I had to report him to Mr. Davies for interfering with my officers, and it led to a little coolness between us.

4952. Who was it you reported? Mr. James Murphy. You can see the letter in which Mr. Murphy replied and told me he would not interfere again.

4953. Will you look at the plan, Appendix 9, to your evidence before the Select Committee. This shows the boundaries of the Holt-Sutherland Estate;—do you know the entire area? About 13,000 acres.

4954. The roads coloured pink and yellow show the roads, cleared, formed, or ballasted, as the case may be? This plan was got up in a hurry for the Select Committee that visited there. These roads were run in hastily, and may be a little out of their true line; but as near as possible they are correct.

4955. These roads running directly north and south are approximately correct, and the junction points are correct? As near as possible.

4956. Take the plan as a diagram, that would agree with the tabulated statement you have made, and which appears in the evidence of the Select Committee; that gives 43 miles 21 chains of roads formed on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes; those are the distances approximately, but not exactly.

4957. Take them together, do you think it will very much alter the distance of 43 miles? I think it may make it a little more.

4958. Which of those roads do you think were done in the interest of the public? The Main Illawarra Road.

4959. The length of that is represented as 330 chains? Yes.

4960. What would be the next road? The Port Hacking Road.

4961. That is 320 chains? Yes.

4962. Beyond those? The Coronulla Road is an important road. It is the main road to the beach, which is a glorious esplanade.

4963. What influence was used to get the Coronulla Road made? None that I know of. From my knowledge of the estate I thought it was a road I could recommend as being a splendid outlet for our labour.

4964. It has not led to any settlement? Mr. Springall is building a large hotel there.

4965. That is the only improvement? That is all.

4966. That is 180 chains long? About that.

4967.

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4967. Will you tell me what you gave for clearing? It varied from £5 10s. to £12 10s. per acre.
4968. Give me a mean. Would £8 per acre be a mean? I suppose it would be about £8 per acre.
4969. These roads have been cleared varying in width from a chain on the Port Hacking to 2 chains on the Main Illawarra Road, and 1 chain 50 links over most of the roads, excepting three roads not mentioned? Yes.
4970. The total of that would be 514 acres of cleared road on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes.
4971. Now, with regard to the gravelled portions of the roads, can you tell me what price you paid for ordinary gravelling? About 15s. a chain.
4972. What width? It varied in width. Sometimes 21 feet, sometimes 42.
4973. It is 42 feet on the Illawarra Road? Yes.
4974. Can you give me a mean—what would be the gravelled portion on the Port Hacking Road? 28 feet.
4975. What would be the depth of the gravel? 6 inches.
4976. There are 892 chains of gravelled road of various widths shown on the tabulated statement;—is that an average depth of 6 inches all over? Yes.
- 4976½. How was that gravel obtained? It was generally taken out wherever we could come across it, when there was a good bed of it. We took out the best of the gravel, and rejected the inferior. All the country is of a gravelly nature. The mean of the lead would be from half to three-quarters of a mile—from Huntsman Hill to Sylvania. We had to carry it from half to three-quarters of a mile.
4977. Was it drawn by the load? Sometimes so much per load.
4978. How may the gravel be estimated? Say three-quarters of a yard to the load. They were simply the ordinary tip-carts.
4979. You paid the ordinary rates of wages? We gave them 9s. and 10s. a day for a long time.
4980. Could you get carters at 9s. a day? They were glad to come for it.
4981. Is that allowed in the pay-sheets? Yes.
4982. Does that evidence refer to ballasting? We never did any special ballasting. It was all broke up out of stones on the road. I never went into separate ballasting. I put a couple of old men and boys on to break it up.
4983. What would be the price of that? From 1s. 9d. to 2s.
4984. It is a cheap rate? It is only sandstone.
4985. You had forty-five culverts? Sometimes they were pipe culverts, and other times timber culverts.
4986. Can you tell me what the thirteen culverts are on the Port Hacking Road? Some are wood, and some pipe.
4987. Can you give me the cost? A pipe culvert used to cost 30s.
4988. What size of pipe? Twelve inches.
4989. How many timber culverts? I cannot remember.
4990. Can you tell me the cost of each? No.
4991. What was about the cost of the timber culverts? It depended on the width—about £1 per foot lineal.
4992. On the Main Illawarra Road—you remember the work is described as being good work—there are eight culverts—how much were they each? They are all pipes. Some are double-pipe culverts. There is one stone culvert, but that cost about £16 or £18.
4993. Can you tell me what the culverts cost on the Main Illawarra Road? Well, the double one, £3; the single one, 30s.
4994. We are speaking of the labour now? Yes.
4995. It took that £3 and 30s. on labour? Yes.
4996. On the Coronulla Road, the same? They are wooden culverts. One culvert there I gave £24 for. It is a rather expensive culvert. It is before you come to the beach.
4997. On the other roads there are fifteen other culverts;—are they to be taken as the same? They are nearly all pipe culverts there.
4998. There is a bridge on the Port Hacking Road? Over Gawley Creek.
4999. What is its value? It cost £95.
5000. There is another in Burrannear Road;—can you tell me its nature? It is just a wooden culvert; it cost £12.
5001. In Woronora Road? Dent's Creek bridge, 94 feet long; it cost £94.
5002. What sort of timber? Ironbark. I have some of the tickets for the work here.
5003. What are these papers called? They are the pay-sheets. This paper is what the money was wrapped up in, in order that the ganger could show the other men what he actually received and what he had to pay for rations.
5004. These show progressive certificates of this particular work? Yes.
5005. All these roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate have been cleared under your supervision? Up to within the last two months.
5006. In all cases with the approval of the Board? Mr. Wells went over part of the Main Illawarra Road with me.
5007. Did Mr. Wells give any reason why that road should be so widely cleared and formed? The first time Mr. Wells was rather excited, and told us to stop it. I stopped the road. He said we were trespassing on the Roads and Bridges Department. It was only stopped for about twenty-four hours, when Mr. Davies told me to go on with it. I went on with it. Next time Mr. Wells came out he said, "I thought I told you not to go on with that road."
5008. Did Mr. Wells tell you it was a scheduled road in the Roads Department? It was vested in trustees, he told me.
5009. As a trust road, had it a width of 1 chain? I do not think so. It was a 2-chain road.
5010. Do you remember some correspondence in which the trustees of the Holt-Sutherland Estate offered you an extra chain width if you would form the road that width? That was with reference to the Port Hacking Road.
5011. Then taking your tabulated statement giving the whole of the work done, the evidence that you gave as to £8,413 being the total expenditure is correct? I believe it is as near as I can get it out. I believe that was up to November, 1888.
5012. But the cost of the work may be found from the prices you have given me? I think so.
5013. The calculation was made by Mr. Goodman and Mr. Springall? Yes. I believe it was correct. It is a careful approximation.

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5014. If we use your figures, take the length of the roads formed and the width gravelled—if his are more than yours, would that be the money expended on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes.
5015. You believe then it is as nearly correct as possible? I think so.
5016. You are sure of the price for carting—did you give larger prices? At one time I gave them 2s. 6d. a load, and found they were making 12s. 6d. a day. When they had a long lead they had 12s. 6d. a day. When they had a short lead we gave 9s. a day. They sometimes had a long lead on the Port Hacking Road.
5017. That is a long road? But we had the gravel in different places. It is all of a gravelly nature. The Port Hacking Road and the Main Illawarra Road were well supplied with gravel.
5018. You have partially prepared a true survey of the whole of this? Yes; I will show it to you.
5019. What is the scale? 10 chains to the inch.
5020. Who ordered this survey? It was ordered by Mr. G. R. Dibbs, the then Colonial Secretary. First of all, it was ordered by Mr. Mason. Then I was told my services were not required. I called on Mr. Dibbs, who said, "You go on with your work," and Mr. Mason was notified to that effect.
5021. When did you commence the survey of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? On the 4th of March of this year.
5022. And kept at it continuously? No; I was knocked off on the 18th.
5023. In what way? I was told that these plans were not required.
5024. Did you receive instructions in writing? No, verbally from Mr. Mason.
5025. Did he inquire into your work as far as it had progressed? No.
5026. Did he not ask you for field-books or any information? No.
5027. Have you these field-books? Yes.
5028. Will you give them to this Commission? Yes.
5029. I suppose you know it is usual, within a small radius of the city, for speculators to buy up forest land and divide it for the purpose of sale? Yes.
5030. And the improvement they make is simply clearing lines of road? Yes.
5031. And that clearing generally is of a very superficial character? Yes. Yankee grubbing they call it.
5032. Is the work on the Holt-Sutherland Estate superior to that? Yes; it has been very well cleared.
5033. Do you consider that these roads, forming fronts to different subdivisions, would improve the value of the estate? Undoubtedly.
5034. And more especially where the roads are gravelled, drained, and culverted, as shown by your statement? Yes.
5035. It would very much increase the value? Yes—before it was a *terra incognita*.
5036. What was it like? Dense heavy timber. Some of it was splendid ironbark country—the Main Illawarra Road and the Forest Road.
5037. Heavily timbered? Yes, the last road especially.
5038. Then your work is an improvement much in advance of what would be done by private speculators? Undoubtedly.
5039. To what extent is it an improvement in the value of the land? A hundred per cent.
5040. In absolute value? Yes.
5041. Did it occur to you you were doing something greatly in the interest of the owners of the property? I do not know that I can answer that. I had my instructions from the Colonial Secretary. I did not care. If he told me to pull down St. Andrew's Cathedral, I would pull it down.
5042. Did it not occur to you that someone might object? I thought of that.
5043. Did you object? I was ordered to do these things. I was only a servant. I had to obey orders. It would not have made much difference if I had objected.
5044. You felt you were doing a great benefit for someone else other than the public? Yes.
5045. It is an improvement you say of 100 per cent? Yes.
5046. *President.*] I asked you yesterday with reference to some letters. I asked you to produce them. They were letters from Murphy to yourself. Have you brought them with you? Yes.
5047. Do you produce eighteen letters? Yes.
5048. Letters from Mr. Murphy to yourself? Yes. [*Letters put in and marked I 4 to I 25.*]
5049. Amongst some of the letters you have handed me I see a letter from Mr. Murphy to yourself marked private? Yes.
5050. Can you give me any idea of the date of that? Yes. It was about October or the beginning of November, 1888.
5051. What is the progress committee of Sutherland? It is a body of settlers who hold meetings out there. They have not a municipal council, but they try to make people believe that they are a body superior to them. If there are any complaints to make, or any deputations to Ministers, they do it.
5052. I see another letter you have handed in from Mr. Murphy, dated "Saturday night";—can you give me an idea of the date approximately? From the places he speaks of it would be about September, 1888.
5053. Amongst the letters is one from Mr. Murphy, dated 4th October, 1887, to Buller—who is that? That is one of my late overseers. He is now in England.
5054. What is that note on the letter? It is, "To E. M. B. Sir,—Am I to take notice of that letter. Reply to bearer."
5055. Is that in Mr. Buller's handwriting? Yes.
5056. What action did you take on that? Oh, that road was cleared.
5057. Do you recollect what action you took? The road was cleared.
5058. I also find amongst the letters one from Mr. Murphy to one Napier, 16 June, 1888? That is to one of my late overseers.
5059. Where is he? He is up country now. He was dismissed for drunkenness.
5060. Have you been able to find any other letters you received from Mr. Murphy? No; I think that is all I have got. I used to be annoyed by the number of letters I got from him.
5061. I show you the copy of a letter you wrote to Mr. Murphy from the press-copy letter-book, in answer, it would appear, to a letter you received from him? Yes; I used to get many letters, and throw them into the waste-paper basket. I did not take much notice of them at first. Afterwards I kept them.
5062. Did you always copy the letters you wrote to him? No.
5063. Are you intimate with Mr. Murphy? Oh, yes.
5064. Very intimate? We were always very friendly. We always have been—with the exception of a little misunderstanding we had about him interfering with one of my overseers.

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5065. Was he your senior officer? Mr. Murphy! No, he had nothing to do with me.
5066. Was he a salaried servant of the Government? Not that I am aware of.
5067. I ask that, because some of these letters are rather mandatory in their terms, as though he held some superior office to you? You would imagine so from his letters.
5068. Did you bring these letters under the notice of your superior officer? I did.
5069. About what time? About the beginning of September, 1888.
5070. Did you write to the Chairman about it? I did.
5071. Do you think you could lay your hand on the letter in your book? I do not know whether I made an entry in the letter-book, but I ought to have done so.
5072. Is there any other letter-book besides this one? No; it is my own private book.
5073. Did you keep copies of all the letters you sent? Not all. I wrote letters at all manner of places.
5074. Have you reported to the Chairman receiving the letter from Mr. Murphy, marked private [*Exhibit I 19*] ? Yes.
5075. *Mr. Waller.*] Did you check the abstract pay-sheets as against the original pay-sheets made out? No, not always.
5076. Are the documents we have presented to us here, called abstract pay-sheets, the first documents relating to the men employed at the different works? Yes, they are the first documents. The pay-sheets are prepared from them.
5077. They are the first? Yes.
5078. You did not check them with the pay-sheets? I always checked the ones I had. I saw they were correct before I handed them out.
5079. You did not check all of them with the pay-sheets? No; I never had time to do it.
5080. Did you make Mr. M'Pherson responsible for the accuracy of the pay-sheets? Only what he was looking after himself, for the particular portion of the district which he had control over.
5081. How did you make Mr. M'Pherson responsible? Simply that the Chairman looked to him.
5082. I am asking you? I told him I would not interfere with that portion of the district he had supervision over.
5083. Is it in writing? He had letters telling him that that portion of the district was his own. He was also informed by the Board.
5084. Did you tell Mr. M'Pherson, in writing, that you would hold him responsible for the accuracy of the pay-sheets, for the men who were at work in his district? I believe I did send him a memorandum to that effect.
5085. Was it copied in the letter-book? I do not think that the letter-book was in existence at that time.
5086. You stated yesterday to the President that you signed hundreds of vouchers without knowing their contents? There is no doubt about it.
5087. Can you particularise some of them? Vouchers for the ordinary pay-sheets, for the Government contractors, for rations, for M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, for Harwood & Co.
5088. Who were they? Mr. Davies used to buy a tremendous lot of stuff from them.
5089. Shortly, might we understand that you never examined the vouchers? I never examined the vouchers.
5090. You signed them all, taking it for granted they were correct? All being authenticated by my officers.
5091. Name those officers? Springall, M'Pherson, Bell, Walsh, Underwood, Sanderson, and all the officers in charge of the camps.
5092. Would that statement include sub-storekeepers? No; I should not take any notice of sub-storekeepers. I looked upon them as very subordinate officers.
5093. Were you actually without knowledge of the quantity of goods delivered to the different camps? Yes; I did not know what goods were delivered there.
5094. For all you knew statements as to the delivery of goods might have been fictitious—utterly false? There would have had to be collusion between the officers and overseers.
5095. For all you knew? Yes; there might be.
5096. Did you consider Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison as your superior officers? Decidedly.
5097. Had you power without reference to those officers to construct or lay out works? If I had instructions from the Chairman.
5098. Without reference to them? Oh, yes.
5099. You would not feel yourself called on in any shape or form to refer to them about works for which you received instructions from the Chairman? No; not if I received instructions from the Chairman.
5100. Suppose these two professional gentlemen found fault with your work, what position would you be in? I have on one or two occasions been placed in a very invidious position. At one time Mr. Wells told me to alter a bridge; Mr. Davies said "Do not bother about it; never mind it." There was the invidiousness of the position. It was the Gawley Creek bridge.
5101. Is there any other case? That is the only bridge, I think.
5102. While on the subject of Mr. Wells, I would like to know whether, from the way you answered Mr. Franklin, the Commission are to understand that when Mr. Wells visited the works he was in an unfit state to give you instructions, because of being in liquor? He was on one or two occasions.
5103. Only one or two occasions? Yes.
5104. You made the same statement regarding Mr. Houison? I did.
5105. On how many occasions have they been unfit? I have only seen Mr. Houison out there three times, and twice out of that he was unfit to do work.
5106. Mr. Wells? I think he has been out there five or six times.
5107. Out of that number of times? On one or two occasions he has been a little bit elevated.
5108. When you say "elevated," you do not consider he was in a proper state to be a judge of work? I did not consider he was in a proper state.
5109. On these occasions, who were present besides yourself? Duffy, the trustees' coachman, was present on one occasion.
5110. Where does he live? At the National Park.
5111. What is his Christian name? It is Owen Duffy.
5112. Anyone else? On another occasion Mr. Gordon, Mr. Palmer, and Mr. Hanley.

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Burrowes.

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5113. Where do those gentlemen live? I cannot tell you. Palmer and Gordon are both Government officers. Mr. Wm. Hanley lives at Camp Creek, Helensburgh.
5114. On the occasion that Mr. Houison was present at the works, who was there then? Mr. Wells was present. Lobb was the coachman, and there was a publican of the name of James Luny at Sutherland.
5115. Can you fix in any way the time of the visits of Mr. Wells? Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison visited the day after the visit by the Select Committee.
5116. What was the second occasion? That is months and months ago. I cannot tell you.
5117. Twelve months ago? It might be twenty months.
5118. Now, as regards the occasion when Mr. Houison was there? That was the day after the Select Committee visited the place.
5119. The next occasion when Mr. Houison was the worse for drink? That was up at the Waterfalls.
5120. Who was present then? Hanley was present. Besides Mr. John Davies can bear me out in this if he likes. He has spoken to me several times on the matter.
5121. About his being the worse for drink? Yes.
5122. Can he also give similar evidence as to Mr. Wells? I should think he could if he chose.
5123. When was Mr. Wells the worse for drink at the National Park. Was that the day after the visit of the Select Committee also? No; that was over twelve months ago.
5124. Now you are quite satisfied in making these statements that these gentlemen were obviously the worse for liquor? Yes.
5125. I understood you told the President yesterday that you personally did not make any requisition for plant? I have on dozens of occasions asked for plant.
5126. Personally? Yes.
5127. In writing? Sometimes in writing, sometimes verbally.
5128. Was it not the practice for requisitions to be made by others than you? Yes.
5129. Did the store-keepers, other than Mr. Springall, make these requisitions? They have in the country districts like Campbelltown, but they have always been cautioned not to do so.
5130. Who would be the store-keepers in the country districts? Turner, Underwood, Boyldon.
5131. Who would sign the contingent vouchers for these requisitions? I would.
5132. Without having previous knowledge of what was ordered? We would get word from the officer who got it that he had received so and so, and the store-keeper would inform me it was correct; or else Mr. Hibble, as officer issuing the things, would initial them before they came out to me. Vouchers would be initialled before they came to me from the head office—that was the only guarantee to me they were correct.
5133. If Mr. Springall ordered goods without your knowledge, and chose to swear that these were ordered under your instructions, how could you prove it was not so? Simply because I have the initials of Mr. Springall and Mr. Hibble.
5134. I do not think you quite understand my question. You say Mr. Springall was in the habit of ordering goods, and that you did not know anything about it? Yes.
5135. I say now, if Mr. Springall and Mr. Davies chose to say all goods were ordered under your instructions —? I should say it was false, because I was not always there. That could be proved, because you have only to look at my contingent vouchers or diary, and you would see where I was. If I was at Liverpool or Campbelltown, I could not issue those orders for these things.
5136. You signed the vouchers because they bore the initials either of Mr. Hibble or some responsible officer at the head office? Yes; they vouched for the accuracy of these things.
5137. How would the head office receive the order for plant? The orders emanated through the Chairman or Secretary.
5138. Did the Chairman initial these? There was a paper drawn under my notice of some oil from Fell & Co. You will see a memo. in writing that no one had authority to order any goods, excepting himself or the Secretary. Mr. Mason could give you the papers or correspondence that would bear out what I have tried to explain. That was wood-preserving oil.
5139. What was it used for? To keep the white ants from getting into the wood.
5140. Where was it used? On the Holt-Sutherland Estate. Mr. Davies said he did not order it, but he did order it. It has since been paid for within the last week.
5141. How many gangers were there on the works altogether? Oh, we had hundreds. Every eight men had a ganger.
5142. Is there any way by which the Commission can get hold of the names of the gangers? They are in the books.
5143. There are certain names in the books. We want to know who the real gangers are? If you show the names to me I can tell you. You see the gangers used to shift about.
5144. Have you no record of your own? Only the abstracts. The store-book is the best book to get a list of the gangers out of. They drew the rations and were charged for them. You know every ganger on the field in that way.
5145. Is there any book or document to show what gangers are dismissed? You would know them by change of the ganger. Suppose Brown was the ganger this week, it would be Jones, late Brown, next week.
5146. It was always done so? Yes.
5147. You just spoke about rations. Can you explain why the rations list does not agree with the rations column for receipts and delivery? The store-keeper can tell you that; I could not.
5148. In connection, yesterday, with what you drew for personal expenses, I think I heard you mention that some of those expenses were incurred on account of charges for board and residence? Yes.
5149. Where was this board and residence? At Liverpool and Campbelltown—hotel expenses.
5150. On what occasions? Every fortnight.
5151. Inspections? Yes.
5152. Carrying out your duty as Inspector? Yes.
5153. Was the Board aware you had to go to hotels? Yes, decidedly.
5154. Was there any provision made whereby you could go to the works and obtain your dinner or lunch or what you might want there? If it happened to be dinner-time when I got to a place I would have dinner.

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5155. Was there any absolute necessity for you to go to an hotel? Yes; there was not any place for me to sleep.
5156. How long did it take you to go from your own camp to Liverpool? A day; sometimes I could not get back. It took a couple of hours from Sydney.
5157. What prevented you coming back? I had three camps in one district. I could not do them all in a day.
5158. Was there no place respectable enough for you to stop at? Yes, but if I got into an officer's bed he would have to sleep on the floor.
5159. Could you not have provided a bed for yourself? If I did that I should have had to have a bed in every camp. The expense incurred was very limited. Besides it would have placed me in too familiar a position with my officers. I think the more an officer keeps away from his subordinates the better.
5160. You have said you have lived a great deal in the bush which accounts for any brusqueness in your manner? Yes.
5161. Do not the general managers and overseers frequently have to go and sleep at the out-stations? Yes. I have had to do it myself, but still I think on relief works the less the officer-in-charge mixes with his men the more he is respected.
5162. What was your ration allowance per day? The same as the men.
5163. Were you allowed a cook? We had a cook when all camped at the Park. The same cook cooked for about fifteen or sixteen of us.
5164. You had separate quarters of your own? Only a sleeping-place. I used to dine with the men.
5165. You had a regular mess? Yes, a regular mess.
5166. Referring to these letters you produce. Have you any other letters from any person other than Mr. Murphy of a like character referring to the roads or the Holt-Sutherland or the Hornsby Estates? No; none.
5167. Have you any other letters from Mr. Murphy? Not that I am aware of.
5168. Will you look and see, and if you have will you bring them? I will.
5169. There are letters which must be antecedent to these you bring? I used to throw some in the waste-paper basket as I received them.
5170. You understand my question. Not only letters having regard to the land but having any reference to the Casual Labour Board? Any correspondence I have you shall have.
5171. Do you, of your own knowledge, know whether the Chairman or any member of the Board has received any letters from Mr. Murphy? I could not say.
5172. Or from any other person? I think Mr. Larnach told me he was going through some papers in the office and came across a letter from Mr. Burns about the roads, which he gave to Mr. Miles.
5173. Have you reason to know that any other person has received a letter? I know Mr. Walsh has received letters from Mr. Murphy. He was a friend of Mr. Murphy's.
5174. You don't know about anyone else? Not that I know of, beyond what I gave you of Napier's and Buller's.
5175. Did you ever receive anything from Mr. Murphy, or any promise that you should receive any gratuity or any payment in any shape or form, for helping him to carry out his many requests contained in these letters? I never received anything.
5176. Did you receive any promise? Never.
5177. In any shape or form? None whatever. Mr. Murphy has never dared to suggest anything. All that I have done is that I have applied for a piece of ground of 5 acres. It was promised I should get it at £2 per acre. It was full value for it.
5178. Can you name it? Five acres at Gunnamatta Bay. I applied to the Board of Directors the same as anyone else would.
5179. Did you apply for that land from your own knowledge of it? I applied for it simply because it was deep-water frontage in Gunnamatta Bay, and know that it will be valuable by-and-by.
5180. Did Mr. Murphy know that you had applied for it? Not until I had applied for it.
5181. Have you got it? Not yet. I hope to get it.
5182. When was the application made? In November last.
5183. Have you a press copy of that application? No.
5184. What is the usual charge they make for land of the same quality? From £1 to £2 per acre. About £2 is the highest price they get. I have the promise of a lease at £2 per acre. I think it is as much as it is worth.
5185. Do you know whether any other member of the Casual Labour Board has any interest in land on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I know Mr. Davies and Mr. Jamieson were to get thirty acres between Gunnamatta Bay and the ocean. Mr. Davies told me he had applied for it.
5186. Is that thirty acres each? No; between them, adjoining the Government reserves and Coronulla.
5187. Have they got it now, or is it applied for? I cannot tell you. I know he applied for it. Mr. Davies asked me to go down, and I showed him the land. Next time he came, Mr. and Mrs. Jamieson came and had a look at it. They were all pleased with it, and said they would apply for it jointly. I asked them afterwards if they had applied for it, and they said yes.
5188. Do you know anything as to the terms on which he applied for the land? I cannot tell you.
5189. Do you know whether any other members of the Board have applied for land there? The only party I know of is Mr. Springall. He has land on the Coronulla beach, where he has built an hotel.
5190. He has the land? He is living there.
5191. Do you know what he is paying there? He is paying £3; but it is the pick of the whole estate. He has five or ten acres.
5192. Do you know when he became possessed of the land? At the end of last year or the beginning of this. He has built on it.
5193. Do you know on what terms Mr. Springall was with Mr. Murphy? I cannot tell you.
5194. Do you know whether they knew each other? They knew each other.
5195. You do not know any other person in the employment of the Board that has got land? No.
5196. Mr. Kidman was the contractor for rations? Yes.
5197. Would it have been an easy matter for Mr. Kidman, if he had felt so inclined, to have debited the Board with more rations than he supplied? Not without collusion with the store-keeper. All rations must emanate from Mr. Springall or Mr. Larnach.

5198. Could the head storekeeper have issued orders for rations for men who did not exist? It is just possible he could have done such a thing.
5199. Is it not possible in a case like that of Flemming's, who was returned as a ganger, which you say he was not, that Springall would have to make a return for rations for a gang under Flemming, or else it would be apparent on the pay-sheet that there was a fictitious ganger? He could do such a thing.
5200. Is it probable? It is probable it has been so. Kidman would get an order for the rations he had to send, and the storeman could manipulate that as he chose.
5201. If Springall returned on the pay-sheets a larger number of men than were drawing rations would not of necessity attention be drawn to the fact from there being less rations required than there were men at work? Yes; it could be done that way by putting fictitious numbers.
5202. Suppose this man Flemming appears regularly as having under him the usual gang of seven men, and the rations return shows only rations for a certain number of men less than seven, would not that create suspicion in the mind of the checking clerk? Unfortunately the checking clerk has also been the storekeeper. He has been checking clerk and storekeeper.
5203. He could not be checking clerk at the head office? Not at the head office.
5204. The storekeeper would order (say) 100 rations; if he only had eighty men he would have twenty rations in hand? Yes.
5205. If he sent in pay-sheets for 100 men and only showed he was using eighty rations, would not the question arise: "What did the other twenty men live on if you are not getting rations for them"? He would always order rations slightly in excess of the men he had, or else the exact number.
5206. If he ordered rations for a less number of men than he returned, would he not have been "bowled out" in the case of Flemming? He would not do so.
5207. Could anyone else other than Springall order rations? I could do it, but I never did.
5208. Who took delivery of the rations and plant, and all things that came to the camp? Springall, as storekeeper.
5209. For all the camps? No; the overseers.
5210. Springall took delivery for what camps? The National Park.
5211. Who for the other camps? The overseers.
5212. How many might there be? Twelve or thirteen different camps.
5213. Who took charge of the goods when they were delivered? The storemen.
5214. That would be the petty storemen? The storemen for the overseers' camp.
5215. Who was held responsible for the safe custody of the goods? The overseers.
5216. And the correct delivery? The overseers.
5217. Did you ever take stock? We got stock lists done.
5218. Who took stock? The overseers.
5219. Who checked the correctness of the stock account? Sometimes Mr. Springall went to these camps. It was part of his duty to visit them.
5220. What it pretty much amounted to was, Springall the head, Springall the middle, and Springall the tail? Yes.
5221. His own orderer and his own checker? He was head of the commissariat branch.
5222. No one to check him? No.
5223. So that if Mr. Springall was honest it was a good thing for the public; if dishonest, it was a bad thing for the public? It is for you gentlemen to say whether he is dishonest.
5224. Did the persons who delivered these things get a delivery-note signed by the receiving storekeeper or overseer? As a rule they would have to sign the railway invoice.
5225. Did the railway give them the other half of the delivery-note? I believe so.
5226. What became of that? I cannot say. I have often had to pay out of my own pocket.
5227. In cases where you did not have to pay out of your own pocket? They were marked on the invoice.
5228. They would be filed? Yes.
5229. Did you see them come into the head office? I have seen them.
5230. Would you be able to get hold of the delivery-note? I should think so. It is only a matter of asking the clerk for them.
5231. What was the result of the month's stocktaking? It was reported to the Chairman.
5232. What I mean is, did you find much less stock—any that was not accounted for? Of course there was a good deal that was returned as worn out. They were returned into the store. There are tons of old things out there.
5233. Was there any complaint that the stores were excessive? I never heard the Chairman say whether they were excessive or not.
5234. You never heard any remarks that you were too generous as to the use of tools? Sometimes we have sent in a requisition for twelve dozen, and they have sent us out six dozen. Sometimes we have sent in for six dozen, and they have sent us out three dozen. Sometimes they sent us more.
5235. Then instead of finding fault with the requisitions you sent they have sent you more? Yes.
5236. Was that a common occurrence? Frequently.
5237. Would the same thing refer to powder? To powder especially. On one occasion I knew of my overseer having thirty-five kegs there; I objected to it, and I had a magazine built in a cave.
5238. Is the Commission to understand from you that so far from a reprimand issuing from the Board for excess or extravagance in the use of tools, your orders were very often increased? That is quite right.
5239. Do you know whether these orders were altered by being increased or decreased by verbal orders at the different places the goods were got from? I do not know. I did not go to the contractor's places; I did not do business with them.
5240. Do you know of Springall beyond what you have told the Commission. Was he a man well to do? He was not.
5241. You do not know yourself? No.
5242. Do you know anything about his circumstances now? Well, I heard him say to-day that he was a poor man, but I do not see how that could be.
5243. Whom did he say that to? To Mr. Larnach and myself,

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5244. What brought the conversation up? He came up to Larnach, outside; he said Larnach had been saying this thing and that thing about him, and libelling him. He was not worth powder and shot, or he would put him in Darlington.
5245. To prevent any misunderstanding in your evidence, I want to ask you plainly, do you wish the Commission to understand there was no check whatever as regards the ordering of goods by the head storekeeper? The storekeeper would have to check the goods when they came out.
5246. I asked you whether there was any check to prevent the storekeeper ordering what goods he liked? He ordered what goods he liked.
5247. That is distinct? Not distinct from the Chairman, but through him.
5248. I want to put on record whether your answer is there was no check as to the requisitions he chose to make for goods required. All he had to do was to send it through the Chairman? Yes, that is so.
5249. There was no check? No.
5250. How many storekeepers were there employed under the Casual Labour Board? I call them storemen. Mr. Springall would be the storekeeper.
5251. Under Mr. Springall, how many storemen were there? He had one storeman at the camp, Johnson; Mr. Tait at Waterfall; Mr. Hunt at Bulgo; Mr. Munce at Liverpool; Mr. Turner at Leumeah; and Mr. Scott at Cook Park.
5252. Could these storemen send in requisitions so long as they sent them to the Board or through the head storekeeper? Through Mr. Springall.
5253. How long after the delivery of the goods at the camp was it that you signed the contingent vouchers? That I cannot say. Sometimes almost immediately; otherwise with the monthly bills. They sent them out once a month.
5254. It might be a month? Anything ordered in October would come in November.
5255. Did you ever refuse to sign them? Mr. Springall has told me he did not remember what certain of them were for, and I have refused to sign them.
5256. Have you any numbers of the vouchers you refused to sign? No.
5257. Nor the dates? No.
5258. Only on one or two occasions? I suppose it would be about that.
5259. Now as regards your own duties. You were superintendent? Yes.
5260. You are a civil engineer? Yes.
5261. Qualified? Yes.
5262. Are you equally qualified, as an engineer, as Mr. Wells is? Yes, just as much as Mr. Wells.
5263. Not merely as a surveyor? No.
5264. Did you ever originate any work under the Board? Yes; all those bridges are my own design.
5265. Laid out, measured up, and made the calculations as to cost? Yes.
5266. The cost of the bridges would be made up before? Yes; I made out the price before.
5267. Who checked the correctness of your work? What do you mean?
5268. You say you laid it out, measured it up, and made the estimates? The check could be done by the clerks making out the pay-sheets.
5269. What knowledge would they have of the correctness of your figures? They were educated men who understood what was put before them.
5270. Would they be able to check your calculations? The figures alone would be enough for that. If any one wanted to check the work the professional heads of the department could have come out and measured it up.
5271. As a matter of fact, was it checked? No, it was not.
5272. So you were actually your own judge and jury? So far as the work is concerned.
5273. There was no check whatever? No; in my appointment I had full power and control.
5274. Is there any book or document that would show the Commission the weekly or monthly return of the men employed by the Casual Labour Board? There are books to that effect; there were up to the time they were taken out of the office.
5275. Would they show the number employed at the different camps? Yes.
5276. I am referring to books other than the pay-sheets? I am, too; there is a book to the effect.
5277. How often was the record taken? Every fortnight.
5278. You know that? I do.
5279. Who made it? Each overseer would send a list to me. I use to hand it to the clerk to enter up the names of the men in each individual camp.
5280. What became of the original lists sent down? When I came back from Campbelltown at the end of the year all the papers were taken out of the office and handed in to Mr. Davies. Everything was commenced *de novo*. It was done without my knowledge or consent.
5281. You know Mr. M'Pherson well? He was a querulous ill-tempered little fellow.
5282. One of the unemployed? Yes, I believe so; at Gordon.
5283. One of those seeking employment? He represented himself as being a man of large means—wealthy—worth £20,000 or £30,000.
5284. Was he an unemployed? I was told he was.
5285. Was he a professional man? I believe he was a surveyor.
5286. I want you to tell me whether M'Pherson was taken out of the ranks of those seeking employment from the Government because he could not get proper employment? I cannot tell you, but I was informed to that effect.
5287. He was a surveyor? Yes.
5288. Qualified? I believe so.
5289. Was he a reliable man? I would not look upon him as a reliable man.
5290. Why? For the simple reason that when he came to me his work was confined to surveying portions of acres and 2 acres for the men to clear. I recommended him to the Chairman to be appointed assistant, with the increased rate of remuneration. He was then raised to 10s. a day. Then he had certain work allotted to him to see to the stone-breaking and the making of roads; but I found him unable to calculate a heap of stones. That rather lowered him in my estimation. I know he was a good surveyor, because I checked some of his work, but he had no idea of road-making.
5291. Would not any man with a knowledge of surveying be able to calculate cubic yards? Well, he could not.

5292. How did he come to you in the first instance? He was sent to me by Mr. Davies. He brought a letter introducing him.
5293. Requesting you to find him employment? Yes.
5294. Anything you could? As a surveyor.
5295. Have you got the letter? It is amongst the records.
5296. You mentioned yesterday that you ordered the wines used at the picnic on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes.
5297. They were got from Kidman's? Yes.
5298. Who did you order him to charge them to? Mr. Davies.
5299. As of the Board, or for Mr. Davies not of the Board? I ordered them for Mr. Davies of the Casual Labour Board.
5300. Did you understand that you were ordering them for Mr. Davies for his own private charge, or to be charged to the Casual Labour Board? I never gave it a thought either one way or the other.
5301. Do you know whether Mr. M'Pherson had much to do with the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Not on my side at all.
5302. Not on your side at all? Only the last month or so, since I was relieved, superseded, or started surveying; I don't know which you call it.
5303. Have you got any letter-book with replies in it to any letters from Mr. Murphy, other than the letter-book now in our possession? No.
5304. I think you told the President a short time ago that you brought under the notice of the Board these letters you have shown us to-day, that you received from Mr. Murphy? I have shown them to Mr. Davies.
5305. Do you mean to the Board as a Board or to Mr. Davies? I mean to Mr. Davies. He used to come out once a fortnight, and I would show them to him. I would say, "Here is another letter from Mr. Murphy."
5306. What was the result? Oh, not much result; of course Mr. Murphy used to see Mr. Davies in town. He only laughed about it. At last I used to put Mr. Murphy's letters behind an ink-stand there, and when they got large enough tie them up. Before that I threw them away. I had hundreds of other letters.
5307. Whom did the hundreds of other letters come from? From my own friends.
5308. You are lucky to have so many friends? I rather think it is objectionable at times.
5309. You are sure they did not come from people referring to the Casual Labour Board? If they did they would not be torn up. They would be amongst the records.
5310. Did I understand you reported Mr. Murphy once? To Mr. Davies.
5311. To him as the Casual Labour Board? I only reported him to the Chairman. I never wrote to Mr. Davies privately.
5312. Did you report in writing? I wrote to Mr. Davies.
5313. Is there a press copy of the letter? I do not know whether I kept a copy of it. I wrote and told Mr. Davies that Mr. Murphy was always interfering with the overseers. He spoke to him, and Mr. Jamieson also spoke to him.
5314. Mr. Jamieson was spoken to by whom? Mr. Jamieson was spoken to by me.
5315. Why? Because Mr. Jamieson was present at the time and overheard, and he said he would put a stop to it.
5316. What was the result of the report? The result was that Mr. Murphy used to go round and tell them that they should not do this, and that in a dictatorial manner.
5317. You do not understand my question. I ask what was the result of your reporting Mr. Murphy to Mr. Davies? The result was that letter I received from Mr. Murphy saying he was sorry he interfered.
5318. That is the letter dated the 8th September last? Yes.
5319. He has not given up writing to you? No; he cannot help it.
5320. Are you on friendly terms? I have not seen him for the last six months or so.
5321. Does he know you have got these letters? I do not know whether he knows or not.
5322. Does he know you are brought here to-day? I have not seen him to speak to since last year.
5323. Will you undertake not to mention to Mr. Murphy or anyone else outside this room that you produced these letters? I will undertake that.
5324. Or mention that you have kept them? I do not mention anything that takes place in this room when I get outside.
5325. When you wrote letters to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, how did you address them? The Hon. John Davies, Chairman of the Casual Labour Board.
5326. They always became the public letters of the Board? Yes. I do not think I have written more than two private letters to Mr. Davies in my life.
5327. Was that the usual practice of addressing letters? Yes; that was the usual practice.
5328. *President.*] Will you look at the letter in the press-copy book, dated 8th September, 1887, addressed to John Davies, C.M.G. That is marked private and confidential? Yes.
5329. Is that press-copy in your hand-writing? It is my hand-writing.
5330. Do you know where the original is? No.
5331. Have you seen it since it went out of your office? No.
5332. Read that letter?

[Private and Confidential.]

My dear Sir,

Mr. Want came out yesterday expressly to see me relative to the roads now being cleared on the Holt-Sutherland Estate, as their being cleared might get Mr. Walker into trouble, although authorised, as they are said to be running through private property.

Kindly see Mr. Walker and ascertain if these roads are to be stopped forthwith, or if I am to proceed with them. Please see petition dated 19th August, 1887, No. 87/833, of 22/9/87. You will see who the petitioners that have signed. The box will be forwarded to you immediately Robinson the caretaker sends it up to me. Mr. Want told him yesterday to send it up to me.

John Davies, Esq., C.M.G., 8/9/87.

Yours obediently,
E. M. BURROWES.

5333. Will you look at this original petition, dated 19th August, 1887—is that the petition you refer to in the letter? Yes.

5334. Is that signed by Mr. G. F. Want? Yes.

5335.

Mr. E. M.
Burrowes.
2 April, 1889.

- Mr. E. M. Burrowes.
2 April, 1889.
5335. Do you know his signature? Yes.
5336. Do you recollect whether Mr. Want knew much about this matter? I do not think he knew much.
5337. How was it he went to see you on that occasion relative to these particular roads? He was out at the park, and spoke to me about it.
5338. You say he came out expressly to see you? I might put that in the letter.
5339. Do you know what took place? He told me it would get Mr. Walker into a mess about these roads. Of course he did it in a private way; if I thought Mr. Walker was likely to get into any row, I would try and prevent it.
5340. Are you satisfied that the Chairman of the Board got that letter? I am satisfied; I remember him speaking to me about it afterwards.
5341. This petition I hold in my hands has the official stamp of the Colonial Secretary on it? Yes. [*Petition put in and marked I 26.*]
5342. Have you any recollection of the occasion you refer to of Mr. Walker getting into trouble or what the roads were that were authorised? I suppose simply that he recommended them.
5343. What is the box you refer to in the concluding paragraph? The box has reference to the balance of the wines sent to Mr. Davies when Sir John Robertson and his party were out there.
5344. Can you say whether Mr. Want knew what was going on on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Mr. Want has often said to me, "There will be a devil of a row over these roads yet."
5345. I see another letter [*Exhibit I 11*] dated 16th July, 1888, which Murphy wrote to you. In it "I notice you are forming the road to Fred. Want's cottage";—is that a private road? It was the Ewey Road. The reason they say "Want's Road" is because his is the nearest house to it in the neighbourhood.
5346. Had you anything to do with Unwin's Bridge Road? I just started the work, and Mr. David Houison and Mr. M'Pherson did the rest.
5347. In the report of Mr. Houison on that road, dated 19th September, 1887, you will notice that Mr. Houison says that temporary repairs to a certain bridge would be to throw money away and lead to the claiming of compensation against the Government;—can you tell me whether that work has been done? Nothing was done to the bridge, only to the road; it is a decidedly dangerous bridge.
5348. You notice the name of Mr. Carruthers there; do you know him? Yes.
5349. Did he interest himself about the roads? The only road he ever spoke to me about is the Port Hacking Road.
5350. In your report of the 12th November last, made to the Chairman of the Board, you report upon the various roads cleared and formed under your immediate supervision through the Holt-Sutherland Estate; are there other roads there besides those, that the unemployed have done? Oh, yes.
5351. From your own knowledge, are you able to state whether more plant and rations were at any time sent than ordered? Not rations; there were goods.
5352. If, for example, the Commission find a discrepancy between the vouchers and the corresponding butts of the order-book, that would show a larger supply of goods in the voucher than were ordered according to the butt;—what would become of the surplus? It ought to be accounted for.
5353. Did you have any instance of a larger number of goods coming out than ordered? We have had a surplus there, but often the storekeeper would order an allowance for the next day. He ordered the rations daily. He would order less for to-morrow if he found he had over the supplies of to-day.
5354. Do you know whether Springall had a banking account? I cannot tell you.
5355. Is it an elaborate house he has built? It is a nice place.
5356. What would it cost? It would make a hole in £2,000.
5357. Do you know whether he has borrowed money on it? I do not know anything about it.
5358. Can you tell us who can give us information as to the quantity of charcoal and sleepers sold from time to time? The sleepers were sold to the Roads and Bridges Department. The timber and charcoal were sold by Neale, and the invoices were sent by me to the office.
5359. Would you make out the invoice? No; they would be made out by Mr. Elton, the wood clerk.
5360. I read to you a certain portion of the evidence of one of the previous witnesses before this Commission relative to you: that, and several other portions of the evidence, tend to affect your character and professional reputation. Can you give this Commission any references? In the city?
5361. Anywhere? Yes; in Queensland or here if you like. I am pretty well known here. What are the particular lines you would like?
5362. People who know you well. You say you are a native of this place? You could inquire from G. E. Crane, merchant; G. L. Carter, late Member for South Sydney; or Robert Fowler, late Mayor of Sydney; or you could write to the Hon. J. R. Dickson about me.
5363. Have you any testimonials from previous employers? I have my credentials from the Queensland Government.
5364. These testimonials are in reference to your qualifications as a surveyor? Just so.
5365. Did you often feel sore with the members of the Board? Yes, I have; on more occasions than one. It has been a matter of a very serious nature.
5366. Have you not rather a strong feeling against them? No, I have not. I saw Mr. Wells no later than yesterday. He stopped me and shook hands with me.
5367. You heard me read portions of evidence relating to some complaint as to delay in returning pay; also with reference to your professional reputation; and also as to your character for truthfulness? I would much rather leave you to decide whether I am truthful or not.
5368. As to your professional capacity and qualifications? I consider myself professionally qualified, much better than Mr. Wells. Neither Mr. Wells nor Mr. Houison are fit to do their duty.
5369. As to the dispute? It was with reference to an overseer that was reported for being drunk. Men have been discharged when as sober as I am now. I have known Mr. Davies dismiss a man for coming out of an hotel, when he had been in to get a pound changed to pay his men.
5370. You have thrown out some doubt as to the sobriety of Mr. Wells—did you ever see the Chairman the worse for drink? No. That is one thing I will say, he is thoroughly conscientious in that respect—thoroughly.
5371. A witness in another part of his evidence says you could not give proper supervision to road works? I would have you take into consideration that I had thirteen or fourteen different camps to supervise. How could one man do it? For that reason I asked for assistants to be appointed under me.

5372. On the occasion of one complaint, it is stated you were brought into the office and the complaining member of the Board gave you a severe talking to, but that the Chairman recommended you should be kept on? And in a semi-unconscious way he did it. I was written to to come in. Mr. Wells was there, and he got roaring at me. I looked at him, and asked him what he meant, and who he was talking to. Mr. Davies spoke to him and asked him to moderate his tone. I told him I had not come in to be bullied. Anyone would have thought he was talking to a lot of soldiers 10 miles away. Then he apologised, and spoke to me very quietly. It is not once he has apologised to me, but half a dozen times; and it is not nice for a Commissioner to apologise to one of his subordinates.

Mr. E. M.
Burrowes.
2 April, 1889.

5373. A witness was asked in the course of his evidence to detail your duties, and he did as follows. [*Reads the evidence.*] Is that correct? Everything, except the rations.

5374. Then in another part a witness stated that the Board was entirely dependent on you for the correctness of the vouchers? I suppose they would be. I was the only officer—the superintendent.

5375. Have you ever received any gratuity from any member of the Board? Never.

5376. No present at all? No.

5377. Have you ever been spoken to as to the evidence you were going to give before this Commission? By whom.

5378. Anybody? No.

5379. I think you told me that Mr. Davies first found fault with you a little time before the Select Committee? Yes.

5380. Before that everything went on smoothly? Oh! yes, grand.

5381. Grand? Yes; we went along smoothly.

5382. You admit you have a strong feeling against him now? Not particularly strong. I have no particular ill-feeling against him at the present moment. I think it was an unfair thing for him to tell Miles and Mason I was a very bad man.

5383. *Mr. Franklin.*] Will you look at these lithographs—they are lithographs of subdivisions on the Holt-Sutherland Estate. From what is shown on them, can you point out on the general plan where this land is situated. The subdivisions shown on this sale plan are enclosed in parallels formed and bounded by roads;—On the south by Forest Road; on the east by Sylvania Road; on the north by Box Road; and on the west by the Illawarra Line and the National Park. The frontages of these subdivisions are on the roads formed by the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

5384. Most of these roads are very well made? Yes.

5385. The roads that are formed within the subdivisions of the sale plan are formed and drained? Yes.

5386. Are any gravelled? The Main Illawarra Road is gravelled, and also others.

5387. Where they are gravelled are they not exceedingly well done? The Illawarra Road and the Port Hacking Road are the best.

5388. They have been described as "park roads"? They have a very fine appearance indeed.

5389. I suppose some of the roads have been rolled? Yes.

5390. Is it usual to roll roads in a country district? It was simply a little fad of Mr. Davies'. Mr. Murphy sent the roller out.

5391. It is a thing that is not done generally? No, it is not done generally.

5392. With regard to the bridges;—some of them, I am told, are very substantial structures? Yes.

5393. Were they built by contract? They were given out to one or two gangs employed to do the work.

5394. You furnished the design? Yes.

5395. And on their completion you certified to their correctness according to your design? Yes.

5396. *Mr. Waller.*] In your evidence before the Select Committee, in answer to question 2672, you made objection to certain roads, and said you would have deviated from a road with the object of saving expense? That was with reference to the Woronora Road.

5397. Did you call the attention of the professional heads of the Board to your objection? I could never get them out there.

5398. Did you call attention? Yes.

5399. In writing? They took no notice of it.

5400. Do you know a man of the name of Hanley, a publican? Yes.

5401. Did he ever pay you for any wood? Never.

5402. Was any wood sent to him? Two or three trucks were sent.

5403. What did the value come to? 5s. a ton.

5404. How many tons to a truck? Four.

5405. Do you know whether he ever paid for it? Mr. Neale was the party to look after that.

5406. Did you send it direct? It went by the wood clerk at the National Park. He is a Government employé.

5407. Did you ever see Mr. Varney Parkes out at the National Park? Only on two occasions.

5408. Did you ever see him on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No.

5409. Did you ever see Sir Henry Parkes on the estate? No.

Joseph Henry Springall called in, sworn, and examined:—

5410. *President.*] What are you? A master mariner.

5411. What are you doing now? Building an hotel at Coronulla Beach.

5412. Is it occupied by you? Not at present.

5413. Used as an hotel? It is not open yet.

5414. Have you a license? A conditional license.

5415. On whose property is it? The Holt-Sutherland Estate.

5416. Have you a lease? I have an agreement for a lease—a conditional lease.

5417. Did you have anything to do with the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

5418. What was your office? Clerk and storekeeper.

5419. How long? Two years and eight months.

5420. Were you in that capacity before the appointment of the Board? Yes.

5421. In what district? Two months at Gordon, under Mr. Wise. In September, 1886, I was sent to the National Park, to open up relief works there.

Mr. J. H.
Springall.
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Mr. J. H.
Springall.
2 April, 1889.

5422. Before you went to Mr. Wise, were you in the Government employ? No; I was in that of the Colonial Sugar Company.
5423. How long? Six months.
5424. What were you doing there? Chief officer of the "Terranora."
5425. What were your duties under the Board and Mr. Wise? To order and issue the rations of the men and keep all accounts under Mr. Wise.
5426. What under the Board? Similar to what I did under Mr. Wise; there was no change whatever.
5427. Where were you located during the time that the Board was in existence? I was at the National Park and Hurstville.
5428. All the time? Yes.
5429. In a tent? Part of the time in a tent, and the rest in Mr. Hodge's hotel, until office was shifted to Hurstville.
5430. Where were the stores kept? First part in tents, and then in the stable and coach-house at the back.
5431. Was anyone living with you? Mr. M'Pherson, the surveyor.
5432. The whole of the time? Not exactly the whole time. I think I had been there two months when he came out as surveyor.
5433. Was Mr. M'Pherson there the whole of the rest of the time? No.
5434. Had you sole charge of the stores? Yes.
5435. Who gave the orders for stores that were wanted? I did.
5436. On your own responsibility? Yes.
5437. How did you arrive at the amount required? By the number of rations issued the day before, and by the returns from the different camps.
5438. Did you have a store-book? Yes.
5439. Were you out there when the Board took over the office from Mr. Deering? Yes.
5440. Were there any surplus stores there? I always kept from one to two days' supply in hand in the event of men being sent out unknown to me.
5441. The Board was appointed on 2nd May, 1887;—can you tell us whether there was any surplus plant or stores belonging to the Government when the Casual Labour Board took the works over? Only the tools the men were using in the field, and one or two days' rations.
5442. Do you know of any crockery? That came from the Immigration Depôt, and there was some sugar from Carlingford.
5443. Anything else? Some fish and rice.
5444. Do you know the quantity? Nineteen bags of sugar, two cases of tinned herrings, eleven bags of rice, and some crockery.
5445. Were there any bedsteads? No bedsteads; tables and trussels.
5446. Did you take over the stores? They were sent to me from Sydney.
5447. Sugar, crockery, rice, tinned fish—what became of it? I kept it in the store some time. One day Mr. Davies told me I could issue the fish and rice amongst the men. The sugar and the crockery I was ordered to send to Sydney.
5448. Did you send it? It went first to Hurstville, and was sent from Hurstville to Sydney.
5449. Back to the grocer's? No; addressed to Mr. Davies, at the Board Office.
5450. What else? Nineteen bags of sugar and two cases of crockery went back to Mr. Davies.
5451. What office? The Casual Labour Board, Goulburn-street.
5452. Have you seen them since? No.
5453. Never returned to you? Never.
5454. *Mr. Franklin.*] What was the weight of them? 70 lb. each.
5455. *President.*] Who was Johnson? Assistant storeman; he lived at the back of the hotel; he served the rations out.
5456. Had he access to the stores? Oh, yes, all day.
5457. Where is he now? On the Illawarra Road, in the camp at present.
5458. What is he? Storeman, I think.
5459. Whose duty was it to fill up the pay-sheets? The particulars were given me by Mr. Burrowes; I used to correct them and make up the pay-sheets from his drafts.
5460. What became of them then? They were sent to the office.
5461. Did you refer them back to Burrowes? They were drawn out, given to Mr. Burrowes, who read them through and signed them, then rolled them up and sent them to Sydney.
5462. Did you ever send them direct? No.
5463. Was he not away? Not on pay-nights. He was there the day the vouchers were made up. He might be away two or three days previously inspecting the work and valuing it.
- 5463½. Who was judge as to the amount of goods wanted? No one but myself. I had a scale of rations to issue.
5464. Did you depend upon the reports that came in as to the number of men? I depended on them, and also on the pay-sheet, showing the number of men being paid. I used to get papers down from the officers every day. From that order, unless they stopped anything, I sent the rations up next day.
5465. Who took delivery? The storekeepers at the different camps.
5466. Who took delivery of what came from Kidman? I took delivery at the National Park.
5467. Were you responsible? I was responsible for the whole of the camps.
5468. Were you on the pay-sheet yourself? Yes.
5469. What rations did you draw? I drew my own rations.
5470. Only for yourself? There was Mr. Burrowes and the whole of the staff.
5471. Used you to draw for the whole of the staff? The cook used to draw for them.
5472. How many? Sometimes seven, sometimes eight. There was no stated number. We used more rations one day than others.
5473. Is this one of the store-books? That is one.
5474. Is that your handwriting? Yes.
5475. Did you keep any other books? A book half the size of that, showing the daily issue.

WEDNESDAY,

WEDNESDAY, 3 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Joseph Henry Springall called in and examination continued:—

5476. *President.*] You spoke of another book besides the store-book? It showed the number of rations received and issued.

5477. Who kept it? I did.

5478. What became of it? It was sent to the office with the other books.

5479. Will you tell us how you made up the pay-sheets that were sent into the Board? They were made up from draft sheets supplied to me by Mr. Burrowes after he had been round the ground measuring the work and putting the values upon it.

5480. Was Mr. Burrowes the only one who supplied you? Mr. Burrowes and Mr. M'Pherson. I got from him all the work connected with the Waterfalls, Liverpool, Campbelltown, Cook Park, Heathcote, and the Holt-Sutherland Estate and other camps.

5481. Did any one else send you particulars? No.

5482. Where did you get the information as to the number of men who had to be provided with rations? From the men who came every day. A man would be asked the question as to the number of men in the gang. According to the number of men in the gang he drew rations, and that was marked in the daily issue-book.

5483. Were these the unemployed men that came to you? Yes.

5484. Came to you direct? One man was appointed from the gang. They were supposed to have eight men in each gang; sometimes there were seven; sometimes as low as four. When they got to four we broke them up and put the men into a gang of eight. When a man came and said he wanted rations for eight, he got eight rations. They were given to understand they would have to pay for all the rations they drew. What they drew was marked on the book to their account.

5485. Had you any means when a man came to you and represented that he was a ganger of knowing whether he was correct in his statement? If I had any doubt I would send for the overseer, and ask him how many men he had, and how many rations he wanted to draw.

5486. Who were the overseers? Walsh was the name of one. Bell was another.

5487. Who was Bell? He had charge of the Agricultural Department.

5488. Where is he now? At the Meadows, I believe.

5489. When did you see him last? Some two months ago.

5490. Is this the book you spoke of? Yes.

5491. Who kept it? I kept it. There should be another one showing the months previous to that.

5492. This is a full record? A full record of the number of rations received and issued.

5493. Did anybody ever go through that with you? The books were always there. Mr. Hinchcliffe, Mr. Burrowes, and Mr. Gordon have looked at the books.

5494. Where did you get the information from you put down here, under the heads meat, potatoes, bread, butter, and so on? That is the scale allowed.

5495. Did you enter them in this book? Yes, as I delivered them.

5496. What, in that very neat way? Yes.

5497. As the rations were issued you entered them then and there? Yes; I posted my books up every night. That is the only book I kept.

5498. Look at these five pay-sheets? Yes. They are pay-sheets for Heathcote and Sutherland-Loftus Road.

5499. They are dated 18th November to 1st December, 1888; 26th August to 8th September, 1888; 29th July to 11th August, 1888; 9th September to 22nd November, 1888; and 17th June to 30th June, 1888;—are they not? Yes.

5500. In whose handwriting are they? Principally in my handwriting. There are some written by another man.

5501. Show me one written by another man? Heathcote, from 26th August to 8th September. That is written by another man. It is Wm. Davey's writing.

5502. The whole of it? Two sheets of it; the rest of the sheets is mine.

5503. Did you see all the men mentioned here paid? Yes.

5504. And the signatures on the different sheets, J. H. Springall, and the initials on one, J.H.S., are your signatures and initials witnessing payment? Yes; they are initialled that way. That is my handwriting.

5505. I suppose we may take it they were all paid? Yes; I actually saw them paid.

5506. If a man named Brown came up and said his name was Brown, and that he represented six others, did you pay him? The overseer was standing at the door, and if I had any doubt I referred to him and said, "Is this the man mentioned in the pay-sheet?"

5507. Who would be the overseer for Heathcote? Mr. Bell.

5508. Was Mr. Bell present on every pay-day? Yes.

5509. Did you ever ask him any question? I knew pretty well all his men.

5510. Where did you get the information from from which you prepared these sheets? The work was given by the overseers to Mr. Burrowes. He supplied me with the information, and I made out the sheets from the information supplied.

5511. You know these papers better than I do. I show you what purport to be some draft abstracts between 26th August and 8th September, 1888. Will you look at them and lay your hands on the particulars from which you prepared that pay-sheet? Here is one. This is a draft sheet.

5512. In whose writing is that? It is my writing.

5513. Then you prepared this original pay-sheet from a draft in your own handwriting? This is a draft I made before making out the draft sheet. The work was given to me on a slip of paper by Mr. Burrowes. Then I prepared this draft sheet. After I prepared one sheet I gave it to the clerk, Wm. Davey, and he then would write the vouchers. After I had finished the whole of the draft sheets I would commence writing the vouchers myself.

5514. In whose writing is this? It is the clerk's.

5515.

Mr. J. H.
Springall.

3 April, 1889.

- Mr. J. H. Springall.
3 April, 1889.
5515. Is this the only document you prepared it from? Yes.
5516. It should be a copy of it? Yes.
5517. Is it? Yes.
5518. Do you notice this draft ends with Yates' name? Yes.
5519. Does this pay-sheet end with Yates' name? No—Flemming's.
5520. Read it? "James Flemming, seven men, quarrying and breaking, 186 cubic yards, 2s. 3d., £20 18s. 6d.; £5 6s. 2d. deducted, rations; cash paid, £15 12s. 4d."
5521. From where did you get that information? From a slip of paper supplied to me by Burrowes.
5522. You swear that? Yes.
5523. Have you the papers? They are in the office, I expect. This man Flemming was a man employed by Burrowes to look after his horse.
5524. Did he have seven men to look after him? The other men were in different parts of the field. They were all merged into the one gang. Flemming drew their money and paid them.
5525. Was Flemming looking after a horse at Hurstville? Yes.
5526. Where were the other seven men? Employed at different places about the park and Heathcote.
5527. What is this 186 cubic yards? It is road-metal.
5528. Is there any road-metal required in looking after a horse? No.
5529. Is that correct information on that pay-sheet? It is not correct.
5530. Is it false? It is as I was told to put it down.
5531. By whom? Mr. Burrowes.
5532. Do you swear that? Yes.
5533. Did you see this man Flemming come up and get that amount? I saw him come up and receive the money at Heathcote.
5534. Do you know Flemming? Yes.
5535. Did you know him then? Yes, I knew him.
5536. He was at Hurstville looking after the horse? He was a general rouse-about—a man to assist in the camp and do anything that he was required.
5537. Who was responsible for the accuracy of these pay-sheets? I suppose I was; I made them out.
5538. And knowing what you knew of Flemming's occupation you put him down with seven men for breaking 186 cubic yards of stone? Yes; I put it down according to instructions.
5539. Did you know it to be true? No.
5540. Did you know it to be false? I knew it was incorrect.
5541. You were in a responsible position there? Yes.
5542. You knew the members of the Board looked to you, and that you were to see that the duties of your office were properly carried out? Yes; I think they did.
5543. Yet you found it consistent with your duty to put what was a lie upon paper? [No answer.]
5544. Aye? Well, it is certainly not a true statement of the work done.
5545. Do you swear that Flemming received that amount, £15 12s. 4d.? Yes.
5546. Where is Flemming now? At Coronulla Beach. He left at the new year.
5547. Do you swear that Flemming had a gang of seven men under him? The money was paid to him to pay the men working in different parts of the park.
5548. Now, sir, on your solemn oath, was Flemming a ganger at all? No, he was not a ganger.
5549. When did you find that out? When he was shifted to Hurstville.
5550. Before or after you made the payment? After I made the payment.
5551. What is the date of that pay-sheet on which his name as a ganger appears? 26th August to 8th September, 1888, Heathcote relief work.
5552. Look at the same sheet, on which Flemming as a ganger with seven men appears. It appears F. Seymour, as a ganger with ten men, was paid £14 6s. 5d.;—do you know Seymour? Not personally.
5553. Do you know whether he was a ganger? Yes, a ganger under Bell.
5554. How many men? Eleven altogether.
5555. Are you quite sure? From information given me by Bell he had eleven men.
5556. What is this on that sheet? C. Sandon, one cart, twelve days.
5557. Who is Sandon? A carter employed on the works drawing rations, and also doing carting work there.
5558. Where is he now? On the work, I expect.
5559. Is that the Sandon that used to drive the Paymaster about? Only one trip that I know of.
5560. Is that the same man? One time he drove him to Waterfall, when Lobb was drunk and grossly abused Mr. Davies.
5561. "One cart";—is that Sandon's cart? Yes.
5562. Was he amongst the unemployed? Yes.
5563. Where did he get the cart from? Bought it, I suppose; I do not know.
5564. I want to come back to this item, "Flemming and seven men";—tell me again where you got that information from? Mr. Burrowes.
5565. How would he give it to you? In writing, on a slip of paper.
5566. What sort of paper? A small scrap of foolscap.
5567. You found out afterwards that he was not a ganger? Yes.
5568. How long afterwards? After I found out, and when I spoke about the matter. I put it down that his breaking road-metal, 186 yards, was because Mr. Burrowes did not want it to appear that he was to look after his horse.
5569. Was Mr. Burrowes present on the pay-days? No; I could never get him to come in. He always had some excuse. He was going to some different part of the field.
5570. When did he tell you to put Flemming down as stone-breaking? It must be at the time the pay-sheet was made out.
5571. Then your statement is that it was put there, and in that way, because Mr. Burrowes told you? Yes. [Pay-sheet from 26th August to 8th September, 1888, put in and marked J.]
5572. Look at this pay-sheet—"Heathcote Agricultural, 18th November to 1st December, 1888"? Yes.
5573. Is that your handwriting? Yes.
5574. Did you witness the receipt of these payments? I did.

5575.

Mr. J. H.
Springall.
3 April, 1889.

5575. Did you see the money paid to Flemming? Yes; I was there.
5576. What is the amount of work done and the money paid? 240 cubic yards at 2s., £24 earned; £4 11s. deducted for rations; £19 9s. received.
5577. Was that a payment to Flemming alone? Yes.
5578. For his own work? No; for men employed with him.
5579. Does that pay-sheet show that? No, it does not.
5580. Is that a true or a false pay-sheet? It is a true one. I do not know anything about it being false.
5581. Did you see Flemming sign that? Yes.
5582. You notice that is in November, 1888—that is, two months after the last one I showed you? Yes.
5583. What was Flemming then? He was looking after Mr. Burrowes' horse.
5584. Was he stone-breaking? No.
5585. Have you got there stone-breaking 240 cubic yards? Yes. There is the same explanation of this as for the other.
5586. Is that pay-sheet true or false? From information supplied to me, it is correct.
5587. Then that is correct—240 cubic yards stone-breaking, Flemming? As far as I know.
5588. And yet he was looking after Mr. Burrowes' horse? Yes.
5589. Come, Mr. Springall, you do not mean to tell me that this is a true statement on this pay-sheet? No, it is not true; he was not stone-breaking.
5590. Then it is false? It must be in that case, because he was looking after Mr. Burrowes' horse.
5591. In whose handwriting is this document I now put before you? My own.
5592. Is it the draft abstract of the payments from which you prepared this pay-sheet? Yes.
5593. Look at that draft, and tell me where the name of Flemming occurs in it? It does not occur.
5594. Then where did you get the information you put in the pay-sheet which was sent into your senior officer? I cannot say whether I got it from Mr. Burrowes or Mr. Bell.
5595. Was it not entirely the result of your own manipulation? No, it was not.
5596. Am I and are these gentlemen here to take it as your evidence that that item of Flemming, and that payment £19 9s. in this pay-sheet, and the other items I have just put before you, were put in on the suggestion of somebody else, and were not pure imagination on your part? It is not a concoction. I got the information from Mr. Bell or from Mr. Burrowes. I did not put it in on my own account.
5597. If Mr. Burrowes swears he knows nothing about it, and if Mr. Bell gives similar evidence before this Commission, what do you say then? I should say that Mr. Burrowes is telling a falsehood.
5598. What of Mr. Bell? I do not know of Mr. Bell, because I got in writing only the amount of work done, but it came through Mr. Burrowes afterwards. [*Pay-sheet, 18th November to 1st December, 1888, put in and marked J 1.*]
5599. Will you look at this pay-sheet—Heathcote agricultural, 29th July to 11th August, 1888;—is that your handwriting? Yes.
5600. Was the payment witnessed by you? Yes.
5601. Read the entry? "J. Flemming, 180 yards, at 2s. 3d., £20 5s. earned; £4 6s. 8d. rations; £15 18s. 4d. cash paid."
5602. Look at this paper I put before you—what is it? It is the draft-sheet from which I prepared the pay-sheet.
5603. In whose handwriting? Mine.
5604. What is the last name on the draft-sheet? F. Seymour and ten men.
5605. What is the name immediately preceding Flemming on the original pay-sheet? "F. Seymour."
5606. Then the name of Flemming has been added to the original pay-sheet after the draft? Yes.
5607. By you? Yes.
5608. In your handwriting? Yes.
5609. Does that name of Flemming there represent Flemming himself or a gang? Flemming and a gang.
5610. What was he doing then? Looking after Mr. Burrowes' horse.
5611. Is the statement on this pay-sheet false? Yes, false.
5612. False to your knowledge? Yes, false.
5613. To your knowledge when you put it there? No.
5614. When did you find it was false to your knowledge? I made inquiries about the matter afterwards, and I was told to put it in there with the other men. Mr. Burrowes told me.
5615. If Mr. Burrowes tells a different story, is he telling a falsehood? He told me to put him down in charge of the men rousing about.
5616. How often was Mr. Burrowes down there when the pay-sheets were being made out? He was always there.
5617. If he says he was not? He is telling an untruth. [*Pay-sheet, 29th July to 11th August, put in and marked J 2.*]
5618. Look at this pay-sheet—Sutherland, Loftus Road, 17th June to 30th June, 1888? Yes.
5619. Is that your handwriting? Yes.
5620. Does the name of Flemming appear here? J. Flemming and five men.
5621. Who received that payment? Flemming received the payment. There is his signature.
5622. Can you make Flemming out of that? That is the way he wrote it.
5623. Look at the signature on the other pay-sheets where Flemming signed, and tell me whether you think there is any resemblance to this;—now, sir, who signed that name? Flemming—I swear it.
5624. Is that sheet all in your handwriting? Yes.
5625. There is a note—"Paid by Thomas Hinchcliffe"? That shows he was present. These initials showed I witnessed it. I wrote this and witnessed the men mark it.
5626. Who witnessed the payment to the others? I did.
5627. Look on this paper I put before you and tell me what it is? The draft sheets from which the pay-sheets were made out.
5628. Is the name of Flemming on that? No; I do not see it there.
5629. Where is the name James White on the draft? Here it is.
5630. You do not find the name of Flemming there? No.
5631. Do you find the names of the others? Yes.
5632. Read what there is here on the original pay-sheet? "James Flemming and five men, 72 days, 3s. 6d. a day, £12 12s.; two men, 24 days, 5s. a day, £6—total, £18 12s.; £4 6s. 8d., rations; £14 5s. 4d. paid." 5633.

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5633. Is that pay-sheet true or false? It is correct as far as I know.
 5634. What was Flemming then? Working at Sutherland.
 5635. Was he a ganger? Yes, at that time.
 5636. Had he seven men under him? Yes.
 5637. Will you swear that? Yes, I will.
 5638. Look at this pay-sheet—Heathcote Agricultural, 9th September to 22nd September, 1888? Yes.
 5639. In whose handwriting is it? Mine.
 5640. Whom were the payments made by? Mr. Hibble.
 5641. Is there an entry of the name of Flemming there? Yes.
 5642. The last name on the sheet? Yes.
 5643. Read it? "James Flemming, ballasting, quarrying, and breaking, 186 yards at 2s. 3d. per yard, £20 18s. 6d.; £5 4s., rations; £15 14s. 6d., cash paid."
 5644. Look at this paper. Is it the draft sheet? Yes.
 5645. Does the name of Flemming appear on the draft sheet? No.
 5646. Where did you get the information from? From Mr. Bell.
 5647. In whose handwriting is that? Mine.
 5648. If Mr. Bell tells us he knows nothing about Flemming, where can you have got your information from to put Flemming on this pay-sheet? [*No answer.*]
 5649. You should not hesitate. If you give him there as a quarryman there should be no hesitation? I am considering where the man was working. I either got the information from Mr. Burrowes or Mr. Bell.
 5650. If this is not true, where then was he working? At the time he was working at the National Park, at Heathcote.
 5651. What is that entry on the pay-sheet you signed—what does it represent? Ballasting, quarrying, and breaking, 186 yards, at 2s. 3d.
 5652. Was that for Flemming? No, for a gang.
 5653. He is represented on the pay-sheet as a ganger? Over eight men.
 5654. Does it show that? No.
 5654½. What was Flemming then? That is what I am trying to recollect, whether he was working down there or at Hurstville.
 5655. Is there any other case on that pay-sheet, or on any other pay-sheet, where a man's name appears without appearing on the draft abstract? I was not aware that he did not appear on the abstract.
 5656. When did you become aware of it? Only just now.
 5657. Did you not hear about this before? Yes; I have heard two or three rumours about it.
 5658. I would like to know whether this is the first intimation you have had that his name does not appear on your abstract? This is the first information.
 5659. What explanation can you give of it? I cannot give any more than I have already given.
 5660. Is this pay-sheet correct or incorrect? To the best of my knowledge and belief it is correct.
 5661. Although you have got in it a charge for Flemming for 186 cubic yards of stone-breaking? Yes. [*Pay-sheet 9th September to 22nd September, 1888, put in and marked J 4.*]
 5662. Look at this pay-sheet—Heathcote Agricultural, 21st October to 3rd November? Yes.
 5663. In whose handwriting is that? In mine.
 5664. All of it? Yes, excepting the signatures.
 5665. Who witnessed the payment? It was paid by Mr. Larnach.
 5666. Does the name of Flemming appear on that? Ballasting and breaking, 240 cubic yards, 2s., £24; £5 4s. rations; £18 16s. cash paid.
 5667. What does that show you? 240 cubic yards by him or his gang.
 5668. It shows there was a gang of how many men under him? Six or seven men.
 5669. Was he a ganger at that time? No, he was not.
 5670. What was he? He was at Hurstville attending to a horse.
 5671. Did you know this at the time this was paid? Yes, I knew it at the time.
 5672. Is this pay-sheet true or false? It is false according to that item.
 5673. You knew it to be false at the time? Yes, I did.
 5674. You were in a very responsible position there, and you deliberately passed into your senior officers a document that was false, which led to the Government being deprived of at least £18 in this particular case? I knew he was constantly working. I knew he was at Hurstville.
 5675. You have now an opportunity of making any explanation? I can say no more than I have already said. [*Pay-sheet 21st October to 3rd November put in and marked J 3.*]
 5676. I do not wish to take up the time of the Commission by producing to you several more of these pay-sheets, but I state that there are many more of these cases in which the man Flemming appears as a ganger for Heathcote Agricultural, and his name does not occur at all on the draft abstract;—what do you say to that. Does the occurrence of his name on every original pay-sheet appear to you to be correct or incorrect? The same explanation applies to one as to all. He was employed at Hurstville as a general rouse-about and to look after a horse.
 5677. Then the whole of the Heathcote sheets with the name of Flemming appearing as a ganger, receiving money for himself and seven or eight men, as the case may be, and which are in your handwriting, are false? Yes, as far as Flemming is concerned, for being a ganger and the work he has done.
 5678. You knew that when you made them out? I spoke about the matter, and that is the explanation I got.
 5679. As to some of them you knew them to be false when you made them out? Some of them.
 5680. Then you lent yourself to a swindle? I did not mean to.
 5681. If you put on the pay-sheets for which you were responsible the name of a person as a ganger who did not exist as a ganger, and put there a sum of money he was not entitled to receive—if you put that down knowing it to be false, did you not lend yourself to a swindle? I cannot say I lent myself to a swindle. I lent myself to a false statement. 5682.

NOTES (on revision):—Q. 5654.—*Add*, "a column of figures upon the right-hand side of voucher, under the heading of 'Men in gang,' shows the number." Q. 5675.—*Add*, "The Government have not been deprived of any money through me, for I knew that Flemming and the other men were working in different parts of the works. Flemming was at Hurstville, attending to Mr. Burrowes, and drew the money to pay these men. The statement is altogether wrong about the quantity of stone-breaking, but is an equivalent to day-work at 3s. 6d. per day. Day-work was not shown, as the members of the Board objected to men being employed by the day." Q. 5680.—*Add*, "I did not look upon it as a swindle."

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5682. If it is not a swindle, what is it, I suppose you know the English language well enough to know what is the meaning of a fraud and what is not, if the man had not done the work at all and you knew it, it would be a fraud; but this was payment for services rendered? The man was working on the ground.
5683. I leave this part of the question, because I have your evidence that every one of the pay-sheets on which Flemming's name appears as a ganger, or was being paid for ganger's work, is false;—is it not so? Yes.
5684. You are not bound to answer this question: Who received the money? Flemming did himself.
5685. You are not bound to answer this question: Did Flemming pay you any part of the money—any part of the money received? Yes, his own wages. I have been taking care of his money this last twelve months—since his wife died.
5686. You are not bound to answer this question: Did Flemming pay you back all the money he received whilst the Heathcote pay-sheets were going on? No, he did not.
5687. You are not bound to answer this question: How much did he pay you back? Sometimes 25s., sometimes £2. He asked me to take care of the money for him.
5688. You are not bound to answer this question: How much money altogether have you got back from Flemming? Between £20 and £22.
5689. Nothing more than that? Nothing more than that.
5690. Who dealt out the rations to Flemming? He drew his rations at Hurstville, and when at the National Park from the store.
5691. Would Flemming receive rations as a ganger in accordance with what appears on the pay-sheet? He would not; he only received his own rations whilst at Hurstville, and the other men drew their own rations from the store they were issued from.
5692. On several of these pay-sheets I have put before you lately he represents himself and seven men, a party of eight;—would he receive rations for one or for eight? For himself; and the men working in park would receive theirs separately.
5693. I ask the question: He represented himself falsely as being a ganger? He did not represent himself at all.
5694. You represented him? I have.
5695. Falsely, as being a ganger on the pay-sheets;—was that falsehood continued in dealing out rations to him? No; the rations were taken by these odd men.
5696. What do you mean? By the men working on the roads breaking stones.
5697. Who said they were working at all? I cannot swear they were working; I did not see them.
5698. Is not this pure fiction from the start to the finish? It is a lie as far as his name is concerned.
5699. As far as the men said to be under his charge are concerned? No; I do not think it is.
5700. Will you give us the names of the persons working with him; refer to any document on which you can find the names? I have no papers now. In January I packed the papers up and sent them to the office.
5701. If Mr. Bell swears there were no men at all working with Flemming, and Flemming was not working, is he likely to state the truth? I do not think Mr. Bell would tell a lie from what I know of the man.
5702. Look at this book showing the daily issue of rations;—in whose handwriting is it? Mine.
5703. Look at page 232;—do you see the name of Flemming there? Yes; between the 10th September and the 22nd September.
5704. What year? 1888, I think it is.
5705. Does the name of Flemming appear on that page? Yes; No. 37.
5706. How many rations did he receive? Seven.
5707. Is that true or false? It is true.
5708. Did Flemming represent seven men on that day? He must have done, or else he would not be down there.
5709. Look at the pay-sheet,—Heathcote Agricultural, 9th September to 22nd September, 1888;—that covers the same dates as the ration-book? Yes.
5710. Is Flemming's name down there? Yes.
5711. In your handwriting? Yes.
5712. Is that a true or false pay-sheet? [No answer.]
5713. What is this other paper? The draft pay-sheet.
5714. Is his name on that? No.
5715. What is the entry on the pay-sheet 9th September to 22nd September? "J. Flemming, ballasting, quarrying, and breaking 186 yards, 2s. 3d., £20 8s. 6d.; £5 4s., rations; cash paid, £15 4s. 6d."
5716. Where was Flemming then? At Hurstville, attending to the horse.
5717. Is that statement on the pay-sheet true or false? False as regards stone-breaking.
5718. Is the statement in the book true or false? It is true for the number of rations drawn.
5719. Then the Heathcote pay-sheet I have just shown you as to the ganger is false; but the statement in the ration-book is true? These are the men who are under Flemming for working, and Flemming drew his rations at Hurstville.
- 5719½. If you find in the ration-book the name of Flemming representing seven men, during the same time, is this pay-sheet true or false? It will be true, because rations were drawn by the men and charged to them. He drew the money to pay them.
5720. Then it is only the pay-sheets that are false, and the ration-book is true? Yes; the ration-book will be correct as to the number of rations drawn.
5721. Were the duties you took over from the old administration the same duties as you had under the Casual Labour Board? Yes, just the same.
5722. Did you receive any special instructions from the Board when it was created, or from any member of it? At that time I was keeping a store, and I had to give the store up.
5723. Do you know anything about a bedstead out there that belonged to the store that you told Mr. Larnach about? I know nothing about it.
5724. How often did the members of the Board or any member go out to your place? Every fortnight. Sometimes Mr. Wells was there; sometimes Mr. Houison.
5725. Was Mr. Davies there? Every pay-day.

5726.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 5694.—Add, "I put his name down so that he should draw the money instead of the whole gang appearing at the pay-table." Q. 5698.—Add, "In being reported as ganger of a party of stonebreakers."

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5726. Do you know him? Yes.
5727. Well? Only since he has been connected with the Board.
5728. Are you on good terms with him? Yes.
5729. Has he ever been angry with you? No.
5730. Ever reported you? Never.
5731. Was your attention ever called to the state of the ration account being unusually high? Never.
5732. Were you ever called on to reduce it? Never.
5733. When the Board came into existence, can you tell us who took over the plant and tools and such like out there? No one came down to take them over at all.
5734. Do you know whether any list was kept? I kept a daily store-book.
5735. What became of that? I left it in the office at Hurstville, for Larnach's information.
5736. When you received tools, do you know what became of them? The tools to the men would be issued and returned.
5737. When goods were wanted from Sydney, who ordered them? I sent in a requisition to Mr. Davies.
5738. Direct? Yes.
5739. How did you arrive at the amount you required? By an order from Mr. Burrowes to order so many tools.
5740. And the rations? By the number I had issued the previous day.
5741. How did you arrive at it? From the number I issued in the store. I sent it direct to Mr. Kidman.
5742. Did you communicate direct with any other tradesman? No.
5743. With M'Lean Bros. and Rigg? No.
5744. Did you get anything from them? Yes; I am getting things now, on my own account—not for the Board.
5745. When stores were sent out to you, who took delivery? I did.
5746. Where? On the ground when they came from the railway station.
5747. Who was at the railway station? Only the railway officials, who would notify me that goods were there for the Relief Works. The greater part I sent for.
5748. What was the name of the person you sent? Sometimes one carter, sometimes another.
5749. Then of the stores, plant, and powder, you took delivery? Yes.
5750. Were they ever more than you ordered? A great deal more than I ordered; I have ordered five kegs of powder and received ten kegs.
5751. Anything else? I have ordered a dozen mattocks, and I would get a case sent out. The same with handles.
5752. Did it often occur? I think nearly always.
5753. Did you tell Mr. Davies they were sent out? Not until after I had received them. Then I sent to the office saying I had received them.
5754. What notice was taken of the amount being larger than you ordered? None that I am aware of.
5755. Did you give any receipts for these goods? I would advise them in Sydney that I had received them.
5756. To no one else? No.
5757. How did Kidman deliver rations? He sent them down by train.
5758. According to your order? Yes.
5759. No one intervened between your order and Mr. Kidman? No.
5760. If you ordered goods for 4,000 men more than were there? I did not do that.
5761. If you liked to be dishonest? If I had liked to have been dishonest I could have been, but I never did that.
5762. Were you ever called on to account for the large amount of rations? No; I was always told by Mr. Davies to keep an abundant supply on the ground, and not let the men complain. The first time there was great complaint from the men that they did not get sufficient meat, and it was altered.
5763. Who was your storekeeper? Johnson.
5764. Did he have anything to do with ordering goods? Never.
5765. Can you tell me whether he did? I am not aware that he ordered any; if he did, he did it without authority.
5766. Are you on good terms with him? Yes.
5767. Have you seen him lately? Only once since I left the works.
5768. Was he aware that this Flemming swindle was going on? No.
5769. Had you anyone else out there besides Mr. Johnson? At one time we had three men assisting him—Davey, Hunt, and Jacob.
5770. Did you make up these vouchers as a rule? Yes.
5771. Did you keep the time? Not when there was a large body of men on the field. There was a time-keeper named Christy. He kept the time. He used to go round and visit the gangs every day, but the men being on piece-work there was no time to keep.
5772. What did you do with the pay-sheets after the money was paid? I did not see them. Mr. Hinchliffe took possession of them.
5773. Are you and Mr. Burrowes on good terms? Yes.
5774. You have made a serious charge against him? I have.
5775. It rests between him and you? I am only speaking the truth.
5776. Did he ever find fault with you? No; he never interfered with me in any way.
5777. Did Mr. Davies complain about you? One time—three months ago—the vouchers were written badly and blurred. They were sent back to be re-written.
5778. Did you go to the head office many times? No; I was sometimes months without seeing it. I was only there four times since the Board was in existence.
5779. The only place you sent orders direct to was Kidman's? Yes, the only place.
5780. Do you know anything about any goods or timber being sent away from the camp belonging to the Casual Labour Board? That was wooden posts and rails.
5781. Do you recollect some time ago removing a lot of papers from Hurstville? Yes, in January.
5782. By whose orders? Mr. Davies'.
5783. Where did you take them to? The office in Goulburn-street.
5784. Where was Mr. Burrowes? In the office at the time I packed them up.

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5785. Are you sure? Yes.
5786. Did he complain? He never offered any remark. I told him what I was going to do, and who had given me instructions to do it.
5787. Did Mr. Burrowes complain about your removing any papers? Never.
5788. Do you know a man of the name of Hanley at Waterfall? Yes.
5789. Do you know anything about a dealing of wood with him? No.
5790. You said you were originally in the employ of the Colonial Sugar Company;—what did you leave for? Because the vessel was laid up. I was an officer.
5791. What wages did you get? Ten pounds a month.
5792. When did you go to the Government? I was walking about for some little time.
5793. You were really unemployed? Yes.
5794. Then you say Mr. Wise sent for you? I knew a Mr. Drew at a time there was a vacancy at Rookwood. Mr. Drew sent me to Mr. Oxley. He gave me a letter to Mr. Wise. I delivered the letter, and Mr. Wise sent for me to go to Gordon.
5795. You were amongst the unemployed at the time? I did not solicit employment. It was offered me. I had nothing else in view.
5796. Are you a married man? Yes.
5797. Had you no employment? Not at the time.
5798. Were you hard up? No.
5799. What were you living on? On money I had saved whilst in employment. I had £100 by me.
5800. Did you spend it? I had £100 by me when I went to the employment of Mr. Wise.
5801. You had £100 saved. Yes.
5802. How much did you get with Mr. Wise? Six shillings a day. My duties were as an assistant at Gordon.
5803. And under the Board? Ten shillings a day.
5804. Have you any family? Yes.
5805. How many? Six children.
5806. I think you told us you were the owner of an hotel? I am building one.
5807. How much will it cost you? It will cost £1,500. I have borrowed £650 from Mr. Alt.
5808. Have you paid any cash? I have been paying cash as my bills have become due.
5809. How much have you paid? Altogether £1,200.
5810. In cash? Yes.
5811. Then you had £100 when you began, and you have paid away £1,200; that is £1,300? Oh, no, not at all. That £100 is in the £1,200 paid away. I had £100 when Mr. Wise employed me; I was in the service two years and eight months; during that time I put by £280. My son was employed there, and I got £21 off him, money he had; he was messenger; and I borrowed £650 from Alt & Co.
5812. You had got £1,200? Yes, about that.
5813. That includes £100 you saved? Yes.
5814. Where have you earned £1,100? I have not earned it.
5815. I asked you how much you had paid away, and you said £1,200? That is in payments.
5816. Now, in order to pay it away you must have had it. You say you had £100 before you started with the Labour Board; you saved £280 out of the Government; as to the balance, where did that come from? £650 I borrowed from Alt & Co.; £60 another person has lent me, for which he has my acknowledgment; and there was £21 from my son, money he had put by.
5817. Anything from Flemming? I have Flemming's money, between £20 and £21.
5818. Are you correct about that amount? Yes.
5819. Do you keep any books? No.
5820. Do you keep a banking account? The Government Savings Bank and at Barrack-street.
5821. How much have you there now? Nothing; I have drawn it out.
5822. Any other bank? The Bank of New South Wales. I am owing them £25.
5823. Have you an overdrawn account there? Yes.
5824. How long has it been in existence? One week. I had no money to pay wages with. I asked Mr. Thompson to advance me £50 until I could borrow it from Mr. Alt. I have paid £25 of that back again.
5825. For how many months has that account been at that bank? Two months.
5826. Did you ever hear of any goods being sent to Mr. Davies? Never.
5827. Did you tell Mr. Larnach about a bedstead being sent? I don't remember speaking to him about it. I do not know anything about it.
5828. Mr. Larnach says you had orders from Mr. Davies to send a bedstead to him? That was a wire mattress sent to the office in Goulburn-street. We had three wire mattresses sent out. Mr. Davies said as he had to stop sometimes in the office he would like to have it there to sleep upon.
5829. *Mr. Franklin.*] In your position you were stationary nearly all the time at one place? Yes.
5830. The circle which the men were engaged in was small, extending on the one side or the other for 4 or 5 miles? About 6 miles. From National Park to Campbelltown—Waterfall and Port Hacking Road.
5831. Being there you were personally acquainted with most of the men about the place? Yes.
5832. You would know about a man being employed as "rouse-about" like Flemming? I know him well. I have him in my employ. He is an old feeble man. He was given the work he was doing because it was light employment. When I was going to leave I said to him, "I am going to keep an hotel, and you can come out if you like and have charge of the stables." He agreed to do so.
5833. Being feeble he was put to look after Mr. Burrowes' horse at Hurstville? Yes.
5834. How far is Hurstville from where you were? Six or seven miles.
5835. His duty would be that of caretaker? Keeping the office clean and anything he was told to do.
5836. What business would he have at your place, the National Park? None whatever. He was sent to the National Park at the same time that we shifted the office.
5837. Was it part of his duty to drive Burrowes over? I did not know that he did drive Burrowes over.
5838. Where were the wages paid? Generally in one of the tents in the park. When Flemming was paid he was paid in a tent on the Illawarra Road,—the store tent. The payments at Heathcote were made at the station.
5839. What were the payments for? He went down to get the money for these men.

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5840. Do you say there were men? I believe there were men. I do not know from my own personal knowledge.
5841. Did you put a charge on the pay-sheet for men you knew nothing about;—you have been asked to state who those men were? I could not state who the men were. I merely know some were breaking stones, and some clearing the roads.
5842. You say you were acquainted with the men in the circle in which you resided—it was your duty to know them;—did you not know them? No; only as far as giving the rations was concerned.
5843. Who returned the amount of work they were doing? It was returned to me on slips of paper by Mr. Burrowes, to put these men down as having done this work.
5844. You charge Mr. Burrowes with making this arrangement for you to carry out? I do.
5845. Clearly? Clearly.
5846. You do not know the men? I do not.
5847. You believe the men did exist? I cannot say that.
5848. You said you knew all the men? At one time we had 3,100 men there. It is impossible to know them all. I could not go round the field inspecting everything. That was left entirely to the overseers.
5849. But the men who come in to fill up contingencies are better known than the general men? They are known to the overseers.
5850. They should be known to the Paymaster better than those in the gangs;—did you know the men when you entered their names up? No, I did not.
5851. Can you tell me why Flemming appeared on the pay-sheet as working under Bell instead of the general establishment sheet? Because the work was done in Bell's district.
5852. Was there a reason why Flemming's name should appear as working as a ganger instead of under Mr. Burrowes? No. It would show the actual number of men employed at Hurstville instead of the number it did show.
5853. Was Mr. Burrowes authorized to employ such a man? I cannot say.
5854. Do you recollect any arrangement being made that Flemming should be charged as working, and his services given to Mr. Burrowes? Nothing was said to that effect.
5855. When you issued rations to the gang, did the recipient initial your book? We used to issue a ticket. Each ticket was numbered according to the gang. They would draw rations one day and a ticket would be given to them. The next day, when they drew the rations, they would return the tickets into the store.
5856. Were these tickets kept? Yes; I had a board with nails driven in, and each nail numbered to agree with the ticket.
5857. Then if they were discharged they would agree with the issue? Every day.
5858. And then the tickets were reissued? On the following day. If any tickets remained in the store we knew the rations were not issued.
5859. Can we ascertain easily the correct amount of rations issued on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I think you could.
5860. From first to last—for men working on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I do not think you could. There are the Port Hacking and Illawarra Roads; but yes, I think it would show that.
5861. Would the rations represent the number of men employed there? Yes; the rations might be a few more than the number of men.
5862. How many more? About 1 per cent. Sometimes in a gang of eight, one man would leave, and they would still draw the eight rations for a fortnight; but the eight rations would be paid for.
5863. We might take the rations to correspond with the number of men, less 1 per cent.? Yes; about that.
5864. After you had made out the pay-sheets, did you place them before Mr. Burrowes? After the pay-sheets were written out I took them to the copying press, and passed them to Mr. Burrowes for his signature. He laid them on his desk, bundled them up, and I did not see them afterwards.
5865. How many names on a sheet? Eight or nine on a sheet; sometimes three, or five, or seven on a sheet; sometimes twelve.
5866. Were there fifty or sixty sheets? At one time more than that.
5867. Did he get sufficient time to run them down? He used to read them through as he signed them. Sometimes he only turned up the corner and signed them.
5868. Would he notice a name so familiar to him as Flemming? He never remarked to me about the name, other than the statements I have already made.
5869. I think you said it was under Mr. Burrowes' instruction that the name was put on? He said, "Put him down as a ganger representing eight men."
5870. The payments are made out for eight men—for work done and measured out. How did you see to the measurements? Mr. Burrowes went out, measured the ground, prepared it, and handed it to me.
5871. That would be a return as to the measurements? Yes.
5872. Do you consider a measurement of the value of £15 or £20 a good measurement for a fortnight? Yes, for a gang.
5873. How is it you did not get a measurement for an item such as breaking metal on the general measurement sheet? That measure was put down at an average or mean at 3s. 6d. per day.
5874. There were other men breaking stones? I got a measurement for that. Sometimes I would work it up to see whether it was paid correctly.
5875. Was it not a rule to have the length, breadth, and height of the heap of stones given to you? Yes.
5876. And all payments were made on such measurements? Yes.
5877. Excepting in Flemming's case? Yes.
5878. You had no measurements in that case? No.
5879. If you had not had instructions to put down the item in the sheets you would not have put it down? Not without measurement.
5880. Was it not a rule to pay Flemming on the Hurstville pay-sheet as a day labourer? He was never paid on the Hurstville pay-sheet. He always came to the Park, when I was at the Park, either at the Illawarra store or at Heathcote. Heathcote is at the National Park.
5881. During the time you were paying Flemming for the work, was he not on the sheet for services rendered as a labourer? No.

5882.

5882. You were not to suppose he would draw £23 or £24 a fortnight? I did not suppose that would be work that one man could do.
5883. There would only be that one man? If I were told there was one man only I should not have put it down; but I was told there were seven men's work to go down with him, and I made no question about the matter.
5884. You have said that when you started at this work you were getting 6s. a day? At Gordon, for two months.
5885. You found it small pay for a large family? Yes.
5886. It was afterwards increased to 10s a day? To 10s. a day and rations.
5887. How long were you in receipt of it? Two years and eight months.
5888. When did your employment cease there? On 6th January last.
5889. You still live in the district? In the Coronulla district, on the land I have leased.
5890. How long is the lease? For a term of fifty years from the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
5891. Have they any fixed terms? £3 per acre. I took a block of 5 acres from them.
5892. I suppose you have selected a specially good block? I went there, saw this site, and selected it.
5893. £15 ground rent to pay a year? Yes.
5894. Do you consider letting you a water-frontage at £3 per acre any concession? None whatever.
5895. It is only the usual terms? Yes. There is plenty there to be leased on the same terms.
5896. Have you entered into the lease? I have an agreement. When I get my license for the house I am to have a proper lease.
5897. Have you ventured to build such an establishment on such a tenure as that? I have the authority for a lease issued by the directors.
5898. You have expended £1,500 cash? It will cost that.
5899. Will you describe the building? It is a wooden building. I can show you a plan of it. It is 85 feet by 42 feet outside; inside, 71 feet by 35 feet; weather-board studded; the out-buildings are a kitchen and stabling.
5900. What size is the kitchen? 20 feet by 12 feet. The stabling is of bush timber, covered with galvanized iron. The hotel is a two-storey building. On the ground floor there is one bar, and three sitting-rooms and three bedrooms; altogether eight rooms on the ground-floor. The inside is lined with Baltic pine, $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch tongued and grooved, with $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch tongued and grooved board for the ceiling.
5901. You say with the exception of £650, you have borrowed from Alt, the other is money you have provided? £60 I have borrowed, and the other is money I have saved.
5902. You know the dimensions you have given me make a large building? It is a large building. I drew out my own plans for it and paid my men daily wages.
5903. What wages? Carpenters, 10s. a day. I paid a man £3 10s. for putting up the chimney in the kitchen. There is no other fireplace in the building.
5904. What are the doors and windows? Ordinary doors and windows.
5905. Have you done anything in the matter of the ground? I have cleared it and got it fenced in.
5906. At what price? £3 per acre. I asked a man what he would do it for.
5907. You know the general clearing cost the Board £8? Mine is not stumped. I left the timber in the ground. It is small timber—small oak.
5908. This includes internal fittings? There are only four shelves and a counter in the bar.
5909. This building will very soon consume your £1,500; what about furniture? I can get the furniture from Lawler's. I have my own furniture at present.
5910. Would not the building represent security for the money you have borrowed. What security can you give for the furniture? I shall have to borrow some more money.
5911. How much? I shall require £200 more.
5912. Do you think it will furnish a place of that dimensions? I have £250 worth of furniture myself.
5913. I suppose you gathered it together before you went there? I had it before. I always had a good house of furniture. I have been a master of a vessel. I was in receipt of £20 per month as master. I have never been hard up. That was three months before I was mate of the vessel.
5914. *Mr. Waller.*] What is this book? The daily issue ration-book.
5915. Is it correct? Yes.
5916. How do you know it? I wrote it up every day myself. It is correct according to the rations issued.
5917. What did you check it against? A book they had in the store. The issue of rations was sent into me and I copied it into this one.
5918. How did you make up the money value of the rations to the men? By a charge per man—1s. 1d. for each ration.
5919. Will you read page 232? Number 37, name Flemming, 7 rations; total 98 rations, from 10th to 22nd September.
5920. How much does it come to? £5 6s. 2d.
5921. Look at pay-sheet marked "J 4," 9th to 22nd September, is the name Flemming there? Yes.
5922. What is the value of the rations? £5 4s.
5923. How does that agree with what the correct amount ought to be? There are two rations short.
5924. Turn to page 240? Yes.
5925. Do you see Flemming's name there? Yes.
5926. What is the value of the rations there? £4 11s. 9d.
5927. Turn to the press-copy letter-book for the pay-sheet for the corresponding date? Yes.
5928. Whose writing is it? Mine.
5929. Is it a true copy of the sheet? Yes.
5930. What is the value of the rations there? £4 12s. 6d.
5931. What is the difference in the amount? Ninepence.
5932. Did you charge these rations against the gangers for the gangs? Yes.
5933. Did you charge them against A, B, C, D, E, or against particular names? I charged them against men representing a gang.
5934. In all cases? In all cases.
5935. Will you look at page 255 in the rough book, fifth entry from the bottom;—what do you read there? Stone-breakers, eighty-four rations.
5936. Is that a christian name or a surname? Neither the one nor the other.

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5937. Who is it charged against? Flemming's gang or a gang Flemming represented.
5938. Did you always charge against the gang Flemming represented as stone-breakers? Not always.
5939. Why did you deviate from your usual course of using the man's name here? Because they were entered as stone-breakers.
5940. What is Flemming's christian name? James.
5941. What was he then? He was working at Hurstville.
5942. What as? As a general "rouse-about" to Burrowes, looking after his horse.
5943. Then why did you charge him as stone-breakers? Because these are seven men with Flemming.
5944. What is the total amount of rations issued? Eighty-four, of the value of £4 11s.
5945. Does this pay-sheet correspond with the entry in the book you have before you? Yes.
5946. Do you find the name of Flemming on it? Yes.
5947. Is that the same Flemming that appears as a stone-breaker? Yes.
5948. What is the value of the rations? £5 4s.
5949. What is the difference between that and what it ought to be? 13s.
5950. Which is correct of those charges for rations—that in the book or that on the pay-sheet? They are both correct.
5951. But Flemming is drawing one ration at Hurstville and seven men are drawing at the Park? The difference represents Flemming's rations.
5952. Why does not it appear in the book so that if you were dead and gone a person could comprehend what the book is meant for? It is to keep a record.
5953. In what pay-sheet shall we find that Flemming has drawn a single ration to balance your books? In none of them.
5954. How can that explanation be satisfactory when the pay-sheet shows a lower amount when there ought to be a greater, and *vice versa*? I cannot say.
5955. As it sometimes shows a greater and sometimes a less amount, your evidence is hardly satisfactory? If the men were working in the Park, Flemming's rations are charged to these men.
5956. Will you show me where the seven men's rations are charged as seven men's rations, or charged as eight men's rations, and come out accordingly. Pick your own entry. I am taking all those I brought under your notice just now? That is the only explanation I can give. Seven men would be drawing their rations below, and Flemming's added to it make it even. Sunday is not reckoned. He never drew any rations on a Sunday.
5957. On page 232, Flemming is charged for fourteen rations, not twelve, and not only Flemming, but many other names are charged for fourteen rations—Canard, Barkley, French, and so on. Were they ever charged for any greater number than fourteen? No; a single man was not.
5958. Do you know a man of the name of Cox? I know there was a man of that name there.
5959. What was he? One of the gangers.
5960. He has been charged for sixteen rations? Then he has drawn extra rations. There was no restriction. They could draw as many rations as they liked. Perhaps a man was drawing one or two extra.
5961. Who would pay for them? The man who drew them.
5962. If not the man? The man whose name is against them.
5963. Flemming has been charged fourteen days, gives a total of fourteen days for seven men's rations—What does it come to? £5 6s. 2d.
5964. You have charged £5 4s. Your explanation is because he has drawn his own rations at some other place and that that makes the difference? Yes.
5965. Take one man's rations for 14 days? It is 15s. 2d.
5966. How does that agree with your book. Is your explanation satisfactory to yourself? No, it is not.
5967. Is there any use in my going *seriatim* through these discrepancies? I cannot explain them any better than I have done.
5968. As a book-keeper, does that explain it at all. Would it be a satisfactory explanation to you? I do not consider it satisfactory at all.
5969. Are we, in the face of the few items I have drawn your attention to, which you acknowledge to be incorrect and cannot explain in a satisfactory manner, to take it as a true and faithful record of the transactions of the ration department in the Casual Labour Board? Yes, sir.
5970. You think we can safely? I do not say there are no mistakes: there are errors in it.
5971. If there are errors, how can we take it as a faithful record of the transactions. Can you give any idea as to the number of errors that occur? No; I did not know that these occurred.
5972. You do not know whether there are a few or many? I do not think there are many.
5973. If I had asked you a few minutes before if there were errors, what would you have said? I should say there would possibly be errors.
5974. Are these entries as correct as the pay-sheets? The entries on the pay-sheets were made from the book.
5975. Then where one is wrong the other is wrong. There is no more reliance to be placed on the one than the other? Yes.
5976. Do you know Flemming, the ganger? Yes.
5977. How many? There is only one.
5978. What is his christian name? James.
5979. Does he appear in the pay-sheets as James? Always.
5980. Will you look at the pay-sheet from 14th to 27th August, 1887;—do you see Flemming's name there? Yes, in the Waterfalls district.
5981. Where was he working at that time? I cannot say, unless he was working at the Waterfalls.
5982. Where do you think he was working? At the Waterfalls.
5983. Was he working as a general "rouse-about" or as a ganger? He was working at day-work.
5984. Do you see James Flemming there? I see James Flemming in the margin; and Flemming signed it.
5985. Why does it not appear there as T. Flemming? I cannot say.
5986. Who wrote that? It is my own writing.
5987. Is that the usual way you write his name? It is not.
5988. Why did you make the difference on that occasion? I do not know how it came about. 5989.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 5952. Add "I knew by the ration-book that seven men drew rations in National Park, and that Flemming, having drawn his at Hurstville, was entered with the Hurstville rations." Q. 5966. Add "The full amount of rations was not always drawn by the men; this will account for the apparent discrepancy."

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5989. Do you think it possible that it was to prevent T. Flemming, the day-labourer, and J. Flemming, the ganger, being mixed up? No.

5990. Would there be anything peculiar in J. Flemming appearing as a labourer and as a ganger on the same pay-sheet? That is August, 1887; I do not know where he was working then.

5991. You do not know anything about it? I was never up till that time at the Waterfalls.

5992. While on the subject of Flemming, the ganger, Flemming, the rouse-about, Flemming, the groom, and Flemming, the day-labourer, I would like to ask you how it is you were distinct in your answer to the President a few minutes ago, that on a certain occasion when Flemming drew as a ganger you were positive he was a ganger? Because I know the man was working then in the camp with the men who were keeping the camp clean. There were certain men told off to keep the camp clean, and that was his work.

5993. Was he returned as a ganger on those occasions or as a stone-breaker? He was returned as a day-labourer.

5994. This particular occasion—on the pay-sheet, Loftus Road, 17th to 30th June, 1888—does Flemming's name appear on it? Yes; here is his name—Flemming and five men, seventy-two days.

5995. As what? It does not state.

5996. He was a ganger? He was a ganger over them. His name was put down to draw the money for these men.

5997. Was that subsequent to your finding out, on the 26th August, he was not a ganger at all? He was a ganger at this time.

5998. You satisfied yourself you were not being made a "cats-paw" of at the time you made out that pay-sheet? No more than his name was returned to me, and I put it down.

5999. If Mr. Burrowes swears positively that the man was never a ganger at any time during the time of the Casual Labour Board? He swears what is wrong.

6000. I want to clear up this matter about the abstracts of the pay-sheets and the pay-sheets themselves. You know the difference between the two documents;—did you make up the pay-sheets from the abstracts? Yes.

6001. Did you make the abstracts from anything? From a document similar to this—supplied by Mr. Burrowes from information obtained by him from the overseers.

6002. What became of them? They were tied together and were dated at the back, and hung up on a nail in Mr. Burrowes' office and mine at Hurstville.

6003. Eventually what became of them? I left them in Mr. Burrowes' office.

6004. Did you send them to the head office? For the last twelve months.

6005. Did you send the previous twelve months? They were in the office.

6006. Why did you send the last lot? Mr. Davies told me to send them up. I made them up—not straightaway dates—a twelve months lot.

6007. Why did you send the latter twelve months? I had no reason.

6008. Have you any reason to suppose they have been lost since? No.

6009. I think you told the President that you placed the name of Flemming on the pay-sheets under written instructions from Mr. Burrowes? Yes; the name of Flemming.

6010. On every occasion written instructions? Not on every occasion. After he first explained, I followed it up, and did it the same way afterwards. He knew the name was on the sheet.

6011. When did you first discover you were aiding and abetting in a fraud? About the month of August or September.

6011½. Having made that discovery, what did you do? I did not do anything.

6012. Nothing? Nothing.

6013. As book-keeper and storekeeper, did you feel called on to do anything? The name should certainly appear for the work he had done.

6014. As book-keeper, having discovered you were a party to a fraud, did you not feel called on to take some steps? I ought to have refused to put his name down.

6015. As an honest man, could you continue to put it down? No, I could not.

6016. Was it writing a lie regularly? It was while the man was employed at Hurstville.

6017. Would you have much reliance on a man's statement who would continue to do a thing like that? I should doubt it.

6018. You did it between the 26th August, 1888, and the 29th December, 1888? I know there were wrong statements put down on that sheet.

6019. Did it ever strike you that there was a possibility of this thing being "bowled out"? Yes, it did.

6020. That being the case, did it never strike you that it was a good thing to adopt the old adage and look out for number one? I can clearly understand I ought to have done it.

6021. Did it strike you? It did; I did not like doing what I was doing.

6022. That being the case, and being a man of intelligence, a paymaster and a mariner, did it not strike you it would be a good thing for the sake of your own skin to have kept those valuable documents in Burrowes' handwriting authorizing you as an officer to commit a fraud? Yes; I should have done it for my own protection.

6023. Do you think it likely that any man going in for a fraud, under the written authority of his superior officer, would be such a fool as to throw away the only document that could sheet home to his superior officer the evidence that he authorised the fraud? I did not know but that the papers he signed were all tied up together, and each set kept separately.

6024. Do you usually, when you pay a man money, hand him back the receipt? No.

6025. Do you think it likely Mr. Burrowes would be such a fool as you want me to believe you were, and after you handed it back keep the document? I say I made it fast with the other papers in the office.

6026. Do you think he would be such a fool as to leave these documents about, and let them go against himself? No, I do not.

6027. Do you expect me, or anyone else with common sense, to credit the story you are now telling? It seems a funny story, but it is true.

6028. Do you expect me to believe it? I would wish you to believe it.

6029. It is now a matter of oath against oath: You and Mr. Burrowes. Is it not? Yes. 6030.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 5998. Add "I had no idea I was being made a catspaw of." Q. 6011. Add "I did not consider it a fraud, or I never would have put his name down."

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6030. On which side appears the most colour of truth. Yours, that you did it under written instructions to you, and deliberately left the proof to be taken away? Unfortunately it will go against me.
6031. And his is that he never directly or indirectly instructed you to do it, and never knew that it was done, and he swears that Flemming was not a ganger? It is against me entirely.
6032. Are there any documents or books which will give this Commission a return weekly or monthly of the men employed by the Casual Labour Board? Only the book with the different names in as they were sent to the works.
6033. How often did that list come in? Every month. A list of the names was sent down with the men.
6034. Is there any list or return of the gangers? There is no list.
6035. Could you at any time without the knowledge of Mr. Burrowes have returned a greater number of men through your ration-book than were in existence. Did he check your book? No.
6036. What was there to prevent you being able to do that? There was nothing to prevent me from doing that if I had felt disposed to do it.
6037. Who examined your ration-book? Mr. Davies. When the paymaster came down I had them open for examination.
6038. Who did examine them? No one.
6039. Were they ever examined? Never.
6040. They were laid out with an air of honesty for examination for any gentleman who chose to examine them? Yes.
6041. I hold here a paper-covered book purporting to be a book showing the rations ordered and received. Was that the book you had at the commencement? No; I had another.
6042. What date does this commence? In May, 1888.
6043. When did you make the entries? At night.
6044. Where did you take them from? From the daily ration-book.
6045. This book appears to be very neatly kept, but you have omitted any year, whether it is the year one or 1889, you have omitted to show? It is the year 1888.
6046. How can you identify it as being 1887 or 1889? There is no year marked on it.
6047. Do you call that the store-book? No, I do not.
6048. I suppose that book is about as reliable as your other books? That book was kept the same as I kept the others.
6049. Is that so? This is a correct number of the rations issued and received.
6050. That shows the amount of rations ordered, delivered, and given out? Yes.
6051. Will you explain how it is that the amount of rations ordered and the amount delivered will not agree? Because in some cases the amount of rations delivered exceeded the amount ordered.
6052. They are ordered one day and received the next? The rations I received to-day were the rations I ordered yesterday.
6053. If you ordered 400 on a Tuesday, why should their delivery next day be 600? I do not know.
6054. What is this paper? An abstract from the ration-book for the month of July.
6055. Is it correct? Yes.
6056. I see the rations ordered on Monday, 4th July, were 2,250; the rations delivered 3,100? Very likely men were sent down from Sydney to the Park and rations sent with them that were not ordered by me, and I have certified they were received. If they sent men from the office they would send the rations with them. I would know nothing of it until I received word from Kidman.
6057. Where were they kept? In the store.
6058. How would they be sent down? If 200 men were sent down, Mr. Davies would send an order to Mr. Kidman to send the rations, and they would come down with the men.
6059. Who advised you? The clerk in the office. One of the men would bring a letter with the number of men and the names, and the rations would be sent with them.
6060. Did they do that? Nearly always.
6061. How would you know that was done? I would get the receipts, and I would see that more rations had been ordered, and what they were ordered for.
6062. From your own knowledge, you do not know whether they were sent down or not? Whenever they came down they were weighed.
6063. These may not have been weighed that were given to the men by Kidman? No; Kidman sent them down to me.
6064. You would therefore receive this extra amount of rations? Yes; the rations were sent down in bulk, and I would issue them when they came to the ground.
6065. How is it that in hardly any case the rations ordered and the rations received agree? I cannot say.
6066. Does it strike you as peculiar? The rations I received on the Tuesday were ordered on the Monday. The amount received on the Tuesday would correspond with that ordered on the Monday.
6067. There are 6,200 ordered on a Friday? That is a double day.
6068. You only got 3,100 sent to you; can you explain that? I cannot.
6069. You only issued 3,000 altogether? The surplus is left over.
6070. You ordered on Tuesday, the 5th, 2,900; you only received 2,250? Those latter would be ordered the day before.
6071. The Friday lot would come in on Saturday, I see? Yes; the rations ordered on the Friday would come in on the Saturday.
6072. On Wednesday the 13th, you ordered 2,660 rations; they would be delivered on the Thursday? Yes.
6073. But you got 2,700? Then I had forty sent down more than was ordered. Perhaps forty men were sent down.
6074. On the Thursday, 2,514 ordered, but 2,515 received on the Friday; on the Friday, 5,031 ordered; they delivered 5,030; on the Saturday, the 16th, 2,530 ordered, and on the Monday you got 2,575? There might have been men sent down and extra rations sent with them. I did not order the rations, but still they have been received.
6075. Do you not think that under that system with the explanation you give us now, that it would be very easy for an overcharge of rations to be made without anyone being the wiser? I do not think it would.

6076.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 6068. Add "If 6,200 rations were ordered on Friday, I received them on Saturday, and the 3,100 must refer to the rations received on Friday." Q. 6069. Add "The 3,000 would be issued on Friday."

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6076. If these bags of sugar and crockery that were left at Goulburn-street under Mr. Davies' order had left Goulburn-street, would you know of it? Not after they got to Goulburn-street.
6077. Who was in charge of the Goulburn-street office? Mr. Davies was the head there. They were addressed to Mr. Davies, Chairman, Casual Labour Board, Goulburn-street.
6078. What became of them afterwards? I do not know. I received his acknowledgment afterwards that he received the sugar.
6079. In writing? I think so.
6080. Where was the principal store for the Casual Labour Board? Down at Hurstville when I was in charge.
6081. Were you the chief storekeeper all the time? Yes.
6082. Responsible for all the goods? I was responsible; but Mr. Burrowes used to order stores from Liverpool, and Mr. M'Pherson used to order for Waterfall and Bankstown. Many times I have spoken to them about the matter.
6083. Do you know that of your own knowledge? An overseer has written to say he has received a certain amount of tools that I know were never ordered.
6084. If these gentlemen swear they did not do anything of the sort, how then? They swear falsely.
6085. You have no documents? Nothing more than has been sent to you.
6086. Had you anyone to check the honesty of the returns sent to you in the first instance? No one whatever.
6087. The original slips might have been bogus slips? They might.
6088. Have you any reason to believe they were bogus slips? From what I have heard and seen I think some of them must have been bogus slips.
6089. Do you think you were innocently made a tool of? I can see it is possible that I have been.
6090. You are not a suspicious man naturally? No; I put too much credence in people.
6091. But still, on the 26th August, when you found you had been made a tool of, by giving in a return that Flemming was a ganger, it did not strike you you might be doing the same in some other case also? No.
6092. Did you ever report that to Mr. Davies or anyone else? No; I have not seen Mr. Davies once.
6093. You have kept perfectly silent over the matter? Yes. I have had no communication with anyone.
6094. Have you been friendly with Mr. Burrowes at the same time? Until last week.
6095. Did you ever imagine you might get into trouble about the matter? Not until I heard rumours.
6096. What rumours? The first was about Flemming; the second was that I had made £3,000. I accuse Mr. Burrowes of spreading that report. He denied it, and said he had not done anything of the kind.
6097. When was that? It is about a month ago since I spoke to him about it.
6098. Where? At Hurstville.
6099. What was the rumour about Flemming? That Flemming had been drawing money; that the money had been given to me, and that I had been giving it to Mr. Davies and Mr. Hinchcliffe.
6100. When was this? About a month ago.
6101. Who told it you? I heard it from a party in the street.
6102. Parties or lamp-posts? No.
6103. Give us the names? Mr. Hibble told me.
6104. That is one party; can you give another? That is the only one.
6105. Mr. Hibble is the party? Yes.
6106. There was some foundation for the rumour? No.
6107. Did you not receive some money? I had received Flemming's wages.
6108. Did you receive any money from Bell? No.
6109. How was it Flemming could only bring himself to part with such a small portion of the large amount he received on the ground? He paid the men on the ground.
6110. What was the particular reason he should trust you with the money; did you know him before? No; I did not know him until his wife was dead.
6111. Did you give him any interest on his money? No; I have given him no interest.
6112. How was it that the man came to you? I have had as large a sum as £200 in money by me. I put up a notice that I would take care of their money.
6113. Why did you undertake this trouble? For the good of the men.
6114. What bank did you pay it into? No bank. I proposed that a clerk should be sent down there to receive any money which the men might wish to deposit in a bank.
6115. Your story is that you took charge of £200 in an unguarded tent? I was not fool enough to tell people that I had got it there.
6116. You posted outside that you had got it? I did not. If a man came to me an hour or two hours afterwards and asked for the money again, I have said, "Do you think I keep the money in my tent? It is not safe here. They would cut my throat if they knew I had it here."
6117. But you did take charge of it for no earthly benefit to yourself? No benefit to me.
6118. Ran the risk of being robbed? I did not consider it a risk.
6119. You ran the risk? I ran the risk.
6120. You ran the risk of being accused of being a robber if you could not produce it? They would have known it all over the camp if I had been robbed. I have never had a man on the field raise his hand against me. Others have had to go about with revolvers in their pockets.
6121. Have you returned all the money? When I got the money I gave them a receipt; when they wanted it back they brought back the receipt and I gave them the money.
6122. Who took stock of the tools in your possession? No person.
6123. Did they ever take stock? They never took stock.
6124. The Board only had your own statement? Only my own statement.
6125. What class of men were the under-storekeepers? Men I could place reliance on.
6126. Taken from the unemployed? Taken from the unemployed.
6127. What reason had you to place reliance on them? From their actions. There were some good decent men amongst them.
6128. Would you place reliance on Mr. Burrowes? I would have then, but not now.
6129. Might not the same apply to some of the other men? Yes.
6130. Had you any testimonials as to their previous character? None.

6131.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 6083. Add "by me." Q. 6086. Add "All M'Lean Brothers' vouchers were checked in the office, Goulburn-street, previous to being forwarded to the Superintendent. Q. 6121. Add "Yes" before "when."

Mr. J. H.
Springall.
3 April, 1889.

6131. Simply your general good judgment of human nature? Yes.
6132. If these men had been willing and desirous, could they have committed frauds? Not without my knowing it. As an instance: one time Christy was a time-keeper, a ganger received money and was told to pay it to Christy. Christy was asked whether he could account for it; he could not, and he was dismissed. That is the only instance I know of in the field where men have been put down for work they have not done.
6133. Who saw the copies of the abstract pay-sheets? M'Pherson, Burrowes, Goodman, and I did; whoever might be in the office. I have been as long as thirty-five hours in my chair and never got up to my meals.
6134. Did this name of Flemming slide through all these gentlemen's inspection without their being able to see the peculiarity, without their seeing that the pay-sheets and the abstracts did not agree? It has done seemingly.
6135. You say that M'Pherson, Burrowes, and Goodman saw the pay-sheets? Yes; the abstracts were always hanging in the office, and the press copy-book was there.
6136. When did you see Mr. Davies last? I think the week before last, in King-street; not to speak to.
6137. When to speak to? In January.
6138. Did you ever write to him or receive letters from him? No.
6139. Have you had any talk with him, or with anybody else, as regards this inquiry? No.
6140. Directly or indirectly? No.
6141. What did you say to Larnach? I accused him of the reports. I told him I had heard of the reports he had spread about me, and would make him prove them. I also threatened him with an action.
6142. Who told you? Burrowes told me Larnach said them, and Larnach told me Burrowes said them. A man of the name of Drew said to me: "I saw the two conspirators in town—they had nicknamed Burrowes 'Pigott'—going along there." I said, "Who do you mean." He said, "Larnach and Burrowes." It was M'Pherson first told me they called Burrowes Pigott.
6143. What time? About a month ago.
6144. Was Burrowes your superior officer? He had charge of one department; I had charge of another.
6145. Did you look upon him as your superior officer? I looked upon him as my equal.
6146. You were working independently? Yes.
6147. That being so, what inducement was there that you should commit these frauds? It was merely because I knew Flemming was working there. I knew he had been taken to task for the number of men employed at Hurstville. It was to keep the man on the pay-sheets.
6148. You did not make anything out of the little transaction yourself? No; I have never made anything.
6149. Why did you leave? I told Mr. Davies about the hotel, and that I should leave at the end of the year. In November, when I found out I could not get in, I asked him if I could remain on longer. He said Mr. Larnach was going to take my place, and as I had given in notice I must abide by it. He told me to send in all papers—he had some doubt about Mr. Larnach—so that they should not be manipulated in any way.
6150. What was your pay? 10s. a day.
6151. What did it amount to in the gross? About £402.
6152. Are you a married man? Yes.
6153. Any children? I have children, but no wife.
6154. How old are the children? They are 12, 14, 17, 19, 21, and 23.
6155. How many are boys, and how many are girls? I have only one girl and a boy at home.
6156. Where are the others? The eldest son is at work at Wollongong; the second one at Kempsey; the third son I have as a messenger; one daughter is married; another is living with a friend; and I have a little boy at home.
6157. What did your weekly expenses come to for yourself and family? I had but little to pay for rations, and 15s. for rent.
6158. What might you put it down as? 30s. or 35s. a week.
6159. Take 35s. a week for the time from the gross amount? That is about £200. That is £200 off £400.
6160. You told the President that you spent £1,200? When I went to the Park there were no stores at Sutherland. The first day the men asked where they could buy candles, tobacco, and soap. Mr. Wise gave me permission to have a store, but on no account to sell anything that the Government supplied. I kept that store until the Casual Labour Board was appointed. Some weeks the takings were good. The men got things and used to pay me every pay-day.
6161. You gave the President £280—£21 from your son; £22 from Flemming; £60 borrowed; £650 from Allt; the total came to £1,101? I had £100 when I started.
6162. You are calculating the money you saved during the time you were under the Board. Now you see what you received is reduced by £200? That is the outside. I have not spent £200.
6163. You have not accounted for anything like the money you spent since? I cannot keep all these things in my head at the present moment.
6164. But you must have had the money in your pocket to have spent it. You borrowed from Allt & Co.—which partner did you see? Mr. Tulloch.
6165. When did you know him? I have known him for years. I told Mr. Tulloch what I was going to do and asked him to advance the money. He said any money I wanted I could have off him. I had £400 at first and £200 afterwards.
6166. What security did you give? I gave him security on the place which I was building.
6167. What is the contract? I had no contract.
6168. What will it cost? I reckon £1,500.
6169. Where are you going to get the balance of the money? When I get a license and get the place open I can get more money from Mr. Allt.
6170. Have you any other banking operations? None.
6171. You say you have borrowed £650 from Tulloch without a license? I have a conditional license.
6172. Without any real tenure of the land; with a building being finished and therefore uninsured? I had it insured. I insured the timber as it went on the ground.
6173. Without security they would lend you the money? Yes, they did. 6174.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 6147. Add "I have several times stated I did not consider them frauds."

Mr. J. H.
Springall.

3 April, 1889.

6174. From whom did you get the land on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? From Mr. Murphy.
6175. When did you get it? In October.
6176. When you opened the banking account at the Bank of New South Wales, did you open it with a cheque? I paid in as a first cheque the £200 that I borrowed, I paid in another £200, and I have drawn another from Alt of £250—£200 in a cheque and £50 in cash.
6177. How did you make your payments to the people? When they sent their account in I paid them.
6178. How? By cheque and cash.
6179. On what bank? The Bank of New South Wales.
6180. What office? Haymarket branch.
6181. You have a regular cheque-book? Only one.
6182. Will you produce it, please? Yes.
6183. You swear you never paid any other men as gangers in the same manner as Flemming, either through instructions from Mr. Burrowes or any member of the Board? I will swear it.
6184. If it is found out you did it? Well, it was done without my knowing anything about it.
6185. Why did you not put Flemming's name on the abstract? I am sure I cannot say why it was not done.
6186. Why did not you do it after you found out that you were doing what was wrong? I did not look at it in the serious light it is looked at now.
6187. Where does Bell live? At Hurstville.
6188. Where do you live? At Coronulla beach.
6189. Do you ever see Flemming? I saw him the night before last.
6190. How far is he from you? He is working for me.
6191. In what capacity? Looking after the stables.
6192. He is a "rouse-about"? A "rouse-about."
6193. A ganger too? He asked me whether he could come with me, and I gave him the privilege of coming.
6194. He is living in your house? No; in a tent.
6195. What wages do you give him? I have not paid him anything yet.
6196. What shall you pay him? I shall give him 15s. a week.
6197. Have you any money belonging to him? I have taken it for this building.
6198. You are taking the use of his bones and sinew, and money, and giving him nothing in return? I shall pay him.
6199. Is he a partner? No; it is entirely my own venture.
6200. Flemming has consented to give up absolute employment, good pay, drawing wages £20 a fortnight, and rations for seven men, and has gone down to this beautiful spot to work for you for nothing a week but a promise hereafter? I shall pay the man for the work he has done.
6201. He is working on a promise to pay? He is not the only man who does it.
6202. He is the only man who would give up £20 a fortnight and go to work for nothing? He is not giving up £20 a fortnight. He had to pay his men.
6203. Have you ever mentioned these rumours to Flemming? No; it is a thing I do not like to talk about. It does not lose by talking about.
6204. Then you can give me no reason for not putting Flemming's name on the abstract list? No; it is an oversight on my part that it is not there.
6205. Why did you put the other men on? Because they were returned as having done work on the ground at labouring or stone-breaking. This man was employed in another place, and the men were employed in different parts of the field.
6206. You said that until to-day you were not aware that Flemming was a ganger? I could not say I did not know he was a ganger. I remembered he was a ganger, but not a ganger after he removed to Hurstville.
6207. I ask you how you reconcile that answer? He was not a ganger after he was shifted to look after the horse.
6208. Did one man or anyone come for the rations, or did the ganger come? One man of the gang; sometimes the ganger. The gangers came.
6209. How did they get them out? By bringing the mess utensils.
6210. Then Flemming came for the rations for the seven men? One of the seven men came.
6211. Then there was a difference between Flemming's case and that of the other men. Did Flemming send his men in? One of the men that Flemming paid came for the rations.
6212. Did the same man always come? Some days one man would come; other days another.
6213. Did not that strike you as peculiar? No. Sometimes a man would consider it a relief to come for the rations instead of going on working.
6214. Did a man bring back a cart-note from the railway? There was no cart-note at all.
6215. Who was it you advised in Sydney of the receipt of goods? Mr. Davies.
6216. Were you ever in Mr. Kidman's employment? Never.
6217. When you were selling out their goods? The Casual Labour Board objected to my having a store.
6218. You were never in Mr. Kidman's employ? Never.
6219. Did you ever act as his agent? Never.
6220. *President.*] When did you give up the store? In August, 1887, shortly after the Board was appointed. No; it must have been in June. I gave up the store in June.
6221. Was there a camp out there known as Walsh's camp. Were you keeping the store then? Yes.
6222. Was that before or after you bought this place? Before. That camp was in existence nearly two years.
6223. Did you have an account with Kidman? Yes; for rations sent out to me for my men working on the ground.
6224. When did you have that place? I started the place on November 12th.
6225. How many men had you then? Seven altogether.
6226. Did you get your rations through Kidman? Yes.
6227. On a private account? Yes.
6228. Have you paid it? Yes; I have a receipt, £27; I paid him on the 31st December.
6229. Who received those rations? They were sent down with the rations that were forwarded to Walsh's camp.
6230. Who received them? Jobnson.
6231. At the same time as the Government rations? At the same time.
6232. Had you anything to do with a man named Edwards? Yes.
6233. Who was he? He was a man working on the Coronulla Road.
6234. Did you send him rations? They went out.

- Mr. J. H. Springall.
3 April, 1889.
6235. Did you ever countermand rations? Yes; I found out that the gang was living in the tents and the rations charged to me, drawing them from the store.
6236. Did you send the rations to them afterwards? Not afterwards.
6237. Who was Walsh? He was an overseer on the Illawarra Road.
6238. Do you know whether he stopped the rations? I do not think he did.
6239. What month was that? The month of November, 1888.
6240. You stopped the rations and refused to let them have them? When I found they were not working.
6241. Did you not send them on afterwards? No.
6242. Quite certain? Yes.
6243. Look at this order [*Exhibit I 2*]"—“Do not send any rations to Edwards' gang until further notice, as he is off our works at present?” Yes.
6244. Whom was that sent to? Walsh.
6245. He has sent rations to this gang as usual? I will explain that. I asked Burrowes if there were any men I could get. The clerk asked if Walsh had anyone he could recommend to clear that ground. Walsh said he had no one only Edwards' gang, and he recommended them. I could make arrangements with them to clear the ground. I saw one man of the gang, but would not make arrangements with them. On the Monday they went to work and worked two-thirds of the day. They cleared a place 80 by 60, and I paid them 30s.
6246. Do you know a man named Coleman? Yes.
6247. Do you know where he is? No.
6248. Do you know P. M'Intyre? No.
6249. Do you know J. P. Wood? No; there was an Alfred Wood on the ground.
6250. Do you know W. M. Robertson? Yes.
6251. Where is he? I think he has cleared now.
6252. Do you know a man named Yule? Yes.
6253. Where is he? He is at sea, I think.
6254. Did you ever sell them any rations? I have sold them grocery goods when I had the store.
6255. Since? Never.

Charles Sandon called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. C. Sandon.
3 April, 1889.
6256. *President.*] What are you? I have been carting on the park. My occupation is droving.
6257. Were you employed by the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
6258. What doing? Carting.
6259. Do you know Mr. Hinchcliffe? Yes
6260. Do you know what office he held? Paymaster.
6261. Did your duties at the park or Hurstville bring you into contact with Mr. Hinchcliffe at all? I have driven him a few times.
6262. Any number of times? Only on odd days.
6263. Any one else with him? At one time Mr. Davies was with him.
6264. Did you drive him with Mr. Springall? I do not think I did. I do not remember.
6265. You do not recollect whether Mr. Springall was with him? No, I do not.
6266. Did you drive him when he had a considerable amount of cash with him? I could not say. Of course he went round to the Waterfall to pay there.
6267. At the different times that you drove him, do you remember anything happening or being said that struck you as being peculiar? I never heard anything take place at all. The reason that I drove him that day was because he and Lobb had a few words.
6268. Lobb was a man in the habit of driving? He used to drive them regularly.
6269. You do not recollect any peculiarity or anything being said? No.
6270. Do you know what the words were he had with Lobb? Whilst I was driving away, Mr. Davies was getting into Lobb's trap. I drove away, but looked round, and Mr. Davies beckoned.
6271. Do you know Mr. Wells? No; but I have seen him.
6272. Have you seen him out there? Yes.
6273. Have you ever driven him? Never.
6274. Do you know Mr. Larnach? Yes.
6275. Has he ever spoken to you about anything that took place whilst you were driving any of the officers of the Board? No.
6276. Did your duties extend to carrying goods from the railway-station to the store? Yes.
6277. Were you in the habit of going to the railway and taking delivery? Yes.
6278. Did you sign the railway receipts? Yes; at Loftus.
6279. Who did you deliver the goods to generally? To Mr. Bell.
6280. Had you anything to do with the rations? Yes.
6281. What? I used to help to put the rations into the carts and take them to the men.
6282. Do you know a man of the name of Flemming? Yes.
6283. When? I have seen him up at the pay-tables.
6284. Do you know what he got? I never took notice. It was seldom I went inside. I had the cart outside. I have seen Flemming at Heathcote.
6285. *Mr. Waller.*] Do you know what capacity Flemming was in? I cannot say.
6286. Was he a ganger? I cannot say.
6287. Have you seen Larnach lately? I saw him a short time ago; three or four days ago.
6288. Did Larnach tell you anything about the trouble that was on? No. I did not know anything about it until yesterday afternoon.
6289. He did not say anything to you about this Commission? No.

Michael

NOTES (*on revision*):—Q. 6244—I understood the question to be “Who sent the order?” when I answered Walsh. The order was sent to Johnson at the Illawarra Road store. Q. 6245—I asked Burrowes if he could recommend me a gang, working upon the Coronulla Road, who could clear a portion of my ground, he referred me to Overseer Walsh who recommended this gang of Edwards' to me; I gave him clearly to understand this was my own private work; he told me this gang had finished their section and I could make arrangements with them; two of the men worked part of a day but would not do any more as the rest of the gang were away drinkin I paid 30s. for clearing a piece of land about 80 ft. by 60 ft.; when I found they had stopped work I stopped their rations. Q. 6251—I said I think he is working in a store in Sussex-street, the South Coast and West Camden.

Michael Bell called in, sworn and examined :—

6290. *President.*] What are you? I am agricultural overseer at the National Park.
6291. How long have you been in the employ of the Board? Nineteen months.
6292. Nearly the whole of the time they have been in existence? I went to the National Park in 3 April, 1889.
6293. When did you cease your duties? I am still at the Park.
6294. When did you give up under the Casual Labour Board? On 30th March they went out of existence.
6295. You were in their employ up to the end? Yes; I am there yet.
6296. What particular branch did you have? The agricultural portion—sowing the grass-seeds, planting the trees, and so on.
6297. Where? In the National Park.
6298. Had you a man named Flemming in your employ? No, I never had a man named Flemming.
6299. I suppose this pay-sheet should be true? Yes.
6300. Whose writing is it? It is Springall's I should say. It is like his.
6301. Did your work come in the Heathcote portion? Some in the Heathcote portion and some in the Meadows.
6302. Would the Heathcote Agricultural be your work? Yes.
6303. We have had a number of pay-sheets produced to us in the course of the evidence which has been given here, especially Heathcote Agricultural pay-sheets, and in those pay-sheets occurs the name of Flemming as a ganger for £15, £20, and so on. Can you give us any information about that? That man Flemming was Mr. Burrowes' groom down at Hurstville; he was paid at my tent at Heathcote, but he was never directly under me.
6304. Then was he properly paid on your sheet? No; I objected to it.
6305. When did you find out he was paid on it? Of course I was always at the pay-table and called my own men in, and I think the whole of the time I was at Heathcote he was on my sheet. Certainly he was not put on my pay-sheet by me.
6306. Were you present at every pay? I think I was.
6307. Would you be present when Flemming would be called up? Yes.
6308. Did you ever notice or remark about Flemming being called up on these occasions and getting these large sums? Yes.
6309. Did it strike you as being unusual? Mr. Davies' object was to keep down the expense of the agricultural portion as much as possible. Of course I wished to carry out Mr. Davies' idea as much as possible. I objected to Flemming being put on my sheet, but that did not appear to keep him off. It rose my sheets up to such a large amount.
6310. Whom did you object to? The clerk and Mr. Springall.
6311. Can you tell me what the result of your objection was? Well, it was not left off. The reason given was that it was the most convenient place to get paid in, although he could have gone to the main camp at Sutherland, instead of coming to me 8 or 9 miles off.
6312. That was what Springall said? No. He said it was as convenient for him to come there as to go anywhere else.
6313. Your objection was always made to Springall? Yes.
6314. Did you object to anyone else? No.
6315. Did you object more than once? I cannot say. I think it was a general objection. Nearly every time I said, "What do you put him on my sheet for," just as one officer would to another. I never made any official objection to it.
6316. Did you notice that he was appearing as a ganger? Yes. It was only the gangers that drew money.
6317. Had you any reason to doubt that he was a ganger? I never inquired whether he was a ganger. My impression was that he was the head of the staff that was employed at Hurstville—sail-makers and storemen. I thought that the money was drawn for them until the last pay.
6318. Do you know now what that money was drawn for? No, I do not.
6319. What was the nature of the document you supplied to Springall to enable him to prepare the pay-sheets? I entered the men's names; at the beginning there would be February 23, and so on for the fortnight; there were twelve days and twelve lines; if a man missed a day there was a cross; there was just a stroke for a full day's work.
6320. Did you know what Flemming was? I knew what he was doing. He was supposed to be looking after Burrowes' horse.
6321. Was he an old man? Yes, an old man.
6322. He appears on a very large number of Heathcote pay-sheets as a stone-breaker, as though in charge of a gang? He never broke a stone under me.
6323. Of your own knowledge, can you give us any information about this business? I do not know. He never broke stones. He was never employed by me. He was employed at Hurstville the whole of the time I was at Heathcote, I knew him as groom to Burrowes.
6324. Do you know when he left Burrowes' employment? Six weeks or two months ago.
6325. Have you any reason to suspect there was collusion between Flemming and Mr. Burrowes? I do not think there was anything of the kind.
6326. Between Flemming and Springall? I have no reason or proof to suspect anything. I thought he was drawing the money to pay the sail-makers and repairers of tents.
6327. You knew sufficient of him to know that the stone-breaking entry was not right? He never broke a stone to my knowledge. He was never under me.
6328. Do you know whether Flemming received the money absolutely? Yes; he always took the money away.
6329. You have no reason to think that the money was withheld from him? No; he always got the money. In the early days the gangers would draw the money; the men would keep on with their work, and the ganger would slope with the money. After that the rule was made that two men were to come up with the ganger to the table and shepherd him until the money was divided. Flemming never had any one with him to see him take the money. He always came and went away singly.
6330. He was an exception to the rule? Yes, an exception to the rule.

Mr. M. Bell.

6331.

- Mr. M. Bell. 6331. Would the day be far advanced before the pay was finished? Oh, no. At Heathcote the pay would be over in three-quarters of an hour.
- 3 April, 1889. 6332. Did Flemming remain at Heathcote or return to Hurstville? He returned by the first opportunity.
6333. Have you known him to stay all night? That was before the main camp was shifted down to Hurstville. He was at the Park then.
6334. Did you know him stop with Springall? I believe he is in Springall's employ now.
6335. Do you know anything about this hotel he is building? I have been down to the place twice. I went down to advise him as to the position of the house. I went down after the ground was cleared and confirmed my opinion.
6336. Do you know the extent of his land? I believe it is five acres.
6337. Have you any knowledge of the nature of the building? By the plan, I should say it would not cost less than £1,800.
6338. Was that what you have judged from the plans you have seen? That is, if he has carried them out. I have not seen the building.
6339. Was it generally thought he had been a saving man since he had been in that position? He was not an expensive man or anything of the kind, and his boy was also employed there as messenger.
6340. *Mr. Waller.*] Were you in the employ of the National Park people before you joined the Board? No; I was with Mr. Moore in the Botanical Gardens.
6341. Did you go direct to the Casual Labour Board? I was at the Adelaide Exhibition, and after I came back I was sent to sow seed and plant trees after the unemployed had prepared the ground.
6342. You said just now that you were under the impression that Flemming drew money for the payment of wages due to the sail-makers? And there was a yard-man, a man who had charge of the tools, and another or two odd hands on the works.
6343. Mere rouse-about? Just so. You might call them that.
6344. Supposing your idea was erroneous, to whom else could he turn the money over? I don't know who else. There was no gang.
6345. Can you state positively that Flemming was not a ganger engaged in quarrying, stone-breaking, or anything of that sort? Certainly; never all the while I was at Heathcote.
6346. If his name appears as a ganger is it a fraud? Well, I do not know what the money was charged for.
6347. If his name appears as a ganger over quarrying men or stone-breakers? So far as being a ganger, he was drawing the money legitimately to pay a gang.
6348. Supposing he was drawing the money to pay sail-makers and others? Precisely.
6349. Did you ever ask Springall to put Flemming's name down on the pay-sheet? Never. I objected to it.
6350. The evidence is that either you or Mr. Burrowes did tell Springall to put it on? It was certainly not me.
6351. Do you know whether there were any other men in the same position who were drawing money as gangers? No other on my pay-sheet.
6352. Do you know of any other? No other on my sheet.
6353. Have you any reason to suppose that there was any other in any other part of the field? No, I have not.
6354. Were the transactions carried on for the payment of wages so loosely, as regards arrangements, as to make it easy for persons to pretend they had gangs when they had not? It could not be done without the knowledge of the officers in charge.
6355. There must have been collusion? Yes; if anything of the kind took place.
6356. *President.*] What books are those you have with you? Simply to show that I never had a man of the name of Flemming on my works.
6357. We are sitting here to inquire into the working of this Board; might I ask you whether, during the time you have been connected with it, you have become aware of any irregularities or misappropriations of moneys? No. I was not in communication with the office. Simply at the end of the fortnight these sheets, with the names of the men and the time, were given in, and I had nothing further to do with them.
6358. No other irregularity, excepting Flemming's? No other.

THURSDAY, 4 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P., | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

George William Marshall Johnson called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. G. W. M. 6359. *President.*] What are you? A butcher by trade.
- Johnson. 6360. Were you employed by the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
- 4 April, 1889. 6361. When were you appointed? At its commencement.
6362. Do you recollect when that was? Two years and eleven months ago.
6363. Were you unemployed yourself then? Yes.
6364. Who appointed you? I was speaking at the statue when Mr. Wise told me a person named Alcroft wanted me to see him at the railway station, and assist him in calling out the tickets of the men.
6365. Was that before your appointment by the Board? Yes, long before.
6366. How long had you been in the ranks of the unemployed before that? Three days.
6367. Were you actually speaking at the statue when you were sent for? No; we came here to wait upon Mr. Dibbs. I spoke to Mr. Dibbs and told him there were many men who told me they had no home nor food, and he made some arrangements for the men to get some food. He said we were to call at Mr. Wise's office at 6 o'clock in the evening. We called there and got food on that occasion.
6368. Had you personal knowledge of many of the unemployed? Yes. 6369.

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6369. You acted as spokesmen for them? Yes.
 6370. Had you been on any deputations? Yes.
 6371. On how many occasions? Twice.
 6372. Where did you have your meetings? At the Queen's statue.
 6373. Were you there on many occasions? Only twice.
 6374. Do you remember the time when the Unemployed Department was shifted from Mr. Wise to the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
 6375. What were you then doing? I was assistant storeman at the National Park at Mr. Hodge's hotel.
 6376. Was that in May, 1887? Yes.
 6377. Who was the other storeman? Mr. Springall was the head. I was the assistant.
 6378. How long did you remain there? Up till about six months ago.
 6379. What did you give it up for? I did not give it up. I was moved from there to Sutherland and the store was moved with me.
 6380. Are you still under the Board? Up to last Saturday.
 6381. Then you have really been under the Board the whole time of its existence? Yes.
 6382. Were you out at the National Park with Springall? Yes; from May, 1887, up to six months ago.
 6383. The whole of the time Springall was there? Yes, until Larnach came out.
 6384. Was that about two months ago? About three months ago; perhaps not so long.
 6384½. Were you out there at the time that the Unemployed Department was removed from Mr. Wise to the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
 6385. Were you informed of the change? Not officially.
 6386. How did you find it out? By the newspapers. I saw that the Government intended to create a Casual Labour Board, and that Mr. Davies was to be the head of it.
 6387. Did you keep any record of the stores that were on hand when the Casual Labour Board came into office? The stores were received from day to day.
 6388. At the time that Mr. Wise handed over the duties, were there any stores that belonged to him? Not at my store.
 6389. Were there any surplus stores at all? Not at my store. There was stuff that came in after the Board was in existence.
 6390. Was there nothing in your store when the Board took it over? No.
 6391. Was that Mr. Springall's store? Yes.
 6392. Do you know of there being any sugar, rice, fish, and crockery there when the Board took over duty? They came up after the Board was in existence.
 6393. From where? I have no idea.
 6394. How much? Twenty-two bags of sugar, eleven bags of rice, and I think three boxes of fish—herrings.
 6395. What became of that? The fish was eaten by the officers, and some distributed to the men. The rice was also distributed in the same way with the exception of three or four bags that remained. Some of the sugar was sent away, and the remainder when the office was removed from the Park to Hurstville was sent to Hurstville.
 6396. You say "sent away"; where to? Two bags of it was sent to Mr. Burrowes.
 6397. Where did the twenty bags go to? The remainder of the sugar went to Hurstville. We might have used a bag or so occasionally.
 6398. Where did the bulk of the sugar go to? To Hurstville general store.
 6399. Who had charge of it? Mr. Springall.
 6399½. How far was your store from Mr. Springall's? About 7 miles.
 6400. I understood you were in the same store? When Mr. Springall was removed from the Park to Hurstville I remained at the Park. The head office was at Hurstville.
 6400½. Then the bulk of the sugar went to Hurstville? Yes. I do not know what became of it.
 6401. You say there were 7 miles between the store at the National Park and that at Hurstville? Yes.
 6402. When did you give up the store at the National Park? Six months ago.
 6403. How long had the store at Hurstville been in existence? Eight or nine months.
 6404. Then was the store at the National Park taken over to Hurstville? No; I still carried on the store there.
 6405. Were you the only person at the National Park? No; I had an assistant at the time—Wm. Roberts.
 6406. How long were you in the same store as Mr. Springall? From the time it started until Springall was removed to Hurstville.
 6407. How long? About two years.
 6408. Then you were with him at the Park during the time the Board was in existence? Yes.
 6409. What were your duties? To receive and issue the stores.
 6410. Did you keep any record? Yes; some books.
 6411. What kind of books? Books with the names in of the men who received the rations, and the amount issued to each gang, and another book showing the amount of stuff received from Mr. Kidman.
 6412. What became of them? They are at the office.
 6413. Were they in your handwriting? Some of them. Some not.
 6414. In whose handwriting are others? Some in the handwriting of a man named W. Davey.
 6415. From where did you get the information to put in the books? I had to send my book up weekly for Mr. Springall to charge the rations.
 6416. Had you the sole disposal of the stores? Yes.
 6417. Did you do what you liked with them? Not what I liked. I issued them to the men. I only had a certain amount to issue.
 6418. Could you not issue them to anyone? Only to the names and numbers that I had in the book.
 6419. Could you not if you liked? No; I could not. They were Government rations.
 6420. What was to prevent you if you had liked to be dishonest? The check Mr. Springall had against me.
 6421. What check? A daily check,

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6422. What particular camp or work did your stores control? The majority of the places ;—The Deer Park, Heathcote, Como, and the National Park.
6423. Were these the only places your stores controlled? Yes.
6424. How did you know the number of men you had to supply? By the daily issue. I had a book, showing the names of the gangs and the numbers, going from one up to what number there might have been.
6425. Had you a book, for example, for Como? No; it was all in one book.
6426. Where did you get the particulars from that you put in the book? From Springall.
6427. Did he give you fresh numbers as the men came out; what kind of a book was it? A book with a paste-board cover.
6428. Was that the record on which you supplied the rations? Yes.
6429. Did you send it in every night? Yes.
6430. Did Springall ever alter it? No. He took the particulars from my book and entered them in another book—his own book.
6431. Can you tell by looking at it the names of the men working at Como, at Deer Park, and at Heathcote? Yes.
6432. Did you ever see the pay-sheets? Several times. I have sat at the table and called the names of the men out, and showed them where to sign their names as they received the money.
6433. Were you present on pay-days? Since the store was removed to Hurstville Mr. Davies came up, and required a witness.
6434. If I show you the pay-sheets, can you tell me whether you were there? By my signature on them, not without.
6435. Had you had much to do with men before you were on these works? No.
6436. What trade did you say you were? I am a butcher, but I have not done anything at it for eight years. I had been working at an iron-works.
6437. Is this your first experience with a large staff of men? Yes.
6438. Do you know Mr. Burrowes? Yes.
6439. Do you know a man who used to look after his horse? Yes.
6440. What was his name? John Cuthbert.
6441. Any other man? O'Neill;—two of them.
6442. At different times? Yes.
6443. Any other man? A man of the name of Flemming.
6444. Do you know his christian name? No.
6445. What kind of a man was Cuthbert? A very old man.
6446. Able to do hard work? No, not laborious work; but one of the O'Neill's was a robust man.
6447. What about Flemming? He was an old man.
6448. Able to do much work? No; he was troubled with asthma.
6449. Was he able to do work like stone-breaking? He might be able to do stone-breaking, but he would not make much at it.
6450. Was Cuthbert an aged man? Yes.
6451. Was Flemming an aged man? Yes.
6452. What age was Cuthbert? About 65 or 66.
6453. What age was Flemming? About 56; he might be more.
6454. When did you see them first? Cuthbert came up when I was at the store at the National Park.
6455. Do you know on what pay-sheet we should find their names? Cuthbert has not received any money to the best of my knowledge for eighteen months.
6456. Nor any rations? If he came to me for rations it was whilst Mr. Burrowes was at the Park, but not since Burrowes has been at Hurstville.
6457. What about Flemming? Flemming has been working up to about three or four months ago.
6458. Working for Burrowes? At Hurstville, looking after his horse, running messages, and so on.
6459. On what pay-sheet should we find his name? I should think you ought to find his name on the Hurstville pay-sheet, or on the Sutherland sheet. I cannot say.
6460. Was there any other pay-sheet out there? No.
6461. Was Heathcote a paying-place? No.
6462. Should he be on the Heathcote pay-sheet? I cannot say.
6463. Who was at Heathcote? Mr. M'Leod.
6464. Who was at Heathcote Agricultural? Mr. Bell.
6465. What was the difference? There were different overseers.
6466. Do you know Springall's handwriting? Yes.
6467. Look at that pay-sheet, Heathcote Agricultural, and see if the name of Springall is there? That is Springall's handwriting.
6468. What is this name "Flemming" on this [*Exhibit J 1*] pay-sheet? That is not the same man.
6469. How do you know? That is the name of a ganger.
6470. How do you know it is the name of a ganger? There were eight men belonging to that gang.
6471. Have you seen Flemming's signature? Yes. That is not like it. He is a good scholar.
6472. Have you any writing of his? No, but I know his handwriting.
6473. Here is his name again on pay-sheet J 2. Do you know anything of that? I should take that to be the same man as is named in pay-sheet J 1.
6474. Look at this pay-sheet, J 3? The J. Flemming on pay-sheet J 3 corresponds with that on J 1.
6475. Here is another pay-sheet; what do you say to that? I fancy I recollect a ganger of that name. Flemming was over a gang once. He used to draw the money.
6476. Do you know him well? Yes, very well.
6477. Where is he now? I have not seen him for two months.
6478. When did you see Springall last? On Friday week.
6479. Where was that? At the Railway Station.
6480. When was it Flemming had a gang, and where did he work? At the National Park.
6481. How long? Until they shifted to Hurstville.
6482. Was that the same Flemming that Burrowes had? The same Flemming.

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6483. I understood you to say another? There are several Flemmings there.
6484. Did Flemming who used to look after Burrowes' horse ever have a gang? Yes.
6485. How long? For two or three pays.
6486. What were they doing? Gathering up stones or stumps.
6487. The same man? He has only looked after the horse since they went to Hurstville. He was also running messages at Hurstville.
6488. Do you think the Flemming you see on these pay-sheets is the same man that was looking after the horse? I do not think so.
6489. Suppose Springall tells us it is? It might be possible, but I have no idea; I am not at the camp. Of course I cannot swear to anything I did not see.
6490. How many months were you in the same store with Springall? For two years and three months, at the same camp and on the same ground. I worked with him from the commencement for about that time.
6491. What pay did you get? At the commencement 5s. a day and food. It was £3 10s. a fortnight, Sundays included.
6492. How much when you finished? 49s. a week.
6493. Seven shillings a day? Yes.
6494. Did you live in the same tent as Springall? No; in a tent of my own.
6495. By yourself? Occasionally, when there was anyone helping in the store who had not got a tent, I would put them up a place to sleep in my tent. It was only 20 yards from Springall's tent.
6496. Do you recollect November last;—where were you then? At Sutherland.
6497. Where was Springall? At Hurstville.
6498. Where was Walsh's camp? About 2 miles from my camp, in the Sutherland district.
6499. Do you recollect getting any orders from Springall to send him some rations? Yes.
6500. Do you recollect anything particular about it, as to whom they were to be charged to? To Mr. Springall.
6501. Did you charge them to Springall? Yes.
6502. In your books? Yes.
6503. What book? A book I kept at the store, and sent to Hurstville.
- 6503½. What is its name? The store-book.
6504. The Government store-book? Yes.
6505. How did you charge it? Joseph Henry Springall, so much on such a day. He sent me in a note to send enough tea and sugar for a week, and meat and bread for a day.
6506. Do you know whether he paid for those rations, or was he charged for them? I know nothing of that.
6507. Look at this document; is that your handwriting? No; it is my signature.
6508. Who made it out? A man of the name of Davey.
6509. Where is he? At Sutherland.
6510. Where did he get the particulars from? From my book.
6511. What became of the book; we have been unable to find it? It remained at my store until Saturday.
6512. Is it there now? I cannot say. I left on Friday, and told Mr. Davey to send all the books to Hurstville.
6513. Is that the store-book you kept all along? A considerable time.
6514. It contains, I suppose, the names of a lot of different people? Of a lot of the gangers.
6515. For how long? Nearly two years.
6516. Do you know a man named William Robertson? What was he? I know two by that name.
6517. Where were they? One came up at the beginning, with the first lot of men, as one of their agitators.
6518. Was he one who used to talk at the Statue? Yes.
6519. Would you know his signature if you saw it? I would not know either of their signatures. One was a very drunken man. The other was a very sober one.
6520. Do you know a man named Coleman? Yes. He was a ganger. I have no idea where he is now.
6521. Do you know M'Intyre? No.
6522. Do you know Woods? No.
6523. Do you know Yule? Yes.
6524. Where is Yule? I saw him nine days ago in George-street.
6525. Did you ever hear of Yule doing anything wrong? He was called to account for something.
6526. You say you used to receive the stores. Where did you receive them? Whilst at the Park, at Loftus.
6527. Who from? Goodman.
6528. From any other person? No.
6529. Did you receive the plant and tools? Yes.
6530. Where from? From M'Lean Bros. and Rigg.
6531. From any other person? Not that I know of.
6532. Had you far to go to the railway station? It was only about a minute's walk from my store.
6533. Who signed the receipts? There were no receipts. They came up in a van and the train left it behind and went away.
6534. How did you know what you should receive? I used to count the bread and weigh the other things and take them into Mr. Springall.
6535. When tools came out, did you sign receipts for them? No.
6536. How did you know when anything was coming out? The train used to bring out a truck load.
6537. Did it whistle? Yes. Springall used to say when the goods train came, "Go down and see if there is anything in it for us."
6538. Beyond that you never knew when anything was ordered? No.
6539. What are you doing now? Nothing.
6540. Have you been discharged? Yes.
6541. When? On Saturday.
6542. *Mr. Franklin.*] You know nothing of the Hurstville store? Nothing, only I used to take my books there on a Saturday and send down a man for the stuff I issued.

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6543. That was your weekly statement? No, nightly statement.
6544. You made a weekly statement also? Yes; I took my books down weekly.
6545. You were asked whether you know anything about surplus stores at the time the Board took charge? Yes.
6546. Some portion of them were sent to Hurstville? Yes.
6547. Were such stores as sugar issued from the Hurstville store in small quantities? Not that I know of.
6548. You know they were not issued? They should not be. There were two or three men working there, and they used to get their daily allowance.
6549. You have not stated the total number of bags that were sent to Hurstville? I think fifteen.
6550. What weight were they? About 70 lb. each.
6551. Over 1,000 lb. weight of sugar? Yes.
6552. How many men were there about Hurstville? Two sail-makers, Burrowes, Springall, and Frank Springall—six altogether.
6553. Were they supplied with rations by you? No; at Hurstville. I do not know how they got them.
6554. Do you think they were delivered direct from Kidman? I think they might have come up separate.
6555. You delivered the sugar without regard to the general consumption, I suppose? Yes.
6556. Do you remember whether it was stated that the sugar was consumed by the men at Hurstville? It was never stated, to the best of my knowledge.
6557. Do you think that the books kept at Hurstville were kept in the same way as you kept yours? I should think so.
6558. Then, if the sugar was consumed there, it would show a reduction for a great number of days? Yes.
6559. You know the men engaged there intimately? Yes.
6560. Do you wish the Commission to understand that, besides the Flemming the President asked you about, there is another Flemming a ganger? There are several men on the works who have the same names.
- 6561-2. Was there a Flemming drawing rations from you and giving you receipts? No one gave me receipts. I used to have tickets with a number on. The name was numbered. If he did not have a ticket I could not give the man his rations.
6563. Did you take the name of the man who had the rations? There were eight, nine, or ten men in a gang. I had the name of the ganger.
6564. If you issued all the rations you had a record? The record would be in the book.
6565. Which book? In my store-book.
6566. During the time you were at the National Park, Mr. Springall was residing close to you? Ten yards away.
6567. He would be chief store-keeper? Yes; I was only storeman at that time.
6568. Would you know the quantity of stores issued every day? Yes.
6569. You are quite certain that your system of book-keeping was perfect? Yes, very correct.
6570. If the number of stores issued did not tally with the number of men in each gang, that would be accounted for as giving one or two extra rations as required? Yes.
6571. Who knew how many rations were issued to each gang and the exact number that should be deducted? A man would have the ticket. I would ask him his name and number, and how many rations he required. He might say six or eight. I should put it down, on the date of the month, so many rations, the figures eight or ten or whatever it might be.
6572. Having made these issues, did you inform Mr. Springall of the number issued to the men? I would take in the book in the evening and perhaps read out the names of the men to whom they were issued. I would leave him the book and go out.
6573. Do you know Springall's daily clearance-book? Yes.
6574. The tabulated statement? Yes.
6575. Your figures should be the same as that tabulated statement? Yes.
6576. There should be no chance of a mistake? No chance of a mistake.
6577. Did Mr. Robertson interfere with your books in any way? He used to keep them when I was busy.
6578. Simply make entries? Yes, the amount of rations to each gang. I had nearly five thousand men there.
6579. You say the operation to make up the daily consumption was simple? Yes.
6580. It was simply copied from the daily record? Yes.
6581. You were in the camp on the Illawarra Road? Yes.
6582. Was there a camp on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes.
6583. Did you issue the rations for the men there? Yes, and the Park as well.
6584. Did you keep the two amounts distinct? Yes.
6585. Would the number of rations you have issued to the estate represent nearly the number of men engaged there during the whole time? Yes.
6586. Do you know whether it was the practice to take rations in excess? Yes. Sometimes gangs with five men would take rations for eight.
6587. In fifty men, how many would draw extra rations? I do not know. Perhaps only one or two gangs. Some of the men were satisfied with their rations.
6588. Would it be only a small percentage? About 5 per cent. I should think.
6589. Making that deduction, we might say that the rations issued would show the total number of men employed there? Yes.
6590. Do you think the Commission can have your book? Yes; if I can get an order to that effect. I dare say it is still at the office at Hurstville. I can also let you have a book showing the amount of stuff received daily from Kidman.
6591. I suppose you knew most of the gentlemen interested in the work of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes.
6592. Were they satisfied with the work you did? I never heard any complaints. Only on one occasion.
6593. Were there any people living on the estate? Yes. A man of the name of Wiggins. Another man whose name I forget.
6594. Do you know Mr. Murphy? Yes; I think so, but I have only seen him twice in my life.
6595. Were there any surveyors belonging to the estate to mark out the work there? Not to my knowledge.

6596. You had nothing to do with the works? No.
6597. You saw the members of the Board when they were there? Yes. They used always to come and examine the stores. Mr. Davies always asked me whether there were any complaints. If there were any I used to tell him.
6598. Did he take steps at once to rectify them? Yes.
6599. Did you see the other members? I saw them, but it was not often they came. I saw Mr. Hinchcliffe and Mr. Hibble.
6600. Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison? They never both came. I saw one at the National Park.
6601. You are sure your check on the rations would not admit of an error? I might have made a mistake in one issue; that was with reference to a ganger of the name of Edwards.
6602. Yours was the rough book; the record kept by Mr. Springall would be permanent? Yes.
6603. Did you ever check them? Only on one or two occasions when Mr. Springall read them out. If Springall found a mistake with my issue, he would ask me the reason of it.
6604. You think the figures in the rough book should correspond with the final entries by Mr. Springall? Yes.
6605. *Mr. Waller.*] What was the date when this sugar was sent away? I have no idea.
6606. Do you know of your own knowledge whether it was disposed of in the manner stated? Yes; I was the party who disposed of it.
6607. You are certain? Yes.
6608. All these stores? Yes.
6609. Was it about June, 1887? We only finished up the rice the other day. I should think it was about that time.
6610. Was there anything else that came through your hands? Sugar, rice, fish. Of course tea, sugar, butter, and bread came daily.
6611. Any tools? Yes, a quantity of axes, spades, mattocks, handles, and so on.
6612. All these things came to you? Yes, from M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's.
6613. Will your store-book show the number of ration tickets? Yes.
6614. How does your store-book refer to the rations and tickets? It shows the number of the gang, the name of the gang, and the amount of rations in front of each name.
6615. The work they are doing? No.
6616. Are the tickets numbered consecutively? Yes.
6617. Do you refer to them in the store-book? Yes.
6618. You can identify any rations by the tickets issued for them? Yes, in all cases, with the exception of the carters.
6619. What became of these tickets? I have a lot of them at my camp now. They are small tin tickets.
6620. What camp? Where I was staying up to Saturday.
6621. Have you not delivered them up now that you are out of the Board's employ? I have not been there since Saturday.
6622. Who is responsible for the tickets? I am.
6623. I should think you should let your responsibility cease? I have been unable to attend to the matter on account of the illness of my wife.
6624. Have you a family? Three children—one, seven; one, four; one, only twenty-six days.
6625. Where have you been living? In Pymont.
6626. Has your wife been living there? Yes.
6627. What wages did you say you had? Forty-nine shillings a week.
6628. And rations? I had to take the wages, less 7s. 7d. a week.
6629. What rations did you get? Fourteen the fortnight.
6630. What did they consist of? Tea, $\frac{3}{4}$ oz.; sugar, 4 oz.: potatoes, 1 lb.; bread, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; meat, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb.; salt and pepper.
6631. Per what? Per day.
6632. The price of that was what? One shilling and a penny per day.
6633. How much per week did you get in cash besides that? £2 1s. 5d.
6634. How were you paid? Fortnightly. Sometimes by cheque, sometimes in gold.
6635. Where did you get the money? At the office where I had my camp. The Illawarra Road camp. Mr. Davies paid us there.
6636. Mr. Davies personally? Mr. Hinchcliffe or Mr. Hibble sometimes.
6637. Mr. Davies was always there? Always.
6638. Did you receive the money personally? Yes.
6639. Who weighed your rations out? I gave them to the cook.
6640. Who weighed out yours? Only myself.
6641. You were the checker of your own rations? Yes.
6642. What rent did you pay for your own house? £1 3s.
6643. Did you save much money? None at all.
6644. Have you got a banking account? None at all. I am in want of work badly.
6645. Were you not able to save money? My wife has been ill all the time I have been away. I have a big account to pay to Dr. Muskett now.
6646. Do you know the gangers on the pay-sheet? Yes.
6647. Name a couple of the gangers? Adams, Taylor, Murphy, Morgan, Martin.
6648. Where were they working? At Sutherland.
6649. All of them? Yes.
6650. What class of work were they engaged in? Road-making.
6651. Quarrying? Yes.
6652. How many men of the name of Flemming were there? There may have been one or two, perhaps more.
6653. I do not want perhaps? I recollect there were two.
6654. What were their christian names? I do not recollect their christian names. I know one personally, the one working for Burrowes.
6655. Did you know the other man by sight? I cannot say.
6656. Can you tell me whether he was a dark or fair man? One was a dark man.
6657. Tall or short? I cannot tell you.

Mr. G. W. M.
Johnson.
4 April, 1889,

6658.

- Mr. G. W. M. Johnson.
4 April, 1889.
6658. Old or young? I cannot tell you.
6659. Still you know there were gangers of that name? Yes.
6660. Where were they working? At the Park.
6661. What site? The National Park.
6662. What dates? I cannot say.
6663. The year? Last year.
6664. During 1888? Yes.
6665. Previous to that? I cannot say.
6666. All throughout 1888? Yes.
6667. What opportunity had you to see them? Coming for their rations.
6668. Did they always come for their rations? The gangers always came.
6669. Did they come half the time or three-quarters of it? It might be all the time.
6670. Simultaneously with Flemming, the groom? I cannot say. I cannot give you a definite answer without having the book by me.
6671. Was Flemming the groom working as a ganger during 1888? Yes.
6672. If the other Flemmings were working during the same time they would be working simultaneously with each other? I should think they would.
6673. The gangers you say always came for the rations? Not always.
6674. When did they not come? Sometimes they might send up two of their men.
6675. As a rule they came? Yes.
6676. Daily? Yes.
6677. It would be fair to suppose they would come five days out of the six? Yes.
6678. How many gangs did you give rations to? To 180 gangs on one occasion when I had nearly 5,000 men there.
6679. You can remember a large number of the names? Yes.
6680. How many? I could remember sixty or seventy names out of the hundred.
6681. How many of them would you know if you met them in the street? Nearly every one I have seen come to the store.
6682. Do any of them owe you money? No.
6683. Yet you would know them? Yes.
6684. Then why is your memory such a blank regarding the two Flemmings? At that time I had so much of the work to do that I could not take notice of the people so much. How I came to know them is that on several occasions I was asked to come and see whether any of the men in the new gangs had been there before, and if they had to pick them out. That is why I can recollect them so well.
6685. How is it if you do not recollect these two men your memory would be good enough to recognise them? Because there were so many there in 1888.
6686. You say you know a large number? I dare say within the last six months sixty or seventy gangs are familiar to me.
6687. If you had two or three gangers each rejoicing in the name of Flemming, and you are so uncertain as to their appearance, how is it you can be certain you did not pay some men two or three times over? I had the tickets to go by. That was why the tickets were introduced.
6688. How could you identify these Flemmings? By their Christian names.
6689. What are their Christian names? James, one; F., the other.
6690. What is the third man's name? I did not know there was a third man.
6691. You cannot remember what the other Flemmings were like? I have not known them so long as I have known this Flemming.
6692. While he was working under Mr. Burrowes? Yes, working under Mr. Burrowes.
6693. When did the Flemmings leave you? I cannot say whether I have issued any rations to the Flemmings since I have been there or not. If I had my books I could easily see.
6694. Did these mysterious Flemmings ever sign their names? None ever signed their names with me only when I was a witness to the paying of their money.
6695. Were you ever a witness to the paying of money to Flemming? Never.
6696. How did you become acquainted with his handwriting? I have seen private letters to him.
6697. You were pretty intimate with him? Yes; he has slept in my tent.
6698. When did you see him last? Three or four months ago.
6699. Where does he live now? I have no idea.
6700. Do you know where Springall is living? Yes; I think they call it Walsh's Camp. He is building a large hotel at Coronulla Beach.
6701. Do you think Flemming is about that district? He may be. I do not know.
6702. If we have it in evidence that Flemming the groom never was a ganger over men quarrying and road-making, what should you say to your evidence that he was? To the best of my knowledge I believe he was a ganger.
6703. Why? Because I have seen him paying out the men.
6704. Have you seen him paying the wages of a gang? I have seen him come out with the money in his hands.
6705. You have seen him come out to pay the men? Just outside the place. Every man came to receive his own money, because sometimes the gangers ran away with the money. It was the rule for two of the men to come up and see the ganger paid.
6706. Then you had a whole army of men there? There were 5,000 or 6,000 men there sometimes. They were all there.
6707. They would all knock off working and come up? Yes.
6708. All came to the tent? Two with the ganger, that made three.
6709. You do not know what Flemming's gangs were doing? Odd work on the roads.
6710. How long were they doing it? A long while.
6711. Were they clearing? I do not think they were clearing. They were all old men.
6712. Did you know Flemming as a ganger? Yes; he was taken on to collect tools.
6713. He was not a ganger if he was collecting tools? That was not his only work.
6714. How long was he groom to Burrowes? From the time he came to Hurstville.
6715. How long? Four or six months.

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6716. In what year? Last year.
 6717. Before that? Not before that.
 6718. When did your acquaintance commence with him? Shortly after he came to the Park.
 6719. Before he was a groom to Burrowes? Yes.
 6720. Whose supervision was he under besides Burrowes? Oh, some of the overseers. There are so many of them.
 6721. Did Flemming work himself, with the gangs? Yes. All the gangers worked.
 6722. If his name appears on the pay-sheets during the last four or six months in 1888 as a ganger, could he have been in the double position of working with his gang and acting as groom to Mr. Burrowes? No. Because, as a groom, he would have to be at Hurstville all the time.
 6723. Do you know a man of the name of Wren? Yes.
 6724. What was he? I only knew him as an English gentleman.
 6725. What was he? Book-keeper.
 6726. Whom was he responsible to? To me for the booking.
 6727. Can we see his handwriting? Yes; a good deal of it.
 6728. Did he weigh the stores out or you? I did always.
 6729. Who is Roberts? I cannot say. There are two Roberts; but I think one is Robertson.
 6730. Who is Roberts? A young chap who used to help men in the store as well. There were five in the store, four beside myself.
 6731. Give the names? Roberts, Richardson, Jones, Wren, and myself.
 6732. You never signed any carter's notes for goods delivered? No.
 6733. Did any of the other four? No.
 6734. Were there any regular returns kept and sent in to the head office, either weekly or monthly, of the number of men employed? Yes.
 6735. Regularly? Regularly.
 6736. We have not seen any? They were collected from me every month.
 6737. What information did they give? The number of the men employed and the names of the men on the ground.
 6738. What was the largest number you ever had at work? 5,000; and the smallest, thirty-seven men.
 6739. Give an average all through from the commencement to the finish? I should think there would be an average of 300 a day.
 6740. That would be 2,100 a week? Yes.
 6741. What became of these returns? I do not know.
 6742. Were they made out in a book? Mr. Springall gave me a lot of slips of paper to give to the gangers. We told them to bring the names of the gangers and all the men working under them, as the Board required to know how many men there were.
 6743. Who got the returns? They were given to me and I took them to Mr. Springall.
 6744. What became of them? I do not know.
 6745. Did you see them at the head office? No.
 6746. These extra stores you sent to Burrowes. How did you put them down in your book? I did not put them in the book at all.
 6747. Made no entry of them at all? No.
 6748. How can we find out how you gave the extra stores, and what quantity? I only sent what I was told to.
 6749. Who told you? Mr. Burrowes.
 6750. You passed them out of the stores without any record? Yes; I did not know the difference.
 6751. Did you ever send anything else to Burrowes in the same way? No.
 6752. How often have you sent extra supplies to Burrowes? Only once.
 6753. Suppose he said you never sent these extra stores, how could you prove you did? I have no proof; only I know I sent them.
 6754. If an inspector came and found that the stores were short, you could only say that you sent them to Mr. Burrowes? That is all.
 6755. Would not that be a peculiar position to be placed in? Being the first time I did not know I had no right to do it.
 6756. Did any one else make demand for extra stores? No one else.
 6757. Did it not seem strange to you that Burrowes should make the demand? He told me it would be all right.
 6758. Were they beyond his rations? I did not supply him with rations at all. It might be his supply for all I knew.
 6759. What did you give him during the two years? I only gave him two bags of sugar and a bag of rice.
 6760. No flour, no fish? He might have had some fish at the table. I never gave him any directly.
 6761. Did you give them to any one in the camp? I gave them to the cook.
 6762. These were extra—not charged for? They were not entered in my book.
 6763. What was the date? I have no idea.
 6764. What was the year? It was 1888.
 6765. Clearly? Clearly.
 6766. In the first quarter of the year? I should think it would be.
 6767. Between January and April? Perhaps.
 6768. Is your memory no clearer now about these other Flemmings? My memory is no clearer about them. If they came in and spoke to me I might know them.
 6769. How often would you issue rations to them? Every day.
 6770. How long? As long as they were on the list.
 6771. How long? I cannot say.
 6772. Six months? I cannot say.
 6773. How often would you see them—a hundred or a hundred and fifty times? I should think so.
 6774. And yet not know whether they were dark or fair? No. I might know the man if I met him in the street and he spoke to me. I have seen nearly every man in his turn when he came for rations.
 6775. *President.*] Do you know Springall well? Yes.
 6776. Are you on good terms? Friendly terms; never nothing else.
 6777. Always? He always treated me well.

- Mr. G. W. M. Johnson:
4 April, 1889.
6778. Do you know whether he ever received any money from the men? Not to my knowledge.
6779. Do you know that he received money in large amounts from the men? Not that I know of.
6780. Did you ever hear of his giving notice to the men about their paying money to him? I have known him have a notice that if any man wanted to have money deposited in a bank he would deposit it for him and would give a receipt for it.
6781. Do you know whether he received money in that way? I have never known it. Several men came to the store and said they lost money out of their tent, and they would like Springall to mind it for them. I said I would tell Springall about it. I told him, and he said he would keep any money they wanted to save up. He would save it for them.
6782. Did you know Flemming well at that time? Yes.
6783. Do you know whether Flemming gave him any money? I do not.
6784. You never heard anything about it? Never.
6785. Was everything perfectly straightforward whilst you were there? Yes.
6786. Perfectly straight? Yes; the whole time I was there.
6787. Are you on good terms with Mr. Burrowes? Yes.
6788. Do you know Mr. Larnach? Only for a short time.
6789. Had you ever any differences with him? Yes, with Larnach.
6790. What about? On one occasion he sent up a note to know how it was I was 148 rations short, and wanted to know what became of them.
6791. What did become of them? I was never short at all. During the fortnight I had received 146 more than I had issued, and he asked me for an explanation as to what became of them, and where they were.
6792. Was he your superior officer? Yes.
6793. Did you give him the information? Yes.
6794. Were there any other complaints made against you? That is the only complaint.
6795. Was there any complaint about irregularity? No; I was never absent at all.
6796. I am not speaking of yourself, but whether you are aware of any irregularity? No.
6797. In whose service were you previously? With D. and W. Robertson, iron merchants.
6798. How long were you there? Four years and seven months.
6799. When did you leave there? I left on account of slack work.
6800. Were you discharged? They said some of us would have to take a holiday until work got brisk. I took a holiday and never got back.
6801. Suppose there is an amount deducted on a pay of £4 11s. for a fortnight, how many rations would that represent? About eighty-four rations.
6802. How many men would that be? Seven men.
6803. How long is it since you paid Flemming the groom? I never paid him at all.
6804. Since you issued him rations? I dare say it is over six months since I issued any rations to Flemming.
6805. What sheet shall we find his name in? In the National Park sheet, or you may find him in the gang of John Baker.
6806. He may not be on the sheet at all? He may not.
6807. Where is Baker? He was at the Park until the other day.
6808. What is he? He is working in a gang.
6809. And he was at work at the National Park until lately? Yes.

Alfred Hibble called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. A. Hibble.
4 April, 1889.
6810. *President.*] What are you? A clerk.
6811. Were you in the employment of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
6812. What position did you occupy? Just simply a clerk in the office.
6813. Were you first clerk, or what? Well, I was second in command, under Mr. Hinchcliffe.
6814. Who appointed you? The Board.
6815. Do you recollect when? About June, 1887.
6816. What had you been before that? I was in business for myself before that.
6817. What business? It was a hay and corn business—agency and produce.
6818. Why did you give up that business? I went broke on it because it did not pay.
6819. When appointed were you out of employment? Yes; I had no occupation.
6820. Did you make any application, or how did they become aware of you? I applied for it.
6821. How did you become aware there was a vacancy? Mr. Foster told me he believed there would be a vacancy, and told me to apply for it. He recommended me to Mr. Davies. It was on his recommendation that I got the post.
6822. What was the salary? £3 a week,
6823. All through? 6s. a day and 6s. a night.
6824. Was your salary the same right through your employment from June, 1887, up to the present time? My actual salary was.
6825. What did it begin with? 6s. a day.
6826. How was it increased? By these allowances. That was why I took it. I had special allowances,
6827. What were they? Seeing the men off every night at the railway station. I had full charge of looking after them by the railway. If that were done after 6 o'clock at night, I had a special allowance for it.
6828. These special allowances did not come every day? Almost every day in the week.
6829. When did you get paid? Every week.
6830. Who paid you? Mr. Hinchcliffe.
6831. How? By cash. On two or three occasions I have had a cheque.
6832. He paid you out of the petty cash? Out of his cash account.
6833. Will you tell us what your duties were in the office? When I went there I had to make out a statistical return for Parliament of all the unemployed—where they came from, how they were dealt with, and everything. That took me about three months. I was partly appointed for the purpose of making this out. When I got that finished I used to register the men as they came in. Mr. Josephson was supposed to do it, but I was always there to do the best part of it. I made out the returns and sent them away to the different works. After that I was moved upstairs. That was about September, 1887. I took charge of the books, and I ordered nearly everything that was required. If any tools were wanted, I would make out the order if I should be in the office.

6834. Anything else? No. Those have been my duties down to the present day. That is what I am Mr. A. Hibble doing now. The correspondence I always did.
6835. Who would be sitting in the room with you? Larnach, Hinchcliffe, and Mr. Davies, and the other 4 April. 1889. members of the Board when they came in.
6836. Did you consider yourself the accountant of the establishment? No; Mr. Hinchcliffé was. I had nothing to do with the cash.
6837. Who kept the books? I kept the books from the time I went upstairs.
6838. Do you know this book? Yes.
6839. What is it? The rough cash-book. It was kept there before I made a copy of it.
6840. In whose handwriting is this one? In Mr. Hinchcliffe's, and some of it my own.
6841. Do you know what became of the rough cash-book? Mr. Miles had it. I handed it over to him.
6842. Can you tell us up to what date the rough cash-book went? Up to the end of last year.
6843. What year? The year 1888; I do not think there were any entries after that.
6844. Can you tell us about the time you copied it? I can from the old book.
6845. Can you tell us approximately? It was about September or October, 1887.
6846. Not last year? It was a month after I started upstairs. I wrote it up. You can see where I struck a balance.
6847. Did you have much time there? No; I was kept always on the push. If I had not one duty to perform I had another—checking pay-sheets or making out something.
6848. Did you still go on using the other book? Yes.
6849. Did you use the rough cash-book up to the other day? Yes, up to the end of last year.
6850. Who made entries in the rough one? In September, 1887, or afterwards, I did.
6851. Where did you get the particulars from? From the cheque-book. When Mr. Hinchcliffe paid vouchers he would hand them over.
6852. When did you post up from the rough cash-book to this one? I kept them always going.
6853. Regularly? Pretty regularly.
6854. You were never in arrears? I was at the time Mr. Walker's Select Committee was on.
6855. How many months in arrear? From September to December.
6856. Three months? Three months.
6857. Was that the largest arrear you had? The largest I ever had. I always kept it up afterwards.
6858. Are all the entries in this cash-book taken out of the rough cash-book? No, they are not.
6859. What is there that is not in the rough cash-book? The accounts paid to the bank by the Chairman are taken out of the bank-book.
6860. Give me an instance? These credits would not appear in the rough cash-book.
6861. Where did you get the credits from? From the vouchers from the Treasury.
6862. Did you get all the credits from the Treasury? No; some of these credits are payments by cheque. When the Board first started several refunds came back.
6863. Were other credits from the bank-book? There is one—"Davies, June 7, £38 4s. 2d."; that comes out of the bank-book.
6864. Did you have any knowledge of that before you saw the bank-book? No.
6865. Would you make any inquiry? I would ask what it was for.
6866. Can you tell me what it was for? Some for firewood and some for sleepers.
6867. Where are the accounts? I never saw them. I knew they came from a man named Neale, an auctioneer, who sold the firewood.
6868. Did he pay you the money? No.
6869. Did you receive the money on behalf of the Board? Not from Neale. Mr. Hinchcliffe handed me £20 one day, which he had received on account of M. Roberts bridge at Ryde.
6870. Is that the only money you have received? That is the only money I have received.
6871. When you saw the bank pass-book with these credits in, did you make any inquiry what they were for? I asked, in the first instance, why they appeared in the bank-book, and pointed out that it was irregular, and that any money received for the Government must be paid into the Treasury.
6872. How did you know that? I knew that that was the rule.
6873. Did you know it then? Yes.
6874. I notice other items of the same character. Is this £38 4s. 2d. put down as John Davies copied from the bank-book? Yes.
6875. Does it appear as "John Davies"? Yes; you will find them all there.
6876. Were you examined before the Select Committee? No.
6877. Is there any petty-cash book kept? No book whatever. This book and the old one are the only ones kept.
6878. There are no entries for petty cash here? Yes, here is one, "May 11, petty cash £3."
6879. Then the inner column is the petty-cash column;—where did you get the numbers from? From Mr. Hinchcliffe, from the vouchers.
6880. Are there vouchers in existence? Yes.
6881. For all the petty cash? For everything in that book.
6882. Then Mr. Hinchcliffe had charge of it? Certainly.
6883. Are you and Mr. Hinchcliffe on good terms? We are friendly. We are not bad friends, and not thick friends. I never see him outside the office.
6884. Do you know who would make these petty-cash payments? We all made them.
6885. If you wanted money? We must get it from Mr. Hinchcliffe.
6886. If you wanted to make a payment, and had no cash, how did you set to work to get it? We could not make it until the contingent voucher came in.
6887. No matter how small. Suppose you took a cab? I would go to Mr. Hinchcliffe and tell him I wanted half-a-crown, and he would give it me; but I never got more than 2s. 6d. all the time I was there.
6888. He had charge? Yes; he was a Government official to take charge of the money.
6889. You had nothing to do with it? Nothing whatever.
6890. When did you see Mr. Davies last? Yesterday morning.
6891. Have you seen him frequently lately? Sometimes when he has come down to see Mr. Larnach; Larnach owes him some money, and he came to get it nearly every fortnight. 6892.

- Mr. A. Hibble.
4 April, 1889.
6892. How much? About a £1, I think. Larnach paid him 12s. 6d., and said he would see him at the devil before he got the rest.
6893. Did you owe him any money? No.
6894. On these occasions that you met him, did he talk to you at all? No.
6895. Did he ask you anything about the Casual Labour Board? No; I would not have spoken to him about that.
6896. He said nothing to you about being examined before this Commission? He asked me whether I had been examined. I told him no, I had not been examined yet.
6897. What did he remark on that? Nothing at all.
6898. Was that the only occasion he spoke of the matter? No; he asked me whether Mason had been examined; that was on the day he asked Larnach also.
6899. Have you any feeling towards him? No feeling excepting that we are friends.
6900. Very good friends? He has been a good friend to me.
6901. No ill-feeling? I never had any occasion to have any ill-feeling.
6902. Did you always work in harmony with the other officers? Always.
6903. With the Chairman and the other members? I do not think I ever had a cross word with anybody in the whole employ.
6904. No complaint was made of you? None; that I can faithfully say.
6905. Did you have anything to do with the ordering of plant? I used to order pretty well everything.
6906. Did you keep the order-books? Yes; but they were always open. Anyone might write an order out.
6907. Were the orders usually in your handwriting? Nearly all of them.
6908. What course was adopted when plant was wanted? They sent in a requisition from the National Park, or wherever it might be, to the Chairman of the Board; or if there was not a requisition, Mr. Oxley or Mr. Burrowes, or a superintendent, might be in the office and ask to have such a thing, and Mr. Davies would ask me to order it; or one of the members of the Board visiting the work would see that they wanted so and so for the works, and send it out.
6909. Would you fill up an order? In most cases.
6910. They were written orders? Yes.
6911. If they were not written at the time? We would give them afterwards.
6912. When was any order given that was not written? None were given that I know of.
6913. The practice was to have everything in writing? Yes; the orders were returned and invoiced as they came back.
6914. Who signed them? The Chairman; but Mr. Hinchcliffe signed some of them.
6915. Who generally took them out? I took some; Mr. Larnach and the messenger. I suppose I took seven-tenths of the whole.
6916. Did the members of the Board ever take them? Mr. Davies did.
6917. Frequently? Yes.
6918. Where to? M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's and Harwood's, for tools.
6919. After the orders for issue went out of the office, did the office have any intimation they were complied with? The only intimation was when the vouchers came down certified to by the superintendent. He put his signature to it that he had received the goods.
6920. Was that the first intimation you had of the receipt of the goods? In most cases.
6921. Did the head office communicate with any of the districts that goods had been sent out? On some occasions.
6922. Did they generally? Not generally.
6923. Can you tell me what knowledge the superintendent in charge of any district would have that goods were going out to him, and the amount of goods? They would order them themselves; if not by letter, verbally in the office, and they knew that the goods would come out at once.
6924. Would they wait at the station day after day until they arrived? No; the storekeeper would look out for them.
6925. The head office did not send any letter or communication that goods had been sent? Not on every occasion.
6926. The first intimation you had was the receipt of some contingent voucher from the person who supplied the goods? That was the first thing we knew of the delivery of goods ordered from M'Lean Bros. and Rigg. They sent in the order for the goods with the voucher attached to it.
6927. That was the first intimation that the goods were sent? Yes.
6928. Was the order attached in every case? In all cases.
6929. How came it the original order was attached;—did they part with the order they had received? I believe there is some rule they must do so.
6930. When the voucher came back with the order attached to it, what was done? It was sent out to the superintendent to get him to sign it if he received the goods.
6931. What was then done? He signed it, certified to it, and then the voucher came back to the office for payment.
6932. Then you paid? Well, the amounts would be computed.
6933. Were they seen by anybody else? By the Chairman.
6934. Did you have anything to do with them? I would compute the amounts, or sometimes hand them to Mr. Larnach.
6935. What did you do? Just see that there was no mistake in the amounts charged. There would be a dozen so and so at such a price. We would just see that it was correct.
- 6936-7. Had you charge of the order-book? Not exactly charge. It was not under my direct control.
6938. When the voucher came back signed by the superintendent all you did was to check the computation? Yes.
6939. Did your responsibility stop there? I only checked the amounts.
6940. The figures were not many? No; very few.
6941. Did you initial the vouchers? Yes.
6942. And what did your initials cover? Just the computation.

6943.

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6943. Who instructed you as to what you were to do with them? Mr. Hinchcliffe gave them to me to compute.
6944. What were your instructions? To check them and see that the calculations were correct.
6945. Did you ever satisfy yourself as to whether the orders were correct? In some instances.
6946. How many instances? Sometimes I would not see the vouchers at all.
6947. In how many instances did you consider it your duty to see that the vouchers were correct with the orders? Very few; one out of a dozen orders.
6948. You then went beyond your instructions? It would only be done in the routine of business. They ought all to have been done that way.
6949. Were your instructions then limited to checking the computations? Yes.
6950. But in some cases you went on to examine them with the orders? Yes.
6951. And there you went beyond your instructions? In that respect I did.
6952. Did you consider yourself responsible for the correctness of the orders? No.
6953. Then why did you examine them in these few instances? In one instance in particular I found the order-book had been altered.
6954. Then your duties were not confined simply to looking at the figures if you took that on yourself? I did not say that I did. I look at it that my responsibility ended when the goods were certified to by the superintendent.
6955. Did the voucher go out of the office at once? Yes.
6956. Did you do what you did before it went out of the office in the first instance? Once or twice.
6957. Did you ever compare these orders with the butt of the books? Once or twice only.
6958. Why did you do it then? Because we ordered a lot of goods to be sent to a certain place, and afterwards we found we had a lot of the same things in stock and struck them out.
6959. When were these vouchers submitted to the Chairman for signature? After being signed by the superintendent they would remain until paid.
6960. When did the Chairman sign? Not until they were ready to go to the Treasury.
6961. Did he sign them before or after they were paid? I cannot tell you as to all instances, because I had nothing to do with the paying. I believe myself that he signed after they were paid.
6962. Then at the time they were paid the only names that appeared on them would be the superintendents, the person who claimed payment, and your initials? Yes.
6963. But not the Chairman's? As I said, I cannot tell you, because after I checked them I might never see them again.
6964. Why do you say you believed they were not signed by him until after payment? Because when we made up the money to square off the advances I have seen the Chairman sign them.
6965. Do you know whether Mr. Davies was aware that all you did was to check the computations? I believe he was.
6966. Was he present in the room when Mr. Hinchcliffe instructed you to take up that as part of your duties? I cannot say, but he knew I did it.
6967. Did he know that your initials only certified as to the correctness of the figures? Yes, because I have spoken to him on the matter.
6968. What did you say? On one occasion I initialled something that Burrowes had signed for, and the voucher turned out to be wrong. The parties came in about it. I was asked by Mr. Davies whether I initialled it. I said, "Burrowes signed for the receipt of the goods, and I initialled for the computations only."
6969. Can you tell me the date of that? It was some time ago.
6970. Would it be many months after your employment there, or only a few months ago? It would be fully twelve months ago.
6971. From that you consider that Mr. Davies was perfectly aware that your initials only covered the computations of the figures? Yes. I explained to Mr. Davies that I initialled the pay-sheets in the same way.
6972. Then I may take it that your initials did not show that the articles had been ordered or that they had been sent in? No.
6973. Did the Chairman know that? Yes.
6974. Are you aware whether anybody compared the vouchers with the butts you had in the office? No.
6975. That would have been the proper check? I believe Mr. Larnach did it on several occasions; but that was before I had anything to do with the order-book, and when Mr. Lanarch had full charge of it.
6976. You do not think anyone in the office compared the vouchers with the butts of the order-book? I do not think so.
6977. When an adjustment for an advance of £6,000 was sent in to the Government, who had the compiling of the vouchers to make up the advance? Larnach.
6978. Did you? Not until Larnach left the office.
6979. How long ago was that? The 1st January this year. Before that it was out of my province altogether.
6980. How many did you make up after 1st January last? We always make up the exact amount of £6,000.
6981. How did you manage it? We got the numbers, wrote down the amounts, and then added them up. If it was short, we added to them, and if too much, took them away, until it came to what we wanted.
6982. Suppose when you added them up you found you had vouchers for £6,001 19s. 9d.? If we had any more vouchers in the office, we would see whether there were a couple or three smaller ones which would make up the exact money. If not, the matter would stand over until the vouchers came in. We always had some £2,000 to work upon. I know one instance where we had nearly two £6,000 advances to work on at the same time.
6983. Then I suppose if you added up the vouchers and they came to an amount in excess of £6,000 there would be some manipulation? If we could not make up the money, we let the matter stand over. We were never tied to time.
6984. Were you present in the room when Laranch made up these adjustment of advance returns? Almost always.
6985. Did he speak to you about them? Yes; he used to think it a wonderful piece of work when he had managed it.

6986.

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6986. How long did it take him? I have seen it take him a week; but I have got it out in an hour or so.
6987. There are some forty batches of £6,000, and in every case there is the exact amount of vouchers to make up the £6,000? Yes, it was not as if we had only one £6,000 at the bank. We were always in advance.
6988. You had no trouble in the matter? No.
6989. But Larnach has taken a week? Yes.
6990. Have you ever heard him ask for vouchers to make up the amount? Yes; I have heard him ask Hinchcliffe to make up the vouchers out of his books.
6991. Do you know of any mistake? Only one. A cheque of £6 17s. 6d., but it was only £6 7s. 6d. It was entered down, copied, and passed into the Treasury. They did not find it out until it got to the Audit Office. It had to be squared up afterwards.
6992. Are these documents you used to make up called recapitulations of vouchers? Yes.
6993. Was this particularly Larnach's duty? It was about all he had to do.
6994. Had Mr. Hinchcliffe anything to do with it? After Larnach made it up in the rough Mr. Hinchcliffe copied it.
6995. Were you and Larnach on good terms? I never had any word with him in my life.
6996. On these occasions when Mr. Larnach used to take some considerable time to make up the returns, can you say whether he asked frequently to be furnished with vouchers to make up the amount? No.
6997. Do you know why he took such a long time? Because he would be fogging half his time to get them right.
6998. Who sent the account to the Auditor-General? The responsible head of the department.
6999. Mr. Davies? No; Mr. Hinchcliffe had to deliver them.
7000. Had Mr. Hinchcliffe anything to do with the accounts except the petty cash? Yes. Not with the cash-book.
7001. Did he examine it? I believe he did.
7002. Did Mr. Davies examine it? I do not think he could have done so if he had tried. I do not think he was well enough up in figures.
7003. When Mr. Hinchcliffe wanted money for petty cash, do you know how he arrived at the amount he wanted? Only by his books.
7004. Did he ever compare his petty cash with your book? Never to my knowledge.
7005. Did he keep a petty cash-book? Never to my knowledge.
7006. Or any memorandum of any kind? He had a rough diary of petty expenses.
7007. Who kept the ledger? I did.
7008. Who made out the cheques? Mr. Hinchcliffe.
7009. Always? No; on one occasion when he was in Melbourne I made them out.
7010. Do you know what was the largest amount of petty cash in the office at any one time? Whatever the largest cheque is drawn for. The largest one £150, but you could not call it a petty cash cheque. It was drawn at Centennial time to make payments, but it did not remain in the office more than two days.
7011. Was that the largest? Yes.
7012. What were the others? £100, £75, £25.
7013. Mr. Hinchcliffe says from £50 to £100? It never exceeded £100, excepting on that one occasion, as far as I know.
7014. I think he stated in his evidence that he never had in hand as petty cash more than £100;—would that be about correct? No; he must be wrong, as the book shows different to that. He must be a lot out there.
7015. Look at page 80 of this cash-book [*Exhibit E 8*]; what is the balance to the credit of petty-cash there? £390 18s. 3d.
7016. On what date? On July 27th.
7017. What is the entry on the debit side of the cash-book? The other side shows a cheque obtained for petty cash £100.
7018. According to this book then on the date that petty-cash cheque for £100 was obtained there should be £390 18s. 3d. of petty cash in hand? Yes.
7019. Can you understand that? Mr. Hinchcliffe should have had that money in his box.
7020. This showed then that there was £490 18s. 3d. in hand? Yes.
7021. Is not that an extraordinary thing? Yes, it is; but it was no business of mine.
7022. Did you know of it? I did.
7023. Did you not consider it part of your duty to mention it to him in the interests of your employers? I could never tell what vouchers he had in his possession. I did not know but that he had vouchers for all that money.
7024. It does not require a skilled accountant to see that it was a strange thing that £100 should be drawn for petty cash when there was £390 18s. 3d. in hand? He might give me £200 of vouchers to enter up.
7025. Is it not irregular on the face of it? Yes.
7026. Has your attention been called to it? Yes.
7027. By whom? By Larnach.
7028. During the time this was going on? Yes.
7029. How long ago is it since Larnach drew your attention to it? I cannot say; about six or seven months ago I should think.
7030. I have just taken one instance; I have no doubt there are many others, where large cheques were drawn for petty cash, when the book showed already a large credit to petty cash. Were you aware of that? No, because I could not tell how the vouchers stood. In one instance I spoke to Mr. Hinchcliffe on the matter.
7031. What was the balance in hand then? I believe, from £250 to £300. He told me himself.
- 7031½. Of the office money? Yes, and he said he was that much out of pocket by being Secretary in charge of the cash.
7032. How? He said he had paid vouchers which had been sent up to the Park and never returned.
7033. When did he tell you that? At the beginning of the year. 7034.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 7002.—For “I,” &c. to “tried,” read “it was not in his province to do so.” Add “and certainly he was not the accountant.” Q. 7014.—Add “taking his vouchers into consideration.” Q. 7025.—Add “not entering up the vouchers at once.”

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7034. Of this year? Yes.
7035. Did you ever hear of him being short in his cash before? He never told me he was short.
7036. Was he to your knowledge? According to the books I knew he must be short.
7037. You knew he was? I could not swear he was.
7038. Were you not responsible for the books? Yes.
7039. To Mr. Davies, your superior officer? Yes.
7040. Was it not your duty when you noticed what appeared to be a grave irregularity to call Mr. Davies' attention to it? It looked like an irregularity, but I could never tell what vouchers Mr. Hinchcliffe had in hand.
7041. Did you not see the danger you were running—when it might be said you and somebody else were in league? It never appeared to me like that before.
7042. It never appeared to you in that light? It never did.
7043. Were you much with Mr. Hinchcliffe? Never outside the office.
7044. Is he a married man? Yes.
7045. Were you ever at his house? Only once.
7046. Did you ever hear of his borrowing money? Never.
7047. Did he ever borrow any money from you? No.
7048. Do you know how he made up the amount he was short in his cash? He told me he went to his bank and drew it.
7049. What is his bank? The London Chartered Bank of Australia, Oxford-street Branch.
7050. Do you know Mr. Burrowes? I do.
7051. How did he and you get on together? I always thought he and I were friends until I found out differently lately.
7052. When was that? Since the beginning of the year. Since he and Larnach got together.
7053. How did you come to think that the relations between you were different? Because I heard of some remarks he passed about me.
7054. What was that? He passed a remark to someone else and I heard it from them. The reference was to several things of a private nature.
7055. Unpleasant matters? Yes. From that time I have not spoken two words to him.
7056. Up to that time? We were friendly.
7057. Can you recollect about what time it was when this change took place? It was the new year.
7058. What was the month or date of the month? It was about the first week in January.
7059. Since that day has the relation between you been much strained? Yes, very strained.
7060. Are you aware of any irregularities that Mr. Burrowes has committed? I know of a good many.
7061. In what way? I look upon him as a most untrustworthy person.
7062. I do not want your opinion. I want to know whether you were aware of any irregularities? I knew that he borrowed money off the officers on the works, even the ordinary workmen or day labourers; that he never repaid them, and that the men ran after him, and could not get the money from him.
7063. Anything else? I know of the instance of a man named Rutherford. He borrowed £16 or £17. He promised him that he should have a contract.
7064. Anything else? He did an exactly similar thing with a publican at Liverpool, and I know of one glaring instance at Woronora River.
7065. A professional irregularity? He certified to certain work being done which I do not believe was done.
7066. Have you anything else against him? Nothing else that I know of.
7067. Do not hesitate to tell us everything you know. We are here to elicit the truth in the matter? I know of one instance of his giving a fraudulent cheque, and of there being a warrant to arrest him. It was only through Mr. Davies that he got out of it.
7068. What was that? We were going to the instalment of Lord Carrington together. I could not go because I had no dress-clothes. He passed the same remark. He went to a tailor and got a new suit, and gave him a cheque. This cheque was worthless, and the tailor came after him.
7069. Who was the tailor? A tailor named Jones. He passed it on to Price. It was Price that came after Burrowes. It was only through the interference of Mr. Davies that he was not arrested.
7070. Do you say that a warrant was issued? To the best of my belief there was.
7071. Are you and he Freemasons? Yes.
7072. Do Masons generally speak of their brother-masons like this without just cause? Not without just cause.
7073. If he has spoken of you much after the same manner that you have spoken of him, which of the two masons are we to believe? I do not know. He has spoken of me in a worse way than I have spoken of him. I only speak the truth.
7074. What was the date of the first complaints you heard against Burrowes? The first complaint was from the man Rutherford, shortly before Christmas.
7075. Up to Christmas last you had the highest opinion of Burrowes, and had not noticed any irregularities on his part? I had a good opinion of him privately, but not as to his work.
7076. Not being a surveyor, you cannot give us your opinion as to that? I am only speaking as to his neglect of work.
7077. From December last then these complaints came in. Have you bestirred yourself to look after them? No; I would not walk across the road to inquire about them.
7078. Did the complaints come to the office? People have told me.
7079. Did you invite them in any way to tell you? I never invited anybody to express an opinion.
7080. Do you know anything about the expenses Burrowes used to draw? I know he used to draw very heavy expenses.
7081. What would they come to? Sometimes £4 a fortnight; sometimes £6.
7082. Was your attention particularly called to them? Mr. Davies was always calling attention to the matter, and asking what he did. His excuse was, that if he was not allowed to travel he could not look after the works.
7083. Have you made any statement to the late Colonial Secretary recently? Yes; he asked me about some things that were ordered.
7084. Where? In the Colonial Secretary's room.
7085. On any other occasion? I have never seen him before or after.

7086.

NOTES (on revision):—Q. 7036—Add "unless he had vouchers." Q. 7068—Omit "because I had no dress clothes. He passed the same remark."

Mr.
A. Hibble.
April, 1889.

7086. Was your statement a verbal or written one? Verbal.
7087. What was it about? About two hamper-baskets that were bought.
7088. Do you know Larnach very well? I know him by working with him.
7089. Have you had any unpleasantness with him? Never a word. I never had any unpleasantness with him, because I was never friendly with him.
7090. Did he do his work properly? He had very little to do. Hardly anything at all.
7091. Was any complaint made of him that you are aware of? Mr. Hinchcliffe complained to me on many occasions, and he was reported for being drunk. The general report also came in that he would never pay, and that he used to borrow money from the men.
7092. How often did he go out to pay the men? About once a week.
7093. Did he continue to go after the complaints were made? Mr. Davies cautioned him and said he must not do it; but he answered, "Oh, I shall be all right."
7094. Did you ever see him the worse for liquor? Yes; I have had to pay for a cab to take him home, and he did not pay me back again.
7095. Did you often see him the worse for drink? No; he could stand a lot of it.
7096. Did he ever appear at the office the worse for liquor? One day he was dead drunk, and I got a cab and sent him off home.
7097. Did the Chairman or any member of the Board know it? Mr. Wells knew it. I do not think Mr. Davies did.
7098. Were you ever out making pays? Oh, yes; I used to go out somewhere every week and make the pays.
7099. Who went with you? William Cheney, one of the constables. Sometimes no one at all.
7100. What amounts did you pay away? Sometimes very small amounts. I should say from £50 to £800.
7101. How many times have you been out to make the pays? I can hardly tell you. Hundreds of times.
7102. Did you often go by yourself? Very often.
7103. Did you ever go with Mr. Houison? Once to Hornsby.
7104. With Mr. Wells? Never.
7105. With Mr. Hinchcliffe? Yes.
7106. How often? I would go part of the road with him sometimes. He would branch off one way and I would go the other.
7107. Did you ever go with Mr. Davies? Yes.
7108. How often? Plenty of times.
7109. Was it exceptional or otherwise that Mr. Davies went? He always went.
7110. Would he always go with you? He would go to Narrabeen or the National Park; those were the largest pays. Perhaps I would go to the small ones.
7111. Did the staff in the head office work harmoniously. Yourself, Hinchcliffe, Larnach, and Josephson, did you always pull together? Yes; we never had any wrangling.
7112. In fact, up to recently, was there excellent harmony prevailing? I could not say that there was.
7113. Jokes used to be passed? Oh, yes; we had jokes.
7114. You used to talk of the Chairman as "John"? I never did.
7115. I do not mean when he was present? I have heard others do it; Larnach used to call Mr. Hinchcliffe "Tom."
7116. I merely mention this to learn whether everything was going on very nicely. Joke-cracking and harmony prevailing amongst the staff up to December? Yes.
7117. But all of a sudden each has turned round on the other? I do not think that.
7118. Has not everyone something to say against the other? I do not think so.
7119. Have you not something to say against Burrowes? I have said what I know.
7120. And against Larnach? Yes.
7121. And have not Burrowes and Larnach spoken against you? Yes. But Larnach was never in that "little party." There were Hinchcliffe, Cheney, Tindall, and myself. Larnach was never associated with us in that respect.
7122. Was Burrowes a popular man whilst you were on good terms with him? Some of them did not agree with him.
7123. Who did not? I do not think Mr. Wells or Mr. Houison had a good opinion of him.
7124. Who else? Well, Mr. Davies had not during the last nine months.
7125. How do you know? I am speaking as to the carrying out of his work. Mr. Davies was continually writing to him, complaining that he was not carrying his work out satisfactorily.
7126. That was during the last nine months? Yes.
7127. Did you ever hear of Burrowes being threatened with dismissal? Yes.
7128. Why was he not dismissed? I believe Mr. Davies took compassion on his wife and family, that is as far as I can see.
7129. Do you know whether Mr. Davies had any illfeeling towards Mr. Burrowes? I do not think so from what I have seen of them together.
7130. Do you mean from what you have seen of them in the office? Yes; I have seen them hundreds of times.
7131. Did they seem friendly? Yes.
7132. Did you hear Mr. Davies speak familiarly to Burrowes? Never too familiarly. I have heard him give him a good slating. I have heard him tell him that he would not believe his oath on all the bibles in Sydney.
7133. When was this? When he found him out in deliberate lies he was telling last November. It was about the inspection of the Woronora Road. He found out that Burrowes had misled him altogether on the matter, and he wrote a sharp letter to him.
7134. About these items in the cash-book receipts in the name of Mr. Davies. Did you ever see the account sales? No.
7135. Or the cheques from Neale? No.
7136. Did you ever hear anything of them? No.
7137. Who got the cheques? Mr. Davies, I believe.
7138. Did you see them? No.
7139. Did Mr. Davies tell you he kept them? Yes; I asked him, and he told me he had received the money.

7140.

7140. When was that? Mr. Hinchcliffe joined in the conversation. He said to Mr. Davies, "You must exonerate me from this." The Chairman said yes, he would exonerate him from it.
7141. Were you present? Yes; I asked for instructions about them.
7142. Did you ask to be exonerated? No. It was Mr. Hinchcliffe who asked to be exonerated.
7143. What had Mr. Hinchcliffe to do with it? He did not want to take the responsibility.
7144. What was Mr. Hinchcliffe? Secretary of the Casual Labour Board.
7145. Anything else? And Paymaster; I simply made the books up for him.
7146. Who used to arrange for the payment of the accounts? Mr. Hinchcliffe would draw out the cheque.
7147. Were they signed at any regular time? At no regular date. They were made up at any time.
7148. Then when the accounts came in for consideration what did they go through? Mr. Hinchcliffe would have possession of them. Sometimes the cheques were drawn out and sent to the people.
7149. Do you recollect whether, when the Casual Labour Board ceased to exist, and Messrs. Mason and Miles came into office, there were any outstanding accounts? Yes, a lot of them.
7150. What was done with them? Mr. Hinchcliffe handed them to Mr. Miles.
7151. Can you identify any of these accounts? If I had anything to do with them I could.
7152. Look at this account [*Exhibit E 4*];—do you recollect it? I see my initials on it. I must have initialled it.
7153. What do those initials mean? Just that the computation is correct.
7154. Has that account been paid? No; it is not receipted yet.
7155. Was it usual for Mr. Davies to sign the accounts before they were paid? That, as I have explained, I cannot say.
7156. Did you not say it was the rule for him to sign them afterwards? I did.
7157. Did you take any pains to see whether this account was correct or not? No further than to see whether the computation was correct.
7158. Did you look at the order-book? Not that I am aware of.
7159. Look at this contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 5*];—did you ever see that before? It has my writing on it.
7160. Is it signed by the Chairman? Yes.
7161. Do you know anything of it beyond that you checked the figures? I then gave it back to Mr. Hinchcliffe.
7162. Mr. Hinchcliffe left the office before you did? Yes. I have not left yet.
7163. Did he give you any information about any outstanding accounts? No. The day Messrs. Mason and Miles came into power he took them down to Mr. Miles' office. He let some get astray. We cannot find them to the present day.
7164. Look at these contingent vouchers [*Exhibits E and E 6*];—have you seen them before? One of them. Exhibit E is not initialled by me.
7165. Who told you to take off the 2½ per cent. discount? It is a recognized practice.
7166. Who told you originally? Mr. Larnach used to take it off before I did, and I continued the practice.
7167. Then, you took over the vouchers from Larnach? Yes, from the 1st January, when he left.
7168. Look at this contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 3*];—has that been before you? Yes; it has my writing on it.
7169. Whose writing is the word "Hurstville"? I cannot say. It looks like the writing in the body.
7170. Do you know anything about it? Nothing, excepting that it has gone through my hands and that I have computed it. It has been attached to some others.
7171. Is there anything difficult in that requiring computation before you initial it? No.
7172. Did you compare the books with this voucher? Not that I know of. I cannot swear I did not.
7173. Look at this contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 2*];—has that been before you? Yes; it is initialled by me.
7174. Is it signed by Mr. Davies? Yes, and by Mr. Burrowes.
7175. So also is the previous one [*Exhibit E 3*]? Yes, both of them were so signed.
7176. What do your initials mean here? That the computation is correct.
7177. Have you ever seen these two since you initialled them? Mr. Miles showed me one of them in the office.
7178. Will you tell me what you know about these two vouchers [*Exhibits E 2 and E 3*];—give me their history? I know nothing of them excepting what is upon them.
7179. Did Mr. Davies ask you in the presence of Mr. Burrowes for some vouchers that wanted his signature? Never.
7180. Did you ever take four vouchers of M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's and hand them in for signature to Mr. Burrowes? No; they were always posted out to the works.
7181. Did you ever give any explanation to Burrowes or anyone else as to what the meaning of these two vouchers was? No.
7182. Did you ever give any explanation about either? No; I have never spoken to anyone about them at all.
7183. Whose writing is this on this order for the issue of stores, 10th September, 1888, No. 552, "one hamper-basket"? Mine.
7184. Who is it signed by? Mr. Davies.
7185. Who told you to order that? Mr. Davies.
7186. When? On that date, I think. On the 10th September, 1888.
7187. What was done with it? I got a cab and took the basket to the office.
7188. What kind of a basket was it? A tall wicker-basket full of all kinds of things—plates, knives, and forks.
7189. A picnic-basket? Yes; one suitable for three or four people.
7190. What did it cost? I forget the price.
7191. What became of it after it was brought to the office? I gave it to Mr. Davies. I never saw it afterwards.
7192. Did you see any other basket afterwards? No.
7193. Are you certain? Yes; I believe there was one, but I never saw it.

Mr.
A. Hibble.
4 April, 1889.

7194.

NOTES (on revision):—Q. 7156—Add "but as he was leaving office he signed all papers." Q. 7163—Omit "He let."

- Mr. A. Hibble.
4 April, 1889.
7194. Look at contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 3*];—what is the number of the order on that? No. 552.
7195. Is that number on the contingent voucher the same as that on the order for the hamper-basket?
It is.
7196. Can you give me any explanation? Will you look at issue order 552 for one hamper-basket and your initials on the corresponding contingent voucher [*Exhibit E 3*] order No. 552, for six coils of Manilla rope? My initials are only for the computation. I took no responsibility for anything at all.
7197. Then if this issue order 552, for one hamper-basket, in your handwriting, went into a certain person, and that person sent a voucher back for 500 gallons of whisky, you would have initialled it? I initial it because Burrowes signs it and certifies he has received the goods.
7198. You initialled it although you knew that the numbers were the same and the goods different? I never turned it up.
7199. Is that all your explanation? I should not have initialled it if I had known.
7200. When did you become aware of this basket? Mr. Hinchcliffe told me about it; that Mr. Davies had taken a hamper-basket with him to the pays. That was before I got the hamper-basket at all.
7201. Was this before you got that hamper-basket mentioned in voucher 552? It must have been another, because I went and got this one afterwards.
7202. Is this really all you know about the two hamper-baskets represented in the vouchers by the long-handled shovels, hammers, and coils of Manilla rope? Mr. Miles has asked me before about the same thing, and I told him exactly the same as I tell you.
7203. Will you swear that you have never told anybody that the vouchers for the 24 long-handled shovels, 4 hammers, and 6 coils of Manilla rope were in lieu of Mr. Davies' hampers? I swear I never did.
7204. If other gentlemen swear you did? They tell what is not true.
7205. When you were in the room at the office where the other gentlemen were, have you ever heard Mr. Davies applying for petty cash? He did.
7206. Often? Not very often. On some occasions when he had been out he would apply to Mr. Hinchcliffe for cash to cover expenses.
7207. Did you ever hear anything about Mr. Davies being allowed 10s. a day? Yes. I got the authority for it myself.
7208. From whom? It was a voucher authorized by Sir Henry Parkes.
7209. When? I cannot say. The voucher will say for itself.
7210. Was it last year or this year? The cash-book will show. I see it is on December 16, 1888. The entry is £261 10s.
7211. Is that entry there because of some voucher from the Colonial Secretary? It is.
7212. Was that £261 10s. a cheque? There was no cheque drawn at all.
7213. How was it paid? It was paid in cash, as far as I know. It was given to me as a cash voucher by Mr. Hinchcliffe.
7214. Is that voucher now at the Audit Office? Either there or at the Treasury.
7215. Do you know whether the whole cash was then paid over to Mr. Davies? Not the whole amount.
7216. Do you know how much? I do not know.
7217. Do you know whether £5 was then paid over to him? I think a good deal more, because Mr. Davies had a little bye-account with Mr. Hinchcliffe and the arrears were paid over.
7218. What was the bye-account for? For expenses.
7219. What expenses? Going to the different places—say the National Park.
7220. What would be his expenses there? Hotel expenses, food, and everything.
7221. He did not stop there? He would be travelling about all day.
7222. Would he pay away more than a few shillings? You cannot go about for nothing.
7223. Had he a pass by train and tram? I suppose he had.
7224. Yet these expenses were regularly paid? Yes.
7225. In addition, were there charges sent in for cab hire? Not that I know of.
7226. No charges at all? If you went away by an early steamer you had to have a cab.
7227. Did Mr. Hinchcliffe say how this money to Mr. Davies was to be paid over? He gave it to me as a cash voucher.
7228. Was that the first you knew of it? I knew they had accounts between them.
7229. Were you present when these accounts were referred to? Yes, on a previous occasion.
7230. What was the previous occasion? Before Mr. Hinchcliffe went to Melbourne Mr. Davies asked him how he stood.
7231. Then it was a private affair? The account was kept in a book which I never saw. It was one of Lett's rough diaries.
7232. Where is it? I believe Mr. Hinchcliffe has it.
7233. Is it an official book? It is one he had on his own account.
7234. Were these accounts purely matters between Mr. Davies and Mr. Hinchcliffe? I looked upon them as a matter between Mr. Davies and the Secretary. I believe that Mr. Davies was told he would have his expenses paid.
7235. Were advances made by Mr. Hinchcliffe to Mr. Davies in anticipation? Yes; for travelling expenses.
7236. Was there any other room in the office in which Mr. Davies and Mr. Hinchcliffe could talk without you hearing? Yes.
7237. How many rooms were there in the house? Six rooms and a kitchen.
7238. Did you sleep there? Mr. Davies used to sleep there. He had a room fitted up—just roughly.
7239. Who supplied the things? The Government.
7240. Are they there now? Yes.
7241. Are you sure? I think so.
7242. Was anything inquired for and not forthcoming? There was a robbery there.
7243. Nothing since the robbery? Nothing that I am aware of.
7244. Anything about a kerosene lamp? I was not asked about that. It went in the robbery.
7245. What time was this? It was on a Sunday night twelve months ago—perhaps more.
7246. Did you get any extra allowance? Yes, whenever I worked for it. When Mr. Walker's Select Committee was on I worked three nights and two days and got £2 for it.

7247.

Mr.
A. Hibble.
4 April, 1889.

7247. Did you get any other allowance when you were making up the Parliamentary return? When I have worked on Sundays.
7248. Did you have much overtime? Only in connection with Parliamentary matters. I would have to start away and get a return out.
7249. Did you get a bonus at Christmas time? Half-a-sovereign one time. Mr. Hinchcliffe gave it me.
7250. Did Mr. Wells, Mr. Houison, or Mr. Davies give you anything? No.
7251. Nothing beyond that half-sovereign? Nothing.
7252. Did you ever pay any money into the Australian Joint Stock Bank? Yes, £20.
7253. Is that the only amount you have paid in? Yes.
7254. *Mr. Franklin.*] You said you departed from the custom of checking the vouchers with the butts and the orders? I do not think I said that.
7255. You stated that it was not your custom? No, it was not.
7256. Is it the custom through all the Government service? I believe so.
7257. It would be unusual to neglect it? If you had been in the office and seen the way matters were conducted you would have understood it. Sometimes I never saw the vouchers until they were ready for payment.
7258. If such a thing existed, was there not very bad administration? There was. Mr. Hinchcliffe was a good deal to blame for many things there.
7259. Had you frequent visits from Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison? During the former part of the time. They gave their experience and advice as to the system of administration.
7260. The former part—was that the first six months? It was when I had to work in the office downstairs. When I was transferred upstairs, I cannot say.
7261. You were not aware then? I was not.
7262. You never spoke to them, and told them what was going on? Never.
7263. Under the circumstances you will not be surprised to find that some vouchers do not agree with the orders? No, certainly not.
7264. I am not referring to these vouchers particularly? No; I am not surprised.
7265. Did you ever explain to Mr. Davies that these omissions of check were existing? I did not.
7266. Was it shown at any time that you were under-officered, and that you could not give sufficient check? I have repeatedly pointed out to Mr. Davies that I had not time to do half what was required.
7267. Was it submitted in writing to the Board? No.
7268. Was there any demand for an increase of staff? No.
7269. Did Mr. Wells or Mr. Houison inquire into the details of the official management? Mr. Houison has come round and watched me when I have been checking the pay-sheets.
7270. Did they give their approval? I always thought so.
7271. Do you know how it was arranged that Mr. Davies' signature should be sufficient on a document? I believe it was passed at a Board meeting. Mr. Hinchcliffe had to sign his as well.
7272. You are not speaking about cheques? No.
7273. You are speaking of the vouchers? Yes. They gave authority at the commencement of the Board. I have been led to believe so.
7274. Do you know whether that is on record? I do not think so. There were no minutes kept.
7275. The affairs were wholly under the direct supervision of Mr. John Davies? He and Mr. Hinchcliffe were responsible.
7276. Mr. Hinchcliffe was the responsible officer? I think so.
7277. You know you expended a large sum, £240,000 I think. Was not a large proportion represented by goods ordered and supplied through the authority of your office? Yes.
7278. And you tell this Commission that there was no check between the voucher and the butt of the order? To the best of my knowledge there was not.
7279. You know the ordering was given in your charge—it was part of your duties? I had not full charge.
7280. Having had partial charge of the book you did not check the orders with the vouchers? I admit it. I trusted to the superintendent.
7281. You will not be surprised then that there is great variation? I should not think there would be.
7282. How can you tell? I cannot tell.
7283. What you say is speculation? I cannot tell of course.
7284. *Mr. Waller.*] Why did you not enter the credits in your rough cash-book? I did not trouble about them.
7285. Why did you enter one set of entries and not the other? Simply because I had a new book. The other one was only the rough book.
7286. Is it not strange that you should enter in one book and omit in the other? When I took the cash-book over there were no entries at all for cash; and when I started it I put the cash entries in the new book.
7287. You still continued to use the rough book? To write the cheques off in the rough.
7288. You had no other reason? Except to keep the new book clean and neat.
7289. Do you know anything of the stores which Mr. Deering left over? Nothing.
7290. Do you know anything of any sugar which came to the Goulburn-street office? It never came there in my time. I never saw it if it did.
7291. Had you opportunities of seeing the petty cash-book? There was no such book at all.
7292. Had you a petty cash-box? Mr. Hinchcliffe had the key.
7293. Have you seen it? Certainly I have.
7294. Have you seen the amount of cash in it? I could not tell what was in it. I never touched it.
7295. You were aware that Mr. Hinchcliffe drew for petty-cash when you had over £300 to credit shown in the cash-book? Yes.
7296. Did you know what the balance was? No, because I never knew how things were. Mr. Hinchcliffe did not put in the vouchers in a proper way. If things had been worked according to proper routine, one would have known.
7297. Did Mr. Hinchcliffe ever tell you he was short in his cash? Yes.
7298. About the New Year? Yes.

7299.

NOTES (on revision):—Q. 7257—After “and seen the,” read “busy way matters, &c.” Q. 7280—Add “who had to sign all vouchers, and declare that he had received the goods.”

- Mr. A. Hibble.
4 April, 1889.
7299. Before or after his Melbourne trip? After.
7300. What amount? Between £250 and £300.
7301. Did you not say he said that he had to make it good by drawing on his own private account? He told me he had to make it good, and I believe that he drew on his own bank—the London and Chartered Bank.
7302. How did you get that belief? Because I have seen him draw cheques out.
7303. Will you swear he told you that he made it good? Yes, I will.
7304. Have you any other business of your own? No.
7305. Has Mr. Hinchcliffe? His wife has a business in Oxford-street—a millinery and dressmaking business.
7306. Do you know whether any money belonging to the Board was made use of in that business? I do not.
7307. Have you any reason to think it was? None whatever.
7908. What had Mr. Hinchcliffe in the way of allowances? He would be allowed half-a-sovereign when he went away and his expenses.
7309. What are his expenses? His meals.
7310. You say half-a-sovereign and his other expenses? It is a Government allowance. It is £1 by right, but they only allow 10s. in this case.
7311. Where would he get the money from? He would pay himself.
7312. Did you see the vouchers for these drawings? Yes; they went through my books.
7313. Had you any means of checking what Mr. Hinchcliffe saw fit to allow himself for expenses? None whatever. Whatever he liked to allow himself he could.
7314. As far as you know these allowances might have been bogus? I had no means of checking them.
7315. He could have taken £5 instead of 10s. if he had chosen? Yes.
7316. Was Mr. Davies in the habit of getting money for petty expenses? Mr. Hinchcliffe would hand him money for expenses.
7317. Did Mr. Davies get any other money from Mr. Hinchcliffe? Only for expenses.
7318. What sum would he have? He would say £5 or so. I believe Mr. Hinchcliffe kept a memorandum.
7319. Did he frequently get this? Not frequently in my presence.
7320. At the time this £261 10s. was paid, do you know how much money there was in the office? No.
7321. Do you know whether he got these £5 draws frequently or not frequently? I did not see them frequently.
7322. There is nothing to show whether Mr. Davies got this £261 10s. *in globo* or only £5 that was due to him? I do not know.
7323. That £261 10s. might be over or above all the drawings previously made, and entered in Mr. Hinchcliffe's private book? For all I know it might.
7324. Did you ever alter the orders at M'Lean Bros. & Rigg's verbally? I have increased them on one or two occasions.
7325. By whose orders? Mr. Davies'.
7326. Were those orders respecting powder? In some cases they were. I have ordered picks; they would run three dozen in a case.
7327. Has Mr. Davies ordered things verbally? I believe he has ordered powder.
7328. Could the superintendents order what they liked? We would have to know what it was for.
7329. Could they send in a requisition for what they liked? They might not get it. We might have it at the works.
7330. Can you give us instances of refusal? Dozens of cases. Mr. Burrowes has had his orders stopped. Mr. Davies has said he would not send the goods out. He has had the goods in stock, but would not take the trouble to look for them.
7331. How did you know they would be in stock? By looking at the stock list we got from the storekeepers. Mr. Springall used to send the sheets in every month.
7332. Who sent in the stock-sheets? Mr. Springall.
7333. He was the man you relied on? Yes.
7334. Are there any returns in the books showing the number of men employed weekly or monthly? Not that I am aware of.
7335. None? We had a register of the names.
7336. How did you know how many men were at work? We got it from the pay-sheets. We kept up correspondence with the superintendents, and they would keep us informed how many there were on hand.
7337. There was no system adopted by which regular returns were sent in? No.
7338. If we have had it stated they were sent in every fortnight? I have never seen them. They never passed through my hands.
7339. We have distinct evidence on this? I will swear they never came to the office.
7339½. What about orders for rations? They were ordered through the storekeeper.
7340. Was he the man you relied on? He would order Kidman to send out the number, and they would be deducted from the men.
7341. Who saw the orders he sent to Kidman? Nobody. He sent them straight to Kidman.
7342. His orders might be greater than the advice notes of his superintendents would make necessary? Yes; but he would have to account for them afterwards.
7343. When were the orders sent to the head office? He never sent them at all.
7344. Tell me what check there was as to the storekeeper sending orders to Kidman in excess of his requirements when the head office never saw the orders? The head office relied on the superintendent.
7345. I am speaking of the storekeeper? The way you put it the thing could be done.
7346. I will put it again. Kidman's orders never came to the head office? No, never.
7347. If the storekeeper chose to order more rations than the superintendent thought necessary, where was the check? There was no check at all until we came to the pay-sheets.
7348. Would not the storekeeper make the pay-sheets out himself? Mr. Burrowes was supposed to do it.
7349. Did not the storekeeper make them out? I cannot say. I thought Goodman and Christy made them out.

7350.

Mr.
A. Hibble.
4 April, 1889.

7350. Who was storekeeper? Springall first, and Larnach afterwards.
7351. How long was Springall there? From the beginning of the Board until the end of last year.
7352. Whose initials appeared on the sheet? I did not think they were initialled at all.
7353. Are they in Springall's handwriting? Some of them.
7354. As a matter of fact, are they not made out by him and written by him? Goodman has made some out.
7355. Are not the greater portion made out by Springall? Yes.
7356. Would there be any difficulty for Springall to manipulate the rations account if he chose to do it? If he chose to do it, certainly not.
7357. Do you know any of the gangers? Yes.
7358. Did you pay them money? Yes.
7359. Did you see a good many paid? Yes.
7360. Did you make payments to the Heathcote Agricultural? Yes; Bell was the overseer.
7361. Do you know any of the gangers there? Yes; I know Walters, Emmerson, and Williams, a blackfellow.
7362. Was Burrowes superintendent? Yes; he had full charge of the men.
7363. Had Burrowes a groom to look after his horse? I think he had.—an old man of the name of Flemming. We used to call him "Old George." He was not a groom. He was Burrowes' body-guard altogether.
7364. How long did he have him? I should say four or five months. He had another one, of the name of O'Neill, afterwards.
7365. When did Flemming leave Burrowes? I cannot say. Not until they moved the camp down to Hurstville.
7366. Was it last year? Some time at the commencement of last year.
7367. Did Burrowes pay him any wages? I think he appeared in the pay-sheets amongst the gang. When he came down to Hurstville his name appeared separately on the sheet.
7368. As a ganger? No; not as a ganger, but individually.
7369. Was he ever a ganger? There were a lot of old fellows about the camp at 3s. 6d. per day; they charged them altogether; one took the money.
7370. Say 3s. 6d. a day for eight men, how much does that come to in a fortnight? £16 16s.
7371. Take the rations off? It would come to £11 14s. 10d.
7372. Not to £20? No.
7373. Are you satisfied Flemming was never a ganger in charge of men quarrying, stone-breaking, or doing hard work? I think not.
7374. What do you think if his name appears on the pay-sheets entitling him to draw £20 or £25 a fortnight? Well, the other men must have done the work, because he could not do it.
7375. What became of the orders that came back from M'Lean Bros. and Rigg and other merchants? They were put away in a drawer.
7376. Do you think there is any probability of any of them getting out of the office? I know Larnach destroyed one batch of them. He said it was no good keeping them.
7377. Who had charge of them? I do not think anyone particularly. I drew up most of them.
7378. Was no one responsible? Mr. Hinchcliffe was responsible, because he was responsible for the whole of the office.
7379. Have you any recollection of Burrowes signing vouchers in the office? None excepting the pay-sheets. All vouchers were sent to Hurstville.
7380. Would it be possible that he might have signed them without your knowledge? Yes; if I was not there.
7381. In what time, after the orders went to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, would they come back to the office? In about a fortnight. Say they came back twice a month.
7382. How soon after they came to you were they sent to the superintendent? The same day.
7383. When would they come back? Sometimes three or four days afterwards; sometimes not until a week afterwards.
7384. How would they be able to certify to the correctness of the orders when such a length of time had elapsed between the coming back of the order and the receipt of the goods? Because the store-keeper had his books.
7385. Who checked the store-keeper's books? He was under Burrowes.
7386. Was there any check? I do not think there was.
7387. Sending out the orders would be only a matter of form? On several occasions they have returned them, and said that the goods had not been received.
7388. If the superintendent gives evidence that he knew nothing about receiving the goods or ordering them, what are we to think? He must know he signed a declaration that they were received.
7389. You signed a declaration too? I signed no declaration; I only put my initials with regard to the computation of the figures. Burrowes put his name to the matter of the receipt of the goods.
7390. But he says he signed because there was the signature of Mr. John Davies? Mr. Davies never signed them until months after they came back.
7391. Who signed the orders before they were sent to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg? Mr. Davies did.
7392. Were the orders not then sent out to the superintendent? The goods were, but he never saw the orders.
7393. What did Burrowes sign? The voucher.
7394. What was on it? The order for the goods was attached to the voucher, but it was detached in the office.
7395. Did you send Burrowes the voucher without the order? Yes.
7396. Was there anything in that voucher to show who ordered the goods? Nothing.
7397. It simply showed that a certain amount of goods was sent to them? Yes; and if you have received them, sign for them.
7398. You say it was Mr. Larnach who discovered that system of dealing out the vouchers to the amount of £6,000? Mr. Larnach did not discover it. Mr. Hinchcliffe said that that system was adopted in the Immigration Office, and he showed Larnach how to do it.
7399. How many vouchers would you require to make up the £6,000? When the Board first started, not a dozen.

- Mr. A. Hibble.
4 April, 1889.
7400. How many would you want? I cannot tell you. Sometimes we should only want fifty or sixty. Sometimes a couple of hundred.
7401. There must be a limit to the number you would require to manipulate so as to get out £6,000? I looked upon it like playing draughts; you had to give and take, backwards and forwards.
7402. Do you know whether any other officers of the Board had private businesses of their own or in their wife's name? Only Mr. Hinchcliffe.
7403. If, as has been stated here, Mr. Hinchcliffe says he was never short in his cash, will that be true? No; because he told me he was.
7404. Would you believe the man who makes that statement? I could not believe him on that statement, because it would not be true.
7405. Would you believe him on others? He may have forgotten it, but it would be a strange thing if he did.
7406. Would you feel inclined to believe that man? I should not afterwards.
7407. Do you think you would forget such a thing? I do not think I should forget it.
7408. When did you find out the borrowing proclivities of Burrowes? Just before Christmas. He and I had a few words about it.
7409. Did any person ever come to the office about it? Dozens of people, since the Board has been a Board.
7410. Yet you were friends? I knew before he went there he was rather short of money, but he might have been trying to pay them off. The worst cases were what I have heard of late.
7411. Did they complain of his borrowing money? They did not come to the office to complain of his borrowing money. It was tradesmen's accounts. They came to ask him to pay them.
7412. When did they come about it? The general ones—say a week before Christmas.
7413. Did you still continue to have great respect for him? I had a noise with him about it. He went to a friend of mine and borrowed money in my name.
7414. How much? £6.
7415. Has he paid it since? No; I think not.
7416. Are you in a position to pay it? No, I am not in a position to pay it for him. My friend said to me. "Your friend Burrowes said that you would make it all right." He said Burrowes went to him and said that I sent him to him.
7417. When did you see Springall? Last Thursday.
7418. Did you make any remarks to Springall about Burrowes? I asked him about Burrowes.
7419. Did you tell him anything about a nick-name? I told him I heard he had a nickname.
7420. What was it? "Pigott." I said I heard he was called that name.
7421. Did you remark about anyone else? I spoke about Larnach.
7422. What about him? I said I was surprised he had turned out the way he had done.
7423. Did you tell him anything about certain rumours that were going about? Larnach came to me and said, "I think Springall has been put into a box." He has been stealing rations and all that. I told Springall about that. It is six months ago.
7424. Within the last week? No; M'Pherson was with me at the time I spoke to him.
7425. How long is it since you told him that Burrowes was nicknamed "Pigott"? In the room outside here, I said I heard they were calling Burrowes "Pigott."
7426. Was Mr. M'Pherson present? He was present on Thursday.
7427. What did he say? I do not think he said anything; only some casual remark.
7428. What was it? I could not say.
7429. Why was he here? He was seeing Mr. Critchett Walker.
7430. Did you tell Springall that there was a rumour that he had been getting money from Flemming? I did not.
7431. Did you ever see anyone besides Larnach drunk? I have seen Burrowes.
7432. When on duty? Yes.
7433. Often? No.
7434. How often? On three occasions.
7435. Can you state them? On one occasion at Cook Park. The others at Sydney.
7436. At these times was he on duty? It was in office hours.
7437. Have you seen any members of the Board drunk? I have seen Mr. Houison the worse for liquor.
7438. Where? In Pitt-street and Goulburn-street.
7439. Have you seen any other member? No.
7440. Not even the Chairman? I do not think you would catch him drunk.
7441. Did you ever see Mr. Wells drunk? No.
7442. Did you ever see him the worse for liquor? He is a man who can take a lot of liquor.
7443. Did you ever see him drunk? I have seen him carry drink, but he could go on with his work.
7444. Could he walk steadily? As straight as a rush.
7445. And speak properly? Speak all right.
7446. Did you ever see him in conversation with Burrowes, finding fault? On many occasions.
7447. State one? The first was about a road. He told Burrowes he would allow him to make no more roads, but that M'Pherson would have to have charge. Unwin's Road was complained about. In another instance he put up a bridge on the Holt-Sutherland Estate without having any support in the middle. Mr. Wells told him to take it down, and said that if he did not take it down he would be dismissed.
7448. Did Mr. Davies ever object to the loud tones in which Mr. Wells thought fit to address Mr. Burrowes? I do not think he ever did.
7449. Were all the members of the Board sober on these occasions? They were all thoroughly sober.
7450. Had Burrowes a responsible position? He had, but he tried to shuffle out of it.
7451. Could he order goods? Through the office.
7452. Could he make up the pay-sheets? Yes.
7453. Could he certify to the number of men at work? That was his duty.
7454. Could he certify who were gangers? Yes.
7455. Who was to receive payment for the gangs? Yes.

7456.

NOTES (on revision):—Q. 7406—Add "If I knew he had told me a lie." Q. 7437—After "Mr. Houison," read "slightly"; after "liquor," add "when he was on furlough." Q. 7442—Omit "a lot of." Q. 7443—Add "perfectly unaffected."

Mr.
A. Hibble.
4 April, 1889.

7456. Could he commit frauds if he liked? He had the opportunity if he was a dishonest man.
7457. Did Mr. Davies from the start distrust Burrowes? I do not think he did until he found him out.
7458. When was that? Some nine months ago, when he found some roads go wrong.
7459. What did he say? Burrowes would pass it off and tell a few more untruths and promise not to do it again.
7460. What did Mr. Davies find fault about? The Woronora Road. He was asked what it was like. He said it was 1 in 20; a good, serviceable road; he had been there, taken the quantities, and certified to it. When the members went down they found that Burrowes had never been on the road from the commencement; that the road, which was 1 in 8, was impassable; and that he had certified to an expenditure of money, but had never seen the work.
7461. Did he ever give Mr. Davies any cause to think that he was not quite straight in his expenditure? Sometimes the Chairman said with regard to his expenditure that he did not think he could have spent the money.
7462. How was it Mr. Davies left him in such a peculiar position? It appeared that the Board had not power to dismiss him, as he was appointed by Mr. Dibbs. That was why he held his position like he did.
7463. Did you take orders up to M'Lean Brothers and Rigg? I took the best part of them up.
7464. Did you ever bring anything back? A few odd things at different times.
7465. You said you brought that picnic-basket back in a cab? Yes.
7466. Who sold it to you? Mr. Lawn.
7467. Did you pick the basket? There were only two there. I took the large one.
7468. What was the price? I did not ask.
7469. Who was it charged to? The Board, I believe.
7470. Were your instructions to take it back in a cab? I was sent up for it to give it to Mr. Davies.
7471. Did you know he had had another? Mr. Hinchcliffe told me he had one before that.
7472. Did not this strike you as peculiar? He told me he wanted it because he had to go out, and several people would come out with him.
7473. Did you see him use it often? No.
7474. Did you see him use the other one? I never saw the other one.
7475. Did you look through the accounts to see the debit notes? I did not.
7476. Did you ever hear any conversation about these picnic-baskets? No.
7477. Never any remarks that rope in the one case and long-handled shovels and hammers in another represented the baskets? Never.
7478. If these statements were made in the office, it must have been during your absence? They must have been in my absence. I never heard them.
7479. Could this have taken place and you not have heard it? Not if it took place in the office proper.
7480. Will you take your oath that you never took that basket back to M'Lean Brothers and Rigg? I never took it back.
7481. Did Mr. Davies ever tell you to return it? Never.
7482. Was it returned? Never—at least I had no conversation about it.
7483. If it is sworn that you took the two away? Then it is wrong. I never took even the one away.
7484. Do you know how the other arrived at the office? I know nothing at all about it. Mr. Hinchcliffe told me that he had used it for the pay.
7485. Had Mr. Burrowes any allowances? Rations and a horse.
7486. Any other allowances? Travelling expenses wherever he went.
7487. Do you know what he got a week or a month? £4, or £8 a fortnight.
7488. Regularly? Regularly.
7489. What for? Travelling about the country. He had a big district to go over.
7490. Do you know whether at any time any of the officers of the Board received payment or gratuities in any shape or form from persons for things being done? I cannot swear to it. I have heard remarks; but I cannot say.
7491. What did you hear, and when? The first remarks were some time last January.
7492. Whom were they about? Mr. Burrowes.
7493. From whom? A gentleman at Campbelltown.
7494. What is his name? In any evidence I give, am I liable for it afterwards. I am only speaking about rumours.
7495. You are fully protected. What is the name? Mr. George Garde told me of certain roads, and that no doubt he had received some remuneration, because they were in direct violation of orders from the office.
7496. Did you hear any other rumours? About a road he put round Mr. Gannon's property at Port Hacking. Then he promised to make a road from Como, on Mr. Head's property; and borrowed a sum of money from Mr. Head, and then never performed the work.
7497. Who is Mr. Head? A partner in Geddes & Co.
7498. Where does Mr. Garde live? At Campbelltown.
7499. Have you heard any remarks about other members or officers? None whatever. I have heard talk that Mr. Davies was getting his money, but did not place any reliance in it.
7500. Have you any reason to suppose any members of the Board received gratuities? No reason.
7501. Or any other officers? No.
7502. Of your own knowledge you know nothing more? Nothing.
7503. *President.*] Can you give me any information about the large orders for powder. There are an unusual number? There was a great quantity of powder used. Mr. Franklin could see it at once. In one road there was a cutting through rock 25 feet high in one place.
- 7503½. Many of the butts of orders in the order-book are for considerably less powder than appears to have been supplied? I think you will find that Mr. Davies told them to send it.
7504. Did Mr. Wells or Mr. Houison think that the men were using powder when they had no right to use it? Every man who used powder had it charged to him.
7505. I see that Harwood & Sons' names are here—who are they? We bought a lot of second-hand tools from them.
7506. Do you know the schedule price under which the Government gets goods? M'Lean Bros. and Rigg did.

- Mr. A. Hibble. did not recognize the Board as being under the schedule. They decided that at the first start under Mr. Wise.
- 4 April, 1889. 7507. How were you paid your salary? Every week, by cash.
7508. How were the other officers paid? Mr. Larnach by cash, Mr. Josephson and Mr. Hinchcliffe by cheque.
7509. Always? Excepting on two occasions.
7510. Had you most to do with the order-book? Yes.
7511. Can you show me the orders for this voucher [*Exhibit E 2*]? No.
7512. Do you believe there is any order? No; I am positive there is not.
7513. Did you do any business privately for Mr. Davies? Nothing of any magnitude.
7514. Did you pay money into his bank? On one occasion. I could not tell what was the amount of it. It was the City Bank.
7515. Only on one occasion? Yes. I think it was £100.
7516. What was it, a cheque or cash? I think it was all in notes.
7517. Was it about the time he got the payment from the Board of £261 10s.? No; it was about twelve months ago.
7518. Was there ever any complaint made against Springall? No, excepting he was a little too crotchety with some of the men.
7519. Was there any complaint as to his selling goods? He was allowed to have a store at first, but it was stopped by Mr. Davies' instructions.
7520. Will you look at the cash-book [*Exhibit E 8*] on page 15. What is the balance in cash on 27th July, 1887? £62 13s. 2d.
7521. That is what there should have been in cash on the 27th July, 1887? Yes.
7522. When was the next drawing of petty cash, according to the book? 23th July, £100.
7523. Look at page 23? There was £97 8s. 7d. in cash on 7th September.
- 7523½. When was the next drawing? On 8th September, a cheque for £100.
7524. Look at page 27. What was the amount to the credit of petty cash on 29th September? £280 16s. 10d.
7525. When was the next drawing? 1st October, for £50.
7526. Look at page 30. What was the amount to the credit of the petty cash on 11th October? £186 16s.
7527. When was the next drawing? On 13th October, for £100.
7528. What was the credit immediately preceding 24th October? £231 3s. 4d.
7529. And when was the next drawing for the petty cash? On 24th October, for £100.
7530. Look at page 89. What was the credit to petty cash on 4th September? £416 1s. 6d.
7531. The next drawing? Was on 7th September, £50.
7532. Look at page 91. What was the credit to petty cash on 15th September? £451 11s. 4d.
7533. When was the next drawing? 17th September, £25.
7534. Look at page 93. What was the credit to petty cash on 27th September? £472 5s. 10d.
7535. When was the next drawing? The same date, £50.
7536. Look at page 97. What was the credit to petty cash on 11th October? £462 15s. 2d.
7537. When was the next drawing? On 15th October, £50.
7538. Look at page 99. What was the credit to petty cash on 23rd October? £515 4s. 6d.
7539. When was the next cheque drawn for petty cash? The same date, for £10.
7540. And you kept this book? I copied it up from the old book.
7541. Did not Larnach have some conversation with you about this Commission? Yes; at the office.
7542. What time? About 12 o'clock in the day. Mr. Cheney was in the room, and Mr. Kidman.
7543. Did he make any statements in your presence? There was a conversation in the room.
7544. What conversation? He said you had been asking him about M'Lean Bros. and Rigg. He said that he had altered vouchers for Mr. Davies, and that I would have to tell the truth the same as he did. I told him he had better mind his business, and that what he said at the Commission had nothing to do with me.
7545. Do you know of any ale, porter, or liquor coming to the offices of the Board whilst you were there? No.
7546. Do you know the handwriting of Flemming, the groom? I am not sure.
7547. Look at the name on this pay-sheet? I think it is his.
7548. Read the entry? Flemming, stone-breaking, 240 cubic yards, 2s., £24; deduct rations, £4 11s.; amount paid, £19 9s.
7549. How many men would there be if you deducted £4 11s. for rations? It would be eight men, but they stopped some of the rations. If you had the draft-sheet that would be more plain.
7550. What is the amount in cash? £19 9s.
7551. Do you think Flemming was capable of the work? I think if you turn it up you will find it embraces a month's work. I know something about it. I asked Bell. He said they were left off the pay-sheets the last time.
7552. If that is a true bill for work done by Flemming and his gang, should it not appear in the abstract from which the sheet was made out? It should, certainly.
7553. If it does not appear? Then there must be something radically wrong.
7554. If there are similar pay-sheets with the name of Flemming as a ganger, entitling him to receive large sums of money, £19, £20, and over that, and the name in every case is wanting on the abstracts, what would you say? I should say that Mr. Bell, the man in charge, has been committing a robbery because he is supposed to measure the work out.
7555. Anyone else? Springall and Burrowes.
7556. The superintendent? Mr. Burrowes.
7557. Who is responsible for the pay-sheets? Mr. Burrowes. Mr. Bell would measure the work.
7558. Have you any responsibility? No; as soon as I have paid the men I am finished.
7559. If you thought this man Flemming was receiving money as a ganger when he was not in charge of a gang, would you consider it your duty to report it? I would; but I believed at the time he was in a gang.

7560.

7560. Would you place any faith in a pay-sheet on which his name appears if it is not on the abstract from which the sheet is made out? No, certainly not. But if you go through the abstracts you will find many men omitted and put on afterwards, but if it comes to be a regular thing you could not believe that sheet.

Mr.
A. Hibble.
4 April, 1889.

7561. Is such a pay-sheet true? There are many instances of that sort on the pay-sheets.

MONDAY, 8 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P., | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

William John Tindall called in, sworn, and examined:—

7562. *President.*] What are you? A detective officer in the police force.

7563. I believe you were detailed for duty in connection with the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

7564. How long have you been under the Board? Under the present Board it will be two years next month—I think about the 3rd May. I was with the unemployed previously.

Mr. W. J.
Tindall.
8 April, 1889.

7565. What were your instructions? I reported myself to the Board. My duties were to issue tickets to the men, and to send them down for work. For instance, there would be 200 men for Narrabeen, or 100 for the National Park. We would get these men in ten or a dozen at a time into the lower room where I was engaged. Their names and particulars respecting them would be registered by the Registrar, Mr. Josephson. I would write out each man's ticket, putting his name and destination on it, and stamp it with the Casual Labour Board stamp, and give the ticket to the man. That ticket he would have to present to the superintendent wherever he went before he could be placed on the work. We would then attend at the railway station to see them off, getting their railway tickets with a requisition given by the Board, and we would see them in the train started off. I also kept a defaulters' book. Any men that were discharged from the different works it was the duty of the superintendents and overseers to send in a list to the Board. I would enter these in a book. I think there are some 800 odd in that book. They were discharged frequently for drunkenness and that kind of thing. These men I would identify if they tried to get work again. Of course they were not allowed to go on the works again.

7566. Would the observations you made on these different occasions be sufficient to enable you to identify men through the whole time? Numbers of them; but no man could go on the works without receiving a ticket through me.

7567. Your detective knowledge then enables you to do this? Oh, yes; I had mixed with them long previous to this. Numbers of the men had come from the other colonies—something like 2,000. I have had numbers of the unemployed under my observation for six weeks in the Immigration Barracks here.

7568. Was it part of your duty to attend on pay-days? I have done so occasionally when I have been ordered to do so by the Board. I have accompanied Mr. Josephson to Waterfall.

7569. Often? Not more than on three or four occasions—three occasions, I believe.

7570. Have you been anywhere else? On one occasion I went to Narrabeen, and on one occasion to Hornsby, and on one occasion to Liverpool.

7571. Were you ever at Heathcote at a pay? No, never.

7572. What is the total number of visits you have made on pay-days? Three at Waterfall, one at Hornsby, one at Narrabeen, and one at Liverpool; also one at Rookwood—seven in all, during the whole of the two years.

7573. Had you ever any special instructions given you by the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board? No, never.

7574. What is your rank in the Service? I am a senior first-class detective.

7575. Were you associated with any other officer in this business? Yes; Constable Cheney.

7576. What is his office? He is a constable.

7577. Was he present at all the pays that you were present at? No. He was not present at any of them; he went afterwards; he has been often with Mr. Josephson.

7578. Do you recollect anything about a man named W. R. Robertson, respecting whom there was some complaint or inquiry? I cannot say I do. I do not know the person by name.

7579. In June, 1887? No.

7580. Supposing a complaint had been made to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board by the superintendent as to the conduct or style of working of any of the unemployed, would that come under you in any way? Yes; it ought to do so.

7581. Would it go to you through the Board? Yes.

7582. That is what I meant when I asked if any special matters of complaint were referred to you by the Chairman? I am not aware of any, except cases of drunkenness.

7583. Did you hear of any cases where men imposed on the Board—that is to say, represented themselves to be what they were not? No.

7584. Did you know a man named Flemming? Not by name. I might know him. You see there were hundreds of them going through the books.

7585. You said there were 2,000 of these men came from Melbourne? About 2,000 came from the different colonies.

7586. Did you keep a record of the men that went out? Yes.

7587. Can you tell me the largest number on the works at one time? About 5,300 at one time.

7588. Can you tell me the smallest number? I cannot. I think the smallest number would be at the present time. I know that returns have been made up on several occasions.

7589. Your duties were particularly in the detective branch? Yes; I am a detective. I have been nineteen years in that branch.

7590. In this Colony? Yes; in New South Wales.

7591. *Mr. Franklin.*] Was there any special necessity for your visits to the works on these few pay-days? No; I only accompanied Mr. Josephson when he had a large amount of money with him.

7592. There was no other reason? I do not know any other reason at all. I was merely ordered to go with him, and I did so. Cheney, the constable, has been with him more frequently than I have been.

7593.

- Mr. W. J. Tindall.
8 April, 1889.
7593. Had you any occasion to report any suspicious circumstances? Never.
7594. Were you often on the works? I was never on the works except on these few occasions.
7595. You were never called upon for a special report? No. We would only just go and pay the men and come back again.
7596. Were the gangers brought under your special notice? No. I had nothing at all to do with them.
7597. Can you tell us whether the men were in the habit of getting their pay through the gangers, who would attend on pay-days? I believe they should do so. The men would appoint their own gangers, and look to them for their money.
7598. Was it the custom for more than the gangers to go? I believe so. I think both gangers and men were present. I have seen them outside waiting—have seen them actually divide the money.
7599. Have you ever accompanied anybody but Mr. Josephson on these occasions? Yes; I went on one occasion with Mr. Hinchcliffe and Mr. Davies.
7600. Was Mr. Josephson alone when you accompanied him? He was. Mr. Hinchcliffe and Mr. Davies and others might be in the railway carriage.
7601. Could you specify the occasions upon which you and Mr. Josephson went out together? No; I could not. It was over twelve months ago. Mr. Cheney has been with him until the time he left.

James William Cheney called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. J. W. Cheney.
8 April, 1889.
7602. *President.*] What are you? I am a constable in the New South Wales Police Force.
7603. In what branch of the Force? I am a plain-clothes constable.
7604. You assist the detective force, I suppose? Yes.
7605. I believe you did some duty in connection with the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
7606. When did you commence? It will be two years ago next month.
7607. Who instructed you to take duty under them? My duty was with Detective Tindall. I think Detective Tindall had instructions from the Colonial Secretary.
7608. You took instructions from Detective Tindall? Yes.
7609. Will you tell me what your duties were? Yes; I conducted the men into the place. Sometimes they were very disorderly, and shoved each other about; and we had a system of letting them in six or eight at a time. Then I had to accompany the Paymaster, to go to the railway station to see the men off—to see that they got away on their passes, and then I would go to the bank with the Paymaster on pay-day.
7610. What did you go to the bank for? I went to the bank to cash cheques.
7611. Did you accompany Mr. Hibble? I would go with him to assist him in the paying of the men.
7612. What did you accompany him to the bank for? When we were going to Narrabeen I would go with him to the bank. We would go to the bank first and then to Narrabeen; it would be one visit.
7613. Can you tell me what your duties were outside the office;—were you mostly in the office? Chiefly they were at the office, but I would have to attend at the railway-station when the men were going away. For instance, if a man brought a letter to the Chairman, stating that he had got work in any part of the country, the Board would grant him a free pass, and I had to go to the railway and see him off. I would also go to Bulgo and Camp Creek on pay-days.
7614. How many pays were you present at altogether? I could not exactly tell you. I do not know the exact number; but I went with Mr. Josephson every fortnight to pay the men on the Illawarra line.
7615. During the whole time the Board was in existence? Yes; until these gentlemen who were lately appointed took charge. I have not been recently.
7616. When you went to these pays, what did you do? I generally had the sheet, and called the men's names over.
7617. The gangers' names? Yes; and Mr. Josephson would pay them.
7618. Did you know the men? Yes. I did not know all of them, but I could pretty well know them.
7619. Could you tell whether a man was a ganger or not? Well, I knew some of the gangers, but not all of them.
7620. Did you exercise any detective knowledge in discovering whether a man that came up was the man on the paper, and whether he was a ganger or otherwise? Yes; I would take particular notice of them, in case they should come the double.
7621. Did you know any of the men by name? I knew some by name.
7622. Did you know a man named William Robertson? No; he was not in the pays that I attended—Waterfall, Camp Creek, or Bulgo.
7623. Did your duty ever bring you in contact with any complaints to the Casual Labour Board? No.
7624. Did you know a man named Flemming? I did not know him.
7625. Have you ever been to Heathcote? Yes.
7626. Did you know Mr. Bell? Yes.
7627. Were you ever present on any of his pay-days? No; never until last week.
7628. I am speaking of the time before the present Board was appointed? No.
7629. *Mr. Waller.*] Did you know Mr. Burrowes? Yes.
7630. What does he do? He was superintendent of the works, I believe.
7631. Do you know where Mr. Burrowes' head-quarters were? Do you mean where he lived?
7632. Yes? He lived at Hurstville.
7633. Did he live in a tent? He has a tent there, but he has a private place.
7634. What sort of a private place? I think it is a weatherboard cottage, to the best of my recollection.
7635. Is it there yet? I believe it is; I don't know about the tent.
7636. When were you there last? I was there about three weeks or a month ago.
7637. Was the cottage there then? Yes; the cottage was there then.
7638. Who lived with Mr. Burrowes? I cannot say.
7639. Were you ever there? I was there on one occasion.
7640. Did you see who lived with him? I saw some lady there—I presume it was Mr. Burrowes' wife—and I saw some children.
7641. Any servants? I could not say that.

7642. How used Mr. Burrowes to go about when he was inspecting? I believe he used to ride generally. I think he had a horse.

7643. Do you know who used to look after the horse for him? No; I do not.

7644. Did you ever see a man doing so? Not to my knowledge.

7645. Do you know the chief storekeeper there? Springall—yes. I know Springall by sight.

7646. Do you know where Springall is now? No; I could not say. He was living in Hurstville some time ago, but I could not say where he is living now. I heard that he had gone into business for himself somewhere, but I do not know where.

7647. *President.*] Do you know anything about Mr. Burrowes' character and habits? Well, I do not know much about him. From my own knowledge I know nothing of him.

7648. Do you know anything about Mr. Springall from your own observation? No; I know nothing of him, only just by seeing him at Hurstville.

7649. Can you tell me whether Mr. Burrowes was present at those pays at which you were present? No; Mr. Burrowes was not. He might have been on one or two occasions, but he certainly was not present at every pay that I attended.

7650. Was it the exception or otherwise that he would be present? I could not say that.

7651. Was he oftener present than absent? He was oftener absent than present.

7652. Do you know Mr. Johnson? No; I do not know him.

7652½. Will you look at this pay-sheet for Waterfall? Yes.

7653. Is that your signature there—Cheney? Yes; as a witness.

7654. Do you notice a man named Flemming there? Yes.

7655. Does that refresh your memory as to who Flemming is? No; I do not know Flemming. It would be difficult for me to think of every name that is there. If he had been smaller or taller than ordinary, I might have noticed him.

7656. Have you any particular knowledge of that particular person? No more of him than of anybody else.

7657. *Mr. Franklin.*] At the time the pays were made, would the money that ought to be paid on every occasion be exhausted? No; sometimes the men would not be present, and the Paymaster would bring the amount into the office again.

7658. How was the money subsequently paid to the absentees? Well, they generally came to the office for it—perhaps in a day or two afterwards.

7659. But you would not pay a ganger at the office, would you? Oh, yes. If he were not present at the pay-table, he would be told to come to the office the next day or a day or two afterwards, and he would receive his money there.

7660. Are you aware whether any difficulties arose in consequence of these payments in the Sydney office? No; there would be a complaint sometimes, but matters were generally referred to the Superintendent, who would settle them.

7661. What was the nature of the complaints? They said they were short sometimes. I have heard them frequently complain to us that they were not paid the full price, and they would be referred to Mr. Burrowes, the superintendent then.

7662. In the absence of the ganger, was it usual to send others of the gang and let them have the money? No; the Paymaster would not give it. The ganger would have to come, and his signature would have to be on the back of the sheet.

7663. Did it ever occur amongst a great number of men that the individual would be absent and never turn up at all? It could happen, but it never happened to my knowledge.

7664. Were you responsible for the payment of any of these moneys that were not paid at the pay-tables? No.

7665. Who would be responsible? Mr. Josephson, who would pay them.

7666. Did he retain the money until the persons came? He would probably hand it over to the Chairman until the persons came.

7667. These unpaid moneys must have been a large amount in the long run? I could not say; I never kept the account.

7668. You never heard how these unclaimed moneys were disposed of? No.

7669. What were your special duties? They were to accompany the Paymaster; take these men into the office, as I have explained; go to the railway station; and with Detective Tindall to stop imposition.

7670. You were not out every day paying? Oh, not every day.

7671. What were you doing on the other days? On the other days I would be at the office—or, at any rate, on a great many of them.

7672. Were there any other constables employed in connection with the Board? None, except Detective Tindall and I.

7673. Had you much difficulty in preserving order? No; only those fellows that rushed the place and broke the railings and fences down, several months since, previous to Messrs. Mason and Miles taking office. They were like a lot of wild beasts, but they were subdued afterwards.

7674. Were you supposed to recognize for the Casual Labour Board the men that were there? Yes; I knew pretty well all the crooked characters.

7675. Were not the gangers brought under your notice? No; except when Mr. Josephson was paying. I would not take particular notice of them unless they would come the double.

7676. Do you think you would know any of those gangers if they were brought face to face with you? I dare say I would know them.

7677. Were they not men who were brought specially under your notice? Yes.

7678. Is it not natural that you would be better able to pick them out than other men who had no particular reason for coming before you? I dare say. I would know the best part of them, but I do not say I would know them all.

7679. Would you know those men who have signed for pays in your presence? I believe I would. I will not swear that I would, but I think I would.

7680. Would you know particularly anyone who was very young or anyone who was very old? I think I would.

7681. Were most of them young or old? Some of them were old and some of them young.

Mr. J. W.
Cheney.

8 April, 1889.

- Mr. J. W. Cheney.
8 April, 1889.
7682. What would you mean by old? About 50. Young men, I would say from 25 to 30. Most of the gangers would be elderly men—they would probably. I believe if a party got together they would pick an old man to be over them.
7683. Do you know a man named Coleman, a time-keeper at the National Park? No; but I have heard the name.
7684. Do you know a man named M'Intyre? No.
7685. Do you know J. B. Woods, employed on the Heathcote section? No; I do not know the National Park men. I did not go there. I went to Bulgo, Camp Creek, and Waterfall.
7686. Did any police officer attend regularly at the Heathcote pays? I cannot say. I might have been there once; and I think I was at the National Park on one occasion.
7687. How many pays did you go to altogether? I cannot say how many pays I attended. I attended nearly every pay-day.
7688. What places did you attend beyond those you have mentioned? I have been to Narrabeen and French's Forest. I never went direct to the National Park. I always went further on.
7689. Can you tell me whether particular precautions were taken on pay-days to ascertain whether the men who went up as gangers really were gangers? Oh, yes; I think there would be precautions, because the overseer of the works would be there. He would take the opportunity of noticing each man as he went up—whether he was a ganger or not.
7690. Do you know who the overseer of the Heathcote Agricultural was? No; I do not know.
7691. Could you tell us the names of some of the overseers? There was Begg at Cowley Creek, and Harper at Bulgo.
7692. Could you tell us who would be overseer at Heathcote? No, I could not.
7693. Who could? I suppose Mr. Hibble. Up to recently a man named M'Leod was overseer, and before him I think a man called Walsh.

Herbert John Goodman called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. H. J. Goodman.
8 April, 1889.
7694. *President.*] What is your position under the Casual Labour Board? Latterly assistant storekeeper; formerly I was working in the field.
7695. When did you go into the ranks of the unemployed? On the 5th of May, 1887.
7696. Were you actually one of the "unemployed"? I was one of the unemployed until September last year.
7697. Working in the field and receiving pay as a labourer? Yes, until September last year. In September last year I applied to Mr. M'Pherson, who was at that time over the particular road upon which I was working, and asked him whether he could get me any clerical employment, as I had always been used to that, and the gangs were rather dissatisfied with what I did.
7698. What was the result of that? The result was that Mr. M'Pherson asked me to go down to Hurstville on the following Monday to assist Mr. Springall in making up the pay-sheets.
7699. How long did you remain with Mr. Springall? Until the end of the year, when he left.
7700. Will you tell me how you used to set about making up these pay-sheets? Mr. Burrrowes and Mr. M'Pherson would bring in particulars of the work, and they would make out a draft sheet showing the amount of work done by each gang—the prices, in a great many instances, they would carry into the first column, but not always. These would be handed to Mr. Springall, and Mr. Springall would check their calculations, and he would fill in the amount of rations, powder, and fuse, and make the necessary deductions in respect of these in the third column.
7701. From whom did you get the names? From the superintendents. I may say that under Mr. Springall I very seldom had anything to do with making out the draft-sheets, and they only came into my hands to check finally, and then engross. There was one exception. There was one draft-sheet I never engrossed in my life.
7702. What was that? The Heathcote Agricultural; Mr. Bell's sheet it was called. Mr. Springall engrossed it always.
7703. Had you anything to do with the draft-sheets? Yes; from them I used to make out the clear sheets, and there is an average sheet copied from the general sheet, and I used to make out the amount of the averages from it, to show from the amount earned how much each man actually earned per day.
7704. Where did that go? To the Casual Labour Board, and from there, I presume, it went to the Audit Office.
7705. Had you the making of that out? Yes.
- 7705½. Was a copy of that kept? No; a copy of that was never kept.
7706. Look at these draft abstracts of payments made from 4th to 17th November, 1888, for different works in the Southern District, and see if you can pick out one of these that you have had anything to do with? Well, I have had to do with all of them.
7707. Look at the first sheet. Had you anything to do with that? I copied the average sheet from it afterwards. That would be all I had to do with it.
7708. Did you make out the pay-sheets for the men? I never remember making out the pay-sheets for the men, except once. I cannot tell the date of that one.
7709. Will you look at this pay-sheet of Heathcote Agricultural? Yes. [*Pay-sheet put in and marked K.*]
7710. Can you tell me who prepared that? That is Mr. Springall's handwriting.
7711. Had you anything to do with that? Nothing; except afterwards, as I told you, I had to make out the average-sheet.
7712. Will you compare this sheet with the draft-abstract before you, and see if there is any discrepancy? There is a name interposed—J. Flemming and gang, breaking 230 cubic yards at 2s.; amount earned, £23; deducted for rations, £4 18s. 7d.; cash paid, £18 1s. 5d.; signed, James Flemming.
7713. Who is it witnessed by? It is witnessed by Mr. Springall; that is his signature.
7714. Now, can you give me any explanation or any information about that? Directly, I do not know that I can give very much; indirectly, I can give a good deal.
7715. Let me have the indirect information? Flemming, this man in question, was living at Hurstville, and

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and we all used to be together—the two tent-makers, Flemming, and myself. Flemming used to sleep in the iron store, and we used to sleep in the back. He used to say to me on pay-days that he was going up to get money for his old gang, leading me to suppose that a gang that he had been working with was still in existence, and that to oblige them he went and got the money. It struck me once when I was making out the average-sheets that his name was not upon the abstract, and, knowing what a liar the old fellow was, I thought he was simply amusing himself at my expense. I said to him on one occasion, "You do not get paid up the line as a ganger." He said, "Oh, yes, I do?" I said, "Your name is not on the sheet." He replied, "You must have made a mistake," or words to that effect. I still thought that he was only sticking to his former lie. After Christmas, I think it was on the 3rd or 4th of January—I think it was on a Thursday, but I forget really the actual day—I was talking to Mr. M'Pherson's groom, who was sleeping there that night—old Flemming in the meantime having left. I said casually to him, knowing that he had been working on this particular field, "Did old Flemming get paid up your way; he used to say he did, and yet I never saw his name on the sheet." He said, "Oh, he did; he used to draw a considerable amount—some £13 or £14 every turn." I then passed the matter off with him. On the following morning, first thing, I looked at the draft-sheets, to assure myself, and found his name was not there at all. I thought that there must be something mixed up. However, I waited until the Saturday afternoon, when I saw Mr. Bell, the overseer, and asked him the same question—whether Flemming got paid up at his place as a ganger. He said, "Yes, he did. I always used to complain to Mr. Springall about putting him on my sheet, and increasing the amount there." I said, "This seems a bad thing, what had better be done about it. I must tell Mr. Burrowes about it." I asked Semple who he got paid for, and he replied, "The old fellows down here."

7716. Who is Semple? Mr. M'Pherson's groom. Mr. Bell told me that he used to understand that Flemming would pay us our money. He said he was always under that impression until he saw me getting paid last Saturday. On the Saturday night, when Mr. Burrowes returned from town, I informed him of my suspicions, and together we went into the office, and I showed him that Flemming's name was never on the draft abstracts. We hunted back, I think, five or six pays, and we could look no further as the press-copy letter-book, containing the engrossments of the vouchers, had been sent into town by Springall when he left, and I have never seen that book since, and until you gentlemen showed me that letter-book I had no idea where it was.

7717. Had you any further conversation with Flemming after you discovered what the facts were about this? No. I have only seen Flemming on three occasions since.

7718. Had this Flemming that you have been speaking of ever anything to do with Mr. Burrowes? Yes; it was part of his duty to groom his horse. He was a general rouse-about about the place.

7719. Was he ever a ganger? Never that I know of; but I could not say of my own personal knowledge. I have heard from others that he was.

7720. But at the times you speak of, are you sure he was not a ganger? I am certain he was only a rouse-about.

7721. Can you tell this Commission about the dates that you made these inquiries, when your suspicions were first aroused? I think it was about the beginning of November when my suspicions were first aroused—when he first said to me that he was a ganger—and I thought of looking for his name on one of the draft pay-sheets.

7722. Was that November, 1888? Yes.

7723. Were you ever present at any of the pays? No. Mr. Springall always went up himself. I used to remain and take care of the office.

7724. Do you know how long this irregular representation of Flemming as a ganger had existed? No.

7725. Do you know how many pay-sheets it extended over? I do not. After my suspicions were finally aroused I had not a chance of looking at the press copy-book.

7726. When your suspicions were reduced to what you believed to be a certainty, did you report the matter to your superior officer? Not immediately, inasmuch as I was not satisfied in my own mind. I saw Mr. Bell on the Saturday, and waited until Mr. Burrowes came up from town on the same evening.

7727. Did Mr. Burrowes appear surprised? He did indeed.

7728. Do you recollect what he said? I do not know that I could give the exact words. I could give the substance. He said, "I always thought there must have been something of that sort going on, but I did not know in what way, because when Springall came to the Park he had nothing. He certainly has not spent much up there, but he always had a house in town as well, and I could not see where he was getting the £300 or £400 to start this hotel with."

7729. I would like to be quite clear as to what it was that first aroused your suspicions? I think the first active thing was the conversation with Semple. The other thing I merely looked upon as vapouring.

7730. Did I understand you to say that you were living in the same tent, or near the same place, as Flemming? At the back of it. I will describe as nearly as possible the position of affairs. Behind the office at Hurstville was the store, and Flemming had a place there. Behind the store was my tent.

7731. You said you made some remark to Flemming about what he went up to the pay for? Yes; he said he went up to get paid for his gang.

7732. At that time, do you know if he had a gang? I do not know of my own knowledge.

7732½. What is your belief in the matter? Well, I do not believe that he had a gang.

7733. Had he, from his position, any opportunities of getting things out of the store without anybody being any wiser? Indisputably he could.

7734. Any tools or things that were in there? Yes.

7735. Where did you get the information from from which you prepared the average sheets? From Mr. Burrowes, and occasionally from some of the overseers. The overseers prepared sometimes their own pay-sheets.

7736. Then those average sheets would not be consistent with the pay-sheets if Flemming's name was on the latter and not on the former, and the average sheets that went into the head office would contain different information to the pay-sheets that went in some time afterwards? Certainly, unless somebody interpolated the same name in the same way.

7737. When did it first occur to you to look into the draft abstracts to see whether Flemming's name was on them? Some time about the end of November, 1888.

7738.

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7738. After you reported the matter to Mr. Burrowes, what action did he take? I cannot quite say of my own knowledge.
7739. What did he and you do? We went to the office immediately upon my reporting it. We turned up some of the back draft pay-sheets, and we turned up the Heathcote Agricultural amongst others, and I showed him in each instance that Flemming's name was not there. I made the remark to him that if Flemming's name was on the pay-sheet and not on the abstract it must have been put in by somebody. I also remarked that it was a strange thing that Mr. Springall always made up the sheet himself.
7740. Did you look over the copied pay-sheets? We could not do that, because the letter-book and other documents were sent to town.
7741. Who was in the habit of taking these off in the press copy-book? Mr. Springall.
7742. Did you ever take them off? No. I used to assist him by putting a pen in each page, as they were generally made up in lots of eight.
7743. However, when you went to investigate the matter with Mr. Burrowes, that book was not there? No; it had been sent to town.
7744. Do you know why it was sent to town? I understand that Mr. Springall stated that Mr. Davies had told him to take it away.
7745. Will you tell me again what passed between you and Mr. Bell; just let me have that clearly? I said to Mr. Bell, "By the way, there is something I want to ask you about: Did old Flemming draw money at your place as a ganger?" He said, "Yes, he did." I said, "For much?" He said, "Over £13 or £14—he would draw a large number of notes." I said, "He never was on the draft-sheets; this is a rum go." I asked, "Who did he draw the money for, do you know?" He said, "I always understood that it was to pay you fellows down here until the last pay-day, when I saw the Paymaster pay you on the platform here." On that particular day we were paid at the ticket office on the railway platform, so that the Paymaster could jump into the train immediately afterwards.
7746. Was any precaution taken on pay-days, that you are aware of, to ascertain whether the men that came up for pay as gangers were or were not gangers? While I was working in the field myself the overseers invariably were standing there as each man went in.
7747. And if the overseer at Heathcote, Mr. Bell, tells us that he knows nothing about Flemming, how are we to account for his being on the list? I suppose Mr. Springall must have put him there.
7748. Have you had any discussion about this matter, or conversation with anybody since you found it out? No.
7749. Did you report it any further than to Mr. Burrowes? No; I considered that when I reported it to him I had done my duty.
7750. Have you mentioned it outside to anybody? No; I do not believe I have to a soul.
7751. Do you know Mr. Davies, the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board? I just know him to speak to, that is all.
7752. Is there any person that you could name to us who can confirm what you tell us in reference to this Flemming business? There is nobody except the three I have mentioned—Mr. Semple, Mr. Bell, and Mr. Burrowes. They can confirm these conversations.
7753. Do you know where Flemming is? To the best of my belief he is at Coronulla Beach with Mr. Springall.
7754. At his hotel? Yes.
7755. Do you know whether Mr. Springall used to receive money from the men under his charge? Well, old Flemming used to tell me that he had taken his money from him at the pay-table. Springall told him that he kept his money from him to keep him from drink. He was often in a half-muddled state.
7756. Did Flemming tell you that he kept the money? Yes.
7757. Always? No, not always; on two or three occasions. On one particular occasion Flemming said he supposed Springall had seen he was a bit bad, and he said, "I will keep it from you, you old rascal."
7758. Would Springall return the money to him? From my own knowledge I can say that Springall used to give him some of the money back again, letting him have so much at a time. I believe that the very same day, when Flemming said he had not got 3d. in his pocket, I saw Springall give him 7s. 6d.
7759. In fact Springall used to shepherd him? Yes; he used to shepherd him.
7760. Did you ever hear of Springall selling goods out of the store? No.
7761. Did you ever hear of his retaining other people's money besides Flemming's? No; I do not think I did.
7761. Did you know a man named William R. Robertson? I just know the man; he was a carpenter.
7762. Did you know a man named Coleman? No; I never saw him.
7764. M'Intyre? No.
7765. Yule? No; these are all strange names to me.
7766. Have you any idea or knowledge as to what became of this money that Flemming received as a ganger? No; I have no idea. I always supposed that Mr. Springall took it from him; but I do not know. I had no proof that he did.
7767. During the time you were engaged as assistant store-keeper at Hurstville, did you become aware of any irregularity or improper expenditure of public moneys, or appropriation of goods, by Mr. Springall or anybody else? No; I cannot say that I did.
7768. What are you now? I suppose I may call myself store-keeper.
7769. Are you still out there? Yes. I am left in charge of all the tools that come in. I take an inventory of them, so that the Harbours and Rivers Department may have what they want of them.
7770. Mr. Franklin.] You say that there was established at Hurstville a sail-maker? Yes. There was one sail-maker, old Flemming, a carpenter, and myself.
7771. That would be the establishment? Yes.
7772. You show me a copy of the establishment sheet at Hurstville? Yes.
7773. This contains the names of those engaged about the house and store-yard? Yes. In addition to those I have mentioned there was young Frank Springall, who used to go messages.
7774. This does not show the name of Flemming;—how would he be paid for his day labour;—on what sheet? On the Heathcote Agricultural. He went up to Bell's Camp to be paid.
7775. Were there no other men in the same capacity as Flemming about the Heathcote camp? Well, there was old Pender, a reliable man, who knew any tool that was wanted, and who did odd jobs repairing them, carpentering, and fixing up barrows and things of that kind; an old fellow nearly seventy.

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7776. Where was this money paid? Well, Mr. Burrowes, as a general rule, used to draw his in town; the others at the different camps.

7777. Was it necessary for the men who were at Hurstville to go to some other place for their money? No; they need not go unless they wished to convenience themselves by so doing.

7778. As Flemming's name does not appear on the Hurstville pay-sheet, did you say you were surprised at his going to Heathcote to get his money? Yes; because what was the object of his going up there?

7779. Then you mean to say that, as he was engaged as a groom at Hurstville, his name should have been properly on the Hurstville sheet? Yes.

7780. Can you tell the Commission how Flemming at that time got his day's wages? He always used to go up the line. I believe on one or two pays he used to go to the Illawarra Road, but generally he went to Heathcote.

7781. And he would draw for this gang? Yes.

7782. And you do not believe he had a gang? I do not believe there were any such men in existence as his gang.

7783. You have never told us where this man Flemming was paid for his services to Mr. Burrowes, as groom? It does not appear on the sheet. I can only speak of my own knowledge—that he was paid on the Heathcote Agricultural, on Bell's sheet.

7784. Will you look at this. I am showing you the Waterfall contingent sheet for wages from the 14th to the 27th August, 1887: Flemming James; twelve days, at 5s.; amount earned, £3; deducted 15s. 2d. for rations; cash paid, £2 4s. 10d.; signed, James Flemming, and witnessed by Cheney? Yes.

7785. Now, at that time, was he properly paid for day labour at the rate of 5s.? Yes.

7786. Can you tell me whether 5s. a day was the ordinary rate of wages for the services rendered to Mr. Burrowes? No; I believe 3s. 6d. a day was.

7787. Do you know the man's signature at all? Yes; I know the signature.

7788. Is this the same signature (*signature of Flemming produced*)? No; I do not think it is the same.

7789. In such a very small staff as there appears to have been at Hurstville, should you not have known how any individual was paid? I certainly knew how all those that were on the spot were paid, as I was always on the spot. I did not know how Flemming was paid.

7790. But you knew he must have been paid somewhere? Yes; I knew that.

7791. Did you not know as a matter of fact that he used to draw his money every fortnight;—if you look at Mr. Bell's sheet you will find Robertson and eight men—O'Dwyer and eight men? Yes.

7792. What is the reason his name did not appear on the sheet, especially seeing that he was paid in a gang? I thought he was telling a lie when he said he was paid as a ganger. I thought he was simply on a gang up there.

7793. You told the President that you were surprised that this man went up the line for his money? Yes; I was surprised, because I thought he should have been on the Hurstville sheet.

7794. You were surprised that his name did not appear on your sheet? Yes. The proper way would be to charge for the whole of the men in the establishment on the one sheet.

7795. Do you know whether there were any other men at the National Park engaged as grooms in charge of gangs? No; I never heard of anybody else. The only man who kept a groom was Mr. Burrowes; until latterly Mr. McPherson did so. His groom is paid separately.

7796. Do you know whether, supposing there were several men doing rouse-about work at the camp, they would be down for piece-work under a ganger? I do not know that. I certainly understood at one time that Flemming had a number of rouse-about; but I was not long at the main camp, so I do not know.

7797. Do you know whether Flemming represented a number of these rouse-about at these pays? No; at that time there were no rouse-about under him.

7798. I want to be quite sure that there were no men about the camp doing chance work, who were represented as a gang of men headed by Flemming? I cannot distinctly say that there was not; but my opinion is that there was not.

7799. You would know, because you were making out the pay-sheets there? There was not to my knowledge.

7800. Then Flemming actually lived within the store at Hurstville? Yes; within the iron building where the tools and tents were kept.

7801. Was this the only place where stores were kept? Yes.

7802. Only stores were kept there? That was all.

7803. You were acquainted with the system of issuing rations adopted by Mr. Springall? Yes. I know that thoroughly. I went, as cook, for the rations day by day for a considerable number of months.

7804. Supposing that Flemming was charged for a considerable number of rations that were not issued at all, what became of the rations? They would fall to the store-keeper, who would have them in his own hands.

7805. Would not that be likely to cause some inquiry regarding the system of issuing stores? It certainly would. It would be very hard for the store-keeper at Hurstville, when he gets in the returns from a number of camps, to send in anything of that kind. In a case like Flemming's, where Flemming was at Hurstville, and the rations were charged some other place, it would be impossible to send the rations on to that place for any length of time without exciting suspicion.

7806. Do you know how Springall used to do with the rations? No. As a matter of fact, during Springall's *régime*, I never had anything to do with the rations.

7807. I ask you how the pay-sheets, showing the total number of men paid, we will say at Heathcote Camp, and the stores issued would correspond with that number of men if it were found that there were from seventy to eighty rations not issued during the fortnight—how would that be balanced, supposing there were a check at the head office? The only way that I can explain it would be that the rations would be put in (inasmuch as the name was a bogus name), so that the amount would look right in Sydney.

7808. Supposing the voucher was incorrect and stated more than was absolutely required, there must be a greater number of rations than was necessary? Yes.

7809. And you cannot tell the Commission how these would be disposed of? No, I cannot.

7810. Do you know as a matter of fact that these rations were made to agree with the number of men? No, I do not.

7811.

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7811. *Mr. Waller.*] How long did you know Flemming? I only knew him since I came down to Hurstville, in September.
7812. Between what dates? I was down at Hurstville between the 1st of September and the 31st December.
7813. And the year? 1888.
7814. Did you ever see him before that? I have seen him at the National Park.
7815. During that time, between September and December, what was his ostensible work? Cleaning Mr. Burrowes' horse and doing little odd jobs that had to be done about the place.
7816. Was he principally in Mr. Burrowes' service? Yes; but not absolutely. His principal work was to look after Mr. Burrowes' horse, but he used to do numbers of things for Mr. Springall.
7817. How many men were there in the capacity of rouse-about and sail-makers, &c.? There was myself; Goodman; Pender, carpenter; Flemming, rouse-about; Taylor, tent-maker; and Frank Springall. He was Mr. Springall's son, and he acted at first as messenger. Since the beginning of the year another tent-maker came back from Bulgo, named Larsen.
7818. What pay were you all receiving? Flemming, I believe, was getting 3s. 6d. a day; Pender, Taylor, Larsen, and myself were receiving 5s.; and Frank Springall was receiving 20s. a week. He acted as messenger, took down the ration order to Kidman's, and conveyed messages to the different camps.
7819. Had he access to the stores? Yes.
7820. In his father's presence? Either that or without.
7821. Was there any check upon him? None whatever.
7822. Could he deliver goods from the stores? I doubt if he ever did that, because I was seldom away from the place.
7823. Where did you get paid for your work? I got paid at the office at Hurstville. We have an office there, or rather a house that we use as an office. That is where the store is.
7824. And where all the pays were made? Yes.
7825. Did every man that you enumerated just now get paid at Hurstville except Flemming? All of them except Flemming.
7826. Would Springall of necessity have been aware of the fact that Flemming was the only absentee at the pay-table in the office? Oh, yes; he must have known it, because he would himself go up and witness the pays up where Flemming got paid.
7827. Who attended the pays in the office? I have seen three paymasters there—Mr. Hinchcliffe first.
7828. Who was with him? He was generally by himself.
7829. Name the others? Mr. Hibble and Mr. Larnach on two occasions. He came by himself also. They would come up by the 7 o'clock train to pay at Cook Park; then young Frank Springall would go down with the pay-slips to Cook Park, and then they would come to the Hurstville office, and be there until the Waterfall train left at 10 o'clock, when they would go on to pay there, and Mr. Springall and the other officers would go up with them.
7830. What other officers attended the pays from your office? None; Mr. Burrowes always used to go away to Liverpool on that day.
7831. Was Mr. Burrowes always absent from the pays? Yes; you see the camps up that line got paid on one Wednesday, and then Mr. Burrowes would have to go and measure up for the following Saturday, and the Liverpool camp would get paid on the next Wednesday.
7832. So that you can positively state, of your own knowledge, that Burrowes was never there on these pay-days? He was never there that I saw.
7833. You were always there? Yes, I was always there—never missed once.
7834. Do you know Cheney? Yes; he is a detective.
7835. Do you know Tindall? Yes; he is a detective.
7836. Did either of these men ever attend the pays? Cheney used to go with Mr. Josephson up the Bulgo and Camp Creek way.
7837. Any of the others? No others.
7838. Will you describe this man Flemming? He was an oldish man with a gray beard; about 63 or 64 years of age.
7839. Was he tall or short? About the medium height. I think he must have been a reddish man, but he has grown gray.
7840. How many Flemmings were there on the works? There might have been another, but I am not sure.
7841. Do you think it would have struck you if you had seen more than one Flemming? Yes; but there are certain names in the sheets representing different men. There are two or three Robertsons.
7842. How did you take precautions against two or three of the same name being one and the same? That did not come within my province. That is a question for the superintendent, who made out the sheet.
7843. You have no knowledge of there being more than one Flemming? No knowledge at all.
7844. What became of the draft sheets that the other pay-sheets were made from? They were kept in the office as a rule. I think they were sent in at the same time as the other papers.
7845. Did you ever see those draft sheets—whether they were blue paper or white paper? They were made out on ordinary paper.
7846. Were they big sheets or small sheets? Different sizes—some on little bits, as the overseers would make them out.
7847. What overseers would that be? Any overseer; and Mr. Burrowes made out some of them.
7848. What sort of paper would he use? Any kind of paper.
7849. As a rule, did he send his work in in good style? Yes.
7850. And these sheets—did he hand these to you or Mr. Springall? To Mr. Springall.
7851. Always? Yes.
7852. You never had the handling of these to make out a fair copy of them? No; I only had the abstracts.
7853. Supposing you made out a contingent voucher or pay-sheet from the abstract, would you check the names to see that they were correct? Invariably I would do so.

7854. I mean, supposing there is a pay-sheet here—Heathcote Agricultural, from the 4th to the 17th November, 1888—would you check that pay-sheet against the abstract, to see that no names were omitted? Yes; and I would check it by the net amount earned. I knew so long as I had all the men's earnings that I was correct.

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7855. Did you check the correctness of these amounts earned? I checked them before I engrossed them at all.

7856. That is, to see that the extensions were correct? Yes.

7857. Are all the pay-sheets correct that you made out? Correct, with a few trifling errors in calculation. I heard afterwards that there was one or two mistakes made in the extensions. On one occasion some of them were sent back. There were only two of us doing them, myself and another man, and we had been writing with a thick pen, so they sent these back to be re-engrossed.

7858. Are you prepared to swear that any name which appears upon the pay-sheet, and is not on the abstract, has been placed on it after it was in your hands? Certainly it was.

7859. That you swear to? Yes.

7860. Did Flemming draw rations? Yes; he drew rations every day.

7861. Did he draw rations for eight men? No; he drew rations for himself. He and Pender used to draw together.

7862. Is it impossible that he could have drawn for eight without your knowledge? Yes.

7863. I am referring to his name appearing as a ganger, with seven and himself;—where would he get the rations for the seven—at Heathcote? I do not know.

7864. Who was storekeeper there? I do not know.

7865. Whether he drew rations at Heathcote or not, he drew them between September and December, 1888, at Hurstville? Yes; he was drawing them there; that is a certainty.

7866. Did it ever strike you as peculiar that you were never asked to make out the Heathcote pay-sheet? No; it was only when I came to look through the average-sheets that I noticed it.

7867. You never did make out the Heathcote pay-sheet? No.

7868. Were there other pay-sheets that you did not make out? Undoubtedly. There was another clerk named Davey, and I used to make out the ones that were handed to me, and he made out the others.

7869. Do you know Flemming's handwriting? No; I do not know it.

7870. Do you think he is a man that would write a good or a bad hand? I should think a bad hand.

7871. You see his signature on the Heathcote pay-sheet, from the 4th to the 17th November? Yes. I would take that to be a fair sample of his handwriting.

7872. What was Flemming's old gang? I could not say of my own knowledge. I understood that he had charge of the rouse-about in the camp. I do not know if that is true—it is only what I was told.

7873. What did they do? They were employed cleaning out the camp at the National Park.

7874. Do you know how long they were there? They were in the camp from the time I went up on the 5th of May, 1887, and I do not know how long they were there before that. I do not think the camp there has ever absolutely ceased, but it has ceased to be a large camp for the last eight or nine months.

7875. What sort of a man was Mr. Springall? I always got on splendidly with him in the office. He is a bit gruff, and has a sharp way of speaking.

7876. Were you on good terms with him? Yes.

7877. When did you see him last? On Thursday week, I think it was. He was standing at the gate of his house.

7878. At Coronulla Beach? No; it was before he left Hurstville.

7879. I thought he left Hurstville some time ago? He left the employment of the Casual Labour Board on the 31st December, 1888.

7880. And he has been living in Hurstville ever since? Yes; he still kept the house there, but he has been at the beach himself, looking after the hotel.

7881. How far was his house from the store? About a quarter of a mile I should think.

7882. And you had constant opportunities of seeing him? Yes.

7883. Did you have any conversation with him about this man Flemming? No.

7884. Did he ever speak to you about the probability or possibility of you being called upon to give evidence before this Commission? Yes; he said to me, "Do you remember the way in which the vouchers were made out in the office?" I said, "Yes," and he added, "You remember that as an invariable rule they were all press-copied first, and then, when they came from the press copy-book, Mr. Burrowes would take them and sign them." I said, "Yes, I did." He said, "Somebody wants to make out that there was interpolations made on the vouchers after Mr. Burrowes signed them. I shall probably have you called before the Commission to say that no interpolations were made."

7885. When was this? This was on the occasion I told you of. Last Thursday week; I think that is the only time I have ever spoken to Mr. Springall since he left.

7886. Are you sure of the date? I believe it was last Wednesday, or Thursday, or Friday.

7887. Could you satisfy yourself as to the date in any shape or form, because it must have been about the time he gave his evidence before the Commission? Yes; it was on the Friday. I had my two children out there. My wife had been ill, and I had another woman looking after the children, who sent them back to me as her husband was going to repair the house. I had been down taking the children to another woman, and was then returning. It was on the evening of last Friday week I saw him.

7888. In the evening was it? Yes; it was about half-past 6 o'clock—just after dark.

7889. Was it in the store or in the house or where? He was inside the fence of his house at Hurstville last Friday week the 29th March.

7890. By-the-bye, did you know that he had been up before the Commission? I really forget. I might possibly have said, "Have you been examined?"

7891. Did he tell you that he had been subpoenaed to attend? Yes; I certainly had that impression from him.

7892. Have you seen Mr. Burrowes lately? Yes.

7893. Have you had any conversation with him regarding this Commission—regarding any evidence that you might be called upon to give? Not the slightest.

7894.

- Mr. H. J. Goodman.
8 April, 1889.
7894. You have had no conversation with him regarding Flemming's case? Certainly not. I have hardly had any conversation with Mr. Burrowes since I reported Flemming's matter to him. Once or twice when I have seen him I have asked him if he had seen the press copy-book yet.
7895. Have you had any conversation with anybody, directly or indirectly, about this matter, or any other matters connected with the Board? No.
7896. Supposing this affair of Flemming's should prove, on investigation, that he has been wrongfully receiving pay as a ganger, would it be possible for any other man to have wrongfully received pay as a ganger too? Oh, that follows as a matter of course. If one man could do a thing another could.
7897. Have you any reason to suppose it was done? No; I have no reason to suppose so.
7898. What did Mr. Burrowes say to you when the disclosures were made about the pay-sheets? He said he was sorry, but he had had suspicions lately. He wondered how Springall was able to raise sufficient money to build this hotel. He must have had at least £300 or £400, and he wondered how Springall could have saved that, when he (Burrowes) used to receive a larger salary and found it only sufficient to pay his way.
7899. Was he building this hotel when he was under the Board? Yes. I think it was about the latter end of November that he started to build it.
7900. Did he ever go out there when he was building it? Yes; he went out there once or twice before he left.
7901. By whose authority did he go out? He used to take leave himself.
7902. Without reference to the superintendent or the Board? Yes.
7903. How far is it from the office to where he was building this hotel? I have never been down there; but I have been led to believe it is about 9 or 10 miles.
7904. How often did he go down to see how his hotel was progressing? About once a week, I think.
7905. For what period? For about five or six weeks.
7906. How long would he remain away? He would go by the afternoon train—the 3 o'clock train, to Sutherland, and have somebody to drive him down.
7907. Would that somebody be one of the unemployed? No; I think not. It was a man named Lobb that would send the vehicle, but I do not know whether or not one of the unemployed was driving it.
7908. How did Mr. Springall do as regards his railway fare? He had a pass, I think.
7909. And he used this pass? I presume so.
7910. And did he draw his pay and rations for the time he was away? He took his pay and rations, and went away on an average about once a week.
7911. And when would he get back again? That evening.
7912. Did any other gentleman in the office of the Casual Labour Board take these outings? I do not know of any.
7913. You did not consider it necessary to mention this matter to the superintendent or to the Casual Labour Board? No; I did not consider it to be my business to do so.
7914. Did Mr. Burrowes ever in the course of his business require Mr. Springall during the times he was absent? No; I do not think he did.
7915. Did you ever speak to Springall or lead him to suppose that you suspected anything about Flemming? No; my first suspicions were actively aroused after he had left, and I do not know that I should have said anything to him under any circumstances.
7916. Is it possible that Flemming could have had a gang, or been in charge of a gang, from September to the time he left to occupy the position of groom and rouse-about to Mr. Burrowes? It is certainly impossible. He could not have looked after them, being down there.
7917. When was it when Mr. Bell told you that he objected to Flemming's name appearing in his pay-sheets? It was, I believe, on the 5th of January of this year. I forget the exact day; after New Year's Day, but I think it was on the 5th January that the conversation took place.
7918. Did Mr. Bell tell you to whom he had made this objection? Yes; to Mr. Springall.
7919. Did he tell you on what date he made the objection? No.
7920. Do you think constable Cheney ought to know this man Flemming by sight? I cannot say that.
7921. Was he much about the place? No; he used to be there on the pays, but he used to pass on. He was at the Bulgo and Camp Creek pays.
7922. What do you know about Robertson? I do not know anything about him.
7923. Nothing whatever? No; nothing.
7924. About what day did you speak to Mr. Burrowes about this matter of the pay-sheets? The same day I spoke to Mr. Bell. I think it was on the 5th, on the Saturday after New Year's Day.
7925. So that you really did not bring this matter under anybody's notice until the new year? I did not have this conversation with Semple until the new year, and Flemming had left.
7926. I see here Semple's name at the bottom of the Heathcote Agricultural pay-sheet [*Exhibit K*];—will you be good enough to read it? Yes; Semple J., cutting drains, 23 chains, at 7s., £8 1s.; spreading, 14 chains, 2s., £1 8s.; deduction, £2 5s. 6d., rations; cash paid, £7 3s. 6d.
7927. Would that be one man's pay for a fortnight? No; it is three men's pay.
7928. Who was that man Semple? He had been a ganger up there.
7929. Are you sure he was a ganger? Yes.
7930. Who was overseer there? Mr. Bell.
7931. Does he appear on his proper sheet? Oh, yes; he was always on Mr. Bell's sheet.
7932. See if you can find the press-copy of the same date as the voucher you have read? Yes—here it is.
7933. Whose writing is that? It is Mr. Springall's.
- 7933½. As regards these rations, who was the contractor for the supplying of them? Kidman. He delivered them at the various camps.
7934. Who took delivery of them? They were generally left at the railway station, and the storekeeper took charge of them.
7935. Were there any outside persons taking delivery of the rations? No; I think not.
7936. Who ordered the rations? Mr. Springall.
7937. Independently of anybody else? Yes.
7938. That is, he could order 1,000, 1,500, or 2,000 rations, as he liked? Yes. So far as I know he used to order the amounts asked for by the different storekeepers in the camps.

7939. How would he know what quantities to order? Sometimes the storekeepers would send down the amounts that they wanted on a particular day.

7940. Now, if a pay-sheet disclosed the pay of a certain number of gangers and their gangs, would not the pay-sheet be incomplete unless it showed that the rations for each of these men had been drawn? No; you could hardly say that. As a rule, if the amount of the deduction represented rations only we just put it in; but it also represented powder and fuse, and we could put down 5 lb. of powder and 1 lb. of fuse. Then the checking officer in the head office would be able to calculate the rations also.

7941. Would not your suspicions be aroused if a man's name appeared as a ganger, entitled to a certain amount of pay for himself and his gang, and against that name there was no debit on account of deductions made for rations and such things as would be required for clearing and so forth? Certainly. In such a case some explanation is given. An inquiry would be made how there was no debit for rations.

7942. In the column charging for rations, were there any other items to be deducted? Yes, undoubtedly; powder and fuse. For instance, if you look at the top one of these vouchers—Samuel Merry—you will see 98 R.—that is rations; so many P.—that is powder; and so many F.—that is coils of fuse. They are all put in and deducted.

7943. What ought Flemming to be charged for for his gang, 230 yards, at 2s. per cubic yard—that would come to how much? His men and he ought to earn for that £23, and he has a deduction of £4 18s. 7d. on account of rations.

7944. How many men would that represent on account of rations? That would represent ninety-one rations. If I were making out the average of the gang I should make it that it would be a gang representing seven men, and so many of them would possibly be away on the Saturday and Sunday, so that seven rations might have been stopped.

7945. Can you explain the meaning of this voucher [*Exhibit K*]:—Robertson A. and eight men, 96 days, 3s. 6d. is the rate, the amount earned £16 16s.; stone-breaking, 20½ cubic yards, at 2s., £2 1s. 4d., total earned; 128 rations, £6 18s. 8d.; cash received, £11 18s. 8d.? Yes. In that gang of Robertson's there were a number of old men paid 3s. 6d. per day, and there were also in each gang three stone-breakers. They drew rations, and the stone-breakers were put on the back of the pay-slip, and then they would add up.

7946. So that these men were paid at the usual rate of 3s. 6d.? Yes.

7947. Would it have been a simple matter in connection with Flemming's name appearing on the pay-sheet to have entered these debits on account of rations, which rations were never issued? Oh, yes.

7948. Would it have been a simple thing on the part of Kidman, if Kidman had been so inclined, and the storekeeper so inclined, to have carried on a bogus account for rations which were never delivered at all? I do not know whether it would. I suppose it could have been done. The system of ordering was this:—You sent your order each day for so many rations, and then you received from Kidman so much bread, meat, potatoes, and so forth, and the quantities received would be checked? I do not see how it could have been done. The rations must have been sent out, because if more rations had been ordered for the camp than had been sent the fact would have been noticed. I do not see how it could be done. The absolute amount of meat, potatoes, bread, and butter, representing the number of rations ordered, is sent out by Kidman every day, unless he went deliberately and sent less numbers to each camp, and even then it could not be done.

7949. But if he knew you were ordering too many for a particular camp? Then the storekeeper at the other end must have known, because he would have been receiving more bread, and everything else, than he required.

7950. Was it a fact or otherwise that complaints were made that rations were delivered short often? I have heard complaints being made of the weights being short and of the bread being bad; but I know on some occasions the weights have been over. Some days he could not send over carcasses of the exact weight.

7951. Then if it were impossible for rations to be ordered from Kidman, and those rations not to be delivered by Kidman, and if also there were only a few cases of complaint about the shortness of weight, how can you account for the rations for Flemming and gang, if Flemming was a bogus ganger and had no gang with him? I do not know, unless they were bogus rations.

7952. Who would receive the money for the bogus rations? I could not say.

7953. Who would receive the money for the rations deducted? The Government—the Casual Labour Board in the first place, and Kidman in the second.

7954. Kidman would send his accounts every month, and they were checked against what? Against the pay-sheets.

7954½. Therefore, if Kidman's accounts were rendered on every occasion and showed no debit for a certain amount of rations, would not these pay-sheets and Kidman's accounts be in opposition to each other instead of balancing? Yes; I should think they would.

7955. Would not somebody's attention have been called to the fact that Kidman was charging much less in his accounts than he was entitled to receive according to the pay-sheets? I do not know about that.

7955½. Could any man checking these accounts, and finding that Kidman's debit notes were much less against the Casual Labour Board than they ought to be, pass that over without notice? I should think not.

7956. Your difficulty is, what became of the money deducted for these men—for Flemming and his gang in respect of rations, if he were a bogus ganger? Yes; I do not see how it could be worked.

7956½. Presuming Flemming to have been a bogus ganger, presuming Kidman to have been quite clean-handed, presuming the storekeeper was the person who committed the wrong, if there was a wrong, that he ordered these rations as if Flemming and his gang were correctly on the sheets,—could he dispose of these rations, if they were delivered, without your knowledge? No; he could not. They should go straight up to Heathcote.

7957. Then does it follow that these men up there must have been a party to the swindle, if there was a swindle? I do not think that the men up there were likely to be in it. The only way that I can see would be that the number of rations too many would be sent on the last day of the order, and it would be gradually worked down again until the numbers were supplied for the next order.

7957½. That might happen once or twice, but if it occurred week after week regularly, would it not seem strange, eight rations too many coming in week after week? Well, I do not know that. The storekeeper might have allowed a few extra rations to the staff. That is the only possible explanation that I could give.

Mr. H. J.
Goodman.
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- Mr. H. J. Goodman.
8 April, 1889.
7958. Could not Mr. Springall have got these rations delivered to him without your knowledge—without their having to go to the Heathcote storekeeper, when he was able to put down a man's name, supposing he did do it, on the pay-sheets, when it ought not to be there? Oh, yes; the rations could have been delivered at his own house.
- 7958½. Without your knowing anything about them? Yes.
7959. Might he just have given instructions for Flemming's rations to be sent up to his house? Yes.
7960. Or simply to send eight rations to his house? Yes.
7961. Was his house a perfectly private house? Oh, yes.
7962. You had no right to go into it? None whatever.
7963. Who rented it? Mr. Springall rented it, and he paid the rent out of his own private means.
7964. Did Mr. Burrowes receive any rations? Mr. Burrowes never used to take any rations. He had a private house also. I believe it belongs to a market gardener.
7965. Who paid for the rent of it? Mr. Burrowes himself.
7966. Do you think it quite possible that these rations may have been delivered at the private house of Mr. Springall without the knowledge of anybody connected with the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
7967. Do you think it absolutely necessary that these rations should have been ordered and delivered in order to prevent suspicion arising when the pay-sheets were checked at the office? Most certainly, because if the discrepancy had appeared on the pay-sheets once there might have been an explanation furnished, but if it happened time after time there could not.
7968. Are any of the storekeepers, superintendents, overseers, and such like traders? Not to my knowledge.
7969. Money-lenders? No.
7970. Tobacco-sellers? No.
7971. Would it have been possible for any of these men to have traded through the medium of other people if they did not trade themselves? I do not think they could. It would have leaked out.
7972. It has already leaked out in the reports of the Select Committee? Oh, do you refer to the commencement of the Board?
7973. Yes? Oh, Mr. Springall himself kept a store then.
7974. Did anybody else keep a store? Yes; Mr. Kidman.
7975. Was there any store on Government ground close to where the camps were? There was one about 1½ mile off. They sold principally potted stuffs. I do not know whether they sold tea and sugar. I have bought there myself salmon, pickles, and cheese, and things of that kind.
7976. I would like you to give the Commission some idea, supposing that the rations for Flemming and his gang were not sent to the store proper, how they would be sent, without suspicion or knowledge arising, to Springall's house? I am afraid I cannot throw any light upon that. I cannot say how they would be sent without some person's knowledge.
7977. Did you know of any small parcels being delivered at Springall's house from the railway-station? No.
7978. What family had Springall at his place? There was his daughter, his son Frank, his younger son Percy, but he went away to Queensland with his uncle; and then there were only Frank and his daughter.
7979. Did he keep any servants? No; but there used to be a young lady stopping there.
7980. So that there would be a family of four? Yes.
7981. And I suppose a family of four, with good, healthy appetites, would consume pretty well rations for eight? Yes. I have known two do that.
7982. *President.*] Do you know a man named Johnson, who was assistant to Mr. Springall? Yes.
7983. Has he been at the store while you have been there? Not at our store. He has been at the store at the Illawarra Road.
7984. Do you know anything of Johnson? I never was intimate with him.
7985. Was there any means by which a man could buy extra rations? No; I wanted to buy some particularly on one occasion, and I had to walk down to Sutherland for them.
7986. Were you present when Springall packed these books up and sent them away to the Board office? No; I was away.
7987. Was Mr. Burrowes there? No; he was away.

Francis Jacob Josephson called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. F. J. Josephson.
8 April, 1889.
7988. *President.*] What are you now? I am a clerk in the Immigration Office.
7989. Did you hold any position in connection with the Casual Labour Board? Yes; I was Registrar and Assistant Paymaster.
7990. When were you appointed to that position? When the Casual Labour Board was first appointed.
7991. By whom? Well, the fact is, I was away on leave of absence at the time, and I really do not know who appointed me unless it was Sir Henry Parkes.
7992. How long did you remain in that capacity? Twenty-one months.
7993. Will you tell the Commission what your duties were? My duties were to register the men as they came in. They were admitted in lots of from six to eight. A constable named Cheney allowed them to come in; and I registered them. Detective Tindall used to issue tickets to them, stamped with the Casual Labour Board stamp, and put their names on them, and send their names to the overseers of the different places they would have to go to. Then, when they went out, the Chairman signed a pass, and we took them up to the station and got passes for the number of men going to the different works, and they were distributed over them. When pay-day came I used to go out to pay the men, having from £400 to £900 with me.
7994. Did anybody go with you on these occasions? Detective Tindall came with me once or twice, or it might be three times. Constable Cheney always used to accompany me after that. Sometimes we had to walk the distance between the two camps—a 16 or 18 miles walk.
7995. How often did your duties take you outside the head office? About three times a fortnight, as nearly as I can remember.

7996. And what did you do when you were in the office? The registration of the men. We were always sending men out.

7997. Was the whole of your time taken up registering the men? Yes.

7998. Had you any other duties? None whatever.

7999. Who was in the office with you? Detective Tindall and Constable Cheney.

8000. In what office were the others? There was Mr. Davies, Mr. Hinchcliffe, Larnach, and Hibble upstairs.

8001. Did your duties take you into their room? No, except in the morning early, after the correspondence came in. I would go up-stairs and ask the Chairman if any men were wanted for the different works. A lot of private employers would be wanting men, and I used to find those men, and send telegrams to the employers stating what trains the men would be up by after I had engaged them.

8002. Did you do that without reference to the Chairman? No; that was the Chairman's instructions.

8003. When you used to go on these pays, who gave you the money? Mr. Hinchcliffe gave me a cheque on the bank.

8004. Did you go down to the bank yourself and get it? No; I used to go to my lunch first, and meet him at the bank at twenty minutes past 2 o'clock.

8005. He gave you the cheque then? Yes, and I cashed it.

8006. How many pays did you go to? The whole time I was there. I could not say exactly.

8007. Tell me approximately? I might be exaggerating, or I might be a little under, but I should say, altogether, about forty.

8008. How many of these did you make without anybody being with you at all? I think about eight times.

8009. Who were present with you on the other occasions? Detective Tindall, Constable Cheney, Mr. Burrowes, and Mr. M'Pherson.

8010. Where was Mr. Burrowes present at a pay? At Liverpool. He was the one that showed me the way to the Liverpool camp.

8011. Were you ever at Heathcote? No.

8012. Had you anything to do with the accounts of the Casual Labour Board? No; nothing whatever.

8013. Did you keep the books? The register books; that was all.

8014. What did they show? The names of the men and the places that they came from, and all the particulars of the men that the Government wanted me to keep.

8015. Are we to understand that the whole of your time in the office was taken up in keeping these records? In keeping these records and paying the men.

8016. But you did not pay the men in the office? No; about three times a fortnight I paid them out at the works.

8017. The whole of the rest of your time was taken up in keeping the register? Yes, and engaging men for the country.

8018. What was your salary? £250 a year.

8019. Did you ever get any gratuity or bonus at all? No.

8020. Were you under the Board during the whole time of its existence? Yes.

8021. Were your duties at the end of your employment similar to what they were at the commencement? Yes, precisely.

8022. *Mr. Franklin.*] When the numbers of the men were much reduced your work was reduced? Yes.

8023. Did they not detach you from the office for detail work in the way of checking the pay-sheets? I did check one or two pay-sheets; but that was done down-stairs in my own room.

8024. And in checking these pay-sheets, did you compare them with the stores issued, to see that the stores issued corresponded with the number of men? I did, and I found them quite correct; all in detail.

8025. You never found any discrepancy between the stores issued and the number of men on the sheet? No.

8026. You found in every case that the order for stores on Mr. Kidman corresponded with the number of men? Yes. It was just the amount of rations to be deducted from each man's pay—1s. 1d. a day for each man's rations. That was the contract price.

8027. Do you remember which pay-sheets were particularly placed in your hands for checking? No.

8028. You do not remember that they were placed in your hands for any particular purpose to check? No; Mr. Davies came down and asked me to do that. He said that Mr. Larnach being out of the office he wanted me to check a few of these pay-sheets.

8029. In what way did you check them? By taking them out in items—so many men so much per acre, and that sort of thing, and I found them all correct. It was only twice or three times that I checked them.

8030. I am producing now the pay voucher 4th to 17th November. You checked these items with the number of men who did the work, the deductions for rations, and the cash advances? Yes.

8031. Did the check of these vouchers extend to an examination of the draft voucher from which these were compiled? I could not say that. These never came into my hands at all except on these one or two occasions.

8032. I want to ask you if you knew that these vouchers, which are acquittances for the men's wages, are prepared from an original draft, and that these are fair copies of the draft? I could not answer that question.

8033. You have not had sufficient knowledge or experience? No.

8034. You are quite sure that this was the only one placed in your hands to check? Yes.

8035. *Mr. Waller.*] Do you know anything at all about the style of check that was followed in the office? No, nothing whatever—in fact, it was no part of my duty.

8036. Your duties were not up-stairs? When I was wanted up-stairs, Mr. Hibble would call out to me "You are wanted," but I know nothing about the accountant's part of the work there.

8037. Do you know Mr. Burrowes well? I have known him for some time.

8038. Did you ever see him go to the office the worse for liquor? Well, I do not know whether he was the worse for liquor.

8039. Who else was there? Mr. Larnach used to complain about having very bad eyes, and I said to him one morning, "I think you have been down at Toohey's brewery." One morning, I think I was absent at the railway-station, and he came to the office and said he was very ill. Constable Cheney took him away, and found that he was under the influence of drink.

8040.

Mr. F. J.
Josephson.
8 April, 1889.

- Mr. F. J. Josephson.
8 April, 1889.
8040. Did he often appear to be under the influence of drink? I could not say, but his eyes looked bad very often.
8041. Mr. Hinchcliffe—how about him? I do not remember Mr. Hinchcliffe being ever under the influence of drink.
8042. Did you ever see Mr. Wells the worse for drink? I have never seen him drunk. He has always seemed to be the same to me.
8043. Mr. Houison? Well, I think I have once.
8044. Any of the others? No, sir. There were no others that I have seen connected with the office.
8045. Not even the Chairman? Oh, no. He is a regular cold water one.
8046. Have you had a business education? Yes.
8047. Have you been in many offices? I have been in the Immigration office for nine years? That is the only Government office I have been in.
8048. Do you think that the officers who were supposed to do the clerical branch of the Casual Labour Board were men who, by their sobriety, habits, close attention to business, and general fitness for their positions, would be likely to check irregularities or frauds that were likely to be enacted? Yes; I think they would.
8049. Would they detect pay-sheets coming in with dummy names upon them? I could not say that. That is for the superintendent to look to. We must pay anything that the superintendent puts his initials to.
8050. Do you think that if certain men were allowed to draw certain moneys they had no right to as gangers, and if the clerical staff up-stairs see that these men draw no rations, would suspicions arise in their minds? Well, I do not know how the clerical staff would act in that case.
8051. Just now you said that they were the right sort of men to conduct this kind of thing? I did; and I know up-stairs that they were very cute. There was many an error detected by Mr. Hibble.
8052. Would it show much cuteness if they did not suspect that these men did not live on air? I do not know. Mr. Burrowes is the responsible officer. Burrowes is responsible for the men. He signs his name to the voucher, and we take his voucher as correct. He is put into that responsible billet to look after these measurements being accurate, to make out the pays, to see that the names are correct. We do not know these men. I have known men on the works that have taken half a dozen names, and have received pay on the different works. I have never had anything happen to me like that.
8053. But if one of the clerical staff says that he checked the computations, would he not see a man in charge of a gang with nothing charged for rations? I could not answer that question.
8054. If you found a man continually drawing pay for work done, and nothing was deducted for rations, do you think that you would notice that nothing had been deducted? There is one instance—Mr. Burrowes and Mr. Larnach—whose rations are deducted from the pay-sheets and remitted afterwards.
8055. Suppose you saw a man named Campbell here, who is drawing £2 4s. 10d., and no deduction is made for rations, do you think you would notice that? I think so.
8056. Do you think if any such omission occurred, these were men who would look after these things? Yes.
8057. Do you think there was any chance, from your knowledge, of any swindling ever taking place in regard to the pay-sheets? I do not know.
8058. Do you know Mr. Burrowes' groom, a man named Flemming? No.
8059. Did you see many of the gangers? I saw every ganger I paid.
8060. Did you ever pay at Heathcote? No.
8061. Did the constable ever go out there? That I could not answer. He might have gone out once with Mr. Hibble, but I could not say for certain.
8062. *Mr. Franklin.*] Did anybody in your office ever go out to see whether the pay-sheets were checked? No; I do not think so, but I never had anything to do with the checking.
8063. Who did that? Mr. Larnach and Mr. Hibble. I never went out except on pay-days, and then I had to walk 16 or 18 miles between the places from Gawley Creek to Bulgo, and on to Waterfall. The walk was somewhat tedious, but it was through beautiful scenery.
8064. Had you any balance of money in hand after those pays? Always. Sometimes for instance a ganger might leave and not pay for his rations, and of course I used to pay on the pay-sheet and hand over the balance.
- 8065-6. You have every reason to believe that the pay-sheets were finally completed? Yes.
8067. *President.*] During the time that you were in the employ of the Casual Labour Board, did you observe or were you informed of any irregularities or improper conduct on the part of any one connected with the office, whether members of the Board or otherwise? No.
8068. Beyond the cases that you referred to? No, none whatever.

TUESDAY, 9 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

The Honorable Geoffrey Eagar called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Hon. G. Eagar.
9 April, 1889.
8069. *President.*] What position do you hold in the public service? Under Secretary for Finance and Trade.
8070. This Commission wrote to your department on 1st April last asking for certain information. It is very material in the interests of this inquiry and it will be a great saving of our valuable time and of expense to the country if you can let us have a reply to that letter? Here is the document in reply [*Document put in and marked L*].
8071. We are told that there are some vouchers, receipts, and pay-sheets belonging to the Casual Labour Board still in your department? Yes.
8072. Can you let us have these vouchers, receipts, and pay-sheets? No; and for reasons that I will explain

explain to you. At the close of the labours of Mr. Davies and the gentlemen associated with him, they were overdrawn, permitted by Government, to the extent of £12,203 10s. at the Australian Joint Stock Bank. I hold these vouchers to entitle me to recoup the advances from the Australian Joint Stock Bank. I will allow with pleasure any member of the Board to go through these vouchers at the Treasury at any time they please, but if I part with them I shall be unable to procure from the Paymaster the sum to pay to the Australian Joint Stock Bank.

Hon.
G. Fagar.
9 April, 1889.

8073. Can you tell me whether there are many of these documents? They consist of three bundles of papers. They represent £12,203 10s. not yet recouped to the Australian Joint Stock Bank.

8074. Are these all vouchers of the Casual Labour Board? Yes; official vouchers of the Davies Board.

8075. Can you tell me from your figures or your recollection what the total amount of the advance to the Board was? £240,000 in all. I think the advances commenced from May, 1887.

8076. Will you give me the names of the gentlemen of your department who will be familiar with the details of the vouchers? Mr. Corkhill and Mr. Cronin.

8077. Which of these gentlemen should be most familiar with these particular vouchers? The Examiner, Mr. Corkhill. He has gone through them and has satisfied himself they are good vouchers—in fact he could bring them here, provided he is allowed to take them away.

8078. Will you undertake on the part of your department not to part with them pending this inquiry? Certainly, I will not part with a single voucher.

8079. We are informed that the Casual Labour Board was supplied with advances of £6,000 at each time; that on each occasion—some forty occasions—they sent in vouchers for the exact amount of £6,000, neither more nor less. From your experience of the department, and as an accountant, was this at all unusual? I decline to state any opinion in reference to my personal knowledge of the accounts. I further say that in my present state of information, I am not sure, nor do I know that each £6,000 was vouched for within that limit.

8080. I do not wish to ask you any further questions? I am very glad to hear it.

Patrick Gernon Boylan called in, sworn, and examined:—

8081. *President.*] What are you engaged in now? I am an overseer on the relief works.

8082. Where? At Liverpool at present.

8083. Did you hold any position under the Casual Labour Board? Yes; since its formation. I was also employed before it existed.

Mr. P. G.
Boylan.
9 April, 1889.

8084. Where were you engaged? At the National Park, Heathcote, and the Waterfall.

8085. What were your duties? I was looking over the men in the field when they were clearing in the National Park, and at Heathcote, and after that I was overlooking road-making at the Waterfall. I was on the road from the Falls to Port Hacking, down to the sea beach.

8086. During what time were you in this district? I suppose it is eighteen months, while I was on the road at the Waterfall.

8087. Who were the officers over you? Mr. Burrowes was superintendent, and Mr. M'Pherson was assistant superintendent.

8088. Who else? No one else.

8089. Who was the storekeeper? Mr. Springall was at the National Park, and Mr. Tait at the Waterfall.

8090. Did your duties necessitate your knowing the different men in your employ? Yes; I knew the men pretty well.

8091. Had you ever anything to do with the Heathcote Agricultural district? No; I was camped at Heathcote, at work clearing bush for a considerable time.

8092. What is the difference between Heathcote and Heathcote Agricultural? I cannot tell you. There is some land there that was cultivated some years ago, but that is private property I think now.

8093. Look at this pay-sheet for Heathcote, 26th August to 8th September, 1888 [*Exhibit J*]; do you recognise in the names there those of any persons whom you know? No; that is all for carting—yes, that of Flemming.

8094. Do you notice the last name on the sheet? Yes. It is that of Flemming.

8095. Read the entry? Flemming and seven men. I know a man of the name of Flemming. He was with Burrowes, but I never knew him as a ganger; I think he was a groom for Burrowes.

8096. Was it part of your duty to be present at the pay on pay-days? Not at all times, because Mr. Burrowes used to attend to that a good deal.

8097. Was Mr. Burrowes present on all pay-days? No, not at the Waterfall. He used not to come there at all.

8098. Where used he to go? I do not know where he used to go at that time; later he used to go to Campbelltown and Eckersley.

8099. Was Mr. Burrowes present on any occasion of the Heathcote pays? Yes. Mostly when we used to go in from Heathcote to be paid at the National Park.

8100. Was Mr. Burrowes present then? He would be present at the pay.

8101. Had you anything to do with the Liverpool pays? I have been present at the Eckersley Road pay?

8102. Was Mr. Burrowes present? No.

8103. Never? Very seldom.

8104. Can you tell me from your own knowledge what are the different districts he visited on pay-days? He used to visit Campbelltown sometimes, and Liverpool whilst Walsh was at Eckersley Road.

8105. What particular district did he visit and was present at on pay-days? I cannot tell you.

8106. Can you say whether he was present on any of the Heathcote pay-days? He was present, because we all came in to the main camp at National Park.

8107. Was he present at Campbelltown? I cannot say.

8108. Was he present at the National Park pay? Yes, to the best of my knowledge.

8109. Was he present at Loftus Road on pay-days? I cannot say about the Loftus Road; I had left there then.

8110.

NOTES (on revision):—Q. 8074.—For “Davies” read “Casual Labour.” Q. 8097.—Omit “personal”; for “of the accounts” read “as an accountant.” Q. 8102.—For “No” read “Yes, occasionally.” Q. 8104.—Omit “Liverpool whilst Walsh was at.” Q. 8105.—For “I cannot tell you” read “He visited and was present at Campbelltown and Eckersley, and at National Park, where he resided.” Q. 8107.—For “I cannot say” read “Yes.” Q. 8111.—Omit whole answer, insert “That it is not true—he was present at Heathcote pays, but they were made at National Park.”

Mr. P. G.
Boylan.
9 April, 1889

8110. On how many occasions did you see Mr. Burrowes present on any pay-days? I cannot say how many. I know of about six with me at the Eckersley Road. I cannot say for certain.
8111. If we have been told that he was never present at any of these Heathcote pays, what would you say to that? He might not have been, because it was before these roads were started. It is two years or two and a half years ago that I allude to. These pay-sheets, I know nothing about. There was no road-making at the time I am speaking of.
8112. Did your duties bring you in contact with Mr. Springall at all? No.
8113. Do you know him? Yes, well.
8114. Where is he now? I am told he has started a public-house somewhere on the Illawarra line.
8115. Did you have occasion to go to the store he had charge of? I was frequently at the store—the same as any casual observer.
8116. Did you get rations from that store? I was supplied with rations from the store.
8117. On personal application? No, at the camp; with the general rations, along with the other men.
- 8118-19. Are you aware whether any rations were sold at that store? I am not aware of any such thing.
8120. Did any irregularity, or improper conduct, on the part of any of the officials come under your notice whilst you were in this district? I do not know in what way you mean.
8121. I am speaking generally, of the superintendents, assistant superintendents, store-keepers, and so forth? I can only speak of the particular line I was in myself—that was road-making. I think there was a little mismanagement in making the roads and the grades in some parts of the district I was in. It might have been done more judiciously; the work might have been done better, and money might have been saved.
8122. Do you know what taking a "tip" means? I know that it means that people get a bribe for certain work.
8123. What countryman are you? I am an Irishman.
8124. Did you ever hear of an Irishman taking a tip? No; but I suppose they would the same as other people.
8125. Do you know of any instance of any officer under the Casual Labour Board taking a tip? I do not; not of my own knowledge.
8126. Do you know of any case where any officer under the Board has carried a road in a particular direction for any consideration at the request of any private individual? I do not.
8127. Do you know how the work on these different roads, which were constructed or improved by the unemployed in the Liverpool district, originated? I do not. I do not know anything about them.
8128. May I take your evidence to be this: that everything that came under your notice, or with which you were connected during the whole time the Casual Labour Board was in existence, was perfectly straight? I do not think you can take it in that light. Let me explain in a general way. There was this road I was on myself, the Eckersley Road, a road supposed to connect the National Park with Campbelltown, down to Woronora. This road, when I was there, was laid out and cleared up a mountain. I said to Mr. Burrowes, "You will never get a road here; if you run it here it will be money lost." He observed to the men, "I thought I told you to go higher up and clear the road in such a direction." When I came on the job I was supposed to make the road, and form it, and make a track across a dam. It is rough country. When I found the sort of country I was in, I thought, "I will not employ the men on this work." I believe I wrote to Mr. Burrowes that I could give a better road. This is the answer to my letter.
- 8129-30. I see that this letter from Mr. Burrowes says that your suggestion is feasible, but directs you not to divert the gangs until he comes up, and requests that the dismissed men leave the ground. Is there anything unusual in that? There is nothing remarkable in it. I had the men there. He promised to come on Wednesday, but did not come. I had sixty men waiting behind me for work; so I put them on and opened up a road. Of course, Mr. Mason could give you better information on this matter than I can.
8131. Is that the only special thing that occurs to you to mention? Yes. Everything else was perfectly straight.
8132. Do you know anything about a road passing the property of Mr. Head or Mr. Gannon? No.
8133. *Mr. Franklin.*] You were the officer over the gangs? I was over all the men there, gangsmen included. There were eighty-six—eight in each gang.
8134. What work were you doing? I was principally engaged in clearing and road-making.
8135. How was it done? By contract.
8136. Was the work set out? Yes.
8137. Were measurements made for the fortnight's payments? We would give them a sub. on a 5-acre block.
8138. They would get the sub. without measurement? Yes.
8139. Was it your duty to certify to the visiting officer the amount of work done? No; the superintendent used to look at the work himself.
8140. Was there any actual measurement? He would look at it and say, "I will give you so much." He would consider that they had done so much work.
8141. Who measured the work out? It was measured out before they started. It was the overseer's business to see that the block was properly cleared.
8142. There was no possibility of making a mistake in regard to the return of the work in each of the contracts? There was a possibility.
8143. Did you yourself know the amounts of the advances made to the men under your supervision? It all depended. Sometimes they got more and sometimes less. It all depended on the amount of work they had done.
8144. Did you know the extent of each contract yourself? Yes.
8145. Did you know the final amount? They were getting £5 per acre.
8146. For stumping and clearing? With regard to stumping, they would leave in all the big timber; all under a foot was taken out. The holes were filled in, and matters were finished to the satisfaction of the superintendent.
8147. Have you had considerable experience in the management of men? Yes.
8148. In road construction—how was the road set out? At the Waterfalls, M'Pherson worked it out for me.
8149. Do you know what you paid for clearing before formation? Sometimes £6, £8, or £9; sometimes as high as £10. You can say from £6 to £10 per acre.
8150. Was that clearing, stumping, and filling in the holes? Yes.

8151.

Mr. P. G.
Boylan.

9 April, 1889.

8151. How did you pay for the formation? So much a chain for the formation.
8152. How much? Sometimes 30s.
8153. Would that be for ordinary formation and making everything solid? Yes.
8154. What about side-drains? Some 2s. 6d., some 3s. a chain.
8155. In rock? They were never put in in rock.
8156. Did you do side-cuttings? Yes, very deep ones.
8157. How was that paid for? By the yard.
8158. In the rock, how much? It depended on the class of work; 1s. 3d. for sandstone.
- 8159-60. How were the culverts constructed? They were of stone.
8161. What size was the drain? Some 1 by 1; others 2 by 2 feet.
8162. How were they paid for? Ninepence per lineal foot.
8163. Were they carried across the width of the formation? Yes, for the width of the formation—21 feet.
8164. Had you any bridges? No bridges.
8165. Was all this work done by contract? Yes; it was all done by contract.
8166. Do you consider that your roads were a good example of the roads made in the district? Mr. Mason told me mine was a very good road.
8167. In estimating the roads, then, might we take yours as a good example? Yes. Well, referring to the rock excavations, I know Mr. Burrowes paid more than 1s. 3d. He paid as high as 1s. 9d.
8168. Under what circumstances? Part of the rock was harder, or something of the kind.
8169. Can you give me an idea of the quantity of such rock-cutting that would come within the formation of the road for a mile? Say a chain.
8170. Do you consider that your roads were as good and as well finished as the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I do not think I was ever on the Holt-Sutherland Estate roads. I know the road that Mr. M'Pherson made at the Waterfalls is as good as any made in the Colony.
8171. Do you think that if an average is made on the prices you have given it will be a fair value? Yes.
8172. Were the other roads made under the same conditions as those in your charge? I do not think so. The roads I have seen have not been made so good as mine. They are only slummed over.
8173. Were there any general instructions issued to overseers? Yes. What I got from the superintendent. We were under his control.
8174. Were instructions given for such a piece of work? He would lay out the road so many chains for each gang, and would put a price on it. This the gang would get. It was my business to see that the gang carried out the work according to the instructions given to them. If they did not do it, he looked to me.
8175. I suppose you knew the men personally? Pretty well.
8176. Would it be possible for a man to personate another man at the pay-table? Oh, yes.
8177. Without your detecting him? I would detect him. It could not be done if the overseer was standing at the pay-table without he was a party to it. If he was a party to it, it could be done.
8178. Did you ever hear of one man personating another man at the pay-table? I have heard rumours; nothing definite.
8179. Did you ever find any great loss of tools at your works? No; I made the ganger responsible for the tools I issued. If he did not give me an account of the tools I made him pay for them.
8180. What tools would there be? Mattocks, axes, shovels, forks.
8181. How often did you find it necessary to renew those tools? Not very frequently.
8182. How long would they last a set of men steadily working? About three months.
8183. Would the tools you have mentioned be supplied to each man? Yes.
8184. Did the men return the tools to you when they left the works? Into the store.
8185. Would a complete set of tools be supplied to each man steadily working four times every year? It would be necessary to do so.
8186. What would be your system? I would supply new tools when required. If a man was working steadily with a mattock for three months he would use it up.
8187. Would the same thing apply to road construction? Road construction is different. Striking-hammers, other hammers, and jumpers last a long time. Drills will soon wear out. You can average drills at two months.
8188. Had you any particular rule as to the use of powder? We used to sell it to the gangs at so much a pound.
8189. Were they allowed to use it indiscriminately? They were allowed to use it whenever they thought fit.
8190. Would powder be used for the excavation of the rock you have given me here? Yes.
8191. What did you allow carters? One shilling a cubic yard, and upwards, according to distance; 10s. for a day.
8192. What would be the load in the dray? They used to carry yard loads. We used to measure it out.
8193. What do you say was their pay? They could make twelve shillings a day if they worked hard. They never worked for less than ten shillings. On piece-work they had one shilling per yard.
8194. *Mr. Waller.*] Did they employ horses and carts of their own? Not that I am aware of.
8195. How did you obtain the services of the men that had the horses and carts? The superintendent used to find them.
8196. Used he to get the men to come and do the work? Yes.
8197. Who arranged the price to be paid to these carters? The superintendent arranged the price. I think Mr. M'Pherson helped to do it.
8198. By whose authority were they engaged? I should think by the authority of the Board.
8199. Was any special rate authorized by the Board to be paid to these men? 1s. a cubic yard.
8200. How do you know the Board authorized it? That was what I saw on the printed rules.
8201. How long were you stationed at Heathcote? Six months.
8202. Between what dates? I cannot say; I was there at the time the Jubilee took place; I had been there about a month.
8203. Then you were there in May, 1887? Yes.
8204. That is about the time that the Board was formed. Who sent you there? Mr. Burrowes.
8205. Where were you before that? At the National Park.
8206. Under whose employment? Mr. Burrowes'.
8207. In what position? An overseer.

8208.

- Mr. P. G. Boylan.
9 April, 1889.
8208. How did you come to be employed at the beginning? I was sent out from the Government office here to the National Park. Mr. Wise had to do with it then. I was sent out from Mr. Deering's office.
8209. Were you in Government employment? I was before the Board was formed.
8210. Were you one of the unemployed? Never.
8211. You say you were there in May, 1887. When did you leave Heathcote? I went from Heathcote to the Waterfalls about four months afterwards.
8212. You were there then four or five months. In what position? An overseer.
8213. What did your duties consist of? To see that the men did the work of clearing the ground properly.
8214. Would you know the gangers over the gangs during those four months? Yes.
- 8214½. You knew them personally? Yes.
8215. Did you attend their pays? Every pay-day I came up to recognize them.
8216. Did the men go for their money as well as the gangers? One or two would come to watch the ganger.
8217. Can you give us the names of the gangers who were under you during the four or five months? I cannot; I did not keep them.
8218. Could you recognize them in the pay-sheet? I dare say I could.
8219. Did you see the men sign their names? I saw them sign their names and draw their money.
8220. Who made out the pay-sheets for Heathcote, during the time you were there? Mr. Burrowes.
8221. How were they made out? I do not know. I had nothing to do with it. Burrowes did that himself.
8222. Did he make them out from intuition, or from information given to him? He used to go over the work; he made what he called valuations; he would make out the pay-sheets afterwards.
8223. Going over the work would not tell him the names of the men? The names of the gangers were sent in every week.
8224. To whom? To the head storekeeper, and from that Mr. Burrowes got the names.
8225. They were sent in by the storekeeper at Heathcote? Yes.
8226. Were you advised as to the names sent in? I knew them all.
8227. Were there books which were called "time-books"? There were no time-books for the men on the contracts. For the day-men there were regular time-books. I never had any, because I was always over piece-work. There might have been printed books for all I know.
8228. What became of these time-books? I cannot tell. The timekeepers would deliver them to Mr. Burrowes or Mr. Springall.
8229. After they were sent in to Mr. Burrowes, were they sent back to the timekeepers? The time was taken from them every night, and then they were sent back.
8230. Do you know Mr. Springall's handwriting? Yes.
8231. Do you know Mr. Goodman's? Yes.
8232. Do you know Mr. M'Pherson's? Yes.
8233. Do you know Mr. Burrowes'? I do.
8234. Did you ever see Flemming's handwriting? Never.
8235. Did you ever see him sign the pay-sheet? Never.
8236. Did you ever see him come up to the Heathcote Agricultural district on pay-days? No; I was not in the district when that pay-sheet was made out.
8237. Do you say that Mr. Burrowes estimated the work done by simply riding past it, and looking at it? Yes.
8238. Would he give an estimate as to the cubic yards given out? No. I was clearing; that is different to road-making.
8239. Look at this pay-sheet from the 18th July to 30th July, 1887? Yes.
8240. Were you an overseer at that time? Yes.
8241. Turn to the last page of those pay-sheets. What are these men? Taylor and eleven men. He was working on day wages. Flemming is here at 4s. 6d. They were not with me.
8242. Is that Flemming, whose name is down there, the groom? I think he is.
8243. Whose handwriting is that pay-sheet? I think it is in Christy's.
8244. *Mr. Franklin.*] How were these roads metalled? 4-inch ballast.
8245. What width was it spread? 21 feet.
8246. What did you pay for the ballasting? 1s. 3d. for quarrying; breaking, 1s.; carting, 1s.; spreading, 2d.; making 3s. 5d. the cubic yard.
8247. Was it blinded afterwards? Yes, with ridge gravel, up to the same width of 21 ft. and 2 inches deep. We never put too much blinding on. If you do it wastes.
8248. What did you pay for blinding? To get, and put it on the road, and carting it, it is worth 1s. 5d.

James Kidman called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. J. Kidman.
9 April, 1889.
8249. *President.*] What are you? A grocer, wine and spirit merchant, and Government contractor.
8250. I believe you had a contract with the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
8251. Do you produce that contract? This is the duplicate tender form, and this is the notice of the acceptance of the contract, dated 16th June, 1887. The letter is signed by Thos. Hinchcliffe, Secretary of the Board, to James Kidman, informing me that my tender for rations for relief works at National Park, and all other works of a similar nature within 40 miles of Sydney, excepting Rookwood, has been accepted.
8252. Does this state where the goods are to be delivered? At all places within 40 miles of Sydney. The goods had to be sent to any place they were ordered for.
8253. What was the rate of the tender? 1s. 1d. per ration.
8254. Was your tender sent in on a similar form to this one? On a similar one. Of course the Board would have the original tender.
8255. Is this the same form marked "D2"? "D2" is the same form, only this one is signed J. Kidman, and has 1s. 1d. on it besides the words "at per ration."
8256. Where did you generally deliver the goods for the Southern district? Wherever ordered.
8257. Where did you deliver the goods for Hurstville? At Hurstville. I produce a sample of a lot of orders sent to me. I take up an order, 7th December, 1888, signed by Joseph Springall to me, ordering a supply of rations to thirteen different places; a total of 2,260.
8258. Did you deliver those to the different places? Yes.
8259. Free of charge? Yes, free of charge to the Board. I paid the expense of carting and delivering myself. There is a clause in the contract requiring that.
8260. From whom were you in the habit of receiving orders? Springall, Oxley, Larnach, and sometimes the Chairman, Mr. Davics.
- 8261.

8261. Were the orders in writing? Not always. Sometimes they were given verbally. If an extra number of men went out I would be asked to send so many rations at once.

8262. What was the practice when verbal orders were given. Did you enter the orders in your books? When we got a receipt for the goods they would possibly be put on the order list for the following day.

8263. Did you in all cases where you delivered goods obtain receipts? Invariably so. We got receipts as a rule.

8264. Can you tell me by whom most of these receipts are signed? Principally by Springall and Larnach in the Southern district, and Oxley in the Northern.

8265. Will you produce to me the books in which you entered the orders? Yes; I will get them for you.

8266. Have you the books for Government accounts, and also for private orders? Yes; I produce them.

8267. Will this book show any order given by Mr. John Davies in his private capacity? Yes; it shows a number of accounts of private people, and amongst others the accounts of Mr. John Davies.

8268. I see this book shows a payment on page 116 of £37 1s. 10d.? Yes.

8269. On what date? 14th October, 1887.

8270. How was that amount made up? By items of £13, £1 13s. 10d., £1 18s. 6d., and £20 9s. 6d.

8271. Is the item £20 9s. 6d. for certain goods supplied to Mr. Davies at the National Park? Yes.

8272. When was this writing in pencil put in the book? It is not my writing.

8273. Do you know whose it is? I cannot say whose it is.

8274. Is that item amounting to £20 9s. 6d. for certain wines and liquors? Yes.

8275. Have you books containing entries of Government accounts? Yes.

8276. Which are they, and what do you call them? There is a day-book, a cash-book, and a ledger—in fact the whole of my books are entirely at your disposal.

8277. Show me the day-book;—what does this show? The quantity of rations delivered every day to each district, consisting of meat, bread, potatoes, sugar, tea, butter, salt, pepper, and kerosene.

8278. From where did you get the particulars that you have entered in this book? From the various superintendents.

8279. What was the next step as regards your book-keeping? Immediately we had the receipts for the delivery of the goods we entered them in our contract delivery-book. Then, prior to sending in our account for the goods supplied, we forwarded a tabulated statement of the number of rations supplied to the men at the different camps, to the superintendent or storekeepers who received the goods. That would be checked and returned to us, and on that we would make out our voucher. The amount of money we received from the Chairman of the Board would tally with the amount in our cash-book, and also with the amount paid into the bank.

8280. Then your records show a complete history of your dealings with the Casual Labour Board? Decidedly so.

8281. Supposing the vouchers were not all forthcoming, had been accidentally destroyed, could you supply us with duplicates? Yes, with duplicates from beginning to end. Further, I may say that I have supplied large quantities of bread, meat, butter, &c., largely in excess of what is allowed by the ration bill, which my books will prove.

8282. How often were you paid? Monthly.

8283. Regularly? Yes.

8284. How? By cheque.

8285. Who brought the cheque? Mr. Davies.

8286. Always? Yes.

8287. Were they for large amounts? Oh, yes, as high as £4,272 down to £1,805.

8288. Did Mr. Davies go up to your Oxford-street shop with the cheques? Regularly every month. I wish every department would bring their cheques up.

8289. Do you know why he brought them up? I think he used rather to like the idea of presenting me with a large cheque. It used to please him, and it did not do me any harm.

8290. Did you make him any present for it? Not I.

8291. Did you ever allow him any commission? Certainly not.

8292. It was just the pleasure of presenting you with a large cheque that took him up there? I think he used rather to like bringing them up.

8293. Have you a statement that will show the aggregate sums that have been paid to you by the Casual Labour Board from 2nd May, 1887? From May, 1887, to 31st January, 1889, I have received £53,020 0s. 1d.

8294. When did you make that summary up? A couple of days ago.

8295. In anticipation of being asked the question? Yes, and for my own satisfaction.

8296. Is there anything due to you now by the Board? No; I received my cheque yesterday for the last month.

8297. Can you tell me whether you have any account with Mr. Springall? Do you mean a private account. I have an account with him.

8298. Did you have an account with him in November, 1888? Yes.

8299. I want to know whether any of your books show an account other than this in 1888? No other than this.

8300. Is there anything that shows you what these items are? Yes.

8301. Did Mr. Springall, on or about 12th November, 1888, order certain rations—a week's rations for five men—on his own account. Have you any record of it in your books? He may have paid cash for them, and if so there would be no record.

8302. Are you able to tell me whether he paid cash or not? I cannot say.

8303. You would not sell rations over the counter? No; he would have to specify the articles.

8304. I want to find out whether in November, 1888, Mr. Springall ordered from you those articles? Well, this will settle the question. I produce a letter dated 20th October, 1886, from J. H. Springall addressed to me asking me to supply him with certain goods and stores, and to place the same to his private account.

8305. Can you tell me how long you continued to carry out that order? Up to the time he left the employ of the Casual Labour Board.

8306. Does page 217 in your book deal with this account? That and the following one.

8307. Give me the dates of the accounts you are showing me? From April, 1887, up to 31st January last.

8308.

Mr.
J. Kidman.
9 April, 1889.

- Mr. J. Kidman.
9 April, 1889.
8308. Was Mr. Springall ever in your employment? No.
8309. Had he a store under your supervision? No.
8310. Did you ever supply him with goods for sale or return? He could not return them. I have sold him goods the same as any ordinary customer.
8311. Do I understand that the arrangement he asked you to enter into on 20th October, 1886, continued up to the end of last year? Up to the 5th January, when he left the Sutherland District.
8312. Kindly read the letter he sent you? "National Park Relief Works, 20th October, 1886.—J. Kidman, Oxford-street.—As the men employed on these works require a few extra rations, would you kindly supply me with about sixty loaves, from 100 to 150 lb. of meat, and one bag of potatoes, and any other small stores I may require from time to time, and place the same to my private account, and I will settle with you when you render the accounts for same. By doing this you will greatly oblige me.—Yours respectfully, JOSEPH H. SPRINGALL, storekeeper, National Park."
8313. Had you any similar arrangement with the storekeeper at Narrabeen? I only recognized the superintendent there, Mr. Oxley.
8314. Did you supply the storekeeper of any other place like you did Mr. Springall? Possibly so.
8315. Can you let us have extracts showing your dealings with Mr. Springall during all this time? Yes.
8316. Do you know whether Mr. Davies was aware of this? I cannot say, I am sure.
8317. Did you ever hear of the Board or any other member informing Mr. Springall that he must give this up? Yes; from both Mr. Davies, Mr. Wells, and Mr. Houison.
8318. Did Mr. Davies tell you this? Yes; and asked me to take the store afterwards, and very much against my own will I did it.
8319. What did you keep? Stores and provisions similar to what were supplied as rations. It was what you might call a general store.
8320. Had Springall to do with it? Not after I took it over; he had to do with it previously.
8321. Who was in charge of it? One of my men; I forget who it was now.
8322. Did any of the rations or goods you sent out for the relief works go to that store? Do you mean under the contract. No.
8323. They did not go there in the first instance to be delivered? They might for all I know.
8324. Who would know? Well, the contract goods would not go to the store that I know of.
8325. Who would be able to tell us? Mr. Springall, I suppose.
8326. I suppose the officer in charge? Yes; all the contract goods would go straight to the Government store.
8327. Do you know whether any arrangement existed at the store out there for exchanging goods? I expect they used to exchange goods. I had my receipts for delivering them.
8328. Did you hear of goods being exchanged? Oh, yes. If they did not want bread or meat we gave them prunes, tinned milk, or anything like that. It is a recognised thing in all institutions.
8329. Suppose relief storekeepers had a lot of ordinary rations by them, could they get them exchanged for more useful goods? Decidedly so. Condensed milk, cheese, and so on.
8330. That was done? Yes; repeatedly, and is being done at the present time.
8331. The exchange would be conducted in goods? There would be no return in money. Suppose, for instance, they had an accumulation of pepper and salt; we should say it comes to 17s. 6d. We will give you condensed milk, cheese, bread, or butter up to the value of it.
8332. Did Mr. Burrowes deal with you? Yes.
8333. Has he an account yet? Yes, he has.
8334. Is it a large account? I do not see his name here, so I presume he owes nothing.
8335. Did he have large transactions with you? Oh, no; just for his family requirements.
8336. How would he pay you? I suppose he would pay the cashier.
8337. Does not your book show? Not if it is a cash transaction.
8338. Would his transactions be in cash? If he came in at the end of the month or fortnight it would show in the books that he had paid.
8339. It would say paid by cash? Yes; if it was paid in cash up at the shop.
8340. Had he a running account with you? Yes.
8341. *Mr. Waller.*] Has Mr. Hinchcliffe got an account with you? Yes.
8342. What is this book? It is the ledger for 1887 to the present year.
8343. Have you an account there in the name of Hinchcliffe? Yes; a regular account.
8344. Has Mr. Larnach an account with you? No; I do not think he has.
8345. Has Mr. Hibble? No.
8346. Have any other members of the Board got accounts besides Mr. Davies? No; I do not think so.
8347. Has Mr. Wells? Oh, yes; he has been a customer of mine for the last twenty years, and a good customer too.
8348. I shall want you to give me the accounts in full of all the persons I have been asking you of? Yes; I will get them for you. What they have had. What they have paid for and so on.
8349. How long have you known Mr. Davies? Nearly thirty-eight years.
8350. How long has he been dealing with you? The whole of the time pretty well. I am going back to the date of my birth.
8351. The other gentlemen whose names I mentioned—when did they become customers of yours? Mr. Hinchcliffe has been a customer of mine for a long time. I do not know half my customers.
8352. Can you get out from your books a complete return of the cheques received each month from the Casual Labour Board, and on what date they were received? Yes.
8353. In this cash-book, folio 116, Friday, 14th October, 1887, there is an entry—"John Davies, by cheque, £37 1s. 10d;"—will you show it in the bank pass-book? That is the Market-street shop takings; it would be included in the bank deposits of that day. If we turn up the deposit slip you will find that the cheque will be entered on the back of the slip.
8354. Have you got the duplicate bank-slip? No; I have only the total. I can get you the deposit-slip for that day.
8355. Was there a receipt? Mr. Davies ought to have the receipt. The only thing which appears in my books is that it has been paid.
8356. What was the date of the payment? 14th October, 1887.

8357. Would receipts be given at the time of that payment? Certainly.
8358. Do I understand that you said that you continued to supply Mr. Springall with goods, outside what you supplied him with as storekeeper, up to the time of his leaving? Yes; I supplied him independently of the contract with the Board, and he has paid me.
8359. What has he done with them? I do not know.
8360. At the time you supplied him with the extra goods had you also a store of your own there? Yes; just the same as I would have in Market-street or Oxford-street. It was forced on me by the Board.
8361. Can you show what goods you supplied Mr. Springall with regularly? The day-book will show it.
8362. Was there a good deal of stuff of one sort and another? I do not think it was very much.
8363. Would it be what would be required in a general store? Whatever he ordered I supplied him with.
8364. Was not this supplying of goods to Springall directly opposed to the desire expressed by the Board? They never mentioned anything about it to me.
8365. I thought they said they could not allow Mr. Springall to have a store? That referred to a store.
8366. Would the goods have been required other than for a store? I do not know what he required them for.
8367. How many tabulated statements would you have a month? One for the southern and one for the northern districts.
8368. Would these statements include all rations sent to every camp upon which any of the employed were at work? Yes; they went in every month.

Mr.
J. Kidman.
9 April, 1889.

Alexander M'Pherson called in, sworn, and examined:—

8369. *President.*] What is your position at the present time? Superintendent of the unemployed.
8370. Were you engaged with the Casual Labour Board under Mr. John Davies? Yes.
8371. From its commencement? Very shortly after.
8372. You know it commenced in May, 1887? I cannot tell you the date, but I went out about two months afterwards.
8373. What had you been doing prior to that? Nothing for a short interval. I am a surveyor by calling.
8374. Who appointed you? The Casual Labour Board.
8375. Was it the Chairman? I saw the whole of them when I went there.
8376. What was your work? I was working as a surveyor at first.
8377. Where? Out at the National Park.
8378. What did you do afterwards? I was appointed assistant superintendent.
8379. Who was your superior officer? Mr. Burrowes.
8380. Can you tell us when you were first appointed assistant superintendent? I cannot give you the date.
8381. How long did you remain in that position? Until about six weeks ago.
8382. Look at this letter. Does it refresh your memory as to when you were appointed assistant superintendent? Yes, on 12th July, 1887.
8383. And you remained so up to the time the Board was put an end to? Yes.
8384. What were your particular duties as assistant superintendent? When I went out at first my work consisted in measuring the land for clearing, and when I first became superintendent my duty was to inspect the land as it was cleared, and place a valuation on the work done, the rate per acre which was to be paid to the men.
8385. Did you work under orders given by Mr. Burrowes, or under orders given by the Board? Partly under both.
8386. Did you work harmoniously with Mr. Burrowes? Not always. When I was first appointed I refused to pass certain work that Mr. Burrowes wished me to pass.
8387. What was the result of that difficulty? He let it drop.
8388. Why did you refuse to do it? Because in the first instance I had not seen it.
8389. Where was it? A distance of 3 or 4 miles from the camp. I think the name of the man who cleared it was Wilson. The immediate reason he gave for wishing me to pass it was that the man was a freemason.
8390. After that, did you continue to have differences with him? Frequently.
8391. Principally on professional matters? Well, the principal ground of ill-feeling was about a matter in which he made a false statement about me to Mr. Davies about the payment of an overseer's salary.
8392. When was that? I cannot give you the date of it.
8393. Was it many months after your appointment? Some five or six months afterwards.
8394. What was the outcome of that? Mr. Davies censured me for what he said I had done wrongfully. I said nothing about it. Mr. Burrowes led me to believe that he would be blamed in the matter. I told him he might lay the blame on me. I did not defend myself because I thought I would be doing him a service. Some time afterwards I found that he himself had laid the complaint, and that he dealt treacherously with me.
8395. What was the difficulty? There was a rule that the overseers in charge of camps should be paid for Sundays, as they were supposed to be responsible for the conduct of the camp on that day. There was an overseer named Harper working under me. The first fortnight I forgot to put him down for fourteen days, and put him down for twelve. When making up the next pay-sheet this occurred to me, and I put him down for sixteen days to take in the two days that had been missed. We were very busy at the time. I put it down intending to tell Mr. Burrowes of it; but it slipped my memory until all was completed, when it occurred to me and I told him. I said, "I forgot to tell you about Harper." He said, "Yes, the man in charge of the camp is always paid for fourteen days in a fortnight." Before that night was out he wrote to Mr. Davies saying that I had put Harper on the sheet without his knowledge. He showed me a letter next day finding fault with what had been done. I thought that to save him the blame I would take the blame on myself, as it did not matter two straws whether I left or not.
8396. What was the next difference? We frequently had differences over the work.
8397. Did you have any serious difficulties? Not until two or three months ago.

Mr. A.
M'Pherson.
19 April, 889.

8398.

- Mr. A. McPherson.
9 April, 1889.
8398. What was that? He accused me of lying and of dishonorable conduct. I forget the exact expression. I complained to the Board about it.
8399. What was the result of your complaint? I do not know. When I found the Board were not taking much notice of it I did not think it worth my while to trouble over the matter.
8400. Did your duties bring you constantly in contact with Mr. Burrowes? No; weeks might pass without there being any official necessity for me to speak to him.
8401. Did you find him a difficult man to get on with? If you had no sense of duty he was a very pleasant man to get on with.
8402. Does your remark apply in a professional sense or in a general sense? In a general sense. If I had put his Freemason on the pay-sheet for work I had not seen, we should have got on well on that occasion.
8403. Had Mr. Burrowes anything to do with making up the pay-sheets? Yes.
8404. Are you aware of his ever putting men on the pay-sheet who were not there. Do you know what the practice was as to making up the pay-sheets? Some of the principal draft sheets were made out by me. These are the essential parts of the sheet. The fair copies were made afterwards. They could be made up by anybody.
8405. Do you know who made the fair copies, as a rule? The clerks made them.
8406. Do you know whether Mr. Burrowes ever made them up? I do not remember seeing him make any of the fair copies. Intermediate ones were made up by him, that is pay-sheets other than the regular fortnightly ones.
8407. Do you know whether Mr. Burrowes ever made up the draft pay-sheets? I do not think he ever made up the formal draft, but there were rough drafts made up by him.
8408. Can you tell us what particular draft-sheets he would prepare, and whether there were any entries of his that were incorrect or suspicious? I know of a case where he made a blunder in the computation.
8409. Do you know where a suspicious entry was brought about or made by him? No; I cannot say that I know of it. He was very careless about them, and would put increased wages down, which were generally struck out by Springall. There was one case that occurred quite recently. It involves a statement I heard from someone else.
8410. Whom did you receive it from? An overseer of the name of Campbell.
8411. You may as well let me have it? I was questioning Campbell about the cost of some fencing which was somewhat extravagant; the men were getting 2s. for the mere erection of it, when 1s. is about a fair price. He told me Mr. Burrowes agreed to give the men 2s. On referring to the previous rough draft to find out what he had paid I found that it had been altered from 2s. to 2s. 6d. in Mr. Burrowes' handwriting.
8412. Was the alteration shown? It was shown in red ink.
8413. Was there any attempt at concealment? No.
8414. Have you any reason to suppose that Mr. Burrowes profited by any of these mistakes? Well, in the strict sense of the word, I have no reason whatever.
8415. Had you anything to do with the paying of the men? For a long time I was present when the piece-work men were being paid, that was as long as the great body of them were at the National Park.
8416. Were you ever present at any of the pays at Heathcote? Never at Heathcote.
8417. At Heathcote Agricultural? You refer to the work done under Mr. Bell. I have been present on one or two occasions when Bell's men were paid.
8418. Who made the pays when you were present? Mr. Hinchcliffe; occasionally Mr. Josephson; once, I think, Mr. Larnach; and once or twice Mr. Hibble.
8419. Were these gentlemen by themselves, or were they supported by anyone else? I think Mr. Davies was present on nearly all occasions.
8420. What precaution was adopted in making these pays to prevent imposition. Every overseer was present when his men were paid to identify them, and whilst the great body of the work was centred at the Park I was present whilst the piece men were being paid; but the total number of men was so great that I could identify only a few odd ones.
8421. Do you know much of Mr. Springall? Yes.
8422. Did your duties bring you in contact with him at the store? My duties continually brought me in contact with him.
8423. Do you know what his responsibilities were? He was responsible for all the stores, including the tools and rations. It was his duty as clerk to see that the pay-sheets were made out, either by himself or under his directions.
8424. Had Mr. Burrowes anything to do with him? Yes; he had control over him.
8425. Was his work carried on under Mr. Burrowes' supervision? Yes.
8426. Do you know of any case where Mr. Burrowes diverted a road or took a road through private property at the instance of any individual? No; I had nothing to do with the roads under Mr. Burrowes' charge, excepting a fortnight he was away on leave of absence. I had so much of my own work to do that I could not give much attention to the work that he was doing.
8427. Had you anything to do with the men on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I had nothing to do with them until lately.
8428. Do you know the work that has been done there? I know all the leading roads and all the principal roads that were being cleared, but what the quantity of each was I could not tell you.
8429. Who can show us over the work done by the unemployed out there? I suppose I am the best person to show you over the work.
8430. Who could tell us whether a certain road was done by the unemployed or was not done? I think Mr. Burrowes could.
8431. Could we rely on it? I would not believe him if anyone would crown him.
8432. Why have you such a strong feeling against him? I have found him to be a most unblushing liar. I was brought up with a prejudice against liars.
8433. Owing to concoctions made by Burrowes? No; he would tell lies to me just to keep his hand in. Nothing was too big or too small for him to lie about. He would tell me where he was going, and I would find out that it was a falsehood. He would tell me he was going to Liverpool and I would find out afterwards that he was going to town.

Mr. A.
M'Pherson.
9 April, 1889.

8434. What object would he have in that? I do not know unless it was to keep his hand in.
8435. Had you any reason to doubt his honesty? Personally I have not. He never cheated me.
8436. Do you know whether he borrowed money? I took care that he never borrowed money from me. I have been perpetually hearing of it.
8437. Did you hear of him borrowing money from the men? I have heard of that, but chiefly of his borrowing money from the overseers.
8438. Do you believe there was any foundation for the rumour? I believe it, but in the legal sense of the word I do not know it. One of the overseers told me of it the other day, a man of the name of Walsh.
8439. Was it a large sum he borrowed? £10.
8440. Do you think he made more than his salary out of the work? He must have done in some way.
8441. Why? Why, I do not think his salary would have kept him in drink and tobacco.
8442. What was his salary? 15s. a day. I once or twice saw his vouchers for expenses; I knew they could not be honestly incurred. I saw him put down 4s. for going to the Meadows. There was no place where he could spend it.
8443. Did you point this out? No; Mr. Davies knew very well where the Meadows were.
8444. Do you know what his personal expenses averaged? The voucher I saw was for about £6 for a fortnight.
8445. Did you have any personal expenses? Yes.
8446. For the same kind of work as Mr. Burrowes? Excepting when I had to pay railway fare, I never had to pay anything.
8447. How did your personal expenses compare with those Mr. Burrowes would charge? Well, he systematically concealed his from me. That was why I suspected them. You can get the vouchers and compare them for yourself.
8448. Give us relatively what they were? I think you would find that his were fivefold mine.
8449. I suppose his expenses would be made up of small amounts? I saw one recently—expense of going to Sydney 3s. 6d., note paper 3s. I believe the 3s. 6d. was spent in going to Sydney to pay 3s. for the note-paper; he would get 15s. a day; it would take the biggest part of the day to go in from Sutherland, so that the note-paper would be pretty costly by the time it was bought.
8450. Does your prejudice arise from anything else excepting his untruthfulness? Nothing else but his untruthfulness.
- 8450½. Because you do speak with considerable prejudice? Well, I was brought up with a strong prejudice against liars.
8451. Do you condemn a man *in toto* if he is a liar? Yes, certainly. I am not speaking of a man who would say a thing in exaggeration, playfully, or otherwise.
8452. Do you know how often he sent in his claim for personal expenses? Fortnightly, I think.
8453. What would be the usual things upon which personal expenses would be incurred properly? There was forage allowance for him at all times, but only latterly for myself. Then he would charge expenses for going into town. I never did, excepting railway fare.
8454. Did he have a free pass? Yes.
8455. What other expense would be properly incurred by an officer who did his duty? There was this difference between us. If I came to Sydney I had got my own house to go to. If he got his dinner here, or stopped at an hotel, he could properly charge for it. On one or two of his vouchers I saw a considerable sum for cab-hire.
8456. What had he to do with cabs? I do not know.
8457. Did his rations account go in with his personal expenses account? Yes.
8458. The one I am looking at seems to include your ration account in his? He had no right to do that.
8459. Look at it, the 17th August, 1887? He might at that time have done so. I remember now; sometimes he did charge mine.
8460. Well, in this account of personal expenses there are "eight fares paid by store-keeper, 12s."? The store-keeper would have to send the messenger to town, that was what that would be.
8461. Two press copy-books—would that be a proper expense? That would be the one you hold in your hand. Sometimes the Board would tell an officer to buy these things, and sometimes they would be supplied by the office.
8462. The rest is taken up with copying-ink, and it finishes up with cab-hire, 10s.;—what is the cab-hire? I have seen it before. I always suspected the cab-hire items.
8463. What is your opinion of the way Springall conducted his work? I had a high opinion of Mr. Springall always.
8464. Have you had any reason to doubt it? I have had no reason to doubt it, although I have heard charges made against him at the instance of Mr. Burrowes and Mr. Larnach.
8465. Do you know the system he pursued with regard to the stores he had charge of? It was always satisfactory.
8466. Had you anything to do with the Northern District? Never.
8467. Were you examined before the Select Committee? No.
8468. Did you know anything about these Heathcote pays? I was never at Heathcote when they were paid.
8469. Do you know Flemming who had charge of Burrowes' horse? Yes.
8470. What do you know of him? My first recollection of him was that he was a ganger when he employed the scavengers in the camp. I think Flemming was in charge of the men clearing up the camp.
8471. When was that? It would be in the middle of 1887.
8472. Do you know when he gave it up? No.
8473. Do you know what he was in 1888? In the latter part of 1888 he was attending to the horse.
8474. Whilst attending to the horse, did he have any men under his control or gang for them? No.
8475. Would you know this man if you saw him? Yes.
8476. What kind of a man is he? He is an old man, I should say close on 60, a labourer, and bushman.
8477. Is he a man to do stone-breaking? There is no reason why he should not do it.
8478. Do you know whether he did or not? I do not know whether he did or not.
8479. Did you ever hear of him in 1888 as a ganger representing seven men? No; unless my recollection of his being a ganger over the scavengers is correct, I do not know of his being a ganger at all.

Mr. A.
M'Pherson.
9 April, 1889.

8480. Did your duties bring you to the head office frequently? Not until lately.
8481. During the time the Board was in existence? Until, say, the middle of 1888 I would not be in the office.
8482. Then you do not know much of the staff of officers? I know them personally.
8483. Which of them did you meet the most? I came a good deal into contact with Mr. Hinchcliffe and saw him officially.
8484. Did you know him before? I knew him when he was in the Immigration Office with Mr. Wise.
8485. Was he a good officer? As far as I know.
8486. Do you know Mr. Hibble? I consider him a very capable man.
- 8486½. Do you know Mr. Larnach? He was a man who had been manager of a bank at one time. When I knew him he was sent out to the works at Gordon nominally as an overseer.
8487. What do you think about him? I was always on friendly terms with him until lately.
8488. Why did you change your feeling? Because he insulted me grossly in the office.
8489. How long ago? Six or eight weeks ago.
8490. Did you have any difficulty with him during the time the Board was in existence? No.
8491. I believe he was at Hurstville during 1888? Not in 1888, I think.
8492. Were you brought much in contact with him at Hurstville? Yes; I got on well with him until he spoke to me in an offensive manner.
8493. Are you of a sensitive disposition. Do you take offence easily? Yes; I believe so. Mr. Waller, who has known me for years, could perhaps tell you better than I can myself.
8494. Do you know a man named Johnson? He was assistant store-keeper. Latterly he was store-keeper on the works, at Illawarra Road.
8495. As far as you know, did he perform his duties properly? Yes.
8496. Have you considerable feeling against Burrowes? I have.
8497. *Mr. Franklin.*] Was Boylan under your instructions? Yes.
8498. Is he a practical man? Yes, one of the few we had.
8499. Would his description as to the nature of the works and prices be reliable? Yes.
8500. Would the description of the roads carried out under his supervision at the Waterfalls be a fair description of the kind of roads made? I should expect any description given by him to be a good description.
8501. Have you seen the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes. The Illawarra, Coronulla, and Woronora Roads.
8502. Were those roads generally better constructed than the one in the district of the Waterfalls? They were not as solidly constructed, and not as well finished.
8503. With regard to the clearing;—how was that done? The clearing on the Illawarra Road and on some of the by-roads was done indifferently.
8504. The formation? Some of it was grossly bad. The rest of it merely consisted in laying a lot of gravel on the road.
8505. Have you heard them called park-roads? No, certainly not.
8506. Do you know them intimately, with regard to the culverts and bridges? Yes; I have inspected them closely.
8507. Did you notice the road from Tom Ugly's Point? It is 42 feet wide.
8508. Is it metalled and gravelled? You might call it gravel, but it was chiefly clay put on in a casual manner.
8509. You would not call it ordinary ridge gravel? Certainly not.
8510. Do you think there was any extravagance in connection with any of the work? In the clearing there was gross extravagance. I drew Mr. Davies' attention to it. I know a large number of the men were being employed at day work. I set my face against it as being costly to the Government. Mr. Burrowes was always in favour of the day-work system, because it gave us no trouble. You can understand how that was if you have to measure up little bits of road; there is necessarily a good deal of trouble with it. In the day system there is only to take in the time. This work was being carried on on day work. One day Mr. Burrowes said that the men were getting on well. They had done a mile and a quarter. I knew at the time that the pay-sheets had come up to a large sum. I think £800, and I felt it my duty to draw the attention of the Board to the cost. I should think the cost would be £600 a mile for clearing only. That was based on the idea that Mr. Burrowes' statement was correct. I found he had put the quantity of work down too much. When I mentioned this to Mr. Davies—and I think Mr. Wells was also present—they were very angry, and the two of them came out shortly afterwards and inspected the roads for themselves. As the result, Mr. Wells sent for me to go into town. I went and saw him at the Casual Board Office, in the presence of Mr. Davies. I do not know whether Mr. Honison was present, but Mr. Wells ordered me to go and measure up all the work done. I was to do it at once, and let nothing else stay in the way. I went out next morning, measured the work and reported, partly by letter, and as regards the latter part by telegram. The result was that the rest of the work was done by piece-work. The highest price paid for clearing would be £8 an acre, or £160 a mile.
8511. Do you know whether any other road was commenced and carried out in the same way? I think that afterwards all the rest of the work was done by piece-work.
8512. Do you remember the date? I cannot tell you, but it would be six or eight weeks after the Illawarra Road was started.
8513. Have you seen a statement made by Mr. Burrowes as to the total expenditure on all the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No.
8514. I am showing you *Appendix G* of the Report of the Select Committee, giving a statement by Mr. Burrowes of the whole of the expenditure on the roads, 43 miles 21 chains. It shows the extent of the work done on the roads? Yes; I see the statement.
8515. Would it be right to estimate the cost of those roads upon the cost of the one you have alluded to? No. Because after that the system was stopped.
8516. Could we estimate it on the price of the work done at the Waterfalls? No.
8517. In what particulars would there be a difference? Getting the ballasting, for which I paid 1s. 3d., was paid as high as 1s. 9d. here.
8518. The work on these roads would be higher? You would find the average cost of the work much higher.

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8519. I have already been furnished with the prices of the details of road construction; what I want to know is, in estimating these lengths of road, can I apply these prices; but you say that the cost of these roads in *Appendix G* would be higher? If you have a statement of the roads under my supervision you could not judge of these roads by them.

8520. What difference should I make? I should say at least 50 per cent., and further, if there were any errors in measurement it would be an important item.

8521. This statement I see was made on 12th December last year. Has any additional work been done on the Holt-Sutherland Estate since then? Yes. On the Illawarra Road and the Port Hacking Road we had men working until the 30th March.

8522. Would that be additional work to what is given in this statement? Yes.

8523. If application is made can we get the additions so as to complete this statement? Yes.

8524. Did you make out the draft pay-sheets for the work in your district? Almost invariably, and for a long time I made the measurements myself.

8525. Did the draft include all the names you wished to appear on the abstract vouchers? Yes.

8526. You extended the computations in every case? I extended them roughly. I understood the store-keeper would check them afterwards.

8527. What you placed in your statement you were satisfied you stated correctly? Yes; but I never checked them; I understood Mr. Springall would check them afterwards.

8528. Would you be surprised if you saw different names on the pay-sheet beyond those on the draft you prepared? I would.

8529. Did you ever see such a thing? Never.

8530. Would it have been wrong to have placed in additional names? I should have insisted on having a reason for it.

8531. Do you think it could occur? It never occurred in mine.

8532. Who made out the pay-sheets? Mr. Springall and his assistants. Mr. Springall would be the responsible man.

8533. Would he not check with the voucher every draft that he passed into payment? He should have done so.

8534. But it never occurred to you that any additions were made? It certainly did not.

8535. *Mr. Waller.*] Did Mr. Burrowes make you responsible for the pay-sheets? No.

8536. Did he tell you you were responsible for their correctness? No. Of course I was responsible for all that I wrote down.

8537. Did you tell Mr. Burrowes when you handed in the pay-sheets that they were correct? It was seldom that I gave them to him personally. They were nearly always handed to Mr. Springall.

8538. Was your position under Mr. Burrowes of such a nature that he might take it for granted that these pay-sheets were correct? Yes, I certainly held myself responsible.

8539. Do you know Flemming's handwriting? No, I do not. I do not think I ever saw him sign his name.

8540. Do you know Burrowes', Goodman's, and Springall's? Yes.

8541. Here is a pay-sheet [*Exhibit J*]. Do you see the name at the bottom? It is Mr. Springall's handwriting.

8542. Here is another [*Exhibit J 1*]? That is also Mr. Springall's handwriting.

8543. Here is another [*Exhibit J 2*]? That, too, is Mr. Springall's handwriting.

8544. Do you know of any other man of the name of Flemming besides the one that was groom to Mr. Burrowes? No. There might be dozens on the works for all I know.

8545. Do you think it possible, under the management that existed, for men to get paid more than once for their work? Yes, I think it was possible.

8546. Do you think it was ever done? I think it was possible. I know men have been paid for work they never did. Mr. Burrowes had a fashion of paying a man for what he was going to do, and it was not always done.

8547. Were men paid beforehand? Yes.

8548. Can you particularize one place? I could if I had the plan.

8549. What plan do you want? A plan made by myself of some cleared ground. It came about like this. I saw the pay-sheet, and saw a man down for portion 16 or 18 A. I knew I had numbered no portions in this way. I had an objection to numbering portions A B and C. I spoke to Mr. Burrowes about it. He said that was a case where he put a man on the pay-sheet expecting that he would finish the block, and that he had put someone else on, and he had put down this someone else as having finished block 18 A.

8550. Can you describe where the land was, so that we can identify it. What was the extent of the work? It was something less than 4 acres.

8551. What amount would be paid for it? It might only be for 1 acre, or something like that.

8552. Do you know of any other case where men have been paid twice for work? There is a piece of land at the Meadows, uncleared to this day, for which the men were fully paid. It is about an acre and a half.

8553. Who certified to its correctness? Mr. Burrowes.

8554. Anyone else? No one else.

8555. Is it possible that men could appear on the pay-sheet as gangers when they were not gangers? Everything of the sort is possible.

8556. Do you think it possible? I never knew of a case.

8557. Was the supervision sufficiently good? If the supervision was honest it was. If you could get the collusion of two or three people, you could go over and get all the money out of the Treasury.

8558. Who ordered the goods, rations, and plant? Mr. Springall ordered the rations

8559. Without reference to anybody? His storemen reported to him their requirements, and he ordered them from their reports.

8560. Without reference to the head office? Yes.

8561. Who ordered the plant? Sometimes Mr. Burrowes, sometimes myself, sometimes Mr. Springall, whenever it was required.

8562. Was there any check as to the quantity that would be ordered? Of course they passed through the hands of the Board. There was one case in which a firm were selling off their plant; Mr. Davies told me to buy anything suitable for the Board, and I got it for them.

8563. Were the orders economical? They were not economical. I have known stuff ordered that would not be required. Drain-pipes were ordered, and he ordered bends with them.

8564.

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8564. Are they there yet? I think they have them yet.
8565. Could they not be returned? They could not be returned. I saw some of them only a few days ago.
8566. I suppose you do not know anything about the system in the office for checking the accounts? I know nothing about that.
8567. Were there regular time-books kept? Yes; the overseers kept time-books.
8568. Whom were they sent to? For a long time they were sent to Springall; but I never had anything to do with a great number of day men.
8569. Should they be amongst the books now? I really do not know.
8570. Were there returns sent in as to the number of men employed by the Board? Occasionally. There were nominal returns sent in and the men's names.
8571. How often? It was supposed to be done every three months.
8572. How was it possible to correct the pay-sheets if there were not regular returns sent in? They could compare them with the rations return.
8573. If there had been regular returns as to the number of men employed, could it not have been compared with the number of men to be paid? Yes.
8574. And the only check against the number of rations would be the return showing the number of men employed? Yes; but from the irregular habits of the men—they were here to-day and gone to-morrow—the returns prepared by the bulk of the overseers were at all times doubtful.
8575. Do you know whether any influence was brought to bear for the making of the roads on the Holt-Sutherland or Hornsby Estates? No. I never saw the Hornsby Estate at all.
8576. Do you consider the roads made on the Holt-Sutherland Estate have increased the value of it? No doubt they have done so.
8577. By how much do you think? That is a leasehold estate. I do not know the value of it as compared with freehold.
8578. It is a long lease? I believe they have about seventy years, or something of that sort, to run.
8579. Do you consider the work done there was done for the benefit of the public at large or for the benefit of private owners? The greater part of it was certainly public work. For instance, the Port Hacking Road, the main Illawarra Road, the Coronulla Road, the Woronora Road, and perhaps the Malvern Road, were public roads.
8580. What reason have you for saying that the work done on these roads was to the public advantage? The Main Illawarra Road is the chief road in connection with the Southern District. On the Port Hacking Road there are two or three coaches running to the beach, and there is likely to be a good deal of traffic on it. The Woronora Road, if properly made, would, I think, induce settlement, and bring a great deal of revenue to the railway.
8581. What are the lands on the other sides of these roads, and who owns them? I know nothing of the ownership.
8582. Are they Crown lands? The Crown lands are limited to 160 or 180 acres.
- 8582½. Then there are private lands? The Coronulla Beach Road leads to a large reserve.
8583. Would not these roads increase the value of the private lands adjacent to them? You cannot help giving improvement to property if you make any portion of the roads you increase the value of the land adjacent to it.
- 8583½. Is it true that you were unable to calculate the contents of a heap of metal? No; it is not true.
8584. Do you think you are competent to do it? Yes; and you and Mr. Cape know that of your own personal knowledge.
8585. Had you any conversation with any witnesses who were here? I had no conversation that I know of, excepting with one man of the name of Johnson. I met him, and he asked me what sort of evidence he should give. I told him to state the truth, and let everyone take care of himself.
8586. What was he? A storekeeper.
8587. Did you say anything about Mr. Burrowes? Of course; I have frequently spoken about Burrowes.
8588. Did you ever say anything about Burrowes in this building. Did you ever say to anyone he was known by the name of "Pigott?" Yes; I have spoken of him being like "Pigott."
8589. What did you say about Mr. Burrowes and Mr. Larnach? I have spoken of them as being informers.
8590. Did you say they had "turned informers and b—d up the whole affair"? No.
8591. *President.*] Who was present when you said anything about Burrowes and Larnach in this building? I was speaking to Mr. Kidman about them.
8592. Did you speak to Mr. Davies about them? Yes.
8593. What did you say? I cannot remember the exact expressions.
8594. Have you had any conversation with Mr. Davies about this Commission? No.
8595. About the evidence? No; certainly not about the evidence.
8596. Are you on good terms with Mr. Davies? Yes, very good terms.
8597. When did you see him last? Yesterday, I think.
8598. Did he express any opinion to you? No; he only questioned me as to whether certain of the roads up there were fit to travel over.
8599. Did he have any conversation about this Commission, or say anything about anything likely to crop up in the shape of evidence? Oh, yes.
8600. On what subject? He told me he understood that certain charges were made against him about his connection with Mr. Kidman—about payment for some refreshments supplied to the Park.
8601. What did he say? He said he had receipts for them.
8602. Do you know anything about these refreshments? All I know is that on one particular occasion he brought out Sir John Robertson to dine—at least Sir John Robertson did not come; and Mr. Davies brought some stuff up to the camp and was looking about for someone to pack it; and I repacked it for him, and some fellows broke the box open afterwards.
8603. Was that the time when Mr. F. Want was there? He was expected, but did not come that day.
8604. Did Mr. Davies say anything about anything else? Yes. On several occasions we had long conversations.
8605. About charges or rumours of charges? He told me about some charge made about wood. He told

told me he had paid the money into the bank and got receipts for it. I think he said the Australian Joint Stock Bank.

8606. Did he mention anything about anything else? I am not certain I am right in saying the Australian Joint Stock Bank. The conversation I had with him about the wood was at his own house three weeks or a month ago.

8607. Did you often go to his house? I was only there once. I was never there before that or after.

8608. Was there any special invitation for that time? I was out there on business. I found myself near his house at night, and I went there and stopped all night. Some months before he had asked me to go out to his house.

8609. Did he seem to express any anxiety about these rumours or charges? None whatever.

8610. Did he mention anything about picnic baskets? He mentioned something about some voucher for refreshments supplied by Mr. Kidman.

8611. Do you know a road named Gannon's Road? Yes.

8612. Who made it? The Casual Labour Board made it.

8613. Do you know the cost of it? No.

8614. Is it a private road? Well, I consider it a private road. What I know of it is this: During an interval when Mr. Burrowes was away on business my duties led me out to the road. Mr. Burrowes asked me to point out the pegs to the overseer. I could not find the pegs. I thought that the road was not required. When I came back I told Mr. Burrowes so, and that he should report to that effect. The road was afterwards made.

Mr. A.
M'Pherson.
9 April, 1889.

WEDNESDAY, 10 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

James Daniel Cronin called in, sworn, and examined:—

8615. *President.*] What position do you occupy in the Public Service? Paymaster of the Treasury.

8616. Have you had anything to do with the Casual Labour Board payments in the course of your duties? All the payments have gone through my hands.

Mr.
J. D. Cronin.
10 April, 1889.

8617. Have you recently had anything to do with examining any Casual Labour Board papers submitted to the Treasury? It is no part of my duties to examine papers.

8618. Would you have anything to do with those moneys that were enumerated in the statement that was handed in to us yesterday by Mr. Eagar? Those are the payments made to the Treasury.

8619. Have you anything to do with them? No; my payments are payments from the Treasury.

8620. Would you have anything to do with the payments of various sums of £6,000 that we are told were paid from time to time to the A.J.S. Bank, to the credit of the Casual Labour Board? Yes; they were all paid by me.

8621. Can you tell me whether they were all paid in sums of £6,000? They were all paid in sums of £6,000 to the best of my recollection, except the larger payments to the bank, such as £72,000. That of course was paid in one lump sum to the bank, to the credit of the Casual Labour Board.

8622. Do you know whether, at the time that payment was made to the bank, the account was largely in debit? I cannot say what amount was in debit at the time. I simply pay the moneys.

8623. Then your duties do not bring you in contact with any receipts? No; it is the Receiver who gets those.

8624. And you cannot give us any information as regards receipts? No.

8625. When these payments of £6,000 were made, who gave you authority for the payments? The authority in each case came by letter from the Colonial Secretary. It passed through the Examiner, and from him to me.

8626. Are there any papers now in your office under your immediate control relating to the Casual Labour Board and their payments? None whatever. All the vouchers leave me the next day after payment.

8627. Where do they go to? To the Accountant.

8628. What is the name of the Accountant? Mr. Pearson. They go then to the Audit Office; that is the routine.

8629. *Mr. Waller.*] Was not that payment for £72,000 made on account of twelve vouchers for £6,000? Yes; I think so. I am speaking from memory, of course.

8630. What is the name of the receiving officer who receives the accounts for payment? He is not called the receiving officer; he is the Examiner. They go to him for examination before they come to me for payment.

8631. Do you think it is singular from your experience that the number of vouchers, in all about forty sets, should be made up to amount to £6,000 exactly on each occasion of an advance? I would not like to answer that question; there might be circumstances that would justify it.

8632. I mean where the sums have been made up to represent £6,000 on forty different occasions;—does it not seem a strange thing? I have not given it a thought whether it was so or was not. I had authority to give the bank so much on behalf of the Casual Labour Board, and I did so.

8633. Would there seem to be any difficulty in the way of making up these amounts in this manner? To give an answer to that would be merely stating my own ideas, and I would not like to commit myself to an opinion.

Sydney Richard Corkhill called in, sworn, and examined :—

- Mr. S. R. Corkhill.
10 April, 1889.
8634. *President.*] What is your position in the Public Service? Examiner of accounts in the Treasury.
8635-6. In that position, would you have anything to do with any amounts paid into the Treasury on account of the Casual Labour Board? No.
8637. Who would be the officer to deal with that? The Receiver, Mr. William Newcombe.
8638. That is, as regards money paid into the Treasury by the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
8639. Can you give me any explanation of the items in this statement, which was handed to me yesterday by the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade? None whatever.
8640. Is there any gentleman in the Treasury who could? The Receiver or Accountant. It is made out by the Accountant. It would be received by the Receiver, and passed to the Accountant.
8641. Who is the Accountant? Mr. Pearson. Mr. Pearson and Mr. Newcombe ought to be able to give you an explanation of these different items.
8642. Will you kindly tell me what particular duties you had as regards the vouchers and documents in connection with the Casual Labour Board? Well, anything that I have had to do with their documents has been somewhat incidental, because the payments to the Casual Labour Board have been by open advances—that is, we allowed a certain amount—say £6,000—and they would give a guarantee or obligation receipt to account for the money to the Auditor-General. In the ordinary course of events we would not see the adjustment of these advances, but the Relief Works vote became exhausted, and we had to allow them an overdraft, and consequently the vouchers were sent in to the Treasury to cover the overdraft, or we would never have seen them, and that is why we have a few of the vouchers now.
8643. Is it just by the accident of the Relief vote having run out that you personally had anything to do with it? Yes; exactly.

James Kidman called in and further examined :—

- Mr. J. Kidman.
10 April, 1889.
8644. *President.*] Do you produce the documents you were asked for last evening? I produce a deposit slip of the City Bank, showing a payment to my credit of the sum of £253 6s. 7d., which includes a cheque for £20 9s. 6d. I also produce a note from the Manager of the City Bank, stating that this cheque was drawn by John Davies, but that the cheque cannot be produced without the sanction of the drawer.
8645. Was that cheque, £20 9s. 6d., in payment of the goods ordered at the National Park? Yes.
8646. Now, about these accounts of Springall's. I asked if you could furnish us with a statement of the accounts? I have got them all in rotation here.
8647. Do you produce your books showing your account with Joseph H. Springall, from April, 1887, to the 29th March last? Yes.
8648. Do these books show any settlement of the account? Yes.
8649. Commencing when? The first payment is on 3rd May, 1887, amounting to £20. Then again £66 4s. 4d. on 11th July. The next is on 8th August, £7 10s. Then on 5th September there is £9 8s. On 1st October, 1888, there is £28 10s. 11½d.; and on 31st December, £27 2s. 5d.
8650. These represent all the payments? Yes.
8651. Then can I take it that these payments represent all your dealings with Springall up to the 31st December, 1888? Yes.
8652. Is there anything outstanding? Yes.
8653-4. About how much? £2 11s. 2½d.
8655. What then was the total amount of your dealings with him between April, 1887, and December, 1888? £158 15s. 10½d.
8656. Is there anything else in your books against Mr. Springall? Nothing that I am aware of.
8657. *Mr. Waller.*] Have you got that statement showing the total payments for the Casual Labour Board? Yes; I added them up roughly. I hand in two leaves torn from my contract account-book, showing the total payments made by the Casual Labour Board between May, 1887, and the 31st December last.
8658. What is the total amount? £53,020 0s. 1d. [*Sheets put in and marked M.*]
8659. Will you furnish the Commission with the different payments for the different camps? Yes.
8660. Will you send the statement to the Secretary to the Commission? Yes, certainly.
8661. Have you got Mr. Hinchcliffe's account that you were asked about? Yes.
8662. What are the transactions? 15th May, £1 12s. 8d.; 15th December, £1 12s 4d.; 19th February, £1 15s 9d.
8663. The first two are in 1887? Yes.
8664. And the last one is in February, 1888? Yes.
8665. That finishes the whole of the account? Yes.
8666. And the total is? £4 18s. 9d.
8667. Did you bring any other documents yesterday with reference to matters in connection with the Board? Yes; I had a rough draft of my own showing that I have supplied quantities of goods largely in excess of the allowance. That is dated from May, 1887, and I found that I have supplied large quantities of potatoes, meat, bread, and butter in excess of what was ordered.
8668. And did you charge for these? No; they were over-supplies. For instance, if they wanted 2,000 loaves, I would not be particular to a few loaves; I would let them have fifty more. And the same with regard to the meat.
8669. You never charged for these over-supplies? No.
8670. Have you ever been paid for them? No.
8671. Would these over-supplies appear in your invoices or vouchers which you supplied from time to time to the Casual Labour Board, showing what you sent? They would not appear.
8672. Only the amount absolutely ordered by the Casual Labour Board would appear? Yes; my receipts for the goods delivered would show that I had delivered them.
8673. How much would the excess of goods delivered amount to? I could not say. I am not going to charge it.
8674-5. Roughly? Oh, about £500 would cover it.
8676. May we take it, then, from the statement you have just made, that you have made a loss of £500 that you would not have done had you not supplied these things over and above what was ordered? Yes; if I had adhered strictly to the ration scale I would have been that in pocket. 8677.

8677. Would you be good enough to have a correct statement made out showing the goods that you supplied over and above what you supplied as contractor—that is, for bread and meat, &c.; and could you also show, without giving yourself too much trouble, the dates of these supplies, and what camps they were sent to? Yes.

Mr.
J. Kidman.
10 April, 1889.

8678. You are perfectly positive that you have not in any shape or form charged for these extra supplies? Certainly. I did it with all the Government contracts. I always sent in a quantity in excess of what was ordered. I did it as a matter of business in my own interest. Here is my order for the encampments. They will order 3,000 loaves of bread. I will send 200 more. When these encampments are over, by giving them large quantities in excess of what I am paid for, look at the *kudos* I get for it. It is the same with the Darlinghurst gaol supplies. It is all a matter of advertising.

8679. *President.*] Where does the advertising come in? It comes in to the shop in Oxford-street. Everybody knows. They talk about these things. For instance, there are the Easter encampments. When the Volunteers leave the camp they are all citizens, and nearly all of them march down Market-street and Oxford-street. There are those unemployed supplies. There are twenty-one months for £500—about £25 per month; and what is that upon the transactions of a month—amounting to £4,272.

8680. *Mr. Franklin.*] Would this monthly abstract for the stores giving the aggregate supply tally with the number of men? Decidedly it ought to tally with the number of men.

8681. In that case, we might take it that the total amount of the rations would be equal to 984,215; that is the number of men who would take rations all the time, according to these sheets? Yes.

8682. And the amount of rations was about £53,020, a little over one-fifth of the whole money expended on the works? Yes.

8683. That represents 984,215 men, who at the minimum rate of wages of 3s. 6d. per man, would earn £172,237. Adding to the amount earned, the amount paid in rations would give a total of £225,257, out of the whole of the expenditure of the Casual Labour Board? Yes, according to your estimate, but I do not know anything about the total expenditure.

8684. In that case there would be very little provision left for the staff? Well, I do not think you look at it in the light I do. Although I have been paid by the Government, the amount has been recouped them. It is virtually the men who have paid me. I have been particularly careful as to the keeping of the accounts.

8685. Sometimes they would draw a larger quantity of rations than it was necessary to issue? Yes.

8686. Thus, if men were absent from the camp it would reduce the order of the following day? Yes; but that would make no difference in the total.

8687. *President.*] When you sent rations down to Narrabeen and other places, where did you get the receipts from? I got them from Mr. Oxley. I have got my own man there.

Alexander M'Pherson called in and examination continued:—

8688. *Mr. Waller.*] Referring to the road that you say Mr. Burrowes made on Mr. Gannon's property,—had he authority for making that road? I really don't know; he told me that he had at the time. I cannot remember whether he showed me the authority, but he told me he had authority. That was in answer to my remonstrance with him.

Mr. A.
M'Pherson.
10 April, 1889.

8689. Do you know if the road was paid for? Well, I don't know of my own personal knowledge, but I have no doubt it was.

8690. Do you know any roads of a similar character that were made? No. I have not been through many of these roads. Once or twice I have ridden across what I call by-roads, but I took no particular notice. My attention was called to this one for the reason I have explained.

8691. Were you one of the unemployed? Certainly I was not one of the unemployed in the sense in which the term is understood.

8692. Was there any reason to suppose that any of the officers you were connected with would fail to know that you were not one of the unemployed? I do not know that any of them had reason to suppose that I was amongst the ordinary unemployed.

8693. You stated yesterday that Mr. Burrowes, on two different occasions, paid for work that never was performed;—are the Board aware of that? Not so far as I know.

8694. Did you not think it came within your duty, knowing such to be the case, to have apprised the Board of the fact? Well, I became aware of the thing long after it had occurred, and in the meantime they took precautions to prevent anything of the kind occurring afterwards.

8695. I will ask you to look at this document now in my hand, No. 88/1,129, purporting to be a letter written from Parliament House, Sydney, on the 23rd January, 1888, to the Principal Under Secretary, signed William Lovell Davies:—

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will permit the gang of unemployed now at work on the road to Port Hacking, on the Holt-Sutherland Estate, to be put on to clear and form the Government road, about 1 mile in length, running from the aforesaid road to another point of the said river, as shown in the plan forwarded in my letter of the 16th instant, before being removed from the locality.

Parliament House, Sydney, 23 January, 1888.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Yours faithfully,

W. LOVELL DAVIES.

Critchett Walker, Esq., Principal Under Secretary.

—? Yes.

8696. Turn up the corner? Yes. Minute "referred to the Board.—C.W., 23/1/88. Chairman of the Board, B.C., initialled C.W. Recommended for approval, having a large number of men working in the vicinity—J. DAVIES, Chairman, B.C. 9/2/88. The Principal Under Secretary. Note: Returned to Colonial Secretary's Office, 10th February, 1888. Submitted, 15/2/88. For approval.—C.W., 20/2/88. Approved.—H.P., 20/2/88. Work completed.—E.M. BURROWES.—There is the stamp of the Casual Labour Board, National Park, 25/2/88." There is a further note: "To the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, B.C., 21st February, 1888.—C.W. Will Mr. Burrowes inform W. Lovell Davies, Esq., M.P., 22nd February, 1888. Further noted that Mr. Burrowes will please proceed with this work at once.—J. DAVIES, Chairman, B.C., 22/2/88."

8697. What is on the head of this? "Gannon's Road."

8698. Is that the road that you referred to? The facts of this are consistent with this being the road I referred to, but they are not sufficiently exhaustive to enable me to say.

8699.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 8697. Add "written in pencil and in Mr. Burrowes' handwriting."

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8699. If it is the road, is it not apparent that Mr. Burrowes had full authority for doing the work? Yes.
8700. And if it is the road, do you still hold to the opinion that it is a private road? I did not say it was a private road. I said it was a road that I did not think should be made in the public interest at the time.
8701. After reading that document, is it not possible that Mr. Burrowes may have had a like authority for doing other roads of a similar nature? Certainly it is possible.
8702. Although these roads might not appear to you to be roads in the sense of public roads? Well, it would be more convenient if we understand each other as to what is meant by a public road.
8703. I will put it another way to you. Although the expenditure of money on these roads would not be to the advantage of the public? All these things are differences of degree. The road in its present state was not such as to warrant the expenditure in my opinion.
8704. I want you to tell us your reason for designating Mr. Burrowes and Mr. Larnach as informers? Well, because I had very frequently been hearing a little of various things that they have stated to various persons connected with the work, and because I know that each of them has made accusations of the gravest kind against the other, and they are now apparently for some purpose banded together against somebody else, and upon friendly terms. Men who had any self-respect could not possibly be on good terms after what they have said of each other. For instance, I have heard Larnach on three or four occasions—not on one day, but three or four months apart—state that Burrowes had committed theft and forgery; and I have heard Burrowes repeatedly speak of Larnach as a bad man; that he recognised him when he came down from Brisbane; that he knew him in Queensland; that Larnach had followed him about there touting for drinks. I have heard them continually until recently speak ill of each other.
8705. Then we may understand that you do not mean that the fact of these gentlemen coming here and giving evidence, and answering honestly the questions of the Commission, would be a fair reason for calling them informers? No. We often say colloquially things that we do not mean in their literal sense. I feel a great contempt for men banded together for some purpose against somebody else, being on friendly terms now, after what each of them has said of the other.
8706. Have you had many opportunities of seeing Mr. Larnach, Mr. Hinchcliffe, Mr. Hibble, Mr. Wells, Mr. Houson, and Mr. Burrowes during your employment with the Casual Labour Board? Yes; I have frequently seen them on duty and off duty.
8707. Have you seen Mr. Larnach the worse for liquor on duty? Yes. It was not during office hours, but he has come into the office, when I was there, intoxicated.
8708. Have you seen him in that state more than once? No; only once.
8709. Mr. Hinchcliffe? I never saw him with the slightest sign of intoxication about him.
8710. Mr. Hibble? Never.
8711. Mr. Burrowes? I have seen slight signs on him.
8712. Any of the others? No.
8713. Any of the members of the Casual Labour Board? Certainly not.
8714. Have you had frequent opportunity of seeing these gentlemen? I have seen them frequently, but I have never seen the slightest signs of intoxication upon any of them, except Mr. Larnach, and slight signs upon Mr. Burrowes.
8715. *President.*] Have you, since yesterday, looked into this return (ordered by Legislative Assembly to be printed, 8th January, 1889) of works carried out under the control of the Board, that I handed to you? Yes.
8716. Does it appear to you to be correct? In the main it is correct, subject to some little remarks which I have put in the paper I have handed to you.
8717. At the end of this memorandum you have noted some other work—is that not stated in that return? It is not stated in that. There is the road from the southern extremity of the Lady Carrington Road to Garie, impracticable, cleared about 2 miles; road from near Cornwell's on the Bulgo Road to Otford, cleared, and found unsuitable; section of the Waterfall Road, about 19 chains, formed and ballasted, and found to be too steep for traffic; culverts appear generally to be understated as to number.
8718. Where is the Audley Road? It is a road leading from Loftus Railway Platform, within the National Park, to Audley.
8719. Is the statement correct in the return—2 miles cleared? No. So far as I know, we have only cleared about half a mile.
8720. Bankstown Common;—is that correct? The work appears, by a clerical error, to be 35 acres instead of 30.
8721. Boulevard Road? That is a road leading through the Government Reserve at Huntsman's Hill. I do not quite understand the distinction between the two columns in this return. The one is headed miles of road cleared and formed, and the other is headed cleared, formed, and made.
8722. Is the Blue Gum Road correct? This is one of my difficulties about understanding these headings. This road has been cleared and they consider formed. I do not understand the use of the further terms; if making means metalling, it certainly has not been metalled.
8723. Bulgo Road? There is a statement here that since the road has been started two saw-mills have been set to work. So far as I know the mills have not been set to work; but I have not recently been at the place where they should have been at work.
8724. Campbelltown and Eckersley Road? I have not seen that road of late. I have recently had sole charge of the works, and I have not been over it at all; but I doubt if as much as 11 miles have been cleared.
8725. Does it give direct access to the coast district? That should be qualified by stating that it will give direct access to the coast district when the road known as the Woronora River Road has been completed.
8726. Coronulla Road? Coronulla Road is stated to be $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles long. I think that length is excessive.
8727. Illawarra Road? It is said it has been made from the Government punt to Sutherland, 99 feet wide. The formation, so far as I remember, is only 42 feet wide. It is said to be in thorough repair for all traffic. At the date of this report it certainly could not be said to be in thorough repair for all traffic.
8728. The National Park? The area cleared and under-scrubbed is said to be 13,800 acres. I doubt the correctness of that area, because I believe I was present when the area was computed at Mr. Burrowes' instance and by his direction, and if there has been no more reliable statements brought in since, I was dissatisfied with the way in which the work was calculated. It is said also in the remarks column that 427 acres have been planted with ornamental trees. I think that must mean planting wattle seed over that area, for I am certain that there is not that area planted with anything else. 8729.

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8729. Roberts' Road, Bankstown? The length given must include the length of some minor roads that were cleared in that neighbourhood.
8730. Sutherland-Loftus Road? The length they have given here is 2 miles. That should be $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile.
8731. Unwin's Bridge Road? I think the length formed and ballasted or metalled should be stated as $1\frac{3}{4}$ or $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles, instead of 1 mile.
8732. Waterloo Road? The length stated there as 4 miles, formed and cleared, should be about 3.
8733. Waterfall and Garie Roads? It speaks of seventeen culverts and fourteen bridges. I would not call any of these works bridges myself. I do not think that they are of sufficient importance to justify the name. On the other hand, I believe the number of culverts is much in excess of seventeen, or even seventeen plus fourteen.
8734. Woronora River Road? I think the distance given there as having been cleared must include the clearing of some roads in the neighbourhood of it. For instance, a section of the Illawarra Road.
8735. Woronora Road? That road in its present state is wholly impassable for wheel traffic.
8736. Are there any other works beyond what you have noted at the foot of the memorandum that are not included in this return? I do not think there are any of importance.
8737. Can you fix about the date that you were at Mr. Davies' house at Leumeah? I cannot now, but I could by reference to the pay-sheets, I think.
8738. Was it last month? I think it was in the early part of last month.
8739. Was it before or after it became public that this Royal Commission had been appointed? Oh, it was after that it became public.
8740. What were you doing up there? I was inspecting the roads up there, and I finished late at night after the train had left for Sydney, and the overseer was there to drive me down to a point near Campbelltown. When I found myself there I went to Mr. Davies' house, as he had repeatedly asked me to go there, and I had never been. Another reason was that it suited me to go to Mr. Davies' house, because I could go early to my work. By staying at Mr. Davies' I saved myself the distance between his house and Campbelltown.
8741. Who commenced the conversation about the Casual Labour Board and this inquiry? I really do not remember.
8742. Was it at night or in the morning that it took place? In the evening, after tea.
8743. Cannot you say whether you commenced it or he commenced it? No, I cannot say.
8744. Will you give me, as nearly as you can, the words of that conversation? Oh, I cannot profess to give the words of the conversation with any reasonable accuracy at all.
8745. Can you give me the substance of that conversation? I doubt even if I can give you the substance of it. The things that chiefly impressed themselves upon my mind are the questions about refreshments, because he told me about Kidman's receipt, and he said he would show it to me.
8746. You made some reference yesterday to some firewood? Yes.
8747. What about that;—what was the conversation? About the disposal of the money.
8748. Did he commence it or did you? I really do not remember.
8749. What is the probability? I think the probabilities are evenly balanced.
8750. Did you know anything about the firewood before you went up there? I heard that Mr. Davies had been charged with appropriating moneys that had been received for firewood. I think Mr. Larnach told me that he had done so, and bearing that in mind I think it is more probable that I introduced the subject than that he did.
8751. What did he say about that? He said he had paid the money into the bank, and the books would show it.
8752. Did he tell you that he had paid all the money in. He did not use the expression "all" that I remember; but I inferred from the conversation that he had paid it all in.
8753. Have you any recollection of his mentioning the bank? Not a clear recollection, but I think he said the Australian Joint Stock Bank.
8754. Did he mention a bank? Oh, I am sure he mentioned a bank; and he also told me that it ought to have been paid into the Treasury. I told him that it would probably be the case that the money should be paid into the Board's account, but he said he found that it was not so, and the Board treated it as part of their income. He told me also that some acquittances had been given by him to the Treasury, and that any irregularity of that kind had been amended.
8755. Is your recollection of that conversation clear about the statement of his payment into the bank? I am clear that he said that the money had been paid into the bank.
8756. He told you that he had paid all the money into the bank? I am not sure about the word "all," but he conveyed the impression to me that he had paid all the money into the bank.
8757. And that he had fully discharged himself? Yes; and that he had satisfied the authorities that he was free from any misappropriation, although it was irregular in the first instance.
8758. Then the impression left on your mind was that there had been an irregularity in the first instance, but it was afterwards corrected? That was certainly the impression left on my mind after the conversation.
8759. Was any other matter touched upon that you can recall, besides the firewood and the refreshments? No.
8760. Were the characters of the officers discussed in any way? Oh, yes. He told me that Mr. Burrowes had written him a letter in December last, and he was particular in showing me this letter to point out the date of it, because it contained statements warning him of two other persons as not being his friends. This letter, he said to me, referred to Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison, although their names were not mentioned. He gave me the letter to read.
8761. Can you recollect the substance of the letter? It was something to this effect: That he was out no the Illawarra Road the other day with (I do not think he mentioned the names of the people), and, from some conversation he had with them, he wished to warn Mr. Davies that they were speaking ill of him.
8762. Do you think the letter was dated December last? I am sure it was dated December last. I think it was the 12th December. I believe it was 12 December, 1888, but I am not sure about the day of the month.
8763. Did Mr. Davies discuss the purport of the letter with you? Oh, yes; he said it was a proof of Mr. Burrowes'

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- Burrowes' treachery, that at this time he had been speaking ill of him, and endeavouring to make mischief between him and his colleagues.
8764. Did you express your opinion to Mr. Davies? Yes; I agreed with Mr. Davies that it was a treacherous thing to do.
- 8764½. Can you recollect whether the question of the appointment of the Royal Commission was discussed, and the ability or qualification or otherwise of the members constituting it? No; I think he said all these things would come out before the Royal Commission, and that any statements made would have to be proved. That referred to the statements that Burrowes and Larnach would make.
8765. Had you afforded Mr. Davies any previous opportunity of knowing your opinion of Mr. Burrowes? Yes; I think Mr. Davies must have been very well aware of my opinion of Mr. Burrowes.
8766. From your previous conversations? Yes.
8767. Was there any other matter discussed that you can recall, Mr. M'Pherson, beyond the firewood, the refreshments, and Burrowes' letter. Did he touch upon any of the other officers—Mr. Larnach, Mr. Hibble, Mr. Hinchcliffe, or any of the others? No; he did not talk either of Mr. Hinchcliffe or Mr. Hibble, but I think it was on that occasion that he told me that he lent Larnach money to enable him to get a bailiff out of his house, but I am not quite sure; I think that is the occasion on which he mentioned that to me.
8768. How long do you suppose the conversation lasted? The conversation was not continuous. Mrs. Davies and her daughters were present, and he was talking of his place and his property, and I was talking of my place, and fifty other subjects would turn up in a casual conversation.
8769. Do you think that in mentioning these matters to me you have exhausted the conversation? I do not profess to have exhausted the conversation, but I have exhausted my recollection of it.
8770. Did it occur to you from anything Mr. Davies said that his feelings against Mr. Burrowes were rather strong? Yes; very strong against him.
8771. Can you say from your own knowledge how long Mr. Davies had manifested this feeling against Mr. Burrowes—how long previously? I do not think I remember him on a previous occasion expressing actual ill-will to Mr. Burrowes until the last few months of 1888. He then spoke of Mr. Burrowes as if he doubted his capacity, and doubted if he were reliable. I refer to his competency as an engineer—he doubted if he was competent to make a road, for instance.
- 8771½. Have you heard him speak disparagingly of Mr. Burrowes prior to November, 1888? I heard him on one occasion—I think it was before November—somewhere about October. We went down to inspect a road called the Woronora River Road. He said nobody but a fool would have taken the road where it was.
8772. I am speaking more particularly of disparaging statements as to character? No; I think that conversation I have told you of was the first occasion he has spoken that way of him to me.
- 8772½. Have you any reason to believe that up to November, 1888, Mr. Davies entertained any other than a good opinion of Mr. Burrowes? I do not profess for a moment that he entertained a good opinion of Mr. Burrowes. I think he looked upon him as weak and a failure, and I think he must have been aware that he was more or less dissipated.
8773. Did it ever come to your ears that he had been censured? Yes. I heard him censured.
8774. Where? In the office of the National Park. I heard Mr. Wells censure him in Mr. Davies' presence.
8775. Was the censure a severe one? If Mr. Wells had said to me what he said to him, I should have been disposed to resign at once.
8776. Was Mr. Wells excited? Mr. Wells was angry; no doubt he used hasty expressions that he would not have used on other occasions.
8777. Do you recollect what he did say? He said that he knew nothing about roads—that he was unfit to look after any road. It was rather unpleasant to me, because he said, "I will have to send M'Pherson down to look after these roads." It would be disagreeable to Mr. Burrowes to have this said to him when I was present, so I went away a little distance, and being a little deaf I did not hear the remainder of the conversation. I could see, however, that Mr. Wells was angry.
8778. Did Mr. Davies interpose? Certainly he did not interpose then.
8779. Coming now to what took place at this office recently, you told us I think in your yesterday's evidence that you had some conversation with Mr. Springall outside the door here? I do not remember saying I had a conversation with Mr. Springall, but I did have a conversation with him.
8780. While you and he were waiting to be examined? No; I think you must have misunderstood me. I was attending here one day last week at the Colonial Secretary's Office, on other business, which had nothing to do with this. When I saw Springall I went inside, and he told me he was waiting to be examined.
8781. I understood you to say that you and he were waiting as witnesses? You have either misunderstood me, or I have misunderstood you. I had a conversation with Mr. Kidman.
8782. Had you any conversation with Mr. Springall? Yes.
8783. Will you tell me what that was—the very words, if you can give them? I think I began by asking him if he was going to give evidence before the Commission, and he told me that he was. I forget now what he said about Mr. Burrowes then, but he said that Mr. Burrowes had been making some charges against him. I forget what the particular charges were that he referred to. The chief thing was that while we were talking we saw that Burrowes was standing at the door, and he nodded in a most friendly way to Springall; but Springall took no notice of him. We were talking about his house, and I asked him how things were going.
8784. Was that the occasion on which the expression "Pigott" was used? No.
8785. When was the occasion in which the word "Pigott" was used? I think that was on Monday.
8786. Where did it take place—you were in this building, I think in the ante-room? Yes.
8787. Who were present? I really do not know; I think I was saying something of the kind to Josephson.
8788. Could any one have overheard what you said? Not so far as I know.
8789. Did you use the expression "Pigott," or did he use it? I think I used it.
8790. How did it come up? A number of people connected with the department have been in the habit of calling Burrowes by that name lately.
8791. Had you heard him so called? Yes.
8792. By whom? I forget by whom I heard it used first.
8793. Can you tell us anybody? Yes; I have heard Mr. Springall call him so.

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8794. More than once? Possibly on the particular occasion I am speaking of, but I do not recollect it particularly; and Hibble, I think, I have heard use it.

8795. Are you sure you heard Springall call him so? I am not perfectly sure about it, but I think I did. I have also heard Hibble, and I have heard several people, but I did not pay any special attention to it.

8796. Have you heard Mr. Davies? No.

8797. Mr. Hinchcliffe? No.

8798. Mr. Wells? No. I have not seen Mr. Wells since the Commission was appointed.

8799. Anybody else that you can recollect, except Mr. Springall and Mr. Hibble? I have heard others, but I cannot recall them at the present moment.

8800. Have you used the expression to other people? Yes.

8801. Frequently? Well, several times.

8802. Had you any reason to believe that he was giving untrue information? Certainly some of the information that he had been giving, if it was reported correctly to me, was untrue.

8803. Had you any reason to believe that he had been giving untrue information to this Commission? No; I knew nothing of what he had been giving the Commission. I had no knowledge upon that point.

8804. Do you know why they called him "Pigott"? Well, because he was considered to be an informer. He was generally untruthful, and spoke ill of those people who had been kind to him.

8805. Who do you think could show us over all the roads in the Holt-Sutherland Estate, and point out which of the roads the unemployed did—could you do it? No; I could not do it with regard to what are called bye-roads. The only person that could do that would be Mr. Burrowes.

8806. If Mr. Burrowes showed any roads as having been done by the unemployed, would you believe him? I would not believe him.

8807. Is he a proper person then to show us over them? Certainly he has the knowledge.

8808. But you say that if he points out a certain work, and says it has been done by the unemployed, you would not believe him? I would not believe him. If you refer to the Metropolitan District Surveyor the officers in his department might tell you about him.

8809. My colleagues and I want to have somebody who can give us authentic information as to what the unemployed have done on the Holt-Sutherland Estate. Mr. Burrowes you say could show us, but is there anyone else? There is one man that could help you, and that is Mr. Murphy of the Holt-Sutherland Estate.

8810. Did you know Mr. Murphy? I know a little of him.

8811. Did you see much of him? I did occasionally.

8812. Do you know if he and Mr. Burrowes were friendly? They were very friendly at one time.

8813. Do you know what caused the breach? Well, Mr. Burrowes showed me some letters that he had received from Mr. Murphy with regard to a complaint that he (Burrowes) had made to Mr. Davies, that Mr. Murphy was unduly interfering with him. The letter was handed to me by Burrowes as being an apology from Murphy. At that time I had never seen Murphy, and knew nothing of him except what I had heard from Burrowes.

8814. Do you say the breach was brought about through Burrowes reporting Murphy to his superior officers? That was the first I had heard of any breach. Previous to that they were on good terms. I might mention that I formed that impression from the way Burrowes spoke of him. He said, "I have been down to see Jim Murphy." This letter that Burrowes showed me, which he considered an apology from Murphy, appeared to please him. He was triumphing over it, saying that he had made Murphy knuckle down and go under.

8815. Do you know whether Murphy gave Burrowes any gratuities? Certainly not so far as I know.

8816. Do you know of Mr. Burrowes, or anyone else connected with the Casual Labour Board, deriving any benefit from the Holt-Sutherland Estate, or any other person owning property improved down there? I know of none deriving any benefit except Mr. Springall.

8817. Do you know Mr. Jamieson? I have met him on one occasion with Mr. Bennett of the *Evening News*.

8818. Where was it? Mr. Davies invited Mr. Jamieson, Mr. Bennett of the *Evening News*, Mr. Oxley, the superintendant at Narrabeen, Mr. Cook of the *Herald*, Mrs. Bennett, and Mrs. Cook. They were invited out, I think, to see the works at Waterfall. Mr. Davies wished me to meet him there, and I did so. Mr. Cook missed the train, and did not meet us at Waterfall, but met us afterwards on the river a mile or two above the dam.

8819. What was that—a picnic? A sort of picnic.

8820. Was that Mr. Samuel Cook? Yes; he was sub-editor of the *Herald*, but he is general-manager of it now.

8821. Do you know that he is connected with the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I am not aware; I have heard something of the kind.

8822. Did you ever hear that he was a director? No.

8823. Do you know whether Mr. Davies or Mr. Jamieson had any interest in some land between Gunnamatta Bay and the ocean? I think the land between Gunnamatta Bay and the ocean is a public reserve of about 30 acres. My present recollection of that place is, that it is a reserve. At any rate I do not know who owns it if it is not a reserve.

8824. Was Mr. Burrowes present at that picnic? No; I think he was away at Liverpool.

8825. Do you know whether Mr. Burrowes has any land there? I do not think it is at all probable.

8826. Was the taking up of land discussed at that picnic by Mr. Davies, Mr. Jamieson, or anyone else? No.

8827. *Mr. Waller.*] In this return of work carried out under the heading, miles of roads cleared, formed, and made, if formed and made means metalled, is it correct? In the first instance the Audley Road, but it does not exceed a mile and a half.

8828. What other roads would not be metalled? This Blue Gum Road has not been metalled. I do not know absolutely, but I doubt about the Illawarra Road to Liverpool being metalled; but it is possible I am altogether wrong, as it may have been metalled since I saw it.

8829. When did you see it? It is twelve months ago since I saw it.

8830. These roads on the National Park are said to have been made? If making means metalling, I do not think 10 miles have been metalled.

8831.

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8831. *Mr. Franklin.*] Assuming that the contract for the supply of rations is correct, would that form a proper basis upon which to calculate the total number of men employed? Yes. It was impossible under the system to avoid some waste in the rations, but subject to a correction, that might be from 3 to 5 per cent., it might show the number of men employed.

8832. *President.*] Are you a wealthy man? Not wealthy; but I have sufficient means to keep me independent of Government work if I wish.

William Newcombe and James Pearson, respectively, Receiver and Accountant at the Treasury, were called in. A statement of payments made to the Treasury on account of the Casual Labour Board was handed to them, and they were asked to supply the Commission with the documents explaining certain items therein representing sales of Government property. They undertook between them to procure the information from the Auditor-General's Office and other places.

William Mason Robertson called in, sworn, and examined:—

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8833. *President.*] What are you? I am a sort of Jack of all trades.

8834. Are you in any employment now? Yes, on the Tubbo Station.

8835. What are you doing there? Cooking.

8836. You have written several letters to the Secretary of this Commission intimating that you can give certain evidence with reference to matters that the Commission has under inquiry? Yes.

8837. Will you state to the Commission what you have to say? Certainly. The evidence I wish to point out is from the starting altogether. Money was paid away where it should not be paid at all. I can speak of the way that Mr. Springall manipulated the books and the pay-sheets in one way and another. They called them vouchers at that time. I pointed out to Mr. John Davies how things were being done, and how money was paid away and all that. I was paid £1 too much overtime once, and Mr. Springall told me to refund the pound. I said I would keep it. I spoke to Mr. John Davies about it, and he said I was to keep it. Mr. Springall had, at the start, a private store of his own. He cannot show a billhead for stores that were supplied to him privately; but he sold the men's rations and kept the money. I pointed that out to Mr. John Davies and to Mr. Wells. He pocketed the money. These stores were stopped, but he did not stop them altogether. He got a man named Robinson, and the stores were put in his name. Mr. Wells asked Robinson if he had the store, and Robinson said "Yes." He asked him what he was to pay Mr. Springall. That was only a quibble; the store still belonged to Mr. Springall. I drew Mr. Burrowes' attention to it. I did all in my power to show how things were being done, but I was not strong enough to get him turned out of it. Mr. Davies admitted himself that things were not right, but he took no steps in the matter. Now Mr. Springall has a public-house built out of the proceeds he made out of the unemployed. There was a man who owed Springall 28s. on this private account, but he would not pay him this money; so Mr. Springall put him down for a quarter of an acre more work than he had done, and told the man he could pay him that way. The man drew the money, but never paid him at all, but told him to go and hook for it. Mr. Sanderson can prove this. When it came to pay-day there was always a row about the rations. But Mr. Kidman was always out on that day. Nothing could be found fault with the rations on that day when everyone was looking at them, but the men had to suffer for it afterwards. Johnson used to take the things supplied for the use of the men, and carry them away to his own house in Sydney. Did I tell you about a man that was paid £3 3s. too much. He had only two days coming to him. Mr. Springall told him he would have to return the money, but the man did not do it; he cleared out. Yule and I saw him paid at the office. He had only two days coming to him, but I saw him take pound-notes from off the table. He had previously told me it was not worth his while going to the pay. Springall and Burrowes, when the stores were shifted from the National Park to Heathcote, took men on to do the work that had not horses nor anything. They went and used up four or five carts for these men, although another man had said he would take out the stuff at 10s. a day. They were getting more than that each. Mr. John Davies can tell you more than I know. There is not a single pay-sheet you can get that will give you a detailed statement of the tools sold. The men got tools when they first came out, but any fresh tools were charged to their account. That did not go in to the Board's account, but went to the private account. Johnson used to stand at the door and call the men to come, and pay these private accounts. There was M'Intyre and Woods that drew £66 as nine days pay, for eight men in each gang. The ganger did not draw it. The two men drew it between them so that it would not look so much. They were paid on the Saturday so that they could come into Sydney and enjoy themselves for the week. It was then that M'Pherson started to pull down the prices.

8838. Do you recollect anything else? There is one thing. Sanderson the surveyor can prove that a man was put down for more than a quarter of an acre of work which he never did. There are lots of things, but then they are all trifles.

8839. What were you doing there? I was a sort of everything. I was in the store, and I used to take the men out from here. I was also sent to the Heathcote stores. Mr. Springall and I could not get on together, so he turned me out of the stores.

8840. When did you go out there? The first day the work was started. I went out first of all.

8841. In May, 1887? Yes.

8842. Were you one of the unemployed? Yes.

8843. Were you one of the leaders of them? Well, apparently, I took a leading part with them.

8844. Were you one of the deputations? Yes.

8845. Were you one who used to address them? Not at the Statue, but at the gate here, when we came to see Mr. Walker, and he told us not to come here.

8846. Did you go to Parliament House? No.

8847. Was there any speechifying at the National Park after you went out? Yes; several times there was.

8848. Did you address them? No.

8849. Did you ever take steps to get up meetings out there to go into any of your grievances? I did. I spoke to Mr. Burrowes first. He said, "Take the men away, Mr. Davies might bring someone with him." When Mr. Davies came up to the store he would not listen to them.

8850. When did you leave? I left on the Jubilee; the same day.

8851.

Mr. W. M.
Robertson.
10 April, 1889.

8851. Then you were only out there a few months? That is all.
8852. What was the origin of your quarrel with Mr. Springall? The origin was when I saw what he was doing. The first row was about this pound that he gave me too much. I saw things were not being done as they ought to be. I wrote out a statement, and Mr. Wells came out on the Sunday; but he did not get in the right place in the store to find out what he was looking for. I wanted a warrant taken out to search Mr. Springall's house, but Mr. Davies would not give it to me.
8853. You were only two months out there altogether? Yes, from April until June.
8854. And all these iniquitous things you tell me of took place whilst you were there? Every one of them.
8855. How often did you have meetings of the men? When they had a grievance they would come up to the store and ask me to go down and listen to them.
8856. You were one of the moving spirits then? Not after I went to the park. I was a sort of medium. They showed their grievances to me, and after that I went to Mr. Burrowes and did what I could.
8857. Do you know a man named Harry Underwood. Had you any disturbance with him? No.
8858. Do you know John Smith? He was sent out to the stores at Heathcote with me.
8859. Do you recollect telling some men to go to Mr. John Davies and tell him that they were being swindled out of their meat? I told someone about it. That was the time they had half a pound of meat put on extra.
8860. Did you leave the works of your own accord? Yes. I never went back after I came to Sydney that week.
8861. Did you tell them you were leaving? No.
8862. Did you make any demand for back pay? Yes; I wrote twice, but never got it.
8863. How much was it? 15s. for three days.
8864. Is it still due? Yes.
8865. Have you been in employment since? Yes; I went from there to Clifton, and got on work.
8866. How do you mean that Mr. Springall manipulated the pay-sheets? He put men down for work that was never given them at all. I saw Yule draw money that was not due to him, and I drew attention to it at the time.
8867. How often did you draw Mr. Davies' attention to these delinquencies? Four or five times, and so that he could not get out of it. I wrote it down in black and white.
8868. How do you know Springall sold the rations? Because he sold them and they went into a private account. I had the making up of this account the first time I went there.
8869. Did you tell Mr. Davies that? I did. I showed it to him.
8870. Do you say you also pointed it out to Mr. Wells? Yes, and also to Mr. Houison.
8871. What did you tell them? I showed them that certain tobacco that was sent out was not the Board's at all, but Mr. Springall's.
8872. Were you ever reported to the Board? Not that I know of.
8873. Do you recollect having some disturbance about some meat-house that you were building? I gave in a report of it to Mr. John Davies. It was on Jubilee Saturday. He said he had not got time to consider it then, he was too busy. He said, "You will get your rations sent out to Heathcote separate from the others altogether." The next day being Sunday I asked two or three of the men to help me put up a place for the meat. Then I got a letter from Mr. Burrowes, carried by John Smith, telling me not to employ labour at all, and that I was to appear before the Board.
8874. Did you appear? Yes; that was the morning I saw Yule being paid too much.
8875. What did the Board say? I did not keep my time. They said that I appeared as if I had been drinking, and they would not listen to me. I saw Mr. John Davies afterwards, and said I could substantiate my statement, and that it was correct.
8876. Did you know a man named Flemming out there? I am not certain. I believe I know the name well enough.
8877. How long were you in the ranks of the unemployed? A fortnight.
8878. What were you doing before? I was a seaman.
8879. How long have you been out here? I have been backwards and forwards for twelve years. I am an able seaman. I can go in any capacity. I have been at sea for twenty years.
8880. How long were you in Sydney before you went to the National Park? Only a fortnight.
8881. What pay did you get at the National Park? 5s. a day, for seven days in the week, until I went to the Heathcote stores, and then Mr. Springall took the Sunday off me.
8882. *Mr. Franklin.*] Did Mr. Springall keep a private store? He kept things in a store that he called a private store; but still they were the same stores there.
8883. Suppose he can show receipted bills for stores for the time which you state? He cannot do so.
8884. Did you not see cases come out addressed to him? The only thing that came addressed to him was tobacco. I had the serving out of the stores at the time.
8885. If this Commission is told that stores were sent out to Mr. Springall, then you did not see them? I mean to say, that he never received a loaf of bread or a pound of butter to his own account. They came direct from Mr. Kidman's as rations. He has books that show his private accounts. They were sold for cash, and the men paid at pay-day.
8886. Have you been in Mr. Springall's private store? I have had occasion to be in it several times. I have had my accounts rendered from it.
8887. Had he such things as pickles, jams, &c.? Latterly he had.
8888. You are speaking of two months' experience? Within that two months is when he put a man named Robinson in as representing the store. Mr. Springall was not then supposed to have anything to do with it. When I spoke to Mr. Davies and Mr. Houison about it they said, "I will put a stop to that."
8889. How did Mr. Springall get the rations? They came out with the rations. He was selling these for a profit. He cannot show you a billhead for bread, meat, or butter, or anything supplied as rations. He can show you billheads for aerated waters, jams, and all that, because I have had them sent to me in mistake.
8890. Did you receive the daily supply of stores? I received them on the platform. They were carried up to the store.

- Mr. W. M. Robertson.
10 April, 1889.
8891. Did you know the quantities you ought to receive? I could not tell, because the book was not there, and you had not time to run them up. Mr. Kidman told me that for every 1,000 men he sent 100 rations over. When I was at the Heathcote store, the men who wanted extra rations got them, and those who were the last had to come away without getting any at all. I said that Johnson had no right to sell them until everyone was served.
8892. You had excess of rations sometimes? Always.
8893. How did it occur? Well, for every 1,000 men Mr. Kidman sent out 100 rations extra.
8894. Were these extra rations divided equitably? No; they were not divided, because there were a lot left. After everyone was supplied there were always rations over until we went to Heathcote, and then we could not get enough, and men who had to be supplied had to go without. Still, at the National Park there was always enough and to spare.
8895. When there was a balance left, was it equitably divided? Not in an equitable way at all. A lot of bread was thrown into a corner, and they would give the men an extra loaf as long as it lasted.
8896. So the men really got the benefit? Some of them did.
8897. You have told the President that these spare stores were taken away and sold? It was like this: whilst the men would buy them they were there to be bought; but when they were getting too stale to sell they were given away. Mr. Springall would get the money himself. He has done well out of it.
8898. Did you not find a considerable waste in the meat? No; you could not get enough of meat.
8899. In issuing in small quantities there must be great waste? That was where the loss was. You could not cut it up to the exact weight; you had to throw it in.
8900. You admit, then, that extra stores were necessary in order to give the men a fair ration? But I maintain that Springall derived a benefit from what was over.
8901. Did you see him take them? I did; and saw him take the money.
8902. Did you see him take the Government issue stores to his own stores? Yes; and they were sold from the Government place and put down to the men's account without going to the private store at all. He never had bread, meat, or butter there. There were married people living on the place coming down there getting what they wanted, but they were not rations. There were no rations for married people.
- 8903-4. Was this well known? Yes, between Johnson, Robinson, and myself.
8905. You had no share? I had nothing; Johnson, I believe, had.
8906. Did you make any overtures to Mr. Springall for something? None whatever.
8907. If he had made such terms with you, what should you have done? I do not know what I should have done.
8908. Would you have spoken against him? I do not know whether I would or not.
8909. *Mr. Waller.*] Did you say the tools were sold? Yes, mattocks and axes.
8910. Who were the owners? The Casual Labour Board.
8911. Who brought out the tools for sale? They were brought out to the Park for every gang of men that came there. When they came each man was supplied with a tool of some kind. If he broke it, and required another, then he had to pay for it. These new tools, like the stores, were not put down as against the money a man drew, but in Mr. Springall's account.
8912. In other words, do you mean that Springall got the benefit of it? He got the benefit of everything he could—even the sugar-bags; forty sugar-bags had to be kept back for Mr. Springall's house here.
8913. Was there a man of the name of Johnson with you? Yes.
8914. At that time, was there any difficulty if a man wanted extra stores to find a place in which to buy them? There was no difficulty. If a man wanted them at any time he could get them.

Henry Thelluson Sanderson called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. H. T. Sanderson.
10 April, 1889.
8915. *President.*] What are you? Licensed surveyor and civil engineer in this Colony.
8916. Were you examined before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly on 12th December last? Yes.
8917. Is this your evidence? Yes.

[*Evidence before Select Committee.*]

2709. *Chairman.*] You are a civil engineer? Yes.
2710. Have you had anything to do with the surveying, or constructing, or supervising of any roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes.
2711. What has been your connection with that estate? I will give the Committee what information I have:—On the 23rd September, 1887, I surveyed, for clearing, 43 chains 58 links of the Port Hacking Road—that is a Government road—from the junction of Malvern Road, going towards Port Hacking. This road is a chain wide. On the 29th September I surveyed 50 chains of the same road, from Little Tureel Point, at the end of the Port Hacking Road, going towards Doolan's Paddock. Then, on the 30th September, I surveyed a further portion of the Port Hacking Road, towards the township of Sylvania, 125 chains, to its junction with the Illawarra Road. That is a Government road. On the 1st October I surveyed 97 chains of the Malvern and Madeira Road, from the Illawarra to the Port Hacking Road. These, I believe, are private roads, 2 chains wide. At least, these are not Government roads; they are not dedicated or proclaimed. On the 2nd October I surveyed, for clearing and forming, 109 chains 30 links of the Port Hacking Road to the angle of the road at Doolan's fence. That is another portion of the Port Hacking Road. On the 8th October I resurveyed a portion of 50 chains of the Madeira Road, which is a private road, for clearing and formation. On the 12th October I made a survey of the Woronora Road, from Eton-street, Sutherland Township, to the Sylvania Road, 152 chains, for clearing, forming, and culverting purposes. That is a private road. On the 12th to 14th October, I surveyed a private road, called the Coronulla Beach Road to Coronulla Beach, and on the same date I surveyed a small private road called the Lilly Pilly Road to Ewey Bay. That is 136 chains. On the same date I surveyed another short road, called the Euronga Road, from the Lilly Pilly Road to Ewey Bay. It is 30 chains in length. On the 14th and 15th I surveyed the Boulevard Road, from the Illawarra Railway to the Sylvania Road. It is a road 137 chains in length, and 1 chain 50 links wide. On the 14th October I surveyed a small road called Eaton-street. I do not know whether that is a proclaimed

proclaimed road; it may be. It is in the township of Sutherland, 36 chains. From the 9th January to 9th April, 1888, I had instructions to superintend and take charge of the works carried on on the Holt-Sutherland Estate, to superintend the formation of the Malvern and the Madera Roads, the metalling and blinding of the Port Hacking Road, and the work generally speaking.

Mr. H. T. Sanderson.

10 April, 1889.

2712. By whom were you employed? By order of Mr. Edward Matthew Burrowes, the superintendent of the unemployed, and I presume under the instructions of the Casual Labour Board. He instructed me to make those surveys.

2713. What was the statement made to you in reference to the surveying of these roads you called private roads? There was no intimation given to me that they were private roads. I was simply ordered to make those surveys so that the roads might be cleared and the areas computed. They were simply pegged out by the surveyors of the Holt-Sutherland Estate, and in fact the scrub and timber were there when I made the survey for the purpose of enabling the men to clear and form the road.

2714. You state that these roads had already been pegged out—that is, they had been surveyed by the owners of the estate prior to your going over them again? Yes; they had been surveyed by the surveyor appointed by the manager of the Sutherland Estate. Mr. Murphy, the manager, knows the surveyors who made the survey; I do not know myself who they are.

2715. Did you survey any roads that had not been previously surveyed? No.

2716. In each instance there had already been a survey? Yes.

2717. These streets had been laid out in the subdivision of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes. These roads were simply surveyed for the purpose of enabling people to have frontages to the property they bought.

2718. You were supplied with a plan of the subdivision of the estate, and you surveyed according to that plan? Yes, according to their plans; they were lithographed plans of portions of the Holt-Sutherland Estate.

2719. Then you carried out the subdivision they had already shown on the lithographed plan? Quite so.

2720. Those roads that you surveyed for ballasting were public roads, you state? No, not in all cases. I am not aware that they were public roads. I believe that with the exception of the Port Hacking Road and the Illawarra Road the others are private roads.

2721. You believe so? I am not aware, but I believe that they are merely roads designed by the manager of the Holt-Sutherland Estate for sale purposes.

2722. *Mr. McMillan.*] For purposes of subdivision? Yes.

2723. *Chairman.*] In fact, you know from your own knowledge that these roads were shown in the subdivision? I do know it.

2724. Was the road to Coronulla Beach on the subdivision? I do not think it was. I only saw the subdivision on the ground. I took notice of its junction with the Illawarra Road, and surveyed it, according to instructions, as far as the beach.

2725. You say that, although not shown on the subdivision, it was pegged out? It was pegged out, and the pegs were on the ground.

2726. Was it then pegged out by the private surveyor of the estate? I believe it was. Except the Port Hacking and Illawarra Roads, all the roads were, I think, made by private surveyors.

2727. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Do the majority of the roads you see marked on the map lead to Crown lands? I believe they do. They are all on private land—on the Holt-Sutherland Estate. There is, I believe, a small reserve there or two.

2728. Do you consider that these roads were laid out in the public interest, or in the interests of the proprietors of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I should have thought in the interests of the latter. I cannot say anything else conscientiously.

2729. *Mr. McMillan.*] I take it that you simply know the individual that employed you? I do.

2730. You know nothing more? That is all.

2731. Excepting that you did the work professionally as a surveyor? Yes; I made no inquiries, and simply followed directions.

2732. *Mr. Copeland.*] You see this reserve to the south of the Coronulla Beach;—I suppose there are 400 acres in it? I presume there are about that.

2733. Can you say whether any roads have been surveyed through this reserve? Not at the time I was there.

2734. You surveyed no road? I surveyed no roads. I simply confined myself to the Coronulla Beach Road.

2735. You do not know whether any roads were surveyed through that reserve? No; there was no roads surveyed.

2736. Do you know whether the headland there is a good one? It is very fair; it is a good height above the sea.

2737. If you had been surveying for the Government, would you not have carried a road through that reserve? Yes; right through to the other reserve.

2738. You did not make any road? No; not to those Government Reserves.

2739. *Chairman.*] You simply followed your instructions? Yes.

2740. *Mr. Copeland.*] You have referred to some roads as Government roads;—can you tell me when those roads were made Government roads? The Port Hacking Road I remember for the last twenty years, and the Illawarra Road for the last ten years as the Wollongong Road *via* Tom Ugly's Point.

2741. In those cases they were old Government roads? They were old Government roads originally surveyed under Sir Thomas Mitchell.

[*End of evidence before Select Committee.*]

8918. *President resuming.*] Was that evidence submitted to you for revision? Yes; and after revision I forwarded it back.

Mr. H. T.
Sanderson.
10 April, 1889.

8919. Having now heard it read over, do you wish to make any explanation? Simply with regard to question 2727. The question is, "Do the majority of those roads you see marked on the map lead to Crown lands." The answer makes it appear, "I believe they do," but it ought to be, "They do not." They do not go in any case to the Crown lands.

8920. With this exception, is your evidence true and correct in every particular? Yes, as far as I am able to tell.

8921. Did you hold any position under the Board? Yes, I did.

8922. What position? It was that of surveyor until 9th January, 1888. The office of superintendent or overseer of works was then combined with it. That was the first time I took charge of works.

8923. When did you first come into the employment of the Board? On 10th November, 1886.

8924. Were you passed on from the old unemployed staff to the staff of the new Casual Labour Board? I was.

8925. Who passed you on? The officers were permitted to remain. There was no official intimation.

8926. Were your duties confined to the Southern District? Quite so.

8927. Who was your superior officer out there? Previous to Mr. Burrowes, a gentleman of the name of Newstead, who was superintendent at the National Park; but I believe the principal gentleman was Mr. Wise, of the Immigration Department.

8928. What was the principal work you were engaged on under the Casual Labour Board? The work up to 9th January, 1888, was surveying—making surveys of clearings for the unemployed—that is, ground for them to clear.

8929. Who instructed you to do this? The superintendent. My general instructions were to keep the men employed by surveying. I surveyed these portions out into 4-acre areas.

8930. Did you live out there? I camped out at the National Park up to 9th January, 1888.

8931. Did your duties bring you into personal contact with the members of the Board? On several occasions; whenever the Board came to visit there.

8932. Did they give you instructions on any particular occasions? No, not that I am aware of. The Chairman might have with regard to some matters connected with Cook's Park, last year.

8933. During the time you were employed there, did you observe or were you made aware of any irregularities, or any improper expenditure of public moneys? Oh, yes, of course.

8934. Was there any misappropriation of the unemployed work? Yes; I drew Mr. Burrowes' attention to the fact of the men being employed on private roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate. He said it was no business of mine.

8935. Anything else? I also had several altercations with Mr. Murphy, who was manager of the Estate, and I used to disagree with him as to the material I put on the road. He wanted to order and direct me as to what I was to do with regard to these roads.

8936. Anything else? I drew his attention to the fact that the Government had no right to go to the expense of making these roads, and he said "Ultimately the Board will send in their account to the Holt-Sutherland Estate, and the Estate will recoup them for everything they have incurred." That is with regard to these particular items of expenditure. Of course all the other items were in the National Park, and that I did not object to. I drew Mr. Burrowes' attention to the work on the Estate, but they still continued carrying on the work and employing men in clearing the roads. It was bush, and the roads were cleared on both sides according to my survey. The cost was from £6 and £7 to £8 per acre. I have never gone into the actual cost of these roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate, or what they would be liable for, but that is a matter that could easily be arrived at.

8937. Do you know of any other irregularities? The whole affair was irregular from beginning to end. The thing was never carried out in a proper manner. The visits of the members of the Board were like angels' visits, few and far between. They never gave any directions in any way. They came there for a bit, and went away again. Of course the Chairman always made his appearance on pay-days; he never failed to be there. And there have been great irregularities with regard to rations. The rations were very irregularly issued until I caused those for my men to be sent direct from Mr. Kidman's. Then I had an opportunity of getting their rations properly. They were mulcted of their rations before on many occasions, and were even charged for them, although they never received them. There is another matter. There is a memorandum I sent to the Secretary, which had reference to certain payments that were due to the men in the month of May, in which they were mulcted of something like £123 for work done which they were never paid for.

8938. Is there any other matter you think it proper to bring under our notice? There is a matter in which I happen to be plaintiff in the Supreme Court against Mr. Davies, late Chairman of the Board, but I do not like to go into that; it might have the effect of damaging my claim.

8939. Some matter at present *sub judice*? Yes. But I may say with regard to the issue of rations by the storekeeper, a person named Springall, as far as my knowledge goes since I have been on the works, that they have always been irregular. The men have been overcharged for rations on almost every pay, and I was rather surprised that Mr. Springall should have been retained as storekeeper when Mr. Deering had formulated a charge against him of having appropriated rations to his own purposes to the extent of £60. I was surprised he should have been retained in that position after that fact had been made known to the Chairman by Mr. Deering, who was in charge of the unemployed up to the 2nd May, 1887, when the Casual Labour Board took charge.

THURSDAY, 11 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Henry Thelluson Sanderson called in and examination continued:—

Mr. H. T.
Sanderson.
11 April, 1889.

8940. *Mr. Franklin.*] I believe you are a licensed surveyor and civil engineer? Yes.

8941. What experience have you had in civil engineering? In the railway service at home; also in construction at home under Rennie Brothers, Miller and Grainger, and under Charles Vignoles and Robert Stephenson, civil engineers.

8942. That covers a great many years? Yes.

8943.

8943. How many years would it be since you began? About thirty-four years ago. I have had experience here as well. I was engaged upon the railway service here. The first survey I made for railway purposes here was the extension of the line from Brisbane and Ipswich on to the Darling Downs. That was the Moreton Bay district then.

Mr. H. T.
Sanderson:
11 April, 1889.

8944. During that time you have had experiences in construction? I have had construction since then. I was on the Great Northern Line from Uralla to Glen Innes. Mr. Proudfoot had the contract for the line.

8945. So that you think yourself a competent authority so far as road construction goes? Quite so. I have had a great deal of road construction both at home and in this country.

8946. Have you been engaged in the Surveyor-General's Department? Yes; I was engaged under him last when the Surveyor-General was making a survey of the mineral leases between Port Hacking and Stanwell Park, up the Port Hacking River to the Summit, up nearly to Waterfall, and also to Bulgo.

8947. Then you are more than usually acquainted with the particular district in which the Holt-Sutherland Estate is situated? I might say in fact, that if I were to visit the Estate, I could point out the whole of the work done by the unemployed—public and private, including not only clearing and formation, but culvert-making as well, and gravelling and blinding.

8948. I wish now to refer you particularly to the work done on the Holt-Sutherland Estate. You surveyed the roads on that Estate? Yes.

8949. Do you know the full mileage of the roads constructed within the boundaries of that Estate? No, I do not know it. I could ascertain by computation by-and-bye from the maps and so forth, but so far as I have myself surveyed I can tell you by referring to the evidence that I have given.

8950. What is the area within which all the roads are situated? That I could not tell you. It is a very large estate. I believe it is something like 100,000 acres, or more than that, but I really do not know. Mr. Deering could give you that answer.

8951. Will you look at this map of the parish of Holt-Sutherland, county of Cumberland, being an Appendix to the Report submitted by the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly appointed to inquire into these roads? Yes.

8952. You recognize that? I do.

8953. On this map is shown by Mr. Burrowes approximately the direction of all the roads formed by the Casual Labour Board? Yes; but I observe for instance in the Illawarra Road that it is accurately laid down on the map.

8954. That is sufficient for identification? Yes.

8955. You observe also the Port Hacking Road? Yes; I know it well.

8956. You also observe the road between the Port Hacking and the Illawarra Road, called the Malvern Road? Yes; that is the road on which I was particularly engaged.

8957. These sketch roads are shown on this map by Mr. Burrowes? Yes.

8958. Mr. Burrowes, I suppose, would be quite capable of showing them approximately. This is a map prepared by the Government, and it is correct enough to show the position of the road? I know that this road is very nearly correct. It is not quite straight, but at all events it is straight enough for the purposes that you require. It is a straight line to Sylvania Road, and then there is an angle across the Port Hacking Road.

8959. Do you believe that it shows the whole of the roads formed on the Estate? No.

8960. Can you find any omissions;—if you can I wish you would describe them? There is a road going down to Ewey Bay. And this road from the parish of Sutherland—it is called Forest Road, but it has got another name. This is a road formed by the unemployed.

8961. You know Exhibit G presented by Mr. Burrowes to the Select Committee? It is a schedule of all the roads stated to have been made on the Holt-Sutherland Estate, with the length, width, and treatment, stating whether they are cleared, formed, and ballasted, and giving the culverts and other particulars of each? Yes.

8962. Will you look down that list and say whether you are familiar with these roads or whether there are any omissions. Yes?

8963-4. What roads are given there? Port Hacking, Main Illawarra, Coronulla, Burraneer, Wotonga, Lilly Pilly, Euronga, Orara, Malvern, Karimbla, Woronora, Sylvania, Bath, Boulevard, Forest, Ewey, Corea, Station, Eton, Ivanhoe, Willaree, and Kamira. Those are stated by Mr. Burrowes to be the whole of the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate—twenty-two in number, and 43 miles 21 chains in length.

8965. Can you give later particulars of any additional roads that you remember? Yes; I think I can; but I do not remember any roads other than have been stated here.

8966. Can you give the exact extent of each road from your own field-notes? Yes, if I had my field-notes; but I have not got them here.

8967. If you will be good enough to furnish the Commission with that it will be very useful as a check against this? Yes. I will do so.

8968. Have you ascertained during your experience the cost of clearing and forming per chain, and ballasting and blinding per cubic yard? The cost of clearing would be £8 an acre, but there would be other expenses—superintending, &c., which would make it probably about £10.

8969. Then in estimating the value of the work £10 may be taken as the amount for clearing? £10 would be a fair amount, because the actual work would be £8, and there are other expenses attached.

8970. Formation—what would be about the cost of that per chain? 12s. 6d. would be the amount that they would get paid on the certificate of the surveyor.

8971. Draining? Draining would be included in the formation in the tables.

8972. There are no intercepting drains in addition to the formation? No; I make here a sketch showing the section of the road in illustration of what I have said.

8973. Then ballasting—what arrangement had you for that? The ballasting was from 20 to 25 feet wide.

8974. How was that paid for—by the yard? It was paid for by the load, and the average quantity to the chain, would be about thirty loads—thirty loads at 2s. 6d.

8975. Can you give any idea of the ordinary cost of pipe drains? Yes. The pipe drainage without the cost of material would be about £2 per crossing.

8976. Would that be the length from table to table—the full length of the crossing? Yes.

8977. What length could you give me for that? The length would be about 35 feet.

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8978. What other culverts had you other than these pipe drains? We called them pipe culverts; and these were 20 to 24 feet culverts. They were made so as to carry across the water-course. The culverts would probably be from 30 to 35 feet in length, by the width of formation.
8979. What are you speaking of now,—are you referring to the ordinary culvert? I am speaking of the ordinary timber culvert.
8980. What would be the cost of each of these? The cost would be from £25 to £30.
8981. All these culverts can be seen on examination of the roads? Yes.
8982. And estimated by any expert measuring them and taking their quantities? Yes.
8983. And after viewing the roads, a pretty close estimate may be made of the value of the work done? Yes. I might mention that on one road, which is called the Malvern Road, there was a cutting something like 200 yards in length, which was made under my supervision, and which, I think, cost about £100.
8984. Have you any memo. of it? I could give you the number of days upon which the men were employed upon it, and the number of carts.
8985. Will you kindly take a note of that, and if that is omitted you can give the actual cost of formation? Yes.
8986. I would also like you, if you know of any other case where there has been an extraordinary amount of work in a short length, to furnish particulars—any other portion of the road in which there has been a heavy cutting? There is nothing further upon this road except that cutting.
8987. I will ask you if you can give me, with reference to the roads, any particulars regarding the valuation—if you can particularise statements with regard to the values? Yes; I will to the best of my ability.
8988. Do you think that statement is correct that there are 43 miles of roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate made by the unemployed? Yes; I think there would be that measurement. It might be a little more, but that is nearly correct.
8989. How long were you on these particular roads? I was on these roads from September, 1887. That was pretty nearly the time of the commencement of the work. The only work I did not see was this Illawarra Road. That was done, previous to my going there, by the Casual Labour Board, under the superintendence or charge of a man named Buller.
8990. Do you remember any exception being taken to the work on that road? I believe there was something. A man named O'Brien will give you more information than I can with regard to the roads.
8991. You do not remember any circumstance where it was pointed out that you were doing wrong in spending money on such work? I have heard something about it, but I do not remember any particular circumstance.
8992. When you entered upon that Estate to commence your surveys, did you find many roads marked? I found a good many roads simply marked out by private surveyors.
8993. Did you ascertain who the surveyors were, and under whose direction the surveys were made? Well, the lithograph disclosed the name of McChard.
8994. You are speaking of the lithograph design of the subdivision? It was a lithograph of the division which had actually been designed by the surveyor.
8995. For whom? For the Holt-Sutherland Company. All these roads with the exception of two were private roads.
8996. Will you look at two lithographs of the subdivisions of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes.
8997. On looking at these two plans and referring to the scale, what area would they represent of the Holt-Sutherland Estate. I call attention to the Illawarra Road? The scale is four chains to the inch.
8998. Could you tell me as nearly as possible the extent that this lithograph would occupy of the Company's land? I do not think I could.
8999. I want you to tell me whether these two subdivision plans represent the area generally of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I could not answer that. I think this lithograph extends from the railway line to the Sylvania Road, being nearly half the Estate.
9000. You have seen these lithographs before? Yes.
9001. And you know that the subdivisions were made for the purpose of sale? Yes.
9002. And these lithographs are dated 27th November, 1882? Yes.
9003. Do these subdivisions show the roads that have been made by the Casual Labour Board with same frontages? Yes.
9004. The roads you say were already marked on the estate before the operations of the Casual Labour Board? The roads were marked out and surveyed, and the land on each side of the roads; and the roads with the allotments upon them were shown by the surveyor.
9005. So that you carried out the work according to designs already laid down? Yes.
9006. The only work done before you took charge was pegging out? The surveyor's line would simply have pegs put down.
9007. What was done was simply professional work? Yes. There was no clearing done.
9008. You, as a civil engineer, knew that you had more to do before you could put labour upon these roads? Yes.
9009. Who directed your work as to the lines of survey? It was left to the surveyor.
9010. Who directed the work on any particular road that you commenced. You were a stranger; you must have had instructions from some one? Mr. Burrowes.
9011. He gave you instructions on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? He pointed out the roads, particularly those running from east to west, as being likely ones for construction.
9012. Were Mr. Burrowes' instructions at any time in writing? Yes; but I have got such a mass of correspondence that I do not know that I could find them. Sometimes he gave verbal instructions, and sometimes written instructions.
9013. Would you mind looking through your papers to see if you can find written instructions regarding these works? You mean with reference to this Estate?
9014. Yes? I will, if possible.
9015. Did you know at the time that you were laying out these surveys that you were working on a private estate? Yes.
9016. Your intimate knowledge of the district would lead you to know that? Yes; I had not the slightest doubt about that myself, and I mentioned it several times to Mr. Burrowes.

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9017. Did you ever verbally or in writing protest against the doing of such work? No; I did not take upon myself to do that, but I spoke to Mr. Murphy, the manager of the Holt-Sutherland Estate about that.

9018. Were you directed to refer to him for instructions? No; it was in consequence of his interference with my surveys and the sort of material I was putting on the roads, that I made the remark to him—in fact wrote to him that his interference was proof to me that the Casual Labour Board did wrong in putting the unemployed upon private roads. For instance, he found fault with the material I put on the roads.

9019. What was he? He was the manager of the Holt-Sutherland Estate.

9020. Has he any direct interest in the Estate? I believe he has. I do not know; but I believe he has a large interest, and he receives a large salary.

9021. He is Manager, so that his duties would be to embellish the Estate in order that it might realize a good price? Yes.

9022. Had he sufficient authority to order your men on the ground if he found them doing wrong? No; he had not the power to do that.

9023. You were trespassing there if you were doing work that he did not want. Did he threaten to put you off the roads? No; he would simply find fault with the material.

9024. In fact, he was directing the work? Yes.

9025. There was a man named Walsh, who was there under Mr. Murphy, irrespective of Mr. Burrowes? Yes. In fact, I was rather surprised that Mr. Burrowes did not object.

9026. Do I understand that Mr. Murphy was directing any expenditure of Government money upon any design that he wished to formulate? Yes.

9027. Do you think that there was any understanding between the Casual Labour Board and Mr. Murphy to do such work to his satisfaction, and that the Government should be refunded the cost after the work was done? I believed it was so. I put the question to Mr. Murphy one day when he was coming down the line. I asked him who was going to refund the moneys expended on the Holt-Sutherland Estate. He said, "I suppose the Holt-Sutherland Company will receive an account from the Casual Labour Board, and we will try to settle it."

9028. With such an understanding you would do your best for him? Decidedly.

9029. Have you any reason to suppose now that this was not so? The impression upon my mind now is that they never intended to pay anything at all—that they did not intend to pay for any of the works. I think they intend to put the responsibility upon Mr. Davies and Mr. Burrowes. I believe Mr. Burrowes knew that he was doing wrong, and misleading the Board all the way through.

9030. Was there any tangible excuse for doing these works—how were they initiated? I believe there were petitions and deputations and one thing or another sent in to Sir Henry Parkes after the resignation of the Dibbs Ministry. But the petitions and deputations, I think, were simply for the purpose of improving and forming public roads.

9031. You think that with the exception of one or two there was no reason in the public interest for making these roads? I am quite sure of that.

9032. You know the ground so well that you are quite sure? Yes.

9033. I point out one particular road—the Sylvania Road—where does that run to? It runs from the Port Hacking Road in a southern direction right away down to the bay. It goes through a gully. In fact you could not make a road that would be of any use on account of the gullies.

9034. From an engineering point of view, you would not make the road? Decidedly not.

9035. You think that the reason for undertaking this work was in order to carry out the design for subdivision? Yes.

9036. Does that statement refer to roads running either parallel or transversely? Yes. They were kept in this direction and treated as roads, in order that they might not interfere with the original design of subdivision.

9037. Will you name the roads that you consider in the public interest? There is the Port Hacking Road. That is a public road. The main Illawarra is a public road.

9038. Taking the Port Hacking Road, what is the extent of it? It appears to be 230 chains.

9039. You think that is a public road? Oh, I am sure that is a public road. I have travelled that road. I have seen it shown upon the Government plan fifteen or twenty years ago.

9040. Was it a Trust road, do you know? It might have been a Trust road. I rather think it was a Trust road at that time.

9041. The next road was the main Illawarra Road? Yes; that is a road $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length. It will save about 4 miles.

9042. Will you tell me whether that has been a long time in use? It existed as an ordinary track through the bush, about 20 or 30 or 35 feet wide.

9043. What treatment has it received? They have widened it to the full extent of two chains all the way through, and formed a great portion of it.

9044. What is the formation? Some of it is metalled, and some of it is simply formed. There is a quarry upon the hill, and they got a lot of their metal there. The road cost a great deal of money. It was in hand long before I got there—six months in fact. A man named O'Brien would give you some information about it.

9045. What was O'Brien? He is an ordinary man. I do not know whether he has been a policeman or what he has been, but he has been in the employ of the Casual Labour Board, and was made an overseer of this work.

9046. I suppose a fair estimate of this road would be that it cost double any of the other roads? More. I fancy that if you were to go into the cost of that road it would be found to be three times the cost of the others.

9047. Did it occur to you that these roads were made to give access to unimproved Crown lands? I presume they were made for that purpose.

9048. I ask you if any excuse could be offered for the construction of these other roads? No; these roads were never made with any intention of taking them to Crown lands, because there were no Crown lands, except small reserves of about 100 acres, adjoining Illawarra Road.

9049. Will you look and see how many roads there are approaching a point called Hungry Point Reserve? I cannot say how many—the only road I think is the Coronulla Beach Road. 9050.

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9050. Will you look and see if there are any roads made on that Government reserve? None whatever.
9051. Don't you think that in laying out work for the unemployed you would have been justified in making a road there? Yes. There would have been some colour for this road if it had been extended to the reserve.
9052. As a matter of fact there are no roads to any of the reserves or Crown lands, nor any attempt to approach them? No.
9053. Were you acquainted with the shareholders or directors of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No. I only knew one of them—Mr. F. Want. I was not aware that he was a shareholder, but he took an interest in those two roads—the Lilly Pilly Road and the Ewey Bay Road.
9054. Did you think he was interested in them? Yes, because he has property on the shore of Ewey Bay. So long as that road was approaching there he had no objection to it; in fact he took an interest in it. He had a road called Montrose Road for about 90 chains—1 mile and 10 chains.
9055. Do you know if this road was absolutely formed? A portion of it was formed. It has all been cleared.
9056. Will you look at the list and tell me if the Montrose Road is there? No; I do not see it there.
9057. Therefore you will say that this list signed by Mr. Burrowes, was not complete? Yes.
9058. That is the first road that you find omitted? Yes.
9059. Do you know a road called Cowarra Road? Yes. That is not on the list. That would be about 50 chains in length.
9060. What work was done on it? It has been cleared. It might have been formed since, but I am not sure about it.
9061. You say that this road does not appear on the list submitted by Mr. Burrowes? No.
9062. Will you look on the map and see if there is another road there called Glenwood, and describe that road? Yes; it runs out of the Forest Road. That road is stated by Mr. Burrowes not to have been commenced, but it has been commenced.
9063. You have been on the Montrose Road, and you speak from your own knowledge that the work has been performed upon it? Well, I would not like to say exactly. I am not sure whether it was or not.
9064. You have a doubt between the Cowarra and Montrose Roads? I have been again and again on the Montrose Road. I am sure, from inspection, that the Cowarra Road, although marked on the plan, and coloured, is not commenced.
9065. Beyond the roads that are entered in the list, do you remember other roads sketched in the plan and coloured as further projected works which, had time permitted, would have been carried out by the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
9066. Were you directed or influenced by anybody in authority on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No; I was not influenced in any way. I simply carried out the instructions given me by Mr. Burrowes.
9067. Mr. Murphy never attempted to do so? He attempted to interfere with me on several occasions. We could not get very good material, and he suggested that we should get it somewhere else, but to find the cartage would have been too much money. There is something which I think the Commission ought to know with regard to these roads. The carters who were employed on the Holt-Sutherland roads—at all events sixteen, seventeen, or eighteen of the carters—were living on the Estate. They were leaseholders on the Estate.
9068. And how were they selected? They merely went to Mr. Burrowes and got orders to be put on.
- 9068½. Did you put any men on who were lessees? I had not the power to put men on at all. All the power that was given to me was to discharge men who misconducted themselves. The power rested with the Casual Labour Board and the superintendent to put the men on. I understood that these were purely relief works—that the work was to be given to men who really required relief. In this case it was not.
9069. Who were these men? They were men living on the Illawarra Road—very well off, and they were continued to be employed by the order of Mr. Burrowes.
9070. You did not look upon it as an advantage to find carts immediately on the works? No, certainly not.
9071. Do you think that any of the owners of the carts were induced to take up leases for the sake of the work they got? Probably they would, but I do not know for a fact that they did.
9072. Would it be an inducement to a man, knowing that a dray and horse could be employed there, to take up a lease? I think it would be a very great inducement, but I do not know that any one did so. I know that most of them were residents on the Estate.
9073. And they were introduced to you by whom? By Mr. Burrowes. I know in particular a man named Hillier. He was a freeholder, and he had two sons working under him as carters.
9074. There could be no objection to that, I suppose? No; but they had got property on the Estate.
9075. I am afraid this is not much use unless you can tell this Commission that these carters were induced to take up leases from the fact that they would get constant employment with the unemployed? I do not know. Perhaps they might have been there before the unemployed were there.
9076. Were they paid the current rates? Yes; 12s. 6d. and sometimes 15s. per day; sometimes even they would get £1 a day.
9077. Is not 11s. very fair pay for regular work as carters? Yes, 11s. is a very fair thing, although we were paying afterwards 10s. per day. I complain of the excessive extent to which this was carried on.
9078. Did you find that these excessive rates had a demoralizing effect amongst the other paid men on the works? Yes, very much so. It caused a deal of dissatisfaction.
9079. And you represented that? Yes. I continually represented it to Mr. Davies that money was being thrown away in this way when the other poor, unfortunate men were only getting 3s. and 4s. a day.
9080. Did you often meet Mr. Murphy? Only three or four times.
9081. Was he constantly on the works? He might be there three or four times a week, but I would not see him. He would go to the Port Hacking Road—he was a frequent visitor to Mr. Walsh's camp.
9082. Who was Mr. Walsh? He had charge of a portion of the Port Hacking Road, and the Coronulla Beach Road.
9083. Do you know whether Mr. Burrowes was on very friendly terms with Mr. Murphy? I believe he was.
9084. Did he take his instructions from Mr. Murphy? I cannot tell, but I think so.
9085. Have you seen Mr. Murphy with Mr. John Davies? No; I believe some of the men told me that he was on the ground with Mr. Davies, but I did not see him.

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9086. You say that any heavy work, any cuttings that may have been done, you can furnish this Commission with particulars of? Yes.
9087. And you may at the same time refer to any works of a heavy character that you may know on the estate, so that we may see them afterwards? Yes.
9088. Some of the works were performed by contract? All the clearing on the Holt-Sutherland Estate was by contract at the rate of £8 per acre.
9089. You certified to the payment of these works? Yes; I did every fortnight.
9090. And these certificates were sent in to whom? To Mr. Burrowes. Upon these certificates being received by him, stating the amount to be received, he would furnish the Casual Labour Board with particulars, and the money would be drawn from the A. J. S. Bank.
9091. Do you know that Mr. Burrowes entered these returns in an abstract-sheet? Yes.
9092. That was his requisition for money? Yes.
9093. Did he ever refer them back to you on account of errors or anything of that kind? No; I do not think he ever did for errors. He might have referred them back to me if a man had not been paid, or anything of that kind. I know in the case of a man named Hillier there was a culvert being put on the Port Hacking Road, near the Malvern Road junction. The contract was for building the culvert, and the contractor wanted some of the men who were employed on the road to get timber. I asked the man named Hillier to assist the contractor in getting the timber down.
9094. Do you know the circumstances under which the culvert was built? It was an old culvert, which was dangerous, and it was condemned. It was let to a contractor for £20. The contractor owed Hillier 12s. per day for three days for carting timber, and I would not let Hillier have an account on the Casual Labour Board because I considered that the contractor ought to pay. I believe the contractor was paid in full, and Hillier never got his money either from the contractor or Casual Labour Board.
9095. Do you know whether the amount was drawn by Mr. Davies? I cannot tell; he made repeated attempts to get it from Mr. Davies.
9096. Do you think that money was returned in the voucher? I am not sure. But Hillier, who is desirous of being examined here, could tell you more about it.
9097. You did not yourself attend the pays? Yes; I used to attend the pays always to see that the men were paid according to my certificates.
9098. Did you attend the Heathcote pays? No; I never had anything to do with that at all. All I did at Heathcote was to survey about 400 acres.
9099. Who made the payments at the National Park during the time that you attended? A gentleman named Hinchcliffe, who was in fact Paymaster to the Casual Labour Board.
9100. Did you ever find any difficulty occur in regard to the payments? Yes; there was a great number of short payments.
9101. Were they errors made on your part? No, they were not on the part of myself.
9102. Are you aware of any short payments or over payments? I am aware that some short payments occurred under my superintendence, but that was not in the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
9103. I want to know whether, if there was an error on one pay-day, it would be put right on the next pay-day? I know with regard to short payments that Mr. Burrowes invariably told the men that if there was anything short it would be made good.
9104. Were these short payments ever made good? That I cannot say. There is no doubt that the money was drawn from the bank, as it only required the signature of the Chairman and Mr. Hinchcliffe to draw it.
9105. Did this occur often? Yes; it occurred every pay-day that men were paid short. It was a matter of general complaint, and when they went to the Casual Labour Board for redress they were told not to go there by Mr. Hibble, who was the spokesman for Mr. Davies. So they went away disgusted.
9106. Did this occur at your pay-table? Yes. It occurred at my pay-table at Cook Park, and the men were promised to be paid the balances, but they never got them.
9107. But if correct pay-sheets were drawn up there could be no deficiency? Well, the returns would be sent in and altered. These returns which came from the various offices were sent to the superintendent, and they were put into the usual form of pay-sheets by Mr. Springall, who was the store-keeper, and who made out the pay-sheets. Mr. Burrowes himself never made out a pay-sheet. He would sign his name to anything without looking whether it was right or wrong.
9108. But the pay-sheets could only be a simple copy of the drafts you prepared? Yes; they should be so, but I had nothing to do with the pay-sheets that were used at the pay-table.
9109. Were complaints made with regard to the rations? Yes, very many complaints.
9110. The men would not actually be paid short for the work they did, but on account of the rations, would they not? Yes. Several cases came under my notice in which men were paid short for work actually done.
9111. Do you know that you have returned £50 as a claim for your money, and that you were paid a less amount? Yes.
9112. Did you consider the general administration good? By no means. I consider the general administration of the Casual Labour Board irregular and decidedly unfair and unbusiness-like, and if I could use a stronger term I would do so. I consider that during the time that Mr. Deering, the metropolitan district surveyor, had charge of the relief works the men were far better paid, more work was done, and there were less errors than when the Casual Labour Board was in existence.
9113. That was rather a strange thing considering the staff that you had? There was no great staff at that time. There was simply the superintendent, myself, and the store-keeper. I am firmly convinced that under the Board there was a large amount expended, and no one knows where it has gone or what it has gone for.
9114. It would be difficult to find out? Yes. The extravagant manner in which they conducted things must have run away with a deal of money. They had cabs for the Chairman and clerk going out. They kept a permanent cab at the office.
9115. You were not fixed at the head office? No.
9116. From what you have seen, no fraudulent transactions came under your notice? I think I probably should not answer that question. None were brought under my notice during the time the Casual Labour Board was in existence.

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9117. Did you hear anything afterwards? Merely a rumour. Mr. Hillier, who has been employed by the Casual Labour Board, made use of the expression the other day that he could lay his hands on half-a-dozen of them. I asked him if he could do the same with me. He said, "No; you have certainly kept yourself clear." What he meant was, that a great deal of money had been passing to and fro in an illegitimate manner.
9118. Do you know of any direct complaint made with regard to the issue of stores? Yes; during the time I was at Cook Park the men complained to me, and in fact I discovered it to be the case, that butter was kept from the men for six weeks. I believe about 60 lb. or 70 lb. of this butter was sent, supplied by Mr. Kidman; but it went to the general dépôt, Mr. Springall's place, and never came back.
9119. Was that the Government store of which Mr. Springall had charge? Yes. Other things were kept back as well, such as sugar.
9120. If the daily supplies were correct, and supposing Mr. Kidman supplied liberally the full quantity of rations, that should not have occurred? No.
9121. You complain that in the distribution of the rations you were cut short? Yes. The men found that they were very unjustly charged for rations that they never got.
9122. Do you think they went to some other men? I don't suppose they went to other men; they were disposed of in some other way. At least, I have a good guess, anyway.
9123. Had you any faith in Mr. Springall's transactions? I had no faith in Mr. Springall in consequence of a communication I had from Mr. Gordon, who was acting for Mr. Deering. Mr. Gordon spoke of a period prior to the formation of the Casual Labour Board; and notwithstanding a report that a charge was to be formulated against him, Mr. Springall was taken on by the Board.
9124. What was the charge. Don't be afraid to give it its proper name? Well, a charge of fraud. I have no doubt it would have been made out had Mr. Deering remained in charge.
9125. You have not a favourable opinion of Springall? No.
9126. Have you any direct charge to make? No charge except this, that I had to remind him that he was overcharging the men for rations that they never received, and made mistakes in the pay-sheets.
9127. Were they mistakes in his own favour? Invariably.
- 9127½. Did he ever make a mistake in favour of the men? I do not think he did. I remembered one case where he charged a gang thirty or forty rations for three or four men.
9128. Do you know if there were any cases of short rations;—were there any amounts refunded to the Casual Labour Board? No; I don't remember anything of the kind. Of course, if there were moneys refunded to the Board that would be a reasonable excuse.
9129. It would have been the proper thing to have done? Yes.
9130. Had you any unclaimed wages at any time? Yes; I know several cases of unclaimed wages.
9131. How have they been dealt with? They have not been dealt with at all. I, myself, in one case experienced my professional services not being paid for.
9132. A great number of men were absentees at different times,—and what was done with the money that they were entitled to? I don't know myself. The money, according to Mr. Hinchcliffe, was returned to the Treasury as unpaid wages.
9133. You don't know of any system of returning unpaid wages to the Sydney office? No.
9134. Have you been long a resident in Sydney? I have been in and out of Sydney. I have been in the colonies for a long time.
9135. Do you know of any system adopted here by speculators of purchasing suburban lands adjacent to railways for the purpose of subdivision? Yes.
9136. What do they do to enhance the value of the lands? They generally make roads. They have made roads principally on the Illawarra line. These roads have been stumped, cleared, and formed.
9137. As a general rule they simply clear them to give frontages? Yes; they always do.
9138. That is done to prepare the land for the market? Yes.
9139. Having done that preliminary work, the subdivisions are made on the frontages? Yes; there is a proof of that in the Holt-Sutherland Estate, where they cannot lease the ground where the cross-roads have not been cleared, because it is timbered on both sides.
9140. You say that simply clearing the roads would enhance the value of the land? Yes.
9141. Do you think that the work done on the Holt-Sutherland Estate would have the same effect? Yes, just the same.
9142. Was it not of a superior character to that usually done by syndicates to enhance the value of their lands? A great deal more money was spent upon it than would be done by a syndicate upon an ordinary estate.
9143. Would you say that the work done on the Holt-Sutherland Estate would enhance the value of the land to the extent of 50 per cent.? Yes.
9144. And the whole of that work was done at the cost of the Government? Yes.
9145. I suppose in that case they would get double the price per acre for the leases? Probably in some cases treble, because it costs a great deal of money for a settler to do this work.
9146. You know how jealous engineers are of their reputation? Yes.
9147. Did you feel justified in carrying out such work when you knew that you were doing it for the benefit of private persons? No. I did not feel satisfied in my own mind in carrying out the work.
9148. Did you exhaust every means of protesting to the Board or to your immediate chief against the carrying out of work of that kind? No; I did not, because when I have spoken to Mr. Burrowes about it he has told me to mind my own business.
9149. Did you not feel that there must be a scandal some time or another about this? I knew that very well. And when the Select Committee sent me a summons I could not do otherwise than state what I knew to be the facts, and for doing that I gave very great offence to the Chairman, who did all he possibly could to get rid of me then.
9150. Could you give anything like a statement of the average number of men working on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? If you will allow me to refer to my notes I will do so.
9151. Mr. Burrowes makes a statement that the whole of that work for the time you have been working there—surveying the roads, clearing and forming, and making bridges and culverts, has only been £8,000. Do you think that is correct? I shall be prepared to give you that answer at another time. I think it is better to defer it, because I think there will be a discrepancy between the statement made by Mr. Burrowes and the actual state of the case.

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9152. When did you take charge there? I had charge in January, but I had been surveying some months previously.

9153. So that you have got a very good knowledge? I was there from September, 1887.

9154. I am showing you now exhibit A, attached to the evidence of the Select Committee of the Assembly. It is a petition dated June 8th, 1887, signed by fifty-two members of Parliament, headed by Mr. Carruthers—a petition to the Government to clear the proposed line of railway to Kurnell. I ask you, if sanction were given to the prayer of that petition, would not the work that followed immediately afterwards obtain colour from the fact that this work had been sanctioned. Did it not occur to you that this petition for the clearing of the railway gives colour to the men being put in in large numbers upon the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes; I think it was so.

9155. Were you instructed to survey the line of railway? It was often spoken of as being about to be done, and Mr. Burrowes directed me to hold myself in readiness.

9156. You were perfectly qualified to do it? Yes; but I never was requested to do it. On the contrary, was set to work on these roads, and instructed to hasten their completion.

9157. Will you look at the names on this petition—there is Mr. Carruthers. Has he any interest in the Holt-Sutherland Estate, or in land in the vicinity? He might have; I know he has a great deal of land over Kogarah way.

9158. I am showing you an exhibit, also from the Report of the Select Committee, being a report from Mr. Burrowes, in which justification is made for making these roads;—will you read them and see whether you can endorse Mr. Burrowes' statement? I have read this before. Of course, it is easy to say that these are necessary roads; but I do not think so. The Woronora Road, I think, was not necessary, as the Forest Road is parallel to it.

9159. Then the Woronora Road being parallel to another was simply carrying out the design of a subdivision, and was not necessary? It was not necessary.

9160. What is your opinion as to the Sylvania Road? That is throwing money away. There is no traffic. There is no settlement down there whatever.

9161. Do you consider that these roads that were not necessary were constructed at the Government expense solely in the interest of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I do, if they are not necessary, and that applies to the whole of the roads that are not public roads.

9162. Can you tell me, with regard to the issue of tools, what number of tools were served to a gang of eight men? A shovel each, and a pick each for road-making. There would be eight men in a gang, and for whatever tools were required a requisition would be sent in by the officer in charge of the works.

9163. How often would tools like that be renewed? If there were hard shovel work, a shovel might not last more than six weeks or two months.

9164. It would be difficult then to calculate what the consumption had been? I believe the supply has been enormous. But upon the work I was on, I had only fifty shovels sent me for ten months; but speaking generally, tools have been supplied much more liberally than is the case on railway works I have been on.

9165. Did you not send in a requisition? I sent in a requisition for what was necessary.

9166. Were you made responsible for the tools furnished to your camp? Yes, for all Government property.

9167. Did you get receipts for the tools returned in whatever state they might be? The store-keeper took in the used tools, and new ones were supplied. Then we forwarded the old ones to the main depot and got a receipt.

9168. What basis of calculation could I make so as to get the number of tools supplied to the whole of the men? It would be a difficult matter. I cannot say how many there would be.

9169. Have you any idea of the consumption with regard to the men under your supervision? There may be something amongst the papers, but I do not think you could take that as an average.

9170. Can you give us any further particulars on any matters of importance. Is there anything I have omitted? I cannot think of anything at present. If anything does occur to me I will make a memo. of it.

9171. *Mr. Waller.*] You stated you felt certain of the impropriety of spending money on what you knew to be private roads? Yes.

9172. Did you have that feeling all through? Yes, I had doubts.

9173. Will you explain how, if you had the feeling that you were participating in a wrong, you yet also state that you understood that the Government were to be refunded for the expenditure? At that time I understood from Mr. Murphy that the Government would be refunded for all the expenditure made on the Holt-Sutherland roads, and with that belief I remained on the roads, thinking there would be no harm if that were to be the result.

9174. That is hardly an explanation to my question. I want to know how it was you could feel you were participating in what you knew to be wrong, when at the same time you were of opinion that the Government would be refunded all expense incurred by the unemployed doing the work? You see you ask me a peculiar question. You say that I had a knowledge that I was doing wrong myself. I am not aware that I was doing wrong in carrying out the instructions of my superior officer. I am not supposed to know whether making a road is right or wrong. That was for the Board to decide. It was not for me to interfere with or dictate to the Board, or to my superior officer, or tell them that they were doing wrong.

9175. Allowing all that to be true, how could any wrong exist if that money was to be refunded? I was at that time, I say, under the impression that the Board would be refunded for all the work done, and having that belief I did not consider I was doing wrong in remaining myself, as far as my conscience was concerned.

9176. When were you disabused of that belief? Not whilst I was there, but afterwards, at the inquiry of the Select Committee.

9177. When? In December, 1888.

9178. Therefore, from the time you were employed by the Casual Labour Board, up to December, 1888, you had no reason to suppose there was any impropriety in the expenditure of this money? I was not satisfied whether it would be repaid or not until December, when that inquiry took place; then I was satisfied that no accounts would be rendered. But then I had long left the Holt-Sutherland Estate. I had left it in the previous April.

9179. Did you believe the statements that were made by Mr. Murphy? Yes I did believe them. I believe now that if the Casual Labour Board had rendered an account it would have been paid.

9180.

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9180. Do you believe that the money which the Casual Labour Board laid out on the Holt-Sutherland Estate could be obtained by application to the Estate? I can understand now the answer I should give. I do not believe for one moment that any shareholder, or director, or anyone belonging to the Estate, would be so dishonorable as to accept money from the Government; and no doubt it was the *laches* of the Board in not rendering the account that caused the money not to be paid.
9181. Is it too late now to render it? That is a matter of trial; I should not like to say what should be done.
9182. Have you any reason to believe, other than your own feeling in the matter, that such was the intention of the shareholders of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I believe myself from the beginning that the Manager of the Estate had really intended to recoup.
9183. I want to know whether you had any reason or foundation for that belief? Yes, from what Mr. Murphy told me myself.
9184. That only? That only.
9185. Did he tell you this positively? I said, "This is not Crown land; these are not public roads; who is going to pay for all this." "Why," he said, "I suppose we shall have to pay when the Casual Labour Board renders an account."
9186. That you swear? Yes; he said it in a railway carriage coming down the line.
9187. When—was it last year? No, before. It would be just about the time I was making these surveys in November.
9188. In 1887? Yes, in 1887.
9189. Did he make this remark to you more than once? Only on that occasion.
9190. Who commenced the conversation? I did.
9191. How? It arose in this way. I had addressed a letter to him complaining of his interference in reference to these roads, and also asking him if he had any communication to make to me not to make it to my men, but to come to me in my camp. He knew where it was. He wrote me a reply.
9192. Have you got it? I think I have amongst my papers.
9193. If you can find it, will you produce it? Yes, I will. I do not think I have destroyed any papers at all. Well, we afterwards met. The first time I met him was at Walsh's camp, and then we had a conversation. Afterwards I met him coming down the line by railway. We were travelling in the same carriage, and he then told me what I have just now repeated. I put the question to him as to who was going to pay "the piper"—meaning who was going to pay—for all this work on the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
9194. When he gave you the answer you have just given? That is the answer he gave, and I think it was a proper answer.
9195. Do you know all the work on which the unemployed were engaged? I know pretty nearly all of it.
9196. Look at this return by the Board, of work carried out by them, you will see there is a column marked "miles of road, cleared, formed, and made." What is the meaning of the word "made"? I should presume that it meant cleared and formed.
9197. What is the meaning of the word "made"? It is superfluous. They generally put metalled instead of made.
9198. Do you think they mean metalled? Yes, it may be so.
9199. Suppose "made" means "metalled," are you in a position to state which of these roads have been metalled? No; I am not in a position to state about these roads being metalled.
9200. On 17th March this year you addressed a letter to the Secretary of this Commission. In that letter you gave a list of a number of gangers who had suffered loss at the hands of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
9201. And as you state through the superintendent, Mr. Burrowes. Do you know whether these men have since been paid? No, they have not been paid.
9202. How do you know that? Because they have told me so.
9203. Lately? Up to the 21st January last, and then they dispersed.
9204. How was it that short payment was received;—was it by reason of not estimating the work done correctly? No; Mr. Burrowes came to me and told me that Mr. Davies, the Chairman, had stated that the payments were very large and excessive, notwithstanding that my measurements were correct, which he did not doubt. He asked me if I would consent to the men being paid short by 25 per cent., with the promise that the balance should be repaid when the works were remeasured and checked by the members of the Board. I agreed to that, and made a memo. in pencil on my return. When pay-day came I told the gangers that the pay would be received short; that the Chairman said they were making too much money, or that he might imagine that I had been measuring over and above what they were entitled to; that I did not know what his motive was; but that they intended to check my work over again, and for that reason they would have to remain with a short payment until the work was checked.
9205. Have you got the sheet upon which you made that memo. Is this your original return? That is the original return from which I made out my fair return and sent in for the work done at Cook Park.
9206. Does this return represent the pays due as referred to in your letter of the 17th March? Yes, it does.
9207. Are the amounts specified in this letter of the 17th March as follow:—Brown, £19 5s. 5d. instead of £25 2s. 1d.; Collier, £20 18s. 10d. instead of £37 1s. 5d.; A. Jamison, £21 14s. instead of £33 14s. 3d.; T. Thomson, £20 16s. 7d. instead of £21 3s. 1d.; J. Mole, £18 9s. 1d. instead of £25 6s. 10d.; W. R. Ryan, £19 18s. 4d. instead of £27 0s. 8d.; R. Campbell, £20 8s. 4d. instead of £24 11s. 9d.; W. Scott, £18 4s. 7d. instead of £26 9s. 8d.; P. Brady, £16 10s. instead of £22 12s. 6d.; A. T. Collier, £20 8s. 10d. instead of £39 5s. 9d.; this amounts in all to over £120 short payments made by the Casual Labour Board, and which were to be repaid on remeasurement of your work? Yes.
9208. Has it been remeasured to your knowledge? No.
9209. Do you know it has not been remeasured? I do know that these measurements have not been checked to present date.
9210. Were the amounts deducted from these men's wages at least 25 per cent on the amounts due? It may be that they varied, but that is the return that Mr. Burrowes consented to.
9211. You say here, in another column, amount owing by the Board, £5 16s. 8d.? That means that £5 16s. 8d. would make the amount due to the men.
9212. Which was the amount kept back? The smaller amount.
9213. So that the amounts I have read out are not the amounts kept back, but the amounts paid? Yes.
- 9214.

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9214. How is it then that there are no amounts given to the great number of names as to what was kept back? These are the amounts that were due to each ganger. They were not the full amounts, but they were paid short by the other amount.
9215. I see that quite well. But in one place you give the amount due and withheld, and in another you give the amount due and not withheld? The amounts in one case have been omitted.
9216. Then this document, as first shown to me by you, was incorrect? It was not complete, but there is a pay-sheet and a return I produce also; the original pay-sheet I made out for this particular time, with the amounts in cubic quantities for the gangs, with the amounts paid short.
9217. So I take it that this letter should be read in this way: The amount due appears on the sheet I have marked "A," and on the sheet marked "B" the amount of pay to the men withheld is shown? Yes.
9218. You also put in the original returns which endorse the statements in your letter of 17th March. [*The following documents were marked and put in:—Letter, 17th March, 1889, marked N; wages return, 9th April to 21st April, 1888, marked N 1; wages return, 7th May to 19th May, 1888, marked N 2.*]
9219. I will draw your attention now to a letter dated 29th October, 1888, number 88/498, written from Parramatta, and addressed to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, and signed by David Houison;—will you look at it and tell me if that is a return of the remeasurement of the particular land for which certain payments were held back? I have seen this return before. It has nothing at all to do with this land. This return had reference to work of my own. It is difficult for one engineer to check another engineer's work unless he goes over the ground.
9220. What do you mean by work of your own? This refers to measurements of work that has been done since the returns relating to the men under me.
9221. Were there any short payments on account of this work? No; they never objected to any payments after those I have given.
9222. Did the pay-sheets for which the payments were to be made on account of the work, for which these deductions were made, show the sums, as they originally appeared in your return? Yes; they were perfect duplicates of the return.
9223. Since then have you taken any means to ascertain whether the full amounts for the payment, as appearing in your original return, were withdrawn from the bank or otherwise? No. I can answer that question in another way: Mr. Burrowes came down at my request to see the men, and he told the men that the balances would be paid as soon as Mr. Houison came down and checked the work.
9224. That is not the question I have asked you. Have you any knowledge whether the full amount for the payment of your gangers, as shown to be due in your original return, was withdrawn from the bank or not? No; I have no knowledge on the matter.
9225. Have you any reason to believe it was? Except that it might have been drawn before Mr. Burrowes came to me.
9226. Are there any other cases, either of officers or surveyors, in which money was withheld, and the full amounts not paid? No; not with regard to quantities.
9227. What do you mean by that? The answer is, I know of no other case in which money has been paid short in the payment of quantities.
9228. Do you know of any case with reference to day labour? Yes, but it might be by reason of their being absentees. That would be their own fault.
9229. Have you any knowledge of the work done on the Hornsby Estate? None.
9230. On what terms were you on with Mr. Davies? I was on good terms with Mr. Davies until something occurred.
9231. I do not want to know of anything that is going on in the Court. Up to what time were you on good terms? Just previous to my having to give evidence before the Select Committee.
9232. What do you suppose is the reason for you and Mr. Davies not being on good terms? I think the cause was when he saw me at the Committee room. He and Mr. Wells were there together. He said, "What are you doing here?" in a manner I thought unfair to me. I said, "I obeyed a summons." He said, "What do you know about it?" I said, "I shall have to tell the truth." He said, "You had better be careful what you are saying." Mr. Wells walked away disgusted with the manner in which he addressed me.
9233. On what sort of terms are you on with Mr. Wells? Very good terms.
9234. How do you know he was disgusted? Because he walked away from Mr. Davies when he found him questioning me in the manner he did.
9235. Have you had any conversation with Mr. Wells about this? Yes; both with regard to that and to my being paid for my professional services.
9236. Does he consider the Board owes you money? I believe he does.
9237. You have stated that rations, as a rule, were delivered short to you;—were they made up afterwards? I do not remember them being made up afterwards. I do not think they were. Mr. Scott, the store-keeper, would be able to tell you if he were here.
9238. I notice here in a letter dated 20th August, 1888, that you make a complaint to Mr. Burrowes that you ordered 127 rations and received only 89, being 38 short; and I also notice in the ration-book of the next day that the number of rations sent was 165, which would exactly balance the day before? I suppose it was done in that case in consequence of the letter I sent; but it was an unfair thing that the men should go for one day without their food.
9239. Were there any other cases? On several occasions I had to communicate with the storekeeper. I dare say I shall be able to find documents that will bear out what I state.
9240. What means were taken by the Board for knowing the exact number of men at work at the different camps? A return was sent to the Board by the officer-in-charge every fortnight—every week very often.
9241. Was this done regularly? I can only say with regard to myself. I sent in a tabulated form of the number of men, how they were working, what they were doing, and so forth. That is the only time I got a complimentary letter from Mr. Davies, written by a man named Hibble.
9242. Have you any means at your disposal by which you can give the Commission a trustworthy estimate of the average number of men, either weekly or monthly, working for the Casual Labour Board? Do you mean since the creation of the Board.
9243. Yes? I think I can, for this reason. I know the number of gangs, and remember the portions I had to certify for, and I will endeavour to put them together for you.

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9244. I mean the total number of men engaged by the Casual Labour Board from month to month? Yes, I will try and get it.
9245. Do you know any case where a man was paid for more work than he did? Yes; I know of the case of a man named Mole; he was returned for 400 yards by a gentleman named Fraser, in a certain section, and neither shovel nor pick was put into the ground.
9246. Then if the evidence of a witness is that you have full particulars of a man being paid for a quarter of an acre more than he was entitled to that is not correct? Certainly not.
9247. You do not know of any such case? No.
9248. I do not think you understand the question. Evidence has been given to us that you could give us a case where a wrong had been done the Board by a man being returned by a certain officer of the Board as having cleared more ground by a quarter of an acre than he had done? I have no knowledge of that.
9249. Who is Walsh? Constantine Walsh.
9250. Who was he? An officer on the last portion of the Port Hacking Road, and at the National Park.
9251. What sort of a man was he? Well, he was a tall —
9252. I do not mean his appearance, but his character? I am sorry to say he was a man very much addicted to drink—very much so.
9253. Was he in a position of trust? Certainly he was.
9254. What were his duties? He had the care of the whole of the clearing on the Port Hacking Road, and he had to make out a return for the quantities these men cleared, at so much per acre—£5, £6, £7, and £8 per acre. And if I were a contractor there and on good terms with my overseer, I might say, "Put down a couple of pounds more, and I will give you so much."
9255. Was that the rumour that went about amongst the men whilst he was there? Yes; he was always drinking with the men.
9256. Was there anyone to check him? Mr. Burrowes was there to prevent fraud, but what he did Burrowes would endorse.
9257. Have you any reason, with regard to work done under Walsh, to know that he was not correct? I have no reason for suspecting anything crooked so far as quantity was concerned. It was with regard to the price per acre. I do not know what it was. It was decided by Mr. Walsh, and I was ignorant of that price.
9258. In what relation was he to you? He was below me.
9259. Were you his superior officer? I was for some time. I had nothing to do with him excepting to measure his work; he could not measure work. I had to peg out his culverts and measure his ground.
9260. Would a man unable to measure his work be capable of valuing it? It was a mere matter of putting a money value on it; it did not require much capacity in that way.
9261. Regarding these short payments, did you ever see the Board about them? Yes; Mr. Davies, several times last year.
9262. Any other member of the Board? No; they never came near me.
9263. What was the result of your interview with Mr. Davies? That the matter should be attended to as soon as the checks were made.
9264. Was Burrowes in the habit of borrowing money? Well, I know he used to very frequently.
9265. Personally? Yes; I know it for a fact. He became a debtor to Springall as soon as he came there.
9266. Did he borrow from anyone else excepting Springall? He did not borrow from me. He might from other people. I know he had £20 from Mr. Davies some considerable time ago, at the beginning of last year. Whether that was a loan or not I do not know.
9267. How did you find out that he borrowed from Springall? Well, because a gentleman named Younger told me he had mortgaged his salary to Springall. In fact he admitted to myself that he had.
9268. To you? He and Springall were great friends at one time.
9269. How did you know he was indebted to Mr. Davies? That was spoken of openly at Mr. Want's place. He asked Mr. Want for money. Mr. Want said you borrowed £20 from Mr. Davies, you cannot want any more money from me.
9270. You wrote a letter to Mr. Deering which Mr. Wells got and showed Mr. Davies. What was it about? It was a letter to Mr. Deering. Before he went out of office he had put me down at a fixed minimum salary per day, and when the other surveyors came—young surveyors—they were put on the same scale of salary as myself. I had been there from the beginning, and I wrote to Mr. Deering in a friendly way and requested him to intercede with Mr. Wells for me. That letter got into the hands of Mr. Davies, who made improper use of it, being a private letter.
9271. Do you know where it is now? I have not the slightest idea where it is. I believe that Mr. Wells got it back; but I do not know how Mr. Wells could intrust it into the hands of Mr. Davies.
9272. Why should the fact of your asking Mr. Deering a proper question create any unpleasantness between you and Mr. Davies? Simply because he chose to put a construction on a particular phrase of the letter. I did not mention his name. I simply made use of this remark, that the two other members, Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison, were gentlemen, who would recognise that a fair remuneration should be paid to an old surveyor like myself. Mr. Davies took umbrage at that. Then he said, "I am not a gentleman?" I said I did not say anything of the kind. The whole thing was dismissed, because Mr. Wells thought it unfair that anything should be made out of a private letter which should never have left his hands. He said he would not have trusted the letter to Mr. Davies if he had known what use he would have made of it.
9273. You said that Mr. Springall made improper use of his position as storekeeper, and that, in fact, he made money out of it? I should imagine he did, because he used to keep a store, sell stores to the unemployed, and charge 15 or 20 per cent. more than was charged in the shops in Sydney.
9274. Do you think that any other people derived a benefit besides Springall? There might have been two or three people in the swim for all I know of, but I did not know of any.
9275. Do you know whether any member of the Board, directly or indirectly, gained advantage that they had no right to gain? I am certain neither Mr. Wells nor Mr. Houison would soil their fingers, or do anything in that way. I have no knowledge of anything of the kind, but I have my own feeling with regard to the Chairman.
9276. Have you any reasons for doubting the Chairman? I might have, but I do not feel disposed to give them to the Commission. I would not lay myself open to libel. 9277.

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9277. No libel can lie. In any evidence you give to this Commission you are protected. It is only a question of whether it would affect your case in any way, as it has still to be tried. If so, of course, you would not say it? The fact of the whole affair is, and especially for the last two or three months, I was going to wash my hands of it. I instructed my solicitor to press my claim, and I would have nothing more to do with them, I was so annoyed at the treatment I received from Mr. Davies. But whatever I say, I do not say with any angry feeling—I am too old to do that—but with a proper feeling. But if a man will enter into a compact with the owners of private lands to do work and expend public money on the land of the owners, I think he is quite capable of doing many things which rumour says have been done. I allude to the fact of Mr. Davies being indebted to Mr. R. B. Smith, to my own knowledge, to the extent of £160 or £170 for costs, and that was to be paid off by the Hornsby transaction, carried through so improperly.

9278. Do you state that from your own knowledge? From what has been told me by Mr. Charles Smith.

9279. I wish no misunderstanding in this matter; do you state that Mr. Charles Smith has told you that Mr. Davies entered into a contract with him? No; I say that Mr. Charles Smith told me as a fact that Mr. Davies was a debtor to R. B. Smith and Smith, his uncle and himself, for £160; and also of the fact of Mr. R. B. Smith not pushing Mr. Davies for it, and leaving him indebted, and causing ill-feeling between young Mr. Smith and his uncle. Couple this with other facts that have come to light regarding the Hornsby Estate, and it would lead to the inference that has been stated, that Mr. Davies went out of the way to interest himself in getting the unemployed on the Hornsby Estate, so as to do some good for Mr. Smith, and thus pay off that balance.

9280. All you know as a fact is the indebtedness of Mr. Davies to Mr. Smith? Yes; and I know from another source that Mr. Davies has not been pushed, and has never been asked for the money, notwithstanding that young Mr. Smith has stated in broad terms that he did not consider Mr. Davies to be an honest man. He has insisted either on his uncle paying him a share of that money or dissolving company. They have not renewed their partnership. Mr. Larnach has told me that he was present when Mr. Davies, six or seven weeks after the creation of the Board, accompanied Mr. Burns all over the land at Hornsby, and that after that the unemployed were put on.

9281. Is that Mr. Larnach who was in the employ of the Board? He was—Alexander Larnach.

9282. You say that Mr. Burrowes and his friends did not pay for rations? I mean that they took care to sign contingent vouchers, put them into the Board, and get the amount of their rations back every fortnight.

9283. How do you know that? I have seen them at the pay-table.

9284. You also stated that they managed to get the best of Mr. Kidman's stores? After I got my stores direct from Mr. Kidman, instead of being sent to Hurstville to be manipulated, we got good stores.

9285. Your statement is that you knew Burrowes and his friends did not pay for their rations, but that at the same time they lived on the best of Mr. Kidman's stores? At the National Park, after the *fracas* took place, I was notified by Mr. Burrowes that I might mess alone, that I would not be allowed to mess at the table of himself and Mr. Springall. They went to live at a place called Loftus, a house they took from Hodge. There was a table there for Burrowes, Springall, and M'Pherson. I was shut out from it. The best joints, everything in fact you could wish, was sent to the principal officer, and I was excluded from it.

9286. You raise an objection in one of your notes to Mr. M'Pherson having lowered the price paid for work? From 18th January, 1887, the usual price was £5 per acre for all land in the Park, whether grass plot or timber. On the 18th June, when the Board had scarcely been in operation for any time, they issued an order taking the matter from the hands of the surveyors and putting it into those of M'Pherson, who made a reduction to such an extent that the men were scarcely able to earn anything more than rations. M'Pherson became so obnoxious that he had to go about with a revolver, and with a stalwart officer to protect him.

9287. Do you not think, being put into that position, he was bound to do the work set him? I do not think that he had to do it like he did.

9288. What do you know of his qualifications? He and I came into contact, because he abused me about something, because I did not draw a plan of something. I told him to go about his business, if he could not speak to me in a more gentlemanly way. He has a habit of speaking roughly to people and calling them all manner of names, which is offensive to many people.

9289. Still his reducing the price given for work, if he considered the price too high, could not be a very grave fault? No; but I think he went too low. In another thing he was right, that the work should be done properly and fairly, and that people should not get their money for nothing.

9290. Used they to get £5 for grass land with nothing to do on it, indiscriminately, whether there was timber on it or not? It took a long time to get rid of a block of 4 acres. Sometimes the timber was heavy.

9291. Why do you state that Mr. Springall and Mr. Davies were close friends? Because when Mr. Davies came there he was always closeted with Mr. Springall, and, in fact, they were on amicable terms.

9292. Do you think Mr. Springall made money by improper means? I have already told you he did before the Board went there. I am not certain, but I almost fancy he did afterwards.

9293. Have you good ground for supposing so? The only ground is that he has gone down to the Coronulla Beach and built an hotel.

9294. If it is true he has made money improperly, would Mr. Davies be cognizant of it? Yes.

9295. Would he have shares? I think he would, as Mr. John Davies always helped himself if he could without anyone knowing.

9296. Do you think Mr. Springall could carry on any improper practice without somebody else being aware of the fact? I do not think he could have carried it on without somebody else being aware of the fact, and whoever that somebody else was he would be entitled to be in the swim, or else he would split.

9297. Have you any suspicion who that somebody else would be in such a case? I am certain it is not the contractor, Mr. Kidman, because Mr. Kidman had his returns and was paid for a certain kind of ration. He was paid every fortnight for a certain amount charged in the pay-sheet. If he were paid over, of course he could dispose of the surplus in some way or another.

9298. Whom do you think it would be then? I do not know. It would be dangerous to say who.

9299. It is not dangerous if you have any reason? I think a cheque would be sent back for the surplus to Mr. Springall. That is my impression.

9300. Do you know a man of the name of Flemming? I do not.

9301.

- Mr. H. T. Sanderson.
11 April, 1889.
9301. Do you know a man who was grooming for Mr. Burrowes? I do not know him.
9302. In your notes here, I think you mention that returns were sent to the Board for work done during January, February, and March, 1888? I allude to the time when Mr. Frazer left the Illawarra Road and took charge of Cook Park. During the time that Mr. Frazer was there he was very much intoxicated, and he was allowed to be away on three weeks' leave to go down to Melbourne. He never took any levels or made any returns of measurements so as to enable Mr. Burrowes to pay the men. There were fourteen or fifteen gangs, and many of the men were brought into debt for rations instead of having to receive money. I believe Mr. Burrowes, Mr. Springall, and others, assisted by a drunken man named Griffiths, made up pay-sheets so as to give the men something. Frazer was removed from the service, and I was sent down there to adjust matters.
9303. Were many of the officers of the Casual Labour Board addicted to drink like Frazer? Yes.
9304. Who were? I have known Walsh eight, ten, or twelve days in a state of *delirium tremens*, and kept on notwithstanding. On the Holt-Sutherland roads he was repeatedly intoxicated, and Mr. Davies knew of his weakness, but would not send him away from the work he had charge of, it being improvements on the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
9305. Was Mr. Burrowes a sober man? I never saw him the worse for liquor, but he could stand a great deal.
9306. Who was Mr. Hillier. He was a freeholder up at Sutherland, and he had the cutting up by steam of all the timber taken from the National Park. He carried it on until the contract was finished. It was a contract for a very large amount.
9307. Mr. Gordon, or Mr. Deering, or both, I forget which you said, discovered Mr. Springall to be guilty of fraud? Yes.
9308. Did they notify their discovery to the Casual Labour Board? No; but I have seen Mr. Gordon's report to Mr. Deering, a copy of which was forwarded to Mr. Burrowes, who gave it me to read.
9309. Did Mr. Deering forward it to Mr. Davies and his colleagues? I am not aware that he did.
9310. So far as you are aware, Mr. Davies was ignorant of that? He might be for all I know.
9311. If you look at the letter-book, page 477—the press copy of the pay-sheet, 8th April to 21st April I think you will see the payments made to the men correspond with the short payments noted on your previous return? Yes.
9312. So that the payments correspond? Yes; the short payments are disclosed in this letter.
9313. Which, with the amount drawn from the bank, would make the short payment? Yes; that is so.

MONDAY, 15 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

William Newcombe called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. W. Newcombe.
15 April, 1889.
9314. *President.*] What position do you hold in the Public Service? Receiver in the Colonial Treasurer's Office.
9315. A statement was handed to this Commission the other day by the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade showing amounts paid into the Treasury on account of the Casual Labour Board from the 2nd May, 1887, to 8th April, 1889;—can you give me particulars of what those different amounts represent and the persons who paid them in? Yes; do you want them all?
9316. Will you tell me who paid in the last amount in the statement, £33 3s. 2d.? That is the document that was handed in with the money paid in by Mr. John Davies.
9317. Did you receive the money? No; the Assistant Receiver received it.
9318. Did you see Mr. Davies? I could not answer that question. He has been there, but whether he came with that payment or not I cannot say.
9319. How was it paid? There is no cheque for that amount, and we fully believe it was paid in cash.
9320. Is there any cheque for that amount on that particular day? No; and we fully believe it was paid in cash.
9321. Can you say whether Mr. John Davies paid it in personally or not? No; I cannot.
9322. Do you know Mr. John Davies' signature? I do not. [*Document put in and marked O*]
9323. Will you give me particulars of the item shown in the statement, £52 13s. 2d.? This voucher represents an amount of £52 3s. 2d. received for the sale of firewood, and 10s. for damaged crockery sold, making altogether £52 13s. 2d. paid into the Treasury on the 15th February, 1889, signed John Davies. [*Document put in and marked O 1.*]
9324. Can you tell me whether Mr. John Davies paid it in in person? No; I cannot.
9325. Can you tell me whether it was paid in by cheque or cash? We fully believe that it was paid by cash, for there is no cheque representing that amount.
9326. Will you tell me about the item in this statement, £8 10s.? We have a voucher representing that amount.
9327. What are the particulars? Proceeds of the sale of surplus stores—seventeen bags of sugar sold at Carlingford, 10s. per bag, £8 10s., signed John Davies; paid into the Treasury on the 25th February, 1889.
9328. Was this also paid in cash? It was also, I believe, paid in cash. This document was written out by the clerk who drew the receipt at Mr. John Davies' dictation, and Mr. John Davies signed it. [*Document put in and marked O 2.*]
9329. Can you tell me anything about the item in the statement, unclaimed wages, £86 11s. 7d.? No; I cannot.
9330. From the way it appears in this statement it would seem the Casual Labour Board paid it—can you say whom that would mean? In a case of that kind we always take the name of the person who adjusts the advance.
9331. For example, three items in the statement are noted as having been paid in by the Casual Labour Board, whereas other items appear as paid in the name of John Davies? That would arise from the way the clerk in the Accountant's branch of the Treasury made the entry.

Henry

Henry Little called in, sworn, and examined:—

9332. *President.*] What position did you hold under the Casual Labour Board? I was overseer at Mr. H. Little. Hornsby.
9333. When were you appointed? I was appointed by Mr. Deering when the Lands Department took over the works. 15 April, 1889.
9334. When? About three years ago now.
9335. Do you recollect the exact date? No, I do not.
9336. Do you recollect when the Casual Labour Board came into existence? I think it was about April, 1887.
9337. Had you anything to do with the unemployed then? Yes.
9338. Did you pass over from Mr. Deering to the Casual Labour Board, or had you a fresh appointment? No; I passed over.
9339. What were your duties as overseer? To see that the men did their work, to supervise their labour, and to make out the pay-sheets.
9340. Anything else? No; nothing else.
9341. Were you always located at Hornsby? Not always. I have been at Beecroft.
9342. When did you first go to Hornsby? I went there at the commencement of August, 1887.
9343. Where were you previously? At Beecroft and Carlingford. We started at Beecroft about nine months before.
9344. Were Beecroft, Carlingford, and Hornsby the only places you have been at? Yes.
9345. What work was done at Beecroft? Clearing, road-stumping, and road-forming.
9346. Was that all done on public property? Yes.
9347. What work was done at Carlingford? Public roads were formed, and clearing was done on public lands.
9348. Was any work done there on private property? No; not that I am aware of.
9349. Were you examined before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly? Yes.
9350. Is this your evidence? Yes.

[*Evidence before Select Committee.*]

2414. *Chairman.*] You are a surveyor in the employment of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
2415. Are you confined to the Casual Labour Board, or do you do other Government work besides that? I am confined to the Casual Labour Board.
2416. You have been at work at Hornsby? Yes.
2417. *Mr. Copeland.*] Are you on the staff, or are you a licensed surveyor? I am only connected with the Casual Labour Board.
2418. You are not in the Government service otherwise? No.
2419. How long have you been working under the Casual Labour Board? Since the Casual Board took the work over from the Lands Department.
2420. Did you survey the Government subdivision at Hornsby? No.
2421. I suppose you have merely been there surveying roads, or superintending the making of roads? Superintending the formation, making, clearing, and such like.
2422. Can you tell the Committee the length in chains of the roads cleared on the Government subdivision at Hornsby, on the eastern side of the line? 273 chains.
2423. Perhaps you could tell me how many roads there are there? I could not tell you that without having a plan of them before me.
2424. How many of those roads have been formed? 115 chains.
2425. Any metalled or ballasted? No; nothing to speak of.
2426. What number of culverts or bridges have been made? There are two bridges, six crossings, and one causeway.
2427. What do you call crossings? They are paved crossings.
2428. What has been the total expenditure on those roads and bridges? £1,629.
2429. I want you to distinguish between the roads on the Government subdivision on the eastern side of the line and those on the Government land on the other side? Boundary Road is not included in this estimate I am giving you. There are cuttings and excavations which would come pretty close on to another £1,000.
2430. On the same subdivision? On the same subdivision. I have not had the time to take the quantity of yards out of the book; but I think it will come pretty close up to that; perhaps not quite £1,000.
2431. Those are the cuttings on the various roads? Those are the cuttings on the various roads. I could not distinguish any particular work without the books, and I had not the time to see them.
2432. Does that include underscrubbing on the whole of the land? That includes the underscrubbing.
2433. And clearing the land ready for sale? And clearing the land ready for sale—that is, all the work we have done upon it.
2434. Do you know the area of the Crown lands subdivision? 233 acres.
2435. What do you estimate the cost of the underscrubbing and clearing of the land, exclusive of roads? £3 an acre.
2436. Then £699 has to come out of your former amount, leaving the balance to go for roads, bridges, and so forth? Yes.
2437. How many men had you at work on that subdivision? I could not say very well. We must have had when we started up there about forty.
2438. Has any labour been expended upon that subdivision since the Government sale? No.
2439. Has any work been done on the Boundary Road since the subdivision? No.
2440. Or on any of the other roads? Yes; there has been work done on the continuation of Boundary Road—three or four days' work.
2441. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] How much was expended on the unemployed in the works on private lands, exclusive of the Crown lands? It must be close on £2,900.

2442.

Mr. H. Little.
15 April, 1889.

2442. If you have had £2,900 spent on private lands, and £2,029 spent on Crown lands, for culverts, and causeways, and underscrubbing, and so forth, the whole amount comes to £4,929, does it not? That is right.
2443. *Mr. Copeland.*] Does that include the clearing? It includes it.
2444. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Can you tell us what other money has been spent—it has been given in evidence that over £6,000 has been spent at Hornsby? £1,000, I think, has been included that we spent for works at Berowra. When they were finishing the work at Berowra there were a few gangs left up there to complete the work, and they used to come down to Hornsby to be paid; but the sum cannot be more than £1,000, any way. The balance is in the cuttings and excavations and horse-hire.
2445. In addition to the £2,900 there must have been spent about £1,500 on the private lands? Yes. This estimate was made up at 15s. a chain, and there are a number of chains which could not be made for less than £4 or £5. We paid by the cubic yard, and put it into chains.
2446. What I want to get at is this: There is a discrepancy of at least £1,600 between the amount already given as the total expenditure on the unemployed at Hornsby and the expenditure you have accounted for now. You have accounted for £4,929, and it has been given in evidence that there has been nearly £7,000 spent on the unemployed at Hornsby. I ask you was this balance of at least £1,500 also spent on these roads? You can put down £800 on the private lands, and the balance on the other.
2447. That is £3,700 on the private lands altogether? Yes.
2448. So far as you know, at least £3,700 has been spent on all the land south of Boundary Road and including that road? Yes; I think that will cover it.
2449. Will you kindly tell us where the other £700 has gone? On the Government lands on both sides of the line.
2450. *Mr. Copeland.*] Are there any roads on the Crown lands east of the subdivision at Hornsby? All the work done is included in the £6,000, and there was also a 3¼-acre reserve for a Court-house which was stumped.
2451. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Are you in a better position than Mr. O'Donnell is in to know what the amounts spent on the lands are? Not unless I took them out of the books. I could not fix upon any particular length of road; but I can tell you pretty well what has been spent upon the Crown lands, and outside of the Crown lands.
2452. Did you yourself keep the accounts of the expenditure on these roads? Yes, mostly all.
2453. Then we can accept your statements as approximately true? Yes. What I have told you has been the money paid away for work at Hornsby and neighbourhood, within £1,000.
2454. *Mr. Copeland.*] There have been no roads made on the Crown lands east of the subdivision? No; we have never done any.
2455. You know the bad creek on Boundary Road, what do you consider you could have made that passable for—what would be your estimate? It is formed as far as road D.
2456. Yes. Knowing the nature of the place, what amount would you estimate would cover the cost of making that place passable for traffic? About £1,200, I think.
2457. That is bearing in mind the soft nature of the sandstone? Yes.
2458. You think that for £1,200 you would be able to make a cutting through the hill, and tip the mullock and debris down into the gully, and so level the road to make it fit for ordinary traffic? Yes; but it would be a steep incline then.
2459. How steep? One in eight or one in nine.
2460. Could you not reduce it? Unless you cut through the hill altogether.
2461. The £1,200 would include a bridge, or culvert, or whatever you might term it*? There would have to be a bit of a bridge. The higher the bridge the better.
2462. With the stone you took out of the cutting you would be able to build the approaches to the bridge? Yes.
2463. Then for £1,200 you could make that place passable, and the Boundary Road would then be as serviceable as Junction Road? Yes†.
2464. For the whole length to Vanceville Road, if this £1,200 were spent in making this crossing at Spring Gully Creek, Boundary Road would be as serviceable as Junction Road? No.
2465. But still Boundary Road could be made a good serviceable road for traffic? It could be made; there would be no difficulty about it at all. You could do the work right enough if you liked to spend the money over it.
2466. Then you think £1,200 spent upon this road would make it serviceable for all kinds of traffic? Yes‡.
2467. *Chairman.*] Did you survey any of these roads? No, none of them.
2468. *Mr. Copeland.*] Have you noticed whether you could, by a slight deviation, reduce the expenditure upon this road? If I was going to make the road there I would follow the creek round to the top.
2469. In that case the expense would be reduced? By about £8 a chain.
2470. *Chairman.*] That is to say, with a slight deviation to the south? Yes.
2471. Would you have to make much of a deviation? No, I do not think so.
2472. Would it materially injure Burns, Withers, and Smith's estate if you did it? No, I do not think it would much. It would certainly injure it a little.
2473. *Mr. Copeland.*] They would have frontages to both sides of the street? Yes; but then it would leave land that would be of no value at all. If you had to follow the contour of the hill you would have to grade it right up. 2474.

*NOTE (on revision) :—No: The bridge would not be included.

†NOTE (on revision) :—Only as far as the first gully; and the amount does not include bridge.

‡NOTE (on revision) :—The £1,200 would simply form the road to the first gully.

2474. How many chains of road do you think would be necessary? About 15 or 16 chains, at a cost of £8 a chain.

2475. It would cost about £120? Yes.

2476. In that case the road would be just as serviceable, I suppose, as the Junction Road? No; it would not be as serviceable.

2477. I mean for traffic? Yes; but it would be very steep.

2478. What is the steepest grade of Junction Road? I think it might, in one or two pinches, be about 1 in 78, or something like that.

2479. Still, for all practical purposes, by making a deviation of 15 chains, which would cost at £8 a chain, £120, Boundary Road could be made serviceable for traffic? No; but they could have gone round to the south and got on to the Crown lands on the top, but then there are some nasty creeks further along.

[*End of Evidence before Select Committee.*]

9351. *President, resuming.*] Was that evidence submitted to you for revision? Yes.

9352. Is that evidence true and correct in every particular? Yes.

9353. From whom did you get instructions to initiate work? From Mr. O'Donnell, who was the superintendent.

9354. Did you ever have any instructions direct from Mr. Davies? No; I have had none.

9355. What work did you do up at Hornsby? Under-scrubbing, clearing roads, forming roads, and ballasting them, and building bridges and culverts.

9356. And you always worked under instructions from Mr. O'Donnell? Yes.

9357. From anybody else? No

9358. *Mr. Franklin.*] You went to work at Hornsby under the direction of Mr. O'Donnell? Yes.

9359. What was O'Donnell's position there? He was superintendent.

9360. He had full charge, I suppose, of laying out the work? Yes; he had charge of the men there.

9361. From whom did he get his instructions? He used to get all his instructions from the Board.

9362. In getting his instructions from the Board, are you aware whether those instructions were from the professional members of the Board? Well, not all of them; but a great many of them were.

9363. You know that from your own observation? Yes; I saw the members there.

9364. What was the first work that you commenced? It was clearing roads.

9365. Which roads? The road marked A, I think, on the plan.

9366. I want you particularly to tell me how you commenced the work on the Hornsby subdivision. I show you now a plan showing, I think, all the work done by the Casual Labour Board on the Hornsby property during the time the Board was in existence [*Appendix D 4.*] Upon this, point out where you commenced your work when you arrived at Hornsby? The first road-clearing was the extension eastwards from the overbridge on the railway, north of the railway station towards Boundary Road, and then we went south towards the Boundary Road by Sherbrook Road.

9367. What did you do on these two courses? We only cleared them first and stripped them.

9368. You did not form? No. Sherbrook was cleared right through to Junction Road.

9369. Why did you go beyond Boundary Road at that time? I do not know. I could not give you any idea.

9370. Did you know that Boundary Road was adopted by Mr. Deering for a division between Burns, Withers, and Smith's land and the Crown lands? Yes.

9371. What was the next work done? Then, after that, the Junction Road, from Sherbrook Road towards the railway station, was formed.

9372. In what manner was that treated? It was only stumped.

9373. Do you know what particular instructions were given in regard to that? No; I do not know any instructions.

9374. What did you do after that? Then, after that, Junction Road was extended eastward to the intersection of the Great Eastern Road.

9375. Can you tell me why you omitted Boundary Road, which had been already laid out? That was cleared afterwards.

9376. The first work was on the private property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, and then afterwards the road surveyed by Mr. Deering, forming the boundary of the Crown lands, was taken in hand, and then you had other roads on the Crown lands following in succession? First we had the men. At first we had the men working on the Crown lands, but at the same time the greater number of men were working on the road called Junction Road.

9377. Then your evidence is that the works on the Junction Road and the roads going through the Crown lands were going on simultaneously? Yes.

9378. Looking at the plan, do you notice a gully called Spring Gully? Yes.

9379. Would you say that at this point the road was difficult or otherwise? I should say that it was very difficult.

9380. Can you give any evidence why the road was not continued beyond that point? It was too rough; we could not go beyond that point.

9381. You had already established a thoroughfare from Vanceville Road to the Junction Road? Yes; but we had some difficulty at the corner of the Junction Road. We found the peg afterwards and proceeded with it.

9382. You do not know by whose instructions you commenced the thoroughfare towards Vanceville Road, leading to Boundary Road? I do not.

9383. Had Mr. Napier been at work there? Mr. Napier had commenced the work described as from Sherbrook towards the western portion of Junction Road.

9384. Was Mr. O'Donnell your superior officer on this work? Yes.

9385. Are you aware whether they took any instrumental measurements at this Spring Gully? No.

9386. Are you sure that no section was taken of that before the report was made that it was impracticable? No.

9387. Do you notice the road marked C D in the plan? Yes.

9388. That road makes a junction between Boundary Road and Junction Road? Yes.

9389. Do you know why that was done? To get an outlet.

Mr.
H. Little.

15 April, 1889.

- Mr. H. Little. 9390. What was the outlet for? It was to get from the Crown lands into the Junction Road. It was done with the object of making communication with the Junction Road from the Boundary Road.
- 15 April, 1889. 9391. Do you see a road marked B? Yes.
9392. Why was that road made? For the same purpose as this one.
9393. Notwithstanding that there are two other roads running in the same direction as the road marked B, you considered that was necessary? Yes.
9394. Was this work, the extension of the Vanceville Road, done subsequently to the Main Junction Road? It was done after the Junction Road.
9395. Then it is not true that the extension of the Vanceville Road was first carried on? No.
9396. During the time this work was going on, had you any visit from Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison? Yes.
9397. Did Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison personally see the work of the construction of these roads? They went all over them.
9398. Can you tell me at what date the Main Junction Road and the Vanceville Road, and the connecting roads to the Boundary Road were done? About nine months ago this work was completed.
9399. This Great Eastern Road? The whole of these roads would be constructed subsequent to July, 1888.
9400. Do you remember any visits from Mr. Houison and Mr. Wells after that? I know Mr. Houison came up three or four times subsequent to that.
9401. Are you aware whether Mr. Houison gave his sanction to any of these roads marked here on the plan? He knew that these were going on.
9402. How did you know in which direction to carry these roads? These roads to the Junction Road were laid out for us by Mr. Dawson. He came up one day one week and another day another, and marked them out.
9403. Who was Mr. Dawson? Mr. Dawson was the private surveyor to the owners of the estate.
9404. Did Mr. Dawson at the same time lay out these roads extending southward? No; he laid out the extension of the Burns Road on the southern boundary of Burns, Withers, and Smith's land. The road marked H we carried through towards the south to meet Burns Road, proceeding southward for access to the railway platform.
9405. Was that done with the sanction of Mr. Houison? Well, he went over it—he never said anything against it.
9406. Do you remember if Mr. Houison at any time took exception to any of these roads being done? Not that I am aware of.
9407. Do you know from the instructions given to Mr. O'Donnell if there was any exception taken to these roads being done? I do not believe there was any.
9408. So that you believed that they were done under proper sanction? Yes.
9409. Did Mr. John Davies visit you frequently? Some two or three times.
9410. Did he make any suggestions as to what should be done? No; he might say whether a thing was to be done, but he never undertook the practical direction of the works.
9411. Have you seen a statement made of the actual expenditure and the mileage of the roads on that property. I am referring now to the Burns, Withers, and Smith's property? I did not know whose property it was.
9412. Have you got any records as to instructions, or can you give any information as to the instructions you had as to the making of Burdett-street, Florence-street, and Albert-street? No; the extension of Albert-street we did not do at all—it was done by the private owners.
9413. Looking at this plan of the roads coloured pink, done by the Casual Labour Board, does it not appear to have been designed for the close subdivision of land near the Hornsby railway station? It looks as if it was.
9414. Do you think that that subdivision was made in the interests of the public only, or more in the interests of the owners of the land? Well, the division altogether is more in the interests of the owners of the land than in the interests of the public.
9415. From your knowledge of the locality, can you say whether this plan shows all the roads that have been done? I think it does not extend to the roads far north of Boundary Road. This road continues straight through to Bullard's property.
9416. You say that Burdett-street, Florence-street, or Albert-street was not done by the unemployed? They were not cleared. Some of them have been done. We simply continued them on the plan laid down by the company's surveyor.
9417. Have you had any opportunity of making a calculation of the actual money expended on the Burns, Withers, and Smith's property? No; I do not know Burns, Withers, and Smith's land.
9418. Did you frame the pay-sheets there? Yes.
9419. You stated, I think, that £3,700 would cover the expenditure on the private roads at Hornsby? Yes.
9420. And you accounted for the discrepancy between the amount, which had already been given as the total expenditure on the unemployed, and the expenditure you accounted for—£4,400—by saying that £700 had been expended on Government roads on both sides of the line? Yes.
9421. Have you seen the detailed statement of the expenditure by Mr. Wells? Yes.
9422. Does that agree with your statement? No; he is too low.
9423. Did he not get the information in detail from you? Yes; but that was surface-forming. There were some heavy cuttings that would probably cost £1,000. At the junction of the Great Eastern Road and Burns Road there is a small cutting, on the junction at the southern end of road marked E at the intersection of Burns Road; on road marked C, 4 chains to the Boundary Road, a heavy cutting. The total cost of cuttings and excavations was £514 9s.
9424. Can you give me the total cost of clearing and under-scrubbing for road-forming? Yes; 1,204 chains, at 18s. 6½d. per chain, £1,118 8s. 6d.
9425. How did you get these figures? Out of my book. That is the actual cost.
9426. Now will you give me the general formation without embankments and cuttings? Nine hundred and fifty-two chains, at 19s., £906 1s.
9427. Side drains? No; I have not got side drains.

9428. Will you give me the lump sum for them? I should think about £60 would pay for drains.
9429. Have you got the ballasting? No; I have not got the total number of chains. It was £3 5s. 9d. per chain quarrying, breaking, spreading, and blinding.
9430. To that must be added the carting? Well, I can give you what the cost was in cartage all through. We have spent £1,026 in cartage.
9431. Do you know the rates that you paid? When we first started up there we used to pay 12s. per day; then we knocked the amount down to 10s. per day.
9432. Were the railway works going on then? Yes.
9433. Did you experience any difficulty in getting carts at that time? No. They were always willing to come to us.
9434. Was your work easier than that given on the railway, so that they would come to you in preference to going to the railway? Yes; it was not so hard.
9435. Was this ballasting done by contract? Yes; a contract of so much per yard.
9436. What was the gauge for breaking? About 3 or 4 inches.
9437. How was the ballast spread on the road? About 16 feet wide; on an average about 6 inches, running about 17 cubic yards to the chain on an average.
9438. Did you find that by measurement? Yes.
9439. Have you made an abstract of the actual cost of forming, ballasting, and blinding per chain? No.
- 9439½. But the above items may be taken as the average? That is the average. The items for road forming and clearing come out as I have stated.
9440. In clearing, would provision be made for getting the timber off the road? We could not get it off. We left it there on the private lands.
9441. Have you any memos. of the bridges? Yes.
9442. Will you give me them, stating their positions? There are six bridges, the total cost of them being £176 10s.
9443. How are they constructed? They are second-class bridges, of blackbutt.
9444. How do you calculate the total cost of the bridges? I think it runs 17s. 6d. per foot.
9445. How are they finished? Well, they are finished off very well.
9446. Painted? Yes.
9447. Have you had much experience in bridge-building? Yes.
9448. Do you know that this is a small rate per foot for substantial bridges? Yes, but the timber was very close at hand. They are finished very nicely as regards painting.
9449. Do they add value to the land? Yes.
9450. Are they only temporary bridges? Well, I think they will last twenty years.
9451. What is the general formation of the ground in the vicinity of the bridges? Which way do you mean?
9452. Is it sand? Yes; it is good sandy land.
9453. Is there heavy traffic on any of these roads? There is no heavy traffic as yet, nor is there likely to be until the population gets there.
9454. Do you consider that the ballast adds very much to the value of the roads? Yes.
9455. In dry weather? I think so.
9456. Did you blind these ballasted roads sufficiently, so that they might become consolidated? Yes; I blinded them enough, I think.
9457. Would not the simple forming of the roads have been sufficient for the present, and for some considerable time in the future? Yes, I think so. I do not know why anything more was done.
9458. What cost would the proportion of the ballasting be to the general formation of the road;—would it cost as much as the actual clearing and forming? Yes; it would cost more.
9459. How much more? It would cost a pound a chain more.
9460. And this work was more than was necessary for practical purposes? Yes, for some time to come.
9461. Are you acquainted with the mode of clearing land for subdivision sales? Not particularly.
9462. Have you not seen various lands cleared for sale and subdivided? Oh, yes.
9463. What is generally done on roads that are laid out to increase the value of property for sale? They are generally stumped; that is all I have seen done to them in order to make them passable.
9464. Have you ever in such cases seen roads formed, gravelled, and ballasted? No.
9465. Do you think that the work done on the Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate has greatly increased the value of the land? It must have done so.
9466. To what extent do you think? I could not say to what extent.
9467. What was it like before you commenced working there—bush land? Yes—wild bush.
9468. Impenetrable? Yes.
9469. Do you think that the work done would double the value of the lands? No.
9470. You say you received instructions from Mr. Houson until a late date last year? Yes, up to late in 1888.
9471. So far as you are concerned there is no doubt in your mind that Mr. O'Donnell was not exceeding his instructions in regard to the formation of this road? Yes.
9472. *Mr. Waller.*] How did you estimate the cost of the work upon all these roads? We took it from one of these sketch plans and scaled it all.
9473. *Mr. Franklin.*] You have taken your estimate from the plan, and this Commission may fairly calculate upon your rates, applied to the accurate survey, giving the actual amount? Yes.
9474. *President.*] What salary were you getting? 7s. per day for seven days—49s. per week.
9475. Who paid you? The Casual Labour Board.
9476. Do you know Mr. Burns? I have known him by sight.
9477. Have you seen him on the ground where these works were being carried on? I have seen him at Hornsby, at the station.
9478. Had you ever any conversation with him? No.
9479. Do you know Mr. R. B. Smith? Yes; I have seen him.
9480. Have you ever had any conversation with him? No.
9481. Was he at Hornsby when you saw him? Yes; he was up there once with Mr. Burns.
9482. Do you know Mr. Withers? No; I do not.

- Mr. H. Little. 9483. Did you ever see Mr. Burns or Mr. Smith with Mr. Davies? I saw Mr. Davies, Mr. Burns, and Mr. Oliver—those three together.
- 15 April, 1889. 9484. How often? Only once.
9485. During the time that you were in the employment of the Casual Labour Board, have you observed or been made aware of any departmental irregularity or of any improper expenditure of money or of any imposition? No.
9486. In the way of making out improper vouchers, pay-sheets, or otherwise? No.
9487. Everything, according to your observation, was perfectly straight? Yes.
9488. Have you ever received anything beyond your salary? No.

James Edward Ormiston called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. J. E. Ormiston. 9489. *President.*] What position do you hold in the public service? I am Accountant in the Colonial Secretary's Office.
- 15 April, 1889. 9490. I believe, since the dissolution of the Casual Labour Board, you have had something to do with the payment of the men? Yes; I have had the supervision of the payments.
9491. What system did you find prevailing as to these payments? I thought the system was a very good one. There seemed to be a check upon the payments in every respect.
9492. Did you find it necessary to make any change? No; I did not.
9493. Then the course that you have recently adopted is precisely the same as you found being adopted at the time of the existence of the Casual Labour Board? Precisely.
9494. Do you think it was possible for any fraud to be arranged under the system that prevailed? Not unless several of the parties have been acting in collusion.
9495. One individual could not do it? No; one individual could not do it.
9496. For example, in getting the signatures to the pay-sheet, what precaution did you adopt to ensure the proper person signing? In every instance I referred the men to the superintendent and overseer, who were present at the pays.
9497. Then, if such reference was not made, would there be a want of proper precaution? You would know of course the man's signature—he signed in every instance.
9498. How did you know, for example, that a man who came up as a ganger was or was not a ganger? Only on the assurance of the overseer.
9499. You asked him in every case? Yes.
9500. Do you think that would be the best precaution that you could take? There was another. The ganger had a ticket, which he obtained from me on the payment of the wages.
9501. Did you have many cases of men being absent on the pay-day? Yes.
9502. What course did you adopt then? It was paid into the Treasury, and the men from time to time I believe came to the Treasury for it.
9503. Is it the practice of all Government Departments to pay such money into the Treasury immediately? Yes.
9504. Would it be considered irregular if it were withheld for a time? Well, it would depend upon circumstances.
9505. *Mr. Franklin.*] The numbers of the unemployed are greatly reduced since you have been there? Yes.
9506. So that you had greater opportunities of recognising individuals? Yes.
9507. But at a very heavy pay, which might last until late in the evening, would it be possible to recognise every individual? Yes.
9508. Do you think there was a sufficient check then to provide against mistakes or fraud or irregularity? Yes, unless there was collusion.
9509. When the camps were divided, and the payments equally so, there could not have been so complete a check in every payment as there would be now with a smaller number of men? Well, I do not know; the same precaution is taken in every instance.
9510. At any rate you would not be so well able to select your men to supervise each pay as you would if there were smaller operations? No.
9511. Supposing two or three men acted in collusion at any one of these pays, would it have been possible to make payments to persons other than *bona fide* gangers? I think so.
9512. That could have been done? Yes; it could have been done.
9513. After each pay, if there were any accumulated unpaid amounts, how long should they be withheld for chance applications? Well, if I had anything to do with the matter, I should pay them at once into the Treasury.
9514. Would the Treasury in its ordinary course of business take the signatures of the applicants upon any unfinished pay-sheet and pay the amounts? Yes; upon the certificate of the Board.
9515. Would that be the proper course of dealing with them? Yes.
9516. Then any moneys that came into your hands after the pays would be paid into the Treasury into a suspense account? Yes.
9517. And you would not consider it your duty to hold them for any length of time? No.
9518. *Mr. Waller.*] Did you take any independent witnesses with you when you went to superintend these pays? Yes.
9519. What do you mean by independent witnesses? The officers of this department, independent of the Board.
9520. How long have you been acting as Paymaster? Since the 1st February this year. At the time the new Board took over the affairs.
9521. Do you know the ordinary routine of ordering goods for the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
9522. What was the routine? They requisitioned from the Board, and the Board sent to the contractor, and the contractor sent what was required out to the different places where they were wanted, and the superintendent would give a receipt for the goods.
9523. Was this requisition eventually returned back with the contingent voucher? Yes; it should be.
9524. Otherwise, would there be any proof of the correctness of the voucher? Only the certificate of the overseers or receivers.
- 9525.

9525. The only certificate that the overseers could give would be to sign blindfold for the goods? Yes; but there was the butt in the order-book with the Accountant.

9526. What did the superintendent sign for? For receiving the goods.

9527. But if they did not order the goods? No; but the fact of the goods being received would be sufficient for them. That was only taken on trust.

9528. Would there be much difficulty in arranging the vouchers so that each voucher should have the original order attached to it? No, there would be no difficulty.

9529. How long do you think it would take to do that? I do not know that I understand you exactly.

9530. How long would it occupy to take M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's vouchers and have attached to them all the orders, and in the same way all Kidman's vouchers? It would take no time at all if the superintendent did all his work.

9531. I am talking about doing it now? I should not think there would be any difficulty, because the overseers would know what was received.

9532. These orders should correspond with the vouchers? Yes; before I passed an account I should see that they did so.

9533. And the numbers of the orders should correspond with the numbers of the vouchers? They should do so.

9534. Would you think it correct to pay vouchers if you could not find orders to support them? No; I would not pass them without the orders.

9535. You would not consider the mere certificate of the superintendent sufficient? Certainly not. I would see from whence the order came.

9536. Do you think that before this Commission could say that they were satisfied with these vouchers it would be necessary to have them supported by the butts of the book? Yes, I should think so.

9537. If your services were required for such work, would you be willing to undertake it? I should be glad, with Mr. Walker's permission, to place my services at your disposal.

9538. *Mr. Franklin.* Have you taken charge of the accounts? Yes; I have taken charge of all the payments in connection with the accounts.

Frederick Crossthwaite called in, sworn, and examined:—

9539. *President.* What are you? My proper business is discharging clerk.

9540. What are you doing now? Nothing at present; I am trying to get work in Sydney, in that capacity, but I have not succeeded yet.

9541. Were you in the ranks of the unemployed between the months of May, 1887 and December, 1888? Yes,

9542. How long? I think about sixteen months.

9543. What were you doing? When I went there first I was with the surveyors. I was with Mr. M'Pherson, and when he was taking surveys I went with him. He found me so quick that I was put into Mr. Burrowes' office as clerk, after which, when the work got slacker, I was sent out with the surveyors again. Then after that I was made assistant overseer, and I was put to report upon what appeared to Mr. Burrowes to be swindling going on, and I was dismissed for doing so. I was not actually dismissed, but my wages were reduced, and I left on that ground.

9544. What district were you in? The National Park.

9545. What did you say about Mr. Burrowes. I did not quite catch your evidence? Mr. Burrowes called upon me to report upon some flagrant swindling. I objected to do so, and asked him to make a report himself. He did not give me any reason why he would not do it, but asked me to do so. I said, "I know what the result will be; I will get dismissed." He spoke to me in this way. That it was my duty to try to expose any cases of swindling. I wrote a letter asking if they were aware that certain men were not charged with rations. I knew what the result would be; I was reduced to 3s. 6d. per day.

9546. Whom did you write to? To the Chairman of the Board.

9547. When? It would be on the 16th or 18th March, 1888. If you show me the papers I could tell you.

9548. Was your complaint inquired into? I can tell you no more than this. Mr. Burrowes could see it was plain swindling, and I reported it, and my pay was reduced from 5s. to 3s. 6d. per day. I spoke to Mr. Burrowes about it. He said, "I am very sorry; it is Mr. Davies' orders." I said to Mr. Davies, "I don't care to remain here at 3s. 6d. a day." He said, "That is exactly what I want. I want to get every one out of the place."

9549. What was this swindling? I acted as ganger on this ticket, dated the 28th February. My name had been struck off the overseer's, but still I had to keep time, for the overseer was incompetent and unable to do so. I was keeping time and doing writing for which I was never paid. Bastable was the overseer, and he said to me, "Pender's name will appear in your tickets, £3 and no rations, and you will give the £3 to give to Mr. Springall." On the 28th February, instead of the amount of £16 18s. 3d. being passed over to me from the Casual Labour Board Paymaster, there was only £15 18s. 3d. I pointed this out. Well they insisted that £16 18s. 3d. had been put upon the table. The Paymaster insisted that there had been a sovereign put upon the top of this money. I paid my gang, and this left me only £2 instead of £3 to give to Mr. Springall. I was a pound short, so I gave this to Pender. Mr. Springall said to me, knowing that Bastable had been dismissed, "You take Bastable's place." He asked me what I was going to do with the pound. "Well," I said, "I had an idea that it might have been put on the top of the next man's money." "Well," he said, "either you or me will have to lose that"; and then he said, "You will have to meet me half-way." I said neither yes nor no to that. On the following Sunday week I went in to see Mr. Burrowes. I told him I had taken Bastable's place. He said Springall had said something about it. I asked him if he had heard about my being a pound short. He said, "Yes; how did it occur?" I showed him this slip—"Pender, 5s. a day and no rations." "Look here," he said, "there is some damned swindle going on here. Don't you know that every man here, from myself downwards, has got to pay for his rations, except the police." I told him about Springall having said I would have to meet him half-way about the pound. The day before I went to see Springall about some rations I had made a claim for eleven rations that had been overcharged to me—twenty-two instead of eleven. He said, "Do you remember, Crossthwaite, that claim for eleven rations? I will allow you for those rations and you give me the pound." Burrowes said, "Don't give him a penny of it." On the following day the work down at the river was stopped. I saw Mr. Burrowes before the pay. I said, "What

Mr. J. E.
Ormiston.

15 April, 1889.

Mr. F.
Crossthwaite.

15 April, 1889.

- Mr. F. Crossthwaite.
15 April, 1889.
- *“What about this £3?” He said, “Give it to Springall, and we can talk about it afterwards.” When the pay was over I gave Springall the £3. I was being paid 5s. a day as assistant overseer. Well, about three or four days after this my report went in asking Mr. Davies whether he was aware of the fact that the law laid down by the Board was not strictly adhered to; that on my ticket Pender’s name appeared 5s. per day and no rations, and the money was handed to Springall to dispense. The next pay I was down for 3s. 6d. a day. I said, “Is mine 3s. 6d. a day?” Springall said, “That is right.” I went to Mr. Burrowes to see whether this was really so. He said it was a mistake, but that I did not want a special voucher; it would do next pay. The next pay I was paid 3s. 6d. again. I think I spoke to Mr. Burrowes again, and he said, “I am very sorry, I cannot help it; it is Mr. Davies’ orders.” A couple of days after I sent in the report to the Board, Springall went to a man who was a tentmaker named Nightingale, on whose ticket Pender had been before. He said, “Nightingale, don’t tell Crossthwaite about Pender’s name being on your ticket.”
9550. Did you know Nightingale? Yes.
9551. Did you know that previously Pender’s name had been on his ticket? No; I did not know.
9552. Do you know of any other swindling? No; I cannot say I know of any, but I have heard of a good deal of it.
9553. Do you think that Mr. Springall was benefitting by this? I am perfectly certain he was. There was a man called Flemming; he was put down as one of Springall’s factotums. A man who was working there was only speaking to me to-day about him. This man Flemming used to be paid in a gang, and besides this he had a dummy gang of his own. He was paid in an ordinary gang and was paid for a dummy gang.†
9554. Do you think from what you saw that Springall alone was concerned in this matter? From what I have heard men say, mine was not the only ticket made up in that manner.
9555. Who was Pender? Pender was a watchman.
9556. Do you think that Mr. Burrowes had anything to do with the swindling? I am perfectly certain that Mr. Burrowes would be above anything of that sort. No; he is a different man from that altogether.
- 9556½. Did you ever hear of Mr. Burrowes being identified with anything of the sort? Whatever it was Mr. Burrowes would have nothing to do with anything of the kind. He was looked upon as a different kind of man altogether.
9557. What about Mr. M’Pherson? I am perfectly certain that these mistakes could not have occurred without Mr. M’Pherson knowing about them. He is too sharp an accountant. He was particularly sharp.
9558. Do you think Springall could have been carrying on this with the connivance of others? I do not know.
9559. How does this sheet show that Pender was not drawing rations? Well, there is a nought there.
9560. What would that convey—that he was not drawing rations? It would convey, that for some particular reason, he was not drawing rations. I had at first supposed that perhaps being a watchman he might have day work as well as night work, and have been let off in that way.
9561. Do you know the man Flemming? Yes; he was another watchman.
9562. Had he charge of a gang? No; he had nothing to do with a gang. He was simply about amongst the tents.
9563. Had he ever a gang? Well, I could not say that he never had a gang. I never knew him to have one.
9564. Had you an opportunity of seeing whether he ever had a gang or not under him? Oh, yes; I had plenty of opportunities.
9565. And you never knew him to have a gang? Never.
9566. Was Mr. M’Pherson present on pay-days? Yes; I never knew him to be absent—although he might have been absent one day.
9567. How could Mr. M’Pherson find out when this Pender was going up for his pay that there was a swindle? Well, if he saw Pender’s name on half-a-dozen other tickets he could see. It was only by mere chance that Mr. Burrowes would go over these accounts.
9568. Was Mr. Burrowes present on these occasions? No; he was always with Mr. Davies—he never appeared at the pay-table.
9569. This took place in March, 1888? Yes.
- 9569½. And you called attention to it officially? Yes.
9570. And no notice whatever was taken of it, except by reducing your pay? That is so. And Mr. Burrowes told me that it should never have been reduced.
9571. If Mr. Burrowes was such a good master, how was it that you did not get him to represent the injustice? He asked me to remain on the Park and he would get me something better. I said I did not care to remain where I was. They looked upon me as being dangerous, and thought I would tell Burrowes too much. They thought I had seen too much for them. That was my impression. When I was clerk there, I saw some discrepancies in the pay-tickets and pay-sheets. I had to make out the pay-tickets as clerk, and I had to make them out after the vouchers had been sent up to Sydney. I could not alter the pay-ticket, but I pinned a piece of paper to the bottom of the pay-tickets, where the discrepancies were. Before the next pay I got notice that my services would not be required any longer as clerk.
9572. Do you recollect what the discrepancy was? No. There were three or four. It was charging too little or too much; I forget which.
9573. Whom would it bring into trouble by your discovering it? I do not know that it would bring anybody. It might show carelessness on the part of Mr. Springall.
9574. From whom did you get notice of your dismissal? From Mr. Springall. The complaint was that he had too many clerks.
9575. *Mr. Waller.*] How is it that you have these ration tickets in your possession? Well, I used to get them at the pay-table. I had really never intended to keep them; but when I went up to Bulgo I found them there in my possession. I said, “Well, now some of these swindles of Springall’s are bound to come out yet, and I will keep them.” So I kept them until now.
9576. What was the proper thing to have done with these tickets? To have kept them or torn them up, just as I liked.
9577. Had you not to return them to the Board? No.
9578. You say that this man Pindar was drawing no rations—do you mean that he was charged for no rations? Yes.

9579.

NOTES (on revision) :—* Mr. Burrowes first told me to give Springall the £3, but on the following day told me to give it to him. † Witness states that he never said—from “and besides this, &c.,” to end of answer.

Mr. F.
Crossthwaite.
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9579. Do you mean that he was getting rations free? No; I don't mean that. I mean that Kidman would not get paid for the rations, although Springall received the money for them.
9580. Was Kidman the sufferer? I do not know that he suffered much.
9581. Was this man Pender getting rations? Yes; he was often sitting at the same table as I was.
9582. And you say that Kidman did not get paid for them? I do not say that he did not get paid for them.
9583. Were there many cases of this sort? They were quite common, I have heard it said.
9584. How could the rations be charged for if they were not supplied without suspicion being excited? Well, I do not know. I was thinking to myself it could be done. I believe there were always 20 per cent. of the men at the National Park who did not draw their rations every day. Now it would be very easy for Springall to send for 2,000 instead of 2,500. I knew of the scales for the weighing of the meat being wrong, and men not drawing rations being charged for them all the same. It might be that a gang of eight men would not draw rations and they would be charged for them. It would be easy for them to issue a return for the delivery of 2,500 rations and have only 2,000.
9585. What about the scales being wrong? When I was in Sydney one day I went to the station and got weighed, and I got weighed at Sutherland, and found my weight to be the same as at Sydney. That evening I was weighed on the meat scales and found there was 7 lb. difference. The scales were 7 lb. on the wrong side of the book for the people who were having the meat.
9586. Which way were you 7 lb. on the wrong side—heavier or lighter? I was 7 lb. heavier.
9587. You said just now that in your conversation with Burrowes he told you that “everyone from myself downwards” had to pay for rations;—was that exclusive of, or did it include himself? I would think it included himself.
- 9587½. Do you know of your own knowledge that none of these people, by the permission of the Board, were allowed their rations free? I never knew of any being allowed their rations free. I know they used some months before this particular work was commenced to receive their rations free.
9588. Who was this man who was talking to you to-day about Flemming? His name was Oscar; he was a tentmaker at the National Park, and also at Bulgo.
9589. Do you know where this man Oscar lives? I don't; he told me he lived in Balmain—that is all I know.
9590. Did he tell you that what he knew about Flemming he knew on his own account? No.
9591. And this man Nightingale who mentioned to you about Springall, who is he? He is a tentmaker also. He said that Springall told him to say nothing to me about Pender having been in his gang; and this Oscar that I met to-day was along with the tentmaker, Nightingale, and he also knew about Springall going to Nightingale and asking him to say nothing about Pender to me.
9592. Where is Nightingale to be found? He is at Bulli—working at the North Bulli mine.
9593. Are there any other men besides Nightingale, Oscar, and Pender who can tell us about these matters? These are the only three I know anything about.
9594. Where is Pender? He is up at Hurstville working with the unemployed still I presume.
9595. Do you say that Pender was on several gangs? I think it is very probable.
9596. What were the police doing? There were two police on the station. They used to go there and stop any disturbance that was going on. They were going to leave when the number of people was reduced.
9597. Were they in a position to tell the gangers by their faces? I should think so.
9598. They attended pays, I suppose? Yes.
9599. *President.*] Were you always a ganger? No; I was only a ganger for two or three pays, and then I was timekeeper at the same time.
9600. I see you are returned on these two papers “Crossthwaite, ganger”? Well, on the second of those it ought to have been overseer.
9601. *Mr. Franklin.*] What work were you doing as ganger? We were building a spur on the Port Hacking River to divert the current to cause more scour. There was a bend in the river there. It was rather wide and very shallow.
9602. How was that work done—by piece-work? They were paid 5s., and most of them 3s. 6d. a day. The gangers were getting 5s. per day. It was done by day-work.
9603. Were there many gangers working at 5s. per day? There were six gangers and thirty-eight men working at these rates.
9604. Do you know of any other gangers working on the same terms at 5s. a day? There were some working at quarrying getting 5s., but that was all at the time.
9605. Who laid out the work for the spur on the river? It had been done previously, but the wall had sunk, and we had to make it higher.
9606. How was that day-work supervised beyond the supervision that you, as ganger, would give to it? There was an overseer named Bastable, and I was his assistant at that time. Bastable would have charge of all these gangs. He was a hard-working man.
9607. How often did Mr. Burrowes visit the work? About once or twice in a fortnight.
9608. Did you remain there until its completion? Yes, I did.
9609. Can you give the date when it was completed? It was the 15th or 16th March last year.
9610. Was that work approved by Mr. Houson or Mr. Wells? I do not know.
9611. Did you see either of those gentlemen during the progress of the work? Yes, occasionally.
9612. Did they go to inspect the work? No; they never went on to the work to inspect it. Mr. Burrowes was the only one who did so.
9613. Do you remember how mattock contracts were measured out? Oh, yes. I was with the surveyor when that was done. I was with M'Pherson, Fraser, and Underwood.
9614. Were advances made to the gangs only on completion of the work, or on account? Oh, on account.
9615. And on completion, final payments were made? Yes.
9616. Did you ever hear of any of those works having been advanced upon or paid for wholly without having been finished? No; I never heard of such a thing. I heard of ganger having been paid twice over. His name was Martin. He received the money twice over and he cleared.
9617. Whose fault was that? It was M'Pherson's fault.
9618. Was it rectified? It was no use trying to rectify it—the man had gone. I remember where the work was computed, and it was paid the second time; but it was only a clerical error.

Frederick

Frederick O'Donnell called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. F. O'Donnell. 9619. *President.*] What are you? I have no profession.
 9619½. What business are you in now? None at the present time.
 15 April, 1889. 9620. Were you in the employ of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
 9621. When were you appointed? By the Casual Labour Board as soon as it came into existence. As soon as the Board was initiated I was transferred from the Roads Department to the Casual Labour Board.
 9622. Did you remain in their employ during the whole time of the Board? Yes.
 9623. Did you have anything to do with the Southern District? No; my work was all in the north.
 9624. Were you examined before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly on the 29th November and 11th December, 1888? Yes.
 9625. Is this your evidence? Yes.

[*Evidence before Select Committee.*]

1096. *Chairman.*] Are you the overseer in charge of the unemployed at Hornsby. Yes.
 1097. How long have you been in that position? I have been there since the Board was first initiated. I suppose it is something like fifteen or sixteen months since I went to Hornsby. Altogether, in connection with the Department, I have been about three years and a-half with the unemployed.
 1098. You went to Hornsby at whose instructions? At the Casual Labour Board's, when they came into power. Previous to that we went out by Mr. Deering's instructions. Then we got the Casual Labour Board's instructions to form a camp and stay there.
 1099. What you mean is that you were working on the ground before the Casual Labour Board came into existence, and that you continued there by the instructions of the Casual Labour Board? Just so.
 1100. What instructions did you receive from the Casual Labour Board as to the limits of your powers—what powers had you? I do not think my powers were very clearly defined, whether with reference to the Casual Labour Board or the other departments that I have gone through.
 1101. Had you the power of originating any roads? No; I have not the power to originate any road. I can suggest, or do something of that sort.
 1102. That is to say, you could recommend to the Board? I could recommend to the Board.
 1103. But did you ever, of your own authority, commence to form a road? I believe we started Junction Road on our own authority? Having the men there, we had to do something, and it was started. We got a line along Junction-street; that was partly started.
 1104. When you say we—? I mean the Department—ourselves working there.
 1105. Was that before the Labour Board came into existence? Yes.
 1106. When you say we, do you mean yourself? No; I had some authority.
 1107. What was the authority? I believe I got it from Mr. Davies.
 1108. Did you commence any road without authority from Mr. Davies, or from your superiors? No; I never did things of that sort. I might answer that at once. I have never started a thing on my own authority.
 1109. You must receive instructions before you proceed to do work? Yes.
 1110. Can you tell us how that road to the north of Burns Road and parallel with it was formed? It is what was termed the Mistake Road. We call it among ourselves the Mistake Road; that is, in camp. We had started along the road H H H to a point where there was a large tree, and we had instructions—from whom, at the present time, it does not come to my recollection—to start from a point in the continuation of this road E, and meet it, and an old fellow named Noonan was to show us the way; but instead of squaring it up, we ran across diagonally, so that we have termed it the Mistake Road.
 1111. Then is the plan incorrect? Yes; as it is here. I can show you better by a little sketch I have here. The road goes down and then up again. It was a mistake on our part.
 1112. Then these roads, as shown on Mr. Deering's sketch map, are inaccurate—road E does not run straight? No, the plan is not right; it is only a sketch.
 1113. That was a mistake originating with yourselves? Yes.
 1114. But have you any other mistakes of anything like that character? Not that I am aware of.
 1115. From whom did you receive instructions to construct the road parallel with the railway? From Mr. Davies.
 1116. And these roads in the form of a T and the continuation of the Boundary Road? From Mr. Davies.
 1117. And the road from Junction Road, near road B, to the south, leading to the hotel and platform? You mean across the railway.
 1118. To the hotel? They were got from the Casual Labour Board.
 1119. From Mr. Davies? From Mr. Davies or one of them. I know that I had instructions to do it, and I did it.
 1120. *Mr. Bruncker.*] I suppose the instructions from Mr. Davies would be from the Casual Labour Board? Yes, and in some cases the orders have been verbal.
 1121. But the orders would then come from the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
 1122. *Chairman.*] In carrying out your orders as to forming or ballasting, were exact instructions given to you as to the quality of the road you were to make, or anything of that sort? I do not know that they were. I was supposed to do the best I could.
 1123. Was it left to your discretion? Well, of course, they were there to examine it and see if it was satisfactory. They never said anything to the contrary, and I took it to be right enough.
 1124. But had you discretionary power to say whether a road should be simply cleared, or whether it should be formed? I only had the power to clear; then I got instructions to form and metal afterwards. I would not undertake to do anything of that sort.
 1125. Is the road running parallel to the railway formed? Yes; we are now forming it. It was partly formed before this inquiry commenced. 1126.

1126. You are now forming it? We have knocked off within the last few days. Since the answer was given to a question about the matter in Parliament the other evening, I had instructions to knock off the men. I left instructions on Monday, and I repeated them yesterday to the overseer in charge, to knock the men off until this inquiry was finished.
1127. That is, not to continue forming the road? Not to continue any work.
1128. Are any roads formed there in close conjunction with the railway, such as the continuation of Boundary Road? We formed Boundary Road.
1129. Is that road to the south of it, parallel with it formed? No; that is only cleared. Then you will understand that these roads were cleared half-way through before we did anything to them. I suppose there were about 11 chains on each side. We cleared the continuation of Boundary Road, and formed it, and tried to make a direct road of it because it leads to Crown lands.
1130. You found half done already? Previous to our going to it it was half cleared.
1131. And the small piece of road running up from Junction Road? We did not do that; that is private.
1132. Did not the unemployed work on that small bit? No.
1133. Are the unemployed working at all on Boundary Road now? There have been none working on Boundary Road for some time—that is, on the continuation of Boundary Road, not further along.
1134. Have you not been working there at all? Not recently.
1135. How far along Boundary Road have you got the road good and passable? It is pretty fair until you come to this street here, D.
1136. Is it not good up to the first gully? Not up to the first crossing. At this gully we came to an impracticable road.
1137. You can drive up to road D? Yes.
1138. Are you cognizant of how much land is owned by Burns, Withers, and Smith there? I have an idea now; but I had not at the time I gave the return to Mr. Brunker, which I am sorry for. I tried to get the information as best I possibly could at the time, and of course sent the return on with it.
1139. Is the answer then that you gave to Mr. Brunker incorrect? It was incorrect.
1140. That is to say, the second answer? The second answer was also incorrect, from the information we got.
1141. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] You say that you never carried out any work whatever without receiving instructions from Mr. Davies, or from the Casual Labour Board? No.
1142. Therefore, you could never originate any of these roads yourself? No.
1143. Could you tell us how much these roads have cost to make—the total cost? I can give it you approximately—£2,079 7s.; that is the total cost of the work round about; and the total cost of all the work done at Hornsby by the Board is £6,265.
1144. *Chairman.*] When you speak of £2,079 7s., you mean the work done on the Burns-Withers' Estate? From the information we have got since we would say it is round about and in close proximity to this property.
1145. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Have you any idea of the length of the roads made there, to the south of the Crown Lands? Junction Road is about 2 miles, and the other road—Burns Road—about 1 mile 80 chains.
1146. Those two roads would come to 3 miles? Yes.
1147. Would 7 miles in length be too great for all the roads? All the roads together, so far as we have it approximately, are 8½ miles in length.
1148. Eight and a quarter miles represent all the roads constructed south of the Crown lands? All the roads; Government land is not included. That is private lands.
1149. Including road A, and south of it, what is the whole length? 8½ miles.
1150. I want to get the total length on the Burns-Withers' property? About 3 miles—2 miles on Junction, and a mile on Burns Road.
1151. You say 8½ miles for all the properties. I want to know what is the total length of Burns' property? ———
1152. *Mr. Brunker.*] Have you got the length of each road; give us a rough idea? Burns Road is 1 mile; Junction Road, 2 miles; A road about 25 chains ———
1153. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] But there are 8½ miles south of road A. Deduct from that the roads on property other than that owned by Burns, Withers, and Smith; what is the length of those? This road I, leading to Pearce's Corner, we call a Government road.
1154. What do you call the H road? That we would also call a Government road. We would call the other roads on the Hornsby Estate about 8½ miles.
1155. What would you call the other roads, to classify them? They are on private property, so far as we know it at the present time.
1156. *Chairman.*] The roads on private property are about 8½ miles? Yes.
1157. On Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate, 3½ miles? Yes.
1158. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Touching this extension of road E, not including the tributary portion, do you know who authorized it? Mr. Davies gave me instructions to do that.
1159. Did he state the object of it? He did not state the object of it, and it was not my purpose to question him.
1160. You got the instructions to carry out that road? Yes.
1161. And the same remark applies to the road running parallel with the railway? Yes.
1162. This road was carried out by Mr. Davies? Yes.
1163. And the road from the Boundary Road to the station by Mr. Davies? Yes. 11 chains were already cleared. But to qualify this, I may say that Mr. Davies told me to clear this road parallel, to throw it up, but I am making a good job of it.
1164. Finding that the owners of this Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate had started these roads near the station, was not that an evidence that they were going to make them themselves?

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- themselves? Of course it is evidence that they were going to construct the road, but it is not my place at any time to question any authority I may receive.
1165. How many men have you working out there now? At Hornsby alone about fifteen, but altogether I may tell you that at Hornsby and other places we have about 140.
1166. In the neighbourhood you have 140? Not in that neighbourhood alone.
1167. *Chairman.*] But fifteen men are on the roads on Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate? That is what I would term it now.
1168. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Referring to Boundary Road, are you not now constructing a culvert down near the gully, near road C? We are doing nothing now.
1169. I mean last week; you were constructing a culvert where they are cutting out stone? That is at the end of the road. We are putting in drain-pipes there.
1170. Where you are making that culvert is at the continuation of the Boundary Road? Yes.
1171. In point of fact you are not working any men on Boundary Road at the present time? Not at the present time.
1172. Although the road has been cleared, you have not been working men there for some considerable time? _____
1173. *Mr. Brunker.*] You say that when you commenced work at Hornsby you were under Mr. Deering's instructions? Yes.
1174. Until the Casual Labour Board came into existence? Yes.
1175. When did you commence work under Mr. Deering's instructions? I have not got the date, but I can tell you the quantity of work.
1176. I would like to know when you commenced there; how long before the Casual Labour Board came into existence? I think about a fortnight before.
1177. You have never commenced any work without instructions? No; I never commenced any work unless I got instructions to do it.
1178. Had you at any time any communications verbal or otherwise with the owners of property in that locality? They have never said one word to me. Although I have asked Mr. Burns about the deviation he has never said one word to me about the constructing of the roads.
1179. Could you define to the Committee the work carried out by private owners before you commenced work there at all? They had a portion of Burns Road cleared, about 30 chains, then they had two culverts on Burns Road, and they had some work done near the station, and about 11 chains on the Railway Road.
1180. I think I understood you to say just now that whatever work has been done on the roads intersecting this portion near the station, has been done by the owners of the private property? I think we had about 11 chains to do on each of these roads. A fair part of it was done privately, and also on the road leading to the station.
1181. You were asked just now by Mr. O'Sullivan whether the fact that these roads had been opened up by the proprietors was not evidence that they were going to construct the road, or only that they were going to construct them? They were cleared.
1182. Can you swear that they were going to construct them, or that this was only to define the roads—there is a material difference? It was cleared and stumped.
1183. I want to know whether it was simply to define the roads, or to construct them? I do not know; that is not for me to say, of course.
1184. *Chairman.*] Was the character of the clearing of such a nature as to make you suppose that they intended to instruct roads there? I cannot go into the suppositions of people.
1185. *Mr. Brunker.*] You know something about the locality? Yes.
1186. You know the Thornhill subdivision;—those roads were stumped and cleared, but never made? They have not been done to the present time.
1187. Did you not find the same to have been done on the Hornsby Estate—that this clearing had been done simply to define the streets, and show buyers where they were;—I suppose you know that after the sale streets like these are left, and never constructed at all? Very true.
1188. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Still these roads being cleared in the way indicated by Mr. Brunker gave access to Crown lands; if they had only been cleared access would have been given to the Crown lands by them? If they had been cleared through.
1189. *Chairman.*] You carried them through? We commenced where they knocked off.
1190. *Mr. Brunker.*] You completed what they commenced? Yes; however, it is a benefit to Boundary Road, giving an outside opinion, because it now leads right through to Crown lands.
1191. Do you think the work you have done has assisted to improve the Crown lands? Most undoubtedly. It would only have brought £5 an acre. I would have had a lot of money myself to pay more than £5 an acre for it.
1192. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] If this estate had been your property and you intended to sell it to the best advantage, would you not have laid out roads there, and cleared them in the way indicated by Mr. Brunker, in the usual way of subdividing estates? I do not think that is a fair question. I might put the roads different to what they are on the plan altogether.
1193. Granting that you would put them where you pleased, would you not have subdivided the estate and cleared the streets to give frontages and corner blocks? If I were going to submit it to public auction.
1194. You would have done so? I might have done so; but I am not to surmise what other people would do.
1195. *Mr. Brunker.*] Assuming that this estate was your own, would you have subdivided it in that form for sale? I am not sufficiently a surveyor to answer that question.
1196. Have you ever seen a property subdivided in that form for sale? No.
1197. *Chairman.*] Did you ever see property with gullies running through it in such a number,

number, and requiring roads between the gullies like that before;—would not the peculiarity of that property, with those gullies running through Boundary Road, have a good deal to do with your decision in making your subdivision? That would have to be taken into consideration in dividing in every case; no doubt of that.

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1198. *Mr. Brunker.*] Is the loss of that land, by way of roads, under this form of subdivision, much greater than it would be under an ordinary form of subdivision? —

1199. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] These roads have been laid out in the best way possible to avoid expense in constructing them? That is true.

1200. To avoid gullies and steep places? Yes.

1201. Then the owners of this estate if they had subdivided and cleared roads—if you had been the owner of this estate you would have proceeded on the same policy? I daresay I would.

1202. Then, pursuing that policy, your plan would have been very similar to this? I cannot see that it necessarily follows that way. I cannot see what you are driving at.

1203. You admit that these roads have been laid down to the best advantage, and to avoid running through the creeks and gullies, and to avoid unnecessary expense in construction, and you admit that if you had been the owner of a private estate you would have proceeded on exactly the same policy? I daresay I would.

1204. Then your plan must of necessity be very similar to this, because you admit these roads to be constructed on a sound plan? Yes.

1205. Have you been in sole charge of the men during the last twelve months? I have.

1206. Has Mr. Gordon been in connection with you in this work at all? No; from time to time we received sketch plans from him.

1207. He has not been on the ground? He has been on the ground several times; but I have not seen him. He has been there quite recently, I forget on what occasion; but I was not there.

1208. *Chairman.*] And how long before that was it since he was there? It must have been some months since he was there. He and I are not the best of friends.

1209. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] And you do not throw yourselves in each other's way? No.

1210. Has Mr. Houison been up there within five months? He has been there once within the five months.

1211. Has Mr. Gordon been in command and in control of these works during the last twelve months? No.

1212. And Mr. Houison has not been in command or control of them during five months? No.

1213. *Mr. Brunker.*] You said just now that the object you had in view in making these roads was to give increased access to the Crown lands? Yes.

1214. Supposing you had not had that object in view? The Crown lands would have been no use at all.

1215. Would you have adopted the same form of subdivision. The land is very uneven on the surface, and you have formed the road so as to fall in with the inequalities of the surface? Yes; but I am giving you an opinion now. It is quite unnecessary to do so. I have got the instructions to do these things, and I have done them. When you come to ask me for a professional opinion—I am not a surveyor or could I give one.

1216. We only ask for a practical opinion with regard to the access. You say that £6,265 have been expended? Yes.

1217. And the cost of improving and making the roads on private property is £2,079, so that on the Crown land £4,186 have been expended? Yes.

1218. I think I have gleaned from your evidence that you have not an accurate knowledge of the owners of these properties? No, I have not an accurate knowledge of the owners.

1219. And you really do not know now whose properties you have intercepted? I would be sorry to take an oath and say whose properties they were.

1220. You really do not know? No, because we were never supplied with a district map.

1221. You have heard something of this property of Harnett's, but you really do not know to whom the land belongs? Now I have some knowledge. I thought at one time that Mr. Burns was interested about the land; but I could not say that authoritatively.

1222. Your want of knowledge of the private ownership of this land will account for the mistake you made in furnishing me with that report you sent to me the other day, and from which I furnished the House with a reply to a question? Yes; I think I have already acknowledged that.

1223. *Chairman.*] You say that £2,079 represents the amount spent on roads on private property? On what we consider round and about private property.

1224. Do you mean by private property the private property of Burns, Withers, and Smith? And other private owners.

1225. These roads running to the south of Junction Road are included in the £4,000 you mentioned? Yes.

1226. Do they not run through private property? Yes.

1227. Those roads running through private property are included in the £4,000? Yes.

1228. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] If you only spent £2,079 7s. on private roads, without including these running to the south of Junction Road, that amount has been spent on roads on Burns, Withers, and Smith's property, where have you spent the other £4,000? On all the Crown lands on the other side of the railway, and to the north of Boundary Road.

1229. That work is not shown on the map? The work would be on the other side at Peat's Ferry Road, where there are Crown lands, and 3-acre blocks formed.

1230. It has cost £4,000 for one side? It has cost £4,000 for all the Government lands outside the private estate.

1231. *Mr. H. Clarke.*] Are those roads on the Government estate cleared? Yes.

1232. And ballasted? No, not ballasted.

1233.

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1233. They are not ballasted on the Crown lands? No, merely cleared and formed.

1234. I noticed the other day when I was out that you had taken away a lot of undergrowth on Crown lands? Yes.

1235. *Chairman.*] Mr. Brunker just asked you, in reference to the roads on private property, would not the value of the land given more than compensate for the roads that were made;—as a matter of fact, does not the number of roads on that property increase its value? I should imagine it does increase the value; but you have to get access.

1236. But did you recommend any of those roads? Not that I am aware of.

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2395. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] We wish to ascertain from you the total cost of the work which has been done upon the Crown lands? I could give you the amount approximately. I could not give you the exact calculation. The calculation I gave you the last time I was here was almost correct, as far as we knew. I suppose the whole cost of the work would be £6,500, or about that. It may come a little over that sum. That would cover the whole of the roads upon the Crown lands.

2396. That would include the Hornsby Crown lands subdivision, and the whole of the lands embraced within the yellow margin, showing the private property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, and other owners? Yes.

2397. But take the Hornsby subdivision, to which these roads give access;—how much of the £7,000 has been spent upon that portion of Crown lands which was offered for sale? I should think about £4,500. We have spent at Hornsby altogether £6,000 odd. We reckon that the roads on the Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate would cost about £2,300.

2398. You say that out of £7,000 spent upon the work of the unemployed at Hornsby, £2,300 only has been spent upon private property? Yes.

2399. Then are we to understand that the remainder of the £7,000 has been spent entirely upon the Crown lands? Yes; on each side of the railway.

2400. What has been done to the Crown lands to cost an expenditure of £4,000? Well, I have given you the expenditure according to our books. Under-scrubbing cost us in the first place £3 an acre, that is the average price, I believe, and the roads have cost between £7 and £8 an acre.

2401. How many acres of roads are there? There are about 5 or 6 miles of roads.

2402. The figures you have now given for under-scrubbing and for making the roads would bring the total up to only £1,220? Well, all I can say, is, that the £4,000 has been spent upon the Crown lands in the Hornsby neighbourhood.

2403. How many miles of roads on the Crown lands have been metalled? In some places they had been cleared and formed, and in some places they had only been cleared. I think there would be about 2 miles of roads which are only cleared. The remaining 3 miles of roads would be cleared and formed, none of them metalled.

2404. The average price of the work is £8 an acre? Yes.

2405. Then where has the rest of the £4,000 gone to? I cannot give you a better idea than I have already given as to the expenditure.

2406. How are we to reconcile your statements as to the expenditure then? I cannot say exactly what roads have been made upon the Crown lands. Since this inquiry commenced we have been more particular in ascertaining the expenditure which has been made upon the lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith. We did not anticipate that the inquiry would extend to the Crown land. I think if my surveyor, Mr. Little, were summoned he would be able to give you the information you desire as to the Crown lands. The only thing that we have been doing latterly has been to get a correct estimate of the expenditure on Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's land. We have had some difficulty in ascertaining to whom the private lands belong. Hitherto we have been in the dark all the way through as to the ownership, and I could not tell you now exactly the boundaries of the estate of Burns, Withers, and Smith.

2407. Is it not extraordinary that the forming of all these roads upon the estate of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith should have cost only £2,300, while the roads which have been made upon the Government land, none of which have been metalled or culverted, should have cost £4,000? * Well, there are two bridges to be taken into consideration, one on the Boundary Road, and the other a little lower down.

2408. *Mr. Copeland.*] But the bridges on Boundary Road would not be included in the Crown lands expenditure? Yes; there are two bridges on the Crown lands upon which money has been expended.

2409. How many men had you employed upon these roads at the time the inquiry commenced? We had fifteen; but after the Committee paid their visit of inspection to the land these men were taken off the work.

2410. Do you remember informing Mr. Brunker and myself upon the ground that a fortnight previous to our visit you had as many as eighty men employed there? I cannot recollect saying so; but I may have said so. But that would include all of my men in the neighbourhood.

2411. That is what you told Mr. Brunker and myself upon the ground? I will not dispute it. I was only speaking roughly. I find that we never had eighty men there at any one time. If I said there were eighty men at work, it was meant to include the whole of the men on other works, besides the roads in question.

2412. You remember Mr. Brunker and myself asking you how many men you had employed there at that particular time, and you saying fifteen? Yes. 2413.

* NOTE (on revision):—The £4,000 includes work of clearing and subdividing Crown lands, and other works in the neighbourhood of Hornsby.

2413. I think Mr. Bruncker then asked you how many men you had had employed there a fortnight previously, and you said eighty? I may have said so. I find that in May, 1887, when we first started there, five men were sent to work. That was according to Mr. Deering's instructions. In June, 1887, we had only 8 men; in July, 8; in August, 12; in September, 19; in October, 16; in November, 20; in December, 16; in January, 1888, 48; in February, 39; in March, 55; in April, 55; in May, 44; in June, 43; in July, 42; in August, 65; in September, 32; in October, 27; and in November, 15.

Mr.
F. O'Donnell.
15 April, 1889.

[*End of Evidence before Select Committee.*]

9626. *President resuming.*] Was that evidence submitted to you for revision? It was.

9627. Do you wish now, having heard it read over, to make any correction or explanation? Since I gave this evidence I have got a more correct estimate of the cost altogether than what I gave. The cost of all the work in the Hornsby district is, as nearly as we can get to it, £6,329. About private lands £3,700 has been expended, including cuttings, culverts, drain-pipes, &c.; and on the Government land, £2,629.

9628. With that exception, is your evidence true and correct in every particular? Yes; so far as I can see it.

TUESDAY, 16 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

James Flemming called in, sworn, and examined:—

9629. *President.*] Do you know Mr. Springall? Yes, I do.

9630. Have you had many quarrels with him? Sometimes I had; sometimes I had not.

9631. What did you quarrel about? When he bored me for doing something which was not right.

9632. What was that? When he rowed me that I did not do so and so, and did not look after so and so.

9633. Did you have any other quarrels? No; he would say, why do not you look after the tools and so on.

9634. Has he been kind to you? Sometimes he was; sometimes he was not. He was kind to me in many cases. I never found him a foe.

9635. What were you before you met him? I was invalided in Sydney—in George-street.

9636. In the hospital? I was under medical aid.

9637. Who paid the expenses? Myself.

9638. How did you earn the money? I earned it as an engineer.

9639. What else have you been besides an engineer? I can hardly tell you what I have been.

9640. Have you been anything else but an engineer? I have been a fencer; taking up a contract to fence at Junee.

9641. Have you been in any Government office? No.

9642. Are you a good scholar? I cannot say I am. I wish I was.

9643. Will you write your name on this sheet of paper? I am bad with sciatica. [*Witness writes his name as requested.*]

9644. How did you first come to know Springall? When I met him at the National Park, on 2nd May, 1887.

9645. Are you sure it was May, 1887? It was at the time of the big rush from the Queen's statue.

9646. Have you ever been to sea? I have been to sea; I have been to the Brazils.

9647. What were you at sea? Only a passenger; not a seaman.

9648. Who brought you in here this morning? The train did from Sutherland.

9649. Who took you to Sutherland? Mr. Springall and his daughter.

9650. What were you talking about coming in? I never spoke at all. I do not think I talked to anyone.

9651. Not all the way? No; I do not think I had a word until I came here.

9652. What time did you get the summons to attend here? At half-past 7 o'clock last night.

9653. Have you had any talk with Springall since then? Not the slightest. I did not know anything about it until I got the summons.

9654. Did you not know that we were sitting here to take evidence? I knew nothing about it.

9655. Did you ever have anything to do with a horse? Never. Not the slightest.

9656. Do you know a gentleman named Burrowes? I do, perfectly well. I cut wood for him, worked for him, and took charge of his horse at Hurstville.

9657. Then you have had something to do with a horse? I have. I was looking after Mr. Burrowes' horse.

9658. What else did you do? I gathered together all the Government tools.

9659. What else? That was my principal employment. I said the same thing to the constables who were with me last week.

9660. Who were they? They were two detectives—I know they were—who took down everything in writing.

9661. Who told you? A joiner from Sutherland told me they were detectives.

9662. What were their names? That I do not know.

9663. Had you ever seen them before? Not to my knowledge.

9664. What did you do besides looking after a horse? I cut wood, emptied out the railway trucks, and carried the things up to Mr. Burrowes' house.

9665. Did you ever have any men under you? Yes. Sometimes thirteen or fourteen.

9666. Do you recollect any of their names? I recollect all their names, excepting the blacks, and those I cannot recall.

9667. Can you tell me any of the names? James Ramsay, Robert Dick, who is living in Balmain, and Wheaney.

9668. Were those men under you? Yes.

9669. Were you their ganger? Yes.

9670. Then they were in your gang? Yes; sometimes I had fourteen.

9671.

Mr.
J. Flemming.
16 April, 1889.

- Mr. J. Flemming,
16 April, 1889.
9671. Was that the number you generally had? No; sometimes eight, ten, or seven.
 9672. And sometimes fourteen? I have had fourteen to be sure.
 9673. Would you know any of these men if you were to see them? I think so.
 9674. Would you know Ramsay? I would.
 9675. Would you know Robert Dick? I would. He is a Scotchman. The last time I paid him was in the goods shed at Sutherland.
 9676. Did you always pay him his money? I did. I paid him his money honourably every month.
 9677. How long were you working as a ganger? Ten or twelve months.
 9678. Had you any relatives amongst the unemployed? No.
 9679. Were there any other persons that you knew of the same name as yours? There might be.
 9680. In your district? Not to my knowledge. I heard there was someone named Flemming about the Waterfall.
 [President. Call in Robert Dick. Robert Dick called into the room.]
 9681-2. Who is that (*pointing to the man called in*)? That is Robert Dick. That is the very man.
 [Robert Dick withdrew.]
 9683. Tell me about him? He was a cook at Sutherland—Loftus; I paid him his money.
 9684. Was he in your gang? Yes.
 9685. Did you collect the money and pay it to him? Yes.
 9686. When you were looking after the horse, were you a ganger? Yes; all through. I used to lift the money for these men. They were all odd men.
 9687. How much used you to get a fortnight? It was always on the back of the slip. Sometimes £15 or £16; sometimes £10 or £12.
 9688. Did you ever get £20? Yes; about Christmas when we were all working there.
 9689. What did you do with it? Paid my men with it.
 9690. How much did you get out of it? I got nothing but my wages.
 9691. How much was that? 3s. 6d. a day.
 9692. Where did you get your rations? At Hurstville.
 9693. Always? No, not always. At Sutherland and Loftus.
 9694. How long is it since you have taken an oath? Thirty-six years.
 9695. You have not forgotten the value of it? I know the value of it.
 9696. Did you always pay away the money you got? Yes; all excepting my own wages.
 9697. Where do you say you got your rations from? Sometimes Sutherland and Loftus when there.
 9698. Do you recollect when Mr. Springall came up here for examination? No.
 9699. Did you ever give Mr. Springall any money? Yes; I gave him my wages after my wife died.
 9700. How much altogether? £22.
 9701. How do you know? I kept an account.
 9702. Where is the account? I always said "that makes so much," and "that is so much." He asked me about three months ago if I would lend him the money. I said, "Yes, you can have it." He said, "I cannot afford you a percentage." I said, "I shall not want it." My wife died in September; I had no place, and gave it to him to take care of.
 9703. How long were you at the National Park? From May, 1887. I might be there about twelve months.
 9704. Where did you go to then? I came down to Hurstville. I had a gang of six men. I could not come down before Hodges took charge of the place. I was taking charge of the tools.
 9705. What was your number? I had two numbers; seventy-two was one number; what the other one was I cannot say—I know seventy something was my number.
 9706. How many men, as a rule, did you have in your gang? I had twelve or thirteen; perhaps fourteen.
 9707. Do you know Mr. Bell? I do.
 9708. Were you ever working under him? Not fully.
 9709. Do you know the Heathcote works? No.
 9710. Were you out there? No; but I lifted the money for the men at Heathcote.
 9711. Why did you go to Heathcote? To get the money for some of them who were on the road there.
 9712. How far away was Heathcote? Heathcote was not far from Sutherland. I could not tell you how far. Some of them would have half a mile and some 2 miles to walk.
 9713. Were you only 1 mile away? 2 miles or 3. The men were all over the roads; everywhere. Some were in Loftus; some in Sutherland.
 9714. Tell me the number of men you had in your gang at first? I had fourteen at first.
 9715. Was Robert Dick in your gang at the first? No; he was a ganger himself then.
 9716. Was he in your gang when cooking at Loftus? Yes.
 9717. For how long? For two or three months. I cannot say how long.
 9718. Do you recollect what month Dick was put into your gang? I cannot say.
 9719. Was it in 1887? It was some time in 1887.
 9720. Was he there in 1888? I won't mistake myself. I cannot say.
 9721. Not the year? No; he was not two years in my gang.
 9722. Was he in your gang at all? Yes.
 9723. Was he there between 1887 and 1889? Yes, he was. He was in my gang until he came to Como.
 9724. Were you at Woronora River Road? No.
 9725. Were you working on any road? No.
 9726. Did you ever do any stone-breaking? No. I lifted the money for the men that were stone-breaking.
 9727. How much have you paid Springall altogether? Between £21 and £22, in instalments.
 9728. Has he paid you back? No; he asked me about two months ago would I lend it to him. I was going away to Dubbo.
 9729. Did any of the other men pay him money? Yes; he used to get money from different men.
 9730. How much? Sometimes £2 or £3.
 9731. How much altogether? I cannot say. I never looked after any one else's business.
 9732. Where are you now? I went with him. I was going away after Mr. Springall took the horse away. I asked Springall if he was going to move to an hotel, and I said I was going away to Walgett.
 9733. What are you doing now? I asked him if he would give me the place I hold in his stables. I am stableman for Mr. Springall.

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9734. What is he paying you? £1 a week.
9735. When did you get it? I have not got it yet.
9736. How long have you been there? About three weeks.
9737. Have you been at Springall's since you left the employ of the Board? Yes.
9738. Did he ask you to go or did you ask him? I asked him, as I was not able to travel.
9739. *Mr. Franklin.*] You were a ganger at the camp? Yes.
9740. Over what men? Different men. I had Irishmen, Scotchmen, Turks, blacks, and heathens.
9741. You certified to the work they did? Yes.
9742. And their work was situated all over the camp? Yes; 2 or 3 miles away.
9743. During the time you were ganger, were you taking charge of the horse? Decidedly not. I was never in charge of the horse until Mr. Burrowes went to Hurstville.
9744. Was that about May last? Yes.
9745. May, 1888? Yes.
9746. Since then have you remained at Hurstville? Yes.
9747. Have you had anything to do with gangs afterwards? Yes; I always had.
9748. After you went to Hurstville, had you anything to do as a ganger? Decidedly I had. I lifted the wages for all the straggling men.
9749. Did you give in any measurements? I got it on the back of the slip.
9750. As a ganger you did not certify to the work they did? No.
9751. Who did? Someone would certify to that. I got their names on the back of a slip, and how to divide the money amongst them.
9752. Did you take the money away? Yes; the money was on the table for me. I paid them all afterwards.
9753. What time were you usually paid? 11, 12, and 1 o'clock.
9754. After you got the money, did you walk 3, 4, or 5 miles? I came to Sutherland and paid the first man there. Sometimes the men met me at Loftus Junction, and I paid them on the platform.
9755. Did you get their signatures? No. I gave them a slip with their names attached to the back of it.
9756. Did you pay the money in the presence of any person? No; I cannot say that I did.
9757. How often did you pay them at Sutherland Station? Five times.
9758. Did the station-master see you pay them? No, certainly not. He was not a witness; nothing of the sort; we never had a witness to any of it.
9759. Are you the Flemming who attended to Mr. Burrowes' horse? Yes.
9760. Will you sign your name again? Yes. [*Witness again signed his name on a sheet of foolscap, for comparison.*]
9761. Did you ever have any disputes with the men as to the money you paid them? I never had any disputes with any one.
9762. Did you ascertain the quantity of the metal the stonebreakers broke? Yes; the paying clerk gave it to me.
9763. Then as a ganger you knew the number of yards you were paying for? Certainly, and the price.
9764. You say you never had any disputes? Never the slightest. Every man I had I paid honourably. I had them from the time of the Jubilee. The Jubilee was the time I went as a ganger.
9765. Did Mr. Burrowes know that you were drawing this money? He must have seen the sheets, certainly.
9766. Did he make out the pay-sheets? Decidedly; it was his business to do so.
9767. After you went to Hurstville, did you give up the gang? No, I did not.
9768. Did you go from Hurstville each pay-day? Yes; and Mr. Burrowes gave me a pass right through to lift the money for the men, because they were scattered all along the line.
9769. What work are you doing now at Coronulla Beach? My work is in the stables.
9770. Are there any horses there? Yes; I had five yesterday.
9771. If you could have got your money from Mr. Springall, would you have left immediately? I never asked him for it. I think I would get it any time I asked him for it.
9772. Is he flush of money and able to satisfy you? I do not know. That is a question I could not answer.
9773. *Mr. Waller.*] Why was it the gangers did not get their rations? I got rations, decidedly.
9774. Did all the gangers? I got rations right through from Johnson for all my men when I was at Sutherland.
9775. Did you get them at the other store? No; the men went up to Ottley.
9776. Who drew the rations for the gangers? The ganger himself drew them.
9777. Was the ganger responsible for the rations for the gang? The ganger could not be responsible. Sometimes the men would be away at Sydney for a week disporting themselves.
9778. Would a ganger then be handed the rations for his gang? No. Why should a ganger be responsible for the rations?
9779. How long were you a ganger when you were at work under the Board? I was a ganger up to New Year's Day last, from Jubilee, June.
9780. To when? To Christmas week, 1888.
9781. Where was your gang working? All over the Park; everywhere; some here and some there about the place.
9782. Had you the same gang all the time? No, certainly not.
9783. Different men? I had different men in all the places.
9784. Had you more than one gang at a time? I had only three men who stuck with me right through.
9785. Had you more than one gang of men working for you at the same time? No, decidedly not.
9786. Who knew you had that gang? I suppose Mr. Burrowes knew it. I do not know who should know it. I am not keeping the books.
9787. Then could any man get paid for a gang and no one know whether he had a gang or not? It would be a strange thing if they should not know that I was a ganger when I was taking the money.
9788. Who would know whether you were a ganger or not? Mr. Burrowes should know, Mr. Springall should know, and the whole party.
9789. Who is the whole party? Those engaged with him.
9790. Is it possible that Mr. Burrowes did not know that you were a ganger? Mr. Burrowes did not interfere with them in the making of the gangers.
- 9791.

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9791. Who did make the gangers? The men made their own gangers.
9792. Were the gangers paid more than the other men? Yes; 6d. more, for looking after the tools.
9793. Did the superintendent know who were the gangers? Some knew, some did not.
9794. Did Mr. Bell know his gangers? I did not know Mr. Bell. He came at the latter end of the establishment.
9795. Were you on Mr. Bell's pay-sheet? I know I was on his pay-sheet.
9796. Why? I do not know that. I was on his scrub; I was at Heathcote.
9797. How do you know you were on his list? I do not know.
9798. Were you on his pay-sheet? I do not know.
9799. Were you on anyone's pay-sheet? I was, but always at Heathcote-Sutherland.
9800. You did not know then, and you do not know now, whose pay-sheet you were on? I do not know—I swear I do not know whose pay-sheet I was on.
9801. Why did you go to Heathcote to be paid on Bell's pay-sheet if you did not know you were on it? Because there were some of my men working at the Junction, and I had to pay them coming down.
9802. Why did you suppose you were on his pay-sheet? When I was at Heathcote I always went to Heathcote. I had three men stone-breaking, and paid them coming back.
9803. Why should you suppose you were on the pay-sheet? I could only suppose I was.
9804. How did you get the money? I got it on the pay-sheet at Heathcote.
9805. Will you tell me who told you to go to Heathcote? I went to Sutherland, where I was usually paid, and I was told that my money was not there for me, and that I had to go to Heathcote.
9806. Who was the clerk? I do not know his name. He was the oldest pay-clerk there was.
9807. What month was that? I know the year.
9808. What year? Last year. At Johnson's camp I said, "My name has not been called." He said, "No, you are on the Heathcote list." I never went more than once.
9809. How often did you go to Heathcote? Twice or three times. I went to Loftus and Sutherland.
9810. Why did you go to Loftus and Sutherland? Because I was employed there personally.
9811. Were you paid at the Heathcote pay-table in August or September, 1888? I daresay I was; I did not take note of it.
9812. Who attended the Heathcote pays? I was paid by the clerk.
9813. Did Mr. Bell attend? I do not know anything about Bell. I never had anything to do with him.
9814. Did Mr. Bell attend the paying of the men at Heathcote? Sometimes he did and sometimes he did not.
9815. How often did he attend? I cannot say. Dozens of times I should say.
9816. During the dozens of times you were there getting paid, did you see Bell frequently? I saw him every day on the platform.
9817. How often were you paid there? Two or three times.
9818. What were you there dozens of times for if it was not to get paid? I cannot say. I saw him dozens of times. I could not if I was not there.
9819. You were only paid there three times? I cannot say how long I was paid there. I cannot keep these things in my head.
9820. You must know how often you were paid? I do not.
9821. Were you grooming Mr. Burrowes' horse at the same time you had the gang? Yes, at the same time.
9822. Did you get extra for grooming the horse? No; nothing but my regular pay.
9823. You never got paid for yourself alone? No; I only received this money for them.
9824. Do you see this pay-voucher [*Exhibit J 2*]? Yes.
9825. Whose name is that? That is Flemming.
9826. Whose signature is there? That is not my signature, as far as my opinion goes. It is not my "J"; but it is like my "F."
9827. Is that your signature? It is like my "F."
9828. Answer me? It is like mine, but I have a doubt about it.
9829. Look at this pay-sheet [*Exhibit J 1*];—is that your signature? Yes, that is mine.
9830. Do you see a signature on the pay-sheet 26th August to 8th September? Yes; that is mine.
9831. Do you see this sheet [*Exhibit J 4*]; do you see the name at the bottom;—whose is that signature? That is mine.
9832. Do you see this pay-sheet [*Exhibit J 3*]? That is right.
9833. Look at this pay-sheet [*Exhibit K*];—do you see your name there? That is right.
9834. Now I have shown you five pay-sheets from Heathcote? There is one signature there I doubt.
9835. You said you were only paid there two or three times? Of course, I could not say exactly.
9836. Did you say just now that Mr. Burrowes used to send you out himself to get your money? Yes; and he gave me a pass on two occasions.
- 9836½. Did you tell him what you were going for? Yes, certainly. He has seen me being paid at Sutherland. He walked into the office whilst I was there.
9837. Did Bell know you had a gang? I do not know Bell. I never had any correspondence with him in any case. I did not know him until lately. All I know is that he has a lot of men there digging gardens and running about.
9838. What were the duties of a ganger? To see that he received the money for the men, and that the tools were returned to the office.
9839. Did he look after their work? No; there was a manager for that. The gangers never looked after the works.
9840. Who had the right to look after the gangers? The surveyors. There were Mr. Burrowes and Mr. M'Pherson. Those were the men.
9841. Who was the surveyor you, as a ganger, were working under? There was an old man who was there surveying constantly.
9842. What was his name? I cannot remember.
9843. Was it Smith or Sanderson? Yes, it was Sanderson. He was there surveying the ground.
9844. Looking after your gang? No.

9845. Who was looking after your gang? No one excepting myself. We belonged to the camp.
9846. What camp? The Sutherland Camp.
9847. Was there not an officer of the Casual Labour Board whose duty it was in the different districts to keep the tally where there were gangers, and would the gangers work under him? There were such officers.
9848. Who was the officer in the district in which your gang was working? We had three or four.
9849. Give their names? A gentleman called Brighton, who made the roads and laid out the streets.
9850. I want to know the responsible officer in your district, where your gang was working, who knew about you and your gang? We had no other. We had no responsible officer, only him.
9851. During the time you were a ganger, did you on every occasion pay this man Dick his money? Up to the time he left the gang I did. The last time I paid him was in Sutherland.
9852. Will you swear that Mr. Burrowes knew that you were a ganger in charge of a gang at the time you were grooming his horse? I do.
9853. Was there any other officer of the Board you can swear knew it also? That man Dick knew it.
9854. He is not an officer? Mr. Springall knew it.
9855. Anybody else? Mr. M'Pherson could prove I was.
9856. *President.*] Were you ever at the Waterfalls? No; I have never been there.
9857. Are you quite sure? I am sure I have never been at the Waterfalls.
9858. Look at this pay-sheet from 14th August to 27th August, 1887. Is that your signature? No; I have never been there. I have never received one sixpence of money there.
9859. Were you at Sutherland, Loftus Road, from 17th June to 30th June? Yes; I was at the three stations.
9860. Is that your signature? Yes; that is mine.
9861. Were you ever in a gang? Yes; in Byrnes' gang.
9862. How long? Three weeks.
9863. Were you in any other gang? No.
9864. Were you ever in a gang under Baker? No.
9865. Do you know Johnson? Yes; he was storekeeper.
9866. Did you ever get rations direct from him? Yes.
9867. Did you ever get them direct from Sydney? No; I never knew them come direct.

Mr.
J. Flemming.
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Robert Dick was then called in, sworn, and examined:—

9868. *President.*] Do you know Flemming who has just gone out of this room? Yes.
9869. Were you ever in his gang? Never.
9870. Did you ever work under him as ganger? Never.
9871. Did you ever receive any money from him? I got my wages from him for a couple of months, or something like that.
9872. What money was that? I was cooking, just below Loftus, where the surveyors were; I cooked for thirteen there. I was ganger for some twelve months, and he drew the pay for me as cook.
9873. How often was that? I suppose for a couple or three months.
9874. How many times? Once a fortnight I think.
9875. Who was it gave Flemming the money? Mr. Springall.
9876. Where did he collect it from? He went on the pay-day up to the office and got it.
9877. Were you ever in Flemming's gang? Never. He might say he was ganger, but I never worked under him.
9878. Who was Flemming? The only thing ever I saw him do was sweeping up and cleaning the tents, and when any men left he took the tents up to the stores, and when they did not keep a watchman or person there he went to carry water there.
9879. Was he ever stone-breaking? I do not think it. I never saw him working at anything but cleaning the rubbish from the tents. He once had a gang of four or five there; blacks and foreigners.
9880. Why was it he got your money? Because I could not go for it myself.
9881. You were not in his gang? I never considered myself in his gang. The man who cooked got on the spree, and I was sent up there.
9882. When Flemming went for your money, what pay-sheet would you be on? I really could not tell. I was kept on the same sheet for a long time before I was sent down there. When once I was put on as cook it broke up the gang. The time I was ganger I was at Loftus.
9883. Were you ever at Heathcote? I was at Heathcote.
9884. Did you get money there? No, only at Sutherland.
9885. When did you leave? It is six or eight months since I left the Park altogether.
9886. What month last year was it you left? I really forget just now. I left it to go to George's River.
9887. Cannot you tell us when? I cannot. I was ten months there, and four or five months cooking there.
9888. Where did you get rations from? From Johnson. It was me that drew the rations always.
9889. Did you ever sign pay-sheets yourself? Oh, yes, for twelve months.
9890. Do you recollect when you first went out there? Yes; it is two years since I first went to the Park.
9891. Did you sign the sheets yourself for twelve months? Yes.
9892. Who signed them afterwards? The man they put to be ganger in my place.
9893. Who signed the sheets after that twelve months for you? I had nothing to do with them after that. After then, Flemming generally gave me my money.
9894. Did he sign for you? He gave me the money.
9895. How often? For two or three months.
9896. Now, did Flemming collect the money for you, or because you were in his gang? He said he got it for me and two or three others; he was put over as ganger, but I never worked under him at all.
9897. How did you know you were not in his gang? I never worked with him. I was cooking all the time he was giving me the money.
9898. You might have been in his gang and not have known it? I might.
9899. Do you know any other men who were working with Flemming? I do not know their names. There were a Russian or two, and there was one who was said to be a Turk.

Mr. R. Dick.
16 April, 1889.

- Mr. R. Dick. 9900. How many men did you have? On an average, eight or nine.
 16 April, 1889. 9901. What were you doing? Scrubbing and mattocking sometimes.
 9902. What was Flemming doing? He was looking after the tents at the time.
 9903. What were the men he had under him doing? Something similar.
 9904. Did you ever make up Flemming's pay-sheets? Two or three times.
 9905. Why? He could not do it himself.
 9906. Why? He could not divide the money.
 9907. When you made up the pay-sheets, did you put your money in? No; it was on a piece of paper he had himself.
 9908. *Mr. Franklin.*] Who took your time for the pay-sheets? Mr. Reeves generally.
 9909. Did they take your time every day? Yes; sometimes twice a day.
 9910. When the time was taken, did you not know whose sheet you were taken on for payment? Well, it was Reeves who took the time.
 9911. Who gave the daily time during the fortnight and gave it into the office? A man of the name of Christy for a long time. When I went there first it was a German.
 9912. You know the time was taken regularly to the office? Yes.
 9913. You generally got it all right? Yes; there were two mistakes, but they were afterwards rectified.
 9914. Supposing Flemming had not brought you your money, where would you have got it from? I should have gone to Springall; but I got mine regularly.
 9915. Could you have got the money if Flemming had not been present? Oh, yes; I went up twice or three times and signed the sheet; but after that he said he would give it to Flemming. I went up one afternoon, and he said, "I gave it to Flemming to take down for you." After that he gave it to Flemming to take down for me regularly.
 9916. Then you discontinued to sign the pay-sheet from the time you were paid by Flemming? Yes.
 9917. You are certain you signed the sheets up to a certain time? Always.
 9918. You cannot tell me the time? No, I really cannot.
 9919. Was it last year? It is twelve months altogether since I left.
 9920. I suppose in the camp the men knew their own gangers? Yes.
 9921. No matter how their works were spread over the Park? Oh, yes; everyone knew his ganger.
 9922. Did the ganger move about amongst the men freely? Yes. But if I, as a ganger, told them to do things they would give me impudence, and would never mind me.
 9923. Do you think a ganger living at Hurstville could look after men in the National Park? I do not think it.
 9924. When you were drawing the money, did Flemming live at Hurstville? For a short time only. He came three times. I was paid at Sutherland, on the railway platform, in a little room there.
 9925. You do not remember those dates? That would be about nine months ago.
 9926. What other men were on the Sutherland platform at the time you received your money there? I saw no men at all at the time I was going.
 9927. You say Flemming used to take your money at the table and pay you at the platform; how many men would be with you at the time you were being paid? The black cook and myself would go down together. There would be only two of us.
 9928. In taking the money, did you notice that Flemming paid himself at the same time? He would get his own money with mine. I remember on one or two occasions he had £12 or £13 to get.
 9929. *Mr. Waller.*] Did you know at any time of Flemming grooming Burrowes' horse? Yes.
 9930. At the time he was grooming the horse, was he also collecting your pay? I think I got it three times afterwards.
 9931. Who were you cooking for? I was cooking for the overseers, for Reece, and the two policemen there. I cooked for fourteen for a long time;—some young lads who were surveying.
 9932. You were cooking for the officers of the unemployed? Yes.
 9933. For them or for the unemployed working men? First of all it was for the working men; then I was taken to cook for the officers.
 9934. At the time Flemming was grooming the horse, were you cooking for the officers? Yes.
 9935. Would it be possible for Flemming to suppose you were in a gang of his at that time? I could not be in a gang with him.
 9936. If Flemming had a gang of thirteen, fourteen, or eight men who were breaking stones, clearing, or such like, were you ever amongst them? I was never amongst them. They came in and got hot water from me. I know he paid them.
 9937. Did he simply, as a matter of kindness, collect your pay? He only brought it down, either to oblige me or Mr. Springall.
 9938. Did you ever know of Flemming having a large gang of working men, such as stone-breakers, working under him? He might have paid them, but I never knew him to have any working with him excepting those cleaning the tents.
 9939. Was a ganger supposed to work with his gang on all occasions? Yes.
 9940. Did you ever know of a case of a ganger having a gang distributed and not being with them? No.
 9941. Was the ganger held responsible by the overseers to see that the gangs did their work? That is what they ought to have done.
 9942. Would the superintending officer of the district know the gangers in the district? They ought to.
 9943. Would a ganger know the superintendent of his particular district? Yes; they could not help knowing him.
 9944. If a man told you he was a ganger, and told you he could not remember his superintendent, would you believe him? Everyone knew that Mr. Burrowes was superintendent.
 9945. If a man told you he was a ganger and could not tell you the name of the superintendent of the district, would you believe him? No; I would not.
 9946. What were the particular duties of a ganger? He would see that the men were all there, and he would look after the tools. Those were the principal things they did. The overseers generally told them where to go to. The ganger was responsible for looking after the tools and seeing that they were carried home every night.
 9947. Was he responsible for seeing that the men did their work? The gangers ought to have been, but they did not do it.

9948. When did you leave the employment of the Board? Eight months ago. I think it was in September, 1888. Mr. R. Dick.
9949. If, therefore, any person states that they drew money for you since that date it would not be true? I never got it. 16 April, 1889.
9950. *President.*] Here is a pay-sheet, 26th August to 8th September, 1888. [*Exhibit J.*] Is that your signature? Yes; that would be the last money I received.
9951. Do you see on the same sheet for Heathcote, between the same dates, "James Flemming and seven men." Were you one of the seven men? I was never one of the seven men.

James Flemming recalled and further examined in the presence of Robert Dick :—

9952. *President.*] Do you see Robert Dick here? Yes.
9953. How long was he in your gang? That I could not say. I have paid him five or six times.
9954. How long was he in your gang? More than three months.
9955. What was he doing in your gang? Cooking.
9956. Cooking for your gang? No; for the bosses. For the men who were the overseers, I think it was.
9957. How did he come to be in your gang? Because he was a stray man, as two or three more were who came into my gang. Any odd fellow who was given up was put into my gang.
9958. How would you know? Because his name was put on a slip for me.

Mr.
J. Fleming.
16 April, 1889.

Robert Dick further examined. [*Question interposed.*]

9959. *President.*] Robert Dick, is that true? I cannot say.
9960. Flemming says you were in his gang, is it true? I was never in a gang working with him.

Mr. R. Dick.
16 April, 1889.

James Flemming further examined :—

9961. *President.*] Was this man Dick ever on your pay-sheet? Yes. [*Flemming withdrew.*]

Mr.
J. Flemming.
16 April, 1889.

Robert Dick further examined :—

9962. *President.*] Is that true? I never saw the pay-sheet.
9963. You see the difference between you and the last witness is that he says you were in his gang, and you say you were not? Nor I never was.
9964. What I want to find out is this. When he got your money, on one or two occasions at the pay-table, did he get it simply to oblige you or because he was entitled to do so as a ganger? I think it was to oblige me.
9965. During the time you were out there, did you notice anything wrong going on in the stores? Johnson was very particular when he first came there; he would serve me in two minutes; afterwards he would keep me an hour-and-a-half.
9966. Why, was there anything to raise a suspicion that things were not right? I heard a great deal of talking, but never saw anything myself.
9967. Did you ever hear that Springall got money from the men? No.
9968. Did you ever know of his selling rations? No; I never heard of it.

Mr. R. Dick.
16 April, 1889.

Frederick O'Donnell called in and examination continued :—

9969. *President.*] When we left off yesterday you had stated to me the total cost of the Hornsby works. Did that relate simply to the work that the unemployed had done? Simply to what the unemployed had done at Hornsby on Government lands and private lands. Mr.
F. O'Donnell.
9970. In any other district you had to do with, was work done by the unemployed on private land? I believe so. 16 April, 1889.
9971. I am speaking with what you had to deal with? I believe we have done some close to Ryde, through Mr. Terry's land, and also a road across Tennyson's, at Gladsville; a road close into Ryde, close to Mrs. Darvall's; and another road going eastward; we called it Small's Road. Then, of course, roads were opened at Carlingford. They were all roads passing through orchards. We only cleared these roads—at Ryde we formed them.
9972. Is that all? I think also at Foxground. That runs through the Tange property.
9973. From whom did you get instructions? From Mr. Davies.
9974. In writing or verbally? Sometimes in writing, sometimes verbally.
9975. Did you get instructions from anyone else? I do not think I did. In general I asked Mr. Davies. He perhaps said, "Yes, keep the men employed."
9976. Who was Mr. Gordon? He has never been in charge of work in that district to my knowledge. He never came to our camp.
9977. Did he ever give you any orders? I never met him on the works.
9978. Will you look at this memorandum from Mr. Deering to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, dated 15th June, 1887, as to some road at Beecroft—did you report on that? Yes; I reported against it.
9979. Will you look at a letter of the 27th September, 1887—does that letter refer to Beecroft, or does it refer to a petition? I am not certain about this.
9980. Do you observe there instructions from Mr. John Davies that you are to carry out the work at once? Yes; I see it.
9981. And the note, "I will proceed with it as soon as I can in a few days"? Yes.
9982. Was that the first you knew of a proposal to make a road at Beecroft? Yes; I believe so.
9983. Do you know whether the authorization for that came from any person other than Mr. Davies? Not that I am aware of.

- Mr. F. O'Donnell.
16 April, 1889.
9984. Will you look at the letter dated 27th September, 1887, being a report as to some petition in which you report that the opening up of the Beecroft section will be of very little use unless there is considerable expenditure on the Castle Howard Road; does that refer to the petition? Of course, in that letter I am referring to the petition.
9985. What was the result of that petition? We did not do it.
9986. Has it been done to this time? I do not think so.
9987. Do you know anything about the Dural Road? Yes.
9988. What was done there? We have done a lot of work there.
9989. Who is Mr. Stopps? I do not know.
9990. That appears to have gone on to the Principal Under Secretary, does it not? Yes.
9991. And is by the Principal Under Secretary referred to the Board? Yes.
9992. Do you believe that work was done? We have done that work. At least, it is not finished. We have only partly done it.
9993. Do you know anything about this letter, as to a road from North Ryde, to eastward of the station, referred to in the Ryde Council Clerk's letter of the 30th June, 1888? That is one of the roads we have already constructed. That is one of the roads through private property.
9994. Do you know under whose authority that was done? We did that under Mr. Davies' authority.
9995. Do you know whether the Council of Ryde paid anything towards it? I am not aware. Of course it would be out of my line to know anything about that.
9996. Will you look at that letter dated 1st December, 1887, to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, with reference to a petition as to the Junction and Boundary Roads? Yes.
9997. Can you tell me whether this plan which appears as *Appendix B* to this paper is a copy of the plan you refer to? The plan *Appendix B* is the plan referred to in my letter.
9998. You say in that letter that you are forming Junction Road and Vanceville Road, and that when ballasted they will answer the requirements of the district for some time? Yes.
9999. How did you come to form Junction Road? I had authority from Mr. Davies to do it.
10000. From anybody else? I think after clearing it we had word from Mr. Gordon. I am not certain, I think it mentioned about ballasting, forming, and putting culverts in where necessary.
10001. Who gave you instructions about Vanceville Road? I had that from Mr. Davies also.
10002. Does this letter of the 1st December, 1887, that I have referred to, relate to this petition that is printed underneath it? Yes.
10003. Then at that time the Junction Road was going on? Yes; it was partially finished.
10004. Do you notice that this petition seems to have gone to the Colonial Secretary's department, and below it is a letter from Mr. Hinchcliffe, Secretary of the Casual Labour Board, relating to three other roads? Yes.
10005. Can you tell me whether these three roads had been commenced at this time? I think they had been commenced—partially, at any rate.
10006. Can you tell me who gave you instructions to do this? Mr. Davies gave me instructions at all times. I would ask Mr. Davies' authority.
10007. Can we take it as to these three roads that you had Mr. Davies' written or verbal authority? I had verbal instructions. I think we had a plan of this road sent to us by Mr. Gordon.
10008. Did Mr. Deering have anything to do with this work? He started the first road there.
10009. Did you take any orders through him? I think he sent us out to clear the school reserve—I think from a sketch plan sent to us by Mr. Wells.
10010. Are you quite sure you never took any instructions from Mr. Gordon? No more than he sent sketch plans where we were authorized to do the work.
10011. Will you look at the plan [*Exhibit D 4.*] Does that appear to you to properly indicate the roads through various properties, private or otherwise? Yes, so far as I see it.
10012. Will you tell me which of these roads, and what lengths, were done by the unemployed under your supervision? Yes.
10013. Were you up there in charge of the unemployed before the Board was in existence? I was.
10014. Who was your superior officer? Mr. Deering.
10015. Where was your camp? At Beecroft.
10016. When did you go to Hornsby? I could not tell the exact date.
10017. Tell me the whole of the work you did up there? The first I did was a road over the over-head bridge with Mr. Deering: we went east for 20 chains; then came down at right angles to the creek until we came to Junction-street.
10018. At the time Mr. Deering went off, and the Casual Labour Board came on, had Junction Road been commenced? I do not think it had been. We came to the Junction Road and met a fence and a division of property there. On starting along the Junction Road, I think Mr. Davies told me to continue it right along, as they had authority for doing it. I met Mr. Burns some time afterwards, and asked him about a deviation some distance on. It is a deviation of 2 chains. Having authority to do it we were not certain about keeping a straight line. I think mention was made of this, and Mr. Dawson was sent out to survey a line.
10019. Who is Mr. Dawson? I think he is their private surveyor.
10020. Who sent him out? I do not know.
10021. Very well. Dawson gave you a straight line? He gave us a line to continue to the Great Eastern Road. In coming to the Vanceville Road we had authority to form it, and so it has been.
10022. You came down along the Vanceville Road to where it had already been completed? To where the Government had previously done the work.
10023. After that? We did a road leading to Bobbin Rock Road, and continued Burns Road.
10024. Is that private property? I take it to be private property. I am not certain whether it is or not.
10025. When was Burns Road formed? It was cleared and formed, and then I had authority to metal it. I think I may mention casually that I said to Mr. Davies that for my part I would sooner have Burns Road than Junction Road, because there is a better grade right through it.
10026. Can you tell me whether these roads marked B C E F on this plan, being roads joining on to the Junction Road, were done by the unemployed? Yes.
10027. Under whose instructions? Mr. Davies'. 10028.

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F. O'Donnell.
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10028. Did Mr. Wells say anything to you about them? I do not think so; nor Mr. Houison.
10029. Then these roads marked "H" and "I" were those done by the unemployed? Yes.
10030. Under whose instructions? Mr. Davies'.
10031. Did you have his verbal or written instructions in any of these cases? Verbal in nearly all these cases.
10032. Are you quite sure you had his instructions? Oh, yes.
10033. Can you tell me about this rectangular block of roads in the middle? It was a mistake that originated with ourselves. We had a line to come along there, and an old fellow named Ewell was to point out the track. Instead of that he gave us a zig-zag, and we went astray on it.
10034. Had you anything to do with these roads on the extreme left of the plan that are coloured red? We have been forming them quite lately. We have cleared George-street, Burdett-street, and Florence-street.
10035. When did you first find out that Mr. Burns was interested in property up there? I surmised he was interested. I had the information partly. I could not say authoritatively so.
10036. Was it before or after you went up there? Before that I heard he had property there.
10037. Do you know him? I know him casually.
10038. How often did you see him on the subject of these roads? I have never spoken to him about them. I met him and asked him about a deviation at one time.
10039. Was that the only time you saw him? I went round in a buggy once afterwards with him, and Mr. Davies, and Mr. Oliver.
10040. How many times did you see him there altogether? Twice.
10041. Has he ever made any request that you should get on with the work? Not one word.
10042. Do you know Mr. Withers? By sight.
10043. Has he ever spoken to you about them? Never.
10044. Do you know Mr. R. B. Smith. Has he ever spoken to you about the roads? Never about the roads.
10045. *Mr. Franklin.*] You were with Mr. Deering before the Casual Labour Board commenced at Hornsby? Yes.
10046. Do you know what Mr. Deering's intentions were with regard to clearing the roads in the interests of the Crown lands? It was to clear all through the Crown lands, I believe. He never spoke to me.
10047. Do you recollect the direction he intended to take? I think he gave the surveyor in the camp a sketch to give to me, but I did not get it.
10048. Did you continue the road over the bridge towards the Crown lands? I think, if you knew that Mr. Deering was authorized to make a road from Hornsby station to the Crown lands, you would understand that no other authority was necessary, Mr. Deering being a surveyor.
10049. You know that it was continued to what is called the Boundary Road? Yes.
10050. Did you not know it was Mr. Deering's intention to clear the Boundary Road? I could not say. There was a surveyor marking out the land for subdivision at the time.
10051. Did you know that Mr. Deering intended to continue the road over the railway, along the Sherbrook Road, and beyond it? I think so. I could not say it positively.
10052. Did you not subsequently clear the roads on the Crown lands? Yes; but I think Mr. Deering was out of office.
10053. That subdivision was under direction? Yes.
10054. You know that the roads on the Crown lands were cleared? Yes.
10055. Was that done prior to the work you have been describing to the President? Yes.
10056. The Crown lands were completed before you got on to Burns, Withers, and Smith's land? I think we were going on with Junction Road at the same time.
10057. Could we find in your records how the men were divided between the Crown lands and Burns, Withers, and Smith's land? I do not know how we can get at that.
10058. Up to the time of your going to Hornsby, had you been clearing roads at Beecroft? Yes.
10059. For what purpose? For auction sale. In some cases we cleared the approach to land at Carlingford.
10060. When you left Beecroft for Hornsby, was it with the understanding that you were to clear roads on the Crown lands? Yes.
10061. Why did you fix the camp at Hornsby? It was near a railway station.
10062. Instead of commencing immediately and making roads on the Crown lands, was your first work from the western point of Junction Road proceeding eastwards? The extension of Sherbrook Road had already been done under Mr. Deering, and another section of the Boundary Road.
10063. The Boundary Road being partially on Crown land, and partially Burns, Withers, and Smith's land, would that be a proper road to make by the unemployed? Yes; that road was not subdivided.
10064. Was the reason that you did not go on Crown land at once that surveys were not complete? Yes.
10065. Was the reason for prolonging Sherbrook Road to get the men employed? Yes.
10066. Then, for the same reason, did they begin at the west end of Junction Road, and extended eastward until they come to a difficulty? Yes.
10067. To whom did you apply for assistance? Seeing Mr. Burns there I asked him about the deviation.
10068. How long did it take you to do the work from the east to west portion of Junction Road until you came to the obstruction? I cannot say how long.
10069. Do you remember whether you pressed on Mr. Deering to give you the survey of the Crown lands? I think I did.
10070. Are you certain? I am not certain of it. I think we asked Mr. King for a plan of the subdivision. I think we had to write to Mr. Palmer to get the plan from him.
10071. Do you remember on what day you got the subdivisional plan? I do not.
10072. Will it be on record when it was given you for the Crown land bounded by the Boundary Road? Their having sent us the plan ought to be on record.
10073. Whose record would it be on? I should imagine it would have to come through the Board to come to us.

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10074. Where did the plan go eventually? They were lithograph plans from the Survey Department, and I would imagine that they were in the Casual Labour Board office now.
10075. Having received that subdivisional plan of the Crown land, were your difficulties removed as to what to do with the men? Yes.
10076. Did you discontinue the work on the private lands? No; we continued to work on the Junction Road.
10077. At the time you were enabled to take all the men off Burns, Withers, and Smith's land, and put them on Government land, was it done? No, it was not done.
10078. Did you continue Junction Road until you joined with the Vanceville Road? Yes.
10079. Then did you make a prolongation of the Vanceville Road to meet that part of the Vanceville Road already made by the Roads Department? Yes.
10080. Did you carry Vanceville Road northwards and proceed on until it joined with the Boundary Road? Yes.
10081. Then at what time did you put on your full force of labour to improve the Crown lands in order for their sale? I cannot tell you the exact dates.
10082. Does this plan of the subdivision show the entire area and length of roads on the Crown lands? I should imagine it did.
10083. What would be the proportion of roads on the Crown lands as compared with the roads coloured red? I think there are 8 or 9 miles of private roads, and $2\frac{3}{4}$ of Government roads.
10084. At a glance, does it not look as though there were five times more on private lands? Yes, it does; but one of these roads is called a Government road.
10085. The road from Pearce's Corner, crossing the railway and carried to the Boundary Road, is that a public road? I understood from the residents that it was a public road.
10086. You think that road should not be classed with the others said to be on private lands? I cannot tell private land from Government land, but we always understood this to be a Government road.
10087. To summarise this, there has been by this plan absolutely five times more work done on private lands than on Crown lands for sale? Yes.
10088. What was the nature of the work on the Crown lands? Clearing, grubbing, forming, and in some places metalling.
10089. Was it cleared about a chain wide? It was grubbed, and the roots were taken out and the holes filled. Everything was burned off, and the logs were rolled on one side.
10090. Was the Boundary Road cleared in the same way? Yes.
10091. Can you tell me the price per chain of the clearing for the Crown land? It went between £8 and £9 per acre.
10092. Would £8 10s. state it as a mean? Yes.
10093. If that were applied to the particular roads on the plan, would that give an estimate so that we could know what was done? Yes.
10094. Is there any forming? Some of the roads are formed; Palmerston Road, Sherbrook Road, and Derby Road are formed.
10095. Are any ballasted? None are ballasted.
10096. In what way are they formed? The rough formation stood us in 15s. a chain.
10097. Will you particularise the roads. What was done to George-street? It was cleared and formed excepting a few chains.
10098. Tell me one after another what you have done? Burdett-street is formed partially three parts of the way; Junction Road is formed for the whole length—cleared, formed, and ballasted; the extension of Vanceville Road is cleared, formed, and ballasted, and four drain-pipes put in; Burns Road east is cleared and ballasted for 25 chains, culverts in, a bridge, and formed towards the Bobbin Rock Road. On Burns Road west, some 30 or 40 chains were cleared before we went on to it; since it has been ballasted and reformed. Burns Road also had two culverts in, and we redecked them. When we get on the road marked "E" from Burns Road to Junction Road, that is simply cleared and formed, and culvert pipes put in on one side. A further extension of 20 chains of Burns Road is cleared and formed. The road running from Burns Road south to Peat's Ferry Road is also cleared and formed; it has also drain-pipes, side drains, and culvert pipes. A road marked "C" to the Junction Road is cleared, formed, and ballasted. Then continuing that on from the Junction Road to the Boundary Road it is cleared and formed in a heavy cutting. The road from Lane Cove Road northwards to the hotel is ballasted about 15 chains, drain-pipes, culverts, side drains. The same road from the railway to the Junction Road is cleared, formed, ballasted, and has pipe culverts.
10099. Now, does that description refer to the whole of the roads made on the Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate? Yes.
10100. Did the sums you gave the President represent the total expenditure on the Hornsby works? Yes. £6,329 represented the whole of it.
10101. If you knew that the plan from which you made the measurements was a sketch plan and not a scale plan, would it be correct? No; it could not be correct.
10102. Now, having a plan before you which is on a scale, will you give me the price of the different items by which your calculation was made, so that I can make a calculation on your evidence. What was the price per chain for clearing? We gave between £9 and £10 for clearing.
10103. Formation? From 15s. to 17s. 6d. a chain. For side drains, from 6s. to 8s. per chain; quarrying and ballasting, 2s. a yard; spreading, 5s. per chain; blinding, 5s. to 6s. per chain; breaking, 1s. 3d.; and the carting would vary from 6d. to 1s., according to the distance, per yard.
10104. What was the rate of payment for a two-horse cart. What do you think they earned? 10s. or 12s. a day in some cases, with two horses. We reckoned about £3 5s. 9d. per chain for doing the best class of work.
10105. What were the culverts? They varied from 15s. to 17s. 6d. a foot; but the pipe-drains cost £3 per set to put in.
10106. These are all the items excepting bridges. What were the bridges? They went about 17s. 6d.
10107. If we apply these prices to the lengths of the various roads and the work done a valuation may be made? I think so.

10108. The only difficulty being that your calculations were made on a sketch plan, and that ours will be on a proper survey plan? Yes, of course. We did the best we could. It was always considered well to keep the men employed, and to get as much work out of them as we could for the money.

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10109. It did not matter whether you did Crown lands or private roads first? The Crown lands were not divided at that time.

10110. But when they were, you went on with other work simultaneously? We went on with the Junction Road.

10111. You did not crowd them on the Crown lands? No.

10112. How is the exact total expenditure in that neighbourhood to be ascertained? I do not know, unless you get it by the vouchers, which show the Hornsby expenditure.

10113. *Mr. Waller.*] On what date was the Crown land at Hornsby subdivided? I have given no dates.

10114. Was it the time the Casual Labour Board came into existence? The Crown land was divided when the Casual Labour Board came into operation. It was under them that we did the Crown land.

10115. Was the work done by Mr. Deering chiefly performed on Crown land or private land? We were partly on private land and partly on Government land. We were going across Sherbrook Road. Sherbrook Road is the east boundary of the private lands, and adjoins the Crown lands.

10116. Were you mostly on Crown land or private land? I cannot say, because we had no intimation of it. I should imagine it was close to Crown land.

10117. Was the work done subsequently by the Casual Labour Board on Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate, necessary to follow from the work done by Mr. Deering? That is not for me to say. I cannot give an opinion on that. That is only speculation as to what should follow what had been done. I am not to know that. I had instructions to do work, and I did it.

10118. I am asking your opinion? It is not fair to ask me an opinion on that matter.

10119. I put it in another way. Would the work which followed the work done by Mr. Deering make it appear necessary that further authority should be given by the Board? Some of these roads would be necessary as roads leading to the Crown lands; as such they would be advisable.

10120. I am asking you whether the work undertaken by the Board would be the natural sequence of the work previously done? In my opinion it is not, but I do not think I ought to be asked opinions.

10121. It has been stated in evidence that the authority for doing the work of the Casual Labour Board on Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate rested principally on the ground of work that had been previously done by Mr. Deering, and that it was simply continuing or carrying out his plans? I know nothing about that.

10122. Would you think that was the case? I do not know anything about that.

10123. Do you know the Boundary Road? Yes.

10124. Do you think it possible to have made a road to continue that Boundary Road? Yes; I think it possible.

10125. Do you know the gullies;—are they impracticable? Well, a road could be made there, but as you get along about a mile further you come to an impracticable place altogether, because there is a gulf half-a-mile wide with 300 feet perpendicular walls. We could have got over the first obstacle we met with; but on the other hand the Junction Road was far preferable. I believe it would be a far cheaper road, and my opinion is that Burns Road is the best road of the whole lot.

10126. Have you made any estimate of the value the Crown lands have been increased by the work done? No, I have not.

10127. Have you any idea of what their value was before the work was done? To give you my opinion, I am not conversant with land for sale, because I have seen places I would not give £20 for, bought, and the man has made a profit. But I would not give £2 10s. per acre for the Crown land there if I were going in for it.

10128. Was there much timber cut on that portion of the Crown lands adjoining the Hornsby Estate—timber for sale, sleepers, and firewood? There might have been on Burns, Withers, and Smith's, but not on the Crown land. There was no timber there.

10129. Was there a saw-mill out there? That cut up the firewood for town.

10130. Was there much? Not very much. I think they took some of it to cut at the saw-mills.

10131. Where were the saw-mills? At the Hornsby Station.

10132. Was there much wood-cutting at the Hornsby Station? I cannot answer that.

10133. Were these saw-mills put up by the Casual Labour Board, or did they belong to outsiders? They belonged to private individuals.

10134. Do you know the names of the owners? One was named Thomas, and there was another one. He only came quite recently. Thomas was there for some months.

Archibald M'Leod called in, sworn, and examined:—

10135. *President.*] What position did you occupy in connection with the Casual Labour Board? I was an overseer.

Mr.
A. M'Leod.
16 April, 1889.

10136. When were you appointed? In August, 1887.

10137. How long did you continue there? Until 3rd or 4th April.

10138. Where were you? I was at several places—Peakhurst, George's River, and Woronora River Road.

10139. Were you an overseer there? Yes.

10140. What were your duties? I had to look after the men and see that they did their work, make up returns of the work done and in hand to show the superintendent when he came round, and to look after things in general, and see that they were kept going.

10141. Did you ever have a man named Flemming in your charge? No.

10142. Did you ever have a man named Dick? Yes.

10143. What work was he doing? He was cooking.

10144. Was he a ganger? No.

10145. Did you attend on pay-days? Yes.

10146. Always? Always.

10147. At these three places? I always attended where the men were paid.

10148

- Mr.
A. M'Leod.
16 April, 1889.
10148. Did you ever have a man named James Flemming or T. Flemming in any of your gangs? No.
10149. Were you amongst the unemployed at the time you went there? No.
10150. How did you get the employment? I was out of a billet and applied to the Board and got it.
10151. How much did you get? Six shillings a day.
10152. Nothing else? I had to pay for my rations.
10153. Who was your superior officer? Mr. Burrowes.
10154. Did you ever have any difficulty with him? No.
10155. Did he ever make any complaint against you? Not that I am aware of.
10156. During the time you were out there, did you become aware of any irregularity or any case of imposition? No.
10157. Was everything perfectly straight? As far as my place was concerned it was? As far as I observed.
10158. What used you to do on these pay-days? I would be there to see that the men got their money right.
10159. Did you call the men out? Sometimes I did. I was always at the table when the pay was going on.
10160. Did you know the men as they came up? Yes.
10161. Were you ever at Heathcote? That is the Woronora River Road.
10162. Then there is another place—Heathcote Agricultural? That was under Mr. Bell. I had nothing to do with that.
10163. *Mr. Franklin.*] Do you know Flemming at all? I know him by sight.
10164. Did you know his occupation there? I did not know what he was doing.
10165. You did not know him as a ganger? No, not at all.
10166. Do you know whether there were men doing odd jobs in different places, who were put into a gang, with one man to represent the lot? That was never done under me. I do not know whether it was done with any of the others.
10167. Were there men called camp-keepers besides cooks? With me there were not.
10168. *Mr. Waller.*] What were the duties of a ganger? I used to tell him what to do, and he would see that it was done, and he would collect the money.
10169. Was he a sub-overseer over the men? No.
10170. Had he to see how the men did their work? No; he was one of themselves.
10171. Would a ganger of necessity know the officer of his district? Yes.
10172. Would the surveyors and superintendents know the gangers in their districts? Of course they would.
10173. If a man said he was a ganger, and could not tell you who his officer was, or who his surveyor or superintendent was, would you believe him? I do not think I would.
10174. Would a man be appointed as a ganger whose gang might be spread out over the district so that he could never be with them? I know of nothing like that.
10175. Did you ever know a case? I cannot say I did.
10176. Would a man be appointed ganger of a lot of stonebreakers and never be with them from week to week? It was never done under me.
10177. Do you think he would? I cannot say.
10178. What advantage would he be to the overseer if he was never with his gang? He would be no advantage to him at all. The only advantage he is is to gather the money and to divide it amongst the men.
10179. Is not one of the advantages of a ganger that the overseer can speak to him instead of having to gather all the men together? Yes.
10180. Consequently, if this man was not with his gang there would be no good in the overseer speaking to him about it? No.

WEDNESDAY, 17 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

The Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Hon.
J. Davies,
C.M.G.,
M.L.C.
17 April, 1889.
10181. I believe you were the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board? I was.
10182. And you held that position from 2nd May, 1887, to 25th January, 1889, when the services of the Board were dispensed with? Yes. We were superseded by two other gentlemen, Messrs. Miles and Mason, of whose appointment we received no official information, until after the gentlemen mentioned presented their letters of appointment to me. We subsequently received an official communication from the Colonial Secretary, that these two gentlemen had been appointed to supersede us and close the works of the Board by the 31st March.
10183. Were you examined before a Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly, on 29th November, 12th December, and 18th December last? Yes.
10184. Is this your evidence? Yes.

[*Evidence before Select Committee.*]

The Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., called in, sworn, and examined, 29th November, 1888:—

783. *Chairman.*] You are the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
784. Could you briefly tell us the formation of that Board, its origin, and how you came to be connected with it? Perhaps the letter of instruction from Sir Henry Parkes will give you all the information you require in that respect.
785. This is the original of a copy sent in to the Committee by Colonel Wells? Yes.
786. Had you any conversation with Sir Henry Parkes, prior to the reception of this letter, with reference to the formation of this Bureau? Yes, merely as to whether I was prepared to

to undertake, in conjunction with two other gentlemen, the carrying out in detail the information contained in that letter of instruction.

787. Did he seek your services by letter, or personally? By note first. I personally waited upon him.

788. That was the first you heard of the matter? That was the first.

789. In entering upon these duties, what was your first work? We found that the work at that time was already in operation, under the control of Mr. Deering. There were about 4,010 on the several works at that time.

790. Have you any recollection as to how these 4,010 men were distributed? The different works at that time were at Dobroyd, Gordon, Hornsby, Beecroft, Carlingford, National Park, Heathcote, and Waterfalls.

791. Were all these men under Mr. Deering at that time? Yes.

792. And the Board took them over? We took them over from Mr. Deering—the men and the works that were then in progress.

793. And you continued the work? We continued the work on, and we established a different basis to that which had been in existence prior to our taking the control of the unemployed.

794. Did you have any formal meetings to consider the work that should be carried out? Yes.

795. Have you kept any minutes of those meetings? Minutes of the first meetings were recorded; but the professional members of the Board—Colonel Wells and Mr. Houson are both employed in different departments of the Public Service, one in Roads, and the other in the Harbours and Rivers Department, and frequently the whole three of us could not meet. Perhaps Mr. Houson would come in, and he would acquiesce in what was done, and subsequently Colonel Wells would come in, and it would be reported to him, and he would approve of it. Nothing was done without the general concurrence of the whole Board.

796. When you say that nothing was done without the concurrence of the whole Board, do you mean that they concurred after any work was initiated, or that they were asked to concur before? They were asked to concur before.

797. Have there been any instances where they have not been present and you have initiated works on your own responsibility? Only very small works, where men have been employed, and it has been reported to us by the overseer or surveyor-in-charge that it would be well to continue a road in certain directions, or to make certain improvements on the road. That has been done because it was a matter of small moment; but in large works the whole Board has been consulted, and its approval obtained.

798. When you say large work, how would you define a large work from the work of laying out roads similar to these, B and H? If that was reported to us by our overseer or superintendent-in-charge, and if the surveyor, Mr. Gordon, who was a very intelligent officer, recommended it, we would approve of it.

799. But that is scarcely an answer to my question;—there is this road DH, which might or might not be of some importance, I want to know what distinction you would make? A road like that would come under the control of the Board, but any small matters, such as clearing a road suggested by the Cumberland ranger prior to the sale to give access to the ground, we did without a general conference.

800. That is to say you did it? Yes.

801. Still your answer is scarcely clear as to what you would consider the difference to be between a work you should feel it necessary to consult with your colleagues upon, and one which you would feel yourself qualified to order to be done without consultation? Well, that would not be making, it would be clearing. I do not confess to have any knowledge about road-making, that is a professional knowledge I do not profess to have; but the matter of clearing a road that has been already defined does not require any professional skill.

802. Do you lay the stress on the difference as to whether a road is really formed or only cleared? Yes, that is the distinction.

803. In the matter of clearing, you feel yourself entitled to order any road to be cleared? Not any, but small roads, and even then afterwards to consult my colleagues and inform them of what has been done.

804. Was it any good asking your colleagues approval after the instructions had been given? Well, it was so small a matter, and one which required immediate action. We had thousands of men seeking employment, the surplus labour of the city, and I was obliged to find employment for these men. The matter could not wait.

805. Do you not consider it a defect in the Board that you could not have colleagues who could co-operate with you? In a matter of this kind I do not think it was a defect. I had full power to act.

806. Who gave you that power? I had the general consent of my colleagues.

807. That is to say they authorized you to do as you did? Yes; in very small matters of that kind.

808. How did they give you to understand that they intended a small matter like that to be undertaken? The only way that I can give you an illustration is, as I have already told you, that if a road had been already defined, and that road led into Crown lands, all that I could undertake would be that the roads might be widened or cleared.

809. Did they pass any formal resolution? No formal resolution; I had only their general concurrence.

810. Only general concurrence;—do you mean that you simply had a private conversation with each one in turn? No. We met in the office, and they gave me power in cases of that kind to exercise my discretion to a limited degree.

811. How many meetings have you had at which the three of you were present? I suppose a hundred meetings.

812. At which the three have been present? Yes.

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C.M.G.,
M. L. C.

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Hon.
J. Davies,
C.M.G.,
M.L.C.

17 April, 1880.

813. Was it a meeting at which the three were present that you were authorized? I think there were only two present, Mr. Houison and myself; but it was reported to Colonel Wells afterwards, and he concurred.

814. What you did then was to have a conversation with Mr. Houison, and you simply told Colonel Wells of what you had done? Everything was done in our office, so far as the Board is concerned.

815. Have you ever originated any works yourself, and then consulted Mr. Houison or Colonel Wells, whichever came to you first, and then the other afterwards? Certainly not.

816. State what was the course you adopted? The practice has been that papers or petitions are sent direct from the Lands Office, through the Colonial Secretary's Office, to our Board. We subsequently send the papers on that come through that way to our officers for report. If the report justifies us we recommend the work to be carried out for the approval of the Colonial Secretary.

817. You mean to say that you have originated no works without receiving a petition or instruction from the Colonial Secretary? And then upon the reports of our officers I will give you for illustration the Narrabeen subdivision. A paper comes from the Lands Department to the Colonial Secretary, recommending that the land should be subdivided, the roads cleared, &c.

818. *Mr. Brunker.*] Was that since the establishment of the Board? Yes; since the establishment of the Board. That paper was sent on to us from the Colonial Secretary, the Board being under the Colonial Secretary. We then sent it on to our officers to report as to the advisability of carrying out the works suggested. If our officers report that it would be to the advantage of the public that the works should be carried out, we, as a Board, recommend that the works should be approved of by the Colonial Secretary in order that the Board may carry them out. That is the usual practice.

819. *Chairman.*] Then, in each particular instance, you have got the sanction of the Colonial Secretary? In every case, except in two or three cases where we took work over, initiated by Mr. Deering. We simply continued the works on that had been initiated by this gentleman, who had charge of the unemployed, prior to the formation of the Board.

820. What roads of those marked red on the plan before you, have been either continued or originated by your Board? You mean as to forming and clearing?

821. As to forming or anything;—you might briefly describe them to us? All these roads.

822. So far as your connection with them is concerned? Yes.

823. Whether in originating, clearing, forming, ballasting, or continuing? Yes; we have had to do with all these roads.

824. What roads have you originated of these? Well, we have originated most of these roads, as you will find on reference to the papers. We obtained reports from our officer, Mr. Gordon, recommending that these roads should be carried out in order to give access to the Crown lands, which were worthless without this access.

825. You have originated most of them? Very nearly the whole of them, with one or two exceptions. "A" road was done by Mr. Deering, I fancy. I am not sure, but I think that was the road Mr. Deering cleared, and he cleared Boundary Road, which was found to be impracticable.

826. What roads of these did you open or originate on petition? The Bobbing Rock Road, not shown on the plan, and the extension of the Vanceville Road. The lower portion of that road had been cleared and formed four or five years previously to that, and we continued it on a petition from the residents and property-holders that it should be continued in the direction on the plan.

827. Have you got the petition asking for the continuation of Vanceville Road? I think it is amongst the papers.

828. What other roads were opened by petition? Another road was opened, road I, to join the Pennant Hills Road, and to avoid a long detour to get on to that road. It shortened the distance about half-a-mile.

829. That road was opened by petition? Yes.

830. Was there any petition for the road marked C? I do not think there was. That was opened on the recommendation and report of Mr. Gordon.

831. Was there any petition for the road D H H? No; I think not.

832. Was there any petition for Burns Road? A deputation, consisting of Mr. Noonan, who is a property-holder, and several of the local people, waited upon the Board, and made representations that it would be of very great public utility and a great convenience to the farmers if the road were continued.

833. Were there any petitions for the roads B, C, D, E, F? No; these were done purely on the grounds that you will find contained in the report of Mr. Gordon, and they were borne out by the professional members of the Board, Mr. Houison and Colonel Wells.

834. On the tracing which you have before you are all the roads which the unemployed have cleared or formed shown? No; I think not.

835. Will you look at this sketch by Mr. Deering, showing all the roads; do you say that that is accurate? That is accurate, I think.

836. Accepting this map to be correct, had you any petition to continue road E to the south to Burns Road? I am not aware that we had; but there were frequent representations made by deputations from people residing in the district.

837. Did any deputation wait upon you in reference to that road? I could not say positively that they did.

838. About 5 chains from the junction of this road with Burns Road there is another road running between it and H, and parallel with Burns Road? Yes; but it does not run in that form. By a mistake the men started to clear that road, but it was only partly cleared. It runs in a zig-zag manner.

839. It was cleared by mistake? They started to clear it by mistake,

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840. Was it continued by mistake? I think the overseer overtook them before it was very near done.
841. It is completed now? I think not.
842. So far as clearing is concerned? Only in a very partial way, and it does not run in a straight line.
843. Who laid that road out? It was not laid out at all, that is where the mistake was made. The men who started the work commenced at the wrong peg.
844. For what cause was this small road of about 5 chains, between the road we are now talking about and Burns Road, made? That was in the same way made by mistake. Instead of clearing along road H H H they continued straight on; but you will find that the overseer-in-charge will be able to give you more detailed information. It is impossible for me to give you detailed information about these mistakes. I could not live on the spot and control matters of that kind. I can only give you information as far as the general workings of the Board are concerned, what our operations have been, and the reasons which prompted the Board to carry out these roads.
845. What reason had you for carrying out the road running to the south from Junction Road, a little to the west of road B? That leads to a railway platform.
846. Was that its object? Yes.
847. Had you any petition for it? We had representations from the people in the district.
848. What originated the road parallel with the railway, between Junction Road and road A? We were simply adopting a system that had been in operation before we took office. At the Field of Mars, Beecroft, and Carlingford, roads were formed and cleared all along the line, and we merely continued the same practice here.
849. When you say "cleared along the line of railway," do you mean along the whole length of the line? Yes. The same principle has been adopted.
850. How is it that this road does not come further to the south then—that it happens to be just between road A and Junction Road? Because of private property intercepting it.
851. Where—to the south? Yes.
852. Is not that private property it goes through? A portion of it.
853. Does not the whole of it run through private property? Yes; but it has only been cleared.
854. Are they not putting culverts there? I think one or two pipe-drains have been put in to carry the water off; but there has been no ballasting or formation.
855. When you say "cleared," does not that imply something more than the cutting off of the timber and clearing it? It implies that we are going to put in pipe culverts.
856. Is not anything else going to be done? There may be a little formation; but no metal ballasting will be put on.
857. Then it is more than cleared if it goes so far as to be formed? Well, it is very trifling outside the clearing.
858. There is a road shown on the map continuing Boundary Road to the railway line;—is not that through private property? I am not aware; it may be. I may tell you that I know very little about the holders of the property. I did not know a man who owned an inch of land in this district. It was not my duty to inquire.
859. Did you get any petition for opening that road? Representations were made to us by property owners in that district; by a gentleman who was going to embark in a public business, and others, asking that the road might be constructed to Boundary Road.
860. To the south of this road, between it and Boundary Road, and parallel to them, there is another road;—did you receive any petitions or representations for that road? We got representations, I think, from the forest ranger for that.
861. What were his representations? That it would be an advantage to Crown lands.
862. How could those two parallel roads be advantageous to Crown lands? I do not see how it could be a direct advantage. They only led into roads leading into the Crown lands.
863. Was there any necessity to have these roads so close together? The Board thought that it was an advantage to have as many roads as possible leading into Crown lands.
864. Do they lead into the Crown lands? Indirectly.
865. In the same way any number of repeated roads would have the same arguments in their favour? Well, I suppose the whole of the roads in the Colony would. They have to go through somebody's land.
866. But if they had cut the whole of this land into small blocks the argument would have been equally good for any one of them? No, it would not.
867. What are the special advantages? The road comes out direct to the railway station.
868. Was not one sufficient? No; the greater the number the greater the advantage to the public.
869. How does this road give any better access to the railway station than the continuation of Boundary Road? You have got the advantage of another road. Two roads are better than one.
870. Does it in any way shorten the distance from any section? Yes.
871. Where from? From the Peat's Ferry Road.
872. Would it not be equally short to turn up Junction Road, and then along the road parallel with the line? Possibly; but it is far easier to go up this short road, and then along the road under discussion.
873. Do you consider that those roads in any way give access to Crown lands? Indirectly, yes.
874. Indirectly is very indefinite;—in what way? In the way I have described. They lead first to the railway station, and then to the Crown lands.
875. As a matter of fact, do they not lead the other way—from Crown lands? Well, it depends upon the way you are going. If you turn your face towards the Crown lands they lead that way, and so the reverse.

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876. You say you know nothing about the owners of this land? Not any of them.
877. Do you not know that Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith own land up there? I knew it subsequently; I did not know it at that time.
878. Did you not know before you opened up a number of roads that they were the owners of that property? Only from official communication with them.
879. Before any of those roads had been opened out, did you not know that Burns, Withers, and Smith owned an estate there? I knew that they owned an estate in the locality; but I did not know that we were going through their land. If I had known, it would not have operated against our going through.
880. Did you not know that they owned the land through which these roads went? Not at that time.
881. Have you not been on the grounds with Mr. Burns? Yes, with reference to the sale of the Crown lands.
882. Have you not been on the ground with him before the opening of these roads? No.
883. Before the clearing of the road from road A to Junction Road? No. I have been on the ground with Mr. Burns consulting him with reference to the sale of Crown lands. I suggested that the sale should be made on the ground. That is the only communication I have had with Mr. Burns.
884. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Were you on this property in company with Mr. Burns or any of the proprietors of this land? I have just stated that I was on the ground with Mr. Burns on one or two occasions prior to the sale.
885. Was this prior to the roads being laid out? No.
886. And it was after you received the official communication from the syndicate with regard to the roads? I received no official intimation from the syndicate.
887. I understood you to say just now that you had received only one official letter from them? We had only one communication from Mr. Burns. Mr. Gordon, the surveyor, recommended to the Board that application should be made to the private proprietors of the land through which roads had to go, for permission. In conformity with his recommendation the Board applied for permission, and we got a reply. That was the only communication we ever had from Mr. Burns on this matter—that they were willing to give us the land.
888. This visit you made to the land with Mr. Burns was subsequent to this letter from him? Yes; prior to the sale.
889. You said just now that the Casual Labour Board had held 100 meetings? Yes.
890. If any other officer has sworn that only a few meetings have been held and none recently, that officer is in error? It just depends upon what construction he put upon a meeting. If two members met I would call that a meeting. Two members formed a quorum.
891. Will you kindly explain how you met, and what you understood to be a meeting of the Board? If any one of my colleagues attended the office we regarded that as a meeting, because everything was then handed over to him, and his attention was directed to what had been done, or to what was about to be done.
892. Did you sit down and consult, and examine maps, and plans, and representations? Yes.
893. Did you keep any minutes? Only of the first few meetings. One minute will show you that I went the first month after our appointment, with Mr. Deering, on to the Hornsby lands, and conferred with him upon the works in progress.
894. Previous witnesses have sworn that there were only a few meetings held, you tell us 100;—I would like to know exactly what you mean by a meeting;—you said just now that minutes of only two or three meetings were kept? Yes; at the inception of the Board.
895. At your later meetings there was only a consultation with one of the members of the Board? Yes.
896. But in the ordinary sense of the word this was not a regular meeting? I call it a regular meeting. We met and performed the duties of the office.
897. Supposing we desired some evidence to show what had been done at the meetings, you would have no record? Only that Messrs. so and so were present on such dates. We can give you that in the diary; but it does not give you any minutes.
898. Then as a matter of fact, we would have no evidence to appeal to show what business was transacted? No; it did not appear in the minutes. We simply met in that formal way which I call a meeting, and in the diary the Board enter the names of those who are present.
899. Then the operation of this system seems to be that you meet these gentlemen as advisers? I performed the administrative part of the work, and they the professional part. I was simply the executive.
900. You were the executive of the institution, and these gentlemen only appeared now and then to give you advice? They appeared as often as their other duties would permit.
901. They appeared as advisers? They were equal with myself in every way.
902. What is the practical operation of the thing? I will give you one illustration. We had some sewerage works out at White's Creek and Johnson's Creek, and several works of that kind, which my colleagues, though they had authority to do these works, on the representation of the members for the district, and on a petition from the local residents, took exception to, and we sent in a remonstrance against having to carry them out. Still, the work was authorized, and we had to proceed with it.
903. Who authorized that work? It was authorized by the Colonial Secretary. I am only giving you that as an evidence that we have remonstrated against certain works my professional colleagues thought that was not wise to undertake. We could not go astray in making

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making roads or clearing lands; but a great undertaking such as the drainage of the whole of the Leichhardt district they thought was not to be attempted in piecemeal style, and a very strong remonstrance was sent in.

904. You told the Chairman that these roads on the plan originated by the representations of local residents? Yes; most of them, and, as I have said, also from our own officer (Mr. Gordon), and with the personal inspection of my colleagues, Mr. Houison and Colonel Wells.

905. You say that Mr. Gordon did originate some of these roads? Yes; they were done on his recommendation. I think the papers will show that. Of course, you could not expect myself to have a professional knowledge in a matter of that kind.

906. If Mr. Gordon has sworn that he did not originate, and only cleared these roads, and that he cannot tell how they did originate, he has made a mistake? I scarcely think he could make such a statement. I think his own reports to us will bear out what I have stated. There must be some misapprehension. I think the papers will disclose what I state.

907. Referring to the roads I and H, can you tell us who originated these roads? Road I was made on the representations of people who wished to save a detour of half-a-mile to get on to the Pennant Hills Road to go to Parramatta. The representations were submitted to Mr. Gordon, and he reported on them. With reference to road H, there is a railway which goes right through this property, and this road is to give access to a platform and to the Lane Cove Road.

908. But is there a platform there? Yes, there is.

909. *Chairman.*] And the object of this road was to get to that platform? Yes.

910. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] If this road H was required to give access to the Lane Cove Road, why was it not taken straight through to Boundary Road? Because there is a gully which prevented them from getting across—a very steep gully, about 1 in 2—almost perpendicular.

911. But you cross two creeks now? Yes; but only very slight ones. In that case we would have had a very large expenditure. You can drive along the Boundary Road to this gully, but you will find it very steep.

912. The reason you gave just now for constructing some of these roads was that you had a number of unemployed in your hands, and that, therefore, you were compelled to give them employment? Yes.

913. Was there any reason why these necessitous men should not be employed upon any other work? The best work the men can be employed upon is on the roads, which are the property of the people, and give facility of access to Crown lands and railways.

914. Admitting all that, why were the men sent specially to this district? We had so many men that I had to distribute them everywhere, and utilize their labours as best we could in the public interest. Prior to my taking charge the men were simply knocking about, doing scrub work—work of no utility—and tens of thousands were spent without any result at all. We placed the men on a different basis altogether. We put them on as contractors so that it would not destroy the dignity of labour, nor in any way degrade the men, or affect any of their fixed principles. They formed their own gangs, and took their contracts.

915. With reference to this T-shaped road, between road H and the continuation of E, cleared by mistake, who would be responsible for that mistake? I think our superintendent, Mr. O'Donnell; but then the man had a very large area of land to traverse to get to these different places, and men anxious to get to work would get to work and make a start before he could overtake them.

916. If road E was continued to the south on the representation of the property owners, that representation must have been made by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, as they were the owners of the property? All this property to the east belongs to private owners, and there are no other means of getting to the station except by going through this property.

917. But how would they be served by Burns Road? That leads into Junction Road. To get to the station, they come along Burns Road, up the continuation of E, and along Junction Road.

918. Could they not go up H? They could have done that; but I do not think there could have been any objection to their having an additional road, because that gave us a direct line into the public estate.

919. Your object is that that road was laid out to serve the people in the east, to give them access to the station? Yes, and we wanted to continue it right through into the public estate. The Board thought that the more we had of these roads to tap the flat lands on top the better. They saw, and the officers recommended, that it would be a great advantage to have these additional roads.

920. Already having road J to give access to these people to Crown lands, and having road H to give access from the south, what was the necessity for constructing a road down the centre? That was the recommendation of Mr. Gordon. You will find the papers disclose that. There was a representation from the property owners in the district; but Burns, Withers, and Smith never waited upon us.

921. You say that Mr. Gordon authorized this southerly extension of road E? I think you will find it so in the papers.

922. I am not talking about these tributary roads, which, for arguments sake we will admit were required; I am talking about the southerly extension of road E. As a matter of fact, Mr. Gordon knows nothing about these roads, and only holds himself responsible for the roads marked on his plan. He admits Junction Road, the roads B, C, D, and F, and the northerly part of road E, and he justifies it. What I want to know is why that road was continued to the south, to serve, as I can see, no one except the owners of the land? Burns' people had already cleared Burns Road, and on the representations of the people owning the land on the other side, this road was continued in that direction.

923. But what was their object in asking for that? They said it was a nearer road for them to take their fruit and produce.

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924. These men you say would come along Burns Road, and up the continuation of road E? Yes, the grade is better that way. They recommended that if that road was made it would be much easier for them to strike Junction Road at an earlier stage.
925. *Chairman.*] Would it not have been nearer for those fruit growers to go to North Shore? They did not so represent it.
926. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Directing your attention to the roads near the railway station, coloured a fainter red, none of these roads appear on the plan made by Mr. Gordon, and he appears to take no responsibility for them? They were done on the representation of Mr. O'Donnell.
927. What reason does Mr. O'Donnell give for constructing the road between the continuation of Boundary Road and Junction-street, and parallel to them? The representation made by local people.
928. What local people would be served by it;—what was the object in making it;—surely, as the head of the institution, you ought to have had some reason assigned? There is no road there, it is a clearing, and was partly done by the property owners before we touched it. You are asking me questions as though I was the overseer. I could not tell you these little details.
929. So far as you know, not being the overseer, you are not able to give a reason why these roads should be constructed? They have not been made at all. They were simply partly cleared by the owners before we took charge, and have been continued.
930. As a matter of fact, I may tell you that some members of the Committee have been over these roads, and there is no doubt that they have been cleared—whether they are metalled or not I am not prepared to say? They were cleared partly, about half-way, before we took charge, by the private owners.
931. Did you consider yourself justified in carrying out the work started by private owners without any object in view? We did it on representations we received.
932. *Chairman.*] But if the proprietors were already doing it, was there any necessity for you to take up the work? They were not doing it; it had been done. I am not so well-informed as the overseer is in the matter.
933. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Not being an overseer you cannot give an authoritative opinion? It is a very trifling matter. It is far better that the men should be employed in that work than in doing the work they were doing when we took office.
934. You have a pretty good knowledge, from what goes on around you, of the subdividing of property, the cutting up of estates; you have seen a good deal of it—the giving of fanciful names to streets, and all that kind of thing; you know that all this is done by the owners of the estates to make them saleable? Yes.
935. Burns, Withers, and Smith, having a private estate, and being desirous of selling it, would they not naturally have carried out that plan of laying out the estate, if the Government had not done it for them? I cannot say. I am not responsible for what they might do.
936. Would it not be done in the ordinary way of business? I cannot tell. You and I might take certain courses, and Burns, Withers, and Smith, take quite an opposite one. I know what I would do with my own estate.
937. As a business man, if you owned this property, and desired to make it saleable in small lots, would you not have subdivided the estate, and laid out roads, and cleared them yourself? Yes; these people gave the land, which was of more value than the money spent on road making.
938. *Chairman.*] But must not the roads always be given, even if the owners make them themselves? Quite so.
939. *Mr. H. Clarke.*] I think you stated that you got instructions to continue the work that had been originated by Mr. Deering? Yes; we got instructions to take up the management and the control of the unemployed.
940. From whom did you get your instructions? The Colonial Secretary. They referred to works in all directions, in about a dozen different places.
941. How much work was done by Mr. Deering previous to your taking charge of these people? Not a great deal. I think a portion of Boundary Road had been cleared, and some other roads.
942. Are you aware how many miles of roads are on the private property of Burns, Withers, and Smith, and other owners? No; I have not had any calculation made of the mileage.
943. Nor of the cost? Yes; we have a knowledge of the cost.
944. What is the cost, roughly? I think the cost of the whole of the works through land we have since realized as the property of Burns, Withers, and Smith, is a little over £2,000.
945. Is it usual, in making roads through Government property, to clear, form, and ballast? Yes. We have done it in almost all the estates. We have had to make better roads than we have made for Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith.
946. Are they on private lands, or on Government lands? On Government lands. If you go through the subdivisions we have cleared at French's Forest, Narrabeen, Gordon, and Dobroyd, you will find that we make as good roads as you can find out of Sydney, all through Crown lands, and a portion on private property.
947. Was it actually necessary to have all these roads marked red? Absolutely necessary.
948. For what purpose? To give access to the Crown lands. The Crown lands were bordered round with private properties.
949. Were there not some portions of these roads Crown lands;—take the road marked A? That road was cleared by Mr. Deering, and has an overhead bridge.
950. Would not that road give access to some portion of the Crown lands? Yes; but you would have these lands unoccupied which have realized splendid prices—£40, £50, and up to £70 and £80 an acre.
951. The Boundary Road goes at present as far as the first gully? Yes; you can go as far as that.

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952. Why not continue this road on Government land, instead of on private property? It is impossible, because the gullies are almost perpendicular. Of course you could make a track, but not one for traction. The grade would be about 1 in 3, and it was represented by men who were competent to express an opinion—I do not profess to have any knowledge of road-making, or the construction of bridges, myself—by Mr. Houson and Colonel Wells, that it was impossible. Of course I could not veto their opinions. 17 April, 1889.
953. *Mr. Sullivan.*] You mean to say that the road would not pay the making? It would be impossible, without spending ten times the money that we have spent upon these roads.
954. *Mr. H. Clarke.*] I have seen roads made over worse places than that? Well, of course, I am not skilled to give a professional opinion.
955. Could not a deviation have been made round this rugged part? It was reported to us that nothing would warrant our taking the road in any other direction. Our officers reported that all the money in the Treasury could not make roads there. And, besides, you have got to take another thing into account, we have not skilled labour. We have to take shoemakers, blacksmiths, engine-fitters, and all kinds of men, and you could not expect them to be skilled in that work.
956. If the country is so rugged, what is the good of making access to it? To sell the land; and the Government have sold a lot of it at very high prices. It is beautiful land. Of course there is a lot of broken country, but the table-land is beautiful country for orchards or residences.
957. *Chairman.*] You mean the part sold? Yes; but there is some good land farther away from the station.
958. *Mr. Street.*] I think you said that at the time you took charge of the Casual Labour Board there were 4,010 men unemployed;—how many are there at the present time? About 930; but it is only fair to qualify that answer by saying that if this bad season continues we will have a large increase.
959. Was any considerable portion engaged at day wages? Yes, the great majority.
960. At what rate? From 6s. and upwards.
961. Have you any men working at day wages now? Thirty or forty.
962. What wages? Three shillings and sixpence. These are mostly men who are not able to do contract work—cripples.
963. Junction Road and Burns Road give frontages to the private property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? Yes.
964. Can you tell us what advantage these gentlemen, having possession of the frontages to these two roads, can get from the roads B, C, D, E, and F, and the southern extension of road E? No advantage whatever.
965. Have they taken a large area out of their land? Yes, a very large area. There is from 12 to 15 acres of land in Junction Road, worth £120 an acre.
966. It was not necessary for their purposes to make the roads B, C, D, E, F, and the southern extension of E? Certainly not, not even for subdivision.
967. *Mr. Brunker.*] I suppose you have a knowledge of the value of property; at any rate, about Sydney? Yes.
968. Do you think that it is likely that a private individual, in subdividing his estate, would consider it to his interest to make a large number of roads when a smaller number would contribute to the same end? Certainly not.
969. A smaller number of roads would, of course, make the area given very much less, and increase the return from the sale very largely? Yes; it would leave a larger portion to sell.
970. As the number of roads increases, so the profits decrease? Yes.
971. So that in making a subdivision of this kind private owners would find it to their profit and advantage to have roads at equal points, taking a much smaller area from the whole? No doubt; and we would not have been justified in making these roads unless we got these concessions. What we wanted was to get into Crown lands.
972. The fact is that the owner of a private estate considers that he loses about one-fifth in roads for subdivision;—what is the proportion there? Very much larger. I could not tell you exactly without taking the scale and measuring; but it is very much larger.
973. So that the loss to the owners would be considerably greater by the course you have adopted? A great deal more. Junction Road contains from 12 to 15 acres, and would fetch at the lowest estimate £100 an acre.
974. In constructing these roads, what was the object you had in view;—I suppose you had one view for the whole of them? Our primary object was to get access to Crown lands; that was the whole of our object. We had no other object.
975. Have you any knowledge of the locality? I have been frequently there.
976. What is the extent of the population in and around this district? A very large population, because the district takes in a very large area—farmers, and people with orchards.
977. Would these roads give the population round access to Hornsby station? Yes.
978. And also to the Crown lands? Yes; there is a platform and a station on the Pearce's Corner railway to which they give access.
979. Had you any conversation, or were your operations influenced in any way by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, during the whole progress of these works? Certainly not. I have not spoken to Mr. Withers for six years.
980. Were they influenced by any member of the Government? Certainly not.
981. Did any Member of Parliament attempt to use any influence? No Member of Parliament used any influence. We were actuated by no other desire than to put men on to works of a productive character, works of utility, which would give an increased value to the public estate.
982. What works were in course of progress when Mr. Deering surrendered his supervision to the Casual Labour Board? I think I have already mentioned them in answer to the Chairman's question. National Park, Heathcote, Waterfalls, a portion of Gordon, Dobroyd, Hornsby, Beecroft, and Carlingford.

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983. These works were all under the control of Mr. Deering? Yes; and in full swing at the time we took charge.
984. They are now under the supervision of the Casual Labour Board? Yes; but many are completed.
985. Have the works which have been carried out under the Casual Labour Board been of the same character as those which have been carried out on this ground? Yes; in fact, the work we have done in the Government lands, in the subdivisions we have had under our control, has been of a better character than this.
986. You were asked a question as to the character of the work that was undertaken without the authority of a full meeting of the Casual Labour Board, that is, that small works were authorized by individuals members of the Board, and larger ones by the full Board. You have had some experience of municipal matters? Yes.
987. And is it not the general custom in all municipal matters to allow either one or two members of a Council to construct works up to a certain stipulated amount? Yes. Practically, in this case, I was the mayor, as it were, the executive head, and any small representation made by the superintendent of any of the works that I believe to be to the public interest in any way was attended to.
988. So that the custom adopted by you is the practice which governs municipalities generally? Yes; the uniform practice.
989. *Mr. H. Clarke.*] Do you say that the formation of these roads through the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith does not increase its value? Incidentally it does.
990. Does it improve it to a greater extent than the actual land they have lost? Of course, it would be only a matter of opinion. I do not think it does. You take 25 or 30 acres from them at £100 an acre.
991. The formation of these roads surely would improve the property? Of course, in every way, incidentally; all roads do that.
992. *Mr. Brunker.*] I should like to have some information with regard to the action of Sir Henry Parkes with reference to the Casual Labour Board;—you say that none of the works were carried out until the propositions were confirmed? All works initiated after our appointment were approved of.
993. Sir Henry Parkes could have had no knowledge of the details? No. They approved on the reports of the proper officers.
994. So that you received in each case first a report from the Government Surveyor, Mr. Gordon? Either from Mr. Gordon or from Mr. Deering.
995. Mr. Deering had nothing to do with it? As the metropolitan surveyor, he had to do with it, in making report on the subdivisions of the Crown lands, which were sent to the Lands Office, and the Minister for Lands sent them on for the approval of the Colonial Secretary.
996. That is for subdivision? Yes; on large estates which had been cleared and roads formed through them. These reports were sent to us, and our officers would then report again, so as to make doubly sure that it was work that would warrant us in undertaking it, and if satisfactory, we would recommend it as a Board for the approval of the Colonial Secretary, and then approved, so that all work initiated by us had Ministerial authority.
997. Notwithstanding that petitions were sent in from local residents, was it the custom of the Board to make full inquiry through Mr. Gordon before authorizing the work? Through Mr. Gordon and Mr. O'Donnell; nothing was done without a report and full inquiry.
998. You know something about the country. What is the general character of it? It is rugged. There is a good table-land, with soil very rich and fine for fruit-growing, very suitable for orchards and homesteads.
999. Although you say that you have no professional knowledge, is it your opinion that the roads are being formed so as to fall in with the formation of the country? Quite. These roads open up about 2,000 acres of Crown lands for sale, and there is any quantity of Crown lands besides—thousands of acres.
1000. In answer to a question you said that no works had been initiated except by a petition from the Lands? I said that no work had been initiated by us unless it came from the Lands Office or by petition. These subdivisions came to us from the Lands Office to the Colonial Secretary. They were then sent on to us. Mr. Deering recommended that these subdivisions and the clearing should be done at Narrabeen, French's Forest, and Dobroyd.
1001. Before you came into power? No, since. They were recommended by Mr. Deering. Mr. Garrett sent them on to the Colonial Secretary, and the Colonial Secretary sent them on to us. We still got our own officer to report upon them, and if he concurred with Mr. Deering's recommendation, we recommended that the works should be carried out for the approval of the Colonial Secretary.
1002. One road you said was recommended five years ago? The Vanceville Road.
1003. That is a public road? A public road under the Roads Department.
1004. As a practical man, is it your opinion that this expenditure is in the interests of the public generally? Certainly. This land would not have been worth a five-pound note if it had not been for the roads made through it, and it will realize £30,000.
1005. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Frontage blocks are more valuable than blocks of land not served by roads? Corner blocks are the most valuable.
1006. Frontage blocks are more valuable than blocks not served by road? Oh, most certainly.
1007. Then the owners of this estate, if they desired to make their land valuable and saleable, would have been likely to carry out a certain number of roads? Of necessity they would have to form a number of roads; but not roads like B, C, D, E, and F.
1008. Do you consider that if these roads had not been constructed by the Government, they would have formed a lesser number of roads than on the plan? Yes; in a different direction altogether.

1009. But still, though in a different direction; they would have given access to the Crown lands? I cannot answer that; I do not know how they might have put their roads. The greater part of their estate has no roads provided.

1010. You refer to the Vanceville Estate; that is now owned by other people? I thought Mr. Burns owned it.

1011. You said just now that they had given 15 acres for the Junction Road, and so many acres for other roads, and that the land was worth £100 an acre? Yes.

1012. Would it be worth £100 an acre if those roads were not made there? Of course, without access it would not be worth anything.

1013. Then if they have given the Crown an advantage the Crown have increased the value of their lands? That is incidental.

1014. You said just now that it is usual for those who subdivide private estates to calculate on a loss of one-fifth? Yes; to give roads through.

1015. And you said that on this estate more than one-fifth had been given? Quite so.

1016. Do you mean to say that these roads represent more than one-fifth? Yes; a great deal more.

1017. Given 15 acres for Junction Road, and about 10 acres for each of the others, there would be 100 acres altogether in main roads that would represent a total amount of 1,500? I do not know what the area of the estate is. Unless I had the scale I could not tell.

1018. It is understood, I believe, that originally the estate was 1,600 acres, and they have sold the Vanceville Estate? I have been told there were 700 acres altogether.

1019. Do you think that more than 100 acres have been given for roads? I do not know what their land is, and I could not speak unless I knew whose land it was. Judging from this tracing here, I should come to the conclusion that more than one-fifth had been given by the proprietors for roads.

1020. And these roads do not include more than 100 acres? I do not know what the quantity is altogether. I am certain that if it was your land or mine we would not have cut it up in that form.

1021. But you admit that if someone had not done the work they would have had to do it? Not in that form.

1022. But in doing so, you would have to comply with Mr. Reid's law, and give away land to the public? Yes.

1023. In point of fact, if they had subdivided the estate, they would have had to give the land, as they have given it? They would have had to give the land for streets; they could not sell it otherwise.

1024. In an ordinary business way they would have laid out the land in rectangular blocks? Yes, so as to give them the best results.

1025. In doing that they must have given access to the Crown lands? I cannot answer that.

1026. You said just now that the Board always consulted Mr. Gordon about the roads? Mr. Gordon, Mr. O'Donnell, or one of the superintendents.

1027. Then you did not always consult Mr. Gordon? Mr. Gordon had not control over all the roads, only over a certain portion.

1028. Mr. Gordon has not been out there during the past twelve months? I think he has.

1029. If he swears that he has not been out there there must be some error? Yes.

1030. Mr. Houison swears that he has not been out there for five months, and Mr. Gordon for twelve months, and that therefore he knows nothing about the roads marked on the plan? I think if you look at his plan, you will see that at the latter part of the first month of the year he reported to us—and this is November—so that it cannot be twelve months since he was out there.

1031. At all events he said he had not been out on the land for that period? No; he drew it up from being on the land.

1032. *Mr. Brunker.*] You were asked just now whether land with a frontage was not more valuable than any other portion of land;—is it not a fact that everybody has a frontage in a subdivision? Of course.

1033. But of course there are some lands that have special value? Corner blocks, and those nearer the station, have greater value.

1034. That special value would apply in a case like this. Supposing that the road marked D ran along the top of a ridge, and that the allotments on each side ran into deep ravines, and that another road, say Junction Road, was on a plateau, would not the frontages to the latter road be worth double the value of those on road D? Three times as much.

1035. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] If corner blocks are most valuable, the more corner blocks you have the more valuable the land? Yes.

1036. And the more roads you make the better? Yes.

1037. *Mr. Brunker.*] Although a large area of land may have been given by the proprietors, from your practical knowledge can you say that that is not the form in which the land would have been subdivided by private owners? Certainly; it is not done as one would do with his own property.

1038. *Chairman.*] Referring to your document of authorization, I see that the Colonial Secretary says that there would be work to do in making tanks, works of irrigation, deepening water-courses, &c.;—have the unemployed been put on works of that description? No such works have been authorized.

1039. But are not these general instructions here? Yes; but still we have not been able to embrace them because there has been no work of that character.

1040. Have any men been put on the railways? Some men at Pearce's Corner.

1041. Did you at any time get any petition from the inhabitants of this district for the erection of a platform on the Hornsby line? I have no recollection of any such petition; it would not come within our scope; we are concerned only with roads.

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1042. You have received no representation from Government officers? Not for the construction or erection of a platform, to my knowledge.
1043. How many visits have you made to the ground at Hornsby? I suppose I have been there about sixteen or twenty times altogether within the last eighteen or nineteen months.
1044. Have you seen all the additional roads marked on this plan—those coloured in a fainter red? I think so.
1045. Do you think that all these roads are necessary for the simple purpose of access? Yes.
1046. They are all necessary? All necessary. As I have said before, the Crown lands would not be worth a five-pound note unless these roads of access had been given.
1047. Would it not have been better to have made fewer roads; because it is clear, on your own showing, that they could utilize fewer roads there, and to have made the roads on the Government property on the other side of Boundary Road? I do not think so; because the more roads of access you give to Crown lands, the more value you give to this estate.
1048. But if, according to your showing, the value of the land has improved from being worthless to £100 an acre on Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate, by the making of these roads, would not the value increase in equal proportions on the Government side, providing you had access? I do not mean to say that our making the roads on the land gave it that value, I only gave you the value of the land.
1049. Did you not state that the land would be worthless if the roads had not been made? As far as the public estate was concerned, not these people's property. You misunderstood me. I stated that the Government land would not be worth a five-pound note without the access.
1050. But prior to the Board, was it not the custom of the Government to form the roads on their own property, and then to make too many roads on private property? I never knew the Government to make any roads by unemployed labour other than public roads.
1051. In cutting land into subdivisions are you not obliged to make roads? The private owners of the land would have to do it.
1052. Have you made any roads on the Crown lands? Yes, they are all of them formed and made.
1053. Any of them metalled? Not metalled—no.
1054. Some of the roads to the south of the boundary-line are metalled? A little; but then I may say that all the material that came for the ballasting of these roads came out of the people's own property.
1055. You tell the Committee that those were not the roads that would have been made in the interests of private owners? I simply say that if it was my property I would not subdivide it in this way.
1056. As a matter of fact, have you not told us that some of these roads were commenced by private owners? The clearing of Burns Road was commenced before my time.
1057. And have not other roads you commenced been partly done? Yes.
1058. You have cleared roads already commenced to be cleared? Yes.
1059. Is not that an evidence that the owners would have made these roads? It is quite possible that they would have done so.
1060. But it is not an argument that they did intend to do it? Well, of course; it looked like it. It is an evidence that they had made a start.
1061. *Mr. Brunker.*] But you do not mean to say that the owners of private property subdivided the property in that form? No.
1062. *Chairman.*] But are not the roads B, C, D, E, and F, which are said to be not to the interest of private owners, absolutely necessary to give communication to their property from any population that may be settled to the north of Boundary Road? It is absolutely necessary to get to Crown lands.
1063. Supposing you were the owner of this estate, would you not, in laying out the roads to give access to the north, have in view the intersection of these gullies. For instance, you would not cut up a street leading into a gully; you would go further to the right? If it was my private property I would endeavour to form Boundary Road, and save the land.
1064. But that not being possible, would you not have gone to the east of the first gully—Spring Gully;— would you not have gone to the east of that? I would not be concerned about that, as long as I had roads to give me frontage.
1065. Would the roads be of use to sell the land if they did not continue to other roads? There are no roads there.
1066. But anyone cutting up land has a prospective population in view? They look to see what they can get in the market.
1067. But does not the prospective population increase the value in the market? It may do to some extent; but these roads you speak of were absolutely necessary.
1068. But are they not beneficial to the private owners? Incidentally. All roads you make will be.
1069. Then the greater number of roads on private property the more value it will be to private property. The greater number of roads you have the greater advantage to the property. But if it was my property I would not have cut it up in that form. I would subdivide it in a form that would give me better frontages.
1070. But if you could get the roads made in that form without any expenditure of your own, you would consent to it? Yes; as these people did. But after all, one balances the other, the value of the land as against the work done on it. I would value the land more than the money spent.
1071. But then land must be given in any case, whether private owners make the roads or the Government make them, is not that a fact? Yes.
1072. And the more roads the greater the value of the property? The more roads the greater the convenience, of course.

1073. You tell us that you had your recommendation for these roads either from Mr. Deering or from Mr. Gordon? I think you will find that Mr. Gordon recommended about those roads. The papers will show it.

1074. Mr. Deering recommended none of them? Mr. Deering recommended one of them just at the time we took office.

1075. That was the road then being cleared—road A? Yes.

1076. Then Mr. Gordon has recommended all the rest? Yes; and the Board, that is Mr. Houson and Colonel Wells, have visited the locality and approved before anything was done.

1077. First of all came his recommendation? Yes.

1078. Then if Mr. Gordon said, in answer to this question:—"Can you say you gave instructions to clear and form any of these roads?" "I only know one road, that is Junction Road," and adds as a foot-note to make himself more correct, when revising this: "I never gave an instruction to carry out any of the roads; it was recommendations only, and that recommendation was to ballast Junction Road; clearing was already done";—that is not correct? No. You will find from his own reports that he recommended that all these works should be carried out, and we then got the recommendation of the Board, and the work was carried out.

1079. *Mr. Brunker.*] Is it not apparent to a business man that although these main roads—Burns Road, Junction Road, Vanceville road, I road, and H road—might be beneficial to the owners of a private estate; these minor roads leading to the Hornsby Station are only beneficial to the Crown lands? Certainly.

1080. *Chairman.*] But is it not equally clear that the number of these roads—the road running parallel with the railway, the continuation of Boundary Road, and this T road, commenced in a mistake—is unnecessary for roads of access? I do not think so.

1081. Could we not have access to the Crown lands and dispense with a number of them? You could have had access with one road alone.

1082. But could we not have equal access without the T section? You would dispense with the whole of that. It is only cleared.

1083. And we could have equal access? The more roads you have there the better it is.

1084. For the people and the railway station? Yes; and for the public. The railways are the people's property, and the roads are the people's property, for all time.

1085. But you said just now that they are roads of access only? Access to the Crown lands.

1086. But considering the present state of population are these roads at all necessary? I think they are now; and taking your view of the prospective population, I think they are very wisely done.

1087. *Mr. Brunker.*] You know that the railway from Hornsby Station to Vanceville Road is in course of construction? Yes; and very nearly finished. It will be finished by the end of the year, I think.

1088. Is it not an advantage to the Crown lands that these roads—the Vanceville Road, the H road, the C I road, and the B road—will give access from the Crown lands to the Hornsby line at different points? No doubt. I have already stated that.

1089. And that being the fact, must it not naturally tend to increase the value of Crown lands? The greater the number of roads you have the more valuable they are.

1090. *Chairman.*] But instead of making so many roads leading to and giving access to Crown lands, when a fewer number would have done, would it not have been more conducive to the value of the public estate to have formed the roads on Crown property? No, it would not; because the Crown property is not worth anything without these roads of access.

1091. But is it worth anything without subdividing it, and forming the streets? So they are formed.

1092. But would it not have increased the value of these lands more by having the roads ballasted, as they are to the south? I have no doubt it would.

1093. From your experience, has not that been the course adopted by syndicates or by owners of property? I do not think they have ballasted the roads. They have generally only formed the roads. The roads are cleared to a chain wide, and formed to half a chain.

1094. Have you done that on the Crown lands? Yes.

1095. You have formed them? Yes; but not ballasted them.

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2868. *Chairman.*] You have had to do with the making of the roads through the Holt-Sutherland Estate shown on the plan before you? Yes; we have cleared, formed, and gravelled some of them.

2869. At whose instigation did the Board make these roads? Petitions were presented by numerous property owners in and around the district, and reports were obtained from our officer in favour of the works being carried out. Ministerial authority having been obtained, the works were proceeded with.

2870. Did you take any means to investigate the *bond fides* of any of the petitions? The names of any of the petitioners are those of well-known Members of Parliament and of persons of good positions in society, and I should regard it as an insult to them to make inquiries into their characters. I knew from their names and positions that there was no need to do that.

2871. How many Members of Parliament are property owners round this estate? I could not say that they are property owners, but they represent the district—Central Cumberland. I suppose the Members took an interest in the district in the ordinary way. I ought to add that when this work was initiated we had 5,000 men at the National Park wasting public money

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- money in grubbing and rooting about among a lot of rocks. This was a legacy left to us by the gentlemen who had charge of the unemployed before they were handed over to the Board. When we took charge of them we regarded the work which has been done as being of greater utility to the public than the expenditure which was taking place at the Park.
2872. How many men had you employed upon the Holt-Sutherland Estate proper? 160 or 170.
2873. There are some Government reserves in juxtaposition to the estate? Yes.
2874. Have you cleared, formed, and gravelled any roads on that estate? We have made roads to some of the reserves.
2875. To which reserves? Well, the main road to Coronulla Beach goes to a reserve; the beach is a reserve for recreation purposes. There is also a reserve at the point for fortifications, or something of that kind. At all events, so we were informed.
2876. Are there any roads in that reserve? Not that I know of; but there is a road leading to it.
2877. Does not the road you speak of lead to the beach? Yes, but it goes close to the reserve.
2878. There are no roads on that point on the beach to the Government reserve? There is no direct road to the reserve. The Hungry Point Road, which goes through the whole of the reserve, was laid out, but it is not yet cleared.
2879. Was that road laid out by you? No; we did not lay out any of these roads. They were all surveyed before we had anything to do with the work, so far as I know. We have had authority to clear many of these roads, but we have not done so yet.
2880. Has any road from Sutherland to Kurnell been cleared? No, only partly; we had authority to clear the line of railway. A petition was presented; it was signed by seventy or eighty Members of Parliament.
2881. You have not done that work? We are waiting for the survey to be finished.
- 2881½. The line has not been surveyed? There is no defined survey, we are waiting for it to be finished.
2882. To whom was the delay attributable? To the Survey Department. This is a work upon which we have been anxious to employ the labour we had at our disposal. The Board were quite in accord with the prayer of the petition, which as I have said was signed by a large number of Members of Parliament. We considered the work to be a public work and a work of great utility, because it would be a means of assisting a number of manufactures to a site which it has been proposed to be used for noxious trades.
2883. Did you employ a surveyor in connection with any of these roads? No; but we have had overseers; some of these roads were surveyed as long as fifty years ago. Of course we have had to get surveyors to lay out the work for the men and to take the measurements of the work they did before they were paid.
2884. Did you employ Mr. Sanderson to survey any of these roads? Not in the sense of surveying.
2885. Was he employed to define the road? No; to piece off the work for the men. The road was easily defined because it was an old original survey. I am speaking now of the main roads.
2886. Do not the majority of roads which you have cleared appear on the subdivision of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I know nothing about that company. I do not know any of the shareholders, and I have no interest in it directly or indirectly. I have never seen the subdivision to which you refer.
2887. Has it not come to your knowledge that the roads which were cleared were subdivisional roads of the Holt-Sutherland Company? I have never seen the subdivision.
2888. Would not the pegs be marked? I do not know that that would be so. The original history of that place would be found to be this—there was a number of Crown grants to old Mr. Laycock and others, and the property was afterwards acquired by purchase by the late Mr. Holt.
2889. Did you take any pains to ascertain whether the roads you were making were subdivisional roads? The only step I could take was the ordinary one of sending my superintendent to report upon the several petitions and applications we received. You could not expect me to go and report myself, seeing that I had no technical knowledge about road-making or surveying.
2890. When you received so many petitions apart from the main roads, did it not strike you that it would be advisable to examine the original plan for subdivision? No; that is a matter entirely in the hands of the superintendent.
2891. Did you never receive any report showing that these roads were in existence upon the subdivision of the estate? These are Government roads, and the owners of the estate, I believe, have adopted them in their subdivision.
2892. You knew that these roads were in the subdivision? I knew these roads were public roads, and adopted by the owners in their subdivision.
2893. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] The clearing of the line of railway from Sutherland to the noxious trade site would have been a genuine public work? No doubt.
2894. It was a petition for that work which you say was signed by over sixty members of Parliament? Quite so. As I have already explained, we have the authority for the work and are anxious to carry it out, but we could not do so, because the survey is not complete. It would be folly to attempt to form a line of our own. As soon as the survey is finished we are willing to proceed with the work. It is a work which, I think, ought to be proceeded with.
2895. As a matter of fact, the work petitioned for by these Members of Parliament has not yet been carried out? Just so, for the reason I assign.
2896. Knowing as you did from the papers supplied to you that these roads were already surveyed, and that some of them were half-completed, how did you come to utilize the public funds

funds for the benefit of the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I think the work would benefit the whole community. A public road is a public property for all time. Some of these roads are as old as the Colony itself.

2897. But knowing beforehand that the work was about being done by the owners of this estate, why did your Department accede this request for roads? I had no knowledge that any subdivision was to be carried out.

2898. I understand you to say that you know from the papers that these roads were surveyed before, and that they were part of the subdivision of the estate. Knowing this, why did you construct, with the public money, roads which were in the process of being constructed by, or which would have been constructed by private owners? How was I to know that. The great Illawarra Road, leading from Tom Ugly's Point to the Sutherland Railway Station, is an old road, and is the road to Wollongong and Kiama. Then there is the Silvanian Road, the Port Hacking Road, and two or three other old roads which were known to be public roads.

2899. Granting that there were four or five main roads which were said to be necessary for the public convenience, where was the necessity for the construction of the twenty-two roads as shown upon this plan? You are asking me now for a technical opinion as to whether these roads should or should not be made.

2900. I am asking you upon what principle you made these twenty-two roads? On the same principle that all roads in the Colony are made; they are public roads—dedicated to the public, and they were made upon the authority upon which all roads are made—namely, Ministerial authority. I have done nothing in connection with these roads, save by Ministerial authority.

2901. You are a medium between the Minister and the expenditure? That is all.

2902. Had you any knowledge that these twenty-two roads would serve any large number of people here? At the present time many of them would not.

2903. How many people are there residing about these roads who would be served by them at the present time? I could not say what the population of the district is, but I am told by people who visit the locality on Sundays and on holidays that there are thousands of people in the district.

2904. Residing there? No; visiting the district.

2905. But are there many persons residing there. Do you think there would be fifty families? I could not tell you how many. I have no doubt that you could get the information from the Holt-Sutherland people.

2906. I suppose that thousands of people who go out there pleasuring to whom you refer would use only the roads leading to the places of public resort? Yes.

2907. They are about four in number? Yes.

2908. Therefore the remaining eighteen roads would not be constructed for their especial benefit? No, not exactly; but all of the roads lead more or less to deep water—picnic places and so forth—to which people are in the habit of going.

2909. You said just now that there were formerly 5,000 persons at the National Park whose work you did not consider to be of public utility? Not as compared with this other work. As a member of the Casual Labour Board I may say that I consider roadmaking one of the most useful works in which you could be engaged. Whenever we saw that we could employ the surplus labour in roadmaking we did so, because we considered it to be a work of public utility—of far greater advantage to the public than the scrubbing and clearing of portions of the Park.

2910. But the Park is public property? Yes.

2911. But the roads you have constructed are constructed up through private estates? They are dedicated to the public and are public property.

2912. Have they been dedicated? Yes, most of them, I think.

2913. Most of them? I understand that most of them have been dedicated.

2914. You said just now that most of the roads shown on the plan were not made? That is so.

2915. Still it is your intention to make them? Of course it is, unless we are stopped.

2916. You propose to complete the original plan? We propose to continue the work as far as our authority will permit us to do so, provided the surplus labour lasts, and I am afraid that it will.

2917. How many miles of roads marked on the plan are not yet completed? Mr. Burrowes could tell you, but I could not. That is a matter entirely in the hands of the superintendent.

2918. Are you aware that over 43 miles of road have been completed? Between 30 and 40 miles of road have been cleared, I believe, but they are not yet completed.

2919. You mean cleared and gravelled? Nothing of the kind. Some are gravelled, some are only cleared.

2920. Is it your intention to treat these other roads marked on the plan in the same way? Not some of them; nothing more will be done with some of the minor roads. Although we have had authority to do more to most of them, we do not recognize that there is any necessity for doing the work.

2921. By the time you have completed these roads, there will be about 60 miles of them in this locality? I do not know what the measurement is. I could not tell you exactly; but I do not think there could be that mileage.

2922. *Mr. Carruthers.*] You have heard Mr. O'Sullivan speak of twenty-two roads. On this plan, I believe, the roads marked red are cleared, while those coloured in sienna are not commenced? That is so.

2923. If you look at the plan, I think you will see that there are fourteen roads coloured in sienna, and therefore not yet commenced? I believe so; but Mr. Burrowes could satisfy you on that point.

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2924. You believe that this plan is correct? I believe so. Mr. Burrowes' name is attached to it.
2925. I see that fourteen roads have been cleared? I think you will find that there are sixteen.
2926. What would you say is the utility of the main Illawarra Road? As I have already stated, that is a road between Sydney and Wollongong and Kiama.
2927. Is there a fair traffic on it now? A good traffic.
2928. Is it in contemplation to use the road for military purposes? It is a Military Road joining on to what we call the Sutherland and Loftus Roads, which goes right through the Park.
2929. What is the length of that road which has been dealt with? I could not tell you; but I have no doubt that Mr. Burrowes could. I do not want to guess at these things. It is a road passing through the Government reserve, and it is a road which has been under the control of the Roads Department for many years.
2930. Has it been in receipt of the annual mileage allowance? I believe it has, I could not say.
2931. Are you aware that Mr. Frederick Want and other gentlemen are trustees for a considerable number of these roads? I was not aware who the trustees were; but I presume there would be a trust, because it is one of the oldest roads in the Colony.
2932. Is the Port Hacking Road also a trust road? I am not aware whether it is a trust road. I know it to be an old Government road.
2933. You know that the Coronulla Road has been a public road for a considerable time? Yes.
2934. Has the bulk of your work involving an expenditure of money been upon these three roads? Yes. The principal expenditure has been upon these roads, they being the principal ones.
2935. Assuming that the total expenditure is over £8,000 you think you are justified in stating that the larger proportion of that amount has been expended on these three roads? The larger portion of the money has been spent on these three roads.
2936. You state that when you took charge of the unemployed there were great complaints about the work of the men at the National Park Camp? Yes.
2937. Did you receive any instructions to scatter them from that camp—to get them away from the National Park? We received instructions to try and employ their labour to greater advantage than it was being employed in the Park.
2938. You spoke of a large petition signed by Members of Parliament, the Chairman of this Committee—Mr. O'Sullivan—and myself, among others? Yes.
2939. Could you not go on with the work prayed for in that petition until the line had been surveyed? No; I have already stated the reasons why I have been delayed.
2940. When was the line surveyed? The survey is not complete yet.

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3084. *Mr. Carruthers.*] When we left off examining you last time you were speaking about the noxious trades site? I think you asked me how it was that we had not cleared the line for noxious trades, tramway, or railway.
3085. Are you aware of the noxious trades site as proposed by the Committee of the Upper House; have you seen the plan of it? I have already answered that question;—yes.
3086. Have you got a plan of that? No, I have not. This plan shows it.
3087. Are you aware that it was proposed by the Bill before Parliament some time ago and by the Select Committee to include all the land for the noxious trades site between Cape Solander and the Burrannear Road? That was proposed, but I do not know what became of it afterwards.
3088. Are you aware that a portion as far as Coronulla Beach was proposed as a neutral zone? Yes.
3089. To stop all habitation and industrial pursuits there? Yes.
3090. And from Coronulla Beach to the noxious trades site, marked green on the plan, as a residential area? Yes.
3091. And this for the noxious trades? Yes; quite so.
3092. *Chairman.*] You say that it was confined to the site marked on the plan? Yes.
3093. *Mr. Carruthers.*] This is a list of roads put in by Mr. Burrowes. Can you give me the lengths of the three main roads on that list? According to Mr. Burrowes, Port Hacking Road, 320 chains; the main Illawarra Road, 330 chains; the Coronulla Road, 180 chains.
3094. That makes 10 miles 30 chains? I suppose it would. I have not calculated.
3095. What has been the nature of the work done on the main Illawarra Road; It is an old public road as I have stated before.
3096. What is the width of that road cleared? Two chains.
3097. Is there any formation done? Yes.
3098. What width is formed? Half a chain.
3099. What width is ballasted? There is no ballasting at all.
3100. You are sure there is not some of it being ballasted? Just perhaps at the punt end there is a little being done now; just at the entrance of the ferry.
3101. Are you gravelling any portion of it? Yes; a portion of it. It is the main road.
3102. *Mr. Copeland.*] I should think there must be a mile of it done? Not half-a-mile.
3103. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Are you making any culverts on the Illawarra Road? Yes; pipe culverts. The portion near the station has been gravelled. The other portion approaching the ferry had to be widened, and it has been ballasted.
3104. You had to make some deep cuttings there? Yes; so as to relieve the steep grade leading down to the ferry.

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3105. Has the work you speak of on that road taken a large portion of the £8,000 Well a large portion has been expended on the three or four main roads.

3106. On the other two roads have you done any gravelling or any other work? Yes, the Port Hacking Road has been pretty well gravelled from one end to the other. The Coronulla Road is in progress. These three or four roads are the principal roads upon which expenditure has taken place, they being main roads.

3107. Have you gone to any expense for similar work on any of the other roads? No; we have simply done the clearing.

3108. I notice that here and there you have put in pipe culverts? Pipe culverts are the cheapest kind that can be put in. I see from a return which I hold in my hand, furnished by the officer in charge of the works, that 4 miles of the Port Hacking Road have been cleared, and that 4 miles of the road have been cleared and formed. I see also that $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the Illawarra Road have been cleared, and that $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles have been cleared and formed. Of the Coronulla Road $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles have been cleared, and $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles have been cleared and formed.

3109. You said, I believe in your former evidence, that you did not know whether these roads had been dedicated? I think I said that they had been dedicated—that they were proclaimed public roads.

3110. You know that all these roads have been dedicated? Yes.

3111. Take the Wollooware Road;—is not that an old track used by fishermen and others? Yes; for years and years I know that they have used it to get to their fishing-grounds and to get their fish to market for years past.

3112. Is it not also used by the lime-getters? I could not say.

3113. Take the Tareen Point Road;—is there any special advantage to be gained from the clearing and forming of that road? Yes, of course; that road leads right to the deep waters.

3114. Are you aware that on the opposite shore, at Sandringham, there is a Government tramway? I know there is a tramway there, but I thought it belonged to a private company.

3115. By the construction of the Tareen Point Road, would there be any saving of distance to people travelling from Sydney to Port Hacking and to the people living at Port Hacking? There is a saving of at least 2 miles.

3116. Would it not save something like 5 miles? I have not been over the distance myself more than once or twice.

3117. Is not the distance from Tom Ugly's Point to the Kogarah Station 3 miles, and would not the whole of that distance be saved? Yes; there is no doubt about that.

3118. At any rate it would at least effect a saving of 2 miles? I should say so from my casual observation. I have been over the distance only twice, and that was some time ago. I know that the road would save a considerable distance, because the road is more direct.

3119. Does any portion of the Tareen Point Road go through any private property besides the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes.

3120. Whose property is it? I do not know.

3121. Have you a plan of the National Park with you? Yes—a tracing. The portion tinted green shows the National Park.

3122. I see that its area is 36,320 acres? Yes.

3123. What is the main approach by road? The main Illawarra Road.

3124. There is also an approach by branch railway? Yes.

3125. But the main approach for vehicular traffic is by the main Illawarra Road? Yes; I believe that the train goes up to a platform in the centre of the Park twice a week.

3126. I notice from this plan that the southern shore of Port Hacking is to a large extent the foreshore of the National Park? Yes.

3127. Do the roads which you have cleared through the Holt-Sutherland Estate give access to the National Park? Yes; several of them. I have already stated that the roads leading down from the main roads go to the deep waters of Port Hacking and to the National Park.

3128. What was the general work of the unemployed in this locality when you took charge of them? When we took charge of the unemployed there was a system of free rations and free feeds. This the Board immediately stopped. The great majority of the men were upon day labour, and were receiving not less than 6s. a day, thus making the relief works very attractive, and causing the men to leave their private employ, and flooding the city with unemployed.*

3129. Where were the bulk of the men concentrated? At the National Park.

3130. Do you think that the work which they have been doing on the Holt-Sutherland Estate is an improvement in point of utility upon the work on which they were previously engaged? I have already said so. I do not see how the men could have been more profitably employed than upon the construction of roads which had been dedicated to the public. I think they were employed in a most useful work.

3131. Did you use some of the unemployed in making roads at Como and Heathcote? Yes, after the sale.

3132. Do you know whether, as a result of the making of these roads, the Crown lands were improved in value? If the sale had been delayed until the roads had been made a much higher price would have been realized; but the sales had been arranged, and they took place prior to the roads being made and the appointment of the Board.

3133. The same thing occurred at Heathcote? Yes; precisely the same thing.

3134. That is, the improvements were made after the sale? Yes.

3135.

* NOTE (on revision) :—This system was abolished by the Board, and piece-work substituted instead of day labour.

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3135. Did the Crown lose? Yes; but it is only fair to say that the auctioneer who sold on behalf of the Crown said that the roads would be made. You will see from the papers that Sir George Innes called upon the Government to make a road in accordance with the promise made by the auctioneers.

3136. Did you also have charge of the work of the unemployed at Narrabeen? Yes.

3137. And at Harbord? We did not do much there. The sale took place before we took charge.

3138. You did not do much work at Harbord? We had to make some roads to give access to the Crown lands. These were made upon the recommendation of Mr. Surveyor Gordon. Certain roads were made to give access to the Crown lands.

3139. *Mr. Copeland.*] Do you mean that the roads were to give access to Crown lands which were not sold? To both. The Harbord subdivision was sold prior to the appointment of the Casual Labour Board, but subsequently, upon the recommendation of Mr. Surveyor Gordon, roads of access were made to the sold and unsold portions of Crown land. I think there are only about 2 miles of road, but there are some heavy cuttings in it.

3140. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Has any work been done at Narrabeen? Yes; about 65 miles of roads have been cleared, 19 miles have been formed, and 10 miles have been formed, metalled, and blinded.

3141. Have you any idea of the cost of that work? I know that it cost a considerable sum.

3142. Were any of these roads at Narrabeen through private property? Yes; there was the road through Miss Jenkins and the road through Wheeler's.

3143. *Mr. Copeland.*] What was the length of these roads? One would be about half-a-mile long. I do not suppose that the length of all of them would exceed $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile to 2 miles.

3144. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Are there any cross roads from these roads? No; the subdivision of the Crown lands takes the cross roads. These roads were to give access from the Pittwater Road to the Crown lands subdivision at Narrabeen.

3145. *Mr. Copeland.*] With the exception of these $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile of road, the whole of the rest of these 65 miles of road were through Government land? Yes, with the exception of a few chains belonging to Mr. Cousins of Manly Beach.

3146. Did these private owners contriquire anything towards the making of these roads? No.

3147. Did they give the land? Yes; but in one instance we had a difficulty in getting the land, and that was the cause of some delay. We got the land eventually.

3148. Did the land on both sides of these roads belong to one owner? In one case it did; in the other it did not.

3149. What was the difficulty to which you have referred? Well, some of the people did not like to part with their land. They thought that the Government would be eventually compelled to take the land and to give them compensation. I assured them that the construction of the roads would be of great advantage to their property.

3150. Did you form these roads? Yes; we formed and ballasted them. One was a very difficult road to make. It passed through a swamp, and we had to make the foundation with bundles of faggots. Although it was a short bit of road it was very expensive, but it was absolutely necessary in the interests of the Crown that it should be made. There has been a sale which has been a great success. The first subdivision nearly all sold, and fetched a long price.

3151. You are referring now to the Crown lands subdivision at Narrabeen? Yes. I believe the first sale realized about £29,000.

3152. Was that a better sale than the Harbord sale? A much better sale.

3153. You did nothing like the work at Harbord that you did at Narrabeen? We did very little work at Harbord.

3154. How do you account for the sale at Narrabeen being so much better than the sale at Harbord? Simply because the roads were only cleared at Harbord, whereas in connection with the subdivision at Narrabeen they were cleared and formed also. That is a great advantage.

3155. Is not the Narrabeen land better land? A great deal of it is bad land; it is very rocky. The land at Harbord is much better. I think you will find that at the next sale at Harbord you will get double the price for the land—that is, having regard to the roads which have been made. Of course it would not have been worth our while to make the roads unless we were to get a better value.

3156. You stated just now that the bulk of the expenditure upon the Holt-Sutherland Estate had been made upon the Port Hacking Road, the main Illawarra Road, and the Coronulla Road? Yes; and also upon the Woronora Road. Those are the four principal roads.

3157. Are you aware that Mr. Burrowes has handed in a statement showing that a great deal of expenditure has taken place in connection with other roads? I am aware that a great deal of other work has been done, but I cannot speak as to the length and width of the clearing in every case.

3158. Are you aware that the Burrannear Road has been cleared for 144 chains for a width of a chain and a half? I know that a great many of these roads had been partially cleared before. As far as I know this road has been cleared, but I could not say for what length.

3159. I suppose you have no doubt that the length supplied by Mr. Burrowes would be correct? It may be.

3160. Are you aware that he has supplied us with the information which I have just read with regard to the Burrannear Road? I was not aware of it.

3161. Are you aware that three culverts and one bridge have been erected on the road? I was not aware of it.

3162. But you do not dispute it? No.

3163. Are you aware that 180 chains of the Wotonga Road has been cleared, that 45 chains have been gravelled, and that four culverts have been made on one section of the road? I was not aware of that. I think it is only fair to say that fully 20 miles of these roads had been cleared by the owners of the estate before we had anything to do with them. Mr. Burrowes does not subtract that work, I take it.

3164. He sends in a return showing a list of roads cleared, formed, and improved on or in connection with the Holt-Sutherland Estate by the unemployed? Yes; but we did not clear these roads. I do not mean to say that the old Illawarra Road, for instance, has not been widened, but it was partly cleared before, and had been so for the past fifty years. If you want to get a correct statement as to the amount of work done in the case of each road by the unemployed I do not think this return will show it to you. I know that we have not done as much work as that mentioned in this schedule.

3165. But this return is supplied to us as the amount of work which has been done by the unemployed? Then it is misleading. These old trust roads were cleared long before we had anything to do with the work.

3166. Now take the Malvern Road. Are you aware that Mr. Burrowes states that this road has been cleared for 165 chains by a width of a chain and a half? I am not aware.

3167. Are you aware that out of this quantity 93 chains have been gravelled, and that three culverts have been made? I am not aware of that. I cannot speak as to the distance.

3168. Then on the Station Road. Are you aware that half-a-mile by a chain and a half of that road has been cleared and that the whole of that half-mile has been gravelled? Yes.

3169. It leads to the railway station? Yes, it leads to the railway station.

3170. Then there is the Lilli Pilli Road. 150 chains of that has been cleared? I am not aware of that.

3171. The Euronga Road, 30 chains, and the Orara Road, 64 chains? I was not aware of that.

3172. Are you aware of the work which has been done upon the Karimbela Road? I could not tell you what work has been done.

3173. I am merely mentioning these distances because they have been given to us by Mr. Burrowes the superintendent? I only know the distances from what you tell me. I have not seen the statement. I have no knowledge of it.

3174. Mr. Burrowes says that 67 chains of the Karimbela Road have been cleared to a width of a chain and a half and that 261 chains of the Sylvania Road have been cleared to the same width? I know that these roads are cleared, but I do not know to what length.

3175. He also says that 110 chains by a chain and a half have been cleared on the Bath Road? I know that the road is cleared, that is all.

3176. He tells us that 319 chains on the Boulevard Road have been cleared by a chain and a half? I know that the road has been cleared, but I could not say to what length.

3177. That 92 chains by a chain and a half had been cleared on the Yowie Road, and that 250 chains on the Forest Road have been cleared, each by a chain and a half? I know the roads are cleared, that is all.

3178. He tells us that 175 chains by a chain and a half have been cleared on the Corea Road? I am not aware of that.

3179. And that 60 chains by a chain and a half have been cleared on the Eton Road? I am not aware of that.

3180. He also tells us that certain distances have been cleared on the Willarree and Camera Roads? I know that some clearing has been done, but I could not speak as to the length.

3181. If these statements have been made by Mr. Burrowes I suppose there was no doubt as to their being correct? I have great doubt.

3182. *Chairman.*] But have you not confidence in your own superintendent? Like you and me he is liable to make mistakes, and I think he has made a great mistake here.

3183. *Mr. Copeland.*] In that case would you not consider it necessary to inquire into the matter yourself? I think it would be better for this Committee to send out an independent surveyor to make inquiries for himself.

3184. Is not Mr. Burrowes a surveyor? Not a licensed surveyor.

3185. But he is a practical surveyor and a road engineer, is he not? Not that I know of. I have no knowledge of his engineering skill. With Mr. O'Donnell and a number of others he was appointed before the Casual Labour Board came into existence. We have had to get rid of a number of men, but we have not made one appointment since we took office.

3186. You know that Mr. Burrowes has held a responsible position in Queensland? From his own statement.

3187. Have you any reason to doubt his capability in measuring the width and length of roads? I have.

3188. How long is it since you first had such a doubt? Within the last month or six weeks.

3189. Since this Committee has been in existence? No, before that.

3190. Did you take any steps to dispense with his services, or to call him to account? No; I called him to account. I wrote him a letter. I had occasion to complain of what appeared to be want of skill and attention to his duties in connection with the Woronora Road.

3191. What is the date of that letter? It is dated some time last month.

3192. Did he afterwards satisfy you in the matter? He gave an explanation which was deemed satisfactory.

3193. But you do not doubt his ability to measure a certain number of chains? No; certainly not.

3194. Do you doubt his honesty? No; but I think he is neglectful in his duty sometimes.

3195. Then in all probability the width and length of the roads given here is approximately accurate? No doubt; but I think it would be much more satisfactory to this Committee if

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they are in search of truth to get some gentleman from the Roads Department to take the measurements.

3196. *Chairman.*] Surely you can trust your own officer? I think he is out in his measurements here.

3197. *Mr. Copeland.*] You were appointed head of this sub-department by the present Premier? Yes.

3198. Are you considered to be on the Civil Service List? No; but the paid officers of the Department are—that is, the accountant and the paymaster.

3199. But you yourself? Certainly not. I have not received a shilling for the services I have rendered, up to the present moment.

3200. You have charge of the financial arrangements in connection with the unemployed? No; I have not.

3201. What is the *modus operandi* in obtaining money from the Treasurer? The three members of the Board have to sign the paper applying for an advance. We have to furnish the vouchers, in conformity with the "Audit Act," to the Auditor-General. We generally apply for £6,000.

3202. In each case have the three members of the Board signed? Yes; in all cases.

3203. Having obtained your £6,000, what becomes of it? It is placed to the credit of the Casual Labour Board.

3204. Who signs the cheques? One member of the Board and the accountant; precisely the same as in the Roads Department.

3205. I suppose that you as chairman sign the cheques? Yes; they look to me to do the executive part of the work.

3206. Are there any instances in which some other member of the Commission besides yourself has signed? No; but in case of my absence, any one of my colleagues can sign.

3207. And the accountant? He has to countersign. All cheques have to be countersigned by him, no cheque is of any use without his signature.

3208. Who is the accountant? Mr. Hinchcliffe.

3209. Has he given any bond? Yes; a fidelity bond of £1,000.

3210. Have you given any? There is no occasion for me to do so; I never handle sixpence of the money.

3211. Is it not the custom in the Government Service for each head of a Department to give a guarantee? I am not aware.

3212. Are you aware that Mr. Bennett, the Commissioner for Roads, has entered into a bond for £1,000. That is quite a proper thing, he being a Civil Servant.

3213. And that Mr. Flynn, the Under Secretary, and other Under Secretaries have acted similarly? And rightly so, I think, they being Civil Servants.

3214. You have control over your own accountant? No, he is an independent officer put there by the Government.

3215. Is he subordinate to you? No; he is appointed by the Government and the Executive.

3216. Does he not work subordinately to you? He takes his instructions from us.

3217. Do you ever check his accounts? No; I do not.

3218. Do you know who does? They are checked by the Auditor-General's Department and the Treasury.

3219. Do these officers come to the offices of the Casual Labour Board? Yes; we had a Treasury official round a month ago. The accounts are furnished to the Auditor-General, and his staff go through them.

3220. What check is there to show that the men whose names are entered on the pay-sheets are actually there and have received the money? There is in the margin of the sheets the man's name and the quantity of work he has done at so much a yard, and it is carried forward. The man has to sign immediately opposite the money he receives, in my presence, in the presence of Mr. Hinchcliffe, and in the presence of the storekeeper. There are three names to witness the payment.

3221. The actual payment of the money? Yes; the men step up to the table, and the paymaster hands over the money with a pay-slip, so that the man knows exactly what amount of money he is receiving.

3222. How much money have you received from the Treasury altogether? Speaking from memory I should say that we had received up to date about £225,000; that would be in twenty months.

3223. Have you received any money from the Treasury direct for private disbursements? Not a shilling.

3224. What is the practice in regard to the stores;—do you supply the men with rations? Yes. When we took charge we found that the men were being charged 1s. 3d. per head for rations, and that there was no contract at all—nothing but a general order given by the Colonial Secretary of the day, Mr. Dibbs, that all the men were to be supplied with rations not exceeding 2s. a head per day. The contractor, Mr. Kidman, charged 1s. 3d. a head per day, and this amount was deducted from the men's earnings. The first month we were appointed we insisted in having public tenders invited, and that the Government should call for a contract for larger rations than the men had been accustomed to receive. For instance, the men were getting only a pound of beef, and we thought that they should receive a pound and a half, seeing that they were working hard. The Colonial Secretary consequently invited tenders, and some thirteen or fourteen persons tendered for the supply of the rations at prices varying from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 9d. per head. The tender at 1s. 1d. was accepted. It effected a saving of £30 a day at that time, or £1,000 a month. It was all in favour of the men, because they had larger rations and less money to pay.

3225. Do you know when you were appointed to the Casual Labour Board? On the 2nd May, 1887,

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3226. You say that you have since received no salary or emolument of any kind? I have not.
3227. Do you expect to receive any? Most certainly I do.
3228. Can you tell the Committee what you expect? I expect to receive the ordinary fees given to members of Boards.
3229. I suppose you will make a claim for the amount? No doubt.
3230. Were you appointed to the Legislative Council before you were appointed to the position? I gave eight months' service before I was appointed to the Legislative Council. I do not expect to be paid for a period since I have been a member of that Chamber, but I expect to be paid for my services prior to the date of my appointment.
3231. Can you give the Committee the date on which you commenced to use the unemployed upon the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, and upon the Holt-Sutherland Estate? The papers will give you the dates.
3232. Which papers? The papers laid up the table.
3233. Could you not tell us the month? It would be impossible for me to say from memory. There are twenty or thirty different places where these men were working.
3234. You say that you took the men away from the clearing of the National Park and put them on to these roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate and other places? Yes.
3235. You thought that was a judicious course in the public interest? Yes.
3236. Were you not aware that there were miles and miles of roads through Government subdivisions upon which you could have employed these men? I was not.
3237. You were not? No, I applied to the Lands Department. I applied for information in reference to the different Crown lands subdivisions with a view to their being improved by the Board. Our desire was to obtain some return to the Crown for the moneys we were expending.
3238. Were these applications of yours in writing? No, they were verbal applications to the Minister direct.
3239. They will not be shown on the printed papers? Some of them may be, but not all of them. I spoke to Mr. Garrett personally. I went to see him purposely.
3240. You are aware now that hundreds of miles of roads could have been cleared and formed, and if it were necessary to find employment, metalled, upon Government subdivisions at Harbord, the Field of Mars, and other places? I am not aware, as we have done so in all the places you refer to. We have carried out the same work as at Narrabeen, only perhaps not to so large an extent.
3241. Did you make any roads upon the Heathcote subdivision? We are making them there. The sale took place prior to the Board's appointment.
3242. But you have made roads since? We are making some now.
3243. When did you commence? The work has been in hand for some time past. For some six or eight months. It is only a small subdivision.
3244. What I want to get at is this: Are you not aware that there were any number of roads from Crown lands subdivisions upon which the so-called unemployed could have been employed instead of their being employed upon these private estates? No. Such places as you mention do not exist. No Crown lands subdivisions other than those through which we have made roads have existed during the time I have had charge of the unemployed.
3245. How many chains have you cleared and formed at Harbord? At least 2 miles. There is a good deal of cutting through hard rock.
3246. You can hardly be expected to know how many chains remain uncompleted? I could not say.
3247. Are there not any number of incomplete roads upon the Government subdivisions of Harbord, Gordon, Heathcote, and the Field of Mars? All the roads in the subdivision have been cleared and formed as far as the Field of Mars is concerned. There have been 69 miles of roads cleared on the Field of Mars Common by the Casual Labour Board.
3248. Is that since you took charge? Yes. 44 miles have been cleared and formed, and in addition to this three bridges, twenty-nine culverts, and six crossings have been made.
3249. How many chains have been metalled? I do not think any metalling has been done.
3250. Do you mean upon any of the subdivisions? There is some on some of them, but I could not say what quantity. As far as Harbord is concerned the roads made by the Casual Labour Board there are ballasted and metalled.
3251. Are there not miles and miles of roads through Government subdivisions which are not formed and ballasted? I am not aware of that. Wherever we have had a Crown lands subdivision we have thought it our duty in the public interest to form a road. I do not know of any subdivision upon which we have neglected to do this.
3252. Do you know whether all the roads on the Heathcote subdivision have been formed and metalled? No; because there was a sale prior to the appointment of the Board. The land was simply cleared.
3253. Are all the roads through the unsold portions cleared, formed, and metalled? The roads are in course of formation.
3254. I suppose the same answer would apply to all the Government subdivisions? Yes; much the same.
3255. These roads were there for you to go on with at the time you commenced on these private estates? Yes; but the unsold portions are very small.
3256. I suppose you know that there are over 4,000 acres at Gordon? Yes; but the subdivision roads have been cleared and formed.
3257. How many are there on the Liverpool Common? About 30 or 40 acres. We are waiting for Ministerial authority for that work.
3258. *Mr. Copeland.*] Can you say when the petition for the clearing of the railway track to the noxious trades site was presented to you? I could not say.
3259. When was it dealt with by you? On the 2nd of June, 1887.

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3260. What difficulty existed in the way of your putting the men on to clear that track? The survey of the line of railway was not completed.
3261. Did you take any steps to get the survey made? Yes.
3262. What steps did you take? I communicated with the Railway Department, asking them to hurry on the survey, as we had authority to clear the track.
3263. Is there any letter in the printed papers showing your request. The request was made to Mr. Sutherland direct.
3264. Not by letter? No.
3265. It was a personal application? Yes. I had to make a great many at that time. Having regard to the number of men who were flocking in at the time, I could not wait for the usual red-tape routine.
3266. Have you since June, 1887, made any application to get this survey work completed? Yes. I have seen the Minister three or four times about it. He subsequently gave instructions to the surveyors, and they have been at work for about three months.
3267. Then I think they should have completed the survey? It is not quite complete, I think.
3268. Although they have been three months at the work? Yes, off and on.
3269. Have you employed any men upon the portion of the track which has already been surveyed? No; it would not be a prudent thing for me to attempt to clear the track until the survey had been approved. I think it is a national work, and that it ought to be pushed on with great speed. I am quite in sympathy with the petitioners.
3270. Have you formed any estimate as to the increased value of the Holt-Sutherland Estate by reason of the making of these roads? I have not. That is a question which would not arise so far as I am concerned.
3271. You have no opinion to express upon that point? No.
3272. You said as a reason why the Coronulla Beach Road should be made was that thousands of people visited the seaside? Yes.
3273. When you said thousands I suppose you did not mean thousands literally? What I said was that thousands of people visited the locality in holiday time; they come by rail, and drive out in private traps and in buses; I have myself seen 500 people upon the beach.
3274. On one day? Yes.
3275. *Chairman.*] Was it a picnic? There were a number of private picnics. The people came out in buggies or traps.
3276. It was not a public picnic? Not that I know of.
3277. *Mr. Copeland.*] What is the general traffic on that road? There is a good deal of traffic upon it. On a Sunday when I have been out there I have seen as many as forty or fifty buggies upon that road.
3278. Have you seen that number on this one road? Well, on the beach.
3279. And have you at the same time seen other buggies on other roads? There is a good deal of traffic of the ordinary kind on the Port Hacking Road.
3280. The whole of the traffic on that estate would have first of all to cross at Tom Ugly's Point? Well, those who came by rail would not need to do that.
3281. Have you any idea as to the amount of traffic crossing in the punt? No; I have seen it frequently loaded with traps coming across; I have been on it myself when there have been three or four vehicles.
3282. Would you be surprised to hear that the total number of coaches, carriages, and buggies, and so forth, that crossed at Tom Ugly's Point both ways amounted to only 109 for the whole of the month of November? I could not say whether that is so.
3283. Would you be surprised to hear that there were 279 carts and waggons, and that there were in addition to that 128 coaches, carriages, and buggies, making a total of 407 vehicles? I could not have any knowledge upon that point. I do not know what number of vehicles would be likely to cross.
3284. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Do you know a road leading from the Loftus platform right through the middle of the park called the Lady Carrington Road? I am not aware of any such road. The road leading from the Loftus platform is called the Audley Road.
3285. At all events there is a well-defined road in the centre of the Park? Yes.
3286. It is also reached by the Illawarra railway? Yes; the railway goes right through the Park.
3287. So that passengers to the Park have ready access by the Illawarra railway, by a branch railway, and by the Audley Road? Yes.
3288. All of these give direct access to the Park? Yes.

End of evidence before Select Committee.

10185. *President resuming.*] Was that evidence submitted to you for revision? It was.
10186. Having heard it read over, do you now wish to make any correction or explanation? In reference to my answer to question 795, minutes of about twenty-five meetings were kept, and after that there were the records regularly kept of the action of the Board; and with reference to my answer to question 819 I can give some further explanation later on.
10187. With those exceptions, is that evidence which has just been read over to you true and correct in every particular? It is.

TUESDAY,

TUESDAY, 23 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P.,

| T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

The Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., called in and further examined:—

10188. *President.*] Have you the summons that was served on you to attend here? I have not. I am here in obedience to the summons.

10189. You were summoned on the 19th of March last? I could not say that I was summoned on the 19th March—not from memory—but I have no doubt the date is correct.

10190. Did you attend then? I did attend.

10191. Were you ready then to be examined? I was.

10192. Did you ask the Secretary to this Commission to be excused attendance on that or a subsequent day? Never.

10193. Are you sure? Never. I do not understand the nature of the question.

10194. Did you ask the Secretary to have your attendance excused on the 19th of March, or on any other date? No; I simply asked the Secretary to avoid summoning me on a Thursday, as it would entail a loss if I did not attend a Board meeting. That was the only exchange of words between the Secretary and myself. It was merely to avoid a loss to myself that I asked him that.

10195. Did the summons ask you to produce any books and papers you had in any way relating to the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

10196. Have you any? I produce printed papers, copies of which have been laid upon the Table of the House. I presume you have got copies of them already, and a few letters marked private and confidential, from the superintendent. I think you have got most of these papers before; they are simply official papers laid upon the Table of the House and ordered to be printed.

10197. Have you any others? Not unless you want private papers.

10198. I ask you to produce all the books and papers you have relating to the Casual Labour Board? These are only private papers.

10199. Do you produce them? I shall produce them if the Commission insists upon them being produced.

10200. Do you produce them? If you want them I will give them to you.

10201. Do you decline to produce them? No; but I have no wish to put them in unless it is necessary. If the inquiry says it is necessary, I will produce them; I brought them because they might be useful during the inquiry, but if it is necessary I will give them to you now. It is not the first time I have been on a Commission. I have been President myself of two or three Commissions, and I know how they should be conducted. That is a report from Mr. Gordon upon my taking charge of the works; that is a copy of a letter I sent to the Colonial Secretary asking that money be put at the disposal of the Board for the purpose of paying wages; that is a copy of a ticket which I made each ganger produce showing to the gang all the moneys that were received.

10202. Have you any books—order-books or receipts—in your possession? No; I have receipts of money paid into the Treasury.

10203. Do you produce these? Yes. Here is another letter, marked private and confidential; I may as well put that in, too. That is all I have got, sir. There are a large number of receipts besides these I hand you, but I have not got those. These, I think, are some of them that were paid just as I was leaving office.

10204. Have you any other books, papers, receipts, butts, cheque-books, or documents of any kind in your possession, here or in your house, or anywhere else, beyond those that you have produced to me to-day? No; nothing more than I produce here.

10205. When the Casual Labour Board came into existence, what was the arrangement that was made for having the necessary funds supplied? An arrangement was made that advances of £6,000 should be placed to the credit of the Board from time to time, as required. The three members of the Board signed a formal application for the advance. If you have the papers here you will see the form of applying for the advance signed by three members of the Board, to be adjusted for in conformity with the Audit Act.

10206. Were there any written instructions given you? No; I received no instructions whatever except what are contained in the formal appointment in the printed papers. That was the only instructions that we had of any character.

10207. Is that the document of the 2nd May, 1887, addressed to you, Mr. Wells, and Mr. Houison? Yes, quite so.

10208. You had no other written instructions? No.

10209. From whom did you learn the arrangement as to the £6,000 advances—was that a verbal arrangement? Well, I think the Paymaster had more to do with getting the advances than anyone else. He had had experience in connection with the unemployed before they were transferred from the Immigration Department to the Casual Labour Board. I think he proceeded simply on the lines that were in operation before.

10210. How did you become aware of the bank that you had to deal with? By the Treasury. The Treasurer intimated that money would be placed to the credit of the Casual Labour Board in the Australian Joint Stock Bank.

10211. Did he intimate that to you in writing? No.

10212. Verbally? Verbally.

10213. Did you see the bankers and ask what arrangement you had to make to draw the money? Yes.

10214. Whom did you see? I saw Mr. Webster, the clerk in the Australian Joint Stock Bank.

10215. What was the arrangement? That cheques should be made out under the signature of the Chairman, countersigned by the Secretary, and in the absence of the Chairman, by any of the other members of the Board.

10216. Was there any arrangement made by which you were to have an overdraft? Well, that was an arrangement made, not by us, but by the Treasury officials. I may tell you that most of the operations of the Board were carried on by overdraft. We simply had letters of credit.

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10217. How were the moneys made available to the Board from time to time? By our continual application. As one advance became exhausted—and sometimes before it was exhausted,—in order to make provision for the pay of the following week, we would apply for an additional £6,000.
10218. Looking at these pass-books, I see the following sums credited:—7th June, 1887, £38 4s. 2d.? Yes, that is correct.
10219. 19th July, 1887, £113 9s.? Yes.
10220. 22nd August, 1887, £76 4s. 11d.? Yes.
10221. 16th September, 1887, £40 12s. 3d.? Yes.
10222. 21st June, 1888, £46 5s. 11d.? Yes.
10223. 24th September, 1888, £20? Yes.
10224. Do you know what these payments total up? No; I have not made them up, sir.
10225. Will you add them up and give me the amount? Well, perhaps you will ask your Secretary to make them up. I am not here to give you an account—to make-up accounts. I will give you evidence—that is what I came here for, but I am not here to make-up accounts. No doubt the Secretary can give it to you in a minute.
10226. What are these sums paid in for? For various purposes—principally, I think, for the sale of firewood. £20 was received, I think, from the Roads Department on account of Roberts' Bridge, Beecroft; £42 on account of sleepers from the Roads Department—sleepers that cost the Casual Labour Board £150. They were sent down on the estimate made by the superintendent that they could be delivered at Sydney Station at 22s. 6d. per hundred; the Board offered to do them at that price, relying upon the accuracy of the superintendent's estimate; we found that the weight of them alone was something like 4½ tons per hundred, and the consequence was that a loss was made of over £100 on the transaction. The total sum received was £42 odd, and the total cost was £150.
10227. You spoke of some sales of firewood;—who sold the firewood? Mr. Neale.
10228. Any one else? Not that I know of; not to my knowledge. A portion of the receipts I have given you to-day is for the proceeds of the sale of firewood.
10229. Where did you get the proceeds from? From Mr. Neale.
10230. Anybody else? Yes; £4 from Mr. Hanley.
10231. Have you the accounts of these sales? No; they were left in the office when the new Board was appointed.
10232. Did you leave them all in the office? Yes.
10233. Were they in the office when you gave up charge? Yes.
10234. Are you sure? I could not swear to it, but I saw them there a short time before I left possession.
10235. Mr. Neale's accounts and Mr. Burrowes's letters;—amongst what papers were they put? On a file.
10236. Where were they kept? In the office.
10237. In what part of the office? Towards Mr. Larnach's desk, on a file on the table.
10238. Who had charge of them? No one had charge of them. They were there in the office like all the other papers.
10239. Were they ever put in a drawer? Never.
10240. Had you not particular charge of them? No more than I had charge of all the other papers.
10241. If other witnesses have sworn that you had them in a drawer, is their evidence true or false? False; absolutely false.
10242. That is your evidence? I say, without any hesitation, absolutely false.
10243. Then all those account sales should be amongst the papers that have been handed over to us? They should be.
10244. Are these moneys, which you have paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank, all the moneys you received on account of the Casual Labour Board for sales of firewood, charcoal, sleepers, or any other produce or property belonging to the Board or the Government? I have received no money for the sale of charcoal. There is an outstanding account due by Mr. Wearne. What I paid into the Treasury, and paid into the bank, is the total amount I have received on account of the Government.
10245. Are the moneys that you paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank, and the moneys that you paid into the Treasury, the total moneys that you received on account of the Casual Labour Board for sales of firewood, charcoal, sleepers, or any other produce or property belonging to the Board or the Government? Yes.
10246. Absolutely? Yes.
10247. You swear that? Of course, I have sworn it. Of course, if there was any little outstanding account that I have no knowledge of I am prepared to make an adjustment at any time. As head of the department I am prepared to do so. You must understand that I am placed at a great disadvantage; the whole of the books and papers were taken out of my custody without my having five minutes' notice.
10248. Who were the persons entrusted with the sales of produce or property belonging to the Casual Labour Board? I told you Mr. Neale was the only one who had the sales of firewood. The sleepers were paid for by the Roads Department.
10249. Was there any other property of the Casual Labour Board sold? There were some surplus stores taken over by me without any inventory—stores which I found were gradually becoming less—very much less, I may tell you. I took the opinion of the storekeeper of them, and I made the purchase and paid for them. I paid 2d. per lb. for some ration sugar, and 10s. for some broken crockery, so broken that it was scarcely worth anything; I am sure nobody would have given the same price for it; it was put in a little kerosene case.
10250. Were Mr. Neale and the Roads Department the only persons from whom you received money? Yes, except Mr. Hanley.
10251. Was there anybody else? I do not remember anybody else. Oh! there was a duplicate roller that we lent to the Kogarah Council. I lent it to them on the understanding that they were to return it in the same condition that they received it; they did not do so. I think the duplicate cost £24, and the money was paid into the Treasury. Then there were moneys for unclaimed wages. The moneys I held in hand for unclaimed wages I held with the full knowledge of the Audit Department. I held them in trust.

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10252. How was the sale of property in the shape of timber, sleepers, and firewood originated—who originated the sales? It was done before my time—at least the firewood business. It was started by Mr. Deering. I was simply carrying out what had been previously in existence. The matter of the sleepers was done on the application of Mr. Bennett. He asked whether we could not supply a number of sleepers for the Centennial Park, to enable him to carry out the necessary arrangements in connection with the formation of the roads there. We submitted the matter to the superintendent, and he said we could supply the sleepers at 22s. 6d. per hundred, but they cost us more like £2 2s. 6d. The weight alone per hundred was over 4 tons, and you can easily form an opinion that the timber would be worth a great deal more money.

10253. What do you say was the cost in proportion to the result of the proceeds? I think we lost over £100 by that transaction. The cost was three times what it was put down at. Then there was a terrible loss over firewood. I may tell you that Mr. Deering made a contract with a man named Hillier for cutting 1,000 tons of firewood. It only realized 4s. 9d. per ton, and there was a loss of 4s. or 5s. a ton on the whole of it.

10254. What practice did you adopt in the office to check the quantities of firewood—did you obtain the railway delivery-notes and the returns from the cutters? The only practice we could adopt was the practice that Mr. Burrowes had followed previously. He would see the trucks, get the weights, and send the weights to us. The auctioneer would send his weigh-bills, showing how much per ton and the prices. On this we paid the man Hillier according to as many tons we got.

10255. How were you made aware that firewood, sleepers, and so forth, were available for sale? We were not made aware of the fact until after the sale.

10256. Did you keep any record of this part of the work? No; of course our business was the disbursement of moneys. All our trouble arose with our taking over matters that had been initiated before our time—before our creation. If we had created the matter, we would have had proper supervision over everything. It was only regarded as a temporary affair.

10257. Were you or the Board authorized to effect sales of property such as this and pass the proceeds to the credit of the Board at the Australian Joint Stock Bank? No; we had no special authority for it.

10258. Did you know that it was irregular? I was told afterwards that it was irregular.

10259. In what position was Mr. Hinchcliffe in the office? He was Paymaster and Accountant—he went to the pays and paid the men.

10260. Was he accountant also? He was.

10261. Are you sure? I am.

10262. Did you hold him responsible for the accountant's work? I did.

10263. Was he the responsible accountant in the department? Yes, he was.

10264. If he has stated before us that he was not an accountant, what do you say to that? All I say is that the Government made a great mistake in appointing a man who was not an accountant. He was appointed there, so far as I understand, to look after the accounts and books. That was his particular work. I do not profess to have any knowledge of accounts myself—that is, any professional knowledge—neither I nor any other members of the Board.

10265. Do you recollect his remonstrating with you in connection with these payments into the Australian Joint Stock Bank? I don't remember his remonstrating with me. He told me after some of the payments had been made that it was irregular. It was some time after. The money should, he said, be paid into the Treasury.

10266. Did he ask to be relieved of any responsibility in the matter of these payments? He might have done so. I could not positively say that he did.

10267. What position did Mr. Hibble occupy in the office? He was assistant clerk in the office.

10268. Do you recollect him making any remark about it? No; it would not have been his place to make any remark about it.

10269. Was he in too subordinate a position? Yes. I think, now you mention Mr. Hinchcliffe, I went to see the Under Secretary for Finance about it, and he said it was an irregularity, and he said it would be quite sufficient to pay the money into the Treasury when we settled up.

10270. Did Mr. Hinchcliffe call your attention to it on the occasion of your first payment? I do not think so. He called attention to it afterwards by pointing out the irregularity.

10271. When did he call your attention to it? I am not aware when he did so, but as soon as he pointed it out I saw the Under Secretary for Finance, and he said it was an irregularity, but it would be easily remedied when we paid the money to the credit of the Board into the Treasury.

10272. Did Mr. Hinchcliffe ask to be exonerated from any responsibility in the matter? He may have done so, but I have no recollection at the present time that he did.

10273. Do you know whether Mr. Wells or Mr. Houston received any moneys for the sales of firewood? No; I am not aware. I do not think they have. I think I am the only person who ever received money in the matter of sales.

10274. Did you receive, between the 2nd May, 1887, and the 23rd January, 1889, from any person or firm any other moneys the proceeds from the sales of firewood, sleepers, charcoal, or any other produce, the property of the Government or the Casual Labour Board, that you have not paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank or the Treasury? No, sir.

10275. Have you seen any of the evidence that has been taken before this Commission? No, sir.

10276. Have you spoken to any of the witnesses that have been examined? I spoke to Sir John Robertson.

10277. Have you spoken to Mr. Wells? I spoke to him casually upstairs in this building about a fortnight or three weeks' ago.

10278. Have you spoken to Mr. Neale? No.

10279. Have you spoken to Mr. Miles? No; I have not seen him since I left the Casual Labour Board office.

10280. Have you spoken to a man named Charles Robertson? I have never seen him.

10281. Have you spoken to Mr. Lawn? No; I have not been in their shop since this inquiry began.

10282. Have you spoken to Mr. Woods? No.

10283. Have you spoken to Mr. Franklin? Do you mean Mr. Franklin here?

10284. Yes? I have only bowed to him.

10285:

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 10265—After "made that" read "he thought" Q. 10270—For "I do not think so" read "No."
Q. 10274—After "No, sir," add "not to my knowledge."

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10285. Have you spoken to Mr. Taylor, the shorthand-writer here? Only to say, "How do you do?"—nothing further; I don't suppose there is any crime in that. I may say that Mr. Burrowes has circulated a report that he knows all the evidence that has been taken here, and states in a bold manner that he knows everything that happens on the Commission.

10286. I will read you a portion of Mr. Hinchcliffe's evidence, being questions numbered 1047 to 1053, in reference to the firewood account sales. What do you say to that evidence? It is absolutely wrong with reference to my keeping them in the drawers.

10287. Is it false? I would not say that; he may have been under a misapprehension.

10288. Is it true about his remonstrating with you when you paid the first cheque into the Australian Joint Stock Bank? I have no recollection of anything of the kind. It was on a subsequent occasion that he said it was improper or irregular, and I saw the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade, Mr. Eagar. He said, "All right, you can pay it in when you are winding up the affairs of the office."

10289. I see according to a receipt that you have just handed to me that you paid into the Treasury on the 29th March, 1889, the sum of £33 3s. 2d.? Yes; there was some difficulty in finding from the books and papers how these payments actually stood. I found I had paid that into my own bank in order to have the proceeds to pay into the Treasury. Of course I was placed at very great disadvantage. I had to fossick out information as best I could.

10290. How did you find out that this sum had not been repaid by you? I got Mr. Neale's memorandum of the amounts. These were the amounts that I had from the office. I found that there was a sum owing, and that I should adjust it.

10291. Where in those two papers that you have just handed in did you get the sum of £33 3s. 2d.? I got it from the totals. This is in such a muddled form I cannot make head or tail of it.

10292. When did you get this memorandum of payments from Mr. Neale? I think it was in the beginning of this year.

10293. What is the total amount shown on Mr. Neale's memo.? £320 13s. 6d. [*Document put in and marked P.*]

10294. What paper is this other? That is a copy of the items out of the cash-book. [*Document put in and marked P1.*]

10295. And this shows the total £334 16s. 3d.? Yes.

10296. Yet you refused to give me the total of these very items just now? You asked me to make the total up for you.

10297. Is this correct? I should think so.

10298. Is not this document [*Exhibit P1*] copied out of the Casual Labour Board cash-book? I believe it is furnished to me as such.

10299. By whom was this copy furnished from the office? I received it from Mr. Hibble when I was Chairman of the Casual Labor Board.

10300. Have you any reason to doubt its correctness? I suppose it is correct.

10301. Were you Chairman of the Casual Labour Board at the time it was made out? Of course.

10302. Up to what date were you Chairman? Up to the 25th January last.

10303. And the officer who made it out was under you? He was.

10304. Do you doubt its correctness? I don't at all doubt its correctness; I believe it is correct.

10305. Where do you get this amount of £33 3s. 2d.? It is included in those two statements.

10306. Can you point it out to me? It is the difference between the two.

10307. How was it paid? By cheque. There were two cheques that I paid in and got cash for. The one was for £33 3s. 2d., and the other was for £52 something.

10308. But do these two documents [*Exhibits P and P1*] which I have before me, one an account from Mr. Neale and the other a memo. from Mr. Hibble, do they explain in any way the £33 3s. 2d.? I think so.

10309. Can you show me how? I have not gone into them.

10310. Do you say that the £33 3s. 2d. is the difference between the two? Yes.

10311. May I take it that that is your evidence. Look at the documents, sir? I don't know what you want, Mr. Chairman, from me.

10312. I want to know, Mr. Davies, how that £33 3s. 2d. is made up from these documents? It is made up by the proceeds of a cheque that I received for the sale of firewood, paid in to my own credit.

10313. Has it anything to do with these accounts? No; it is out of these accounts altogether. Mr. Neale will give you particulars.

10314. I want your evidence; I don't want it from Mr. Neale. I ask you will you produce the account sales for this? I have not got them; I have not got the papers.

10315. Did you receive the amount from Mr. Neale? Yes; it was an unpaid amount.

10316. Have you any doubt about it? No doubt whatever. On finding that the amount was unpaid I paid it into the Treasury.

10317. I ask you again have you any doubt about it? No doubt whatever.

10318. What date was it you received this amount from Mr. Neale? I believe it was in July, 1887—I think that was the date.

10319. Then what became of the money between July, 1887, and March, 1889? In my possession.

10320. Where? In my possession.

10321. Where in your possession—I ask you where? Some of it was in cash.

10322. In the office or where? You are not aware, perhaps, that I was spending £20 a week out of my own pocket.

10323. Where was this money between July, 1887, and March, 1889—this £33 3s. 2d.? It was in my possession.

10324. As cash? Certainly, as cash; and I paid it in as cash to the Treasury.

10325. Did Mr. Neale pay you this in cash? No; he paid it in a crossed cheque—£33 3s. 2d.

10326. Are you sure of that? Well, as far as I can remember.

10327. Did you ever pay that cheque into your bank? I paid it into the bank, and got the proceeds of it, as far as I can remember.

10328. Are you sure you paid it in? I am sure I paid it into the bank and got the proceeds.

10329. When was that? I believe it was in July, 1887.

10330.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 10289—After "proceeds" read "in the office." Q. 10315—After "amount" add "I held in the office, which Mr. Neale did not show in his memorandum." Q. 10321—Omit "some of it" and after "cash" add "in the office." Q. 10323—After "possession" add "in the office." Q. 10328—For "got the proceeds" read "placed proceeds in the office safe."

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10330. Then close upon two years you have been holding that money in your private bank account;—is that your evidence? No.
10331. In whose account was it? In my possession.
10332. All the time? Was I not perfectly justified in utilising it in the office—for the purposes of the office? I had to spend sometimes as much as £20 in a week.
10333. Did you hold it in your possession all that time? I do not think it was any crime for me to hold it.
10334. Will you look at this paper—this Treasury receipt voucher [*Exhibit O*]? Yes.
10335. Read it? Chairman, Casual Labour Board, Sydney: Sale of firewood, National Park, £33 3s. 2d.
10336. Is that signed by you? Yes.
10337. Whom did you give that document to? Do you mean to pay it into the Treasury?
10338. Yes? I gave it to my son.
10339. What did your son do with it;—do you know? Paid it into the Treasury.
10340. Cash? Of course; they would not take any cheques there.
10341. Not even your cheque? No, nor anybody else's.
10342. Where did you cash that cheque for £33 3s. 2d.? At the bank.
10343. Did you get the cash for it? Yes.
10344. And have you been holding that cash since July, 1887? I told you I have had it in my possession.
10345. Let me ask you seriously whether you have from July, 1887, until March, 1889, been holding that cash, £33 3s. 2d., in your possession? I have already told you I have, and explained the reason.
10346. Do you swear that you got that money from Mr. Neale? Most certainly I could.
10347. Are those particulars correct in that document [*Treasury Receipt Voucher, Exhibit O*] which was handed to me by Mr. Newcombe? I believe so.
10348. Who can vouch for the correctness of this [*Exhibit O*] if you cannot? I believe it is quite correct.
10349. That payment, according to this document, was made on the 29th March last? Yes; that is the last payment I made.
10350. On the 26th March last Mr. Neale was examined before this Commission; did you see Mr. Neale on the 26th, 27th, 28th, or 29th March? I do not think so.
10351. You were very frequently at this office, upstairs? Yes.
10352. Have you seen Mr. Neale while you have been here on any occasion? I have not seen him to speak to.
10353. Will you tell me how it was that you waited until the 29th March, 1889, to pay this £33 3s. 2d. into the Treasury? Because I was a little confused as to whether I had paid it in with the money I paid into the bank. I subsequently found that I had not paid it in.
10354. When did you find that you had been holding this money in your own private account for your own private purposes? I was not holding it in my own private account for my own purposes. I held it with other moneys, amounting to £86 in all, unpaid balances of wages.
10355. Did you hold all that in cash? Yes.
10356. In your pocket? I held it in the safe in the office in cash—about £100 altogether.
10357. What did you do with it? I passed the cheque into the bank.
10358. Why do you fence with me in this manner? There is no fencing.
10359. Why, sir, don't you explain this matter clearly, if you can? I told you already I paid it into my credit with £52 odd.
10360. Into what bank? In my own bank, in order that I might pay it into the Treasury.
10361. Did you cash the cheque in your bank for £33 3s. 2d. to pay into the Treasury? Yes.
10362. When? In July, 1887.
10363. In July, 1887, you cashed that cheque—that is what you tell us,—and you have held the cash in your possession ever since? I did, and I see nothing wrong in doing so.
10364. When you went out of office what moneys did you take with you? I took £85 odd out of my safe.
10365. What did that represent? It represented trust moneys that I held by me—unclaimed wages—that I held with the full knowledge of the Auditor-General and the gentlemen in the Audit Office.
10366. Why did you not adjust these sums before? I had never been asked to make this adjustment; but I have made the adjustment now.
10367. Can you give me accurately the amount that you took out of the Casual Labour Board Office when your Board ceased to exist? The total amount.
10368. Yes? About £115 or £116.
10369. Can you tell me what you have done with it? I paid £86 on account of unpaid wages.
10370. Are you sure that you took the amount you have stated? It must have been more, I think—about £170.
10371. Have you got the exact figures? No.
10372. Have you any figures? No. I took what few papers I could away at the time, but I had no time to do anything more.
10373. How long were you in the office after Mr. Miles and Mr. Mason took charge? They took charge on the 25th of January, and I was not there afterwards.
10374. Were you not in the office for three or four days after they took charge? No.
10375. Were you not in the office some days afterwards? I was in the office downstairs, but I never was upstairs after I was informed of their appointment.
10376. Did you not remain there until the next pay-day? The letter I put in will show that I offered to pay the money, but the Colonial Secretary did not think that it was prudent that this course should be taken, and asked that the gentlemen themselves should make the pay; and we were relieved of any further responsibility.
10377. Were you not in the office three days after Mr. Mason and Mr. Miles took charge? No.
10378. Were you in the office two days? No.
10379. Were you in the precincts of the office? I was downstairs occasionally.
10380. Did you not decline to give up the office before some official communication was made to you? No. I handed everything over to the gentlemen who came. I thought we had no right to be uncourteous towards the gentlemen who came, although I had great reason to complain of the action of the Colonial Secretary.

10381.

NOTE (on revision) :—Q. 10343—For “Yes” read “No, but held cash equivalent to it.” Q. 10354—For “£86” read “£186.” Q. 10364—For “£85” read “£186.” Q. 10368—For “£115 or £116” read “£186.” Q. 10370—For “£170” read “£200.”

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10381. Here is a receipt that you have handed to us dated 15th February, 1889, purporting to be a receipt for £52 3s. 2d., and 10s.—in all £52 13s. 2d., received from you, and paid into the Treasury—what is that for? The sale of firewood and some damaged crockery. [*Receipt put in and marked P 3.*]
10382. Is this the receipt voucher I show you which was put in by you alongside the payment. Is this document [*Exhibit O 1*] a receipt voucher put in by you at the same time as that payment? Yes.
10383. Who made that payment? I made it.
10384. In person? Yes.
10385. Is your signature at the bottom of the paper? Yes.
10386. Will you tell us what the £52 13s. 2d. represents? The sale of firewood at the National Park and proceeds of some damaged crockery.
10387. When was the sale of that firewood effected at the Park? In the latter part of 1887.
10388. What is the date you received the cheque for it from Mr. Neale? 26th September, 1887.
10389. What became of that money between September 26th, 1887, and the 15th February, 1889? In my possession. I cashed the cheque, as I did the former cheque, and intended to pay the proceeds into the Treasury. It was in my possession all the time.
10390. In cash? Yes. I may tell you that some of it was spent in expenses. You must remember that I had not one single shilling for my attendance or expenses up to the end of the year.
10391. Can you tell me how you came to hold these proceeds of sale of firewood money, £52 3s. 2d., in your possession from 26th September, 1887, to 15th February, 1889, and the other sum, £33 3s. 2d., from July, 1887, to March 29, 1889, and yet paid the other moneys into the Australian Joint Stock Bank? Yes; because I held other trust moneys, as I have already explained—as much as £100 unclaimed wages. I held this money in order that when we wound up the affairs of the Casual Labour Board it might be adjusted and paid in due form to the Treasury.
10392. Why then did you not hold the other moneys that you paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank in the same way? Simply because I had paid them in error. I had already done that.
10393. Oh, you recognized the error as regards other receipts from Neale, but not the payments made by Neale in July and September, 1887? That is the only explanation I can give you just now. I think Mr. Hinchcliffe had spoken to me about it. But I should have felt perfectly justified in holding this money and using it for my travelling expenses. I should have no scruple whatever about it. It was not to be supposed that I was to use my own money. Some £400 or £500 might be spent in various directions without being paid or receiving any fees. I should have had no hesitation whatever in using it.
10394. How comes it that the payment of £33 3s. 2d., made to you in July, 1887, is retained by you and not paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank, when other payments in May, June, July, August, and September, from the same source, are paid in by you to the Australian Joint Stock Bank? These were trade cheques, and it was my duty to see that they were negotiable.
10395. Were not the other cheques in exactly the same category?—
10396. Did you pay the money into the Treasury upon receiving it? No.
10397. What is your explanation for not doing so? Simply because I kept it in hand for final adjustment when we wound up our affairs.
10398. In reference to this Treasury receipt voucher signed by you [*Exhibit O 1*], what is this damaged crockery sold? That is some damaged crockery in a case that I got. I took it over after the Casual Labour Board was formed. It was gradually getting all smashed when we were moving the camp from the Park. I asked the storekeeper, and he said it was worth nothing. I said I did not mind giving him 10s. for it.
10399. Who was the storekeeper? Mr. Johnson and Mr. Springall.
10400. Do you think that was a correct thing to do as head of a department? The crockery was not worth 2s.
10401. Do you think it was right that you should do that with property belonging to the Casual Labour Board? I do not think it was a wrong thing to do.
10402. Do you think it was the proper thing to do? I do. It was not worth 2d. If you think it is of any value I can send it to you now.
10403. I simply asked you if it was the proper thing to do? Perhaps if I had thought of it I might not have had anything to do with it; but it was not done with any motive of that kind.
10404. I see on the 15th February last, after your Casual Labour Board had ceased to exist, there is a sum of £8 13s. 9d. paid into the Treasury;—do you know how long that was in your hands? Some of it only a few days, some of it months. There were some little sums—the duplicate roller from Kogarah Council.
10405. There is a payment to the Treasury on the 25th February, 1889, £86 11s. 7d. unclaimed wages;—did you have that in your possession for a considerable time? Yes; off and on, small sums of unclaimed wages.
10406. Did you ever pay that into the bank? No; I did not think it was necessary to do so. It was not like as if I were an unsubstantial person who had not £100.
10407. There is a payment on the 25th February, 1889, into the Treasury of £8 10s.? That is for some sugar that I have already explained to you—17 bags of sugar I took over.
10408. Is that the item referred to in this receipt voucher [*Exhibit O 2*]? Yes; there was originally 21 bags, but I was told by the storekeeper that Mr. Burrowes had helped himself. I had it brought to Sydney. But this did not belong to the Casual Labour Board, it was before our existence, and I presume that this inquiry has relation only to the period during which the Casual Labour Board was in existence.
10409. You took it over? I bought it at 2d. per lb. I asked the storekeeper in the Park what the value of it was.
10410. When did you buy it? I bought it about six months ago or so.
10411. Are these the particulars—17 bags of sugar sold at Carlingford? It was not sold at Carlingford; it was sold last November, about six months ago, and when we were removing our stores from the National Park to Hurstville this sugar was taken over to Carlingford.
10412. Was it ever at Hurstville? No; never.
10413. Do you say that you bought this sugar six months ago, and paid it in on the 25th February last? Yes. [*Receipt put in and marked P 4.*]
10414. Do you believe that you have accounted for everything else that you have received? I honestly believe I have accounted for everything.
10415. Have you any property belonging to the Board or the Government now in your possession? Not a shilling.

10416.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 10389—Omit “intended, &c., to Treasury,” and insert “and held the proceeds in the office for payment into Treasury.”

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10416. I don't mean money property only, I mean chattels? Not a pennyworth.
10417. Have you any chattel property, any cash, or anything belonging to the Government or the Casual Labour Board? You don't think I am a thief, Mr. Chairman? That is a sort of insinuation against me that I don't know that I ought to submit to. The idea that I would take the Government property away! No; it has been all on one side so far as the Government are concerned.
10418. When did it first dawn upon you that these payments of £33 3s. 2d. and £52 3s. 2d. had not been accounted for? When I was leaving office I set myself to work to see what sums had not been adjusted.
10419. When did you leave office? On the 25th January—that I think was the last day—the day before the public holiday—Anniversary Day. It was my clear duty to make the adjustment as head of the department, so I did that; I think I have done so in every case.
10420. Do you recollect a man named Larnach paying you a sum of money? What sum of money?
10421. I ask you the question? No, sir; he never paid me any money.
10422. Did Larnach ever pay you £6 10s.? No; he never paid me any money in his life.
10423. Does he owe you any money? Yes.
10424. How much? He owes me £1; just now it was £1 12s. 6d.
10425. Was he a good clerk? No; he was a bad man—both a drunkard and a very unreliable man.
10426. Did you make him a present at the end of last year? Yes.
10427. What was it? 10s. 6d. to buy a hat. I did that to the other supernumeraries in the office as well.
10428. How long had he been there? A little over twelve months.
10429. Was not that rather inconsistent—giving a gratuity to a man who was a drunkard and an unreliable man? I have no doubt, but you might have made the same mistake that I have made.
10430. When did you first find out that Mr. Larnach was both a drunkard and an unreliable man? It was towards the latter part of last year.
- 10430½. Before you gave him the hat? I gave him the hat in December. I did that to a large number of persons in the office. I do not think that was any great crime.
10431. Mr. Larnach has sworn that, on the 15th December, 1887, he gave you £6 10s., proceeds of the sales of firewood;—he swore that he gave it to you in the presence of witnesses—is that true or false? False, absolutely false.
10432. Mr. Larnach speaks somewhere else in his evidence about a sum of £2 surplus from the pay-sheet. Did he give you that? Not to me. He gave it to the Paymaster, Mr. Hinchcliffe, who gave him a receipt for the £2.
10433. Do you know what became of that? It was paid into the Treasury.
10434. Who paid it in? It was paid in by Mr. Hinchcliffe himself. That is before the Casual Labour Board was dissolved.
10435. And you know that was paid in? I have been informed by Mr. Hinchcliffe that it was.
10436. Mr. Larnach's evidence on that is in his answer to my question:—"How did you do in the case of absentees? Of course, if there was no payment made, there was no signature. On one occasion I had to go to Hornsby, and I had to take gold to pay the men with. There were two sovereigns found on the table, which I brought back and handed to Mr. Hinchcliffe. I could not tell how they got there, and I told Mr. Hinchcliffe to put them in the Paymaster's surplus cash. That was on 22nd December."—Is that a fact? I know that he handed the two sovereigns over to Mr. Hinchcliffe, and Mr. Hinchcliffe gave him a receipt. Mr. Hinchcliffe subsequently told me that he had paid it into the Treasury.
10437. Did you see Larnach make the payment? I saw the payment made of £2 to the Paymaster on the pay-table.
10438. But you deny any knowledge of the £6 10s. Larnach says he paid you? I never saw it. Mr. Larnach was not the man—if he handed money to anyone, he would take the receipt for it.
10439. I see in the statement of the amounts paid into the Treasury between May, 1887, and April, 1889, several payments in your name in the year 1887, and in the year 1888, and several payments in the name of the officers of the Casual Labour Board? The only payments I have made direct have been in February, winding up the affairs of the Board.
10440. What I, and I am sure my colleagues as well, want to get at is this: How, in some cases, you paid the money you received into the Treasury, which it appears was the proper place; in other cases into your own bank; and in other cases, you paid it into the Australian Joint Stock Bank? I have already explained that I made a mistake; but I do not know that it was a very great mistake after all. You were asking me about the payments made into the Treasury of the trust moneys. You will find the vouchers in the Auditor-General's department, giving the whole particulars, from a penny up to 25s., making £86 altogether. That is the only payment I have made direct into the Treasury as regards unclaimed wages. Other sums have been paid in from time to time by the Paymaster.
10441. In February, 1889, you appear to have paid in £334 16s. 3d.? No, I did not pay it in. That wants a little explanation. I left this voucher filled up in that form for my successors, so that they would have no difficulty in transferring from the Australian Joint Stock Bank the amount of money there to the credit of the Casual Labour Board and paying it into the Treasury.
10442. Can you tell me what that £4 item is? That I believe to be from Mr. Hanley, for wood sold by Mr. Burrowes. Mr. Burrowes sold this £4 worth of wood to Mr. Hanley, and he brought the amount to the office, and the cheque was paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank.
10443. Have you ever received any money from Mr. Wearne? Not a shilling.
10444. Does he owe the Government any money? I think he owes about £10; but the bill will show.
10445. Have you ever asked him for it? I have instructed that application should be made to him for it, but he has treated the applications with indifference.
10446. To whom did Mr. Neale pay the money, the proceeds of all sales? Usually to me.
10447. Are there any returns of the wood cut that you got from the cutters, and of the charcoal and the sleepers? Yes. The papers will show, and the books will show the amounts. You will find them in the press copy-books.
10448. Do you know of anybody who has any interest in these sales of sleepers and firewood who would be likely to take away the papers? No. The papers ought to be all there.
10449. When did you see them last before you left the Casual Labour Board office? In the latter part of December.

10450.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 10430½—For "hat" read "Christmas-box" in both places. Q. 10444—For "bill" read "books"
Q. 10446—After "to me" add "or Mr. Hinchcliffe"

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10450. All of them? Most of them. I could not say all of them, because I did not go through them all.
10451. How was it that you went to Mr. Neal for particulars of these sales? Because I was out of the office altogether, and I felt it was my clear duty to have these matters adjusted, and I felt that I was at full liberty to get them adjusted up to the 31st March, in accordance with the letter of the Colonial Secretary.
10452. Where did you get information about these payments of £33 3s. 2d., and £52 3s. 2d.? From Mr. Neale.
10453. And after you got the information from Mr. Neale, you paid them into the Treasury? Yes.
10454. Did you ever receive £52 3s. 2d. from Mr. Neale? Yes.
10455. Are you quite sure? I am quite sure.
10456. How did you receive it? By cheque.
10457. When? As far as I know, it is eighteen months ago.
10458. Can you tell me what you did with the cheque? Paid it into the bank and cashed it.
10459. How long after you paid it in did you cash it? I suppose it would be cashed the next day after it was paid in.
10460. Are you aware of any accounts outstanding between the cutters of the wood and the Casual Labour Board that have not been adjusted? No; they have all been adjusted.
10461. What precautions did you take against the sale of the wood by the officials at the Park? I could not take any precautions beyond trusting to the superintendent.
10462. Where did the wood come from principally? All round the National Park.
10463. Any from Hornsby? No.
10464. Liverpool? No.
10465. Narrabeen? No; there is no getting it there.
10466. Referring again to the item £33 3s. 2d., have you any memorandum or account sales, or any other documents to fortify that? I have no memorandum of account sales or anything else. The documents were left in the office.
10467. Does that represent proceeds of the sale of firewood that you received from Mr. Neale? Yes.

In the presence of last witness, George Robert Cartwright Neale called in and examined (*his evidence being interposed by the President*):—

- Mr. G. R. C. Neale.
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10468. *President.*] What are these books that you produce? These are the account salebooks.
10469. What dates do they cover—from when to when? From 10th July, 1886, up to 12th May, 1888.
10470. Have you not got here any book after that? Nothing showing dealings with the Casual Labour Board.
10471. Had you any transactions with the Casual Labour Board after May, 1888? I think not. These are the only two books that we have relating to them.
10472. What are the papers in the bag you have there? I have got some books.
10473. Books relating to this matter? Yes.
10474. Will you allow me to see them? Yes.
10475. Are those books the rough books from which these entries are posted? Yes.
10476. Do you produce two account salebooks, two small ledgers, and two cash-books? Yes.
10477. Do these books contain the history of all the transactions that you have had between January, 1887, and May, 1888, with the Casual Labour Board? Yes; so far as I am aware they are there. If there is anything else I know nothing of it.
10478. Now answer this question categorically—give me an answer to the question and go no further; will you look through these books from January, 1887, until the end of the records in the books, and tell me if there is any payment made to the Casual Labour Board, or any member or officer of it, amounting to £33 3s. 2d.? I think that is a matter I turned up the other day. In my book, ledger lettered A, I find that there has been an account or cheque paid of £33 3s. 2d. drawn on the 19th July, in the year 1887.
10479. Have you got the butt of the cheque-book? No; I have not got it here. I was not aware of this until the other day, when, looking at some old accounts, I found this entry.
10480. Have you anything to show how you paid that money? Well, I paid it by cheque. It was paid, £33 3s. 2d., on the 19th July, 1887, by cheque.
10481. To whom? Well, it was made payable to Mr. Burrowes.
10482. Do you know whom the cheque would be handed to? It would be taken on to the Casual Labour Board, in Pitt-street.
10483. Does that book that you are looking at now show you the date and the name of the payee? It does.
10484. Who drew it out? Well, it was drawn out by my office-boy.
10485. Do these entries on page 405 of your ledger, under the heading of Government Relief Works, appear in these account sale books? I think so.
10486. When was this entry made in this book? At the time it was made out, I suppose.
10487. You notice it is in different ink? Yes; the one entry was made out by myself, and the other was copied in by the boy.
10488. Do you recollect when you gave Mr. Davies these particulars? No; I do not.
10489. This year or last? I do not think I gave him any account at all.
10490. When did you give him the amount of it? Well, I could not tell you that.

The Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., resumed his evidence:—

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10491. *President.*] You have heard Mr. Neale's evidence as to that £33 3s. 2d. Do you still adhere to your evidence then that you have no other moneys not accounted for? To the best of my knowledge I believe there are none.
10492. Have you any doubt upon the matter? I have no doubt myself. 10493.

NOTE (on revision) :—Q. 10458—After “cashed it” add “and placed an equivalent sum in the office safe”

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10493. Can you tell me what surplus stores there were when you took over the unemployed at the National Park or wherever they were? There were a number of tables, trestles, some tools, tents, camp-ovens, frying-pans, stump extractors—two or three I think, two cases of soap, two or three cases of fish, some boxes of rice.
10494. Anything else? From memory I cannot say much more. I had no list handed over to me.
10495. Was there any sugar? Yes; I have already explained that.
10496. Was there any crockery? Yes; there was a small case of crockery.
10497. Were there any beds or bedding? I think there were three that I took over from the Hyde Park barracks.
10498. What became of them? I think one was out at Bulgo—one or two at Hurstville. I know they were out with the surveyors—they had them in their camps.
10499. Have you got any of them? No.
10500. If it has been said that you have, is it untrue? Absolutely untrue.
10501. Or any eider-down quilts? Yes; it is untrue. I may say that in order to attend the pays I had to sleep in the office to catch the 6:30 a.m. train in the winter months. I had a bedstead there and bedding and quilt. There was a robbery in the office, and that and some other things—about £15 worth of my clothes—were removed. There is another one in the office now.
10502. Have you got one now belonging to the Casual Labour Board? I have got nothing whatever.
10503. Can I take it then as your evidence distinctly that there is nothing now in your possession either in the way of money, stores, or anything else belonging to the Casual Labour Board or the Government? Nothing whatever.
10504. Do you give me your positive oath on that? Absolutely yes.
10505. Can you tell me whether any book was kept showing what the refunds were on the pays? The Secretary and Paymaster kept a book.
10506. When the Paymaster went out to pay and brought back money with him, who kept a record of it? The Paymaster kept that. I think the Paymaster had a book showing that.
10507. Do you know what became of these moneys? Some of them were utilised in the payment of contingent vouchers. Others, as you will find, were paid in the ordinary way into the Treasury. You will find that the Secretary from time to time paid money into the Treasury.
10508. Did you look into the books of the Casual Labour Board at all.
10509. It was not my place to keep the books. I devoted as much as sixteen hours a day to the business of the Board, and I did as much as I possibly could do in the time.
10510. Did you look at the books at all—did you ever look at this book [*Exhibit E 8*]. No.
10511. Did you ever see it in the office? Yes.
10512. Did you ever look over it to check it, or see how it was being kept? No.
10513. Did you ever interest yourself in it at all? No; never.
10514. Did you ever compare or ask for a report as to the state of the cash? I frequently asked for the purpose of knowing how to provide for the pays.
10515. Who was responsible for the keeping of the books? Mr. Hinchcliffe.
10516. Can you tell me what the rule was as regards unpaid wages and refunds? In the earlier days large sums would be brought back from the Park. I have known the Paymaster bring £40 or £50 back, and he utilised it in paying small contingent vouchers.
10517. Did he keep it as cash? Yes; instead of drawing a cheque.
10518. Where did he keep it? In the safe.
10519. Did he take it out of the safe to pay these vouchers? Yes.
10520. Did you ever remonstrate with him for doing that? No; he told me it was customary to do so before.
10521. Did you hold him as the responsible officer for these moneys and the keeping of this book? Yes.
10522. Do you consider that you were responsible for the cash? No, sir—not for the petty-cash book. Only the cash that I held in trust was I responsible for.
10523. Did you keep the cash that you held in trust apart from the petty cash? I put it in a safe, and Mr. Hinchcliffe's cash was kept down-stairs.
10524. Had anybody access to this safe but yourself? Nobody had access to the drawers of the safe.
10525. Was this cash in the drawers? Yes.
10526. Was the money that you took away from the Casual Labour Board when you left the office money that you got out of the drawers of this safe? Most of it.
10527. Most of the £160? Yes.
10528. After this money had been held back for wages and such like, what became of any surplus? I have told you that we paid these small contingent vouchers or small pay-sheets with it. Men would leave the work, having got employment elsewhere, and sometimes pay-sheets would come in certified to by the superintendent—so many chains of clearing—so many yards of mullocking would be certified to, and the voucher would be brought to the office and paid in that way instead of on the ordinary pay-day. Then he would debit the amounts to the cash.
10529. Did Hinchcliffe ask you if he might do that, or did he just tumble into it? He said it was what he had done before when the unemployed were under the direction of the Immigration Department. I was quite ignorant of the practice that had been previously adopted. I did not profess to know anything about it.
10530. But you were the head of the department? Yes, but I had no knowledge of the practice followed with regard to such matters as these.
10531. Are you aware whether any receipts or records were kept to show what these refunds were. For example, the pay-clerk might have come back with £70, £80, or £100 in his possession;—is there anything that would show that? Yes; the papers and records would show it. Supposing it was £50 or £100 that he brought back, he would have to account for it either by vouchers or cash.
10532. Supposing he came after the office was closed, would he keep it without reference to you? Yes; he would very likely put it in the safe and inform me of it on the following morning.
10533. Then he had the sole control of the cash? Yes; I think I ought to say that we took every precaution to prevent imposition. Before the money was paid the sheets would have to be signed by the store-keeper and signed by the superintendent. We found a great many attempts at imposition. A man has
come

NOTE (on revision) :—Q. 10493—For “boxes” read “bags” Q. 10501—After “office” read “which was reported in the Police Gazette” Q. 10527—For “£160” in question read “£180” Q. 10528—For “mullocking” read “mattocking”

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come in representing himself as being on the pay-sheet, and that he had not been paid in the usual way, and he would try to get other people's money. I adopted a system of issuing printed tickets to the persons who were entitled to receive money, and these would show the number of the gang and the amount of the earnings of each.

10534. How comes it, can you tell me, that during the years 1887 and 1888 there are a number of payments called refunds of wages, balances of advances, unclaimed wages and such like paid into the Treasury, and a number of others that the Board seems to have appropriated for petty cash? Well, that would be done in some instances for the adjustment of the accounts. If the Board used the money there would be a voucher, and the voucher would represent cash. A voucher was as good as cash in the adjustment of the accounts.

10535. Can you give any explanation how it was that in some cases the Board appropriated this money for what is called petty cash, and in other cases paid the money into the Treasury? In some cases it might be that when an adjustment was necessary we would have to pay the difference between the £6,000 paid by the Treasury and the amount of the vouchers.

10536. Who did you entrust with making the different pays? To all the large pays I went with the Paymaster.

10537. Who did you entrust with the making of the pays? Mr. Hinchcliffe, Mr. Hibble, and Mr. Josephson.

10538. Did you entrust Mr. Larnach? I never entrusted Mr. Larnach. The Paymaster took that responsibility upon himself.

10539. Was there any one else? I do not think that there was any one else.

10540. When the Paymasters came back, how did you know whether or not they would bring any money with them? Well, when I was visiting the works I was frequently in the office late at night when these men came back.

10541. Would they come and tell you? Yes. In answer to my question they would tell me whether they got on all right, and they would say what they had brought back—£3 or £5, as the case might be, and pay it into the petty cash. If the Paymaster was not there, then it would be locked up in my safe.

10542. In the morning, would you pay it over? No; I had nothing to do with it.

10543. You simply handed it over to the Paymaster? No; I did not hand it over.

10544. You would lock it up at night in your safe, and open your safe in the morning, and Dick, Tom, or Harry would take it out? The Paymaster would come in and they would go through the sheet, and say who had not been paid, and he would adjust it in that way.

10545. Did you approve of that system? Well, I approved of it so far. I gave it my approval because I knew of no better course to adopt.

10546. Did it not strike you as being an inconsistent practice to pay some money into the Treasury, and hold some moneys back as petty cash? No; it did not strike me as being inconsistent. Some were held back to feed the petty cash, and others were paid in simply to adjust the vouchers. Supposing we had £5,925, and there was £75 short of the £6,000 which had to be adjusted, then we would have to pay these small things out of the petty cash, and we would give vouchers for the amounts.

10547. Then is Mr. Hinchcliffe responsible for that? Yes.

10548. Do you disclaim any responsibility in the matter? I don't want to shirk any responsibility; but I had nothing to do with the adjustment.

10549. Will you describe to me the practice that you adopted in giving orders for plant, tools, supplies of seed, and so forth? The practice was simply an order drawn by the clerk, Mr. Hinchcliffe, when a request came from the different works for what was required. On the order coming from the National Park, that they wanted so many mattocks, so many long-handle shovels, it would be sent in as a requisition from him. The only thing I had to do was to sign the order.

10550. Did you always sign the orders before they went out? Certainly I did. I believe in one or two instances the Secretary did, but not more.

10551. Did you ever give any verbal orders? I have no recollection of any verbal orders, unless it was to the contractors for the supply of rations. That would be when we sent out a rush of men; and whenever I have given a verbal order, I have sent written information to the works that we had sent fifty or sixty additional rations, and had increased the order.

10552. Do you ever remember giving verbal orders for tools? I do not.

10553. What was your practice, verbal or written? Against giving verbal orders.

10554. If verbal orders have been given it is in exceptional cases? Very exceptional.

10555. Who used you to send with the requisitions for goods and plant? I think the usual practice was to send Mr. Hibble.

10556. Who would send in the requisitions for what was required at the different works? The superintendents would send them, or the storekeepers.

10557. Who in the Southern District had the power to requisition? Mr. Burrowes. He was the superintendent, and he had the Southern District and the Illawarra line; Mr. McPherson, the assistant superintendent, and the storekeeper, Mr. Springall.

10558. Anyone else? No one else. Of course the sub-overseers in matters of that kind would communicate with Mr. Burrowes.

10559. Then how would you know that these things were required? Only by the statements of the officers; there was no other way; I could have no personal knowledge myself.

10560. Did you use any discretion in the matter of complying with these requests for plant? A very great deal.

10561. How? By sending old material from one place to another instead of sending new—old things I have had repaired in Sydney. I sent out a large quantity of mattocks and had them relaid, and a number of picks and shovels for repair.

10562. Did you ever send a less quantity of goods than was ordered? Frequently.

10563. Did you ever send more? No.

10564. Are you quite sure? I am quite sure.

10565. If others have sworn that you have, is it true or false? If others have sworn that I have sent more than was ordered they have sworn to what was not true.

10566. What knowledge had you that the goods requisitioned for were delivered? Only the receipts of the railway authorities and the acknowledgments of the storekeeper that he had received by the previous day's train so many mattocks, so many dozen shovels.

10567.

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10567. Was the storekeeper the only man that would receive them? He would receive them at the principal camp as a rule, but to the other outstanding places we would send them direct.
10568. Did you get letters or memoranda in every case? In nine cases out of ten we did.
10569. Did you get the railway receipts? They would get them and we would get them too.
10570. Who in the department would be authorized to give orders beside yourself? Mr. Hinchcliffe.
10571. Anyone else? No.
10572. Would Mr. Hibble? Only with my authority. As I have already stated, he has frequently gone down with the orders.
10573. Would he have authority to give a verbal order? No.
10574. Then can we take it that all these goods that were sent out were the result of written orders signed by yourself or of written orders signed by Mr. Hinchcliffe? There were very few by Mr. Hinchcliffe. They were nearly all signed by myself.
10575. And he and you were the only persons who had anything to do with that? I have explained to you that the mode was a requisition coming from the works; then the order was filled up by Mr. Hibble and signed by myself.
10576. What happened after the delivery of the goods? The vouchers would come in from the contractors. Contingent vouchers would come in showing the quantities of goods sent out to the different places. They would come in from our own department—that is, from the places where the goods were sent to—the National Park or Bankstown, or wherever it was, for the purpose of being checked—and after being checked and certified to by the superintendent or assistant-superintendent; then they would be returned to us, and the quantities would be computed by Mr. Hibble to see if they were all correct, and then they would be passed for payment.
10577. Who compared them with the butts of the order-book? Mr. Hibble did so.
10578. Did you see him do so? I have seen him do so myself.
10579. If he has stated that he never did so, would that be true or false? It would be untrue. I have seen him do it.
10580. Have you seen him compare the vouchers with the butts of the orders? I have.
10581. You have no doubt upon that? No; I have told you I have seen him, Mr. Chairman. I have been as close to him when he was doing it as I am to you now.
10582. Had you anything to do with the contingent vouchers? I had nothing whatever to do with them, more than as head of the department to sign them prior to their being paid.
10583. Whom did you hold responsible for computing and checking the quantities? I held Mr. Hibble responsible for checking and computing the quantities.
10584. And beyond computing the figures, who was responsible? I held Mr. Burrowes responsible then in one district for having received them. It was the same with Mr. McPherson, the same with Mr. Oxley, and the same with Mr. O'Donnell.
10585. Had Mr. Hinchcliffe anything to do with the contingent vouchers? Yes; he had to do with them. He was equally responsible with Mr. Hibble for seeing that they were all correct in the orders.
10586. Did he sign them? Yes; he signed all the vouchers.
10587. Are you sure of that? Yes.
10588. Are you quite clear that Mr. Hibble examined these vouchers with the butts of the order-books? Yes.
10589. And you held him responsible? Yes. You would not expect that I could go through that routine with the duties I had to do otherwise.
10590. Did you ever sign these contingent vouchers? Only in the way I have stated.
10591. When did you sign these vouchers? After Mr. Burrowes had certified that the goods had been received, and after Mr. Hinchcliffe had signed that they were correct.
10592. Should we find Mr. Hinchcliffe's signature and initials showing that the quantities were all right on the vouchers? On all the vouchers that have been paid.
10593. When did Mr. Hinchcliffe sign them? When they were paid. I had better explain how it was done. These contingent vouchers with the quantities received from the different contractors supplying the Casual Labour Board with supplies were sent out to the different works and certified to by the officer incurring the expense, that is by the superintendents on the different works. Then they were computed as to quantity and numbers on the requisition, and so on, and when we received all the computations as to the amounts by Mr. Hibble, then we used to make the adjustment. When paid, and before sending them to the Auditor-General or to the Treasury, I would sign them as head of the department.
10594. After the payment? Yes. I never saw the voucher until after the payment. It never came before me. Then Mr. Hinchcliffe also signed as witness of the pay.
10595. You never saw the vouchers until after they were paid? No.
10596. Did you ever sign them before they were paid? I have done in the case of the last few at the request of Miles and Mason. They related to expenses incurred during my term, but never before that.
10597. Do you state that you never signed any vouchers except those that were paid? No.
10598. Beyond those that Messrs. Mason and Miles asked you for? No.
10599. All the vouchers that you signed up to the end of last year were paid vouchers? Yes; and had been first of all duly certified to by the officer incurring the expense and computed by one of the clerks in the office.
10600. Did you ever sign a contingent voucher before the superintendent? Never.
10601. Mr. Hibble has sworn that he only checked the computations, and that that was all that he was responsible for;—is that correct? No; I held him responsible for the quantities as well as showing that the computations were correct.
10602. Did you never hear of any vouchers being lost? No. I heard them talk about vouchers being lost, but I never knew that they were lost.
10603. Whom did you hear talking about it? I think I heard Mr. Larnach speak about it.
10604. Did you ever hear of Mr. Hibble's instructions being limited to computing the amounts of these vouchers? No; I did not. As far as the pay-sheets went he was limited to the computations only; but not in the case of vouchers where goods were ordered.
10605. How long after the payment for these goods did you generally sign? It just depended upon how soon we wanted to make an adjustment of the £6,000. Then they would be signed right off the reel so as to make the adjustment.

10606.

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10606. I read you the evidence of Mr. Hibble, questions 6963 to 6966, on these very points—is that correct? I do not understand that he did that.
10607. Do you recollect that instance? I do remember something about it, but I do not remember the whole of the circumstances. He had not the power to alter the pay-sheet. He had power to bring under my observation any matter if there was anything wrong. He could not alter it. The computations were sometimes so mutilated that they had to be sent back.
10608. Did I understand you to say that the vouchers were checked with the butts in the order-books? Yes.
10609. So that if there were any discrepancy between the two it should be noticed? Yes. It would be remedied by us communicating with the people who supplied the goods if there was an error.
10610. Who was in the habit of getting the letters? They were sent by post from the office, and they came back by post.
10611. Who would open them? Mr. Hinchcliffe.
10612. Who would authorize the making out of the cheques for these vouchers? I would.
10613. Who made the cheques out? Mr. Hinchcliffe, the Paymaster.
10614. Who paid them? Sometimes I did, sometimes he did. Any particular accounts he paid. I paid Kidman's, and I paid M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's a few times—two or three times.
10615. Who else paid accounts? Mr. Hinchcliffe.
10616. Anyone else? I do not think anyone else.
10617. Mr. Larnach? No; I do not remember that Mr. Larnach ever went to pay accounts. He went to pay wages sometimes—in two or three cases, I think, but that was at the Paymaster's own risk.
10618. Was there any further check kept of the supplies and plant ordered than the superintendent's certificate and the comparing the vouchers with the butts? Yes; they had stock-books, and into these they entered all the goods in the store. I had that return made to me.
10619. Where can we find these? They ought to be amongst the papers and books in charge of the store-keeper.
10620. Whom did you hold responsible for the correctness of the vouchers? I held Mr. Burrowes responsible for all the works that he certified to. I held Mr. M'Pherson responsible for all the works that he certified to, and the same with Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Oxley.
10621. Then had you any responsibility at all? My responsibility was in the direction of the machinery—in seeing that they all did their work.
10622. I want to get at what was the value of your signature to contingent vouchers if you had no responsibility for the correctness of the accounts? I may appeal to Mr. Franklin, who is an old official. He will understand that I signed simply as head of the department—on the strength of Mr. Burrowes' signature, believing that to be correct. I had to trust somebody, and I had to trust the officers in the field.
10623. Then your signature does not involve any responsibility? No responsibility. Simply as head of the department, I was compelled to sign in accordance with the Audit Act. I have no personal knowledge of the expenditure myself.
10624. Were these payments all made on your individual responsibility, or did you consult your colleagues at all? I consulted the Board.
10625. In all cases? I could not say in all cases.
10626. Were all these payments to M'Lean Bros. & Rigg, to Mr. Kidman, Mr. Graham, and so forth, authorized by the Board? Yes.
10627. At a meeting? Yes.
10628. Where would the meeting be held? In the office.
10629. And the papers would of course show that such was the case? Sometimes Mr. Houson and myself were present—sometimes Mr. Wells and myself. One of the professional members of the Board might be out of town.
10630. Did you ever take charge of these contingent vouchers yourself and put them in a safe? Yes; after they were paid—after the cheques were made out.
10631. Having got the cheques signed, did you ever keep them in hand? No.
10632. Who kept them? They were put in a safe.
10633. What safe? Mr. Hinchcliffe's safe.
10634. Did you ever receive money on account of people? No, sir, never.
10635. Who determined as to what tradesmen should be employed on these works? Which tradesmen?
10636. Tradesmen to be employed in supplying plant, and rations, and so forth? Well, we found when we took charge that Mr. Kidman was supplying to the amount of 4,010 rations, at fifteen pence per head; and for that I found that in the first month he was receiving something like £4,000. I put myself in communication with the Colonial Secretary, suggesting that tenders should be called. Tenders were invited in the public press, and fourteen were received; and that of Mr. Kidman's with an increased ration of something like half-a-pound of meat a day, for 1s. 1d. per ration was accepted. I thus saved £30 a day, or nearly £1,000 a month, by that one transaction. It is only fair to say that the contractor had a right under the authority of the Colonial Secretary of the time, Mr. Dibbs, to go to the extent of 2s. per head, and he charged fifteen pence. With reference to Messrs. M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, we were not aware but what the contract existed in that case that existed in all the Government departments until some months after the Board was in existence. Then the Paymaster, Mr. Hinchcliffe, informed the Board that the practice had been for these people, who were then the Government contractors, to furnish all the supplies at a deduction of 2½ per cent. on the payment of the account. That 2½ per cent. was deducted in every case. So anxious was I that we should secure in the cheapest market all our supplies that I went with Mr. Larnach and Mr. Hibble and bought spawling hammers and a large number of tools off Mr. Harwood, at the Haymarket, at a much less price than was charged by M'Lean Bros. Then we got a report that the articles were not so good—that they did not stand out so well. I went to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's shop and saw Lawn, and told him that the price was outrageous, just as if it was my own money that I was spending. I went with that object, and I succeeded in cutting them down from 56s. to 46s. per dozen. Having been in the trade myself for a number of years, I knew what the value of everything was, and knowing that the prices in some instances were very high, I got them to reduce them; and if it had not been that I thought that they were supplying the

the goods under the ordinary contract, I should have insisted upon a contract being entered into in the case of that firm.

Hon.
John Davies,
C.M.G.,
M.L.C.

10637. When did you find out that they were not being supplied under the ordinary contract? About six months afterwards, and we did not anticipate that the Board would last more than a few months more.

10638. How long after you were in office did you find out the necessity for advertising for tenders for the supply of rations? Well, the first payment was for £4,000, and that was so high that I thought a saving might be effected by advertising for tenders.

10639. Did it not occur to you that a saving might be effected as regards the other contractors? No. It was the latter part of 1887 before I learned that there was no contract.

10640. Is Mr. Wells in any way responsible for you not having discovered this? He is just as responsible as I am. We are all equally responsible, if there is any responsibility attached to any of us.

10641. Was any tender called for supplying the department with such plant as M'Lean Bros. and Rigg supplied? No.

10642. Did you ever make inquiries as to the nature of the Government contract? Yes. I got Mr. Hinchcliffe to make inquiries.

10643. What was the result of that? He told me that Mr. Deering and Mr. Wise were supplied with the things for these different works, and that from these people $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent was deducted.

10644. And you took Mr. Hinchcliffe's *ipse dixit* for that? There was no *ipse dixit*.

10645. You did not see that there was any overcharge as regards the rest of the goods? I do not think there was much overcharge after I took the trouble to go to these people and make the best deal I could with them.

10646. Did you ever see Mr. Wood or any of the partners or any of the senior officers of M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's establishment with reference to the charges? No; I never spoke to Mr. Wood or any partner in my life. I spoke to Mr. Lawn, who had charge of the Government contracts. I may say that I do not know any of the firm at all.

10647. Was discount allowed in every case? No, not in every case.

10648. When Messrs. Mason and Miles took over the control of the department, had you any vouchers in your possession—contingent vouchers? Yes.

10649. Many? I had a good number; but I could not tell you how many.

10650. Did they all bear your signature? I have already explained that I signed a portion of them showing the expenses incurred before these gentlemen took over the Casual Labour Board.

10651. Did the vouchers you had in your possession at the time that Messrs. Miles and Mason took over the control bear your signature? Yes.

10652. Do you recollect what you did with them? What I did with them. I did not do anything with them. I simply signed them because the expenses were incurred during our term. After they had been properly computed and properly checked, I signed them at Mr. Hinchcliffe's suggestion, I think.

10653. I want to know what became of them after that? I do not know what became of them.

10654. Did you give them to Mr. Hinchcliffe? He took charge of them.

10655. Did you ask him to get them paid? How could he get them paid.

10656. Did you ask him to see that they were paid, or to get them paid? No, because if so, we would have drawn the cheques. He could not make me do it. I could ask him to do it.

10657. Who went out to make the pays to the men at the time Miles and Mason took charge? I could not tell you. I was out of the office. I do not know who went to make the pays.

10658. Am I to take it that the vouchers were left on the table when you went out of the office? Yes; I left them on the table with the Paymaster.

10659. Then you gave them to the Paymaster? I simply signed them.

10660. Why cannot you answer my question in a direct manner? I am doing so. I never took them from him.

10661. Were you satisfied that the vouchers were all right, and that they had been compared with the butts of the order-book? Yes.

10662. Would you recognise any of the vouchers if I showed them to you? I could not say, but if you show me one I will strive to do so.

10663. Now, I hand you fourteen contingent vouchers, will you look them through and say whether you recognise any of them as being the vouchers that you left? I recognise all these but one for £16 8s.

10664. Here are six more contingent vouchers, will you look through them and say whether you recognise these as forming any part of what you left with Mr. Hinchcliffe? These I recognise, but there is one there for £58 15s. I do not recognise at all. It may be correct, however.

10665. But you don't recognise it as being one of the vouchers that you left with Mr. Hinchcliffe? No, I don't; but I recognise the others. I do not say that one is not correct. It may be correct although I am not able to recognise it. My signature is there because Mr. Burrowes' is there.

10666. Will you look at this contingent voucher for £50 12s., showing twenty-four kegs of blasting-powder, and you see the butt end of the order-book shows twenty-three;—which is right? The butt ought to be right.

10667. Ought that voucher to be paid? It ought to be paid, less the difference in the kegs of powder.

10668. If we have produced the receipt from the Ordnance Department, signed by a responsible officer out at Waterfall, showing twenty-four kegs, how then? Then the butt of that is not correct. We are not above making mistakes, sir; but I am surprised that there should be twenty-three instead of twenty-four on the butt. [*Voucher put in and marked P 5.*]

10669. Will you look at this contingent voucher for £1 13s. 3d. for galvanized buckets and billies, and one plank;—ought we to find an order for that? I presume you ought. That is for Bankstown.

10670. We have had these books carefully searched, and we have found no order for these things? Well, I would not pay on that. Hibble has evidently simply computed the quantities, instead of comparing them with the butts to see that they were correct.

10671. Has that got Mr. Hinchcliffe's signature? No; it is not paid.

10672. How do you account for your signature being there? Because it was at the end of the year, and it was hardly fair for these gentlemen to have to certify for things that they knew nothing at all about.

[*Contingent voucher for £1 13s. 3d. put in and marked P 6.*]

10673.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 10647—Omit "No, not in every case," insert "Yes, in every case." Q. 10655—Before "How" insert "No". Q. 10656—For "would" insert "could".

- Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C.
- 23 April, 1889.
10673. Will you look at this contingent voucher for £14 16s. 6d., M'Lean Bros. and Rigg. There is an item one dozen muck picks. You see that the butt of the order-book says eight muck picks? Yes; the butt ought to be right.
10674. Is that voucher right? In that respect it cannot be right. [*Voucher put in and marked P 7.*]
10675. Look at this contingent voucher for 14s. 6d., M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, for 500 screws and 14lb. of clout nails. Ought there to be an order for that? Yes.
10676. Do you recollect what they were for? They were for Cook Park. Old Mr. Sanderson was there. They were sent out without the ordinary order; it was a small thing.
10677. Who gave the order? Mr. Sanderson; but there ought to have been an order subsequently sent. Most certainly if you go through the vouchers of twenty-one months you will find that little mistakes of that kind occurred. [*Voucher put in and marked P 8.*]
10678. Look at this voucher for £4 4s., for twelve mattocks, M'Lean Bros. and Rigg. Ought there to be an order for that? Yes.
10679. There is none that we can find? Well, I would not pay it.
10680. We have searched and found no order in the book? These vouchers came with the order attached to them upon which the goods have been supplied.
10681. You will notice that is signed by Mr. Sanderson, by Mr. John Davies, and initialled by Mr. Hibble? That was for Rookwood. Formerly they had cleared about 1,100 acres at Rookwood, and the underscrub was growing up, and we put on thirty men, and these mattocks were to clear the underscrub. If there was no order sent it must have been a verbal order. I might have given a verbal order for these. [*Document put in and marked P 9.*]
10682. Will you look at this contingent voucher for £98 14s. 9d.—M'Lean Bros. and Rigg. The butt of the order-book shows ten kegs of powder, and the contingent voucher forty-six kegs of powder. Which is right? Sometimes in sending out powder they would send a much larger quantity and store it out in the magazine, and then afterwards the quantities would be rectified.
10683. This does not tally with the butt of the order? But it does with the explanation I am giving you. It was customary to send out a larger quantity at a time.
10684. Is that a mistake? It is not a mistake.
10685. An irregularity? Well, it was an irregularity, but it was done with the knowledge of the whole Board. I suppose you are only in search of the truth, and if you ask the ordnance officer he will tell you whether he received it.
10686. We have to examine into the working of the Board. We want to see how the Board did their work? Crucify the Board as much as you like. The unfortunate Board has got a good many kicks. [*Document put in and marked P 10.*]
10687. Look at contingent voucher, M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, £20 19s. 9d., ten kegs of blasting-powder and forty coils of fuse. The order-book shows thirty coils of fuse. Can you tell me who gave the order for that? That is Mr. Hibble's writing. He has omitted to give the order for the additional quantity.
10688. Where is that for? Eekersley Road.
10689. The order-book speaks of articles for Leumeah, for your station? All the orders show what the articles were.
10690. Do you know anything of them? I would not have the smallest knowledge—more than you have. If you want to see whether there is a receipt or not there is an easy way of getting it.
10691. Is that a mistake or an irregularity? I should think it was neither a mistake nor an irregularity. [*Document put in and marked P 11.*]
10692. Look at this contingent voucher, £44 17s., M'Lean Bros. and Rigg. The contingent voucher shows twenty-four kegs of powder; the butt of the order-book twenty-three kegs. Is that a mistake or an irregularity? Is not that the one you have shown me already?
10693. No. What is your answer? Neither a mistake nor an irregularity. [*Document put in and marked P 12.*]
10694. Here is a contingent voucher for £22 10s. 3d., M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, December 13th. We can find no butt in the order-book for it, and we can find no order at all. Ought we not to find some order for it? That was sent down to the Rosehill Road; it is some distance from Narrabeen.
10695. Should we not find some record for the order in the order-book? No doubt it is an irregularity, but I am sure it is correct, because we got special authority from the Minister to do that particular work. [*Document put in and marked P 13.*]
10696. Here is another for £37 8s. We find nothing in the butt of the order-book for that. Have you any recollection of that? I have no recollection of it. I would not pay it unless an order was forthcoming.
10697. What do the signatures cover? My signature covers nothing more than that of head of the department.
10698. Do not these contingent vouchers bear on the face of them all the signatures that are required to secure their payment? They would not be paid until the order was produced.
10699. Would not these vouchers have been paid in the ordinary course had not Messrs. Miles and Mason been appointed? I do not think so. I would see that they tallied with the orders.
10700. Do not these bear the name of the person supplying the goods—the officer incurring the expense, the head of the department, and the initials of somebody who checked the quantities. What further was wanted to justify the payment? Nothing, but that we should have in the office sufficient to show that these goods on the voucher were requisitioned for. I would get a requisition from Mr. O'Donnell, asking me to send these goods to him. If you look amongst the correspondence you will find on a date—almost the day before that in the voucher—a letter from O'Donnell asking for supplies of goods.
10701. What I say is this, that these vouchers that I have put before you had every signature on them to justify their payment in the ordinary course, and they would have been paid without further inquiry? Yes; and I believe the Government has received every shilling's worth of them. There may be an irregularity in not having filled up all the butts, but that is not much in an expenditure of over £240,000; out of that expenditure I will make you a present of all that you can find that we are wrong in. [*Document put in and marked P 14.*]
- 10702-3. Will you look at this voucher for £5 11s.—1½ oct. steel? The corresponding number appearing in your

your order-book is $1\frac{1}{8}$;—which is right? It did not matter. We simply used it for striking drills. If we did not get $1\frac{1}{4}$ we got $1\frac{1}{8}$; it did not make a bit of difference.

10704. Will you look at this contingent voucher, M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, £18 3s.—eight kegs of blasting powder and thirty-two coils of fuse? If you compare it with the butt of the order-book you will see that the order-book shows four kegs of powder and sixteen coils of fuse, which is correct? The contingent voucher will be correct. There was a broken coil in the George's River, and that circumstance brings the order to my mind, but this ought to have been corrected immediately afterwards.

10705. Look at M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's voucher for £20 19s. 6d.—eight kegs of powder. The butt of the order-book says six kegs, what about that? Just as I have already said; they frequently sent a larger quantity. 10706. Do you say that is right? Yes; because they often send a larger quantity, and we give them credit for it afterwards, by written intimation.

10707. Here is another of M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's contingent vouchers for £6 10s.—“twenty-four long-handle shovels and four hammers.” Will you tell me where the order is for that. This is one you recognized as having been left by you with Mr. Hinchcliffe? I could not say anything at all about it. The order ought to be in the book.

10708. We have searched and can find no order in the book? I think that as regards these things, instead of being sent to Hurstville they were delivered at the office for the purpose of going to the men employed in clearing the dam at the Little Bay Hospital. One of the inmates of the hospital was found drowned, and the water was found polluted, and under the directions of the Colonial Architect we put on some thirty men, and these shovels were ordered for them.

10709. Who ordered them? They should have been ordered by Mr. Hibble. Some of the shovels were left in the office when I left at the end of January.

10710. Then you say that these twenty-four long-handle shovels and four hammers were delivered at the office? Yes; I think they were.

10711. Can you account for our not finding any written order for them? No; my impression was that you would have found it. I thought you would have found an order for everything that was ordered.

10712. Will you look at this document [*Exhibit E 2*—a contingent voucher for £3 10s.—M'Lean Bros. and Rigg—“six coils of Manilla rope.” Its number is 552, and if you compare that with the butt in the order-book you will see that the corresponding entry in the order-book is a hamper-basket. Will you explain that? The hamper-basket that I used for going these journeys for twelve months—it was my own private property—got the handle broken through going out to these different works on pay-days, and I sent Mr. Hibble to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg to see if they could provide me with a basket. They sent me a basket, but it was too expensive, and I immediately told them that I would have to return it, and that I wanted a less expensive basket, and that the price would be between £3 and £4. I returned the basket myself—taking it in a cab and returning it. I told the man in charge there to credit the office with the basket as being returned. They sent me another one, but it was too small, still expensive, and no use. I returned that. I told the ledger-keeper and told Mr. Lawn that we must be credited with these. There has been no voucher passed by me for them. I should have thought it no crime if I had got a basket for 25s. or 30s. to go out to these different works to have charged the Government with it. I should have thought it no crime seeing that I was getting nothing for my services. That is my explanation.

10713. Do you recollect what the price of the first basket that you returned was? I think it was about £3.

10714. Do you recollect what the price of the second was? £2.

10715. Did they credit you with these baskets? I went myself to the shop and told them they must credit us with the basket. I went to the ledger-keeper. You will find no voucher passed by me for a hamper-basket.

10716. Will you explain what is the meaning of No. 552 in the order-book being “one hamper-basket,” and the corresponding number on M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's voucher, signed by you, is for “six coils of Manilla rope”? No; I must say I have explained to you the whole of the hamper-basket business. You could send for the firm. I do not suppose a respectable firm like that would care to tell a lie. They would not sully their trade reputation.

10717. I want your evidence; you are the man that we have to deal with now. Do you on your solemn oath tell me that you know nothing further about this “hamper-basket” and these “six coils of Manilla rope” than you have told us? Certainly.

10718. Who signed the voucher for these six coils of rope? Mr. Burrowes.

10719. Where were the vouchers signed by him? At the works.

10720. Nowhere else? No; he never signed them in the office. If it were my last words, I would say on my oath that he never signed them in my office.

10721. I never asked you that; that is a piece of voluntary information on your part. Who asked anything about his signing them in the office? You asked me if he signed them in my presence.

10722. I did not ask you whether he signed them in the office. I simply asked where Mr. Burrowes signed, and you answer me that he never signed them in the office. I hope the shorthand writer has got it down as you said it. Now, let us get a little more about this. Do you notice that these vouchers have not got the stamp of the Southern District upon them? They often do not have the stamp of the Southern District.

10723. The others have got that stamp? Not all of them.

10724. Do I understand you to say that both these baskets were returned? Yes; both were returned.

10725. If one of the witnesses has given evidence to the contrary, what do you say to that? It is not true.

10726. Do you recollect the date that you left your office in Goulburn-street? It was on the 25th of January, the day before Anniversary Day.

10727. Not the 31st? No. I was in the lower part of the office two or three times for a day or two after that, but not where the business was being done.

10728. Were you ever told that the price of one of these hamper-baskets was £6 10s.? No.

10729. Will you swear that one of those baskets did not cost £6 10s.? I will swear it did not.

10730. Will you swear that one of them did not come to £3 10s.? I will swear it did not.

10731. After all these different vouchers I have shown you, and the many inaccuracies in them, what check had you against cooked, or bogus, or improper accounts? We had to do the same as other people; we had to trust to people outside.

10732.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 10715—For “the basket” read “the return of the baskets.” Q. 10731—For “people outside” read “our officers.”

- Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C.
23 April, 1889.
10732. Had you any check in the department? We had a check, as I have already told you. Out of a sum of £240,000 you have found some small trivial matters, but the whole of them only come to a very small amount.
10733. Does not a feather show how the wind blows? Sometimes a feather shows the wind—that is, where there is any wrong-doing; but here there is no wrong-doing.
10734. Now, I want to take you to Kidman; you are aware of the contract that Kidman had? Yes.
10735. The contract that you made with him? Yes; the contract that the Colonial Secretary made with him.
10736. Do you recollect what the contract was? Yes; he was to deliver wherever required and whenever required.
10737. Are you aware whether charges for cartage were made? Not to my knowledge.
10738. Do you know that we found pay-sheets with charges for cartage? Yes; for carting metal, but not for rations.
10739. Are you aware of any cartage being paid for rations? Not to my knowledge.
10740. Might it have been done? It could if Mr. Burrowes put it down for cartage other than rations. The contract was that Mr. Kidman should deliver whenever and wherever required. That was the condition of the contract.
10741. This is the evidence that we have got on this point—speaking of the rations: “At first they were delivered at the different railway stations, and we carted them to the camps”? It is not true. The rations were delivered and carted to the National Park camp at Kidman’s own expense. I may say that as soon as the contract was accepted each of the superintendents got instructions that they were to insist upon the rations contract being carried out in every sense.
10742. What was the system you adopted in regulating the supply—that is, as to how much rations should be supplied? The number of rations would be according to the number of men on the ground.
10743. Who gave the orders? The superintendents and the different overseers and storekeepers. The superintendent or storekeeper at the main camp would receive information of the number of men on the different works, and he would send an order to Mr. Kidman to send 250 more rations to Narrabeen and 350 to some other works, as the case might be. It was a great source of trouble to the Board, to see that the men should have no cause for complaining of the quality of the rations. The next day after the delivery a ticket would be sent, showing that so many rations had been received at the National Park and so many at Narrabeen. Then the storekeeper kept a book, and entered daily the quantity of rations in the books, and the accounts were made up for everything from the tickets received by the contractors. The storekeepers kept all the orders.
10744. Then the storekeeper was the motive power? Yes, in the matter of rations; he had to do with that.
10745. Do you know whether rations were ordered in excess of the demand? Very seldom. There might be fifteen or twenty in excess occasionally.
10746. Was your attention ever called to the fact? It might be. This would arise through the men suddenly leaving the field, and we would have the rations in stock; but never more than a few.
10747. Do you recollect any occasion upon which a return was made to Parliament when it was pointed out that there must have been something wrong about these rations? No; I don’t remember.
10748. Did you ever remonstrate with the storekeeper as to the large demand for rations? I have no doubt I have done so.
10749. Have you any recollection of doing so? I have done so more than once.
10750. Did you ever check his books? We checked his returns which he made up every fortnight.
10751. You checked his returns against his books? Yes, and against the contractor’s receipts.
10752. Were you ever officially informed that there had been irregularities out there? Never.
10753. Were you ever written to by a man named Robertson? No. I remember a man of that name. He was a drunken man and was dismissed.
10754. Did he ever complain of any irregularities? No. He wrote to me asking to be reinstated after his dismissal for drunkenness.
10755. Did you ever examine Mr. Springall’s requisitions to see whether they were unusually large before you passed them? Well, I would see that they were correct so far as I could see from the numbers at the different camps.
10756. Were any irregularities ever reported to you in connection with the stores? No.
10757. Are you aware that Springall was conducting a store there? No. I should say in passing that I stopped Springall from conducting a private store. That was just after we took charge. I thought it was not right that he should do so, because it put the men in the position that they might not receive the quantities of bread and rations that they were entitled to.
10758. And he stopped this store? Yes.
10759. How do you know that he stopped it? The contractor, at the request of the Board, undertook to provide his own man to conduct the private store, and Mr. Kidman took charge of it.
10760. Do you know that, as a matter of fact, Springall had a store there during the whole of the time that the Board was in existence? No; absolutely no. He had no store after the time I intimated that he must give his store up.
10761. Are you aware that he had a store during the whole time that you were in existence as a Board? Certainly not.
10762. Have you become aware that he received stores on his own account from Kidman? Not during the past twelve months.
10763. If we are told by a large number of witnesses that he did what would you say to it? I could not believe it.
10764. Were you present on pay-days? Yes.
10765. Will you tell me what you did? I went to the pays in order to adjust any grievances that might arise between the men and the overseers and superintendent. I examined the stores—examined the supplies—heard what complaints the men had to make, and dealt with them.
10766. Did you ever see that the right people were paid? I was at the pay while it was going on. I saw the men’s names called out, and each ganger was identified by the overseer on each pay-day. And the man stood up at the table and received his money, signed, and passed outside.
10767. I come back again to the question of rations. Do you recollect any return being made to Parliament as to an expenditure of something like £1,200 a week upon rations? No. 10768.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 10757—After “position” insert “of being suspicious”; and for “might not receive” read “were not receiving.”

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10768. I will put it in this way: Do you recollect anyone calling your attention to a return that had been made to Parliament, in answer to a question, in which 910 men were mentioned, and the return for rations when it came in showed that £2,000 was due to Mr. Kidman, and its being pointed out that if there were 910 men the amount should be about £1,200? My attention was never called to anything of the kind.

10769. Did you ever hear of rations being improperly drawn—that is, drawn on behalf of people who did not exist? No, sir. I have heard, but it is only hearsay, that Mr. Larnach received a big sugar chest and had it carted to his own home—that he had also two trucks of wood carted from the Park, signed Casual Labour Board at Hurstville, and one of them was carted to Mr. Larnach's house.

10770. How do you know this? I have heard it. The porter at the railway station will tell you that Mr. Larnach paid for the trucks and applied the proceeds of the wood to his own private use.

10771. I want to come to the petty-cash. Who initiated the system that you had in the office? The Paymaster.

10772. Had you anything to do with it? No.

10773. Do you know whether it was a proper system? I did not conceive it to be an improper one, or I should have told him. He told me it was the practice adopted by all the men who had conducted the affairs of the unemployed.

10774. Did you ever check the books yourself? No.

10775. Were they ever checked outside your own department? The Treasurer sent some official there.

10776. Do you know whom it was. Was it the Inspector of Accounts, Mr. Kirkpatrick? No; it was not him.

10777. Did any officer from the Treasury go through your books? Yes; an officer came there and looked at the books.

10778. How long did he remain there? He stopped some little time.

10779. Had you any idea of the amount of petty-cash that you had in hand? Sometimes as much as £100, I think.

10780. Was there ever more than £100? About £100. I am not aware of there being more than £100.

10781. Do you think there was £200? I should not think so.

10782. Do you think there was £300? No.

10783. Are you sure? I should think there would not be that amount.

10784. Who determined the amount of petty-cash to draw a cheque for? The Paymaster would say when he wanted a cheque for £50, and he would get one. Supposing his cash was out he would get it.

10785. Supposing his cash was not out when he got a cheque for petty-cash? Then he would get it by misrepresentation.

10786. Do you accept any responsibility with reference to the petty-cash? No.

10787. Did you not see that he had plenty of cash in hand many times when he asked for a cheque? No; certainly not. You are asking something that did not exist.

10788. But you answer my question? I am not going to give a stupid answer to the question unless I know what I am asked.

10789. You are asked whether you accept any responsibility for signing a cheque for petty-cash when petty-cash was in hand to a large amount? Certainly not. I do not accept any responsibility if there was plenty of petty-cash in hand.

10790. If I refer you to items in the cash-book could you give me any information about them? Oh, no; how could I tell you. It is impossible. I did not keep the cash. I did not keep the books. I had nothing to do with them.

10791-2. In order to identify this with the other evidence, I put into your hands the cash-book [*Exhibit E 8.*] Do you notice on page 71 a cheque for petty-cash £50, and do you notice on that same page there was a credit to petty cash of £343 4s. 8d.? I am not aware of it. I have never seen these books.

10793. Do you notice on page 74 a cheque drawn for petty-cash on the 29th June for £100, and on the same date there was a credit of £364 5s. 2d.? I did not know of it.

10794. Without going through the whole of the book I may tell you that in some fifteen instances on the occasion of cheques drawn for petty-cash there were large amounts of petty-cash in hand? Well, I had no knowledge of it.

10795. Who is responsible for that? The Paymaster.

10796. We find in this book items like this—say £35 6s. 8d. drawn out in petty-cash and a wages cheque for £1 on the same day. Can you say how that was? Not a cheque drawn for £1. It must have been purely an oversight to draw a cheque for £1.

10797. Do you know that it was customary to pay large amounts out of the petty-cash for wages? Only in cases I have explained when men have left the works.

10798. Do you know cases where people have been paid partly in cash and partly in cheque? Yes; I remember cases of £17, £15, £10, and the like.

10799. Who determined what should be paid in cash and what should be paid by cheque? The Paymaster.

10800. Had you any responsibility at all. You are throwing every responsibility on the Paymaster. Are you aware that the Paymaster throws it all on you? I do not know how he can do that. You see Mr. Hinchcliffe had complete control over the cash. He could do whatever he liked. He would simply have to bring his vouchers to pay his own expenses. He would give vouchers representing his personal expenses and pay himself.

10801. Without reference to anyone? He would submit his voucher to the Board before it was paid, and then it would be paid.

10802. Did you have meetings of the Board? Yes.

10803. Who was present on any occasion when Mr. Hinchcliffe's voucher was brought before the meeting? Mr. Houson sometimes, and sometimes Mr. Wells.

10804. Where did the meetings take place? In the office.

10805. We are told that you had meetings in the train? You have been told a great many fairy tales, and no doubt that is one of them.

10806. Supposing we have been told that by a member of the Board, is it still a fairy tale? Yes.

10807. Supposing Mr. Hibble, Mr. Larnach, and Mr. Josephson had claims for personal expenses, would Mr. Hinchcliffe pay them? Yes.

10808.

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10808. Without any reference to you? Oh, no; they would come before the Board. We would cast our eyes over them, and if they were not extravagant the amounts would be paid.
10809. What offices do you consider that Mr. Hinchcliffe fulfilled? Secretary and Paymaster.
10810. Who was Accountant? He was Accountant.
10811. Then you called him Secretary, Paymaster, and Accountant, was there any necessity for such a person as Secretary? Yes; the correspondence would go through the Secretary. He would deal with the correspondence. He would have, I suppose, as many as 2,000 letters.
10812. Who had this correspondence? The Secretary, Mr. Hinchcliffe.
10813. Was there any necessity for Mr. Hinchcliffe being Paymaster? Yes; the Government appointed Mr. Hinchcliffe Paymaster. He went to Narrabeen every fortnight, to Rookwood, National Park, Sutherland, and Waterfalls.
10814. Are we to consider that he was the responsible officer for the books of accounts—for the keeping of of them? Yes.
10815. If we find that large sums in the form of refunds have been paid into the petty cash, is he to be held responsible? Yes.
10816. Have you ever been in charge of a large department? I have been in charge of a Government department, and I am a director in one of the largest financial companies in Sydney. I am a trustee of Mr. Joseph Bayliss' and Mr. Alderson's estates. My time is fully occupied. I never sought this position. The Colonial Secretary sought me. I never sought it.
10817. How did he seek you? He wrote to me asking me to call upon him. I called upon him, and he told me that he contemplated forming this Board. He said he proposed to appoint Mr. Darley and Mr. Wells. Mr. Darley would not accept the position, and Mr. Houison was appointed to succeed him. The Colonial Secretary asked me if I was prepared to accept the position, and explained the nature of the duties. He asked me if I would relieve the Government of the thousands of people who were clamouring for work for the construction of railways, public roads, buildings, and a variety of works that he named. I said I was prepared to do so. Then subsequently I received the official communication which is to be found amongst the papers appointing the Board, coupled with the duties which were previously suggested, and which we should have to carry out. In view of all the applications that were coming in for employment we opened a sort of labour bureau, but we were informed right throughout that our offices were to be of a temporary character, and we did not know any day when the whole thing might be brought to a close. Altogether we had something like 13,000 men passing through our hands.
10818. Did you make any bargain with the Colonial Secretary, or did the Colonial Secretary make any offer to you? Yes. The Colonial Secretary intimated that we should be paid for our services at any rate.
10819. Was there any special rate fixed? No.
10820. Then the first you knew of it was a short note from the Colonial Secretary, asking you to call upon him? Yes.
10821. Do you know Sir Henry Parkes other than officially? Yes.
10822. Intimately? Yes; for thirty years.
10823. Has he ever been to your house? Yes; he has been to my house.
10824. And have you been to his? Yes.
10825. And you are on friendly terms? Yes.
10826. You say that there was a distinct understanding on this occasion that there was to be remuneration for your services? Distinctly. It was announced in the House several times.
10827. Are you quite sure? I have stated distinctly to you already.
10828. There was to be some remuneration. It was not some gratuitous State service that you were entering on? No.
10829. Was anything said about your personal expenses? Yes; all my travelling expenses had to be paid.
10830. Had you much travelling? Well, I travelled about three hundred miles a week.
10831. How? Travelling from my own house every morning, and going to these pays and to other places on the business of the Board.
10832. Did you not get a free pass as Chairman of the Casual Labour Board? No, certainly not.
10833. Did you pay your railway fare always? I never used a pass.
10834. Had the officers of the Board a pass? Mr. Wells might have had a pass.
10835. I am speaking of the other officers of the Board—not of the members? Mr. Burrowes had a pass. I was not a Member of Parliament. I had no pass.
10836. And whenever you went these trips you paid your railway fare? I spent as much as a pound a day on some of my travelling. That is what I have had to do.
10837. Do you know anything about the personal expenses of Mr. Hinchcliffe? They were submitted the same as Mr. Josephson's accounts were, and if they were not extravagant we passed them.
10838. Have you any idea of what they were? No.
10839. Do you know what you have been paid as personal expenses? At the rate of 10s. a day.
10840. Do you know the total? About £260.
10841. Would you be surprised to hear that Mr. Hinchcliffe's are as much? I would be very much surprised.
10842. Were they checked in any way? Only just as I have told you. I think it is fair to say that the Government allowed him in addition to his salary £1 for each pay.
10843. Do you know what check was kept on Mr. Hibble's expenses? Yes; his accounts were always passed by the Board.
10844. Are there any records in the office of who was present when these accounts were passed? There are no records.
10845. No minutes? No minutes were kept. If there is anything in regard to Mr. Hibble's expenses I can explain to you I will do so.
10846. As regards your expenses, were they submitted to the Board? They were submitted to the Colonial Secretary and approved.
10847. Were they submitted to the Board? They were submitted to Mr. Houison.
10848. Have you any memoranda or records of these expenses? No. 10849.

NOTE (on revision) :—Q. 10817—For “would” read “could.” Q. 10818—After “intimated” insert “in answer to questions in Parliament,” and omit “at any rate.” Q. 10830—For “three” read “five.” Q. 10836—For “a pound” read “two to three pounds.”

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10849. Were they incurred in a lump? No; they extended over twenty-one months.
10850. And you have no memoranda of them? I do not think I kept any memoranda of them after they were paid.
10851. What was the nature of the memoranda? Simply showing the travelling expenses to the different camps.
10852. Have you destroyed them? I think they were destroyed when the money was paid.
10853. When was the money paid? It was paid last year.
10854. Did you receive any money from Mr. Hinchcliffe before that time? Yes.
10855. Did you keep any memoranda of the amounts? Yes; I kept them in a book.
10856. Have you got that book? It is the same book that I disposed of after the thing was done with.
10857. What I want to get at is, how often these personal expenses of yours were placed before the Board before they were authorised by the Colonial Secretary? I could not say.
10858. Twice or thrice? Yes.
10859. I suppose the other members of the Board when they incurred expenses were paid them? The only one who has not drawn personal expenses is Mr. Houison. He did not draw, but Mr. Wells did every month.
10860. Were his personal expenses brought before the Board? Yes.
10861. Will you tell me from your memory what the payments were that you received from Mr. Hinchcliffe on account of expenses? I think there were only two payments I received on account from Mr. Hinchcliffe.
10862. I have a book before me now which I show you. Can you tell me whose writing that is in? Mr. Hinchcliffe's.
10863. Amongst these entries I see the following:—Chairman in account with the Secretary—May 11th, one-half petty cash cheque, £5; May 25th, advanced to the Chairman, £2 12s. 6d.; May 30th, £1 12s.; June 4th, charity, 3s.; June 13th, cab hire, 2s. 6d.; July 5th, charity, 5s.; July 8th, cheque P.C. to Chairman, £5; July 18th, cash to Chairman, 7s.; July 25th, cash to Chairman, 9s.; August 6th, cash to Chairman, 9s.; August 8th, cash to Chairman, £1; August 13th, cash to Chairman, 11s. Do you recognize any of these? Yes. How that would happen would be that I would ask him to advance me £2 or £3 for the day, to save me cashing a cheque.
10864. I see an entry against you on the 29th of the tenth month of £155 7s. 8d. Is that correct? I could say it is correct.
10865. Is it correct according to your idea? I do not think that is correct.
10866. Were you paid up to the 29th of October £155 7s. 8d.? I have no record bearing upon it now, and I could not tell you from memory. If I had thought it was necessary to keep those memoranda I would have done so.
10867. Will you state when the Colonial Secretary authorized these payments on account of your personal expenses? Some time in December.
10868. Can you give me approximately the amount that you had drawn on account of personal expenses up to December last? I should think about £90 altogether.
10869. Do you know when the payment of £261 10s. was made to you? On the 16th December.
10870. Did you get the whole of that in cash? Yes. The whole of the balance that was paid to me.
10871. On that day? On that day I think, but I can refresh my memory at home, and I think I could tell you to-morrow.
10872. Did you pay this into the bank? I think I can tell you the amount when I come again.
10873. Cannot you tell me approximately—it is not so long ago? It was about £90 then approximately that I had been paid previously. There would be something over £150 paid.
10874. Would that be in cash? Yes.
10875. Is it not an extraordinary thing that that amount should be in hand in cash? Yes, it is extraordinary.
10876. I notice at the same time that Mr. Hinchcliffe's salary for two months was paid in cash. Is not that extraordinary? I think not. You will find that on several occasions.
10877. Do you recollect Mr. Hinchcliffe being short in his cash? Never.
10878. Do you ever recollect hearing anything of it? I never heard of such a thing.
10879. What would be the amount of personal expenses paid you from time to time? I received from £5 up to £20 occasionally.
10880. Did you ever borrow money from Mr. Hinchcliffe? I borrow money from him.
10881. Answer the question? No, sir, never.
10882. Did you ever borrow money out of the petty cash? No, sir, never.
10883. Do you recollect on any occasion asking Mr. Hinchcliffe to take some electoral rolls down to the Sydney Station? No; I asked Mr. Burrowes to take them. That was just before the elections. I asked Mr. Burrowes to take a parcel of electoral lists. We always provided the men with electoral rolls.
10884. Do you know whether Mr. Burrowes went? I was told he went, but he was found drunk in a cab afterwards.
10885. Where was he when you told him to go in a cab? He was in my office upstairs.
10886. Was anyone else there? Mr. Hinchcliffe, and I think Mr. Hibble.
10887. Was he drunk in the office? He had got a drop, but he was not drunk.
10888. Was Mr. Burrowes frequently drunk during the time of the existence of the Board? I have seen him once or twice the worse for drink.
10889. Mr. Hinchcliffe? I have never seen him under the influence of drink.
10890. Mr. Hibble? Never.
10891. Mr. Larnach? Yes; I have seen him sometimes.
10892. Mr. Wells? Never.
10893. Mr. Houison? Well, I did see Mr. Houison a little fresh one time.
10894. Only once? Only once I think. It might have been twice.
10895. Was he two or three times? No.
10896. Was he constantly? No, certainly not.
10897. Did you ever see Mr. Wells the worse for drink? Never.
10898. Do you recollect any occasion when he was remonstrating with some one and you tried to restrain him? Never.

10899.

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10899. Nor using strong language? I never heard him use stronger language than I would use myself.
10900. Then I have yet Mr. Josephson, what about him? I never saw him other than all right.
10901. Do you know what the arrangement was with regard to the advance of £6,000 with the Treasury—when you wanted a second £6,000, did you make an application for it? Of course we did.
10902. How did you ask? By sending in the ordinary requisition, signed by the three members of the Board.
10903. How did you support the previous advance? Supposing we had expended £5,550 of the first advance we applied for another, and then we adjusted the first advance.
10904. Do you know what the system was in making up the vouchers covering £6,000? They were all made out, and there was a sort of recapitulation covering the lot of them.
10905. Do you know that the vouchers were made up for the exact amount of the advance? Yes.
10906. Was that done under your authority? Yes; it was the same practice that had been in existence before our time.
10907. Who told you? Mr. Hinchcliffe.
10908. Mr. Hinchcliffe was the leading spirit in this business then? Mr. Hinchcliffe had charge of this. I thought it was the proper thing to do.
10909. Do you know that on each occasion that you sent in the vouchers they amounted to exactly £6,000, neither more nor less? Yes.
10910. Do you know that this occurred in forty sets? I could not tell you what the number was. All I know is that £6,000 worth of vouchers covered the cash advance.
10911. Did you have anything to do with the making up of the vouchers? No.
10912. Who did it? Mr. Hibble and Mr. Larnach.
10913. Did you ever hear that there was any difficulty in the making up of these vouchers to represent exactly the £6,000? No. I have seen them do it in a quarter of an hour. You have got £6,000 to make up, and you have got £12,000 to make it up with.
10914. Does it not strike you as being marvellous that forty sets of vouchers, representing in the aggregate £240,000, should have been made up to represent exactly £6,000 in each case? No; they were always able to do it. We were always able to go to the bank.
10915. Had you any overdraft at the bank? We frequently had from £300 to £900.
10916. Don't you know as well as I do that you had an overdraft at one time of £72,000? That was covered by the letter of credit from the Treasury. We had often to get an overdraft sufficient to meet the next pay. We had to go and hunt up the money. It was not always sent there.
10917. This overdraft was on the same bank? Yes; but there was no letter of credit covering it. In one case they let us have an overdraft and then they took their account afterwards, and the Treasury told them they ought not to allow us to overdraw. They would not pay any interest on it.
10918. Here I find in December, 1887, you were something like £18,000 overdrawn? But that was covered by the letter of credit.
10919. On the 1st January, 1889, you were £77,722 14s. 8d. overdrawn, and that overdraft increased to over £84,000, and yet you say you were only from £300 to £900 overdrawn? You don't understand; there is a wide distinction between the two accounts.
10920. You had only one account? The smaller overdraft was independent of the letters of credit.
10921. I see in this cash-book several payments to Burrowes and Gleeson. Has that anything to do with the Burrowes at the works? Nothing whatever. They are the owners of the office, and these amounts are for rent.
10922. Mr. Hibble says that you could not examine the cash. By that he means that you had not the ability to do so. Was that so? No.
10923. You could have done so if you had wished? Yes.
10924. I suppose you have the ability to do so? I should think so.
10925. He says you are not well up in figures? It does not require an accountant's knowledge to understand those books.
10926. You understand the difference between the debit and credit side and petty-cash entries and that kind of thing? Oh, yes.
10927. Did you ever examine the cash-book? I may say that I had the greatest possible belief in the Accountant—that he was most thoroughly honest, and that he understood his work perfectly.
10928. You see the position that we are in is this. We call one officer and he blames the next. We call Mr. Hinchcliffe and he blames Mr. Davies. We call Mr. Davies and he blames Hinchcliffe or Hibble? I was the head of the department, and it was not my place to go into all the details.
10929. Surely you ought generally to know the business of the office? No; it was no part of my duty to look into the financial details.
10930. Were you not head of the office? Yes.
10931. The ministerial head? Yes.
10932. Who had charge of everything? Yes.
10933. And you were responsible for the officers under your control doing their duty? Yes.
10934. Did you become aware in December last that there was some probability of the Board's existence being terminated? Yes. I received a communication from the Colonial Secretary, giving notice that the works would be closed within a certain time. That is the letter I received from the Principal Under Secretary, dated 29th December.
10935. Had you any knowledge previous to that that the Board's services were going to be dispensed with? No.
10936. Neither verbally nor otherwise? No, sir; I had no intimation whatever.
10937. What assistance did you get from your colleagues—Messrs. Wells and Houison? I got assistance of a professional character—more than of a departmental character. When I had any suspicion that the quantities given in the measurements were excessive I asked Mr. Houison to go out and take the measurements.
10938. Did they interest themselves or interfere very much with the office routine? Their work was more in the field. In one case in particular I asked Mr. Houison to go and measure a removal of sand at Cook Park, and the amounts were reduced by 30 per cent. A saving of 30 per cent. was thus effected, and the men were perfectly satisfied.

10939.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 10899—For “stronger” read “any strong,” and omit rest of sentence. Q. 10915—Insert “Yes.” Q. 10916—Insert “Yes,” and for “the letter” read “letters.” Q. 10918—For “the letter” read “letters.” Q. 10927—Insert “No,” for “I may say that” read “as.”

10939. Did you go into the accounts with the other members? Not in the manner in which you did this afternoon, but we went over matters generally.

10940. Was their assistance substantial assistance? In a professional sense it was.

10941. Only in a professional sense? Yes.

10942. Did they assist you in matters in the office? In all matters I had the benefit of their advice and assistance when required.

10943. Do you know what their attendances were? I think Mr. Houson must have been a couple of hundred times, and Mr. Wells the same.

10944. Did you always take their advice? With the exception of one case, and that was the case of Mr. Burrowes.

10945. Did either of these gentlemen ever object to your action in any matter? I never remember their objecting. There was only one occasion on which Mr. Wells objected, and that was to the roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate. As we had the approval of the Colonial Secretary for the work it was proceeded with.

10946. Did either of these gentlemen ever make remonstrances which were not heeded by you? No, never.

10947. If they have given evidence to the contrary, is it correct or incorrect? It must be incorrect. The only instance I did not act on their advice was in the case of the letters I have given you with reference to Mr. Burrowes.

10948. Did you ever hear of Mr. Wells wanting to withdraw from the Board? He inquired if he could withdraw, because his other duties prevented his giving all the attention he could wish to the affairs of the Board.

10949. Did you ever beg him not to withdraw? No; I had nothing to do with him.

10950. Did you ever hear him say that he was going to give it up? No; never. Mr. Wells said he thought it would be well, as he could not devote the time to it, to withdraw. That was towards the latter part of last year.

Hon.
J. Davies,
C.M.G.,
M.L.C.

23 April, 1889.

WEDNESDAY, 24 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

The Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., called in, and examination continued:—

10951. *President.*] Previously to your appointment to this Board, had you any experience with regard to the employment of labour on a large scale? Not of that character.

10952. Do you recollect receiving any further instructions from the Colonial Secretary's Department subsequently to the letter of the 2nd May, 1887? Only on the 29th December last year.

10953. But shortly after the Board was established in May, 1887, did you not receive some other written instructions? There was a letter, I think, about bringing our proceedings as speedily as possible to a close, and intimating that the department was not to be continued, or something of that kind.

10954. Will you look at this letter, and tell me whether you have ever seen it? I don't remember having seen that. That must have been sent before our time.

10955. Do you notice the minute of Sir Henry Parkes on the margin? Yes.

10956. And do you notice also on the letter the stamp of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

10957. So that it did come to you after the creation of the Board? Our existence was on the 2nd May, 1887, and as this seems to be dated the 1st May, I do not see how it could have come after our existence.

10958. Is not the stamp Casual Labour Board, 10th May, 1887? It looks like the 1st of May.

10959. Is there not a nought there partly obliterated? There may be.

10960. What is that number 87-20? That is the registered number.

10961. All I want to know is whether it is part and parcel of the first document you got on 2nd May, or something additional? That evidently is the 10th May.

10962. The first document was the 2nd May, and this—"suggestions for dealing with the unemployed"—appears to be something additional to the instructions of the 2nd May? Well, it is practically the same. There is not much additional in it.

10963. It contains suggestions for dealing with the unemployed? Yes.

10964. What officers were appointed in connection with the Casual Labour Board. Give the names of the officers that the Board appointed? The Board made no appointment of officers. We took over the officers that were actually employed before. The Colonial Secretary made two appointments, but we made none.

10965. Was not Mr. Hibble appointed by you? Yes. He was a supernumerary, receiving 6s. per day.

10966. Did your Board appoint Mr. Hibble? Yes.

10967. Did your Board appoint Mr. Larnach? Yes, as a messenger.

10968. Did your Board appoint Mr. Josephson? No; the Colonial Secretary appointed him. Mr. Hinchcliffe and Mr. Josephson were appointed by the Colonial Secretary, and transferred from the Immigration Department to our department, on account of their having dealt with the unemployed prior to the existence of the Board.

10969. Did your Board appoint any superintending officers? Overseers and assistant superintendent.

10970. How were the overseers appointed? The superintendent in every case recommended a certain man as a tolerable man for the work, and we approved of his appointment.

10971. Did your Board appoint any assistant superintendent? Yes; we appointed Mr. M'Pherson, but he was already acting as a sort of superintendent over at Gordon when we took charge.

10972. When reports came from the overseers and superintendent, did you take them for gospel, or did you make inquiries? We made further inquiry, and took a great deal of trouble over them.

10973. What steps did you take to test the accuracy or otherwise of the reports? Either myself or a member of the Board would go out to make inquiry on the spot, where the reports related to what might be termed comparatively important matters. In many cases they would relate to quantities, measurements, grades, and levels. These would devolve more upon the other members of the Board than myself. I have no knowledge of giving the levels or taking the grades. That requires professional skill.

10974.

Hon.
John Davies,
C.M.G.,
M.L.C.

24 April, 1889.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 10945—For "the roads" read "a road." Q. 10948—Insert "No, but," and *add* at end, "and that at the latter end of last year." Q. 10965—For "supernumerary" read "temporary clerk." Q. 10970—For "tolerable" read "suitable."

- Hon. 10974. Did the professional members of the Board test the accuracy of the reports in these cases? Yes.
 John Davies, 10975. In all cases? Not in all cases. Sometimes I would send the assistant superintendent, who was a
 C.M.G., very skilled, reliable, and able man.
 M.L.C. 10976. Was that Mr. M'Pherson? Yes.
 24 April, 1889. 10977. In those cases where you sent Mr. M'Pherson, did you act then on your own judgment? The
 Board acted upon its own judgment on the reports which they received from Mr. M'Pherson. We had
 sometimes very lengthy reports—documents that would take a quarter of an hour or twenty minutes to
 read some of them.

[*Mr. Corkhill, an officer from the Treasury, attended and produced certain vouchers, which, for Departmental reasons, the Treasury officers did not wish to let out of their custody.*]

10978. Will you look at this contingent voucher for £261 10s.? Yes.
 10979. Do you identify that? Yes.
 10980. That is, I believe, a voucher put in for your expenses? Yes.
 10981. Do you notice the approval, apparently of Sir Henry Parkes, on the margin, dated 14th January, 1889? Yes.
 10982. Were you paid those expenses before that approval? A portion of them.
 10983. Not the whole of them? No; I do not think so. I think I may correct myself. In the latter part of December they were paid.
 10984. According to this cash-book there is a payment of £261 10s. to you on the 27th December. Would that be correct? Yes; it was in the latter part of December.
 10985. I think you said that whatever was paid then was paid in cash? Yes; the balance was paid in cash.
 10986. Then, as a matter of fact, you were settled with on this basis nearly a month before the approval of the Colonial Secretary was obtained? Yes; but I had intimation from the Minister that he would approve.
 10987. Did you see Sir Henry Parkes on that particular subject previously? Yes, several times.
 10988. And did he give you any intimation that this amount would be allowed? Yes; he informed me that my expenses would be paid on the basis I have indicated—at the rate of 10s. a day.
 10989. And you claim that this approval of 14th January, 1889, was only a confirmation of some previous intimation? Quite so.
 10990. I see at the foot here the receipt apparently signed by you, dated the 31st December, 1888—that is four days after the entry in the cash-book? Yes; it is quite possible. It was signed to make out the £6,000 advance for the adjustment.
 10991. Do you say this signature on the receipt was given for the purpose of adjustment? Yes. It was in all probability. It may have been signed at the time. It is not so long after the date.
 10992. Can you give me any explanation how it is that the 31st December is the date upon the receipt, when the payment, according to the cash-book, was made on the 27th December? I am sure I cannot tell what is in the cash-book. I know what the voucher says. It was paid on the 31st December.
 10993. Can you tell me about what date you had a settlement as to this payment? As nearly as I can say, the latter part of December.
 10994. But whether the 16th or 31st, you could not tell? I could not.
 10995. Have you brought with you any memoranda or can you give me any information as to the exact amount which was paid you by Mr. Hinchcliffe in December? No; I have no memoranda. I thought I had some at home, but I have not any. It was about £140, as nearly as I can possibly remember.
 10996. I refer you to a book with several entries (page 241), and at the foot of the entry a note of account made up to the 29th October, 1888, £155 7s. 8d.;—do you recollect that £155 7s. 8d.? No.
 10997. Do you recollect any payment at all? About £130 or £140, as nearly as I can remember.
 10998. Then as to the balance—the difference between £130 or £140 and £261 10s.;—when was that paid? The balance was paid, as I said, in the latter part of December.
 10999. Then what was the amount you received? You asked me what I received before. I told you about £90 yesterday afternoon. I found it was £130 or £140. I did not keep any memoranda after the matter was settled.
 11000. When was the difference paid you between £140 and £261? In December.
 11001. Then the whole of it was paid in the latter part of December? So far as I can remember.
 11002. Did you receive the whole £261 10s. in December? No; I received the balance in December.
 11003. What was that balance? About £130.
 11004. When did you receive the other £131 10s.? It extended over a period of two years very nearly.
 11005. In one payment? No.
 11006. In several payments? Yes.
 11007. How many? I could not say.
 11008. Might it be a dozen? It might; I could not say from memory.
 11009. Might it be in twenty payments? No; I should think not.
 11010. Have you searched to see if you have any records to show how it was paid? No. I have told you already that as soon as the account was settled and paid there was no further responsibility, and I destroyed all the memoranda. I did not anticipate being questioned about the matter, and there was no necessity for my keeping a pile of papers.
 11011. Did you at various times throughout the existence of the Board obtain petty-cash from Mr. Hinchcliffe for the payment of current expenses? There were sums of £130 paid to me on account of travelling expenses.
 11012. Where did he get the money from? I think he paid the money out of the petty-cash. I gave him an interim voucher.
 11013. Here is a voucher, which has been produced from a bundle of papers supplied to this Commission from the Treasury this morning, for £10 9s. 6d., purporting to be the personal expenses of Mr. Hinchcliffe;—can you give me any information how these personal expenses were regulated? It is impossible for me to give you information about all these matters, because I did not keep the accounts. I had nothing whatever to do with the accounts.
 11014. Here are four contingent vouchers of Mr. Hinchcliffe's for personal expenses, amounting to £13 8s. 3d., £10 15s. 11d., £10 8s. 6d., £10 9s. 6d., amounting in all to £45 2s. 2d., can you give me any information as to what personal expenses Mr. Hinchcliffe would have? I have to ask that you refer to the vouchers. They will explain themselves. 11015.

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11015. Can you give any information outside the vouchers? All I know is Mr. Hinchcliffe went to different places to make pays, and he incurred expenses. He supplied all the expenses that were incurred in the office, such as tram-tickets for messengers, and other petty expenses. I think you will find that charged there.
11016. Ought his expenses to come to nearly 10s. a day? No, I do not think they ought to come to 10s. a day. You told me last night that they did, and I was a little surprised to hear it.
11017. I see amongst other items in one of those vouchers there is a charge for stationery by Mr. Hinchcliffe? Yes; you will find a voucher attached I expect.
11018. Did you not keep stationery in the office? Yes; but some stationery we did not keep in the office. We got it outside. It was for documents of a special character.
11019. Did Mr. Hinchcliffe charge and pay it to himself? He charged the petty-cash.
11020. *Mr. Franklin.*] I just want to ask you a few questions about these vouchers, as the Treasury officer is waiting in the room to take them back with him;—where these accounts furnished monthly? They were not put in for adjustment monthly. They did not appear exactly every month.
11021. Would these vouchers represent all the petty-cash in connection with Mr. Hinchcliffe's expenses? Yes.
11022. And the items should agree with the cash-book? Yes.
11023. Had you anything to do with the cash-book? I have not kept the cash-book. I do not keep the cash-book, nor did I ever keep the cash-book. I do not suppose I looked at the cash-book during the whole twenty months. I did not regard that as any part of my functions at all.
11024. *Mr. Waller.*] Is this voucher for £261 10s. for the balance of money due to you for expenses? No, sir, it covered the whole expenditure for twenty-one months. I received a portion of it in the interim, and the balance of it was in the end of December.
11025. And you say that balance was £130? Yes.
11026. It would leave you, roughly speaking, as having received £131 10s. previously? Yes.
11027. Did you receive that in one sum, or at various times? In several sums.
11028. How many? I suppose three or four sums.
11029. Would it be six? Not more than four or five. That is apart from those shown in the book. I do not regard those sums of 4s. or 5s. as advances.
11030. Then you received the £131 10s. in three or four payments? Yes.
11031. In what amounts? In sums of £20 and upwards in cash.
11032. Was it all cash? Yes.
11033. Were there no cheques at all? No.
11034. Who would you receive it from? The Paymaster.
11035. Mr. Hinchcliffe? Yes.
11036. What would Mr. Hinchcliffe have to show that you got a sum of £20 when these advances were made? The ordinary contingent voucher, pending adjustment.
11037. What would become of the contingent vouchers after they passed through your hands? They would be locked up in his safe.
11038. Would they be of the same kind as the vouchers of other people for payment, or would they be I.O.U.'s? No; they would be simply contingent vouchers, and they were kept until the adjustment of the whole amount.
11039. What became of them in the end of December, 1888? They were destroyed then.
11040. Who destroyed them? Mr. Hinchcliffe.
11041. Did you see him destroy them? I am not certain.
11042. Of your own knowledge, do you know whether they were destroyed or not? He told me he would destroy them, and I think he tore them up in my presence.
11043. Are you quite positive that you gave a voucher for each payment that you received? Quite; except as regards those small sums that the President called attention to; there was no contingent voucher for those.
11044. Would those contingent vouchers have particulars on them, similar to these? I could not say; I did not fill up the contingent vouchers; I simply signed for what I received.
11045. Who would sign these contingent vouchers as well as yourself—Mr. Hinchcliffe? Yes.
11046. Anyone else? Somebody who witnessed my signature.
11047. Who would witness your signature? Mr. Hibble or Mr. Larnach.
11048. Who signed as head of the department for these payments? I did, but I found it was wrong, and that I could not do it. I had to get the approval of the Colonial Secretary. That is how I referred the whole matter to him.
11049. Would your signature be witnessed by one of those three you have named? Yes.
11050. What did the £130 that you received cover? Travelling expenses, hotel expenses, train and tram fares—I was not a Member of Parliament—and hire of vehicles. Of course it would be impossible to give all the details. They charged 4s. for dinner at the hotel when we visited the works, and there would of course be myself and Mr. Hinchcliffe. You will find when you go up to visit these works what it will cost; and they are very much more accessible now than they were when I had to visit them.
11051. Are you quite certain that these contingent vouchers were never used? I am positive of that. They were put in the safe and kept in the custody of the Paymaster.
11052. But you never saw them? I saw them when he tore them up in my presence, and said that the adjustment covered the whole of them.
- [*Mr. Corkhill, the officer from the Treasury, here left with the parcels of vouchers.*]
11053. *President.*] Were there any dismissals of officers during your existence as a Board? Yes; there was a number of surveyors and overseers dismissed by reason of the reduction of the number of men on the different works, and others were dismissed in consequence of their drunken habits.
11054. Were any officers dismissed who had been appointed by the Board? Well, you understand that they were not appointed by the Board. They were recommended by the superintendents and approved by the Board.
11055. Were any of them dismissed? Yes; for the reasons that I have explained. We had no reason for keeping the officers when the men were being reduced.
11056. Were any dismissed for improper conduct or irregularities? Yes; several of them.

11057.

NOTE (on revision) :—Q. 11020—Insert "Yes, but" Q. 11023—Insert "No." Q. 11041—For "I am not certain" read "Yes." Q. 11042—Omit "I think" Q. 11050—After "fares" insert "and hire of vehicles."

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11057. Any holding important positions? Yes. Walsh was dismissed for drunkenness, and the superintendent, Mr. Burrowes, was reprimanded.
11058. I want to get the dismissals first? Walsh was dismissed for drunkenness. A man named Coleman was dismissed for improper conduct in connection with some man's pay. I think the papers I left will disclose that. A man named M'Donald was dismissed for drunkenness. An overseer named Bastable was dismissed for drunkenness—the overseer on the Liverpool Road, C. Arthington. I happened to visit the work on a Monday, and not only did I find the overseer drunk, but a number of men. I dismissed the lot. There were a number of persons dismissed for drunkenness during the two years that I occupied the position I had.
11059. I suppose, as the administrative head of your department, you are enabled to speak with some authority as to the different officers? Yes.
11060. What is your opinion of Mr. Hinchcliffe? Well, I have always had a very high opinion of Mr. Hinchcliffe. He was always most attentive to his duties.
11061. Truthful? Yes.
11062. Sober? Yes.
11063. Competent? Yes.
11064. What is your opinion of Mr. Hibble? I think Mr. Hibble of the two is even an abler man than Mr. Hinchcliffe.
11065. Honest? Yes; thoroughly honest.
11066. Sober? Yes.
11067. Truthful? Yes.
11068. A competent officer? Yes; very competent.
11069. What is your opinion of Mr. Josephson? I found him truthful and sober, but not a very competent officer.
11070. Honest? Yes.
11071. Mr. Larnach? I cannot speak well of Mr. Larnach. I do not wish to say anything to the detriment of this man; but if I had to conduct an affair of this kind again I would not employ him.
11072. What is your opinion of him? I believe him to be dishonest. I know him to be a drunkard. I know him to be most unreliable and untruthful.
11073. Was he competent in the discharge of his duties? No, sir. He had to index the papers, and if you turn to the index you will find that the papers were not indexed. He was frequently in arrears twelve months. I had the greatest difficulty in finding the papers required by Parliament or the Colonial Secretary.
11074. When did you discover that he was dishonest, untruthful, incompetent, and not sober? I found that he was not a sober man in the early part of last year—perhaps about the middle of the year. I found him to be untruthful, and believed him to be dishonest some time afterwards.
11075. How did you find it out? I got to learn a good deal of it from representations by people into whose debt he got. His landlady, his washerwoman, his coal merchant, Mrs. Lucas, the furniture dealer, Messrs. Cahill and Oatley, house-agents, all gave him a most terrible character for want of truthfulness, want of sobriety, and the impossibility of getting their money from him. He would take people's houses and pay no rent for them, and put false bum-bailiffs in them——
11076. Is this what you have been told;—I am asking you for an opinion from your own observation? The result of my own observation is that I would not trust him. During last year I found him to be untruthful and unreliable in every way.
11077. Did you dismiss him? No.
11078. Did the Board dismiss him? No. He was reprimanded, but was not dismissed.
11079. Do you think it was right as the head of a department to keep an officer in the discharge of responsible duties who was not sober, untruthful, dishonest, and incompetent? He had no responsible duties to perform. He simply acted as messenger and had to index the records.
11080. Do you think it was right, speaking in your capacity of Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, to keep in your employment an officer who was untruthful, not sober, dishonest, and incompetent? He was not an officer. I did not recognize him as an officer.
11081. Do you think it was right to have him there? There is no doubt it was not the proper thing for me to keep him. I should have got rid of him. I admit I committed a great error in not getting rid of him. It was on account of his family that I kept him on—to save them from starvation.
11082. Messrs. Hinchcliffe, Josephson, Hibble, and Larnach were the only officers or clerks in the head office, were they not? Yes; and the two detectives.
11083. What is your opinion of Mr. Burrowes? Well, I have formed a very bad opinion of Mr. Burrowes. You will find, on turning to the press copies of my letters, that I had to write to Mr. Burrowes with regard to his actions. I gave you an instance yesterday of how he was regarded by the professional members of the Board. I found him unreliable, and the other members of the Board found him incompetent; but, being a layman, I am not able to put my opinion by the side of theirs. I think if you will only turn up a letter I wrote to him on my visit to the Woronora River Road, where he left the overseer, Mr. M'Leod, in charge of important work, you will see for yourself. We were constructing a road from the Woronora River to the Peakhurst Road across the Woronora. On my visit with Mr. M'Pherson, the assistant superintendent, I found that the overseer had been carrying on this work—a work of really great magnitude—and that he had no levels and no grades supplied him by the superintendent, although the superintendent had previously informed me that he had got the grades and levels, and that he had given the overseer the necessary information to enable him to carry out this work, which was of a difficult character—very difficult indeed. Immediately on my return to Sydney I wrote to the superintendent, telling him what I had ascertained, and the letter will bear out what I said.
11084. When did you write the letter? I think it was in October. I told him I had been informed by Mr. M'Leod, who was in charge of the work, that he had been left entirely to himself to find the levels and grades, with a 9-inch spirit-level; that he had never checked the grades or quantities; that he had certified for the payments made without having seen the quantities or checked the measurements. You will find this letter amongst the correspondence, and it will be useful to have it looked up and read. It is rather a lengthy letter. I asked Mr. Burrowes to furnish me with an immediate explanation of his conduct, as his conduct was such that, unless he furnished a satisfactory explanation, I should feel it my duty to recommend my colleagues to dismiss him.
- 11085.

NOTE (on revision):—For “and put false bum-bailiffs in them—” read “and they would put the bailiff in and find that there was no goods to levy on.”

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11085. Did you receive a reply from him? He acknowledged the receipt of the letter, and said he would be able to send a report on the matter in a few days. I never received a report. He only gave me a verbal explanation that he had such confidence in Mr. M'Leod that he had no occasion to take the measurements or the quantities. He told the same thing to Mr. Wells. Well, then I also visited the works on the Main Illawarra Road. I saw the ganger in charge, and asked him if he had his level or his grade for a cutting that he was then making on the Main Illawarra Road. This man instead of gradually rising to get out of the cutting was actually going down deeper as he went on. I asked him whether he had got his levels and he said "no." Mr. Burrowes had told him up here a foot, down there a foot, and somewhere else a foot, but he had no levels. I told him he had better not go on with that, as it was most unsatisfactory. I placed myself in communication with Mr. Burrowes respecting this work, and he said it was all the fault of the ganger who was named Morgan. On the Liverpool and Eckersley Estate road—a road going through from Eckersley to Campbelltown—I paid a visit to the work and found that they were actually clearing roads through private property in direct violation of the instructions I gave them—in direct violation of the written instructions I had given to Mr. Burrowes—that he was not to proceed in the direction in which he was clearing the roads, as there were no Crown lands there. When he came to a drop of 70 feet over Peters' Meadows Creek, where an embankment would be necessary which would cost half the money in the Treasury, what does he do. He turns right in another direction, through private property, and goes into the creek again through the same drop. I called his attention to his neglecting to carry out his instructions, and he said it was Mr. Underwood, the overseer's fault—that it was he who had committed the error—then I told him to go in as straight a line as possible through the public estate to open up the land on the George's River, where 9,000 acres of land have been taken up by free selectors. Instead of going as I directed him straight through, he takes a detour in the Campbelltown direction, and clears roads facing private property fronting it for $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and not only clearing but ballasting the roads in direct violation of instructions. When he came to the office I brought him to task again. I told him to go and see Mr. Phillips, who owned the adjoining property, and he gave in writing authority to the Board to go through his land to give access to the Crown lands. I come now to another matter affecting Mr. Burrowes, and my statement can be verified. Mr. Burrowes sent a contingent voucher by young Springall from the camp signed by a man named Crane, one of the carters on the works. Mr. Burrowes signed a voucher containing no amounts and no quantities. When Mr. Burrowes came to the office I got the voucher, and in the presence of Mr. Hibble and Mr. Hinchcliffe I said that he ought to be dismissed for doing such a thing. I told him that he had certified to a blank voucher. I have since ascertained that he had borrowed £17 10s. off this man Crane, and he gave him a voucher for the amount of his debt. They are very easily comeatable these people, and the Commission can ascertain the truth of what I have stated. Then when the inquiry was on before the Select Committee, Mr. Burrowes gave evidence with reference to the works that had been under his control, and he subsequently received a circular from the Select Committee to give a report upon the Boundary Road at Hornsby. The Board, Mr. Wells, and myself remonstrated with him for giving a report upon a work that the professional members of the Board had already given their evidence upon. He stopped behind after Mr. Wells had left, and said to me, "I was out with those damned scoundrels yesterday. They are going to give you away. They are going to shirk all the responsibility for the Holt-Sutherland Roads." I said, "Do not talk to me about my colleagues in that way. I won't listen to you." The next morning I received a letter marked private and confidential. [*Letter put in and marked P 15.*] In that letter he underlines the reference that he makes to my colleagues, and then he says, "You can do what you like with me." At the end of December we got notice that we were to wind up the whole of the department; and it was scarcely worth our while to deal with Mr. Burrowes, as we received instructions that we were to get rid of the men, one-third each month, until they were all cleared off on the 31st March. I may also state that I also lent Mr. Burrowes money, and I hold an I.O.U. from him now for the last sum he borrowed from me. I hold Mr. Burrowes' I.O.U. for £2, dated 27th November, 1888. That has not yet been paid. You will form from this a pretty clear estimate of the trouble I had with the officers I had to manage this large amount of money.

11086-7. Well, Mr. Davies, I am still on Mr. Burrowes;—was he a sober man? No; he was not a sober man, but during the twenty-one months of the Board's existence I did not see him drunk more than three times.

11088. Was he an honest man? No; I do not think he was honest. I only realized that, however, during the last month or two of the year. I found that he had borrowed money from the men on the works. A man named Walsh had borrowed £10 to send to his wife in New Zealand, and Burrowes borrowed the money from him. Burrowes has since then paid £4 10s. of it back. We were frequently troubled with applications for money out of his wages from people on all hands, as well as people who had bills of sale over his furniture. He owed money to Peapes and Shaw. This gentleman, Neale, had a judgment against him. He borrowed money from a man named Cook, from a man named Moore, and he borrowed money off a man named James Rutherford, a contractor, who got a contract to make a dam across George's River. We have paid his petty-cash expenses to the amount of £12. We never stinted him in his travelling expenses, but he would incur debts at the hotels, and would not pay his expenses. He was summoned by a publican named Arnold. He borrowed this money from Rutherford, and never paid half of it. He also went to a storekeeper at Campbelltown —

11089. Do you know this of your own knowledge? Not of my own knowledge; I am informed by the storekeeper.

11090. I would like if you would confine yourself as much as possible to what you know yourself? Then there was Mr. Phillips, a gentleman who came to me at the railway-station, and asked me what had become of the man Burrowes. I said, "Has he had you, too?" He said, "Only £15." I could give you a list of over £400. He has borrowed money from a large number of people on the list.

11091. Will you condense what you have said by saying that, in your judgment, he was an utterly bad man? I found him towards the latter part of last year an utterly bad man.

George

George Robert Cartwright Neale called in and further examined:—

- Mr. G. R. C. Neale, 24 April, 1889.
11092. *President.*] Will you look through your books and give us a statement of the amounts paid by you to the Casual Labour Board or officers between the 1st January, 1887, and the end of 1888? Well, Mr. Cape, I have been brought here several times to the sittings of this Commission, and I should like to know who is going to pay me for all this lost time.
11093. If you will send an application to the Commission it will be considered. You must recollect that there are a large number of persons in exactly the same position as yourself? Perhaps they are in the Government service.
11094. Some of them may be, but look how many hundreds are subpoenaed to the Courts who are in the same position as you. However, submit your application; I do not say that it will be successful, but my colleagues and myself will give it our consideration. It will shorten your time and our time immensely if you will just go through your books and give me out of them what I ask? The first payment was 14th May, 1887, for the sale of firewood, £26 17s. 7d.; the next, 31st May, 1887, sale of wood, £38 4s. 2d.; the next, 23rd June, 1887, sale of wood, £66 12s. 6d.; July 7th, 1887, sale of wood, £41 12s.; July 19th, 1887, sale of wood, £5 4s. 6d.; July 19th, 1887, sale of wood, £33 3s. 2d.; August 4th, 1887, sale of wood, £40 1s. 1d.; August 19th, 1887, sale of wood, £36 3s. 10d.; September 1st, 1887, sale of wood, £40 12s. 3d.; September 23rd, 1887, sale of wood, £52 3s. 2d.
11095. Now, how is it that the first item, £26 17s. 7d., is not in your ledger books? For the simple reason that we never ledger any country people's stuff; we send the cheques every day, and the amounts would be in the account sales books. It is only in cases when we get weekly or fortnightly payments that I do this.
11096. After that payment of £26 17s. 7d., you opened a ledger account? Yes.
11097. Before that you had not a ledger account? No; but all these items are in the account sales book.
11098. How does it come about that when you were examined before us on the 26th of March last you omitted to tell us of the item £33 3s. 2d.? Yes; because there was no memo. made as to where it was placed; it was only, as I told you, the other day that I found it out.
11099. On the same date as that you see you made a payment, £5 4s. 6d.? Yes; when transferring this from the account sales book the boy omitted to make an entry of the folio it was on. It was only a few days ago that I found out where it was placed.
11100. Then through a purely clerical mistake in your office the item £33 3s. 2d. had been overlooked by you in giving your last evidence? Yes; the cheque had been paid, but through the fault of the lad not folioing it it had been omitted.
11101. Will you read out the amounts making up this payment? July 6th, £2 9s. 2d.; 7th, £2 8s. 6d.; 8th, £2 7s. 11d.; 9th, £2 4s. 9d.; 9th, £3 4s. 5d.; 11th, £2 1s.; 11th, £2 2s. 11d.; 12th, £1 19s. 11d.; 15th, £2 19s. 5d.; 16th, £1 18s. 8d.; 18th, £5 5s. 9d.; 19th, £4 0s. 9d.
11102. Are these the items representing the account sales for £33 3s. 2d.? Yes.
11103. Did you give that item to Mr. Davies when he asked recently? I could not say; he asked me whether I knew the amounts of the cheques I sent over or paid to the Casual Labour Board.
11104. This account [*Exhibit P*] which Mr. Davies says you gave him, is the item £33 3s. 2d. in that? I do not see it. I have told you the reason that I did not give it to you before, because it was not mentioned where the other amounts were.
11105. Do you recollect giving that amount to Mr. Davies when he called upon you about a month previous to your giving your former evidence? No, I cannot. He said at the time, "I fancy there is something more." I said, "I cannot find it."
11106. Do you think that the item of £33 3s. 2d. was given to Mr. Davies when he called? I do not think so. That is my writing [*Exhibit P*]. I am sure I gave that.
11107. But you do not recollect giving him the item £33 3s. 2d.? I should have given it to him had I known it to be there.
11108. Do you notice in your account [*Exhibit P*] that you have not mentioned the £26 17s. 7d. Why is it not mentioned there? I cannot say; it was not in the ledger.
11109. What took place at your interview with Mr. Davies? I was going out myself, and he shook hands and said, "Can you give me the amount of the cheques you paid to the Casual Labour Board." I said, "I am in a hurry now." He said, "That won't take you five minutes." I turned up the ledger, but I did not attempt to go through my account sales book, so I did not give him the amount of £26 17s. 7d., for it would have taken me some time to find it out.
11110. Then this account [*Exhibit P*] which you gave him was an abstract from the ledger, and you did not give him the other items because you did not attempt to go into your other books to fish them out? That is so.
11111. Have you brought here the cheque you gave for £33 3s. 2d.? Yes. I produce the cheque, dated 19 July, 1887, payable in favour of Mr. Burrowes or bearer, for £33 3s. 2d. This cheque is on the Bank of New South Wales, Haymarket Branch, and is signed by me.
11112. The cheque is crossed BANK,—is that done by you? It was done in my office; the cheque bears the stamp of Bank of New South Wales, Haymarket Branch; Bank of New South Wales, Sydney, and of the City Bank, and is also marked C.B. on the back.
11113. Read over your evidence of 26th March last, which I hand you? Yes.
11114. Are there any alterations or additions that you desire to make? Yes; in my answer to question 2969, I wish to say that is how I first came to know Mr. Davies was there.
11115. I show you the cheques for £26 17s. 7d. and £52 3s. 1d., which you handed us when you gave evidence on 26th March last, and the cheque for £33 3s. 2d., which you produced to us to-day;—are these all signed by you? Yes. [*Cheques put in and marked Q, Q 1, Q 2.*]
11116. I show you also the copy account sales for £26 17s. 7d. and £52 3s. 2d., furnished by you to this Commission? Yes. [*Copy account sales put in and marked Q 3 and Q 4.*]

Wm. Duchesne called in and further examined:—

11117. Will you look at this cheque purporting to be signed by George Robt. Neale, dated the 19th July, 1887, payable to Mr. Burrowes or bearer, £33 3s. 2d., and say whether it has passed through the City Bank? It has been through.

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11118. Have you with you to-day the deposite slip that contains that? I have. That cheque is part of a deposit of £38 3s. 2d. paid into the account of John Davies, C.M.G., on the 19th July, 1887.

11119. Do you produce the credit slip evidencing that? I do. [*Deposit slip put in and marked G 2.*]

11120. By whom was that payment made? It was paid in by John Davies.

11121. Is that credit slip in the handwriting of Mr. John Davies? It is in Mr. John Davies' handwriting.

11122. Then this cheque of £33 3s. 2d. is part of a deposit of £38 3s. 2d.? Yes, the balance being made up in notes and gold—4 notes and £1 in gold.

11123. Will you read the body of the deposit slip? "Paid in for the credit of John Davies, C.M.G., the sum of thirty-eight pounds three shillings and two-pence, by self, to provide for cheque to be drawn on Thursday."

11124. Do you believe that the whole of that deposit slip is in Mr. Davies' handwriting? I should say so. Undoubtedly the figures are rather more clearly made than Mr. Davies usually makes them, but I could not say that they are not his.

11125. Do you produce from amongst the cheques in your hand any cheque by John Davies, C.M.G., for £26 17s. 7d.? I have no cheque for that amount.

11126. What cheques are these—from what date to what date? These cheques were debited to John Davies, C.M.G., on his account No. 1, from the 19th May, 1887, to 31st September, 1887.

11127. Are these all the cheques that would be debited to his two accounts between those dates? Yes, these are all the cheques.

11128. Is there a cheque for £33 3s. 2d. amongst that lot? There is no cheque for that amount.

11129. Is there a cheque for £52 3s. 2d.? I have no cheque for that amount.

11130. Is there one for £52 13s. 2d.? I have none for that amount; but one for £53 12s. 4d.

11131. Will you kindly search the account of John Davies, C.M.G., and the account of John Davies No. 2, and any other accounts of John Davies in your bank, from the 1st May, 1887, to 31st March, 1889, and inform this Commission whether there is any cheque drawn by him for £26 17s. 7d.; £33 3s. 2d.; £52 3s. 2d.; £52 13s. 2d.; £8 10s.; £86 11s. 7d.; £139 12s. 11d.; £26 6s. 4d.;—all or any of those? Yes.

11132. Will you kindly attend this afternoon with the information? Yes.

[Witness attended subsequently and stated that there was not any cheque drawn for any of the amounts given to him.]

The Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., called in, and further examined:—

11132½. *President.*] When did it first dawn upon you or your colleagues that Mr. Burrowes was such an indifferent officer? I think from the letters I have handed in this morning you will find that Mr. Wells, one of my colleagues, in 1887, took exception to Mr. Burrowes in very strong language, which he put in writing, and stated that he should be taken from the work—that Mr. Burrowes should have no possible connection with the work of the roads, although he might have a supervision over the men, and might deal with the requisitions for supplies. In conjunction with that, I might say we found that he had certified to the payment of a drunken overseer who had been absent ten days from his work, and the man was returned for full pay on the pay-sheet. This circumstance caused Mr. Wells to express himself in very strong language—in very strong terms indeed—that Mr. Burrowes should not have any further control over the road-making. He had at that time charge of Unwin's Bridge Road and the Waterfalls Road, and several other roads within the National Park. In the first instance, on receiving an explanation from Mr. Burrowes, the Board, at the instance of Mr. Wells, took these other roads out of the control of Mr. Burrowes, and placed them under the control of Mr. M'Pherson, who, I may say, gave the Board general satisfaction in the works which he carried out. That was the first instance in which I remember Mr. Burrowes showed so badly. Then there was that in connection with the Woronona River Road, which I have already referred to this morning. There have been circumstances of a similar character developing, showing that Mr. Burrowes has been very lax and neglectful or ignorant of what was going on, and very culpable in allowing measurements to pass simply on the *ipse dixit* of the overseer instead of checking them, which it was his duty to do prior to the pay. In the case I refer to he never went and checked the quantities, as Mr. M'Leod informed me, in the presence of Mr. Hibble. He had never been present to check any of his measurements, but simply relied upon his own judgment and his own skill in making the measurements.

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11133. One witness who has been examined before this Commission was asked this question—speaking of Mr. Burrowes—"With the exception of this imperfection of professional knowledge, were his other duties satisfactorily performed?—Yes; I consider him a very good and very efficient officer"? Yes, up to that stage I suppose I considered him very good and very efficient. That is up to the last three months of last year.

11134. Do you recollect when Mr. Wells was examined before this Commission? Yes.

11135. I suppose you recollect seeing him the morning of the day afterwards? Yes; I think so, but I am not certain whether it was the next day.

11136. Will you give me, as nearly as you can, the substance of the conversation you had with Mr. Wells on the day after he was first examined here—where it was, and what it was about? Well, I do not know that I can give it. It had no special reference to the inquiry. It simply, I think, had reference to getting employment for one or two of our overseers—Mr. Oxley, whom I recommended as a very deserving man, Mr. M'Leod, and Mr. O'Donnell. These men I had every confidence in, and recommended that something might be done for them in the Roads Department. Then he said he had been up before the Commission and had given evidence—I said that I saw from the papers that he had been called, but as to a detailed statement of his evidence there was no reference whatever.

11136½. Are you sure no reference was made to any of his evidence? Yes.

11137. Did he make any reference to Mr. Burrowes? I think he did say something of Mr. Burrowes, and I told him I had this letter—private and confidential, written in 1887—wherein he made reference to Mr. Burrowes. That is the letter I gave you this morning.

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11138. Where did the conversation take place? In Mr. Wells' room.
11139. Was it by accident that you found yourself there that morning just after his first examination? It was purely accidental. I am in this building nearly every day of my life—in one part or another.
11140. Are you in the Public Service? I am a public man. I am a Member of Parliament. I have public duties to perform, and I have a right to go to a public office and carry out those public duties.
11141. Are you in the Public Service? No. I think it is well known I am not, Mr. Chairman. You need not ask me that.
11142. I have very little knowledge of you, sir? Well, sir, I have very little knowledge of you, so the relations are mutual—the relations are mutual.
11143. When did Mr. Wells first complain to you about Mr. Burrowes? As far back as August, 1887.
11144. Mr. Wells has given in evidence here a letter of 25th October, 1887, in which he complains in very strong terms of Mr. Burrowes' wilful insubordination? Incompetency, I think you will find, Mr. Chairman.
11145. In this letter of 25th October, I think you will see the words "wilful insubordination"? I see the word "incompetency" here.
11146. Read the beginning of the letter. Am I right or wrong? Right, as you always are, Mr. Chairman.
11147. Will you tell me, as nearly as you can recollect, what followed upon this complaint? The changes I have already described followed upon the complaint. We took from Mr. Burrowes the road-making. We took from him the special roads I have mentioned—the Unwin Bridge Road, the Waterfall Road, and placed them under the control of Mr. M'Pherson, the assistant superintendent.
11148. Can this Commission take it that in October, 1887, the Board became aware that Mr. Burrowes was an incompetent and useless officer? That was the opinion of Mr. Wells.
11149. Did you share that opinion then? No, I did not. But I did not disagree with him, because it was the expression of a professional opinion against that of a layman.
11150. Then at that time the objection to Mr. Burrowes was rather of a professional than a moral character? Just so.
11151. Did Mr. Wells recommend Mr. Burrowes' immediate dismissal? I am not aware that he recommended his dismissal—he recommended his suspension. You see he was not appointed by the Board—he was appointed by Mr. Dibbs. So you see what a difficulty there was in dealing with a man like Mr. Burrowes.
11152. Did you on any occasion in Mr. Wells' presence beg off Mr. Burrowes? Certainly not.
11153. Are you sure? Certainly, sir.
11154. If any witness has stated in his evidence before this Commission that you did beg off Mr. Burrowes, is that untrue? If any witness has said that he has stated an absolute untruth. I am as positive about that as about anything in my life.
11155. When did you first become aware as Chairman of the Casual Labour Board that Mr. Burrowes was not only professionally incompetent, but the reverse of a sober man—and a dishonest and untruthful man? In September or October, 1888.
11156. I understand then, the Board became aware in September, 1887, that he was professionally incompetent? That was, as I have explained, the professional opinion of my colleagues. I did not put my opinion by the side of theirs, because they are in a position to form an opinion and I am not.
11157. Did your Board, or you, as the administrative head, retain Mr. Burrowes in a highly responsible position during the whole time of the existence of the Board? As I have told you already, I regarded him up to September or October, 1888, as an efficient officer, so far as the administration of his department went; of his professional skill I cannot speak. It was not until the latter part of September of last year that I discovered he was borrowing money from the men on the works—that in fact he was placing himself in an improper position as regards the employees, and was getting himself into all sorts of scrapes. The last time we had an instance of this kind was an application from Mr. Jones, the tailor.
11158. Do you know this of your own knowledge? Mr. Jones told me.
11159. Do you know if we have got this evidence? Well, if you have got it in evidence there ought to be no harm in my confirming it. No one is better informed about these matters than I am. I say that he went and got a suit of clothes from Mr. Jones the tailor to go to Lord Carrington's installation.
11160. Do you know this of your own knowledge? I know it from the statement of the man himself.
11161. Can you swear that statement is correct? I cannot do that, but you can call Mr. Jones and examine him.
11162. What is the use of taking up our time with this talk. The time of the Commission is important. This is not evidence? You insult me, sir. [*Witness rising up from his chair.*] I am not here to submit to insult from you or anybody else. I am here every bit as good as yourself. I am not a twopenny-halfpenny police court lawyer. I am not here on the cheap ticket.
11163. What do you mean? I mean that I am not going to be insulted or bullied either. I will give you all the information within my power, but I am not to be insulted. I am quite your equals Mr. Cape—quite your equals. [*Witness resumes his seat.*]
11164. Have you anything further to add? If you do not wish me to add anything further, I will not. You prevented me from doing it, and I have lost the thread of what I was saying. I am here to give evidence. If you decline to hear my evidence, of course I cannot help it.
11165. *President, resuming.*] I was asking you more particularly with reference to Mr. Burrowes—what steps you took when it came to your knowledge that he was a useless, untrustworthy, and incompetent officer? I must ask you to turn to the press copy of my letters. You will find the information you require in the press copybook. If you will kindly ask your Secretary to turn them up I shall feel obliged. I did not rest in the matter. I did not sleep. I took the proper steps. I desire to have the correspondence read and put in evidence.
11166. Are these you refer to letters you have written to him, or letters he has written to you? They are letters that I have written to him complaining of his conduct.
11167. Can you fix about the time? I think you will find it was in November of last year.
11168. A Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly was appointed to inquire into the working of the unemployed on the Hornsby and Holt-Sutherland Estates on the 15th November, 1888. Was it prior or subsequent to that you discovered Mr. Burrowes was an utterly useless, untrustworthy, and incompetent officer? It was prior to that. If you will be good enough to have those letters read they will speak for themselves. I desire that they be read and put in evidence. 11169.

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11169. They will be put in at the proper time? In my opinion the proper time is now, but of course you are the judge.
11170. You will be good enough to allow this Commission to be the judge as to when the proper time is? I am quite agreeable to that. I admit you are the judges. I have said so.
11171. Did you on any subsequent occasion, when Mr. Burrowes' conduct was brought under your notice, beg him off? I never begged him off in my life. It was only on account of his wife and family that I asked that he should be kept on. I may have done that after hearing his explanation with reference to some of his misdoings.
11172. Can you give me any opinion with regard to the way Mr. Springall performed his duties? Well, I had occasion to complain of Mr. Springall's conduct on several occasions with reference to the private store of which he was in charge. He was called upon to explain his conduct, and he did explain some matters that are referred to in the letters which you will find concerning a man named Coleman. The explanation of Mr. Springall at the time was considered satisfactory. Another statement that cropped up was a statement that Mr. Burrowes' salary was mortgaged to Mr. Springall, and that consequently Mr. Springall was more the superintendent than Mr. Burrowes was. I inquired into the matter, and the explanations furnished by Mr. Springall was that it was not so; that he had simply advanced Mr. Burrowes £10 to take the bailiffs out of his house, but so far as the salary being mortgaged was concerned there was no foundation for the statement. The Board regarded the explanation as satisfactory, and we took no further action with respect to Mr. Springall. We examined his books and found them faithfully kept, and the records of every thing he did in connection with the works were all kept properly. Press copies were kept of all rations supplied, and so far as I could form an opinion everything was satisfactory.
11173. Can this Commission take it that he was in your opinion an efficient officer? Upon the whole he was.
11174. You say "We examined his books"—who examined his books? Mr. Hinchcliffe and myself.
11175. Is he the Paymaster? Yes.
11176. Then you do not include in the "We" your colleagues? No; because they were not always with me. I conceived that Mr. Hinchcliffe was better able to do work of that kind than either my colleagues or myself.
11177. Is Springall a sober man? I have never seen him under the influence of liquor.
11178. Is he an honest man? I have never known anything to the contrary.
11179. Is he truthful? I believe so.
11180. As to Mr. O'Donnell—was he appointed by the Board? Yes, we took him on.
11181. Will you tell me your opinion of him as an officer? Well, in the early part of the time he was not so sober as he was in the latter part of his time. He is not a bright man, but I think him an honest man.
11182. Would you call him an efficient officer after your twenty months' experience? I think he was as efficient as most of the officers we had. He had no professional knowledge or skill—he was simply an intelligent labouring man.
11183. Had you any previous knowledge of his qualifications or experience? No, I had not.
11184. Do you know whether he is a Sydney man, a Victorian, or a Queenslander? He is a native of Sydney.
11185. Do you know whether he is any relation to the late Mr. J. S. Farnell? I believe he had some connection with the late Mr. Farnell.
11186. Do you know the nature of that connection? I do not know.
11187. Now, we can probably summarize the other officers. What is your opinion of Mr. Sanderson? Which Mr. Sanderson—there are two of that name, John and H. T.
11188. Well, what is your opinion of Mr. H. T. Sanderson. He says he is an engineer, and appears to have been employed for some time by the Casual Labour Board? He was employed before we took charge. I have not a good opinion of Mr. Sanderson. When we were reducing the works we reduced the number of employees. We gave notice to Sanderson, Underwood, and Fraser, all surveyors. They were dismissed because we had no further employment for them. They were receiving 10s. a day. Mr. Sanderson requested us to retain him as an officer, and we got him to take charge of one of the contracts as an overseer. We sent him to Cook Park, and had a great deal of trouble with him on account of his measurements. A professional member of the Board went up two or three times, and in one instance reduced the measurements 30 per cent., and still the men were perfectly satisfied with the price. Another instance was where Mr. Sanderson levied blackmail upon the men, and sent the hat round. That I considered a serious offence, and Mr. Sanderson received no further employment. He has sent in an account in which he claims the sum of £32 or £33, which he sent me a lawyer's letter for; but he has no more claim upon me than the greatest stranger I can meet in the street.
11189. Then he was an unsatisfactory officer? Yes.
11190. Who appointed him? He was appointed before my time.
11191. Was he one of the legacies you took over? Yes.
11192. Did he remain in the employ of the Board during the whole time of its existence? Yes.
11193. When did you first become aware of his incompetency? At Cook Park five or six months ago.
11194. Did you take any steps to remove him? No.
11195. Then he remained in your employment during the whole of the Board's existence? Yes. In the ordinary work he is an intelligent officer, but we could not know what he did afterwards when he was left to his own resources and professional work had to be done.
11196. But he, although in your opinion an incompetent officer, was retained during the whole of the period of the Board's existence? I do not say he was incompetent in the sense in which you employ the word. He was a surveyor, but he was not a satisfactory officer. He was a sober old man. I never saw him under the influence of drink.
11197. I suppose you can say nothing but good in connection with Mr. Oxley and Mr. McPherson? They are the best men that we had in the service—sober, reliable, truthful, and in every way doing their best to get the best results from their employment.
11198. Did you know Mr. Henry Little? Yes.
11199. Was he an appointment of the Board or a legacy? A legacy.
11200. Can you express any opinion about him? I do not know anything about his capabilities—he was an overseer under Mr. O'Donnell.

11201.

NOTE (on revision) :—For "employment" read "employees."

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11201. Do you know a man named Goodman who held a subordinate office in Springall's store? I know nothing of him.
11202. Do you know a man named Johnson who also, it appears, held a subordinate office at Springall's store? Johnson was the assistant storekeeper.
11203. Can you give us your opinion of Mr. Johnson? I always found him a sober, respectable, trustworthy man.
11204. Do you know where he came from? I believe he came from the ranks of the unemployed.
11205. Mr. Boylan, can you give us your opinion about him? He was an old Irishman, an honest, reliable man, who did his work satisfactorily.
11206. What position did he occupy? He was an overseer.
11207. An appointment of the Board? Yes; under the recommendation of one of the superintendents.
11208. Had his duties anything to do with Mr. Burrowes? At one time they had. I think at the closing of our works he was under Mr. Burrowes.
11209. Did he and Mr. Burrowes get on well? They did not. I may explain that I had occasion to dismiss Arthington the overseer and about ten or twelve gangers, and then I appointed Mr. Boylan to take Arthington's place; and Boylan did not go to plot out his work to put the men on to advantage, and that caused Burrowes to have some bit of feeling towards the old man.
11210. Do you know a man named M'Leod? Yes; he was appointed overseer on the works at 5s. a day on this blessed Woronora River Road. His father was in New Zealand in connection with the New Zealand Railways. His son set up here, and as he could not find employment anywhere else, we gave him work. He is a very reliable, trustworthy fellow—very intelligent.
11211. Did you ever recommend your colleagues to dismiss any of the officers whose names I have gone through? I am not aware that I have recommended their dismissal.
11212. Do you know whether Mr. Houison ever expressed his opinion of Mr. Sanderson to you? Well, I really could not say. It would only be a matter of guess. I could not speak from memory of Mr. Sanderson, beyond saying that he was a failure.
11213. I show you a letter dated 29th October, 1888, from Mr. Houison to you, respecting the measurements at Cook Park. Do you recognize that? That is the second time he went. There is one before.
11214. That speaks rather favourably of Mr. Sanderson? Yes; but in the first instance he found the measurements all out.
11215. In the letter he states, that he had made every allowance for irregular tracing, and also allowed to a large extent for curvatures, and he found Mr. Sanderson's figures fairly satisfactory as regards the total. That letter is rather commendatory? Yes; that refers to the second time he went there. In the first instance a reduction was made of 30 per cent.
11216. I gather from your whole evidence as regards Mr. Burrowes that you, and apparently your colleagues, did not regard him as an efficient or proper officer. Did you ever take any steps to dismiss him? I think I have already answered that. I told you that it was only in the latter part of the year that I considered Mr. Burrowes an unsatisfactory officer. I took no steps to dismiss him, and my successors found it a difficult matter to get rid of him. He was twice restored after his services had been dispensed with.
11217. I have now been through the list of officers who have been connected with or appointed by the Casual Labour Board, and it appears to me—of course you will correct me if I am wrong—that with the exception of Messrs. Larnach, Burrowes, and Sanderson, you entertained a fairly good opinion of all of them? Yes; and I did of Mr. Burrowes until the latter part of last year.
11218. I put in your hands what appears to be a press copy letter-book from the 10th March, 1886, to 27th August, 1888? Yes; that begins before our time.
- 11219-20. Will you kindly look through that book, and for the information of this Commission point out any letters referring to any of the officers whose names I have mentioned that you think the Commission ought to pay attention to? There is one written on 14th August, 1888, addressed to the superintendent, Mr. Burrowes. It is copied on page 1434 of the press copy letter-book, head office. There is another on the 20th August, 1888, copied on page 1449; and another on the 27th August, copied on page 1459; but I want the other book.
11221. *President.*] That is the only press copy letter-book we have. Do all these letters relate to Mr. Burrowes? They relate to want of attention to duties.
11222. Are they not in the nature of complaints? They are strong remonstrances from myself.
11223. The first is in the beginning of August, 1888. Yes, in August, 1888.
11224. Have you been able to find any letter prior to August, 1888? I do not think I have. I am not certain. I did not look for any previous ones. I think you will find one of Mr. Deering's complaining the same way.
11225. Is there nothing earlier than 1888? I do not think there is, so far as the Board is concerned.
11226. Can I take it that up to August, 1888, short of the professional objections that Mr. Wells pressed against him, he had given you satisfaction? He had given satisfaction in the general management of the men up to that time.
11227. Short of his professional incompetency? Yes.
11228. Up to that time you placed every reliance on him? I did.
11229. Were you on friendly terms? I have never been in any other way than on friendly terms with him. I treated him with the greatest kindness.
11230. Were you acquainted with him beyond the official acquaintance as head of the department? No, certainly not. I treated him in a courteous manner as an officer having charge of important works.
11231. Can you speak of there being an intimacy between you? No.
11232. Did he ever stop at your house? I do not think so.
11233. Do you know Mrs. Burrowes? I have met her on the station.
11234. Did you ever call him Ned? Never in my life.
11235. Did you ever give him any gratuity? Never.
11236. I do not mean in your personal capacity, but as Chairman of the Casual Labour Board? Never.
11237. Did you ever give Mr. Hibble any gratuity? Yes; I gave him a Christmas-box at the end of the year—Mr. Larnach and Mr. Hibble.

11238.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 11209—For "Boylan" read "Burrowes" For "plot out his" read "plot out the" Omit from "Burrowes" to "old man" inclusive, and insert "Boylan to complain, at which Burrowes, in consequence, had some bad feeling against him" Q. 11216—For "consider" read "considered."

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11138. Mr. Hinchcliffe? No.
11139. Any of the overseers or anyone excepting Larnach and Hibble? No; it was only half-a-guinea for a Christmas-box.
11140. Did you have any list or schedule made or sent in to you of the stock of goods or plant in hand when the relief works were handed over to the Casual Labour Board? No; not any.
11141. Did you when you came into existence have any store-book, or such-like book, to check the stores in hand? Yes; I had a statement made to me.
11142. Where was it kept? It was kept at each of the stores. I think amongst the papers you will find a statement containing all the stock in hand, all the tools, tents, and cooking utensils in the field.
11143. Did you, when you first took office, organize any system under which the office was to be conducted, or did you take it just as it came? I had to organize. We made a great change to what existed before our time. We made each storeman responsible direct to the Board for the custody and distribution of the stores.
11144. Do you think that your organizations of the outside system were as perfect as you could make them under the circumstances? It was as perfect as we could make it under the circumstances. We had hundreds of men applying for work. We had not, at first, the same time as we had last year to devote to office duties. The men almost pulled the office down about us.
11145. Did you organize any system in the head office for the regulation of its affairs? Yes. Mr. Hinchcliffe was appointed Paymaster and Secretary; Mr. Josephson was Assistant Paymaster and Registrar. Their duties were defined according to instructions received from the Colonial Secretary. Assistants in the office—we had Mr. Hibble to assist in the correspondence and look after matters of detail, and we had Mr. Larnach as messenger, and to assist also in copying the records. These were their duties.
11246. Did they drop into those duties naturally, or did you instruct them? I instructed them.
11247. Did they refer to you at all? They referred to us, because we had a written statement defining their duties.
11248. Did you detail to each officer his duties and responsibilities? The Board of course did that in conformity with instructions they received, excepting the two officers whose duties were defined. Mr. Josephson, the Registrar, was appointed; and Mr. Hinchcliffe was appointed Paymaster and Secretary. The others were simply supernumeraries appointed by the Board to assist.
11249. Did you take any steps to instruct them at the start of the concern what the routine of the department was to be? I took steps to get the books properly printed for the registration of persons applying, where they came from, and all particulars. That was given to Mr. Josephson with instructions to him what to do. Mr. Hinchcliffe seemed to be better informed than what we were ourselves; he had been at the same work before. In order that the Board might have a personal knowledge of the earnings of the men, and the wages at the different works, I advised a system of an average sheet showing the earnings of each man per day at all the works. Any moment you asked about a man, how much he earned, the quantities, and so on, it was shown in this average sheet, with any remarks that the superintendent liked to make in the margin. That I found to be useful, because if I found the wages larger than ought to be paid on relief works, I communicated with the superintendent asking for an explanation, why Brown or Jones received so much money at the last pay. I found it very useful in conducting the business of the Board. That was approved of by my colleagues.
11250. What I want to get at is this: Whether any of the officers who were in the Sydney office knew from you or from any member of the Board what their definite duties were, and what they were responsible for? Yes; I think there could be no mistake about that.
11251. Their duties were defined then, either by you or some member of the Board? Yes.
11252. If A says, "I have no duty with this"; B says, "I have no duty with this"; and C says, "I have no duty with this," how can we find out, other than from you, that they had such duties? I am sure they had their separate duties, and each was responsible for the discharge of those duties.
11253. Did you regard Mr. Hinchcliffe as senior clerk? Yes; we looked upon him as principal.
11254. How long was he in Melbourne? A fortnight.
11255. Who did his duties at that time? Mr. Hibble.
11256. With your approval? Yes.
11257. I believe you were in Melbourne also? For two days. From the Friday to the Monday.
11258. So short a time that you had no occasion to hand over your administration to a colleague? I went away by the 5 o'clock train on Friday night, and on Monday, by 12 o'clock, I came back. I told Mr. Houson and Mr. Wells I was going.
11259. When did you tell Mr. Larnach that he was an officer? He was not an officer. He was a messenger.
11260. But he made pays? At the instance of the Paymaster. I always told him I would not regard Larnach as being responsible.
11261. Do you know that he made up the average pay-sheets? Very seldom indeed.
11262. Did you take any steps to have him removed? I threatened him two or three times, but he commenced crying away like a baby, and I suppose he touched a weak spring in my heart and I let him remain with a reprimand.
11263. What was the extent of Mr. Burrowes' district? Well, he certainly had a large district. That was why we were so liberal in allowing him £12 a month to pay his travelling expenses.
11264. Do you think his district was so large that he could not properly undertake all the duties you held him responsible for? I do not think that, because he had forage allowance for a horse.
11265. Had he to certify to the delivery of all stores and supplies and rations? No; the storekeepers certified to the rations.
11266. Do you think, with the large extent of his district, he could fairly and properly be held responsible for the efficient discharge of all the duties that you looked to him to perform? I do. If he had been devoted to his duties he could have done them with comparative ease.
11267. Can you tell me approximately the average number of men he was responsible for? At what time?
11268. The average number throughout the year. I do not limit you to ten or twenty? The pay-sheets will show exactly what was the number under his control.
11269. Cannot you give me an average without reference to the pay-sheets? They would show exactly. At one time he had 4,000 or 5,000 men, but then they were scattered in the Park.

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11270. I have just had the second letter-book sent up to me from the Board office, and which I telephoned for. It is from the 28th August, 1888, to the end of the Board's time. Will you look through it and find any letters about the officers under the Board to which you wish to direct the attention of the Commission? Yes. There are letters on the 24th September, 1888, page 72; on the 12th October, 1888, page 87; and on the 8th November, 1888, page 129. This last is a special letter, and I want to draw the attention of the Board to it. There is a letter on the 23rd December, 1888, page 152, instructing Burrowes to go with the other members of the Board to visit the Holt-Sutherland Estate; and another on the 21st January, 1889, page 256.
11271. Will this Commission find in these two letter-books all the letters you have written to Mr. Burrowes in the nature of complaints? Yes.
11272. Did Mr. Burrowes often write to you? Yes.
11273. Many letters? Daily, almost. Official letters.
11274. Did you have any private or unofficial letters from him? Yes. I think I have shown you some this morning. I have had scores of letters marked "private and confidential," but I never kept them.
11275. Did you keep any beyond those you have shown me? I think not.
11276. Did you not keep them to satisfy yourself? No. It is a wonder I did not tear up these. I did not take them to be worth anything.
11277. Do you remember him writing to you something in connection with Mr. Want—about roads? No.
11278. Do you remember him writing anything about Mr. Walker, the Principal Under Secretary, and about the roads? No, I do not remember; he may have done.
11279. Do you recollect when Mr. Miles took over the duties from your department? Yes.
11280. Do you recollect a conversation with him in the office? Yes.
11281. Do you recollect how it started? I do not know.
11282. Do you recollect your saying anything to him about Mr. Burrowes? I do not remember—I may have done.
11283. And his remarking to you, "it was strange you kept such a man in your employ"? I do not remember any such thing. I have had little to say to Mr. Miles. It has been to Mr. Mason.
11284. Did you ever caution Mr. Wells against Mr. Burrowes? Each of my colleagues knew what letters were written.
11285. Will you tell me, for the benefit of myself and colleagues, which of these officers we can rely upon, in your opinion, as being most competent and trustworthy, to show us over the work that has been done by the unemployed in the Southern District? Mr. M'Pherson.
11286. Will that gentleman be sufficiently conversant with the whole of the district? Yes.
11287. Who could we accept for the Northern District? Mr. Oxley, for Narrabeen. Then you want Hornsby and the Field of Mars; that will be Mr. O'Donnell.
11288. Do you think we can take Mr. O'Donnell's pointing out as satisfactory? I think you can, with Mr. J. W. Gordon, the surveyor, under Mr. Deering, who laid out most of this district.
11289. Before we go to make an inspection of the works, will you describe, as briefly as you can, the works which were in hand when the Board took over control? Yes. Rookwood, Dobroyd, Beecroft, Hornsby, Carlingford, Gordon, and the National Park. These were the works in existence when we took charge.
11290. Who was looking after them? Mr. Gordon, under Mr. Deering, with Mr. Burrowes at the National Park; Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Frazer at Beecroft and Carlingford; a young gentleman named Farmer and Mr. Koebke were in charge of works on the Field of Mars Common, and Mr. M'Pherson was at Gordon.
11291. Do you know who was the most responsible of these officers? Mr. Deering, I think.
11292. Will you tell me how works were initiated under your system? The works under our system were initiated sometimes by the Lands Department, in the matter of Crown lands; and on requisitions to the Colonial Secretary that the unemployed surplus labour might be employed in clearing, scrubbing, and road-making. Upon approval of the Colonial Secretary, the Board would see that the work was carried out, and would give instructions for the road-making, the clearing, and the scrubbing. Then with reference to other roads than on Crown lands, on petition and report from our officers, with the approval of the Colonial Secretary in every case; and that being obtained the work is carried out. The official papers laid on the Table of the House disclose all that information as far as the official records of the late Casual Labour Board are concerned.
11293. How did your Board determine whether certain work should be carried out or not? As I have described,—from reports from our officers, and on some occasions from personal visits made by the professional members of the Board to the different works. If the report made by the superintendent was borne out by the members of the Board who visited the work, a requisition would go to the Colonial Secretary that it be carried out, and on the approval of the Colonial Secretary the work would be proceeded with.
11294. Was any record kept of the other members of the Board's approval? No, not on the papers. I represented my colleagues.
11295. Can I take it that whenever I see your recommendation signed "John Davies, Chairman," that that was the same as the Board? Yes, the same as representing the Board.
11296. Did you ever authorize works independently of them? Never.
11297. Did you have meetings to consider these works? They were not very regular. They were irregular. Either one or other of my colleagues would be there every day.
11298. Were they summoned to attend? They were not summoned. Unfortunately I was left largely to myself.
11299. Did they get notice when their attendance was required? It was their duty to be there.
11300. Did they leave it very much to you? They necessarily left a very great deal to me. They were both engaged in other branches of the service, and their professional skill and ability would be required in their several departments.
11301. Did you feel the responsibility weigh heavily on you? It was the largest job I ever undertook in my life.
11302. Did it take up much of your time? It often took sixteen hours a day.
11303. Occasionally, did you remain in at night? Frequently. I would be too late to get out to my place.
11304. Did you consider you were being fairly treated by your colleagues? I do not know that I should be put into a position to answer that.

11305.

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11305. I mean in having so many and such responsible duties cast on you to carry out solely? My colleagues were in this position, that they could not devote more time than they did. If I had had a professional gentleman appointed with myself to carry out the skilled and professional work, and devote his whole time to it, it would have been a great assistance to me, and would have relieved me of many anxieties cast on me by the absence of my colleagues.

11306. Did you assume to exercise much independent authority in the absence of your colleagues? No.

11307. Did you, before works were initiated or recommended by you, personally visit them? As a rule.

11308. Did you visit by yourself or with your colleagues? Sometimes with my colleagues and sometimes alone if my colleagues were absent from town. Mr. Wells would be away from town, and Mr. Houison had charge of Cook's River reclamation works. My time was taken up by having to go and see so many places, and I did the best I could.

11309. Were personal applications ever made to you to do any work? Yes.

11310. Did frequent applications come to you direct? Yes.

11311. What course did you adopt then? Sent them to the officer in charge of the district for report. On receipt of his report, if there were anything to warrant our asking the Colonial Secretary to carry out the works, we would visit the place and would come to a decision as to whether we would recommend or otherwise; then, when we had obtained the Colonial Secretary's approval, we would proceed with the works. It was no easy task to provide work for the labour we had. We had 5,000 or 6,000 men on our hands at one time.

11312. Did you always have independent reports? Uniformly.

11313. Did you ever rely on your own judgment? Never.

11314. Do you say that in every case you took some steps to satisfy yourself that the work proposed was a proper work, and for the benefit of the public? Yes; in every case.

11315. And the works were the outcome of joint deliberation, and not of yours solely? The major portion of them. Some of them, of course, were not referred to us at all.

11316. When you say the "major portion," will you mention the "minor portion," which you exclude? I could not, unless I go through the papers and point them out.

11317. Do you refer to works you have solely authorized? No. There are several works sent to me from the Colonial Secretary's office to be carried out by the unemployed.

11318. When these consultations were held with your colleagues, was the Secretary present? Usually.

11319. He ought to be able then to give me some evidence of the number and nature of these deliberations? He ought to be. He was uniformly there.

11320. On more occasions than otherwise? Yes.

11321. He was the proper officer to be present? Certainly.

11322. Did petitions and memorials come to you direct? Some of them.

11323. Did you take steps to satisfy yourself as to their genuineness? No. They were presented by a Member of Parliament. That would be sufficient guarantee they were not bogus ones. The Members for Central Cumberland, Canterbury, and so on would present them.

11324. Supposing they were sent in and signed by two Members of Parliament, and the whole of the rest of the signatures were those of the unemployed, or such like? We would soon know that.

11325. Did you take any precaution to test them to prevent such a thing happening as that? We should soon have known that. Most of the names to the petitions would be those of gentlemen well known to myself.

11326. If I go through some of the petitions, will you be able to tell me who some of these gentlemen are? Yes.

11327. Was work ever commenced before the approval of the Colonial Secretary had been obtained? Not to my knowledge.

11328. In every case was the approval of the Colonial Secretary, or some other Minister obtained, before work was commenced? All works were sanctioned before commencement by the Board.

11329. When you sent a recommendation to the Colonial Secretary for his approval, had he anything before him besides your recommendation to guide him as to giving approval? He had the report of the superintendent as well as our report.

11330. Did you always send in the reports you obtained? I think so.

11331. Did you ever see him personally in reference to the initiation or construction of works? It was always by official communication; never in any other way.

11332. Did you ever have any personal interview, in which you pressed for the approval of certain work? I think I spoke to him about work for the construction of a railway from the Holt-Sutherland Estate to the proposed Noxious Trades Site. I asked him about that because we had authority. We were anxious to utilise the labour, as we regarded it as proper work. The railway surveys were not completed, and I, as Chairman of the Board, urged him to proceed with them.

11333. With that exception, did you ever see the Colonial Secretary with reference to the initiation, construction, or completion of any works that the unemployed were engaged on, or to be put on? Certainly not.

11334. Never? Never.

11335. Are you quite clear about that? Quite certain.

11336. Did you ever recommend, officially or otherwise, to the Colonial Secretary, on your own sole responsibility, works that one of your colleagues objected to? No.

11337. Do you recollect Mr. Wells objecting to the work being done on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No; he objected to one road, but that was included in the general authority given by the Colonial Secretary, and when I pointed that out to him he said "all right."

11338. Did he not decline responsibility, and remonstrate against the unemployed being put on there? Never to me.

11339. Did you ever meet individuals, representatives of companies, or other persons, on the scene of any proposed works? I have met, when I have been out on the works, Mr. Murphy, who, I afterwards heard, was Manager of the Company.

11340. No one else? No.

11341. Mr. Burns? I think I met Mr. Burns.

11312.

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11342. Did you ever meet any one else? Never.
11343. Mr. Mc'Rae or Mr. Carruthers? Never. I think Mr. Houison met Mr. Carruthers.
11344. With the exception of Mr. Murphy and Mr. Burns, can I take it that you never saw any individual person or representative of a company on the scene of any of the proposed works? Certainly.
11345. Did you ever see anyone who was interested in any company about them? Not to my knowledge.
11346. Do you know Mr. Jamieson? Well.
11347. Do you know he is a shareholder in the Holt-Sutherland Company? From the papers printed subsequently.
11348. Did you meet him out there? No.
11349. Did you meet him on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No.
11350. Not at the Coronulla Beach? No; we drove that way from the National Park, along the Sutherland Road, down to the beach.
11351. Are you friendly with each other? We just pass the time of day.
11352. Are you not on intimate terms? We never were.
11353. Do you like him? I have no reason to dislike him.
11354. Were you ever at a picnic with him? At Mr. Jamieson's picnic.
11355. Did you drive to the beach? No.
11356. Are you interested in any land there? No.
11357. Did you take any up? I had an idea of doing so, but I thought it would be better afterwards to have nothing to do with it.
11358. Did you know he was interested in any land there? No; he was going to take some up. I did not think he was interested in the land or else he would not want to take it up.
11359. I want to ask you generally;—you know the work done on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I do.
11360. Did you recommend it? Mr. Burrowes recommended it. I approved of it.
11361. Do you take on yourself the responsibility of approving of the whole of it? I cannot tell you. There is such a lot of work. Two out of the four are Trust roads under the Government, and receive an annual grant.
11362. If you do not take the responsibility, who does? There was a want of discretion on the part of the superintendent. He did work he had no right to do. Of course I am responsible for his conduct. I am responsible no doubt.
11363. Do you recollect when certain work on the Holt-Sutherland Estate was stopped by Mr. Walker? No; I only heard of it after it had been done.
11364. Did you go to the Principal Under Secretary's office about it? No; I did not know about it until it was stopped and started again.
11365. You did not stop it? No.
11366. You did not start it? No.
11367. Who did? Mr. Walker told me he telegraphed to stop the work, because there was some complaint about it not being a public road. It was afterwards shown to be a public road, and the Colonial Secretary told him to go on with it.
11368. Did he have any communication with you? No.
11369. Did it not strike you as unusual? I did not know anything about it until months afterwards.
11370. Did it not strike you as an extraordinary thing that work you were responsible for had been stopped, and later on started again without you knowing anything about it? When I heard of it some months afterwards it struck me as being an extraordinary proceeding.
11371. How long afterwards was it? It was six months afterwards. It was Mr. Borrowes' duty to inform me about it, but he never did.
11372. Did you hear of complaints being made by Sir John Robertson, Mr. Want, and others, as to the way the public money was being spent out on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? They never said so to me. Sir John Robertson spoke to me since the inquiry, and told me he had given evidence to that effect.
11373. Did you ask him? I would not insult Sir John Robertson by asking him a question like that.
11374. Have you seen Sir Henry Parkes on the subject of the Holt-Sutherland roads since you discovered the stopping and afterwards the starting of these particular roads? No.
11375. Have you ever spoken to Sir Henry Parkes on the subject? No.
11376. Have you ever spoken to him on the subject of the roads constructed on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No.
11377. Have you spoken to him on the subject of the roads on the Hornsby Estate? No; I have had no conversation with him.
11378. Can you tell me whether you or your officers have ever paid any fees or moneys for survey or reports outside your department? In one case a fee was paid to a gentleman in Elizabeth-street—they look upon upon him as one of the best surveyors in the city—for making a survey of a road that went through a portion of the Coalcliffe property. That is the only case.
11379. Do you know the name of the surveyor on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No; I do not.
11380. Do you know the name of the surveyor Mr. Burns employs at Hornsby? Mr. Dawson, I think.
11381. Do you know whether any payment was ever made to him? Not a penny.
11382. Whose duty was it to measure out the work? The superintendents in each case.
11383. Were they the responsible officers for that? Yes; we held them absolutely responsible.
11384. Do you know as a matter of fact that they did it? The superintendents did it.
11385. Who took tally of the men and the number of days they worked? The overseers in charge of each section.
11386. Can you give me, from your knowledge of the working of the Board, what was the average number of men employed throughout its existence? Well, it was very fluctuating.
11387. Cannot you strike an average right through? Do you mean right through for the whole twenty months.
11388. Would it be a fair thing to say 2,000? It would be a difficult thing to say any number without reference to the pay-sheets. The pay-sheets would give you the numbers for each month.
11389. What was the lowest? About 1,100.
11390. When was that? In the latter part of the year.
11391. Do you know how many you took over? About 4,010.
- 11392.

11392. Did it ever occur to you that it was a reasonable thing, by reason of the thinning of the men in the ranks at any time, to recommend the stopping of the works altogether? We did recommend that.
11393. To whom? The Principal Under Secretary.
11394. In writing? No; verbally.
11395. Who? I did.
11396. More than once? In conversation I said that it would be a good thing to get the works closed up as soon as possible.
11397. When was that? The latter part of the year.
11398. Do I understand that your evidence is that you had the Colonial Secretary's approval for every thing you did in the way of the construction of roads and initiation of works? Yes; the papers disclose that fact when the works were initiated.
11399. What about the works at Hornsby? They were in progress when we took the work over.
11400. Did you get approval for these? No; no more than we did for the National Park.
11401. Is it any good my seeking amongst the papers for Ministerial records, or evidence of Ministerial authority for any of the works at Hornsby? Not since our time. Not since the currency of the Board.
11402. In some respects work seems to have been constructed on your approval alone? Where is that.
11403. Here is a letter dated 30th June, 1887, from Whitby and some one else, respecting culverts at a road at Carlingford. I see it is marked "approved.—J.D."? It is the continuation of the same work.
11404. Can you say whether any approval of the Colonial Secretary was given to that? No. It is not a new work. It is part of the Field of Mars Common.
11405. Now I show you the case of a letter dated 17th September, 1888, from Mr. Frank Farnell, respecting Morrison's Road at Ryde, forwarded by you to superintendent O'Donnell, and subsequently submitted for approval to the Colonial Secretary and approved by him. Can you tell me why, in that case, you sought his approval, and why, in the other case, you did not? This is a different thing. It is part of the Ryde Municipality. We could not carry out works in a municipality unless we had special authority for them.
11406. Have you any interest in any land at Hornsby? Not a shilling's worth.
11407. Do you know the Vanceville Estate? Yes.
11408. Have you any interest in that? No.
11409. Did you buy some property from the Vanceville family? Never. If any statement has been made to this Commission to that effect it is absolutely untrue. It was sold by public auction, and Mr. J. F. Burns bought it.
11410. Have you had anything to do with the Curator of Intestate Estates and the Vanceville property? I had a mortgage on a portion of the Vanceville property in Sydney, but it had nothing at all to do with this land; that was sold by the trustees in the ordinary way.
11411. You tell me you had some idea of applying for some land with Mr. Jamieson, but that you thought better of it? I thought that as I was mixed up with the road-making there people might say that I was making roads to my own property, and so I abandoned the idea.
11412. Have you any land there? I have no land near these works.
11413. Have you any interest in any company or syndicate who own land there? No, not a shilling. Perhaps, however, I may say that I have since bought 10 acres of land at Narrabeen.
11414. I see a return has been prepared purporting to show the works carried out under the control of the Casual Labour Board signed by you:—do you recognize it? Yes, and it also shows the amount realised from the sale of land made available for sale.
11415. Does this return accurately show all the works you took over, initiated, constructed, or completed during the existence of the Board? Yes.
11416. I take Hornsby—does it show all the roads that have been made at Hornsby? Yes; it shows a number of miles cleared, formed, and culverted. That was supplied by our superintendent, Mr. O'Donnell.
11417. I see there are miles of road "cleared, formed, and made,"—what does "made" mean? It means that the roads are simply thrown up from the water-tables and formed.
11418. Can you show me on this return where the works on the Holt-Sutherland Estate is returned? There is Boulevard, Blue Gum, Coronulla, Ewey, Malvern, Military, Port Hacking, Sutherland, Loftus, Sylvania, Woronora Roads, and Station-street.
11419. These are all Holt-Sutherland roads? Yes.
11420. Here is the case of a petition relating to the Peakhurst Road, which appears to have the approval of the Colonial Secretary;—does this letter of the 18th August refer to the same works? Yes.
11421. Here again is a petition for a road from Williams' Creek to the George's River Road, which has the approval of the Colonial Secretary;—is that the way approval was obtained as a rule? Usually.
11422. I see, with reference to Mr. M'Rae, that authority was received to proceed with work through his property;—who is he? He is the Mayor of Kogarah.
11423. Do you know whether he has much property out there? I do not know. I have never seen him more than once in my life. He is a Member of Parliament now.
11424. In looking through several of the papers I have got here, I see that you acted yourself in many cases without referring to the Colonial Secretary? I never acted of myself, always with the approval of my colleagues—one or both of them.
11425. Is your evidence that you obtained the approval of the Colonial Secretary in every case? Yes; the papers disclose that fact.
11426. Do you recollect a case in the Holt-Sutherland district where Mr. Holt objected to give up a part of a road? No.
11427. Now, is this letter of the 23rd August, 1887, from Mr. Myles M'Rae to you, referring to the grubbing and forming of certain roads, the same work as is referred to in this petition I have just shown you? Yes.
11428. And what is this letter of the 20th May, 1888, from Mr. Myles M'Rae to Mr. E. M. Burrows, dedicating for public purposes, "so much of my land as will be required for the road you have cleared"? That is a Liverpool road, going to Eckersley, through his property. It was necessary to join the two properties.
11429. Was that road made? It has been cleared.

Hon.
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M.L.C.

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11430.

NOTE (on revision) †—Q. 11411—Insert "No, not with Mr. Jamieson." Q. 11423—For "properties" read "roads."

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11430. Was that done independently of Mr. M'Rae? I cannot say.
11431. With reference to this payment of £33 3s. 2d., made by you into the Treasury on 29th March last, am I to understand that that payment was made by you in cash? Yes; in fact all the payments were made in cash.
11432. Am I right in my recollection of your evidence that you say you had held that money in cash for a considerable time? Yes.
11433. Am I right in my recollection of your evidence that you say you originally received a cheque for that amount from Mr. Neale? Yes.
11434. And that you paid it into your own private bank? Yes; I cashed it at my bank, got the proceeds, and placed them in the safe so as to be available to be paid.
11435. Then, after you paid it into the bank you drew a cheque for it? No, I did not draw a cheque for it; I drew it out from my rents and from other moneys. I paid that into the safe and recouped it in that way.
11436. Did you say anything about that yesterday? I think I did.
11437. Then is this your evidence now: That you paid Mr. Neale's cheque for £33 3s. 2d. into your own bank, and afterwards, in lieu of paying some rents and other moneys belonging to you into your bank, you took a certain sum from those rents and moneys and withheld it —? Yes; so as to recoup the proceeds of the cheque.
11438. Did you say a word about that yesterday? I think I did.
11439. If we cannot find it at all on your evidence, as transcribed by the shorthand-writer, is it not probable you did not say a word about it? I could not be positive; I intended to say it; it was not my intention to avoid a word about it.
11440. Now, again, this payment of £52 13s. 2d. made by you into the Treasury on 15th February last, and which represents £52 3s. 2d., you say you received from Neale, and 10s. "Proceeds of sale of damaged crockery";—do I understand that you paid that sum into your bank and afterwards drew a cheque or cheques for it? I had no occasion to draw cheques; I had the money in a safe—about £170.
11441. Have you in your possession, under your control, or in the control of any person or company on your behalf, any money, property, goods, or chattels belonging to the Government or Casual Labour Board at the present time? Certainly not.

TUESDAY, 30 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, ESQ., M.A., PRESIDENT.

T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

William Hillier called in, sworn, and examined:—

Mr. W. Hillier.
30 April, 1889.

11442. *President.*] What are you? Wood and coal merchant at Ashfield.
11443. Where do you live? I have been residing at Sutherland. I have moved away; but I have had business which kept me there.
11444. Did you have anything to do with the Casual Labour Board? I had a contract to cut 3,000 tons of wood.
11445. What was it? The first contract I had was to cut 1,000 tons at 3s. per ton, and then they called for tenders for 3,000 tons. They made out that the arrangement I had was useless, was not a contract at all, and that they had not signed it. I put in a tender, and it was accepted at 3s. a ton for the first thousand, and 2s. 6d. a ton afterwards for the balance.
11446. Can you tell the date? It was sometime in March, 1887.
11447. Did you keep an account of the amount of wood cut? I had an account, but when I left Sutherland my wife tore up all these things, thinking they would be of no use.
11448. What did you do when you had cut the wood? The practice was that I should be paid every fortnight. Mr. John Davies, however, said they could not pay me, excepting they were paid themselves. He said, "You go to the auctioneer and get his cheque and then you will be paid." I got the auctioneer's cheque, and then Mr. Davies paid me. The cheque was always put into a big envelope with the account sales.
11449. Who gave you this? Mr. Neale.
11450. Then every time there was a sale of timber you were paid? There was a sale every day, but I only got the money once a fortnight, or it may be twice a month. I had a terrible job to get my money. They owe me £4 10s. now.
11451. Then every time you got any payment from the Casual Labour Board for your work you had to take a cheque from Mr. Neale? Excepting once, when Mr. Neale went with me and took the cheque himself.
11452. Did you take up the account sales every time? The lot; for every truck of wood; ten, twenty, or 100 trucks.
11453. Have you any record of the accounts you took up from Mr. Neale and the different amounts you cut? I cannot say the different amounts, but my cheque would amount to the sum within £2 or £3. The wood fetched a low price, from 4s. 3d. to 4s. 6d. per ton.
11454. Have you any record of the number of cheques you received from the Board? No.
11455. Have you any record of the quantity of wood you sent to Neale? It would be 2,700 tons or 2,800 tons. The first 1,000 they paid me 3s. for, and the others, 2s. 6d.
11456. I find that about the 14th May, 1887, Neale paid the Casual Labour Board £26 17s. 7d.; on 17th May, 1887, you were paid by the Board £29 1s. 6d.;—have you any recollection of that? Yes; I have. I have not my bank-book here, or else I could show you the amount.
11457. Can you tell me whether the payment of £29 1s. 6d. was for the same timber that Neale accounted for in the £26 17s. 7d.? It might be that the wood fetched a low price. My charge was 3s. a ton, and sometimes the wood would sell for less than I got.
11458. Then the transaction which returned £26 17s. 7d. may be exactly the same for which you were paid £29 1s. 6d.? Quite likely. 11459.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 11437—For "and withheld" read "and placed it in the office safe." Q. 11440—For "£170" read "£200."

11459. I find that on the 19th July, 1887, Neale sent to the Casual Labour Board a cheque for £33 3s. 2d. for the sale of certain firewood, and on the 21st July you were paid by the Board £34 5s., would that be the same transaction? Yes, it would be the same.

11460. Then it is quite possible for the Board on that occasion also to have paid you more than the actual sale of the wood returned? I know myself that the wood was not realizing the price I got for it.

11461. I find that on or about the 22nd September, 1887, Mr. Neale paid the Board £52 3s. 1d.; and that, on the same date, you were paid £38 1s. 6d.;—is that likely to be the same transaction? I think it is.

11462. Was the regular practice then this: that in every case where there was a sale of the firewood, and a return of the proceeds, you got a cheque? Yes, I got a cheque. The last cheque that I received from Mr. Davies I do not think that they got the money for it. That was for six or eight trucks of wood; it came to over £4. I do not think Neale has been paid for it yet.

11463. Who owes the money? Different private people.

11464. Who sold it? It was not sold; it was sent to different people along the railway line. One truck went to Ashfield, another to Kogarah, and some trucks to Waterfall. Mr. Neale sent the people bills, but they have never paid the money. I sent my bill to Mr. John Davies for cutting the wood, but he would not pay the money. But I got Mr. Burrowes to certify to it, got a voucher, and went and got the money after waiting for several months.

11465. Can you tell me when you stopped cutting the timber for the unemployed? I think some time in September, 1887. It was a very wet winter.

11466. If we find no return for the sale of firewood after September, 1887, can we conclude that that was the end of it? That was the end of it.

11467. Did you become aware, during the time you were cutting timber of anyone else dealing in this timber, excepting Mr. Neale? He was the only one that I know of.

11468. Do you know to whom you delivered the timber? I cut the timber, and a man was appointed to keep account of every truck that I sent away. He consigned the wood to Mr. Neale. I had nothing to do with the consigning of it. One of the unemployed men did it.

11469. Do you think you could furnish me, if you have not got any particulars here, with an account of the timber you sent in, or the amounts you have received, or the amounts that Neale paid? No; I do not think I could.

11470. Have you destroyed all the documents? My wife got rid of them all, even the book, which one of my boys took to school with him.

11471. Had you anything else to do with the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

11472. What else did you do? I had three horses and carts working for them at 2s. 6d. a load.

11473. Who was driving the carts? My two sons.

11474. Were you carting? No.

11475. Your two sons were working as carters? My two sons were working one cart each, and another man another.

11476. What did they earn? Some days 15s., some days, 17s. 6d.

11477. Were your sons in the ranks of the unemployed? No, my sons were not. I tendered for the work. They wanted carts. If they did not want my carts I told them they had better not employ them. There was word sent out that the carts were only to do four loads a day—10s. a day. If there were wet days they could make it up to twenty-four loads a week. When my sons went for the money they paid them £9. They had earned £12 in the fortnight; that is £3 they owe me. My sons were sent to draw timber for a bridge made by a man under Mr. Sanderson, and when pay-day came they would not pay them 30s. They said that the man who did the work on the bridge was the one to pay them; yet my carts were employed drawing timber for the Government. They still owe me the money. That is, £4 10s., and I shall sue them for it. Afterwards they did not pay anything but 10s. a day. They ought to have told my sons that it was to be day-work in the future. When pay-day came they were sent off with 10s. a day instead of at the rate of 2s. 6d. a load.

11478. Can I take it that you have no documents, memoranda, nor anything left? I have not now, but I did have up to six weeks ago.

11479. *Mr. Waller.*] Do you remember how many times you went to the office for payment for the wood? I cannot say.

11480. To whom did you give the documents you received from the auctioneer? To Mr. John Davies. If he was not there I would leave them and call the next day.

11481. You gave them to him personally? Yes.

11482. Often? Three or four times.

11483. *President.*] Have you anything else to say about the subjects we are inquiring into? There is a road in front of my house at Sutherland I should like to have something to say about.

11484. Say it? The road runs along there. They have made a road 4 feet high right in front of people's property. I told them that if they piled the stuff up in front of my place I would cart it away.

11485. Is it any complaint against the work that you have to make? I think it is a waste of money. In fact, over the whole estate they have made roads that will never be of any use.

11486. Did you ever become aware of any impositions that were practised on the Board officers? No.

11487. Of any extravagance or irregular expenditure? I think there was a lot of extravagance. I think they might just as well have thrown the money broadcast.

11488. Do you know Gannon's place? I know a road of that name, but I have never been there.

11489. Do you know Mr. Springall? Yes.

11490. Do you know anything about him? He is building a place at the bottom of the Coronulla Road. He was the storekeeper.

11491. Did you meet him as storekeeper? Only when keeping the store at the National Park.

11492. Do you know anything about his goings on? No.

11493. Have you anything further to report to the Commission which you consider it your duty to tell us of? The only thing is that there are a lot of roads out there that are not necessary, and roads that should have been made are left in a dreadful state. I had an engine to go down there the other day and had to take it several miles round in order to get it to my place.

The

NOTE (on revision) :—Q. 11477—Omit "I tendered, &c." and insert "I asked Mr. Burrowes, and he agreed to pay me 2s. 6d. per load." Note.—Mr. Sanderson was one of the overseers, and it was him that put my son to draw the timber.

Mr.
W. Hillier.
30 April, 1889.

The Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., called in and examination continued :—

- Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C.
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11494. *Mr. Waller.*] Did you have regular returns sent in as to the number of men employed? Yes.
11495. What kind of returns? Returns showing the number of men employed on each of the road works—written returns.
11496. How often were they sent in? About every month. But the numbers were always fluctuating.
11497. Who prepared them? The storekeepers in each camp, and they were certified to by the superintendent.
11498. What became of them? They are amongst the office papers.
11499. Whom were those returns given to? They were addressed to the Chairman of the Board.
11500. Were they checked? They were checked with the books.
11501. Did the same man who made out the pay-sheets, make out the return? Frequently; but there would be more than one man making out the pay-sheets—the superintendent, the storekeeper, and the assistant—all three of them. The return would also be made out by a number; first by the local storekeeper at each camp; there were twenty-five camps in all. The small details would be sent to the principal storekeeper and afterwards compiled and put into one general report. At Narrabeen we would have a separate return from the storekeeper; the same at Hornsby; the same at Campbelltown; the same at Liverpool.
11502. Did you find discrepancies in the pay-sheets as regards their tallying with the returns? Yes; frequently.
11503. Did you draw attention to the matter? Frequently.
11504. In writing? Yes.
11505. Will you show us the letters? The memorandums sent were not always written in the book.
11506. Were the explanations satisfactory? In most cases.
11507. How long before you retired from your position did you see those returns? About a month before I left.
11508. Were they filed? Yes; amongst the papers.
11509. What do you mean amongst the papers? It was the duty of the officers to register these returns.
11510. They ought to have been registered? Yes.
11511. Were the returns numbered in the usual Government style? They were simply returns showing the number of men up to a given day.
11512. Who was responsible for the making up of the contingent vouchers? Who do you mean.
11513. The contingent vouchers for expenses? Mr. Hinchcliffe. Do you mean is he responsible for the vouchers?
11514. For all the vouchers? Oh, you see they are made up by the party to whom the money is due.
11515. I am not speaking of himself personally, but of the expenses incurred by the officers of the Board; who is responsible? Each individual. For instance, the superintendent would make out and send in a contingent voucher. He would make out a voucher of money due to himself, and he would also sign a declaration saying that he has incurred expense in connection with the duties of his office.
11516. Is that a separate document? No; it is attached to the same.
11517. Then each individual whose name would appear for any amount in the contingent voucher would be individually responsible? You must make a distinction between a contingent voucher and a pay voucher. On a contingent voucher there would be only the one name.
11518. Call it a pay-sheet. I will describe it. Here is a voucher for expenses for cab-hire; expenses to Sydney; expenses to pays;—what do you call this document? That is a contingent voucher. There are vouchers of that kind from the paymaster and the superintendent.
11519. Who is responsible for the items that appear in them? The paymaster and the superintendent.
11520. Where we find items which have been paid on account of persons who are neither paymasters nor superintendents, nor other officers of the Board, who is responsible—the paymaster or the superintendent? The superintendent of the work in connection with which the expense was incurred.
11521. Were these contingent vouchers checked? Yes, in the office.
11522. By whom? Usually by Mr. Hibble.
11523. When goods were supplied in the shape of tools and stores, were receipts given for them when they were delivered? Yes.
11524. By whom? By the receiver. Either by the principal storekeeper or the sub-storekeeper.
11525. What kind of receipts? It would run, "Received from the railway authorities," so many things, whatever they might be. There would also be a receipt showing when they were received from the people who supplied the goods.
11526. Out of printed books? Yes.
11527. Butts attached? Yes.
11528. Which would carry the same information as in the portion torn out? Yes.
11529. These books—where are they? With the storekeeper.
11530. Were they returned to the head office? Yes; they were returned to the head office.
11531. Was that a regular system of receipt? Yes. Suppose five dozen mattocks, six dozen shovels, and ten kegs of powder were sent away, we would get a return back, "I have the honor to acknowledge I received so and so by train yesterday," and then enumerating the goods.
11532. Within how long after the delivery of the goods would the receipts find their way to the head office? Within two or three days. It was the duty of the officer to report the next day that he had received them. Frequently goods were over-carried or there were discrepancies in the quantities; this had to be rectified by the contractors.
11533. How long after goods were ordered in the city and delivered was it before the orders would be returned to the head office? Sometimes a week, sometimes a little longer, before we got the return back saying that they had been received.
11534. I am talking of the original order? Sometimes a week, sometimes a little longer.
11535. They always came back? They always came back; either those or an acknowledgment that the superintendent had received the goods.
11536. Did not the orders come back? I believe they did, although it was no duty of mine.
11537. Whose duty was it? The Paymaster's or Mr. Hibble's. I was not a clerk.
11538. Whom would you look to if there were a discrepancy? I would look to Mr. Hibble or the Paymaster.

11539.

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11539. Which of them would you say was responsible? I would look to the Paymaster, because the other was only a supernumerary under him. It was not my duty, and I did not recognize it as my duty.
11540. How were general payments made to satisfy creditors;—I am not talking of wages? They were paid by cheque, excepting small sums, which were paid out of the petty-cash.
11541. Where were the payments made? At the office, or they were paid by the Paymaster or myself.
11542. Did you make the payments? Some few of them.
11543. To whom principally? To Mr. Kidman, two or three times, and twice to Messrs. M'Lean Bros. and Rigg.
11544. Did they come to the office for their money usually? Yes, very frequently.
11545. Who would come? One of their collectors.
11546. Do you know his name? No.
11547. You stated the other day that you received a certain amount of money out of that payment of £261 10s.? Received a certain amount of it—I received the whole of it.
11548. Yes, but part of it, if I may use the word, was already spent? Yes.
11549. The balance you received was about how much? As I stated previously, I think it was about £130.
11550. The difference between £130 and £261 10s. is £131 10s.? Yes.
11551. This money you had already received? Yes; extending over twenty months.
11552. This amount of £131 10s., I think you stated you received in some three or four payments of different amounts? I told you I received three or four payments. I have nothing further to tell you about it. If that is all you can ask me, I am not coming here for it. I am not an idler or an unemployed. I am not going over the same ground again. I cannot waste my time. I have furnished you with all information on that point, and I am not going over the same ground again, unless you have some fresh point.
11553. You must answer me my question, and not read me a lecture as to what I am to ask you? I have already had ten hours here.
11554. I shall ask you what questions I think fit? Ask your questions then; I have no time to waste.
11555. You stated that these were payments by cheques? I stated nothing of the kind. I stated it was paid in cash. There were no cheques about it at all.
11556. I find here a payment made to you on 11th May of £5; on 25th May of £2 12s. 6d.? I have answered all that already.
11557. On 30th May of £1 12s.; on 8th July of £5—? I have answered all these questions.
11558. If you will be good enough not to interrupt? I have received one or two other payments.
11559. In all there are five payments. Are these payments inclusive or exclusive of the amount of money which you received? They are included in the gross amount. I received three or four payments of larger sums, which made it £131 that I received. I do not want to go over the same ground again. Why should I be put to the trouble of answering that again.
11560. You will have to be put to some more trouble, I am afraid? There are two of us to judge whether you will do that or not.
11561. Have you large landed property in the city? What is that to do with you.
11562. Is that an answer? Yes. But what is it to do with you.
11563. Have you got houses rented in the city? Yes, I have; but what is it to do with you.
11564. You stated the other day, I think, that you received certain rents from your property in the city? Yes, I have rents from property in the city.
11565. Some of these rents you say you paid into a safe or box in the Casual Labour Board office? I simply stated I recouped the amount of the cheques, paid them into the safe, and kept the money there until paid into the Treasury. If you wish to go to the bank you can see whether I drew this amount. You can go. I will give you permission in writing.
11566. What safe did you put the money into? Into a safe upstairs in my room. I told you last week that I had access to that safe. I not only kept that money but also kept other money there. I had £170 in that safe.
11567. What payments did you make out of this money? Oh, a large number of payments. I could not tell you now. I suppose about 200 payments at different times; some of them, 2s. 6d.; some, 25s. It was money I held in trust with the concurrence of the Audit Department.
11568. Did you keep the receipts for these payments? Yes; the receipts were kept in the office, and if the pay-sheets had not gone in I got a receipt on the pay-sheet itself before it was sent in for adjustment.
11569. Would the superintendents of the different works be acquainted with the gangers in the district? Yes; they appointed the gangers.
11570. Would the surveyors? Yes; they were a party to the appointment in each case.
11571. Would it be possible for a man to be a ganger in a district without the knowledge of the superintendents? No, it would not be possible.
11572. Would a ganger be appointed in a district if he was not working with his gang, and was himself in another district altogether? No; he could not be, unless the superintendent were dishonest. I never knew such a thing. Such a thing has not been brought under my observation. I held the superintendents responsible for the due performance of their work—the receipts of the stores, the custody of the Government property, giving proper certificates for the earnings of the men. You will find in every case where vouchers have been sent in to the office that they have been accompanied by a letter duly certified to by the superintendent in each camp.
11573. Are you aware that Mr. Kidman was paid cartage? No; certainly not. It was a condition of his contract to deliver wherever we required within 40 miles.
11574. If carriage was paid, whom is it properly chargeable against? It depends who gave the order. If Mr. Kidman did, he is responsible. If our superintendent gave the order, we are responsible. We must accept responsibility for the orders of our officers. A copy of the contract was furnished to the superintendents with instructions to see that the contract was carried out to the strictest letter; that there was the best quality, and that it was timely delivered.
11575. If it was delivered at the railway station, how would it find its way to the camp? It was the duty of the contractor to deliver at the proper place. The orders should be delivered at the camp, not at the railway station. We had nothing to do with cartage.

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11576. There are a considerable number of items on the vouchers for expenses incurred by officers of the Board, such as seeing men off to the railway station and so forth, and a cab here or there;—who authorized those expenses? The Board.

11577. Were these payments in addition to the officers' salaries? Yes; they were for special services. Frequently it would be 8 or 9 o'clock at night. I had better explain that the men for whom we had found private employment at current rates of wages—men without means—were provided with a free pass to their employment. But instead of giving them an order to go and get the tickets, when they would have been delivered to them, we appointed an officer, like Mr. Hibble, to go and get the tickets, see the men into the railway carriage, and then give them their tickets, so that there could be no trafficking with them. It had been pointed out that there had been a large amount of traffic going on in these tickets when issued by the Immigration Department.

11578. If an officer saw men off on the Western line, and others off on the Southern or any other line, would he be justified in making separate charges on the same night? It just depended. One train would go at 8 o'clock and another at 9 o'clock. If we kept a man away from his home we made an allowance of 6s. We effected a saving in this way of hundreds of pounds. Men who were gamblers at races and card-sharpers used to get tickets and sell them at the railway station, and thus the Government was robbed. Instead of that I adopted the course of issuing a certificate, so many men going to so many places. We had the names on the backs of the tickets, so that they could not be transferred. It was better than to allow them to draw the tickets and sell them.

11579. As to pay-days—what was the allowance on those occasions? The practice before we took office was to allow the person making it £1 for every pay in addition to his salary. We simply allowed 10s., 5s., or 6s., as the case might be. They had to go to an hotel. They would go out in the morning at half-past 6 o'clock, and get back at 7 o'clock at night. We did not think it too much to allow 10s.

11580. Was it to include the eating and drinking? It depended. If the whole Board was there it would be different.

11581. Was the allowance made to each individual? Of course, the Paymaster would simply be accompanied by myself, or the superintendent, or perhaps one of the detectives.

11582. Would the Paymaster have anything to do with you or anybody else? He would only have his own expenses.

11583. We may take it that he would have no right to make other charges over the 10s. or the 6s. allowed? Excepting (say) fares to Manly Beach, there might be three or four tickets required, or any little thing like that.

11583½. With the exception of such things as fares, in the shape of boats, cabs, or tram fare, would the 10s., or whatever sum was allowed, cover all expenses? Yes.

11584. Were all contingent vouchers numbered consecutively? I cannot tell you that. I did not keep the accounts. I did not make out any vouchers. I presume that would be the case when the adjustments were made. I have seen a recapitulation of the numbers. I only know from casual observation.

11585. Do you know the practice that was adopted in your office for making up the vouchers for applications for the refreshment of your funds for £6,000? There was a proper form for applying for an advance of £6,000, signed by the three members of the Board, and countersigned by the Secretary.

11586. I know that—I mean as to how the vouchers were made up showing that the £6,000 had been expended? All the vouchers were taken out, and an adjustment was made equal to the amount of the advance. There was no difficulty, because if we had spent most of the money we made application for a fresh advance. We always had something to go on with. We have had as much as £18,000 in the bank at a time. The Act demanded that we should make these adjustments within a certain time. I never heard of any difficulty in making them up; but some of the vouchers might be ten months old, because they would not previously fit in.

11587. The matter then was simply working the vouchers about to make up the amount? Yes, but with that matter I had nothing to do. It was simply a practice of the office. It was introduced by the Paymaster as a principle that had been in operation before we were appointed.

11588. I see an entry here—Castner, £24 11s. 4d.;—do you know what it is for? It is a man at one of the refreshment rooms. I never remember seeing that before. It is quite new to me. I see, however, that it is not in our time. It is before our appointment.

11589. *President.*] Will you look at these five documents, purporting to be letters or memorials dated 7th July, 1887; 19th August, 1887; 22nd September, 1887; 22nd September, 1887, again; and the 10th May, 1888;—do you know in whose handwriting they are? No, I do not. They seem to be in the one handwriting.

11590. Have you any recollection as to who handed them to you? I think either Mr. Frank Farnell or Mr. Varney Parkes, and I think one or two others were with them. I could not say as to one.

11591. Would these be handed to you personally or sent by post? Some came by post, and some were presented by the Members for Canterbury or Cumberland—Mr. Carruthers or Mr. Frank Farnell, through whom we received them.

11592. Can you recollect whether on any occasion that these five documents came before you there were any individuals present connected with the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No; I have no recollection of there being any person there connected with the Holt-Sutherland Estate.

11593. I take the first memorial, 7th July, 1887; you note on it some recommendation by yourself? Yes; there is a note on it, sending it to Mr. Burrowes, and then it is returned to me.

11594. Did you give the recommendation which is given on your own responsibility, or did you obtain a report previously? I obtained a report.

11595. Can you say whether that was done in each case? In each case we obtained a report from the superintendent of the locality.

11596. Did you rely entirely on the superintendent's report? Entirely; coupled with the fact that the application was made by a number of these people, and pressed upon us by the Members for the district.

11597. *Mr. Waller.*] I find a voucher here (1652 A), and on looking at it I find it is a voucher in payment of £261 10s. I find also a second voucher, numbered 1,652, and on looking at it I find it is a voucher in favour of paying Mr. Burrowes £6 10s. 1d.;—I want to understand the meaning of these two vouchers carrying the same number? That would be for the Accountant to explain. I did not make up these numbers.

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numbers. They might put "A" if there are two vouchers with the same figures. I am not an expert in figuring, but the matter could be explained by the Paymaster, who made up these documents. As I have told you, I have had nothing to do with the tallying of the £6,000, or the adjustment of it. It was not part of my duty. All that I had to do was to sign a paper that covered them, so as to make them in due form.

11599. Here is a voucher (1,506 A) in favour of Mr. Springall;—is that what you would call a contingent voucher? Yes.

11600. Who is responsible for its correctness? Mr. Springall signs for having received the goods; the Paymaster for having paid it.

11601. Is Mr. Springall responsible in the first instance? Yes; and the Paymaster is responsible for having paid it—responsible to the Audit Office, and responsible to the Treasury.

11602. Is Mr. Josephson one of your officers? Yes; one of the Government officers.

11603. Here is a voucher (1,493A);—would he be responsible for it? Yes; and Mr. Hinchcliffe for paying it.

11604. Will you explain, as far as your knowledge goes, why such a large number of vouchers should have duplicate numbers? I cannot. The Paymaster, who made them out, can tell you.

11605. Why were blank spaces left in the cash-book? Did you not hear me tell you that I did not open it, so that I could have no knowledge of what was in it, no more than the Principal Under Secretary looks at the cash-book here.

11606. Do you think that it was a correct thing in carrying on a book like this to leave blank lines? That is for the Treasury officials and for the Auditor-General to say. We had the auditing done by the Treasury, and had no complaints. More than that, when a paragraph appeared in the Select Committee's Report stating that there had been no audit, I applied to the Treasury to send a gentleman down to examine the whole of the vouchers in our office. It was intimated that there was no necessity, because they were so well kept. I applied to Mr. Dibbs, asking him to send some gentleman to inquire into our accounts before I left office. He must have admitted that they were satisfactory, as he did not send any one. Messrs. Mason and Miles also said that they were satisfactory.

11607. You, as Chairman then, cannot give me any information as to the manner in which the books were kept, or the reason why these vouchers appear with duplicate numbers? No.

11608. *President.* Do you recollect on any occasion conferring with Mr. Wells with reference to some roads in the district of Campbelltown on which some work was sought to be put? I cannot say particularly, I have had so many conferences with Mr. Wells.

11609. Do you recollect his advising you to have nothing to do with it, as it was in the district in which you lived? No.

11610. Can you say that he never stated this? My impression is that he never did, because I have no recollection of it. As far as the work in the district was concerned, it did not benefit me one halfpenny. I have no property anywhere near where the work has been constructed.

11611. Can you tell me whether Mr. M'Pherson has been to your house? Yes.

11612. When? Before Christmas.

11613. Do you recollect holding any conversation with him as to the work of the Board? I might have asked him how the roads were going on.

11614. Do you recollect referring him to any statement Mr. Burrowes made, or any action of Mr. Burrowes? No.

11615. Do you recollect his saying anything about sales of firewood? I never spoke to him in my life about sales of firewood.

11616. Are you quite clear that when M'Pherson stayed at your house you never referred to the question of sales of firewood? No.

11617. Mr. M'Pherson, in his evidence before us, has spoken of a conversation which he had at your house, in which the question of this Commission and the sale of firewood came up;—do you recollect anything about it? He must be under some misapprehension. He has spoken to someone else, not to me.

11618. Mr. M'Pherson was asked a question with reference to a conversation at your house. He was asked, "Did he (meaning you) have any conversation about this Commission, or say anything about anything likely to crop up in the shape of evidence." He replied, "Yes." "On what subject? He (meaning you) told me he understood that certain charges were made against him about his connection with Mr. Kidman about payment of some refreshment supplied to the Park —"

Witness.] He is entirely astray. I have had no such conversation.

11619. *The President continued reading the evidence.*] "Did Mr. Davies say anything about anything else? Yes. On several occasions we had long conversations about charges or rumours of charges. He told me about some charges made about wood. He told me he had paid the money into the bank and got the receipt. I think he said the Australian Joint Stock Bank." Now, is that evidence correct? It is not correct as far as seeing him since this inquiry is concerned as to that matter.

11620. This return, which I will put in, from what was it compiled? From reports from Mr. Burrowes. [*Return put in and marked P 16.*]

11621. Take, for example, that which has relation to the work on the Holt-Sutherland Estate, from whose evidence was that compiled? From the evidence of Mr. Burrowes and Mr. M'Pherson.

11622. Mr. M'Pherson has pointed out several discrepancies in what was submitted to him;—would we be justified in taking his alterations as correct? I think you would. He is most reliable.

11623. Referring to Springall, the storekeeper in the Sutherland District, was complaint ever made to you of him by Mr. Gordon or Mr. Deering? No. I left the papers I got with the other papers, when I took over the work, indicating the complaints against the different officers. They served my purpose to make inquiry. I carried out the suggestions made by Mr. Gordon in almost every case.

11624. On the subject of petty-cash in the office, can you tell me whether Mr. Hinchcliffe had a petty-cashbook and a safe? He had a cash-book and safe.

11625. Was it an independent safe? Yes. The reason we had two safes was because the first was so small that it would not hold the box. We had to get a larger safe. The small one I had upstairs for my own purpose.

11626. Was your safe and Mr. Hinchcliffe's in the same room? No.

11627. Had Mr. Hinchcliffe access to your safe? He might when I gave him the key.

11628. He did not have duplicate keys? No.

11629.

- Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C.
30 April, 1889.
11629. Did you have a cash-box? I had tills and a cash-box, a small one in which I kept my own cash, apart from Mr. Hinchcliffe's altogether. It had nothing to do with the control of the money by Mr. Hinchcliffe.
11630. *Mr. Waller.*] Here is a voucher—638A, carting rations from Loftus to Hurstville, £11 11s.; another—550, carting rations from Loftus to Hurstville, £6 5s. 8d.;—can you explain these? Those would be from the camp—surplus rations.
11631. Here is another one—423, £7 2s. 2d., conveyance of rations from Loftus to Hurstville? These would be the returns.
11632. Here is a voucher—256, cartage of rations to Sutherland, £3 10s.? Yes, I see. There should not be any such voucher.
11633. Here is another one—177, cartage of rations from the National Park to Heathcote, £15; here is another—216, cartage to Sutherland, £3 10s.; here is another—109, cartage of goods, tools, and rations to Heathcote? A case like the last would be where men are sent to work at Heathcote, and we send rations, tools, and tents with the men. That would be charged to us.
11634. Here is another—cartage of rations, Heathcote, £18;—are these charges properly made? They should not have been made at all.
11635. Who properly should be debited in the case of these charges? The contractor who was responsible for supplying them. Mr. Burrowes or Mr. M'Pherson was in charge of them.
11636. I see a name is attached to the voucher—I. G. Folkes; the certifying officer is Mr. E. M. Burrowes, and each voucher is signed, John Davies, Chairman? As I told you, I signed as head of the department on the strength of the other officers certifying that the service had been rendered.
11637. Is Mr. Burrowes solely responsible? He is absolutely responsible in a case of that kind.
11638. Should Mr. Hinchcliffe have examined into this? No, he should not. It entirely rested with the superintendent. The superintendent may be able to explain why these goods were sent out. He may, after the contractor performed his service, have had to send the men and rations out to another place.
11639. Would that account for such large sums? In some cases it would—not so large as £15, but £3 it would.
11640. We have a case here of £18—cartage of rations, 12 days, at 30s. a day? That is clearly the fault of the superintendent. The rations should have come to the camp.
11641. Here is another—216, £3 10s., cartage from the 18th to 30th? It is improbable that the superintendent could have allowed charges to be made of that kind. I stake my existence you do not find it in any one else's camp. You will find there that the contractor delivered at the camp, and that there was not another sixpence for cartage.
11642. Here is another—256, for thirteen days cartage;—may we take it these are improper payments? You may take it that they are not in accordance with the contract, and should not be charged to the Board, but the blame is entirely with the superintendent. You can readily understand that I would not know of small details like that. We paid the superintendent 15s. a day to do his duty, and allowed him £12 a month for expenses.
11643. I have a large number of vouchers here for payments to the different officers;—have you any personal knowledge of the items in these vouchers? Only what the vouchers themselves disclose. Beyond I know nothing of them.
11644. *President.*] Will you look at the letter from Mr. Burrowes to you, dated 8th September, 1887, marked "private and confidential";—does your reading that recall anything to you? Nothing at all.
11645. You see it was written in 1887;—was Mr. Burrowes in the habit of writing private and confidential letters to you? Yes; scores of them. I tore them up or put them in the waste-paper basket.

Thomas Cooper Hinchcliffe called in, and further examined:—

- Mr. T. C. Hinchcliffe.
30 April, 1889.
11646. *President.*] Do you produce any books or documents since you were examined on the last occasion? Yes. I produce a copy of a letter of 3rd May, 1887, from the Principal Under Secretary to the Agent for Immigration, Sydney, ordering that the services of F. J. Josephson and myself, then clerks in Mr. Wise's department, should be detached, and placed at the disposal of the Casual Labour Board. I also produce copy of a letter written by me to the Principal Under Secretary, dated 12th February, 1889, in reply to a previous letter, and making application for leave of absence for three months and for payment of superannuation allowance.
11647. Do you produce a rough Lett's diary in which the Commission has been told you entered payments of petty-cash? No.
11648. Did you ever keep a diary? I kept a diary more for the purpose of knowing when the payments took place.
11649. Did you keep a memorandum-book in which the payments made in petty-cash were recorded? I might have kept a little monthly diary or something of that kind.
11650. Did you keep any book or memorandum of what Mr. Davies got in petty-cash? I kept a private account of my own in a general way, which I locked up in the safe. It was kept on a sheet of paper. When the account got to a certain amount I got him to give me an intermediate voucher. I went to the Audit Office and asked them whether I was justified in making these advances. They said, "Yes, as long as you get receipts." I said, "This is the only receipt he can give me as yet, as he has to get his fees sanctioned." They said, "The only risk is, if his fees do not come to the amount you advance him, you will be liable for the balance, supposing you advance more than he receives from the Government."
11651. Have you any memorandum that would enable you to give us the advances which were made to him from time to time? I started to keep it in the book, but did not go on with it. There were several people writing in the book, and the Chairman did not like it.
11652. Look at page 241 of this book, headed, "The Chairman, in account with the Secretary," containing a lot of items with the pen run through them;—is that in your handwriting? Yes.
11653. Is that the book you started? Yes.
11654. Are the entries, as far as they go, correct? Yes.
11655. What is the meaning of the expression, "Account made up to 29th October, 1888"? That is a memorandum to say that the account is made up to that date.
11656. What did you advance to Mr. Davies up to 29th October, 1888? Up to that date I had advanced £155 7s. 8d.
- 11657.

11657. Could you supply us with the different amounts which make up this sum of £155 7s. 8d.? I do not think I can now.
11658. Did you rely on your memory? No; I kept an account of it until he gave me an official voucher. It was only an acknowledgment from Mr. Davies that he had received that amount from me on account of the Board.
11659. Are you clear that on the 29th October you had advanced him £155 7s. 8d.? Quite sure of it.
11660. Does that memorandum enable you to state so positively? Yes.
11661. Can you tell me what those advances were for? He would ask me for a sum of money on account of expenses.
11662. On account of what expenses; did he give you the particulars? No; they were to be given when the account was to be posted.
11663. Did he ever give you particulars? Only a voucher. [*Mr. Corkhill attended and produced the vouchers from the Treasury as before.*]
11664. Did he give you any particulars other than appear in voucher 1,652 A? No. [*Voucher marked C 2 for identification—The officer from the Treasury having declined, under instructions, to leave it with the Commission.*]
11665. Then can I take it, that from first to last you never had any particulars from Mr. Davies of these expenses beyond this? No; I never had.
11666. Can you tell me when the official adjustment was made with Mr. Davies by you? I cannot tell you without I saw the book. I see that shows December 27th, but being a cash-voucher, it may not be entered in the proper place.
11667. Do you believe that the entry in the cash-book I put in front of you £261 10s. as the payment to the Honorable John Davies on the 27th December, 1888, is correct? As far as the amount goes it is correct.
11668. Was that paid to him on that date? The balance was. He had received so much on account previously.
11669. Can you recollect what the balance was? I do not know exactly what the balance was. There were two accounts. When I was away in Melbourne he had so much money to account to me for, and the balance I debited him with. I charged him with it.
11670. Have you any other memorandum or any recollection as to the amount paid him? I might have if I had the diaries here.
11671. What diaries? Ordinary Lett's diaries.
11672. Did you leave any diaries behind that you kept there? Yes, two diaries are there.
11673. Should they be in the possession of the officers who took over the business? Yes.
11674. Without these you cannot give us any further information? No.
11675. But you are certain that up to that time £155 7s. 8d. had been paid? Yes, to the end of October.
11676. Did Mr. Davies keep any petty-cash? No; he kept cash that I brought him back from the different pays.
11677. In this book I produce here, do pages 250 to 261 show all the payments you made to Mr. Davies for money you had had returned? Yes, money unclaimed at the time. His initials are to every one of them. [*Pages 250 to 261 out of a cash-book put in and marked C 3.*]
11678. Do you know what became of these sums? They were paid into the Treasury ultimately. I went to the Audit Office and saw a copy of them and checked it with the book. There is another small book, different to that, which has the amounts entered into it.
11679. Do you know whether Mr. Davies was in the habit of paying the amounts into the Treasury at once? I do not think he did.
11680. Do you know whether he had paid the money into the Treasury up to the time you left the office? I cannot say about the date. I went to the office about a week ago and I saw by a copy of the Treasurer's books that everything had been paid in. I ticked it off with these books, but I did not look at the date.
11681. Did Mr. Davies have a private safe in the office? Yes.
11682. Did he have a private cash-box? A private drawer with a lock to it.
11683. Do you know whether he kept large sums of money there? I cannot say.
11684. Do you know this cash-book (*Exhibit E 8*)? Yes.
11685. Did you ever check it and go through it? Yes.
11686. Mr. Davies has told us in his evidence that you were the responsible Accountant of the office? I never was an Accountant. If I were I would not be in the Casual Labour Board office at £350 a year.
11687. I suppose you are familiar with the books? Yes.
11688. You said in your previous evidence that your petty-cash holdings were between £50 and £100? I used to draw £100 at a time.
11689. Did you ever have more than £100? Not that I am aware of.
11690. Have you any recollection? I cannot say for certain.
11691. Did you ever have more than £200 in petty-cash? No.
11692. Are you sure? Yes.
11693. Do you see on page 71 a cheque drawn for £50? Yes.
11694. What would it be for? Presumably for petty-cash.
11695. Have you any doubt about it? Not much.
11696. Have you any doubt at all? I would not like to be sure.
11697. Look at it carefully? I should think by the amount it would be a petty-cash cheque.
11698. Would there be any other cheque drawn against the account in that way than a petty-cash cheque? I do not think so.
11699. Can I take it that this was a petty-cash cheque? Yes.
11700. What was the balance in hand of petty-cash as shown by that book, when that cheque for £50 was drawn? I could not say; nor could any Accountant.
11701. Was not the balance £343 4s. 8d.? No one could tell what the balance was. Vouchers would be paid, but the date would be left out of them. I might have £200 or £300 worth of paid vouchers in my box that might not be entered up in the cash-book at this time. Very often vouchers are paid, but the dates are omitted. We have to fill in the dates, and see that they are witnessed. They might be added a month after they are paid, and would not appear until then.

Mr. T. C.
Hinchcliffe.
30 April, 1889

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 11666—For “place” read “date” Q. 11678—For “different” read “in addition,” and omit “the.” Q. 11701—After “dates” read “afterwards,” and after “not appear” read “in the cash-book.”

- Mr. T. C. Hinchcliffe.
30 April, 1889.
11702. Look at page 74, you see a cheque drawn on 29th January for £100; was it for petty-cash? I should think so.
11703. Can you tell me what the balance in hand, as shown by this book, was at the time the cheque was drawn? I cannot state. We never balanced the book. The whole of the vouchers have gone to the Treasury and been audited. They have been reaudited and checked by the Auditor-General. They have been further checked by Mr. Miles, the professional Accountant to the new Board, and they all say they are perfectly correct. I do not think you want anything more about the accounts than that. Of course if you are more competent than all those gentlemen and say they are not correct. I say nothing —
11704. Was not the balance of petty-cash in hand, as shown by this book, on that date £364 5s. 2d. I do not know, nor can anyone else know. The vouchers for a year might belong to that sheet. I might have £300 or £400 paid away. The only balance was a final balance.
11705. Will you look at page 80 of this cash-book. Is that cheque £100, on 28th July, a petty-cash cheque? I think so.
11706. What was the balance of petty-cash on that date? There is no balance. There are some figures in pencil in the book, but who says that it is a balance. If any gentleman said that was a balance I should say that he did not know what he was talking about.
11707. Was not the balance in hand on the 28th July, as shown by this book, £390 18s. 3d.? There is no balance shown in the book. There is only one balance in the whole of the book. It is impossible for anyone to go through them like that. It is impossible to make a balance.
11708. Will you look at page 89 of this cash-book. There is a cheque drawn on the 7th September, 1888, for £50. What was the balance in hand, as gathered from this book on that day? There is no balance shown at all.
11709. Is there not in hand at that time £416 1s. 6d.? No; there is no balance shown in the book. Someone has put some pencilling in the book, but no one can make any balance out of that.
11710. Look at page 91. Is that cheque on 17th September, for £25 a petty-cash cheque? I think so.
11711. Does that book show from its figures, what was the balance in hand of petty-cash on that day? No.
11712. Can it not be gathered that, on that day there was a credit of £451 11s. 4d.? No; it cannot be gathered from the book.
11713. Look at page 93. On the 27th September, there is a cheque drawn for £50. Can you tell me whether that was a petty-cash cheque? I think so.
11714. What was there of petty-cash on that day? There is nothing shown there.
11715. Can it not be readily ascertained from the book that on that day there should be £471 18s. 4d.? I should not think so.
11716. Look at the entry on page 97; on 15th October, there is a cheque drawn for £50; was that a petty-cash cheque? I think so; I cannot say positively.
11717. Have you any doubt? You have to have a doubt if you are not sure. The same answer must apply to that as to all, unless I had the cheque here.
11718. Do you not know from the book that there are no cheques on that side which are not petty-cash cheques? I do not know. This is Mr. Hibble's handwriting.
11719. Did not you check it? I checked it.
11720. On 15th October there is a cheque drawn for £50—is that petty-cash? Yes.
11721. What was the balance of petty-cash on that day? There is no balance shown.
11722. Was there not a balance of £462 15s. 2d. in hand on that day? I cannot say; I should not think so.
11723. Look at page 99. On 23rd October there is a cheque for £10; is that a petty-cash cheque? I should think it was.
11724. What, as shown by that book, should be the amount of petty-cash in hand on that date? It is not shown.
11725. Can you not gather that on that date there was £515 4s. 6d. of petty-cash? No one can gather that.
11726. Look at page 101. There is a cheque on 1st November for £50—is that for petty-cash? I think so.
11727. What by that book, was the amount in petty-cash, in hand on that date? I have given the answer before. It is the same answer as the last.
11728. Does it not show that there was a sum of £493 3s. 8d. in hand? It does not show that.
11729. Look at page 104. Is that cheque on 13th November for £25 for petty-cash? I should think so.
11730. Can you gather from the book what was the balance in hand on that date? No.
11731. Does it not show that it was £535 16s. 1d.? No it does not.
11732. Look at page 105. Is that cheque for £25 for petty-cash? I think so.
11733. Can you gather what was the balance in hand on that date? No. It is the same answer as the others.
11734. Was there not a sum of £536 16s. 1d. of petty-cash? No, you cannot gather anything of the sort.
11735. Look at page 106; on 3rd December there was a cheque for £100; can you gather from the book what was the balance of petty-cash in hand on that date? No.
11736. Was there not £549 5s. 9d.? No.
11737. Look at page 114; there is a cheque on 7th January 1889 for £25; was it for petty-cash? I should think so.
11738. Can you gather from the book what was the balance in hand on that date? No.
11739. Was it not £223 6s. 6d.? No you cannot say that.
11740. Did Mr. Hibble ever call your attention to this? No.
11741. Not as to these extraordinary things I have pointed out to you? What extraordinary things.
11742. The fact of getting cheques for petty-cash when the book showed a large amount in hand? The only thing he did was to put a balance in pencil what we call a rough balance and it came to £220 odd. As he knew that was represented by nearly £220 advance to Mr. Davies, and the balance would be some petty-cash accounts of my own.
11743. How much would be paid to Mr. Davies? I cannot say the exact amount. Mr. Hibble had a pretty good idea how much it was.

11744.

Mr. T. C.
Hinchcliffe.
30 April, 1889.

11744. Why did you say £200? I should think between £100 or £200.
11745. Can we believe Mr. Hibble's evidence on this point? I think so.
11746. If he has sworn he pointed this out to you—these extraordinary discrepancies? There are no discrepancies.
11747. If he says he pointed them out to you, and warned you there would be some inquiry, is that true or not? It is untrue.
11748. Have you got a private banking account? Yes. The London and Chartered Bank, Oxford-street.
11749. Did you ever draw a cheque to supply the Casual Labour Board with funds? I gave a cheque one day to some unemployed men, for which I afterwards took a Government cheque.
11750. How much for? I cannot say.
11751. £50? No.
11752. £20? I cannot say the amount. It would not be so much as £50.
11753. Did you ever supply the petty-cash of the Casual Labour Board from your own pocket? I may have done.
11754. Were you ever short in your cash? In what way?
11755. When the cash was made up, were you short in your cash? No.
11756. If other witnesses say you were, and that you drew a cheque on your own private account to make it up, is that evidence true or false? I should have to explain it. It might be both.
11757. I repeat the question. I have had certain evidence given to me, and I wish to test whether it is true or false. Have you at any time drawn against your private account a cheque to make up some sum of money in connection with the Casual Labour Board? I would use the money as if my own money. I had no one to account to for it but myself. If I took a few pounds out of the petty-cash, as I was going along, I would afterwards draw a cheque and put it back.
11758. Have you drawn a cheque out of your own account to make good any deficiency in the petty-cash? No.
11759. Have you ever drawn a cheque out of your own banking account to make up what you were short in your petty-cash? No.
11760. Have you drawn a cheque of from £100 to £200 to make up something wrong in your petty-cash? No.
11761. If witnesses swear you have, is it true or false? False.
11762. Will you produce your banking account? Yes.
11763. When? Whenever you like. I wish to explain about these alleged balances that no one could make a balance. The vouchers would be in the box, and unless you put in what was paid up to that date you could not have an actual balance. Any amounts represented by Mr. Davies' voucher, and any expenses spent for two or three months, would go to make up anything short.
11764. Did you ever hear of any vouchers being lost at the National Park? No. I would be glad to hear of it. I would be responsible for anything that was lost.
11765. Do you think then you have paid moneys you ought not to have paid? I cannot say. If I could produce a voucher I have paid, and which amount I have not got from the Government, I should be recouped.
11766. Who had the preparation of this recapitulation of vouchers? It depends on the date.
11767. Take this bundle showing a recapitulation to December 17, 1888? These shown here are in my handwriting.
11768. Who would make up that lot? I am not quite sure. Larnach had it in hand for a long time. He would make up the list. As soon as he got £6,000 he would let me know. If he wanted a voucher for a certain amount, and could not make it up out of those in hand, I would give him a voucher out of my cash-box.
11769. A *bonâ fide* voucher? Yes; we had no other vouchers.
11770. Were all the vouchers in the office *bonâ fide*? All that we made use of would be *bonâ fide*. Any sent to the Treasury would be *bonâ fide*, unless they were sent in error.
11771. Will you look through this bundle of papers and note four vouchers for personal expenses, amounting to £10 10s. 6d., £10 9s. 6d., £10 8s. 6d., £13 8s. 3d.;—what time would they cover? Four months, I presume.
11772. Who authorized those payments to you? The Board allowed it. I do not know whether it was authorized in the first instance.
11773. Who paid it? The Board or myself; it was paid in the usual way.
11774. What was the "usual" way for paying your personal expenses? By cash or cheque.
11775. Did you refer to Mr. Davies before you took it out of the cash-box? Yes.
11776. Did he have anything to do with the cash-box? No.
11777. Did he have a key? No.
11778. Did you apply to Mr. Davies? He had to sign the voucher.
11779. You gave in on December 17, 1888, all these vouchers for personal expenses. They all came in then, including Mr. Davies, yourself, Mr. Hibble, and a series of other payments to officers? I cannot see that there are many vouchers. I did not put them in regularly.
11780. Were you paid by cheque or cash for your salary? Both ways.
11781. How often by cheque? I cannot say.
11782. I have been through that cash-book myself. I state to you on every occasion, excepting, I believe, two, your payment of salary was by cheque. Can you tell me how it came about that in December and January, I think, you were paid your salary out of the petty-cash? I suppose that was so. I was paid both ways.
11783. If we find that the only occasions were in December and January, when, according to the book, large amounts of petty-cash were unaccounted for;—was that unusual? It was not unaccounted for. I object to anyone saying that it was unaccounted for.
11784. Was it not unusual on these occasions, in January and December, when all the others are cheque payments, that you should be paid by cash? I do not think so.
11785. What was your salary? £29 3s. 4d. per month—£350 per annum.
11786. Was that paid you at first. I see at first there was a cheque for £27 10s? Yes.
11787. And then I see another cheque for £47? That would be on account of petty-cash and salary.
- 11788.

NOTE (on revision) :—Q. 11749.—After "men" read "the chairman being absent." This, I explained, was to oblige some men who had been engaged to go to Grafton sugar-cane-cutting, and would lose their passages unless they could get away that day. Q. 11757.—After "petty-cash" read "for expenses." Q. 11763.—After "date" read "and the amount of cash in hand." Q. 11768.—For "cash-box" read "cash-voucher box." Q. 11772.—After "instance" add "the bulk of the amount would be for cash actually paid out of my pocket."

- Mr. T. C. Hinchcliffe.
30 April, 1889.
11788. Can I take it that throughout your employ there you received £29 3s. 4d. per month? Yes; and 10s. for each pay-day.
11789. Do you know how much you received over and above your salary for allowances for personal expenses, or whatever you like to call it? I cannot tell from memory.
11790. Did you receive £250? I cannot say. The vouchers would explain all about it.
11791. Can we take it that the entries in the cash-book, which you have checked, are correct? Yes.
11792. If we add up the total amount of the payments in your name and subtract the amount of your salary, will that leave the amount of the allowances and personal expenses? Yes; but in many cases I should explain the personal expenses were for others as well as myself. It would not be all spent on myself individually.
11793. You recollect the evidence you gave that you never had in hand more than £50 to £100 in petty-cash. I will read you this evidence taken before us:—"What was the balance in hand then? I believe from £250 to £300. He (meaning you) told me himself. Of the office money? Yes; and he said he was that much out of pocket by being Secretary in charge of the cash. How? He said he had sent vouchers to the Park and they were never returned. When did he tell you that? At the beginning of this year. Did you ever hear of him being short in his cash? He never told me he was short. Was he to your knowledge? According to the books I knew he must be short. Did Mr. Hinchcliffe ever tell you he was short in his cash? Yes. Before or after his Melbourne trip? After. What was the amount? Between £250 and £300. Did you say he had to make it up by drawing on his own private account? He told me he had to make it up, and I believe he drew on his own bank." Now, is that evidence true or false? To a certain extent it is true; but it is incorrect in another way. This £200 or £300 was represented by vouchers. Any advance of money to Mr. Davies or anyone else would be there. It would not be short actually, as I had vouchers in the box; but, in the case of Mr. Davies, I could not make use of them until Sir Henry Parkes had approved of his expenses at the rate of 10s. a day. All money I advanced to him, I was told at the Audit Office, would be quite right as far as I was concerned.
11794. Did you, before his payment was authorized, make an advance to him at the rate of 10s. a day? It was never made up until the finish.
11795. How did you arrive at that voucher £261 10s. that I showed you just now? That was at the rate of 10s. a day from the time he started. It was allowed by the Colonial Secretary.
11796. Did the Colonial Secretary authorize it on the 27th December? I would not be sure of the date.
11797. I want to know how you passed or paid a cash voucher for £261 for which you had no authority? I had the authority of the Chairman. He was my "boss," as you call it. I knew he would have to have the approval of the Colonial Secretary before I passed it, and I took an intermediate voucher, which I was told would exonerate me.
11798. Do you remember when Miles and Mason came into office? Yes.
11799. Did Mr. Davies give you any vouchers that were unpaid? Yes; a large bundle which Mr. Hibble made up.
11800. Did Mr. Davies direct Mr. Hibble to give them to you? I think so.
11801. Would you recognize them individually? I should know the firms, but I did not take any notice of the amounts or numbers.
11802. Tell me the firms? There were M'Lean Bros. and Rigg, Seale, and I think some were ration accounts for Mr. Kidman.
11803. Will you look at this batch of vouchers and see whether you can recognize any of them as having been handed you by Mr. Davies? I never looked at them individually.
11804. Then you cannot identify any of these? No, not individually. I put them in a bag and took them down to Mr. Miles' office.
11805. If Mr. Miles has said you produced a packet of papers out of your bag, and told him to get them paid, is that correct? Yes.
11806. Are they correct? I cannot say.
11807. Are they certified to? I cannot say whether they are.
11808. Do they not bear on them the necessary signatures to justify immediate payment? All but one appear to have upon them the necessary signatures to justify immediate payment.
11809. Now, did you hand them to Mr. Miles, and tell him that the Chairman told you to get them paid? We had an appointment, and these gentlemen wanted to know what these were for. I took them down to get them paid; but they only passed the pay-sheets.
11810. Did you have anything to do with these vouchers? No.
11811. Did you certify as to their correctness? Not as a rule.
11812. Did you examine them? No; Mr. Hibble generally examined them, and of course checked them with the order-book when they came in, and checked the calculations, and the officer would certify that they had been received.
11813. Look at that voucher;—what course did it go through? In the first instance, it would come to the office with a lot of others. We should pick out what district it was for and send it to the superintendent, and it would be returned by him to the office.
11814. Would they be signed by the superintendent? If correct.
11815. Does that voucher show that it is signed by anyone? Yes, by Mr. Burrowes.
11816. In what district? In the Southern District.
11817. That would come back signed? If correct.
11818. Did Mr. Burrowes ever sign any vouchers at the office? Sometimes.
11819. Was it the rule or otherwise? Otherwise.
11820. If we find that certain vouchers do not bear his stamp, would that show that they were signed at your office? No.
11821. Did he sign them frequently in your office? Yes.
11822. Do you remember any particular occasion when Mr. Burrowes signed some vouchers in the office at the request of the Chairman? I cannot recollect any particular occasion.
11823. Who was responsible for the correctness of the vouchers as to the items of goods? The superintendent.
11824. Nobody in the head office? No.
11825. If a voucher was signed by Mr. Burrowes, went through the books, and was paid, and was found to be wrong? The Auditor-General would send it back. 11826.

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11826. Who was responsible in your office? Nobody.
11827. Then if there is a voucher for a dozen tons of powder, and you have no particulars of it in the office at all, no one is responsible? How do you mean responsible?
11828. Responsible for the contingent voucher? Whoever certified to it is responsible. If the Auditor-General sent us a surcharge note of £1, we would send it to Mr. Burrowes and tell him to forward it, as has been done on several occasions.
11829. Were you present on any occasion at the head office when Mr. Hibble, Mr. Davies, and I think Mr. Burrowes were present and some vouchers were signed? I do not recollect.
11830. Do you recognize this handwriting? I believe it is Hibble's.
11831. Do you know anything about it? No. I see it is for a hamper-basket. The voucher never came to me. It never came to the office, or else before it was paid it would have to have been certified to by me, similar to a superintendent having charge of a district. It was said there was something wrong about it.
11832. Were you sitting in the same room with Mr. Hibble? Yes.
11833. Can you give me any explanation about it? It was not paid for.
11834. Do you know whether such a basket was obtained? I cannot say.
11835. And yet you were in the same room? The basket would not have to be brought into the room.
11836. Look at voucher [*Exhibit E 3*] and compare it with that order. Now, I ask you—as we have already a lot of evidence about it—to let us have the whole history of that, if you can tell us? In what way?
11837. Do you see that the order and the contingent voucher have the same number? I do.
11838. Do you see that the order having the same number is for one hamper-basket, and the contingent voucher bearing a corresponding number is for six coils of Manilla rope? Yes.
11839. I ask you—as you were sitting in the same room as Mr. Davies and Mr. Hibble—can you give me any account about it? I cannot.
11840. Are you absolutely ignorant of it? Yes.
11841. You see that the voucher for the Manilla rope is certified to by Mr. Burrowes and pencilled Hurstville? Yes.
11842. Is it unusual for the numbers to be the same? That may be a mistake.
11843. Did you hear of it? I heard of it; but no one ever came to me to certify to it.
11844. Did you hear that that voucher, six coils of Manilla rope, was supposed to be for the hamper-basket? No.
11845. From Mr. Hibble, from Mr. Davies, from Mr. Burrowes, or from anyone else? No.
11846. Look at voucher [*Exhibit E 2*]-have you seen that before? I cannot say. I see neither of them has been paid. That is the only thing peculiar. They are both certified to.
11847. Are they in such a state that in the ordinary course you would have paid them? I would have drawn a cheque for them if I had been told.
11848. Were they amongst the packet you handed to Mr. Miles? I cannot say.
11849. If neither of these vouchers is in Messrs. M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's account, and there were two hamper-baskets for the same amount sent to the Casual Labour Board, does it help your recollection at all? No.
11850. Did you hear anything about a hamper-basket? Yes.
11851. From whom? I saw the voucher in the office. Mr. Larnach drew my attention to it. I said, "Do not mix that up with the others, there must be some mistake." I did not see the hamper-basket there. Mr. Davies used the room behind the office as his private room.
11852. When was the conversation with Larnach? I cannot say.
11853. Then you did see a contingent voucher for a hamper-basket? Yes. I told him I thought there must be some mistake.
11854. And not to mix it with the others? Yes.
11855. Is that all you can give us about it? Yes.
11856. I believe the office had a cabman constantly on hire there? Yes, there was a cabman.
11857. Then what would be the justification for all these other payments for cabs? He would not always be there. When we went to the bank, for instance, Mr. Davies might want him.
11858. Did the cabman get paid by a contingent voucher? Yes. I think every fortnight or three weeks. The voucher will show.
11859. Do you know whether Mr. Davies ever examined your cash? No.
11860. Did he examine your cash-books? I could not say.
11861. You being in the same room, would you not have an opportunity of seeing what he was doing? He could not examine my cash-book, because it was in the safe.
11862. Who kept the key of your cash-box? I did myself.
11863. Who kept the key of the safe? I did myself.
11864. Could anyone get at them? No.
11865. Mr. Hibble has told us you had a rough Letts' diary with entries of cash in? Occasionally I might put entries there, but mostly I had them in a memo. book in my pocket.
11866. He also said you were a lot of money out of pocket? Mr. Hibble has made a mistake. Mr. Hibble said to me, "I think you have the wrong end of the stick." He said, "I think you have paid money to the Chairman and not put it down." I said, "Well, if I have done that I shall have to pay it." No one could tell how the cash stood, unless some officer came there, took out the vouchers, and made them up. I could not tell myself.
11867. How large was the box in which you kept the papers? It was an ordinary Government box. They have a patent lock to them.
11868. Do you believe you "had the wrong end of the stick"? That is more than I should like to say.
11869. Was it possible for you to make payments to people and never get it returned? It would be my own fault if I did.
- 11870.

NOTE (on revision) :—Q. 11828—For "Mr. Burrowes" read "the Superintendent." Q. 11851—For "the" read "a."
Q. 11861—After "because" read "generally." Q. 11866—After "took out the" read "cash and" and add to end of answer
"until I made up the final balance some £5 odd." Q. 11868—For "should like to" read "could." Q. 11870—Omit "if
it is" before "untrue" and omit "that" after.

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11870. If the evidence is correct that you were from £150 to £200 short, you must have had the wrong end of the stick? That is if it is untrue that the money was made up by the vouchers not entered.
11871. Do you think your bank-book will show any payment in December or January exceeding £100 for the benefit of the Board? I am quite sure it will not. There may be one small payment—perhaps two.
11872. Were your duties heavy? Yes; as Secretary and Paymaster.
11873. Did you find yourself constantly occupied? Yes; towards the end it got easier.
11874. Was Mr. Hibble's time taken up? Yes,
11875. Did he work overtime? Yes; when the Parliamentary returns were asked for.
11876. Did you ever know him work overtime at the cash-book? I cannot tell what particular work he worked at.
11877. How comes it that in some of the payments made here there is this peculiarity: A large sum is drawn out of the petty-cash, for argument say £30 16s. 7d., and there is a cheque for £1 to make up the payment of some pay-sheet? That would be to rectify an error.
11878. I observe a payment out of the petty-cash for some pay-sheet or wages, and find the amount made up in the next item by a small cheque;—how is this? I cannot tell unless you show me the item. I see they are separate payments.
11879. You heard me read the evidence of Mr. Hibble about some vouchers going to the National Park and never being returned? I did not understand that there were any not returned, or any missing vouchers. It was only conjecture on his part.
11880. There is a payment on page 23, £6 5s. 4d., National Park, and £1 cheque;—is not that curious? No, it is not curious at all. It may be a cheque that we wanted to send by post. It is not one payment or to the same party.
11881. Then Mr. Hibble's evidence on the point that you drew a cheque out of your private bank about December or January is incorrect? Yes.
11882. Did you observe in the cash-book that in December there were several large payments of petty-cash all coming together;—can you account for it? Mr. Davies nearly occupies the lot.
11883. Your salary was paid in petty-cash, and large amounts were paid out of it in December? That is very likely.
11884. Does it strike you as being strange? No. I can only suppose that I did not make up these vouchers for five or six months, and that they would all come in the one month.
11885. Did you ever send in any contingent vouchers yourself? Yes, for anything that came into the office.
11886. What was Mr. Hibble's duty with regard to them? To check them with the order-book and check the calculation.
11887. Mr. Hibble says he had nothing to do but to check the computation, and that he was not responsible for checking them with the order-book? He had charge of the order-book.
11888. We find a large number of vouchers amongst a number handed by you to Mr. Miles which do not correspond with the order-book;—who was responsible for that? If they were paid, Mr. Hibble would be.
11889. They were signed by all the officers for payment, and had it not been for the accident of some other gentlemen coming into the office, it seems probable they would have been paid. We find there is a discrepancy between the order-book and the voucher. Who is responsible? Mr. Hibble.
11890. Would you be responsible? I do not think so.
11891. Are you prepared to take the responsibility? I should not take the responsibility at all.
11892. Do you consider yourself, as senior officer, responsible for the correctness of these contingent vouchers? Not at all.
11893. You shift it on Mr. Hibble? And the Chairman.
11894. With reference to the adjustment of the £6,000 voucher, who initiated the making up of the amount? I did it in Mr. Wise's office.
11895. Are you aware that in forty sets for £6,000, the Casual Labour Board has vouchers for the exact amount in each case, nothing more nor less? That is quite correct.
11896. Who initiated that practice? I did myself.
11897. Was Mr. Davies responsible for it? No.
- 11897½. Could it be done easily? I never found any difficulty in doing it, nor did Mr. Hibble, nor Mr. Larnach.
11898. Was it a simple thing in every case to get the exact amount of vouchers without splitting them? We were not allowed to split vouchers. Sometimes it might take Mr. Larnach an hour to get the amount. Sometimes he would make a boast of it, and say I have another lot ready. He would add up the amounts as he went along. Sometimes we would have to go back to the commencement. There would be a voucher for £21 11s. 4d., and we could not get a voucher to fit into it.
11899. Suppose you were £5 11s. 7d. short, what would you do? He would say, "Have you a voucher to correspond." He might take out a voucher with five pence on it.
11900. Does not the arrangement strike you as being extraordinary? I found it very easy.
11901. How might he make it up? In half a dozen different ways. If he was short, he would have to pay it into the Treasury. The Audit Office thanked me for doing it, and said it made things very easy for them.
11902. Did you do it yourself? Yes. I did it myself at the start. I also did it for Mr. Wise on a smaller scale. I handed it over to Mr. Larnach, and he did not find it difficult. We had vouchers as small as 6s.
11903. Did these gentlemen ever ask you for vouchers from your box? Yes; they would ask me for vouchers out of the box.
11904. Did they ever ask you for a voucher when you had not the exact amount? They might have done. I cannot say.
11905. Was it the rule or otherwise, when you were asked for vouchers, that you had the amount required? I cannot say; I had all kinds of different amounts.
11906. When you went to Melbourne, who took up your work? Mr. Hibble. 11907.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 11882—After "Davies" read "voucher." Q. 11888—After "paid" read "and found incorrect" and after "Hibble" read "or the certifying officer." Q. 11889—For "Mr. Hibble" read "the certifying officer." Q. 11893—For "and the Chairman" read "No, the Chairman."

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11907. You were a month away? I forget exactly.
11908. When Mr. Davies was away who took up his work? He was only away one day, I think.
11909. Did you ever see Mr. Hibble the worse for drink? No.
11910. Mr. Larnach? Yes; I thought he was ill. The detective said he was drunk.
11911. Mr. Burrowes? I have seen Mr. Burrowes jolly.
11912. Mr. Wells? I never saw him drunk.
11913. Mr. Houison? I have seen him a little bit jolly. It is a hard thing to define when a man is drunk.
11914. Do you recollect a lot of vouchers that were being made out for petty-cash at one time being brought under your notice? In what way.
11915. Do you recollect six vouchers for nearly £100 being made out of petty-cash. I have this in evidence:—"You ask me something about the cash. I said it was not correct for certain reasons. Six vouchers were made out to my certain knowledge by Mr. Hibble, and they amounted to nearly £100." They consisted of one for £3; another for £1 1s, 8s. 6d., 10s. 6d. expenses for lunch; 4s., cab-hire and so on. Now, do you know anything of that? I do not know to what they refer.
11916. I have evidence from one witness also that you told him about a hamper-basket that was wanted for the pays;—is that correct? No?
11917. Did you ever say anything about a basket? Only what I have stated to you this afternoon—what I said when the voucher came in.
11918. Do you know whether the Chairman was in the habit of keeping large amounts of cash in the office? I cannot say.
11919. Were you on friendly terms with him? Yes.
11920. Was he ever at your house? No.
11921. Did he ever discuss with you what was going on in the department? Sometimes.
11922. Did he ever express an opinion of the officers? Yes.
11923. Pleasantly or otherwise? Both.
11924. Whom did he speak of? He spoke of the whole of them at different times.
11925. Did he give his opinion of Mr. Hibble, for example? He said he was a smart young fellow.
11926. What did he say of Mr. Larnach? He said he was a d—d old scoundrel.
11927. Are you sure of that? I am not sure about the d—d; but he emphasised it.
11928. Did it not strike you as unusual to keep "a d—d old scoundrel" in the office so long? He wanted to get rid of him once or twice; but, knowing Larnach's position, I pleaded for him to let him stop. Larnach complained that Mr. Davies treated him like a dog, and said that he would be even with him some day.
11929. What did he say of Mr. Burrowes? He said that he gave him a lot of trouble, and that the other two members of the Board were in favour of dismissing him; but he took some compassion on his wife and family.
11930. How long did this go on? I cannot say. The letter-book would show that.
11931. Would you say the department worked harmoniously or otherwise? I used to tell Mr. Burrowes that he gave us more trouble than all the others put together.
11932. Did the department work harmoniously? Amongst themselves they did; but, as I have explained, two of the members of the Board wanted to discharge Mr. Burrowes. Mr. Houison, the first time he saw him—he must have known something of him previously—after Mr. Burrowes had made some explanation, turned round and said that he would not believe a word that Mr. Burrowes said.
11933. Do you know whether any want of harmony prevailed during 1887 as regards the department generally? I believe the case I have mentioned is one.
11934. With the exception of Mr. Burrowes? I think they were not over-pleased with Mr. O'Donnell. I believe his salary was reduced.
11935. Do you remember taking some electoral rolls down to the station in a cab? No.
11936. It is said that you did? I never did.
11937. Is it possible Mr. Davies may have asked you? He never did.
11938. You never went? No, not with any electoral rolls.
11939. Did you ever go with Mr. Burrowes to the station? Not that I recollect.
11940. In January? I cannot say.
11941. You might have gone in January last and have forgotten it? I might have done.
11942. Referring to this payment on the 27th December, of £261 10s., to Mr. Davies, from an examination of this cash-book, it would appear that after that payment there should be a balance in hand of £259 4s. 4d.? You cannot tell that. I might, perhaps, have every shilling of that represented by vouchers.
11943. Two witnesses have told us that at about that time you were short something like £250 in your cash? It is not true.
11944. Then both these witnesses have perjured themselves? They have made a mistake, no doubt. I could not tell whether I was short or not until I made a final balance.
11945. Did you ever lend any money? I have advanced money.
11946. To whom? To all of them.
11947. Out of the petty-cash? Yes.
11948. Did you lend money to Mr. Davies? Only the sums I have mentioned on account of personal expenses.
11949. What was the largest amount? I cannot say.
11950. Have you any book or record? No; I only kept account on a sheet of paper, and kept it in my cash-box.
11951. How was it you paid wages out of petty-cash? Because the men would come into the office a few at a time, and if we had the cash of course we would pay them.
11952. When refunds were made, what became of them;—were they paid into the petty-cash? Any I have seen would be.
11953. I have been through the petty-cash book, and I see a lot of entries—refunds by cheque, £7 4s.; National Park cheque, £5 10s.; Rookwood cheque, £3 11s. 8d., and so forth;—what would these be? That was a time when we were rushed. A cheque would be drawn for the full amount of the pay-sheet, and we would check it afterwards.

11954.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 11913—After "I have" read "once." Q. 11920—For "No" read "Yes, twice," but the question asked me was "Were you ever at his house? No." Q. 11934—After "O'Donnell" read "when at Carlingford," and after "reduced" add "he afterwards gave every satisfaction." Q. 11946—For "of them" read "the clerks on account of their salaries."

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11954. Then these are from excess payments? No.
11955. Cheques drawn in excess of what was required? Yes.
11956. Were these not in the same category as unclaimed wages? No; unclaimed wages belonged to the men.
11957. Whenever there were refunds on cheques, were they paid to you as petty-cash clerk? I would hold them.
11958. Then all these refunds of different cheques were money you got yourself, and not what was paid you by any clerk? Yes; it might be, in some cases, that the clerks would give it to me.
11959. Would you apply it to the petty-cash? Yes; it was the only way we could use it!
11960. From May, 1887, to the end of January, 1889, you spent in petty-cash something like £2,916 6s. 8d.;—is that likely to be correct? That is correct.
11961. And that was supplied by cheques drawn for petty-cash, and by refunds from excess cheques? Yes.
11962. *Mr. Waller.*] You stated to the President that these large amounts in December were probably the result of expenses for many months? Yes.
11963. That being the case, how is it, in this contingent voucher here 628, I find another sum for £9 2s. 3d.? That would be for the month of December. The other ones would be for some other months.
11964. I draw your attention to voucher 486A for the month for £9 7s. 6d.;—what month would it be for? The month of October.
11965. I will draw your attention to voucher 553A, for £8 7s. 6d., for the month? Yes; that is for November.
11966. I will draw your attention to voucher 522A, for £11 17s. 9d., for the month? Yes; that is correct, July.
11967. I will draw your attention to voucher 1,159A, for £11 0s. 3d., for the month of May or August— which is it? The month of August.
11968. I will draw your attention to voucher 847A, for £11 15s. 4d., for the month of March? Yes.
11969. Here is another one, 1,144A, for April, £8 15s.; for June, 1,180A, for £10; for September, 511A £10 3s. 8d.? Yes.
11970. Does not that pretty well exhaust all the months of the year? There would only be one for each month.
11971. Then how could these vouchers put in in December be for months previously? Because I had not got them made up. They may have been put in all at one time.
11972. The President asked you why they were put in in December, and you explained that the reason was they were for back-payments due for previous months. How could that be when I have produced vouchers for expenses incurred in the previous months? These are the vouchers I referred to. They would be additional ones. There is only one voucher for each month. They might be three or four months old before they were put in.
11973. Can you tell me whether the Chairman of the Board was aware you were drawing such large sums of money per month for expenses outside your salary? Yes; of course he was aware of it.
11974. What was the 10s. allowed to you for? As Paymaster.
11975. As Paymaster only? Yes.
11976. Was it to cover anything? It was an allowance made by the Government. I used to receive £1 when I was with Mr. Wise.
11977. What was it to cover? It was to cover any loss you might make.
11978. Was it to cover any expenses in the way of food? I did not understand that. It was more to cover a loss by over-payment or otherwise.
11979. So it was a compensation fund? It was an allowance usually made. You have charge of a large sum of money, and you are responsible for it.
11980. How many pays did you have in a month? I cannot say. On the Hurstville line we had ten or twelve different pays.
11981. How many days in the month? The vouchers would show that.
11982. These expenses for the greater part are for cab-hire. There are pretty considerable amounts for cabs? I only see on this voucher I am looking at 11s. 6d. for cabs.
11983. Look at this voucher and say what you see for cabs on it? Yes; I was in a cab pretty well all day on that occasion.
11984. In every one of the vouchers there are numerous amounts for cab-hire—16s. 6d., 3s., 4s., 2s. 6d., 15s., 2s. 6d.—how is it that you, as one of the officers of the department, and the other officers could incur such large sums for cab-hire when there are also accounts here from men for cab-hire only? At the first date we did not have a cabman to look after the Board. There was no one excepting myself or the members of the Board allowed to pay cab-hire.
11985. If you look you will see that cab-hire passes through the whole of these vouchers? On pay-days you had to get two cabs—one in the morning, and another one back in the evening. We came in late as a rule.
11986. Then, can you account for the bills from others for cab-hire only. Here is cab-hire, J. Solomon, £1 16s.; another item, £3 11s.; another, £5 17s. 6d.; and another for £1 4s.? That would be in connection with the Chairman and other members of the Board.
11987. What were the Chairman's fees of 10s. a day to cover? I cannot say.
11988. Did he pay his hotel expenses, or did you pay it out of the petty-cash? When he went with me I generally paid.
11989. Were these vouchers numbered regularly? Yes; when they were made up and entered in the book.
11990. What is the meaning of the letter A after so many of them? That simply shows that it is a cash voucher. It is to distinguish it.
11991. It does not signify that it is a duplicate voucher? No.
11992. How is it we find that these A's are duplicate numbers? They are duplicates of those at the top.
11993. But these are duplicate numbers? The A shows that it is a cash payment.
11994. I have seen spaces left in the cash-book, which I do not understand—will it assist the meaning as to these duplicate numbers? If we put in a number to these vouchers it would interfere with the other numbers. Using the letter A saves writing another number. 11995.

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11995. Then this letter A only refers to these cash payments? Yes; to those that are paid by cash.
11996. Was the payment to Mr. Davies of £261 10s. a cash payment? Yes.
11997. Would that have the letter A to it? Yes.
11998. So it was simply to show whether it was a cash or cheque payment? Yes.
11999. I find there is a sum, £160 12s., paid to a couple of people for cab-hire and buggies alone;—the calculation is made up from vouchers you had to do with? These vouchers are correct.
12000. Does it not strike you as extraordinary that such a large amount of money should be paid away in cabs, and yet that there should be so many vouchers in your name, Mr. Hibble's name, and Mr. Burrowes' name, and others for the like expense? I cannot account for that. I have only to do with the amounts for myself. I know mine are correct.
12001. Then each officer is responsible for the voucher made out by himself? Yes.
12002. What would your duty be? To pay them when they are certified to.
12003. Have you no other responsibility? No.
12004. That amount of money which you paid Mr. Davies previously to making it up in the petty-cash book, would that include the two large amounts he owed you for? It includes the lot. It would be a continuous account. Until he gave me a proper voucher I could not use it. That would make the cash-book appear short.
12005. The most he could owe you is the difference between £155 7s. 8d. and £261 10s.—that is £106 2s. 4d.? Yes.
12006. Would that sum of money, £155 7s. 8d., be the entire amount of money you gave Mr. Davies from time to time? Yes; up to that date.
12007. Do you know of him making other payments on account of the Casual Labour Board, besides those amounts which are included in the £155 7s. 8d.? In what way?
12008. In any way? A payment on account of the Board?
12009. Yes? Not that I recollect. Only the money that he paid into the Bank.
12010. For any expenses, or things incurred by him, did he make any payment outside this money that you refunded him for? No; if he paid anything it would be entirely out of his own pocket.
12011. He did not make any demand on you for other payments? No. From time to time I had given him amounts that came to £155 7s. 8d. on that date.
12012. Did he make any subsequent demand? I think he did, for the sum of £5 odd. I told him I knew nothing about it, but he had better get it from the new Board.
12013. When did you tell him he ought to pay into the Treasury this money that he received and paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank, and which you disapproved of his doing? When I first saw the bank-book—I think it was a few months after the start of the Board—I told him that I thought it was not the correct place to pay it into. He said, "I will see Mr. Eagar about it." Having paid the one account in he paid in the others.
12014. What did you mean? I meant that the Bank was the wrong place to pay the money into.
12015. How soon after did he pay it into the Treasury? I cannot tell you that.
12016. Did you tell him that he need not pay it in until the Board closed up? He would not consult me about it.
12017. You did not say it? I would not say it. I told him he would have to transfer the amount from the Bank to the Treasury at any rate at the end of the Board.
12018. Is the Commission to understand that the sum of £155 7s. 8d. was a debt incurred by Mr. Davies to you as Paymaster by reason of certain advances you, as Paymaster, made him from time to time? Yes; and to be accounted for afterwards by a proper voucher.
12019. Were those payments in cheque or cash? In both, mostly cash.
12020. With that exception, there was no other account for any sums of money paid out by Mr. Davies for the Casual Labour Board? Not that I know of.
12021. You have no contingent voucher representing other sums paid out by him? Not that I know of. That is all the money Mr. Davies has received from the Board.
12022. These two cheques that you cashed by giving cheques of your own;—what did you do with those cheques? I cannot tell you for certain. They were my property after having paid the money. I do not think I paid them into my account. I might have done.
12023. *President.*] Do you know anything about a roller from the Kogarah Council? Yes.
12024. Did they return it? Yes; but there was a charge of £1 5s. for repairs.
12025. Do you know of any persons who were paid twice? There was one case the Audit Department found out.
12026. Did Mr. Davies have a free railway-pass? I think he had.
12027. This evidence which Mr. Hibble gave in reference to those features in that cash-book, I have now found I was referring to the fact that you had stated in your evidence that you generally had from £50 to £100 in petty-cash. He says, "No, he must be wrong; the book shows different to that. He must be a lot out." Then again, when I pointed out to him that, on a certain day when a cheque was drawn for £100 for petty-cash, the cash-book showed a balance of £390 18s. 3d., he says, "Yes, Mr. Hinchcliffe had the money in his box"? Oh, he meant the vouchers.
12028. Then again, when I said, "What was the balance then?" he says, "I believe from £250 to £300, He (meaning you) told me so himself." Again, "He said he was short in his cash. He told me he went to his Bank and drew it. His Bank is the London Chartered Bank." Now, what is your explanation of that? I could not be short. The cash-book was never made up until the finish, and then it was only made up to date.

WEDNESDAY,

WEDNESDAY, 1 MAY, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P.

T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

James William Johnson called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. J.W. Johnson. 12029. *President.*] Are you a member of the firm of Want, Johnson, & Co.? I am.
12030. Are you a shareholder in the Holt-Sutherland Estate Co.? I am.
- 1 May, 1889. 12031. How many shares have you? I can only tell you about the number—about twenty-two or twenty-three.
12032. I see in a list of shareholders made up to 12th December, 1888, which was before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly, the name of J. W. Johnson for twenty-four shares? That is myself.
12033. Are you interested in any other shares beyond these—in those in the names on the list of Johnson, Want, Simpson, and Minter? Indirectly, with the others, under very peculiar circumstances. They were given to us by Sir Henry Parkes.
12034. Will you tell me the circumstances under which they were given to you by Sir Henry Parkes? That involves going into the private matters of Sir Henry Parkes.
12035. I must ask you to give them to me? The circumstances are these. I must premise by saying that I personally did not conduct the matter, although it came to my knowledge at the time, and I then looked into it. Sir Henry Parkes had applied to the Colonial Mutual Assurance Company for an advance of a considerable sum by way of first mortgage. I believe he signed one of the printed forms of the Colonial Mutual Society, which are on the basis that the security is to be a first mortgage. Having got the particulars of the property to be mortgaged, we, in the usual way, caused a search to be made for incumbrances, with the result that the clerk who had charge of the search reported that there were no incumbrances. The matter was carried through, and the amount advanced. We were then informed, or discovered, I forget which, that there was a first mortgage, and on further search and inquiry we found that that was so. There was a mortgage to Mr. Woodhouse over the same property existing, and registered. We then, as in duty bound, reported that fact to our clients, and Sir Henry Parkes was communicated with. His explanation was, that although he knew that such a mortgage had been given to Mr. Woodhouse, he was not aware that it had been registered, and it seemed to me a very extraordinary explanation. We then had to get rid of this first mortgage, and volunteered to indemnify our clients against any loss by reason of our having overlooked these incumbrances on the register. We took up Mr. Woodhouse's first mortgage, and we also obtained from Sir Henry Parkes ten shares which belonged to him in the Holt-Sutherland Company, which we hold as security against any loss we may be put to under the indemnity.
12036. Is it ten or eleven shares? I believe ten shares. There may be some additional share in respect of them, but I do not think we have got that additional share.
12037. Do you know in whose names these shares are? They were in Sir Henry Parkes' name; but I think we found reason for having them transferred to our own name. That was done whilst I was in England.
12038. In the list of shareholders, 12th December, 1888, there appears—"J. W. Johnson, S. A. Want, E. P. Simpson, A. R. Minter, eleven shares." Were these the shares that belonged to Sir Henry Parkes? That must be. I suppose an additional share was issued in respect of the ten original shares, making eleven shares.
12039. Do you consider that Sir Henry Parkes has any interest, at the present time, in those shares? Certainly. If the security now held by the Colonial Mutual Society were to realise more than Sir Henry Parkes' debt we should hand him back those shares.
12040. Then both legally and morally you are trustees for those shares for Sir Henry Parkes, after satisfaction of your client's security? I thoroughly understand so.
12041. Are you a director of this Company? No.
12042. Is Mr. S. A. Want? I really could not tell you.
12043. Is Mr. E. P. Simpson? I could not tell you.
12044. Is Mr. A. R. Minter? I could not tell you.
12045. Are these gentlemen all partners of yours? Yes; my reason for being ignorant is that I have only just returned from England after an absence of thirteen months. That is the reason why I did not know that there were eleven shares.
12046. Did you ever have any petition or memorial presented to you for signature by Mr. Murphy, or anyone else, for the opening, clearing, or construction of roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Not to my recollection.
12047. To help your memory, I put into your hands a series of papers which are letters or memorials addressed to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board referring to the making or construction of roads. Have you any recollection of any of these being presented to you for signature? None whatever. I will not say they were not, but I have no recollection of them, and I have not signed any of them.
12048. Do you notice on any of them the signatures of your partners? I see Mr. Want's signature, and also Mr. Simpson's.
12049. You notice the signature of Mr. S. A. Want, but yours does not appear. Have you any recollection on any occasion of any petition or memorial being presented to you with reference to the construction or making of roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? None whatever. I do not believe they were.
12050. Mr. Murphy, in giving evidence before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly, in December last, was asked these questions: "Then during the last six months Sir Henry Parkes transferred his shares?" He answered, "Yes; those are the shares, Want, Johnson, Simpson, and Minter have now." How many shares? Eleven.
12051. Does that refer to the same matter I have been asking you about? Yes; there cannot be any other.
12052. *Mr. Franklin.*] Were you in Sydney from June, 1887, to August, 1887? Yes.
12053. *President.*] When did you leave the Colony? The beginning of March, 1888.

Sydney Alfred Want called in, sworn, and examined :—

12054. *President.*] Are you a member of the firm of Want, Johnson, & Co.? Yes.
12055. Are you a shareholder in the Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company Limited? Yes.
12056. How long have you been a shareholder? I could not exactly tell you. Some years.
12057. Were you a shareholder in the years 1887 and 1888? I believe so.
12058. How many shares have you? It is a rather difficult question for me to answer. They have been split up at various times for the purpose of reissue. Eight.
12059. I see on a list of shareholders, in appendix to Mr. Murphy's evidence before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly, the names of E. P. Simpson, eighty-two shares; J. W. Johnson, twenty-four; and H. Pinder, eight shares; and Johnson, Want, Simpson, and Minter, eleven shares. Can I take it that E. P. Simpson and J. W. Johnson mentioned there, and A. R. Minter mentioned in connection with Johnson, Want, and Simpson, are your partners? Yes.
12060. Who is H. Pinder? He was formerly an accountant with us. He met his death by drowning at the Lavender Bay baths. He was a clerk with us for ten years.
12061. I see the name of J. H. Want on this list for thirty-three shares? He is a brother of mine.
12062. I see the name of J. D. Milne;—is he connected with your office? He was an accountant previous to Pinder. He was some ten years in the office.
12063. I see A. R. Winter, two shares;—can you say whether that is meant for A. R. Minter? I never heard of a Winter. I believe it must be Minter.
12064. This then is A. R. Minter (instead of Winter), your partner? I think so. I would not like to speak with any certainty.
12065. Are there any other clerks in your office who are shareholders in this company besides those I have called attention to? I do not think so.
12066. Are there any relatives of your family interested in this company other than the names I have mentioned? I do not think so.
12067. Did you know of the existence of a department called the Casual Labour Board, who had charge of the unemployed in the years 1887 and 1888? Not officially. I was aware of it through the public journals.
12068. Were you aware who was the Chairman of that department? Yes; I know it now.
12069. Were you aware in 1887 and 1888? I do not think so.
12070. Do you know Mr. James Murphy? Yes; he is manager of the Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company.
12071. Is he a shareholder? Yes.
12072. To what extent? With others he holds a large number. I know they do not all belong to himself.
12073. Who are the others? His brother and relatives.
12074. I see his name down on the list for eighty-nine shares? They are not all his.
12075. Do you think, over and above that eighty-nine, he has got any interest in any others? No.
12076. Then you think that exhausts his interest directly or indirectly? I think so—quite.
12077. Do you know his handwriting? Yes.
12078. Look at these documents, dated 7th July, 1887, 19th August, 1887, two of 22nd September, 1887, and 10th May, 1888—can you say whether you recognize the handwriting in the body of them? I believe them to be the handwriting of Mr. Murphy; but there is another gentleman in his office who has picked up his writing, and it is rather difficult to say. Still I think they are his writing.
12079. I take the first one, dated 7th July, 1887. Is Mr. Carruthers a shareholder of the company? Not that I know of.
12080. Is Mr. Prince? Yes, recently.
12081. Was he at that time, in 1887? I really could not say.
12082. Is Mr. Shankland? I do not know him at all.
12083. Will you look through that document and read out the names of any gentlemen who have signed it who were, to your knowledge or belief, shareholders of the company? Yes; Henry Prince and Jamieson (Prince, Ogg, & Company). I do not see any more that are.
12084. Then on this document, 7th July, 1887, you cannot see any more shareholders than you have mentioned? I cannot see any.
12085. Did you sign it? I do not think so; I cannot see my name there at all.
12086. Will you look at this memorial, dated 19th August, 1887;—has that been signed by you? Yes; that is my signature.
12087. Will you read out from the signatures to that memorial the names of any who were shareholders of the company to your knowledge or belief? I believe Newton's name is on the register. I cannot say whether there are three of them there. Myles M'Rae, E. Reading, F. J. Jackson, S. A. Want, H. Pinder, I believe, Geddes, Henry Prince, I believe, Varney Parkes, G. F. Want, J. S. Jamieson, and J. Murphy are shareholders.
12088. Look at this memorial of 22nd September, 1887;—have you signed that? Yes.
12089. Will you look at that and read out the names of any gentlemen who have signed it who are shareholders in the company to your knowledge or belief? Yes; Myles M'Rae, S. A. Want, J. Murphy, I believe Maloney, and F. J. Jackson are shareholders.
12090. Will you look at this other memorial of the same date;—is that signed by you? Yes.
12091. Will you read out the names from that of any gentlemen who have signed and who are to your knowledge or belief shareholders in the company? Myles M'Rae, J. S. Jamieson, S. A. Want, and J. Murphy.
12092. Will you look at this memorial, dated 10th May, 1888;—is that signed by you? It is.
12093. Will you read out the names of any gentlemen who have signed it who are shareholders in the company to your knowledge or belief? S. A. Want, F. J. Jackson, E. Reading; I do not recognize any of the others.
12094. Have you any recollection who presented these memorials or petitions for your signature? I believe the manager of the company.
12095. Did you make any inquiries before you signed them? He informed me what the object of them

Mr.
S. A. Want.
1 May, 1889.

- Mr. S. A. Want.
1 May, 1889.
12096. Can you give me your recollection of what he informed you? I will tell you what did occur to me: After these roads were made we went to visit the place. We had great difficulty in getting the Directors to go out there at all. We went out on one occasion, and I was surprised to see the extent of the roads made.
12097. I want to know if you can recollect what it was Mr. Murphy said, or what representation he made, when he presented these memorials for your signature? I would not like to say; I would say if I could remember.
12098. I think you have signed three out of the four memorials? I think so.
12099. Were they presented to you during the hours of business? At my own office.
12100. Were you a Director of the Company during 1887 or 1888? I was for a certain time.
12101. Can you say whether you were a Director when you signed the memorials? I believe I was.
12102. Can I take it that you have no memory as to what actually took place when these memorials were presented to you by Mr. Murphy? He first told me where the roads led to and from the Punt Road and the main road to Tom Ugly's.
12103. Did you sign them with the belief that they would be a considerable benefit to the estate if the roads were carried out? Not at that time. I did not know.
12104. In what capacity did you sign them? Simply as a shareholder.
12105. Did you make any independent inquiry as to whether these roads that were petitioned for were on public or private property? I was informed by Mr. Murphy on the matter, because he brought a plan with him and showed me that some of them were proclaimed roads. I remember on one occasion in connection with Holt's property, we had to make a portion of a road to connect with the Government road.
12106. Is there any proclaimed road on the estate? I cannot say, I only went by the plan.
12107. Is there any road that has been dedicated by the Directors? There are subdivisions laid out by which we are to be bound.
12108. Dedicated to the public? We cannot close them.
12109. These roads shown on the subdivisions plan only affect the purchasers under the subdivisions? Yes.
12110. They have not been dedicated? No.
12111. Do you know anything of the arrangement or agreement under which your firm hold ten or eleven shares in this Company? There are ten. I think the other must be an additional share taken up in connection with them. Do you refer to Sir Henry Parkes' shares.
12112. I did not say a word about Sir Henry Parkes' shares. Will you tell me what the arrangement or agreement was as to the ten or eleven shares? Yes, I will tell you exactly. I think on the 27th November, 1884, we had instructions from the Colonial Mutual Assurance Company to prepare a mortgage from Sir Henry Parkes to the Company. The Colonial Mutual Company never lend on second mortgage, and only lend on a proper application being made on a printed form, signed by the person procuring the advance. I have sent down to the Company to try and get the application form, but the Secretary is away at the opening of the Hawkesbury Bridge, and has got the keys in his pocket. Therefore I cannot speak confidently. Search was made by us on the register, and a report was sent in that showed the title to be clear. I believe the printed form of application was signed by Sir Henry Parkes. Some time afterwards a prior incumbrance created by Sir Henry Parkes was discovered. I believe Mr. Woodhouse was the mortgagee. This incumbrance was clearly overlooked by the searching clerk, and was not included in his report to us. The Colonial Mutual Company intimated that they would have to look to us for the amount of such first incumbrance in the event of the property under mortgage—North Shore lands—not proving sufficient to clear their debt. To protect my firm, one of my partners interviewed or wrote to Sir Henry Parkes on the subject, with the result that Sir Henry Parkes wrote a letter on the 26th September, 1885, placing in our hands his ten shares in the Holt-Sutherland Estate Company, to be held by my firm as forming part of the security to the Colonial Mutual Company for an advance of £9,000.
12113. Do you recognize the signature to that letter? It is Sir Henry Parkes' handwriting and signature.
12114. Is your firm solicitors for the Colonial Mutual Insurance Company? Yes.
12115. Is this part of your security? Yes.
12116. Do you object to part with this? Yes.
12117. Will you, before you leave the room, kindly examine with the Secretary to this Commission a copy he will make of this letter and certify to its correctness? Yes.
12118. Then I can let you have the original on your undertaking to produce it again should occasion require? Yes, undoubtedly.
- [Copy of letter dated 26th September, 1885, from Sir Henry Parkes to Messrs. Want, Johnston, & Co., put in and marked R.]
12119. Has the arrangement as evidenced by that letter been altered in any way up to the present time? Yes.
12120. In what respect? In 1886 there was a new issue of shares, and, in order to entitle the proper holder of these shares to obtain such reissue, he had to produce the ten shares to the Company. A representative, I presume, of Sir Henry Parkes, applied to Mr. Pinder, my accountant, to allow of the production of these shares for the purpose. My accountant produced the shares on 11th June, 1886, and I believe the scrip was afterwards returned to my firm.
12121. Has any further alteration taken place? Yes.
12122. What was it? The firm objected to these new shares being claimed by Sir Henry Parkes, or his representative, notwithstanding he still retains them, and in order to prevent any further new shares being so taken up, applied to the Directors to transfer the shares into the names of the firm.
12123. And that was done? That was done recently—in 1888, I think.
12124. But has any alteration taken place with regard to the terms of the arrangement under which you hold the shares from Sir Henry Parkes? I think not. If he paid off the Colonial Mutual Society we should have to transfer these shares to Sir Henry Parkes. I may mention that I had not personal charge of the matter, but what I have stated I know to be correct. I cannot say what Mr. Simpson's arrangements were in the last matter.
12125. Where is Mr. Simpson? He is now absent from town.
12126. We have summoned him to attend before us. When will he be back? Within two or three days.
12127. Can you tell me who the gentleman was who you say you presume was a representative of Sir Henry

Henry Parkes? I cannot say. Application was made direct to Mr. Pinder. Had I known of the application being made I should have refused to have produced the shares.

12128. Does anyone else know of that application to Mr. Pinder? I do not think so. There is a letter which may have led to the name, but I have not got it with me.

12129. If from your records, or from reference to other clerks, you can learn the name of the gentleman who appeared on this occasion, will you send it to this Commission? I will. Probably Mr. Simpson could tell you.

12130. What do the other papers you have in your hand relate to? I have been through them and cannot find anything relating to the shares.

12131. I do not want to refer to private papers, either of the Colonial Mutual Society or your firm; but will you tell me whether you have any other papers relating to this matter? Here is one, 1st October, 1885, which seems to refer to it.

12132. Who is that letter signed by? Henry Parkes.

12133. Do you know his signature? Yes.

12134. Do you believe it to be the signature of Sir Henry Parkes, the present Colonial Secretary? Yes.

12135. Is that letter a portion of the security your firm holds? Yes.

12136. Do you object to part with it? Yes.

12137. Will you allow a copy to be taken and certify to it in the same way as with the previous letter? Yes. [*Copy of letter of 1st October, 1885, put in and marked R 1.*]

12138. Are there any other letters relating to this matter? I cannot see that there are. I have been through the correspondence before I came up here. There is nothing except the absolute transfer of the shares.

12139. Can you say whether Sir Henry Parkes made any application other than the one you speak of to obtain any benefit in the new issue of shares? I cannot say.

12140. Did any come before you as a Director? I am under the impression that it did.

12141. After he pledged them to your firm or the Colonial Mutual Society? I believe there was, but I believe in a different issue of shares.

12142. Then can I take it, so far as your view of the matter is concerned, these shares were pledged to your firm to indemnify you against any loss you might have with your clients on their security over North Shore lands? That is exactly what I understand to be the case.

12143. Can you tell me about the date of the new issue of shares? It came about the time the rent was due. The estate is not a rent producing property, and in order to meet the rent due to Mr. Holt (£3,000 odd) we had a new issue. Every new issue decreases the value of the other shares, unless taken up by the holders of the shares.

12144. When are there reissues? I should think very possibly each year.

12145. Then there would be a reissue in 1887 and a reissue in 1888? I think so.

12146. Have you been out on this estate lately? Yes.

12147. Have you seen the roads that were cleared and constructed by the unemployed? Cleared I should say, yes.

12148. Have they, in your opinion, increased the value of the estate? Not as roads.

12149. Has the existence of the roads there increased the selling value of the estate? I have driven over to the place frequently, but I have never driven over the roads made by the unemployed.

12150. I want to ask you, as a gentleman of some experience, altogether apart from any question of shareholder or Director? I am not a Director now.

12151. I want to ask you whether the work has increased or taken away from the value of your estate? Increased it.

12152. Considerably? For the time.

12153. Until the trees grow up again? The trees have grown up now until you cannot drive across it.

12154. Do you know the Coronulla Road? Yes.

12155. Do you consider its construction has increased the value of your estate? Not as a road.

12156. Has it increased the value of the estate? I think it has to a certain extent.

12157. Do you know the work done on the Illawarra Road and the Port Hacking Road? I do not know which is the Port Hacking Road.

12158. When you signed these memorials that I have shown you, did you examine any of the signatures that preceded yours? No, I do not suppose I did.

12159. Did you give it much consideration at all? I gave it consideration in the way mentioned as to being an advantage to a large number of people about there. I understood these people were neighbouring landowners.

12160. Would you, knowing what you do now, have signed these memorials if presented? That is a difficult thing to answer; some of them I certainly would.

12161. There are only three signed by you. Would you have signed those three knowing what you do now—speaking as a citizen? If I had known what I knew after seeing the roads, I would not have signed; some of the roads I have seen are unnecessary.

12162. How long since is it that you were a Director of the Company? It is seven or eight months ago since I resigned.

12163. Can you recollect whether, during your term of office, any application was made to the Board by Sir Henry Parkes with reference to his shares? Not by Sir Henry Parkes direct. I have never heard of any.

12164. You recognize these two memorials of 22nd September, 1887, and this one of the 10th May, 1888, as being signed by you? Yes. [*Memorials put in and marked R 2, R 3, and R 4.*]

12165. *Mr. Franklin.* Were any surveys made with a view to subdivision? No.

12166. Was your intention to subdivide the property and bring it into sale? Yes, undoubtedly.

12167. Are you aware whether there is in existence any plan of subdivision? I believe there is. Every auction sale there is a plan prepared.

12168. Do you know whether there is one showing a general subdivision of the whole property? I do not know that. The only plan that I know is one that hangs on the wall there.

12169. Do you know the general arrangement of the roads now, taking them eastward and on to Coronulla Beach? Yes.

12170. Do you know a road parallel with the Woronora Road? Yes.

12171.

- Mr. S. A. Want.
1 May, 1889.
12171. The Woronora Road is parallel with the Malvern Road, running towards Coronulla Beach? Yes.
12172. You know these memorials—dated 22nd September, 1887 and 10th May, 1888? I believe I read them at the time.
12173. You see that under the memorials of 22nd September, you are asking for the formation of Eton-street, Woronora, Coronulla, Lilli Pilli, and Eurunga Roads and the Boulevard? Yes; I know most of them.
12174. Will you look at the petition of the 10th May, 1888; it requests the formation of the following roads:—Kurrajong, Bittogi, Yanda, Yallaroi, Bath, Holt, Crystal, Box, the Boulevard, Yarra, Burrawong, Illeroo, Burraneer, Woolaware, Wotonga, Kanura, Willaree, Cowarra, Orara, Karimbla, Canoona, Montrose, Glenwood Roads. Does not Burraneer Road run down to Gannon's farm? Yes.
12175. Is there any settlement besides that there? Not that I am aware of.
12176. Do you know the Woolaware Road? No.
12177. Or the Wotonga, Kanura, Willaree, Cowarra, Orara, Karimbla, Canoona, Montrose, or Glenwood roads? No.
12178. If these roads are constructed on the Holt-Sutherland Estate you are not aware of it? No.
12179. Would you be surprised to learn that they are cleared to the extent of 43 miles? I am not aware of it. My principle trips have been to go to my own place or my brother's cottage. I simply pass over one road. I have never been over the others.
12180. Have you ever been on a trip of inspection? No.
12181. I am showing you a plan, Appendix 9, to the evidence before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly. All the roads shown in red represent roads we have been referring to now. It is shown in connection with the plan that the whole of these roads have been either cleared, formed, culverted, or ballasted? I cannot tell you about them.

James Murphy, called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. J. Murphy.
1 May, 1889.
12182. *President.*] Were you examined before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly on 12 December, 1888? Yes.
12183. Is this your evidence? Yes.

Evidence before Select Committee.

2480. *Chairman.*] You are the registered manager of the Holt-Sutherland Company? Yes.
2481. Do you produce a list of the shareholders, as requested, and the number of shares held by each shareholder? Yes; I hand in a list. (*Vide Appendix.*)
2482. *Mr. Copeland.*] That includes the whole of the shareholders in the Company? Yes.
2483. What money has been called up upon these shares? £23 5s.
2484. That, then, represents the total amount of called-up capital? Yes.
2485. How many shares are there in the Company? 800.
2486. The list you have read makes up the number to 800? Yes.
2487. What is the value of the shares? £25. £1 15s. still remains to be called up.
2488. This list represents the shareholders at the present day? Yes.
2489. Have you had any transfers during the last six months? Yes.
2490. Have you had many? They are always being sold. Every Board meeting nearly there are some.
2491. Can you tell us what transfers have taken place during the last six months? Not without a little time to prepare it. Every week there are some being sold.
2492. Have any Members of Parliament transferred any shares during the last six months? I could tell you that from memory. Mr. John Want has transferred some shares within the last six months.
2493. Any others? I think Sir Henry Parkes has; I think a transfer has come in from him within the last six months.
2494. Is Sir Henry Parkes' name amongst those in that list of shareholders you read just now? No; because he has not been a shareholder since the assignment of his estate. These shares float round like bank-notes, and do not come in until some time after they have really been parted with.
2495. Then, during the last six months, Sir Henry Parkes transferred his shares? Yes. Those are the shares Want, Johnson, Simpson, and Minter have now.
2496. How many shares? Eleven.
2497. Was Sir Henry Parkes a shareholder from the formation of the company? I can tell you that by turning up his name in the register. In January, 1882, he got ten shares, apparently purchased from Mr. John Want.
2498. And he held them until the assignment of his estate? Yes. As a matter of fact I know, from the dealings in them, because we have had several inquiries about them one way or another. I don't think they have really been his property during the last four years. They were held by Mr. Woodhouse, who had a lien on them. The firm of Want, Johnson, & Co., have them now. I think the amount borrowed on them was more than they could realize, and the trustees of the estate did not take them. The people who held the security could not get their money for them, so he kept the shares.
2499. Have any Members of the Upper House held any shares in the company? No.
2500. They do not hold any at the present time? No.
2501. You are quite sure on that point? Except Sir John Robertson, I do not think we ever had Members of the Upper House in the company. Sir George Innes also had shares in the company. He was a Member of the Upper House, and has been in the company from the first.
2502. Mr. John Davies has never been a shareholder? No.
2503. You know the works that have been carried out on the Holt-Sutherland Estate by the Casual Labour Board by the unemployed? Yes.
2504. Can you tell us who initiated the making of those roads? I think I did.
2505. By petition, or how? By memorial. We got a memorial signed by a large number of persons. It arose this way: When we took possession of this estate the main Illawarra Road

- Road was in a very bad condition, and we said to the trustees—Mr. Fred. Want was one of them, and it was through him that it was done.—“This road ought to be made.” It was not then surveyed, and it is not shown on any map now. We said, “Supposing we make this road 2 chains wide instead of 1 chain, if we give another chain will you get it made?” They said that they had arranged with the Minister for Lands to do that. That was seven years ago, and it has never been done until now.
2506. Mr. Hoskins was Minister for Lands then? I cannot recollect who was in office then. This was in July, 1881. We had, with our own men, begun to make this road, and we have had a staff of men there all the time, and finding the unemployed at National Park I thought it would be a good opportunity to get the road made. I got up this memorial, and when we got that road made we asked for others to be made.
2507. Had you begun to make any other roads? Yes; we made the Malvern Road.
2508. You had begun to make it? We had made it, about a chain wide, not as it is now; but we had cleared it and put temporary culverts over it.
2509. I suppose you had begun to open up the estate by making roads in different directions? Yes.
2510. And then, these unemployed being available, you got them to complete the work you had begun? Yes.
2511. Can you give the Committee any idea as to the increased value of the estate by reason of the unemployed labour being expended upon it? We have not tested that in any way. We can only imagine what it was before, and what it is now. We have not sold any land since this work began. The market for land is very depressed, and we have not tried it.
2512. Supposing the market was fairly lively, what would be your idea of the increase in the price of the land. What would you propose to put on it by reason of these roads having been opened? It is an extraordinary thing. You would have thought that these roads would have improved the value; but we got higher prices at the first than we get now. There was a boom then. The railway was being opened to that place. In 1881 things were very lively, everybody had plenty of money, and that was then we sold most of our land. In fact, generally, land has not brought so much since.
2513. Have you been fully paid for the land you sold? We are selling it in leases.
2514. You still have an interest in it? We get an annual rent out of it.
2515. So that it is desirable to you that things should continue to look lively, so that you may recover your rent? Yes.
2516. Are there many giving up their leases? A certain proportion are always giving up their leases. The working people for the last two or three years, as I suppose you know, have had rather hard times. I suppose 5 per cent. do not pay? When the time is suitable we put up the land again.
2517. Is it your intention to have any more sales soon? We did intend to sell this month; but, seeing the way that other recent sales have gone off, we have abandoned that now. We think it is a bad time.
2518. You have a lease of these lands from Mr. Holt for ninety-nine years? Yes.
2519. Have you the right to work minerals? Yes; all minerals, except gold.
2520. Do you convey the same right to your tenants? No. We have a right to mine under any lands, at a depth of not less than 600 feet, and then we have to compensate them for any damage done. We have sublet the right to mine for coal to a syndicate.
2521. What royalty have they to pay you? We pay Mr. Holt 6d. a ton for large coal, and 3d. for small, and the syndicate—it is a limited liability company now—pay us 9d. and 4½d. There is supposed to be iron ore there, and if they get iron ore, or any other minerals except gold, it is the same.
2522. Have this syndicate to whom you have let the mining-right any intention of commencing work soon? They will if they can get capital. I am interested in that myself.
2523. I suppose the making of these roads will help them to get the money? I doubt that, because they would want a railway.
2524. The railway to Kurnell, the proposed site for noxious trades, has been surveyed through your land? Yes.
2525. But there has been no work done on the line of railway? No; except surveying it.
2526. I suppose there was no reason, as far as your company was concerned, why that railway route should not have been cleared—there was no hitch between you and the Government as to the clearing of that route? No; but the survey is not yet finished. Of course I do not know whether they would place the coal-mine near the route, or the route of this railway as it is surveyed now. It is not near where they have found the coal. The coal syndicate was formed to discover whether coal was there. Three bores were put down; one was put down by the coal syndicate, at a depth of 2,300 feet, and they found two seams of coal, and Dr. Robertson, who reported on it, speaks very favourably of it.
2527. That bore was put down before the formation of your present company? No; not this one where they found the coal. There were two bores before our company was formed, that Mr. Wentworth and Mr. Coghlan put down, but they did not find the coal. This last one, Mr. Fletcher, Mr. McCulloch, and Mr. Coghlan put down, and they were successful.
2528. Has the cost of that come out of your capital? No; that is a separate fund, nothing whatever to do with us. If they find coal they pay us 9d. a ton, and we pay Mr. Holt 6d. a ton, so that we make 3d. a ton out of it. You spoke of the noxious trades railway serving them, but that railway, as surveyed, is a mile from the bore where the coal was found. Of course I do not know where they would place the mine.
2529. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Did you give the names of the members of the coal syndicate;—are there any Members of Parliament amongst them? You want to know who they are.
2530. Yes; who are they? There are Mr. Fletcher, Mr. Dibbs, and Mr. McCulloch in it. The lease was granted to Messrs. McCulloch, Fletcher, and Coghlan, and they have assigned it to the syndicate.

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2531. With regard to the men you have had at work yourself, how long have you had them there? Seven years.
2532. Are they still at work? Yes.
2533. You have been pretty well acquainted with all the work that has been done in that neighbourhood, I presume? Yes.
2534. What roads have your men cleared—what work have they done on the roads? Our men started on nearly every road there is there. They had made a track of some sort.
2535. So that it is not safe for the Committee to assume that all the work we see there on inspection has been done by the unemployed? I do not think more than half the clearing was done by the unemployed.
2536. *Chairman.*] What roads do you say were done by your men? We have done the Malvern Road as far as the old farm. In fact, it was not made by us. It was really a road before we came there. The whole length of Malvern Road was really a road before we took possession of the estate.
2537. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Did any of the neighbouring settlers contribute to the cost of that work? Yes. There was a trouble about this road, which I will explain. We had a tenant to whom we let the grass right, and he closed this road, because it ran through a useful paddock to him. The neighbours chopped down his fences, and he came to us to protect him. We sought to do so, and we were then met with a memorial of the neighbours, saying that this had been a road for forty years, and was a road by right of user. After this we improved it, and recognized it as a road, and our tenant threw the lease up, and we have since had trouble with another tenant, who threw the lease up because we would not stand up and say that this was not a road. These people not only came to us with a memorial, but they addressed the Minister for Lands. I saw the petition, and I saw it was no use resisting, so we threw the road open. The whole length of this road had been made before the unemployed came there, and we improved it.
2538. *Mr. Copeland.*] Was the Malvern Road cleared to its present width? No; to only a chain, I think. We picked the best road we could get out of a width of 2 chains.
2539. Now it is cleared 2 chains wide? Yes; part of it is, and part of it is cleared to only 80 feet. Of course a large area of it was a farm, and was always cleared.
2540. *Mr. Carruthers.*] You did the bulk of the work? Supposing it to have been in its original state, more work would have been done to it before the unemployed came to the land than they have since done.
2541. *Mr. Copeland.*] Had you gravelled or metalled the road in any way? No, not that road. The only improvement we made was, that we put in some culverts, not so good as those which were afterwards put in.
2542. The new culverts you speak of have been put in by the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
2543. They have also gravelled that road? Yes.
2544. The whole length? No; only for a part at each end.
2545. *Mr. Carruthers.*] It is a main approach to the railway-station for the settlers of Port Hacking? Yes; and not only that, but it is used by people going eastward to Coronulla Beach and Kurnell. That road is the main outlet from Sutherland to the eastward.
2546. Did you do any work on the road to Yowie Bay? We made the road, and formed it, and left it a better road for driving on than it is now. I do not mean to say that the unemployed have done no valuable work on it, but they have broken up and disturbed the natural surface. It is not so hard as it was.
2547. *Mr. Copeland.*] How do you think the unemployed have made the road worse? They have formed it. They have dug up the sides on the road to make the water-tables, and they have thrown the earth into the centre. This has made the road soft and loose, whereas, before it was touched, the natural surface was hard, and you could drive on it better.
2548. Have they drained it or culverted it? No culverts are wanted.
2549. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Is there any bridge work upon the road? No.
2550. Are you acquainted with the work which had been done on the main Port Hacking Road before the unemployed came? Yes.
2551. What work had been done? The road had been made from the Illawarra Road.
2552. What do you mean by made? It was cleared and formed by subscription. Trustees were appointed for the purpose.
2553. Was any of it gravelled? Yes.
2554. In fact, it was almost as it is now? The greater part of it. It was made right down nearly to Simpson's Point. It was made certainly 5 miles in length before the unemployed came there at all.
2555. Are you aware that £200 was subscribed for the work by the people? Yes; and I know that we spent some money there besides.
2556. Was there not a vote from the Government to trustees? Yes. That money was also spent upon it.
2557. Was not the greater part of the work done upon the road by trustees with private subscription and with the usual road grants? The unemployed came and cleared the road a little wider I think. It was only cleared about half a chain or 50 feet, and we gave them 99 feet. That was another case in which a road was demanded. It was pointed out that a right of user had been established. We had subdivided the land down to a certain point, and for a certain distance; we could give them only a chain. Where we had not sold we gave them $1\frac{1}{2}$ chains. That was from Gawley Creek out to Port Hacking. I do not mean to say that the unemployed have done no good work on the road. They have improved it to a great extent.
2558. You had cleared the road before? Yes; but it was not so wide a road before.
2559. Have they done any gravelling? Yes; they gravelled it. A portion of it was not gravelled at first.

2560. Have they drained the road? Yes? they have put in culverts and a bridge.
2561. Can you say how many culverts? Most of them are small pipe drains, which you will hardly call culverts. There is one bridge over Rover's Hole Creek.
2562. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Did your company give the gravel? Yes; if they wanted any gravel they were free to take it where they chose. We did not say anything about it.
2563. You have to pay a royalty for the gravel? Yes; a royalty of 6d. a ton.
2564. You also pay a royalty on the timber? Yes.
2565. Who has been the prime mover in getting these roads formed on the estate? I myself have been.
2566. Have any of your shareholders, who have been members of Parliament, interfered to your knowledge? I do not think any member of Parliament has ever known anything about it. As far as I am concerned, I can say that I made no request to them.
2567. With whom have your communications been? Mr. John Davies.
2568. How do you communicate with him? I have sent in memorials. I got the members for the district to sign them first. Mr. McCulloch, Mr. Frank Farnell, and Mr. Varney Parkes have all signed them. Then afterwards I would get the best signatures I could. I then took the memorial straight to Mr. Davies, and I generally had a plan with me, and explained what the roads were and where they were to be made to, leaving the matter with him.
2569. In what electorate is this estate? In Central Cumberland.
2570. Where have your communications with Mr. Davies been? At his office.
2571. Have you held any communications with any other persons respecting these roads? No.
2572. Do you know the Wotonga Road? Yes.
2573. Did you take any steps to get that road formed? No; I think Mr. Gannon got it done.
2574. Where does it lead to? To Mr. Gannon's house.
2575. Is that a road going over a steep hill with a very heavy cutting? Yes.
2576. *Mr. Carruthers.*] How many acres are there in your estate in this locality affected by these roads? Nearly all the estate is affected, and there are about 13,000 acres.
2577. *Mr. Copeland.*] You are not including the Government reserves in that estimate? No.
2578. Have you been asked at any time by the people to give roads other than the public roads? Yes.
2579. Have you given roads to suit the public convenience which have been atogonistic to the general design of your estate? Yes, we have; there are several cases in which we should not have given roads but for the result of the disputes which I have mentioned. We would not have allowed the Port Hacking Road to run its present course if we had consulted our own inclinations. We should have taken it a different way.
2580. Which way? We should have cut a lot off its length. We should have straightened it. We should have shortened it by half-a-mile. I ought to mention that Mr. Holt has kept as a private estate out of our lease of 700 acres. The present course of the road gives Mr. Frederick Holt about a mile-and-a-half of frontage; and if we had consulted our own interest, we should have taken both frontages ourselves, but the Port Hacking people wanted the road as you see it.
2581. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] What population would be served by these roads? It is increasing every day.
2582. Where are they settled? They are spotted all over the place. I daresay there are altogether about fifty families.
2583. Does it take about forty roads to serve fifty families? Most of these roads are Government roads.
2584. You said just now that you had started making most of these roads. I presume that if the Government had not come along with this generous assistance, your syndicate would have gone on with the roads themselves? Some of them we might have made and formed, but many of them we should only have opened.
2585. The fact of your having started making the roads is an evidence that you intended to complete the work—that is to put roads across the estate? I would not say to complete it. We had completed most of the roads as far as we intended to do anything to them at the present time.
2586. Is it not a fact that you had laid out roads, and had commenced them, in accordance with the design of your subdivision? Ultimately these roads would have been made by some means I have no doubt.
2587. How much land have you rented? About 1,500 acres.
2588. That leaves 11,500 acres still to be disposed of? If you make allowance for Mr. Holt's private estate, we had only 12,200 acres originally. I suppose there are about 10,000 acres of the land, speaking roughly, left.
2589. Upon these 10,000 acres, which are undisposed of, these roads have been made? No.
2590. But the larger portion of them have? Perhaps.
2591. What is the object of taking Coronulla Road to the beach—where is the population? This has been a great road for picnics for many years. It was a track before this road was made. It was used by fishermen and shell-getters largely. Besides there was the Government reserve of 300 acres close by.
2592. There is no fixed population there? No.
2593. If you were to describe it as a road to anywhere you would probably say to California? I do not think you can say that. Coronulla beach is a favourite fishing, camping, and picnicking ground.
2594. *Mr. Copeland.*] Are there any roads on Government reserves? No; but roads are surveyed through them.
2595. The improvements seem to stop short when you approach a Government reserve?
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We designed a road through one reserve. Our surveyor has marked a road 2 chains wide to the end of the reserve.

2596. Has the road ever been cleared? No.

2597. What length is it? About $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

2598. There has been no clearing on that reserve? No.

2599. You say that the fishermen use Coronulla Beach—what is the width of the road? Eighty feet.

2600. Was it necessary for the fishermen and shell-getters to have a road 80 feet wide? No; but while we were having a road made we thought we might as well have a wide one. It would suit picnickers and pleasure-seekers driving vehicles to the beach.

2601. Especially when you get the road at no expense to yourself? Well, to some extent.

2602. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Is there any great traffic on it? I do not know whether you could say that there was any great traffic, but there are sometimes about twenty vehicles down on Saturdays and Sundays, and the number is increasing all the time.

2603. You spoke some time ago of a general design in cutting up the estate;—have you a general design? No.

2604. *Mr. Copeland.*] Have you not had the ground surveyed? A portion of it. I think in every case I have suggested what roads we should have.

2605. These suggestions have always been adopted? Yes, generally.

2606. *Mr. Carruthers.*] How many of the roads are cleared and formed and gravelled? Three.

2607. *Mr. Copeland.*] Is that for the whole length? No; for instance, the Main Illawarra Road is now only being made, and the Port Hacking Road and the Coronulla Road are not yet finished.

2608. Take the Malvern Road, Port Hacking Road, and the Coronulla Road—did they form part of any plan of subdivision, or are they old public tracks? They are old tracks.

2609. Have you followed them? As nearly as possible.

2610. Are not there men working on the roads now finishing them? There are some men at work on the Coronulla Road and some on the Port Hacking Road; but those engaged on the Port Hacking Road do not form part of the unemployed.

2611. *Mr. Carruthers.*] How many coaches are there running on the Port Hacking Road? I know there is a coach each way every day, and I believe there are two on Saturday and Sunday. There is a mail as well.

2612. Where does that run to? From Kogarah to Tom Ugly's Point, and from the point to Port Hacking, down as far as Simpson's Crossing.

2613. Do you know whether the tender for the carriage of the mail specifies that that road shall be used? I know that it does.

2614. *Chairman.*] Were all the roads running north and south, from water to water, made at your suggestion? Yes; all except one, I think. I believe the trustees of the National Park wished us to give the land for a shorter road to Sydney. The tramway runs to Sans Souci, and we were asked to set apart land for a road which would save 3 miles between Sydney and the Park. Mr. Holt joined us in fencing off this road; it is known as the Commous Point Road.

2615. Starting from the beach at Coronulla, there are seven roads running north and south? Yes.

2616. And those were all made at your suggestion? Yes; but they are old Government roads, shown on the map.

2617. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Were the persons who signed the memorials always the same? No; sometimes the same person had to sign two of them. In each case I got the names of the members.

2618. *Chairman.*] You took the memorials round? Yes.

2619. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] What I want to get at is this: Would the persons living near Gunnamatta Bay sign for roads as far away as Gymea Bay? Well, I got any signatures which I thought would help.

2620. *Chairman.* The fact is that whenever you thought a signature would be of help to you you took it? Yes.

2621. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Whenever you wanted a new road I suppose you scouted round to get signatures? No; I got as many roads as I thought the people would sign for. Sometimes a man might not care to sign for a road some distance away; in such cases as those I should of course have to get others to sign.

2622. Then, to save yourself frequent journeys, you got as many as five or six roads signed for at one time? Yes.

2623. Are there any unemployed on the Noxious Trades Site now? No; the railway survey is not finished yet.

2624. But there were some? Yes.

2625. What do you think of the character of their work there? I should not like to make myself a judge of the quality of the work. It was done a long time ago.

2626. *Chairman.*] Did you get any of these roads without petition, and simply by interview with Mr. Davies? No.

2627. In every instance you had papers? Yes; I do not think I ever spoke to Mr. Davies privately in my life.

End of Evidence before Select Committee.

12184. *President, resuming.*] Was that evidence sent you for revision? Yes.

12185. Having now heard it read over, do you wish to make any explanation or correction? The corrections would be so trifling it would be hardly worth while.

12186. Is it correct and true in every particular? Well, I think so. But perhaps I may as well call attention to one or two small things. I do not wish to be bound down to every point, when it may be necessary to explain afterwards. With regard to the value of the shares, I say here £25. I do not mean

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that this is the market value, but the stock value. They are valued at that in our stock. If you wanted to sell that would not be the value in the market, but for the purpose of our capital that is what they are valued at. Again, speaking of Sir Henry Parkes' shares, I say I do not think they were his property during the last four years. I am not sure about the number of years; it may be two. I would not bind myself to the number of years. Then there is another question. I am asked, "Have you held any communication with any other persons respecting these roads?" I suppose that meant Members of Parliament and people of that kind. I said "no," but, in order to be particular, I may say that I used to go out on the estate, and do now, and I would communicate with the superintendent, and point out anything to him. He invited me to point out anything that I thought wanted attending to, and I spoke to or wrote to him when I thought necessary.

12187. Can I take it, with these exceptions, that your evidence before the Select Committee is true and correct? Yes, I think so.

12188. Do you produce to day the share-register of the Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company? Yes.

12189. Will you refer to the list of shareholders which appears as an appendix to your evidence before the Select Committee, and tell me from what book you compiled that list. Was it from the share-register book you produce to day? Yes.

12190. Has there been any change since 12 December, 1888, which is the date of the list? I would have to go through the whole book to see that.

12191. Have there been many? Not many, but I should have to turn to every name and see the date of it. We keep no separate record—nothing excepting the record itself. There have been very few transfers lately, because everything connected with land is nearly unsaleable.

12192. Is that book the share-register you are obliged to keep under the Companies Act? Yes.

12193. Then it shows the shareholders' names, with dealings? Yes. Here is an alteration on December 20th. Finlay sold some shares to Skarratt; his name was not on the list before. Here is another alteration. Ferguson sold some shares to R. J. Hogg.

12194. He was a shareholder before? Perhaps so. Coleman sells to Skarratt, A. W. Cooper sells to Hogg, C. T. Geddes sells to Skarratt. These are the only alterations.

12195. Does that book enable you to tell me when Sir Henry Parkes became a shareholder? Yes; it will show what shares were transferred to him, but sometimes a man will keep shares a year in his box before he sends them in to be entered. The book will show when we had notice of it. It was in January, 1882.

12196. How many shares? Ten.

12197. How were they acquired? From J. H. Want.

12198. What is the next entry in the book as affecting these shares? Sold to Mr. Jamieson, July, 1885, the same shares he had.

12199. What is the next entry? The next entry is a transfer from Jamieson back to Parkes.

12200. What is the next? On July 3, 1886, an allotment of new shares.

12201. What is the next entry? The next is July 6, 1887, another allotment—a new issue of shares.

12202. The next? July 13. It shows a sale to J. S. Jamieson of four shares.

12203. The next? The next is a transfer of ten shares to Johnson, Want, Simpson, and Minter. If you want to know, I can explain that I had something to do with the transfer of the shares. When we issued the new shares Sir Henry Parkes did not want to take them up. We were issuing one share for a certain number of old ones. I suggested to Mr. Jamieson that where there were less than the required number of old shares, or where the number was broken, it would be a good thing to get some one to transfer a certain number to make him entitled to a certain number of the new shares. Supposing the number was one new share to six or seven old ones, a man might only get one new one. If he held twenty shares he could get three. Sir Henry Parkes had these ten shares. Mr. Jamieson said that Sir Henry Parkes would not take up the new ones. I said to Mr. Jamieson, "Why do not you take them up." This course was adopted. When the allotment was over Mr. Jamieson transferred them back again to Sir Henry Parkes. They were borrowed from Sir Henry Parkes for that purpose.

12204. Is that entry in the share-register in your handwriting? No.

12205. Where would the particulars be obtained from? From the back of the scrip itself.

12206. Have you any doubt as to the correctness of this book? No. [*Copy of page 18 from the share-register of the Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company put in and marked S.*]

12207. On this list which appears as an appendix to your Select Committee evidence, I see the names of Johnson, Want, Simpson, and Minter for eleven shares;—are these the shares referred to on page 18 of your register? Yes.

12208. How is it it comes to be eleven shares? That eleven is a mistake evidently. It should be ten.

12209. Do you see the name of R. A. Winter on the list;—is that meant for Minter? Yes.

12210. The gentleman who is a partner in Want, Johnson, & Co.'s? Yes.

12211. Was this arrangement by which Mr. Jamieson got the benefit of the new issue of shares, that Sir Henry Parkes was entitled to, done on some suggestion of yours? Yes, I think so. It was done generally. When I found a shareholder I was at all friendly with likely to lose a portion of the shares of the new issue, I suggested he could make up the number of shares required by borrowing from his friends. In some instances these were paid for. A man would lend the shares. Mr. Jamieson told me he paid Sir Henry Parkes for the loan of the shares, as he would forego his own new number.

12212. He said he paid him for the loan? Yes; he said he gave him some consideration.

12213. Was not what Sir Henry Parkes did brought to the knowledge of the company? I suppose it was.

12214. Have you the minute-books of your company here? Yes; there was some misunderstanding about it between Want and Johnson and Sir Henry Parkes. They considered that Mr. Jamieson got these shares from them—I do not know whether to say improperly or not; but they thought it a smart thing to do. Mr. Jamieson got them from them, and presented them, and so entitled himself to the new shares. He got an advantage which Want and Johnson thought they should have had. Both sides mentioned the matter to me, and this enabled me to know how things stood.

12215. Do you know whether Mr. Jamieson went to see Mr. Want about it? I think Want and Johnson went to him. Mr. Jamieson told me they had been to him.

12216. I see that the taking up of this new issue occurred on the 13th July, 1888. Will there be any notice of that in your minute-book? No.

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12217. On that date according to this share register Sir Henry Parkes would be entitled to fourteen shares in the Company. Can you tell me how it was that four of the shares were put into Mr. Jamieson's name without Sir Henry Parkes transferring them? It was not done without his transferring them, because we must have had his authority for it. If the shares were in his name they could not pass out without his signature.

12218. Then the probability is that you have a transfer from Sir Henry Parkes to Mr. Jamieson on or about the 13th July, 1888, of four shares and a transfer to Johnson, Want, Simpson, and Minter of ten shares? Yes. Mr. Jamieson got the new shares which Sir Henry Parkes would have got had he taken them up.

12219. Did you mention to Mr. Burrowes that Sir Henry Parkes was a shareholder in the Holt-Sutherland Estate Company? No.

12220. Do you know whether he was aware of it? I think he thought that Sir Henry Parkes was.

12221. From anything he told you? From remarks he dropped. I think I told him he was not.

12222. Do you know Mr. John Davies? Yes.

12223. Intimately? My acquaintance with him is entirely in connection with this work.

12224. Did you ever mention to him that Sir Henry Parkes was a shareholder? No.

12225. Do you know, from anything he said to you, that he was aware of it? I never had that sort of conversation with him. My connection with him was of the most dry and official character. I only went to him when I wanted something done by his department, and I was not friendly enough with him to talk about anything else.

12226. Did you ever see Sir Henry Parkes about these memorials? No.

12227. Were you ever in the upper part of this building in connection with memorials or petitions? In connection with something arising out of them. One of these roads was stopped. I found that the road had been taken off. I went and got Mr. M'Culloch, Mr. Varney Parkes, and, I think, Mr. Jamieson, and we came to see Mr. Critchett Walker about the matter.

12228. Did you ever meet Sir Henry Parkes at any other place, at the estate or elsewhere? No.

12229. Or Mr. Walker? No.

12230. Who then helped you through with these memorials? The Members for the district.

12231. Who? Mr. Varney Parkes at one time. Since then Mr. M'Culloch, Mr. Nobbs, and Mr. F. Farnell.

12232. Has Mr. Varney Parkes any interest in the Company? No.

12233. Has he ever had? No.

12234. What M'Culloch is this? Mr. A. H. M'Culloch, who was Member for the district.

12235. Did he have any interest in the Company? No.

12236. Mr. F. Farnell? He never had any interest.

12237. Mr. Nobbs? He never did.

12238. Mr. Carruthers? He had none.

12239. Has he any interest in any land out there? I do not know whether he has now. I understood he was interested in a piece of land on the other side of Port Hacking.

12240. Do you know of any other land of his? Not in that part of the country. I think he has sold his land to a Company. Whether he is interested in the Company I do not know.

12241. Look at these five memorials, dated 7th July, 1887; 19th August, 1887; two, 22nd September, 1887, and 10th May, 1888;—do you recognize the handwriting? I do.

12242. Whose is it? Some are in the handwriting of Mr. Maloney, our clerk, and some in the handwriting of my brother.

12243. I take the petition of 7th July, 1887, first. Is that signed by you? I do not see it.

12244. Will you read out from those, who have signed their names to it, any who are shareholders in your Company? Yes. H. Prince and R. J. Hogg. That is all. [*Memorial put in and marked S. 1.*]

12245. Do you know whose signature this is? Yes; R. Shankland.

12246. Is he a landowner, or a shareholder, or in any way interested in any land out there? I do not think so.

12247. Here are H. B. Jamieson, G. Jamieson, and M. R. Jamieson, who are they? Two sons and a brother of Mr. J. S. Jamieson.

12248. Is W. G. Whiting interested in land out there? I do not think so.

12249. Is C. W. Norris? No; he has no interest.

12250. Is J. E. Shant? I do not think he is.

12251. Is A. S. Bennett? I do not think he is.

12252. How many persons who have signed the memorial do you think are interested in property out there, or in your Company, or like the Jamieson's, have relatives who are interested? With the exception of Prince, Hogg, and Jamieson, and supposing Mr. Carruthers and Mr. Varney Parkes to be interested in the district only as Members; I do not think there are any more.

12253. Who took the memorial round to be signed? I did.

12254. What practice did you adopt in getting these signatures? I got the most influential men first. If I went into an office where there was a gentlemen interested or a friend of mine, I would ask him to get as many more as he could.

12255. Then it was just a question of getting a number of signatures? After giving it a little influence by the best names, like those of the Members.

12256. Did you get all these signatures? I think so.

12257. Do you believe them to be all *bonâ fide* signatures? Yes; they are.

12258. Are there any of the unemployed amongst them? Not one.

12259. Now the next I show you is a memorial, dated 19th August, 1887, [*Exhibit I. 26*], will you look through that and tell me the names of the gentlemen who were on that date, or have since become shareholders in the Company, or interested in property out there? Yes. J. S. Jamieson, J. H. Carruthers, G. F. Want—although Mr. Want's name does not appear on our register he has shares—J. Newton, J. Davison, Myles M'Rae, E. Reading, F. J. Jackson, S. A. Want, H. Pinder, H. Prince, my own name—J. Murphy, J. F. Murphy, my brother, J. Roberts, A. W. Cooper, and Mr. Wheatley lives in the district.

12260. With these exceptions, who are the rest of the people who have signed? They are friends of mine.

12261. Can I take it that this memorial was got up and signed on the same system as the others? Yes.

12262.

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12262. I put into your hands a memorial dated 22nd September, 1887 [*Exhibit R 2*];—will you tell me the names of any persons who signed that who were, on that date, or have since become, shareholders, or interested in shares or land out there? Myles M'Rae, J. S. Jamieson, J. Davison, S. A. Want, and J. Murphy—that is myself.
12263. Who is E. S. Daniell? He is either a clerk in Scott and Henderson's, or else in Want and Johnson's; J. H. Potter is a clerk in Want and Johnson's, and so is W. T. Davey. M. Moriarty was a clerk and solicitor in Want and Johnson's office at the time.
12264. Who is H. Salwey? He was a solicitor, a member of the firm of Fisher, Ralph, and Salwey.
12265. Who is H. Geddes? He is in Want and Johnson's office.
12266. Who is O. H. Dalton? He is at Scott and Henderson's, and C. J. Joseph is at Montefiore and Joseph's.
12267. Who is D. Bucknell? He is at Want and Johnson's.
12268. Then with the exception of three or four names that memorial is entirely signed by shareholders in the Holt-Sutherland Estate Company, clerks in Want and Johnson's, Scott and Henderson's, or Montefiore and Joseph's offices? Yes.
12269. The next memorial has the same date upon it [*Exhibit R 3*];—will you glance through that and give me the names of persons who signed it, who were on that day, or have since become, shareholders or interested in your Company or in property out there? John Higgeson, John Davison, Mylos M'Rae, S. A. Want—I am the J. Murphy,—F. J. Jackson, A. W. Cooper, and J. Roberts.
12270. Well, I see on this memorial, following S. A. Want's signature, the names of E. S. Daniell, J. H. Potter, W. Davey, and M. Moriarty;—who are these gentlemen? They are the same gentlemen I told you of before.
12271. All clerks in offices? Yes.
12272. Geddes, Bucknell, and Dalton, are they also clerks? Yes.
12273. With a few exceptions then the memorial is signed by shareholders in your Company and clerks in Want and Johnson's, and other offices? No, I should not say with a few exceptions, because they are the minority.
12274. Tell me some of the names of gentlemen signing who are neither clerks, members of Parliament, or shareholders in your Company? There is M. Maloney, who is a clerk in our office, E. M'Kenny, manager of the Colonial Mutual Fire Office, W. W. Russell, Jones, a clerk in the Victorian Insurance Company, O. S. Pedley, J. A. Armstrong, and B. W. Campbell (in Scott and Henderson's).
12275. The next memorial is dated 10th May, 1888 [*Exhibit R 4*]. Will you tell me in the same way as with the others, the names of shareholders or persons then interested or who afterwards became so in your company or any land there? F. J. Jackson, S. A. Want, J. Davison, E. Reading, R. J. Hogg, J. E. Gowing, J. M'Carty (the coachbuilder), R. Adrain (the land agent), A. M. Steer (in Prince, Ogg, & Co.'s), J. P. Davey and Bullock (in Gowing's shop), and Thos. Hynard.
12276. Did you have anything to do with any other memorials or petitions that you can recollect? I do not think so.
12277. Where did you live? At Moore Park.
12278. I think you said you were in the habit of going out to Holt-Sutherland? Yes.
12279. Did you ever see Mr. Davies out there? Only once.
12280. Did you ever go to the office of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
12281. How often? I went with each of these memorials.
12282. Not oftener? I do not think so.
12283. Did you take any steps after having helped to initiate the work to urge it on? No, I do not think so.
12284. Did you ever give any directions to the men on the works? I may have suggested things to them. I never gave any directions. When I have met Mr. Burrowes I have pointed out little things to him that I noticed that ought to be remedied. He invited me, if I ever saw anything of that kind, not only to mention it to him but also to the officers, as it would be more easily remedied. I might see a man leaving the stumps in, merely cutting the trees off level with the ground, and when they were gravelling they would put on stuff not fit to be put on. I would call the attention of the overseers to it and tell them that Mr. Burrowes had asked me to look after it. I would suggest "There is some stuff up there; you should go up and have a look at it."
12285. Did you ever see Mr. Davies as to the way the work was being carried out? I saw him latterly, I think.
12286. Did you ever communicate in writing with Mr. Davies? No.
12287. Or with anyone else? With Mr. Burrowes I did. If I saw anything that I thought was going wrong I would write a note and call attention to it.
12288. Will you run your eye over this parcel of letters [*Exhibits I 4 to I 25*] and see whether you recognize them? They seem all to be in my handwriting.
12289. Do you identify all of them? Yes.
12290. Was this correspondence carried on between you and Mr. Burrowes with Mr. Davies' knowledge? I do not think so. Mr. Davies did not know it from me.
12291. Will you look at these letters, twenty-two in number, and tell me whether you recognize them? Yes, these are all mine.
12292. Do you know whether Mr. Davies was aware of that correspondence? I do not think he was. As far as I was concerned he did not know anything about it.
12293. Do you recollect any occasion on which Mr. Burrowes complained to Mr. Davies of your interference? Yes; but he did not complain of my interfering with him. I do not know what he complained of. Mr. Davies spoke to me and asked me not to speak to Mr. Burrowes at all, but that if I had any complaint to make, or felt it my duty to say anything in connection with the office, I would say it to him direct.
12294. I will read you this letter marked "Private" [*Exhibit I 22. The President read the letter.*] Can you give me the date of that letter? I do not know that I can.
12295. Had you any particular reason for marking it "private"? I do not think so. I think you will see others marked "private" also.
12296. Here is another letter [*Exhibit I 19*], dated 8th September, 1888? I may say that, as far as my communications with Mr. Burrowes were concerned, he being the head of the Department, I looked upon the whole thing as private.

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12297. [*The President read the letter.*] Can you tell me whether, after that, you ceased to communicate with Mr. Burrowes in reference to the work? No; I did not make any more communications. I dropped it. I wrote that letter because I wanted Mr. Burrowes to know that I would not bother him, and because I did not think he treated me properly. He had professed to be friendly with me, and only a day or two before this had pressed me to point out anything I thought was wrong. I wrote that letter for two reasons:—First, I thought if he could read between the lines he would see that I was hurt; and next, I did not want to bother him any more, and I gave him a good reason for it. The occasion of my writing that letter, and of Mr. Davies speaking to me, was this: He had a man there who used to drink. I called his attention to one particular man who was lying there on the roadside and might have got run over. On this day that man was very drunk, and I told him I would report it to Mr. Burrowes. He did not like my saying that. I do not think Mr. Burrowes thought that Mr. Davies would tell me. I disliked it because I thought it insincere on the part of Mr. Burrowes, and I wrote to him to show that I had found out what he would not think I should find out. I was always complaining about the men putting mud on the road. It was butter in the winter, and flour in the summer.
12298. Were the unemployed out there working on behalf of your Company? How do you mean?
12299. Were they working for your Company;—did your Company engage to pay them? Did we engage the unemployed?
12300. Were the unemployed working on behalf of your Company—under any engagement from your Company? No.
12301. Do you consider yourself or your Company liable in any way for their work? No.
12302. I want to confine you to your communications with Mr. Burrowes;—I am puzzled at the interest you took in the work? Why at the interest I took in the work?
12303. Here is a letter dated 8th September, 1888 [*Exhibit I 22; letter read*];—can you say whether that reference is to Mr. Burrowes being called as a witness before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly? I wrote that for this reason. From a conversation I had with Mr. Burrowes he asked me some questions, from which I judged that he did not know as much as I thought he knew; he did not know what work had been done, and seemed to be under the impression that the whole of the work on the estate had been done by the unemployed.
12304. So you thought it a fair thing to instruct him? At that time I knew what Mr. Burrowes was, and I thought he might as well have some guide to the truth, not only as to his actual knowledge, but as to what he would say. If I was asked if I knew the area and those particulars, I might as well let him know what I was going to say; and if he contradicted me —
12305. It would appear from these letters as though Mr. Davies knew you were in communication with Mr. Burrowes? I do not think so.
12306. Do you know a man named Napier? Yes.
12307. What was he? An overseer.
12308. Do you identify this letter [*Exhibit I 25*] as the one sent by you to Napier? Yes.
12309. [*The President read the letter.*] Now, can you say whether Mr. Napier was in the employ of the Holt-Sutherland Estate Company? No.
12310. Had he anything to do with them? No.
12311. Was he in your service? No.
12312. Who is Mr. Buller? Another overseer.
12313. Had he anything to do with the Company? No.
12314. Was he in your employ? No.
12315. Here is a letter [*Exhibit I 24*] amongst the number;—do you identify that as written by you to Mr. Buller? Yes.
12316. [*The President read the letter.*] Who was it gave instructions that the Malvern Road should be 99 feet wide? I did. Instead of being a chain wide, we gave half-a-chain more, and made it a decent width.
12317. Was the authority of Mr. Davies, the Chairman, got for that work? I do not know.
12318. Do you know what happened after you wrote that letter to Mr. Buller. Do you know whether Mr. Burrowes became aware of it? Mr. Burrowes knew, because he asked me to speak to the men and not to wait to speak to him. These roads were running through our land. Whilst they were making the road, I did not want one made of mud, and the men were paid as good a price for making a bad road as a good one.
12319. Here is another letter [*Exhibit I 20. Letter read*]. Do you know whether horses and carts were used out there in large numbers? Yes they were.
12320. Did they belong to the unemployed or to outside people? They belonged to all sorts of people. The owners of the horses and carts were not considered to be amongst the unemployed. The poor men, the unemployed, could not be considered to own horses and carts.
12321. Here is another letter [*Exhibit I 18*]. Did you consider you had power to make this alteration with regard to the roads? I do not know whether you know anything of the character of these men. The road at Yowie Bay was a straight road; but Mr. Napier, in the distance of a mile, had four dog-leg turns in it. We got our surveyor to go and straighten it. Mr. Burrowes knew this road was to be straight, but let these men go on with the work on this crooked road.
12322. Who was the surveyor? Mr. Curtis. I think he is at Orange now.
12323. Here is another letter [*Exhibit I 17. Letter read*]. Who are “we”?—“We are anxious to have this done”? Generally I was speaking of the Company.
12324. Then the “we,” was really “I”? Yes.
12325. You, for the purpose of that letter made yourself plural? It was just a chance. In a letter you might say “we.” In writing as a Manager of a Company you say “we”.
12326. Was that expression the outcome of your own individual anxiety or of any formal minute of the Company? At the time they knew nothing about it.
12327. You say here, you “were anxious to have it done at once as promised by Mr. Davies”; that shows that Mr. Davies knew about it? What is the date of that.
12328. Had Mr. Davies promised you? How long is it after the petition.
12329. Two months after the last. The last is dated May, 1888? I was going to say that I thought I had gone to Mr. Davies on two or three occasions. When we found that this work had been authorised, and seemed to be of more importance than the other roads, the road being more travelled over.

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over than any other, and when we found that it was being neglected, I went to Mr. Davies and pointed out to him that this work should be gone on with. It might be that on one of these occasions Mr. Davies might say, "Very well, it is authorised, I will push it on". But Mr. Davies said that he would stir up Mr. Burrowes about it, and I was in his hands as he was superintendent. I suppose that letter referred to something of the kind. Of course Mr. Davies was aware of this work.

12330. Then going back there is a letter of January, 1888, [*Exhibit, I 4. Letter read.*] Who is Mr. Dalgeish? He lives at North Shore.

12331. Is this some private work? No, it is a road—the Sylvania Road. He intended they should form the water tables on that side of the road.

12332. I need not go further into these letters. They speak for themselves. I would like to know whether you had many more conversations with Mr. Davies on the subject of these roads? Not many.

12333. How many do you think? I think half a dozen; perhaps not that many.

12334. Did you see Mr. Davies about the matter before the memorials were signed? No.

12335. Who suggested you should get up these memorials? I think now that I did go to see Mr. Davies. When I found that these thousands of men were on our boundary I thought of the original promise to get a road made. I went to see Mr. Davies, and asked him could he not find something better for these men to do than to knock down the Christmas bush in the park. I said, "You can make the Illawarra Road, one of the oldest roads in the Colony." He said, "Can you get me authority. If you can show me anything more useful than what the men are doing now I should be glad to do it. I am ashamed of what the men are doing now." So I then went and got up the petition.

12336. Were all these memorials got up in the same way following on that? Yes; when I found we had authority for the one road, I got up the others.

12337. You got the Colonial Secretary's authority? Mr. Davies said, "If you can get me a letter or anything I can get sanctioned I will recommend it. I have no doubt they will do it." He said, "Is it a Government road?" I said, "It is the only way to Wollongong."

12338. Then may I take it that these memorials were really the outcome of Mr. Davies' suggestion as to getting proper authority? I could not say so with regard to all the cases; but with regard to the first one. The first was the Illawarra Road. I saw thousands of men there, and I thought it a good thing to put them on that road.

12339. Did you do that solely in your interest as a citizen? I do not say that. I do not say that if we did not own any land there I would have done it.

12340. Referring to the time that the work was stopped;—what action did you take? I was out on the ground; Mr. Buller told me the work was stopped. I went and saw Mr. McCulloch, Mr. Varney Parkes, and I think Mr. Jamieson. We came up to Mr. Critchett Walker and asked him why the work was stopped, and all that sort of thing. He said he had been told that it was a private road, and that he would not go on with it until he knew whether it was or not.

12341. Here is a letter dated 29th September, 1887;—is that your hand-writing? Yes. [*Letter put in and marked S 2.*]

12342. Is that letter correct;—does it represent what Mr. Walker told you? I think so.

12343. Does that refer to what you were speaking of before? No. I think they took the men off another road as well, and Mr. Walker said it was an error to take them off the second road. The men were taken off both roads, and Mr. Walker said they should only have been taken off one.

12344. Here is a memorandum of the 12th January, 1888, purporting to be signed by you, and addressed to Mr. Burrowes. Is that in your handwriting? Yes. [*The President read the memorandum.*]

12345. Does this letter refer to the road the work was stopped on? No. [*Memorandum put in and marked S 3.*]

12346. Then here is another letter dated 21st September, 1887. Is that signed by you? Yes. [*Letter put in and marked S 4.*]

12347. [*The President read the letter.*] Was the alteration spoken of in this letter made? I do not recollect now. They cleared one part a chain and a half, and the other part only a chain. I think we had some doubt as to what the width was, and made it one and a half chains.

12348. Here is a letter dated 1st August, 1887. [*Letter read.*] Are the trustees referred to here those for the Illawarra Road? Yes.

12349. Is Mr. Want one? Yes. [*Letter put in and marked S 5.*]

12350. Here is another letter dated 15th August, 1887. [*Letter read.*] Was that work done? I do not know. [*Letter put in and marked S 6.*]

12351. Is there a plan of the subdivision of your property? We have several plans of subdivisions of special portions of it.

12352. Is this plan one of your subdivisions? Yes.

12353. Is this another? Yes.

12354. How many have you got? No more plans connected with this work. We have plans at Como and Sylvania.

12355. Can you let us have them? I can.

12356. How many subdivisions have you got already? Five, but Como and Kurnell do not affect these. [*Plans put in and marked S 7 and S 8.*]

12357. Will you send the Secretary up the other plans? Yes.

12358. Are you aware whether your Company agreed to pay any officer of the Government, or the Casual Labour Board, any portion of the cost of this work? Not to my knowledge.

12359. Do you know Mr. Sanderson? Yes.

12360. Did you ever have any conversation with him about the work? Yes.

12361. As to the question of it being a private estate? No.

12362. As to any of the cost being borne by your Company? No. He was putting the finest garden soil on the road, and I called attention to it, and he got angry.

12363. What was the property advertised for sale by Messrs. Richardson and Wrench? That at Como.

12364. Are there any roads there made by the employed? Not within 2 miles.

12365. How many shares have you in the Company altogether? I cannot tell you all the shares, but I think 109 or 110.

12366. Are you the largest shareholder in the Company? Well, half these shares belong to my brother. As I stand on the register, if they were all mine, I would be the largest.

12367.

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12367. You said in your evidence before the Select Committee that you were interested in that mining syndicate? Yes.
12368. What is the extent of your interest there? I hold nine or ten shares out of 110.
12369. Can you tell me, as briefly as possible, how much of that Malvern Road was done when the unemployed went on to it? It was done for the whole length in some places, a chain wide—from half a chain to a chain and a half.
12370. What was done to it? It was cleared; only cleared.
12371. Can you tell me what it cost up to the time that the unemployed took it over? I cannot tell. That clearance extended over forty years. That has been a road for a great number of years.
12372. Did you have refusals on any occasion when you presented these memorials for signature? Some people would not sign them.
12373. Can you mention any names of persons who would not sign? I cannot recollect now.
12374. Any shareholders in the Company? Yes. Mr. Simpson signed for one, and would not sign for the others.
12375. Do you know why he would not? I do not recollect now.
12376. Did he say why? I do not remember.
12377. Was it because the roads asked for in the memorial were not in his opinion public roads? I would not take any notice of his opinion. He does not know the estate more than a baby. I would not take any more notice of Mr. Simpson's opinion than that of a child's, because he would be talking about things he did not understand.
12378. Was there any other person who refused to sign? Sometimes they would say "I will have nothing to do with it," and they would not sign it. But I wish to withdraw that part of my evidence in which I spoke about Mr. Simpson's knowledge of the estate.
12379. It is quite possible to say a man does not know anything more about engineering than a baby, and yet be true? But this, put in this way, might be offensive to Mr. Simpson.
12380. Do you recollect any other shareholders who objected to sign the memorial. Did you ever ask Sir John Robertson? I do not know. I think I did.
12381. Do you know with what result? He would not sign it.
12382. Do you know why? He said that being Chairman of the trustees of the Park it might be said that he was trying to shift the men from the Park to the roads.
12383. Only that? I think so.
12384. Did not he say that he could not give his sanction to spending public money on a private estate, or any words to that effect? He never said that to me.
12385. Did you meet Mr. Davies in connection with Mr. Burrowes. Did all three of you meet together? Yes, on one occasion.
12386. No more than one occasion? No, and then only by accident at the station at Sutherland.
12387. Did you notice whether Mr. Davies and Mr. Burrowes were on friendly terms? They were then. They had been out in a vehicle together.
12388. What led you to believe they were? They were shaking hands and talking about what they had been doing.
12389. What time was that. Can you tell us? Shortly after that letter we were speaking of, in which Mr. Davies had asked me not to speak to, Mr. Burrowes. It was the first time I had seen him after that letter had been written. He said he was sorry, and wanted to shake hands with me. He said that he did not intend when he wrote that Mr. Davies should close me up to the extent he did.
12390. Have you seen Mr. Davies to speak to within the last month or so? Yes.
12391. Where? In the railway.
12392. Did he enter into conversation about these roads at all? No; excepting he said he had been up and was examined, and asked me whether I had been up.
12393. Where to? To the Committee of the Legislative Assembly.
12394. Have you seen him since? Only to acknowledge him in the street.
12395. Do you know when he and Mr. Burrowes first became unfriendly? Mr. Burrowes made me aware of it.
12396. Can you tell me what property Mr. Myles M'Rae has out there? He has property known as part of the Doolan's Estate, on the Port Hacking Road, about 70 acres I think. He had other property, too, 50 acres, but I think he sold that.
12397. Can you show me on the plan approximately where you think Doolan's Estate is? I think so. Part of section 44 on the plan, appendix to Mr. Burrowes' evidence. It is bounded by roads which subdivide our own land, excepting on one side, and that is Gannon's.
12398. Is that property which is at the corner of Port Hacking and (as called on this plan) Wotonga Roads Mr. Myles M'Rae's land? Yes.
12399. What is the name of it? Myrtle Grove.
12400. Does what you call the Wotonga Road bound it on the one side? Yes, on the north side.
12401. Going east do we come to another road turning to the right? That is the Burranncar Road.
12402. Do the Burranncar Road and the Wotonga Road bound Mr. M'Rae's place? No.
12403. Whose is that land at the end of Burranncar Road? That is Gannon's.
12404. Will you tell me what you understand by Gannon's Road? Well, I have never been asked that question before. I would not like to say. I understand these roads, because to me they have names, and I identify them by their names. I call one the Burranncar Road and the other the Wotonga Road.
12405. Then it is quite possible that what you have heard called Gannon's Road is either the Burranncar Road, or the Wotonga Road, or both? Yes.
12406. I show you a letter dated 23rd January, 1888, addressed to Mr. Critchett Walker, requesting him to have a gang of the unemployed put to work to clear and form a road running from the Port Hacking Road to a road at another point which is marked at the top of Gannon's Road. Do you believe this refers to one of the roads called Wotonga Road, or Burranncar Road, or both? Yes.
12407. Which particular roads, by name, pass Mr. M'Rae's place? The Wotonga Road, and the Tureel Road, or the Port Hacking Road.
12408. Then as to the other property you mentioned? If Mr. M'Rae is still the owner the Boulevard Road would pass in front of it.

12409. Would the other roads also benefit him? Of course the main roads would, because he would have to get to his land.

12410. If they improved the Holt-Sutherland property would it improve his property in particular? It is a difficult thing to say how much these roads would improve property if they do not pass in front of it.

12411. Has Mr. M'Rae other property? He has 50 acres on the railway—on each side of the railway between Como and Sutherland. I do not know that these roads would affect that in any way. I think they would not.

12412. What is the nearest road to it? The nearest road is a road called Kurajong Road.

12413. Was that not cleared and formed? Not at all.

12414. Would any other roads affect him? None of the roads we are interested in—none of the roads passing through our estate at all.

12415. I have here a letter concerning the Como Road, signed by Mr. Justice Innes and Mr. M'Rae, in reference to land purchased at a Government sale at Como. Is that land independent of what you have been telling us? Yes.

12416. Would any of the roads that the unemployed have formed, cleared, or constructed, benefit that land in any way? I would not like to say. I think I had better say that I do not know.

12417. *Mr. Waller.*] Who made this road that may be understood as Gannon's Road? The unemployed did.

12418. Do you know that? I saw them working there.

12419. Are they private roads? They are shown as Government roads on the map we have been looking at.

12420. What was the intention of these memorials that have been shown to you? I do not know what you mean.

12421. What were they got up for? I cannot make that any plainer than appears on the face of them.

12421*a*. Was it in order to get the roads made on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Each memorial is accompanied by a plan which shows exactly the position of the roads we wanted. I do not know that I can make the matter any plainer than it is.

12421*b*. Was it to get the roads made on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? As a matter of fact, there is not a single one of these roads on the estate. They are made on Government land.

12421*c*. Did they make the roads on land adjoining your land? In some cases.

12421*d*. Were these memorials put in to carry weight, to get what was asked for done. Were they intended to be of value? We intended them to be of value. I hoped they would get done what I asked to be done.

12421*e*. You said sometime ago that Mr. Simpson was not personally acquainted with the estate, and therefore could not know of the value, or give an opinion of the value, of the roads made? Yes.

12421*f*. Were these other gentlemen, whose names are signed to these memorials, thoroughly well acquainted with the estate? No, a great many of them were not. I do not think any of them were. They took my word for it.

12421*g*. You remember there was the making of a road stopped? Yes.

12421*h*. Was it commenced again? Yes.

12421*k*. Do you know why it was recommenced? We waited on Mr. Critchett Walker, and asked him why it was stopped. Mr. Walker said that it had been explained to him that it was a private road, and not shown on the map. I explained to him that it had been a road for many years, and in corroboration of what I said I referred to the fact that we shut it up, and that it was resisted by the residents, who got up a petition, that they had passed over it for forty years, and ultimately we again opened it.

12421*l*. Did you see anyone else but Mr. Walker? No, no one else.

THURSDAY, 2 MAY, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E.,

T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

The Hon. Joseph Hector Carruthers, M.P., called in, sworn, and examined.

12422. *President.*] I believe you are Minister for Public Instruction? Yes.

12423. Were you a Member of Parliament during the years 1887 and 1888? Yes.

12424. Did you know of the existence of the department called the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

12425. Do you recollect signing a memorial with reference to the Noxious Trade Site in June, 1887? Yes, perfectly well.

12426. Do you know how long previously to the signing of that memorial the Casual Labour Board came into existence? I should say about three months.

12427. Do you know whether the work petitioned for in that memorial was done? It was not done.

12428. Do you know why? I believe it was, because the surveyors had not got their work in a sufficiently advanced state for the work to be commenced.

12429. I think all the other signatures to that memorial are Members of Parliament? Yes; I was a Member at that time.

12430. What constituency did you represent at that time? Canterbury.

12431. Is this place within the electorate of Canterbury? No; it is in the adjoining electorate.

12432. In your opinion as a Member of Parliament, and as a member of the community, was that a useful work to put the unemployed upon? Oh, I think so. If you take it for granted that the Noxious Trades were to be located in that locality, it would be a first-class thing to put that labour on.

12433. If surplus labour were at the disposal of the Government, do you think it would have been about the best thing to put them on? Well, there is no better that I know of.

12434. Will you look at this memorial of 7th July, 1887 [*Exhibit S 1*], is that signed by you? That is my signature there.

12435. Will you glance at this memorial, and say what is asked to be done there? It is asked, that the main Illawarra Road be put in repair.

12436. Have you been out to that part since that work was done? They have not done it; they have only done it partially here and there. The road is in a worse condition than ever it was. 12437.

Mr.
J. Murphy.
1 May, 1889.

Hon. J. H.
Carruthers,
M.P.
2 May, 1889.

- Hon. J. H. Carruthers, M.P.
2 May, 1889.
12437. Was that main Illawarra Road a public road? Yes; it has been a public road ever since I can remember. It has been a public road for years and years past.
12438. Do you know who took you that memorial for signature? I think it was Mr. Murphy who presented it to me.
12439. Will you look at this memorial dated 19th August, 1887 [*Exhibit I 26*], is that signed by you? Yes.
12440. Is that in the same handwriting as the previous memorial I placed in your hands? No; I should say it is in different handwriting.
12441. Can you recollect who brought you that memorial? I think it was Mr. Murphy, and one of the Members for Central Cumberland who had signed it.
12442. Do you notice what is asked to be done in that memorial? The clearing, and stumping, and forming Malvern Road from the Illawarra Road; also, the road known as Sylvania Road, and there is a statement later on that they are public roads.
12443. Are they public roads? The Malvern Road is a public road, and the Sylvania Road is a public road. I remember some time ago when I was acting as trustee for this road, that there was an action threatened against the Holt-Sutherland Estate Company because they disputed it as a road.
12444. Do you know whether any of these have been dedicated to the public? I believe they have, but I could not say from my own knowledge. I believe that Sylvania Road was a public road for forty years, but I may say that the road called Sylvania Road on the map submitted to the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly was not the road that I took to be the Sylvania Road.
12445. Can you say whether the road spoken of in this memorial as the Sylvania Road is the one you call the Sylvania Road? I do not think it is. What I call the Sylvania Road, is a different road from the road marked Sylvania Road on the maps of the estate.
12446. This Commission has been out visiting this place, and has seen a road marked Sylvania Road, which has no appearance of being a public road, you think there may be some difference between the Sylvania Road that we have seen, and the road that you mean by Sylvania Road? I think it is a different road altogether.
12447. Will you show the Commission on this plan the road that you understand to be the Sylvania Road? The road that I understand to be the Sylvania Road is the road leading from Port Hacking to Sylvania—the Port Hacking Road it seems to be called here.
12448. Then in point of fact, what you understand to be the Sylvania Road is part of what is commonly called the Port Hacking Road? Yes, that is what I understood to be the Sylvania Road that I signed for. I would not have signed for that other road, Mr. Cape. I would not have signed for it under any circumstances.
12449. Do you know whether more was done than was asked for in that memorial? Oh! there is more work done than that.
12450. Much more than is referred to in that memorial; Yes; a great deal.
12451. I see here amongst some printed papers that were laid before the Legislative Assembly on the 14th December, 1888, a letter from you, dated 16th September, 1887? Yes.
12452. Does that refer to the particular road which you have known as the Sylvania Road? It refers to the Port Hacking Road—not the Sylvania Road that is on that map at all.
12453. Will you kindly refresh your memory by reading that letter, and tell me whether the work that you asked for was done? It was partially done; but only partially.
- 12454-5. You understood at the time you signed this memorial that the Sylvania Road was the road which appears to be now known as the Port Hacking Road, leading from Sylvania to Port Hacking? Yes.
12456. About which, I suppose, nobody can have any doubt as to its being a public road? No; it was only proclaimed twelve months before.
12457. Then the road you know as the Sylvania Road, to Port Hacking, is unquestionably a public road? Yes; there is no doubt whatever about it. It has been a public road for forty years. There are bridges twenty-four years old upon it erected by the Government.
12458. Do you believe that is the same road as is referred to in the memorial of 19th August, 1887, and upon which work was done in pursuance of the recommendation and approval there obtained? No; the work was not done on what I have known as the Sylvania or Port Hacking Road until it was pointed out by my letters.
12459. Will you look at a letter that you appear to have written on 9th September, 1887, and the next letter following undated, both addressed to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, *re* the Port Hacking Road,—do you know whether that work was done? That is what I call the Sylvania Road, and the work was only partially done. A large part of it is to this day in its primitive nature, and in a very bad state.
12460. I see, according to the evidence given before the Select Committee, it would appear that before the unemployed went there this Port Hacking Road had been made from the Illawarra Road; cleared by subscription; trustees had been appointed for the purpose of administering the expenditure; that the road had been gravelled and, in fact, the greater part of it put in the condition in which it was at the time of the Select Committee; that it had been made nearly to Simpson's Point, nearly 5 miles in length, before the unemployed went there at all. If this was the case, what was the necessity for this particular application in September, 1887, to which I have called attention? In the first place, part of the work was done about fifteen or eighteen years ago. Three bridges were constructed on the road, and a little ballast was put on. Two years ago, subscriptions to the amount of £100 or £200, had been raised by the residents, and the Government added £100. The money was put in the hands of trustees—Mr. Holt, Mr. Simpson, and myself. We gravelled and cleared the road down to the first bridge. We cleared the road from the first to the second bridge; in fact, we cleared the road almost the whole distance to a width only of 18 feet. The second year we got another £100. Over £400 we spent on that road in making it tolerably passable. After having cleared it, we asked the Department of Lands to survey the road with a view to having it proclaimed, and it took the road out of the position, in some instances, where we had cleared it. It had never been accurately located at all. In some cases we found that we were trespassing upon adjoining property; in other cases we were on the road itself. I found that the work we had done was very slight, and we were unable to do what was required, and as we could not get sufficient funds from the Government to do the work, and as we had no funds ourselves, we thought this would be a very useful road to be put down by the surplus labour. The work done was of a primitive character—in forming culverts, water-tables, graveling and ballasting, clearing and stumping, the sum of £400 did not go a long way. 12461.

- 12461-2. Are you speaking of the work that you did, or the unemployed? I am speaking of the work that we did.
12463. Then can I take it that notwithstanding the evidence given before the Select Committee there was strong justification for your request to have this labour put on the road? Yes; very strong. You see the mail coaches run through this road. There are sometimes thirty or forty vehicles a day running on the road.
12464. Will you look at this letter from J. Murphy to the Casual Labour Board apparently following a letter enclosed from you to J. Murphy. Will you tell me how you came to have this communication with Mr. Murphy? Well, Mr. Holt was co-trustee with myself for this road, and this road ran between his private property and the private property of the Holt-Sutherland Estate, and as a trustee of that road it was necessary that I should appeal to Mr. Murphy not to put any obstacle in the way of the survey of this road in a position which would be satisfactory to the people.
12465. Did you know who Mr. Murphy was? I knew he was the Manager of the Holt-Sutherland Estate, and that is why I appealed to him.
12466. Will you look at the next letter dated 11th November, 1887, addressed to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board asking him to instruct Mr. Burrowes to get some men to work on a particular part of the road? Yes.
12467. Did you know Mr. Burrowes? I only knew him by being referred to him as being the person in charge of the work.
12468. Who referred you? I think it was Mr. Davies.
12469. According to that memorandum at the foot of the letter the work it would seem was authorized by Mr. Davies on his own responsibility? I would not say on his own responsibility. You will understand I had the greatest difficulty in getting them to do this work. They went pottering about a lot of roads that nobody used, and this road that everybody used we could not get done. They put the men to work on roads that were of no use, and seeing them refuse to do this I went worrying them to do it. We had the greatest opposition to getting it granted at all. The people had to threaten an action against the Holt-Sutherland Estate Company to get the road used without hindrance by them.
12470. What I observe is that the approval of the Colonial Secretary does not appear at the foot of that note? No.
12471. Will you turn over the page and see a letter from W. Lovell Davis to the Colonial Secretary, dated 23rd January 1888. Do you know the road mentioned there called Gannon's Road? I was asked to write a letter to get this road done, but as I did not see that it was necessary I refused to write the letter. I refused because I did not see that it was so necessary as the other.
12472. Who asked you? One of the Gannon's. I think it was Mr. Fred. Gannon who asked me. I told him I would have nothing to do with a road that was not a main public road.
12473. Do you think you can show upon this plan what you believe to be Gannon's Road, referred to in that letter? That is it I believe [*Witness points out the road.*] What I know as Gannon's Road is there called Burraneer Road and part of Wotonga Road.
12474. Have you been out in that neighbourhood since these roads were formed? I go out there once or twice a week.
12475. Do you know Mr. M'Rae's place, I think it is called Myrtle Grove? I know the place but I did not know that he owned it.
12476. Does this road that you believe to be Gannon's Road pass that place? Yes. It goes out at right angles to the main Port Hacking Road.
12477. Have you followed that road down—it ends at a gate and fence? Yes.
12478. Do you know whose property that is? That property was Doolan's estate.
12479. Do you know whom this property belongs to now? I think it belongs to the executors of Doolan's estate. I am acting as solicitor for the executors of Doolan's estate.
12480. Do you know whether Mr. M'Rae owns any portion of it? I do not know. I had heard that he bought that piece called Myrtle Grove.
12481. Does that road benefit anybody at all except the persons who owned that property? No, except those, and their friends, and visitors.
12482. Where do you live? I live at Kogarah.
12483. Have you any property in the vicinity of this Holt-Sutherland Estate? Not within miles of it.
12484. Are you a shareholder in this Holt-Sutherland Estate? I never owned a share or had any interest in the estate. I some years ago bought an interest in some leasehold lands at Kurnell for £20, but I forfeited that because I did not think it was worth continuing to pay the rent for it.
12485. Some witnesses have stated that you owned or had an interest in a block of land on the other side of the Holt-Sutherland property? What do you mean by the other side.
12486. The other side—Port Hacking. Will you look at the map and show me any property about there that you are interested in? Well, one piece I had an interest in is about 4 acres at Kurnell, which I forfeited. That is about 7 miles away.
12487. Anything else? Well, I was a shareholder in a building society which owns some land on the south head of Port Hacking, about 3 or 4 miles from the southern point on this estate. The roads on that we made at our own expense without receiving a shilling from the Government or any such source at all.
12488. Do any of the roads made by the unemployed pass your property where you are living or benefit you in any special way? No road goes closer to any property of mine than about 5 miles; and no road on the Holt-Sutherland Estate goes closer to any property in which I have the slightest interest than about 3 miles. There are none of these roads that put a penny piece of value on any property owned by me.
12489. You gave some evidence before the Select Committee with reference to Unwin's Bridge Road? That road passes on one side of the property owned by me.
12490. I do not wish to encumber this Commission with all the evidence that you gave before the Select Committee, but I would like you to state how far it benefits you? Well, I gave £6,600 for the property, but only a portion of it fronts the road. Only a portion of it could possibly be benefited by the road. I spent £1,000 on improvements, making a total cost of £7,600. I offered it for sale since the road was made at a lower rate by £2,000 than I gave for it. I am willing to take to-day £2,000 less than I actually gave for the property, and £2,000 less than I was offered for it some time ago. That is attributable, no doubt, chiefly to the fact that property has gone down, but it shows also that there has been no benefit to the property in value by what was done on the road.

- Hon. J. H. Carruthers, M.P.
2 May, 1889.
- 12491-2. Were any memorials or letters presented to you by Mr. Murphy or any one else, other than in the case of Gannon's Road, which you refused to sign? Yes; all that you see on that schedule.
12493. Did you ever see these memorials [*Exhibits R 2, R 3, and R 4*]? I have seen two out of three of them, I am sure. I refused to sign them.
12494. Why? Because I would not mix myself up with what appears to be private roads, although my name appears on one of them known as Sylvania Road.
12495. Do you notice on this sketch plan that what is marked as the Sylvania Road is marked as an unnecessary road, and appears registered as such? Yes.
12496. That is not the road you refer to as the Sylvania Road? No. The road I understand to be the Sylvania Road and the road I spoke of is the Port Hacking Road. I very much regret that my name appears in connection with the Sylvania Road, which, by the evidence given before the Select Committee, appears to be another road.
12497. I think you said you had been often out there? I have. I was out on Saturday last. I frequently take my wife and children for a drive out there.
12498. Have you seen the clearing and other work on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes.
12499. Has it improved the value of the estate? Yes.
12500. To what extent proportionately? Well, property has gone down very much lately, but if there had been the same prospects of a good market that there was some time ago, the benefit would have been considerable. The roads are not done in such a way as really to permanently improve the property. They are badly done; the workmanship is bad. Where they have grubbed, stumped, or cleared the place in another twelve months there will be a dense undergrowth.

Varney Parkes called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. V. Parkes.
2 May, 1889.
12501. *President.*] Are you a Member of Parliament? No; I was a Member of Parliament, but I am not now.
12502. When were you a Member of Parliament? Up to March, 1888. I think that is the month I resigned.
12503. During the years 1887 and 1888 were you a Member of Parliament? Yes.
12504. For what electorate? Central Cumberland.
12505. Have you any property in Central Cumberland? Yes; only at Liverpool.
12506. Have you any interest in any other property than at Liverpool? No.
12507. Have you any shares or interest in the Holt-Sutherland Company? No; none whatever.
12508. Are you any relation to the Colonial Secretary? Yes; I am his son.
12509. Do you know whether he has any interest in that Company? I really do not know. I have no knowledge of his private affairs at all.
12510. Did you ever know that he was a shareholder in the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No; I never knew that.
12511. Will you look at this letter, dated 6th July, 1887, signed by you, and addressed to the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
12512. Does that letter refer to the following petition of 7th July, 1887, signed by Messrs. Carruthers, Prince, and others? It would be difficult for me to say. It is some time since I wrote that. I was then acting as a Member of the Legislative Assembly, taking an interest in the constituency which I represented, and I may have written many a letter such as this. It may have referred to that, or it may have referred to some other matter.
12513. How did you come to write it? When I wrote that letter I was acting at the request of my constituents.
12514. Can you recall the names of some of those constituents who requested you to do this? No; I could not recall the names of them.
12515. Do you see the memorial of 7th July, 1887 [*Exhibit S 1*], immediately following your letter of the 6th July of that year? Yes.
12516. Do you notice your signature to the memorial? Yes.
12517. Does that recall to you whether that memorial is connected with the letter of 6th July, 1887? I could not tell. I remember some gentlemen waiting on me with this petition, and I unwisely gave them my name as the Member for the district.
12518. You observe your signature to the memorial, but you do not recollect who it was that presented it to you? No; I cannot remember who it was.
12519. Can you say whether it was Mr. Murphy? I believe Mr. Murphy was one of the gentlemen who called upon me. So many petitions are presented to a Member of Parliament for Central Cumberland that it is a difficult thing for him to remember all the petitions. Their requirements are so many.
12520. Do you recollect any memorials being presented to you as Member for Central Cumberland, which you refused to sign? No; I fancy this is the only one that was presented to me. I can only call to mind one in connection with this matter. I believe this one was in all probability the only one presented to me.
12521. Will you look at this memorial dated 19th August, 1887 [*Exhibit I 26.*] is that signed by you? Yes that is signed by me.
12522. Do you know who presented that to you? I really could not swear who presented it to me. I remember, indistinctly, several gentlemen coming to me with reference to this.
12523. Do you recollect Mr. M' Rae ever coming to you about any of these roads? No, I do not recollect.
12524. Do you recollect making any inquiries as to these memorials before signing? No; but I have no doubt some explanation was given to me at the time.
12525. Did you not satisfy yourself as to the correctness of the statements made? All I know is that it is a common thing for the Member for the constituency to sign a petition.
12526. Without inquiry? Well; at times without inquiry. We take it that these people who are signing know the roads referred to. There are many bad roads about Central Cumberland.
12527. I suppose you know from your experience that a memorial signed at the start by three Members for the district naturally influences a lot of other signatures? I do not think that these were signed in the first instance by the three Members. The places were kept there at the head for these names. I have signed many a one which has been brought to me with the front sheet vacant.
- 12528.

12528. Do you think that practice was adopted in this case? I think it is very likely, from the form of it.
12529. Who is Mr. A. H. McCulloch? He was my colleague at the time, and Member for Central Cumberland.
12530. Do you know Mr. John S. Jamieson? Yes.
12531. Did he ever see you about this? He never said a word to me about this—in fact, I did not know his name was attached to the petition.
12532. Do you know whether he has any property out there? I do not know. I do not know his private business.
12533. Do you know Mr. John Davies? Yes.
12534. You knew the Casual Labour Board was then in existence? Yes.
12535. Did you ever see Mr. John Davies with reference to these roads? No.
12536. Did you write a note to him? I do not know whether I wrote to him or my clerk.
12537. Did you ever have any interview with reference to these roads? No; I was ignorant of the place. Beyond being of assistance to my constituency, I took little or no concern in the matter.
12538. Who was Colonial Secretary at the time? I suppose Sir Henry Parkes would be.
12539. Did you ever see him about this? I never said a word to him about it.
12540. Can you recollect whether any other memorials, petitions, or letters were presented to you for signature than those I have now put before you? No; I really cannot recollect any. It made very little impression upon my mind at the time. It was at a time I was attending to my private business, and I had little time to give to their consideration.

Mr.
V. Parkes.
2 May, 1889.

The Hon. William McMillan, M.P., Colonial Treasurer, called in, sworn, and examined:—

12541. *President.*] You are, I believe, Colonial Treasurer? Yes.
12542. Do you know of the matters which have been entrusted to this Commission for inquiry? Generally I do, but not specifically.
12543. Amongst other things, we are directed to inquire into the working and expenditure of the Casual Labour Board. In the course of our inquiry we found it necessary, owing to certain evidence, to examine many of the paid vouchers. We have, after some difficulty, collected from various places most of the Board's vouchers and papers, but about a month ago we found that certain paid vouchers covering large sums of money were wanting, and that they were either with the Audit or the Treasury Department. We summoned certain officers from the Audit Office, but failed to get the vouchers. We then summoned certain officers from the Treasury, with the like result. Then Mr. Eagar was summoned and examined before this Commission. He was asked whether he had any papers in his Department vouching for payments made by the Casual Labour Board. He said he had a large number of vouchers; that he declined to part with them, but that he would allow one of his officers to attend here and produce them whenever occasion should arise. Many of these vouchers we have had to put into the hands of different witnesses, a Treasury officer being present here when the documents were examined. But our inquiry is being to a certain extent impeded through our not having them left in our possession—for some time at any rate. The Treasury officer, we presume under instructions, does not leave this room while we are examining the vouchers and asking questions of witnesses about them. We do not complain of the officers of the Treasury Department, from whom we have received every courtesy. They may not wish to take the responsibility attached to allowing us to have these documents. We ask you, as the Minister in charge of the Treasury Department, to authorize your officers to deliver to us these vouchers on our undertaking to return them at the close of our inquiry, or sooner if necessary, in order that we may carefully examine them, and ask witnesses questions about them as they come before us, without the necessity each time of summoning an officer from the Treasury to attend. I need scarcely mention that the Commission under which we are working is a Crown Commission, and that it enjoins all Government officers and other persons whomsoever to assist us in the execution of our duties. From a late date in March, up to the present time, we have been prevented from properly examining these vouchers, owing to the course taken, no doubt, in the interests of a Department unwilling to take the responsibility of complying with our request. What I ask you now is, that in the interests of the public, and in deference I may say to a request from us, as the servants of the Crown, that you will authorize the leaving of these vouchers with us? What would be the bulk of the vouchers?
12544. I believe there are two batches of £6,000 vouchers representing about £12,000, and another batch representing £200 odd. The vouchers being for payments made just about the close of the Board's existence, are, I take the responsibility of saying, of the greatest importance to this inquiry. They should be produced and left with us. The officers from every other Department of the service have taken the responsibility of leaving their documents with us? I take it that if the vouchers are left there would be a tabulated statement left in the hands of the Treasury to show what has been left with you. I am in this position: I have only been a month in the Treasury, and I am now, to a certain extent, acting in contravention to official ideas. Could these vouchers be left here in the morning and taken away at night?
12545. No. I am afraid not; for the reason that several vouchers that we want to inquire specially into concern different individuals, and in respect to which these individuals can give evidence. You can see the difficulty we are placed in by the course adopted. Witnesses come here at different times. We are often sitting very late. We often sit five and six hours at a time. Sometimes witnesses are before us at a late hour when the Treasury offices are closed? I have settled the matter in my own mind. If you can undertake, as President, that they will be safely returned to us, I think the best way would be that there should be some kind of a statement made that the vouchers you get, you will undertake to return.
12546. We will do that without any hesitation? Of course there is a great responsibility so far as the Department is concerned, because if one of the vouchers were lost we could not replace it.
12547. We will take every care that they are put in a safe place. You were, I believe, a Member of Parliament in the years 1887 and 1888? I was.
12548. Have you any interest in any property out on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No, not on the Holt-Sutherland Estate; but I have an interest in a Company which has a right to mine under the Holt-Sutherland Estate. I have no interest whatever in the surface.
12549. Have you an interest in any other property out there? I have an interest in 18,000 acres of mineral land, known as the property of the Metropolitan Coal Company, which extends from the 18-mile peg on the railway to the 28-mile peg.
12550. Are you in any way interested in shares in the Holt-Sutherland Estate Company? No; I never was.

Hon. W.
McMillan,
M.P.
2 May, 1889.

- Hon. W. McMillan, M.P.
2 May, 1889.
12551. Have you any interest in any land or do you own any land in or about Hornsby? No.
12552. You were a member of the Select Committee appointed by Parliament to inquire into the work of the unemployed on the Hornsby and Holt-Sutherland Estates? Yes.
12553. Certain statements and charges touching some alleged improper expenditure on the property of certain persons or Companies at Hornsby and Holt-Sutherland appear to have been made. Have you any statement to make in reference to the matter? Do you mean as the result of my inquiry on that Committee?
12554. No. Have you any statement you wish to make affecting the Casual Labour Board or any members of it, as to any alleged expending of public moneys on any private estates? My general impression with regard to the matter, as a member of the Committee, and hearing the evidence there, was, that while there was nothing absolutely irregular in the worst meaning of the word, there was certainly a good deal of what I might call slovenliness, in the way in which the work of the Casual Labour Board was conducted, and in the way in which responsibility by the different members of the Board was avoided—that is to say, that the responsibility for having paid such a large amount of money should have been jointly borne by all parties connected with the Board; whereas it is evident, owing to the other duties of Messrs. Houston and Wells, that a great deal, probably almost the entire control of everything with regard to the functions of the Board in connection with certain roads, and the expenditure on those roads, and the whole control of the affairs, seem to have drifted into the hands of Mr. John Davies.

Myles McRae, M.P., called in, sworn, and examined:—

- M. McRae, Esq., M.P.
2 May, 1889.
12555. *President.* Are you a Member of Parliament? Yes; I believe so.
12556. How long have you been a Member of Parliament? Only a few months—since the last general election.
12557. Were you a Member of Parliament during the years 1887 and 1888? No; not before the last election. I am one of the recent additions to the House.
12558. Then during the year 1887 you were not a Member of Parliament? No; not up to February this year. I have only been a Member for a few months.
12559. Have you any property out in the Holt-Sutherland district? I am a shareholder in the Holt-Sutherland Estate Company.
12560. How many shares have you? I think forty-three or forty-four; I am not sure.
12561. Have you any property there independently of your interest in the Holt-Sutherland Company? Do you mean in that district?
12562. Yes, in that district? Yes; I purchased at a Government land sale about 40 acres at Como. A land sale was held there, conducted by Mr. G. F. Want; and the Government, at the sale, agreed to make a road, to give access to this property from the old Punt Road. Sir George Innes and I reminded the Government of their promise, and they started to make this road, but they left it unfinished. That was part of the conditions under which we bought.
12563. Where is this property? At Como—Glass and Bottle Point, I think they call it.
- 12563½. Is that the property referred to in this letter signed by you and Sir George Innes? It is; and the Government have not carried out their promise with regard to the road. The men were taken somewhere else. I hope you will induce the Government to carry out their promise.
12564. Have you any other property in that district besides the Como property? At the Heathcote land sale, I bought about 50 acres from the Government—by the foot and by the acre.
12565. Have you property on the Port Hacking Road? Yes; a recent purchase I bought in the first instance from Caudy, through Richardson and Wrench. They sold as mortgagees. I bought this property about seven or eight months ago.
12566. Do you know a road called the Wotonga Road? Well, I was told yesterday that is one of the boundaries of my property—that is, the property that I bought was faced by that road.
12567. Do you know the Burraneer Road? No. My property has a frontage to the Port Hacking Road.
12568. Is your property called Myrtle Grove? Yes; and the fellow I bought it from agreed to give me 10s. a week for it. He has been there since, but he has not paid me anything. I went in to Hamilton and Garrard about it before I bought it, and I have been out there since. I went out once to see Condi, and he agreed to give me 10s. I went out and saw him, and I threatened to bring him up if he did not pay my rent, but he has paid me nothing.
12569. Is there not a road running down the northern side of your property called the Wotonga Road? I was told last night it was called Wotonga Road.
12570. Did you ever drive over it? No. I was out about a month ago with my family, and I saw it was in good order.
12571. It is very good, is it not? Yes, it is good. I asked Mrs. Caudy if I could go to the hotel by that road, and she said there was some road not made, so I went back towards Sydney by the main road, where the new hotel is built.
12572. Is your property part of Doolan's estate? Yes.
12573. Have you any other property there? No; that is all I have got.
12574. Do you know a road called Gannon's Road? Does it front my land?
12575. That is what I want to know? Well, I could not tell. Although I bought this land, I never went over it.
12576. I suppose you know the corner where the house is? Well, I walked into the little paddock. It had been cultivated, but I have not been over the land.
12577. Have you any other property about there? No.
12578. We are told, perhaps wrongly, that you have a property or interest in a property near what is called, on the map of Holt-Sutherland, Boulevard Road? I have got 49 acres. Mr. S. W. Gray owns the adjoining block. There were 49 acres originally adjoining the Holt property, and this was bought from the son. Thomas Garrett and S. W. Gray took it up with other blocks, and he conveyed a fourth of the land to Mr. Garrett, and I bought 49 acres. When my men went out there they cleared 18 acres, and they did grubbing and stumping for Mr. Gray, and he refused to pay for it, and accordingly I lost it. I sold that land to the Rev. Andrew Gardner, three or four years ago—a 51-acre block and a 55-acre block. They were both Gray's. One was 51 acres and the other 55.

12579.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 12568—Omit from "He has been," &c., to "nothing." Q. 12571—Omit from "she said," &c., to "built," and insert "she said part of it was not finished." Q. 12578—Omit from "and" to "son"; omit "Thomas Garrett and"; omit from "and" to "for Mr. Gray," and insert "of Mr. Gray's land"; omit from "One" to "55," and insert after "Gray's" "at one time."

12579. Are you enabled to tell me how far this land is from the Boulevard Road? About half a mile.
12580. Have you any other property out there near this estate? I have Glass and Bottle Point, this on Doolan's estate, and that Grey's purchase.
12581. No others? No.
12582. Are you sure you have not any other property there? No; I have got no other. If I have I have forgotten about it. I have got so much land I am not sure where it all is.
12583. What is your business? I am not in any particular business. I am retired.
12584. Were you in 1887 or 1888 in any particular position? Well, I am a trustee for several estates and Chairman of Boards of Directors.
12585. So that you keep no clerks or staff? No; I have a lot of work to do in connection with my own property. It takes all my time.
12586. I place in your hands a memorial dated 19th August, 1887—[*Exhibit I 26*] is that signed by you? The first one I signed for was the road from Tom Ugly's Point to Sutherland. I am trustee of that road.
12587. I ask you first if you have signed that? Yes; I signed this. These are public roads. They are main roads, and will open up the district for settlement. The Malvern Road is one of the principal roads out there.
12588. Will you kindly look at this memorial, dated 22nd September, 1887 [*Exhibit R 3*] and say whether you have signed it? What is this petition for.
12589. Will you kindly see if you have signed it? Yes; I signed that.
12590. Will you look at this other memorial, also dated 22nd September, 1887 [*Exhibit R 2*] and say whether you have signed that? Yes; I signed that.
12591. Will you read to yourself the memorial of 19th August, 1887 [*Exhibit I 26*]; glance at the signatures, and tell me how many shareholders of the Holt-Sutherland Estate have signed? Well, I see John S. Jamieson of Prince, Ogg, & Company; the senior partner of Prince, Ogg, & Company. I do not know whether G. F. Want is. I know J. H. Want is.
12592. You are a large shareholder yourself? I know I am.
12593. Don't you know the others who have signed; Mr. Reading, Mr. F. J. Jackson, Mr. Henry Prince, Mr. S. A. Want? I could not tell you more from memory.
12594. Mr. J. Murphy? Yes; he is a large shareholder.
12595. Do you know who Mr. J. F. Murphy is? No.
- 12595½. Do you know whether he is a brother of Mr. J. Murphy? Well, I know that he has got a brother, but whether that is his brother or not I cannot say.
12596. Mr. G. F. Want, is he a shareholder? I know J. H. Want is.
12597. You see the names Newton down there, are they shareholders? I would not be sure.
12598. Do you know any of the Messrs. Want? Yes.
12599. Do you know Mr. S. A. Want? Yes.
12600. Were you ever in his office? Yes; I have been once or twice.
12601. Do you know if the signatures of any of his clerks are on that memorial? No.
12602. Looking at that memorial, can you say whether it has been signed by any of their clerks? I know Mr. Want and Mr. Johnson, but I do not recollect any of the clerks.
12603. Do you know Mr. Murphy's handwriting? I do.
12604. Is this memorial in his handwriting? It looks like it; I think it is.
12605. Do you take the responsibility for the work asked for in this memorial being proper work in the public interests? Yes. I recollect being a trustee to the Tom Ugly's Point Road, and the Military Road, and I conceived that this work would benefit the country, and would benefit the returns from the Illawarra Railway. I think it would be much better than scraping the gullies in the National Park.
12606. What is the Malvern Road? The Malvern Road is the main Road leading to the ocean off the Military Road.
12607. Now, I come to this petition of the 22nd September, 1887. [*Exhibit R 2*]? Yes; I recollect it.
12608. Do you know where Eton-street, and Orara, Coronulla, Lilly-Pilly, Euronga, and the Boulevard Roads are? I know whereabouts they are.
12609. Did you know at the time you signed this memorial in September, 1887? I know the road to Coronulla Beach. I know that it would be a positive benefit to the Government inasmuch as if we thought about locating the Noxious Trades there the grubbing and stumping of that road would be of great advantage. The other road to Ewey Bay is a favourite resort, and the grubbing and stumping of that road would enable excursionists to get at the bay in a more direct way.
12610. Could you make it convenient to accompany this Commission and show us where all the streets or roads mentioned in this petition are? No; my time is fully occupied at the present time.
12611. Do you think you could find them at all? Yes. I have been at Ewey Bay, Coronulla Beach, and Eton-street.
12612. Will you show me Eton-street on this plan? Yes, leading to Ewey Bay. I have been over that road. I went as Mayor of Kogarah. We had a deputation from different municipalities, and we were asking the Government to reserve 1,000 acres about here for cemetery purposes, within half a mile of the railway.
12613. But can you show me that road now? Eton-street; it is not marked there. I know it is about there.
12614. Can you show me Lilly-Pilly Road? No; I do not think I can from the map.
12615. Euronga Road? No.
12616. Boulevard Road? That is marked there.
12617. Are you prepared to state to this Commission that on 22nd September, 1887, you had an intimate acquaintance with these roads named here, and recognised them when the memorial came before you? Well, I knew the Coronulla Beach Road and the road to Ewey Bay.
12618. Did you then? Oh, yes; I have been over these in my capacity of Mayor. We were trying to induce the Government to reserve 1,000 acres at £15 an acre.
12619. Are you well acquainted with this district? Yes.
12620. And have been for a long time past? Well, I have not been over it so much recently as I have been during the last four or five years.

- M. McRae, Esq., M.P.
2. May, 1889.
12621. Will you look at this memorial, dated 22nd September, 1887—[*Exhibit R 3*] ? Yes. I am trustee of this road. I went with Mr. Jamieson and presented this petition to the Casual Labour Board, asking them to make this road—to grub, stump it, and form ballast and blind it. I was very anxious that this road should be made, because it is the Military Road. Then we went to Sir Henry Parkes, and I think he approved of the road being made; but it was sometime before they started. I was urging the Labour Bureau to proceed with the work on several occasions. I consider it the most useful work that has been undertaken in that direction.
12622. Are you often at the office of the Holt-Sutherland Estate Company? No; not very often. I attend the meetings there; that is all.
12623. Are you a Director? No; I am not a Director.
12624. Did you ever see Mr. Murphy with reference to these roads? At that time I was buying shares. I am only a recent shareholder. A young fellow named Maloney was buying shares for me.
12625. Is that the Maloney who has signed one of these memorials? Yes; I suppose it is.
12626. Then he was negotiating for these shares for you about this time? Yes.
12627. Did Mr. Murphy see you pretty often about these memorials? No.
12628. Did he appear to take much interest in them? Yes.
12629. What position does he hold? Well, he is Manager of the Company.
12630. And he took a considerable interest? Yes. There is no doubt about that.
12631. How often did you see Mr. Davies? I think about twice or three times. I went with Mr. Jamieson on one or two occasions.
12632. Where to? To the Labour Bureau.
12633. At Goulburn-street? No; I think it was at the Haymarket at that time.
12634. Do you recollect how often you went with Mr. Jamieson? I went twice. I went as a trustee of this road.
12635. What had Mr. Jamieson to do with it—was it the Mr. Jamieson who is a shareholder in the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes, he is; at least I fancy he is.
12636. Did he tell you he was a shareholder? I think he is a large shareholder too.
12637. Do you think he was a shareholder when he went down with you? Oh, yes.
12638. Can you tell me whether it was a formal interview, or a casual interview? No.
12639. Did you make an appointment? No; the Board was sitting, and they said this matter would be considered.
12640. Whom did you see? I think we saw Mr. John Davies, and Mr. Wells? I did not know the other gentleman, or I forget his name.
12641. Was that the first or second occasion that you went there? The first occasion.
12642. Who was there on the second occasion? I only went twice.
12643. Whom did you see on the second occasion? I think we saw the same persons.
12644. Do you know whether any work was done after you memorialised? I could not tell. I know that the work on the Military Road was not done. I was continually urging that this work should be done. I found fault with them for the men being taken away from the road.
12645. How many shares did you buy at the time? I could not tell. I know I was some five or six months in buying them.
12646. Can you tell me when you got all these shares? No.
12647. I want to find out how many shares you had in 1887? I could not say.
12648. I see you had forty-three in December, 1888. Can you tell me how many you had in 1887? I could not say.
12649. Had you twenty? I could not say.
12650. You were buying at that time? Yes.
12651. Why. Did you think it was a good thing? Well, I was given to understand that it was, but I found out after buying that it was not such a good thing. A good many people will say so too. I found shares before that were bought at £180 or £190, and only a few select people could buy them. I do not think it is such a good thing.
12652. Do any of these roads benefit your property? Independent of my interest in the Holt-Sutherland Estate?
12653. Yes. Will the road fronting at right angles to Port Hacking Road? Yes.
12654. Do any of these other roads benefit your property? Oh, yes; I think so, certainly.
12655. Do you know that road that goes down by the side of your property—called Wotonga Road—on the north side of your property? I have seen it.
12656. Does that benefit anybody else's property but yours? It benefits Gannon's.
12657. Now, Mr. McRae, would you sign these memorials for the same work if you were asked to do so now? There is another petition I refused to sign. I considered that I was not justified in doing so.
12658. I ask you now, with your experience and as a Member of Parliament whether, if these memorials were presented for signature under the same circumstances, you would in the interests of the public, sign them? There is one there for the Port Hacking Road I should certainly sign.
12659. What of the other two? They relate to arteries mainly of that road, opening up the National Park and the water frontages at Coronulla Beach. I would do the same thing to-day. The other roads I refused to sign for because I considered they were not justifiable.
12660. How many were there? I think fourteen or fifteen.
12661. Will you look at this memorial of 10th May, 1888 [*Exhibit R 4*] ? Yes.
12662. Did you ever see that memorial? Yes; I recollect having seen it.
12663. Were you ask to sign that memorial? Yes.
12664. Did you sign it? No; I refused to sign it.
- 12665? Why? Because I considered that the Government would not be justified in making these roads to benefit our property.
12666. Do you know Mr. W. Lovell Davis? Yes.
12667. Has he any property up there? I do not know that he has.
12668. Will you read that letter, signed W. Lovell Davis, written to the Principal Under-Secretary, dated 23rd January, 1888? Yes.
12669. Does that recall anything to you? Well; I think this is the road that goes to the bottom of my property. This road certainly benefits Mr. Gannon's property.

12670. And benefits yours, does it not? Yes; but it was not my property then. It benefited Condi, who owned the property. I own it now.
12671. Do you know Mr. W. Lovell Davis? Yes. I know him; he was a member for Canterbury. I certainly would not have recommended that road. I do not think that a Member of Parliament is justified in asking for an expenditure of that kind to benefit one or two individuals.
12672. Had you been in Parliament would you have recommended that road? I would not. I want to say with reference to what I stated about the road for which I am trustee, I think it is entitled to £50 a mile for 5 miles. It would be a saving to the Government to put the unemployed on that road in preference to grubbing and stumping the gullies in the National Park. All the other roads I signed for are necessary. A great deal of this land is sold and let to sub-lessees. Then, as to the main roads leading to Ewey Bay and Coronulla Beach, I consider that a far more beneficial expenditure could have been made upon them than upon grubbing and stumping the gullies upon the National Park. Some roads were certainly made that I would not care to sign for. Mr. Murphy asked me to sign for a batch of roads, and I said I would see him to Jericho first. I condemn the expenditure the Board made on the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
12673. Were you a Director then? No; I was a shareholder.
12674. How did you come to give up the Directorship? Well, it was from an observation that fell from one of the Directors.
12675. Do you recollect who it was? No.
12676. Mr. Jamieson? No; it was not Mr. Jamieson. We were offering this property for sale to the representative of some London or English capitalist, Mr. E. M. Young I think his name was. We deputed one or two of the Directors to go out and submit a basis of agreement as to the amount that we should ask for the property. Well, the amount they submitted to the Directors was £250 a share. I forget now how many shares there are in the company, but it is equal to £200,000. Well, I moved an amendment that we offer the property for £150 a share. I consider that to be the outside value of the property; but as I thought I might possibly be under-rating the value I put on the other £50. I was quite prepared to sell out at £100. I said that if the Board were in earnest about the £250 I would cease to be a Director before I left the room. It appeared to me that we were asking a most exorbitant price from the English capitalist. I think it was the Chairman, Mr. Cook, who said that the property was worth £250 per share, and he said that they had spent a lot of money in improving the property. I said we might thank the Government for a good deal of the improvement that had taken place upon the property. I said that I did not think that the Company had spent such a great deal of money. At all events, at the meeting before that I refused to sign this petition. I stated that if we could not find enough coin to improve our own properties as other Land Companies had done the sooner we threw up the sponge the better. The reason I was so dead against this expenditure was that in my capacity as Mayor of Kogarah and an alderman of the Hurstville Municipality, especially in the latter capacity, I collected some £2,000 for corporate purposes from *bonâ fide* ratepayers, and we applied this to making, forming, ballasting, and blinding the main roads leading from Kogarah, Carlton, Hurstville, and Oatley platforms, and although the Act provides a pound for a pound contribution from the Government, the Colonial Secretary refused to give us the endowment. I felt very much annoyed that this expenditure should be made on the Holt-Sutherland Estate and the Hornsby Estate, where there was no settlement, and where the circumstances did not occur to justify it, and where the parties concerned did not contribute towards the expenditure, while the Government should refuse to give us the endowment provided for under the Municipalities Act. I was disappointed that the Government did not give us this, because where we were spending money there was a big development taking place. I was anxious, too, that the unemployed should be dispersed. We had had them in our employ for eight or nine months. We had been carrying out work that we would never have carried out unless we were sure of Government endowment; but we got no endowment in Hurstville and it was the same in the Kogarah Municipality.
12677. With the knowledge you subsequently gained would you now be prepared to sign memorials similar to these, for roads like the Malvern Road, the Sylvania Road, Eton-street, Woronora Road, Coronulla Beach Road, Lilly Pilly Road, Euronga Road, Boulevard Road, Venetia-street, and so forth, and to increase the width of the Illawarra Road, to the extent mentioned in this memorial? Yes; I consider that the expenditure on that road is perfectly justified. In fact I believe there were men working on it some time ago.
12678. Is there any settlement in that estate to justify the expenditure? There is settlement taking place.
12679. How many people are there there now? I could not tell. I know they have sub-let some 1,300 or 1,400 acres. There are a good many people going out there commencing market-gardening, &c.
12680. Are there fifty there? I should think about fifty would be the extent.
12681. Did you see Sir Henry Parkes, with reference to these matters? I went with Mr. Jamieson to Sir Henry Parkes.
12682. On different occasions? I could not say that I saw him. Mr. Jamieson came to see him.
12683. Was it in deputation or in private interview? We had called at the Labour Bureau. The Labour Board recommended the expenditure and Sir Henry Parkes ordered the work to be carried out.
12684. Did you see Sir Henry Parkes more than once? I do not know that I did see Sir Henry Parkes.
12685. Did you come here to see him? I did; but I could not say that he actually saw me.
12686. Did you see Mr. Critchett Walker on this subject? Yes.
12687. Can I take it that Mr. Jamieson was always with you when you saw Mr. Walker? Yes; I never saw Mr. Walker with reference to these roads, except when Mr. Jamieson was with me.
12688. Do you know Mr. Burrows? Yes. I have nodded to him, only within the last few months.
12689. Have you any property in the parish of Holdsworthy, near George's River? Yes. I have got property there.
12690. Does that appear on this plan? I do not think so.
12691. Where is the land? I own what was originally, at least the land upon which Joseph Wearne's mill was built upon. In fact I was accused of becoming a protectionist by the present Colonial Treasurer in consequence of that purchase. He said the glories of protection never dawned upon me until I had bought a factory, and then he spoke about this mill. He reckoned without his host, for I bought the 465 acres upon which the mill had stood, and which had been burnt to the ground six or twelve months before I bought the property.

12692.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 12672—Omit "I condemn" to "Estate," and insert "I condemned one expenditure at one of the board meetings." Q. 12674—Omit from "Well" to "Directors." Insert "I never was a Director." Q. 12675—Omit "No." Q. 12676—After "I consider" omit "that," and insert "£100 per share." For "a Director" read "a shareholder," line 9.

- M. McRae,
Esq., M.P.
2 May, 1889.
12692. Did you have any road going there? Yes.
12693. Did you dedicate any portion of the road? I do not think so.
12694. Will you tell me what this letter refers to? That is a letter from me to E. M. Burrowes, Esq.,
Bonny Boon, Arncliffe, 20 May 1888:—

Dear Sir,

I hereby dedicate for public purposes so much of my land as shall be required for the road you have cleared leading to the George's River, parish of Holdsworthy.

Yours, faithfully,
MYLES McRAE.

12695. Is that your letter? Yes, that is my letter.

12696. Is that a road through your land? Well, I was asked by the Government to dedicate so much of my land. I had never been on it, and I quite forgot the writing of this dedication. I do not know who sent me the correspondence with reference to it—whether it was the Casual Labour Board or Mr. Burrowes.

12697. Does that road go right through your property? I could not say. I have not been on the property. I have only been twice upon it since I bought it four or five years ago.

12698. And yet you dedicate the road when it is cleared to the George's River? The Chairman having written to me with reference to it, under any circumstances where the Government wishes to make a road I always give the right. I gave the Government half a chain of a frontage to Peakehurst Park. This slipped from my memory.

12699. Don't you know what part of your property it goes through? No.

12700. Did you know a road was cleared and formed? No; I never was aware of it until I saw what is stated in the letter.

12701. How long is it since you have been out on your property? About three years.

12702. Have you been out since May, 1888? No.

12703. I suppose on going over these lands, you will be surprised to see a road right through your property? Not if I agreed to dedicate and give the road.

12704. Will you look at this letter dated 23rd August, 1887, addressed to John Davies, C.M.G., signed by Myles McRae. "We forgot yesterday to mention the number of unemployed required to grub and stump and form the roads referred to in the petition, we suggest about 300 men." Is that your signature? Yes, that is my signature.

12705. Is that memorial referred to in your letter, the one of 19th August, 1887? I suppose so.

12706. Who are the "we" referred to in that letter? The petitioners.

12707. Were the petitioners down to see Mr. Davies in a body? The petitioners were Mr. Jamieson and myself.

12708. Does this letter of 23rd August, 1887, refer to the memorial of the 19th August, 1887? Yes; there is no doubt about it.

12709. Then the "we," who you said just now were the petitioners, are really Mr. Jamieson and yourself? Yes.

12710. Were you doing that simply in your capacity as an individual citizen and in the sole interests of the community? Well, I had signed the petition. I recognized the utility of the making of these roads. When I put my shoulder to the wheel I do not like to cease until I have accomplished my object.

12711. Will you look at another letter here dated 24th August, 1887, the next day apparently written by you to the Casual Labour Board, to the effect that "you hereby recommend Messrs. Ross, Clarke, and party of four as first-class clearers," stating that at scrubbing and stumping they do excellent work, and adding, "Put them on the road leading to Port Hacking, if you can"? Yes.

12712. Is that your signature? Yes. These men could not get anything to do, and they were pestering me to get them something to do.

12713. So that you found works for the unemployed to go on, and you found unemployed to put on the works? No; this is only a recommendation. They were not making their salt. I knew that they were good men and able to perform any kind of work.

12714. Do you know the signature of Mr. F. J. Ellis Holt? Yes.

12715. Do you know the signature to these two letters? Yes; I recognize them. This is a letter dated Sutherland house, Sylvania, November 12th, from Mr. Holt, addressed Myles M'Rae, Esq., Bonny Doon, Arncliffe:—

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 9th instant. I feel rather a delicacy, through living here, of dealing with the unemployed. I would kindly suggest that you should see Mr. John Davies yourself, and ask him to cause the necessary instructions to be sent to Mr. Burrowes, who resides at the National Park, some distance from here, to have the work you refer to done. This would be much the best way, for even if I went up to the National Park to see Mr. Burrowes he might be away, and I might have the journey for nothing, not to mention the loss of time.

Yours, faithfully,
F. J. ELLIS HOLT.

THE second letter is dated Sutherland House, George's River, Sylvania, November 16th, 1887, to Myles M'Rae, Esq., Bonnie Doon, Arncliffe:—

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 9th inst., I learn that a section of the road you refer to therein has now been nearly completed. If you were to see Mr. John Davies, C.M.G., concerning the matter I think you would be able to arrange for the prompt commencement of the work, which is undoubtedly one of public interest.

Yours, faithfully,
F. J. ELLIS HOLT.

12716. Then I see a letter, apparently signed by you, to the Casual Labour Board, without date, enclosing these two communications, and stating that "This work has been approved by Sir Henry Parkes nearly five months ago, and being a main thoroughfare, should be improved without delay; in fact a Military Road, where trees should be planted on either side, the timber for tree-protectors easily got along the road. Kindly give orders to have this necessary work started and oblige." What is the name of that road? The Bottle Forest Road, I think.

12717. Is Mr. Holt a large land owner out there, and son of Mr. Thomas Holt? I considered that a most necessary work out there.

12718. Do you wish to offer any further explanation or evidence to this Commission with reference to the works out there, or the roads that have been constructed by the unemployed on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No; only that I signed for those that I considered it was justifiable to expend the money upon. All others I refused to sign for.

12719.

12719. Did you ever call Mr. John Davies' attention to your refusal? No; I did not care about seeing Mr. John Davies. I only saw him once or twice.
12720. Are you friendly with him? No; but I have no reason to be unfriendly.
12721. Had you any particular reason for urging attention to the work out in that district? No; I never interfered. I felt I had a duty to perform in connection with the Military Road. I went there several times. I was anxious that the road should be completed. I must apologise for forgetting about dedicating that road mentioned in the letter to Mr. Burrowes. Mr. Burrowes had asked me to give so much of my land as to dedicate a road, and recognizing the benefit that the road would be, I acceded to the request. I have not been on the ground, but I was told that this was a road going from Campbelltown or somewhere up there, and that it was a main road through the parish of Holdsworthy. Accordingly I gave as much land as would be required for it, but I forgot all about it.
- 12721½. Have you ever seen Mr. Burrowes in connection with roads about the National Park? I have never seen Mr. Burrowes in connection with road making at the National Park. He asked me to dedicate so much of my land for this purpose. I induced the Government to allow some 200 of the unemployed to continue the Forest Road to the Old Point. It was made by Sir Francis Mitchell. That is in an incorporated district where there is good settlement. The people stopped them. They said that the road went in another direction, and the men were taken off. It would have been a very useful work to have got some thirty or forty men to improve Peakhurst Park—a park of 190 acres on the other side of George's River. I am sorry that the Government did not send them, because the work would have been a great benefit to the people.

M. M'Rae,
Esq., M.P.
2 Mar, 1889.

Harry Brisbane Jamieson called in, sworn, and examined:—

12722. *President.*] What is your father's name? John Storey Jamieson.
- 12722½. Where is he? I do not exactly know at the present moment; he is on his way from America to England.
12723. How long has he been absent from the Colony? Since the 20th February last.
12724. Will you look at this memorial, dated 7th July, 1887 [*Exhibit S 1*—who is Henry Prince, the second signature on it? He is a member of the firm of Prince, Ogg, & Company.
12725. Is he a member of the firm of which your father is a partner? Yes.
12726. Whose is signature No. 6? That is my signature.
12727. Whose is the signature, "George Jamieson"? An uncle of mine, who has since died.
12728. Whose is the signature, "M. R. Jamieson"? A brother of mine.
12729. Is he living? Yes.
12730. In Sydney? Yes.
12731. Are you in the office of Messrs. Prince, Ogg, & Company? Yes.
12732. Will you kindly look down those signatures and tell me whether there are any you recognize? Yes; "A. W. Francis." He was at one time in our office as cashier. The next one, "R. Shankland," was in our office.
12733. Do you know W. G. Whiting? Yes; he is our accountant.
12734. Are there any others that you recognize? Yes; there is the signature of Charles W. Norris, Custom House clerk in our establishment. John Chant; he is the manager of our Manchester department.
12735. Was George Jamieson an officer in the warehouse? Yes.
12736. Do you know the next name, A. G. Bennett? He is a storekeeper at Tumut; he was in our employ at the time he wrote that. M. R. Jamieson, my brother is the next.
12737. Will you read out all the other signatures on the memorial that you know were officers or clerks in your establishment at the time? J. B. Robinson, J. E. Copplestone, R. Grant, J. B. Tucker, W. B. Thame, N. Mackay, A. J. Pring, T. Richardson, Thos. W. Smalley, Charles Wilkes, C. Pemprase, J. Doyle, Charles Hooper, W. Shearsby, S. C. Brees, W. T. Brown, W. C. Black, T. F. Gurney, J. M. Butters, C. Bourne, H. Tillidge, C. Woolnough, S. Bullock, R. F. Wilkinson, W. M'Murtrie, T. Hynard, C. Millin, C. W. Bullock, R. J. Hogg, J. Westwood, George Hutton, and F. Boardman.
12738. Will you oblige me by counting the number of signatures that there are to that memorial? There are forty-nine.
12739. Will you now kindly tell me how many of these signatures are the signatures of persons who were either members of the firm or clerks in your firm's office on that date? Forty-three to my knowledge. There are two or three signatures I do not recognize.
12740. Do you recognize any of the other six as being constituents of your firm? No.
12741. Will you look at this memorial, dated 19th August, 1887 [*Exhibit I 26*]. Is that signed by you? Yes; that is my signature.
12742. Will you kindly call out the names of any other gentlemen who have signed it, who were at that time members of your firm, or clerks in your establishment? Yes. John S. Jamieson, Henry Prince, R. Shankland, C. J. Salier, W. Jones, C. W. Norris, H. B. Jamieson.
12743. How many is that? Eight signatures. Is the John S. Jamieson, who has signed it, your father? Yes.
12744. Will you look at this memorial, dated 22nd September, 1887, [*Exhibit R 2*]? Yes.
12745. Is that signed by any member of your family? That is signed by my father, John S. Jamieson.
12746. Are there any other members of the firm or clerks of the firm on that? No.
12747. Will you look at this memorial dated 10th May, 1888 [*Exhibit R 4*], and say whether you recognize any members of your family, or of the firm, or persons connected with your firm there? Yes. R. J. Hogg, C. Bourne, A. C. Steer, J. E. Chant, C. W. Bullock, T. Hynard, J. Blenkinsopp, and H. Taylor. This man Taylor I am not sure about. There was a man Taylor in our employ; J. G. Dunlop, C. Millin, J. Furber, W. B. Thame, J. Parfett, C. W. Norris, R. Shankland, W. M'Murtrie, George Hutton, and E. Warren.
12748. Will you kindly count the signatures to that memorial, and tell me how many there are altogether? Thirty-two, I make them.
12749. Will you kindly count the signatures of those connected with or employed by your firm? Seventeen I am certain of as being interested in my father's firm.
12750. Have you any recollection of the circumstances under which these two documents were presented to you for signature? No.

Mr. H. B.
Jamieson.
2 May, 1889.

- Mr. H. B. Jamieson.
2 May, 1889.
12751. Can you tell me who presented them? No; I have not the faintest idea who presented them.
12752. Did you know anything of their contents? I read them through at the time, but I could not say what they contain now.
12753. Did you consider their contents? Yes.
12754. What age were you then? I was 19 years of age when the first one was signed, and about the same when the second one was signed.
12755. And you have no recollection as to who asked you to sign them, or what their object was? No; I cannot say I recollect anything about them at the present time. I read them through, but I did not know their contents.
12756. Do you know whether they had any reference to the making of roads at Manly Beach? No, I think they had reference to the making of roads or bridges, or something of that kind towards Hurstville.
12757. Do you know whether your father has any interest in any property out there? I know he is a shareholder in the Holt-Sutherland Estate.
12758. Do you know how many shares he has? No.
12759. Do you know Sir Henry Parkes? Yes.
12760. Intimately? Yes.
12761. Is he often at your house? He has been, but not for some considerable time.
12762. Was he frequently there when your father was in the Colony? No; he was not at our house frequently.
12763. Had he and your father any business transactions with each other? Not that I am aware of.
12764. Did your father lend him any money? Not that I am aware of.
12765. Has your father ever spoken about any money transactions that he had with him? No.
12766. Who is the gentleman who is representing your father as his attorney during his absence? My brother, M. R. Jamieson.
12767. Is he older than you are? Yes.
12768. Do you know Mr. John Davies? I know him.
12769. Has he ever been at your father's house? Not that I remember. I have never seen him there.
12770. Are your family and the family of Mr. John Davies on visiting terms? Not that I know of. I never heard of anybody visiting Mr. Davies' house.
12771. Do you know whether your father still holds shares in the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I could not give you any definite information, but I believe he does.

FRIDAY, 3 MAY, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, ESQ., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

John William Deering called in, sworn, and examined.

- Mr. J. W. Deering.
3 May, 1889.
12772. *President.*] What position do you hold in the Public Service? Metropolitan and Coast District Surveyor.
12773. How long have you held that position? Since 1885.
12774. How long have you been connected with the Survey Department? Nearly twenty-nine years altogether. I have been in the Government Service thirty-four years.
12775. Is your present position of a responsible nature? Entirely so.
12776. Will you kindly define the responsibilities attaching to it? Every application or case in my district requiring report comes to me, and I recommend direct to the Under Secretary for Lands, as the official in connection with the Minister.
12777. Have those responsibilities attached to your office for a considerable time? Since the passing of the Land Act of 1884.
12778. Then can I take it that your duty is of a highly responsible nature and that, in the main, the Minister looks to you for report and advice professionally? Entirely so.
12779. What district do you cover? From just a little south of Newcastle to the north boundary of the Bega district, extending westerly and southerly to Bathurst and Goulburn within a few miles. Every case comes before me from a minor matter to a £10,000 affair.
12780. I do not ask this question offensively; but will you tell me whether in carrying out your duties you have ever been offered gratuities or considerations? Do you mean during my whole career. I think twice, but not by educated men, or men in position.
12781. Who is Mr. Gordon? A surveyor under me.
12782. Do you recollect the creation of a department called the Casual Labour Board, and the date of its creation? Perfectly. In May, 1887. It was appointed when I gave the duties up.
12783. What was Mr. Gordon's position just previously to the creation of the Casual Labour Board? A surveyor under me.
12784. After the appointment of the Board, what was his position? He had no official connection with the Casual Labour Board whatever.
12785. Was he in any way detached from you? He was not.
12786. Or from the Department to which you belong? He was not.
12787. Can I take it that, throughout the whole existence of the Board, he was a subordinate officer to you, and responsible to your Department? Entirely so.
12788. Will you look at this plan, and tell me by whom it was prepared? Yes; Mr. Gordon, in connection with the Government Department.
12789. Can this Commission take it to be a correct plan? Yes.
12790. What does it show? The roads cleared formed, and in parts metalled by the Casual Labour Board, through lands chiefly of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith.
12791. By whom were these letters B, C, D, E, F, G, H, and I, placed on the plan? By a draftsman in my office, at the request of the Secretary to this Commission. 12792.

NOTE (on revision):—Q 12755—Witness states he did not say "but I did not know their contents."

Mr. J. W.
Deering.

3 May, 1889.

12792. Do they correspond with the letters on any plan that has been before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly? They correspond with a plan prepared by their order, plan 8 of the appendix to the Select Committee.
12793. Then these letters are put there for the purpose of convenience of comparison with the plan that was before the Select Committee? Precisely.
12794. Amongst the papers which have been submitted to this Commission is a return laid upon the Table of the Legislative Assembly on 13th November, 1888, relating to the roads at Hornsby, to which is attached (Appendix E) a plan; will you tell me, for my assistance, whether that plan, so far as the lettering goes, corresponds with the lettering of this plan? Yes. The roads lettered on that plan correspond with the roads similarly lettered on the large plan.
12795. But I see on this smaller plan a road marked A, is that indicated on Mr. Gordon's plan now before me? There was no room to put it on the paper if omitted.
12796. Can you indicate whereabouts on the paper it would come? At the extreme north end of the plan of Mr. Gordon's [*Exhibit D 4*]. I will mark the letter "A" in pencil. [*Plan marked accordingly*].
12797. Had you anything to do with the work of the unemployed in the southern district or in or around the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I found the men at work there when I took charge, but I initiated nothing.
12798. Can I take it that this Commission can confine our questions to you to matters outside the Holt-Sutherland Estate? Yes; almost entirely. I cleared Kurnell, but I do not think that that is what you mean.
12799. Confining yourself to this plan [*Exhibit D 4*], will you tell me what, at the time you gave up supervision, was the state of affairs? The road marked A was cleared only.
12800. Nothing else? Nothing else. The public lands we were going to sell were just about to be cleared, and I sent a litho. of the subdivision to the officer in charge on the ground requesting him to continue it, and to clear the public estate.
12801. I put into your hands a minute apparently signed by you, dated 5th May, 1887, just three days after the creation of the Casual Labour Board; does that fairly represent what the position of affairs was at the time? Yes.
12802. I see you refer in that minute to a public road through Bellamy's grant; is that the road you have marked "A" on this plan? Yes.
12803. Did that road lead to the Crown lands? Yes.
12804. Does that road "A" pass through private property or through Crown lands? Through private property.
12805. Did the Government obtain authority to put the road "A" there? Yes.
12806. Will you tell me what it was? It was a permissive authority from Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith. An exchange of land was made.
12807. Was it afterwards formally dedicated? Yes; we opened it under the Parish Roads Act. I think that Mr. Burns even dedicated it.
12808. Will you look at a copy of the *Gazette* notice on page 110 of the printed evidence before the Select Committee, and tell me whether that notice refers to road "A"? Yes; for other land to which we surrendered our claim.
12809. What was the other land? On the northern side of the same grant.
12810. Is that shown on this map? No. It was a fair exchange. It suited Mr. Burns, and it suited us.
12811. How did you become aware that Mr. Burns was the owner of that land? Of that particular piece of land?
12812. Of all the land about here? Only through that road being taken through it. I knew then that Bellamy's grant belonged to Burns & Co. I never knew it before.
12813. Then, just about the time of the initiation of work on this road, you found that Mr. Burns was interested? It was just about the time, or a little before, because I happened to see the names of the owners of the land on the Road Plan.
12814. Do you see a minute prepared by you on 17th January, 1888? Yes.
12815. Does that minute refer to road "A"? Yes, entirely.
12816. Not to any other roads? I do not think I have alluded to any other roads.
12817. Can I take it that that minute is correct? Yes; quite correct.
12818. Do you see, on the next page of these printed papers, a minute of 14th June, 1887? Yes.
12819. To what does that refer? It refers to the roads through the public estate, the lithographs of which you have.
12820. And to no others? No; to no others.
12821. Will you look at the first minute on the paper, marked No. 3, a minute not dated, but from a note later the date would appear to be November, 1888; can I take it that the statements in that minute are correct? Quite correct.
12822. Is this road, which you have marked A on this plan [*Exhibit D 4*], the road you speak of there as that leading from Peat's Ferry Road, through Bellamy's grant (now Burns & Co.'s land), and across the bridge over the railway to the Crown land? Yes.
12823. You speak of it as having been cleared and formed? I think the side drains were just cut and thrown up into the middle. I think that was the case. There was no metal put on it by me.
12824. Do you notice a road on this plan [*Exhibit D 4*] called the Boundary Road? Yes.
12825. Did you have anything to do with that, and if anything, what? I think I said it had better be cleared through to the Great Eastern Road. A minute of Mr. Garrett's of 5th May, 1887, at page 3 of these printed papers, refers to the road, and my note there is to continue clearing it through to the Great Eastern Road, because the Boundary Road abutted on Crown lands all the way. No Crown lands, no clearing with me.
12826. Does the Boundary Road go through Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's property? No; it bounds it. Crown lands are on one side, and Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's land on the other.
12827. Look at the minute, 5th May, 1887; it says, immediately following your note, "Road named herein now completed, F.O.D.; who is F.O.D.? Mr. O'Donnell.
12828. Was he an officer under you? When I had charge of the Relief Works. He is not one of my departmental officers.

- Mr. J. W. Deering.
3 May, 1889.
12829. Can you say whether that road mentioned there was cleared its entire width up to the point you were speaking of; I refer to the road in continuation of the Great Eastern or Vanceville Road? No.
12830. Was that Boundary Road, in your opinion, a practicable road? No, it was not; but it was impossible to form a good judgment until we cleared it partly.
12831. I suppose we can take it as conclusive that it is an impracticable road? Yes.
12832. Did you take any steps to get any other road in substitution of this Boundary Road when you found it impracticable? No; I did not want any other road in that locality to sell those Crown lands.
12833. By what route then would the public get access to the Crown lands you were about to sell? Across the road A, and the roads through the Crown estate as laid out.
12834. That being so, could people get to the land by any other road than across the road A? No, only by road A.
12835. Do you think, in the interest of these Crown lands and the public, it was desirable to have any other means of access than by road A? Yes, I do.
12836. Do you know anything about this road which is marked G on this plan [*Exhibit D 4*]? Yes, I know it well.
12837. What is it called? Junction Road.
12838. Do you know anything of its history? I think it was recommended by Mr. Gordon.
12839. I see that on the 31st March, 1886, it was asked that steps be taken for clearing and forming a new road, surveyed by the Government, between Burns, Withers, and Smith's land, and land owned by Fears and others on the other side;—do you know to what that refers? Scarcely.
12840. I see Mr. Symonds reports to the Commissioner for Roads that there was no road marked, that the road in such a position was of no present use to the public, that no persons were living on the back land to make use of it; that no provision was made for crossing the rails;—does that recall the matter at all? No; I scarcely know.
12841. It is in on our papers, and I want to find out whether it affects our inquiry at all? I do not think it affects you at all.
12842. Look at your minute of 14th July, 1886, page 108, Appendix of Select Committee evidence;—what is the proposed parish road you there refer to? The one marked A on the plan.
12843. You see a memorandum above that on the same page, of James Symonds'. It says, "Mr. Surveyor W. M. Gordon to survey the road referred to, with a view to opening under 4 William IV, No. 2, where necessary." Is that still the same road? Yes; it is the road A on the plan.
12844. Do you notice that you invite attention "to the streets already laid out in the private subdivision of Hornsby Junction Estate litho. herewith"? I do.
12845. What plan of subdivision do you refer to there? I believe it is the plan of the subdivision which is plan 4 of the evidence before the Select Committee. My intention was to take advantage of the streets already laid out in the subdivision for the public.
12846. Will you look at page 109 of the Appendix to the Select Committee evidence, a note dated 16th November, 1886, in which Mr. Burns states, "In lieu of the road we first mutually agreed upon, Burns, Withers, and Smith are prepared to assent to the proposed change, provided that the new line is surveyed and cleared for traffic in a reasonable time, and that the Government relinquish all claim in respect of the former line." Do you take it that what you did to the road A was a compliance with that request? Yes, it was.
12847. That is to say, you surveyed it, and cleared it for traffic? We did, and with the public money. We complied with that agreement.
12848. Do you consider that after that the Government were under any obligation to Mr. Burns? I am sure they were not.
12849. Then can we take it that all the correspondence with Mr. Burns up to May, 1887, was in reference to this road A, and the old road to the North, for which A was substituted? Yes.
12850. He speaks of "a line" you made;—does that mean any line of road? It was the boundary line of the grant. There was no other road substituted for that.
12851. If you look at a letter from Mr. Surveyor Perdriau, on page 109 of the Appendix to the Select Committee evidence, you see a reference to a road;—is that still road A? It is still road A.
12852. Who is the Mr. Dawson referred to? Burns & Co.'s private surveyor.
12853. Do you know anything of the difference between the surveyors referred to there? It is a professional misunderstanding.
12854. It is only as to the plan I suppose? That is all.
12855. This appears to be the first occasion in which Mr. Gordon comes into the business? Yes; that only refers to the boundaries of the old grants.
12856. That letter is noted by you;—can you tell me whether at that time Mr. Gordon and Mr. Dawson were brought into contact in any other way than as to road A? I think not. It was not so much about road A as about the boundaries of the old grants.
12857. If you look at the papers you will see a memorandum by Mr. Twyman, of July, 1887, and immediately following that comes a dedication;—does that still refer to road A? It still refers to road A.
12858. At the next page is a letter of Mr. Burns, of 11th August, 1887, he says, "I think right to remind you that it is obligatory on the part of the Government to extend the road to the Great Eastern or Vanceville Road, and to put it in fair passable condition for traffic";—did that come before you in any way? Scarcely. Besides it was not obligatory on the part of the Government.
12859. Was it possible to do this from the nature of the country? No. It was not obligatory, and in that direction it was impracticable.
12860. Did you know whether, at the time you made that report of the 17th January, 1888, there were any other roads in existence at all? No. I know nothing about them. I never saw them.
12861. Have you become aware that, as a matter of fact, at that time there were other roads in existence? Yes; I have become aware of it since.
12862. Look at the letter, dated 28th January, 1888, from Mr. Gordon to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board;—did you ever have that letter brought under your notice? I did not.
12863. You see in part of it Mr. Gordon says, "The road marked 'G,' called the Junction Road, runs from the railway line easterly to Vanceville Road, passing through slightly undulating country, and crosses the heads of creeks and gullies, which present very precipitous banks after running to Boundary Road." Can you tell me who initiated that Junction Road? I cannot tell you, unless it was Mr. Davies. I did not.
- 12864.

Mr. J. W.
Deering.
3 May, 1889.

12864. Did Mr. Gordon report anything about the matter to you? Never.
12865. Was there anything unusual in that? It was extremely unusual.
12866. Do you see he speaks in the same letter of roads "marked B.C., D.E.F., which are all practicable and fairly level,"—did you have anything to do with these? Nothing.
12867. Did Mr. Gordon report to you in any way about those roads? No.
12868. In the same letter he speaks of the roads, H and I, as being "also good and practicable." Did he report the making of these to you? He did not.
12869. What was Mr. Gordon's position during this time with reference to you? He was a surveyor on temporary salary as he is now.
12870. How came he to be mixed up with the Casual Labour Board? At the time of the Casual Labour Board taking over the work from me they asked for the assistance of Mr. Gordon occasionally, whilst the work was in course of transference. I consented to that and the matter ended, about May, 1887, and it is with surprise that I learn from these papers that he had any further connection with the Casual Labour Board.
12871. Who is Mr. Symonds? A road superintendent.
12872. Look at page 110 of the appendix to the Select Committee evidence. You see a note of Mr. Symonds,—“I inspected this line of roads on the 12th instant, and find that the work of clearing, culverting, &c., has been undertaken by the Casual Labour Board, who have a number of men employed upon it.” Does that refer to road A? I should think that it does; but I cannot say.
12873. Have you had anything to do with the culverting? They might call the work over the bridge on the railway culverting.
12874. At this stage, when you passed over Mr. Gordon to the Casual Labour Board, can I take it that there was nothing more done but the clearing of the road A? Nothing more. I lent Mr. Gordon to them for a day or two to start them right.
12875. After that, did you have anything to do with these other roads? Nothing.
12876. Can you tell me anything about these other roads, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, and I, excepting from hearsay? I went over them with the Select Committee. They requested me to go with them, and then I saw them for the first time.
12877. Do you see on the plan roads marked Burdett, Florence, George, and Smith Streets; do you know any of these roads? I have seen them on the ground.
12878. Do you know who made any of them? The Casual Labour Board.
12879. Are you positive? Yes.
12880. All of them? Yes; all of them.
12881. Do you see this road, marked red to the west of road I, which leads into the road from Pennant Hills? Yes.
12882. Does that go through Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smiths' property? No; it does not. It goes through the Mutual Building Society's land.
12883. Can you mark it for identification with some letter? Yes; I will mark it K. [*Road marked K*].
12884. Was that done by the unemployed? Yes.
12885. You see a road, being a continuation of the Great Eastern Road, marked J and F? That was partly done by the unemployed. Burns & Co. began to do it themselves, I have been informed.
12886. Do you know how far they did it? They cleared from the Lane Cove Road up to Burns Road.
12887. This continuation of Burns Road to the East of the Great Eastern Road—through whose property does it pass? It passes along the north side of Burns, Withers, and Smith's land, and then after going east a little, it goes south.
12888. It goes south again? It goes south along the east boundary of Burns land.
12889. And then east again—up to what point? It continues east for 13 chains, or thereabouts, to some point.
12890. Does it go to Crown lands? No; there are no Crown lands there.
12891. Was there any object, in the public interest, in having the Great Eastern Road continued up to a point that might strike a continuation of the Boundary Road? Certainly not; because if the Boundary Road is an impassable road, what is the good of getting up to it.
12892. Was there any object in having the roads B, C, D, and E running to the Boundary Road—I am assuming that the Junction Road exists? I would have cleared them through to the Boundary Road.
12893. Given that the Junction road is a public road of access, was there, in your opinion, any occasion for all, or any of the roads, marked B, C, D, and E? I would have cleared them if the people had given the land.
12894. All of them? Yes; but cleared them only.
12895. If that block was Crown land, and you were laying out Crown land to the North, would you have laid out these roads B, C, D, and E? In that locality I would have cleared the roads, if they had given us the land. What I object to is, not the clearing, but the formation and ballasting.
12896. Do you think these roads marked H, I, and K were justifiable, in the public interest? Yes; but only the clearing. I would have cleared through the whole of the Great Eastern Road into the Crown lands. I would have cleared the roads I and C, the road K, and Burdett-street, commencing from the station; but I would never have put a scrap of metal on them. It is not the clearing that is wrong, but the extraordinary expenditure which followed.
12897. Were you examined before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly? Yes.
12898. Is this your evidence? Yes.

Evidence before Select Committee.

1333. *Chairman.*] You have had something to do, I believe, with the management of the unemployed? I had the unemployed for about nine or ten months; I think from about September, 1886, to May, 1887.
1334. Did you have entire control of the unemployed up to that time? Yes.
1335. What work did you put them on during that time? Kurnell.
1336. What did you give them at Kurnell? Clearing.
1337. What kind of land? Government land. 1338.

NOTE (on revision) :—Q. 12873—For "They, &c., to culverting" read "Nothing whatever, except at the Field of Mars, a public estate." Q. 12891—After "impassable road" add "as the Board themselves state."

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1338. Did you put them on any private property, or roads through private property? Certainly not.
1339. Then after Kurnell? Field of Mars.
1340. What property was that? Government property.
1341. Any private roads leading to it or from it? No. I hesitated because I thought there might be a short piece leading to a railway station or something.
1342. But there was not? No; I think not.
1343. The clearing was all on Government land? Entirely.
1344. What other place? There was no other place.
1345. Did you have any of the unemployed working at Hornsby? They commenced a road over the bridge. They commenced to clear it just as I gave up the charge of the unemployed.
1346. That is the road marked A? Yes; I distinctly remember telling O'Donnell (he had better complete it.
1347. That is the only road in the vicinity of Hornsby you authorized? It is the only one I authorized, and it is the only one I saw till the other day—Monday week.
1348. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Is that the road where the bridge is? Yes.
1349. I thought it was a quarter of a mile more to the south? We were going to take the road here [*points to plan*]. There was a piece of Crown land between what we stated was Bellamy's grant and the other grants. It was not a very good road, and we made an exchange with the owners of this grant for this road A. I do not know whether we had a good position with regard to this piece of Crown land. In order to settle the matter, the owners said, "Do not claim this, and we will give you a road over that bridge." It was manifestly to the advantage of the Crown to accept the offer.
1350. You had no acknowledged right to that? No; there was a little doubt about the matter, and we made a very good arrangement for the Crown with the owner of that property by getting that road. They gave it freely.
1351. *Chairman.*] Who were the owners of this? Burns, Withers, and Smith.
1352. Then for this road A you gave them a piece of doubtful Crown land? Yes; unproven Crown land. I do not know whether we should have gained our case. The moment the offer was made I recommended the Government to close; it was so manifestly to our advantage.
1353. Did you recommend any other roads in the vicinity of Hornsby? I did not.
1354. Did you survey any others? I did not, nor cause them to be surveyed.
1355. There is a minute here:—

28 May, 1887.—Board met at 426, Pitt-street.

Present:—Mr. John Davies, F. Wells, D. Houison.

Mr. John Davies visited Hornsby, in company with Mr. Deering, and approved of certain roads being laid out and formed;—

is that minute correct? I do not know what Mr. Davies did. The minute states what Mr. Davies approved.

1356. Did you approve of any roads? I did not approve of any roads. Mr. Burns asked me to go up with him and Mr. Davies on that occasion. I do not think it was an official visit. Mr. Burns was a very old friend of mine.

1357. Was Mr. Burns with you? He was. I never went up with Mr. Davies alone.

1358. Who was with you each time you went up with Mr. Davies? I went with Mr. Burns the first time.

1359. And who was with Mr. Davies the second time? Mr. Burns and Mr. Oliver, the Under Secretary for Lands.

1360. I suppose this 28th May was the first time? I could not say the date; it was about that time.

1361. To assist your memory, I may say that the Casual Labour Board came into office on the 2nd of May, and on the 28th of May there is this record of your being present with Mr. Davies at Hornsby;—was that the time that Mr. Davies and Mr. Burns were with you without any others? It must have been, if that minute is right as to date. I was never there but with Mr. Davies and Mr. Burns.

1362. In this instance, when it applies that you approved of any roads, is that correct;—did you approve of any roads on that occasion? If I did it was the roads through the Crown lands; and I think that is what we looked at on this occasion and the clearing of the reserve.

1363. Did you recommend or approve of roads being laid out or formed on private land belonging to anybody? I did not.

1364. Are any of those roads on the plan recommended by you? None, except A.

1365. Have any of them been surveyed by you? None; nor seen by me until I went with Select Committee last Monday week, nor had that part of the ground been seen by me until I went with the Committee.

1366. From what kind of property does the road A go, and to what kind of property does it lead? It leads from Peat's Ferry Road into Crown lands.

1367. Is it private land to the west? No.

1368. It leads from and to Government property? Yes; there is a reserve there.

1369. Where? That little piece at the western side: it is not quite correctly drawn. I had it surveyed.

1370. Is it a Government reserve? Yes.

1371. Are there any roads leading to that reserve? Yes. Peat's Ferry Road.

1372. Did you recommend that as a reserve whilst you were in charge of the unemployed? No.

1373. *Mr. Brunker.*] You could not make it a reserve unless it was Crown land? Of course it was Crown land.

1374. *Chairman.*] You recommended the dedication of it as a reserve? No; it was a reserve. I recommended subdivision.
1375. Now, all these other roads that you see, are they all, in your opinion as a surveyor, necessary as roads of access to Crown lands? No; I should not say they were all necessary.
1376. Those shown on the plan you gave in with your papers? No; of course they are not all necessary. Nobody could say that.
1377. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Are they beneficial as roads of access? Every road is beneficial to a certain extent—everything has a certain amount of advantage; but if you ask me would I have made them—I suppose that is it—I say decidedly I would not have made those roads.
1378. *Chairman.*] As a surveyor? Yes; having charge of the subdivision of Crown lands.
1379. In the interests of the Crown you would not have made them? No.
1380. About how many of those would you designate as necessary? If you ask me what I would have done myself, I would not have minded clearing Junction Road, the road north from the church into Boundary Road, Vanceville Road, and I would not have minded clearing B, C, D, and E.
1381. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Why would you have cleared them? They lead into Crown lands. I want to say something more: I would not have minded clearing them, provided the owners gave the land free.
1382. *Chairman.*] But you would not have gone any further? No; I would not have formed them. I would not have metalled them.
1383. *Mr. Carruthers.*] They have not been metalled, I believe? Well, call it what you like—ballasted.
1384. *Chairman.*] Would you have recommended the formation of that road alongside the railway-station? No; I would not.
1385. Do you know whether that road is being formed or not? I saw something was being done to it the other day. Is it being culverted, and it has been cleared.
1386. And it is now being formed? Yes.
1387. Now, take the continuation of Boundary Road to the road bordering the railway;—would you have recommended that to be cleared or formed or metalled? Yes; cleared only, provided always the land was given.
1388. Take the one to the south of that—the road running from B into the one bordering the railway-station? The middle one?—no, decidedly not.
1389. You would not have recommended even the clearing of that? No; I would not.
1390. Then the road running southward from that into Junction Road;—would you have recommended that? I would not.
1391. The road running from H, parallel with Burns Road, about 5 chains to the north of it;—would you have recommended the clearing or forming of that road? I would not.
1392. Would you have recommended the road from Burns Road into E? No.
1393. Would you have recommended the continuation of HH, running from Lane Cove Road up to the road I have just mentioned through this little section? No; I would not.
1394. Do you consider that there are too many roads on this section south of the Boundary Road for purposes of access to the Crown lands or to the railway-station? Yes.
1395. What benefit (if any) would be likely to accrue to the owners of private property from the multiplication of these roads? Well, it simply makes the roads for them through their estate. I suppose the value to the owners is the expenditure upon the roads.
1396. Would you consider that the giving of the land would be ample consideration for the construction of these roads? No.
1397. The forming of these roads would give more value to the land than they would lose by giving the land? Yes, beyond a doubt. It would not compensate for the expenditure.
1398. Whilst you were in charge of the unemployed, you have stated that it has been your object to employ them in making roads through subdivisions on Crown land;—is it your opinion that if that course had been adopted with reference to these Crown lands to the north of Boundary Road it would have been more beneficial to the country than to make so many roads south of Boundary Road? Of course, beyond a doubt.
1399. If this expenditure that has been made on private property had been made on public lands, the Crown lands would have profited to that extent? Yes. I would not say to that extent—not to the full extent—but they would have profited.
1400. Of course there must be some roads of access? Yes.
1401. But after the necessary roads of access, if the superfluous roads had been put on Government land it would have been of more benefit to the country? Beyond a doubt.
1402. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Have you been over these Crown lands marked here for subdivision? Partly.
1403. What is the character of the country? Bad land; broken rocky country.
1404. Do you think the greater portion of it will be sold during the next ten years? No.
1405. Have all the lands worth buying been bought there already? Not entirely; there is a little fair land, but it is patchy.
- 1405½. How long did you have the unemployed under your care? From September, 1886, to May, 1887.
1406. During that time, did you ever lay out roads across private estates to give access to Crown lands? No; I think not.
1407. Were you ever approached by anyone with the request to do so? No.
1408. If you had had the unemployed when it was suggested that these roads should be laid out across the Burns-Withers-Smith property, would you have carried them out to the extent to which you see them on this plan? I would not.
1409. Are you aware that there are a number of roads in existence on the property not marked on the plan at all? They are marked on my plan.
1410. Not marked on the plan submitted to Parliament? Yes; I am aware of that—numbers of roads. I suppose the plan shows the roads proposed by Mr. Gordon, and that they have made roads since Mr. Gordon's report.

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1411. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Do you know anything about other roads besides those that are shown? Yes; I have been all over them. The Select Committee requested me to produce a plan showing the roads.
1412. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Now, take Burns Road;—can you tell where that road leads to off the property of Burns, Withers, and Smith? I do not know where it leads to.
1413. Would you regard Burns Road, running from west to east, as giving access to Crown lands lying to the north of that road? Certainly not; that is exactly the reason that I object to these roads parallel to Boundary-street.
1414. Then the construction or making or forming of Burns Road was not justifiable on the ground of giving access to Crown lands? I do not think it was; I could not possibly say so.
1415. Take road E, running southerly on to Burns Road, do you regard that as necessary to give access to Crown lands? No.
1416. Referring to the road running south from near the western end of Junction Road, is that required to give access to Crown lands? No; but I think it is only fair to state that it is not on the land of Burns, Withers, and Smith.
1417. And you have already admitted that the T-shaped road opposite was not required to give access to Crown lands? Not at all.
1418. What was the object of constructing this road parallel to the railway, and not taking it across Junction Road on to Peat's Ferry Road? I do not know anything about it.
1419. You do not know who made that road or who authorized it? I asked the men who were making it, and they said the Casual Labour Board.
1420. You do not know who authorized it? No.
1421. Do you think it was wise to take this road between those two points to Junction Road and leave it there? I do not think it was.
1422. Do you think it was a useful expenditure of public money? I do not.
1423. With regard to Boundary Road, have you any knowledge of the character of the country along there? Yes.
1424. Would it pay to make a public road along Boundary Road? No, it would not; it would pay to clear it, not to make it.
1425. Do you think it would be preferable to make Junction Road and the tributary roads than to make Boundary Road? Yes; I would have cleared them, not made them.
1426. *Mr. Carruthers.*] You do not understand the question. Mr. O'Sullivan says would you sooner make Junction Road and these tributary roads than make Boundary Road? I would not make either; they are both wrong.
1427. Suppose you had to make one or the other? Then, as a public officer, I would make Boundary Road. I would not make the other.
1428. Then, Boundary Road not being made, do you think sufficient access was given to the Crown land by the Church Road (I) and the Vanceville Road? Yes, beyond a doubt, and the road A.
1429. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] You consider the roads I, A, and J justifiable roads to give access to Crown lands? Yes.
1430. In your opinion, all the other roads were unnecessary to give access to Crown lands? Well, I think it was right to clear Junction Road. I would not have minded seeing it cleared if they would give the land.
1431. Have you made any observations on the system of subdividing private estates? Yes, of course.
1432. Is it the practice of owners of private estates, when they want to make their land saleable, to cut the land up and clear the streets? Yes; clearing the streets pays, if it is a good estate.
1433. As a business man, if you had been the owner of this whole property and desired to sell it to advantage, would you have laid out and cleared a number of streets? Yes; I would have cleared the streets, but not have formed, metalled, or ballasted them.
1434. By forming and metalling the road, of course you increase the value of the property to that extent? I would not say to that extent exactly. Of course it would improve the value of the property considerably, and effect a sale.
1435. Then do you consider that if the Casual Labour Board had not laid out and made these roads, Burns, Withers, and Smith, if they desired to sell their land to advantage, would have laid it out and cleared certain roads in the ordinary way of business? Yes; they would have done it without a doubt.
1436. And in doing that they must have given access to the Crown lands? No; because they need not take their roads right into Boundary Road; they could stop within 2 feet or a foot, put up a fence, and block us.
1437. Could not the Government resume those 2 feet and make a road? No; because you must resume for a certain purpose, and roads cannot be resumed under the Resumption Act, not being specified as a purpose thereunder.
1438. But you would not be resuming roads, you would be resuming vacant land that was an obstacle to the construction of a public road? Yes; but if it is for a purpose that is provided for by some other Act, you could not put the Lands Acquisition Act in force—not for roads or railways.
1439. *Mr. Bruncker.*] Is there any other Act to give the power? No. The Parish Roads Act only applies where you go from a population to a population, or to a main road.
1440. *Mr. Carruthers.*] And it is only at the instance of the population you can open it? Quite so.
1441. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Is there no law on our Statute Book which would allow the Government to force a road through this 2 feet left there as a bar and an obstacle to the public? No.
1442. I mean, providing for compensation and everything else, provided the owners were treated fairly? No; we cannot do it.
- 1443.

1443. *Chairman.*] Would it not be to the advantage of the private owners to take it right through? Yes; quite so.
1444. In considering their own advantage they would have taken them right through? Yes.
1445. Did you never know of a case where the Government resumed private lands? Not for a road. They sometimes resume land for a public purpose, and then resume a road of access afterwards, and which the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act allows.
1446. Then, if they saw that these proprietors were so unpatriotic as to leave an obstacle of 2 feet, would not they probably resume that land and put a road through it? I think it is likely enough that some steps would be taken.
1447. Apart from that altogether, do you think it is probable that owners of an estate like this would play so unpatriotic and selfish a part, and a part so detrimental to themselves, as to leave a narrow barrier between the end of their roads and the Boundary Road? Do you mean, provided they cleared their roads, and we would not clear ours?
1448. Under any circumstances? Yes; it is continually done.
1449. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Under these circumstances, considering that the effect of giving access to the Crown land would be to still further increase the value of their own land, do you think they would be likely to do it? Giving access to the Crown lands would, of course, improve their lands.
1450. If the population were induced to settle on the Crown lands at the back of their property, would not the presence of that population give value to their land? Beyond a doubt.
1451. Would it not be an advantage in that case to have cleared roads of access to the Crown lands, in order that the population at the back would be able to cross the street? It would be an advantage to the population, and also an advantage to the owners of the estate.
1452. You admit that if the population were settled on the Crown land that would add value to the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? Yes.
1453. Then, admitting that, and the probability that a little township would go up, with shops and stores fronting the street? Yes; but not there. The township would come here in their estate.
1454. Yes; but even so, the people settled on the Crown lands would naturally have to come there to trade; and with that probability before them, would it not be to the advantage of the owners of this property to give access to the Crown lands? Beyond a doubt, when the population is there.
1455. *Mr. Brunker.*] What population is settled round here, to the east? None at all.
1456. Is not that where we saw the orchards? No; it is a good deal further south. There is a population to the south—not a large population.
1457. Assuming that the population settles to the east and west of these lands, would not these roads of access give increased value to the Crown lands—increase the traffic to the railway? Yes; some of these roads—not all of them.
1458. *Mr. Carruthers.*] How could population settle on those Crown lands if you have no access to them? Of course it could not.
1459. Is it not a rule you recognize that, before you can induce people to purchase this land and settle on it, you must give fair access to your railway lines and main roads? Yes.
1460. You have had a great deal of experience in the sale of Crown lands in the metropolitan area? Yes; I have charge of it all.
1461. How far is Hornsby from Sydney by railway? About 12 miles from St. Leonards.
1462. What have been the best Crown land sales you have had during the last two years, within (say) 10 to 20 miles of Sydney? The Gordon sale, south-east from Hornsby.
1463. Was the sale at Narrabeen good? Yes, very good; but Gordon was better.
1464. Was the Narrabeen sale better than Harbord? Yes.
1465. Very much better? Yes.
1466. You sold a great deal of the Harbord land at the upset price? A good deal of it was left. We did not consider it a good sale.
1467. You considered Narrabeen a very good sale? Yes, a good sale.
1468. At Harbord you did not do very much in the way of clearing roads or land? We cleared the roads.
1469. Did you clear them to anything like the extent you did at Narrabeen? Yes; what there was of them.
1470. Is it not the fact that the unemployed were working for months at Narrabeen? They were making a road (the French's Forest Road) and metalling it—a leading road right through—towards Pittwater.
1471. They made other roads of access to that—cross-roads? I do not think they metalled any.
1472. Ballasted them—gravelled them? No; I do not think they ballasted any. They cleared them and cut side trenches.
1473. Is not Harbord closer to Sydney and Manly Beach than Narrabeen? Yes; from 2 to 3 miles—it varies.
1474. Narrabeen was the better sale? Yes; on account of the proposed railway, projected since the Harbord sale, which will sell better than Narrabeen when next offered.
1475. You remember the sales that took place at Como? Yes.
1476. There is a water frontage there? The sale (on the ground) went too low. We can only account for it by the wet day. Still, every lot was sold, though the attendance was small.
1477. There were no roads made to that whatever? No.
1478. Do you know that after you sold at Como, the unemployed made roads there—from Como to the Wororona River, and to Sutherland Railway Station, and to Heathcote? That was not by my orders; I only cleared Como.

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1479. But do you know it? I do know of the Heathcote and Hurstville Roads since made now you mention it. I gave orders to have Como cleared, and only cleared.
1480. And after the sale, one or two roads of access were made? They might have been promised by the auctioneer if it is so.
1481. Do you know that Sir George Innes, one of the purchasers, sold at a very considerable profit after the roads were made? Yes; I have heard so.
1482. Do you know that Mr. Myles M'Rae bought there and sold at a very considerable profit? Yes; I have heard so.
1483. Does not that enable you to form an opinion that the making of these roads increased the value very considerably, and that the Crown lost through not making them before the sale? Those roads you are speaking of are through Crown lands. The Como prices were too low for the reasons stated.
1484. Now what are the sales at Heathcote? Good.
1485. What was the average price? Some of the town allotments went very high; I cannot remember.
1486. Are you aware that a considerable portion of Heathcote was sold at £12 and £13 an acre? I cannot remember.
1487. Are you aware that contracts were let beforehand, and that the cost of clearing that land for sale was over £12 and £13 an acre? Yes; that is the more distant of the suburban lands. It was cleared by the Casual Labour Board, but should not have been done at all.
1488. Was the sale of Crown lands at Hornsby a good sale? Fair.
1489. What were the average prices realized? About £40 an acre, I think.
1490. You are sure it was not £78 an acre? That was the highest.
1491. Do you remember the best Como brought? I think about £30 an acre.
1492. Water frontage and all? Yes. It went too cheaply altogether, as already stated.
1493. About 11 miles from Sydney? About 13; but then you have to take a boat from the station to get to it.
1494. Supposing I were to offer to drive you on to it? Yes, now you could, by going a long way round through Peakhurst, since the Upper Punt across George's River has been re-established, and since the sale.
1495. You attribute the failure of the sale at Como to the fact that there were not the same facilities to get to the land that there are now? Partly; but then at Heathcote we cleared the land, and we sold it in parts only for what it cost to clear.
1496. How many miles is that from Sydney? Twenty.
1497. And some of that went for £12 or £13 an acre? Yes; but we cannot account for land sales. Sometimes there is an excitement for land sales, and then again you may make your best endeavours and people will not buy.
1498. Is it not the fact that the sales at Narrabeen and Hornsby are the two best sales the Government have had? Yes, for outside lands.
1499. On the two occasions, when you visited this locality with Mr. Burns, is it not a fact that you visited merely the Crown lands? Yes; the reserve near the Public-school site.
1500. Mr. Burns did not take you over his land? Not at all, except the land crossed by the road "A," at the railway bridge.
1501. You confined your attention solely to the Crown lands? Quite so. I do not know what we did exactly. We did nothing in particular.
1502. The object of your visit was to go to the Crown lands? That was on the second visit, beyond a doubt. I am speaking of the first visit. I went up with him as a friend, I understood, on the first occasion.
1503. Then you went officially? No; I do not think I did. I think I went up with him as a friend. He asked me to go with him, and I asked no questions. He asked me if I was disengaged on Saturday, and I went up.
1504. You spent that time inspecting the Crown lands? Yes. I certainly did not look at any of his private lands. We went and looked at the land where the bridge is. That is what we went to look at. We had very little time there. We went to look at this reserve on the first visit. I did not look on the first as an official visit, but the second was undoubtedly.
1505. You stated that, while you consider roads A, G, the Junction Road, I, and J, which of course include C and F—while you consider those justifiable, in your opinion, you would not have made the others? No; and I would only clear those mentioned.
1506. Now, suppose you had to purchase those roads, what was the price of land at the time? I think the land is worth about £40 an acre.
1507. You would have had to pay £40 an acre for those roads? Yes; I think we should have got it for that.
1508. Do you know what it has cost to clear those roads per acre? I know what it is worth.
1509. As it has been done, we are told it would cost £7 an acre? Yes; that is very reasonable if they took trees out 12 inches under the surface.
1510. If you did not go below the surface you could get it done for £2 or £3? For £4.
1511. As you have seen it done, is £7 an acre a fair price? Yes.
1512. *Mr. Bruncker.*] Is not that a big price? It is quite enough. I thought about £6, but did not wish to be too critical.
1513. *Mr. Carruthers.*] You stated in your evidence that you would have cleared these roads if the owners gave these lands free? Yes.
1514. Now you say the value you would pay for the land is £40 an acre, and the equivalent you would give the owner is £7 an acre? Exactly; I expect to make something out of it for the Government. That is the way I work. Then we proclaim that road, and it gives a frontage to the estate.
1515. You would be doing justice to your employers? Exactly; I serve the Government exactly as if they were private individuals.

1516. And getting the best of the bargain? Exactly.
1517. Now, I know you speak as an officer looking at a normal state of affairs; but considering that the Government had a large number of men unemployed, for whom they had to find relief work, do you think they lost anything by the bargain in this case in getting roads G, I, F, J ballasted while they were on the spot, after getting the land given to them free—so getting perfect access to the Crown lands—considering the cheap labour, and the necessity to find employment for this labour? I think the Government lost by it, beyond a doubt.
1518. In what way? We did not get the money back that was expended on these roads, and never shall.
1519. You say that, despite the fact that it has been the best sale you have had? That has not been the best sale. I said the Gordon sale was the best. I was rather disappointed about this sale. I did not think it was a particularly good sale.
1520. You said before that the Narrabeen and this were the two best? So they were, as regards outside sales; but Gordon is a suburban subdivision virtually.
1521. What did this land fetch? About £40. Some we would not sell at all.
1522. £78 was the highest? Yes.
1523. What was the lowest? £25, I think. [*Refers to lithograph with selling prices marked.*]
1524. Where do these roads come in? [*Witness indicates approximate position of roads.*]
1525. Do you notice that where you have marked the road C coming in, the price obtained is the highest in that block? Yes; but it was not because of that exactly. The reason that fetched such a price was because it has such a long frontage to the Boundary Road.
1526. You do not give any credit to the fact of there being a good made road facing it? Not very much.
1527. If it is no benefit to the buyer of that lot, can you tell me what advantage it is to the people through whose land it goes? Of course it gives them double frontage all the way.
1528. There remains the fact that this land brought £65 per acre; the next block, facing the same road, £61 per acre, and the other blocks diminish in value down to £41? Yes; but there are different elements there.
1529. Now take the block where the next road, D, comes in;—do you notice that this block fetches £33 per acre; the next blocks to it, although they are closer to the station, drop to £25, £29, and £27? Yes; but that is not the reason why. The reason that fetched the money is that Boundary Road is made and King Road is not.
1530. Nevertheless here is this road made to that limit, and yet this fetches £60? Yes; but the best of the land is on the top of the hill. Some of the other did not fetch so much because of the rocks. [*Refers to plan.*]
1531. Do you know that Burns and Withers sold some land on the other side of the railway line? Yes; in the Hornsby Junction Estate, at 20s. per foot to £3 10s. per foot, near the railway station.
- 1532-3. Are you sure they did not sell some on the same side as the Government land? I do not know; I was not aware that they had.

Recalled and further examined, 3rd December, 1888:—

1534. *Mr. M. Millan.*] Mr. Gordon is your officer, is he not? Yes.
1535. He seems to have had a good deal to do with the initiation of these roads, if I understand aright? It seems so from the papers.
1536. How was it that Mr. Gordon, being an officer in your Department, should do anything in the matter without its going directly or ultimately through you? He should not have done so; it was very wrong of him to do so.
1537. You are, I believe, in the position of head surveyor to the Metropolitan District? Yes.
1538. And every officer in that district is under you? Yes.
1539. For how long did the period extend during which Mr. Gordon was acting, or is acting, on his own account, instead of acting directly through you? I can judge only by the papers. I see his letters now for the first time.
1540. But speaking roughly? I see there are four of his letters in the papers at various dates, from October, 1887, to May, 1888.
1541. Are you not supposed to have a more or less accurate knowledge of the movements and works of your officers? Yes.
1542. You say you know nothing, except from reference to Mr. Gordon's letters, of what he has done in the matter; surely, during the eight months to which you have referred, you have some knowledge of the work occupying Mr. Gordon's time as your subordinate officer? You see he might easily have written any one of these letters without my having any knowledge of it.
1543. Mr. Gordon is an officer under your supervision; he is engaged on certain work, and, by the rules of the office, he should report to you, you being responsible to him;—how could he be so long employed on work of which you knew absolutely nothing? He was not employed exclusively on this work during the period I have named. All I say is, that he wrote these four letters during this period. He was not employed by the Casual Labour Board from October, 1887.
1544. What I want to get at is this: Mr. Gordon did a certain amount of work as your officer in connection with this Hornsby Estate through the Casual Labour Board;—how is it that he did work of this kind without you having any knowledge of it. I take it for granted that you ignore, as far as you are concerned, and that you disclaim any responsibility for it? Yes.
1545. How can you ignore work done by an officer in your own department for whose action you are directly responsible to the Minister? I can only say that these letters are unwarranted.

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1456. Was Mr. Gordon not employed by the Casual Labour Board under Mr. John Davies? No; he was not. I protested against Mr. John Davies writing to Mr. Gordon. Mr. Davies wrote to him recently, and I protested officially against his letter.
1547. Did not Mr. Gordon do some work in his position as a Government officer in connection with these roads? You are rather emphasising what he did. Of course he knew the country intimately.
1548. You know now that Mr. Gordon was employed by the Board—that he had something to do with it? I did not know till I saw the papers.
1549. You know now? I know now.
1550. How could an officer under you be spending his time doing certain work without you having some knowledge as to how it came about? He was not spending much time at it. I know, as a matter of fact, that he could not have done so. He could not possibly have done so without my knowing it. He sends me a progress journal every month. You must bear in mind that it would not take a very long time to write any of these letters and to make these proposals.
1551. He had no right, without instructions from or without the letter going through you, to take the initiative in any work of this kind? He had not. I may say that I reprimanded him for writing this letter of 28th January, 1888.
1552. *Mr. Street.*] Had you at any time charge of the unemployed? Yes.
1553. When? From about September, 1886, to May, 1887.
1554. Can you tell us how it was that you gave up charge of the unemployed? I found that I could not carry on my duties as district surveyor and carry on the "unemployed" work as well, and resigned the latter.
1555. Who succeeded you in your charge? The present Labour Board. Sir Henry Parkes asked me to be on the Board, but my official duties were too heavy.
1566. How were the unemployed paid during the time you had charge of them? By contract.
1557. All? Well, there were, of course, a few whom we could not pay by contract.
1558. Were any large number employed upon day labour? No; very few.
1559. On what description of work did they engage? Well, clerks, storemen, and making culverts. They were paid at day rates.
1560. What rate of wages were paid to them? I gave one of the men 6s. a day; he was a ship's carpenter, and a skilled labourer.
1561. Do you know the position of the Boundary Road dividing private roads from Crown lands? Yes.
1562. It has been said that it is very difficult and expensive in its formation? In one place.
1563. The Boundary Road being difficult of formation, do you consider it necessary to form the Junction Road in order to get communication with the station? I would have cleared it, but I would have formed nothing.
1564. This would have enabled the private land to take advantage of the features of country? Yes.
1565. That being so, what advantage was it to the private owners that roads B, C, D, E, and F should be constructed? Well, it would give them cleared roads and additional frontages.
1566. But it seems to me that they did not want it? Of course they did.
1567. What for? For the subdivision of their property. You see that this land would be cut up into much smaller allotments than shown on lithograph, with roads running east and west.
1568. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Is it a fact, with regard to the Narrabeen land sale, a lot of roads leading to that estate were formed by the Government through private property—French's Road, for instance? French's Forest Road is a public road, that is the difference.
1569. What do you deem a public road? A road proclaimed under the Act.
1570. That is what you, as a surveyor, deem a public road? Yes.
1571. Are you aware that cross roads from French's Road have been formed to the Narrabeen Estate through private property;—Wheeler's, for instance? Yes; I know Wheeler's Estate.
1572. Are these cross roads formed to give access to the Narrabeen Estate? I would not have formed it.
1573. But are you aware whether it has been done? No.
1574. You have not observed it? No; the cross roads were not done by my suggestion.
1575. *Mr. M'Millan.*] Is it not a fact that the natural way of getting up on the Government land at Hornsby is north and south, the gullies rendering it impossible to take the roads east and west? Yes.
1576. I understand that the land is so full of gullies and creeks, that in opening up the property it is necessary to take roads from north to south? Yes; but not so many as have been made.
1577. But speaking generally? Yes.
1578. I take it that the Crown land is not so different to that of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, that it might ultimately get into small subdivisions? That is not so.
1579. There are great natural obstacles in the way of forming the Boundary Road? Yes.
1580. Taking for granted that Pearce's Corner line is constructed, would not the natural way to get to the Crown lands be from that direction instead of coming straight on from Hornsby? Yes, partly.
1581. It follows that it would be necessary by some means to open up communication on that line to various points of the Government land? Yes.
1582. Suppose you owned the Government land yourself, and you wanted to make a mutual arrangement and simultaneous settlement of both your land and the other land, would you not feel inclined to make arrangements for roads to be constructed pretty much as these roads have been constructed? No; I would not, 1583.

1583. Then how would you get the benefit of access from Pearce's Corner Railway? I would not offer to spend £5,000 in order to get £4,000, land included.
1584. But speaking generally, would you not try to arrive at some arrangement with your neighbours on an equitable basis for the opening up of the roads through yours? Without doubt.
1585. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] But you would not spend £5,000 to get £4,000? No.
1586. Do you consider that the value which the Government have given to this property is greater than the value they have received? Yes.
1587. *Mr. M'Millan* has asked you whether you would not endeavour to come to some arrangement with your neighbour for the making of these roads; but suppose you saw that your neighbour was doing these roads himself, would you step in and relieve him of the work? No; I do not think so.
1588. Roads have been commenced upon the estate by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith before the Government commenced constructing any? I believe so.
1589. *Mr. M'Millan.*] If I understand your evidence rightly, it is more against the number of roads made than the advisability of some? I admit the advisability of some being cleared.
1590. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Taking up that line of argument, and admitting that some roads should be cleared from the Pearce's Corner line to the Crown lands, do you admit that four roads running in that direction are absolutely necessary? Certainly not.
1591. You say that you did not authorize Mr. Gordon to work for the Casual Labour Board? I did not, and I objected to it the moment I knew of it.
1592. If Mr. Gordon undertook work under their instructions he did wrong, and should have received his instructions from you as Metropolitan Surveyor? Yes.
1593. Did you think it your duty to interfere with Mr. Gordon's work, knowing that he would be authorized to construct the roads by Mr. Davies, who represented the Colonial Secretary? I did not know that at all.
1594. You were not conscious that Mr. Gordon was doing this work? Not till I saw these printed papers.
1595. *Mr. Street.*] You say you do not consider all these roads necessary;—which would you have dispensed with? I would rather say the roads I would have cleared, for brevity. I think, in view of the convenience of persons coming from Sydney, the Vanceville Road should have been cleared, provided the owners would have given the land; I would clear a road to give access from the Pennant Hills; I would clear the Junction Road along its whole length, provided always that the owners would give the land; I would also clear the extension of Boundary Road westerly to the station; road A I think I cleared myself.
1596. If you would have cleared only these roads, by what means would you have given the purchasers of Crown lands access to the good land between the gullies;—for instance, road B would lead up to a lot of good land according to the evidence we have taken? I would clear all the tributary roads from Junction Road. My great objection to the roads through this private estate consists in the formation, ballasting, the side drains, and the culverts.
1597. *Mr. M'Millan.*] But you do not object to the clearing? No.
1598. *Chairman.*] Are you now speaking of all the roads? I am speaking of those I have just enumerated.
1599. *Mr. Copeland.*] You object to the other roads altogether? Yes.
1600. Have you any reason to suppose that if the Government had not cleared the roads through this estate the owners themselves would have cleared them? I am sure they would.
1601. Is it not a fact that the laying off of the roads really forms the subdivision? It forms the back bone of the subdivision.
1602. In every case you know of, have not the owners of private estates laid out the roads and cleared them? Yes; so far as I know, in any valuable estate.
1603. Were not these roads through the Burns, Smith, and Withers' Estate laid off and surveyed before any Government expenditure was made upon them? Yes.
1604. The whole of them? Yes; by Mr. Dawson, I believe, the surveyor to the Burns' Estate; I am not sure that all of them were laid off, but some of them I am sure were.
1605. And your experience leads you to believe that the owners of these private lands would have cleared the roads at their own expense? There is no doubt about it.
1606. That applies to the roads on the whole estate? It does; still they might have done it in their own time.
1607. You did not survey any of these roads? No.
1608. You have no intention of recommending that the Crown lands to the eastward of the Government subdivision should be put on the market immediately? No.
1609. They are very rough? Yes; some of the Hornsby Government Estate, near the railway, is not yet sold, we could not sell it at £10 an acre.
1610. Then there was no immediate prospective benefit to the Government resulting from the making of many of these roads? No; the making of the roads was wrong, there is no getting away from that.
1611. You have been out on these roads on several occasions? Yes.
1612. Did you go out officially or unofficially? I went out with this Select Committee, that was my first visit.
1613. But you have been out on to the land before? Yes; but not on to the roads, I was never over Burns' land before.
1614. What was your object in going out there? If I remember rightly I went out with Mr. John Davies in connection with the reserve.
1615. Did anyone else accompany you? Mr. Burns.
1616. Had you any roads through the portion of Crown lands on the western side of the railway now forming the reserve? No.

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1617. That land was formerly Crown land subdivided with the object of sale? It was designed; I do not think it was subdivided; I do not think it got so far as that.
1618. Do you remember the area of the reserve? 27 acres.
1619. That was designed for a subdivision? It was.
1620. Did you make or form any of the roads? No.
1621. Or metal any? The land was never subdivided. The subdivision was stopped.
1622. Have any roads since been made on that side of the railway on what now forms the reserve? I think not.
1623. You recommended that that subdivision should be sold? I did.
1624. But it was afterwards not sold? It was not.
1625. But it was made into a reserve? It was.
1626. At what do you estimate the value of the land near the railway? £1,000 or £1,200 perhaps.
1627. How much is contained in the portion of the reserve near the railway? 27 acres. Some of it is very precipitous. There are 10 acres of good land, and those 10 acres would be worth £3,000. They adjoin the Public School and Court-house sites.
1628. Did not the Public School and Court-house sites form part of the reserve? They did.
1629. Before it was made a reserve? No; before it was subdivided.
1630. This 10 acres which you estimate to be worth £3,000 was, with other lands, subdivided by the Crown for sale? Yes; but not marked on the ground.
1631. But the sale never took place, and the land was reserved? Yes; that is so.
1632. Can you say when it was reserved? In 1887.
1633. While Mr. Garrett was Minister for Lands? I think so.
1634. Is it not a fact that I previously refused to make a reserve of it? By reference to the papers now before me, you refused to do so on the 7th December, 1886. Your minute is to this effect: "Mr. Burns, M.P., may be informed that sufficient provision has already been made for reserves in this neighbourhood; but should the public interest require further provision to be made at present, I see no reason for withdrawing the portion referred to from subdivision." I may say that I reported against Mr. Burns' application.
1635. For what purpose has the land been since reserved? For public recreation.
1636. I understand that 4 acres are taken out for a Court-house Reserve, and that over 2 acres were taken out for Public School reserve? Yes.
1637. And the balance of the 10 acres has since been formed into a recreation reserve? Yes. I ought to explain that the Court-house site was on the other side of the road.
1638. But the Public School site was a portion of the 10 acres? No; I think you misunderstand; the 10 acres was beyond that.
1639. The 10 acres valued at £3,000 has been made into a recreation reserve, and, in addition to that, reserves of the areas I have named have been made for the Court-house and a Public School respectively? Yes; the Court-house is on the eastern side of the Peat's Ferry Road, not on the eastern side of the railway; I daresay it amounts to 4 acres.
1640. Have any roads been made through these reserves since they were proclaimed? Not that I am aware of.
1641. You are aware that the employment of these men in making roads was simply to take them off the labour market? I understood so.
1642. Had you no Crown lands subdivisions upon which this labour could have been judiciously expended in the making and forming of roads, take Harbord for instance? Oh, yes; and we had the whole of the Field of Mars.
1643. You would have had no difficulty in finding employment for any number of unemployed in making roads through Crown lands subdivisions? None whatever; there were 4,300 acres of unsold land at the Field of Mars. The Casual Labour Board might have used the unemployed out there.
1644. It is said in the debate in Parliament that I had to do with the starting of the unemployed in making these roads; you have had charge of the papers I believe? They have come to me officially from time to time.
1645. As the Metropolitan District Surveyor you would know to what extent I, as the then Minister, had to do with the opening of these roads? You had to do with the A road only.
1646. What was the extent of my connection with the opening of that road? As Minister, you approved of the exchange of a strip of land to the north of the grant for the road going over the bridge to Crown land.
1647. The road is from Crown land to Crown land? Yes.
1648. What is approximately the length of it? Half-a-mile.
1649. Had I anything to do with giving instructions for the opening of these other roads? No.
1650. Can you find the papers;—I myself cannot find the papers showing that I had to do even with the road A? I do not see the paper; but I know that it was so.
1651. You were asked whether the private owners would benefit by subdivision roads from Junction Road—how many acres would those allotments contain? The land would not be sold in those large-sized allotments, as shown on lithograph.
1652. Would it not be necessary to even further subdivide the land, and to have an additional number of roads? Yes.
1653. You were asked whether it was not a fact that roads had been made through private land at Narrabeen—do you think it justifiable that these cross roads should have been made at the public expense? I do not approve of making these roads at all through private land. Clearing is a different thing.
1654. You do not object so much to the clearing of the land for the roads? No; provided the owners give us the land.
1655. But in cases where the owners of private land are going to subdivide, would it not be preferable to leave them to clear their own roads, while we employed the unemployed in clearing

- clearing the Crown lands subdivisions? I should clear only one or two of the leading roads.
1656. But you would clear those roads if you knew that the owners of the land were going to clear and subdivide? Well, I do not know; they might not clear in time for our sale.
1657. And in a case of that kind you would consider it justifiable to clear the roads? Yes.
1658. Will you state the nature of the obstacle in the Boundary Road preventing it from being made a passable road? The moment you leave the present subdivision and cross the creek you come on to a wall of rock. It is between the roads D and E.
1659. But it is sandstone rock? Yes.
1660. Would there be any difficulty in cutting through that rock and filling up the gully? You could greatly improve the road by a large expenditure of money.
1661. Which would have been the largest expenditure, the making good of that one bad place in the Boundary Road, or the expenditure which has taken place upon the whole of these roads on private property? If the money expended on the making those roads had been expended on the Boundary Road, you could have made a very good road of it. I think it would have made it a very passable road for £2,000. You would have to cut off the top, and run it down into an embankment.
1662. What, roughly, has been the expenditure upon the whole of these roads on private property? They have cost £5,000 if they cost a shilling.
1663. Has not road A been extended through the Crown land subdivision? It has.
1664. In point of fact, Crown land to which access is given by the roads E and F is unfit for subdivision at the present time? It is not advisable to subdivide them at present.
1665. I suppose those lands are comparatively worthless at the present time? They are not worth £10 an acre.
1666. And you have no idea of recommending that those lands should be put upon the market at present? Not for some time to come.
1667. I presume we have plenty of land already subdivided of a superior character which could be put into the market to supply any demand? Oh, yes; we have much better land than that.
1668. Can you give us any information as to the area of Crown lands subdivisions available in the same neighbourhood? We have a lot of land further on than that. We have 5,000 acres subdivided to the east of it; it is a better quality of land. I left the worst to the last.
1669. This land you look upon as the worst? There cannot be any doubt about that.
1670. In addition to this, what area of land have you at Harbord unsold? 270 acres.
1671. What area have you at Becroft and Field of Mars? 4,300 acres, and in addition to 4,300, Narrabeen and Gordon.
1672. Upon the whole of this land you could have employed the whole of the unemployed in metalling and forming roads? Yes; but I object to metalling even on Crown lands—it does not pay.
1673. At all events the men could have been employed in forming the roads there? Yes.
1674. The roads were surveyed? Yes.
1675. Your experience is that the expenditure of labour on these subdivisions would have enhanced the value of Crown lands, and the Government would have been recouped? Yes, I think so; if the roads were cleared and culverted only.
1676. You think the Government would have been recouped in the wages of the unemployed so engaged? I do not think they would have been recouped, but the increased receipts would have gone towards it, and effected a sale of the lands.
1677. Do you think that the Government would have been recouped in making these roads through the properties of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? No honest man can, I think, honestly say so.
1678. *Mr. McMillan.*] I understood you to say that the expenditure upon these roads through private property had been £5,000? I am sure of it.
1679. And you say that for an expenditure of £2,000 you can overcome certain difficulties on the Boundary Road? Yes.
1680. But I suppose that even with the expenditure of that £2,000 would not make the road a satisfactory road? No; there would be a very steep gradient, about 1 in 6, I should say, in one place.
1681. What would it cost to make the Boundary Road a satisfactory road for the purposes of traffic as a Junction Road? It would cost a lot of money; you would have a 50-foot cutting.
1682. But roughly, what would it cost to make the road a satisfactory road? £10,000, roughly.
1683. Then it would cost twice as much to make that one road satisfactory as it has cost to make the whole of these other roads? Yes.
1684. But even suppose the Boundary Road were made, that would not preclude the necessity for other roads leading up to it? No.
1685. So that even suppose there were certain roads which are not absolutely necessary at the present time for the purpose of the plan, they have been laid out as a mere matter of economy, for the purpose of giving access to this property? I approve of the four roads going out of the Junction Road.
1686. That is not my point; I do not wish your evidence to appear inconsistent. The inference to be derived from your reply to Mr. Copeland just now was that the Boundary Road could be made in a certain sort of way? My evidence will not be inconsistent. I know for £2,000 you can cut down a lot of stuff, run it down, and make an embankment of it.
1687. But you could not for that expenditure have made a satisfactory road of Boundary Road? Not altogether satisfactory; there would have been a steep gradient under any circumstances.
1688. You have said that you approved of that road? I approved of the clearing of the road.
1689. What I want to remove from your evidence, then, is this appearance of inconsistency;—

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it might appear from your evidence that the Boundary Road could have been substituted for this expenditure for the Government Road? It certainly could not; it is to the advantage of the Government to have the Junction Road cleared, but only cleared provided the owners gave us the land.

1690. You say that there has been no communication between you and the unemployed department? Not the slightest.

1691. Consequently your knowledge as to the value of this land would not be at the disposal of the Board? No application was made to me.

1692. Is it not a fact that at the sale of the Hornsby subdivision as much as £70 an acre was given? Yes.

1693. Do you not consider that a good price? Yes; the very best of the land was bought, some of the inferior land was left.

1694. This land that brought £70 an acre was all on one spot? Yes; only one allotment, I think, brought £70 an acre; the average was £35 or £40 an acre.

1695. As a Crown land sale was it a good sale? Taking it altogether it was a fair sale.

1696. Are we to infer that the prices obtained were a fair test of the value of the land generally? It was a fair test of the value.

1697. Consequently we can say that the roads about which we have been talking open out land which is as a whole of fair quality, excepting the test of this particular sale? No; the land was the pick of the land there.

1698. Was there, as far as you know, any evidence before the Casual Labour Board showing them that this land was not the fair average of the Crown lands in that neighbourhood. Do you know whether the Board were aware that this land was better than the remaining Crown land to be disposed of? I know that Mr. Davies himself is one of the best judges of land in the country, and he knew this particular land.

1699. Then you cannot tell us definitely whether there was any evidence in the possession of this temporary department to give an idea that they were making an entrance to land which was not of as good average value as the the bulk of the Crown land in the vicinity? I think they had a tracing supplied to them.

1700. *Mr. Copeland.*] Was not the land visible to the Board; could they not have judged for themselves? Yes.

1701. The Board consisted of two professional men and Mr. John Davies? Yes; but the professional men were very much engaged otherwise; they had other duties to attend to.

1702. But any one of the members of the Board could have gone on the land and judged of its value for himself? Yes.

1703. As a matter of fact, the further away you get from the railway the less valuable the land becomes? Yes, as a rule.

1704. What was the reason you stopped short with your subdivision at Hornsby? Because the other land was not worth subdividing at the present time. If it was, I would have it surveyed next week.

1705. Vanceville land is the land which the road E gives access to? Yes.

1706. You said just now that the land sold at Hornsby fetched an average of £40 an acre? About that.

1707. Was not that land cleared? Yes; the roads were cleared and grubbed.

1708. If you were to clear, grub, and form roads on the land further to the east you would still receive much less money for it? Yes; proportionately.

1709. *Mr. Carruthers.*] What was the full amount which you realised at this sale? £4,300.

1710. Did you sell all that you put up? All that was of any good.

1711. What proportion to the land sold to the land unsold? I think we sold about two-thirds.

1712. *Mr. Copeland.*] How long were the men employed making these roads? Since May, 1887.

1713. Up to the present time? Yes. After they had cleared our land they put the men on to the other land.

1714. If a mistake had been made at the outset there was ample opportunity to rectify it by withdrawing the men? Yes; I suppose so.

1715. *Mr. Street.*] What was the total number of acres you put up for sale? 230 acres. We sold about two-thirds, it realised £4,644.

1716. *Mr. Copeland.*] It would be an average of about £33 an acre? About that.

1717. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Will you put in the sale plan which you are reading, as part of your evidence? Yes.

1718. *Mr. Copeland.*] You did not think that the clearing and forming of the roads in the Crown land to the eastward would pay? No, it would not pay.

1719. The Government would have lost by the transaction? Yes; the country is so bad.

1720. *Chairman.*] You said just now that you knew nothing of Mr. Gordon's action except from what you saw of the printed correspondence? Yes.

1721. He surveyed and authorized no roads with your knowledge? No; he surveyed no roads at all.

1722. If he states that he recommended road E and some other roads, is that correct? I know nothing about it, I know that he surveyed none, no amount of his time was taken up, I had a check upon him.

1723. He states in connection with the recommendations made by him to the Casual Labour Board that those matters were known to Mr. Deering;—if you read Mr. Gordon's evidence in reply to 723, and so on, you will see what I mean? He knows that it is untrue. You will see that he implies in the first part of his examination that the matter was unknown to me, which is evident. If it were known to me, I would have made the recommendation if proper, and not Mr. Gordon. That is a disapproval of his statement.

1724. He also states in his evidence that you wrote a letter to the Casual Labour Board that

that you would assist them to the full extent of your power, and that Mr. Gordon would do the same? That is likely enough, on transferring charge of the "unemployed." I think it was the case, but they never applied to me. We were seized of the whole of the operations desirable and necessary; we knew what should be done, and I think I simply wrote to say that I would aid them in any way in my power.

1725. What you meant to imply was, that so far as the work upon which you had been engaged was concerned you would be glad to render your services available? Yes; I meant of course, that they might have my official advice.

1726. Mr. Gordon says that Mr. Deering handed his services over to the Casual Labour Board to carry out the rest of the work:—would that be true? It might have been for a very short time correct, and referred to anything which was in hand at the time of transferring charge of the "unemployed," but I objected to any action between Mr. Gordon and the Casual Labour Board.

1727. You did not mean that Mr. Gordon could at any time communicate with the Labour Board and place his services at their disposal without your knowledge? No.

1728. If he did so without your knowledge, should you consider that he had exceeded his power? Yes.

1729. On examination by Mr. Carruthers the other day you were asked about the prices realised by the land at Narrabeen, Harboard, Gordon, &c. You were asked this question with a view to show, I think, that the lands to which most access had been made realised the best prices? In connection with the land for which we received the most money no roads at all were made.

1730. Do you consider that the value of the land sold at Hornsby was given to it by its juxtaposition to the railway, or by the roads which had been made through the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? The juxtaposition of the railway was the chief cause of what was realised. The land further away is not only poor, but also decreases in value, from its distance from the railway line.

1731. Can you give us anything like an idea of the proportion of money spent upon the Crown lands at Hornsby to that spent upon the private property there? They could not have spent more than £700 or £800 upon the whole of the Government subdivision; but on Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's land I am confident they have spent not less than £6,000.

End of Evidence before Select Committee.

12899. *President resuming.*] Was that evidence submitted to you for revision? Yes.

12900. Having now heard that evidence read, do you wish to make any correction or explanation? In reply to question 1715, I spoke from memory when I said that 230 acres were put up for sale. It should have been 232 acres. Instead of selling two thirds, we sold exactly one half, 116 acres, and it realized £4,614, the amount I stated. The average price was £40 per acre, as I previously stated, and not £33, so that my average was right. In answer to question 1489, I said the average price realized was £40, "I think," but now I am sure it was.

12901. With these exceptions, is your evidence as given before the Select Committee, true and correct in every particular? Yes, and I may add that at the time I gave this evidence, Mr. Burns was present.

12902. Have you any feeling in this matter other than your interest as a Government officer? Not the slightest.

12903. Is Mr. Burns a friend of yours? Yes, he was.

12904. Have you ever had any quarrel with him? Not the slightest. I was friendly with Mr. Burns.

12905. *Mr. Franklin.*] Have you a plan of actual survey, giving the length of each of the roads on Burns, Withers, and Smith's land? Yes.

12906. Are the lengths of the roads of the subdivisions for the Crown lands also shown on that plan? Yes.

12907. Can you give us the exact length of the roads on the Crown lands, and also the roads on Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate? Yes.

12908. *President.*] I see in November, 1888, the following question was asked in the Legislative Assembly by Mr. Fletcher for Mr. Copeland—how many chains of road have been formed, and how many chains metalled at the expense of the Government on the private property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and R. B. Smith, M.'sP., at Hornsby, and the total amount expended by the Government on the said work. The answer Mr. Bruncker gave was—"499 chains formed, 326 chains ballasted." I am not in a position to state the cost of the work, but no doubt the Colonial Secretary will be able to obtain the information from the Casual Labour Board. Following that is this:—"Since the foregoing answer has been prepared, I have been informed that it had reference to all the roads formed at Hornsby. Mr. O'Donnell reports to-day that the quantity of road formed and ballasted through Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's property at Hornsby by the Casual Labour Board is approximately 24 chains of road forming, at a cost of £18; 53 formed and ballasted at a cost of £106; total, £124; clearing at the average rate of £7 per acre, or £56 per mile, is not included in the above." Now, is the answer to that question correct? The first answer is correct, but the last answer is utterly incorrect. I heard Mr. O'Donnell withdraw that statement, and admit that it was incorrect on the Hornsby Station.

12909. In whose presence? In Mr. Bruncker's presence.

12910. Can you give me what the correct state of affairs is? I furnished the material for the first reply.

12911. But not for what follows? No. Mr. O'Donnell makes it appear that they have only cleared 24 chains.

12912. Is the first part of the answer true? Yes. There were 6 miles at the outside, and he says only 24 chains.

12913. Then the answer as to 499 chains being formed and 326 ballasted is correct? Yes; 499 chains formed and 326 of that number ballasted is correct at that date.

12914. Then, what as to the report that 24 chains of road were formed, costing £18 and so forth? That is utterly untrue, and I heard Mr. O'Donnell withdraw it.

12915. Do you know the cost of 499 chains of forming? The cost would be something like £7 or £8 per chain to clear, form, and ballast it.

12916. *Mr. Waller.*] Did Mr. Gordon ever make any report to you as to the making of these roads? Never.

12917. Do you know whether any authority was given from the Government for the making of these roads? I am tolerably sure there was not.

12918.

Mr. J. W.
Deering.
3 May, 1889.

Mr. J. W.
Deering.

3 May, 1889

12918. Is it usual for authority to be given for the making of such roads as those made on the Hornsby Estate? I should think so. I should say authority should be given before that vast expenditure was undertaken.

12919. Are you quite sure you never gave authority? Certainly not.

12920. We have an answer to a question as to whether there was any authority for making these roads, as follows:—We asked: "Did you approve of this road as handed over to you." *Answer*: "I did, excepting the Boundary Road right through. I refused to allow it go on, although Mr. Deering laid it out because it was impracticable from an engineering point of view." *Question*: "Who recommended them?" "I understood Mr. Gordon." Now did Mr. Gordon have any authority in the position he stood in, to give authority for the making of these roads? No. Might I add something. The Casual Labour Board were only too glad to get some official to recommend what they wished to carry out. They endeavoured to get other things recommended which I refused to recommend. I look upon Mr. Gordon as a victim.

12921. We have this on evidence by Mr. Houison. What we want to get at is: "Was there any authority for making these roads." The answer is: There is that paper that is missing. I fancy there was Mr. Deering's name on that paper"—? Which roads are you alluding to. To the whole of them.

12922. Yes? That is utterly untrue, and no paper is missing.

12923. In another place in the evidence it is also stated that there was a paper with your name attached to it, which gave authority for these roads. May this Commission take it to be your evidence that you never signed any paper whatever with reference to these roads? I never signed any paper. I never saw the roads until I went out with the Select Committee, and I never knew of one of them, excepting by hearsay, as having been made. I avoided going into the District, because I knew the case was so dishonest.

12924. Was the work that was done under your authority of such a nature as to oblige them to make these roads under discussion? No. It seems to me that these officers are trying to put the recommending of these roads on any one that they can.

12925. Did you know a man of the name of Springall? Yes, he was a storekeeper at the National Park.

12926. Under whom? He came in under me, but he was there before I took charge of the place.

12927. When you gave up charge, did you leave any report about Springall? I am not quite sure. I think I did.

12928. Favourable? Very unfavourable. I looked upon Springall as not being straightforward.

12929. Was it a matter concerning money matters? Yes, in connection with his son that he put on the pay-sheets. The boy was down for getting 25s. a week at the daily rate, or about that. He came forward to sign as Frank, S., as though the "S" was for his Christian name. I went myself that day to the pay. I did not usually, but there was a lot of cash to pay away, and I went with Mr. Gordon and the constable. I said to him, "You are young to be here." He looked 12 or 14. "Is your name Frank." He hesitated and said, "No, my name is Springall." I said, "Why not put down his proper name." There was some kind of muttered explanation, but it appeared as though the boy was going down for a man's rate of wages, and I was to be deceived that his name was not Springall. I say that that was not straightforward.

12930. How did the name go? I think it was "Frank, S."

12931. Did you make any report of this to the Casual Labour Board that took your place? No; I did not. I left the papers there. They were to be seen.

12932. Are you aware whether they became acquainted with the facts? No, I am not aware.

12933. Would the papers disclose the facts? Yes.

12934. When you gave up charge of the unemployed did you leave any rations of any description behind, or anything else? Yes; we made out a schedule of everything we left behind us; Mr. Gordon did that for me. I must say he was a very valuable officer to me.

12935. Was a copy kept of that schedule? I do not think we kept a copy, I cannot say.

12936. Would Mr. Gordon be more intimately acquainted with this matter? He would be.

12937. Have you any recollection of whether there was any large amount of tools, crockery, sugar, rations, and such like things? There was no great amount of stores, because the men were rationed by Mr. Kidman, but there was a large number of tools.

12938. Any crockery? Nothing of consequence.

12939. Did you leave any report about Mr. Burrowes? On the vouchers I did. It must have come before the Auditor-General.

12940. What sort of a report was it? The circumstances were these: On the same day that I am speaking about in connection with Mr. Springall, I went to Waterfall to pay the men myself. I used not to go personally unless the amount was large. Eight of the men on the pay-sheet I could not find. They did not come for their money. I did not like that at all. One of the men afterwards came, or was sent, to sign the pay-sheet, and after that the real man came forward and swore that that was not his signature that was put on the paper, and sent in an affidavit to that effect. These papers went to the Auditor-General, and he must have seen them.

12941. Do you remember the amount of the money? They were amounts from 30s. to £2, I think.

12942. What had Burrowes to do with that? He made out the pay-sheets. It is quite possible the men might have had the money owing to them. I make no accusation.

12943. *President.*] The pay-sheet was made out; did you find it to be incorrect? I found eight men on it whom I could not find; but they might have gone away and not taken their money.

12944. What became of the money? It remained in my hands.

12945. Did Mr. Burrowes get any benefit from it? No.

12946. Was there anything in that that struck you as being prejudicial to Mr. Burrowes' character? I would not like to go so far as that; but I did not like it.

12947. Had you any reason to suspect that there was any collusion between Mr. Springall and Mr. Burrowes in any matters? No.

12948. *Mr. Waller.*] Did you ever hear any talk about an alleged missing document that had your name attached to it? Never. I would not have recommended these roads, and if these gentlemen had known their business as Commissioners, they would never have carried out any such erroneous recommendation, even if it had been made.

12949.

NOTE (on revision).—Q. 12924.—*Add*, at end of answer, "They, and they only, are responsible."

12949. Even if there had been a document with your name attached to it would it have been sufficient authority for carrying out these roads? Certainly not. Mr. John Davies knew all about these roads being made, and so did Mr. Burns.

12950. Did you ever see him up there? Yes; I have seen him up there.

12951. Have you any reason to believe there was any improper arrangement between Mr. Davies and Mr. Burns? No; I do not say that. It is only a matter of opinion.

12952. Or between Mr. Davies and Mr. Smith, or between Mr. Davies and Mr. Withers? No.

12953. Do you know of any agreement or arrangement between Mr. Davies and those parties to justify the construction of these roads? No; I do not believe there was.

12954. Are you aware of any irregularity in the practice of the departments which would lead to these roads being formed? No; I cannot possibly imagine such a thing.

12955. To put it very straight—are you aware of there having been any tips or consideration passed? No; I do not believe there was.

Mr. J. W.
Deering.

3 May, 1889.

MONDAY 6 MAY, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P., | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

John William Deering called in and further examined:—

12956. *President.*] For how long before the commencement of the Casual Labour Board had you the supervision of the unemployed? For about nine months.

12957. Can you give us the average number of men you had at that time? Including the National Park?

12958. All the men you had supervision over? About 3,000.

12959. In what particular districts were they? The Field of Mars Estate chiefly.

12960. Were there any out at the National Park? There were 1,500 or 1,800 men there—perhaps 2,000 in round numbers. I did not send them there. I found them there when I went there. It was originally intended that the National Park should be merely a depôt for the men to be sent out to from the City.

12961. Can you give this Commission any idea of the amount of personal expenses entailed by you in connection with these works? About £25 altogether. That would include boat-fares occasionally for men to Newcastle, and small wages payments under £1.

12962. Were there any Crown lands in the vicinity of Hornsby upon which the unemployed might have been set to work on, instead of working on roads on Burns & Co.'s land on the Hornsby Estate? Yes; 6,000 or 7,000 acres.

12963. Was there sufficient work to keep the men employed there during the time the Government were affording relief? There was ample.

12964. Is it your practice in subdividing lands near railways to leave a road parallel with the railway? Yes.

12965. Is your practice a justification for the road we see here parallel with the railway in Burns and Withers' Estate? Certainly not.

12966. Why? The difference is that one is Crown land and the other is a private estate.

12967. Are the frontages to the railway of greater value? Mostly so, I should say. Of course that gave them a frontage to the estate, which otherwise they would not have had. It gave them a frontage to the estate at the public expense.

12968. Have you read the evidence that was given before the Select Committee on this matter? Yes; all the evidence.

12969. Did you read the evidence of Mr. W. C. Bennett, Commissioner for Roads? I did.

12970. Are the opinions he has expressed there in accordance with your views on the matter? Not at all.

12971. Can you justify the difference between you in any way; both of you having the interests of the community at heart; is it purely a professional difference of opinion? I suppose it is.

12972. If the Government had a lot of cheap labour in the immediate neighbourhood available, was there justification then to clear and form, and in some cases ballast these roads, under the belief that they were getting them done cheaply? In my opinion there was no justification whatever for doing the work that was done.

12973. And if the labour had to be employed there were ample sources for outlet elsewhere? There was ample field for the labour upon the unsold Crown lands.

12974. With regard to that portion of the Vanceville Road running from Lane Cove Road to Billyard-street on that plan, Mr. Bennett says that "that road has been opened and maintained by the Roads Department up to a certain point for years past." Can we take it that what we saw on that road on Saturday was the work of the Works Department or the work of Messrs. Burns, Withers and Smith? I always thought that that portion of the road was cleared by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith.

12975. Is it likely you may be wrong in the matter, seeing that Mr. Bennett has stated to the contrary? Quite so.

12976. Does a road up to the point of Billyard-street, assuming that the road was stopped there, and had been made by the Crown, afford any benefit to the Crown lands you have recently been selling? No; it is very remote.

12977. Then assuming that the Government has been maintaining that part of this road, it could only be for the benefit of the few people in the immediate locality? Yes.

12978. There was no outlet for it? No outlet.

12979. You see this return which was laid on the Table of the Legislative Assembly, on 8 January, 1889; the work on the Hornsby Estate is there described. Have you anything to say as to the statements there or the remarks made relating to Hornsby? I think the return so far as the distance goes, and the miles of road cleared, &c., comes from Mr. Gordon, and I think he had better personally give evidence on this point as he has absolutely measured the roads.

12980. Are these measurements on this plan from survey? Yes; from absolute survey.

Mr. J. W.
Deering.

6 May, 1889

- Mr. J. W. Deering.
6 May, 1889.
12981. I notice here in a return a remark that the land (Crown land) before the Board gave access to it was not worth £1 per acre? It is absolutely untrue.
12982. Are you aware of any valuation of the Crown land that could justify such a statement as that? I know of my own knowledge that the land was worth far more than that.
12983. It states in these remarks in the return that "the remaining unsold portion will, no doubt by reason of the improvements, return £50 per acre"? The only portions of the estate which were unsold we could not sell at £15 per acre, and those lands were nearer to the railway station than the large area of Crown land, containing 7,000 acres, to which I have already referred. It is an absurd thing to say that lands which are not worth £1 per acre are, by reason of roads of access being made to them, worth £50 per acre. These roads of access were bound to be given by Burns & Co. in the subdivision of their estate.
12984. Have you seen the plan of subdivision? No; but in the course of subdivision they are as they would have divided it.
12985. Are the subdivisions that the Government have made such subdivisions as the owners of an estate would make? Precisely.
12986. With reference to this memorandum made out for us by Mr. Gordon on the 4th May, 1889, I see a pencil note "183 chains 83 links to be deducted." Can you explain what that means? That 183 chains is to be deducted, because that distance has not been absolutely made through Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's land or abutting upon it. The matter of consideration is for roads going through their estate. At the same time it must be remembered that this 183 chains, which is $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles, give direct access, from the main road, to the land of Burns & Co.
12987. What roads do you refer to? The roads marked K and I.
12988. I saw on our inspection on Saturday another road which appears to have been cleared, formed, made, and culverted, which is not marked on this plan [*Exhibit D 4*]? I cannot say where it is.
12989. In stating that the number of men under your supervision was 3,000, do you mean that to be the maximum number you had, or the average number during the nine months before the existence of the Board? It was the average—3,000 or 3,500.
12990. When you initiated any work did you get any ministerial authority for it? No. I did it on my own authority. I only kept on public lands.
12991. You know the roads that were cleared north of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's? Yes.
12992. Can you tell me what proportion of road was cleared and formed on Crown land to what was done on Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's land? Speaking generally, I should think one-sixth part of the work has been done on the Crown Estate, that was to be sold, and a most inferior class of work it appears, as compared with the work done on the land of Messrs. Burns & Co.
12993. In what respect? Well, there was very little formation and little or no ballasting. You can tell when you are coming near the Crown land, because good road formation ceases, the work on the Crown land being of a very inferior description.
12994. Inferior to what we saw on the roads we inspected on Saturday? Very much; in fact you saw some of them yourselves.
12995. I suppose you have no other interest to serve in this matter than the public interest? No; I have given my evidence on oath on this matter as a public officer, because I am obliged to do so, and with a great deal of pain. I am simply a public officer. But I am a public officer before anything.
12996. Have you any strong feeling against any gentlemen who may be affected by this inquiry? Not the slightest. I may say they are all friends of mine. Mr. Burns and Mr. Withers are friends of mine. Mr. Smith is a friendly acquaintance.
12997. What is your opinion, as a Government officer, of the work that has been done there? I have never known anything like it during an experience of thirty-five years in the Government service. I have never heard of anything like it, and should not have believed that such a thing could have been done if I had not seen it.
12998. When did you first become aware that this had been done or was being done? I heard of it in connection with a design for a sub-division of Crown land from one of my own officers who had gone up to the locality.
12999. Do you know what time it would be, the month, and the year? It was at the end of 1887, or the beginning of 1888. I was sorry to have heard it had been done; more sorry than I can express.

George Withers called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. G. Withers.
6 May, 1889.
- 12999 $\frac{1}{2}$. *President.*] What are you? A property auctioneer and general agent.
13000. Are you a Member of Parliament? Not now. I did not seek re-election.
13001. Were you during 1887 and 1888? Yes.
13002. Were you examined before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly? Yes.
13003. Is this your evidence? Yes.

[*Evidence before Select Committee.*]

2126. *Chairman.*] You are a Member of the Legislative Assembly of this Colony? Yes.
2127. *Mr. Copeland.*] Are you a joint owner with Messrs. Burns and Smith of the property at Hornsby, shown on this tracing? I am a joint owner with Messrs. Burns and Smith of a good deal of property in that neighbourhood, the exact boundaries I am not thoroughly acquainted with. I know the land fairly well, and I should say that the portion marked green on this tracing would about represent its area. There are two other blocks disconnected with the property shown on this tracing.
2128. What is their position? They are both on the south side of the Lane Cove Road—one is a block of 84 acres, and another is a block of 60 acres.
2129. How long have you been an owner of this property? I could not give you the exact date, but I think it must be twelve or getting on for thirteen years.
2130. You were an owner before the making of the railway line? A considerable time before the line was made. I think it was about six or seven years after I had an interest in the property that I heard that the Government were about to take a portion of it for a railway station.
- 2131.

2131. Had you any part ownership in it before Messrs. Burns and Smith came in? No; we purchased together at my suggestion.

2132. Did you have it surveyed at all? I think there has been a considerable sum expended in different ways in the matter of surveys. Mr. Dawson is the man we generally have employed. We had a subdivision of the property made after the railway was taken there. This was necessary in order to give access to the station. We also sold a piece of land on the other side of the Peat's Ferry Road. This necessitated the preparation of a subdivision plan. Part of the property near the railway-station was subdivided into business allotments, and an hotel is now built on one of those allotments.

2133. Will you furnish the Committee with a copy of this subdivision plan? Yes.

2134. Have you subdivided any portion of the rectangular block between Burns Road and the Boundary Road? No.

2135. Who surveyed the Junction Road? That I could not say; I fancy it must have been done by the Government surveyor.

2136. Did you send out Mr. Dawson to confer with any of the Government officers as to the subdivision of this rectangular block? My memory would not serve me very accurately as to details in connection with this estate. I know that Mr. Dawson has been frequently applied to in conjunction with Mr. Burns, Smith, and myself. For instance, the hotel-keeper was begging me for some time to give him a piece of land near the railway-station on which to build an hotel. I succeeded in getting my partners to consent to running a road from the station across to the Peat's Ferry Road, letting the man have a block upon which he could build an hotel. That is the only place at which people can find accommodation there at the present time. Mr. Dawson had to be employed in that case.

2137. But there are a number of roads on this plan marked upon your land;—did Mr. Dawson survey those roads? I am perfectly certain he must have surveyed some. I know that he has been employed in that way at different times.

2138. Was it with your approval that the whole of these roads were made? I have not the slightest doubt that in the case of every road running through our estate I concurred. It was the most natural thing in the world that I should have been consulted more or less about them.

2139. Do you consider that these roads improve your property? There is no question about that.

2140. Had you commenced any of them before the unemployed came on to the land? I am certain we had. We had a man named Kearney carrying out road-making there a year or two before the unemployed were placed upon the land.

2141. I suppose the unemployed completed the roads that were left unfinished? To tell you the truth, I do not know what roads had been completed. Perhaps I ought to say that, after the matter had been discussed in the House, as I had not been to the property for some time, I took a trip out there by way of Parramatta. I remember entering what I thought to be our property by the road marked A, but I cannot tell you from the plan what direction I took. Perhaps I am not as conversant with the estate as I ought to be.

2142. You have not been actively managing the estate? I am not the manager of the estate. Mr. Burns keeps the bank-book and draws the cheques, and if any man is to be recognized as manager in connection with the estate, I suppose Mr. Burns must be understood to be the financial manager.

2143. You did not frequently visit the property? I have not done so of late years.

2144. Have you been out there since the unemployed have been working there? Well, I went out on the occasion I have just mentioned. That was the last time. It was on the Saturday after the discussion in the House. Prior to that I do not think I had been out to the estate on my own account once within four months. I remember being out there at that time, and driving along the Junction Road.

2145. Were the unemployed then at work there? There was every appearance of it. I think my visit prior to that visit was at least six months before.

2146. But you knew that the unemployed were making these roads through your property? Undoubtedly; of course I heard of it from all sources.

2147. I see from the printed papers that a petition was presented on the 11th September, 1887, asking that a sum of money might be granted for the improvement of the Vanceville Road, from the Lane Cove Road to the new road recently cleared by the Government from the Hornsby railway bridge. Among the persons who signed that petition is Mr. George Withers. Is that yourself? I have very little doubt but that it is. I have a recollection of signing one petition, but I could not have told you now what it was for. I suppose the road to which you refer was in connection with the district in which I, as a local landowner, would be regarded as having an interest.

2148. Are you aware that Mr. Burns, on behalf of the firm, applied to make a special purchase of the piece of land on the western side of the railway line, under the 11th section of the Land Act of 1861? I am not aware; but I think I know the piece of land to which you refer. I know that the matter is one which has been under consideration—in fact, I think Mr. Ives spoke to me about it when I was out there on one occasion having a friendly drive. I know that there was a good deal of talk about cutting off our frontage on the main road.

2149. This tracing will show you the land which Mr. Burns tried to purchase? I see that my signature is attached to the application. I presume it would be a document presented to me by Mr. Burns as part of a *bonâ fide* transaction, but I had forgotten all about it myself. I am aware that there were a good many suggestions in regard to putting the Government land there intact, instead of having a small strip cut off from the main road—in fact, there was some question as to whether the Peat's Ferry Road had not been diverted. There was only a thin strip between our property and the Government land, and I know that the question of making the Government land intact was considered by us.

2150.

Mr.
G. Withers.
6 May, 1889.

Mr.
G. Withers
6 May, 1889.

2150. Were you of opinion that the land belonged to you in consequence of the diversion of the road? I do not think we could set up any claim to the land, but I know that the question arose as to whether the road had not been diverted from our boundary line.
2151. Do you know whether you surveyed any roads on the western side of the railway? Roads have been cleared there, I believe, but none have been constructed.
2152. Have the unemployed done any work upon those roads? I do not know. I have not been over that part of the estate for some time. I could not say what is going on there.
2153. There is a petition signed by Mr. Burns requesting that the Government would cause the reserve fronting the Peat's Ferry Road near the Hornsby Junction to be dedicated for a public park, for which it was said to be well adapted. It was represented that all the private lands near the junction were being sold in small lots for settlement, and that a park, in what promised to be a thickly-populated neighbourhood, would promote the public health. I notice that this petition is also signed by the firm of Withers and Callaghan;—is that the firm of which you are a member? Yes; I see that my own signature is also attached to the petition; that is the only signature of which I have any knowledge.
2154. Is your firm interested in this property? Not in the slightest. Of course if any petition was to be presented, you may be sure that I would be one of the first to whom it would be brought.
2155. You are sure that the firm of Withers and Callaghan are not interested in the land? Not in the slightest; they were the auctioneers for some of the blocks in connection with Hardie and Gorman. Withers and Callaghan have interests in the district, but not so far up.
2156. What was the value of the land which you wished to have dedicated for a public park? I could not say.
2157. There are 31 acres? I should say that it ought to be worth now £150 an acre. Some of the land, as far as my memory serves me, is very low at the back.
2158. Are you aware whether this piece of land was reserved? I could not say.
2159. You are aware also that a reserve for a Court-house of over 4 acres was made? I heard something about a Court-house, but I do not know how the matter stands. I do not know whether any definite steps have been taken.
2160. Can you give us any idea as to the value of the land? I witnessed the contract in regard to some land much further from the station, which was sold about three weeks ago. That land sold at £150 an acre. That was on the eastern side of the line. It was, of course, level land.
2161. What did the piece of land upon which the hotel is situated realize. £5 a foot.
2162. How long is it since it was sold? About nine months ago. You must remember that it is the nearest point to the station.
2163. Assuming that the piece of land which has been reserved for a Court-house occupies over 1,000 feet of frontage to the main road, and that you sold the hotel block at £5 a foot, can you not give us some idea as to its value? I do not think the whole block would bring £5,000, although some of the Peat's Ferry frontages brought £3 and £4 a foot.
2164. You know that this land is close to the railway-station? Yes; but it has a very narrow depth in places.
2165. Would it be worth £3 a foot? I should think that would be about a fair average. Some of the land goes off to nothing. It is very shallow.
2166. Can you tell the Committee what compensation you received from the Government for the 27 odd acres they took for the railway? As far as my memory goes, we got about £50 10s. an acre. I think we took £1,400 odd—the amount offered by the Government.
2167. Did you receive any compensation for the land taken for Pearce's Corner railway? No; we gave that. I do not know how much was taken, but I know it was very little—about 2 or 3 acres.
2168. You do not know how much you gave? We gave whatever they required. I do not think it was a great deal. They took a piece off one of the lower corners of the property, and another piece higher up near the station.
2169. You gave the land to the Government under an agreement entered into generally among the landowners—that if the Government would construct a railway you would give the land free? Yes.
2170. That was one of the inducements offered to the Government to construct the line? Yes; we could well afford to fall in with the suggestion. I do not think we made any claim for the first land we gave. We simply accepted the offer made by the Government.
2171. Were you aware before this inquiry commenced that a large number of men paid by the Government were improving these roads through your property? I had not the remotest idea as to the number of men employed on the job.
2172. But you knew that the unemployed were making these roads? Yes.
2173. Do you know the extent to which they were making them? No. I do not know yet what roads have been made. I am convinced that a great deal of work has been done; you cannot ride down the Junction Road and look at right angles without seeing that.
2174. You are not forced to answer this question, but as a public man, as a man sent to Parliament to represent and conserve the public interest, would you consider it a proper thing, apart from this particular instance, for the Government to employ labour in the improvement of private estates? I must of course admit that I have given the matter a good deal of consideration. I heard of it from all sources. I have treated the matter very lightly, as one giving me no concern so far as my position as a Member was concerned. Seeing that the railway-station was right in the centre of the property, and that there was a lot of Crown land at the back of our property to which access must be given, it never occurred to me that anything was being done which would not have been done had I not been a Member of Parliament.

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2175. But would you consider all the roads marked upon this plan necessary in order to enable people to get to the railway station or to the Crown lands? I consider, as I stated in the House, that any short means of access given from the Lane Cove Road to the Crown lands, would certainly tend to put up the value of those lands, and I presume that the work was based upon that principle. I have not gone over the cross-roads.

2176. Would you consider it a wise policy to expend public money in making these roads on private lands rather than upon making roads upon the Crown lands, which were to be sold? I do not know what has been done upon the Crown lands.

2177. Supposing the Crown lands shown on this plan were yours, and that you intended to sell them, would you expend your money in making these lower roads, or would you expend it in opening up the land which you intended to sell? No doubt I should extend these cross roads right through on to the Crown lands. If I were dealing with the whole of the land as one whole private property, I should make roads where the features of the country justified that course.

2178. But would you take men away from making roads from the land that you intended to sell and employ them in making roads a mile or two away from that property? That is a matter of judgment. If the whole of the land belonged to me, and I were going to put up all the property in one estate, I would certainly carry roads through from the Lane Cove Road. I would make that the starting-point, and gives access across the other land.

2179. *Chairman.*] But supposing the land on the south of the Boundary Road belonged to another owner, what would you do? Of course I would have to take all the features of the country and circumstances into consideration.

2180. Do you think Burns Road can be justified as a road of access? We made a portion of that road ourselves. I remember recommending the expenditure of £70 upon a culvert there. I see that the road has since been metalled.

2181. The unemployed took up and completed your work? No; I think we had left off previously. I know that we cleared the land, and made it practicable to get along.

2182. You did all that was necessary, according to your idea, to open up your own land? Well, of course, in all probability, as time went on, as we came to deal with the estate, we should have expended more money.

2183. But you thought what you had expended was sufficient for the time being? I presume we came to that decision because no work was going on there for some time.

2184. *Mr. Copeland.*] I suppose that if these roads, which are so close together, had not been made, you would have felt it to your interest to make the roads for the purpose of a subdivision? Yes; some of these roads were partially made. I could not tell you exactly how much was done. I know that some roads running eastward from the railway station were cleared at our expense. I see from the plan that some of them are now cleared and formed.

2185. *Mr. Henry Clarke.*] Is it usual in making roads through Government land to clear, form, and metal the road? I do not know.

2186. Is it the practice of private owners in making subdivisions to clear, form, and metal the roads? I never knew a case in which it was done. I know that the City Council force private owners in the city, who are dividing their property, to form, ballast, kerb, and gutter. Of course that would not apply to suburban lands.

2187. *Mr. Copeland.*] Do you know of any other case in which the Government have cleared, formed, and metalled roads through a private subdivision? I cannot call to mind any case. I think some work of the sort has been done since the unemployed started. I do not know what the rule is with regard to these subdivisions. As far as my memory serves, they are cleared simply to show up the property. I see that in this case the work has been done in private subdivisions, but I do not think it has been the rule before. Now I think of it, I can think of one case in which a road was formed and cleared by the private owner.

2188. But you do not know of other cases where the work had been done by the Government on private property? No.

2189. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] What do you estimate is the increase given to the value of your lands by the construction of these roads? It would be impossible for me to say unless I were to go over the property. I am not thoroughly conversant with all the roads that have been constructed. Looking at the plan and going over a large estate like this are two very different things.

2190. Cannot you give us a rough idea? I should say that these roads would give the property a considerable advance, but I could not say to what extent.

2191. Do you think £20,000 would be too high an estimate? It is a difficult thing for me to say; you can probably form as good an opinion as I can. I do not think it would be at all unreasonable to suppose that the property had received that increase in value.

2192. You do not think it would be unreasonable to make that estimate then? Well, I do not know what the cost of the roads would be.

2193. We are told that the cost of the roads is from £5,000 to £6,000? I am not at all surprised at that.

2194. *Chairman.*] Knowing that that expenditure had been made on the roads, would you say that £20,000 was a fair estimate of the increase in value which they have given to the land? Perhaps it is rather a big estimate to say £20,000.

2195. *Mr. Copeland.*] But if you said £10,000 you would certainly be within the mark? There is no doubt at all about that.

2196. Possibly the increase in value would be greater? Possibly. You want to go on the property itself to form a good idea. If £5,000 or £6,000 had been expended on the property on roads, it would be reasonable to expect a difference of £10,000 in a sale.

2196½. Did you ever refuse any request for any road through your property? No.

2197. Did you ever make any request for a road? No; my knowledge of these roads is precisely what I stated in the House. About three or four years ago, seeing that the railway station

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station was in the centre of the property, and that access would have to be given to it, a request was sent to the Government of the day asking for a road or roads. This I formally signed in conjunction with my partners and others. Whether the road was formed in the ordinary way as a Government road I do not know. I do not know whether it was initiated or whether it was left till the unemployed took the job in hand. When the unemployed put in an appearance a few years ago, I spoke in the House of the folly of having them employed in grubbing the country lands, and represented that they ought to be put on more permanent works in the shape of roads. It was shortly after that that I became acquainted with the fact that the unemployed were going to form this road, which had been talked of for some time in connection with the railway station. The railway station being locked up in our property, I regarded the work as a most reasonable thing. 2197½. Was it on your recommendation that the unemployed were put on the land? No; I knew nothing whatever of it. They were there before I knew anything about it. No doubt they have done some very good work for the Government; of course they have improved property in which I am interested to some extent, but I do not see how, under the circumstances, that could be avoided.

Recalled, and further examined, 15 January, 1889:—

455. *Mr. Burns.*] Do you recollect giving evidence on a previous occasion touching the matter referred to this Committee? I remember giving evidence and I have read it several times since.

456. On the 19th December you wrote a letter to the Chairman of the Committee, stating that when you were before the Committee you were led to believe that £5,000 or £6,000 had been expended upon these roads through the land of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith to the Crown lands in the Hornsby district? Yes.

457. You also stated in this letter that you had reason to believe that a much smaller sum had been expended upon these roads? Yes.

458. You also stated that you had discovered that the land on the eastern side of the Homebush and Waratah Railway belonging to Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith connected with these roads was under 700 acres in area? Yes.

459. And that you desired, in consequence, to be allowed to amend your evidence? Yes.

460. You stated in your letter that you wished to be recalled, and that before giving evidence you intended to go over the roads for your own satisfaction, in order that your evidence might be more decided? Yes.

461. Have you since then made a special visit to Hornsby to see these roads? Yes; on Saturday last.

462. Have you satisfied yourself approximately as to the amount expended upon these roads? Yes.

463. Have you also made inquiry with respect to the area held by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith on this side of the line? Yes.

464. When you stated in your letter that you had ascertained that the area was under 700 acres, what did you mean by that? Of course that must be taken in conjunction with my previous statement. I based my estimate upon the increased area which I thought was there, and also upon the statement that £6,000 had been expended upon the property.

465. When you made that estimate, how much land did you suppose was held by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith on that side of the railway? I always thought there were some 1,000 or 1,200 acres. I never knew the exact area until now.

466. What did you ascertain the area to be? 680 acres.

467. Then your estimate of £10,000 increment in value by reason of this expenditure is based upon the statement made by you to this Committee that £6,000 had been spent upon the roads, and also upon the supposition that the area of the land was 1,000 or 1,200 acres? Yes.

468. Was your application to be allowed to amend your evidence agreed to by the Committee? It was not at that time.

469. It was refused? Yes.

470. Have you observed a paragraph in the Progress Reports which states that a member of the firm of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith had admitted that the property had been enhanced in value to the extent of at least £10,000 by the construction of these roads? Yes.

471. That statement is, I presume, based upon your evidence? I took it as such.

472. When you went to Hornsby to make an inspection of these roads, were you accompanied by any person who knew the roads and the locality? Yes; I accidentally picked up an old resident. I intended to go single-handed, but I was driven round by an old resident of the district.

473. Did you make a general inspection of the roads? Yes.

474. I think you said that previously you knew little about them? I never saw the roads until Saturday last, with the exception of the Junction Road, and what little might be seen by passing of the Cross Roads.

475. What member of the Committee led you to believe that £5,000 or £6,000 had been expended upon these roads? As far as my memory serves me, I think the question came from Mr. Copeland. I think I was asked whether I thought the estate had been increased in value by the roads to the extent of £20,000. The evidence shows how I dealt with that question. I was quite at sea as to what had been spent, and could give no estimate from my personal knowledge. I had no knowledge of the work. I think Mr. Copeland observed that the Chairman could inform me that between £5,000 and £6,000 had been expended upon the property.

476. As a matter of fact, three members of the Committee put questions to you about this expenditure;—do you recollect who they were? Mr. Copeland, Mr. O'Sullivan, and the Chairman.

477. On the occasion of your special visit to these roads, I suppose you saw most of them? Yes.
478. Did you see both the roads on the Government subdivision and the roads through the private land? I did not get down to what is known as the Great Eastern Road. I omitted what I had seen on previous occasions.
479. Will you tell the Committee your opinion as to the construction of these roads, and as to their formation;—will you say whether you think them good or bad—First, what is your opinion with regard to the roads passing through the private land? I took a plan with me and I made a few notes. I may say in passing that the plan is very inaccurate. With respect to the roads which are said to be ballasted, I think it is the most inferior work I ever saw. I should imagine that about 13 or 14 feet in the centre of those roads, where the land is alluvial, is ballasted. That occurs in Junction Road and in Burns' Road, where it passes through land which is more alluvial than the other. The roads which are formed on the harder formation are the best roads—in other words, the roads which are not ballasted are the best. It would have been a mistake to ballast the roads formed on the ironstone gravel.
480. Which are they? I could not give you their names.
481. Are the best roads on the private land or on the Government land? The roads on the gravel formation are the best. They occur principally on the Government lands. The Government lands just about there are of a harder formation.
482. You have seen some of the roads in a casual way previous to this special visit? Yes.
483. Having seen the roads on this inspection, generally, your observation as to their inferiority applies to the roads made by the unemployed? I understood that all these roads had been made by the unemployed.
484. Are the roads which have been made by the unemployed of an inferior kind? They are all very inferior roads. As I said just now, the best roads are those which had required least formation.
485. I wish you to look at the account of the expenditure furnished by Colonel Wells and Mr. O'Donnell, the Road Overseer? I have seen that account.
486. You will see that they estimate that the total expenditure upon all roads through these private lands to the Crown lands is, approximately, £2,300? Yes.
487. You will see that the schedule includes the expenditure upon the road from Junction Road to Pearce's Corner to the church? Yes.
488. I presume you are aware that Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith have no land upon that road? Yes; I am aware of that.
489. Do you know the road from the Junction Road across the railway bridge to the "Junction Hotel"? Yes. I did not go over it the other day, but I know it well.
490. You are aware that Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith have no land along that road? That, I think, will be seen from the plan.
491. Are you aware whether a road has been made close to the "Junction Hotel," down in the direction of a line with the property of Mr. Higgins, by the unemployed, and that Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith have no interest in it, having no land there? Decidedly; I know that very well.
492. We have no land there? No.
493. There is among the papers a petition from a number of residents, in which your name is included for the improvement of the old Vanceville Road? Yes.
494. That was an application simply to improve the old road? Yes.
495. There was no question of extension? No.
496. That petition was referred by the Department of Works, to whom it was addressed, to the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
497. You have observed that the Vanceville Road, as far as it was maintained by the Works Department, has been improved by the unemployed? Yes; I saw that on my previous visit.
498. Does not the evidence of Mr. Bennett show that that portion of the road has been maintained by the Department for some years past? Yes. I believe there is a good deal of settlement on either side.
499. Have you observed that Burns' Road is also shown by the evidence to have been an old road which has been improved by the unemployed? Yes.
500. It has been extended in the direction of Noonan's? Yes.
501. Have you any information as to how that road came to be improved by the unemployed? From inquiries I made, I find it has been improved in response to a deputation of the residents, of which I had no knowledge, through the Casual Labour Board.
502. Headed by Mr. Noonan? Yes.
503. Are you aware that Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith have no interest in the road leading from the road by Noonan's on to the Lane Cove Road? Decidedly.
504. We have no land fronting it? None whatever.
505. Are you aware that Mr. Noonan offered to give evidence that he was the most active agent in inducing the Casual Labour Board to improve these two roads? I learnt that from Mr. Noonan on Saturday last. He seemed anxious to give evidence.
506. Are you aware that Colonel Wells has stated that £800 out of the £2,300 said to have been expended in connection with the unemployed would have had to be expended by the Public Works Department themselves, in order to make approaches to the railway station? Yes; I understand so.
507. Perhaps you are also aware that Mr. Bennett, the Chief Commissioner for Roads, has said that by-and-by the Department will have to expend at least £2,000 in making roads for the railway station? I did not know that.
508. Are you aware that a station or platform is now being built close to Noonan's and Dobson's, on the North Shore line? Yes; I saw it on Saturday for the first time.
509. A road leading from that station to the Lane Cove Road has been widened and improved by the unemployed? Yes—up past Noonan's.

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510. Are you also aware that a station is being built at the corner of the Vanceville and Lane Cove Roads? Yes.
511. Are you aware that there is also a station close to "Porter's Hotel"? I have not been that way for years, but I have heard something of it.
512. Have you any idea of the extent of the Crown lands on the northern side of the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? I have not.
513. You do not know the area of the land? No, but they seem to have a large area. I think it goes pretty well down to Peat's Ferry.
514. Is it your opinion that these Crown lands have been improved in value by these roads of access through the private land? Undoubtedly.
515. Do you recollect the first application we received for permission to make a road through the land of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? Yes; but I do not recollect the date.
516. Do you remember my consulting you about it? Yes.
517. Do you know who was in office as Minister for Lands then? I was always under the impression that Mr. Copeland was Minister of Lands. I know that the Dibbs or Stuart Government sent the application.
518. Did I write to you or see you as to whether you concurred in the application of the Government for this first road of access? You either wrote to me or saw me personally. I remember the three of us signing a letter.
519. Do you not recollect the first letter I wrote to you, stating that an application had been made to me by a surveyor on behalf of the Government for the road over the bridge near Hornsby? I cannot say whether you wrote a letter or whether you produced a letter and asked me to sign it; but I remember your communicating with me in some way with regard to an application by the Government of the day for land for a road or roads required to give access to the railway station.
520. Do you recollect if Mr. Smith was opposed to giving land for these roads? I know that he was always opposed to giving land for any purpose of that kind.
521. Are you aware that Mr. Bennett, after the applications came from the Casual Labour Board for some of these roads, furnished an independent report to the Government as to their necessity? I think I saw it in January last.
522. Having ascertained the expenditure upon these roads, as far as it can be ascertained, and also the area of land held by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, can you tell the Committee whether, in your opinion, their estate has derived any great advantage from the construction of the roads? I see very little special benefit derived by the estate myself, after looking into the matter.
523. Do you know how much land has been given for these roads? I believe 29 acres has been given. I do not know whether it has been given or taken. I understand that some of the land has been taken, and that we have not given it.
524. What is your estimate of the value of this land? I put the land in that part of the estate at £125 per acre. A leading architect in the city secured, after very great trouble, a block of 4 acres at £125 per acre. We consider that we made a concession in allowing him to have the land at that price for the construction of what was considered a good residence. I also have regard to the fact that 40 acres near Noonan's was bought at £150 per acre within the last two months. Estimating our 29 acres to be worth £125 an acre, you have a sum of £3,625.
525. Do you know who purchased the land near Noonan's? Mr. Lyne, M.P., I believe, and some Melbourne friends.
526. What proportion of the £2,300, alleged by Colonel Wells to have been expended upon these roads, has been expended upon roads in which Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith are directly or indirectly interested? I should say the sum would be considerably less than that given in the Schedule. I could not say how much less.
527. Would it be £500 less? I think there is no doubt about that.
528. Then you estimate the land which has been taken as being worth £3,625, while there has been an expenditure upon the roads in which we are interested of about £1,800? Yes; about that, in round numbers.
529. You think that would be allowing a very full amount? Yes.
530. Do you think Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith obtained an increment in value by this expenditure outside what you now state? Decidedly not.
531. Then you wish to withdraw altogether the statement you made about this increase in value of £10,000? Decidedly.
532. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Let me refer you now to your previous evidence. Look at question 2191;—
2191. Do you think £20,000 would be too high an estimate? It is a difficult thing for me to say; you can probably form as good an opinion as I can. I do not think it would be at all unreasonable to suppose that the property had received that increase in value;—
- Do you adhere to that? That is simply ridiculous.
533. I am about to ask you a question concerning the value of the roads;—up to that time not a word had been said about the money expended on them, yet in reply to this question you say that you do not think it would be at all unreasonable to suppose that the property had been increased in value by £20,000? That was based upon the representations made in the House by the Chairman when the matter was brought before it, and also upon general rumour.
534. Up to the time that question was put to you you had not been told by the Committee that £5,000 or £6,000 had been expended on the roads? That I think is correct.
535. Notwithstanding that, you said that the increment in value had been £20,000? I never said £20,000. A member of the Committee suggested that value.
536. Yet you admitted that it was not unreasonable? Yes. From the impression made upon me by the report of the proceedings in the House, and from the rumours as to what was going on up there.

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537. Further on you were told that the cost of the roads, as the Committee were informed, was from £5,000 to £6,000; and you said, in reply to that, you were not at all surprised? Of course, if I assented to the suggestion that £20,000 was the increment in value I could not be surprised at hearing that £5,000 or £6,000 had been expended. Besides, I could not know whether the money had been judiciously or injudiciously expended.

538. Having discovered that a smaller sum than £5,000 or £6,000 had been expended upon the roads, do you still hold that one half of £20,000 would be too high an estimate? Decidedly.

539. In corroboration of the statement that the roads had cost £5,000 or £6,000, and that there was a reliable reason for the question put to you, let me refer you to the evidence of Mr. Deering. He is asked what, roughly, has been the expenditure upon the whole of these roads on private property; and he says, in reply, that they have cost £5,000 if they have cost a shilling. Further on he is asked by Mr. McMillan whether the expenditure is really £5,000, and he says that he is sure it is? Yes; I observe that evidence.

540. At the conclusion of his evidence he is asked whether he can give the Committee anything like an idea of the proportion of money spent upon Crown lands at Hornsby to that spent upon the private property there; and he says that they could not have spent more than £700 or £800 upon the whole of the Government subdivision, whereas he was confident that they had not spent less than £6,000 upon the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? Yes; I see he gives that evidence.

541. Had you been a member of this Committee, having that evidence before you, would you not have felt justified in putting the question which was put to you as to the amount of money spent upon these roads? Yes. I am pleased to find you had some justification for putting it.

542. *Mr. Burns.*] Are you aware that Mr. Houson, Colonel Wells, Mr. O'Donnell, and Mr. Gordon, the surveyor, dissent from the evidence of Mr. Deering? I have not read all the evidence, but I have become aware of what you state.

543. Are you aware that Mr. Deering stands alone in his statement about this large expenditure on these roads through private property? I understand that to be the case.

544. Following up Mr. O'Sullivan's question, do you think that any member of the Committee is justified in making this statement to you upon the evidence of one witness only, that the roads had cost between £5,000 and £6,000? I do not think they were, unless they had the information officially. Decidedly not. Mr. Deering, I understand, was not the responsible officer.

545. Are you aware that the gentlemen I have named have all given evidence in opposition to Mr. Deering's statement? Yes; I am aware of that.

546. *Chairman.*] You said just now that when you said that £20,000 increment in value was not an unreasonable estimate, you based that statement upon some representations which I have made in the House. I have here the *Hansard* report of my speech. Will you point out in it the representations to which you refer? I do not think I can do that. I simply stated the impression made upon my mind. I could not refer to any particular portion of your speech. I thought, from the manner in which you had addressed the House on that question, and from general rumours which were abroad at that time, that there was a much greater expenditure going on than that which I have discovered to be made.

547. You cannot point to anything in my speech which warranted you in assuming that the increase in value to the estate would be £20,000? No.

548. Do you see that I state that £20,000 would be my estimate of the value? Very likely that part of the speech made the impression upon me to which I refer.

549. Are you aware that I was quoting what you had already communicated to a *Star* reporter? I do not think I can have said that.

550. Are you aware that your estimate was already in print when I made this statement? I know the interview to which you refer. I am not prepared to admit that I could be in a position to form an estimate even now, to say nothing of that time. I knew then even less than I know now.

551. Did you make your estimate before I made this statement in the House? I fail to see how it is possible for me to make any estimate, not having the slightest knowledge of the work which is going on. I had nothing but rumour to guide me.

552. Whatever rumours you heard was not your interview with the *Star* reporter prior to my speech in the House? Two days before. Does it state in that interview that I gave an estimate of £20,000?

553. Yes? Well it is absurd.

554. Mr. Burns asked you just now whether the Committee were justified in taking the estimate of Mr. Deering;—are you aware that when you gave your evidence the Committee had not before them the schedule of Colonel Wells? I was not aware of that.

555. Are you aware, from the evidence, that the schedule of Colonel Wells was put in subsequently? Yes, I see that is so; but I concluded when you put the question to me that the amount was authentic.

556. Are you aware that Mr. Little, the paymaster, estimates the expenditure upon the private land as £3,700? No; I have not read his evidence.

557. Let me refer you to question 2,447? Yes, I see that; but you will see that Mr. Little refers to the expenditure upon private lands altogether.

558. If you read the next question you will see that Mr. Little is asked whether £3,700 at least has not been spent on all the land south of Boundary Road and including that road, and that he says he thinks that amount will cover it? Yes; but there are a lot of private lands there besides ours.

559. Are you not aware that the estimate of Colonel Wells refers to the same roads? Yes. In that case a very expensive road on the other side of Pearce's Corner, which I understand has been constructed by the unemployed, would be included.

560. Assuming that Mr. Little is correct, would not that alter the estimate you have just given? Judging from the plan, a great deal of expenditure upon private land affects other peoples property.

561.

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561. But you said just now that you deducted £500 from the £2,300 in Colonel Wells' estimate. Suppose you deduct £500 from Mr. Little's estimate, which is £3,700, leaving £3,200? I do not think I could give you an answer as to value haphazard in that way.
562. You see the difference between the two estimates. One is the estimate of an officer who has had charge of the expenditure of the money, while the other is that of an officer who sees the work after it has been done? Yes, of course there is that difference.
563. Even if a less amount has been expended, is not the making of these roads of additional value to your property? They must give some value to the property, I presume; but I think that more than the full value is balanced by our allowing the Government to take the land free of charge.
564. But, as a matter of fact, the land is required for the roads in every case? We had no intention whatever of subdividing this property.
565. But would it not be rendered more valuable from the fact that it contains these roads. We subdivided what we considered sufficient for settlement near the railway station. It was our intention to deal with the rest of the property on this side in one lot. It was never our intention to subdivide any more.
566. But is it not more valuable subdivided in the form in which it now stands? I do not attach any importance whatever to that. I consider that the work is of much greater value to the Crown, especially as Junction Road is admitted by all to be a necessary one.
567. Do you consider that if you increased the number of roads on the property, running them all at right angles, and making them equi-distant, it would decrease the value of your land? I should object to any further cutting up of the property. I was very much annoyed about one of the existing roads. I did not know that it existed. I knew nothing about it until I saw it on Saturday.
568. Is that Mistake Road? I am referring to road HH. I think it is an outrageous thing. I do not know who consented to it. I certainly have not been a party to it.
569. Are you aware that its peculiar shape is owing to a mistake made by the unemployed? I am not.
570. When you say that we refused to further examine you, do you bear in mind that your letter, containing in substance your corrections of the increase in value, is appended to the evidence? I was informed by Mr. Copeland that that was the case when the Progress Report was submitted; but he did not give the particulars of the letter.
571. Is not the substance of the letter a correction of your estimate of the increase in value? Yes.
572. Mr. Burns asked you just now whether your statement as to the increase in value did not appear in the Progress Report;—you are aware, as a Member of Parliament, that when an amendment is moved in Committee omitting certain words, and is not carried, you cannot go back and alter any portion of the words which the amendment proposed to omit? I believe that is so.
573. Therefore it would have been impossible for the Committee, having dealt with this particular paragraph in that way, to make any alteration after the reception of your letter? Yes; I see that.
574. *Mr. Carruthers.*] At the time you were examined by Mr. O'Sullivan as to the cost of the roads, were you informed that one witness had given evidence to the effect that the cost was a little over £2,000? No.
575. If you refer to the evidence of Mr. Davies, you will find he says, at question 944, that the cost of the whole of the work through the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith is a little over £2,000. If you refer to the evidence of Mr. O'Donnell, you will find he says that the cost of improving and making roads on private property is £2,079, and that £4,186 has been expended upon the Crown lands? Yes; I see that is so.
576. Having looked at these questions in the evidence, given prior to your examination, do you think it would have adduced more accurate evidence from you if you had been informed of the replies to these questions? If I had known that one gentleman represented the cost to be £6,000, while another represented it to be £2,000 or £3,000, I should not have offered any opinion at all by way of an estimate.
577. You are aware that Mr. O'Donnell gave this answer, having acted as superintendent of the unemployed at Hornsby? I was not aware of his position. I do not know him.
578. If you had been informed that the gentleman in charge of the works had stated that the cost of the roads was only £2,079, would your answer have been different? Decidedly.

13004. *President resuming.*] Was that evidence submitted to you for revision? Yes.

13004½. Do you wish to make any corrections or explanations? Referring to question 2138, I simply want to say, in a general way, I have no doubt I was conversant with nearly every movement made on the property, but I never went to the place; but I was not aware of the extent of the work that was going on. It was my feeling and belief all through, at the time these men were employed on this property, that their work was based on the application made to the previous Government for roads required to give access to the railway station and the Crown lands. That is the only consideration the matter ever had in my mind. I do not wish to shirk any responsibility about it. Not having been on the property I was not, however, so conversant with it as Mr. Burns might be. Referring to question 550, I wish to say that all sorts of questions and ideas were put into my head in this interview. I was busy when the *Star* reporter came to me and informed me they were going for the Government on the Hornsby roads, and as I was one of the interested parties he thought it only right to see me as to the correctness of the rumour. Whether the conversation was taken down then and there I have no knowledge. I have seen the reporter since. He says he is a shorthand-writer, but I have no recollection of seeing him take down the conversation, as my evidence is being taken down now. It was more like a private conversation, in which, when

I

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 13004½—After “now,” line 14, add “and my opinion is strengthened by the fact that when the proof was submitted to me I expressed my surprise, and was readily allowed to amend it, which I did to a great extent.”

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G. Withers.
6 May, 1889.

I said "I," I meant our Company. I treated the whole thing as being an advertisement for the property more than anything else—the few words I made use of were in the same way. A proof was brought to me the next day and submitted for revision. I said, "I do not think this is fair." The conversation we had was verbal conversation without any data. It was based on the reports, I was led to a great extent to believe, were current in the city. As to the £20,000 mentioned, as I had not seen the property, I should say that no weight should be attached to it at all. However, I admit having hurriedly corrected the proof. There was a passage in it that I declared to the reporter I had no knowledge about there and then. That was that I had no disposition to interfere with Mr. Burns' enterprise. How I could have made such a statement I do not know. I had no difference with Mr. Burns in connection with the conduct of the business. I considered his position in the matter identical with my own. The land was being cleared by the Government for these roads, and he being more of the manager was brought more into the business than myself. He took a delight in going up to the property; I considered it somewhat a labour. Latterly it became a labour for me to bother about it to the extent he always did. That is the only difference between us. There is no other difference between me or any of the partners of the property. I did not know the extent of the work that was going on, because I never visited the property; but when I spoke in the House I pointed out how value for every shilling could have been got for their work. They could have been put on to the projected railways, and when the time came for the making of the railways these portions could have been exempt from the contracts for the completion of same, in which case I, as a citizen, would not have been put to the annoyance of being dragged into this matter. Referring to question 467, I think it should be "based upon a statement made to you by this Committee," instead of "by you to this Committee." I gave the evidence on the faith of the money being expended without having seen the property.

13005. With these exceptions, can we take it that your evidence is true and correct in every particular? Yes.

13006. When did you first purchase the land in conjunction with Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? Twelve or thirteen years ago, as stated in my evidence.

13007. I find on examining the papers a difference between Mr. Burns and some of the other witnesses on the point, and I want to put it right. Now I will show you a letter from Mr. Oliver, late Under Secretary for Lands, dated 29th August, 1885, referring to certain land;—does that refer to the land that these roads go through? That I cannot say.

13008. Have you any other land in that district that you own with Burns and Smith? Yes; a portion of about 400 acres, of which we were once joint owners, of the Vanceville Estate, bought, perhaps, a year before this property was bought.

13009. Did you apply to bring it under the Real Property Act? Yes.

13010. Is it likely that this letter had reference to some of this land that we are inquiring into? I should think so. Mr. Burns would be a better authority on that matter than me. Some of it we have under the Act, and some of it not.

13011. Look at plan [*Exhibit D 4*];—does that appear to you to correctly represent the position of the roads as regards your property? Yes.

13012. Is this road marked "A" at the top of the plan the first road that you were applied to, to give up to the Government? I may state, as regards the original application, that I have never made myself acquainted with the exact site of the first proposed road. It was, I believe, altered in lieu of Burns Road.

13013. Do you recollect what is called the overbridge road? I presume it is the road that leads to the overhead bridge. I do not know what name has been given to the road.

13014. Is that the road you had communication with the Government about? I cannot remember distinctly, but I have every reason to believe it was.

13015. You were asked by Mr. Burns, before the Select Committee, whether you recollected the first application you received to make a road through Burns, Withers, and Smith's land;—do you believe that is the road referred to, or do you know anything about it? I cannot say distinctly. I imagine it would be. Until the railway was formed there the place was a wild bush. I did not, nor do I now, know definitely the boundary of the property.

13016. How long is it since you have been out there? I have not been out there since I amended my evidence when I went to look at the property, which was on the 10th November, 1888.

13017. If you bought the land in 1875, how many times have you been up there since you owned it? More in the early history of it than later.

13018. Have you been up there twice? I have been up there nearer thirty times than twice, but only once on the roads.

13019. Do you know the road on that plan called the Junction Road? Yes.

13020. Have you any papers in your possession agreeing to the Government taking the road which is marked G on this plan? Whatever papers would be understood to be in my possession Mr. Burns would have.

13021. Does Mr. Burns manage the whole of this estate? Yes, and other joint interests.

13022. Do you look to him as the gentleman who has the entire control and management connected with it? Decidedly not; only to the extent that I have declared in my evidence. Of course he receives no fee whatever.

13023. Would he have power to grant the use of the roads throughout your estate without reference to you? He has not the slightest power of that kind. He has no more power than Mr. Smith or myself.

13024. Can you tell me when you first became aware that there was such a road as Junction Road—before or after it was formed? I really could not tell you the origin of the Junction Road.

13025. Do you know of your own knowledge whether any work in the way of clearing, forming, or making the roads was done on that estate before the unemployed went on it? Yes. Burns Road was made. I cannot give you an exact description of the road; it would be cleared pretty well through to the Eastern Road.

13026. From where? I really cannot tell you the point. I cannot give you the details. I know that I recommended £70 as a reasonable expenditure to cross one of the creeks in Burns Road down to the Great Eastern Road. I think Burns Road must have been cleared through from the Eastern Road so as to give access to the railway-station.

13027. How far from the Great Eastern Road west was anything done to Burns Road by you? I do not know.

13028

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G. Withers.
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13028. Who could give me that information? Mr. Burns would be the best. He has been more on the property all through than myself.

13029. Do you know how much you spent on that estate for the clearing of the roads? Mr. Burns could give you that. I could not tell you.

13030. Did Mr. Burns keep the accounts? Yes.

13031. Did he produce them to you? A contract would be entered into with people, and he would take charge of it. When the time for payment came a cheque would be drawn. If it was a contract for (say) £70, it would be easy to see that the right amount was given. I never called for the cheques in my life, but I presume they could be got.

13032. Did your syndicate keep any minute-book? Yes.

13033. Would that show the expenditure on the work? We never met and had minutes taken in the ordinary way of a Board or Committee, but there would be no difficulty in getting the vouchers representing the amount of money spent on the works.

13034. You see on this plan what is termed the Great Eastern Road;—can you tell me who originated the work from the junction of it with the main road to what is called Billiard-street on the plan? No; I think it was done on petition by the residents in the place. I think that the petition was brought to me.

13035. Can you say of your own knowledge whether your syndicate cleared or went to any expense in making that road? No; I do not think so. We never spent any money on the Great Eastern Road.

13036-7. I see in your answer to question 2141 before the Select Committee, when asked as to what roads were left unfinished by you before the unemployed went on, you said, "To tell you the truth, I do not know what roads have been completed." Do you know—for if you do not know it is no good taking up your time—what work had been done on the roads in your estate before the unemployed went on? I know a considerable amount of work was done on Burns Road, but what was the exact state that it was left in I cannot say. As time went on we should have done more, but we left off some considerable time before the unemployed went on to it.

13038. Do you know that from your own knowledge? From my own personal knowledge.

13039. Do you know whether any part of Burns Road was ballasted? There was no ballasting done by us on our roads.

13040. Was it formed? I do not know whether it would be formed. It was formed near where the culverts were put in.

13041. Was it cleared? I think it was cleared right through.

13042. Were there any culverts on it? Yes; you will find there has been an expenditure of a certain amount upon culverts. I am quite certain about that.

13043. On Burns Road we find a continuation to the east, crossing the Great Eastern Road to a certain point. The road, after crossing the Great Eastern Road, bounds the whole of the land, apparently yours, on the north; then goes south and bounds the whole of your property again on its east side, and then starts away in an easterly direction to some place unknown to us;—can you explain this? I believe that work was carried out to give communication from the Junction to the Bobbin Rock Road.

13044. Does anyone live there? Yes; there are some old residents there, owning some of the best orchards in the district.

13045. As far as we could see that road is a *cul de sac*;—did your syndicate have anything to do with it? I have had nothing to do with making any of the roads excepting those roads I have paid for in conjunction with the firm.

13046. Did your syndicate pay anything for that road which bounds the whole of your property on two sides and then goes to some place? This road had been carried out at the time I visited the property, as indicated in my evidence. That was the first I knew of its existence.

13047. Has your syndicate ever given up any of the roads we see coloured red on the plan to the Government? I have no knowledge of having given up any of the land.

13048. Is there anything to prevent you, so far as you know, from closing any of these roads? No; I do not think there is. The work, I presume, was carried on in a hurried manner. The land should have been sold to the Government if they wanted it.

13049. I see on the south of the line of railway, as shown on this plan, there is a continuation of roads marked H, J, K;—do those continuations go through any of your property? No; we have scarcely any land there. I do not suppose we have an acre on the south side of the line.

13050. You were asked before the Select Committee to produce a plan of the subdivision;—is this plan I show you a copy of it? That is only a portion of the estate subdivided, or contemplated to be so subdivided.

13051. Is that the only part of your estate for which you have had a plan of subdivision made? Yes, that is the only part.

13052. It has been represented to us that the whole of the 600 acres has been subdivided? That is not the case.

13053. Do you know when you bought the land whether there were any roads cleared through it? As far as I remember the only road running through the estate would be the main Peat's Ferry Road, one of the most ancient roads in the Colony. The Vanceville Road must also have been in existence. These were the only two roads running through the property when we purchased it.

13054. Do you think any part of the Vanceville Road was in existence, either in the way of clearing or formation, when you got it? Yes; an old man named Cherry lived at the intersection of the Great Eastern Road and Lane Cove Road.

13055. Have you sold any portion of the subdivision, and if so, what prices did it bring? Between £3 and £4 a foot with Peat's Ferry Road frontages, and £5 per foot for other land.

13056-7. Have you sold any land on the eastern side of the line? 4 acres for £125 per acre.

13058. Where is that land? It will be in some of the blocks fronting Albert-street, in sections 8 or 9, on the eastern side of the station, some distance from the station.

13059. When did you first become aware of the existence of this network of road which is indicated on this plan by the letters H, H, H, I, E, and K, and especially this parallelogram of roads in the middle? Well, about the time and in the manner referred to in my evidence. On the 10th November, 1888.

13060. Was it long before the matter was mentioned in the House? I have stated that I had a general knowledge of certain roads. You want to know exactly when I became aware of and saw the roads.

13061.

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G. Withers.
6 May, 1889.

13061. Yes? That would be after giving my first evidence. It was shortly after I wrote and asked to amend my evidence before the Select Committee. They summoned me almost immediately, but I asked them to defer taking the evidence until I had inspected the property. My first definite knowledge of these roads was when I went up after giving my first evidence, on the 10th November, 1888.

13062. I see you were asked the question, "But you knew the unemployed were making these roads through your property," and you said, "Undoubtedly." And "Of course I heard it from all sources." Is that correct? Yes, principally from residents of the district, who would meet me in the city. I never sought any of the information.

13063. Then, I suppose, during the greater part of 1877 and 1888, and during the time you were a member of Parliament, whatever was done on that property you were made aware of? In a general way. Not as regards the details.

13064. Did you make any objection to the work? No; I was never called on.

13065. Did you consider that, as a Member of Parliament, you should wait until you were told of things? Being a Member of Parliament, knowing these men were starving in the community, and that the Government in their judgment were finding them this sort of work, and knowing that some years ago the Government asked for land for roads to open up the railway station and the Crown lands—that was where I understood the men were working. I thought the roads were being constructed in the ordinary way on that understanding.

13066. Were any of your partners members of the Government at that time? Mr. Burns was a member of the Government.

13067. What office did he hold? Colonial Treasurer.

13068. Whilst the work was going on? Yes.

13069. Did it occur to you, from your position as a Member of Parliament, and your partner being Colonial Treasurer, that these works should have been noticed specially by you; or did you think you should wait until your attention was called to them? I have had plenty of opportunities of seeing since what would have been the most judicious course on my part. It would have been to have got an injunction from the Supreme Court and have prevented the Government from going on to the land. This is what I should have done. Of course we can all be very wise after the event, but you will see a passage where I declare I believed that nothing was being done on that property that would not have been done if I had not been a Member of Parliament.

13070. You are aware from your business knowledge that in Companies or partnerships, it is well recognized that members or Directors shall not have a voice or vote in matters in which they are personally interested? Certainly.

13071. Did it not strike you when this money was being expended on the unemployed constructing roads on this private estate that you, as a Member of Parliament, and your co-partner as Treasurer, would be called on to vote or sanction the expenditure? I never viewed it in that way; but certainly when I saw the work that had been done, knowing what party politics are, I thought there would, in all probability, be a lot of bother about it.

13072. Altogether, away from party politics, did it not strike you as being a matter that might properly be objected to? I say no. You see the railway-station was in the middle of our property, and means of access must be given to it. Seeing that the Crown land was at the back, I looked upon the thing as most legitimate, but still, when I saw it, I thought there was plenty of scope for party politics to make a handle out of it.

13073. We are not concerned with party politics. We have to see if this ought to have been done in the general public interest. Do you think Mr. Burns knew that this was going on? Of course he did. Mr. Burns is in the habit of going to the property. For at least three years I have scarcely visited it.

13074. Do you know what Mr. Burns average visits are? I dare say his average visits have been once in every three weeks. In the early history of the property I frequently drove him up, but I, for certain reasons of late years, rarely went near the property.

13074½. Were you aware that, not only in the vicinity, but in other parts of the Colony there was Crown land that the unemployed might usefully have been set upon? I am now aware of this, but really it was no business of mine. As an ordinary member in the House I could not interfere with the Members of the Government.

13075. One of the Members of the Government was your co-partner? I had very little to do with Mr. Burns as a Member of the Government. I had very little to do with him even as a partner. Certainly I had no voice in the administration of the country with him. I saw less of Mr. Burns than of any other Member of the House or Government, although he was a partner of mine. I look upon a large portion of the work on this estate as being of benefit to the country.

13076. Not of particular benefit to yourself? If it had been dealt with on purely commercial lines, and the land purchased from us and paid for, we should have been £1,000 or £1,500 in pocket.

13077. I want you to look at this petition of June, 1887, respecting the Noxious Trade Site and the road thereto, signed by a large number of Members of Parliament, one of whom appears to be you.

13078. Do you not think that that would have been far more useful work to put the unemployed on than on this private property? Decidedly that was the sort of work I recommended. When speaking in the House on that and other questions of work, I failed to impress Governments with my ideas until too late. There would have been no question then about people's evidence or people's honor.

13079. I show you a petition [*Exhibit D 5*] presented by Mr. Ives for repairs of a road known as the Great Eastern Road? Yes, I signed that.

13080. Does reading that now remind you what was the state of the Vanceville Road before the petition was put in? It was all bush down to a certain point.

13081. Does the petition refer to the lower part of the road or the upper part of it? That was only a repairing job.

13082. That would be repairs to a road that already existed? Yes.

13083. Does your reading that petition refresh your mind as to what state the road was in before? No.

13084. I see in answer to a question before the Select Committee, by Mr. Burns, you said that Mr. Noonan was anxious to give evidence. Do you know what evidence he could give? No.

13085. Do you know where he lives? Yes, at Lane Cove. Patrick Noonan is his name.

13086. Did Mr. Burns show you various petitions of his that he presented to the House on this subject? No. I think he sent one to my office, addressed to my partner, but I have not seen it.

13087.

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Withers.
6 May, 1889.

13087. I see in a petition he presented he says that the unemployed who were under the direction of the Colonial Secretary and Mr. Deering without any communication to him, were put on to clear and form the said road. The road he refers to is the Boundary Road A. Is that correct to say it was done without any communication with your syndicate? I should imagine it was; because Mr. Burns told me the unemployed were going to do that road for which that land had been asked some years previously. I thought it a most reasonable and proper thing to put them on that road or any such requisite work.

13088. Yes, but the complaint is here that it was done without any communication with Mr. Burns, and this petition makes out, also, that it was done without any communication to you? Yes. I was never consulted about it. We had agreed to the matter many years before the "unemployed" were employed by the Government.

13089. Look at a memorandum in the appendix to the Select Committee's evidence being a dedication of part of Burns, Withers, and Smith's land one chain in width for the use of the public. Does not that refer to this road in paragraph five of the petition. Is not that the road that Mr. Deering cleared? I know nothing about it. I suppose all the details that were necessary had been attended to.

13090. Did you ever hear of Mr. Burns colleagues in the Ministry, at his request, having an inquiry made, independently of the Casual Labour Board, as to whether these roads were really required for the public benefit? Yes; after an article appeared in the *Sunday Times*.

13091. After the roads were formed? The *Sunday Times* had an article headed "The way the Treasury is looted."

13092. That inquiry then referred to here relates to what was produced by that article in the *Sunday Times*? Yes.

13093. That was what Mr. Burns asked to have an inquiry about? Yes. People called his attention to it.

13094. If we want to get any more evidence about that petition we had better get it from Mr. Burns? Yes.

13095. Do you know the road called Boundary Road. Is that on your land or on Crown land? I have every reason to believe that it is the boundary of the two properties.

13096. Is it on your land or on Crown land? That I cannot say.

13097. Do you know Mr. John Davies? Yes.

13098. Do you know him well? Yes; I have known him many years.

13099. Did you ever visit at his house? No. I have not been on speaking terms with him for some years.

13100. Have you spoken to him for some time? No, we have not spoken. There has been a permanent estrangement. We have not spoken for six years.

13101. Mr. Waller.] Has the firm of Burns, Withers, and Smith a separate banking account for the Hornsby Estate? No; we have no separate banking account for the Hornsby Estate. We have for that estate and other properties.

13102. How would you make payments for expenditure in connection with the Hornsby Estate? Mr. Burns would draw a cheque and send it round to Mr. Smith and myself to sign it.

13103. On what bank? The Bank of New South Wales.

13104. To any particular account? We did not pay by number, and whatever it was for would be represented in the body of the cheque.

13105. If it was for the Hornsby Estate would it be on the cheque? Yes.

13106. If it was for some other estate would it be named? Yes.

13107. Did a cheque have to be signed by all three partners? Yes.

13108. Was that arrangement in vogue for some time? Always. Very likely for some five or six years; ever since the account was opened.

13109. Would all payments for contract labour outside be thus paid? Yes. It would show nearly everything.

13110. Does your syndicate keep any books for such transactions as payments by cheque? No; the matter would be almost entirely represented in the bank-book and vouchers.

13111. Would the minute-book show it? I do not think so. The operations have not been very great. There are not many details.

13112. Were not undertakings in the shape of expenditure for improvements on the estate agreed to by each of the members of the syndicate? They would be agreed to by all three of the partners—that is, any matter of disposing of the timber or employing men about the place.

13113. How would you find out if a cheque were drawn for the Hornsby Estate, for what particular thing it was drawn? It would be shown in the body of the cheque. Mr. Kerney was in charge of the works, and it would be "pay him so and so." If for wages it might be "pay wages."

13113½. Would you recognize any expenditure paid on the estate undertaken without your knowledge or sanction? We have had a few brushes over matters that have not been clearly understood by all parties, but nothing serious; but any matter could be blocked by one partner or the other.

13114. Then, from the vouchers and the cheque-book a true record could be obtained of all money spent on the estate? Every sixpence.

13115. Therefore, all works, roads, or improvements will be disclosed by the cheque-book supported by the vouchers? Yes, should be.

13116. You said just now that you considered the work done on the Hornsby Estate of value to the country? Yes; I consider it of mutual advantage.

13117. Why? Because the Crown lands there are to be brought into the market. It gives access to them and also to the railway station. The fact of the railway station being so close at hand would induce people to buy the Crown land. The station would be almost locked in unless you had the roads.

13118. The roads were between the Crown land and the railway? No; between the Crown land and the main road—I mean the Lane Cove Road.

13119. Supposing there was nothing there but the sea or water? Then there would be nothing to justify the expenditure at all.

13120. Would you not have made access from the farthest position next the water up to the railway station? Decidedly; but that would have been when we felt justified in doing it, and had means at our disposal to do it.

13121. So, as a matter of fact, if the Government had not made access to the Crown lands when it suited your estate you would have made access to the railway station? There is very little doubt of it. There would have been an additional inducement to do it then, because there would have been no land in competition

competition with it. Our intention was not to subdivide it unless we had great inducement. We were anxious to sell it in one block. I am willing to do so now.

13122. Did you not think the land valuable enough to subdivide it? We did not think so. I believe it is now. It could be sold for £150 per acre.

13123. Is it as valuable as the Crown land? It is better than the Crown land. There is not much good Crown land left there.

13124. As a matter of fact, if your land is not sufficiently valuable for subdivision the Crown land would be of less value for subdivision? Yes; but it is all of some value. We can get £100 per acre for most of our land; but we have declined to take that.

Mr. G.
Withers.
6 May, 1889.

TUESDAY, 7 MAY, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, ESQ., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

John Fitzgerald Burns, M.P., called in, sworn, and examined:—

13125. *President.*] Are you a Member of the Legislative Assembly? Yes.

13126. Were you a Member of the Legislative Assembly in the years 1887 and 1888? Yes.

13127. Did you hold a portfolio during either of those years? Yes, I was Colonial Treasurer.

13128. During what time in those years were you Colonial Treasurer? I held the office of Colonial Treasurer from the 20th January, 1887, until the month of January, 1889. I cannot fix the exact date.

13129. Then I can take it that during the whole of the years 1887 and 1888 you were in office as Colonial Treasurer? Yes.

13130. I believe you are interested in some land in the vicinity of Hornsby Railway Station? Yes.

13131. When did you purchase that land? In August, 1876.

13132. Will you look at this plan (*Exhibit D 4*) and tell me whether it correctly shows the land that you purchased? Yes; the plan shows the land on the eastern side of the line.

13133. Did you buy it jointly with anybody else? Yes; with Mr. Withers and Mr. R. B. Smith.

13134. Do you know Mr. Wells? Yes.

13135. Do you recollect at any time having a conversation with him relative to your Hornsby property? Yes.

13136. Will you detail, as nearly as you can, that conversation, and give approximately the date of it? Well, I could not fix the date; it was long before there was much movement at Hornsby in the way of settlement. It was about the time the line was to be opened. It occurred when I was going to Maitland in a railway carriage. The conversation turned on the probability of the connection between the Hunter and Sydney by a railway line. I then told him, in speaking of the Crown lands in the neighbourhood of Hornsby, that I would be willing to give the Government a road leading from Hornsby Station to the Crown lands.

13137. Can you give the year? No; I could not fix the year. I think it was before the line had been actually opened to Hornsby; I think it was in course of construction.

13138. Does that plan show the road that you contemplated giving? No; I had no particular idea as to where the road was to come. The conversation that we had in regard to Hornsby related more particularly to the large area of Crown lands in that neighbourhood. I think Mr. Wells said that the Government would require to open some roads. I told him I was the owner of the land intervening, and that I was willing, with my partners' concurrence, to let him have a road to the Crown lands.

13139. Was a result of that conversation your handing over the road marked A on this plan? No. As far as my knowledge extends the conversation led to nothing. The first movement for a road came from the Survey Department. Having read the evidence of Mr. Wells, I think it goes to show that nothing resulted from our conversation, which was long prior to any movement to open the roads in that locality. I had an application at a much later period from the Survey Department for permission to make a road from the Peat's Ferry Road across the Railway Bridge to the Crown lands. An officer called upon me at my office in Elizabeth-street, and his mission was to get a road from Peat's Ferry Road across the Railway Bridge to the Crown lands.

13140. What evidence of Mr. Wells' do you refer to that you say you have read? I read his evidence through, and it does not seem to me from his evidence that any action was the result of the conversation.

13141. His evidence before this Commission? No; his evidence before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly. I have not seen his evidence before this Commission.

13142. Will you look at a letter from the then Under Secretary for Lands, Mr. Oliver, to Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, dated 29th August, 1885—what land does that refer to? That refers to land known as Bellamy's Grant, on the eastern side of the line.

13143. And is that some of the land through which are the roads we are inquiring into? I think it will save time, if I say this—

13144. I must ask you to allow me to conduct the examination in my own way. This letter of Mr. Oliver's states that the Crown will raise no objection to the issue of a certificate of title in virtue of Bellamy's grants to the land extending about 59 chains southerly from the south side of a road 1 chain wide running along the south boundary of Fear's and Gray's grants. Is that shown on this plan [*Exhibit D 4*]? I do not think the plan will show the land, which is at the back of road A to the north.

13145. In your evidence before the Select Committee you state that Surveyor Perdriau waited upon you with reference to some road. Will you point out on the plan what road that is? That is road A, over the bridge. He made an application and came to inquire whether the owners of the land—Burns, Withers, and Smith—would be willing to allow the Government to make a road there, from the Peat's Ferry Road through our lands to the Crown lands. I was personally willing to give the road, but I had to consult my partners.

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13146. Was the outcome of that interview the writing by you of the letter mentioned in your evidence before the Select Committee? Yes; the outcome of it was that letter.

13147. Will you read it? Yes.

"Sir,

"75 Elizabeth-street, Sydney, 16 November, 1886.

"With reference to my letter of 8th July, 1885, addressed to the Surveyor-General, and to your communication to me of the 29th August following, numbered 85-1,615, I beg now to state for your information that as it appears the Government would much prefer a direct road from Peat's Ferry, across the railway bridge at Hornsby, through the lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith, to the Crown lands adjoining, in lieu of the road we first mutually agreed upon, Burns, Withers, and Smith are prepared to assent to the proposed change, provided that the new line is surveyed and cleared for traffic in a reasonable time, and that the Government relinquish all claim in respect of the former line.

"I am, &c,

"J. F. BURNS."

"The Under Secretary for Lands."

13148. Was that arrangement carried out on the part of the Government? I do not know in what sense it was carried out. I only knew that the Government assumed that we were contented, because I, some time afterwards, learned they had placed some of the unemployed on the land to clear the road for traffic.

13149. Did they relinquish to you all claim in respect to some former proposed line of road? I do not know that they did. It may be assumed that they did by their acting upon that letter when it suited their purpose.

13150. Was that road A formally dedicated? I do not know of any formal dedication. Do you mean the first road—the old road?

13151. Will you look on notice of dedication appearing on Appendix to the Evidence before the Select Committee. Is that the dedication of road A? Yes; that is it, dated 19th August, 1887.

13152. Were you often up about the land there belonging to Burns, Withers, and Smith? Yes.

13153. How often? I was sometimes there on a Saturday.

13154. Were you there once a week? Not once a week.

13155. Once a month? More than once a month sometimes.

13156. What were your average visits during the year? I dare say during the year I would pay twenty visits.

13157. Have you seen road A since the agreement by you and your partners to dedicate it? Yes.

13158. Have you seen it in such a way as to know what has been done on it? Yes; I think I must have been over it several times.

13159. Has anything more been done to it than what was required in your letter—namely, that it should be surveyed and cleared for traffic? It has been roughly cleared and roughly ballasted.

13160. You know what surveying and clearing a road for traffic means? It just depends upon the requirements of a locality.

13161. In a part of the country where it was bush land could there be any doubt as to what surveying and clearing for traffic meant? It depends upon the prospects of the place for traffic. Rough clearing might be done, but if there are any prospects of traffic more may be done.

13162. Has anything more been done than surveying and clearing this road for traffic? No more has been done than I and my partners have a right to expect, considering that we gave the land. The land is worth at least £6,000, and I question if that amount has been expended upon the road.

13163. Where about is Fears' and Gray's land? It abuts on our property to the north.

13164. Is this petition I hand you the petition you presented to the Legislative Assembly on 6th March last? Yes.

13165. Are the statements in that petition correct? Yes. [*Petition put in and marked T.*]

13166. In paragraph 5 of that petition you say that without any communication from or to petitioner, or any of his partners, some of the persons called the unemployed, who were under the direction of the Colonial Secretary, and the immediate supervision of Mr. Deering, the Metropolitan District Surveyor, were put on to clear and form the road from Peat's Ferry Road across a railway bridge to the Crown lands? Yes.

13167. Is that correct? I believe it is correct.

13168. Did you not on several occasions—both verbally and by letter—urge the clearing and forming of that road A and the fulfilment of the Government agreement? I may have urged the fulfilment of the engagement to clear the road, but I had nothing to do with the unemployed being put on to clear it.

13169. The petitioner states that without any communication from you these men were put on? Yes. I will add to that, that eventually, on the occasion of a visit I paid to Hornsby, I recollect driving over to see what "the unemployed" who had been on the Crown lands were doing, and I found the men at work on the road—which they were then clearing.

13170. Does this letter, dated 31st March, 1886, appendix to the Select Committee's evidence, from you to the Chief Commissioner for Roads refer to road A? Yes.

13171. You say there that steps should be taken as early as practicable for clearing and forming the road? Yes.

13172. And that relates to road A? Yes. I want to retract that statement. It refers to the road near Fears' in accordance with the settlement arrived at in 1885. My request was that they were to make the road near Fears' which by their settlement they were entitled to make. The road they proposed in the first instance was too far north, and they made application to me for road A.

13173. Then that letter refers to the road originally proposed, and for which road A was substituted? Yes.

13174. If you refer to this letter you will see a note by Mr. Bennett,—“Could not the unemployed be put at work here”? Yes.

13175. You see further on a note that—“A road in this position would be of no present use to the public, as there is not a person living on the back lands to make use of it;—no provision is made for crossing

NOTE (on revision) :—Q. 13148—Add “The Government was at the same time preparing for the sale of a subdivision of Crown lands into which the road led.” Q. 13156. I have a record of my visits to Hornsby which proves that in 1887 I made to it fifteen visits, and in 1888 eleven. Q. 13162. The accounts of Mr. Wells and Mr. O'Donnell prove that the expenditure on this road was £131 5s. The land given for it was worth at least £600. Q. 13163. The Government in 1885 obtained the right to make a road near Fears' along the boundary of the land of Burns, Withers, and Smith. This is the road I asked the Government in my correspondence up to October, 1886, to open. It is near Hornsby, yet further north than road A. Qs. 13170–83. All my correspondence on this subject up to November, 1886, had relation to the road near Fears'. My letter of the 27th October, 1886, proves that I was then ignorant of any intention on the part of the Government to survey road A. At no time during this correspondence was I a member of the Government.

crossing the rail at this point, which, being here in embankment, would require a heavy embanked approach and an expensive culvert adjoining";—have you seen these papers before? I saw them when this evidence was published by the Select Committee of the Assembly.

J. F. Burns;
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13176. Did you read the Appendix? Yes.

13177. And you read this? Yes.

13178. Now look at the next paper of the same Appendix—a letter from Mr. Symonds to the Commissioner for Roads, being an intimation that after seeing you he (Symonds) could not recommend the road at first proposed by you, but recommended another road about a quarter of a mile south of that line;—is not road A the road that he recommends? I think it is; but I may state that although I was included to give the road, my partner, Mr. Smith, was strongly opposed to the road being given.

13179. Do you know whether that road was surveyed by Mr. Deering? I am not aware at the present moment.

13180. Do the notes following on Mr. Symonds' letter indicate that this road A was surveyed by Mr. Deering? I think from the second note that some directions were given to Mr. Deering to make the survey.

13181. Do you know of your own knowledge whether or not the road was surveyed? I do not think it could have been surveyed before Mr. Perdriau came and saw me.

13182. Will you look on the next page of the Appendix to the Select Committee's evidence, a letter dated 29th September, 1886, from the Commissioner for Roads to you, informing you that the papers relating to the road had been sent to the Survey Department to Mr. Deering for survey of road, and intimating that when the road is aligned by Survey Department the clearing will be done? Yes; that, I believe, referred to the road further north of the line.

13183. I think you will find that it is spoken of in Mr. Symonds' report of 21st June, 1886, in which he recommends road A in substitution of the useless road previously reported on? That may be so. I do not think I was informed.

13184. Look at the next letter from you to the Minister for Mines, inquiring when the road through Government land on the northern side of the land of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith to Peat's Ferry Road would be surveyed. What does that refer to? So far as I know it still refers to the Government road on the north side of the land.

13185. Is the road that you think it refers to shown on this plan? I think not.

13186. The next letter of the 16th November, 1886, is an intimation from you and your co-partners that you are prepared to assent to the change of road? Yes, that was in consequence of Mr. Perdriau calling upon me and asking for a road across the bridge through our land to the Crown lands.

13187. You see the next letter of 14th February, 1887, from Surveyor Perdriau, reporting the survey of a road 1 chain wide crossing W. Bellamy's 100 acres in a direct line from the Peat's Ferry Road to the Crown land. Is that road A? That is road A.

13188. Who is the Mr. Dawson referred to in that letter? Mr. Charles B. Dawson, a surveyor, who had been acting for me.

13189. Then at that time the Government Surveyor and your private surveyor were brought into contact regarding this road? Yes. There was a difference between the surveyors which was settled by the giving up of the road to the north.

13190. You see the next letter from Mr. Twyman is recommended that the tracing and form of dedication of the roads be sent to you to be signed and returned to the Department, so that notification of dedication might be made in the *Government Gazette*? Yes.

13191. Did you and your co-partners sign that form? Yes; and that relates to road A.

13192. And that dedication was gazetted? Yes; I believe it was.

13193. Did that dedication take place after you took office as Colonial Treasurer? It must have done.

13194. In the next letter, appendix to the Select Committee's evidence, dated 11th August, 1887, addressed to the Minister for Lands, you say, "In sending you, as I do herewith, the within approval of Burns, Withers, and Smith, of the plan of the road through their land from Peate's Ferry Road *via* the railway bridge at Hornsby to adjoining Crown lands, I think it is right to remind you that it is obligatory on the part of the Government to extend the road to the Great Eastern or Vanceville Road, and put it in fair passable condition for traffic"? Yes.

13195. Where was the obligation? I wrote from memory as to the conditions. I only knew that in giving the road I was acting in opposition to my partner, Mr. Smith. My recollection so far was, that there was an obligation on the part of the Government to put it in fair passable condition for traffic and extend it to the Great Eastern or Vanceville Road. It is not named in the papers, but I wrote that only from memory.

13196. Do you think it is correctly put there? It was not correct.

13197. You were a Minister at the time, communicating with one of your colleagues? Well, I was communicating with him officially. They would know what the conditions were in the Survey Department; they would be in the office. I knew I was giving land that was valuable—worth any expenditure that might be made upon it by the Government.

13198. When did you first become aware that the men named the "unemployed" were working on road A? I became aware of it on visiting the locality, on being informed by a man named Noonan who lives in the locality. He said that some men were working in the direction of the bridge.

13199. Was it any difference to you whether that road was cleared for traffic by the people called unemployed or ordinary labour, so long as it was done? I do not know that it was.

13200. Do you make any complaint, as you point out in your petition that "the unemployed" were put on without any communication to you? I did make a point of that for this reason. It had been alleged that the unemployed were placed on the road under my directions; whereas I had no control over the unemployed. I neither sought to direct nor interfere with them. They were put on the road without my

NOTES (on revision):—Q. 13184—Omit, "So far as I know" and "still," and after "land" add "near Fears." Q. 13204, line 7—For "Vanceville" read "Junction," and for "Junction" read "Vanceville." Q. 13189—After "surveyors" insert "about boundaries in 1885," and after "north" add "near Fears, to the Government." Q. 13196—After "not" insert "technically." Note.—Nevertheless this was not material, as the road to Vanceville was then being formed, and it was true that I had been led to believe that it would be continued through the Crown Lands to Vanceville. Mr. Deering states in his Report of the 17th June, 1888, par. 7, that the Department of Lands had authorized the roads through the Public Estate, about to be sold, including the road from the Hornsby railway station, through and along Crown lands to the Eastern or Vanceville Road, to be cleared, &c. My letter respecting the dedication was dated 11th August, 1887.

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my knowledge. The first information I got of the fact was from Noonan. It did not matter to me whether the work was done by the unemployed or not. The Government got the land without any compensation, and I considered it should be properly cleared.

13201. Was it not part of the bargain that the Government should clear the road for traffic? Yes.

13202. And did it matter whether that work was done by so termed unemployed paid by the Government or by other men paid by the Government? Not in the least to me.

13203. It was public money all the same? Yes; it was public money all the same.

13204. Will you tell me as concisely as you can what was the arrangement that led to the giving by you and your colleagues of what is called Junction Road, marked GGG on plan [*Exhibit D 4.*]? There was no arrangement. I knew that they commenced to make what is called the Boundary Road, and I knew from observation that the making of Boundary Road there as they proposed, to reach the Vanceville Road, would involve a large expenditure as the ground was precipitous at one place. It did not surprise me therefore to receive a communication from the Casual Labour Board expressing their desire to continue what is known as the Vanceville Road through to the Junction Road. I understood that was owing to the difficulty in making the Boundary Road. That announcement came to me in a letter, and I gave my assent to the proposal. I knew perfectly well that they could not construct the Boundary Road except at an enormous expenditure. I learned afterwards from the evidence before the Select Committee —

13205. I wish, as far as I can, to confine your evidence on this point to your own knowledge. It is important that we should get your knowledge instead of what you know from other people? To complete the matter, I heard Mr. Houison state before the Select Committee that he recommended the Casual Labour Board to apply to the owners of the land to allow them to continue the road known as Junction Road through to the Vanceville Road.

13206. Did you ever see Mr. Houison with reference to any proposal to allow the Government to go through your land with a road in place of extending the Boundary Road? No.

13207. Did you ever see Mr. Wells with reference to it? No.

13208. Or Mr. Davies? No.

13209. Have you amongst your papers a copy or record of any authority from you or your co-partners allowing the road, and for the work that has been done on this Junction Road? I do not think there is any paper unless it is the reply to the application to make the road.

13210. Have you that? I have not got it here; but it is amongst the papers of the Select Committee. I may be allowed to add this: that until I saw Mr. Houison before the Select Committee I did not know him.

13211. Are you sure there is such a paper? Yes; I will get the document. I think I at once wrote a letter giving my assent to the change. I should have the original paper with a rough copy of what I wrote in answer to the application.

13212. Do you believe that there is any authority from you and your co-partners to support the opening, clearing, forming, or other work on this Junction Road? There is an authority. This application was made to me for permission to make this road from the Junction Road to the Vanceville Road; and I wrote back an answer giving the permission.

13213. Nothing beyond that? No.

13214. But you believe there is such a letter? Yes.

13215. Will you be able to give the Commission a copy of it? Yes.

13216. Mr. Wells, one of the members of the Casual Labour Board, stated that since his conversation with you in 1885, or 1886, he has heard nothing whatever from you in connection with these roads, nor does he believe that any other member of the Casual Labour Board has? No; I have studiously refrained from saying anything about these roads.

13217. Then to whom would that authority be given? The Casual Labour Board wrote to me asking for my permission. I at once replied giving my permission.

13218. Is that the letter you refer to? [*Witness looks at a letter, dated 19th October, 1887, addressed to Thomas Hinchcliffe, Secretary to the Casual Labour Board.*] That is it I believe.

13219. Read it carefully? I think that is it.

13220. Do you see attached to that a copy of a letter from Thomas Hinchcliffe, dated 18th October, 1887, asking you if you have any objection to the opening of the roads marked A, B, and C? Yes.

13221. Now, having seen that letter, has the letter of 19th October any reference to the Junction Road? It does not seem to have any reference to it.

13222. Do you think that amongst your papers you can find that authority? The paper I had in my mind when you asked about the letter was a similar paper to the one I have here.

13223. Do you believe there was one? There was a paper asking for permission to extend the Boundary Road.

13224. Is this Junction Road an extension of the Boundary Road? No.

13225. Was there any writing by which you and your co-partners authorized the Government, or any surveyor, or any person in charge of the unemployed, to go on your property and make the road called the Junction Road? No. I think they got permission in this way:—They made application to me for some roads. I had no time to attend to the business, so I handed the matter over to the surveyor, Mr. Dawson, and he went over and marked out the roads. I gave him discretionary power. I did not want them to make roads that would injure my property, and to make the Junction Road, about which there was a communication at right angles through the property to the Vanceville Road. Mr. Dawson would have acted in this matter for me.

13226. Do you believe that there was any letter at all? I believe there was a letter.

13227. Do you believe that there was a written authority from you and your partners? I do not think I waited to see my partners. I was informed there was a large number of people on the ground, and, without waiting for my approval, they had actually commenced to extend the Boundary Road.

13228. Did you give Mr. Dawson, your surveyor, some instructions? Yes.

13229. Did he, consequent upon those instructions, see the gentleman who had charge of the unemployed operations there? Yes.

13230. Is it not the case that, instead of there being any written authority, the matter was arranged between Mr. Dawson, your surveyor, and the Government Surveyor? That may have been so, but I think there was some communication.

13231.

13231. Well, looking now at paragraph 6 of your petition, do you still adhere to the statement there, that you were applied to by letter, on the recommendation of Messrs. Wells and Houison? I believe so.
13232. Then if you have that letter from Mr. Wells, Mr. Houison, Mr. Davies, or any other officers or department of the Government, will you kindly send it, or a copy of it, to this Commission? Yes.
13233. You were a Member of the Ministry at this time? Yes.
13234. Was the matter brought before the Cabinet? Yes.
13235. Was the sanction of the Cabinet obtained to the work on this Junction Road? I think I may state that I brought the matter before the Cabinet.
13236. The Junction Road? The question of this road specifically never came before the Cabinet; but I brought the whole question of these roads before the Cabinet.
13237. When? Well, I cannot fix the date; but I know that in consequence of my letters and representations and my desire that the Cabinet should consider whether these roads were all in the public interest, Mr. Bennett, the Commissioner for Roads, was desired to report upon their necessity from a public point of view.
13238. Would that appear in any minute-book of the Cabinet? They don't keep minutes of Cabinets.
13239. Is there no record kept of what is said or done in Cabinet Council? No.
13240. Can you recollect what Ministers were present on the occasion you brought it up? I think most of the Ministers were there. Mr. Sutherland sent for Mr. Bennett, and I recollect him requesting Mr. Bennett to visit the locality and say whether these roads were really wanted. Mr. Bennett furnished a report upon the matter, which is amongst the papers laid before Parliament.
13241. Do you recollect the names of the gentlemen who were present at the Cabinet? I recollect Mr. Sutherland was there, because as his Department had most to do with the roads he sent for Mr. Bennett subsequently.
13242. Can you give me any other name besides Mr. Sutherland? Most of the Ministers were there.
13243. Was Mr. Inglis present? I think so.
13244. Mr. William Clarke? I think so.
13245. Mr. W. J. Foster? I think not.
13246. Mr. B. R. Wise? I do not recollect.
13247. Mr. Thomas Garrett? I think so.
13248. Mr. C. J. Roberts? I think so.
13249. Mr. Francis Abigail? I think so.
13250. Mr. Salomons? I do not think so.
13251. Sir Henry Parkes? I think so. To the best of my recollection I pointed out that I would like the question of these roads to be considered by some officer outside the Casual Labour Board. In consequence of my request Mr. Bennett was sent by Mr. Sutherland to report upon them.
- 13251½. Did the work of clearing and forming and the taking over of this Junction Road ever come before the Cabinet for Ministerial consideration while you were sitting? I believe that it was shortly after the application for that road was made that Mr. Bennett reported upon the roads. That was before anything could be done beyond rough clearing.
13252. Did the question of the Junction Road—whether the Government should take it over, clear it, form it, or otherwise—ever come before the Cabinet at any sitting at which you were present? The question was mentioned by me in the Cabinet, and in consequence of the statement I made on the subject Mr. Bennett was deputed by Mr. Sutherland to report upon the roads.
13253. But did the consideration of taking over, clearing, or forming Junction Road ever come up for decision at any meeting? No. Junction Road was not specifically mentioned, but it is one of the roads upon which I desired the Cabinet to get the opinion of Mr. Bennett.
13254. Do you know Mr. Gordon, surveyor? Yes.
13255. Did you ever see him in connection with any of these roads? I do not think I saw him more than once; it might have been twice.
13256. Referring again to the letter from Mr. Hinchcliffe, dated 18th October, 1887, and your reply attached, will you point out on the plan what roads that referred to? Road A must have been partially made at the time this was written. B and C, I do not know about; they are small roads.
13257. I show you the tracing of Mr. Gordon, which is attached to the papers laid before Parliament, which is apparently the plan referred to in Mr. Hinchcliffe's letter. Are these roads, which are marked A, B, and C in that tracing of Mr. Gordon's the roads marked as general roads, crossing from the Junction Road to the Boundary Road? I could not say.
13258. Are these roads referred to in Mr. Hinchcliffe's note three of the cross roads from Junction Road to Boundary Road? Yes; they are three small roads, leading from Boundary Road to Junction Road, and are probably the roads marked D, E, and F on this plan. [*Exhibit D 4.*]
13259. Now, we have your and your co-partner's authority for these three small cross-roads, marked D, E, and F, on this plan [*Exhibit D 4.*], and which are A, B, and C, on Mr. Gordon's plan, but we don't find any authority from you or your colleagues for any other roads on the estate;—have you given any? No; I think not.
13260. Have you amongst your papers, or have you any recollection of any letter, minute, or writing of any kind, giving up any one of these roads to the Government, or allowing them to be cleared or formed, beyond this letter which relates to the roads D, E, and F? I think not.
13261. You see the roads marked H, I, and K, on this plan [*Exhibit D 4.*]? Yes.
13262. Have you at any time authorized the making of these? No; but I will tell you what may have been done. I have had to leave the matter of the roads, in some measure, in the hands of Mr. Dawson. The roads marked D and F are amongst those asked for by the letter from the Casual Labour Board, which refers to roads running from Boundary Road to Junction Road. The extension down to the corner of Burns Road was given in consequence of some communication from Mr. Dawson, after he had been on the

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NOTE (on revision):—Q. 13235—I am certain I never mentioned Junction Road or any other road to the Cabinet. My reference was generally to the roads in the Hornsby district. Q. 13237—Omit from “and my desire to interest” inclusive. Q. 13239—It is not usual to keep regular minutes of Cabinets, but minutes are sometimes made on the papers in some cases. Q. 13255—I recollect meeting Mr. Gordon and Mr. Davies at Hornsby on one occasion, when the former asked me for permission to make an opening from Junction Road to Boundary Road, to which I agreed.

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the ground with the surveyors. The desire was to extend the road to the corner of Burns Road, so as to get access to the Boundary Road. I gave my consent to Mr. Dawson to give the half of the road, providing the adjoining property-owner gave the other half. With regard to the road you asked me about—road I—that is a road to Pearce's Corner, it is a road passing through land in which I have no interest, and was made, I presume, like other roads to give an opening through other lands to the Crown lands. It is a road, however, that I have no knowledge of. As to road K, I also have no knowledge of it.

13263. Does not road I go anywhere near your land? No; I have land neither to the right nor left of it.

13264. Have you land to the north of it? Well, it ends in Burns Road. We have no land on the southern side.

13265. Now, with regard to road K? We have no land on either side of it, right through from where it starts from the Junction Road to the end of it. Then, as to the continuation of the road from Burns Road down to the platform, we have no land on either side of that road.

13266. What road is that? That is the continuation of D and H, to what is known as the platform on the Lane Cove Road. We have no land there.

13267. Then, so far as the evidence goes up to the present time, the only roads which you have assented to give up are the roads D, E, and F? Yes.

13268. Will you turn to Mr. Bennett's memorandum of the 8th February, 1888;—was that written while you were a member of the Cabinet? Yes.

13268½. You see in the first paragraph he states that "the roads from the main or Junction Road to the Peat's Ferry Road have been cleared at private cost of the owners of the land on either side"? Yes.

13269. Is that correct? That would apply to a small clearing close to the railway. The clearing was made by the owners of that land I believe, from the Junction Road to the Peat's Ferry Road across the bridge.

13270. Can you show me on this plan [*Exhibit D 4*] what roads are referred to in Mr. Bennett's memorandum as being "roads leading from the main or Junction Road to the Peat's Ferry Road"? No; I cannot explain this matter to you.

13271. Do you know whether Mr. Bennett went up there? He has given evidence that he was there—that he had been over the ground and spent a day there.

13272. Are there any roads on this plan [*Exhibit D 4*] that you have before you, leading from the Junction Road to the Peat's Ferry Road? The only road I know leading from the Peat's Ferry Road would be the road near the railway to the eastern side.

13273. I suppose you know more about these roads than I, but do roads H, I, and K, run from the Junction Road to the Peat's Ferry Road? No.

13274. Is there any road running from the Junction Road to the Peat's Ferry Road? No.

13275. Then is not that paragraph in Mr. Bennett's minute some mistake? I do not know what it refers to.

13276. Is it not incorrect? Unless Mr. Bennett means some other roads, which I can give you no information about.

13277. Is not the paragraph in Mr. Bennett's minute "about roads from the Junction Road to the Peat's Ferry Road having been cleared at private cost by the owners on either side" unintelligible when there is no Peat's Ferry Road on this side of the railway, and there is no Junction Road on the other side of the line where the Peat's Ferry Road is? Unless Mr. Bennett regards the Junction Road as Hornsby Junction. There are roads close to the station, made through the subdivision up to the fence, but there is no Junction Road there.

13278. Do you think that what Mr. Bennett speaks of as the Peat's Ferry Road is the Lane Cove Road, and that when he was speaking of "roads from the Junction Road to the Peat's Ferry Road," he meant the roads H, I, and K, leading to the Lane Cove Road? I do not know what he meant, what I know is this. That the Vanceville Road up to a point here had been cleared by the private proprietors at their own cost. The road here called Burns Road, leading into the Vanceville Road was opened at private cost, within part of the subdivision, about 50 acres close to the railway line some rough clearing was done by the proprietors, and the commencement of the Junction Road here was roughly done at the expense of the proprietors.

13279. But that does not lead into Peat's Ferry Road? No.

13280. Is not Peat's Ferry Road altogether on the other side of the railway line? Yes.

13281. Has the Vanceville Road anything to do with the Peat's Ferry Road? No.

13282. Then, so far as you can say, the first paragraph in Mr. Bennett's minute is not quite intelligible? It requires some explanation, I think.

13282½. You cannot explain it? No.

13283. I come to paragraph 3 in the same memorandum, as follows:—"To obviate this, on the representations of the Officer of the Survey Department, Junction-street was made the main road to those back lands from the station; the owners of the land, Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, having given five roads of access, which have all been cleared so as to give access to eligible points for the continuation of roads at summits of ranges through the expanse of Crown lands to Cowan Creek";—will you tell me what five roads Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith gave? Well, Mr. Bennett states that he examined the locality, and he was in a position to know.

13284. Can you tell me what are the five roads that Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith gave? First, the extension of road F or Vanceville Road into the Crown lands. That was given in response to the application from the Lands Department. Road E was given at the application of the Casual Labour Board. Road D was given, and I am not sure whether that road is Road C or B there on this paper.

13285. That is three roads. Mr. Bennett states that he was in the locality; do you think his information was correct? His information is incorrect as to the number of roads that were given, but it is only fair to state that one or two of the roads were opened without our assent.

13286. Did you see Mr. Bennett in any way in connection with these roads? No.

13286½. Do you know what officer he sent to report? He states in his report that he examined the locality of Hornsby himself and the works done by the department and the unemployed.

13287.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 13267—This is subject to correction. Mr. Dawson agreed to some roads on my behalf, and any agreement of the kind must be respected. Q. 13268½—Lane Cove Road is sometimes called Peat's Ferry Road, into which it leads, and probably Mr. Bennett has fallen into what is a common mistake.

13287. About the Vanceville Road—who made that road from the Lane Cove Road to Billyard-street? I believe it was made by the local proprietors who afterwards received some assistance from the Government in making the road.

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13288. Was it made at the time you bought the property? I think it was opened and being used.

13289. Was it cleared at the time you bought? I think it was roughly cleared.

13290. What do you call roughly cleared? Carts and drays could go over it.

13291. Did you pay anything for the work on it to the Lane Cove Road—Mr. Bennett's report on the subject of the Vanceville Road—is that it was made by the department? Yes.

13292. Now, as a matter of fact, was it not originally made by the owners of the land? It was roughly made.

13293. Then is that statement in paragraph 4 of Mr. Bennett's minute altogether correct? It might, in the sense of the road being formed and ballasted, be correct. My first recollection of the work is that it was not ballasted. It was a road roughly cleared.

13294. As it was then would you call it made? Yes, sufficiently to drive on.

13295. Look at the next sentence in Mr. Bennett's minute, "One of the other two cross-roads recently cleared was to give direct access from the Church, and junction of the Lane Cove Road and Peat's Ferry Road, Pearce's Corner to the Crown lands." Can you show me on the plan what he refers to? Road I. That is a road concerning which Mr. Bennett did not know to whom the land belonged, but it is not our road.

13296. Mr. Bennett continues: "The other intermediate road gives access from Lane Cove Road, half way between Gordon and Hornsby, to the land in question." Do you know which of the roads on the plan is meant by "the other intermediate road?" I think he means road H; he assumes that it was passing through our land.

13297. Does Mr. Bennett's report touch in any way Burns-street or Road? I don't think it does.

13298. Does Mr. Bennett's report in any way touch the road which connects Burns-street with Junction-street? I do not think it does.

13299. Does Mr. Bennett's report touch road K? I do not know whether it does or not. Mr. Bennett's report speaks of only two cross-roads, and the roads he speaks of are H and I.

13300. Does Mr. Bennett's report touch George-street, Florence-street, or Burdett-street? It would be absurd if Mr. Bennett's report referred to the subdivision streets. These roads for the subdivision have never been properly opened; they have been roughly cleared, and badly done. I do not think that Mr. Bennett's report would touch these roads at all. Besides, anything that was done was rough clearing, done long before Mr. Bennett had been on the roads.

13301. Can you tell me what amount of work had been done by you and your co-partners in the way of clearing, forming, and making any of the roads there up to May, 1887? I could not tell you the amount of expenditure except as regards Burns Road. We had made this road from Vanceville Road over a small briggie here down close to where E road now comes.

13302. How much did you spend on it? I could not state from memory. I have got my bank-book here. I will look at the account.

13303. Please see? I cannot make up the account. I will supply it afterwards.

13304-5. Can you speak from memory—approximately? No. I don't care to speak approximately.

13306. Is there £500 spent? No.

13307. £200? Not £200.

13308. £100? If you will wait, I will give it to you in a few minutes. I have ascertained from my bank-book that we made payments in connection with the clearing of roads—that is, Burns Road, and some clearing on the opposite side—that is, at the subdivision on the eastern side of the railway—of £303 13s. 4d. These payments were made by cheque. Besides these payments we had for a long time a man engaged who lived at Hornsby in a house upon our property, whose sole business it was to clear the subdivision which is marked there.

13309. What would these payments be altogether? I have got no record here. We made payments to one person alone for these clearings, amounting to £303 13s. 4d.

13310. Is that limited to what you expended on the land on the eastern side of the line, or does it include the land on both sides? No, there was the subdivision on the opposite side.

13311. Can you tell me how much you spent on the subdivision on the opposite side? I cannot tell. The payments all had reference to Burns Road and to the subdivision on the opposite side. These were payments made to a man named Whitehead, who had been there for a long time.

13311½. Where do you get these particulars from? From the bank-book.

13312. Have you any account for these payments? No; they go a long time back.

13313. The cheques are here shewn to be drawn in favour of a Mr. Kearney,—who is he? The person who had charge of the work.

13314. Have you had any account of the payments which would give particulars of where the work was done? No; I could find the person who received the payments—which will be better.

13315. Can you send us your accounts? Very likely they are destroyed. We went through the accounts and dealt with them, and bothered no more about them. The man is still living near Sydney.

13316. Do you know his address? I think it is Cook's River; I know he is in the employ of a Company with which I am still connected.

13317. Have you ever seen this petition [*Exhibit D 5*]? Yes.

13318. Was that ever presented to you for signature? Yes.

13319. Did you sign it? No, because it came to me when I was acting for Mr. Sutherland, and I would not sign it.

13320. Who was Mr. Sutherland? Minister for Works.

13321. Then it came to you when you were acting on behalf of one of your colleagues, and you refused to sign it? Yes.

13322. Did you refuse to sign it because you were interested? Because I was a Member of the Government.

13323.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 13291—For "Yes" read "I paid nothing for the work on the Vanceville Road." Q. 13300—Rough clearing was first done by Burns, Withers, and Smith before the inspection by Mr. Bennett, and next by the Casual Labour Board prior to the land sale and after his visit. Q. 13303—Omit from "that is," &c., to "railway—of," and insert "amounting to." Q. 13311—For "These were," read "There were also."

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13323. Was it because you were interested in the property it went through? Yes, both.
13324. Do you know what work that petition wishes to have done? Yes. Reference is there made to the road from a point on Lane Cove Road to Burns Road.
13325. Do you know whether there was any petition or memorial presented to the Minister for Lands, or any other Minister, for the extension of the Great Eastern Road from the Junction Road to the Boundary Road? I do not think so. I wrote a letter to the Department, giving my assent to it.
13326. In your evidence before the Select Committee you say, in answer to question 2221, you got an application from Department of Lands on 9th September, 1887, asking permission for the opening of that Vanceville Road, to which you replied on 19th September, giving assent to that road being extended to Boundary Road. You said, in answer to the inquiry of the Chairman as to producing that paper, that you thought it was amongst the printed papers? Yes.
13327. How did you get the dates? I had the letter in my hand when I gave evidence.
13328. Can you produce it now? I can get it now I am certain.
13329. Will you produce to us at your earliest convenience the application and the letter assenting to the application referred to in your evidence before the Select Committee? Yes; it ought to be in the Department.
13330. You probably will have a copy of it, or some record. We have been unable to find it and in the absence of some information from you we are without any relative papers? It can easily be traced in the Lands Department I think.
13331. This petition which relates to the road running from this point here up to Burns Road, refers to Boundary Road? So it does. It must refer to Boundary Road. I thought it referred to Vanceville Road.
13332. What is the date of the petition? November, 1887. What it means is this, that it was the intention to continue the road up to the new road the Government were clearing.
13333. And you say you can produce to us some letter or memorandum from the Government to which you replied in reference to the continuation of this Vanceville Road up to Boundary Road? Yes.
13334. Now, can you tell me whether any application was ever made to you for a road from that point on Vanceville Road diagonally to strike the Boundary Road at a point at which it was capable of formation? I do not think so.
13335. Was there any reason why it should not be done? Yes.
13336. Would not a road from the junction of Billyard-street and Vanceville Road, carried diagonally to point D on the Boundary Road have met all the requirements of the district? I do not think it would. To make a diagonal road across there would mean an awkward road through the property, and I certainly would not have given my assent to it.
13337. Do you recollect Mr. Oliver, the late Under Secretary for Lands, being up at Hornsby on any occasion? Yes.
13338. Do you recollect what took place between you on the occasion of your meeting there? I recollect going to look at Crown lands which had been cleared there, and upon which roads had been made to improve their sale.
13339. Did you go up with him in the capacity of Colonial Treasurer or of acting Minister for Works? I went up as Colonial Treasurer, anxious for the success of the land sale and the public revenue.
13340. Then I may take it that you went up there in your public capacity? Yes.
13341. Did you and Mr. Oliver have any discussion about the making of any roads? We had no discussion except as to roads leading through the Crown lands. We did not go on to the private lands.
13342. Was any one else present there with you? Yes; Mr. Davies was there.
13343. Was Mr. Deering there? I believe he was.
13344. Do you see this road running parallel to the railway on this plan marked George-street. Yes.
13345. Had you any discussion about that road? I had no discussion.
13346. Was any reference made to it? Reference was made to it, but our special business was to see these Crown lands, and Mr. Oliver had some doubts as to the upset price—as to whether it was too high or too low. What he desired, was to make the Crown land sales attractive, and while standing on the Bridge Road Mr. Davies made some reference to the clearing of this road. When I heard that question raised I went away and left them.
13347. Do you know why George-street came to be cleared and opened? It was opened by Burns, Withers, and Smith. We had a man working there—a man named Whitehead.
13348. Do you recollect what your expenditure on that road was? No.
13349. Was it £10? Oh, more than that.
13350. £20? More than that.
13351. £30? I speak from memory, but he was in our employ about two years.
13352. Can all the work that we saw there on Saturday last, be taken to have been done by him? All except the culvert. You could not assume that the whole of the money expended by the Government there produced work which was worth above £50 or £60.
13353. Have you done any work on those roads known as Burdett-street and Florence-street? Only rough clearing.
13354. Who did that? I think it was done by Whitehead.
13355. How much did the unemployed do? The whole expenditure would not amount to more than £50 or £60.
13356. Do you see that this Burns Road is continued eastward across the Vanceville Road, running along two sides of property which belongs to you, and then going to some point I don't know of; can you tell me how that line of road came to be continued on two sides of your property, and thence to some point? I don't think I gave my assent to that road. I found the unemployed at work there, and asked for an explanation. The explanation was that they proposed to take it to the corner of the extension, but the owner of the land wanted £100 an acre for going through his lands and making roads, and the officers did not choose to recommend the payment of £100. Then Mr. Noonan gave them permission to pass through here to a road called Bobbin Rock Road—not anywhere indefinitely.

13357 .

13357. Is Bobbin Rock Road shown there? Here is Bobbin Rock Road, leading to the Lane Cove Road. J. F. Burns, Esq., M.P.
13358. Then taking this road from Vanceville Road first eastward, then southward, and then eastward brings you to Bobbin Rock Road, which you say leads to the Lane Cove Road? Yes.
13359. Did you ever verbally or in writing assent to that road being constructed on the north and east boundaries of your property? No; when I saw it it had been partly cleared. I found it cleared across here. 7 May, 1889.
13360. With the exception of the short roads, D, E, and F, and the overbridge road A, has there been any dedication or giving up to the Government of the roads shown in this plan? There has been no formal dedication.
13361. Is there anything to prevent you and your co-partners shutting up every one of them? We should never think of doing so.
13362. Could you not shut up this Burns Road? No; Burns Road ought not to appear as a work in connection with the Crown lands. It is an old road reserved on part of the Vanceville Estate. It had no connection with the Crown lands. Some local residents finding the unemployed at work there made a request to me that that road as well as other roads, that they were making, should be formed, and in that way I believe it was done. It is a road reserved upon the plan which is now in the office of the Registrar-General.
13363. With the exception of these short roads D, E, and F, and possibly the Junction Road, have not the Government been trespassers upon your property in taking up and clearing or constructing these roads? You might say that technically.
13364. Can you take into consideration any question of giving up land for these roads, seeing that you can take away the land? Technically you might say that.
13365. And perhaps legally? Well, legally that is so.
13366. In other words this Commission could not strictly consider in the question of value the giving up of the land that has been taken for roads, because the land does not belong to the Government. They are trespassers? That may be technically true, but it would not be correct.
- 13366½. Do you know whether there is much Crown Lands in the neighbourhood of this land of yours? The surveyor states about 4,000 acres.
13367. Was there not ample land upon which to put the unemployed to work? For what purpose?
13368. For clearing or any purpose that the Government might think proper? There is plenty of land there but I do not know that you could turn it to any purpose except sub-division for sale. You had no roads of access to it from the station at Hornsby.
13369. I think you said you paid visits to this place repeatedly? Yes.
13370. And that during the time you were a Minister of the Crown? Yes.
13371. You became aware then that these roads were being done? Yes.
13372. And I suppose you knew, as a Minister, that the money to keep the men and works going was being supplied from the Treasury? Yes.
13373. Did it ever occur to you that there might be some doubt as to the propriety of such work? It did not, because it was clear, in my opinion, after receiving the report of Mr. Bennett, of Mr. Gordon, and in some measure, the report of Mr. Deering, who had control of the unemployed at first, that these roads were required. Mr. Deering, in the first instance, thought these roads were wanted in the public interest, and it was also clear that any expenditure that might be made would not amount to the value of the lands taken for this purpose.
13374. When you were attending to the business of the Minister for Works, Mr. Sutherland, during his illness, I understand that you objected to sign the petition [*Exhibit D 5*]? Yes.
13375. Because you were interested in the matter of the petition? Yes.
13376. Did it not occur to you that the same objection applied with regard to the other roads in your position as Colonial Treasurer, as applied to Vanceville Road in your position as representing Minister for Works? No; I was acting in a temporary way. I did nothing for Mr. Sutherland, but what was perfunctory.
13377. In examining the books of the Casual Labour Board we find that from May, 1887, to May, 1888, something like £168,000 has been supplied from the Treasury for purposes of the Board. Did the applications which were made for advances by the Casual Labour Board come before you as Colonial Treasurer? No.
13378. Before any of the officers of your Department? No.
13379. Can you tell me before whom they came? They came before the Colonial Secretary, who had charge of the Board, and the Colonial Secretary authorized the Treasury to pay them. I refused to sanction any payments to the Casual Labour Board, unless they were supported by the recommendation of the Colonial Secretary.
13380. Then in these payments or advances from the Treasury you had nothing to do with sanctioning payments of moneys, portion of which might have been expended on properties in which you or your partners were particularly interested? No. The position, I think, is very clear. I had neither control of the expenditure nor did I interfere in it. I was careful not to interfere in it. I refused to allow payment to anyone in connection with the Casual Labour Board unless it was authorized by the Minister in charge of the Department. I took upon myself to have it ascertained by the best officers of the Government, whether the work being done was for the public benefit, and seeing from the report of Mr. Bennett, Commissioner for Roads and Bridges, the report of Mr. Gordon—and Mr. Deering in some measure

NOTE (on revision) :—Q. 13362—For “there,” read “in the neighbourhood”; and for “made a request to me,” read “requested”; and for “formed,” read “improved.” Q. 13352—Additional clearing was done by the Casual Labour Board for the land sale, and I believe it was done on the recommendation of the forest ranger. Q. 13354—I have learned since giving this evidence that some of the streets in the eastern subdivision were cleared under the direction of Mr. Kearney. Q. 13356—The President has been misinformed. Burns Road does not run along two sides of property belonging to me. Q. 13377—Mr. Bennett, Mr. Wells, and Mr. O'Donnell have all stated in their evidence before the Select Committee of the Assembly that the expenditure on all the roads through the lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith did not exceed £200; the land given for the roads was worth at least £3,000.

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measure bore out the statement—that the roads were necessary, I abstained from any interference in consideration of these reports, knowing that if any excessive expenditure took place it could be ascertained.

13381. Are you a Director of any Company in this city? I am.

13382. Are you aware that it is a rule in almost every Company that no Director shall vote in any matter in which he is personally interested? Yes.

13383. Being in the position of Colonial Treasurer, did you not feel that to a certain extent you were individually interested in this large expenditure of money? I did; but you must take into consideration the fact that the application for these roads was made before I was in office as Minister, that the necessity for them seemed to be recognized before I was in office as Minister, and that I took the precaution to see that the necessity for them was determined by the best officers that could be selected. I do not think I could be called upon to interfere with the Government making these roads to the Crown lands, and the more so as I had no interference with the department that had control of the expenditure. I never made a payment to any man, nor had I any interference or connection with, or control of the department, unless upon the authority of the Minister who had charge of it.

13384. Had you anything to do with the appointment of the gentlemen who form the Casual Labour Board? No.

13385. Can you tell me whether that appointment was the result of Cabinet deliberation or of the deliberation of the individual Minister? I am authorized to state that Sir Henry Parkes has great confidence in the gentleman who had charge of the Casual Labour Board, and he selected this gentleman for the position. It was mentioned at a Cabinet Meeting that he had made the selection, and it was approved. The first I heard of the intention to appoint this gentleman was from Sir Henry Parkes himself.

13386. Did he do it with your approval? I did not object, because he told me he had resolved upon it.

13387. Had that gentleman whom Sir Henry Parkes had resolved upon your confidence at the time? I want to say this, that Sir Henry Parkes stated that he was proposing to make Mr. Davies Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, and I offered no objection.

13388. Do you think it came before the Cabinet? I think it was mentioned.

13389. That he was to be Chairman? Well, a member of the Casual Labour Board. I do not think it was as Chairman. As far as my memory serves—I would like to withdraw the statement that it was Chairman. I know Sir Henry Parkes wanted to take the management of the Casual Labour Board out of the hands of Mr. Deering, and he mentioned that he wished to appoint Mr. Davies a member of the Board.

13390. Do you think he mentioned the other names at the Cabinet Meeting? I think so. I think they were mentioned.

13391. It is important that we should know this? I think they were mentioned.

13392. Had Mr. Davies at that time your confidence? He has had my confidence in a general way all along.

13393. Are you intimate with him? No.

13394. Were you then? No.

13395. How many times have you seen him in reference to the works here or in any other parts of the country in connection with the unemployed? I saw him very seldom. His visits to me were on account of my taking exception to the large expenditure in respect of the unemployed. I had written to Sir Henry Parkes several times, and it seems he sent for Mr. Davies. Mr. Davies came to me and I told him I could not stand the expenditure.

13396. That was while you were Colonial Treasurer? Yes.

13397. Before leaving this work at Hornsby—can you tell me what time the unemployed gave up working on these roads? I could not fix the date.

13398. Have you become aware of a report that this Commission has made, affecting Mr. Davies? I have heard of it.

13399. Who told you? I have heard something about it.

13400. Were you told what it was about? I heard one matter about Mr. Davies. I gathered something of its purport.

13401. Do you object to say who it was that told you? It was mentioned to me in confidence, and I do not want to repeat it.

13402. Mentioned as a light matter? I do not know what the intention was. I regarded it as a serious matter.

13403. What are your relations with your partners—Mr. Withers and Mr. Smith—friendly or otherwise? I am not friendly with Mr. Withers. The relations between us became strained from the commencement of this discussion about the Hornsby roads.

13404. After the evidence was taken before the Select Committee about the Hornsby roads? Before that, when he indulged in a long discussion about the matter to a reporter of one of the newspapers. Since that time I declined his very acquaintance.

13405. Then your relations are evidently as strained as they can be? I have not spoken to him since.

13406. Was it not because he took some strong view on the subject of this expenditure that your relations became strained? No; it was because I thought his whole conduct was very improper. He had indulged in expressions about the property which appeared in a newspaper, and knowing what he had done I declined his further acquaintance.

13407. You said some time ago in your evidence in relation to the Board that you were authorized to state something—who authorized you? I had seen my name as a Minister and a Member of Parliament associated with Mr. John Davies, the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board. My relations with Mr. John Davies were not of a character that would justify any person in associating our names together. We were on terms of nothing like intimacy, and when I found my name mentioned in association with Mr. Davies, I pointed it out to Sir Henry Parkes. I objected to these people attacking me there for political purposes on account of the expenditure on these roads. I think it right to state that the appointment of Mr. Davies to the Casual Labour Board, or any public position he has got from the late Government, was not through any nomination or action of mine, and there was no intimacy between us to warrant any one in this association of our names in the public prints about these roads. I have been very careful all along as to what I said to Mr. Davies about his office as a Member of the Casual Labour Board.

13408.

13408. Have you any objection to state who the persons were who spoke to you? I would rather not be asked the question. I do not think it is very material to the evidence. There have been a number of reports.

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13409. *Mr. Franklin.*] I want to know how much of the £303 13s. 4d. that you referred to some time ago has been expended on the Burns Road? I think on the Burns Road in all probability £150 or £200 have been expended. I am only speaking by conjecture, because I cannot divide the money. We had a subdivision on the other side of the line when we roughly cleared the streets, and the cheques were drawn as you see on the books, and now that, on the western side. We had a man named Whitehead clearing George-street, and he was also engaged clearing on the other side. He was a long time clearing the land there. I suppose that about half the expenditure would be on the Burns Road, and the balance, about £153, would be the amount expended on the western side.

13410. This man, Whitehead, had been in your employ for a long time? Yes; two years.

13411. You stated that about £50 or £60 had been expended by the Government on George-street? Yes. I heard it from parties in the locality. I estimate that about £50 or £60 would be about the value of the work done by the unemployed just prior to the land sale.

13412. Then in addition to that there is the balance of your total expenditure on the western side of the line? Yes. In addition there is the expenditure to the man Whitehead.

13413. *Mr. Waller.*] You say the first knowledge you had of the unemployed being at work on the roads was on the occasion of a visit there one day? Yes.

13414. When was that? I cannot fix the date now. The unemployed had been at work clearing some Crown lands on the western side of the line. They had also been at work on the Field of Mars. The first intimation I had of the unemployed being there was on paying a visit to the district. I was told they were clearing the road across the bridge. That is the road marked A on the plan.

13415. Did you ever see the unemployed afterwards on the estate? Oh, on different occasions.

13416. When you saw the unemployed working on road A, what did you do? I did nothing.

13417. When you saw them working on the other part of the estate there what did you do? I did nothing.

13418. How long were they there as trespassers upon your property? I did not regard them as trespassers.

13419. They were not clearing the roads with your knowledge and assent? I cannot answer that question in the affirmative. I gave my assent to the clearing of some of the roads. I presume they were carrying out that work.

13420. You did not take any steps to ascertain what they were doing when you saw them there? No. I took no steps to interfere with them in any way.

13421. *President.*] Do you produce the pass-book of Burns, Withers, and Smith, and the cheque-book which shows all the cheques drawn since 1884 up to the present time? Yes.

13422. Have you got the vouchers that have been paid? I think you will find most of them, but not all.

13423. Do you think you have them at home? Well, I will look for them.

13424. Would they show the cost of the work done on the east as distinguished from the west? No, I do not think it would. You see we did not have contracts. We had the works placed under a man named Kerney, in whom we had confidence. We gave him the cheques to pay these men. These cheques were drawn and signed by the partners.

13425. Was this land on the east side of the railway subdivided by you before the roads were made? Yes. The land was subdivided with a view to sale some day.

13426. Do these roads appear in the subdivision in any way? Yes; and they were roughly cleared by us long before any Government land sale took place. The undergrowth used to come up and you could not see the Crown lands at the station. Mr. M'Keown, forest ranger, suggested that they might be opened up so that people might see the lands coming from the station.

Robert Burdett Smith, called in, sworn, and examined:—

13427. *President.*] Are you at present a Member of Parliament? I am not at present a Member of Parliament. I was a Member from 1870 up to 1889. I might mention that when I ceased to become a Member I did not offer myself for re-election on account of a serious illness, and I was acting under the advice of my medical men.

Mr.
R. B. Smith.

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13428. Were you a Member of Parliament during the years 1887 and 1888? I was.

13429. I think you left the Colonies to visit Europe in April, 1886? Yes.

13430. When did you return? I returned in February of the following year. I think it was on the 1st February; but I am not certain. I came overland from Melbourne. I think it was in February, 1887.

13431. You are a solicitor of the Supreme Court? Yes.

13432. Is Mr. Davies a client of yours? Yes.

13433. How long has he been a client of yours? Oh, I suppose he has been a client of mine for, I should say about fifteen years—perhaps longer.

13434. Does he owe you any money? He owes the late firm of R. B. Smith and Smith an account, I believe.

13435. Can you say how much? I could not say how much, because I had nothing to do with the business.

101—3 K

NOTES (on revision).—Q. 13407.—You said some time ago in your evidence in relation to the Board that you were authorized to say something. Who authorized you? I have seen my name as a Minister and as a Member of Parliament coupled with the name of Mr. John Davies, the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board. My relations with Mr. John Davies have not been of a character to justify anyone in associating our names together. We have not been on terms of anything like intimacy; and I believe our names have been used together for political reasons by parties who wished to attack me for the expenditure on the Hornsby roads. I have mentioned this matter to Sir Henry Parkes, and I think it right now to state that neither the appointment of Mr. Davies to the Casual Labour Board nor to any other office he may have obtained from the late Government was through any nomination or action of mine; and that there has been no intimacy between us to warrant the association of our names together in the public prints about these roads. I can also say that I have been very careful in my communications with Mr. Davies and others in authority respecting the expenditure on the Hornsby roads. Q. 13408.—I understand this to refer to the Report of the Commission respecting Mr. Davies. I did not hear from Mr. Davies on that subject.

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business—the professional business for which he retained the services of the firm. I may mention that from the time I went to England up to the dissolution of the partnership in January last of the firm of R. B. Smith & Smith, I attended very little to professional business. The business for which there were some costs due by Mr. John Davies to the firm of R. B. Smith & Smith was transacted entirely by my late partner, Mr. Charles Smith. I believe that the amount due was somewhere about £50; it might be more.

13436. Can you tell me whether the amount which now forms a claim against Mr. John Davies was made up about the time of your dissolution with your late partner? Oh, before that.

13437. Was there any difference between you and your late partner about the propriety or otherwise of calling for payment? Not the slightest. I left it to my late partner. It was some bank case. It was entirely transacted by Mr. Charles Smith.

13438. Can you tell me how long this account was due? I would venture to suggest that you examine Mr. Charles Smith on the subject. He can give you more information on it than I can. I know about a fortnight or three weeks ago Mr. Davies called at my office, and gave me instructions about some conveyancing matters, and these matters were attended to by my managing clerk, Mr. Boyce. That is the only business I have transacted for Mr. Davies lately. My room was up-stairs during the partnership, and I very rarely came down-stairs to transact any business, and I am pretty certain I never saw Mr. Davies on the subject of this account.

13439. Had you ever anything to do with Mr. Davies in connection with the purchase from some of the Vance family of some property? Only as solicitor.

13440. Did that property come within the Hornsby district? Yes. That is the property adjoining Hornsby—Vanceville, I believe.

13441. This is a plan [*Exhibit D4*] prepared by Mr. Surveyor Gordon for the purpose of showing the works which have been carried out at Hornsby. Will you tell me on the plan where that property was? Just let me explain. He had an action when he was the mortgagee. This was many years ago. I think as far back as 1875 or 1876, we recovered judgment in the estate against the executor or administrator of the late Mr. Vance; and then we sought to obtain the fruits of that judgment, and not being able to do so the land was put up for sale. I was then purchasing different lands, and I happened to be at Richardson & Wrench's, and I heard that this land was going for a mere song. I purchased this land—nearly 400 acres, at auction. It was sold by Richardson & Wrench under that judgment, I think.

13442. Do you know whom Richardson & Wrench sold for? I think they sold by the direction of Mr. Way, solicitor, who was acting for Vance. It was sold by his direction in order to pay this judgment. I happened to go to the sale. I saw that the land was being sacrificed, as I told you, and I bid for it. It was knocked down to me, and then I happened to see Mr. Burns at the House of Assembly. I told him of the purchase I had made, and I gave him an offer of participating in the purchase. He asked me to let it remain till morning, and then he gave me his cheque for half the deposit. Thus it was that we became partners.

13443. I want to know what Mr. Davies had to do with it? The only way that Mr. Davies had to do with it was that he brought an action either against the executor or administrator, whichever was the representative of the person who died. I cannot remember very clearly. It is a long time ago, but from my recollection he was the administrator of the estate, and Mr. Davies could not obtain the fruits of his judgment; and then this land was sold, I think, with Vance's concurrence.

13444. Then you were simply acting as solicitor for Mr. Davies, who was judgment creditor, and you believe that the land was sold by the administrator with the concurrence of Mr. Davies? I purchased it in that way. I saw Mr. Brown, a well-known resident of Lane Cove, there, and he said it was going ridiculously cheap. I thought it was a pity that it should go so cheap.

13445. What interest had Mr. Davies in it? The interest was simply this: that he acted on his judgment. Out of the proceeds of the sale of this land the judgment was paid.

13446. And after that did his interest cease in the land altogether? Altogether.

13447. Has he any interest in any other land up there? Not the slightest that I know of.

13448. Were you examined before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly on the 18th December last? Yes.

13449. Is this your evidence? Yes.

Evidence before Select Committee.

2940½. *Chairman.*] You are one of the proprietors of the Hornsby Estate? I am one of the proprietors of the Hornsby Estate. I have an equal share with my other partners, Messrs. Burns and Withers. We share and share alike as tenants in common.

2941. Do you know anything about the work of the unemployed on your estate at Hornsby? I have seen the work since they commenced—a portion of it. I have not seen the whole of the work done there by the unemployed.

2942. Were you aware of the origin of the work of the unemployed—the commencement of it there? I was not aware of the origin of it, because I paid a visit to England and Europe, and it was on my return from England that I first saw the unemployed at work.

2943. It was done without your cognizance in the first instance? I saw the men at work when I went to visit the Hornsby Estate on my return from Europe.

2944. Was that the first time you knew of it? I think I was informed by my friend and partner, Mr. Burns, that the unemployed had been at work, but they had done very little work at that time, scarcely any.

2945. Have they done a great amount since? I cannot say a very great amount. They have done what was necessary, I believe, to make roads to give access to Crown Lands, and to open up avenues of communication to the railway.

2946. Do you consider all the roads absolutely necessary? I consider that they are absolutely necessary as avenues of communication to the railway, and as giving access to the Government lands.

2947. Would not a less number have sufficed? Well, I do not think a less number would suffice, because there is a population about there which could not gain access to the railway station or to the Crown lands without those roads.

2948. Present or prospective? Almost immediate, because there is a large population about Bobbingrock and Vanceville Estates. Of course they will facilitate the movements of

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 13437—Note.—The memo. of the account shows that the business was for several matters. Q. 13438—Add at end of answer “until recently when he promised payment.”

of the people, and enable them to gain greater access to the railway, and also to the Crown lands by means of these roads. I may mention that when I saw these roads very little work was done, and I was opposed to land being given without compensation for the purpose of opening these roads.

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2949. Have not the roads benefited your estate? I think there has been a *quid pro quo*, as it were, on our side and also on the part of the Government. I think that the land we have given would recoup the Government to a greater extent any expenditure they have incurred in making these roads.

2950. But is not your estate more valuable in consequence of the existence of these roads than it was prior to their formation? If we had been paid for them the estate would have been more valuable; but you must remember that we have given 28 or 30 acres of land.

2951. But is not the remaining portion rendered more valuable by these roads? There must be some misapprehension as to the expenditure upon these roads. It is not so great as is assumed. I have driven through them, and I fail to see the large expenditure which has been suggested. In my opinion it would not exceed £2,000, and we have given £3,000 worth of land.

2952. *Mr. Carruthers.*] What has been the amount suggested to you? I have heard it suggested that we have been benefited very largely by this expenditure; but we have given £3,000 worth of our best land, because these roads are made all through our best land. When I saw the roads being made, I protested against the land being given without compensation. We have about 680 acres on the eastern side of Hornsby, and it was in contemplation by myself to sell this land as a whole in one block. Well we have been deprived of about 30 acres of that area by the making of these roads. It may seem strange to the Committee, but I was altogether opposed to giving these roads without compensation. I knew, from the railway being contiguous to some of the Government roads—Bobbingrock Road and Vanceville Road and other roads—that they must of necessity apply to us for roads, and by so doing would have had to give us compensation, and I was prepared to wait until this time should have arrived, when the Government would have to make these roads to Hornsby Junction in order to give access to the other roads, and to open up an avenue of communication between them and the railway station. I therefore did my best to urge my partners to apply for compensation.

2953. Did you not subdivide a portion of 50 acres near the station, cutting it up into streets? Before I went to England that was done by Mr. Dawson, 50 or 52 acres were planned out by him.

2954. Laid out with streets? I did not take any notice as to whether they were laid out. I know there was some subdivision made, but it was not for the purpose of immediate sale.

2955. And you named the streets? My partners have named the streets. I may mention that my friend and partner, Mr. Burns, had the management of the whole; I had the most implicit confidence in him, and I allowed him to have the management of everything. I desire also to say that I concur in everything that has been done, and I am quite prepared to share in any responsibility he has assumed in the matter.

2956. Had you not commenced some work on some of the roads? No; that was while I was in England. Some work was done on Burns Road. I left a power of attorney behind, and my partners consulted my attorney.

2957. Had not some work been commenced on this subdivision? Not before I went to England. Not a particle of work was done until after I had left for England.

2958. Whilst you were away in England? Whilst I was away in England, I believe (as I have been informed), an expenditure of something like £200 was made on Burns Road.

2959. Was not some work done on the subdivision? I never heard of it.

2960. Might it not have been done without your knowledge? I think not. They might have marked out with a tomahawk a few streets.

2961. If it has been given in evidence that clearing had been commenced, and in some instances proceeded with half way through the streets? I think not. I think you are mistaken on that point. I am not aware of anything of that kind being done. I know that Burns Road was made while absent. It is quite possible that they may have taken a tomahawk and marked out some streets.

2962. But if it is stated by Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Burns that real clearing had taken place? If Mr. Burns has stated it it must be correct. I am not aware that he has said so.

2963. But supposing your intention was to sell the land in one block, does not the existence of roads on the property increase its chances of sale and add to its value? Yes, it would, if we had received compensation.

2964. Without compensation? No, I think not, having regard to the fact that we have given about £3,000 worth of land, and that the Government have expended, we will say, £2,000 on our land. I do not believe that they have expended as much as that on our own private estate; though, of course, you are in a position to judge by calling the officers, and getting a statement of the actual expenditure. You cannot drive along Boundary Road owing to its precipitous nature, but I drove through Junction Road and Burns Road as far as the Vanceville Road, and I have also seen the cross-road to Noonan's, and I cannot see that there has been a greater expenditure than £2,000.

2965. When you say that you have given £3,000 worth of land, does that include Burns Road and the roads marked on your subdivisional plan? No; it is exclusive. I think we have given about 29 acres exclusive of Burns Road.

2966. But do you include that part on the subdivision plan? No; I think it is about 29 acres exclusive of that.

2967. What roads do you include? I include Boundary Road.

2968. Boundary Road is not on your land? Oh, yes; pardon me.

2969. No, it is not? With great respect I think you are mistaken.

2970. Boundary Road gives you a frontage, but it is all on Crown lands? I think you are mistaken. I do not want to contradict you; but I—

2971.

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2971. We have the evidence of Mr. Burns that it is not so? I have always been led to believe that Boundary Road was on our estate.
2972. It is not on your estate; it is on Crown lands all the way through? I am surprised at that; this is the first time I have heard it. If you say so I suppose I am bound to believe it.
2973. I give you the evidence of Mr. Deering, district surveyor, and of Mr. Burns, that it has been all made on Crown lands? Well, I have been always led to believe that that road was on our land.
2974. You see now that it is not? You say so.
2975. Under those circumstances, do you still say that you have given £3,000 worth of land? Approximately £3,000 worth of land has been given.
2976. Exclusive of Boundary Road? We have given 29 acres.
2977. You have given £3,000 worth of land, exclusive of Boundary Road, the roads shown on the subdivision, and Burns Road? In my opinion, and from what I have learnt from Mr. Dawson, we have given about £3,000 worth of land. We have given about 29 acres, and I value that at at least £100 an acre. I value the land at £3,000.
2978. Did not Mr. Dawson, in stating that, include Burns Road? No; he included the whole of the land at East Hornsby.
2979. Did he include Burns Road? No.
2980. You are not sure? Well, he said nothing about Burns Road.
2981. Then you are not positive? I say that it is my conscientious belief, having regard to all the roads made there, that we have given £3,000 worth of land.
2982. *Mr. Copeland.*] At what rate are you valuing the land per acre? A little more than £100 per acre. I would not take a shilling less than £100 per acre.
2983. You say that you value the land at a little more than £100 per acre;—have you sold any of the land round about those roads? No; not yet.
2984. You have sold none? No.
2985. Did you not sell some land on the Vanceville Estate? That is long ago. I was the first purchaser of the Vanceville Estate. Some years ago I purchased nearly 400 acres.
2986. Excuse me; but I want to keep you to the evidence. How long ago is it since you sold the last land on the Vanceville Estate? Some years.
2987. Have you sold no land since? I suppose Mr. Watkin, the auctioneer, sold the last for us.
2988. Which land was that? Vanceville. That is a different estate to this altogether.
2989. What did that land realise per acre? I cannot remember. It was sold many years ago.
2990. Was it sold before the railway was surveyed? Long before the North Shore line was ever dreamt of.
2991. You have sold no land since then? I think not; but Mr. Watkin could tell you.
2992. There is some land on the map marked with the names of different people;—did you sell those portions of land? No; those lands were never ours. It was only this Vanceville Estate that belonged to us.
2993. Then, as a matter of fact, you do not know anything at all about the value of the land there? Oh, yes, I do.
2994. Not having sold any land there, you do not know whether it would bring £50 or £100 an acre? At any rate I would not sell it under £100 an acre.
2995. I suppose you are aware that the average price of the land in the Government subdivision by the station was £34? I do not know anything at all about that. I would not allow the land to go under £100 an acre. As a matter of fact we were asked in July, last year, 1887, I think, to submit 200 acres on the basis of about £100 an acre, and my friend Mr. Burns and myself were willing, but our other partner thought the price too low. I think we could have received £20,000 for this 200 acres; but my partner, Mr. Withers, thought it should not go under £30,000. Owing to his action the purchase fell through.
2996. Is it not a fact that in all cases where the owners of private estates intend placing their land on the market, they make roads for themselves through it? I suppose they do; but I had no desire to do so.
2997. Do not they provide roads of access at different portions of their land? In my opinion they do; but I knew the value of this land. I knew that the soil was splendid.
2998. Have you any knowledge of soil? Yes, I have knowledge of soil, and I believe that this is splendid land. I may mention that I have about 12 acres of my own there, facing Burns Road, and independently of my partners, and I would not sell it now for less than £150 per acre.
2999. Do you know this Crown land subdivision to Hornsby the other side of Boundary Road? I have seen it. It is very bad land.
3000. And this is very good? Yes, this is very good. Some portions of the Crown land is in my opinion very bad. It is very rocky.
3001. The land to the north of Boundary Road is very bad and the land to the south of it is very good? Yes; I consider this excellent land—splendid land. I have 12 or 13 acres near Noonan's, independently of Messrs. Burns and Withers.
3002. Have you cultivated it? No.
3003. Have you cleared it? No; but I would not take less than £150 an acre for it.
3004. Has anyone offered you £150? No.
3005. Have they offered you £100? I have not attempted to sell it.
3006. Are you not aware that the custom is for people to subdivide their land and provide roads through their estates? They may do it.
3007. *Chairman.*] Is it not the invariable custom? It is the custom, but it is not my custom.
3008. *Mr. Carruthers.*] What do you mean by providing a road—do you mean that they make one for themselves? I believe that in many instances it is done to open up roads.

3009. *Mr. Copeland.*] Do you not know that the custom is when people are selling their private estates not only to provide the roads but to open them up, to clear them? I do not know that it is the custom. I have not taken the trouble to inquire or to see into anything of that kind.
3010. Have you not seen hundreds of maps of subdivisions about the city? Really I have not seen hundreds of maps. I have not taken the trouble to look.
3011. *Chairman.*] As a solicitor, do you not know that it is the custom? I have not taken the trouble to bother myself about whether it is the custom or not.
3012. As a matter of fact you do not know the custom? I know that it is done in many instances; but I cannot say altogether that it is the custom. I know that there are supposed to be roads through subdivisions on paper, but when you go to them you do not find that there are roads at all.
3013. *Mr. Copeland.*] Would you expect the Government to pay compensation to you for the road from H to the continuation of E, the Mistake Road? Yes. This is to give access to the railway.
3014. Do you consider that it is to give access to the railway? I suppose that that road was made for some particular purpose. I cannot say for what purpose it was made.
3015. Would you expect the Government to make you compensation for the continuation of road E, which goes entirely through your own land? That road has been made with some particular object. There is a railway station near Noonan's, and this road is to give access to it.
3016. What is road HHHI for? That is also to give access to the railway station.
3017. Will you tell me who is to make use of that access? The people around there.
3018. Will you tell me what population there is there? There is a large population near Bobbingrock and Vanceville.
3019. Can you say how far it extends? I know that there is a very large population.
3020. What do you call a large population? You can see the place studded about with homesteads. I cannot tell you approximately the number of people about there.
3021. Can you tell me the population on Crown lands requiring access to the railway station? No, I cannot.
3022. Can you tell me whether there are fifty people on the Crown lands? No, I cannot.
3023. I suppose you do not know that there are ten or that there is one person on that subdivision? I really do not know; but I know that these are all necessary roads; and I believe that unless they had been made now they would ultimately have had to be made by the Roads Department, and then they would have had to pay us compensation for them.
3024. Would you not have had to make those roads yourself before you sold the land to get to the railway station? Certainly not; I should not have given assent to it.
3025. You must be aware that you would not get the same price for your land? I think that we could have sold this large block of 680 acres irrespective of any road. Then, again, we have given all the roads to the Government a chain wide; I never heard of such a thing.
3026. How wide have you generally heard of roads? Even if we had given roads of half a chain wide I think that that would have been very liberal.
3027. Did you give the Government any compensation for giving you access to the whole of Boundary Road? No; this is the first I heard of it.
3028. Did you give the Government any compensation for that? Certainly not.
3029. Then can you tell me on what principle you give compensation for Junction Road, while they give Boundary Road without compensation? Until to-day I always thought that we had Boundary Road—that the road which has been cleared was on land given by us; but you informed me that such was not the case.
3030. Did the Government press you very much to get these roads? The Government, I believe, pressed my partner.
3031. Can you tell me what particular Minister? I do not know whether they pressed him or not. I know that they applied to him.
3032. For every road? I do not know whether for every road. I believe they did.
3033. Did the Government initiate those roads, or were they initiated by certain persons interested signing petitions? I know nothing about any petition. I signed no petition.
3034. I suppose you are aware that Mr. Withers signed a petition? I have heard that Mr. Withers signed a petition.
3035. You say that the Government took these roads;—will you tell me whether the Government initiated the taking of these roads? I cannot say. I am quite sure that neither Mr. Burns nor myself initiated anything of the kind.
3036. *Chairman.*] Are you aware that Mr. Dawson, the surveyor, consented to these roads, and that it was by his consent that they were made where they are? I am not aware of anything of the kind. I am aware that instructions were given by the managing partner.
3037. Did you make any claim for compensation? No; I did not. I was persuaded not to.
3038. You made no claim? No. I objected to my partners.
3039. Did you send any objection to the Government in writing? No; I did not.
3040. Did you or your partners refuse the Government any road? No; I did not.
3041. Nor your partners either? I think not.
3042. You cannot say what section of the Government were desirous to obtain these roads? I think it was the Roads Department and the Lands Department.
3043. But you do not know how this work was initiated? No; I really do not.
3044. You do not know whether it was recommended in the first place by a Government Officer, or whether it was brought about by persons presenting petitions? I do not know anything of that kind; but I know that neither directly nor indirectly did I have anything to do with the initiation of the work, the carrying on of the work, or anything of that kind, and I believe that neither directly nor indirectly had my partners, Mr. Burns and Mr. Withers, anything to do with urging the Government, although Mr. Withers signed a petition.

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3045. Do you know that Mr. Burns approved of those roads being taken? I believe he offered no objection.
3046. Do you know that he approved—that there is his minute approving? If you say he made a minute, I take your word.
3047. I do say so. Do you know that Mr. Burns further instructed your private surveyor, Mr. Dawson, to go out and lay off the roads? I believe that that was done at the request of the Casual Labour Board.
3048. If it had been done at the request of the Casual Labour Board, which is a Government Sub-Department, would not the Government surveyors have laid off the roads? The Government surveyors, I believe, concurred in this laying out of the roads, as you suggest.
3049. There was no concurrence that I am aware of. I simply want you to say whether you are aware that Mr. Burns authorized you own private surveyor to go out and lay off those roads? Well, I know that from time to time he gave instructions to Mr. Dawson, and I concurred in any direction he gave. Personally, I concurred in everything that was done, because I believe that Mr. Burns is a man of the pink of honour, and that he would not do any improper thing.
3050. *Mr. Carruthers.*] You said that the Crown land is inferior land to yours? Yes; I think so.
3051. Most of it is further from the station and further from the road? I think that this plan is incorrect.
3052. What is the nature of the land along Boundary Road, close to your land? Some of it, in my opinion, is very rocky.
3053. I want you to look at this sale plan. This is a plan put in by Mr. Deering, showing the prices realised at the sale—£50 per acre, £61, £65, £77, £29, £33—Is your land more valuable than that; do you think it would realise more? Most certainly.
3054. Is your land rocky? No; our land is more of a sandy nature, and better land.
3055. Have you any land as poor as the land which realised these prices? It is impossible for me to say. There may be some few dots of it; but as a whole this is splendid land. That is the reason why others say that you could easily get £100 an acre for it.
3056. Do you consider your land superior in regard to physical characteristics? Yes, much superior.
3057. You have been asked a great deal about the custom of proprietors in laying out roads. Are you aware that in many instances of subdivisions there is nothing done to the roads beyond laying them out on paper? Yes; I said so.
3058. You are aware that the custom is rather that way than to the contrary? Yes.
3059. *Chairman.*] But is not the land in such a case provided, although the roads are not made? On paper.
3060. *Mr. Copeland.*] You say those roads are provided on paper; but is not the land itself provided—how could they sell a frontage without the road? I cannot say; they do strange things.
3061. *Mr. Carruthers.*] The provision on paper amounts to a legal dedication of the land. The exposure of a sale plan showing roads on paper amounts to a dedication? It does not amount to a legal dedication.
3062. It is an act of dedication to a certain extent? It is an act of dedication to a certain extent, but only to a certain extent.
3063. *Mr. Copeland.*] Can you take the land away after you have sold an allotment frontage to a certain road, without being subject to an action? It has been done.
3064. Could you do it legally. Could you sell a man a frontage to a certain road, and then take the road away? I have known it to be done.
3065. *Chairman.*] Could it be done legally? I have known it to be done, but it is improper to do it, highly improper. I could mention instances where it has been done.
3066. But in those instances it has been done illegally? In my opinion illegally.
3067. *Mr. Carruthers.*] It is a very risky thing to do? It is a very risky thing to do, though I could mention instances where it has been done.
3068. You said that you desired to sell this property, if you sold it at all, in a block? Yes; as a whole.
3069. Had you any intention whatever of subdividing it? None.
3070. Were you prepared to hold it for a lengthened period of time until you got your price? Yes.
3071. Were you prepared to hold it for twenty years? I do not say twenty years. I was prepared to hold it seven or eight years. I was prepared to hold it until the railway was finished to North Shore.
3072. Do you think that the holding of your blocks of land intact without roads through them would have affected prejudicially the prices that the Government would get for their Crown land adjacent? Most certainly. I think that without these roads no access could be obtained to the Crown lands, and that they could not be sold.
3073. *Chairman.*] Would not the low prices of Crown lands if they were sold affect prejudicially the sale of your land? Not in my opinion. It could not affect it prejudicially at all.
3074. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Do you think that, sooner than have that sacrifice, the Government would have purchased roads from you? My conviction is that the Roads Department would of necessity have been compelled to open up roads through this portion of the estate in order to gain access to the railway, and also of necessity the Lands Department would have been compelled to open up and construct roads to gain access to the Crown lands.
3075. And if they had not, the alternative would have been the sacrifice of Crown property? That is my opinion.
3076. You have had other land transactions, I suppose, and plenty of experience on these matters? Yes.
3077. Is it your experience that it prejudices or affects the sale of a block of land if a particular plan of subdivision is arranged for;—is it not the desire on the part of the people

people purchasing large blocks of land that they shall not be trammelled by any previous plan of subdivision? Yes.

3078. If you were buying a block of land would you care about being trammelled by the vendor having a plan of subdivision with the roads dedicated which would make you follow out his particular design? No, I should not.

3079. Is that one objection you had to putting roads through the block? That was my objection.

3080. I notice by the plan that you have one frontage to the road D H? I believe the property on the other side of the road is Harnett's.

3081. Is it not a usual thing in giving boundary roads between two properties for each people to give 33 feet, or half the road? Yes.

3082. In this case have you not given all the road? I am inclined to think that we have, but am not sure.

3083. *Chairman.*] Is it not so; Mr. Harnett gave half the road; the evidence shows it? I made some inquiry about it. I saw that this was Harnett's or Edwards' land; and I think in going through it Mr. Burns said that we had to provide the road, but I am not certain on this point. It is possible that Messrs. Harnett and Edwards gave half.

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End of Evidence before Select Committee.

13450. *President resuming.*] Was that evidence submitted to you for revision? It was.

13451. Having now heard it read, do you wish to make any correction or alteration? In answer to question 3013 before the Select Committee, there is a part here about Mistake Road. I produce a report signed by Mr. Wells, being a schedule of all roads shown on the map cleared by the unemployed. On referring to that, I see that I was wrong with regard to Mistake Road. At that time I thought the Mistake Road was a road leading direct to Noonan's platform and through a portion of Noonan's land. With regard to Mistake Road, I know nothing at all about it. I saw a letter "H" appearing on the plan, and I was confounded by that letter "H" appearing there.

13452. Had you not this plan before you then? No; I had a plan similar to this, but not this one. When I said that this was meant to give access to the railway, I meant this road where the letter "H" is marked near Noonan's. This is really a very trifling matter.

13453. Is there any other matter which you want to call our attention to? Well, I want to say this with regard to Mr. Davies, that neither directly nor indirectly had I ever any conversation with Mr. Davies on the subject of these roads on the Hornsby Estate.

13454. I do not think that is stated? Then, again, I wish to say that, neither directly nor indirectly, had I anything to do with the initiation of the work of the unemployed, nor any direction whatever of any of that work. At the same time, I wish the Commission to understand that I was opposed to the roads being opened up or any roads being given without compensation. I was of opinion that if any roads should be given to the Government, or allowed to be taken by the Government, the Government should compensate us.

13455. You volunteer this without my putting any question on the subject? I thought perhaps that you had omitted to ask me any questions on these subjects, and that it was necessary you should know these facts.

13456. With reference to the evidence which has been read over to you, do you wish to make any further explanation or correction? I think there was a question as to whether we had sold any of the land. I am told, since my last examination, that a small portion of the land has been sold, and has realised £125 an acre.

13457. Is there any other point that you wish to correct or explain? No. The reason why I volunteered that evidence was that I thought you had omitted to ask me. That was my only object in giving it.

13458. Can this Commission take it, that with the exception of the matters that you have just called attention to, the evidence that has been read over to you is true and correct in every particular? Yes.

13459. Who manages the matters in connection with this Hornsby Estate? Mr. J. F. Burns.

13460. He attends to all the details? Yes; he has throughout attended to everything.

13461. And I suppose we can take it that he knows more about them than any of you? More than any of us. I had implicit confidence in his honour, integrity, and judgment, and I left everything in his hands.

13462. I put before you a plan [*Exhibit D 4*] which shows the roads through the properties of Burns, Withers, and Smith in and about Hornsby? Yes.

13463. Can you tell me from your own knowledge of the land, looking at that plan, whether the roads marked B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, and K, are all roads that you have given to the Government? I could not say on this plan. We gave Junction Road, I believe, and we gave, I think, a parallel road called Church-street, and we gave the continuation of Sherbrooke Road; but Mr. Burns can give you more information about this.

13464. Did you give any road on the Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate to the Government? I believe they were given by Mr. Burns on behalf of the syndicate.

13465. Are you sure of that? They were allowed to open these roads up, so Mr. Burns informed me.

13466. Is there anything to prevent your putting a fence across these roads and taking possession of them? It is not at all likely we should do anything of the kind.

13467. Is there anything to prevent it? Yes.

13468. Have you signed any notice of dedication? No.

13469. Have you signed any letter to the Government, or any officer of the Government, giving up your right to all these roads? I don't remember.

13470. If Mr. Burns, in his evidence, says that the only roads which have been signed for are the three short roads marked D, E, and F on that plan, is that likely to be correct? Oh, yes; whatever he says is likely to be correct.

13471. If Mr. Burns states that, with this exception, the other roads have never been formally given up, but to a certain extent annexed—is it not the case that you can resume possession of these other roads at any time? That is a legal question which I am not prepared to answer at this present moment.

13472. You say in your evidence before the Select Committee "we have given £3,000 worth of land." Have you given the land? We are prepared to do so at the present moment. We are bound to do it on application or demand. 13473.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 13463—Note: There must be a mistake with regard to this answer, as I do not know the names of the roads mentioned. Church Road probably means the road from Junction Road to the Church at Pearce's Corner, along which we have no land. I do not know any road named Sherbrooke Road.

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13473. Supposing you, or Mr. Burns, or Mr. Withers should die, do you think that your representatives would look upon it in the same light that you do? I am certain they would look upon it as a moral obligation on their part to approve of any act that I have done.

13474. Has any of that land been sold? Oh, no.

13475. Does it not come to this—that as regards all these roads, except road A and the three roads, D, E, and F, it is only because the Government have honorable gentlemen to deal with that they can get these roads without compensation or resumption? Well, as you say that Mr. Burns states that we have not signed any document, that may be so; but I regard a promise made by us as equal to an absolute gift. I attach to it the same importance, and regard it in the same light. I am prepared to sign any document to-morrow morning—any legal document—dedicating these roads. I am quite prepared to execute any legal document to the Government giving them greater security of tenure with regard to the roads than they now have.

13476. Then it is not quite strictly correct to say that you and your partners have given up £3,000 worth of land? Not in the legal sense in which you put it. Perhaps in the legal sense it was not quite correct; but in every other sense it was correct. I think I was informed before I gave that evidence that the Government had taken possession, or was about to take possession—that I think Mr. Bennett, of the Roads Department, had done so.

13477. You say in your evidence before the Select Committee that you believed the Government must of necessity apply to you for roads, because you knew, from the railway being contiguous to some Government roads—the Bobbin Rock Road and Vanceville Road—such a necessity would arise? Yes.

13478. Where is Bobbin Rock Road? Bobbin Rock Road, towards the Vanceville Station or the Great Eastern.

13479. Does it lead to Hornsby Station? Oh, you can get now to it. Before that road was constructed [*witness points to the plan*] there was no means of getting from Bobbin Rock Road to the Hornsby Station.

13480. How many people are there at Bobbin Rock? I cannot say.

13481. Have you ever been there? I have been there; I have driven through it.

13482. Are there half a dozen people there? There appeared to me to be a number of orchards there.

13483. How did the making of these roads give the people at Bobbin Rock and Vanceville access to the railway platform? By means of this road—Burns Road.

13484. Is there any platform down there? I believe there is now.

13485. Why should the people from Bobbin Rock and Vanceville go all this distance when they have got a platform near at hand? I do not think there was a platform then.

13486. Do you think that the evidence holds good now, that a road to the station would benefit the Bobbin Rock and Vanceville people? Yes, because it would open up the Crown lands.

13487. Would the people at Bobbin Rock go 2 or 3 miles to the station if there is a platform within half a mile? You will see that these people would have no means of access to this platform unless some road was constructed.

13488. What you wish us to understand is that the continuation of Burns Road, past the Vanceville Road, is of advantage to the Bobbin Rock people, because it gives them a way out? Yes.

13489. Do you know why this road, the continuation of Burns Road, stopped there—is it not a *cul de sac*? It does not stop there. The continuation of Burns Road leads on to the Bobbin Rock Road. After it crosses the Vanceville Road it goes on in the Bobbin Rock direction. It seems to me that it goes on properly.

13490. How often have you been there? I was only once there.

13491. Then, I suppose from your one visit you could not know very much? I saw it.

13492. How long were you there? About a quarter of an hour. It was pointed out to me that this road would terminate at Bobbin Rock, and it was also pointed out to me as being an important road, giving access to either of the platforms or to Hornsby Station.

13493. I see you have stated in your evidence that the expenditure on the Burns Road was something like £200? I was informed so.

13494. Who told you? It must have been Mr. Burns.

13495. Do you believe that to be correct? I believe whatever Mr. Burns told me to be correct. I think that was the amount that he told me, but I cannot say with certainty. I wish the Commission to understand this, that I had scarcely anything to do with the matter. I left it entirely with Mr. Burns. I have every confidence in him. I did not bother myself about the roads. With regard to the improvement of Bobbin Rock Road I am relying upon the statements of those who are better acquainted with all the roads than I am. I don't suppose I have visited these roads more than three or four times altogether, and then I did not go over the whole of them.

13496. I see here that you state, in answer to a question, that the Government pressed your partner to get these roads? I was so informed.

13497. By whom? I was informed, I think, by Mr. Burns. I understand that the Government were anxious to get these roads, and at that time I thought it was very unwise on our part to give these roads without compensation. When I said that I assumed that they had been absolutely given, and I say that they are absolutely given, because I am prepared to sign any legal document to-morrow giving these roads. 13498. Who would the officers of the Government be who pressed to get these roads? I do not know.

13499. Your statement there is dependent entirely upon Mr. Burns? Yes, in pretty nearly everything.

13500. I think you said in your evidence before the Select Committee, as to Boundary Road, you made a mistake? Yes.

13501. Boundary Road is not on your land? No. I knew so little about the roads that I really thought it was.

13502. Were you a supporter of the Government in which Mr. Burns was a Minister? I supported the Government when I thought they were right.

13503. I suppose you know that Mr. Burns was Colonial Treasurer during the years 1887 and 1888? Yes. I sat on the Benches, and gave the Government support. After I returned from England there was a general election, and I went to the country—to the Macleay. I don't suppose I visited the Hornsby Estate until April or May, 1887. I visited the estate after the general election. That was the first time I had heard of the unemployed being out there at work.

13504.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 13479—Add to end of answer, "or to Noonan's platform or to the Eastern Station." Q. 13483—After "Burns Road" add "across a short road to Noonan's platform as well as to the Hornsby Station." Q. 13485—Note: There is no platform at Bobbin Rock. I think the nearest station is the Eastern, by way of the new road.

13504. I see you have a plan there to which you have made reference;—have you any objection to producing it? No. [*Plan, with schedule of cost of roads attached, produced, and marked U.*]
 13505. Have you anything else to add? In regard to the dedication, I still say that the roads were given. It is not likely that we would repudiate any promise that we made. I am quite prepared, so far as any legal dedication is concerned, to sign any document or make any dedication that may be required.

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R. B. Smith.
7 May, 1889.

Charles Burfitt Dawson called in, sworn, and examined:—

13506. *President.*] What are you, Mr. Dawson? Licensed surveyor.

13507. I believe you have been employed as a surveyor by Messrs. Burns, Withers, & Smith? Yes.

Mr.
C. B. Dawson.

13508. For how long? For the last five or six years, I suppose.

13509. Were you examined before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly on the 4th December, 1888, and on the 11th January last? Yes.

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13510. Is this your evidence? Yes.

Evidence before Select Committee.

1732. *Chairman.*] Are you, or have you been, private surveyor to Mr. Burns? I have.

1733. Did you survey the property at Hornsby? I did.

1734. Have you got a plan of the survey you made? This is the outline of the survey of the property.

1735. Have you got a plan showing the subdivisions you made, and the roads and streets? No: I have no plan of that.

1736. Did you survey any roads or streets? I laid out a few streets for the clearers.

1737. Look at the tracing before you, by Mr. Deering:—are any of the streets there those you surveyed? The only street I laid out was Junction Road, from the road C to the Vanceville Road.

1738. Is that the only street you laid out? And this one—DH, from Boundary Road to Burns Road.

1739. Did you lay out that road further to the east, road E? No; I did not touch that.

1740. Look at those roads close to the railway station, T-shaped roads;—did you lay any of them out? Yes, the continuation of the Boundary Road to the railway. I laid out, years ago, the township sub-division, half-way between the railway and the road marked B.

1741. Then the roads as you see them there have been continued as you laid them out? They have been continued evidently.

1742. Are there any other roads there that you laid out;—did you lay out Burns Road? That was originally laid out by the surveyor who did the Vanceville township—Mr. Boyle. It was already marked out. I did not touch it. It was done years ago.

1743. Do you know on whose property it is? I fancy it is Government land, and not on any private property.

1744. Are you sure of that? I am not certain, but it is a road that was left for the use of this Vanceville township. The road is excluded from Burns' land.

1745. Is it not on Burns' land? No.

1746. Take the road running south from Burns Road, the continuation of road H;—did you lay that out? No.

1747. Then the road parallel with Burns Road, and about 5 chains to the north of it;—Did you lay that out? No; I can explain why that was left there. When I went up to lay out this northern portion of road H, and to give the points to the clearers, they had reached the Mistake Road, and that road was then being cleared. They thought it was Burns Road.

1748. By whom was it being cleared? By the unemployed, or people working there.

1749. How long ago is that? I suppose it is twelve months ago.

1750. Then you were surveying for Mr. Burns and laying out roads whilst the unemployed were working there? Yes.

1751. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Can you identify Mr. Burns' property on this plan? Yes.

1752. Kindly point out which it is? It is bounded on the south by Burns Road, on the east by the Vanceville Road, on the north by Boundary Road up to the end of the Crown lands near the station. It then runs north of road A to Fiers' property, and then it is bounded on the west and north by Crown lands.

1753. Is the land between Boundary Road and Junction Road, from the railway towards road I, a part of the estate? Yes.

1754. Do you see the three little pieces marked green, to the south of Burns Road; did you survey those? I surveyed the piece south of Burns Road.

1755. *Chairman.*] Are all the pieces marked green on that tracing Burns' property? I do not know about the little piece to the south of Burns Road, in the centre.

1756. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] All the other portions except that you identify as the property of Burns, Withers, and Smith? Yes.

1757. *Chairman.*] And that may be for all you know? Yes.

1758. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] You said just now that Burns Road was a public road;—does it not run between the properties of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? It does run between the properties.

1759. And you say that Burns Road is not included in the estate? Certainly not; it is dedicated to the public. The Vanceville Estate has been a public estate for years.

1760. *Chairman.*] Was not part of the Vanceville estate formerly Mr. Burns' property? I believe it was.

1761. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Burns Road is marked on our plan as previously cleared by owners? Yes; it was cleared by somebody when I went to survey the land here some years ago.

1762. When you went to survey the land you found that it had been dedicated to the public? Yes; that we excluded, because we found that it had been dedicated.

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1763. Beyond Junction Road, Road HD, and portions of these T-shaped roads between the railway station and I road, you say you did not lay out any other roads whatever? No.
1764. *Chairman.*] You did not finish your account of the Mistake Road;—it was not quite clear how that road originated? It originated in the mistake of the person in charge of the clearers, who mistook it for Burns Road. I pointed that out to him when I went up there.

1765. *Mr. Copeland.*] The person who had charge of the unemployed? Yes.

1766. *Mr. Street.*] Did you lay out that continuation of the H road to the Lane Cove Road? No; I did not lay that out.

1767. Do you know whether or not that was laid out in the subdivision of the Vanceville property? It is not part of the Vanceville property at all.

1768. There are a number of small holders marked on the eastern side of the continuation of H? That road is evidently part of some subdivision here.

1769. Would that be evidence to you that that road had been in existence since these people owned that land? That road was in existence no doubt. I have it shown here on my own plan. It was laid out in the subdivision of what, I think it was called, the Big Island Estate.

1770. It has no frontage whatever to the Burns-Withers' land? No; they do not front it at all.

1771. *Mr. Copeland.*] Were any of the roads when you were surveying cleared and formed? The only road done was this Boundary Road.

1772. Was that cleared? Yes.

1773. Not formed? No; just cleared.

1774. None of the other roads were cleared? None of these roads were cleared. I surveyed them for the purpose of having them cleared. Mr. Burns left it in my hands entirely to leave roads where I pleased. I was to meet the man in charge of the unemployed there, who wanted some roads left through the estate, and I was to leave them in the best places I could.

1775. Who wanted the roads made through the estate? Whoever was in charge—Mr. O'Donnell, I think. He met me on the ground each time, and he said that he wanted roads in certain portions.

1776. Then Mr. O'Donnell really designed what roads were to be laid out on the estate? Yes, he designed exactly what he wanted. If I thought they were practicable I surveyed them for him.

1777. What was his reason for taking the roads where he did take them? I think simply to produce the roads from the Crown lands. I did not give my consent to the roads E, C, and B.

1778. E, C, and B, you did not give your consent to? I objected to them. I told him I would not allow them to be laid out; but evidently he has cleared them, and I have heard no more about it.

1779. Were there roads at that time surveyed through the Crown lands in continuation of the roads you allude to? Yes; they were surveyed and laid out.

1780. On the Crown lands? On the Crown lands.

1781. So that these roads were made a continuation of the roads on the Crown lands? Evidently a continuation of those roads.

1782. None of these roads were cleared when you were there? No.

1783. Did Mr. O'Donnell give you any further reason why these roads should be made? No; he gave no reason. These cross roads were cleared after.

1784. In subdividing those lands for sale I suppose it would have been necessary to have these roads, or to have had other roads quite as near as those are to each other? Well I do not know. I do not think we required any running north from Junction Road.

1785. Is it not the custom, when you are making subdivisions, to have roads closer together than these roads are shown? The block east of road DH should have been cut up into orchard blocks, with very few streets.

1786. That block would be what length—a mile? A little more than a mile, a chain more than mile.

1787. Would you not consider it desirable to have a street intersecting that mile in length, somewhere in the position of E? I should say one should come about the centre. There should have been one somewhere in that position.

1788. You would have laid it out for orchard blocks—in how many acre blocks—what would you estimate a suitable area? About 10-acre blocks.

1789. What area do you estimate, roughly speaking, there is in the block between the streets C and D? About 40 acres, I suppose, in the whole block between the two roads.

1790. You say that you consider that the whole of this block, over a mile in length, and I suppose considerably over half a mile in depth, was more suitable to be cut up into orchard blocks? Yes.

1791. And that these blocks would be about 10 acres in extent;—would it not have been necessary then, in subdividing for orchard blocks, to have had a good number of roads, to enable you to get to the various blocks? I should think not. My idea in cutting that up would simply be to give access to the railway station.

1792. But how would you cut it up into 10-acre blocks without making roads through it? You could cut it up into 10-acre blocks and not leave more than one road. You could leave it through the centre.

1893. What frontage would you have? About 20 chains on each side. If you had a road on each side it would leave 10 chains square. With one road you could leave blocks 10 chains square.

1794. You perceive that this block is more than 40 chains in depth? Taking the road out would leave about 42 chains.

1795. How often would you have roads across down here [*pointing to map*]? I do not think it necessary; only one road in the centre perhaps. A man could get on to this road and go straight along to the station; it would be a more direct way. If you left a road in the centre you would have 20 chains on each side; 10 chains square would be 10 acres each. That would leave two rows of 10 acres each here, and two rows of 10 acres each there. You would not want more than one road in the centre. One road would give a frontage to either block.
1796. *Chairman.*] Was Junction Road left with a view to cutting up the land into orchard blocks? I thought it would come in afterwards if they wanted to subdivide. It was in a very good position, and a practicable road; but it would have been much better for subdivision purposes if it had been in the centre of the block. These roads at the south, the mistake roads, are useless.
1797. *Mr. Copeland.*] How is it that this land to the south of Burns Road is cut up into such small blocks;—what is the area of these blocks? About 7 or 8 acres each; about 10 chains wide, I think.
1798. You do not know anything at all about the forming and the metalling of these roads? Nothing. I only laid them out to be cleared, and I have not seen them since.
1799. The whole of the Vanceville Estate originally belonged to Burns, Withers, and Smith? I believe it did.
1800. It was sold some time ago? Some years ago.
1801. *Mr. Brunker.*] If you had been instructed to subdivide this land on account of the private owners, would you have adopted this form of subdivision? Certainly not.
1802. Do you think that this form of subdivision, with so many roads intersecting the land, is prejudicial or favourable to the interests of the proprietors? I think it is prejudicial.
1803. *Mr. McMillan.*] That is the reason you dissented from it? Yes. Mr. Burns left the matter in my hands, and I objected to anything that would destroy the property in any way.
1804. *Mr. Brunker.*] I gather from the answer you gave just now that the roads leading north and south are of no further benefit than to give access from the Crown lands and the Hornsby railway line? That is all.
1805. *Mr. Copeland.*] Which roads do you object to; you say you would not have subdivided the land in that way? Roads E and DH; but taking into consideration this railway station at Pearce's Corner, I daresay DH would be beneficial for the purpose of giving access. I did not know of that at the time.
1806. How would Mr. Burns get to the southern portion of his estate, south of Burns Road, to the east of Pearce's Corner railway, without the road marked E. Supposing these portions were sold in big blocks, and he wanted communication from these pieces to the south, how could he get it without having a road of access? I do not see how he could get down to them without a road was made. I do not see why he would want it.
1807. *Mr. Street.*] Could not he drive along Junction Road, and down Vanceville Road and Burns Road to it? This block has access. It has a frontage to Burns Road and an outlet to this road, which are two dedicated roads.
1808. You stated a little while ago, in answer to my question, that you would have put a road in the middle of the block? Yes; I believe I would have done so.
1809. Did you not state that you would have one road in the middle of this block, which is over a mile in length; now you say you object to it. Will you tell me how you could subdivide it without having a road there? It could be subdivided with one road in the centre only, parallel to Junction Road. As to the road being left in the centre, if I had thought it would have been any benefit to any orchard blocks I should have left it, but not otherwise.
1810. *Chairman.*] As a matter of fact, Junction Road is the road you did leave? Yes.
1811. *Mr. Copeland.*] Supposing you only left Junction Road in the centre of the block, and the people holding the portions to the north wanted to get to the railway station, how would they have got down without this road? Down HHH.
1812. Did you ever see the subdivision of a large block of land like that without its having cross roads through it? Yes; certainly.
1813. Have you ever made a subdivision yourself without having cross roads for over a mile in length? I never made a road unless it was needful. I cannot say about over a mile in length. I have done several subdivisions.
1814. This is over a mile in length, is it not? It is about a mile.
1815. Can you tell me any Government subdivisions that have ever been made without a cross road joining the parallel roads for over a mile in length? I cannot say I remember any. But I think I can quote one subdivision lately where there is no cross road for a mile, that is on the Moorbank estate, a subdivision of 7,000 acres in big blocks.
1816. In what size blocks? From 5 up to 30 acres.
1817. I understand you did not intend subdividing this into blocks like that? I did not think anything would be under 5 or 10 acres.
1818. What is the area of these small blocks to the south? On the average, 7 or 8 acres. Dobson's is 10 acres, and Brown's 8 or 9 acres.
1819. Supposing this piece was cut up into 10-acre blocks, what frontage would they have, according to the depth? They would be 10 chains square.
1820. But the distance from Burns Road to Junction Road is 60 or 70 chains? It is only 25 chains between the two roads. From the Junction Road to the north boundary is 17 chains 86 links, and it is 26 chains at the very outside between Junction Road and Burns Road. It is only 43 wide between the two roads altogether.
1821. What frontage would a 10-acre block have between these two roads? Eight chains by $12\frac{1}{2}$, taking the road as it is.
1822. Supposing you divided this block into 10-acre blocks what frontage would they have? I would have a road in the centre. There would be a dividing line. About $12\frac{1}{2}$ chains by 8 chains would be the size of the blocks.

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1823. *Mr. Brunker.*] I suppose your object in making these subdivisions generally is to conserve as much of the land as possible, in the interests of the owners? Yes.

1824. Whilst at the same time you afford the greatest convenience to those who are purchasers, without detracting from the value of the land? Certainly.

1825. *Mr. Copeland.*] You laid out none of these roads until the person in charge of the unemployed came to you and suggested the laying of them out? Mr. Burns wrote to me, and told me that the man in charge of the unemployed wanted to clear some roads, and that he had given the land, and left it to me to leave the roads where I thought proper. I went up there, and the man met me on the ground. He pointed out where he wanted roads. He wanted a road out to the Great Eastern Road, and I laid out the Junction Road as straight as I could.

1826. So that the laying out of these roads originated with the officer in charge of the unemployed, and not with you? Not with me, certainly.

1827. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] When Mr. Burns told you to lay out the roads where you thought proper, did you take that as an instruction to lay them out for the best advantage of the estate, or to accommodate the public? In both ways. The man in charge wanted a road for the public, and he came to me to show him where he could leave a good road, and I took out Junction Road.

1828. *Chairman.*] Were you considering the interests of the proprietors of the estate when you laid out that road? Certainly; I was studying both interests.

1829. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] If a road through the centre would have been better, why did you lay out Junction Road? I did not want to make any bend in the thing.

1830. You said just now that it would have been better if the road had been laid out in the centre? It would have been better as a subdivision. It would have been better for Mr. Burns if the Junction Road had been in the centre.

1831. Then why did you lay out the Junction Road where it is now—because the track was better? I fancied it was a very good road—a practicable road—and I left it in that position. The land gets a little rougher down here, and the road being there, I thought it as well to leave it there as well as anywhere else. Mr. Burns had not made up his mind as to how to subdivide the land.

1832. Referring to road E, will you kindly run that road down to Burns Road. Does not the fact of that road giving easier access to the railway and the Lane Cove Road add to the convenience and the accommodation of the intending settlers, and thus add to the value of the property? I think it would. If people bought land round here it would be handy.

1833. In making that road the public are really benefiting the estate? I do not know that they benefit the estate much.

1834. *Chairman.*] Would not land about there bring a higher value by virtue of that road? The land fronting the road certainly would.

1835. *Mr. McMillan.*] When you say these roads running north and south benefit the estate, do they not also reflect benefit on the Crown lands to which they directly lead? Most decidedly.

1836. Would you say that they benefited the Crown lands equally with the private lands? I consider they benefit the Crown lands. I think the Crown lands would have been valueless without these roads giving access.

1837. If the Crown lands were your lands just as the other lands were Burns' lands, would you like to negotiate on equitable terms for such roads to be made? I should. I would give a big price for a road to get through there, if I owned the land.

1838. You think it would be your business as the proprietor of those Crown lands to negotiate on equitable terms for such roads to be made? It would.

1839. And Burns' land being the nearest to the new line of railway, it would, under certain circumstances, be to his advantage to keep back the other lands? It would, most decidedly.

1840. Whereas those roads open up the land for the next competition in that vicinity? They do.

1841. *Mr. Copeland.*] If the Crown lands were private estates as well as this other, and the owner of this private estate proposed to you to make roads through your land to benefit his land, would you as a matter of business consent to that, or would you lay out money on this estate, supposing you owned the other. Would you lay out your money on another estate to improve your own, or would you lay it out on your own estate? I should be very glad to do so.

1842. Can you give us any instance where it has ever been done—have you ever done it yourself—where the owner of one estate goes to his neighbour's estate to expend money, instead of expending it on his own estate? I have met several such cases. I may speak of one now that I am interested in, where we have left sufficient land to make a road 100 feet wide along the boundary of the estate, and others who are benefited by it are spending money on our estate and forming the road. I am a director of the company which owns the land, and the adjoining owners and the Council are making the road as an access to Lady Robinson's Beach. We have a road 100 feet wide, but we go to no expense on the land given by us.

1843. Is it not of as much interest, supposing there is a population on the Crown lands, to have access to the people there as it would be for the people on the Crown lands to have access down here? The access we want is to the railway, not to the people. I consider that the Crown lands before were valueless. I would not have given £5 an acre for them. These roads have raised the price 100 per cent. I do not believe they could have sold the Crown lands without them. I consider that a man would be very foolish in buying a block of land if he had not access to the station.

1844. *Chairman.*] Do you know the quality of these Crown lands? Yes; very poor.

1845. *Mr. Copeland.*] You have been employed by Mr. Burns for some time in making this and other subdivisions? No; I have not had much work for Mr. Burns.

1846. Are you engaged by him at the present time in making subdivisions? Not at all. I have not had any work from him for the last twelve months; not since I did this.

1847. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] If you had been the owner of the Crown lands, and had seen that Burns, Withers, and Smith were prepared to construct these streets and had actually employed surveyors, would you have come along and said: "Allow me to relieve you of the necessity of doing these streets, I will do them for you"? Certainly not.

1848. *Chairman.*] You say that Burns Road was a declared road when you went to survey it; was it cleared and formed? Not wholly. A bit at the end was not cleared.

1849. You gave instructions for the continuation of that road, for its being cleared to the end? No; I gave no instructions.

1850. Did you survey it to the end? It was surveyed originally. Of course, anything surveyed originally I had nothing to do with.

1851. *Mr. Street.*] Generally speaking, do you consider the continuation of these roads through private property of more interest to the owners of the property or to the Crown lands. Which have the greatest interest in their continuation? I should say the Crown lands.

1852. *Chairman.*] As a matter of fact, does not every road on that property, with the exception of Mistake Road, improve the value of Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate? To a certain extent, most decidedly.

1853. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] It has been shown in evidence that £6,000 has been expended on these roads, and £4,000 were obtained from the sale of the Crown lands—do you consider that a profitable transaction to the Government? How much have they sold of the Crown lands?

1854. Did you not say that the Crown lands were valueless? I do not believe an acre could have been sold without these roads. I was very much surprised to see it sold as it was. It was very poor.

End of first day's evidence before Select Committee.

WEDNESDAY, 8 MAY, 1889.

Present:

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P., | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Charles Mark Palmer was called in and produced Deed of Assignment by Sir Henry Parkes, dated 12th October, 1887. [*Deed marked X for identification.*]

Frank Farnell, Esq., M.P., called in, sworn, and examined:—

13511. *President.*] Are you a Member of Parliament? I am.

13512. Were you a Member in 1887 and 1888? Yes.

13513. What constituency did you represent? Central Cumberland.

13514. Are you any relation to Mr. O'Donnell who was employed by the Casual Labour Board in the Northern District? Yes.

13515. What relation? I am his nephew.

13516. Will you look at the letter dated September, 1887, written to you by Mr. N. G. Bell, respecting a road from Peakhurst to Liverpool, and read your reply? Yes. "My dear Mr. Davies,—Can I be again a trouble to you, and ask you if this can be done. You see the Mayor of Liverpool is anxious that this should be done and will give the necessary to have the work done."

13517. Did you post this or deliver it? I cannot say particularly, because sometimes I posted them and sometimes sent them by messenger.

13518. It appears to have been reported upon and submitted for the approval of the Colonial Secretary? Yes.

13519. And has it that approval? Yes.

13520. You see there "Can I be again a trouble to you?" Yes.

13521. Had you on many previous occasions seen Mr. Davies in relation to similar work? Yes, on several occasions.

13522. Is the work you refer to there within the district you represent? Yes

13523. Do you know Mr. Davies personally? Yes.

13524. Intimately? I cannot say intimately. I have known him as a public man. I knew him as a public man years before I met him personally. It is only within the last three or four years I ever had any conversation with him.

13525. Do you see a letter of the 12th January, 1888, from the Secretary of the Trustees of the Bankstown Park to you? Yes.

13526. It refers to some unemployed labour to clear the park land and cut drains? Yes.

13527. What did you do with that? I made a minute on it and sent it to the Colonial Secretary.

13528. You notice that that document was afterwards referred by the Principal Under Secretary to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

13529. The next note is one by Mr. Barnet, Secretary, who is he? The gentleman who wrote the first one.

13530. And the next note is one from you? Yes.

13531. It reads, "I would esteem it a favour if Mr. Walker would hurry the matter on for me. I made application three weeks ago.—F. FARNELL"? Yes.

13532. Do you know whether the trustees paid any proportion of the cost of that work if it was done? I do not think they did.

13533. There is a difference in the course you adopted in the first letter I showed you respecting the road from Peakhurst to Liverpool and the course that was adopted in dealing with the Bankstown Park Trustees. The one you forwarded to Mr. Davies direct, and the other to the Colonial Secretary. One is under cover of a letter to Mr. Davies—apparently private—and the other is an official one? None of these letters were supposed to be private ones. They all went through the same channel.

13534.

Mr.
C. B. Dawson.
7 May, 1889.

F. Farnell,
Esq., M.P.
8 May, 1889.

- F. Farnell,
Esq., M.P.
8 May, 1889.
13534. Why did you, in the one case, apply to Mr. Davies, and in the other to the Colonial Secretary? I have done it in several cases, simply to expedite matters. If there were any real necessity I would go to Mr. Davies first, and in another case where there was no particular hurry, I would refer to the Colonial Secretary.
13535. Will you look at this memorial, 19th August, 1887 [*Exhibit I 26*];—has that been signed by you? Yes.
13536. Do you recollect by whom that was presented to you for signature? I cannot say exactly. I had them presented by one and another.
13537. Do you know Mr. Murphy? Yes.
13538. Do you think it was presented by him? I dare say it was. He used to come with several.
13539. Will you look at this memorial, 22nd September, 1887 [*Exhibit R 3*];—is that signed by you? Yes.
13540. Do you recollect who presented that to you for signature? No, I cannot say. In the majority of cases where petitions were presented for work to be done in that locality they were presented to me by Mr. Murphy, who, I believe, is Manager of the Holt-Sutherland Estate Company.
13541. Do you notice any similarity in the handwriting of these memorials? No, there is not.
13542. Will you look at this memorial, 10th May, 1888 [*Exhibit R 4*], and say whether that is signed by you? Yes; that has been signed by me also.
13543. Do you recollect who presented that for signature? No.
13544. Is there any similarity between the writing of that and the others? It looks like the writing in [*Exhibit I 26*].
13545. Do you recollect any of the circumstances in connection with the signing of these memorials? No; unless I inquired whether it was necessary work to be done. I could not go throughout the whole constituency. I had to trust to those who asked that the work should be carried out. I had no personal knowledge of the locality.
13546. Will you look at [*Exhibit I 26*] again, memorial, 19th August, 1887, and tell me whether there were on it any more than the two previous signatures that preceded yours when you signed it? I do not think so. It was the custom of Mr. Murphy to bring these petitions and get them signed by the Members for the county according to seniority. Mr. M'Culloch was senior member, Mr. Varney Parkes next, and I was junior member.
13547. Can you remember whether any of the memorials were already signed numerous with blanks left for your and other Members' signatures? That has been done.
13548. Is there any appearance of a blank having been left there? It would appear as though the ink used by Mr. Varney Parkes and myself were out of the same pot. It may have been signed at the same time.
13549. Does it appear as though blanks had been left for the three Members of Parliament;—that the other signatures had been first got, a blank space being left above them? I cannot say that. Everyone has a different way of signing his name. I have a heavy way of signing.
13550. Did you read the memorials? In many cases I did.
13551. Did you read this one? If I did not read it I inquired the contents. I always inquired whether they were necessary works or not.
13552. Who did you inquire of? The person who presented the petition.
13553. Did you know that Mr. Murphy was the Manager of the Holt-Sutherland Estate Co.? I always looked upon him as Manager.
13554. Did it not occur to you that, as Manager, he had some larger interest to serve than that of an ordinary individual? I was not aware that a large number of these roads passed through the estate at all. It used to be put to me that they were from a certain place to a certain place, either from a watering-place or from a main road.
13555. Do you see that this memorial of 10th May, 1888, to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, asked that the unemployed should be put upon some twenty-three roads? Yes, I notice that.
13556. Did you know anything about these roads? Nothing whatever.
13557. Did you know the estate? I did not, and if I had known it I would never have signed the petition.
13558. Have you any property there at all? I have not the slightest interest there. I never knew where the estate was until the other day, when I went out to the National Park.
13559. Can you say, after refreshing your memory by looking at the memorials, whether you made any independent inquiry as to whether this was proper work to be done or not? I did not.
13560. You simply put your name there as Member for the district? Yes.
13561. You did not make detailed inquiry into every one of them? I could not.
13562. Look at this memorial, 22nd September, 1887 [*Exhibit R 3*];—you see your signature at the foot of the first page? Yes.
13563. You see immediately over it a space of three lines? Yes.
13564. Is it not probable, looking at this, that the memorial was signed by a number of people before you got it? It is quite possible.
13565. And if you saw the other signatures you would be all the more ready to put your name? Yes; I should think that was a guarantee for me.
13566. Did you ever have a petition or memorial presented to you by Mr. Murphy, or anyone else, that you declined to sign? No, I do not think so.
13567. I show you another memorial of 22nd September, 1887 [*Exhibit R 2*];—is that signed by you? Yes.
13568. Do you notice a space left just below the words "Your obedient servant," as though it was intended for some other signatures? Yes.
13569. Does not that suggest the probability that it had been already signed by some other people before it had been brought to you? Yes.
13570. And you simply signed then as Member for the district? Yes.
13571. And knew very little about the object of the memorials beyond what was told you? I took the other names as a guarantee.
13572. But at that time you knew nothing about the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No.
13573. Had you seen it? No.
13574. Have you seen it since? Yes.
13575. Do you know what the memorial referred to? Yes.

13576. Would you feel disposed, knowing now what you do, after inspection of the estate, to sign them? No; not all of them, I would not.

13577. Does your constituency take in the Field of Mars? It takes in the whole of the Hornsby, Campbelltown, Beecroft, Field of Mars, and all where the unemployed have been at work.

13578. I see several letters from you as to a reserve at Ryde, a road through the Field of Mars Common, Morrison's Road, Ryde, and other works in the district;—did you interest yourself in these in your capacity as a Member of Parliament? Yes.

13579. Have you any interest in any property that these works have passed through or improved? I do not know whether they have improved it much; we have had property there for years; we have received no material benefit from the work of the unemployed there.

13580. Does Hornsby come within your constituency? Yes.

13581. Were you ever asked by Mr. Burns, Mr. Withers, Mr. Smith, or anyone else to get the unemployed put to any work on the Hornsby Estate? No, I do not know anything about that at all. I could not tell you were it is.

13582. *Mr. Waller.*] Do you know the Holt-Sutherland Estate now? I drove from what they call Mr. Want's cottage by one of the main roads there which goes from the station to the sea.

13583. Did you drive over the estate? No.

13584. *President.*] If you wish to make any explanation or have any further evidence to volunteer, we shall be glad to hear you? I should like to say with reference to the work of the unemployed that I have been directly interested in. The Parramatta Road was in a dilapidated condition, and the Roads Department repudiated all responsibility in connection with it. It was necessary to get the unemployed put on there in order to ensure the safety of the fruit-growers who used it. It had been considered a main road for sixty or seventy years. The same with regard to the Bankstown Road. The Roads Department there would not recognize it; it was necessary to put it in a proper state of repair, and I obtained the help of the unemployed, and they have done good work in that respect.

13585. *Mr. Waller.*] From your knowledge of the district, and country around the district, was there ample work for the unemployed besides putting them on private estates? I should think there was.

13586. Was it necessary to employ them on private estates? It was not necessary, and if I had known it was a private estate I would not have signed the memorial or sanctioned it. We had plenty of work, the responsibility for which, had been refused by the departments.

Alexander Walter Scott Gregg called in, sworn, and examined—8 May, 1889:—

13587. *President.*] Were you examined before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly? Yes.

13588. Is this your evidence? Yes.

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Esq., M.P.
8 May, 1889.

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Gregg.
8 May, 1889.

Evidence before Select Committee.

6. *Mr. Burns.*] You are a member of the firm of Richardson & Wrench? I am.
7. I think you conducted for the Government a land sale at Hornsby? I did.
8. Did you on that occasion see much land other than that where the sale took place? Not specifically every part of the estate.
9. How did you proceed from the station to the land? Directly over a slip-rail that was taken down.
10. You went from the western to the eastern side through a slip-rail? I went from the western to the eastern, according to the compass.
11. How did you get to the Government land? By Boundary Road.
12. Was Boundary Road then extended up to the station? It was.
13. Was there an opening made? Yes; some rails were down, and the people got through or over the fence.
14. An opening was made through lands adjoining the station to connect with the Boundary Road? Quite so.
15. As the auctioneer, did you approve of that opening being made there? As a matter of opinion, I did. I had no choice in approving. I had to take it as I found it.
16. You saw what had been done by making an opening to the land for sale? I did.
17. Did people pass through that opening? They followed me. I was pretty well the leader, or thereabouts.
18. Have you been at Hornsby since the sale? I have.
19. Have you been over the Hornsby Estate? What estate is that?
20. The estate known as Burns, Withers, and Smith's land? I have not been over it. I know of it, of course; not only recently, but for some time back.
21. Did you observe the roads made through that property? In part through it; not wholly, I think.
22. Were you along the principal roads? I was.
23. Junction Road? Yes.
24. Boundary Road, which is between the Government land and private land? I went along it to the end of subdivision offered for sale by the Government.
25. As far as you could? As far as I could comfortably.
26. Any other roads? Yes; and across the Boundary Road to Burns Road.
27. Were you along Burns Road? Yes; a little way; not the full length.
28. Did you go right through Burns Road, to what they call the Bobbing Rock Road? I do not know it by that name.
29. *Mr. McMillan.*] Did you go along the Vanceville Road? No; I did not.
30. *Mr. Burns.*] Did you pass along the Lane Cove Road? You mean the road out to Hornsby? No, I did not, because I know the road well. I saw the road that runs to meet it, by the hotel.
31. Did you observe the condition of the roads made there, the class of work done, and generally what had been done in the way of improvements recently in making roads? I did, as far as I traversed, which was most of the way.

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32. Did you also make observations of the improvements upon Government lands? Yes.
33. Did you see any difference between the improvements on the Government land and the roads through the private lands? There was a difference. I think there was more stone thrown on the roads outside the Government land. It is not very well done, in my opinion.
34. You think the class of work done on the roads was not of a good character? Not as a quality of work.
35. But would that apply to one or both? Generally. The best road is one of these cross-roads. There are rough large stones; larger than the orthodox gauge, I should say.
36. *Mr. McMillan.*] What they call ballasting? On a large scale.
37. *Mr. Burns.*] Roughly ballasted? Very roughly.
38. I want to ask you this question. You have been over the property generally, and have seen the Government lands? Not the wide range of Government land—that dealt with by auction only.
39. Have you seen the Government lands where roads were made recently? Yes.
40. *Chairman.*] You are alluding now to the subdivision, to the part that was sold? Yes.
41. *Mr. Burns.*] Do you think that the roads made through the private lands have added any great increment to their value; if so, to what extent? Perhaps, to some extent they may. I suppose all improvements of that kind and means of access would naturally give a better attraction.
42. First, with regard to the Crown lands;—have the Crown lands been improved by these roads? They were, at the time they were made, because there was no direct road. This Boundary Road was only opened a little before the auction.
44. Let us have a clear understanding. You desire to say that the Crown lands have been improved by these roads? I take it when it was projected to sell the Crown lands there was no direct road from the station, *via* Boundary Road, and this portion from the Government end to the station certainly improved the value of the Government land.
45. *Chairman.*] You are speaking now of the continuation of Boundary Road? Yes.
- 45½. *Mr. Burns.*] Is it your opinion that the road over the bridge was an advantage to the Crown lands? It was, because it was one of two ways of entrance to the Crown lands.
46. Were you on the Lane Cove Road during your visit? No; I have traversed that road so often.
47. Did you ascertain whether there was a railway platform at a place called Dobson's? No; I did not.
48. With regard to the Vanceville Road—you were on that road? No; I was not.
49. You did not know anything about that road? I know the road where it comes in here. I was not on that road. I may say that when I went out on New Year's Day I was suffering from an accident to my knee, and found it a great difficulty to carry myself over the roads, otherwise I should have gone further.
50. If 29 acres have been taken from the owners of these private lands for roads, what do you suppose is the average value of land in that locality? I suppose private owners have different standards of asking. I suppose from £80 to £100 an acre might be looked upon as a general asking. Sometimes the question of severance comes in. If a road is taken in a certain direction it may hamper a man's intention with a block.
51. If you had that land for sale, would you subdivide the estate in the way the roads are laid out here? I think it looks a feasible mode of subdivision.
52. *Mr. Brunker.*] You do not mean to say that if that design was submitted to you by a principal you would accept it as the most profitable form of subdivision? I am not prepared to say, for I admitted at the beginning that I did not go over the whole of the land.
53. No. But looking over the plan, if that design were submitted to you by a principal would you accept it or suggest to him that it was the most profitable design of subdivision for his property. I suppose you have designs in that way? Yes; but I confess that I do not see anything objectionable in this.*
54. *Mr. Burns.*] The land that has been taken you average at from £80 to £100 an acre for your general land. What increment in value do you suppose will take effect from the expenditure on these roads in relation to these private estates? I do not think that it would be very marked. They were simply made a little before the time, some of them.
55. Do you think the land given will be worth the improvements? I do not know what the cost of the improvements is.
56. Supposing we assume that the improvements would not exceed £2,500. How many acres are concerned in the improvements? What is the holding?
57. Supposing we assume that the acreage is about 680? I daresay it would, although there is no great demand for present use for the land in that position. I do not know that speculators would give very much improved value, because the roads generally in this subdivision were made.
58. Then I gather from your evidence that you do not see that there is much advantage to this estate of 680 acres from the expenditure upon the land given without compensation? No; I think it would about equal it.
59. *Chairman.*] When you say that it would equal the amount of expenditure upon it, are you taking into consideration the fact that the unemployed work at a much lesser rate of wages than the ordinary road-makers? No; I am not supposed to know that; it did not enter into my calculations.
60. If £2,000 were spent on paying men at 3s. a day, would not that mean a greater amount of work than if £2,000 were spent at 8s. a day? But the cases might not be parallel.
61. But making allowances for the difference in the workmen? One working, and the other not supposed to be working?
62. No? I cannot presume to judge; my experience with labouring men has been so small
63. Looking at the plan, you say you have seen the roads? I have in a large measure.

64.

* NOTE (on revision) :—I certainly thought Mr. Brunker meant merely as to the direction of the road for any subdivision.

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64. You have seen the roads on the Government subdivision? Yes.
65. Are any of the roads on the Government subdivision formed? One road is partly formed, and the rest are only cleared.
66. But on the private estates, did you find many roads formed? There are.
67. Did you find any ballasted? Yes, some.
68. Are the roads on the private lands superior to those on the Government subdivision? Well, there has been more labour expended.
69. The class of work is superior? There has been more labour. Whether that implied money, I would not like to say. The work is not well done, in my opinion. I do not think any gentleman would say that it was work that he could commend.
70. You say it is not well done on the Government subdivision? There has not been as much labour expended on one as on the other.
71. But to such a stage as the work has gone on the Government subdivision it is not well done? The roads are partly formed and cleared.
72. Are the roads on the private property better formed? I daresay they are, if you except that the metal is not put down as well as it ought to be.
73. There are some roads ballasted? I should not like to say that the formation is better than the other; but where the rough metal is put there is no doubt a visible amount of work that is not seen in the other case.
74. You say that you have not seen the character of the Crown lands with the exception of those you have mentioned? Not the land beyond the subdivision—not closely.
75. You can give no opinion as to the quality of the other? Well, their quality would not be good.
76. The remainder of the land is poor? Generally.
77. *Chairman.*] Do you say that all those roads that you see there are necessary as roads of access to the Crown lands? I would not like to say they were absolutely necessary. Of course, practically, my work for a long period tells me that the more means of access there are from one district to the other so much the better.
78. But is it not equally so much the better for the owners of the private estate? I suppose it would be.
79. Do you see that little part parallel with the railway station, between Junction-street and the A road; are you aware that that was originally a subdivision of Burns, Withers, and Smith's property? I think, on going down that road, I saw some pegs put in.
80. Are the streets that you see there to your knowledge formed according to the plan of their original subdivision? I cannot speak of those interior ones. The road B is there, the extension of one of the boundaries of the Government land.
81. Can you see on the tracing before you any of the roads shown in the subdivision of the estate? Well, there is a junction street shown in the subdivision. I presume that is a continuation of Junction Road.
82. Is George street—the street parallel with the Great Northern Railway—shown upon the tracing? Yes.
83. Is Albert-street shown there? Yes, I should imagine so.
84. Is Burdett-street shown there? Yes, I suppose so. That would be the centre street.
85. Is a portion of Hunter-street shown there? Yes. Assuming that the roads are in the same position as on the plan.
86. Do you consider that all these roads are necessary as roads of access to the Crown land? I would not say that all of them were necessary.
87. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] What was the date of your last visit to the estate? On New Year's Day—a few days ago.
88. Did you then walk over the roads? Yes—as far as the pain in my knee would permit. I know I walked a considerable distance; I suppose I must have travelled about 2 miles.
89. Are the roads in a state fit for the traffic of buggies and other vehicles? In dry weather the roads which are not ballasted would be a great deal more pleasant.
90. *Chairman.*] I understand that you have visited the estate since the sale. Did you find any new roads made on your second visit—that is roads which were not there when you were first on the land? I could not say. I had no means of comparing what was done on the occasion of my two visits.
91. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] I understood you to say just now that there was nothing objectionable in the mode of design? Well, looking at this plan, I do not see any objection to the design. Whether the roads were made upon the owner's judgment or otherwise, I could not of course say.
92. But you think it would be a fair subdivision for selling purposes? I should apprehend so. I see no reason to say anything to the contrary. I thought of design as to roads.
93. Did you see any settlement there? There were no people in the immediate neighbourhood.
94. Did you notice any settlement around the place? Well there is a settlement on the Lane Cove Road at Irishtown, and those places. There is also settlement on the other side of the railway, where the town will form.
95. If you had owned this property and had desired to sell it to the best advantage would you not have followed out the usual practice of subdividing it and laying out roads? I think that would be the best way to make money out of it.
96. Is it the usual practice in estates of this kind to do that? Yes.
97. Then I suppose that if the proprietors of this estate desired to sell it to the best advantage they would follow out the usual practice of subdividing it and laying out roads? I think so unless they wanted to reserve it for a vast domain which might at some future time have a use. Any large area of land must necessarily have roads made through it.
98. *Mr. Carruthers.*] Is it not your experience as an auctioneer and land agent, that when persons desire to purchase a large block of land they prefer to have it free of subdivision?

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Yes; in certain cases. Of course it would be so in every case where they found their mode of treatment differing from that contemplated by the vendor.

99. As a rule persons prefer to purchase perfectly free of subdivision? Yes; in many cases.

100. We have had it stated in evidence that it has been the custom in this Colony for persons subdividing land to go to the expense of forming and making roads; is that your experience? I do not think it is the custom, accepting the word in its usual sense. There have been exceptional cases where treatment of that kind has been resorted to.

101. What is the rule? The custom is merely to cut a line for the pegs, in order that people may pass through the scrub. Sometimes all the scrub is taken away. It depends upon the cost of the work and inclination of the seller.

102. In case where the land to be subdivided is worth £100 an acre is it the custom of the proprietors to go to any great expense? No; not to any great expense.

103. What would be the rule in the case of the subdivision of land of the value I have named? It depends upon the cost. In some cases the work would not exceed £2 an acre, in other cases it would be more.

104. But at all events in the case of land of this value is it not the practice to go to the expense of forming the roads? Well, the practice is partly one way and partly another.

105. There is no rule? Well, no fixed rule, I think. It is simply a question of expenditure with each vendor or interest selling.

106. *Mr. McMillan.*] You say that you have been over the Government land? Yes.

107. Do you know the land right through? No; but I have taken the question to be referring to the subdivision.

108. You are aware that the land is naturally subdivided by gullies running north and south? Yes. There are some very deep gullies.

109. Are you aware that the Boundary Road is a very difficult road—that it is very precipitous? Yes; beyond a certain point.

110. Have you ever held land of your own? A few allotments.

111. Suppose that you had 680 acres situated as the land of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, is situated, and that the Government wished to gain access to their land through your property, would you feel inclined to give them the roads for nothing? I think he would be a very liberal man who would do so.

112. Suppose you said to the Government—I will give you these roads provided you put them into a little better condition than that in which roads are generally made upon subdivisions, would you consider that you were making a fair and liberal offer to the Government? You mean of course that the roads would serve an extent of territory beyond.

113. I am supposing that your land blocked the way to the Government land? Well, there can be no doubt that the opening of Boundary Road for instance, was a material aid to the Government in the sale of their land.

114. I am talking now of the roads that lead on to the Government land from Junction Road for instance? I think the offer you make would be a liberal one. I am assuming that the parties owning the land proposed to give the Government free use of, and control over the roads.

115. Not only that—but supposing they left the Government free to arrange the roads in order to suit the conditions of their own land—would you think that if you gave the land to the Government gratis under these circumstances, you would be making a fair and reasonable request if you asked them to make the roads a little superior to those ordinarily formed upon subdivisions? I think so, because there would be a consideration implied in the exchange. The interests of the Government being served, I think it would be right to ask them to give some reward—that is bearing in mind the great advantages they would derive. I may say that there is a lot of table-land on the Government land which as far as I can see cannot be served by the Boundary Road.

116. Junction Road, I take it, was made as a substitute for Boundary Road as a basis of connection? Yes, I believe so; but whether it was designed by the Government or not I do not know.

117. Do you not know as a matter of fact that when it was found that the Boundary Road would be so enormously expensive this other road, the Junction Road, was formed as a base for the cross road? I should imagine that the reason of this extension was to give access to the Crown lands. I presume that Junction Road was adopted as the more practicable road of the two.

118. Taking it for granted that it was a matter of good judgment to make the Junction Road as a basis of communication, do you see any roads there which are not absolutely necessary either to communicate with the main outlet at the Vanceville Road—the road leading to the new line—or with the Hornsby Junction;—what I want to get at is this, if the facts which I have put before you are correct, do you on that basis see any unnecessary roads—as a means of general communication with the Crown lands or as a means of communication elsewhere? As a general principle it is of course well to have various means of access. Having regard to the population, the Lane Cove Road at Vanceville and at Hornsby Junction itself, I think that many of these roads are desirable. Hornsby will some day I presume be a junction of some importance, and I daresay that in time persons living at Vanceville and at Irishtown would prefer to go to Hornsby for the purpose of catching a train of an express character generally looked for at junctions.

119. *Mr. Henry Clarke.*] I understood you to say that the Crown lands not included in the subdivision are not of a very valuable character? Yes; the unsold lot is not of so valuable a character as the sold land generally.

120. What do you think would be the value of that land? Well I have not been over the whole of it, and when you reach the table-land I do not know what you might find beyond. When I was there I really was not in a fit state, from my knee, to be going up and down the hills.

121. You say that this land is not as valuable as the land already sold? I should think *Mr. A. W. S. Gregg.*
not.
122. If the land is of so little value of what use was it to make roads through this private property to give access to it? It is probable that at the time the Junction Road was formed it was deemed wise to carry it to the full extent to which it has gone, for the purpose of reaching the lands at the back. Then I suppose there was the general principle that the district hereabout would open out on to a railway station or stations. *8 May, 1889.*
123. Have you been along the Boundary Road? I have been from the station down to the creek.
124. Do you think it possible at a reasonable expense to make Boundary Road passable? You would require an engineering feat something like that at the Zig-zag. Looking up from the hollow it would seem to require a series of slopes. Even then I do not think I should like to drive down. It would be like the Bulli Pass in some places.
125. *Mr. Bruncker.*] Are you aware that Messrs. Richardson and Wrench were asked to report upon the value of these Crown lands? Yes.
126. Do you know by whom the report was made? By Mr. Wrench.
127. Did he inspect the land? No, I think not.
128. Did you? No; but a good man—a thoroughly practical man—was sent.
129. The report was a reliable one? Yes; of course.
130. I believe you sold the land for Messrs. Richardson & Wrench? Yes.
131. Do you know whether the land was sold at the upset price? At more.
132. How much more? A good deal more in some cases.
133. It sold at 50 per cent. more? I will give you some of the prices:—Thirty-pound reserves brought £33; thirty brought £41; thirty brought par; some brought £61, and one lot as much as £77 per acre.
134. What was the upset price of the block which sold at £77? Twenty-five pounds per acre.
135. Then it fetched 300 per cent. above the upset price? Over 200 per cent.—that is, that lot. As I have already said the opening of the Boundary Road direct to the station gave to the Government a considerable advantage in the sale.
136. You think that the land obtained its increased value from the fact of the Boundary Road having been made? Not wholly; but the road undoubtedly assisted.
137. Before selling the Crown lands I suppose you traversed some portions of them? Yes.
138. Is the plan in the Appendix No. 8 an accurate plan of the Crown lands? Do you mean of the whole of the Crown lands?
139. Does it show them in the state in which they were when you offered them for sale? Well, it shows no features whatever, with the exception of the gullies.
140. Then it is not a fair plan of the land as it was at the time you sold it? No; I could not say that it is. It is a mere skeleton boundary—if it be true—of the holding of the Crown.
141. It does not show the full area in accordance with the scale? What is the area of the Crown lands?
142. Say 4,000 acres? Taking the area shown to belong to Burns, Withers and Smith to 685 acres, the portion marked blue, if it is intended to show that area of Crown lands, should be six times the size of the other land according to scale.
143. The subdivision of the Crown land is not shown upon this plan in the appendix? No.
144. The plan does not show the land in the form in which it was when you offered it for sale? No.
145. Is the plan signed by Mr. Deering? It is represented to have been.
146. Are you aware that there is a large area of Crown lands to the eastward of the Vanceville Road? I am not aware of that.
147. In submitting land of this character in a similar position, what would be the usual area embodied in the lots? It would depend upon the use to which the land might be applied. I think that in this case the land near the railway station is likely to be thickly populated. Railway communication will make it a very attractive place. I presume that the railway will be taken down to the water at the North Shore and you will then be able to reach a considerable altitude above the sea within a comparatively short space of time.
148. Do you think that the construction of the line from the North Shore to Hornsby will increase the value of this land? I dare say it will.
149. The population is likely to be much more thick than it would be without the railway? I think so.
150. Would you consider the subdivision of this valuable block of land near the railway station a desirable form of subdivision—I refer to the piece of land between the Boundary Road and the continuation road over the bridge? No; I do not.
151. Take the subdivision of the block between road H and the continuation of road E;—do you consider that a desirable form of subdivision? No.
152. You have traversed the best portion of the Crown lands and the best portion of the land of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith;—which do you consider the more valuable of the two? The land of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith.
153. Dealing with the whole of the Crown lands offered in one block, what should you say would be the difference in the value between the two? I should think the private land would be fully double the value of the other.
154. *Chairman.*] Speaking of these subdivisions, you have been asked whether they are in a desirable form? I do not apprehend that that portion shown upon the plan near the railway station would be called a subdivision.
155. Are not some of the roads between Junction Road and road A shown upon the private subdivision? Yes.
156. Then they absolutely formed part of the subdivision? Apparently.

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157. Then what you meant when you said just now that the form of subdivision was not desirable was that still further subdivision was required—that is all? Yes.
158. On the assumption that you owned a piece of property, if you could get roads made on it at somebody else's expense, of a better character than are usually made for subdivision purposes, would you get them made for you? I might or might not. There might be a question as to whether I should get them made or not.
159. But providing the roads were in a direction and position of which you approved? It would depend. It is a peculiar question.
160. Supposing it were your own case, and you could get a superior road in place of an inferior road, would you take it? If I were justified in having it done, I do not see why I should refuse. I think justification has been shown in this case.
161. Mr. Bruncker has asked you if the map he showed you shows the Government subdivision? Yes; that does not show it in this form. That is clearly self-evident.
162. Do you wish us to understand that that map is incorrect, inasmuch as it does not show the subdivisions? Yes.
163. Do you see that this map purports to be a tracing forwarded to the Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, to accompany my report of 28th January. That is a report showing the roads made by the unemployed in this neighbourhood through private lands. This is signed by Mr. Gordon, the surveyor. Mr. Deering only shows on this tracing additional roads, which were not shown by Mr. Gordon, and it does not profess to have anything to do with showing the Crown lands subdivision? Yes.
164. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] When you sold this land were the roads on the private estate of Burns, Withers, and Smith made? I believe they were. I did not go over them then. As I have said, my first visit to them was on New Year's Day.
165. You say that there was no access at that time? No access direct from the station to the Government ground, *via* Boundary Road.
166. That only referred to one road? Yes.
167. Referring to subdivision plan 8, does that show the whole county of Cumberland? It does not.
168. Is it only intended to show the private estate of Burns, Withers, and Smith? I apprehend it chiefly show that.
169. *Mr. Burns.*] Is it the case that many landed proprietors decline to allow roads to be made through their land to give access to Government lands, when they propose to sell their land in block? Yes; I suppose they expect the same reward from the Government as they would get from private people. I do not suppose the Government have the power to take any person's land without compensation.
170. *Mr. Bruncker.*] As to the assumption of your having roads of a better character made at somebody else's expense through your land, if the Government or somebody else wanted to make a macadamized road through your property, which you did not choose to subdivide, and which you could realize on better in one block, would you permit that road to be made without compensation? No; because the question implies that there would be a loss if I allowed the best road to be made.

[*End of evidence before Select Committee.*]

13588. *President resuming.*] Was that evidence submitted to you for revision? Yes.
13589. Substantially can we take it as true and correct? Yes.
13590. Have you been in the Hornsby district since then? No, not since then.
13591. Are you auctioneers for the Holt-Sutherland Estate Company Limited? We are.
13592. Have you recently sold any of the property there? A little; not very much.
13593. How long ago? I sold a few allotments at auction, at the rooms, on Friday week.
13594. By a plan of subdivision? By an early plan of subdivision.
13595. Do you think that you could recognize that plan? I am not quite sure, as I have not come here to-day prepared to touch that part of the question.
13596. Have you been out on the Holt-Sutherland Estate at any time? Six or seven years ago.
13597. Have you sold any land for Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? Never, to my knowledge. I believe I may positively say no.
13598. Did Mr. Burns see you before you were examined before the Select Committee on the subject of the Hornsby Estate? He called in and said that he had given information to the Committee that I was to be summoned, and I got notice in due form.
13599. You were summoned at his request? I think so. I am not sure of that.
13600. *Mr. Franklin.*] Does not a subdivision of land improve the value of land near a railway station? Well, it does in some cases. It depends on the nature of the land through which the subdivision is made. If people are living there they look for the comfort of roads.
13601. Do you not find, when an additional railway is established, that a subdivision of land follows almost immediately? Oh, yes, naturally.
13602. That is the rule on each of the railways? Yes.
13603. Did you know the natural state of the land at Hornsby before subdivision? It was bush.
13604. Did the making of roads improve the property for selling purposes? In some measure it did. I estimated the increment given by improvement was equal to the cost of the road.
13605. Then on the same terms the Holt-Sutherland Estate, being in the vicinity of a railway station, would be improved? I think they had their plan of subdivision prior to the railway. It is six or seven years since we sold the first lot of land there. It was a great success—far more than the latter sales, in fact.
13606. What do you think would be the value of the land on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? I never considered it. I have never been out over the whole of it.
13607. I suppose when your clients have blocks of land for sale you recommend clearing in some way? Oh, yes. People prefer to go through it in a way.
13608. If ballasted and culverted it would be a great improvement? Yes, if it is a valuable estate it should be done.

13609. How much should land be worth per acre to justify such a work? Over £100 per acre.
13610. Would that justify it? Well, I hardly know the cost of making per mile, or how they measure.
13611. *Mr. Waller.*] You said that if land were valuable subdividing would increase the value? Yes. That is if it is wise to subdivide it.
13612. Would you consider that land in a natural state of bush, the valuation of which is put down at from £80 to £100 per acre, as valuable land? I should think so, especially in the light of what it cost years ago.
13613. Have you placed any value on the Hornsby Estate as regards the value of the land? Not definitely. Generally, I should consider from £80 to £100 per acre.
13614. Is not that a good price for unimproved land? The prospects there are looked upon as being good.
13615. Is it not a good price? Not the largest price, by a long way.
13616. Do you consider it a good price? On the whole it may be considered a good price.
13617. *President.*] If it should turn out that many of these roads on the Burns, Withers, and Smith's estate have not been given to the Government, though the Government has done the work on them, is there a *quid pro quo* there? I asked how much the work cost. The Chairman of the Select Committee said £2,950. Then I asked how much was the area of the land. I made a calculation at the time, and thought them about equal.
13618. Was that calculation made on the assumption that the land had been made over to the public? I think so.
13619. If that should appear not to be the case, then the basis on which your calculation is made is wrong? Yes.
13620. Do you know who the surveyor of the Holt-Sutherland Estate is? On that plan it is L. A. Curtis. He is at Victoria Chambers, Castlereagh-street.

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William Matheson Gordon called in, sworn, and examined:—

13621. *President.*] Do you hold any position in the Government service at present? Yes.
13622. What? I am temporary salaried surveyor.
13623. Who is your superior officer? Mr. Deering.
13624. Were you examined before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly? Yes.
13625. Is this your evidence? Yes.

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[*Evidence before Select Committee.*]

549. *Chairman.*] You are a Government surveyor? Yes.
550. Under whose instructions are you now working—under general Government instructions? Under Mr. Deering.
551. Was it under Mr. Deering's instructions that you surveyed the roads that the unemployed have been working upon at Hornsby? I never surveyed any of them, except one, then merely laying on about 5 chains of it with a compass.
552. Which road on the map did you survey? I believe it is marked E here.
553. The road from the Junction Road to the Boundary Road? Yes, I believe that is the one; I am not positive.*
554. At all events it is one of these running north from Junction Road to Boundary Road? Yes. I merely put up a compass on Boundary Road, and gave 5 chains for a start.
555. Do you know anything further about the other roads marked on the tracing? Those marked in red?
556. Yes—do you know by whom they were surveyed, and when they were surveyed? I do not know. I do not know whether they were ever surveyed. I do not know whether they are marked.
557. Your name is appended to the plan? Yes. This plan was compiled by myself from an inspection of the ground, not from a survey at all. I never made a survey except that I designed the Crown lands at the north. From what information I could get from our own office and the Land Titles Office, I compiled this tracing so that it is not of course thoroughly correct as regards scaling. I generally, when any of my sketches are not made accurately, mention that it is a sketch-tracing—it is good enough for purposes of illustration.
558. Do you know anything of the origin of these roads, with the exception of the one marked E, which you surveyed? I do not know by whom they were surveyed, with the exception of A, which was marked by the Government surveyor. Previously to the roads being marked by Mr. Perdriau I had the instructions.
559. You know nothing about Junction Road? Nothing whatever as regards the survey.
560. How long is it since you compiled this sketch-tracing? This is my report of the 28th January. It must have been the 26th and 28th January. I do not know whether I prepared one before that.
561. Is this the latest you compiled? Yes. I would like to state that I am totally unprepared for any evidence. I only arrived from Melbourne on Friday. I was recalled before my leave was up, and I have not had an opportunity to get anything together. Yesterday I tried to get the papers, but I found that Mr. Deering had them, and that places me at a disadvantage.
562. If you had possession of these papers, would you be able to state anything further as to the origin of these roads;—does your memory serve you to say whether you have any knowledge of the origin of these roads? No; but as to any additional evidence you might require, it might not be possible for me to give it, on account of not having the information, and being taken at a disadvantage.
563. Could you tell us, in the event of any roads not being shown upon this plan, who would have surveyed them? I have not the slightest idea of anyone having surveyed any roads since I laid out road E.

594.

* NOTE (*on revision*):—Having viewed the land since, I am positive about road E.

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564. Would you say that this is the latest plan that there is of the roads in existence there? It is the latest I compiled, and contained only the road then existing.
565. You are not aware that anyone has compiled any since? I am not.
566. Would it be possible? Mr. Davies, the Chairman of the Board, used generally to send to me when he wanted a tracing compiled on the latest information.
567. You have given Mr. Davies the latest information? Yes, at the time of my inspection.
568. *Mr O'Sullivan.*] So far as I can gather from your replies, all that you are responsible for is the making of the tracing? As regards the plan.
569. But your name is attached to it? Yes; I made some recommendations in connection with the tracing.
570. Will you kindly state what roads you recommended? I recommended, if you will refer to Appendix A, that the roads marked A, B, and that part of Vanceville Road, which is marked C and F, should be cleared, and that the Junction Road, from the station through to Vanceville Road, should be ballasted. It was already cleared. The roads A, B, and C, were given by the owners of the land.
571. You never made a recommendation about Junction Road, except that it should be ballasted? That is all.
572. Who recommended road E? Roads D and E* are mine also.
573. Will you kindly state why you recommended this road E on Appendix A in this dog-legged fashion? Only because it was the most practicable road laid down in the subdivision.
574. Road E is road H upon appendix E; you recommended that road H should be laid out? I did not recommend that it should be laid out—it was already laid out. I merely recommended that it should be cleared.
575. Can you tell me who laid it out? I have not the slightest idea.
576. Did you have anything to do with road I? Yes, I recommended that also to be cleared.
577. Did you never recommend the laying of it out? No; I had nothing to do with it.
578. If neither you, nor Mr. Wells, nor Mr. Houison, recommended the laying out of these roads, have you any idea who did recommend them? I do not know who marked them out, and I have no idea who authorized them to be marked out.
579. You have no knowledge of the party who recommended the laying out of roads I and H? I am perfectly certain that I never heard of anybody recommending them.
580. Who first brought them under your notice? I was asked by Mr. Davies, Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, to proceed to Hornsby to see whether there were any other roads that could be cleared advantageously to the Crown lands, giving increased access.
581. And you think Mr. Davies laid out these roads? No; I do not think so.
582. Did he order the laying of them out? I could not say. I know nothing about the laying of them out.
583. We have a map here containing a number of roads that do not appear on your plan—will you kindly explain to the Committee how it is that your plan appears without these roads? The fact is easily seen. This plan of mine was prepared in January, 1888. Since that I have not been called upon to prepare any additional tracings or plans of the country. In fact, I have not been up there since 28th January, 1888.
584. At the time you drew up your plan it was correct? It was correct up to date.
585. Then the additional roads marked on Mr. Deering's plan have been constructed since you drew up your sketch in January, 1888? That has evidently been compiled from my tracing, from information since received.
586. If these roads are now existing there, they have been constructed since you drew up your plan, and that is the reason why they do not appear upon it? Yes.
587. You had nothing to do whatever with these additional roads? Nothing whatever.
588. *Chairman.*] Do you know anything at all about them? No.
589. Do you know that they exist? I have not been up there since. I went up once, up the Lane Cove Road and over the railway, to see Mr. O'Donnell. I did not see any of these roads until one Sunday, when I was asked to go up and pick out some allotments for some friends, and then I merely rode across the land diagonally.
590. Then you have not been up officially since January, 1888? No.
591. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Do you know who has been in charge of the men there? Mr. O'Donnell, I believe, has been in charge from the start of the works.
592. Have you any knowledge of Boundary Road? Yes; I know Boundary Road well.
593. Do you think that road is passable, or that it could be made passable at a moderate cost? No; I think it would be impossible to make Boundary Road; it would not be trafficable.
594. It would not pay for making? No, and it was a blind road leading from nowhere to nowhere.
595. You considered that, Boundary Road not being worth making, Junction Road was justifiable? certainly at the time.
596. And the tributary roads from Junction Road, leading into the Crown lands, were justifiable? Most certainly.
597. Supposing the Government had not done this at all, and the proprietors of this estate had subdivided it and cut it up in the usual way, would not they have made these roads themselves? Well, I do not know, I am sure; that would rest entirely with their own surveyor. In designing the property they would design it to their best advantage.
598. Would not they lay it out with roads in such a way as to make it as saleable as possible? Most decidedly; but then, probably, they would not have given us the same access as we have now, because everyone of these roads are laid out to tap each spur between the gullies, and that is what we seek for in all our subdivisions.

599.

* NOTE (on revision) :—E on Appendix "E" is similar to B on Appendix "A."

599. Bearing in mind the prospective population on the Crown lands would the owners of this estate not have laid their roads so as to serve the Crown property, and make their property more valuable? Well, private owners when they are subdividing their property do not give the Government the benefits we give them, as might be seen in the case of the late auction sales. At Gordon I recommended some roads two years ago, and offered to get them cleared, if the owners would give us the roads without compensation. Through some misunderstanding, however, in the Department, these roads were let slip, and the Government have had to purchase roads within 8 chains and 50 links* of each other. I may mention some of the roads in Archibald's block, where we gave access to the Gordon lands off the Lane Cove Road, to show that wherever we can get a chance of getting a road from a private owner previously to any auction sale, even though it be a couple or three years before one, we take it. I have had lots of this work at Narrabeen and Hornsby.
600. *Chairman.*] You are alluding to lands taken merely for the purpose of access to Crown lands? Yes; generally we get them through the Casual Labour Board. I ask the Casual Labour Board whether they will clear the roads before I ask the owners if they will give us the land without compensation.
601. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Allowing for all that, is it not probable that the owners of this estate would have laid out roads that must give access to the Crown lands? I do not know. The owners could have shut the roads against the Government. They could run them half-way, and debar us from all access, and the Government would then have to purchase or resume under the Parish Roads Act.
602. If they resorted to so extreme a step as that, would they not be injuring themselves by diverting the traffic that would naturally make their property more valuable? I have no doubt they would; but when a private owner is subdividing he knows that the Crown have lands above him or on one side of him, and if he thinks he has a chance of getting £100 an acre for the land, it is not likely that he will hand it over for nothing, as has been exemplified at Gordon.
603. *Chairman.*] Perhaps it may be just as well if you tell us whether you know anything of the boundaries given on Mr. Deering's plan of the property of Burns and Company? Mr. Deering's plan is only a copy of my own.
604. Are the properties shaded with green lines those belonging to Burns and Company? I have not the slightest idea. I cannot tell you a block that Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith own.
605. But if that is a copy of your plan? That may be a copy of my plan; but, as I said before, that plan is not correct, and those blocks are not correct.
606. But as a sketch, without giving strict accuracy as to measurement, is that correct;—is it approximately correct? The only part I know anything about is that piece of land near the station. I cannot answer for the others; I do not know who the owners are. Half of the road marked H, I believe, was given by Mr. Harnett.
607. *Mr. H. Clarke.*] Who instructed you to survey these roads? I never surveyed them at all.
608. You never surveyed them? Except merely to give a start to road E.
609. This plan is signed by you? It is signed as a sketch-tracing attached to the report. We generally state on a plan that it was surveyed by so and so between such and such dates.
610. Can you say you gave instructions to clear and form any of these roads? I only know the one road.†
611. Which one is that? Junction Road. That was done as a leading road, from which the others would be tributaries.
612. Does Junction Road go entirely through private property? Yes.
613. The whole of it? Yes.
614. Was it possible to get the road, marked A, into the Crown lands? It was impossible.
615. How far is the road made along the Boundary Road? I do not know; I have not been along there.
616. Is it practicable to make a road from the Hornsby Station along Boundary Road to the road marked F? You could make a road, but it would never be trafficable. You could not drive along it, the grades would be too steep, especially over Spring Gully Creek and the next creek. There are four gullies before you come to Bobbin Rock Road.
617. But could not the road be made, if you went to a considerable expense in doing so? It would take all the money that the Crown lands would ever bring to make that Boundary Road. Even then I doubt if you could make it over Lovers' Jump Creek.
618. If these lands are so barren, and there is such a difficulty in making a road, can you say why it was necessary to give access to it by making roads through private property? It was only to improve these lands, which are no worse than lands which have been already sold. Some of the lands on the top of the ridges are very good.
619. Have you any idea of the expense of making the roads through private lands? I have not any idea. I never went into the question of the expense of making roads. It is not in my line at all.
620. It is usual to clear, ballast, and form roads on private property? We have done it in many instances. The Casual Labour Board have done it.
621. *Chairman.*] Has it been done outside the Casual Labour Board? I do not know that we have ever done it. The only other formation we did was under Mr. Deering; we did a little ballasting here and there on the Field of Mars.
622. *Mr. H. Clarke.*] Has it been done by the Lands Department on any other occasion that you remember? I do not know that we have ever done it. We did a little ballasting here and there on the Field of Mars.

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623.

* NOTE (on revision) :—Speaking more correctly from scaling on plan, about 13 chains.

† NOTE (on revision) :—I never gave an instruction to carry out any of the roads; it was recommendations only, and that recommendation was to ballast Junction Road; clearing was already done.

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* See note to
Question 599.

623. *Chairman.*] But that was on Government land—the Field of Mars? Yes.

624. *Mr. Street.*] Is it customary, when roads are required through private lands to reach Crown lands, for the owners of those lands to make those roads a free gift to the Government? It is not customary at all. I do not know of any instance where it has been done, unless we have promised them something.

625. Do you know of any sums of money being paid for lands for roads? Yes.

626. Will you give an instance of one? The road leading from Munro's south-east corner, 40-acre grant, on the Lane Cove Road, along the north boundary of Archibald's, and across the railway line to the Lane Cove Road, for which, I believe, £100 an acre was paid.

627. What area was that? Two acres. There was also another road about 8 chains and 50 links* below that, parallel to the same road, given to the Government on the understanding that an overhead bridge would be erected over the railway line, and they would give so much, I think £200, to assist in the construction.

628. *Chairman.*] Were there any special features in that, that you should require a road in that vicinity;—were there any other roads on the same land? There was a road recommended by me further south, and a much better road, and it would have answered instead of the latter road I referred to, a dead level road. The road I laid out was not a very practicable road; it would require a considerable amount of money spent on it, and it is right up the centre of a subdivision, or of an intended subdivision, belonging to a company, and was made without any report as to the practicability of the road.

629. *Mr. Street.*] Then, within your knowledge, for all roads taken through lands belonging to private owners by the Government, to lead to Government lands, the owners in every case receive some consideration? Yes, every one that I can bring to recollection at the present time.

630. Either in the way of purchase money or by formation? Yes; or by clearing and making.

631. I think you said you recommended the formation of these roads, D, E, F, leading to the Crown lands? The clearing of them.

632. What was the object of them? If you have visited the ground you will see that each of these roads give access to the spurs leading between these gullies, branches of the Cowan Creek, leading to the population boundary.

633. Would it be possible to get access to the table-lands without those roads? I think it is impossible. E is a main road, I think, as far down as the salt water.

634. Junction Road was already formed? It was cleared.

635. Can you tell us if D, E, and F, are of the slightest advantage to the owners of that private land? I hardly think so, because they cannot very well subdivide those blocks and make frontages to them. Their frontage will be to Junction Road, which they could have done very easily without. As far as I can see, they only require the one frontage. Even if they cut up the land into three or five acre blocks, they have strips abutting on to the Crown lands. I do not see what necessity there is for them to have these side blocks except to give access to people at the back.

636. Having got the frontages to Junction Road, the roads B, C, D, E, and F, are in your opinion not of the slightest value to the owners of this private land? I cannot say at the present time that there is any more value to them, because they have given them so close together. C and D, for instance, are pretty close together, but they lead, however, to different sides of a gully, if I remember rightly, but I am not positive whether these gullies are in their right places.

637. These roads having been cleared and formed, do you consider that they have given any increased value to the Crown lands? I should never have recommended them, had they not.

638. *Mr. Brunker.*] How did you first become associated with the business? With the unemployed?

639. Yes—with regard to this making of roads? I do not exactly remember the date.* I was working at Hornsby about the middle of October; I am not certain of the year. It was the October prior to when I went to Kurnell.

640. *Chairman.*] Was it prior to the coming into existence of the Labour Bureau? It was prior to that. Before I had anything to do with the unemployed at all I was marking and subdividing roads up here, and everything was left unfinished, in a state of chaos, when I was called away from there without a moment's notice, by Mr. Deering, to go to Kurnell with 800 or 900 of the unemployed. From that date I have always been associated with the unemployed in some way.

641. *Mr. Brunker.*] You say you made no survey of any of these roads? None whatever.

642. That plan submitted is only a design you presented to the Casual Labour Board? Yes, a sketch tracing.

643. Made in the office? Not in our office—not in the Lands Office; in my own office.

644. You made no survey; you simply submitted a design? That is all.

645. Was that design acted upon? The recommendations I made were carried out.

646. Was any work carried out beyond your recommendations? I have not the slightest idea. I have not been up there for some considerable time. I have no idea about what has been done.

647. What was your object in preparing that design? I always forward a sketch of everything I do, to guide those who may be interested in what has been done, and I sent that tracing to Mr. Davies. I was requested to prepare the tracing for Mr. Davies.

648. You must have seen that these cross-roads were necessary? Most decidedly, or I could never have put them in.

649. I want to know what your object was? To give access from the road to the Crown lands.

650.

* NOTE (on revision) :—The date I since found out to be 1st November, 1886.

650. And, knowing the locality, you believed that they would have that effect? I did most certainly.
651. You said that Boundary Road is not practicable; that you did not think it could be made available for traffic; if Boundary Road had been made and formed instead of Junction Road, is it not a fact that Burns, Withers, and Smith would have had the same frontage as they have now from the formation of Junction Road without having lost the land? Of course they would have a frontage to Boundary Road.
652. If Boundary Road had been formed, would they not have had a frontage to it for their own land without the loss of the land taken for Junction Road? Most decidedly.
653. *Chairman.*] Do not they gain two frontages now? Yes, that is true.
654. *Mr. Brunker.*] Do you know what area is taken from Junction Road? I cannot tell.
655. Approximately? Roughly, I suppose there would be about 150 chains.
656. What is the width of the road? About a chain.
657. How much land would be there? About 15 acres.
658. What is it worth an acre? It is a very difficult matter to say. I suppose land up there is worth £120 an acre for orchard land.
659. You know the Vanceville Road? Yes.
660. Is that a public road? I do not know whether it is a public road in the meaning of the Act, although it was maintained by the Roads Department to a certain distance. It was cleared and formed to a certain distance, but I do not know whether that constitutes it a public road. I do not know whether it has ever been proclaimed.
661. Had you anything to do with the forming and metalling of these roads? Nothing, except as far as recommending that Junction Road be ballasted.
662. Did you recommend that any other roads should be metalled? Not to my recollection.
663. To whom did you make the recommendation? To Mr. Davies.
664. Have you seen the plan submitted by Mr. Deering this morning? Yes.
665. You see the roads that have been formed there? Yes.
666. From your knowledge of the locality, do you think that those roads which are shown are made essentially in the public interest? There is a lot of roads here I do not know anything about. Particularising them, I think I could manage to give a very good idea.
667. You know the locality as a Government surveyor, and having been over the land so frequently, you ought to understand the locality as well from the plan as if you were on the ground? Yes. Burns Road had evidently been made with the intention of connecting with the Bobbin Rock Road that comes across Pymble's grant. There are 30 chains marked cleared, running from H to E. Continued southerly, there is a road of 28 chains cleared, formed, and metalled, running from Junction Road to Peat's Ferry Road. That, I do not know anything of.
668. You do not know anything about the land adjoining? I do not know whom it belongs to. The roads running easterly from the Hornsby Station to the western extremity of Boundary Road, and also the roads between B and the Hornsby Station, I do not know anything of.
669. Is it probable that those roads were designed for the purpose of giving access to the Hornsby Railway Station? It would appear to me from this plan that they were.
670. From Pearce's Corner to North Shore do you know whether there are any platforms authorized? The only one I know of is a platform on the road marked H H H.
671. Above the Lane Cove Road? Yes. That is the only one I know of along the line.
672. You said that you had nothing to do with the survey? Nothing.
673. How did you localize the roads when you first went on to the ground? In the first instance, I got a tracing from the Lands Office. I produce my original. These black lines on the plan are in the original subdivision and plan in the Titles Office.
674. *Mr. Copela.d.*] I believe you have made a good many subdivisions for the Government? Yes.
675. That has been your principal duty for a long time past? Yes.
676. Did you ever make any subdivisions on Government lands without providing the necessary roads for access;—in other words, did you ever make a subdivision without cutting the land up into blocks by means of roads intersecting it in all directions? No.
677. In point of fact you could not make a subdivision unless you made roads? No.
678. Can you tell us of any instance where any private company have made a subdivision without making roads;—in other words, is it possible for a private company to subdivide land without making roads? No.
679. That being the case, what necessity was there for the Government to provide these roads in subdividing private owners' land;—would not the private owners themselves have been compelled to make these roads? I think some of these roads were provided before the unemployed went there at all.
680. What roads can you specify which were not previously provided for in the subdivision? D H H, the whole length of Junction Road, and all those pieces running northerly from Junction Road, B, C, D, E, and the short piece north of the Vanceville Road marked F.*
681. You obtained the whole of these roads from the syndicate? I obtained some of them. I did not get them all.
682. Who got the others? As far as I can understand the Casual Labour Board got the others.
683. Is the road D H H the only road you obtained? I obtained that and the E road further to the right.†
684. Those are all you obtained? Yes.
685. From your knowledge of subdividing do you suppose that the private owners would have

* NOTE (on revision):—Southernmost H on Appendix "E" was provided for by the owners.

† NOTE (on revision):—I did not obtain H H, and from what I now recollect northernmost H was cleared prior to my recommendation to clear southernmost H and part of Burns-street.

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- have made these roads if you had not done so? They might have made roads, but they might have been made in a way that would not have suited us. The roads run out on to the middle of the spurs, and if they had been put 23 or 30 chains, for instance, to the east or west they would have run us into sidelings. The access then would not have suited us at all.
686. Would they not have had the sense to lay out the land in such a way as to make the roads continue yours, as it were;—in subdividing land do you not take all these things into consideration? I do, and I have often been taken to task for taking roads along private boundaries instead of the private owners giving half. You will find that this is the case in many subdivisions with which I have been connected.
687. Who gave the Boundary Road? That was designed by me in my subdivision of the Crown lands some years ago.
688. The Crown gave the whole of the Boundary Road? Yes; I will tell you how it came to be laid out if you like. When I first went out there there was some dispute about that boundary—
689. What I want to know is whether the Government charged the owners of this private land anything for giving them this frontage? It is only a designed road at the present time.
690. It is surveyed up as far Spring Gully Creek? Yes.
691. And on the Government providing the Boundary Road they gave the owners of the private land the benefit of the one frontage? Yes.
692. I thought you said just now that the property-owners got no frontage benefit so far as Junction Road was concerned? Oh no, because, of course, they got the advantage of the second frontage.
623. Did they not get the whole benefit of 4 miles of frontage along the Junction Road? Well, yes, I suppose so.
694. In subdividing land, would it not be one of the objects of the owners to get as much frontage as possible? Yes; they always endeavour to do so.
695. In making the subdivisions, is it not to their interest to make as many roads as possible, so that they may multiply their frontages? Yes.
696. And in the case of the roads to which you have been referring, you have provided the owners of the private land at the public expense with a double frontage? Yes; that is very true, but we have to do it in many instances. We cannot help ourselves.
697. Can you tell us of many instances in which the Government have made roads through private property? We have made a lot at Narrabeen.
698. Can you give us any instances before the Casual Labour Board were brought into existence? No; I cannot call to mind at the present time anything of that kind.
699. Take the subdivision of Harbord? Well, we did there. You will perhaps recollect, Mr. Copeland, that you were down there, and that you objected to our making roads from Pittwater through private land. I think you had the work stopped, and said that you would make inquiries into the matter. The road was pretty nearly complete, but I do not think they did anything more to it after that time.
700. In the subdivisions at Beecroft and at the Field of Mars, did the Government make any roads through private lands? I cannot call to mind anything of that kind being done.
701. Then I think you can safely say that up to the time of the Casual Labour Board coming into existence the Government had not resorted to the practice of improving private lands in this way? It certainly has never been done to my knowledge.
702. You estimate the value of the land taken to form the Junction Road at £120 an acre? Well, I cannot flatter myself that I am able to give you a very accurate idea.
703. Do you know at what price the Government land at Hornsby was sold? I could not say.
704. I have a map showing that the land fetched from £30 to £70, or £100 an acre. Will you tell me at what you value the Crown lands to the eastward of Spring Gully Creek? The level land at the top of the ridges might realize as high a price as £50, and the rougher land would perhaps go at as low as £15.
705. If Mr. Deering estimated the value of the land at from £2 to £10 per acre, that would be too low? Yes; I should think so.
706. You said just now that the Boundary Road was impracticable; where is it impracticable? Well, over the Spring Gully Creek in the first instance. The next gully is very bad, and then there is another at the north-east corner which would be impassable almost.
707. Do you say that the Spring Gully Creek is impassable? Well, it would be possible to make a road there, but it would never be of use. As far as I can recollect, I have been on that road only once since it has been cleared.
708. You have had some experience of country roads, I suppose? Yes.
709. Have you had any experience in the making and laying out of roads there? No. I am not from my position called upon to give an estimate as to whether a road is or not a good one. All that I do is to lay out roads to the best of my ability.
710. What should you estimate would be the cost of cutting through the eastern slope of Stony Gully Creek? That is beyond my knowledge.
711. Would it be more expensive to make that cutting and to complete this bad piece of road than to clear, form, and metal the whole two miles of Junction Road? Yes. I do not think it would cost nearly as much to make the Junction Road—that is, as far as my knowledge goes. There is nothing difficult about the Junction Road. There is not a bad grade on it.
712. Where is there a bad grade on the Boundary Road except at Spring Gully Creek? Well, there is a good stiff grade from the eastern boundary of Bellamy's.
713. Is it not a good road from the railway to Spring Gully Creek? I have not been on the road myself for a long time. I was totally unprepared for this examination. I have not been there for nearly twelve months.

714. I understand that the Crown lands are too rough to permit of a road being continued through them from road A? Oh, yes.

715. If this land is so rough, where is the utility of the Government spending so much money in order to reach it? Well, we were endeavouring to improve the value of the Crown lands in just the same way that we did at Gordon.

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716. To improve the private or the Crown lands? I have been from the first moved by a desire to improve the Crown lands.

717. Do you know of any other instance in which the Government have deliberately gone away from the Crown lands which it was desired to improve, and have spent the public money in the improvement of the private lands? Not on the north side of the harbour.

717½. You said just now that you were ordered to open up a road at Narrabeen belonging to private owners; where was that road? It was through the property of Mr. James Wheeler and Miss Jenkind.

718. Did you submit your recommendation to Mr. Deering before carrying out the road? I do not quite recollect how it came about.

719. Were you ever authorized to take upon your own shoulders this responsibility in connection with the expenditure of public money? I certainly never did any work unless I had proper instructions. It is true they were verbal instructions, and I have nothing to show for them.*

720. Who gave them to you? Mr. Deering.

721. Did he tell you to make what roads you liked? When we gave up the unemployed he promised the Casual Labour Board every assistance in his power. He asked me whether I would do the same thing, and my willingness was expressed in just the same way. Colonel Wells and Mr. Houston were also told by Mr. Deering that if at any time they wanted me they could command my services, or words to that effect were used.

722. But is it the practice in the Department for gentlemen occupying the position you occupy to give orders on their own responsibility for the making of roads and the expenditure of large sums of public money without submitting the proposal to a superior officer? A lot of latitude was allowed me. When Mr. Deering first took charge of the unemployed he put me in charge of everything. I had charge of the men, and I used to give to Mr. Deering the cheques to sign, explaining to him what the expenditure was for. I used sometimes to order from £200 to £300 worth of tools. I did a great deal upon my own responsibility. When we gave up the unemployed Mr. Deering handed my services to a certain extent over to the Casual Labour Board for the carrying out of the rest of the work.

723. When you took upon yourself the responsibility of spending public money upon private lands, did you first submit the proposal to your superior officer? It was only recommendations which I made in the first instance. They had to be considered by the Board. Of course I did not submit the recommendations to Mr. Deering, because he was not in charge of the work. The Board asked me whether in the interests of the Crown lands such and such things were necessary, and as I had such a knowledge of the district I made recommendations.

724. You recommended to the Casual Labour Board that these roads should be opened up at the expense of the public? Yes, some of them.

725. *Mr. Brunker.*] And the Board confirmed your recommendations? Yes. The matters were known to Mr. Deering, of course. I had no interest in doing anything underhand or doing anything without Mr. Deering's knowledge. He is my superior officer.

726. I believe that a good many roads are now made of which you know nothing? Yes.

727. Therefore you cannot say who authorized them? I know nothing about them.

728. You were connected only with the Junction Road, with road HH, and with E road? Yes. E road will eventually be a main road through the Crown lands, past the population boundaries, to the water.

729. When you were expending this public money on roads, how is it that you did not expend it upon the Crown lands? That was already done—that is to say, roads were made through the subdivision.

730. Are these roads metalled and culverted? From what I can understand, the roads are made all through.

731. But are they metalled? I do not know.

732. It is your opinion, speaking as a Government officer, that it was better policy to spend the public money in improving the private estates than to spend it upon the Crown lands? That is not my opinion, and it is not what I have been led to do in anything I have done.

733. You thought it better policy to spend the money in making roads through the private property than in making them through the Crown lands? I think it is a good thing, in some instances, to expend money upon roads through private estates. We know that the owners benefit, but we are seeking at the same time to benefit the Crown lands.

734. How will these particular Crown lands be benefited by the making of these roads more than a mile away? Well, if you were to close Bellamy's Road and these roads running northerly from the Junction Road it would be impossible to get in or out of the Crown lands.

735. No one proposes to close Bellamy's Road? I know, but I was just instancing it.

736. There was something intelligible in opening up road A? It would open up only a small section of the Crown lands.

737. Has the continuation of road A through the Crown land been metalled? Not that I am aware of. I have not been on the Crown lands since the roads have been cleared.

738. Was it necessary in making these roads not only to form and metal them, but to put culverts into them, in order to give the desired access to Crown lands? I thought at the time that the Junction Road would be really a good back-bone road from which we could divert

*NOTE (on revision):—It was never in my power to expend public money whilst in connection with the unemployed.

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- divert the traffic on to the Crown lands from the Lane Cove Road. The work on many of the other roads I do not hold myself responsible for in any way.
739. Then you take upon yourself no responsibility for the road down to the hotel, for instance? No.
740. In making these minor roads—the road along the railway from Junction Road to A road, and these other subdivision roads—do you think, as a Government officer, it was a proper thing to expend the public money in metalling them, with the object of opening up the Crown lands? Of course, as I said, I had nothing to do with them; but as far as I can see at present, from a glance at the plan, there does not appear to be much necessity for some of the work you mention.
741. Would you take upon yourself the responsibility of recommending the expenditure of public money upon these roads? No.
742. And, as a matter of fact, you did not recommend them? No.
743. You think that there is no necessity in the interests of the sale of Crown lands? Not as far as I know, unless it was thought necessary to continue the Boundary Road through to the station. That is all I can see.
744. Supposing you had employed twice as many men, and had made twice as many roads, would it not have been an additional improvement to the private estate? Yes. Of course the more you do, the better for the owner's land.
745. *Mr. Brunker.*] Have you had any experience outside the Government service as to subdivision? I have had some experience in Victoria.
746. Have any cases come to your knowledge where the adjoining owners have made a reserve of a foot or two of land, so that the adjoining parties should not have the advantage of the road? I do not know of any case where they have taken advantage of the Government in that way.
747. But you know that it has occurred in private subdivisions? Yes.
748. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Do I understand that the proprietors of the Burns, Withers, and Smith property have given fifteen acres of land? Yes.
749. Is that for the Junction Road alone? Yes.
750. And I suppose they gave other land for other roads? Yes.
751. The fifteen acres of land at £120 per acre would be worth nearly £1,800? Yes.
752. But would they not have had to give this land if they had been subdividing their own property and making their own roads? If they had made their roads prior to the subdivision of the Crown Lands, and if a plain showing the Junction Road had been lodged in the Titles Office, it would have been to a certain extent a proclaimed road, although it would not have been dedicated to the public.
753. In point of fact they had a plan of the subdivision lodged in the Lands Titles Office? There is the original plan. It was put in there many years ago.
754. Did the original plan lodged in the Lands Titles Office show the roads now marked on your plan? No.
755. Can you tell us the inception of these roads. You say that they were laid out, and that you simply ordered them to be cleared and made? Yes.
756. How did they originate? That is more than I can tell you.
757. A number of them you did not find in the original plan? No.
758. *Mr. Brunker.*] I suppose there was no subdivision of the estate when you took action? No, except the old subdivision.
759. Does that apply to the whole of the land in this estate or to only a portion of it? It applies only to the south-eastern portion.
760. *Chairman.*] In answer to Mr. Brunker, you stated that you received a communication from the Labour Board asking your opinion whether such and such a work would be advisable? Yes.
761. You received a communication from the Board asking for your recommendation then? Yes, most certainly.
762. And your recommendations were made at the solicitation of the Board? Yes.
763. In whose name were those communications addressed to you? Mr. John Davies, the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board.
764. Are not the roads shown upon your plan the roads which have been carried out by the Casual Labour Board of most advantage to the owners of private property, that is to say, if they had had to make the roads would they have adopted a plan similar to that here shown, considering the way that Hastings-street, Smith-street, and Billyard-street run. You will see that Burns Road and Junction Road are paralld, and that the roads E, D, and C are paralld with the Vanceville Road. Would it not have been to the advantage of the owners of this property to cut up the land in this form? If I were a private surveyor, and were subdividing for the owners of this land, I doubt if I should put in B, C, D, E, and F. I do not see what benefit is to be derived by the owners of the property from these roads. There might be some benefit in B, but I cannot see any in C, D, and E.
765. *Mr. Copeland.*] But is there not a double frontage? It is not of much use, because They have the Boundary Road and the Junction Road. A road at the side of an allotment does not make it so much more valuable.
766. Would you get a connection between Boundary Road and Junction Road except by those streets? What I wish you to understand was that they would not be of much good to private owners who would have frontages to Boundary Road. A side frontage does not increase the value of a block materially.
767. *Mr. Brunker.*] I suppose the loss of the land in making these streets would not be counterbalanced by the increased return from the frontage, that is to say, it would pay the owners better to have one road instead of three? That is my idea.
768. *Chairman.*] These private lands of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, will improve in value as the alienation of the Crown lands proceeds? Yes.

769. Ultimately I suppose there will be settlement further to the eastward of the Boundary Road. Will the roads of access to this settlement from the Junction Road increase the value of the private property? I should imagine so; I think E will be a main road giving access to the water frontages.

770. Take the north-west portion of the Crown lands—it has been alienated—if settlement had taken place there, what would have been your roads of access if C and D had not been made? Of course you are referring now to only a small portion of the Crown lands, but I quite agree with you that these roads will indirectly benefit the private owners. The more traffic you bring through a man's property the better for him.

771. In subdividing do you ever make the blocks more than a quarter of a mile square? Not in town subdivisions.

772. You put roads round blocks at every quarter of a mile? Yes, as a rule—but we are guided a great deal by the nature of the country.

773. But take suburban divisions? I am taking Harbord for instance.

774. *Mr. Brunker.*] Is it not a fact that the roads are made to suit the character of the country? Yes.

775. *Mr. Copeland.*] How is it that you make these roads so frequently if there is nothing to be gained by having a certain quantity of frontage. Do you not think that these private owners would have made the roads to which I have been referring for the sake of the frontages? I suppose they would try to get as much frontage as possible. Of course, a great deal would depend upon the size of the blocks.

776. Do not private owners invariably create as much frontage as they can by making roads? Yes, I suppose so.

777. Would it not have paid the owners of this property to make the roads leading from Junction Road to the Boundary Boundary in order to get the extra half-mile of frontage in each case? I admit that B, C, and D, are pretty close together. I don't quite see what necessity there was for the whole of those roads. If E, D, and B, had been left, there would as far as I can see, have been an equal space between each of them.

778. Would it not have been to the interest of the owners to make C themselves in view of the extra half-mile of frontage which it would give them? Yes, I should think so.

779. You think that on account of the frontage alone they might have been induced to make the roads? It is possible that they might.

780. *Mr. Brunker.*] I suppose that the value of the frontage would depend upon the character of the adjoining land? Yes.

781. *Chairman.*] You say that the roads leading from the Junction Road are roads of access to the Crown lands? Yes.

782. Assuming that the Boundary Road is good as far as the first gully, is more than one road of access necessary into that road? If the road were thoroughly level perhaps B and C would not be necessary.

[*End of Evidence before Select Committee.*]

13625½. *President resuming.*] Having heard it read, do you wish to make any correction or explanation? Well, yes, I think I can explain a good deal in connection with some of the questions that have been asked. I can enlarge upon a good many things here. Referring to question 551, I had no instructions to survey these roads at all, but acted on previous instructions by Mr. Deering, to my assistant, Mr. Palmer, through me, I had no delicacy in recommending the Junction Road and one or two of the roads northwards. Referring to my answer, No. 600, I was authorised by Mr. Deering to see the Casual Labour Board before asking for some roads at Narrabeen. Referring to my answer to question 621, I should have said that we did do it. In answer to question 699, I said I did not think anything further was done to it; after that time the roads were completed. In connection with questions 719 and 720, it is a large matter, and I should have to go into instructions which I received from Mr. Deering.

13626. With the exception of these matters that you have called attention to, is your evidence true and correct? My evidence is thoroughly correct now with these alterations.

13627. How did you come to be connected with the Casual Labour Board? Well, I was, of course, connected with the unemployed previous to them taking charge of it. I did all the work under Mr. Deering; and when the Casual Labour Board was appointed I believe Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison called upon Mr. Deering one morning and asked about the transfer of the work, and asked whether I could transfer everything, and Mr. Deering consented that I should give them every assistance in every way. So, until they got matters pretty straight, I went out pretty well every day for a week on the different works, explaining everything, going over the lines of everything; and that is how it started. There is nothing in writing in connection with it.

13628. Were you detached from the Survey Department? No; not at all.

13629. Who paid you your salary? It was paid out of the Lands Department.

13630. Was there any change with regard to the way in which you were paid salary after you went to the Casual Labour Board? None whatever.

13631. You were paid in the usual way? Yes.

13632. And there was nothing to indicate any change as to who were your superiors? Nothing.

13633. What is the nature of the accounts you rendered for payment to the Lands Department? I rendered accounts for my own salary and the men's salary.

13634. Did these accounts show what you had been doing? No; I sent in a progress journal that showed what I had been doing.

13635. Will you look at this plan (*Exhibit D 4*);—does that plan correctly indicate the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, in the district of Hornsby, and the roads that have been formed there? That shows every road that has been cleared and formed up there.

13636. Does that plan show the property of Burns, Withers, and Smith? Yes.

13637. Does it show the roads made in, through, and about their property? Yes.

13638. Can you tell me, looking at that plan, the work that has been done by the unemployed in charge of Mr. Deering when the Casual Labour Board came into existence? That road A was done, and I think

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we had partly cleared the reserve on the western side of the line. We had another gang that were going from east to west, clearing in the direction of the Boundary Road. I believe the camp did some clearing on the Boundary Road.

13639. Can you tell me whether at that time any, and, if any, what, work, in the nature of clearing, formation, or making, had been done in, through, or about, this property of Burns, Withers, and Smith? There was not a thing done excepting part of the Vanceville Road, from Lane Cove Road to Billiard-street, that was maintained by the Government. I do not know for certain, but I have learned since that the road H was only half a chain wide, as far as Noonan's orchard, and was cleared. I believe Burns Road was cleared, and the other roads southward. Billiard-street, Hastings-street, &c., were certainly cleared by Burns, Withers, and Smith years previously.

13640. Do you recollect what was done on Burns Road? I believe it was cleared about 30 chains, and there was a culvert over the creek near the junction of the Vanceville Road and Burns Road.

13641. Had any work been done at all either in the way of clearing or anything else to the east of, and on the other side of, the continuation of Vanceville Road? None whatever.

13642. What was your position up there when the Casual Labour Board came into existence and during its existence—how would you describe yourself? That is more than I can say.

13643. Were you advising surveyor, superintendent, or what? Being in the Government I was a sort of officer for the benefit of the work, to advise them on it. They would be out of work, and I would advise, as far as lay in my power, for the benefit of the Crown. I forgot just now to mention that, before the unemployed came on the property, Burdett-street, Florence-street, and the part of Albert-street marked red, being the road adjoining Florence-street and Junction-street, was cleared, I believe, by Burns, Withers, and Smith.

13644. You know Mr. O'Donnell? Yes.

13645. Was he a subordinate officer to you? There were no officers under me in connection with the Board at all.

13646. Did you have anything to do with the arrangements of the men as regards rations? Nothing whatever.

13647. Did you have anything to do with regard to putting them on particular works? While carrying out the various roads I did.

13648. I am confining my attention to this particular property. Were you in such a position up there that you could order the men to go to any particular work? No. I had no power of that kind at all.

13649. Did you ever do it? Never.

13650. Did the Chairman of the Board communicate with you direct or through the department under your control? Direct to me, generally.

13651. Did you make reports direct to him? Yes.

13652. Had you any authority for doing that? Oh, yes.

13653. From whom? I had authority from Mr. Deering. I took it as a general authority in the work.

13654. Was Mr. Deering aware that you, being a subordinate officer in his Department, was communicating direct with some other department? Oh, yes; from the fact that he sent me down on several occasions to communicate with them.

13655. Did Mr. Davies ever see you personally? Oh, yes.

13656. Frequently? Not very often.

13657. On the ground or at the office? At the office, when I would be in town. Sometimes he would drop me a note to come down and see him.

13658. Did you converse with him on the ground? I do not think I have met him more than three or four times up there.

13659. How many times have you been at the office to see him? I could not give an idea. When I was in town I would run down once a week or twice a month to see him.

13660. How often do you think you saw him during the twenty-one months that the Board was in existence? Say 100 times, but I would not like to confine myself to numbers.

13661. Were you in the habit of seeing Mr. Wells? Yes; I often used to see Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison,

13662. On the ground or in Sydney? On the ground mostly.

13663. Did he or Mr. Houison ever give you instructions? Never; they never gave me instructions.

13664. How would directions or instructions be conveyed to you by letter or verbally? They never directed me to do anything.

13665. How was the work initiated then;—through Mr. O'Donnell, or how;—somebody must have brought the men up there? I think the men were all up there when the Casual Labour Board took charge. These works were initiated by Mr. Deering. I believe Mr. Davies wrote to me to go and see him about finding more work up there when they took charge.

13666. Do you think that this letter of 17 October, 1887, was the first correspondence you had with the Casual Labour Board;—they were appointed in May, 1887? I think it is, in connection with this work.

13667. Do you know what unemployed Mr. Deering had at work on road A? I cannot say. There was a lot of work carried out on the east of this by another camp.

13668. Have you any memorandum or books which will show when the unemployed first went on the works on Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate? I have nothing whatever,

13669. Do you think it would be in October? This work, or a good deal of it, was done before this letter was written, because I went up there, and these roads were cleared.

13670. Can you tell me the month when you first commenced attending to the work of these roads up there—was it the month after the Casual Labour Board came into existence? I was never on the ground after Mr. Deering left charge until a day or two before I made this report.

13671. Can the Commission take it then that you had nothing to do with these roads or this property until shortly before you wrote the letter of 17th October, 1887? Yes; I think I am strictly safe in saying I had nothing to do with it after Mr. Deering gave up charge until 17th October.

13672. Is this your signature to a letter of 17th October, 1887, to Mr. John Davies? Yes. [*Letter put in and marked V.*]
13673.

NOTE (*on revision*):—Q. 13658—"I cannot bring to recollection having ever met Mr. Davies on or around the Hornsby lands." Q. 13660—"Many of the times I met Mr. Davies was when engaged on my own work contiguous to the works the Board were carrying out, and the hundred times will amply cover all the times I saw Mr. Davies unofficially and officially." Q. 13671—"safe" read "within the bounds of truth."

13673. Was that letter written by you in response to any written or verbal request from Mr. Davies? I am not quite positive about it, but I believe he spoke to me and asked me to go up and have a look at the roads and see whether there were any roads that were required for access.
- 13674-5. This letter enclosed a tracing. Have you got that tracing? It was only just a rough copy I made at the time.
13676. Is this tracing that I show you a copy of it? Yes. [*Tracing put in and marked V1.*]
13677. I see by that that you proposed that the roads coloured brown on the tracing should be cleared, and that you refer to them by the letters A, B, C, D, E. Will you look at this plan [*Exhibit D 4*] and tell me what road on that plan corresponds to road A on your tracing? Road D.
13678. What road corresponds to road B? Road E.
13679. What road corresponds with road C? Road F.
13680. You mean by the roads D, E, F, only those parts that lay between Boundary Road and Junction Road, I suppose? Yes.
13681. What on this plan corresponds to the road marked D on your tracing? Road I.
13682. What road on the plan corresponds with road E on your tracing? Road H H.
13683. What road on the plan corresponds with road F on your tracing? Road J.
13684. I understand then that the first part of this letter [*Exhibit V*] consists of a recommendation to clear roads D, E, F—that is, the roads lying between the Junction Road and Boundary Road—road H H, and road J, which is a continuation of road F? Yes.
13685. You speak here of the Junction Road having been cleared throughout “from the Hornsby Railway Station, and that it is a very good road as regards gradients and crossings at the gullies,” and you recommend that it be formed and ballasted throughout, and culverts erected about the position shown on the tracing over the gullies;—do you know who, at the date you wrote the letter, had done the clearing on the Junction Road? It was done by the Casual Labour Board.
13686. Had you anything to do with it? Nothing whatever.
13687. Had any of these other roads that you recommended here been cleared? No.
13688. Then, I take it, that on October 17, 1888, all that was done up there was road A, that I spoke about some little time ago, and the Junction Road, which is marked on this plan “G”? Yes; and the road H had been cleared, running south from Junction Road to Burns Road.
13689. Had Burns Road been formed then? No, nothing; with the exception of what the owners had done.
13690. Had the work which had been done by the owners on Burns Road been carried right up to the point that road H came in? Yes, in a straight line.
13691. Am I to understand that the owners of the estate had done something right up to point H? No, up to about 30 chains.
13692. Then was not road H at this time a *cul de sac*? It was finished down to the junction of Burns Road.
13693. By the unemployed? Yes.
13694. Had this parallelogram of roads, shown in the middle of the plan, been done? No; they were not done at all.
13695. Do you know under whose instructions Junction Road had been cleared? I know nothing about it.
13696. Do you know under whose instructions road H had been cleared? I do not know.
13697. Do you know what action was taken as regards that letter of the 17th October, 1887;—was the work you recommended done? Yes.
13698. Who authorized it? I suppose the Board authorized it after I had recommended it.
13699. Do you know anything about the authorization of it? No; I do not.
13700. After you wrote this letter then you washed your hands of it? Yes; of everything.
13701. With that report you finished what you considered to be your duty with regard to the roads that you recommended? I was there once afterwards, to give a start to road E.
13702. Can I take it that you cannot give this Commission any evidence whatever to indicate who authorized the clearing of these roads H, G, and H, and the carrying out of the other recommendations you made? I can throw a little light on the way that the Junction Road was cleared.
13703. Can you throw any light on who authorized it? I think so. After Mr. Deering had charge of road A he gave instructions to Mr. Palmer to carry it south-easterly. It became a matter of impossibility to survey it through the Crown lands. He told him to survey it through private lands and to run roads on to the Crown lands.
13704. Is your evidence then that Mr. Deering gave the instructions? I won't say for those particular roads.
13705. It is necessary to be very particular on this point. I refer you to a minute of the Secretary for Lands of 5th May, 1887, which was sent on to Mr. Deering to report, and he said, “Mr. Palmer has already received verbal instructions”? Those instructions were some that Mr. Palmer got from Mr. Deering to go down south-easterly, and continue the road through private lands, tapping the Crown lands with cross roads.
13706. Will you look at a minute by Mr. Bennett, the Engineer-in-Chief, dated 8th February, 1888. You see the first paragraph:—“The roads from the main or Junction Road to the Peat's Ferry Road have been cleared at private cost by the owners of land on either side.” Are there any roads from this Junction Road G to the Peat's Ferry Road? If it refers to them, these roads on the west were cleared.
13707. Where is the Peat's Ferry Road on that plan. Is it east or west of the railway line? It is south-west and west.
13708. Is Junction Road G on the same side of the railway line as the Peat's Ferry Road? No; on the opposite side.
13709. Is it possible for there to be roads from Peat's Ferry Road to the Junction Road G, without crossing the railway line? They must cross the railway line.
13710. Can you understand that paragraph in any way, or do you think it is a mistake? It is a mistake; his intention was to convey that those three little roads in Hornsby township were cleared.
13711. But do those three little roads at the Hornsby township, which are not marked on this plan at all, communicate with Peat's Ferry Road? Yes.
13712. Is it not probable that Mr. Bennett was under some misapprehension when he wrote that paragraph? I think he must have been.
13713. Look at paragraph 3 of this same minute. Mr. Bennett speaks there of the “owners of the land, Messrs.

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Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, having given five roads of access, which have all been cleared, so as to give access to eligible points for the continuation of roads at summits of ranges through the expanse of Crown lands." How many roads had they given, according to your recommendation? As far as I know, there are only three.

13714. Do you think Mr. Bennett made a mistake in putting five roads instead of three? No; I suppose the five roads were cleared all right when he was up there.

13715. Can you give me anything of the history of this part of the Vanceville Road to Billiard-street. Do you know who cleared that? I do not know. It should come under the Roads Department.

13716. I see Mr. Bennett speaks in paragraph 4 as follows:—"One of the other two cross roads recently cleared was to give direct access from the church and junction of the Lane Cove Road and Peat's Ferry Road, Pearce's Corner to the Crown lands." Do you know anything of what these other roads were that Mr. Bennett refers to? Road I and road H.

13717. Does Mr. Bennett's report touch road K and road G, or Burns Road in any way? I do not think there is any allusion to road K or road G, the Junction Road or Burns Road.

13718. Or the continuation of Burns Road in an easterly direction? No; I see no mention of it.

13719. Does it refer to the streets in this property marked George-street, Florence-street, Burdett-street, and so on? No. But I see he does make mention of the Junction Road.

13720. Do you know Mr. Dawson, a surveyor? No; I have heard of him.

13721. I mean Mr. C. B. Dawson, a licensed surveyor? I have never spoken to him in my life.

13722. Did you, during the time you were acting in connection with the Board, have any communication with Mr. Deering on the subject of these roads? No; I never had any communication with him.

13723. Did you consult him? We would talk about the roads, and the work I was doing sometimes. Just merely casually.

13724. Did you take your orders from Mr. Davies? Yes.

13725. When he wrote to you for anything did you do it? Unless it was something out of the way.

13726. Did Mr. Davies ever ask you to do anything out of the way? He never asked me to do anything out of the way, but only whether such and such a thing could be done.

13727. Did he manifest any particular anxiety as to this work being done? Not that I know of.

13728. Did you ever hear of any authority that Mr. Wells had, signed by Mr. Deering, as to the making of these roads? I cannot say I am sure.

13729. Did you ever hear anything about a missing document? I believe there was a paper about the clearing of these roads, but it could not be found.

13730. Did you see it? I have a faint recollection of it.

13731. Do you know whom it was signed by? I believe by Mr. Deering. I believe five or six roads were marked on it. I think I hunted my papers over for it, but it could not be found.

13732. Can the Commission take it that you believe that such a document once existed? I believe there was such a document.

13733. In the face of a positive denial on the part of Mr. Deering, who says there was not such a document, would you pledge your oath that there was? It is a difficult matter for me to state. I am only a servant under Mr. Deering. I think my evidence, before it is over, will answer that question.

13734. I do not want to get anything from you excepting what you believe in your conscience to be absolutely true;—have you any recollection of such a document as I have spoken about showing certain proposals for roads, and signed by Mr. Deering? I do recollect having seen it.

13735. Will you state to this Commission fearlessly without reference to the fact that you are a Government officer, recollecting your duty as a citizen, that justice may be done, what you know of this matter? Well, since the Casual Labour Board have had anything to do with it, I know nothing whatever that has happened between the owners and the Board. All I know is what I have done, and everything I have done you will see in print; anything further, I know nothing of.

13736. You indicated just now that before you had done giving your evidence I would be satisfied that there was some mistake somewhere? Well, there has been a lot of talk about the roads and who initiated them. You see in Mr. Deering's evidence that he states that I had no authority to do these things, The roads, I may say, were initiated by Mr. Deering. I was in the office early one morning, and he touched me familiarly on the shoulder, and said, "I have got some roads to do for Mr. Burns up there; it will not do either of us any harm, and we may as well set about it;" and there and then, that very morning, there was notice sent to my assistant, Mr. Palmer, to take up two gangs of men from Beecroft and the Field of Mars to start the work. I went to Mr. Kidman's and ordered the rations.

13737. Can you fix the date of that? No.

13738. Where did it take place? In the old building of the Lands Department.

13739. Was it early in the morning? At about a quarter past 9 o'clock.

13740. Was any one else in the room within hearing? I do not think so. I told the conversation that passed between us to my assistant.

13741. Who was that? Mr. Palmer.

13742. Where is he? He is a licensed surveyor in the city.

13743. What is his Christian name? Lynton C. Palmer.

13744. Is there anything in the office, or on record, of yours that will enable the Commission to arrive at the date of this? I think Mr. Palmer could give the date better than me. If the Casual Labour Board have got their books they will show the date that these men went up. I think they went up the day afterwards.

13745. Do you think Mr. Palmer could tell us who took the men up to do the work? He himself took the men up to Hornsby.

13746. Did Mr. Deering convey to you when he said, "I have some roads to do for Mr. Burns" that he had been requested by Mr. Burns to do them? I do not know whether he was requested by him, but I know Mr. Burns had seen him in respect to the disputed boundary which Mr. Perdriau and I had some dispute about.

13747. At this time was Mr. Burns Colonial Treasurer? I do not think he was.

13748. Do you recollect who was Minister for Lands? I think Mr. Dibbs was in power at the time. I fancy Mr. Copeland was Minister for Lands.

13749. Then, according to you, the initiation of Junction Road and these tapping roads, northwards, to the Crown lands, was the outcome of the conversation you had with Mr. Deering? They were the outcome of it. That was the start of the roads up there.

13750.

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13750. Do you see on the plan a continuation of Burns Road, in an easterly direction, along some land of Burns, Withers, and Smith; then down south on the easterly boundary of the land, and then again east to the same point—where does that road go to? It joins on another road that comes out of a large lot of Crown land at the back.

13751. It does go to another road, then? Yes.

13752. Had you anything to do with that? No.

13753. Do you know anything of the country around it? No; I never knew it was made until I went out there with the Select Committee.

13754. Will you look at this petition [*Exhibit D5*]; read it, and tell me what part of Vanceville Road you think it refers to? I take it that it is the road from Lane Cove Road to Junction-street.

13755. Had you anything to do with this? Never.

13756. Had you anything to do with the repairs or improvements to that road? No.

13757. Did you ever see Mr. Burns on the estate? Yes; I was up there one day with Mr. Burns.

13758. Was anybody else with you? There was only Mr. Burns and myself.

13759. Was that whilst this work was going on? Yes.

13760. What was it about? About this road E.

13761. What about it? If he would give it. I recommended that it should be cleared, but there was some difficulty to get him to give it. I asked for that road because it was a main road right out to the reserve.

13762. Was that the only time you saw Mr. Burns? The only time I saw him on the ground.

13763. And the only conversation was as to road E? Yes. He came out to the Station.

13764. How did you know he was coming up? Mr. Davies sent me word that Mr. Burns would point out the road that he could give me if I could go to Hornsby with him on the Saturday.

13765. Did you ever see Mr. Burns in town, at his office or any other place, with reference to these roads? No; I believe that is the only time I met Mr. Burns. I believe this was the first and only time I met him.

13766. Did you ever see Mr. Withers or Mr. Smith? I never spoke to either of them.

13767. Do you see this road on the plan, marked George-street, running parallel to the railway. Was anything done on that road when Mr. Deering gave over supervision of the unemployed to the Casual Labour Board? I do not think there was.

13768. Did you have anything to do with that? No.

13769. Were these cross streets—Burdett-street and the other streets there—done by you? Nothing at all.

13770. Will you call out the letters of the roads from that plan that you had anything to do with or recommended? Road G throughout, D, E, F and J, HH, and I.

13771. Will you show me the tracing which you refer to in your letter of the 28th January, 1888, to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board? Yes. This is a copy of it. [*Tracing put in and marked V 2.*]

13772. I notice that in that letter you speak of two roads, B and C, corresponding with B and C on this plan [*Exhibit D 4*]. Had you anything to do with these roads? Nothing whatever.

13773. How do you come to report on them to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board in this letter? I only reported in a general way that they were practicable and fairly level.

13774. I see you say that it was "in accordance with a verbal request"? I was telegraphed to proceed and report on these roads.

13775. That letter was in consequence of a telegram received from Mr. Davies to meet Mr. Wells and Mr. Bennett, Commissioner for Roads. Did you meet them? I met them.

13776. From whom did Mr. Bennett get his information on this meeting as to the roads—from you or from Mr. Wells? Mr. Wells and I both pointed out the different roads.

13777. Do you know whether Mr. Bennett had been up there before? I cannot say.

13778. When you spoke, in the early part of your evidence, of the other roads that had been cleared some years ago,—what are the roads you referred to? Billyard-street, Smith-street, and Hastings-street.

13779. Do you know whether there was any cutting of timber for firewood up there? I cannot say.

13780. Will you look at a letter of J. W. Deering's, of 24th June, 1887, to the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, as to a road from the spit, Middle Harbour, to Lane Cove Road;—Was that forwarded to you for report and tracing? I forwarded the tracing and the report.

13781. How? Through Mr. Deering.

13782. In that case you forwarded the report through Mr. Deering? Yes.

13783. And in all the other cases you communicated with Mr. Davies? Yes.

13784. Why was there an alteration in this case? Because in this case the request came straight from my superior officer. Professor Gurney had seen him about this.

13785. Have you any idea what led to your being called upon to furnish a report in January, 1888, as to these roads? I do not know what was the reason of it, I am sure, but I believe it was because something had appeared in some of the papers, or something of the kind.

13786. Can you say whether after your report in January, 1888, any further work was done by the unemployed there? I do not think there was anything done further than I have mentioned.

13787. Are you aware whether, after you had sent in your report, and after Mr. Bennett had seen the land, any further work was done there? Oh, yes.

13788. Considerable work? Oh, yes.

13789. *Mr. Waller.*] These roads that you said were made, previous to the Casual Labour Board going there, by the owners of the estate—can you tell me which they were? Billyard-street, Hastings-street, Smith-street, part of Burns Road, part of Florence-street, and part of Albert-street.

13790. When were these improvements made? Billyard-street, Hastings-street, and Smith-street were long before my time; these others have been made between this and four or five years.

13791. Do you know of your own knowledge when these improvements were made? I am positive about Hastings, Billyard, and Smith Streets. I am not positive about the others, because when I saw them the undergrowth was up 7 feet or 8 feet high.

13792. When did you first know about these improvements being made;—did you know before you were examined by the Select Committee? Yes.

13793. Did you mention it in your evidence? No.

13794. You knew of it at that time? Yes.

13795.

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13795. Did you consider yourself as working under the authority of the Casual Labour Board? Oh, no. They could not command me to do anything.
13796. What position did you occupy? They came to me merely as a Government officer.
13797. Did you consider yourself placed at the disposal of the Board? Most undoubtedly I did by Mr. Deering. I should like to give you some proof of that.
13798. I will come to that in a minute;—how long were you at the disposal of the Board? Well, for two months I did a considerable amount of work for them. I finished a good deal of work that I had taken in hand.
13799. How long do you think you were at their disposal? My time was always at their disposal so far as advising was concerned. When I saw that the Crown lands were shut in I would say, "It would be advisable to clear a road through here as we have no road."
13800. Was Mr. Deering aware you were at the disposal of the Board? Most undoubtedly.
13801. If we have in evidence that he was not aware of it, and was greatly surprised that you were, is it true or is it false? It is as false as anything ever was. I have proof of him being with me at the works.
13802. Give the proof? We were clearing some Crown land at Dobroyd. We had to make a road there. He said, "Mr. Gordon, as you have started, you may as well complete it." I had charge of the unemployed down there making this road. When we got half way through the road, which I was trying to take as straight as possible from the Crown lands to the Military road, a private owner wanted it to run through his land. I was called on for a report by Mr. Deering. I think his letter was dated 20th July, 1887. I reported upon it. Because my report was not in accordance with this man's wishes, who wanted the road to go through his property, he called upon Mr. Deering, and wanted him to go and inspect the road. Mr. Deering telegraphed to me to come to the office. He told me he was going to meet Mr. C. Hays, of Manly, who was going to drive us over the ground. I said I would not go, but he persuaded me to go. When he got to the little church at the top of the hill he wanted Mr. Deering, in reference to a road which I was carrying out there, to carry it diagonally through some land of his. When we came down to Dobroyd, Mr. Deering gave me instructions to carry the road straight through Mr. Hays' property, after we had it half completed. I said I could not do anything of the kind, as the Casual Labour Board would have to be a party to it. I reported against it, and the Board carried out the idea which I had started. Is not that sufficient proof that Mr. Deering knew I had charge of some of the work?
13803. These returns, which were sent in for your salary, do they show what work you were engaged upon? Yes.
13804. When a surveyor sends in an application for his salary does the application report what he has been doing and where he has been doing it? No; we also send in a progress journal.
13805. Whom does it go to? Mr. Deering.
13806. So your progress journal would disclose where you and your men were working at the time? No; because I never sent a journal in all the time I was working for the Board. Afterwards it would only be an hour's work or a day's work for them.
13807. It would not disclose to Mr. Deering where you were? No.
13808. Mr. Franklin.] Here is a memorandum of the district surveyed by you; I want a schedule of the roads made through Burns, Withers, and Smith; does this give the actual quantity of road through Burns, Withers, and Smith's and the Crown lands; is it divided? No.
13809. Do 9 miles 69 chains represent the roads coloured red on this plan? No; that only represents the roads cleared by the Board. There are more on this plan than the Casual Labour Board has done. This was the plan for the proclamation of the roads.
13810. Is the schedule made for the Crown lands and Burns, Withers, and Smith's land too. Have you embodied the Crown lands? No; there is none of the Crown lands there at all.
13811. Is there Burns, Withers, and Smith's land here only? Burns, Withers, and Smith's and other property.
13812. Could we get a schedule of the actual roads cleared on Burns, Withers, and Smith's land? I would have to go out and do it; I have never been over most of this land.
13813. Then it will be necessary to resubmit this schedule to the District Surveyor? Undoubtedly.
13814. You cannot furnish me with the memorandum? I can only furnish you with anything in this plan. If you want it done, of course I can go up and do it.
13815. Do you think it possible, having taken evidence of the work upon the roads, by applying the works and their values to the total lengths shown on this schedule, I can get a valuation of the work on the estate? No, it could not be done from that.
13816. Does the 9 miles 69 chains shown to be cleared include the subdivision close to Hornsby railway station? It only shows what the Casual Labour Board has done.
13817. President.] Will you give me the lengths of the roads that are marked red on this plan (*Exhibit D 4*) on Burns, Withers, and Smith's land, indicating which are cleared, which formed, which gravelled, blinded, ballasted, and so forth? Yes; but there are other owners included in the return. There are cleared, 9 miles 69 chains; formed, 8 miles 78 chains; gravelled, 4 miles 6 chains; ballasted, 4 miles 27 chains.
13818. Who can give us the extent of the roads formed, cleared, and ballasted on the land of Burns, Withers, and Smith? Nobody could do it, excepting myself, because I hold the field-books.
13819. Can you supply it from the field-books? Yes; I could do that for you.
13820. Will you supply this Commission with particulars under similar heads to this, confined to the roads that pass through Burns, Withers, and Smith's estate alone? Yes.

THURSDAY,

NOTE (*on revision*):—Extract from my letter, No. 87-14, of 23rd July, 1887, to the Metropolitan District Surveyor:—
Sir,

In accordance with your instruction No. 1,775, of 20th July, 1887, to report upon Seaview-street in the parish of Manly Cove, county of Cumberland, as the best access to the Crown lands at Dobroyd, I have the honor to state that immediately on receipt of your instruction I proceeded to Manly, and have to report as follows:—

Firstly, that the unemployed are working under my directions, and have cleared, &c., &c. * * *

I have, &c.,

W. M. GORDON,
Government Surveyor.

The Metropolitan District Surveyor, Lands Department.

I quote the above as proof of evidence given by me in answer.

THURSDAY, 9 MAY, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Lynton Charles Palmer, called in, sworn and examined:—

13821. *President.*] Are you in the Public Service? Not at present.
13822. Were you in the Public Service in 1887 and 1888? I was field-assistant to Mr. Gordon at that time. Mr.
L. C. Palmer.
9 May, 1889.
13823. Were you previously in the Public Service? I was in the Railway office before I was with Mr. Gordon. Some time in May, 1886, I think it was.
13824. How long did you remain with Mr. Gordon? Until August, 1888.
13825. Why did you leave? I left because I thought I could start on my own account as a licensed surveyor in the town. I thought I could better myself.
13826. Did your duties bring you much in contact with Mr. Gordon? Certainly. I was field-assistant to him.
13827. Do you recollect on any occasion having any instructions with reference to carrying out some work at Hornsby? Yes, certainly. At the time I was in charge of the unemployed at Beecroft, I received some instructions from Mr. Deering.
13828. When was that? In the month of April, 1887. I know it was whilst we were at Beecroft.
13829. What were those instructions? The instructions were to proceed to Hornsby and clear a road through blocks of Bellamy's, adjacent to the station. The road ran across the railway bridge. I received a tracing at the time showing a continuation of the road.
13830. Will you look at this plan (*Exhibit D 4*), and show me which of those roads you received instructions to clear? Road A. To clear it from Peat's Ferry Road to the eastern boundary right through and to continue it coming down in a south-easterly direction. I knew the country there as I was connected with the survey of Bellamy's boundary.
13831. From whom did you get your instructions? Mr. Deering.
13832. In writing? In writing and verbally.
13833. Was there anything accompanying them? There was a tracing.
13834. How far in the direction of road A going east would your instructions lead you to go? It distinctly stated to the boundary of Bellamy's, and from there as the country might permit.
13835. From there in what direction? In a south-easterly direction.
13836. What did you do? I finished the road through Bellamy's, and then my connection with the unemployed ceased. Mr. Deering gave them up, and we returned to our legitimate work.
13837. You mean you finished road A? Yes.
13838. Looking at that plan, and the road marked G on it, the Junction Road, and the cross roads D, E, F, can you say whether the plan that Mr. Deering gave you showed them in any way? It did not show them at all. It only showed a direction easterly from Bellamy's.
13839. On the plan that you speak of, were the roads B, C, D, E, and F shown? No.
13840. Was the road G shown? No, it was not.
13841. Did Mr. Deering ever give you any instructions to clear any of these roads? No. The road A was the first and only road I cleared.
13842. Do you recollect any conversation with Mr. Gordon at an early stage of this matter with reference to the roads in that district? Yes.
13843. What was the conversation? I was asking about some roads not shown on the plan proceeding in a south-easterly direction to strike the Great Eastern Road. He said I would have to go a long way up into the private land to get to the head of the different creeks to make it of any value.
13844. Was the name of any of the owners of the private lands mentioned? Most certainly; Mr. Burns' name was. He generally spoke of it as Burns, Withers, and Smith's land.
13845. Was Burns' name particularly mentioned? I cannot say.
13846. Did you see any document then, or have you seen any since, connecting Mr. Burns with the instructions you got from Mr. Deering? No; I cannot remember any.
13847. What became of the tracing you had? After I joined Mr. Gordon in the survey camp, I asked him what I had better do with it, and he recommended me to send it back, as we had carried out our instructions; so I sent it back to Mr. Deering.
13848. Under cover or with a letter? With a letter, if I remember right.
13849. Did you keep a copy of the letter? No.
13850. Did you place lines in a direction south-easterly? No; because I had only just finished road A. In fact, the last payment was on the clearing up of road A.
13851. *Mr. Waller.*] Why did you not go on with your instructions? When the charge of the unemployed went to the Casual Labour Board I returned with Mr. Gordon to the survey camp.
13852. That was before the appointment of the Board? Yes.

Charles Burford Dawson called in, and examination continued:—

13853. *President.*] Your evidence before the Select Committee had not been concluded when you were here last? No. Mr.
C. B. Dawson.
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13854. We will continue it? Yes.

Second day's evidence before Select Committee.

252. *Mr. Burns.*] You are surveyor to the estate of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, in the Lane Cove District? I am.
253. You have held that position I believe from the time of the estate being first purchased by them? I think so.
254. And any subdivisions which they may have made have been carried out by you? Yes.
- 255.

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255. You recollect my writing to you, I think in the early part of 1888, about an application from the Casual Labour Board, for permission to extend Junction Road, from near the station, through our land to the Vanceville Road? About twelve months ago I think— at the beginning of last year.
256. Did you in consequence of what I wrote to you proceed to Hornsby to survey the Junction Road and the cross roads leading into that road? I did.
257. Were you also acting for Mrs. Edwards, whose representative was in the Colony, she being at the time in England? I was.
258. Did I instruct you to survey this road at right angles as near as possible? Yes.
259. And also to survey what is known as the road leading down to Noonan's? Yes; along the boundary of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's land, and the land of Mrs. Edwards.
260. Did I make it a condition that the representative of Mrs. Edwards should give one half of the land for that road? Yes.
261. And you surveyed that cross road, taking half of the land from Mrs. Edwards and the other half from our property? Yes.
262. Had you any instructions to do any more than survey these roads for the unemployed? Nothing more.
263. Had you instructions at any time to make the subdivision of the area through which these roads are made? None at all.
264. Is there any subdivision on the eastern side of the railway except that adjoining the railway station? Not that I know of.
265. Of what does that subdivision consist? About 52 acres.
266. Have you at any time received instructions to make a subdivision of the land through which these roads have been made? Never.
267. Then if a statement has been made that these lands to the south of the Crown lands have been marked off by you in subdivision for Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, that statement cannot be correct? It is incorrect.
268. Have I mentioned anything to you about our desire to sell this land in a block? You said something about selling the whole of the land in one block to a syndicate some time ago.
269. Without any thought of subdivision? Yes.
270. In your previous examination you made some statement about orchard blocks being made fitting in with the Junction Road? I think I was asked how I would subdivide the land, and that I said I would subdivide into 10-acre orchard blocks.
271. But you never received instructions to make such a subdivision? No, I was asked by a member of the Committee how I would subdivide the land. I think that was how the matter arose.
272. It was a mere speculation of your own? Yes. I gave my opinion as to the way in which I would cut up the land.
273. If it had been your own property? Yes.
274. Do you know how much land was given to the Government for roads by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? Judging from the plan, I should say from 29 to 30 acres.
275. Are you aware that Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith sold some land to Mr. Suliman, the architect, on the eastern side of the railway? Yes; there was a 4-acre block marked out there.
276. Do you recollect the price per acre paid? I think it was £100.
277. Did you not hear it was £125? I never heard that price mentioned. I understood that the price was £100.
278. Has there been any sale of land close to Noonan's lately? Not that I know of.
279. Have you heard of any land being sold in that district for less than £100 an acre within the last twelve months? No. I believe a piece of land was put under offer at Noonan's a short time ago at £200 an acre.
280. Not far from the platform, I presume? No. I think there was from 36 to 40 acres offered to a Company at £200 an acre I believe.
281. You have not heard of lands being sold in that district lately for less than £100 per acre? No.
282. What do you estimate to be the value of the lands which the Government have taken for these roads? I should think it would be at least £100 per acre.
283. Then there would be close upon £3,000 worth? Yes.
284. Have you been to Hornsby lately? Not lately; not since I laid out the roads.
285. Look at this statement of expenditure furnished by Colonel Wells, and countersigned by Mr. O'Donnell, the road overseer, purporting to give the expenditure upon the roads in the Hornsby district, upon the property of Burns, Withers, and Smith. I want first to call your attention to the road leading from Junction Road to Pearson's corner;— you know that road? Yes.
286. Have Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith any land along that road? Your land is on the north of it.
287. But have we any land adjacent to the road? No.
288. Then any expenditure upon that road would not come within the category of the expenditure in which we are concerned? No.
289. Do you know the road leading from the Junction Road over the railway crossing to the hotel? Yes.
290. Have Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith any land adjacent to that road? None.
291. In any estimate of expenditure upon the roads in which we are concerned the expenditure upon these roads would have to be omitted? Yes.
292. Are you aware that the boundary road has been extended through the subdivision at the station to the railway line? I have not seen it.
293. You will see in the list before you the continuation of Boundary Road to Burdett street;—do you observe the charge for the continuation of that road? Yes, £27, 294,

294. Then as to the road adjoining the railway station in the plan of the estate George-street, what is the expenditure there? £67 10s.

295. The land adjoining the railway line is the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? Yes.

296. And the extension of the Boundary Road to Burdett-street? That is on your land.

297. Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith had made a rough opening prior to the Government commencing to give work to the unemployed in that district;—this opening had been made through one or two streets in the subdivision? I think so, but I did not see them.

298. There had not been much expenditure there? There was an old man working there, but I do not know what he did there—very little, I should think.

299. If you look at the total of the expenditure shown in this list you will see that it is £2,309? To that there must be added something for culverts and some small bridges.

300. What proportion of the amount do you suppose would be chargeable to roads through the land of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, taking into consideration the fact that some portion of the expenditure is upon the old Vanceville Road? How much is expended upon the Vanceville Road?

301. Say about £262 10s.; that is partly for the opening of the new road to the back, and partly upon the old road. Both roads have been improved by this expenditure. Making the necessary exceptions what should you think would be the proportion of expenditure upon roads passing through our land? I should also have to deduct the expenditure upon Burns Road—that I think is outside of your land. That road was left a long time before you purchased the land. It was left in the Big Island Estate, about forty or fifty years ago.

302. I understand that Burns Road was laid out in the original sale of the property when it belonged to Mr. John Terry Hughes? Yes; it is just as old a road as the Vanceville Road.

303. I want you nevertheless to include that road in your estimate, because it has a frontage to our northern property. Including that what would be the proportion of expenditure in which we are concerned? About three-quarters of the expenditure, I should think.

304. That would be less than £2,000? It would be about £1,700, I suppose.

305. You have had large experience both as a surveyor and as a party concerned in properties;—do you think that Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith derive much benefit from the making of these roads through their property? I should say that the only benefit they would derive would consist of the amount expended in making the roads—that is, the amount actually spent. It must be borne in mind that they had given the land themselves. The expenditure upon the roads would be the actual value added to the estate.

306. Do you estimate that the lands given to these roads is worth more than the expenditure? Considerably more.

307. If it be a matter between the Government and Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, do you estimate that Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith would gain any advantage as against the Government from this expenditure? I do not think so.

308. No advantage? No.

309. Do you think that the plan before you, No. 8 in the Appendix, signed by Mr. Deering, gives a fair conception of the proportion of Crown lands to private lands? Decidedly not.

310. Have you any idea of the area of Crown lands at the back of these private lands? Between 3 and 4,000 acres.

311. Yet by this plan the private lands are made to assume a proportion about as large as that of the Government lands? Yes; and there is another thing, the roads through the Crown lands are not shown. There are roads between the gullies continuations of the cross roads leading up from Junction Road.

312. Do you know anything about the Mistake Road? Yes, it was made in mistake for the Burns Road.

313. Do you know anything of the continuation of the Burns Road towards the Bobbing Rock Road? No.

315. You have not been there? No.

316. *Chairman.*] You wrote a letter, I think, a short time ago to the *Herald*, in which you stated that there was no subdivision of the Burns, Withers, and Smith estate to the eastward of the station? Other than that which I had already subdivided. I do not think I said that there was no subdivision to the eastward of the station.

317. Has not the subdivision left by you roads in it which have been made by the unemployed? Not that I am aware of.

318. You made the subdivision for Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? Yes.

319. Look at the plan in front of you. You see that George-street runs parallel with the railway line;—is not that shown on your subdivision? Yes, George-street is shown.

320. You see from the plan that it is one of the roads which had been made by the unemployed? Yes.

321. Is not Burdett-street also shown in your subdivision? Yes.

322. And Junction-street? Yes.

323. Is not a portion of Hunter-street also shown? Yes.

324. The whole of these streets which I have named which have been made by the unemployed are shown upon the subdivision which you made? Parts of them. Burdett-street I take it as a continuation of Boundary Road.

325. But it is shown in the subdivision which you made? Yes.

326. You say that Mr. Burns wrote to you some time ago instructing you to go up to the estate and to lay out some roads? Yes.

327. So that you had the direction which the road should take in your own hands? Mr. Burns told me to leave the roads in the best possible places,

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328. And you obeyed that instruction in consideration of the interests of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? Yes.

329. I suppose that, having regard to those interests, you left the Junction Road where it is, and also road E? I did not lay out road E.

330. You say that there was a mistake in connection with the Estate Road? It is not what I surveyed. They cleared Mistake Road, thinking it was Burns Road.

331. Then evidently that portion Burns Road was not cleared at that time? Burns Road was not cleared at that end.

332. You have spoken upon the expenditure upon these roads; as a matter of fact do you know anything absolutely as to the expenditure which has taken place? Only from the Schedule which I see before me.

333. You know nothing as to the expenditure beyond that? Nothing at all. I have not seen the roads since they were cleared and made.

334. You are unable to form any actual conclusion? I am.

335. You said just now that it would be a loss for Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith to have made these roads themselves? I do not think I said that. At the same time I do not think that there would be any advantage to them in having the streets made like this if they were not going to sell in subdivisions.

336. But suppose they were going to sell would they be of any advantage? If they could make use of them in that position they would certainly be of advantage.

337. Have you not placed the roads in a good position for subdivisional purposes? Junction Road is the only one we could make use of.

338. If you were going to subdivide the block would you not have to have more roads than those shown upon the map? Not necessarily.

339. Would you not for instance have to have more roads between the roads H and G? Of course, if the land were to be cut up into small blocks you would have to have more roads, but I suggested that it should be cut up into larger blocks—the land is not suitable for little 50 feet blocks.

340. You said in your previous evidence that the roads had improved the estate—do you wish to withdraw that statement? I think I said that the roads had improved the estate to some extent, but that they were of very little advantage. I think that is what I said. I think I said that the roads had improved the estate to the extent of the amount which had been expended upon them.

341. Will you look at the answer you gave to question 1852.

1852. *Chairman.*] As a matter of fact, does not every road on that property, with the exception of Mistake Road, improve the value of Burns, Withers, and Smith's Estate? To a certain extent, most decidedly.

Do you wish to withdraw that statement or to adhere to it? No; I adhere to that statement.

342. What is the exact meaning which you wish to convey when you state that the improvements to the estate are represented exactly by the expenditure upon the roads. Do you mean to say that notwithstanding that the lands were given by the owners the estate has been improved to that value? If I owned the land and left the streets through it, and spent a certain amount upon those streets, the value by which the estate would be increased would be represented exactly by the amount of money which I expended. I do not think I could give you any better idea of what I mean.

343. Suppose this block of land were your own, that you desired to sell it, and that you subdivided it—if you cleared and made roads you would expect the property to increase in value to the extent of the amount which you had spent upon the roads? Yes.

344. Then this property has increased in value to the extent of the amount which the Government has expended upon these roads? I suppose it has.

345. If the Government had made better roads upon the estate than would be made by private owners in their subdivision would not the value of the property be enhanced proportionately? To the extent of the cost of the roads, but of course you could make a road too good.

346. But as a general rule the more valuable the road is the more the property is improved? I should not expend more than a certain amount upon roads in a locality like this; I should not put down kerbing and blue metal, for instance; that would not be necessary. These roads will be only roads of access for the next fifty years.

347. Still the roads have improved the selling capacity of the land? To a certain extent, of course.

348. Have you had any communication with anyone concerning this estate since you were last before the Committee? No.

349. You have not seen any member of the syndicate? Oh, yes; but I have had nothing to do with the estate.

350. Have you been up to see it since you were here? No.

351. *Mr. Burns.*] Do you consider that these cross roads from Junction Road are of any advantage to the estate? No, certainly not; not those short roads.

352. *Chairman.*] What do these black lines shown upon the plan indicate? They are the boundaries of the allotments in the old Big Island Estate.

353. That is an old subdivision? Yes; I should say it was fifty years old at least.

354. *Mr. Millan.*] A good many of the questions you have been asked have been upon the basis of a certain supposititious subdivision. Now I want to bring you back to the original state of affairs. There is a block of 680 acres owned by certain people; there are Government lands to the north of it. We will take it for granted—I believe it is in evidence—that there was no intention on the part of the private owners to subdivide immediately. Indeed, it is a question whether the owners would have subdivided at all. I want you to put yourself in the position of these proprietors. Would you, knowing the difficulties

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in which the Government were placed with regard to their property to the northward, have thought it to your interest to tell the Government that they could make any roads they liked in reason leading to their estate and that you would give them the ground you required for the roads? I should certainly make them resume. I would not give them any roads.

355. Suppose you were a little more patriotic than that, would you consider, taking these roads as a whole, which have been made by the Government, that they were roads which, in view of some future possible subdivision, were laid out in the best possible way? No; I think they are not.

356. I admit that there may be one or two unnecessary roads; but taking the bulk of them as necessary for access to the Crown lands, both from the junction at Hornsby and the Pearce's corner line, would you consider that you were compensated by the Government making these roads a little better than roads are generally made in such country—that is, would you regard them as a fair equivalent for the land which you had given? No; I do not think I should be sufficiently compensated; I do not think I should get the value of the land.

357. Your attention has been directed to the subdivision you made. Is it not a fact that when subdivisions are made in such country as this they are simply a sort of indication of roads made by trenches on each side marked by pegs, and in many instances scarcely cleared? They are very seldom cleared.

358. The roads are merely indicated? Yes.

359. Is it not a fact that all such roads and subdivisions are as a rule taken up ultimately by the municipalities or by the Government as settlement increases? Yes, in nearly all cases.

360. That is to say, whatever is done to the roads whether they are formed in an expensive or inexpensive manner the proprietors do not as a rule spend money in this way? I have never seen it.

361. *Chairman.*] But notwithstanding all that, you consider that these roads have benefited the private property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? I adhere to the statement which I have already made.

362. *Mr. Burns.*] Which was that the property was improved to a certain extent? Exactly.

End of evidence before Select Committee.

13855. *President resuming.*] Was that evidence submitted to you for revision? Yes.

13856. Having now heard it, do you wish to make any correction or explanation? No.

13857. Is it true and correct in every particular? Yes.

13858. Then can the Commission take your evidence before the Select Committee, of 4th December, 1888, and 11th January, 1889, as correct? Yes.

13859. And adopt it as the evidence before this Commission? Yes.

13860. How long have you been a surveyor for Burns, Withers, and Smith? For about six years.

13861. Do you know all their land in that district? Yes; I surveyed it originally.

13862. Then you can speak with authority on it? Yes.

13863. Will you look at this plan [*Exhibit D 4*] and say whether, in your opinion, it correctly indicates, in a neutral tint, the land of Burns, Withers, and Smith? That indicates the land on the east side of the railway line.

13864. Do you think it is correct, as indicating the land owned by Burns, Withers, and Smith? Practically it is correct with the exception of a piece immediately adjoining Foster's, on the north; Mrs. Edward's, on the west; and Crown land, on the south. That also belongs to Burns, Withers, and Smith.

13865. Will you "hatch" it in pencil? Yes; I will.

13866. Will you look at plan [*Exhibit D 4*] and tell me whether the letters marked there to indicate the roads, correspond with the letters marked on this plan [*Exhibit U*]? Yes.

13867. Does road K pass through any land of Burns', Withers', and Smith's? No.

13868. Where does it lead to? It leads to the Junction Road, which is the boundary of Burns, Withers, or Smith's property.

13869. Does road I pass through their land? No; it leads to Junction Road, which is their boundary.

13870. Does part of road H, from Burns Road, in a southerly direction, pass through any of Burns, Withers, and Smith's land? No.

13871. Was this plan of subdivision, which I show you, prepared by you? Yes. [*Plan put in and marked W.*]

13872. Does that subdivision include only land on the eastern side of the railway? It extends to both sides of the line.

13873. Will you tell me, for our information, up to what point on plan [*Exhibit D 4*] does this subdivision go? Up to a point near road A, as far as Albert-street; then down south to the Junction Road, and from the Junction Road to a road parallel with the railway.

13874. Have you prepared any other plan of subdivision? None at all.

13875. Is there no other plan? No; nothing.

13876. Can you say whether the roads which are marked on that plan [*Exhibit D 4*] are shown on any plan of subdivision or any sketch plan of proposed subdivision you have got? None at all.

13877. What is the subdivision you refer to in your answer to question 318, before the Select Committee? The one you have just shown me.

13878. There is no other subdivision? No other subdivision.

13879. Did you ever see Mr. Gordon on the subject of the work done on this estate? No; I never saw him.

13880. Did you see Mr. O'Donnell? I saw him before laying out the Junction Road. He called at my office one morning, and told me the men were doing nothing, and that they wanted a road through the estate in lieu of Boundary Road. He said Mr. Burns had allowed him to lay it out. I went up next morning and laid it out in position. They had laid out the Boundary Road, but found that they could not get across the gullies, as it was very precipitous in places.

13881.

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13881. Did the way you laid it out show the curious angle at the corner of roads C and G? When I started I started at the junction of roads G and D. The road up to that point had already been done. I did that previously for Mrs. Edwards.
13882. From where did you lay it? From the boundary.
13883. How far had you laid it out easterly? From the junction of roads G and D to the junction of roads G and E.
13884. When was road G laid out from the junction of roads C and G to the corner of the parallel road by the railway? That was done before I surveyed it originally—years ago. It was left in the old grant. It was done by the Government years ago.
13885. Cleared? Not cleared; simply surveyed.
13886. Then all you did this time when you went up at O'Donnell's request was to survey from the junction of the roads shown on the plan, G and D, to a point extending to the Great Eastern Road? Yes.
13887. I suppose at that time the Great Eastern Road had not been extended? No; and at the same time I gave O'Donnell the boundary-line of Mrs. Edward's property.
13888. Did you survey road E? No.
13889. Road F? No; I had no idea they were going to have a road there.
13890. Did you survey roads H, I, or K? I showed O'Donnell where the boundary-line of road H was. I did not survey the others.
13891. Do you know anything about this parallelogram of roads in the centre of the plan? I had nothing to do with it, but I can explain how it was done. The clearers came down south along road H, and found a peg, put in by Mr. Surveyor Boyle. They took it for the peg of the road, and ran the road at right angles, but could not make it fit. They asked me if there was not some mistake, and he knocked the men off, and cleared the other road afterwards.
13892. Then what would be the cause of the centre line through the parallelogram? There is no line there.
13893. Did you ever see Mr. Wells on the subject of these roads? I have seen him since the Commission.
13894. On what subject? He has brought the matter up at the Club two or three times, but I cannot recollect any of the conversation.
13895. You are members of the same club? Yes.
13896. Do you know Mr. Houison? No.
13897. Do you know Mr. Davies? By sight.
13898. Do you know Mr. Deering? By sight only.
13899. Have you ever spoken to him on the subject of the roads? No.
13900. Or to Mr. Palmer? No.
13901. Do you know, of your own knowledge, whether Burns, Withers, and Smith have given up any of the roads in their estate? I do not know that they have given any excepting the Junction Road, road G, road D, and road H. I only know simply through Mr. Burns saying he had given these roads.
13902. Mr. Waller. In answer to question 1736, before the Select Committee, you say: "I laid out a few streets for the clearers"? Yes, for the unemployed.
13903. By whose orders did you lay out these streets? By Mr. Burns. He instructed me to lay out two streets.
13904. Did you have any other authority excepting his? No other authority.
13905. Did you lay out any other streets or roads, excepting those you mention in answer to question 1736? No others, excepting those and roads G, D, and H, as far as the continuation of Burns Road.
13906. Did you see any of the unemployed working on this estate of Burns', Withers', and Smith's? When I surveyed the road they were ready to clear it. When I laid it out and came back in the evening they had cleared the scrub off.
13907. Did you see them afterwards? No; I have not been there after the unemployed cleared them.
13908. Did you know under what circumstances the unemployed were there? I had no idea.
13909. President.] Did you ever hear of any idea of taking a road diagonally in a south-easterly direction from the junction of road A to join the Great Eastern Road? No; I never heard of it.

Henry Prince called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. H. Prince.
9 May, 1889.
13910. President.] Are you a partner in the firm of Prince, Ogg, & Company? I am.
13911. Is Mr. J. S. Jamieson a partner? Yes.
13912. Is he in the Colony at present? No.
13913. When did he leave? About two months ago.
13914. Do you know the date? No, I do not know the exact date.
13915. What vessel did he leave by? The "Zealandia."
13916. Do you know the month that he left in? It was in February, I am almost sure.
13917. Did he leave anybody here to represent him as his attorney? Yes, he has two attorneys. His eldest son, Melbourne Jamieson, and myself.
13918. Do you know anything as his attorney of his private business? No.
13919. Do you know whether he was a creditor of Sir Henry Parkes? I do not know.
13920. Is there anybody who knows sufficient of Mr. Jamieson's business to be able to give us information? I do not know.
13921. Were your firm of Prince, Ogg, & Co., creditors of Sir Henry Parkes? I believe there is a small amount against Sir Henry Parkes for goods supplied.
13922. Do you know the signature of Mr. J. S. Jamieson? Yes.
13923. Is that his signature to this Deed of Assignment? Yes. [*Deed of assignment for benefit of creditors of Sir Henry Parkes to Messrs. Allen, Palmer, and Dixon, marked X, for identification.*]
13924. Is this signature that of the firm of Prince, Ogg, & Co.? Yes.
13925. Is that the signature of Mr. Jamieson for Sir William Anderson Ogg? It is.
13926. Is that your signature, "Henry Prince"? It is.
13927. Whose is that, "Easton Mackie Ogg"? The son of Sir William Ogg, our partner.
13928. And the signature of Jno. S. Jamieson;—is that one of your partners? Yes. 13929.

13929. Mr. Jamieson has signed twice, and as attorney for Sir Wm. Ogg? It looks like it. Under the "Deed of Assignment Act" it is required that there should be the signatures of all the partners of a firm.

Mr.
H. Prince.
9 May, 1889.

13930. Then he has signed it once as a partner of the firm, and once in his individual capacity? I should say so, undoubtedly.

13931. Do you see in the schedule of creditors is Prince, Ogg, & Co., £209;—is that your firm? I suppose so.

13932. Do you believe that to be correct? I know Sir Henry Parkes did owe us a small amount.

13933. Do you see immediately below, "Jno. S. Jamieson, money lent, £1,400";—is that your partner? That is his name. I do not know whether Sir Henry Parkes owes him any money or not.

13934. Will you look at this memorial, dated 7th July, 1887 [*Exhibit S 1*]? Yes, that is my signature to it.

13935. Do you recollect who brought it to you? I believe that Mr. Murphy, of the Holt-Sutherland Estate, brought me that. I believe he brought me more than one.

13936. Are you a shareholder in the Holt-Sutherland Estate Company? I am.

13937. How many shares have you? I believe I hold thirty-two.

13938. Do you know whether your partner, Mr. J. S. Jamieson, is a shareholder? He was. I do not think he sold them.

13939. Did you ever hear of his getting some shares in which Sir Henry Parkes had some interest? No.

13940. Will you look at this memorial, 22nd September, 1887 [*Exhibit R 3*], and see whether you have signed that? No, my name does not appear there.

13941. Will you look at this memorial, 19th August, 1887 [*Exhibit I 26*] and see whether you have signed that? Yes.

13942. Is that signed by Mr. J. S. Jamieson? Yes; that is his signature.

13943. Will you look at this memorial, 10th May, 1888 [*Exhibit R 4*] and see whether you have signed that? No.

13944. Now will you look at these five memorials, two of which you appear to have signed, and three of which you do not appear to have signed, and say whether there is any resemblance in the writing? I should say that three out of the five are in the same handwriting, and that the other two are in the same handwriting.

13945. Did you ever have a memorial or petition presented to you by Mr. Murphy or anyone else which you did not sign? I do not remember.

13946. Did you make any inquiries as to the memorials of 7th July, 1887, and 19th August, 1887, which you did sign? I read them through and spoke to Mr. Murphy on the subject, to the best of my recollection.

13947. Can you say whether you signed them off-hand or whether you made any inquiry? I spoke to him on the subject.

13948. Did you know what your were doing? I knew perfectly well.

13949. What were you doing? I was signing to have men put on to make roads which I understood from Mr. Murphy were Government roads.

13950. Were you asked by Mr. Murphy to get any other signatures to the memorial? I was not.

13951. Can you recollect whether it was left in your office or brought to you and taken away afterwards? I believe it was left with some of the fellows about the place. Mr. Murphy and I are old boating friends, and he does not stand on any ceremony with me, but walks in and out of my office, and has done for years.

Edward Percy Simpson called in, sworn, and examined:—

13952. *President.*] I believe you are a member of the firm of Want, Johnson, & Co., solicitors? Yes.

Mr. E. P.
Simpson.
9 May, 1889.

13953. Are you solicitors to the Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company? We have had no business from them lately; but I consider we are their solicitors.

13954. Were you ever asked to sign any petitions or memorials in connection with the construction of roads on the estate or in the district? Yes.

13955. Did you sign any? Well, from my recollection, I think I signed one, but declined to sign the others. There were some roads I thought necessary. If my recollection is correct, I signed the petition for those I thought necessary, and refused to sign it for the others.

13956. Do you think you signed any? I think I signed one.

13957. Do you recollect who brought you that one? I think it was Mr. Moloney, of the Holt-Sutherland Estate office. I think so, but I am not certain.

13958. Who is Moloney? He is a clerk in the office, and also secretary to the National Park Trustees.

13959. Have you any idea what the memorial had reference to? I could not say for certain. I think it had reference to the main road from Tom Ugly's Point to the National Park, but I signed in a great hurry, without carefully reading it.

13960. I will put before you all the petitions and memorials we have been able to discover amongst the papers of the Casual Labour Board or other departments, and I will ask you to say whether you recognise any of them as having been presented to you for signature? I could not do that.

13961. Will you look at memorial dated 7th July, 1887 [*Exhibit S 1*];—have you signed that? No, I have not.

13962. Have you any recollection of the memorial which is for doing some work on the main Illawarra Road being presented to you? I could not carry my recollection back two years to recognise any petition, because they were presented in an off-hand kind of way. I could not do more than generally swear that there were certain petitions presented to me for signature which I refused to sign, but that one petition I did sign.

13963. Will you look through this memorial of 7 July, 1887, and see whether any of your partners or of the clerks in your office have signed it? I do not see any of them. There are none.

13964. Will you look at the memorial of the 19th August, 1887 [*Exhibit I 26*] and tell me whether you have signed that? No, I have not.

13965. Is that signed by any members of your firm? Yes; I see it is signed by Mr. S. A. Want.

Mr. E. P.
Simpson.
9 May, 1889.

13966. Is that signed by any gentlemen, who at the time were clerks in your office? Yes; by Mr. Pinder, Mr. Dalton, S. A. Geddes. I am not certain about the initials of the other gentlemen, but I know Mr. Pinder's signature. I do not see any other names.
13967. Will you look at this memorial dated 22nd September, 1887 [*Exhibit R2*], and say whether you have signed that, or whether any members of your firm have signed it? I have not signed it. Mr. S. A. Want has signed it. I see the name of Mr. Moriarty; that is a clerk in our firm. Mr. Salwey, Mr. Bucknell, Mr. Geddes, and Mr. Dalton are clerks. I see here the signature of G. W. Ash. We have a clerk named Ash in our office. There is also the signature E. S. Daniell; he is also a clerk in our office; but I do not know about the initials of these two names.
13968. Is not J. H. Potter a clerk in your office? I do not know.
13969. Was he in September, 1887? I do not know.
13970. Was W. T. Davey a clerk in your office? I think a clerk we have is named Davies, but I am not certain.
13971. Then we may take it with regard to Moriarty, Salwey, Geddes, Dalton, Daniell, and Bucknell, you are certain, but of J. H. Potter and W. T. Davey you are not sure? I am not certain about Potter, and I am not sure whether our clerk is named Davey or Davies.
13972. You see that that memorial is really a memorial of S. A. Want and the clerks in your office? Yes.
13973. Were you aware of this before? If I had refused to sign it myself I would not have let my clerks sign it.
13974. Were any of these gentlemen you speak of articulated clerks? Bucknell, Salwey, Geddes, and Ash were. I think Moriarty was just out of his articles.
13975. Who were Dalton and Daniell? Daniell was a bill clerk; Dalton was a general clerk.
13976. Now, will you look at this memorial, dated 22nd September, 1887 [*Exhibit R3*], and see whether you signed it, any member of your firm, or any clerks in your office? I see Mr. Want has signed it; also, Daniell, Potter, Davey, Moriarty, Ash, Salwey, Geddes, Bucknell, and Dalton. I also see C. Stephens. We had a clerk of the name of Stephens, but I am not sure of his initials. I have not signed it myself.
13977. Do you think that C. Stephens is a clerk in your office? We have a clerk of the name of Stephens. In all probability, seeing that his name follows those of the other clerks, he is the same Stephens as we employ as a messenger.
13978. Will you look at this memorial, dated 10th May, 1888 [*Exhibit R4*], and see whether that is signed by you, by any members of your firm, or by any of your clerks? I see it is signed by Mr. Want, but apparently not by any of the clerks, nor is it signed by myself.
13979. Now, having looked through these memorials carefully, have you any recollection of ever having been asked to sign them? I have a recollection of having been asked to sign certain petitions for the construction of roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate, but as for identifying these particular petitions, I could not do it, because it is two years ago, and I do not suppose I looked at them for more than a second or so, and I did not read them. Being told what they were for, I declined to sign them without reading them.
13980. Are you a shareholder in the company? Yes. I have about eighty-six shares.
13981. Why did you decline to sign these memorials that were presented to you? I declined because I did not think that in the interests of the public the roads were necessary.
13982. You say that Mr. S. A. Want signed several of them;—did he ever discuss the matter with you? He did not.
13983. Did he give it any independent consideration? I cannot tell you.
13984. How many clerks have you in your office? We have about thirty altogether.
13985. Then we have about a third of them in this memorial? You have ten of them; that is including Potter, Davey, and Stephens.
13986. Do you know anything about some shares that were originally Sir Henry Parkes', and which were transferred to your firm? I only know of the transaction in consequence of having been referred to in the matter.
13987. Were you the member of the firm who attended to it? No, I was not.
13988. Do you recollect any question arising as to the ownership of a re-issue of shares that you thought your firm was entitled to? Yes.
13989. Do you know whether any person ever waited upon you in reference to that for the purpose of getting the shares from you? No. All I can tell you is from what took place between our late Accountant, who is now dead, and myself. The circumstances were shortly these. It became necessary for the Colonial Mutual Society to take up a mortgage that existed from Sir Henry Parkes to Mr. Woodhouse, and in consideration of their so doing, we gave the Colonial Mutual a guarantee to the extent of the money so advanced. In consideration of our doing that, these shares in the Holt-Sutherland Estate which then belonged to Sir Henry Parkes were handed to us to protect us against the contingent liability we were under. These shares were in the custody of our Accountant, Mr. Pinder, and I ascertained from him that he delivered them—at a time when the Company was creating a new issue of shares—to the Secretary of the Colonial Mutual Society, who, I subsequently found out, delivered them to Mr. Jamieson. My clerk was wrong in handing them over in the first instance, because no one had a right to them but ourselves, and the Secretary of the Colonial Mutual Society was wrong in handing them to Mr. Jamieson, but he did so, I understand, because he thought Sir Henry Parkes was entitled to the new issue of shares, as the shares were only held as security, and the fresh issue had to be got out in his name. He handed them to Mr. Jamieson as he thought under authority from Sir Henry Parkes, in order that the new issue might be got out in Sir Henry Parkes' name, the old shares to be delivered back and remain again as security in the manner they were first lodged. We communicated with Mr. Jamieson, telling him that we held the old shares, and that we also thought we were entitled to the new shares, and asked that he should deliver up to us the new shares that had been issued in proportion to the old shares held in Sir Henry Parkes' name. Mr. Jamieson did not think he was bound to do this, and said that he was entitled to them. I believe they had, in some way, been transferred to him by Sir Henry Parkes. Finally, the matter ended by our agreeing to refer the matter to some independent person. After we had arranged that, I think I had to go away somewhere, and when I came back I found Mr. Jamieson had made arrangements to go to England, and, therefore, the matter has to stand over until he comes back again.
13990. Then it is still an unsettled matter whether this new issue of shares, which we are told were four, should be handed to you or retained by Mr. Jamieson? Exactly.

13991. Did Mr. Jamieson ever see you about it? No; he never saw me about it. He went to the Secretary of the Colonial Mutual Society, and the Secretary came up to our Accountant. Knowing that they were interested, and thinking the thing all right, and also expecting that the new issue would be returned to us in conjunction with the old, the shares were given over, but the new issue was never given to us.

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Simpson.
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13992. Did you ever communicate with Sir Henry Parkes on the matter? No, I did not; for the simple reason that at this particular time, Sir Henry Parkes had assigned his estate, and, I think, got a release, and under the circumstances, he practically had no interest in the shares. The trustees would have been the only people we could have communicated with, because they would have been entitled to go to the Colonial Mutual Society and pay off all liability, in which case our responsibility would be at an end, and we should be bound to deliver them any securities we held to cover our contingent liability.

13993. Do you know the Holt-Sutherland Estate well? Yes; very well.

13994. Then I suppose when you were asked to sign these memorials, and did not consent, you brought your knowledge of the estate to bear on the matter? I did.

13995. Have you been out there since these roads involved in this inquiry have been constructed? Yes; I go out every fortnight.

13996. You know their position on the estate fairly well? Yes.

13997. Do you think from your knowledge of the locality that all these roads that you have seen, some cleared, some cleared and formed, some cleared, formed, and made, or ballasted, were constructed in the interest of the public? I think there are some roads on that estate that were necessary. I think the main road from Tom Ugly's Point to the Park was a necessary road to construct. I think the main road running through the estate to the Coronulla Beach, near where the Government have some 1,500 acres reserve was a necessary road, because lots of the public come down to Coronulla Beach, which is a lovely place, and there was really no access before these roads were made. If the Noxious Trades are to be centred at Kurnell, the road leading to Kurnell would have been justifiable, but all the offshoots from these roads ought not to have been constructed.

13998. *Mr. Franklin.*] Were you under the impression that the road was made to Kurnell? No. I said I thought the road to there would be justifiable. But some of these roads go a certain distance to Kurnell but do not go on. I think as far as any road goes to Kurnell it is a reasonable road to make.

MONDAY, 13 MAY, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P., | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Charles Nicholson Jewel Oliver called in, sworn, and examined:—

13999. *President.*] What position do you now hold in the public service? I am one of the Railway Commissioners.

Mr. C. N. J.
Oliver.

14000. You were at one time Under Secretary for Lands, I believe? Yes.

14001. Were you examined before the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly appointed to inquire into the work of the unemployed on the Hornsby and Holt-Sutherland Roads? Yes.

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14002. Is this your evidence? Yes.

Evidence before Select Committee.

1855. *Chairman.*] You were until recently Under Secretary for Lands? I was.

1856. Whilst you were occupying this position, had you anything to do with the proclamation of roads, or the surveying of roads by any officer of your department, on the land situated at Hornsby, owned by Burns, Withers, and Smith;—had you any connection with them as an officer of the department at all? The only connection I remember having with the question of these roads was the opening of a road from the Crown lands to the Hornsby station, which crosses a bridge, and is marked on the map before me as road A.

1857. Do you remember who was Minister at that time—was Mr. Copeland the Minister for Lands then? I think he was.

1858. What was the object of that road? In order to give access from the Crown lands to the station, or to the vicinity of the station.

1859. Does it go from Crown lands to Crown lands, as a connecting-link between two portions of Crown lands. There are Crown lands to the west? It affords a means of communication across the bridge to the station, such as would not exist had that road not been made.

1860. Do you, as an officer of the department, remember anything as to the origin or completion of any other roads? No; I know nothing about these road matters, other than what I have mentioned.

1861. Had your department anything to do with any of these roads in any way? No.

1862. You would have known if it had? Yes. I am of course, aware of the object of the Committee in this inquiry; but I had nothing to do with the making of these roads.

1863. Had proposals for any of these roads to come before you? In a general way. There were a number of subdivisions of Crown lands being carried out at the time, and I was always strongly of opinion, which was shared, I think, by the Minister of the day and by officials in the department, that it was a good thing to lay out the roads to a certain extent in the subdivisions, to clear them.

1864. *Mr. Copeland.*] On the Government subdivisions? On the Government subdivisions.

1865. *Chairman.*] You are not speaking of roads on private lands? No; there were no instructions given by me about such roads; I had nothing to do with them.

1866. Mr. Deering in his evidence yesterday spoke of you, Mr. Burns and himself being present at Hornsby;—do you remember any such occasion? Yes. Some question had been raised as to the upset price placed on Crown lands being excessive, not only the price placed

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placed on the Hornsby subdivision, but on some other lands, notably Manly Cove, and I had occasion to speak to Mr. Burns on the subject. He was at the time doing some portion of the work appertaining to the Minister for Lands. I was strongly of opinion that these upset prices were not excessive. They had, however, been recommended by me without my having seen the land, acting on the reports of the officers of the Department. In order to make myself satisfied as far as I could that the prices were fair and reasonable, I determined to visit the land, and on that occasion I was accompanied by Mr. Burns. The day turned out very wet, it was raining all the time, and I was simply able to make just a running inspection of the Crown lands. I then noticed that some roads had been made, I thought in a way that was unnecessary.

1867. *Mr. McMillan.*] Do you mean on the Crown lands? I am not prepared to say whether on the Crown lands or not. Some of the roads were metalled or metal was being put upon them.

1868. *Chairman.*] That is on the Burns, Withers, and Smith's property? I do not know. That can be determined by some one better acquainted with the locality.

1869. Do you think they were in the interest of the Department? I do not think that in subdivision of this kind roads need be made in such a substantial manner; but that is a matter of opinion. The upset prices, which were pronounced by Richardson and Wrench to 50 per cent. above the value of the land, were exceeded by 100 per cent., and even to a greater extent; so it must be considered whether those roads, made in the way I thought unnecessary, did not materially enhance the value of the land, and bring about this satisfactory sale.

1870. Was Mr. John Davies with you on this occasion? Yes.

1871. Why was he with you? I do not know. He was not with me. He may have come up to make some inspection of the work done by the unemployed.

1872. Was there any mention made of roads on the Burns, Withers, and Smith's estate? It was suggested that some other roads should be cleared. I do not quite recognize the road I refer to on this plan, but it was a road which would have given more direct communication to the station than the road A. I looked at it, and I saw that it was not on the Crown lands. It ran along the railway line.

1873. Did it run parallel with the railway line? Yes; and fronted private lands. I could not see that there was any necessity to clear that, and I would not consent to its being cleared at the Government's expense. Whether it has been since cleared or not, of course, I cannot say.

1874. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] You say that when you were inspecting the roads with Mr. Burns, Mr. John Davies standing near you, you were under the impression that the roads were on Crown lands; you were not quite certain whether they were on Crown lands or not? I did not say that. When I was speaking of the roads being metalled, or ballasted, I think the question was asked whether they were on Crown lands, and I said that that could be determined by others better informed. I made a very hurried inspection, and I was not in a position to particularise the roads on Crown lands or on private lands.

1875. Did you notice that on the Crown lands there were roads cleared? Several roads were cleared.

1876. Would you be surprised to hear that those metalled roads are on the lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith? Well, I cannot say that I should be surprised to hear it; but it is something new to me. I could understand Burrs, Withers, and Smith's land being bounded by a macadamized road, forming a common boundary; but I cannot understand that there was any necessity to have metalled roads passing through private property. Of course there was no reason why road A should not be made properly. I believe that it was stipulated that the road should be properly made when the land was given.

1877. *Chairman.*] Were any other roads so stipulated for? No; not to my knowledge. This is the only road that formed the subject of correspondence. The papers would show that it was agreed that it should be made available for vehicular traffic.

1878. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Then, notwithstanding your refusal to agree to this road being made parallel with the railway line, from road "A" to the Junction Road, you find that it has been made? I am not aware whether it has been made or not. I have never been on the land since.

1879. But if it has been made, and if it has been metalled, ballasted, and culverted, you regard that as a work for which the public have no right to pay? I distinctly said at the time that it was not necessary.

1880. You were Under Secretary for Lands, and the superior officer of Mr. Deering; do you know Mr. Gordon, the surveyor? Yes.

1881. Was Mr. Gordon supposed to act under the orders of Mr. Deering—Mr. Gordon is a surveyor acting under Mr. Deering? Yes; he would be, in connection with this survey. I see that the plan is signed by Mr. Gordon, so that he would be acting under Mr. Deering's directions.

1882. Were the services of Mr. Gordon ever lent by you to the Casual Labour Board? For a time, I believe.

1883. *Chairman.*] Were his services placed at the absolute disposal of the Labour Board? For a time, I believe, Mr. Deering had something to do with the unemployed.

1884. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] But after Mr. Deering gave up the control of the unemployed, were the services of Mr. Gordon supposed to be available by the Casual Labour Board? Yes; they were for a time. I could not say for how long, but for some time—perhaps two or three months.

1885. If Mr. Gordon recommended the making of certain roads, should that recommendation have gone through you or Mr. Deering;—should he have reported to his superior officer? I should think so.

1886. Did the fact that Mr. Gordon was working for the Casual Labour Board relieve him of the necessity of reporting through his superior officers? Not that I am aware of. He may have made reports in that way. 1887.

1887. During the time that he was working with the Casual Labour Board he was supposed to be an officer of your Department? Certainly; he was paid by the Department.
1888. Therefore, it was his duty to report through his superior officers? I should think so; I am not aware that he received any instructions to the contrary.
1889. Then if he has recommended that these roads should be made and metalled and ballasted, and has not reported so through you or through Mr. Deering, he has done so in violation of the rules of the Service? I should hardly like to say that he had so acted, for this reason, it was rather an unusual position to place an officer in. He was an officer of the Department of Lands, lent occasionally to assist the Casual Labour Board, because he was not wholly engaged in connection with the unemployed, and it might so happen that he would make a report of that character and send it direct to the person in charge of the unemployed, without sending it through his official head, and at the same time having no intent of committing any breach of the Regulations, though he would be actually guilty of doing so. I have a very good opinion of Mr. Gordon as an officer, and I should be loth to say anything that would prejudice him. I do not think he would do anything of the kind intentionally; that is to say, I do not think he would have any desire to withhold from his superior officer anything he might do, or any desire to do anything on his own responsibility, of which he might think that his superior officer would not approve.
1890. *Chairman.*] What you wish to imply is this—that having had his services placed at the disposal of the Casual Labour Board he felt in the position of a man with two masters? Yes; he would probably find himself in that position, and might report directly to the Casual Labour authorities without any reference to his superior officer.
1891. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Still the proper course would have been to have sent his reports through you or Mr. Deering? Yes.
1892. And if he had taken the proper course and recommended these roads, which you say are unnecessary, the probability is that you would have vetoed them in the public interest? I do not think I said that any roads were unnecessary. I think I said that the roads were being made in a way that I thought unnecessary.
1893. Take the road running parallel with the railway line? I should not have approved of that.
1894. You would have vetoed that? Yes.
1895. Or any other road which you thought was not required in the public interest? Yes. I would like to make it perfectly clear. As a matter of fact, I did object to that road running parallel with the railway being made. The only roads in reference to which I was consulted were the A road, and the road running along the railway line. I think the papers will show that I recommended that the former should be made, and I am quite satisfied that it was the proper course to pursue, even if we had to buy the land; but for this road running parallel with the railway I could not see any business necessity for it, and I only had to deal with it as a matter of necessity in regard to the opening of that road when we had to sell the lands. Those are the only two roads upon which I was consulted.
1896. *Chairman.*] All the rest you know nothing about? No.
1897. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Kindly refer to road D and H, which is cleared, ballasted, and fitted with all the accommodations of civilization—supposing all the other roads had been allowable, for arguments sake, if Mr. Gordon had recommended road D and H would you have endorsed that recommendation? No.
1898. Kindly look at road I;—would you have endorsed that road if Mr. Gordon had recommended it? I think not. I am speaking without a very accurate knowledge of the locality, so I must be guided by this plan. The road seems not to end at any particular locality. From the map, too, it appears to end at a church.
1899. During your term of office I believe there were a great many Crown lands cut up for subdivision, and roads made through them—at Heathcote and other places? Yes.
1900. When you subdivided these lands and laid out streets, did it ever enter your head to metal them and make channels and culverts? No; I think the very best subdivision the Department ever made was the Field of Mars.
1901. And the most expensive? Yes.
1902. And did the Department metal the streets there? In some portions; but that was a very extensive subdivision. The first sale realized £64,000.
1903. They ballasted the streets there? Ballasted some of them.
1904. And did they cut channels and make culverts? Yes.
1905. That was all upon Crown lands? Yes.
1906. And that is the only instance you can call to mind? I am under the impression that there was something special done at a place called Harbord at the back of Manly—to give some access there.
1907. *Mr. McMillan.*] I suppose you find it rather difficult to reply to some of the questions, not knowing the whole character of the country? I tried to convey to the Committee that I really do not know the locality well. I do not think that I was more than two and a half hours on the ground, and it was raining nearly all the time. I travelled from the railway station along the line to road A, and then crossed on to the Crown lands, returning to a point on the railing line, so that, as a matter of fact, I do not believe I was on the property of Burns, Withers, and Smith at all.
1908. You saw the Crown lands to a certain extent? Yes.
1909. You recognized here the principle of putting a road through private land for the purpose of opening communication with Crown lands? Yes.
1910. Suppose that your officer had reported to you that it would take £10,000 to make that Boundary Road, as against £2,000 or £3,000 for the Junction Road; suppose that he said that the only way to enable the people on the Crown lands to get at the railway station was to cut roads north and south, would it not alter your view of the position of affairs to

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a certain extent? I can tell you all about this Boundary Road now. I remember the circumstances. The question was raised as to whether it was possible to make this Boundary Road suitable for vehicular traffic at anything like a reasonable cost, and a report was made, I think, by an officer of the Works Department, to the effect that it was not possible to make a road without going to very great expense, but that in another position, some short distance away, the natural formation of the land was such that a road could be made at a comparatively small expense. Whether or not the Junction Road is the road I am not prepared to say.

1911. Taking it for granted that the impassibility of the Boundary Road is caused by gullies running north and south, which have to be crossed, would it not be clear to you that the occupants of the eastern portion of these lands would have to find their way to the Pearce's Corner railway by roads running north and south;—would it not be the policy of the Department, as far as your experience goes, to make an outlet under certain circumstances? We should endeavour to provide every reasonable means of access to Crown lands. If there was a railway station, for example, at both ends of the Crown lands, we should endeavour to provide access to both of those railway stations.

1912. Looking at this plan, you can see that one portion of these Crown lands has its natural outlet at the Hornsby railway station, and that another portion would probably have its natural outlet at the Pearce's Corner line. What I want to know is this: Taking this explanation I have given to you with regard to the configuration of the land, which is borne out by officers of the Department, would it be a very unusual thing to make roads to meet the convenience of the public land which you were proposing to sell? No; it would not be unusual. I know of instances where efforts have been made to purchase very considerable length of road through private property—not a question of only making the road, but of buying the land and making the road afterwards.

1913. So that practically you are in this position, that while you had to do with road A, and gave your opinion about the road running parallel with the railway, you are not in a position to give any general opinion as to what roads should be made for the purposes of communication at the present time? No; the question was never submitted to me. I think the papers in the Lands Department will show that, in connection with a subdivision known as the Gordon subdivision, it was proposed to make a very large purchase of land running through a private estate for the purpose of affording reasonable access.

1914. The principle is not a new one? No. It would follow, as a matter of course, that had that purchase been completed the road would have been made. I am not, however, aware whether the purchase has been completed.

1915. Then, judging from your previous remarks, it does not necessarily follow, from your condemning the metalling and ballasting of certain roads, that you would not have approved under some circumstances of other roads being ballasted; that is to say, you are not in a position to say that some of these roads might not be recommended for ballasting in other portions of the estate if they went through private property? It would have been an exceptional course to pursue.

1916. It is exceptional? Yes.

1917. When you speak of a road you mean a road simply formed so as to be available for ordinary traffic? Yes. I gave an instance where the Department did actually ballast the roads—at the Field of Mars.

1918. But that was all on your own ground? Yes.

1919. Then, taking the explanation I have given you as to the necessity for roads through the main block of the Burns, Withers, and Smith property, in order to give access to the Pearce's Corner railway, do you think that roads simply formed without any ballasting would be sufficient for the purpose? I think so.

1920. *Mr. Street.*] You have referred to a conversation which you said took place when you were on the ground with reference to this particular road? Yes.

1921. Was Mr. Burns present during that conversation? I think he was. I could not say positively whether he heard the conversation.

1922. *Chairman.*] With whom were you talking? Mr. John Davies.

1923. *Mr. Street.*] Do you remember whether Mr. Burns took part in the conversation? I am inclined to think he did not. If I remember rightly, I simply said, "I did not consider it necessary to clear a road along the railway land," and I continued to walk on towards the station, and the conversation terminated. It was not pursued any further. Whether Mr. Burns or Mr. Davies had any conversation afterwards about it or not I do not know. My conversation was with Mr. John Davies.

1924. You have no recollection of Mr. Burns offering to you any reasons why the road should be formed? I do not think he did. I do not remember it. It was, I think, proposed by Mr. Davies. The question was raised by Mr. Davies as to whether this road running parallel with the railway should be cleared, in order to give more direct access to the railway station.

1925. *Mr. Copeland.*] Access from where? From the Crown lands. The access afforded by road "A" is across the bridge; whereas the access that would have been afforded by this other road, had it been cleared, would have been more direct. You would not have had to cross the line. There is no doubt it would have been a better access; but I did not consider that, in the interests of the Crown, it was necessary for merely sale purposes to clear that road.

1926. You have no recollection then of Mr. Burns taking any part in the conversation about the clearing, and urging reasons why it should be done? No.

1927. *Mr. Copeland.*] With reference to the formation of that road "A," do you remember whether I took any Ministerial action in the matter; it was stated by Mr. Burns that these roads were originated by me during the time I was in office;—do you remember the question being dealt with? There was a general instruction given. You will probably remember that

that great interest was taken at the time you were in office in these subdivisions, with a view of making them as attractive as possible to the public; and there was a general direction given referring not only to these subdivisions but also to various other contemplated subdivisions as to the making and forming of roads. That was a general decision affecting the making of roads through subdivisions.

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1928. Through our own subdivisions? Yes, I remember that minute; but I cannot find it in the papers before the Committee, which do not to me appear to be complete.

1929. Do you say that Mr. Burns was acting for the Minister for Lands at the time when he was out with you on these lands at Hornsby? No; I said that previously I had occasion to refer to Mr. Burns while he was acting for the Minister for Lands; but he was not acting for the Minister for Lands at the time he was out with me.

1930. Can you fix the time when he was acting for the Minister for Lands? There would be some difficulty, because he acted once or twice, or even more frequently.

1931. For what period, roughly speaking? It was in the early part of this year that he acted.

1932. That was during the time that Mr. Garrett was Minister? Yes; I think I went to inspect this land early in July this year.

1933. You then saw a number of roads which you deemed were unnecessary in the interests of the Crown? I did not say that the roads were unnecessary, but the way in which they had been ballasted.

1934. And culverted? Yes.

1935. Looking at this map, and bearing in mind that the Crown lands lie to the north of the Burns, Withers, and Smith property, if the work of the unemployed had been under your control, would you have permitted the unemployed to make all the roads you see marked on this map at the Government expense, with the view of improving these Crown lands? Expressing an opinion from the information conveyed by this plan, I should have to state that I could not allow the work to be carried out.

1936. Would you not rather have expended the money in making roads through your own Crown lands? My endeavour would have been to make the Crown lands as attractive as possible.

1937. Exactly, not to make the private lands attractive? Not to make the private lands attractive.

1938. Can you remember any instance in any of the Government subdivisions where some like £5,000 or £6,000 has been expended in making roads through adjoining private property? Small sums have been expended.

1939. That is in obtaining a road of access? Yes.

1940. This road you refer to at Gordon, was that a road of access from Crown lands to Crown lands? Yes.

1941. Being in that respect somewhat similar to this road "A"? Yes; but much more extensive. I think the price asked for the land was something like £200 an acre.

1942. And was it the intention to purchase the whole block of land, or merely a small strip for a road? Merely a road. I am not in a position to state that that intention was carried out. I know it was proposed.

1943. But that was merely a road of access from valuable Crown land to — ? To the railway—Pierce's Corner railway.

1944. If it had been suggested to you while you were Under Secretary for Lands that all these roads through the Burns, Withers, and Smith estate were to be cleared and grubbed, the roads formed, and about 4 miles of them metalled, culverted, and drained, would you have given permission for the Government to expend money in making those roads? I should not have recommended such a course.

1945. Would you have permitted it? I would not have permitted it either. I should like to qualify my reply, in consequence of something Mr. McMillan said in connection with his question that proved, from a business point of view, that it was desirable to give access to the railway at either one of two points. It would become a question for consideration, as a mere matter of business, whether or not a road should be made through private property.

1946. *Chairman.*] A "road," but would you say "a number of roads?" Certainly not. I only mention this to make myself clearly understood. I do not know anything about the land of Burns, Withers, and Smith.

1947. *Mr. Copeland.*] You are aware that to the north of the Burns' estate there is a vast area of Crown lands, none of which has been sold? I believe that is so.

1948. Bearing in mind that none of this land has been sold, and that it is described as exceedingly rough, and that it has not been even surveyed or designed, would you feel justified in expending money in making and metalling these roads to give access to Crown lands that have not even been designed for subdivision? No.

1949. You are aware that there was a subdivision of Crown lands at Hornsby; do you think that the making and metalling of these roads, and the spending of money upon them, was likely to give very much increase to the value of this subdivision near Hornsby? No, except to the extent I have just stated; it might afford a better means of access to the railway.

1950. Would not these lands derive their value more particularly by reason of their close proximity to the railway? And ready access to it. For instance, the road to the railway station, which is a continuation of the Boundary Road, is one which might have been made.

1951. Would you also have approved of the roads to the south of that road—the T-shaped roads? I would have approved of a road being opened to give communication to the railway station, at the eastern end of the Crown lands.

1952. You would not have approved of roads parallel to it to the south? Certainly not.

1953.

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1953. Are you aware whether any Government money was expended in forming and ballasting the roads through the Government subdivision at Hornsby? I was over a portion of that land, and the roads have been formed; but I could not say whether or not they have been ballasted, because I am not sufficiently acquainted with the locality to say positively whether a particular road was on Crown land or private land.

1954. Speaking in general terms, would you consider it judicious management if the bulk of these roads on the Burns-Withers property were cleared, formed, metalled, and culverted, and that as soon as you got on to the Crown lands adjoining no such work was done, but that the roads were merely cleared; would you consider that a judicious expenditure of public money? No; I should consider that if roads of a superior quality were to be made, they should be made on the Crown lands.

1955. Do you remember Mr. Burns making an application to have some land alongside the railway on the western side declared a reserve? An application was made by Mr. Burns, under the 11th clause, to purchase a piece of land containing 10 acres, intervening between the freehold of the applicant and the existing road.

1956. What was done in connection with that matter? That application was made on 30th September, 1884.

1957. What was done with regard to it? After investigation, it was disposed of by Mr. Secretary Garrett, in a minute, dated 4th March, 1887, to the following effect:—"I decide that the portion adjoining the recreation ground be temporarily reserved for future public requirements, and that the subdivision of the other part of the design be proceeded with. I approve of the proposed reserve." That was a reserve for a Court-house.

1958. But the application to purchase the 10 acres was refused? Yes.

1959. The Government had a subdivision of Crown Lands, consisting of this and other pieces of land adjoining the railway station at Hornsby;—do you see amongst the papers a letter from Mr. Burns, asking to have that subdivision withdrawn, and for the land to be declared a reserve? I find a letter from Mr. Burns, dated 19th November, 1886, in which he draws attention to the fact that there is a proposal to sell the reserve at Hornsby, situated on the western side of the Peat's Ferry Road, between the land of Burns, Withers, and Smith and the Hornsby Land Company, with an area of 20 acres, exclusive of an area set apart for a Public School; and he goes on to state that it will be impolitic to sell this reserve, as it is the only block of Government land near the junction fit for public recreation purposes.

1960. That block of land was subdivided, was it not? It was.

1961. And ready for sale;—do you see any minute there, or any estimate by Mr. Deering as to the value of the land per acre? Yes; he writes to this effect—"Nearly all the reserve is of a rocky and precipitous character, with the exception of a level area of about 10 acres beside the Hornsby railway station, and fronting the main road to Peat's Ferry. This frontage is worth not less than £2 per foot, and the total area of 10 acres is worth £3,000."

1962. What action did you, as Under Secretary for Lands, take on that application? I simply submitted it for the decision of the then Minister for Lands, Mr. Copeland, the facts being fully set out in the report.

1963. And my decision was that the application should be refused? Yes; and not to suspend the subdivision of land from sale.

1964. By looking at the papers you will see that Mr. Garrett subsequently dealt with the case, Mr. Burns having written to him after I left office. I wish to see what action you took in regard to this second application? Mr. Burns wrote, under date 15th December, 1886, acknowledging the receipt of a letter dated the 11th of the same month, inquiring where the reserves in question—that is, the reserves referred to in the letter of the 11th—were situated, as he felt sure they were unknown to the local residents.

1965. And making a further application, I suppose, to have the subdivision cancelled? Not in this letter.

1966. Will you read Mr. Copeland's minute dealing with Mr. Burns's proposal to have a reserve for public recreation made at Hornsby Junction? This is the minute:—"Mr. Burns, M.P., may be informed that sufficient provision has already been made for reserves in this neighbourhood; but should the public interest require it, further provision will be made. At present I see no reason for withdrawing the portion referred to from subdivision.—H.C., 7/12/86." The effect of that minute was communicated to Mr. Burns on the 11th. On the 15th he wrote a reply to the effect I have already quoted.

1967. What further action was taken? Mr. Burns's letter of the 15th was referred to Mr. District-Surveyor Deering for report, and Mr. Deering in his report explained the position of the land which he, in his former report, referred to as being available for recreation purposes, and upon that report Mr. Secretary Garrett gave his decision on the 4th March, 1887, which decision I have already read.

1968. Then Mr. Garrett, on the 4th March, reversed the decision which I had given in the previous December, refusing to withdraw the land from subdivision? He did not altogether reverse your decision.

1969. But, as a matter of fact, the 10 acres of land which Mr. Deering valued at £3,000 were applied for by Mr. Burns while I was in office to be reserved for recreation purposes? Yes.

1970. And I refused that application? Yes; on the ground that there was already sufficient reservation for the locality. The case came forward for further consideration, and it was decided by Mr. Garrett that these 10 acres of land should be temporarily reserved for future public requirements.

1971. But has it not been gazetted as a recreation reserve? The papers I have in my hand do not disclose the fact that the reservation was made, although Mr. Secretary Garrett approved of the temporary reservation of these 10 acres.

1972. Withdrawing them from sale? They were not advertised for sale.

1973. They were subdivided? No; it was proposed to subdivide them. The matter was in hand. Mr. Copeland's decision was in December, and before it was acted upon, Mr. Burns, four days afterwards, wrote a reply that brought the matter forward for review, and it was carried on then until the March following, when Mr. Secretary Garrett gave the decision which I have read to the Committee. That was on the 4th of March, 1887. I may say that the action I took in this matter as Under Secretary for Lands was purely of a formal character, and I notice scarcely a minute of mine throughout these papers.

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1974. Do you think the papers are complete? I think not.

1975. *Mr. O'Sullivan.* Are any of these missing papers pertinent to the present inquiry? I do not know. I cannot say that any papers are missing. Mr. Copeland stated that the reserve had been made. I say that if the reserve was made there are no papers here to show that it was so, and, therefore, to that extent the papers are incomplete. But the absence of these papers, even supposing that they are lost, would not be in any way material, because the *Gazette* notice is the authority as to the disposal of the land. The Executive minutes are simply something leading up to that action.

1976. If this reserve had been made, would it have had a tendency to increase the value of Burns, Withers, and Smith's land? It would have improved the locality generally, and I have no doubt would in that way have given additional value to their land.

1977. Would it have had the effect of removing from the market a piece of land that would otherwise have competed with theirs when their property was open for sale? Certainly. It would have had the effect of reducing the land available for the purposes of alienation.

1978. If the owners of this estate had laid out and started would the Government have been justified in taking the work out of their hands and making the roads themselves? No.

Charles Nicholson Jewel Oliver, recalled and further examined, 5th December, 1888:—

1997. *Mr. Copeland.* You have had an opportunity since you were last here of looking at the papers in this case? I tender a plan with the object of being able to reply to questions put by you to me yesterday. [*Appendix, plan 7.*] It is a plan showing the Crown lands on the western side of the railway line at the Hornsby station. At the northern part of the plan there is a public school site of 2 acres, with a paddock of 3 acres 3 roods 31 perches. This public school site was dedicated on the 13th October, 1881. That action was taken as usual in cases of the nature at the instance of the Department of Public Instruction. Subsequently portion 234, more immediately in the vicinity of the Hornsby station, containing 2 acres, was also dedicated for a public school at the request of the same Department. There is a portion of land on this plan, between Bellamy's land and the Peat's Ferry Road, of irregular shape, containing about 10 acres. It was originally applied for by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, under the 11th section of the Crown Lands Alienation Act of 1861, as intervening between their property and the Peat's Ferry Road. This application was approved of. It was, however, subsequently refused, and it was proposed to subdivide the land and to sell it by auction.

1998. On what ground was the application of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith refused? The 11th section. Application was refused upon the ground that the portion of land was such as should not be sold under that section—that is, having regard to its situation. It was, however, perfectly legitimate that an application under that section should be put forward. I think one portion of the section states specially that it applies to land intervening between the property of the person applying and a road—that is to say, the intention of the 11th section was to enable the person who, by some change in the direction of a particular road, had been severed from his proper frontage to recover it.

1999. Had this land ever been severed from the other property? I fancy that it had. I am not prepared to speak definitely upon the point. There are indications in the papers that the course of the Peat's Ferry Road had been diverted—that it was not originally in the position in which it now is. This application, however, under the 11th section, was, as I have already said, refused. Subsequently it was suggested by Mr. Burns that this land should be devoted to public recreation. That suggestion was not adopted, upon the ground that there were ample grounds in the locality. It was, I believe, represented that the land was worth £2 a foot, and that its total value was something like £3,000.

2000. That is for the 10 acres? Yes.

2001. By whom was the case dealt with? By Mr. Secretary Copeland, who decided to refuse the application for the reservation, and that the land should be subdivided and sent to auction. A further letter was received from Mr. Burns, as I think I explained yesterday, on the subject of the reservation of this land for recreation purposes, inquiring where ample provision for those purposes in the neighbourhood had been made, as he was not aware of their existence. That led up to the proposed subdivision of this area with some other land adjoining being reconsidered, and it was decided by Mr. Secretary Garrett that the portion of land shown upon this tracing as reserve 47, and that portion of land intervening between Bellamy's land and the Peat's Ferry Road should be reserved for future public requirements. A question was asked yesterday as to whether the reserve had been notified in the *Government Gazette*. I answered that the papers did not disclose it. That led to a question as to whether the papers were complete. They are complete, I find, because no such reserve has yet been made. There was simply an approval of the reservation.

2002. Then the reservation has not been gazetted, although it has received Ministerial approval? That is so.

2003. What has become of the school site to the north? It still exists. It was, I presume, applied for before it was known where the Hornsby station would be; and the site of the station having been determined, it was natural that the Department of Instruction should apply for a site in the vicinity of the station and where population would be likely to settle. That is the explanation I should give of the existence of the two sites without knowing the exact circumstances.

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2004. You say that the Department of Public Instruction applied for the second site? It applied for both of them.
2005. *Mr. Brunker.*] What is the distance between the two sites? They are about a quarter of a mile apart.
2006. *Mr. Copeland.*] You have a reserve made on the opposite side of the road for a court-house? Yes; it was made on the 7th January, 1888. It formed part of the 10 acres applied for—I mean the portion of land applied for by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith—under the 11th section of the Crown Land Alienation Act of 1861. It formed portion of the land which Mr. Burns afterwards suggested should be devoted to recreation purposes.
2007. This piece of land applied for as a reserve would give half a mile of frontage to the Peat's Ferry Road? Yes, about.
2008. The reserve for the police-station and court-house formed a portion of the reserve? Yes; a part of 47.
2009. What area is there in that reserve? Roughly, I should say 31 acres.
2010. Which was the land withdrawn from subdivision? A portion of land which I have described as part of the reserve 47, edged green, and a piece of land intervening between Bellamy's grant and the Peat's Ferry Road, not embraced in portion 233, dedicated as a site for a court-house and a police-station.
2011. The site dedicated for a court-house and police-station would give 1,000 feet of frontage to the Peat's Ferry Road? I would rather call it approximately 16 chains, as by this plan.
2012. But it would give you 1,056 feet? Yes, if exactly 16 chains.
2013. The land being valued at £2 a foot? That is Mr. Deering's valuation—not mine.
2014. I suppose that if any of the land were worth £2 a foot, portion 233 would be worth that amount? Yes.
2015. On account of its width and proximity to the railway station? Yes.
2016. Do you know what the piece of land for the hotel realized? I do not.
2017. This balance of 31 acres 3 roods 1 perch was withdrawn from subdivision at the instigation of Mr. Burns for a recreation reserve? I cannot say that. I know that Mr. Burns drew attention to the fact that necessity existed for reservation for recreation purposes, but the Lands Department reported against it.
2018. But the portion coloured green on your tracing has been subdivided for sale? Yes; and is now approved for reservation for future public requirements; subdivision was not proceeded with.
2019. Do you know whether Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith provided any reserve in their subdivision? I do not know anything about their land beyond the fact that it is in the locality.
2020. I suppose you do not know whether there has been any Government expenditure through the unemployed upon the roads upon the western side of the railway line? I do not know. I should like to make a slight explanation in connection with my evidence yesterday, which is strictly correct, although it may not be fully understood. It will be remembered that I said yesterday that I should like to see a plan of the Government subdivision. In order that I might fully understand the position of the land, I have consulted the plan which I have now before me. The plan handed to me yesterday, upon which I gave my evidence, showed a somewhat detailed subdivision of the land of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, but only showed the Crown lands known as the Hornsby subdivision in colour, without any subdivision at all. I was questioned as to having been on this land on a certain date. I had visited the land, as I had explained, for the purpose of satisfying myself as to the upset price. A question was then asked me as to my knowledge as to some roads made through the land of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith. I endeavoured to indicate from the plan then before me the direction in which I travelled over this land. I did so approximately, showing that I travelled in a northern direction. I can now fully explain the direction, and I think that it is material to my evidence as showing its value in regard to anything done upon the land of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith. Coming across the bridge over the railway line from the road marked A, I travelled up what is known in the Hornsby subdivision as King's Road. I followed nearly the whole length of that road down through the subdivision on to what is known as the Boundary Road, and by that road I went back to the station, going very little, if at all, upon the land of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith. I make this statement simply because I was examined as to the roads through their estate. My evidence as to the value of those roads can be taken only as an expression of opinion formed from the papers before me yesterday. I think that it is proper that I should make this explanation as any one inspecting these two plans will see that they convey quite a different impression to an observer who is not fully acquainted with both of the portions of land referred to.
- 2021-2. With reference to the road marked A, have you been able to detect any ministerial action taken with respect to exchanging a piece of land to the northward for that road? I have not been able to trace a ministerial decision, although there was evidence that one was given. The Committee can very well understand that I cannot give great personal attention to the matter, but I have done the best I could to trace this decision. I would suggest that one of the record clerks, or someone in the Lands Department, should be subpoenaed to produce the papers.
2023. Mr. Burns stated in Parliament that the making of these roads originated with me (Mr. Copeland); I had nothing to do with any of them except this one road marked A, and even that road does not appear on the papers to have ever come before me, but it was agreed by the department while I was in office that this piece of land should be taken in exchange for a piece of land further to the northward in order to give access from one portion of Crown lands to the other. That seems to be all the action taken in connection with this estate during the time I was in office? I have no doubt that the arrangements made in regard

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regard to that road were approved of by you. The records, as far as I have inspected them, show that. It goes without saying that it was a desirable road to make. It was the best access we could obtain from the railway to the Crown lands; besides it immediately connected two blocks of Crown land. In fact, it would have been a desirable arrangement to make even if we had had to pay a large sum of money for the road.

2024. *Chairman.*] In saying to-day that you had been on only a small portion of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's property, do you wish us to understand that you desire to correct any of your evidence in regard to the road running parallel to the railway? Not at all; my evidence in regard to that road is quite in accord with what I have just stated. I wanted the Committee to understand that I knew nothing about the roads further to the south.

2025. *Mr. Brunker.*] Was any action taken by the Department of Lands in connection with the making of these roads? None, except with regard to the road marked A. I think I said yesterday that the understanding when the road was given to the Government was, that it should be cleared for vehicular traffic, and formed—that is to say, that the road should be made.

2026. The Hornsby subdivision shown on the plan before you was done at the instance of the department? Yes.

2027. Had the roads been cleared when you were there? Such of the roads as I went over were cleared. My visit to the land was early in July last. I have not the slightest idea of what has been done since. It was very nearly two months before the land was sold that I visited it.

2028. *Mr. Copeland.*] At the time of your visit, were the unemployed working upon the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? That I could not say: as I explained yesterday, I was only a short time on the ground; it rained heavily, and it was Saturday afternoon; I saw no persons at work.

2029. *Mr. Brunker.*] Has it not been the practice of the department to clear these roads before offering the roads for sale? It has been of late.

2030. But not before the unemployed question cropped up? A general decision was given some time during Mr. Copeland's term of office that steps should be taken to make the land as attractive as possible, and that roads should be cleared. I think I am correct in stating that in the case of one subdivision the clearing was done by tender, but in other instances, after the unemployed question cropped up, the clearing was done by the unemployed.

2031. Before that, was it always done by tender? On one occasion only, and then on my own recommendation; we cleared some land at Liverpool. It was before the unemployed question cropped up. It was a special sale of land, and the land was in the immediate vicinity of the railway station.

2032. Does your experience enable you to say that this clearing of roads has had a beneficial effect? I am certain that it has.

2033. *Mr. Copeland.*] I suppose you know that we have large areas of Government subdivisions still uncleared, and upon which roads have been neither formed or metalled. I am aware that there are very large areas upon which roads have not been cleared.

2034. In no case have the roads upon these large areas been formed, even although they may have been cleared? In one or two exceptional cases roads have been metalled or ballasted, I believe, but it is not the practice.

2035. Have there not been, therefore, plenty of avenues of employment for the unemployed in improving our own Crown lands which have been subdivided for sale? I certainly think so.

2036. So that there was no need to employ the so-called unemployed upon private subdivisions merely with a view to find them employment? I think there was plenty of employment for the unemployed on our own lands. I may say that if my evidence has been taken as being favourable to this work being done by the unemployed, I should like to state at once that I think it is not at all desirable that work of this character should be done by the unemployed, if it is possible to avoid it. In my humble opinion such work would be better carried out if it were done by tender.

2037. *Mr. Brunker.*] You know the position of Mr. Burns' land relatively to the Crown land? Yes, from the plan.

2038. Do you think the construction of roads through the Burns, Withers, and Smith Estate in any way assisted the sale of the Crown lands? Some of them may have done so to this extent—they would give the surroundings a better appearance. They must of necessity have made the land more attractive. I think I mentioned yesterday that the Hornsby sale was really a successful sale; but whether the success was brought about by the way in which these roads were made it is hard to say. I can scarcely express an opinion upon that point, but I do know that the prices realized were high—that they were in excess of the prices put on the land on my recommendation, and far above the price which those experienced auctioneers Messrs. Richardson and Wrench said the land was worth and would realize.

2039. *Mr. Copeland.*] Don't you think that the metalling of roads upon our own subdivisions would have made our own land more attractive than the metalling of roads on the land of other people? I think so, if that has occurred.

2040. *Mr. Brunker.*] Do you think these roads were necessary as roads of access? Not all of them. Without an inspection of the land, I am not prepared to say that some of the roads leading up from the railway in different directions are not desirable for access, but it does not require an inspection of the land to enable me to say that all of these roads are not necessary.

2041. Do you think that reserve 47 is necessary in the interests of future public requirements? My opinion is that that is a piece of land which should not be sold, and I will briefly

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briefly give my reasons. Assuming that Hornsby will someday become a populous place, sites for the usual public buildings will be required, and if the Government were to sell this land they would afterwards have to resume a portion of it for these sites, probably paying very dearly for it. From a public point of view, therefore, I think it would be unwise to sell that land. I do not say that it will all be required hereafter for these public purposes, but we know from experience that fatal mistakes have been made in selling land surrounding railway stations and other places where public requirements necessitate areas being set apart for different purposes.

2042. *Mr. Copeland.*] Could not this reserve for a court-house have been taken out of a portion of reserve No. 47, instead of such a valuable portion of land as portion 233 being used for the purpose? I will not go into the question of the value of the land, because I do not admit your valuation; but I do not think it is a desirably-shaped portion of land to set apart for a court-house and police-station.

2043. Would it not have been better to have taken a portion out of reserve 47? That might have been a better arrangement.

2044. *Mr. O'Sullivan.*] Were you present at the sale of Crown lands at Hornsby? No.

2045. But you have been over the Hornsby subdivision? Yes.

2046. What portion has been sold? Everything indicated on this plan except the portion tinted red.

2047. Can you tell me whether the better part of the land has been sold? That must be left to public competition. We offer the whole of the land, and it is fair to assume that when people buy they buy the best portion.

2048. Do you know the character of the country remaining unsold? I cannot speak of my own knowledge. If you look at this plan you will see that the unsold portion is somewhat hilly.

2049. Bearing that fact in mind, do you think that if the roads J, I, and A had been constructed, sufficient access would have been given to the Crown Lands? I stated a moment before that I was not in a position to say absolutely whether these roads were necessary; but if by the roads you mention access were given to the railway line, I should say that reasonable access to the Crown lands would be provided.

2050. The roads I have named, in addition to road H, you will observe, strike the railway line and a public road at four different points;—should you not consider that reasonable access? Yes.

2051. You consider the Crown land sale a satisfactory one? Yes.

2052. The total amount realized was £4,300? I am not sure about that. The reason I say the sale was satisfactory was this: That the upset prices placed upon the land upon my recommendation were pronounced by well-known auctioneers, Messrs. Richardson & Wrench, to be from 25 to 50 per cent. in excess of the value of the land, while the land brought, as a matter of fact, from 50 to 100 per cent. more than the upset prices.

2053. Accepting the aggregate amount of the sale as £4,300, and bearing in mind that £6,000 had been expended to achieve that result, should you consider the result a satisfactory one? I should not; but I am not aware that £6,000 has been expended in connection with the formation of roads with the view of developing these Crown lands.

2054. Are you aware that it is the practice of the owners of private estates to subdivide land and to lay out roads prior to sale in order to give an increased value to the land? Yes.

2055. If you had been the owner of these Crown lands, and had seen that your neighbours to the south were laying out roads, would you have come in and relieved them of the expense of doing it in order to give access to your own land? I think not.

(*End of Evidence before Select Committee.*)

14003. *President resuming.*] Was that evidence submitted to you for revision? Yes.

14004. And having now heard it read, do you wish to make any explanation or correction? It is generally correct.

14005. Do you recollect the time when you were up at Hornsby with Mr. Davies and Mr. Burns? Yes; it was in July of last year, so far as I can remember.

14006. Were you up there more than once? Only once.

14007. Were you ever up there on any other occasion? I have been up there since, in my capacity as Railway Commissioner.

14008. Can you say whether at the time you went up there, when Mr. Davies and Mr. Burns were present, Mr. Burns was a Minister? He was Colonial Treasurer.

14008½. You speak in one place in your evidence before the Select Committee, that you had occasion to refer to Mr. Burns when he was acting Minister for Lands—what Minister was he acting for? Mr. Garrett.

14009. Not Mr. Sutherland? No. Mr. Burns acted for Mr. Garrett.

14010. Do you know whether Mr. Burns acted for Mr. Sutherland as Minister for Works? I do not recollect.

14011. How long were you connected with the Lands Office before you gave up your position? Between twenty-three and twenty-five years.

14012. So that your experience was considerable? I was eight years Under Secretary for Lands.

14013. Is it an exceptional practice, or otherwise, to metal and ballast roads such as those at Hornsby? It is an exceptional practice, as far as my experience goes.

14014. I am speaking of your experience? Yes; it is exceptional.

14015. Were you ever asked in your official capacity, on any other occasion, as to these roads? No; on no other occasion.

14016. Do you recollect whether Mr. Deering was up there on any occasion that you were present with Mr. Burns? Yes; he was up on that occasion.

14017. Will you kindly look at plan [*Exhibit D 4*], and tell me what road you mean in your evidence before the Select Committee, as the road running parallel with the railway? I refer to the road marked George-street on the plan.

14018. Do you recollect any conversation you had with Mr. Deering, specially with reference to that road? I cannot recollect any particular conversation. Mr. C. N. J. Oliver.
14019. Do you recollect Mr. Deering and yourself walking apart from Mr. Davies, and your asking him something about who the land belonged to? I remember asking Mr. Deering at one time during the afternoon, but I do not think we were discussing this particular road, as to the propriety of clearing it. I asked him, during one portion of the afternoon, whether it was Crown lands that fronted that road. He told me that it was not Crown land that fronted it. I am under the impression that the conversation took place when we were up at the other end of the land, and before the question was raised as to the desirability of clearing that land. The conversation with Mr. Davies took place at the lower or south-western part. I walked on, when I said I did not consider the road was necessary, in the direction of Hornsby Station. That terminated my inspection of the land. It was very likely that I had a conversation with Mr. Deering, but I do not remember making any inquiry about the land in that particular conversation. The inquiry I made was when I was up near the railway. 13 May, 1889.
14020. *Mr. Franklin.*] You know that the whole of that road marked George-street is private property? Yes.
14021. You did not think the road was necessary? I said that so far as the Lands Department was concerned that road should not be cleared.
14022. Do you recollect that the whole of that portion, close up to a road, had been subdivided for sale? No, I am not aware, Practically, I was not upon the subdivided land.
14023. Do you remember whether instructions were given to take a new road diagonally, as the country suited, to the head of the Vanceville Road, running diagonally north to the A road, which is on the eastern side of Burns, Withers, and Smith's property? I do not remember.
14024. You do not remember whether any instructions were given for the construction of a road running diagonally to junction with the Vanceville Road? No; I do not remember, unless it is a diversion of the Boundary Road. I do not remember any proposal to make a road diagonally. I do not say that the papers would not disclose it, but I have had no opportunity of refreshing my memory by reference to the papers.
14025. *Mr. Waller.*] Had Mr. Deering any power to give authority for the making of these roads, independent of you as Under Secretary? Not that I am aware of.
14026. If any authority were given by Mr. Deering, would that be recorded in the Lands Office? I should think so.
14027. If he gave directions for the formation of a road, there would then be some official document to represent that? I could not say that.
14028. If it went from you, would there not be? Yes.
14029. When you went out that day, did Mr. Davies appear to be anxious to receive instructions or authority for the making of this road? I cannot say whether he was anxious. The only conversation I had with him was with reference to this road fronting the railway line. I simply expressed my opinion, and there the matter ended, so far as I was concerned.
14030. Had you any conversation with Mr. Burns? I do not think so. I do not think he joined in the conversation. It was between Mr. Davies and myself.
14031. In fact we may take it that it was a short visit for official purposes? It appeared to me so utterly absurd that George-street would be of any value to the Crown lands, that I said "no" at once.
14032. May this Commission take it pretty well as a fact that if any authority had emanated from the Lands Office for the making of these roads, there would be a record of it? Yes; there must be a record of it. It must be either there as an original document, or as the press copy of a letter.

David Houison called in and further examined:—

14033. *President.*] Did you ever see these papers headed "Suggestions for dealing with the unemployed." It appears to have been in the Casual Labour Board Office on the 10th May, 1887? No; I do not think I have seen these at all. I do not remember this particular paper. I may have seen it, but I do not remember it. Mr. D. Houison.
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14034. Have you any paper, or have you ever had any paper appointing you further than this paper of 2nd May, 1887? That is the only document I have, the copy one with Sir Henry Parkes' signature.
14035. That is the only one? The only paper I ever received.
14036. Had you previously to this received any verbal appointment? None.
14037. Had you or Mr. Wells any authority to depute your joint powers to Mr. Davies solely? No. It was only resolved by ourselves.
14038. Did you ever receive any authority to do so from the Colonial Secretary? No, none.
14039. When Mr. Davies was appointed Chairman by you and Mr. Wells, did you interfere in the office routine? Well, I would rather call it assist.
14040. Did you ever examine the cash-book? No.
14041. Had you anything to do with the system of keeping books? I have seen books there. I have seen them on the table, and the officers at work at them.
14042. Have you seen Mr. Hinchcliffe doing anything with the books? Yes; I have seen Hinchcliffe repeatedly overlooking them.
14043. Do you know who kept the books? Hinchcliffe.
14044. Do you know his handwriting? Yes; I think so.
14045. Do you recognise that book? No, I could not externally.
14046. Inside? Yes.
14047. Do you know whose writing that is? Hinchcliffe's.
14048. All of it? Yes; all that I see here, unless there may have been a page done by somebody else during his absence.
14049. Who was the Accountant in the Department? Well, I understood he was Secretary and Accountant.
14050. Mr. Hinchcliffe has told us that this book is not in his handwriting at all, and the clerk who wrote it has been here, and has told us that it is not in Hinchcliffe's handwriting? I thought it was.
14051. Did you concern yourself at all about it? No; I trusted entirely to the Accountant. 14052.

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14052. Have you had anything to do with the payment of vouchers? No; nothing, except overlooking them when they came in.
14053. What did you do? I overlooked and checked the amounts and prices.
14054. Did you overlook all of them? No; I was not there. Vouchers were paid whenever they came in.
14055. Did you concern yourself about the pay-sheets? Not every individual pay-sheet; no further than looking through them occasionally. I do not think now that this is Hinchcliffe's handwriting.
14056. You can see by a cursory glance at this book that there are a large number of cheques drawn during the whole of that time. Did you authorize the drawing of any cheque? Not any particular cheques.
14057. What proportion of them? I could not enumerate them.
14058. Many? Whenever I was in I looked through them. I read cheques through repeatedly, and looked through the items in the vouchers.
14059. How long did you spend at the office generally? Well, I suppose about an hour or two hours in the morning when I was in.
14560. Do you know anything about the arrangements that obtained with regard to the supply of rations? When tenders were called for them?
14561. With regard to supplying and delivering them,—anything of your own personal knowledge? I have seen them delivered; but I do not know about the details.
14062. Was the system arranged by you or arranged by Mr. Davies? It was arranged by the Board.
14063. Did you have anything to do with the selection of the tradespeople with whom you were dealing? No.
14064. Were you aware of the arrangement that existed between the Board and M'Lean Bros. and Rigg? About supplying tools and things?
14065. Yes? Merely that requisitions were given for tools as they were required.
14066. Did you have anything to do with supplying them? No. I might have signed a requisition for tools when in the office and Mr. Davies was absent.
14067. Did you ever go through their vouchers? No; not the individual items.
14068. Do you know what the practice was with regard to the examination of these vouchers? Well, I understood that it was the usual departmental course.
14069. Did you issue any instructions? No.
14070. You left it entirely with Mr. Davies? Yes, and the Accountant.
14071. Do you recollect when you took office having any report made to you by any person with regard to Springall and Burrowes? No.
14072. Did you ever hear of a report by Mr. Gordon or Mr. Deering? I do not remember ever seeing it.
14073. Had it been mentioned to you? No; I do not remember anything of such a report.
14074. Did you ever, during the time you were in office, have the conduct of either of these persons brought under your notice further than you have already mentioned? Nothing beyond what I have already mentioned.
14075. Had you anything to do with the appointment of clerks, officers, or overseers? Nothing beyond recommending them for the works—that is the overseers. I did not interfere with the clerks at all.
14076. Who appointed them? Mr. Davies. If I thought any man fitted for the position of overseer anywhere I recommended him.
14077. Did you ever hear complaints of Mr. Larnach being drunk? I took no notice of what I heard.
14078. Did you ever notice him? No; I cannot say I have. I have noticed him queer.
14079. Did Mr. Davies ever tell you? No.
14080. Did you have anything to do with the receiving of the proceeds of the sales of firewood? No.
14081. Did you know what the practice was as regards cheques that were paid in for it? I understood that they were all paid into the Casual Labour Board bank account in error instead of the Treasury. I remember speaking to Hinchcliffe about it.
14082. Were you aware that Mr. Springall had a store account with Mr. Kidman during the time Mr. Kidman was supplying the Board with rations? No; only so far as I told you that we thought he was working this store for Kidman at the ground when we took charge.
14083. Did you know that he was supplying stores on the ground during the whole time? No; I had no knowledge of that.
14084. Did you ever see Springall? Yes; every time I went out. I was not out there very often.
14085. Do you recollect some work that was carried on in connection with a spur on the Port Hacking River? No; I never saw it. Do you mean what they were doing at Ewey?
14086. I mean the spur on the river? Oh, a sort of breakwater.
14087. Yes; had you anything to do with that? No; I condemned it.
14088. Who started it? It was started under the direction of the trustees, I think. It was not commenced by us, I think. The trustees asked that the work should be done, and the men were allowed.
14089. Was it done? It was partially carried out but not completed when I was there last. I went over it with Burrowes.
14090. Did Mr. Murphy ever see you with reference to what was done in the Holt-Sutherland estate? I do not know Mr. Murphy; I have never seen him.
14091. Did you hear of his name in connection with this work? Only in the papers.
14092. Do you know whether Mr. Davies and Mr. Murphy were friendly? No; I never heard Mr. Davies mention his name.
14093. Did you ever hear of any complaint made by a man named Robertson? No.
14094. As to irregularities alleged to have been committed by Springall? No.
14095. In connection with the stores out there? No; I do not recollect the man's name even.
14096. Or in connection with the sale of rations? No; I don't remember anything of the kind.
14097. I will read you the answers to questions 8868, 8869, and 8870 in the evidence of W. M. Robertson; is that correct? I do not know the name of Robertson. I do not remember it. I have, distinctly, no recollection of it.
14098. Nor of Mr. Wells speaking about it? No. I am positive it never was told to me. I have no recollection whatever about it. It might have been told to Mr. Davies, while I was present on the ground—when we were all together

14099.

14099. Was your concurrence asked in every case where work was initiated, before it was carried out? No.
14100. I refer to Mr. Davies' answer to question 796 before the Select Committee, in which he says that you were asked to concur before any work was initiated. Is that correct? No. It was after the initiation in some cases that my concurrence was asked.
14101. Did Mr. Davies act in many cases on his own responsibility? Well, I have generally heard of it immediately I got to the office. When I have been away for weeks Mr. Davies would act in the meantime.
14102. Did he report upon all the payments that had been made? No; the books were open to us in the office.
14103. How many meetings do you suppose there were at which the three members of the Board were present? I could not remember—over a hundred, I should think. In many cases Mr. Wells would be gone just the instant before I got there, and *vice versa*.
14104. Did Mr. Davies ever initiate works, and afterwards consult you? Yes, in some instances.
14105. And carry them out? With the approval of the Colonial Secretary.
14106. Not on his own approval? Not that I am aware of.
14107. Do you recollect ever having seen a letter that Mr. Sanderson wrote to Mr. Deering, in which the names of yourself and Mr. Wells were mentioned? No, I do not think so, I do not remember it.
14108. At which Mr. Davies was somewhat annoyed? No, I do not remember it. I did not take much notice of his communications—that is of Sanderson's.
14109. Were you consulted as to the system that was pursued in the office with regard to orders and paying accounts, and that kind of thing? No; I do not profess to be an Accountant at all.
14110. *Mr. Franklin.*] Do you know all the roads that were made on the Holt-Sutherland Estate? No.
14111. Were you aware of them? Not before they were made.
14112. Do you know where the localities were? Yes.
14113. Did you approve of them? They were approved by Sir Henry Parkes. I never saw them. I never saw the Holt-Sutherland Estate, until I visited it lately.
14114. My reason for asking the question is that Mr. Wells, in reply to question 1432, states that he objected to all that he saw done, except four, and I wanted to know whether the proposal for making these roads was brought before the Board as a Board, and received your consent and approval? Of course they were approved by the Board. But the roads were not visited by the Board. I never visited them.
14115. Do you take my responsibility for the roads? I take my share of the responsibility of course.
14116. Mr. Wells, in answer to question 1435 says he accepted no responsibility except in regard to those he had mentioned? Of course I accept the responsibility as one of the Board. I do not say I approved of them after they were done.
14117. Do I understand you to say you occasionally looked over the cheques? I have looked over the cheques and the vouchers for the pays, and also over contingent vouchers and any small vouchers that were in.
14118. Did you ever see the original abstract sheets from which the pay sheets were made out? Yes; I have seen them at the National Park, in a book there.
14119. Have you compared them? In looking over things I have looked them up.
14120. *Mr. Waller.*] Were there many of these cheques and vouchers at the time you chose to look through them? Yes; large amounts.
14121. So that it would be impossible with the little attention you could give to examine them very carefully? It was impossible for us to check the items.
14122. As regards the inspection of these accounts, did you not go through the items? No further than Mr. Darley would do with me. Mr. Darley could not possibly go through all the figures in our vouchers. He trusts me and I trust the Superintendents that they supply me with correct amounts and quantities.
14123. *President.*] There has been some evidence given about you which it is only fair I should read to you; I read to you questions and answers, being Nos. 5102, 5103, 5104, 5105, 7437, 7438, 8042, 8043, 10893, 10894? I make no explanation. I don't consider any necessary. It carries falsehood on the face of it. It is absolutely false.

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13 May, 1889.

TUESDAY, 14 MAY, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P. | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Thomas Cooper Hinchcliffe called in and further examined:—

14124. *President.*] Do you wish to make any corrections in your previous evidence? Yes. And another matter is, that in your special report you say that I said I was not Accountant, and the other witnesses said I was; you have documentary evidence before you that I was appointed Secretary and Paymaster; it looks in the report as if I swore one thing and that several other witnesses swore another; I have to make my living, and I do not wish to come into conflict with any of the gentlemen giving evidence here—there is no occasion for it.
14125. Do you wish to make any corrections in your evidence? Yes. They are simply to make matters more explicit. In answer to question 673, which says, "I did the principal business previous to that," add the words "under Mr. Wise." In question 674, "he then asked for my services," insert "the Colonial Secretary" after the word "asked." In question 677, "the correspondence was inserted in the books," say "Record" books. In question 714 read "the unemployed used to go in deputations." In question 715, say 4,000 at "one time," not "a time." In question 735, the figures £1,000 should be transferred to the end of the answer. In question 754 add "Mr. Larnach." In question 759 strike out the words "might be carried out," and insert "the goods were sent to." In question 766 strike out the words "small amounts." In question 770, the sentence, "not a large sum, £10 to £50," should read "£10 to £100"; also say "never more than £100." In question 817, in the sentence, "I had been there to pay for Mr. Wise and at Carlingford," strike out the word "and." In question 822½ make it read, "applied to Mr. Burns to send some one

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- one, but the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade said it was not necessary." In question 823 make it read, "It is only, I believe, where large sums are daily received." In question 831 strike out the words "so with regard to several other sums, I think about £300 altogether, that the course he adopted was against the rules of the Department," and insert instead the words "I thought the Treasury was the proper place to pay the money in." In question 840 say, "small sums paid to me would be for rations;" strike out the words "for instance" and say "one day a man left" instead of "put £2 on the pay-table." In question 857 insert the word "No" at the beginning of the answer, and add at the end "the unemployed then." In question 914, instead of "We would have to find out that next day," read "We would have to pay that out next day." In answer 915, instead of "the Chairman would pay him and sign on the margin," read "and the man would sign on the margin." In question 967 read "I used to put paid by T. C. Hinchcliffe." In question 1009, instead of "a man earned 4s. or 4s. 3d. a day," read "4s. or 5s. a day." In question 1015 the words "on a plan" should be added to the answer. In question 1024 strike out the words "on the 30th," and insert "within a few weeks." In question 1031, instead of "it was stated at one time" read "twice in the Legislative Assembly by Sir Henry Parkes." In question 1032 the sentence "he would tell me on account" should read "he would not tell me." In question 1033 the figures "£260" should be altered to "£261 10s." In question 1051 the answer should be "No" instead of "Yes." In question 1067 the word "out" should be struck out, and it should read "the clerk to fill up," instead of "sign the order." In question 1074 instead of "we trusted to Mr. Burrowes," read "the Superintendents." In question 1075 add the words "I said I was told that." In question 1121 add at the end of the answer "or at the different works." In question 1125 add at the end of the answer "to a small extent." In question 1128 add at the end of the answer "all orders had to go through the head office." In question 1139 add at the end of the answer "the vouchers would be in the office." In question 1143 read "he had as a housekeeper." In question 1144 strike out the name "Baker" and insert "Baber." In question 1153 add at the end of the answer, "I acted as Paymaster." In question 1158 read, "they had butts to them," instead of "butts in them." In question 1191½ add to the answer, "I explained these amounts previously."
14126. Have you seen Mr. Davies since you were examined before the Commission? Yes.
14127. When? The day the Special Report was laid upon the Table of the House.
14128. What took place? He seemed to be greatly put out. He said it was a very one-sided report, and that he was going to reply to it.
14129. Where did you see him? At the Temperance Hall.
14130. Did you go to see him? Yes.
14131. At his request? No.
14132. Was anything else besides the Report discussed? Nothing beyond the application I am making to the Department. He knows I am entitled to the money, but the papers do not go through unless you get some Member of Parliament to push it for you.
14133. Did you request him to use his influence? He had spoken to me about it previously.
14134. Is that the only time you have seen him since you gave evidence? I think I met him here one day in the Colonial Secretary's Office.
14135. Did he enter into any discussion as to the evidence then? No.
14136. How long were you discussing matters at the Temperance Hall? Only a few minutes.
14137. Did you know of these moneys which the evidence discloses he received for firewood? No, I did not. I knew he had been receiving certain amounts, but I thought that he paid them into the Bank.
14138. Did you know he had paid them into the City Bank? I did not. I would not know anything about that, beyond seeing the letter open on the table.
14139. Did you see that cheque for £26 17s. 7d.? I could not swear to that particular cheque, although I see it has my name filled in; but I do not think I saw it, or else I should have noticed it.
14140. Were you sitting in the same room as Mr. Davies? Yes. He would be at one end of the table and I would be at the other.
14141. Do you recollect the different times that Hillier came there? Yes.
14142. Did you see what cheques he brought? No.
14143. Who made up the amount which had to be paid to Hillier? Mr. Burrowes.
14144. There is another cheque for £33 3s. 2d.—did you see that? I cannot say that I saw any particular cheque. I have seen the book occasionally, but what the account was I did not notice.
14145. Do you recollect Mr. Larnach paying Mr. Davies any sums of money? No, I do not. He paid me £2 once, for which I gave him a receipt.
14146. This is some evidence which Mr. Larnach gave to this Commission, in answer to a question asked him:—"I, myself, gave John Davies, on 15th December, 1887, £6 10s. for firewood that had been sold at Carlingford. After I had done so I thought I had made a mistake, as he never offered me a receipt. I felt rather queer about it, as Mr. Hinchcliffe told me once or twice to pay the money to Mr. Davies. I was determined to get an acknowledgment from him that he had received the money, so I asked Mr. Hinchcliffe if he would ask me when Mr. Davies came in, if I had received certain money from Carlingford. Mr. Hinchcliffe did so, and Mr. Davies said, "He handed them to me, I have them." Now, is that evidence true? I do not recollect a word of it. Mr. Larnach was very particular if he brought back any money to get an acknowledgment. I do not think he would give over any money without getting a receipt for it. I do not know how he come into possession of the money.
14147. Mr. Larnach had some book in his possession. He further said, "This is an almanac on which I made an entry on the day I paid it. It is dated 15th December?" I do not recollect a word about it. There were strained relations between Mr. Davies and Mr. Larnach at that time. If Larnach had handed any money to Mr. Davies, he would certainly have asked for a receipt.
14148. Why were there strained relations then? Mr. Davies wanted to get rid of him several times, and spoke a little cross to him once or twice.
14149. That was in December, 1887? I do not recollect about December, 1887; it would be December, 1888.

14150.

NOTE (on revision) :—Q. 14128—Answer to read : "He said your special report was the most one-sided report he had ever seen," &c. Q. 14132—For "am making" read "made" Q. 14133—Answer to read : "I had spoken to him about it three months previously" Q. 14139—For "noticed" read "remembered" Q. 14149—After "would be" read "some time before"

Mr. T. C.
Hinchcliffe.
14 May, 1889.

14150. The evidence I read gives it as December, 1887? Then I do not suppose matters were so strained then.
14151. Did Mr. Davies speak to you the other day about that £6 10s.? No.
14152. Not a word? No. I do not know where Larnach could have got that money from.
14153. He says from Carlingford? I do not know anyone that would give it to him.
14154. What would lead up to the paying of the cheques entered in this cash-book throughout the work of the Board? What do you mean by lead up to them?
14155. There are a number of cheques entered through the book, what would lead up to them? I presume they are mostly for wages.
14156. What would lead up to them? I do not understand what you mean by what would lead up to them.
14157. It is plain English? The pay-sheets would come in in the ordinary manner. They would be checked in the office, and a cheque would be drawn for the amount.
14158. By whom? By Mr. Davies and myself.
14159. Would Mr. Houison or Mr. Wells be present when you drew the cheque? No.
14160. Would they be present from the time you got in the pay-sheets up to the time you drew the cheque? They would be present pretty often. I could not say about any particular pay-sheet.
14161. What was the practice in drawing cheques;—were they drawn by you and Mr. Davies in the presence of Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison? If they were not there they would be drawn just the same. What the cheque was for, in the shape of the work, would be in the body of the cheque, and the vouchers would be numbered the same as the cheque.
14162. Were these payments authorized at any time by Mr. Wells or Mr. Houison? No; they would not require to be authorized.
14163. All the payments, then, would be authorised on Mr. Davies' authority? Yes, on Mr. Davies' authority.
14164. Were the payment of these cheques reported to Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison at any time in your presence? They would not be reported. They were paid, and they could look at the pay-sheets. Mr. Houison would come in and look at the pay-sheets.
14165. Supposing they should say that they would not authorise the payments? It would not be requisite for them to authorise them.
14166. Can you explain how it comes that in the months of December, 1888, and January, 1889, there is such an unusually large amount of petty cash payments? No; I cannot. Only Mr. Davies' voucher comes in on that month. That is a very large item out of it. I could not explain about the others.
14167. Apart from that amount of Mr. Davies' then, you can give me no explanation? No. My own six months petty cash came out of it.
14168. Did you bring any of your own vouchers into that month? Yes.
14169. Is this Commission to understand that you kept vouchers constantly in reserve, not entered up in the book at all? Yes; I always had a lot in the box.
14170. Would anybody else know of them? They would not know the particulars. They would know they were there.
14171. Who would know they were there? Anybody in the office.
14172. The messenger? No.
14173. Mr. Josephson? No; Mr. Hibble, Mr. Larnach, and Mr. Davies would know.
14174. Would they know the amounts? No.
14175. Then you might have, in the cash box, a voucher six months old for a considerable amount? I do not think for a considerable amount, excepting Mr. Davies.
14176. Was Mr. Davies' a considerable amount? £261 10s.
14177. Did you have vouchers for the whole of the amount? He gave me vouchers at the finish. It is just possible I would have some vouchers by me which would be six months old. There might be one for some odd amount which they would keep putting back in the box.
14178. What object had you in keeping them so long not entered up in your books? No object at all. They would be entered up periodically.
14179. What do you mean by periodically? Once a month, or once two months, or once in six weeks—no particular period.
14180. Supposing anything had happened to you, would there be any record at all? Not of the cash vouchers. You see Larnach and Hibble, at the finish, had charge of the vouchers where the cheques were drawn. They would make up £6,000 worth without any cash vouchers. They would say, "You will want this to-morrow or the next day."
14181. If the cash-book shows a credit of £500, according to your evidence you had vouchers for all that in your box? I might have £100 in cash and the rest in vouchers.
14182. Supposing anything had happened to you, would anyone have known anything about this—would they have known that the vouchers were in the box? Oh, yes, always. They would have asked Hibble or Larnach, and they would tell you.
14183. When you settled with Mr. Davies in December, did he pay you money, or did you pay him money? I paid him money.
14184. Are you sure? Yes.
14185. Look at pay-sheet Leichhardt Park, December 4, 1888, to January 5, 1889. Who is J. Baker on that pay-sheet? I do not know.
14186. In whose hand-writing is the pay-sheet? In Mr. Evans, the superintendent.
14187. Who paid that money? It was paid by Josephson, it says.
14188. Why was that paid out of the petty-cash? I cannot say. Because we had the petty-cash in hand. It might have been a holiday or something. I cannot tell now.
14189. Was it usual to pay large sums like that out of the petty-cash? It has been done.
14190. Was it a usual thing? It was not a usual thing, but it has been done several times.
14191. I want to read this evidence of Mr. Hibble's again to you. [*President read question and answer Nos. 7291 to 7303.*] Do you wish to give any explanation as to that? I never said anything of the sort. I could not know myself.

101—3 R

14192.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 14177—For "vouchers" read "one voucher" and for "they would keep putting" read "for some reason would be kept" Q. 14180—After "they would say" read "Here is another £6,000 ready"

- Mr. T. C. Hinchcliffe.
14 May, 1889.
14192. When Mr. Hillier came to bring in these cheques for firewood did he get a cheque himself? Generally. If he presented a voucher signed by Mr. Burrowes.
14193. Did you have to countersign that cheque? Yes.
14194. If he paid in a cheque for £26 17s. 7d., and got a cheque for £29 1s. 6d., would that cheque be countersigned by you? Yes.
14195. Would you make any inquiry about it? No; not if it was signed by Mr. Burrowes or Mr. Davies in a voucher.
14196. *Mr. Waller.*] What disbursements had Mr. Davies to make in connection with the office? None that I am aware of.
- 14197-8. Did he have payments to make in the way of paying men? Only the money he had previously received on account of the men.
14199. Only in regard to unclaimed wages? Yes.
14200. Was there any occasion for him to keep the proceeds of the sale of firewood in hand with which to pay anything? No. If he wanted money at any time I gave it to him.
14201. As a matter of fact, did he ask you for money? Yes.
14202. And you gave it to him? Yes.
14203. Then, between the petty-cash in hand and the unpaid wages he had sufficient money in hand to meet any claim for wages or other things? Yes.
14204. These vouchers I hand you—have you any recollection of them? No; I may have seen them before, that is all.
14205. Have you any recollection of Mr. Burrowes being asked to sign them in the office? No.
14206. Have you any recollection at all as to the particulars of these vouchers? No; I might have seen them; they are all in due form.
14207. Who had charge of the paid vouchers? The cash vouchers were in my box, locked; the other vouchers were put in a safe upstairs.
14208. Had you access to Mr. Davies' safe? No; Mr. Hibble had; he had a duplicate key.
14209. Do you know whether Mr. Davies kept any cash there? I think so.
14210. Did you ever see it? No; he told me he had money there; he generally put the vouchers in a drawer when he first paid them.
14211. Did he put the account sales in a drawer? When he had them first he did, but he might have taken them out half-an-hour afterwards, for all I know.

Francis Abigail, M.P., called in, sworn, and examined :—

- F. Abigail, Esq., M.P.
14 May, 1889.
14212. *President.*] Are you a member of Parliament? Yes.
14213. And have been for several years past? Yes.
14214. Were you a member of the Government of which Sir Henry Parkes was Colonial Secretary in the years 1887 and 1888? Yes.
14215. Can you say whether the creation of the department known as the Casual Labour Board came under the consideration of the Cabinet? It was reported to the Cabinet by Sir Henry Parkes.
14216. Reported that it had been formed, or that it was desirable? It was brought up as a paper for the approval of the Cabinet.
14217. Can you say whether it was reported or brought up for approval that Mr. John Davies should be appointed Chairman of the Board? I cannot say; I do not think so; the names of the three who constituted the Board were reported; I do not recollect anything being stated as to who should be Chairman; I was under the impression that they would appoint their own Chairman.
14218. Can you say whether during the time you were in office, the question of the roads at Hornsby, or in connection with the property of Burns, Withers, and Smith came before the Cabinet? I have no recollection of it having done so.
14219. Were you a frequent attendant at the Cabinet meetings? A regular attendant; I do not think I missed one.
14220. Can you give your belief as to whether or not the question of the propriety or otherwise of these roads was considered? I may say that I am satisfied they were not.

James Inglis, M.P., called in, sworn, and examined ;—

- J. Inglis, Esq., M.P.
14 May, 1889.
14221. *President.*] Are you a Member of Parliament? Yes.
14222. I believe you were a member of the Government of which Sir Henry Parkes was Colonial Secretary in the years 1887 and 1888? Yes.
14223. Were you in the habit of attending the Cabinet meetings regularly? Yes.
14224. Can you say whether the question of the creation of a department for the administration of the unemployed came before the Cabinet at all? Well, when we came into office the question of the unemployed was already before the country; but along with a vast amount of papers the question was mooted of bringing it under proper dimensions and trying to do away with it if possible.
14225. Can you say whether the question of a department or Board was touched upon? The Board is a different thing. The question of a Board was considered by us. There was the Carrington Soup Kitchen and a lot of things before we came into office.
14226. Can you recollect whether the question of the Casual Labour Board was discussed, or reported to the Cabinet? I did not pay much attention to it, not being in my department. I fancy the Colonial Secretary made the arrangements as a merely departmental thing with the sanction of the Cabinet.
14227. Do you know whether the question of Mr. John Davies being appointed Chairman of the Board came up? It naturally would. As an executive matter it would be mentioned to the Cabinet.
14228. Have you any recollection, as a matter of fact, of it being mentioned? I do not remember, but I have not the slightest moral doubt that it was.

14229.

NOTE (on revision) :—Q. 14196—After “aware of” add “except for personal expenses.” Q. 14200—Omit “No,” insert “Except personal expenses and unclaimed wages.” Q. 14203—After “Yes,” add “as far as I knew.”

14229. Can you recollect whether, at any meetings of the Cabinet, the question of constructing the roads at Hornsby of Burns, Withers, and Smith, came up? No, I do not remember anything about that. I have a vague recollection of the matter; but after the thing was once settled I do not think any of the work that was before the Board came before the Cabinet at all.

J. Inglis, Esq.,
M.P.
14 May, 1889.

14230. What was your portfolio? Minister for Public Instruction.

14231. Here are five memorials having reference to the initiation of certain work, each of which has on it "Approved, H.P." Can you say whether you ever saw those documents? I would have to read them. I do not know until I see what they are. [*Reads the memorials.*] I cannot say that I remember anything about any specific work at all being brought before the Cabinet in connection with the Casual Labour Board.

14232. I believe Mr. Burns was Colonial Treasurer. Do you recollect him at any Cabinet meeting expressly asking that some inquiry should be made about the roads at Hornsby? Yes, I believe that Mr. Burns, in conversation of course, stated that he would like some inquiry to be made. It is a long time ago, I cannot recollect the exact terms of it. I do not remember whether it was before or after the question was mooted in the press.

Frederick Wells called in and further examined:—

14233. *President.*] Do you wish to make any corrections in the evidence you previously gave before this Commission? Yes.

Mr. F. Wells.
14 May, 1889.

14234. Will you give them? In my answer to question 1235, instead of "the work that we found for them was," read, "the men were paid at the rate of 5s. per day." In the same answer, after the word "men," in the sentence, "keep up the practice of giving the men about 6d. per hour," add "piece-work to yield;" after the words, "who offered to supply," add, "the increased ration." In the sentence, "it was compulsory that they," say "compulsory that all." In the sentence, "when I gave my evidence before the Select Committee that they had been audited," read "had not been audited." In question 1253½, in place of "366 days," read "146," and add the words "from Sydney," at the end of the answer. In my answer to 1262, in place of saying "the Chairman was the head of the department," say "the Chairman, although head of the department, had to consult his colleagues." In my answer to 1282, say "he was good at clearing and making ordinary gravel roads." In my answer to 1285, say "Possible, but I, &c." In my answer to 1288, add at the end "in his subordinates." In my answer to 1294, say "Yes, in the safe." In my answer to 1302, say "Yes, as far as my attendance allowed." In my answer to 1305, instead of "and I requested Mr. Houison," say, omitting "and," "I requested Mr. Houison to visit the Junction Road, I had a conversation with Mr. Burns"; then after "the Government would clear and form the road," add the words "to Hornsby Station." In my answer to 1312, add "by the Board." In my answer to 1314, say "he was our overseer in charge" instead of "surveyor." In answer to 1315, read "No; first appointed by the Roads Department as a kind of officer, and then he was transferred again when the Board took charge." In answer to 1334, after the words "of course," add "we did not expect too much." In answer to 1336, instead of "very efficient," say "fairly efficient." In answer to 1343, say "more or less money," instead of "more money," and leave out the word "and" after "entitled to." In answer to 1349, instead of "for Campbelltown," read "near Campbelltown." In answer to 1352, add "and I also think another." In answer to 1353 add, at the commencement, "I only heard of them." In answer to 1359 add, at the end, "not so often as I should have wished." In answer to 1360, say "I went sometimes with both, sometimes with Mr. Houison, sometimes singly." In answer to 1361, strike out "Oh" at the commencement, and add, after "National Park," the words "Rookwood, Gordon, Beecroft, Narrabeen, and other places"; and at the end, instead of "he appeared anxious that," read "appeared to think that." In answer to 1362, for "long before I had notice," say "we had noticed." In answer to 1363, add, at the end, "to about that." In answer to 1374, alter the word "officers" to "Board." In answer to 1393, for "that Mr. Deering," read "when Mr. Deering." In answer to 1401, for "I have met," "I meet and shake hands." In answer to 1404, before the word "country," read "exact." In answer to 1434, for "an income," read "benefit." In answer to 1437, say "some of them are cleared very much wider than was intended." In answer to 1438, for "made," read "cleared." In answer to 1460, at the end of the answer, say "roads to the southward of Junction Road I know nothing about." In answer to 1462, for "my neighbourhood," read "the neighbourhood." In answer to 1466, for "remember," read "remembered." In answer to 1485, for "had every reason," read "have every reason." In answer to 1503, for "I had done," say "we had done." In answer to 1521, for "if they had found time they would," read "if it had funds would." In answer to 1523, after Bondi, insert "and Spit Road," and after "a large number at" add "Bourke," and strike out "work at the Spit Road." In answer to 1525, for "Dayson," read "Dyson," and for "Mr. Cunter," read "Mr. Symonds." In answer to 1536, instead of "when they began clearing," say "when the Company began clearing." In answer to 1541, add "until quite lately." In answer to 1548, for "make," read "complete," in two places. In answer to 1562, strike out "along the Junction Road," and insert "to Billyard-street." In answer to 1571, add at the end, "and was in hand." In answer to 1590, add at the end "except what the company had done." In answer to 1594, strike out the word "because." In answer to 1610, instead of "3s. to 3s. 6d.," put "2s. to 2s. 6d.," at the end of the answer. In 1665 the word "for," in the question should be struck out. In answer to 1706, after the word "Sanderson," insert "or other officer." In answer to 1730, add at the end "agreed on with the Government." In answer to 1782, instead of "he meant the other works," read "he meant also other works," and add, "paid from Hornsby Depôt."

14235. Can you tell me whether, when you were made aware of your appointment as a member of the Board, it was intimated to you that you could appoint a Chairman? No.

14236. Was the appointment of the Chairman simply the outcome of your and Mr. Houison's own deliberations? Quite. We could neither of us possibly attend to the duties, and we wanted a member who could do so.

14237. After the appointment of the Chairman did you interfere with the executive work of the office? No.

14238.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 14231—Add "although allusions were very frequently made to the large amount of remunerative work that was being done by the so-called unemployed at various places, I certainly understood that the State was getting good value for the cost expended."

- Mr. F. Wells. 14238. Did you inquire into the payments that were being made? No further than seeing the pay-sheets. I did not interfere with the accounts in any way.
- 14 May, 1889. 14239. Had Mr. Davies, with Mr. Hinchcliffe, authority to sign for everything? For everything.
14240. Did you concern yourself in an examination of the vouchers to ascertain whether a proper system was being carried out there? Yes, in a general way, but not individually, to exercise any check.
14241. Did you concern yourself in regard to the system that was adopted in the supply of rations to see whether any irregularities were going on? I did in the field.
14242. Did you examine the store-keepers' books? I did not examine the books, but I examined the quality of stores and the mode of issue.
14243. Were you aware whether any one examined the store-keepers' books? They should certainly have been examined by the officer in charge of the field and by our own store-keeper. I presume Mr. Burrowes would do that.
14244. It is not a matter of presumption. I want to know if you know whether it was done? I do not know whether it was done.
14245. As to that you trusted to the Chairman as head of the executive work? Yes, and to our own officers in the field.
14246. Did you become aware that some of the officers were not what you might call competent? Yes; I found that Mr. Burrowes was incompetent for doing road works. I had fault to find with Mr. Springall for what appeared to me a sort of truck system. I brought it under notice, and had a stop put to it.
14247. Were there any irregularities as to drink? No, I think not. There were one or two cases in which some of our subordinates have been intoxicated, and I inflicted punishment on one, reducing his pay.
14248. Was Mr. Burrowes' the only case in which you thought that there should be dismissal? It was the only one that merited dismissal.
14249. Did you take steps to bring about that dismissal? I did.
14250. Did you know Larnach at all? I saw very little of him.
14251. Did you know anything of his character, habits, or ability? No.
14252. Did Mr. Davies ever complain of any of them? I think Mr. Davies did complain, towards the close, of Mr. Burrowes. That was either before or after the Board was winding up.
14253. Did Mr. Davies, the Chairman, consult you, after his appointment, as to the system that was to be carried on in the office and outside? Yes; we had a general conversation on that.
14254. But the mode of carrying out the system. Did you go into it? I saw it was in working order before I ceased to take an active interest in it.
14255. When you took charge did any report of Mr. Deering or Mr. Gordon, as to Mr. Burrowes or Mr. Springhall, come before you? Both Mr. Deering and Mr. Gordon spoke disparagingly of Mr. Burrowes.
14256. And of Mr. Springall? No; I heard Mr. Deering speak disparagingly of Mr. Burrowes, and I think Mr. Gordon spoke so too, because I know that they disagreed.
14257. Have you any recollection of a report made by those gentlemen showing dishonesty, or serious irregularity, in the conduct of Mr. Springall's department? No.
14258. Were you aware that during the whole time of the existence of the Board, Mr. Springall had stores supplied to him, on his private account, by Mr. Kidman? I was aware of it at one time, but I stopped it, as I thought, effectually.
14259. Were you aware that it continued during the whole time that the Board was in existence? No; so soon as I was aware of it I stopped it. Mr. Kidman afterwards sent a man of his own to supply the luxuries. I might say that when I spoke of a "truck" system it was for little articles of luxury: tobacco, jams, and articles of that description, which were sold to the men by Mr. Springall. I objected to it and then Mr. Kidman sent a man of his own out there. I understood that the thing was then effectually checked, and that Mr. Kidman was carrying the store on his own account.
14260. Were you aware that McLean Bros. and Rigg were supplying large quantities of plant or tools to the Board? Yes.
14261. Were you aware of the terms? The usual Government contract that they were working under before the Board took control.
14262. Do you know what the schedule prices are? No; not without reference.
14263. What do you call the usual contract? The contract they were working under before the appointment of the Board.
14264. Were you aware that McLean Bros. and Rigg were supplying goods to the Board on the same terms as to any ordinary wholesale customer? No, I understood they were supplying them all the time at contract rate, as I was given to understand they did before our appointment, and that ours was a continuance of the same contract.
14265. In making these calculations of the estimated cost of the work done by the unemployed on the roads at Hornsby, did you get the information from Mr. O'Donnell or from Mr. Gordon? I got the information as to the bridges from Mr. O'Donnell. The whole of this is taken from Mr. Gordon's map and my own knowledge of the prices.
14266. Was it a sketch map or a survey map? It was Mr. Gordon's map.
14267. We are told that there was no actual survey until a map was prepared for this inquiry? I took it from Mr. Gordon's map. Of course I had but a short time to prepare the rough estimate. It was done hurriedly, and I scaled it from Mr. Gordon's map, and got it as near as I could.
14268. Have you ever heard anything against Mr. Larnach. One witness stated that Mr. Larnach was constantly in the habit of getting drunk. I asked, "Did the Chairman or any member of the Board know it." He said, "Mr. Wells knew it; I do not think Mr. Davies did"? Oh, I may have seen him a little bit wrong, but not drunk.
14269. Not sufficiently bad to justify you in recommending his dismissal? Oh, no. I have seen him with a good drop on board.
14270. I read to you some evidence that has been given by Mr. Hibble and Mr. Josephson with reference to some occasions on which you and another member of the Board are alleged not to have been in a sober state [*Evidence read*];—do you wish to state anything in regard to this? The allegations are totally untrue.
- 14271.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 14269—For "good" read "little." Q. 14270—*Added*, at end of answer, "as far as the evidence of Mr. Burrowes and Mr. Larnach."

14271. Can you tell me anything of an interview which Mr. Burrowes speaks of, which he had with Mr. Mr. F. Wells. Houison? Yes; I was present.
14272. What was it? Mr. Houison said to him, "I would not believe a word you said." Mr. Houison certainly was the worse for liquor that day. I told Mr. Burrowes to pay no attention to him, but to come along with me and I would go over and see what was wanted. He did so.
14273. Did it not strike you as a strange thing that, knowing, apparently what all the members of the Board did, about Burrowes, that he was kept on? I tried to get rid of him on one or two occasions.
14274. Are you quite clear on this question of Mr. Springall's irregularities, or dishonesty, that they were never brought under your notice? I never heard anything dishonest about Springhall, but I heard some rumour, or something about a house he was building. It was something very vague. Mr. Davies inquired into it.
14275. Anything about putting names on pay-sheets for which there was no justification? I never heard about that. I did, however, hear of him putting down his son's name as Frank, which is his christian name, as if it was his surname; but we employed his son the same. We had no objection to his son being employed. This was in Mr. Deering's time, I believe.
14276. Did you ever have any complaints made about his selling rations or getting money from the men? No; the only complaint I found was his keeping this store.
14277. Did you ever hear of a man named Robertson pointing out some irregularities of his? I do not even remember the man.
14278. Do you recollect being out at the National Park, or in the neighbourhood, one Sunday, on which a complaint was made about Springall;—a man has given evidence that he wrote out a statement of complaint about Springall, and brought it specially under your notice? I have no recollection of it. Of course we had a great many complaints made at different times against many of the officers, but when they were investigated we found that they could not be substantiated.
14279. Mr. Sanderson, in giving evidence, has referred to some difficulty he had with Mr. Davies arising out of some letter he had written to Mr. Deering, and which you got hold of and showed to Mr. Davies; have you any recollection of that? Yes; I have recollection of there being some trouble with Sanderson over something of the kind; I had to administer a rebuke to Sanderson.
14280. Mr. Sanderson spoke of Mr. Davies having taken umbrage because he had said that Mr. Wells and Mr. Houison were gentlemen, and Mr. Davies inferred because two had been named as gentlemen, that he was not one? I think that may been a passage in the letter.
14281. Was there any difference with Mr. Davies? Yes, there was a difference; I do not think Mr. Davies took the question up; I think it was taken up because of some ulterior action on Sanderson's part against Mr. Burrowes; I remember I had to rebuke Sanderson.
14282. Were you aware whether any large sums of money were kept in the office for ordinary purposes? No, not large sums; I know certain sums would come back at times after the pays—unclaimed wages—that might lay there for a day or so. We left that there, for fear a man should come into the office for his pay the next day. The rule and practice should be to pay all returned money straight into the Treasury.
14283. If the amounts for unclaimed wages were kept in cash in the office was there any occasion to keep back any other money received on other accounts? No. They could have drawn a cheque if money had been wanted to any large amount. If Mr. Houison and myself had been asked that Mr. Davies should have a small petty cash account, I dare say we should have agreed to it.
14284. Do you not know that there was a petty cash account? I know Mr. Hincheliffe had a small one

Francis Antill Pockley, M.B., C.M., M.R.C.S., called in and examined:—

14285. *President.*] I believe you are the medical man attending Mr. Bennett? Yes.
14286. Mr. Bennett's evidence is desired by this Commission on some matters we have under inquiry. He is a witness, the nature of whose evidence might probably excite him and cause him annoyance. We understand that he is unable to attend from serious illness? Quite so.
14287. We first thought—considering his evidence is of importance—of offering to take his evidence at his house, should you, as his medical adviser, say that he might safely submit himself to the ordeal of examination. We should like to hear your opinion on that point, because on that will depend whether or not we will give up the idea of examining him altogether. We are anxious to do nothing that might retard his recovery or disturb him, and however important the matter of this inquiry may be, we would rather forego the taking of his evidence than trouble him if his state of health precludes it? It would be very inadvisable to examine him at present.
14288. Can you say that it would be likely to prejudice his recovery? Yes; I think it would be.
14289. And as his medical adviser you would not like to authorize this Commission to see him? No; even his private friends excite him very much—they have had to fasten up the gates to prevent his friends seeing him.

Dr.
F. A. Pockley.
14 May, 1889.

TUESDAY, 21 MAY, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

Sir Henry Parkes, G.C.M.G., M.P., Premier and Colonial Secretary, attended:—

14290. *President.*] Sir Henry Parkes, at present the Commission over which I have the honor to preside has not had any intimation as to whether it has been granted an extension? The time is extended. You are the President, are you, sir?
14291. Yes. We have had no intimation of the extension? You can consider this as an intimation. You will have an official intimation in the course of an hour or so.
14292. Can I take it officially that the time has been extended by His Excellency the Governor? The time is extended; you may take that as official.

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14293.

Sir
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G.C.M.G.,
M.P.

14293. Otherwise we are *functi officio*, and would not, I think, have the power to examine anyone to-day? I am fully aware of that. The time has been extended by the Governor-in-Council, in the usual way, for fourteen days.

Sir Henry Parkes was then sworn and examined:—

21 May, 1889.

14294. *President.*] As President of this Commission I wrote you a letter on 13th instant inviting you to name a time when it would be convenient for you to attend. I find from your letter to me, which I have recently received, that you did not receive my communication until the 18th instant? It reached me on Saturday, the 18th instant.

14295. The letter was delivered on 13th. I wished to meet your convenience as far as possible, being fully aware that your time was of very great importance? If you require me I am at your service.

14296. I think some inquiry should be made as to how it came about that there was this lapse of time between the time of delivery of my letter and the time it was received by you? I really could not undertake to make the inquiry. It can be made by anyone else who has got the time.

14297. This document [*Exhibit A*] purports to be a copy of an original document signed by you? I have no doubt that is a copy. I recognize it. I have no doubt whatever it is a copy.

14298. Can you say whether the matter referred to in this document came before the Cabinet? I do not suppose it did. It certainly was done with the full knowledge of the Cabinet.

14299. What I want to get at is whether this was a Ministerial act or an act of the Cabinet? Well, I can hardly draw the distinction. The former of a Government would represent the whole Government in a matter of that kind, according to every definition of responsible Government now known to us. There is a large number of important things which I do in the name of the Government which the Prime Minister of England does in the name of the Government, without even the knowledge of the other Cabinet Ministers in England, although not so here. I have no doubt this was fully made known to the other Cabinet Ministers. It is a thing that I might not call a Cabinet expressly to consider.

14300. Did the creation of the department which you at that time contemplated come before the Cabinet or not? I do not know whether it came before the Cabinet or not, but the Cabinet had every means of being acquainted with it. The probability is I read it to the Cabinet, but I cannot recollect it at this moment. The mass of business that goes through my hands every day does not enable me to consult the Government in every important matter. I am empowered by the Crown to form an Administration, and I can place whoever I choose in the different offices. I could have omitted all the gentlemen who were associated with me, and placed other gentlemen in their places. I am answerable for the whole Government. If I resign the Government dies. That is the position of Prime Minister under our form of Government. In England, for example, it is very well known that Mr. Gladstone appointed the Chief Secretary for Ireland, without consulting the other Cabinet Ministers, after the death of Lord Frederick Cavendish. That is a kind of thing we should never do here, but in England the Prime Minister does not consult his colleagues on some very important matters. In this case, if I had to perform the same duty again, I should perform it exactly in the same way—as I have done in many other instances.

14301. Can you tell me whether it came to your knowledge that Mr. Davies was appointed Chairman of the Board? Is he not appointed Chairman by that minute. I do not know whether he is or not. If he is not he was not appointed Chairman by me, but by mutual arrangement amongst the three. Unless his appointment is in the minute he was not appointed by me.

14302. The evidence before this Commission is that within a day or two of their receiving that document the gentlemen named in it met and appointed Mr. Davies, Chairman of the Board. Mr. Wells states that he called at this office and reported the matter to Mr. Walker, the Principal Under Secretary. Have you any recollection of that coming officially under your notice? No; but I have no doubt it did, and I am quite sure I should have approved of what they had done had my approval been required. I had perhaps better add that I never took any steps whatever to even intimate to them who they should appoint as Chairman, to the best of my recollection. If I had any intention of that kind I should have stated it in writing.

14303. Can you say whether before the date of that document, which is 2nd May, 1887, you saw Mr. Davies with reference to the department you then contemplated creating? I do not admit the word department to begin with. I never called it a department myself, and I had never any intention that it should become a department. I have no doubt whatever I saw Mr. Davies before he was appointed. It is hardly probable I should appoint a gentleman without knowing whether he was willing to act or not; that is nothing other than the uniform practice. If I were thinking of appointing any gentleman I should ascertain whether he would accept office before I appointed him. I have no recollection of the circumstances, but I regard it as a thing certain to occur. The whole process arose in this way, if I might be permitted to explain it: The Government found itself saddled (to use an expressive word) with a thing quite foreign to the real business of governing. A mass of persons who were clamouring for employment represented themselves as totally unprovided for. I had to grapple with the circumstances as I found them, and to consider the best way in which I could employ these people and control them; and, as this document I am sure states, gradually get them drafted off into private employment. I selected Mr. Davies from the knowledge I had of him as being about the fittest man for that duty I could think of. He has a marvellous faculty for organization—great influence with the working people—and as I knew he was a person of the strictest sobriety and great industry, I thought he was a person upon whose services the Government and myself could safely rely for business of that kind. I became acquainted with Mr. Davies through the late Chief Justice, Sir James Martin, who I knew to the end of his life entertained the same opinion of him. I have had many opportunities of judging the estimation in which he was held by Sir James Martin; and I know he held a similar opinion to what I hold. That is how he was appointed. I associated with him two members of the Civil Service of high character, because I thought it would give public confidence and consistence to the Board. That they should have devolved all their duties upon Mr. Davies practically is a matter which I never contemplated, and which they appear to have done. Coming back to the question, I have no doubt whatever I sent for Mr. Davies and asked him whether he would take the appointment.

14304. Leaving this matter, I want to ask you whether you were aware, during the time you held office in the years 1887 and 1888, that there was any work being done by the unemployed on the property of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith? You mean at Hornsby, I suppose. 14304½.

14304½. Yes? I was aware that work was being done at Hornsby, and I think I was acquainted in a rather imperfect manner that some roads were being made going through property owned by Mr. Burns and two others, but it was always represented to me that these roads were necessary to get at Government land. That is about all I know of it. I may, perhaps, as you ask me this question about this particular part of the work of the unemployed, add my evidence that I never once visited any of the places where these men were at work; my time would not admit of it. I simply acted upon reports laid before me. I do not remember ever giving any instructions except repeated oral instructions to compress the work of employing these men, or, in other words, to get rid of them as speedily as they could, and relieve the Government of this large expenditure.

14305. Can you say whether the question of the propriety of making these roads, or allowing the unemployed to continue to make these roads, on the property owned by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith ever came before the Cabinet? I daresay it has; I have not a very distinct recollection, because many matters are debated between Ministers informally, sometimes without constituting what is called a Cabinet Council. What I understand as a Cabinet is a Council summoned in the usual manner by the Colonial Secretary, but frequently conversations of importance take place between Ministers without that formality being gone through, both here and in England, and everywhere where our form of government exists. May I ask you whether you are aware that a Cabinet is defined as a body that has no real existence, that it keeps no records.

14306. I am obliged to you for the information—I was not aware of it? I may perhaps be allowed to explain, as bearing upon the evidence I have already given, and may give in the future, a Cabinet Council is a body which is not recognized in the laws of England. Minutes are never kept; and it is a very dishonorable thing for a Minister to keep a memorandum of what takes place in that body. The only exception to that usual course is as when Sir Robert Peel proposed the repeal of the Corn Laws. On that memorable occasion he laid before the Cabinet a minute embodying his reasons for proposing that great change. On some few occasions some similar memoranda have been laid before the Council by the Prime Minister. For instance, when it was determined to liberate Mr. Parnell in the Gladstone Government, a memorandum was laid before the Council on that occasion, but, as a rule, there are no minutes, no memoranda, nothing whatever in writing. I only mention this to show you how complete a thing of consultation a Cabinet is.

14307. I think you said your belief was that some mention of the matter of the roads on the property of Burns, Withers, and Smith was made at some time in the Cabinet? I never attached any importance to the matter, and therefore should not have thought much of it supposing it was, nor do I attach importance to it now. The roads that appear to have been made were necessary. We have that on the authority of the gentleman who presides over the Roads Branch of the Public Service. He says that they might have been a little better made, and there might have been more than was absolutely necessary, but you could not have got to the public lands without these roads through Mr. Burns' property. I do not think any instructions were ever given by any Minister with respect to the roads—certainly not by me—nor had I any knowledge of their being made until I heard, I think, a question asked about them in the Legislative Assembly.

14308. I think Mr. Burns was the Colonial Treasurer in your Ministry during the years 1887 and 1888? Yes, from the beginning of 1887 to the close of 1888—close upon two years.

14309. I will leave this part of the inquiry, and come to the Holt-Sutherland District. I ask you to look at five memorials or petitions I place in your hands, and which appear to have been before you at different times? Yes.

14310. Can you recollect who brought these or any of these documents to you? I should refuse to receive any of these documents except through my Under Secretary. They are all marked as coming through him. For example: If Mr. Davies had brought any one of these papers I should have directed it to be handed in to the Under Secretary, to be presented in the usual way; or if Mr. Burns, the Treasurer, had done so, I should have given the same instructions.

14311. Can you say, looking at these documents, that every one of them came before you in the usual way? Oh, certainly. Certainly, I made it a rule never to receive documents from anybody without their coming through the Under Secretary.

14312. Did you pursue the same practice with regard to Members of Parliament who brought such documents? Yes.

14313. And personal friends? Well, I have no personal friends in public office. If my son applied to me for anything I should subject him to the same rule as the greatest stranger.

14314. Do you recollect seeing Mr. Myles M'Rae with reference to any of these memorials or petitions? I do not. I am positive about that, because I had to inquire who the gentleman was who was speaking, when I found Mr. M'Rae addressing the Assembly. Still he might have been on a deputation to me.

14315. But you have no recollection of seeing him? None whatever. He was a stranger to me, and when he was on his feet I had to inquire who he was, soon after the new Parliament met.

14316. Do you recollect Mr. Jamieson seeing you with reference to any of these memorials? Mr. Jamieson, I think, several times urged me to open a road to some place called Kurnell, where it was proposed to establish noxious trades. Sometimes himself, and sometimes in company with others, he has urged me to expedite the opening of some roads in connection with this place; but I do not think if he were before you he would tell you he ever got much encouragement.

14317. These memorials refer more particularly to a large number of roads—in all some thirty roads, I think—on the Holt-Sutherland Estate. Can you say whether Mr. Jamieson saw you particularly in reference to any of these? I do not think so. The only thing I recollect in connection with Mr. Jamieson is his urging the settling of the noxious trades in the Kurnell locality. I do not recollect his speaking about the Holt-Sutherland Estate.

14318. Was he in the habit of seeing you frequently? Oh, yes. He is a gentleman I have been acquainted with for many years, and he used to presume upon his acquaintance to see me often.

14319. Can you tell me what course these memorials would go through, when they came before you, as regards the manner in which you arrived at the conclusion whether you could approve of them or not? Oh, in some cases I would seek information from the Under Secretary; and if he had no information I should probably ask him to obtain information. In other cases I should judge them by the circumstances at the time. In others I might attach weight to what some gentleman said on the subject, but not such weight

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weight as would lead me to disregard other testimony. Considering that I had to act with great rapidity in these matters I should take the best means to satisfy myself what I would do on the occasion.

14320. Can you recollect whether you made any inquiry with regard to any of these? I do not think I have instituted any inquiry, except such as I tell you. I do not think I instituted any formal inquiry.

14321. Can you recollect seeing any other person than Mr. Jamieson in reference to any of these memorials or the work? I do not think I can. There may have been many persons seeing me. I should not recollect seeing Mr. Jamieson were it not for the fact that I know him personally so well.

14322. Do you recollect, when you were in Adelaide, receiving a telegram from the Principal Under Secretary, intimating that he had stopped some work out on the Holt-Sutherland District? No, I do not; it is hardly likely I should.

14323. Do you recollect, on returning from Adelaide, whether the matter of proceeding with the work came before you? No. Can you point it out on the paper?

14324. I will read you Mr. Walker's evidence on the point, and it may refresh your memory. [*President read questions and answers 429, 429½, 430, 431, and 432 of Mr. Critchett Walker's evidence.*] Does that recall the circumstance? No; it is scarcely likely it would. For instance to-day I have approved of a hundred things.

14325-6. Then you have no recollection whatever either of approving of the stoppage of these works or afterwards authorising them to go on? No.

14327. Is this your signature to a deed of assignment dated 12th October, 1887? That is my signature. [*Deed put in and marked X.*]

14328. I see amongst the schedule list of creditors the name of John S. Jamieson for an amount of £1,400;—can you tell me how long that amount had been due? Oh, it accrued during many years. But I doubt very much whether this comes within the scope of your inquiry; but as I have no reason for concealment I may as well answer the question. I think that had been accruing fully seven or eight years. A considerable amount of it is for interest.

14329. Were you a shareholder in the Holt-Sutherland Company? I had ten shares, which I imagine are amongst the assets of the estate.

14330. Do you recollect when you transferred them? They never were transferred to the best of my knowledge. I think they were held in connection with a mortgage by the Colonial Mutual Provident Society. But surely you are not appointed to try the Prime Minister of the country—who appointed you—to inquire into his private affairs.

14331. Can you say whether you transferred these shares to Want, Johnson, Simpson, and Minter? I do not know that I transferred them to them. I think they held them in connection with the Colonial Mutual Provident Society?

14332. What I want to get at—and I have no doubt you will see it is relevant to the inquiry—is whether at the time you approved of the construction of these works and roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate you were or were not interested in the property? Well, suppose that I was interested, I resent with indignation the supposition that I would be influenced by any interest I might have in the property. I desire this taken down. Other persons may allow their conduct to be influenced by such motives and such objects, but I do not. My whole life gives a negative to my doing it. I do not think I ever thought of the shares; they were virtually gone from me, because they were gone out of my hands at the time this matter came before me. I can, with the most distinct sense of duty, declare that I never was in the slightest way influenced by the circumstance of my having had at one time ten shares in this property.

14333. Of course all we want to get at are the facts. Conclusions from the facts are not evidence—conclusions probably we will draw ourselves? I imagine that you will. You have got no one else to draw your conclusions for you.

14334. We consider that the matters upon which I have asked for your evidence are relevant. Do you know whether you have any interest in these shares now—at the present moment? All the world must know what interest I have in them. I could have no interest in these shares at the present time, except by the redemption of my estate. Everybody can judge of that as well as I can.

John Fitzgerald Burns, M.P., attended:—

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Esq., M.P.
21 May, 1889.

14335. *President.*] Mr. Burns, on the 15th instant I received a letter from you, in which you stated that you wished to give further evidence, and to produce papers before this Commission, and you expressed a hope that I would be able to make an appointment for you on Tuesday—that is, to-day. I do not wish to ask you any questions, but if you have any statement to make or documents to produce you can do so? I want to follow up the preceding examination; first, in connection with the questions put to me bearing upon the correspondence that passed between myself and the Government, when I was out of office, and to produce some papers which bear upon this inquiry. I was asked by you whether I did not see some incompatibility between my position as regards the construction of roads through property in which I was interested, and my position in this business as a member of the Government when the road was being constructed, and you drew a comparison between a member of the Government and a Director of a financial institution. The comparison cannot possibly apply in this case, because a Director could not go beyond his obligations to his Company; but with regard to these roads and my connection with the property at Hornsby, the origination of these roads did not occur with me, or the Government of which I was a Member, nor were they designed for my benefit. Before I took office as a Minister, the preceding Government had conceived the idea of bringing the adjoining Crown lands into the market for sale by auction. The papers show that the preceding Government—the Jennings-Dibbs Government—were pushing the sale of suburban lands by auction as much as they possibly could, and it was in connection with the design to sell all the suburban lands they could, that the application was made to me for my permission for the first road to be made through the property; so that the origination of the matter was entirely outside any control or influence of mine. The then Government began the negotiations for the opening of this first road; and I gave my consent after conferring with my partners to the opening of the road known as the Bridge Road. Up to that time I had made no application for any road in that locality.

The

NOTE (on revision).—Q. 14335, line 22.—After "locality" insert "except the road near Fear's, which the, &c." and omit "a road" and "which is, &c., to Fear's Road." Line 35.—Omit "From what, &c." to "Dibbs Government." Line 41.—Omit from "in continuation, &c., to roads."

The Government were entitled to make a road on the northern boundary of the lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith, which is sometimes spoken of as Fear's Road. All the papers, to which I have made reference since I was here last, show that the only road I applied for was the clearing and forming of the road known as Fear's Road. On the 31st March, 1886, I wrote a letter suggesting that steps should be taken for clearing and forming this road. There is a report upon the matter by Mr. Symonds, dated 21st June. There is a further note upon the same business, dated the 17th September, initialled P.J.O., in which reference is made to my having urged the clearing of the road known as Peat's Ferry Road. There is a letter from Mr. Bennett on the same subject, on the 26th September, stating that when the road was aligned by the Survey Department the clearing would be done. On the 27th October I wrote that it did not appear that any action had been taken. All my correspondence related to this road which the Government were entitled to make as the result of the settlement in 1885 between the surveyors in the Department of Lands and the surveyor of Burns, Withers, and Smith, was in reference to this road. From what you asked me on the last occasion another road than the one which was asked for during the time of the Jennings-Dibbs Government, you will see, if you look through the correspondence, that there is no reference to the road over the bridge applied for by the Government until November 10th, 1886. Finding that Fear's Road was not so good as the road over the bridge, the Government applied to me for the road over the bridge, and on the 16th November I wrote to the Government, in consequence of the application through Mr. Perdriau, assenting to the opening of the road over the bridge. Having explained this in confirmation of what I have said regarding the making of these roads, I wish to read you a minute of Mr. Copeland's, of the 3rd January, 1887. This minute shows that his Government were not satisfied with the progress made in the sale of the Crown lands by auction in the preceding year, 1886. This special minute is written to direct the officers of the Lands Department to bring into the market 500,000 acres of land in 1887, in order that the full maximum area allowed to be sold might be disposed of; and makes special reference to the proposed sale of land at Beecroft and in the parish of Gordon, and explains the action of the officers of the Department in proceeding with this road. The minute is as follows:—

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In considering the work of the Department for the present year, I desire that the important question of Auction Sales should receive early and special attention; and with a view to avoid the delay which occurred last year I have thought it expedient to give special instructions thus early in the year.

In the present state of the country's finances it would be desirable to effect sales during the year to the full limit of 200,000 acres, and with this object in view it will be necessary to bring forward for auction, including town and suburban and country lands, not less than 500,000 acres. These lands, as was the case last year, should be apportioned to the various districts with some degree of proportion to the amount of settlement, and to where there is likely to be a reasonable demand. In the Western Division, however, the sales will be restricted to town and suburban lands.

In cases where special areas have been proclaimed, and the land, after a reasonable interval, has not been selected, it may be brought forward to auction at the special area prices. And it should again be particularly noted that no reserve should be cancelled without a recommendation from the district surveyor as to whether such land should or should not be proclaimed a special area, so that the notice of the revocation and the proclamation of special areas should be published simultaneously, and not, as on several occasions occurred last year, when it was found only some day or two before the land was open to selection, that a special area should have been proclaimed, which, when done under these circumstances, naturally caused great dissatisfaction amongst those who, at considerable trouble and expense, had prepared to select under the ordinary conditions.

A reminder of former instructions may be sent to the district surveyors to advise the Department where reserves are unnecessary, with a view to the same being cancelled. They should also be asked to advise as to the desirability of bringing forward town and suburban lands in their respective districts and to recommend prices.

The unsold portions of Harbord, Heathcote, and Field of Mars, also the subdivision near the Como Station, may be advertised for sale at some of the auction-rooms in the city, the particular auctioneer to be forthwith decided on.

Sales at Beecroft, Stockton, Wilberforce, Katoomba, parish of Gordon, and other places where the subdivisions are ready, should be brought forward as quickly as possible, to be sold on the ground. Auctioneers in these cases can be appointed later on.

In many cases town and suburban lands have been offered at country towns, but it is thought the upset price having been fixed too high has precluded sales taking place. These lands should again be brought forward at a reduced upset.

HENRY COPELAND, 3/1/87.

I have brought this minute forward as it shows clearly the policy of the Government with respect to the sale of Crown Lands by auction, in particular suburbs. This minute makes special reference to the parish of Gordon, in which Hornsby is included. I may state that the sale at Hornsby produced £4,600. There was a sale at Gordon proper, about 6 miles from Hornsby, which realised £16,000. The policy set out by Mr. Copeland was approved by Mr. Garrett, the succeeding Minister, and it was in this connection that the application was made for these roads. Now I was asked on a previous occasion something about the roads or land, that was given by Burns, Withers, and Smith for roads to the Government, not having been proclaimed. That is a matter entirely which rests with the officers of the Survey Department. If they had sent forward the proper papers, as they did with respect to the road over the bridge, there is no doubt the roads would have been proclaimed. There was no hesitation on the part of the owners of the land in complying with the condition for the roads becoming public property. I cannot understand why this application has not been made. With respect to the application to extend the road known as the Overbridge Road through to the Eastern Road, the papers show a report of Mr. Deering's, of 17th January, 1888. Before we signed the formal assent to the dedication the officers had taken action, and the road towards the Eastern Road had been cleared under the direction of Mr. Deering. When we were asked to sign a paper (which did not bind the Government) we signed our formal consent to the road over the bridge without any obligation being attached to it, as the papers show. I am told that Mr. Bennett is at the present time very ill, and that he cannot be examined. That being so, I have taken the trouble to look through his report, and in his absence may say, having reference to the question of the first part of his report of 10th February, that what is known as Lane Cove Road leads into Peat's Ferry Road, and that it is simply a blunder on his part as to name of the road repaired by the owners of the land. The President asked me something about an application from the Lands Department for the extension of the road known as the Vanceville Road leading into the Crown lands. I have not been able to find the application that was made to me for the extension, but I have applied to the Department of Lands, and they have given me a copy of their application [*Copy letter put in marked T 1*]. I was

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also

NOTE (on revision):—After "January, 1888," read "in which it is stated that the Government had before that date authorized the clearing of the road through to the Eastern Road. The formal assent of Burns, Withers, and Smith was not signed till 11 August, 1888." Omit "under the direction of Mr. Deering" and "when we were asked to sign a paper (which did not bind the Government)."

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also asked about the application made in connection with the Junction Road. I cannot find the papers. Mr. Dawson can explain as much about the matter as I could; when the application came to me, I wrote to him to attend to it. He saw the person in charge and surveyed the road; but I have no papers in connection with it. I was asked about the expenditure on Burns Road by Burns, Withers, and Smith. I know the address of Mr. Kearney who was in charge there. He is at Kellyville, near Parramatta. I believe the expenditure on that road would not exceed £100. We have expended £500 on both sides of the line. He told me the first part of the expenditure was by contract. A lot of work was done, and he was not surprised at it being estimated as being of more value than it was, as it was done much better than the work of the unemployed. The President also asked me about my visits to Hornsby. I have a record which shows the exact number of them. In 1887, I visited there on fifteen occasions; and in 1888, on eleven—making twenty-six visits in two years. I requested Mr. Dawson some time ago to go over the roads, make a full inspection, and give me a report, and also draw a plan, which he has done. If you will allow me, I will hand in his plan and report. [*Report and plan put in and marked T 2 and T 3 respectively.*] Now about the extension of Burns Road. Instead of it being a *cul de sac*, it goes to Bobbin Rock Road, and opens up connection with the main road to the Crown lands. It answers the double purpose of connecting with this country here, and also connecting with the Crown lands. I do not think the plan of Mr. Houson shows that so fully as Mr. Dawson's plan, and that is why I wish Mr. Dawson's plan put in. I should also say with regard to Mr. Dawson's report that I have given it in as he gave it to me. He is wrong in one matter about my consent. He says that I gave my consent to a small opening from the Boundary Road to the Junction Road; I think it is called the upper part of road E; but as Mr. Dawson has given his report in I hand it in without comment upon it and without alteration. I think I may be allowed to say, before I conclude my statement, that, on reviewing the whole matter, I do not see, if the thing occurred again, that I could do much otherwise than I did. I did not originate the project of opening roads to or through the Crown lands. It was not for my benefit that it was conceived. It was conceived by the preceding Government, in the interest of the public, in order to sell the Crown Lands. There is a large area of Crown Lands in the locality, consisting of at least 4,000 acres, and without roads of access the sale of it would be a matter of great difficulty. I gave my consent to the roads willingly, not so much believing that I should profit by it as that the opening of the country generally would be of some advantage to us, and I believed also a great public benefit, an important matter to the whole side of the country. As to the manner in which the work has been carried out, that is a matter with which I have had no connection. The Casual Labour Board was a body with whom I had no connection, unless applications came through the Colonial Secretary for funds to carry on the work. I may state that, under pressure of balancing the public accounts, it became my duty to press the Colonial Secretary to reduce the expenditure, and it is only in that connection that I saw Mr. Davies. Sir Henry Parkes was written to by me, complaining about the expenditure; and he sent for Mr. Davies, who promised him that he would not increase it. I believe it would have been much larger if I had not in some measure remonstrated against so much money being expended on the work. As to the roads made through private property, all the evidence shows that I took no steps to increase the work, or to promote it. I made visits on occasions, and saw what was going on. Some places, however, I did not see for two or three months, because I only visited one part of the country at a time, and did not go over it generally. In a report from Mr. Bennett that gentlemen approved of the work done. That report was backed up by other reports. I was anxious about Mr. Bennett's report knowing that he was a high authority, and I felt easy after I saw it, and did not trouble about the matter. I carefully abstained from any communication with the officers or with Mr. Davies. My intercourse with Mr. Davies was of the most formal character. Since Mr. Bennett gave his evidence before the Select Committee of the Assembly on this subject, I thought it right to write and ask him to give me his opinion with respect to this expenditure in the Hornsby district. This is a rough copy of my letter of the 22nd January, 1889. I stated that after hearing his evidence I was desirous of securing his good offices and his determining for me the value of the work for which I might be considered morally responsible, if any, at Hornsby; I said that since I had heard his evidence, when he stated that while he thought fully nine-tenths of the expenditure was justifiable in the public interest, some of the smaller roads could have been dispensed with, I thought it my duty to ascertain as nearly as I could the extent of the expenditure which in his opinion was not for the public benefit. I received a letter sometime after that—an official letter—I wrote to him privately, stating that the whole of the matter of the expenditure would be referred to this Commission, and since that I have taken no further action. I do not think I have anything further to say, unless you desire to ask me any questions.

14336. Do you recognize that tracing? I do not recognize it. It states here that it was obtained from me. I presume it was. I do not doubt that it was received from me when it says so. [*Tracing and memorandum put in and marked T 4.*]

Archibald M'Leod called in and further examined:—

Mr.
A. M'Leod.
21 May, 1889.

14337. *President.*] Do you know a man named Thomas Boulden? Yes.

14338. What is he? He has charge of the punt at George's River.

14339. Do you know his signature? I could not swear to his signature, but I think that is his on the contingent pay-voucher for £2 17s. 6d.

14340. Do you know Mr. Burrowe's signature? Yes.

14341. Is that his signature certifying to the pay-sheet? Yes.

14342. What was your position on that date, August 1888? I was the overseer.

14343. Whereabouts? I think I was at Woronora River Road, if I am not mistaken on the day.

14344. Will you look at this pay-sheet for George's River, 6th May, to 19th May, 1888, is that your name at the top of the sheet? Yes.

14345. Is Thomas Boulden's name on the pay-sheet? Yes.

14346. What for? Nine days at 5s. a day as a day labourer.

14347. Is that correct? No; he never was a day labourer.

14348. Is it false? Yes.

14349. Who supplied the particulars on which this pay-sheet was made out? I supplied them.

14350. Was Boulden's name on those particulars? No.

14351.

14351. In whose writing is this pay-sheet? I do not know whose it is, whether Springall's or Goodman's, Springall's I think.
14352. Was that name put in that pay-sheet after you had prepared your draft-sheets? Yes, it must have been.
14353. Were you present at that pay? Yes.
14354. Who witnessed the payment? Mr. Springall.
14355. Were you at the pay-table as these men came up? Yes.
14356. Did you see Boulden come up? Yes.
14357. Did you see him get £1 15s. 3d.? Yes.
14358. Did you make any objection? No.
14359. Why not? I did not consider it my place to make objection.
14360. Do you know what became of the money after it was paid to him? No.
14361. Was he ever a labourer in the ranks of the unemployed? No; he was employed under the Roads and Bridges Department.
14362. I see amongst the names on a list of persons paid by the Government on the staff of the Roads and Bridges Department that of T. Boulden, puntman, George's River, £9 9s.;—is that the same man? To the best of my belief it is.
14363. I see in a letter you wrote on 6th May instant, with reference to this case you report that Boulden was never employed at the relief works, but was a permanent man on the punt at George's River under the Roads and Bridges Department—Is that correct? Yes.
14364. You say in that letter that the only connection he had with the relief works, was that the men, horses, and traps would cross the punt to the works; that Boulden would render you a monthly account of that, and that you would forward it to Mr. Burrowes—is that correct? Yes.
14365. Was he paid his money in that monthly account? I believe that that is the money that Boulden's name is put down on the pay-sheet for; that is why he got his money.
14366. If he was on the staff of the Roads and Bridges Department, and in receipt of wages from the Government, how could he have a claim against the Casual Labour Board, such as this? I suppose for carts crossing the punt while they were employed by the Board.
14367. How many accounts did you receive from Boulden which you sent in to Mr. Burrowes? I cannot say from memory.
14368. More than one? Yes; I dare say I have sent in three or four.
14369. Do you know what became of them after you sent them in? No.
14370. Do you know who received the money for them? I suppose Boulden did.
14371. Do you know that of your own knowledge? I do not know.
14372. Was your camp at George's River? Yes.
14373. How long were you out there? Between Peakhurst and George's River, I suppose about twelve months.
14374. Was Thomas Boulden ever working in the ranks as a labourer whilst you were out there? No.
14375. *Mr. Waller.*] Do you know of any other case of men improperly receiving money, or their names appearing on the pay-sheets like this? No; I cannot say I do.
14376. Do you believe that it happened in more cases than this one? No.
14377. Are you certain that you do not know of any others? I am certain I do not.
14378. Where was Mr. Burrowes when this pay-sheet was made out in May, 1888? I do not know where he was; he might have been in one place or another.
14379. Where was he living? At Hurstville.
14380. Have you ever seen any other pay-sheet but this with Boulden's name on it? Yes.
14381. Do you know how much money was on it? I do not know.

Mr.
A. M'Leod.
21 May, 1889.

Thomas Boulden, called in, sworn, and examined:—

14382. *President.*] What are you? I have been working on the punt at George's River.
14383. Who pays you? Mr. Dyson.
14384. Who is he? Road Superintendent.
14385. How much does he pay you? Two guineas per week.
14386. I see the name "T. Boulden, puntsman, George's River, £9 9s.," in a return from the Roads and Bridges Department; is that you? Yes.
14387. It appears as nine guineas for the month? Yes. I was getting two guineas a week there. I did not get any more afterwards.
14388. Do you get two guineas per week now? It depends how many days there are in the month—if there are thirty-one days, or twenty-seven working days.
14389. Who got the money you earned from the punt? I turned it in to Mr. Dyson at the end of every month.
14390. Whatever you received for taking over horses, vehicles, and men you paid over to an officer of the Roads and Bridges Department? Yes.
14391. Did you get any benefit from it yourself? None at all.
14392. Is that your signature? Yes.
14393. Can you write? I am a poor writer.
14394. Whose writing is this? The particulars in the voucher are mine.
14395. I see there are in it various dues, amounting to £2 17s. 6d.? Yes.
14396. Is that the same thing as on the other contingent voucher? It is the same. I was up at Hurstville and saw Mr. Burrowes. I asked him if I was going to be paid. He said, "how much is it," I said, "£2 or £2 17s. 6d." He asked me if I had got it. I told him I had not. He said he would give me that sheet for me to make it out on, and that he would get it for me if he could. I was never paid it.
14397. Did you get any other sums besides that? Yes.
14398. How often? A couple of times, I believe.
14399. Who paid you? I got it at Hurstville pay-table.
14400. How much? At one time 24s. or 25s. and 30s. the next time.

Mr.
T. Boulden.
21 May, 1889.

14401.

- Mr. T. Boulden. 14401. You see what kind of a document this is—did you get paid any sums under a document like this? No.
- 21 May, 1889. 14402. Look at that pay-sheet—George's River, from 6th May to 19th May, 1888—is that your signature acknowledging the payment of £1 15s. 3d.? Yes.
14403. Did you get it? Yes.
14404. What did you do with it? I put it in the toll sheet with the other money that was taken.
14405. What became of it? I turned it in.
14406. To whom? To Mr. Dyson. I used to pay up this out of my own pocket at first to make up the account of what had crossed.
14407. Do you see that this pay-sheet says that you were nine days at work, at the rate of 5s.; that you earned £2 5s., and that 9s. 9d. was deducted for rations. Were you amongst the ranks of the unemployed? No.
14408. Did you receive any rations? No.
14409. Did you ever do any work for them? No.
14410. Are these particulars on this pay-sheet true or false? That sheet, I believe, is true. When I signed that I did not know that I was signing for daily wages. I thought I was signing for the punt money.
14411. Did you get rations? No.
14412. You see that there is a deduction for rations? I see it.
14413. Do you know Mr. Springall? Yes.
14414. Did you ever have any talk with him? I was up there about a couple of times and asked him whether that money had come up. He said "No; Mr. Burrowes would see about it."
14415. Did he ever say anything about your rations? No.
14416. Did you ever get anything from him? No.
14417. Did you ever give him any money? No.
- 14417½. Mr. Waller.] What other money have you received besides that £1 15s. 3d.? There was something over £1.
14418. Did you receive £1 6s.? Something to that effect; but whatever I got I turned in with the other tolls.
14419. Then you were engaged on the Roads Department staff and not with the unemployed? I had nothing to do with the unemployed.
14420. How many punts were you connected with? I have been at Tom Ugly's once or twice that is all.
14421. Do you know how much money was owed you by the Casual Labour Board? There was £2 19s. and these couple of bills. I do not know of any more.
14422. Who owed you that money? The carts were crossing while the unemployed were working.
14423. Who is the person you look to to pay you the money? I sent in my accounts to Mr. M'Leod.
14424. Did you ever lend any money to Mr. Burrowes? No.
14425. Are you sure of that? Quite sure.
14426. President.] Did you render any account of what was owing to the Roads and Bridges Department? I told Mr. Dyson it was owing.
14427. What did you tell Mr. Dyson was owing? This £2 19s.
14428. Have you paid him any of the money? I have paid him £2 of it.
14429. Then you owe the Roads and Bridges Department 19s.? The Casual Labour Board owe me £2.
14430. Did you pay Mr. Burrowes any portion of the money you got? No.

Alfred Hibble called in and further examined:—

- Mr. A. Hibble. 14431. President.] I put in your hands a statement [*Exhibit P1*];—is that your handwriting? Yes.
- 2 1 May, 1889. 14432. When did you make it out? There is no date on it, but I believe I made it out some time before 1st February last.
14433. Who asked you to make it out? Mr. Davies, when he was in the office, and I believe I handed it to him in the presence of Mr. Mason. I think Mr. Mason could verify what I say.
14434. Was it after the 25th January? Yes.
14435. Why did you make it out? Mr. Davies asked me to make it out.
14436. Where? In the office. It is just a copy of our press-copy book.
14437. When did you see Mr. Davies last to speak to? It is a long time ago now. I have not seen him since I was here—not since he was in the office looking after Larnach.
14438. In whose handwriting is this rough cash-book in? There is a lot of it in Hinchcliffe's writing.
14439. Up to what date does Hinchcliffe's writing go? Up to 14th November, 1887.
14440. And from that date it is in your handwriting? It is my handwriting right through then.
14441. Then Mr. Hinchcliffe carried it on for the two months after you went into the office? No. I went into the office in June; I went upstairs in September. Mr. Hinchcliffe carried it on for two months after I went upstairs.
14442. When did you write up that rough book into this cash-book? After I went upstairs.
14443. Did you make one job of it? No, as I had time I kept the two books going. I would not take the book over without striking a balance, so I kept it as a rough book and opened the other one afterwards.
14444. How often did you add up the figures at the foot of the page? I kept them pretty well up until August or September last year.
14445. Did you ever strike a balance? No; I never did, because Mr. Hinchcliffe kept the vouchers in hand.
14446. Did you ever ask him? Yes; but he said "Just enter the vouchers as I give them to you."
14447. What are these blank lines left in the cash-book for? When I first took the book over I said, "Mr. Hinchcliffe had a wrong idea." I said "If you have cash vouchers you should make them 18a, 18b, 18c, and so on." He said "No; leave lines to enter them as they come in."
14448. Then these lines were left to enter these cash vouchers just as he might think fit? Yes; just as he sent them in.
14449. Are the cash vouchers those we see marked A? Yes. 14450.

Mr.
A. Hibble.
21 May, 1889.

14450. Then those lines were left in the cash-book to put in the A vouchers, just as he might think fit to put them into your cash account? No; I would not say to make up the cash account. The idea was to put them in as near the date as I could get them.
14451. You said when Mr. Hinchcliffe paid the vouchers he handed them to you? Yes.
14452. Then what about those in his box? I could not tell. I never had access to his box. He might have paid £50 out of his petty cash. I could not tell.
14453. Supposing a voucher was paid in your presence, was it handed to you or put in the box? It would be put in the box and given to me on some future date. He would never give them to me straight away.
14454. Did you ever hear any particulars of this "bye account," as you have called it, between Mr. Hinchcliffe and Mr. Davies? No.
14455. You were in the same room and could see what was going on? Yes.
14456. Was everything straightforward? I believe everything was straightforward.
14457. Between Mr. Hinchcliffe and Mr. Davies? I solemnly swear it, as regards them and the petty cash.
14458. What about keeping all these vouchers in the box? I cannot say. I do not know what amount of vouchers he had; but the transactions between him and Mr. Davies as to the petty cash were honest and straightforward.
14459. Were you present when they settled up? I was present when they had a bit of a squaring up in October, before Mr. Hinchcliffe went to Melbourne.
14460. When did Mr. Hinchcliffe return? He returned about the 28th or 29th November last; I cannot say the exact date. I did his duties up to then.
14461. Were you present when the final settling up was made? No. I was there, but Mr. Davies asked me to take certain vouchers down to the office.
14462. I mean the final settling up? No. There was a final settling up, but I do not know what transpired.
14463. Do you know what amount was paid over? What it was I cannot tell. I was not present, and did not see any money pass between them.
14464. You said in your previous evidence, after being pressed, that Hinchcliffe told you he was short in his cash, and that you believed he drew on his own Bank, and that you saw him draw cheques out? That evidence of mine is wrong.
14465. Is it untrue? It is not untrue.
14466. I will read it to you. [*Questions and answers 7296 to 7303 read.*] Is that true evidence? A certain part of it is true, and a certain part not. I did not say he drew a cheque on the London Chartered Bank. I said I saw him draw cheques on the London Chartered Bank, because they were his bankers; not because I saw him draw the cheques.
14467. Have you seen Mr. Hinchcliffe lately? I saw him a week ago.
14468. Did you have any discussion? He said that I had put him away in my evidence.
14469. "Put him away." What did he mean by that? He said, "I think you put me away." I said, "I don't think I have."
14470. Was that his own expression? It was, and I walked away.
14471. Did you not bring up this question about the cheques? I will take my oath about it.
14472. I see in another part of the evidence, speaking of the cash-book, you got particulars from the cheque-book, and when Hinchcliffe got the vouchers he would hand them over. Did he hand them over to you to be entered in the cash-book? Always; they must go through the cash-book.
14473. Did he get them back afterwards? He never saw them afterwards. You will see there that you asked me if Mr. Hinchcliffe was short in his cash and I said "No."
14474. But later on in your evidence you said "Yes." I have a note that you contradicted yourself, and your evidence speaks for itself. You spoke in your previous evidence of some rumour you heard of Mr. Burrowes in connection with a road running round Mr. Gannon's property? I heard he put a road there called the Wotonga Road. It cost three or four times as much as it ought, and therefore he must have put an extra road round the property.
14475. Do you wish to add anything to your evidence respecting these two vouchers [*Exhibits E 2 and E 3*]? I can hardly recollect what I said about them.
14476. Do you know anything about them? I have initialled them for the computation being correct. Mr. Larnach has taken the discount off them.
14477. Is that all you know of them? That is all I know of them. I have had them before me with Mr. Mason; I ought to know them well now.
14478. I will read to you question and answer 4434. [*Question and answer read.*] What do you say about that evidence? I say he is a most damnable liar. He never signed a single solitary contingent voucher in our office in his life-time.
14479. If Mr. Hinchcliffe has sworn that Burrowes has on some occasions signed vouchers in the office is his evidence also untrue? He may have signed pay-vouchers, but contingent vouchers he never signed in the office. They are two different things altogether. If Mr. Hinchcliffe swears he (Burrowes) signed contingent vouchers in the office he swears what is not true.
14480. I will read question and answer 2565. [*Question and answer read.*] What do you say to that? He is as big a liar as the other man; that is all I can say about it, although it is pretty rough language to use.
14481. I will read to you an extract from a letter [*Exhibit I*] with reference to this matter;—what do you say to that? He is a liar still—a bigger liar than ever he was. I never handed him a voucher in my life-time for signature.
14482. Did you ever see any order for these goods? I gave an order to M'Lean Bros. and Rigg for "a hamper basket," and I brought it to the office. As for Mr. Burrowes saying that he signed the vouchers in the office he is a liar.
14483. *Mr. Waller.*] That time that you saw Mr. Davies and Mr. Hinchcliffe settling up, before Mr. Hinchcliffe went to Melbourne, do you know what amount passed between them? I think there was about £90 odd due to Mr. Davies, I cannot say for certainty. 14484.

NOTE (on revision):—Q. 14461—Omit "I was there" and add after "office" "of Colonial Secretary for approval." Q. 14463—He said that I think you have put me away in your evidence. Q. 14470—Add to end of answer "upon my business."

- Mr. A. Hibble.
21 May, 1889.
14484. Can you give any reason for this keeping back all these vouchers for months and months? No; it was Mr. Hinchcliffe's own business. If he kept them back it had nothing to do with me.
14485. Can you give any reason? I can give no evidence about it.
14486. Can you give any reason? It was his own carelessness. That is all I can give.
14487. In your former evidence you said you were in the hay and corn business;—what were you doing before that? I was in a general business for myself.
14488. Were you in a bank? Yes.
14489. Where? In the Commercial Bank, in the city.
14490. What branch? George-street West.
14491. What position? As manager.
14492. Why did you leave? I retired.

William Newcombe called in and further examined:—

- Mr. W. Newcombe.
21 May, 1889.
14493. *President.*] Look at this statement we received from the Treasury of amounts paid into Treasury up to 29th March last [*Exhibit L*], and tell me whether any sum has, since the date of the last item, been paid into the Treasury by or on behalf of Mr. John Davies, or by any one else connected with the Casual Labour Board? Yes, one item; a sum of £26 17s. 7d.
14494. Will you tell me when that was paid in and the circumstances—if you know them—connected with the payment? It was paid in on the 7th May by the hands of Mr. John Davies' son, by a cheque of Mr. John Davies, on the City Bank, Sydney, dated 6th May, 1889, number two account, number B, 4,234, in favour of the Treasury.
14495. Are you sure it was a cheque? Yes; I took special note myself.
14496. Because we have been told the Treasury will not take cheques? We have a notice up in the office saying that cheques are not taken, but we take any number of them. We use our discretion whether we take them or otherwise.
14497. Did you have brought under your notice a letter, dated 15th April last, signed by the members of this Commission, addressed to the Colonial Treasurer, requesting that any moneys that might be tendered for payment to the Treasury might be placed to a suspense account pending this inquiry? Yes.
14498. Was that amount, £26 17s. 7d., which you say was paid in by Mr. Davies' son, passed to any particular account? To the suspense account, in accordance with the letter.
14499. Is that the only payment that has been made? Yes; the only payment.
14500. Will you look at this receipt voucher for £86 11s. 7d.;—is that signed by Mr. Davies? Yes. It is dated 25th February, 1889.
14501. From where was that statement attached to it obtained. Was that handed to you by Mr. Davies? I cannot say anything about that. I have no recollection of having seen it before. [*Receipt voucher for £86 11s. 7d. put in and marked O 3.*]

CASUAL LABOUR BOARD INQUIRY COMMISSION.

APPENDIX.

[To Evidence of D. Houston.]

A.

MINUTE or Document of 2nd May, 1887, signed by Sir Henry Parkes, directed to John Davies, Esq., C.M.G., Col. F. Wells, and D. Houston, Esq., copied *in extenso* in Report.

A 1.

PRINTED Return of the "Unemployed," showing number of applicants for work, where they came from, and how dealt with, from 2nd May, 1887, to 31st December, 1888.

A 2.

SKETCH tracing showing roads cleared by the Casual Labour Board at Hornsby on Crown lands, Burns, Withers, and Smith's, and other properties.

[To Evidence of Critchett Walker.]

B.

Sir,

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 29 December, 1888.

I am directed by the Colonial Secretary to convey to you the views of the Government in respect to the heavy expenditure in support of that class of persons known as the "unemployed." These irregular expenditures have gone on far beyond what was contemplated at the beginning, and the amount to which they have reached is not only a serious drain upon the public revenue, but is calculated to assist in creating an erroneous and a prejudicial impression abroad of the real condition of the country. It may be doubted whether at any time there has been in New South Wales relatively a larger number of persons who have found a temporary difficulty in obtaining employment than in other countries; but the Government of this Colony, from several mixed causes, has more readily than other Governments, afforded a forced means of employment which, however attempted to be directed to purposes of public utility, cannot be entirely divested of an eleemosynary character. The effect has been to draw a certain class from other countries, thus increasing the difficulty which it was sought to remove or diminish. Not only so, but in some cases the works opened by the Government appear to have induced men to desert the legitimate operations of private employers. This unhealthy state of things, so unnatural in a country where the most precious thing is trustworthy and well-directed human labour, if initiated mistakenly, cannot be continued by the perpetuation of fresh mistakes.

I am to say that, so far as Sir Henry Parkes can judge, the greater part of the work done by this class of men has been of solid value to the State, and he feels persuaded that the gentlemen forming the Casual Labour Board have done their best to direct this large body of labour to the best advantage of the public. Still he feels it to be his duty to give this positive instruction, that no public improvement, however undoubted, is to be undertaken where the effect would be to incidentally serve the interests of private proprietors, without the case being first specifically stated to him, and receiving his written approval on the part of the Government.

As already intimated, the system itself must be brought to an end. You will take the necessary steps to make known to the men that their services will be dispensed with in the following divisions:—One-third of their number on the last day of January next, one-third on the last day of February, and the remaining one-third on the last day of March. No fresh hands are to be taken on the works.

I have, &c.,

CRITCHETT WALKER,

Principal Under Secretary.

The Chairman of the Casual Labour Board.

Sir,

Casual Labour Board, 82, Goulburn-street, Sydney, 31 December, 1888.

I have the honor, on behalf of the Casual Labour Board, to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 29th December, conveying the views of the Government with respect to the expenditure, &c., incurred in support of the "unemployed."

We will have much pleasure in giving prompt attention to the request of the Colonial Secretary in dispensing with the services of all men employed on the several works, so as to close them up by the 31st March.

This would have been realized at a much earlier period if public works had been authorized, as was contemplated when our Board was appointed, which would have been a natural means for absorbing the large amount of surplus labour which had been attracted here from other Colonies, and from all parts of the country, by an injudicious system, inaugurated by a previous administration, where unskilled labourers, whose rations, tents, tools, &c., were insured to them, and with wages not less than 6s. per day, were induced to leave private employ and flock to the city.

One of our first acts was to put a stop to this improper system, and to institute a system of piece-work and payment by results, and where day labour could not be dispensed with the rate was reduced to 3s. 6d. per day; in consequence of such act the works ceased to be attractive, as they were prior to our appointment.

When we took over the charge of the "unemployed" there were on the several works 4,010 men, and during the period we have been in existence upwards of 8,000 men have passed through the books, and of this number about 2,400 were provided with private employment at the current rates of wages, and a large number, profiting by the temporary assistance afforded them, have been enabled to find employment in the ordinary channels of labour, and at the present time less than 1,000 men are now employed on the different works under the control of the Board.

Although a great expenditure has been incurred in directing this large body of labour, it will be seen that the work carried out in improving Crown lands subdivisions, the making of public roads, the beautifying of public parks, and other public works, that good and substantial value has been realized for the expenditure.

Your Board, since its appointment, has not undertaken the carrying out of any public works without first obtaining the reports from the Government officers and subsequently the approval of the Colonial Secretary (excepting those works initiated before their appointment).

We found it no easy task in directing so large a body of mixed labour so that the best results might be obtained; and the prejudicial impression created abroad by the massing of large numbers of unemployed in the city, and the besieging of public offices, has been abolished by the action taken by us; this state of things will, in a measure, we think, revive on the closing of the several works under the control of the Board, in the absence of the authorization and opening up of public works which are urgently required as avenues for absorbing the large masses of unskilled labour at present only partially employed in the city and large centres of population. The Board is much pleased to find by tenor of your letter that their efforts have been appreciated by the Government.

I have, &c.,

JOHN DAVIES,

Chairman.

The Principal Under Secretary.

B 1.
CASUAL LABOUR BOARD.

THE Cabinet has had under its serious consideration the question of the unemployed and the Casual Labour Board, and it has decided, in view of the evidence given at the Select Parliamentary Committee, and having regard to the unsatisfactory working of the existing Board, to terminate the labours of the gentlemen forming the Board, who will be relieved forthwith.

The Cabinet has further decided to appoint two gentlemen of standing to adjust the accounts and wind up the Casual Labour business; it being the intention to go further into the subject when time can be given to its consideration, and a full attendance of the Cabinet be secured.

It appears to the Cabinet that the method hitherto adopted of distributing large sums of public money is loose, imperfect, and unsatisfactory. The gentlemen to be appointed will be requested, in making payment, to adopt a system more in accordance with that followed in the Treasury Department. The gentlemen to be appointed will close the unemployed work in terms of the minute of my predecessor of 31st December last.

The question of payments to the men now employed will be dealt with on the report of the gentlemen referred to.
Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 23rd January, 1889. G. R. D.

B 2.

Minute—Casual Labour Board—Termination of services, &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 24 January, 1889.

UNDER the circumstances contained in the accompanying papers, I recommend that the services of the gentlemen forming the Casual Labour Board be terminated forthwith, and that the undermentioned gentlemen be appointed for the purpose of adjusting the accounts and winding up the business of the Board, namely:—John B. C. Miles and William Mason, Esquires.
GEORGE R. DIBBS.

The Government wish that the recently-appointed Board should pay all moneys due to the unemployed, and that the duties of the gentlemen forming the Casual Labour Board should cease at once. It is the wish also of the Government that all work and responsibility for the future surveillance of the men engaged under the Casual Labour Board should be undertaken by Mr. Mason, C.E., and Mr. Miles, absolutely.

Pro G. R. DIBBS,
JOHN LACKEY.

B 3.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 25 January, 1889.

Sir, I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, regarding the termination of the Casual Labour Board, and to inform you that a letter on the subject was sent to you this morning.

I have, &c.,

CRITCHETT WALKER,
Principal Under Secretary.

The Hon. John Davies, M.L.C., C.M.G., Chairman, Casual Labour Board.

B 4.

Sydney, 31 January, 1889.

Sir, We have the honor to inquire whether it is the desire of the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer that the money now due to the unemployed shall be disbursed by us or by the Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, who is still engaged on the duties of that Board.

We shall be glad also to be informed when the services of the Chairman and the other two gentlemen forming the Board will cease, as we are quite prepared to undertake all the duties committed to us under our appointments of 25th instant.

We have, &c.,

WILLIAM MASON, C.E.
JOHN B. C. MILES.

The Principal Under Secretary, Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney.

B 5.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 25 January, 1889.

Sir, I am directed by the Colonial Secretary to inform you that the Government have decided to forthwith terminate the services of the gentlemen forming the Casual Labour Board, and have appointed the gentlemen noted in the margin for the purpose of adjusting the accounts and winding up the business of the Board, and to request that you will be good enough to hand over to the gentlemen named all the books and documents in connection with Board.

2. I am also desired to enclose for your information copies of the correspondence and of Mr. Dibbs' minute on the subject.

I have, &c.,

CRITCHETT WALKER,
Principal Under Secretary.

The Hon. John Davies, M.L.C., C.M.G., Chairman, Casual Labour Board.

B 6.

Casual Labour Board, 82 Goulburn-street, Sydney, 24 January, 1889.

Sir, Referring to my several interviews with the Honorable the Colonial Secretary in respect to the usual advance of £6,000 from the Treasury (which had been previously authorised by the late Colonial Secretary), to enable the Board to pay the wages of the men engaged upon the Public Relief Works, I have the honor, on behalf of the Board, to inform the Honorable the Colonial Secretary that the wages for the men engaged on the works at Liverpool, Campbelltown, Woolwash Road, Rookwood, Bankstown, and Leichhardt Park are now overdue, and unless the money is this day made available, the Board respectfully submit that they cannot be held responsible for any results that might happen.

I have, &c.,

JOHN DAVIES,
Chairman.

The Principal Under Secretary, Sydney.

Send copy of my minute, together with copy of the late Colonial Secretary's minute.—G.R.D., 24/1/89. Done, 24/1/89.

B 7.

Casual Labour Board, 82, Goulburn-street, Sydney, 24 January, 1889.

Sir, I enclose paragraph clipped from this day's *Daily Telegraph*, headed "Casual Labour Board," and as the Board has not up to the present received any official intimation of the truth or otherwise of the enclosed paragraph, I deem it as due to myself and colleagues that if there is any truth in it that the Board has been treated, to say the least, in a most discourteous manner by the Government.

I deemed it my duty personally to wait upon the Hon. Colonial Secretary on Monday morning last, to ascertain his views with reference to his further action of the Board, regarding the instructions received from his predecessor, and I was informed by the Hon. Colonial Secretary that the Board were to give effect to Sir Henry Parkes' letter of 31st December last, and not to depart from those instructions until we heard to the contrary from him.

You

J. B. C. Miles,
Esquire.
William Mason,
Esquire.
2 enclosures.

You will observe that the paragraph alludes to the loose and irregular manner in which a large amount of public money has been spent. The Board deny that there has been any loose and irregular expenditure, and I demand, on behalf of the Board, that an officer be sent from the Treasury to examine and investigate the accounts and expenditure.

I may also state that as soon as the report referred to in the paragraph (9) of the Select Committee on Hornsby and Holt-Sutherland Roads report appeared, wherein it states that no audit of the accounts had taken place—knowing this statement to be wholly unfounded, and not supported by any of the witnesses giving evidence before this Committee, which will be seen upon perusal of the report—I felt it my duty, on behalf of the Board, to personally wait upon the then Colonial Treasurer, and requested him to send the Treasury Inspector to examine our books and accounts. He immediately called in the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade, and the Treasurer told him that I requested an officer might be sent to conduct the necessary inquiry into our books and accounts. The Under Secretary informed the Treasurer that there was no necessity for such, as the accounts were regularly examined and checked by the Treasury officers, as also by the Auditor-General, to whom they were afterwards forwarded.

C. Walker, Esq., Principal Under-Secretary, Sydney.

I have &c.,

JOHN DAVIES, Chairman.

[Enclosure.]

Daily Telegraph, 24/1/89.

THE CASUAL LABOUR BOARD.

The Cabinet sat for a considerable time yesterday afternoon. The principal matter under consideration was that of the unemployed and the Casual Labour Board. It was decided, in view of the evidence given before the Parliamentary Committee and of the unsatisfactory working of the Casual Labour Board, to relieve the gentlemen forming that Board from further duties, and to appoint two commercial men of high character to close the accounts and the operations of the unemployed, in the terms of Sir Henry Parkes' minute of December 31 last, a minute which provides for the gradual extinction of the unemployed movement altogether. The Cabinet also decided, in view of the loose and irregular manner in which a large amount of public money has been spent upon this department, to request that the two gentlemen they appoint shall adopt a system similar to that employed by the Treasurer in regard to the expenditure of public money. With reference to the wages of the unemployed, the Government leave it to the Board to bring up a report of the position of affairs, and upon that report action will be taken.

B 9.

I CANNOT understand why Mr. Hinchcliffe should have a salary of £350, when in his late office he only received £190; and the Board certainly cannot appoint officers or do more than recommend, as in other branches of the public service. Mr. Davies had better see me.—H.P.

This letter can be withdrawn by Board, and another of a more explanatory character substituted.—H.P. 87/5,744. 27 May. Withdrawn.—C.S. Letter should state necessity for creating office, nature of duties, &c., and recommend appointment.—The Chairman of the Board. B.C., 31/5/87.—C.W.

B 8.

Recommending that T. C. Hinchcliffe be appointed at £350 per annum, and F. J. Josephson at £250 per annum.

Sir,

I have the honor, on behalf of the Casual Labour Board, to recommend the appointment of Mr. Thomas Cooper Hinchcliffe as Secretary and Paymaster, at a salary of £350 per annum. This gentleman, until recently, was employed in connection with the Immigration Department, at a fixed salary of £190 per annum; and in addition to services rendered to that department, was engaged for some months previous to the appointment of the Casual Labour Board, in assisting Messrs. Wise and Deering in connection with the unemployed, and he was allowed £1 for each pay, as paymaster in charge; equal to £130 per annum; and received £50 as compensation for additional services rendered to the unemployed, equal to £100 per annum; making, in all, £420 per annum.

The duties performed by Mr. Hinchcliffe are onerous and very responsible, having the custody and control of large sums of public money. On these grounds I recommend for the favourable consideration of the Hon. Colonial Secretary the salary named.

I have the honor also to recommend the appointment of Mr. Francis Jacob Josephson as Registrar and Assistant Paymaster, at a salary of £250 per annum.

This gentleman was, till recently, employed in the Immigration Department, at a fixed salary of £190 per annum, and he received a bonus of £25 for special services for the half year, being equal to £50 per annum, in connection with the control of the unemployed, making a total of £240 per annum.

Mr. Josephson has charge of the registrar (*sic*) of all applicants for employment, and attends to the drafting of the unemployed to the various works, and otherwise performs the duties of clerk and assistant paymaster. I respectfully submit the above recommendations for the favourable consideration of the Hon. Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

JOHN DAVIES,
Chairman.

Hon. Colonial Secretary, Sydney.

These gentlemen can only be employed temporarily. Considering the responsible nature of their duties I approve, on the recommendation of the Board, of the rate of the remuneration submitted. But the Board must keep in mind that the whole work is temporary, and guard against any circumstance giving to their proceedings the appearance of permanence.—H.P., 3/6/87. U.S., Treasury, 7/6/87.

The Chairman, Casual Labour Board, B.C., 7/6/87.—C.W., P.U.S. Seen.—T.C.H., F.J.J., J.D., Chairman, B.C., 16/6/87. The Principal Under Secretary. To be noted and returned. Returned, C.S.O., 17/6.

B 10.

LET Mr. Ormiston bring down here the whole of the old books in connection with the Casual Labour Board, and let Mr. Hinchcliffe be removed forthwith. The new books to be placed in the charge of Mr. Ormiston.

G.R.D., 6/2/89.

The Board appointed to relieve the old Board to take over premises.—G.R.D., 6/2/89. Mr. Ormiston, B.C., 6/2/89.—C.W.

In accordance with these and verbal instructions, we informed Mr. Hinchcliffe to-day that his services would be dispensed with after the 12th inst.; but he requires that written notice to that effect be given to him by the Government, as he is an officer appointed by the Executive Council, and meantime declines to relinquish his post here. We are in possession of all the books and papers in the office, and have had separate books opened for recording the dealings with the moneys which pass through our hands. Mr. Ormiston can have access to these books at any time he may desire.—W.M., J.B.C.M., 8/2/89.

Mr. Hinchcliffe's services, I understand, are now no longer required. Perhaps he should be informed in this sense.—C.W., 12/2/89. Approved.—E.B., 12/2/89. H. Hinchcliffe, 12/2/89.

B 11.

PRINTED papers in connection with various roads and other works carried out by the Casual Labour Board at Ryde, Eastwood, Carlingford, Beecroft, Hornsby, Dural, Coolah, Thornleigh, and Berowra.

B 12.

PETITION dated 15th August, 1889, addressed to the Honorable John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., signed by certain residents of Campbelltown, praying for road of access to George's River.

Minute thereto, as follows:—

"You will please have 3 (three) gangs of men put on to this work as soon as possible, proceeding yourself to lay out the work at once. The men can be sent from Sydney, if you wish.

J. DAVIES,

Chairman,

20/8/88."

Mr. E. M. Burrowes, Hurstville.

The Chairman, C.L.B.—This work has been started under the supervision of A. Campbell.—E. M. BURROWES, Superintendent, 28th August, 1888.

[To Evidence of T. C. Hinchcliffe.]

C.

RECEIPT for vouchers to the amount of £536 14s. 10d. and cheque for £100, signed by Messrs. Mason & Miles.

C 1.

LETTER from Principal Under Secretary to Mr. T. C. Hinchcliffe, informing him his services as Secretary to the Board would not be further required.

C 2.

New South Wales.

Contingent Expenses.—Pay Voucher, No. 1652A Department of
Sub-head of Estimate—Public Relief Works.

Date of Service	Claimant—Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., Campbelltown.	Amount.
	For the undermentioned services:—	
May 2, 1887, to December 31, 1888	To allowance for expenses visiting Public Relief Works—National Park, Waterfalls, Sutherland, Port Hacking, Otford, Bulgo, Camp Creek, Cawley's Creek, Heathcote, Hurstville, Cook Park, Liverpool, Berowra, Campbelltown, Ryde, Hornsby, Carlingford, Beecroft, Gordon, Narrabeen, Dobroyd, French's Forest, Tempe, Helsarmel Creek, White's Creek, and Garie Beach Road (523 days at 10s. per day)	£ s. d. 261 10 0
	Signature of Claimant—JOHN DAVIES.	Total £ 261 10 0

I certify that the amount charged in this Voucher as to computations, castings, and rates is correct; that the service has been faithfully performed, and that the expenditure is duly authorized in terms of the Audit Act.

THOMAS C. HINCHCLIFFE,
Officer incurring the expense.

CRITCHETT WALKER,
Head of the Department.

RECEIVED on the 31st day of December, 1888, the sum of two hundred and sixty-one pounds ten shillings, sterling

Witness—THOMAS C. HINCHCLIFFE.

JOHN DAVIES.

App.—H.P., 14/1/89.

C 3.

[Pages 250 to 261 out of a Cash Book.]

LIST of Moneys received by Chairman of Board in trust:—

Waterfall Pay-sheet, 27th April to 10th May— McGuinness, signed for by Chairman, 7/6/87	J.D.	£ s. d. 0 5 6
National Park Pay-sheet, 27th April to 10th May— Fraters, signed for by Chairman, 7/6/87	J.D.	0 12 0
Carlingford Pay-sheet, 30th April to 14th May— H. Ripper, signed for by Chairman, 7/6/87	J.D.	0 8 0
Carlingford Pay-sheet, 29th April to 30th April— Thos. Craig, signed for by Chairman, 7/6/87	J.D.	0 6 9
Beecroft Pay-sheet, 8th to 21st May— J. D. Nicholl, signed for by Chairman, 7/6/87 (Signed) J. D. Nicholl	J.D.	1 15 7
National Park Pay-sheet, 11th to 19th May— J. M'Cormack, signed for by Chairman, 7/6/87	J.D.	1 8 9
National Park Pay-sheet, 11th to 24th May— P. Hamsey	J.D.	0 7 6
Rhodes (same sheet) (Signed) J. R. Rhodes	J.D.	5 10 0
Beecroft, 21st to 28th May— W. Lewis	J.D.	0 17 6
J. Delotte	J.D.	1 10 0
Carlingford, 11th to 25th June— F. Guernsey	J.D.	0 18 0
August 2. National Park, 6th to 8th June, 1887— W. Hollons	J.D.	0 11 3
W. Scott	J.D.	0 11 3
A. Hammond	J.D.	0 11 3
August 2. Leichhardt, Johnstone's Creek, 9th to 17th June— Thomas Smith	J.D.	0 7 6
August 9. Waterfall, 4th to 16th July, 1887— James Rogers (Signed) James Rogers	J.D.	0 7 10
Carried forward		£16 8 8

		£	s.	d.
		Brought forward.....	16	8 8
Waterfall pay-sheet, 17th June to 2nd July—				
	Charles Jones		0	7 10
	W. G. Oliver		0	7 10
	J. Irwin		0	7 10
	M'Cormack	J.D.	0	7 10
	J. Smart		0	7 10
	D. Sullivan		0	7 10
	J. Tulk		0	7 10
National Park, 4th to 16th July—				
	W. Jones	J.D.	0	15 8
272.	Brennan	J.D.	1	2 8
National Park, 17th to 18th June—				
	Maguire		0	6 3
	Collins		0	6 3
	J. Shaw		0	6 3
	H. Cross		0	6 3
	J. Grant		0	10 3
	T. D. Jones		0	6 3
	J. Johnston	J.D.	0	6 3
	C. Harrison		0	6 3
	T. D. Jones		0	11 3
	W. Treinan		0	6 3
	A. White		0	6 3
	C. Durham		0	13 2
	T. Mackey		0	5 0
	T. Finnegan		0	5 0
National Park, 4th to 16th July—				
141.	H. Wilson	J.D.	1	7 8
National Park, 26th July—				
386.	Treweek	J.D.	0	8 9
Rookwood, 15th to 28th July—				
34.	T. Cooper	J.D.	0	10 0
	T. Cooke	J.D.	0	8 0
Waterfalls, 18th to 30th July—				
	Thomas Rhoden	J.D.	1	3 6
Rookwood, July 28th to August 2nd—				
12.	R. Mordey	J.D.	0	4 0
Rookwood, July 28th to August 6th—				
2.	J. Locke	J.D.	0	5 0
Rookwood, July 28th to August 11th—				
	Alcock	J.D.	0	10 0
National Park, 18th to 30th July, 1887—				
24.	Mitchell	J.D.	5	5 0
National Park, 1st to 8th August—				
	A. Hannay	J.D.	0	11 9
	D. M'Guire	J.D.	0	8 9
Waterfalls, 1st to 13th August—				
	George Wilson	J.D.	0	3 11
National Park, 13th to 17th August—				
	J. Mortimer	J.D.	0	8 9
Illawarra Road, 15th to 22nd August—				
	J. Fitzpatrick	J.D.	0	8 9
	A. Rolfe	J.D.	0	8 9
	W. Secumer	J.D.	0	8 9
National Park, 27th August to 2nd September—				
	H. Campbell	J.D.	0	3 1
	P. Davis	J.D.	0	11 2
National Park, 4th to 21st July—				
277.	Green	J.D.	0	17 6
National Park, 1st to 13th August—				
75.	Hill	J.D.	1	4 0
National Park, 16th to 20th August—				
	J. Masters		0	13 7
	Clarke		0	13 7
	Lewis	J.D.	0	13 7
	A. Davis. (Signed) A. Davis		0	11 2
	Marsden		0	13 7
National Park, 28th August to 6th September—				
	S Ireland. (Signed) S. Ireland	J.D.	0	9 8
National Park, 14th to 27th August—				
	Young		0	4 0
	J. Nerrie		0	4 0
	W. Connelly. (Signed) W. Connelly		0	4 0
	T. Stein		0	4 0
	J. Cox. (Signed) J. Cox	J.D.	0	4 0
94.	O'Connell		1	1 10
130.	O'Connor		5	19 0
180.	H. W. Scott. (Signed) H. W. Scott		4	0 6
Waterfalls, 14th to 27th August—				
	J. Kennedy	J.D.	0	10 8
Illawarra Road, 14th to 27th August—				
	W. Cox	J.D.	0	4 5
	F. Smith	J.D.	0	4 5
	W. Giles	J.D.	0	7 8
Narrabeen, August 23rd to September 8th—				
	R. Brown	J.D.	0	5 6
	T. Smith	J.D.	0	5 6
Narrabeen, September 8th to 22nd—				
242.	Wilson, George	J.D.	10	9 4
		Carried forward.....	70	3 10

				£	s.	d.
		Brought forward.....		70	3	10
	National Park, 1st to 3rd August—					
	Ruglass		J.D.	0	0	11
	Jones		J.D.	0	3	10
	Smythe		J.D.	0	3	10
	Thomas		J.D.	0	3	10
	Burrowes		J.D.	0	3	10
12.	Riley		J.D.	0	3	10
	Laffin		J.D.	0	3	10
168.	Brown		J.D.	2	0	0
	Illawarra Road, 11th to 24th September, 1887—					
	P. Dean. (Signed) Phillip Dean		J.D.	0	4	10
	National Park, 11th to 24th September—					
	Griffiths. (Signed) J. Griffiths		J.D.	2	4	10
	J. Downey. (Signed) J. Downey		J.D.	2	15	0
	Narrabeen, 22nd September to 6th October—					
	J. Sharpless		J.D.	0	0	2
	National Park, 1st to 7th September—					
	Ackling		J.D.	0	8	9
	Waterfalls, 28th August to 10th September—					
	J. Parnell		J.D.	0	9	3
	Illawarra Road, 25th September to 8th October—					
	W. O'Brien		J.D.	1	3	8
	P. O'Connor		J.D.	0	7	3
85.	National Park, 25th September to 8th October—					
	Brennan		J.D.	0	3	7
	Johnson Creek, September 24th to October 4th—					
	James Regan		J.D.	2	3	6
	Waterfalls, 11th to 20th September—					
	J. Wilson		J.D.	0	6	4
	Narrabeen, 6th to 21st October—					
	A. Buchanan		J.D.	0	0	2
	J. Norman		J.D.	0	0	8
305.	National Park, August 27th to 2nd September—					
	Bell		J.D.	0	19	0
	National Park, 12th to 15th September—					
	E. J. Doolan		J.D.	0	8	9
	French's Forest, September 24th to 4th October—					
	W. Jackson. (Signed) Peter Jackson		J.D.	0	19	4
	Unwin's Bridge Road, 9th to 22nd October—					
	O'Connor		J.D.	0	3	10
	National Park, 9th to 22nd October—					
	Enfield		J.D.	0	7	10
	Callaghan		J.D.	0	7	10
	Waterfalls, 11th to 24th September—					
	M. Hickey		J.D.	0	15	8
	F. Barton		J.D.	0	10	3
	Unwin's Bridge Road, 23rd October to November 5th—					
	E. Bowser		J.D.	0	1	9
	M'Creddie		J.D.	0	0	5
	Narrabeen, 3rd to 17th November—					
	M. Keating		J.D.	0	0	11
	National Park, 6th to 19th November—					
	P. Mathews		J.D.	0	2	0
	Peakhurst, 6th to 19th November—					
	Randall		J.D.	0	0	6
	Waterfalls, 6th to 19th November—					
	Raidian		J.D.	0	1	4
	National Park, 6th to 19th November—					
	E. Fratus		J.D.	0	5	0
	Stranger Tate. (Signed) Stranger Tate		J.D.	1	7	7
210.	National Park, 14th to 27th August—					
	From A. G. Seymour		J.D.	1	10	10
235.	Narrabeen, November 17th to 1st December—					
	M. Kennedy		J.D.	0	9	11
	Waterfalls, November 20th to 3rd December—					
	W. White		J.D.	0	3	6
221.	Port Hacking Roads, 4th to 17th December—					
	Franklin		J.D.	1	17	8
	National Park, 4th to 17th December—					
	C. M'Donald		J.D.	4	16	10
	Berowra, 9th to 23rd December—					
	T. Dillon. (Signed) W. Dillon		J.D.	13	10	0
	Parramatta Roads.					
	M. Savage. (Signed) M. J. Savage		J.D.	4	16	0
	M. Savage. (Signed) M. J. Savage		J.D.	14	8	0
	Narrabeen, 1st to 22nd December—					
	J. Hingstone		J.D.	5	15	11
	National Park, 18th to 31st December, 1887—					
	Kane, jun. } Paid Treasury. V. 4,137/88, 9/7/88. {		J.D.	0	15	0
	T. M'Donald }		J.D.	0	6	11
	Cook Park, 15th to 28th January, 1888—					
	J. French. (Signed) J. French		J.D.	6	15	9
	Narrabeen, January 19th to 2nd February—					
	J. Wilson. Repaid Dr. V. 4137/88		J.D.	0	4	0
	O'Riley. Ditto		J.D.	0	4	0
Total.....				£146	2	1

[To Evidence of ells.]

D.

ROUGH sketch prepared by Mr. W. M. Gordon, being a section of Boundary Road and Junction Road, showing grades.

D 1.

Memorandum by Colonel Wells.
Roads cleared by Casual Labour Board near Hornsby.

Sydney, 13 November, 1888.

AFTER reading papers already submitted, I have little to add. Some two or three years ago, in a casual conversation on the subject of the prospects of the Northern line of railway, Mr. Burns, M.P., mentioned his willingness to let the Government have a road through the lands owned by "Burns, Withers, and Smith," to connect the proposed Hornsby Railway Station with the Vanceville, or Eastern Road, part of which had been formed by the Roads Department, provided the Department would clear and form it for traffic. This was merely conversational; but had it come before me officially, from my knowledge of the locality, I was prepared to recommend this being done in the usual course as a necessary public work. Some time elapsed, and work had to be found for surplus labour—first by Roads Department scrubbing Crown lands on Field of Mars and clearing roads in access thereto from railway stations. Subsequently this work was taken over and extended by Mr. Deering and the staff of surveyors engaged in the subdivision of Crown lands proposed to be sold at Field of Mars and in parish of Gordon, between the railway and Narrabeen.

After the appointment of the Casual Labour Board, in May, 1887, the control of these works devolved on that body. A large quantity of land had been partially cleared for sale near Hornsby, and subdivision roads cleared; it therefore became necessary, as at other places, to give access to railway and enhance value. A petition was presented by Mr. Ives, M.P., to the Minister for Works, in November, 1887, praying for construction of road from Vanceville Road, where work had been left off by Roads Department, to Hornsby Railway Station. This being forwarded to Casual Labour Board, it was deemed advisable to comply with it.

In order to do this, and at the same time benefit the Government property, the only way was to adopt the subdivision road (Junction-street) through Burns, Withers, and Smith's property, with tributary roads, as shown on Mr. Gordon's map, tapping the Crown lands on the plateau or spurs between the gullies falling to Cowan, these gullies being such formidable obstacles on the line of the Government Boundary Road as quite to preclude it from adoption. To ratify this, very close personal inspection of the surroundings was made by Mr. Houston, a member of the Board. Junction-street and the unformed portion of Vanceville Road were accordingly made, and the former extended through various properties to Bobbin Head Road, and other lines of access to the Government estate. It was also deemed advisable to continue the tributary roads, C. I. and D. H., on Mr. Gordon's map, to the Lane Cove Road, as such access would enhance the value of Crown land.

Since our conversation in 1885 or 1886, I have heard nothing whatever from Mr. Burns in connection with these roads, nor, I believe, has any other member of the Casual Labour Board, which has only been prompted by a desire to find useful and reproductive work for the unemployed. The prices brought at the sale show the result.

F. WELLS, Col.,

Member Casual Labour Board.

D 2.

PRINTED form of contract of 6th June, 1887, for supplies of rations for Casual Labour Board Works, with tender form attached.

D 3.

MEMORANDUM of piecework rates as paid on Casual Labour Board Works on Waterfall, Garie, Bulgo, Camp Creek, Sutherland, Loftus, Bankstown, and other roads under the immediate supervision of Assistant Superintendent.

D 4.

PLAN showing ROADS through the properties of Messrs. J. F. Burns, R. Burdett Smith, G. Withers, and others in the parishes of Gordon and South Colah, county of Cumberland. (See plan 1 at end.)

D 5.

[Presented by Mr. Ives, M.P., 11 November, 1887.]

Petition for Repairs to Road known as the Great Eastern or Vanceville Road.

To the Honorable John Sutherland, Minister for Works.

Sir,

WE, the undersigned landowners and others, have the honor to request that you will be good enough to grant a sum of money for the repair and improvement of the road known as the Great Eastern or Vanceville Road, from the Lane Cove Road to the new road recently cleared by the Government from Hornsby Railway Bridge. The Great Eastern Road has to bear a large amount of traffic, which will be increased by the opening of the new road above referred to, and which is known as Boundary Road.

We are, &c.,

E. K. Wilson,
J. Hall,
J. Biffen,
F. Chilton,
John Bourke,
R. Brodie,
J. Foster,
Jno. Horsley,
John J. Kenney,
Richard Courtice,
W. H. Sargent,

George Sainty,
W. J. Cook,
L. Hay,
Jas. Cunningham,
Frank Elgar,
Frank Chamberlain,
Olivier Sleeman,
V. Elms,
Joseph Sainty,
Arthur Sainty,
Hugh Henry Bryant,

Henry Hurditch,
William Hurditch,
Edward Gatter,
A. Cornwell,
A. W. Greenhalgh,
S. W. Cormack,
William Ray,
Arthur Ray,
Peter Gilroy,
Francis Brodie,
Thomas Gilroy,

John Brodie,
Laurence Howard,
James E. Boyd,
Thos. Mason,
John Cooke,
Saml. T. Muddon,
Jno. Atkin,
H. Hazlet,
G. Withers,
John P. Wright.

Works Department, 87-10,597. 11/11. Roads, B.C., 12/11/87. Public Works, 87-17,387, 15th November. Colonial Secretary, 87-12,830, 21 November. This is a paper which should be sent to the Casual Labour Board, as work is being done by the unemployed in this vicinity.—W.C.B., 14/11/87. Under Secretary, B.C., 16/11/87. B.C., Principal Under Secretary, 16/11/87.—J.R. Refer to Casual Labour Board. C.W., 22/11/87.

D 6.

Casual Labour Board, 82, Goulburn-street, Sydney, 18 October, 1887.

Sir,

Enclosed herewith you will please find tracing of roads recommended to the Board by their local officer at Hornsby, to give better access to the adjacent Crown Lands. Should yourself and co-partners have no objection to the opening of these roads marked A, B, C, instructions will be given to have them commenced forthwith.

I have, &c.,

THOMAS HINCHCLIFFE,

The Honorable J. F. Burns, M.P., Treasury.

Secretary.

Put with papers, Roads to Hornsby Station, (*here some words illegible*) and resubmit when Mr. Symonds is next in office.—W.C.B., 12/11/88. B.C.—Mr. O'Donnell for report.—J.D., Chairman, 24/11/88.

D 7.

D 7.

Sir, In reply to your letter of yesterday's date, I beg to say, on behalf of Burns, Withers, and Smith, that I have no objection to the roads shown on the tracing enclosed therein, being opened for the public use.

Sydney, 19 October, 1887.

Mr. Thomas C. Hinchcliffe, Secretary, Casual Labour Board.

I am, &c.,
J. F. BURNS.

D 8.

Re enclosed petition and Junction and Boundary Roads.

Sir,

I have the honor to report *re* petition attached, and for Casual Labour Board's information, that I am forming Junction-street and Vanceville Road, and when ballasted I believe will answer the requirements of the district for some time. By referring to the plan* you will see that Boundary Road is a parallel road to Junction Road. It would take an immense amount of money to make it available for traffic.

Hornsby Junction, 1 December, 1887.

Therefore I will not do anything further to same until I hear from the Board.

F. O'DONNELL,
Superintendent.

Mr. Superintendent O'Donnell to the Chairman, Casual Labour Board.

[To Evidence of J. B. C. Miles.]

E.

Contingent Expenses.—Department of Casual Labour Board.
Claimants.—M'Lean Bros. and Rigg (Limited).

Pay Voucher.

1889.—January 31—		£	s.	d.
681.—14 Bags, at 9d.	.....		10	6
28 Kegs Blg. Powder, at 41s.	.....	57	8	0
Trainage	.....		16	6
To National Park magazine.		£	58	15 0

Signed by—J. H. WOOD.

E 1.

TREASURY Receipt Voucher for £334 16s. 3d., signed "John Davies," showing statement of certain sums (*proposed to be*) handed over to Colonial Treasurer in payment of collections by Chairman of Casual Labour Board from 7th June, 1887, to 31st January, 1889.

E 2.

New South Wales.

Contingent Expenses.—Department of Public Relief Works.

Pay Voucher No.

Date or Period of Supply.	Claimants—M'Lean Bros. and Rigg (Limited).	Amount.
1888. Aug. 31.	For the supply of the undermentioned articles:—	£ s. d.
	24 Long-handled Shovels, at 4s.	4 16 0
	4 Hammers, at 8s. 6d.	1 14 0
	A.E.H.	6 10 0
	Signature of Claimants— For M'Lean Bros. and Rigg (Limited)—J. H. WOOD.	2½ per cent. 3 3
	Total.....£	6 6 9

I certify that the amount charged in this voucher, as to computations, castings, and rates, is correct; that the service has been faithfully performed, and that the expenditure is duly authorized in terms of the Audit Act.

E. M. BURROWES,
Officer incurring the expense.

JOHN DAVIES,
Head of the Department.

E 3.

New South Wales.

Contingent Expenses.—Department of Public Relief Works.

Pay Voucher No.

Date or Period of Supply.	Claimants—M'Lean Bros. and Rigg (Limited).	Amount.
1888. 25 Sept. 552	For the supply of the undermentioned articles:—	£ s. d.
	6 coils Manilla Rope, at 11s. 8d.	3 10 0
	Signature of Claimants— For M'Lean Bros. and Rigg (Limited)—J. H. WOOD.	2½ per cent. 1 9
	Total.....£	A.E.H. 3 8 3

I certify that the amount charged in this voucher, as to computations, castings, and rates, is correct; that the service has been faithfully performed, and that the expenditure is duly authorized in terms of the Audit Act.

E. M. BURROWES,
Officer incurring the expense.

JOHN DAVIES,
Head of the Department.

E 4.

E 4.

Contingent Expenses.—Department of Casual Labour Board.
Claimants.—M'Lean Brothers and Rigg (Limited).

Pay Voucher.

1888.—August 28—		£	s.	d.	
496.—6 Bars 1½ Oct. Steel, 1-3-18, at 56/-	.....	5	7	0
Trainage	.....		4	0
		5	11	0	
	2½ per cent.		2	9	
		£	5	8	3

Signed by J. H. WOOD, E. M. BURROWES, JOHN DAVIES, and initialled by A. E. HIBBLE.

E 5.

Contingent Expenses.—Department of Casual Labour Board.
Claimants.—M'Lean Brothers and Rigg (Limited).

Pay Voucher.

1888.—October 26—		£	s.	d.	
604.—4 Bags, at 9d.	.....		3	0
8 Kegs Blasting Powder, at 41/-	.....	16	8	0
32 Coils Fuse, at 1/-		1	12	0
		18	3	0	
	2½ per cent.		9	1	
		£	17	13	11

Signed by J. H. WOOD, E. M. BURROWES, JOHN DAVIES, and initialled by A. E. HIBBLE.

E 6.

Contingent Expenses.—Department of Casual Labour Board.
Claimants.—M'Lean Brothers and Rigg (Limited).

Pay Voucher.

1888.—October 15—		£	s.	d.	
579.—4 Bags, 7½d.	.....		2	6	
8 Kegs Blasting Powder, at 41/-	.....	16	8	0	
3 doz. Coils Fuse, at 12/-	.....		1	16	0
3 ,, Pick Handles, at 8/9	.....		1	6	3
2 ,, Mattock Handles, at 9/-	.....			18	0
1 ,, Axe Handles, at 8/9	.....			8	9
		20	19	6	
	2½ per cent.		10	6	
		£	20	9	0

Signed by J. H. WOOD, F. O'DONNELL, JOHN DAVIES, and initialled by A. E. HIBBLE.

E 7.

C. ROBERTSON'S list of wines, &c., returned to John Davies.

E 8.

THE Cash Book of the Casual Labour Board.

E 9 to 12.

BUTTS of four Order Books for issue of Stores as used by the Casual Labour Board.

[To Evidence of E. A. Rennie.]

F.

STATEMENT of Advances to Casual Labour Board.

Voucher.	Date.	Amount of Advance	Date of Adjust-ment.	Time allowed.	Balance Un-adjusted.	A. O. List.	Queries Raised.	Queries Out-standing.	Amount of Surcharges Raised.	Amount of Surcharges Explained.	Amount of Surcharges Recovered.	Remarks.
	1887.	£ s. d.	1887.						£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
4,777 T.F.	9 May	6,000 0 0	10 June	14 days...	Nil.....	212/87	1	0 7 4	0 7 4	Vouchers awaiting reply to letter to Treasury, 19th August, 1887, B.C., 9/1/88.
5,364	25 "	6,000 0 0	30 "	" "	" "	215	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5,673	3 June	6,000 0 0	2 July	" "	" "	218	2	.....	3 3 0	2 12 6	0 10 6
5,813	8 "	6,000 0 0	23 "	" "	" "	235	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
6,112	18 "	6,000 0 0	3 Aug.	" "	" "	264	2	.....	2 17 6	2 17 6	.....
18,479	2 July	6,000 0 0	10 "	" "	" "	284	3	.....	.....	.....	.....
18,929	7 "	6,000 0 0	28 "	" "	" "	284	2	.....	0 12 6	0 12 6	.....
6,815 T.F.	} 13 "	4,000 0 0	6 Sept.	" "	" "	328	} 3	.....	.....	.....	.....
19,441a		2,000 0 0	6 "	" "	" "	328		.....	0 2 0	.....	0 2 0
7,082 T.F.	23 "	6,000 0 0	7 "	" "	" "	300	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
22,531	5 Aug.	6,000 0 0	13 "	" "	" "	325	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
7,531 T.F.	12 "	6,000 0 0	15 "	" "	" "	327	2	.....	1 7 6	1 7 6	.....
7,649	18 "	6,000 0 0	27 "	" "	" "	328	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
7,902	27 "	6,000 0 0	6 Oct.	" "	" "	352	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
8,144	5 Sept.	6,000 0 0	10 "	" "	" "	351	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
8,842	24 "	6,000 0 0	20 "	" "	" "	367	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
9,330	8 Oct.	6,000 0 0	2 Nov.	" "	" "	369	9	.....	0 5 5	.....	0 5 5
9,898	24 "	6,000 0 0	28 "	" "	" "	378	2	.....	.....	.....	.....
10,360	4 Nov.	6,000 0 0	5 Dec. 1888.	" "	" "	6/88	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
11,804	30 Dec. 1888.	18,000 0 0	9, 11 Jan.	Not stated	" "	33	5	.....	0 16 4	.....	0 16 4
132/88	4 Jan.	6,000 0 0	12 "	14 days ..	" "	55	2	.....	2 1 11	.....	2 1 11
2,610	} 2 Feb.	3,617 13 2	10 Feb.	" "	" "	79	2	.....	0 9 0	.....	0 9 0
1,006 T.F.		2,382 6 10	28 "	" "	" "	80	5	.....	4 18 0	4 18 0	.....
1,150	6 "	6,000 0 0	28 "	" "	" "	118	3	.....	0 13 10	.....	0 13 10
1,640	22 "	6,000 0 0	21 Mar.	" "	" "	123	} 1	.....	.....	.....	.....
2,846	13 Mar.	6,000 0 0	7 April	" "	" "	159		.....	.....	.....	.....
3,584	29 "	6,000 0 0	20 "	" "	" "	171	1	.....	1 0 0	.....	1 0 0
4,885	7 May 1889.	6,000 0 0	16 May	" "	" "	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
99a	} 3 Jan.	*72,000 0 0	Final payment to Bank on account of moneys advanced.				16	8	128 0 10	0 16 0	125 19 8	} £1 5s. 2d. outstanding. Queried Casual Labour Board, 21st February, 1889.
169 T.F.												
		240,000 0 0					68	8	146 15 2	13 4 0	132 6 0	

List No.	Voucher.	Amount.
		£
284/87	18,479/87/S.V. 140	6,000
"	18,929/S.V. 143	6,000
300	7,082/S.Vs. 191-3, 195-6	6,000
351	8,144/S.Vs. 331-3	6,000
171	4,885/88/S.V. 895	6,000
Final payment.	99a/89/S.Vs. 1,474-1,481	72,000

* The overdraft of £72,000 was commenced by payment of £2,353 5s. 1d. by the A. J. S. Bank on 15th May, 1888.

R. H. ELLIS.
AMBROSE FREEMAN.

25th March, 1889.

[To the Evidence of W. Duchesne.]

G.

No.	£	s.	d.
Cheques	26	17	7
Notes	28	0	0
Gold		10	0
Silver			
Copper			
Total.....£	55	7	7

All Cheques to be enumerated on the other side.

W. THE CITY BANK.
Sydney, 16 May, 1887.
PAID IN for the credit of John Davies, C.M.G., the sum of fifty-five pounds seven shillings and seven pence.
By SELF.
Teller.—(Cd.)—T.F.J.
£50 spl. reduction Osborne's B/, and £5 7-7 a/c. C.R.
£5 7s. 7d. on 18th inst.

Cheques, &c.

On Back	DRAWER.	BANK.	AMOUNT.
	G. R. Neale.....	N. S. W. ...	£26 17s. 7d.

G 1.

No.	£	s.	d.
Cheques	52	3	1
Notes			
Gold			
Silver			
Copper			
Total.....£	52	3	1

All Cheques to be enumerated on the other side.

W & THE CITY BANK.
Sydney, 26 September, 1887...
PAID IN for the credit of John Davies, C.M.G., No. 2, the sum of fifty-two pounds three shillings and one penny.
By SELF.
Teller.—(Cd.)—T.F.J.

Cheques, &c.

On Back	DRAWER.	BANK.	AMOUNT.
	G. R. C. Neale...	N. S. W. ...	£52 3s. 1d.

G 2.

No.	£	s.	d.
Cheques	33	3	2
Notes	4	0	0
Gold	1	0	0
Silver			
Copper			
Total.....£	38	3	2

All Cheques to be enumerated on the other side.

W. THE CITY BANK.
Sydney, 19 July, 1887.
PAID IN for the credit of John Davies, C.M.G., the sum of thirty-eight three shillings and twopence.
By SELF.
Teller.—(Cd.)—T.F.J.
To provide for cheque to be drawn on Thursday.

Cheques, &c.

On Back.—Blank.

[To Evidence of F. J. Lawn.]

H.

No. 552. Order for Issue of Stores.
To Messrs. M'Lean Bros. & Rigg,—
PLEASE issue the undermentioned articles to office, viz :—
1 hamper basket.

10 September, 1888.

JOHN DAVIES,
Chairman.

[To Evidence of E. M. Burrowes.]

I.

Sir, Hurstville 9 February, 1889.
In attention to the request of the Honorable the Colonial Secretary of this date, that I should send you a report as to various matters contained herein, I have the honor to commence by giving the *modus operandi* of the way our payments are prepared. It has always been my custom, and that of the Assistant-Superintendent, to go round to our various camps and inspect, value, and measure up on the last two or three days of the fortnight, then such valuations were committed to the "Draft Abstracts" (enclosed), which were handed to Mr. Springall to prepare the vouchers (pay-sheets), which, when finished, were copied into letter-book and signed by myself as the Superintendent; they were then forwarded to the Board Office, to be there dealt with.

Re Flemming's case.

By the abstracts (enclosed) you will please observe that Flemming does not appear on any of these sheets, although by the pay-sheets supplied by Mr. Springall, and which I signed, believing that they were true copies of the abstract, not having time to compare each item. The "Heathcote Agricultural Pay-Sheets" have in every case been written out by Mr. J. H. Springall; and at the time, having no doubt as to his honor and integrity, did as any head of a Department would do, sign the papers as correct. Flemming had been employed making himself generally useful in and about the yard of this Depot, but when Mr. Springall's term of office ceased at the end of the year, Flemming left to be employed by him. If I had had time to attend the pay-tables I have no doubt this would never have occurred, but on the ordinary pay-day at National Park, when Flemming would draw his money, I was generally engaged inspecting at Liverpool and Campbelltown; the Chairman advised me that there was no necessity of my being present, as Mr. Springall would do as well.

Re Mr. Hinchcliffe.

On Tuesday, the 29th ultimo, I had occasion to visit the Casual Labour Board Office, and there saw Mr. Hinchcliffe in company with Mr. John Davies just at 4 p.m. I was about leaving when Mr. Davies requested me to take the various electoral rolls up to the railway station. I remarked that the messenger might take them up, as I had to meet my wife at North Shore. Mr. Davies said, "Oh Mr. Hinchcliffe will drive you up to the station, and he can then leave you anywhere you want." I did so. While in the cab Mr. H. informed me that Mr. Mason "had his knife into me." I replied that it was strange, as I had never met that gentleman in my life. Shortly afterwards he told me he was in a bit of a fix. I said I was sorry to hear it. He then told me he was short £270 in his cash, but that I could be of great assistance if I choose; asking him in what way, he said, "You had at one time a drunken old messenger at the Park; I used often to send papers and envelopes by him; he must have lost vouchers as well paper." I replied that I never remembered an instance of a voucher going astray; he then said, "You might rig up some vouchers

vouchers for me, and I can get Davies to sign them, so that I can get my money, which I have had to borrow." At the same time he informed me that Mr. Davies had received a cheque amounting to £260 from the Colonial Secretary for expenses at the rate of 10s. per diem, and that Mr. Davies had remarked to him "that he did not care who sank so long as he swam."

Re Messrs. Davies and Hebble.

On my visiting the office one afternoon Mr. Davies said, "By-the-by, Hebble, you have some vouchers for Mr. Burrowes to sign." Hebble then placed four (4) of Messrs. M'Lean Bros. and Rigg's vouchers in front of me for signature. I did not care about signing them until I referred them to my storekeeper at Hurstville, when Mr. Davies said, "They are all right, you can sign them"; on his word I signed. Later in the afternoon again, in the presence of Mr. Larnach, Hebble told me that the voucher for two dozen long-handled shovels and four (4) spalling hammers was in lieu of "Davies' hamper." I said, "Had I known that I would never have signed it." From my own experience when verbal orders have been given M'Lean Bros. and Rigg they have always asked before many hours elapsed for a written order signed by some responsible officer.

While listening to some of Hebble's statements to the Honorable the Premier I was astonished at his prevarications as to his initialing vouchers, &c. His initials may have been to verify computations, but were also to show that the articles had been ordered from the office, as shown on the butt of the order-book, and likewise on the margin of the contingent voucher sent in by the claimant.

Should I have omitted any thing that you might deem information be good enough to let me know.

I have, &c.,

E. M. BURROWES,

Superintendent.

Seen.—Wm. M., J.B.C.M., 11/2/89. Forwarded for the information of the Honorable the Colonial Secretary.—
Wm. M., J.B.C.M., 14/2/89. Seen. To the Royal Commission.—G.R.D., 16/2/89.

I 1.

LETTER of 12th November, 1888, from J. H. Springall, to G. Johnson, ordering rations and stores.

I 2.

MEMORANDUM of 2nd November, 1888, from C. Walsh to G. Johnson, countermanding rations.

I 3.

LETTER of 25th January, 1889, from G. Johnston to E. M. Burrowes, forwarding Springall's and Walsh's letter and memo, and specifying ration issue.

I 4.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,

3, O'Connell-street, Sydney, 18 January, 1888.

I write you a line at the instance of Mr. Dalglish. He says you promised to let your men cut a trench or water-table on the west side of Sylvania Road (and his eastern boundary), so that the drainage from his land should run into the creek which crosses the Sylvania Road below his land. He says you instructed Mr. Buller to have it done, and when he left he passed on the instructions to Mr. Fraser, who is not there now, and that Mr. Saunders has no instructions about it. Could you get this done for Mr. Dalglish?

Another little matter: On the Woronora Road, down near the culvert, there was an old fence with the earth heaped up to it. This earth-bank was not disturbed. It would be a convenience to the road to scatter this bank the first time you have any men there.

Yours truly,

J. MURPHY.

A deposit of white metal has been found on our estate not far from the main road.

I 5.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,

Sydney, 11 May, 1888.

It appears that your men are doing some work on the Coronella Road, and that they have taken down the fence which crosses the road (called the Duck Ponds Fence). I think I told you that we had cancelled Blake's lease, and he is entirely out of it now; John Lehane (formerly Mr. Holt's overseer) has the grass lease now. He tells me that if the fence is left down it will be a great loss and trouble to him, as this is the only means of keeping the stock on the eastern part of the run—in fact that it would be quite useless to him. In these circumstances I write to ask whether you could not allow the fence to be put up again and have slip-rails fixed until we can have a new fence put up on the north side of the road. I fancy that it is not absolutely necessary for this fence to be removed just now, except while they are working at the exact spot where the fence is, and a day or two should put them past it. If you send Mr. Walsh a line about it he will not, I imagine, see any reason why the fence cannot remain for the present, so long as there are slip-rails to give them free passage to and fro. I wish you would give this your consideration at once, as Lehane is greatly exercised about it.

The requisition which I told you of has been handed to Mr. Davies yesterday. Amongst the things asked for is the opening of the road-metal quarry. I will show you or any of your officers where it is any time you like to make an appointment. There are people who would try to prevent these works from being undertaken, and I think it would be wise to keep your own counsel. Some persons would have these men thrown on the streets and the relief works closed if they cannot get exactly what they want done. Therefore the less they are told the better for all concerned I think. It has been suggested to Mr. Davies that the Main Illawarra Road should be undertaken and that Woronora Road and Sylvania Road might be formed, and where necessary cut down and culverted the same as Tafel Road (Port Hacking) and Malvern Road. It has been suggested that 500 men might be put on to these works.

Will you please do what you can about the Duck Ponds Fence at once.

Hoping this may find you quite well and happy,

I am yours truly,

J. MURPHY.

I 6.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,

Sydney, 17 May, 1888.

I have your note of to-day. I shall be glad to point out the road-metal deposit to Mr. Nolan or anyone else at any time you make an appointment. It would be no use marking it on the map, it would never be found from that. It is not opened out, and there is nothing on the surface to indicate its existence. You might look for it for a week and not find it, as the ferns and other vegetation over-grow it. If you like to write or wire me to-morrow that you or any of your people will meet me at Kogarah on Saturday morning when the 9.2 train arrives there, I will be there and we can go to it. It is much nearer to Sylvania than to Sutherland, and if we go we should take advantage of the Port Hacking coach which meets that train. If this cannot be done, let Mr. Nolan appoint any day and I will go with him either from Sutherland or from Kogarah, or I will meet him at the punt by any Port Hacking coach from Kogarah. Unless I hear from you before 5 to-morrow (Friday) I shall assume that you do not want me for Saturday.

I am glad to hear that you have started gravelling Coronella Road. Mr. Knibbs, Government surveyor, will be out about the 25th to mark off for you the new road from the river (opposite to San Souci) to the Port Hacking Road, near lucerne paddock. He was with me to-day. He will, while on the estate, mark the road to the water's edge at Tareel Point.

The other papers (for the new roads and metal quarry) have been sent on to Sir Henry by Mr. Davies recommended to be carried out. Sir Henry has been very busy, but we expect them to be returned approved on Saturday or Monday.

Yours truly,

J. MURPHY.

When will you start forming Woronora Road? Please don't let Mr. M' Rae or anyone else know what is going on.

I 7.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,

3, O'Connell-street, Sydney, 21 May, 1888.

Just a line to say that the Colonial Secretary formally approved of the new works for you to-day. This includes the opening of the road-metal quarry, which, I suppose you know, I pointed out to Mr. Nolan and Mr. Giblin yesterday. The main road is also to be made, but it may be a little while before that is started. When the papers reach you, let me know if you would like me to send you a couple of copies of the plan, showing the new roads marked on them, for the guidance of your overseers. We would like the continuation of Woronora Road cleared first, then Karimbla Road, which will run from the Port Hacking Road, at the big culvert, to the head of Yowie Bay. We want Yowie opened up first. Then say Bath Road (M'Farlane's and Well's houses face this road). Some of the roads on the eastern end will want to have their exact positions fixed. We have asked that a Government surveyor be sent to do this. Mr. Knibbs would be a good man for the work, as he has had a lot to do with fixing the points on the estate. He will be out on or about the 25th to fix the route for the eastern end of Simpson's road, and to survey Taren Point Road (the new road from George's River to the Lucerne paddock). The roads which want re-marking are (I wish you to remember them and push Mr. Davies to apply for the surveyor at once) Canoona Road, Illerco, Burraneer, Wooloware, Wotonga, Yarra, Orara Road. All the other roads are marked, and I will be glad to point them out to you or to any of your officers any time you may wish it.

We would like the Woronora Road to be formed as far as it is cleared, a proper culvert or bridge put up at Dent's Creek, and the Hill on the east side cut down, so that by the time the new portion is cleared they could at once go ahead with the making of that. A small bridge will be wanted at Yowie Creek, which runs into the bay on the west side of it, and the road will have to be deviated on both sides of this creek to get a coach road, but you can do it.

In the past a great deal of Yankee grubbing was allowed. I think your overseers should keep their eyes open this time. I hope you will put on a good crowd of men. Let me know if you want anything from me and I will go out.

E. M. Burrowes, Esq.

Yours truly,
J. MURPHY.

I 8.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,

Sydney, 29 May, 1888.

I was at Sutherland to-day, and saw your new men working on Bath Road. (Please remember that this road extends from Forest Road on the south to about 20 chains north of the Boulevard on the north.)

My object in writing now is to ask if you could make it convenient to go out with me one day, and give me your opinion as to the place where Woronora Road should cross Yowie Creek (running into Yowie Bay on west side). The eastern side is steep, and a little engineering and work will be wanted. If you can spare time I can go any time, if you give me notice the day before. This is an important point, and I would like to leave it to you to decide the crossing-place, and it should be done as soon as possible, as we intend to ask you to do this road next. The locality will require close examination, and to do it properly I think we should go out by the morning train, say 8:22. Will you kindly let me know if you can spare time to go, and if so, let me know to-day.

I think the men on Bath Road have started "yanking" already. I did not notice it, but I was told as much; it may not be true, but as you know from the past, they all want watching closely.

This evening I inquired for you on the way in at Hurstville, but was told you were not about there. Supposed to be in Sydney.

E. M. Burrowes, Esq.

Yours, &c.,
J. MURPHY.

I 9.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,

Sydney, 4 June, 1888.

I have not heard from you about fixing the crossing-place for Yowie Creek, on the Woronora Road. I suppose you have not had time. We have surveyed one straight line for the whole length of the road, and we have marked a deviation on each side of the creek as an alternative route, if you should think it better to adopt that course. I was out on Saturday, and my opinion is that the straight line will give the best grade in the end. Still I would like you to see it with me, if you have time. In the meantime please don't let this prevent the clearing from going on, it is marked and pegged both sides all the way from Sylvania Road on the west to where it junctions with Coronella Road, on the east.

Another little matter. I understand that some of the new men have arranged to sell some of the wood which they may fall on the roads to the mill-owners at Sutherland. The effect of this will probably be the same as it was before,—the men will leave some wood which the mills won't take, and after you have paid for the work you will have to send wages men to burn off the wood which is left on the roads. I think it would be a mistake to let the men do any dealing of this kind; they should burn everything except what the overseer may order to be left for use in culverts. This kind of thing would only be a cover for the mill-owners to go along all the roads and take the valuable ironbark sticks which were expressly left for culvert use.

About the Port Hacking Road (east end) and Taren Point Road, Mr. Knibbs has instructions from the Minister for Lands to survey these immediately, and it will most likely be done in a few days now.

Yours truly,
J. MURPHY.

I 10.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,

Sydney, 9 June, 1888.

I am sorry I did not see you the other day when you called. I would like to have a chat with you.

If you should be in any doubt about the exact position or starting-point of any the new roads, you can make an appointment for me on any day you may fix, by giving me a day's notice, and I will meet you or any of your officers.

I don't like troubling you with complaints, and I would not do so now if I could have found your new overseer, who is in charge of the clearing of Bath Road. I spent over two hours looking for him this morning, from one end of Bath Road to the other, at his camp and other likely places, but without success. I mentioned to you that I had been told that the men were "yanking" the trees, I now tell you, from my own observation this morning, that some of them are simply cutting them at the ground, and covering up the stumps. It was done under my own eyes by the gang working at the junction of Bath and Woronora Roads (south of Woronora Road), and I spoke to them about it. They said the overseer had been past there only a short time previously. There were a dozen pointed bottoms of trees lying on the ground, and the holes filled up (which the overseer must have stepped over to get past). In going along the road looking for the overseer, I met Mr. M'Farlane at his gate, and he showed me a place full of stumps. This work was, I understand, also done by the gang I have mentioned. I saw one lot cut a tree at the ground and quietly drag it on to the private land at the side of the road. It seems to be the practice for them to roll the big trees on to the side of the road and leave them there. Sometimes they fall a tree so that part of it lies on the road and part on the private land, and they just cut it off at the road line, leaving the rest. What is the use of an overseer who allows this? And don't you think that any men found doing this should be refused any more work. A gentleman who owns some land on Bath Road was out with me and saw the logs rolled on to his land; he said he would write to Mr. Davies about it, and advise him to get a fresh overseer. He has some land also on the Illawarra Road, and he says that Mr. Buller allowed tons of stumps and logs to be shovelled on to his land in the same way. I told him I would write to you about it, that he need not trouble Mr. D.

What is the use of paying these men a high price for taking out stumps? They get say £8 an acre, and the stumps are worth £6 or £7 out of the £8. They do one or two pounds worth of work for £8! and the next gang, perhaps honest fellows, wonder how their neighbours get through their work so fast, or perhaps they learn a wrinkle from them and follow suit. When these roads come to be formed, many of these stumps will be in the water-tables and must come out, at four times the present cost, and for the rest we shall always want a travelling staff to keep down the suckers, a forest of which will appear in the spring. These men I speak of should be made to take out those stumps now. I can show you a dozen of them.

Yours, &c.,
J. MURPHY.

P.S.—When can you spare time to go and have a look at Yowie Creek crossing on Woronora Road?

Answered, 11/6/88. Meet, 13/6/88.

I 11.

I 11.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,

3, O'Connell-street, Sydney, 16 July, 1888.

I think I have nothing from you to reply to, and I only write to ask you to lend us a hand, if you can, in one or two matters that we are moving in. It will take a long while to do all we have in hand with the present number of men, although so far, they have not done badly, but to get through it by the summer we should want a lot more men. We are asking Mr. Davies to send 100 more; we also want to have that big gully leading into the west side of Yowie Bay (on Woronora Road) blasted down, and an embankment made as soon as possible, and we are asking for some quarrymen (say at least twenty) to be put on, with proper tools and explosives, and a blacksmith. You have only two carpenters or bridge and culvert builders on the works. There appears to be work for six more, and we are asking for them to be put on. If these extra hands, as well as the quarrymen and carpenters, do not present themselves at the office of the Board asking for work, we are asking that they may be removed from other works. We are also asking that Woronora Road, where formed, say from Railway Station to Dent's Creek, and from the East side of Dent's Creek to Port Hacking Road (where practicable) may be gravelled at least 6 inches thick. All this is included in the original order for the work, but we want it done at once. Give it a send on if you have the chance.

I notice you are forming the road to Fred. Want's cottage. We find on surveying the road, that a straight line from the corner of Sylvania and Woronora Roads (where Want's road turns off) to the cottage, will cross the road three times, and the straight line is a level road all the way. We are laying off this straight road and have dedicated it, in fact it is dedicated as a perfectly straight line. I am sorry I did not notice it before. In these circumstances it is a pity to go on forming. The timber is very light on the road. Could you let the men on the road go on to clearing those portions of the straight road which are not included in the old track? The eastern side of the straight road starts to the east of the old one; the line can be plainly seen. It will be permanently pegged in a day or two. Could you take the men off the forming and put them on to the clearing? When Mr. Napier asked me about this the other day, I could not find the proper line. I did not think it was quite so far to the east, but I did not think he was going on forming, or I would have had the straight line found for him, or advised him to wait. After Forest Road, and the road from the head of Yowie to the Port Hacking Road, have been cleared (both now being done), we would like you to put the men on to clear Orara Road, which will run from the Port Hacking Road, near Simpson's end, down to Great Taren Point (opposite to Kosten's). This will open up a beautiful point Any day now instructions may come from the Lands Department to do Taren Point Road (to Common's Point, opposite to Sans Souci).

Hoping this may find you quite gay as usual.

E. M. Burrowes, Esq.

Yours, &c.,

J. MURPHY.

I 12.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,

Sydney, 21 July, 1888.

I think you said this morning that you would go with me one day next week and have a look at Yowie Road. If you can go I will go any day next week if you let me know the day before. I wish you could fix it at once, as we want to have the straight road cleared as soon as possible, and we do not want to trouble Mr. Davies about it unless it is necessary; but if you think this will be necessary or advisable, I wish you would let me know at once, and we will apply to him. Kindly let me know what you think about it.

Yours truly,

J. MURPHY.

P.S.—They have made a splendid job of the bridge at Rover's Creek, Port Hacking Road. It is a credit to all concerned; but there is a very small matter I wish to call your attention to. I spoke to Mr. Allen about it this morning. As a cover for the stones on the approaches, they have put a coating of simple earth, in which there is not a pennyweight of ironstone or gravel to the ton; and the same with regard to the stuff put on the road where it was cut up by the carts. Could not you order them to put on a few loads of real gravel? If they do not know where to find it near the place our men will show them if they are asked. Allan knows where our men are camped. J. M.

E. M. Burrowes, Esq.

I 13.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,

3, O'Connell-street, Sydney, 27 July, 1888.

With reference to the Yowie Bay roads, I thought you might be busy, and not have time to go out at once; and as we want to have it done as soon as possible, we have had the matter placed before Mr. Davies. When it comes to you, please give it a lift.

I notice that Mr. Walsh is not having any forming done. We would like you to have Karimbla Road (from Port Hacking Road in to the head of Yowie) formed, when it is cleared, all the way, which should be in a day or two now. The lower part of this road (near Port Hacking Road), runs through the bed of a swamp. We would like you to have a drain cut at the side to keep the water off the road, as the position of the road cannot be altered now. This road will be much used when it is opened. It is the only way into the head of Yowie from the punt, and also from Sutherland until you provide that embankment across the big gully on Woronora Road. When are you going to start the quarrymen on that?

Moss's mate tells me that they will be five weeks yet at the Dent's Creek bridge, Woronora Road. Could not you put on some more carpenters for the bridges on the two creeks running into Yowie on Woronora Road? Then there is the bridge on Lilli Pilly Road, one on Burrawong Road, one on Corea Road, one on Sylvania Road, and two or three others. Moss and mates would not do them all in a year. Give these other bridges a shove on if you can.

I hear you are again graveling Malvern Road. There was some pure clay put on here before under Mr. Nowlan. I wish you would tell them to go for the real gravel; there is plenty of it near, and it is a great pity to have to pay for spoiling the road. Our men will show Allan or Mr. Napier where to find good gravel on any part of the estate. Allan knows where our men are camped—not far from Napier's.

I am going out to-morrow, Saturday, if it does not rain, to Tyreel Point, with Mr. Knibbs, Government surveyor, to fix the position of the road at the point.

I suppose you know we have asked for another 100 or so of men, and they are promised. Couldn't you take some quarrymen off some of those back roads out towards Liverpool way and put them on here for a while?

I thought I would tell you all this personally when I saw you, but it seems uncertain when I may see you.

With best regards,

Yours truly,

J. MURPHY.

I 14.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,

Sydney, 28 July, 1888.

I was at Sutherland to-day, and saw Mr. Napier. He said he had no instructions about Yowie roads. He said he expected soon to get instructions to form Bath Road. We would rather let the forming of *this road* wait until all the clearing of the other roads is done. We would like the strength put on to get Woronora Road and Karimbla Road ready for use as soon as possible. We will ask you to blast down the rock and grade to the water's edge, the south end of Karimbla Road, so that a vehicle can drive to the water at the head of Yowie Bay. We want to make all parts of Yowie accessible from every direction as quickly as possible. After that, the other points on Port Hacking, viz.:—Simpson's Point, Lilli Pilly (properly Great Tyreel Point, two roads near there, Kamira and Orara), Gynea Bay, two roads, and Gunramatta Bay, Wo'onga Road, then the others. I was out at Simpson's Point to-day to arrange with Mr. Knibbs, Government surveyor, for the exact route of that end of the road. He was not there, but I saw his pegs, and it will do as he has marked it.

I spoke to a gang of men on the road; they said they were Martin and party, and were waiting for the design of a bridge over the creek, east side of Yowie Bay, so that they could tender for the work. I wish you would make this bridge as long as you can, to ease the rise on east side. I think it would be a good plan to bind the carpenters to use nothing but iron-tark. There is plenty of it, easily got, and as you know, there is no doubt about what kind of stuff it is for this work. I saw some white gum cut in such a way as to lead me to think it was to be used for Dent's Creek bridge. I spoke to Mr. Napier about it, and told him it was quite useless for such work, and the same with red gum. If a plank of that stuff got in, the white ants would

would be in it in a month, and it might fetch the bridge down. I think it would be wise to in future bind them to the stuff that we know is safe and will last. Of course grey gum, bloodwood, mahogany, stringy and black butt, are good enough, but none of them are equal to ironbark, and every one knows ironbark, so there would be no fear of them putting in white or red gum in mistake. When will you be going to Sutherland?
 Yours truly,
 E. M. Burrowes, Esq., Hurstville. J. MURPHY.

I 15.

Dear Mr. Burrowes, 3 O'Connell-street, Sydney, 31 July, 1888.
 You said you would instruct Mr. Napier about Yowie Road to-day. I saw him yesterday, and he knows the lines well; in fact they could not be missed.
 Yours truly,
 J. MURPHY.

I 16.

Dear Mr. Burrowes, Sydney, 4 August, 1888.
 I was at Sutherland to-day, and saw the men still forming the crooked Yowie Road. If you are going to clear the straight road, isn't it a pity to waste labour in forming the other one? You asked me the other day to tell Mr. Napier that you would, next day, instruct him to go on with the clearing of the straight road. I thought they would have been clearing it by this time.
 Mr. Walsh must be very nearly done clearing Karimbla Road (into the head of Yowie), and I hear that he intends to go on to the Boulevard. We would like those two small roads done first (Orara and Camira), running down to two different points on Port Hacking, from the south end of Tareel Road, and also the Yowie Road. We would like all roads leading to the water to be done and completed before any of the others are started, if it would suit your arrangements equally well. We are anxious, as I explained to you personally, to have good access made into Yowie as soon as possible, by way of Woronora, Karimbla, and Yowie Roads; after that Orara, Camira, and Simpson's end of Tareel Road; then the others in the order of their importance.

I was looking again at the big gully. If you put in a high bridge, (say) 20 feet, at the highest level, I think it will greatly reduce the stonework, and ease the grade. For a high bridge you would, no doubt, have a different design to the others. I think a trestle or frame bridge would look well, and not take much timber or labour.

See if you cannot get the blasting started at the big gully, and have the straight road to Yowie cleared. When do you start gravelling Woronora Road?
 Yours, &c.,
 J. MURPHY.

Is not Mr. Walsh going to form Karimbla Road, and cut drains at the sides?

I 17.

Dear Mr. Burrowes, Sydney, 8 August, 1888.
 I have yours of 6th. Thanks for your promise to carry out the matters I mentioned—Yowie Road (straight). There is very little work in this, and we are anxious to have it done at once, as promised by Mr. Davies. Mr. Napier has all his men on Forest Road, which is not so urgent. Couldn't you take off a couple or three gangs from Forest Road, and put them on to Yowie.

There is no plan of the new deviation, and there will not be one made until the subdivision plan comes out. They will be subdividing it this week. The road is so marked that you could drive a barrow through it, and Mr. Napier knows every peg on it. See if you can't rattle it off at once.
 Yours, &c.,
 E. M. Burrowes, Esq. J. MURPHY.

P.S.—I have mislaid my plan of these last new roads. Could you lend me yours for a day? I will return it punctually. If so, please post it.—J.M.

I 18.

Dear Mr. Burrowes, Sydney, 10 August, 1888.
 I have your memo. of 9th, also plan, for which I have to thank you. I have had the roads marked on another plan, and under separate cover. I am returning yours by this post.
 Hoping you will keep in mind the direct road to Yowie,—
 E. M. Burrowes, Esq. I am, &c.,
 J. MURPHY.

I 19.

[Private.] 8 September, 1888.
 Dear Mr. Burrowes,
 Just a line to say that I understand you have reported to Mr. Davies that I have frequently communicated with you and your subordinate officers with regard to the relief works at Sutherland, and Mr. Davies has requested me to deal directly with him in future, which I shall of course comply with.
 From a purely business aspect this course, will, no doubt, be more regular, and will probably save you and your people the worry and annoyance which I may have occasioned, and which I regret. At the same time I may remind you that I was invited to make such suggestion in a confidential way rather than formally through the head office, that it would save time and misapprehension. I thought so too, and am sorry to find it otherwise.

It is now necessary to say something about the works, and considering our relations hitherto, I think it only courteous to you to say that I am communicating directly with your head office only because you desire it, and that you wish all other avenues to be closed, so that we should be on a strictly departmental and business footing, which I shall now be content with.

I am sorry for any trouble I may have caused you or your officers, and I shall endeavour not to bother you with any more suggestions.

Hoping you are quite well,—
 E. M. Burrowes, Esq., Hurstville. I am, &c.,
 J. MURPHY.

I 20.

Dear Sir, Sydney, 13 November, 1888.
 The bearer, Mr. J. W. Ward, informs me that you are in want of horses and carts. He is out of employment with his horse and cart, and asks me to give him this line to you, and to request that you may be kind enough to give him a chance if you have any vacancies. I know him, and I think you would find him a sober, honest, and industrious man.
 Yours faithfully,
 E. M. Burrowes, Esq., Superintendent, Casual Labour Board. J. MURPHY.

I 21.

Memo. received 22 November, 1888. 19 November, 1888.
 Dear Mr. Burrowes,
 I forgot to say to-day that if you should be called as a witness (which I doubt), to please remember that some roads on the Sutherland Estate have been made by private labour; also that the large tract of land known as the Holt-Sutherland Estate includes almost, if not the whole of the parish of Sutherland, and has an area of about 13,000 acres, is 12 miles in length. It has two railway stations on it; it has over 60 miles of water frontage. Hemmed in with it are large areas of Government land. The main Illawarra Road and Port Hacking Road traverse it, and many other Government roads lead to these main roads and intersect the estate in every direction. Making roads here is not like doing it on a small patch of a few acres in extent. Referring to Mr. Garvan's question for Wednesday night, there has been no *metalling* done on any of these roads. *Re* roller—if the shafts are not wide enough, wouldn't it be better to have it sent back to the maker and have it altered properly at once? You might let Mr. Davies know immediately what wants doing to it.
 E. M. Burrowes, Esq. J. M.

[Private]

[Private.]

I 22.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,

You wish to know what happens that may concern you. Well, I believe Mr. Davies was to-day interviewed by the Progress Committee of Sutherland about the Illawarra Road. I understand they wished to call his attention to the material which is being put on the road, and that they said it was only mud. They got no satisfaction from Mr. Davies, who snubbed them, and they were indignant, and were on their way to see Wells and Houson when I bumped against them in the street, and if they obtained no satisfaction there to see Sir Henry Parkes, and ask to have the work placed under a permanent officer of the Roads Department. With difficulty I persuaded them to let me see what I could do. They have a lot of abuses to point out, and they say the work is neglected and badly done, and say they are determined to see Sir Henry unless better stuff is used on the road within a week. They say there is no stone, or not enough, in the material, in which I must say I agree with them, so far as the stuff which they were taking out of the pit last Saturday.

If these fellows saw Wells and Houson or Sir Henry, they would do no good, only make him dissatisfied all round. I dare say you will hear of this from Mr. Davies himself. If not, you have it now.

I am letting be known that we met your assistant yesterday on the road.

Please don't forget your promise to give out the culvert on Eton Road; also Lilli Pilly Road (near Walsh's), Want's Creek, two on Sylvania Road (near Woronora Road), Corea Road, Forest Road, and half a dozen others. When these are done, what is the objection to getting these culverts out of hand? Are you putting on any more masons to get ready the abutments of Yowie bridge? What about Holloway?

Yours truly,
J. MURPHY.

E. M. Burrowes, Esq.

I 23.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,

I met Mr. Walsh on the road to-day, and asked him if you had given him instructions to put Duncan or other carpenters on to the Eton Road, or other culverts. He said he had heard nothing of it as yet. I write you this line to remind you of it again, and I hope you will not think I am troubling you too much.

Yours truly,
J. MURPHY,
Saturday night.

P.S.—At Moss' present rate he will have one bridge built in about two years.—J.M.

E. M. Burrowes, Esq.

I 24.

My Dear Sir,

I write you a line to say that Malvern Road is to be 99 feet wide, although it is pegged and blazed for only 80 feet. It is pegged every 10 chains, and the south boundary is correct. If you take the south-west corner of Malvern and Sylvania Roads (opposite to Mr. Dalglish's), and continue the south line along the pegs and measure off 99 feet from that, it will be correct, and the south line (running nearly east) will go through the old farm paddock and strike the corner of the Lucerne Paddock fence on the Tareel Road. I fancy that from the position of some of the stakes or wadsticks now placed by your men that they are not on the correct line, and it would be a pity to have any mistake about it. There are only the two lines of pegs, 80 feet apart, and your surveyor should have no difficulty in running the north line 19 feet further out.

Yours truly,
J. MURPHY.

— Buller, Esq., Overseer, Relief Works, Sutherland.

To E. M. Burrowes, Esq. Sir,—Am I to take any notice of this letter; reply by bearer.—Yours obediently, L. BULLER.

I 25.

Dear Sir,

3, O'Connell-street, Sydney, 16 June, 1888.

After leaving you this morning I walked up Bath Road, as far as Mr. M'Farlane's, and I found that nearly all the way up some of the roots and logs have just been rolled off the road on to the private land, the same as was done on the lower part of the road (of which I spoke to you). I was told that the men have an excuse ready for this, that they say the wood-cutters have asked them to leave them and that they will be cut up and removed. This is an old dodge of the clearers. It may be true that some wood-cutter asked them to leave them, but we have found by experience that the wood-cutters take only about one stick out of every ten left by the men, and when I called the attention of Mr. Burrowes to the subject, the other day, he said that no such dealings with the wood-cutters, would be allowed, that the men must not leave anything behind them, it must all be burned off before the men are paid. The wood-cutters are not such fools as to take away big roots and logs. The owners of private land have already complained to Mr. Davies of these logs and roots being shoved on to their ground, and if Mr. Burrowes knew of these being left, I am sure he would at once order them to be burned on the road by the different gangs who left them there. In future, I think it would save you a lot of trouble and avoid complaints if you refused to pass the work while a single root or branch was left at the road-side or remained unburned. Another thing these men do, if they take down a tree and part of it falls on to private land they just cut off the trunk at the road line and leave the rest of the tree on the land. Mr. Burrowes said this would not be allowed. All these points should be explained to the men before they begin to clear, and then there would be no room for them to say that they did not so understand it.

From what I can see, I think that if you got an old harpoon, or a cold chisel, and had it ground off to a point, and stick a wooden handle into it (or some other pointed iron spike), and try the holes that have been filled up, you will find a lot of stumps left in, and if you let the men see you with this in your hand and tell them what it is for, it will have a good effect on them. The depth to which the stumping is to be done should also be thoroughly explained to the men; they told me it was 12 inches, but Mr. Burrowes said 18 inches. There should be no doubt about this between you and the men.

I have taken the liberty of writing to you because I think you would prefer my doing so directly than to trouble Mr. Burrowes with it, and it is certainly more pleasant for me to communicate straight with the officer in charge. You will find that these men will want a lot of watching and checking.

Yours faithfully,
J. MURPHY.

— Napier, Esq., Sutherland.

I 26.

Memorial.

Re Malvern and Sylvania Roads.

Chairman and Members of the Casual Labour Board, Sydney.—

Sydney, 19 August, 1887.

Gentlemen,—We have the honor to request that your Board may have the goodness to grant the use of some of the men under your charge to clear, stump, and form Malvern Road (from Illawarra Road to Lucerne Paddock), and also the road known as Venetia-street and Sylvania Road—these two latter form one road—which leaves the main Illawarra Road at a point about a mile from the punt, and runs in a straight line southerly to the north-west arm of Port Hacking; it also branches off at Woronora Road and runs to two other points on the waters of Port Hacking, viz., to Yowie Bay and to Yowie Head. (The roads are shown on the accompanying plan and marked red.)

These are the nearest landing-places for visitors returning from the Park by water and thence by road to Sydney. His Excellency the Governor and party, the Trustees, and many visitors return to Sydney this way.

They are public roads, but as they have not been properly cleared and formed, the greater part of them cannot be used, and a long detour between the punt and the Park is thus necessitated.

We

We respectfully urge that the making of these additional highways to the Park would be a useful and permanent work and a great public convenience, and we earnestly hope your Board will see fit to have it carried out.

We have, &c.,

A. H. M'Culloch.	Fred. J. Jackson.	Coward Byrne.
Varney Parkes.	Sydney A. Want.	J. Syd. Smith.
Frank Farnell.	A. J. Dalton.	W. E. Johnstone.
G. F. Want.	H. Pinder.	J. F. Murphy.
John S. Jamieson.	S. R. Geddes.	J. Roberts.
J. H. Carruthers.	R. Nott.	J. O. Armstrong.
W. Newton.	C. C. Smith.	Chas. M'Clure.
S. N. Newton.	Henry Prince.	S. Munden.
Edward Newton.	R. A. M. Rosenfeld.	A. G. Lee.
J. D. Stephen.	A. W. Francis.	Thos. Strickland.
George Senior.	Robt. Shankland.	Arthur W. Cooper.
W. Cubitt.	E. J. Salier.	R. Eugeham.
A. Ramsay.	W. Jones.	M. Moloney.
John Davison.	Chas. W. Norris.	George Wheatley.
Myles M'Rae.	Harry B. Jamieson.	
Edward Reading.	J. Murphy.	

Recommended for the approval of the Honorable the Colonial Secretary.—J.D., Chairman, B.C., 22/8/87. Principal Under Secretary. Approved.—H.P., 22/8/87. The Chairman of the Casual Labour Board.—C.W., B.C., 27/8/87. This work to be put in hand at once, and carried out under piece-work. Roads marked in red ink on plan to be cleared.—J.D., Chairman, B.C., 23/8/87. Mr. Burrowes. Work commenced.—E. M. BURROWES, Superintendent.

[To Evidence of J. H. Springall.]

J.

PAY-SHEET and rough abstract, Heathcote-Woronora River Road, &c., for fortnight 26th August—8th September, 1888.

J 1.

Pay-sheet and rough abstract Heathcote Agricultural, &c., for fortnight 18th November—1st December, 1888.

J 2.

Pay-sheet and rough abstract Heathcote Agricultural, &c., for fortnight 29th July—11th August, 1888.

J 3.

Pay-sheet and rough abstract Heathcote Agricultural, &c., for fortnight 21st October—3rd November, 1888.

J 4.

Pay-sheet and rough abstract Heathcote Agricultural, &c., for fortnight 9th September—22nd September, 1888.

[To Evidence of H. J. Goodman.]

K.

Pay-sheet and rough abstract Heathcote Agricultural, &c., for fortnight, 4th November—17th November, 1888.

[To Evidence of Hon. G. Eagar.]

L.

STATEMENT of amounts paid into the Treasury on account of Casual Labour Board from 2nd May, 1887, to 8th April, 1889.

Date paid into Treasury.	By whom paid in.	Particulars.	Where credited.	Amount.
1887.				£ s. d.
4 July	J. W. Deering	Balance of advance	Over issues	142 2 1
4 "	Do	Unclaimed balances	Unclaimed money	52 8 4
4 "	Do	Sale of property	Sale of Govt. property	44 2 10
28 Sept.	J. Barling	Refund of wages	Over issues	2 0 0
17 Oct.	J. Davies	Surcharge	Repayment to credit of votes	0 7 4
24 "	J. W. Deering	do	do do	0 3 0
5 Dec.	J. Davies	do	do do	0 10 6
1888.				
7 Jan.	Casual Labour Board	do	do do	0 2 0
4 Feb.	Do	do	do do	0 5 5
19 "	J. Williams	Balance of advance	Over issues	50 3 4
19 "	J. Davies	Surcharge	do	125 17 8
6 April	Casual Labour Board	do	Repayments to credit of votes	4 16 10
16 May	Thos. Hinchcliffe	Unclaimed wages	Unclaimed moneys	0 10 2
18 "	J. W. Deering	Surcharge	Repayments to credit of votes	0 3 0
1 June	Thos. Hinchcliffe	Unclaimed wages	Unclaimed moneys	3 2 2
26 "	Do	do	do	2 2 11
7 July	J. Davies	Wages due to Domini and others	do	2 9 11
9 "	Casual Labour Board	Surcharge	Repayments to credit of votes	0 1 0
13 "	Thos. Hinchcliffe	Wages due to G. Tomkins and ors.	Unclaimed moneys	3 11 2
1 Sept.	Do	Wages due to J. Riley and ors.	do	2 19 4
7 "	Do	Wages due to W. H. Hunt & ors.	do	0 11 6
14 "	Do	Wages due to T. Carroll and ors.	do	2 3 11
17 "	John Davies	Wages due to R. Campbell & ors.	do	0 13 10
29 "	T. Hinchcliffe	Wages due to C. Davis and ors.	do	0 18 11
11 Oct.	Casual Labour Board	Surcharge	Repayments to credit of votes	1 0 0
			Carried forward	443 7 2

Statement of amounts paid into the Treasury on account of Casual Labour Board.

Date paid into Treasury.	By whom paid in.	Particulars.	Where credited.	Amount.
1898.			Brought forward.....	£ s. d. 443 7 2
29 Oct.	T. Hinchcliffe.....	Wages due to J. Woodward	Unclaimed moneys	1 6 10
12 Dec.	Do	Wages due to C. Wilson and others	do	6 18 0
29 "	Do	Wages due to F. Thomas	do	0 7 8
1899.				
9 Jan.	Do	Wages due to H. Clisdell	do	0 10 0
25 "	Do	Wages due to F. Baiden and others	do	2 7 7
12 Feb.	Do	Wages due to H. Moore and others	do	33 9 11
12 "	Do	Balance of advance	Over issues	208 14 7
14 "	Do	Deduction from rations	Sundry accounts	2 8 9
14 "	Do	do	do	0 13 0
14 "	Do	Unexpended balance held on account Casual Labour Board.	do	5 5 10
14 "	Do	Amount found by Paymaster on pay-table.	Unclaimed moneys	2 0 0
14 "	Do	Amount due to H. T. Sanderson	do	3 3 0
15 "	Casual Labour Board.....	Stopped rations	Repayment to credit of votes...	8 13 9
15 "	Do	Sale of property	Sales of Government property	52 13 2
25 "	Do	do	do	8 10 0
25 "	John Davies.....	Unclaimed wages	Unclaimed moneys	86 11 7
18 Mar.	A. E. Hibble	Balance of advance	Sundry accounts	139 12 11
18 "	Do	Wages due to J. Hamilton and others.	Unclaimed moneys	26 6 4
22 "	Casual Labour Board.....	Surcharge	Repayment to credit of votes...	0 2 0
29 "	Do	Sale of property	Sale of Government property...	33 3 2
			Total	1,066 5 3

The Treasury, New South Wales,
8th April, 1889.

J. PEARSON,
Accountant.

[To Evidence of James Kidman.]

M.

SCHEDULE of amounts and dates of payments made to James Kidman by Casual Labour Board and of number of rations supplied for December, 1888.

[To Evidence of H. T. Sanderson.]

N.

LETTER from H. T. Sanderson to Secretary of Commission, dated 17th March, 1889, as to short payments to gangers.

N 1.

MR. SANDERSON'S return of contract men employed at Cook Park and pay-sheet from 9th to 21st April, 1888.

N 2.

MR. SANDERSON'S return of contract men employed at Cook Park and pay-sheet from 7th to 19th May, 1888.

[To Evidence of W. Newcombe.]

O.

Receipt Voucher No. 4635; C. A. 31.—Misc. Coll. Vou.

Head of Revenue or Receipt—Sales of Government Property.

STATEMENT of all sums handed over or remitted to the Colonial Treasurer, in payment of the undermentioned collections, by Chairman, Casual Labour Board, Sydney, from July, 1887, to December, 1888.

Particulars of Sums received.	Total.
Sale of Firewood at National Park	£ s. d. 33 3 2
Total	£ 33 3 2

Amounting in all to thirty-three pounds three shillings and two pence.
Credited at the Treasury, on the 29th March, 1889.

JOHN DAVIES.

O 1.

Receipt Voucher No. 2437; C. A. 31.—Misc. Coll. Vou.

Head of Revenue or Receipt—Sales of Government Property.

STATEMENT of all sums handed over or remitted to the Colonial Treasurer, in payment of the undermentioned collections, by Chairman, Casual Labour Board, Sydney, from September, 1887, to December, 1888.

Particulars of Sums received.	Total.
September 26.—Amount received for sale of Firewood from National Park	£ s. d. 52 3 2
„ „ Damaged Crockery sold	0 10 0
Total	£ 52 13 2

Amounting in all to fifty-two pounds thirteen shillings and two pence.
Credited at the Treasury, on the 15th February, 1889.

JOHN DAVIES

O 2.

02.

Receipt Voucher No. 2798; C. A. 31.—Misc. Coll. Vou.

Head of Revenue or Receipt—Sales of Government Property.

STATEMENT of all Sums handed over or remitted to the Colonial Treasurer, in payment of the undermentioned collections, by Chairman, Casual Labour Board, from to 188 .

Particulars of Sums received.	Total.
Proceeds of sale of Surplus Stores—17 bags of Sugar, sold at Carlingford, at 10s. per bag	£ s. d. 8 10 0
Total	£ 8 10 0

Amounting in all to eight pounds ten shillings.

Credited at the Treasury on the 25th February, 1889.

JOHN DAVIES.

03.

Receipt Voucher No. 999; C. A. 31.—Misc. Coll. Vou.

Head of Revenue or Receipt—Unclaimed Moneys.

STATEMENT of all Sums handed over or remitted to the Colonial Treasurer, in payment of the undermentioned collections, by Chairman, Casual Labour Board, from to 188 .

Particulars of Sums received.	Total.
Wages of Labourers employed, unclaimed as per attached list	£ s. d. 86 11 7
Total	£ 86 11 7

Amounting in all to eighty-six pounds eleven shillings and seven-pence.

Credited at the Treasury on the 25th February, 1889.

JOHN DAVIES.

STATEMENT of Wages and other Moneys held by the Chairman of Casual Labour Board, in trust, to be repaid to Treasury.

Name.	Road and Period of Service.	Amount.	Name.	Road and Period of Service.	Amount.
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.
M'Guinness	Waterfalls: 27 April—10 May, 1887	0 5 6		Brought forward	18 9 4
Fraters	National Park: 27 April—10 May	0 12 0	H. Wilson	4—16 July, 1887	1 7 8
H. Ripper	Carlingford: 30 April—14 May	0 8 0	Treweek	National Park: 26 July, 1887	0 8 9
T. Craig	Carlingford: 29, 30 April	0 6 9	T. Cooper	Rookwood: 15—28 July	0 10 0
J. M'Cormack	National Park: 11—19 May	1 8 9	T. Cooke	"	0 8 0
P. Hamsey	National Park: 11—24 May	0 7 6	T. Rhoden	Waterfalls: 18—30 July, 1887	1 3 6
W. Lewis	Beecroft: 21—28 May	0 17 6	R. Mordey	Rookwood: 28 July—2 August	0 4 0
J. Dellotte	"	1 10 0	J. Locke	Rookwood: 28 July—6 August	0 5 0
F. Gurnsey	Carlingford: 11—25 June	0 18 0	Alcock	Rookwood: 28 July—11 August	0 10 0
W. Hollons	National Park: 6—8 June	0 11 3	Mitchell	National Park: 18—30 July	5 5 0
W. Scott	"	0 11 3	A. Hannay	National Park: 1—8 August	0 11 9
A. Hammond	"	0 11 3	D. Maguire	"	0 8 9
F. Smith	Leichhardt, Johnstone's Creek: 9—17 June	0 7 6	G. Wilson	Waterfalls: 1—13 August	0 3 11
C. Jones	Waterfalls: 17 June—2 July	0 7 10	J. Mortimer	National Park: 13—17 August	0 8 9
W. G. Oliver	"	0 7 10	J. Fitzpatrick	Illawarra Road: 15—22 August	0 8 9
J. Irvine	"	0 7 10	A. Rolfe	"	0 8 9
M'Cormack	"	0 7 10	W. Summer	"	0 8 9
J. Smart	"	0 7 10		National Park: 27 August—2 September	0 3 1
D. Sullivan	"	0 7 10	Campbell	"	0 11 2
J. Tulk	"	0 7 10	G. Davis	National Park: 4—21 July	0 17 6
W. Jones	National Park: 4—16 July, 1887	0 15 8	Green	National Park: 1—13 August	1 4 0
Brennan	"	1 2 8	Hill	National Park: 16—20 August	0 13 7
Macguire	17, 18 June, 1887	0 6 3	J. Masters	"	0 13 7
Collins	"	0 6 3	Clarke	"	0 13 7
J. Shaw	"	0 6 3	Lewis	"	0 13 7
H. Cross	"	0 6 3	Marsden	"	0 13 7
G. Grant	"	0 10 3		National Park: 14—27 August	0 4 0
T. D. Jones	"	0 6 3	Young	"	0 4 0
J. Johnston	"	0 6 3	J. Nerrie	"	0 4 0
C. Harrison	"	0 6 3	T. Stein	"	1 1 10
T. D. Jones	"	0 11 3	O'Connell	"	5 19 0
Neenan	"	0 6 3	O'Connor	"	
A. White	"	0 6 3		Waterfalls: 14—27 August	0 10 8
C. Durham	"	0 13 2	J. Kennedy	Illawarra Road: 14—27 August	0 4 5
T. Mackay	"	0 5 0	W. Cox	"	
T. Finnigan	"	0 5 0		Carried forward	45 8 8
	Carried forward	18 9 4			

Statement of Wages and other Moneys held by Chairman of Casual Labour Board, &c.—continued.

Name.	Road and Period of Service.	Amount.	Name.	Road and Period of Service.	Amount.
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.
	Brought forward	45 8 8		Brought forward	67 15 7
F. Smith	14—27 Aug.	0 4 5		Waterfalls :	
N. Giles.....	"	0 7 8	M. Hickey.....	11—24 September, 1887	0 15 8
	" Narrabeen :		F. Barton	"	0 10 3
R. Brown	23 August—8 September	0 5 6		Unwin's Bridge Road :	
T. Smith	"	0 5 6	E. Bowser.....	23 October—5 November	0 1 9
	" Narrabeen :		M'Creddie	"	0 0 5
G. Wilson.....	8—22 September	10 9 4		Narrabeen :	
	National Park :		M. Keating	3—17 November, 1887	0 0 11
Ruglass	1—3 August	0 0 11		National Park :	
Jones.....	"	0 3 10	P. Matthews	6—19 November, 1887	0 2 0
Smythe	"	0 3 10		Peakhurst :	
Thomas	"	0 3 10	Randall.....	6—19 November, 1887	0 0 6
Burrowes	"	0 3 10		Waterfalls :	
Riley	"	0 3 10	Rardian.....	6—19 November, 1887	0 1 4
Laffin.....	"	0 3 10		National Park :	
Brown	"	2 0 0	E. Fratus	6—19 November, 1887	0 5 0
	" Narrabeen :			National Park :	
J. Sharpless	22 September—6 October.....	0 0 2	Seymour	14—27 August, 1887.....	1 10 10
	National Park :			Narrabeen :	
Ackling.....	1—7 September	0 8 9	M. Kennedy.....	17 November—1 December ...	0 9 11
	Waterfalls :			Waterfalls :	
"	28 August—10 September.....	0 9 3	W. White.....	20 November—3 December ...	0 3 6
	Illawarra Road :			Port Hacking Roads :	
W. O'Brien	25 September—8 October.....	1 3 8	Franklin	4—17 December, 1887	1 17 8
P. O'Connor.....	"	0 7 3		National Park :	
	National Park :		C. M'Donald.....	4—17 December, 1887	4 16 10
Brennan	25 September—8 October.....	0 3 7		Narrabeen :	
	Johnson's Creek :		J. Hingstone.....	1—22 December.....	5 15 11
J. Regan	24 September—4 October	2 3 6		National Park :	
	Waterfalls :		J. Connell.....	4—19 January, 1888	0 5 6
J. Wilson	11—20 September, 1887	0 6 4		National Park :	
	Narrabeen :		Jennings	29 January—11 February, 1888	0 0 10
A. Buchanan	6—21 October, 1887	0 0 2		Cook Park :	
J. Norman	"	0 0 8	T. Murphy	29 January—11 February, 1888	1 5 1
	National Park :			Cook Park :	
Bell	27 August—2 September	0 19 0	D. Lewis	26 February—10 March, 1888	0 9 8
	National Park :			Bulgo Road :	
E. J. Doolan.....	12—15 September, 1887	0 8 9	J. O'Connor	11—24 March, 1888	0 0 1
	Unwin's Bridge Road :			Narrabeen :	
O'Connor	9—22 October.....	0 3 10	W. Cross	29 March—12 April, 1888 ...	0 2 4
	National Park :			Total	£ 86 11 7
Enfield	9—22 October, 1887	0 7 10			
Callaghan.....	"	0 7 10			
	Carried forward	67 15 7			

[To the Evidence of the Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C.]

P.

101½ Engine-street, Haymarket, and Darling Harbour,
Sydney,

188 .

Sold on account of M

BY GEORGE R. C. NEALE, Auctioneer and Commission Agent,—

		£ s. d.
May 14 to 31. Cheque		38 4 2
June 2 to 22. "		66 12 6
June 22 to July 6. "		41 12 0
July 19. "		5 4 6
August 4. "		40 1 1
August 19. "		36 3 10
September 1. "		40 12 3
September 23. "		52 3 2
		<u>£320 13 6</u>

P 1.

1887.		£ s. d.
January 7.....	Amount for sale of firewood, National Park	38 4 2
July 19	Amount received sale of firewood, from National Park	113 9 0
August 22	Do do do	76 4 11
September 6	Do do do	40 12 3
1888.		
June 21.....	Do do do	4 0 0
June 21.....	From Roads Department, for sleepers	42 5 11
September 25	From A. H. M'Culloch, for road at Carlingford	20 0 0
		<u>£334 16 3</u>

P 2.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 9714.

RECEIVED from the Chairman, Casual Labour Board, the sum of thirty-three pounds three shillings and two pence, sterling, for collections, 1st July, 1887, to 31st December, 1888, sale of firewood, National Park.

The Treasury, 29 March, 1889.

P. J. HOLDSWORTH,

Pro Treasurer.

£33 3s. 2d.

Entd.—D.S.

P 3.

P 3.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 5248.

The Treasury, 15 February, 1889.

RECEIVED from John Davies, Chairman, Casual Labour Board, the sum of fifty-two pounds thirteen shillings and two pence sterling, for collections, 1st September, 1887, to 31st December, 1888.

£52 3 2 amount received from sale of firewood.
10 0 damaged crockery sold.

£52 13 2

W. H. BARRACLOUGH,
Pro Treasurer.

Entd.—D.S.

P 4.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 6030.

The Treasury, 25 February, 1889.

RECEIVED from the Chairman, Casual Labour Board, the sum of eight pounds ten shillings sterling, for proceeds of sale of surplus stores—17 bags of sugar, sold at Carlingford, at 10s. per bag.

£8 10s.

Entd.—V.H

P. J. HOLDSWORTH,
Pro Treasurer.

P 5.

Contingent Expenses.—Department of Casual Labour Board.
Claimants.—M'Lean Bros. and Rigg (Limited).

Pay Voucher.

	£	s.	d.
1888.—October 26—			
606.—12 bags, at 9d.....	0	9	0
24 kegs blasting powder, at 41s.	49	4	0
Trainage	0	19	0
	50	12	0
2½ per cent.....	1	5	4
	£	49	6 8

Signed by J. H. WOOD, E. M. BURROWES, JOHN DAVIES, and initialled by A. E. HIBBLE.

P 6.

Contingent Expenses.—Department of Casual Labour Board.
Claimants.—M'Lean Bros. and Rigg (Limited).

Pay Voucher.

	£	s.	d.
1888.—October 29—			
1 plank 25 × 12 × 3	0	13	9
6 galvd. buckets, at 2s.	0	12	0
6 billies, at 1s. 3d.	0	7	6
	1	13	3
2½ per cent.....	0	0	10
	£	1	12 5

Signed by J. H. WOOD, E. M. BURROWES, JOHN DAVIES, and initialled by A. E. HIBBLE.

P 7.

Contingent Expenses.—Department of Casual Labour Board.
Claimants.—M'Lean Bros. and Rigg (Limited).

Pay Voucher.

	£	s.	d.
1888.—October 29—			
610.—8-12 lb. spalling hammers, at 12s. 6d.....	5	0	0
4-10 lb. striking „ at 13s. 6d.....	2	14	0
2 crowbars, at 10s. 6d.	1	1	0
1 doz. mud-picks, at 40s.	2	0	0
½ „ navy-picks, at 55s.	1	7	6
1 „ long-handled shovels, at 4s. 6d. each.....	2	14	0
	14	16	6
2½ per cent.....	0	7	5
	£	14	9 1

Signed by J. H. WOOD, E. M. BURROWES, JOHN DAVIES, and initialled by A. E. HIBBLE.

P 8.

Contingent Expenses.—Department of Casual Labour Board.
Claimants.—M'Lean Bros. and Rigg (Limited).

Pay Voucher.

	£	s.	d.
1888.—October 29—			
500 screws for plates, at 1s. 6d.	0	7	6
14 lb. clout nails, at 6d.	0	7	0
		14	6
2½ per cent.....	0	0	4
	£	0	14 2

Signed by J. H. WOOD, E. M. BURROWES, JOHN DAVIES, and initialled by A. E. HIBBLE.

P 9.

Contingent Expenses.—Department of Casual Labour Board.
Claimants.—M'Lean Brothers and Rigg (Limited).

Pay Voucher.

	£	s.	d.
1888.—November 19—			
12 mattocks, at 7s.....	4	4	0
2½ per cent.....	0	2	3
	£	4	1 9

Signed by J. H. WOOD, JOHN SANDERSON, JOHN DAVIES, and initialled by A. E. HIBBLE.

P 10.

Contingent Expenses.—Department of Casual Labour Board.
Claimants.—M'Lean Brothers and Rigg (Limited).

Pay Voucher,

	£	s.	d.
1888.—November 30—			
23 bags, at 9d.	0	17	3
46 kegs blasting powder, at 37s.	85	2	0
12 14-lb. spalling hammers, at 14s. 6d.	8	14	0
60 coils of fuse, at 1s.	3	0	0
2 bars 2 × 1 iron, 1 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb., at 11s.	1	1	6
		98	14 9
2½ per cent.....	2	9	4
	£	96	5 5

Signed by J. H. WOOD, E. M. BURROWES, JOHN DAVIES, and initialled by A. E. HIBBLE.

P 11.

Contingent Expenses.—Department of Casual Labour Board.
Claimants.—M'Lean Brothers and Rigg (Limited).

Pay Voucher.

	£	s.	d.
1888.—November 30—			
639.—5 bags, at 9d.	0	3	9
10 kegs of blasting powder, at 37s.	18	10	0
30 coils fuse, at 1s.	1	10	0
Trainage	0	16	0
		20	19 9
2½ per cent.....	0	10	6
	£	20	9 3

Signed by J. H. WOOD, E. M. BURROWES, JOHN DAVIES, and initialled by A. E. HIBBLE.

P 12.

Contingent Expenses.—Department of Casual Labour Board.
Claimants—M'Lean Brothers and Rigg (Limited).

Pay Voucher.

	£	s.	d.
1888.—November 30—			
647.—12 bags, at 9d.	0	9	0
24 kegs blasting powder, at 37s.	44	8	0
	44	17	0
2½ per cent.	1	2	5
	£	43	14 7

Signed by J. H. WOOD, E. M. BURROWES, JOHN DAVIES, and initialled by A. E. HIBBLE.

P 13.

Contingent Expenses.—Department of Casual Labour Board.
Claimants—M'Lean Brothers and Rigg (Limited).

Pay Voucher.

	£	s.	d.
1888.—December 13—			
24 galvanized buckets, at 2s.	2	8	0
36 billy cans, at 1s.	1	16	0
24 long-handled shovels, at 4s. 9d.	5	14	0
1 coil 2 rope	4	0	0
1 „ ¾ „	0	15	0
1 doz. hanks sewing twine, at 1s. each	0	12	0
1 case kerosene	0	16	6
1 doz. yards grey calico, at 1s. 6d. yard	0	18	0
1 roll duck, 72 yards, at 1s. 3d. yard	4	10	0
1 bottle black ink, at 4s.	0	4	0
1 „ red „, at 6s. 9d.	0	6	9
1 tape measure, at 10s.	0	10	0
	22	10	3
2½ per cent.	0	11	3
	£	21	19 0

Signed by J. H. WOOD, FRED. N. OXLEY, JOHN DAVIES, and initialled by A. E. HIBBLE.

P 14.

Contingent Expenses.—Departments of Casual Labour Board.
Claimants—M'Lean Brothers and Rigg (Limited).

Pay Voucher.

	£	s.	d.
1888.—December 15—			
25 bars round steel, ½, 1, 1½, 5 cwt. 3 qr., at 68s.	19	11	0
12 drill hammers, at 14s. 6d.	8	14	0
12 spalling hammers, at 10s. 6d.	6	6	0
12 Ames' long-handled shovels, at 4s. 9d.	2	17	0
	37	8	0
2½ per cent.	0	18	8
	£	36	9 4

Signed by J. H. WOOD, F. O'DONNELL, JOHN DAVIES, and initialled by A. E. HIBBLE.

P 15.

[Private and confidential.]

Dear Mr. Davies,

Hurstville, midnight, 12 December, 1888.

After leaving you I went up to the House and saw Mr. T. Walker, and he declined to allow me to put off their appointment; so I must go, much against my own inclination. I ask you to *beware* of your friends who I spoke to you about. I saw another member, and he agrees with me; he also is a member of the Committee. Perhaps you may think I am presuming too much, but I trust my past actions may be sufficient for you. I shall send a copy of my report to you, after which you can deal with me as you wish.

Faithfully yours,

E. M. BURROWES.

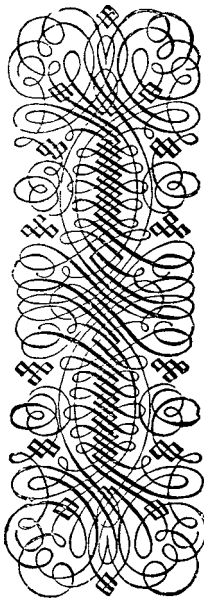
P 16.

RETURN, signed John Davies, Chairman, Casual Labour Board, showing the works carried out under the Casual Labour Board; also the amount realized for Crown lands, and the approximate value of the lands now available for sale, based upon prices recently realized at public auction. (Ordered by Legislative Assembly to be printed, 8 January, 1889.)

[To

[To the Evidence of G. R. C. Neale.]

Q.



George R. C. Neale,
Auctioneer and Com-
mission Agent, 78,
Engine-street, opposite
Hordern & Sons,
Haymarket,
and Darling Harbour.

Bank of
New South Wales,
Sydney.

Bank of
New South Wales,
Haymarket Branch,
paid May 17, 1887.

No. 031311.

The City Bank,
Sydney.

THE BANK OF
HAYMARKET

NEW SOUTH WALES,
BRANCH,

Sydney, May 14th, 1887.

PAY Mr. T. S. Hinchcliffe,

or Bearer, Twenty-six Pounds 17/7.

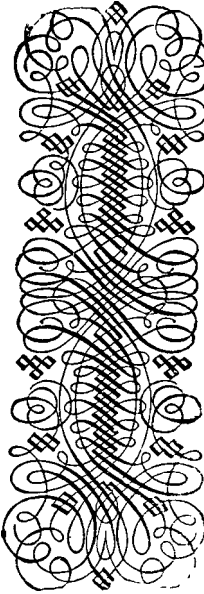
B
A
N
K.

£26 17s. 7d.

~~GEO. ROBT. NEALE.~~

On back, C.B.

Q 1.



George R. C. Neale,
Auctioneer and Com-
mission Agent, 78,
Engine-street, opposite
Hordern & Sons,
Haymarket,
and Darling Harbour.

Bank of
New South Wales,
Sydney.

Bank of
New South Wales,
Haymarket Branch,
Paid September 26th,
1887.

No. 035306.

The City Bank,
Sydney.

THE BANK OF
HAYMARKET

NEW SOUTH WALES,
BRANCH,

Sydney, September 22nd, 1887.

PAY Mr. E. M. Burrows, or

Bearer, Fifty-two Pounds 3/1.

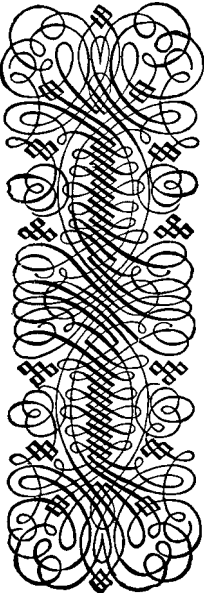
B
A
N
K.

£52 3s. 1d.

~~GEO. ROBT. NEALE.~~

On back, C.B.

Q 2.



George R. C. Neale,
Auctioneer and Com-
mission Agent, 78,
Engine-street, opposite
Hordern & Sons,
Haymarket,
and Darling Harbour.

Bank of
New South Wales,
Sydney.

Bank of
New South Wales,
Haymarket Branch,
paid 20 , 188 .

No. 033009.

The City Bank,
Sydney.

THE BANK OF
HAYMARKET

NEW SOUTH WALES,
BRANCH,

Sydney, July 19th, 1887.

PAY Mr. Burrowes, or Bearer,
2d. stg.

Thirty-three Pounds Three Shillings and

B
A
N
K.

£33 3s. 2d.

~~GEO. ROBT. NEALE.~~

On back, C.B.

Q 3.

Q 3.

101 Engine-street, Haymarket, and Darling Harbour,
Sold on account of Mr. J. W. Deering, By GEORGE R. C. NEALE, Auctioneer and Commission Agent.

Sydney, April 2, 1889.

		Tons cwt.		s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
May 7, 1887.	No. 4,132.	Wood	4 7	5 6	1 3 11		
	2,394.	"	4 0	5 9	1 3 0		
	843.	"	4 6	5 9	1 4 9		
	2,944.	"	4 12	5 9	1 6 5		
	B 90.	"	4 9	5 9	1 5 7		
		Freight and stamp			2 9 1	6 3 8	
		Commission			0 6 3		
						2 15 4	3 8 4
May 9, 1887.	No. 1,525.	Wood	3 15	7 9	1 9 0		
	809.	"	4 2	7 0	1 8 8		
	2,036.	"	3 16	6 6	1 4 8		
	2,524.	"	4 2	6 9	1 7 8		
		Freight and stamp			1 17 0	5 10 0	
		Commission			0 5 3		
						2 2 3	3 7 9
May 9, 1887.	No. 811.	Wood	4 2	5 9	1 3 6		
	1,784.	"	4 5	5 9	1 4 5		
	4,050.	"	4 0	5 3	1 1 0		
	827.	"	4 6	5 9	1 4 8		
	2,766.	"	4 1	5 6	1 2 3		
		Freight and stamp			2 7 6	5 15 10	
		Commission			0 5 9		
						2 13 3	3 2 7
May 11, 1887.	No. 2,666.	Wood	3 19	5 6	1 1 8		
	G 18.	"	7 0	5 6	1 18 6		
	253.	"	3 15	5 3	0 19 8		
	1,607.	"	3 18	5 3	1 0 5		
		Freight and stamp			2 5 6	5 0 3	
		Commission			0 5 0		
						2 10 6	2 9 9
May 11, 1887.	No. 1,111.	Wood	3 14	5 6		1 0 4	
		Freight and stamp			0 9 3		
		Commission			0 1 0		
						0 10 3	0 10 1
May 12, 1887.	No. 2,372.	Wood	4 0	5 0	1 0 0		
	3,508.	"	3 11	5 0	0 17 9		
	2,943.	"	3 9	5 6	0 18 11		
	3,923.	"	4 0	5 6	1 2 0		
	1,454.	"	3 11	5 0	0 17 9		
		Freight and stamp			2 5 6	4 16 5	
		Commission			0 5 0		
						2 10 6	2 5 11
May 13, 1887.	No. 4,348.	Wood	3 15	4 9	0 17 9		
	3,545.	"	4 2	4 6	0 18 5		
		Freight and stamp			0 18 3	1 16 2	
		Commission			0 1 9		
						1 0 0	0 16
May 13, 1887.	No. 1,298.	Wood	4 6	5 0	1 1 6		
	1,978.	"	4 1	5 0	1 0 3		
		Freight and stamp			0 19 2	2 1 9	
		Commission			0 2 0		
						1 1 2	1 0 7
May 7, 1887.	No. 1,631.	Wood	4 1	5 3	1 1 3		
	1,647.	"	4 4	5 3	1 2 0		
	1,492.	"	4 9	5 3	1 3 4		
	2,444.	"	4 3	5 6	1 2 10		
	2,829.	"	4 5	5 6	1 3 4		
		Freight and stamp			2 7 10	5 12 9	
		Commission			0 5 9		
						2 13 7	2 19 2
		Carried forward					20 0 4

		Brought forward.....				£	s.	d.					
						20	0	4					
May 13, 1887.	No. 381.	Wood	tons	cwt.	s.	d.	£	s.	d.				
	1,028.	"	3	16	4	6	0	17	1				
	34.	"	4	0	4	6	0	18	0				
	2,935.	"	3	9	4	6	0	15	6				
	2,113.	"	4	5	4	6	0	19	1				
	3,505.	"	3	19	4	6	0	17	9				
			3	16	4	9	0	18	0				
		Freight						5	5	5			
		Advertising, commission, and stamps					2	14	7				
							0	6	0				
								3	0	7			
										2	4	10	
May 11, 1887.	No. 2,521.	Wood	3	15	5	6	1	0	7				
	1,839.	"	3	8	5	6	0	18	8				
	1,038.	"	3	11	5	0	0	17	9				
	1,703.	"	3	13	5	0	0	18	3				
	60.	"	3	11	5	0	0	17	9				
	3,865.	"	4	4	5	3	1	2	0				
	4,007.	"	4	6	5	6	1	3	7				
	332.	"	3	19	6	3	1	4	7				
	1,860.	"	4	6	5	3	1	2	6				
		Freight						9	5	8			
		Advertising, commission, and stamps					4	3	0				
							0	10	3				
								4	13	3			
											4	12	5
		Total									£26	17	7

Q 4.

101 Engine-street, Haymarket, and Darling Harbour,

Sydney, 2 April, 1889.

Sold on account of Mr. Burrowes. By GEORGE R. C. NEALE, Auctioneer and Commission Agent.

Sept. 2, 1887.	No. 3,009.	Wood	tons	cwt.	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
	1,494.	"	5	1	6	6	1	12	9				
		"	5	7	6	6	1	14	9				
		Freight and stamp						3	7	6			
		Commission					1	4	0				
							0	3	6				
								1	7	6			
											2	0	0
Sept. 3, 1887.	No. G. 11.	Wood	8	17	5	0	2	4	3				
	1,365.	"	5	6	5	0	1	6	6				
	2,487.	"	4	16	5	0	1	4	0				
	3,708.	"	5	2	5	0	1	5	6				
	2,014.	"	4	14	5	0	1	3	6				
		Freight and stamp						7	3	9			
		Commission					3	6	1				
							0	7	3				
								3	13	4			
											3	10	5
Sept. 3, 1887.	No. 2,937.	Wood	4	19	5	0	1	4	9				
	4,162.	"	4	8	5	0	1	2	0				
	3,381.	"	4	16	5	3	1	5	2				
	4,306.	"	4	8	5	0	1	2	0				
		Freight and stamp						4	13	11			
		Commission					2	2	10				
							0	4	9				
								2	7	7			
											2	6	4
Sept. 3, 1887.	No. 2,498.	Wood	4	15	6	0	1	8	6				
	4,317.	"	4	10	6	0	1	7	0				
	1,187.	"	5	3	6	0	1	10	10				
	2,058.	"	5	3	5	3	1	7	0				
	4,216.	"	4	16	6	0	1	8	9				
		Freight and stamp						7	2	1			
		Commission					2	16	4				
							0	7	3				
								3	3	7			
											3	18	6
Sept. 3, 1887.	Rockdale, No. 3,796.	Wood	5	13	6	0	1	13	11				
	3,689.	"	5	3	6	0	1	10	11				
		"	4	4	6	0	1	5	2				
		Freight and stamp						4	10	0			
		Commission					1	8	4				
							0	4	6				
								1	12	10			
											2	17	2
		Carried forward									14	12	5

				Brought forward.....		£ s. d.
		Tons. cwt.	s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	14 12 5
Sept. 3, 1887.	No. 3,525.	Wood	5 7	5 0	1 6 9	
	1,810.	"	4 8	5 0	1 2 0	
	4,419.	"	4 9	5 0	1 2 3	
	1,553.	"	4 5	5 0	1 1 3	
					4 12 3	
Freight and stamp					2 2 8	
Commission					0 4 9	
					<u>2 7 5</u>	2 4 10
Sept. 5, 1887.	No. 1,271.	Wood	4 9	5 0	1 2 3	
	1,139.	"	4 15	5 6	1 6 1	
	2,033.	"	4 13	5 0	1 3 3	
Freight and stamp					1 12 1	
Commission					0 3 9	
					<u>3 11 7</u>	1 15 9
Sept. 7 1887.	No. 2,546.	Wood	4 10	7 6	1 13 9	
	1,955.	"	4 15	7 6	1 15 7	
	3,779.	"	4 6	7 6	1 12 3	
Freight and stamp					1 11 5	
Commission					0 5 3	
					<u>5 1 7</u>	3 4 11
					<u>1 16 8</u>	
Sept. 7, 1887.	Rockdale, Nos. 3,753-1,410.	Wood	9 10	6 0	2 17 0	
Freight and stamp					0 17 11	
Commission					0 3 0	
					<u>1 0 11</u>	1 16 1
Sept. 10, 1887.	No. 2,099.	Wood	3 11	7 3	1 5 8	
	1,919.	"	4 19	7 3	1 15 10	
	811.	"	3 13	7 3	1 6 5	
	562.	"	4 4	7 3	1 10 5	
	1,717.	"	4 7	7 3	1 11 6	
Freight and stamp					2 9 9	
Commission					0 7 6	
					<u>7 9 10</u>	4 12 7
					<u>2 17 3</u>	
Sept. 15, 1887.	No. 1,492.	Wood.....	4 9	7 6	1 13 4	
	443.	"	4 17	7 6	1 16 4	
	968.	"	5 0	7 6	1 17 6	
	2,111.	"	5 3	7 6	1 18 7	
Freight and stamp					2 5 0	
Commission					0 7 3	
					<u>7 5 9</u>	4 13 6
					<u>2 12 3</u>	
Sept. 16, 1887.	No. 512.	Wood	4 6	6 0	1 5 9	
	3,006.	"	4 16	6 0	1 8 9	
	839.	"	4 16	6 0	1 8 9	
	1,263.	"	4 10	6 0	1 7 0	
	3,860.	"	5 0	6 0	1 10 0	
Freight and stamp					2 14 1	
Commission					0 7 0	
					<u>7 0 3</u>	3 19 2
					<u>3 1 1</u>	
Sept. 17 1887.	No. 719.	Wood	4 15	6 6	1 10 10	
	1,348.	"	4 13	6 6	1 10 2	
	1,713.	"	4 17	6 6	1 11 6	
	2,728.	"	4 19	6 6	1 12 2	
Freight and stamp					2 4 4	
Commission					0 6 3	
					<u>6 4 8</u>	3 14 1
					<u>2 10 7</u>	
Sept. 19, 1887.	No. 3,033.	Wood	4 9	5 6	1 4 5	
	3,024.	"	4 4	5 9	1 4 1	
	448.	"	3 16	5 6	1 0 10	
	1,141.	"	4 6	5 9	1 4 8	
	1,625.	"	4 4	5 6	1 3 1	
Freight and stamp					2 9 1	
Commission					0 6 0	
					<u>5 17 1</u>	3 2
					<u>2 15 1</u>	
Sept. 20, 1887.	No. 4,100.	Wood	5 1	6 0	1 10 3	
	3,813.	"	4 17	6 0	1 9 0	
	3,507.	"	4 13	6 0	1 7 11	
Freight and stamp					1 13 7	
Commission					0 4 6	
					<u>4 7 2</u>	
					<u>1 18 1</u>	2 9
					<u>2 9</u>	46 4 5
Carried forward.....						

		Tons cwt.		Brought forward.....		£ s. d.
				s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sept. 21, 1887.	No. 302.	Wood	4 9	5 9	1 5 7	46 4 5
	1,203.	"	4 11	6 6	1 9 6	
	3,727.	"	5 13	5 9	1 12 5	
	790.	"	4 9	6 9	1 10 0	
	3,805.	"	5 17	5 9	1 13 7	
		Freight and stamp			2 17 7	7 11 1
		Commission			0 7 9	3 5 4
Sept. 20, 1887.	Waterfall.	Wood	4 10	6 0	1 7 0	4 5 9
		Freight and stamp			0 9 0	
		Commission			0 1 6	0 16 6
Sept. 20, 1887.	Waterfall.	Wood	4 10	6 0	1 7 0	0 16 6
		Freight and stamp			0 9 0	
		Commission			0 1 6	0 16 6
Total.....						£52 3 2

[To Evidence of S. A. Want.]

R.

Dear Sirs,
I herewith place in your hands the new script for ten (10) shares in the Holt-Sutherland Land Co., to be held by you as forming part of the security of the Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society for an advance of £9,000.

Messrs. Want, Johnson, & Co.
True copy.—S. A. WANT.

Sydney, 26 September, 1885.
Yours faithfully,
HENRY PARKES.

R 1.

My Dear Sir,
I send the ten shares in the Holt-Sutherland Estate Co., endorsed in blank, to be held in blank as agreed.

Messrs. Want, Johnson, & Co.
True copy.—S. A. WANT.

1 October, 1885.
Yours sincerely,
HENRY PARKES.

R 2.
Memorial.

The Chairman and Members of the Casual Labour Board,
Gentlemen,

Sydney, 22 September, 1887.

The plan adopted by your Board of employing the surplus labour in opening up new roads, and thus making useful and permanent improvements, is regarded by the public with general satisfaction and approval.

We have now the honor to respectfully request that your Board may be good enough to have the undermentioned roads cleared and stumped to their full width, and properly formed with water-tables, &c., fit for vehicular traffic, for (say) 33 feet wide on each road, viz., Eton-street, Woronora, Croonulla, Lilli Pilli, and Eurunga roads, and the Boulevard. Eton-street is two (2) chains wide and about 20 chains long. It runs from the Illawarra Road to the Park, and would be the best carriage entrance to the Park, avoiding the crossing of the railway line in two places, which is rendered necessary by the present road.

Woronora Road runs from Eton-street to Sylvania Road, and would be the nearest way from the Railway or the Park to the deep waters of Port Hacking. We ask that this may be cut down and graded where necessary.

Coronulla Road runs from Tyreal public road to Croonulla Beach.

Lilli Pilli Road runs from Tyreal Road to east head of Yowie Bay.

Eurunga Road runs from Lilli Pilli Road to east side of Yowie Bay.

The Boulevard leads from a large tract of country to the railway line, where a platform is to be erected, and it will open up the large Government reserve of which this road is the boundary.

These are all public roads which will lead to the Park and will bring an increase of traffic to the Illawarra line.

The roads mentioned are coloured red on the accompanying plan.

Trusting that you may approve of this work being immediately commenced,

We have, &c.,

A. H. McCulloch,	Henry Salwey,
Frank Farnell,	S. R. Geddes,
Myles M'Rae,	A. J. Dalton,
John S. Jamieson,	John Davison,
Sydney A. Want,	Charles T. Stephens,
Edwd. S. Daniell,	D'Arcy H. Bucknell,
J. H. Potter,	G. William Ash,
Wm. Tho. Davey,	J. Murphy.
Merion Moriarty,	

Forwarded for the favourable consideration of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.—J. DAVIES, Chairman, B.C., 22/9/87.
The Principal Under Secretary.

R 3.
Memorial.

The Chairman and Members of the Casual Labour Board, Sydney.
Gentlemen,

Sydney, 22 September, 1887.

We have to thank your Board for the very useful and permanent improvement which you have effected by the clearing of the Illawarra Road, between George's River and the National Park.

In order, however, that the public may avail themselves of the full advantages of this grand highway to the Park, we have to respectfully request that your Board may have the road completed and made fit for carriages and light vehicles to drive to the Park, by immediately carrying out the works suggested below:—

To burn off clean the whole of the logs, stumps, and parts of trees left within 10 feet of the sides of the road.

To form, ballast, and blind the road (commencing at the end near the railway, where the surface is clay and the road very bad).

To put on (say) thirty men to trench places for planting ornamental shade trees (say) every 100 feet apart, on each side of the road (say) 20 feet from the sides, trenches to be 3 feet deep and 10 feet square.

To put on (say) thirty carpenters or fencers to cut timber in the bush and to enclose the trenches; posts should be sunk and rammed not less than 2 feet under the surface nor less than 4 feet above ground. (This should be done at once, or it will be too late for planting this season.) The owners have given permission to take the timber required from any part of the bush.

To

To put on fifty quarrymen, miners or others used to stonework, at Kangaroo Hill (otherwise Huntsman's Hill), and fifty at Sylvania Hill, on this road, to cut down the former hill 10 feet and the latter 5 feet in the deepest part. The work in both cases to be first properly designed and graded. The material from these cuttings to be used for ballasting the other parts of the road.

To supply the men with suitable quarry tools, powder, &c., and a blacksmith on the spot with portable forge to sharpen for them.

The junction of Venetia-street with the Illawarra Road, near Kangaroo Hill, to be suitably graded. Venetia-street and Sylvania Road to be cut down where necessary and graded.

On the short piece of road between the goods shed and the gate house at Sutherland a few stumps have been left. These should be taken out to the full width of the road (1 chain), and the road blinded so that vehicles may be able to run on the metalled portion.

The adoption of these suggestions would render this road to the Park one of the most attractive drives in the Colony, and a credit to your Board. We therefore hope you may approve of the work being immediately carried out.

We have, &c.,

A. H. M'Culloch,	G. William Ash,	W. P. Sillsomy,
Frank Farnell,	Henry Salwey,	M. Maloney,
John Higginson,	S. R. Geddes,	Fred. J. Jackson,
John Davison (Sutherland),	D'Arcy H. Bucknell,	W. W. Russell Jones,
Myles McRae,	A. J. Dalton,	Edw. McKenny,
Sydney A. Want,	Charles T. Stephens,	Arthur W. Cooper,
Edward S. Daniel,	J. Murphy,	J. Roberts,
J. H. Potter,	S. H. Thompson,	B. W. Campbell,
Wm. Thos. Davey,	A. J. Walson,	O. S. Pedley,
Merion Moriarty,	E. S. Graham,	J. A. Armstrong.

Forward for the favourable consideration, so far as road-making concerned, of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.—J. DAVIES, Chairman, B.C., 22/9/87. The Principal Under Secretary.—Submitted, 29/9/87. Approved.—H.P., 30/9/87. The Chairman of the Casual Labour Board.—C.W., P.U.S., B.C., 30/9/87. To be noted and returned.—T.C.H., 5/10/87. Mr. Burrowes. Noted.—E.M.B., 6/10/87.

R 4.

Memorial.

The Chairman and Members of the Casual Labour Board, Sydney.

Sydney, 10 May, 1888.

Gentlemen,
We have the honor to respectfully request that your Board may be good enough to clear, stump, form, gravel (and, where necessary, to culvert) the undermentioned roads, in the county of Cumberland. The roads are shown on the map forwarded herewith, and thereon coloured red.

The opening of these roads would be a great public convenience, would provide useful and reproductive work for some of the men under your control, give access to the main roads and railway stations of the district, and would increase settlement, communication, and traffic, and become feeders which would greatly swell the earnings of the railway.

We understand that a quarry of superior road metal has been found on the Government Reserve near Sutherland, and we respectfully suggest that profitable employment can be found for a large number of your men in breaking this stone for use on the railways and public roads.

On some of these roads the old pegs and marks have disappeared, and we would suggest that, where necessary, those may be re-marked by a Government surveyor.

The following are the roads referred to:—Kurrajong, Bittongi, Yanda, Yallaroi, Bath, Holt, Crystal, Box, The Boulevard, Yarra, Burrawong, Illeroo, Burrancar, Wooloware, Wotonga, Kamira, Willaree, Caworra, Orara, Karimbla, Canoona, Montrose, Glenwood Roads.

We have, &c.,

Frank Farnell,	J. Blenkinsopp,
John Nobbs,	W. R. Taylor,
Sydney A. Want,	J. J. Dunlop,
Fred. J. Jackson,	C. Millin,
John Davison,	J. Furber,
Edward Reading,	W. B. Thame,
R. Adrain,	J. Parfett,
John McCarty,	C. Price,
R. J. Hogg,	Chas. W. Norris,
Chas. Bourne,	R. Shankland,
Alfred C. Steer,	W. McMurtrie,
Jno. E. Chant,	R. C. Nicol,
J. E. Gowing,	J. C. Gemmell,
S. P. Davies,	George Hatton,
C. W. Bullock,	Edward Warren,
Thos. Hynard,	J. Roberts.

Recommended for the approval of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.—J. DAVIES, Chairman, B.C., 15/5/88. The Principal Under Secretary. Submitted for approval.—C.W., 18/5/88. Approved.—H.P., 21/5/88. The Chairman of the Casual Labour Board.—C.W., P.U.S., B.C., 21/5/88. The Chairman of the Casual Labour Board. Papers returned herewith (plan retained) report attached.—E.M.B., Superintendent, 28/5/88.

[To Evidence of J. Murphy.]

S.

EXTRACT from Share Register Book of Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company (Limited). Page 18.
Sir Henry Parkes. (Commercial Union Chambers, Pitt-street.)

Date.	How acquired or disposed of.	No. of Shares.		Shares Numbered—	Balance.
		Dr.	Cr.		
1882.					
January 12.....	By J. H. Want		10		.....
1885.					
July 3	To J. S. Jamieson	10			.....
September 10.....	By J. S. Jamieson		10	A 304 to 313	10
1886.					
July 3	„ allotment new issue		2	508, 509	12
1887.					
July 6	„ „		2	687, 688	14
1888.					
July 13	To J. S. Jamieson	4		A 508, 509, 687, 688 .....	.....
„	„ Johnson, Want, Simpson, and Minter	10		A 304 to 313 .....	.....

TRUE COPY.—(Signed) J. MURPHY, Manager Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company (Limited).

S1.

S 1.

To the Chairman and Members of the Casual Labour Board, Sydney.

Gentlemen,

Sydney, 7 July, 1887.

We have the honor to call your attention to the fact that the main Illawarra Road from the George's River Ferry to the National Park is in a very unsatisfactory state. It was a good deal cut up by the traffic of the Easter Encampment; the heavy rains following have still further damaged it.

It is a Government road 2 chains wide, but it is cleared only 12 feet or so in some places, and the running room is confined to that space, making it unsafe to travel on.

This being the only drive to the Park, and the main road to the south coast, it is much used.

We have to respectfully request that your Board may be good enough to have it aligned by the Government surveyors and then allow some of the unemployed to clear and stump it for the full width of 2 chains and to properly form the road for (say) half a chain. This would be a great public convenience, and would be a most useful and permanent work on which to utilize some of the surplus labour.

Hoping the matter may receive your early and favourable consideration,

We have, &c.,

J. H. Carruthers, Sydney.	Wm. G. Shearsby, Redfern.
Henry Prince, Manly.	S. C. Brees, Paddington.
A. W. Francis, Cleveland-street.	W. T. Brown, Burwood.
R. Shankland, Waverley.	W. C. Black, Petersham.
W. G. Whiting, Randwick.	Thos. F. Gurney, North Shore.
H. B. Jamieson, Sydney.	John B. Butters, Balmain.
Chas. W. Norris, Burwood.	E. Sturrock, Redfern.
Jno. E. Chant, Botany.	C. Bourne, Leichhardt.
George Jamieson, Croydon.	Hy. Tillidge, Waverley.
A. G. Bennett, Croydon.	R. C. Nicol, Parramatta.
George Watkins, Waverley.	C. Woolnough, Ashfield.
M. R. Jamieson, Summer Hill.	S. Bullock, Botany.
J. B. Robinson, Darlinghurst.	R. F. Wilkinson, Ashfield.
J. E. Capplestone, Pitt-street.	Wm. McMurtrie, Bourke-street.
R. Grant, Nixon-street, Surry Hills.	Thos. Hynard, Margaret-street, Enmore.
J. B. Tucker, Pitt-street, Sydney.	C. Millin, Bondi.
W. B. Thame, Pitt-street.	C. W. Bullock, Botany.
N. Mackay, Darlinghurst.	J. W. Westwood, Petorsham.
A. J. Pring, Macdonaldtown.	R. J. Hogg, Croydon.
S. Richardson, Glebe.	Owen Deakin, Paddington.
Thomas W. Smally, Waverley.	George Hutton, Glebe Point Road.
Chas. Wilks, Petersham.	W. B. Willmett, Forbes-street.
C. J. Penprase, Hunter's Hill.	F. Boardman, Homebush.
J. Doyle, North Shore.	Varney Parkes, Central Cumberland.
Charles O. Cooper, Balmain.	

This work being, in the opinion of the Board, of great utility, they submit it for the approval of the Honorable the Colonial Secretary.—J.D., Chairman. B.C., 7/7/87. The Principal Under Secretary. Approved.—H.P., 8/7/87. To be registered and forwarded.—H.P. Refer to Board.—C.W., 11/7/87. The Chairman of the Casual Labour Board.—C.W., P.U.S. B.C., 12/7/82. Mr. E. M. Burrowes,—To be noted and returned.—J.D., Chairman. B.C., 13/7/87. Noted. Arrangements made to start the work to-morrow.—E. M. BURROWES, 13/7/87.

S 2.

Private Memo.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,

Can you look in on me the next time you are in town? I would like to have a word with you. Are the men again on the roads to Yowie Bay and Yowie Point? Mr. Walker told us they ought not to have been taken off. In fact, he said they had not been taken off; but when I insisted that they were off, he said he would see that they should be put on again immediately.

J.M., 21/9/87.

S 3.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,

3, O'Connell-street, Sydney, 12 January, 1888.

Just a line to ask how the clearing of the roads stands and if you have made a start at the main road (Illawarra Road) yet. The driver of the Port Hacking coach tells me that your men are putting the gravel on the new road only 2 or 3 inches thick, and that, there being no ballast foundation, the sand will work through from the bottom very quickly, as it has already done in Madeira-street, where it was laid much thicker. He says it should be at least 6 inches thick to make a decent job to stand any time. There is some gravel on our land, this side of Dolan's, at a place near the "Iron Mine," which you could take if necessary, but the top should be taken off the hill, level, not to make holes. Let me know what you think of this. Have you done anything towards building a bridge at Rover's Hole, or a new and better culvert on Woronora Road. Can't you cut down that hill (near the Chock and Hog culvert on the road to Yowie) to ease the grade? When will you be in town? "The same to you; many of them."

Yours truly,

J. MURPHY.

S 4.

Dear Sir,

3, O'Connell-street, Sydney, 21 September, 1887.

I have your letter of 19th; also map of parish of Sutherland, lent you. Thanks for same. By the subdivision plan you will see that Sylvania Road is 150 links wide. I think they are clearing only a chain. You might get your overseer to have a look at it.

Yours faithfully,

E. M. Burrowes, Esq., Superintendent Relief Works, National Park.

J. MURPHY.

S 5.

Dear Sir,

3, O'Connell-street, Sydney, 1 August, 1887.

After leaving you on Saturday I strolled along the new road. It will be a grand drive when finished. I noticed a lot of logs and stumps rolled just off the road out of the way. I asked Mr. Buller about them; he said that those which are not wanted for culverts, &c., would be burned. I only call your attention to them because they would be a great eye-sore if left there after the road is finished. Mr. Want said he would speak to you about putting on (say) two hundred more men, as we have heard that the relief works will soon be abolished and it would be a pity to have the road left unfinished. In view of the likelihood of this we are applying to have your men put on to make Sylvania Road, which I mentioned to you on Saturday, and which Mr. Want said he would see you about. He said he thought you would recommend it.

I am sorry to say that Mr. Want met with an accident yesterday. He was skylarking with Mr. Ebsworth and broke one of the bones of his right arm; I understand that it is not a serious fracture.

I understand that the trustees of the road are going to ask your opinion about shade trees for the road. They are anxious that this should be considered, and the question is whether there are any good ones for this purpose on the road, and if

if so, whether it would be better to leave a belt of them (where they exist) on each side of the 40 feet, or to clear the whole of it and plant ornamental trees (say) 100 feet apart on each side of the road, and to ask you to let your men trench the places for them and put up enclosures of saplings, &c. The trustees would like to have your opinion on the subject, and if you thought it better to plant them to take advantage of the present season, this being the last month for planting trees.

E. M. Burrowes, Esq., National Park.
Answered (see Letter Book)—E.M.B., 2/8/37.

Yours, &c.,
J. MURPHY.

S 6.

Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company (Limited),
3, O'Connell-street, Sydney, 15 August, 1887.

Dear Mr. Burrowes,
Referring to our conversation with reference to your taking stone from Sylvania for the road, we have Mr. Ward's permission for you to take what you want from lots 5, 6, 7, 9, and 10 of section 9, Sylvania, provided you do not injure the land. In addition to the above you may also take from lot 1, section 9, and lots 1 and 2 of section 11 (as given you already).

I was down the road on Saturday. I think you must have mistaken what I said about the boggy place in Malvern Road. The place I mean has not been "corduroyed." It is on the Malvern Road, about 20 yards past the new culvert, and just now it is quite a bog. The culvert is done and covered with saplings. To make a good job of the place—I mean, I think, if you saw it, you would advise the making of another small culvert, as well as "corduroying," say, about 20 yards of the road. It is only a small length, and is alongside of where the men are camped. We will have men in near Mr. Dalglish's, taking sleepers; and it would be a great convenience to have this patch done, if you could spare three or four men for a day or two.

E. M. Burrowes, Esq., National Park.

Yours truly,
J. MURPHY.

Mr. Buller,—Please attend to this place, and note on your plan the allotments we may take stone from.—E.M.B.
Supt., 16/8/87.

S 7 and 8.

Two subdivision plans showing lands township of Sutherland, and suburban blocks submitted for sale by auction, by Messrs. Richardson and Wrench, on behalf of the Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company (Limited).

S 9.

Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company (Limited),
3, O'Connell-street, Sydney, 20 May, 1889.

Sir,
As requested in your letter of 18th, I herewith forward a list showing the names of all persons who were shareholders in this Company on the 31st January last, and the number of shares held by each on that date.

Yours faithfully,
J. MURPHY, Manager.

LIST of Shareholders Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company (Limited), 31st January, 1889.

Name.	Shares.	Name.	Shares.
Want, J. H.	33	Brought forward	449
Murphy, J.	89	Acland, W. A. D.	2
Reading, E.	25	Johnson, J. W.	24
Atherton, E.	33	Coleman, W.	8
Newton, J.	41	Machardy, M. C.	2
Simpson, E. P.	82	Hassall, R.; Roberts, T.	18
Roberts, J.	6	Butler, A. B.	16
Cook, S.	42	Heydon, C. G.	2
Jamieson, J. S.	48	Doyle, R. R.	1
Jackson, F. J.	23	Stephen, S. A.	8
Want, S. A.	6	Tarleton, W.	16
Milne, J. D.	2	Giblin, N. F.	40
Fagan, P. F.	9	Alexander, G. M.	1
Fagan, W.	7	Gedye, C. T.	9
Minter, A. R.	2	Fletcher, J.	1
O'Connor, P.	1	M'Rae, M.	43
Innes, J. G. L.	13	Torlesse, H. H.	1
Zouche, Lord.	8	Hogg, R. J.	4
Rogers, H. G.	2	Edwards, H.	19
Ebsworth, E. N.	8	Want, S. A.; Johnson, J. W.; Simpson, E. P.; Minter, A. R.	11
Shepard, A. D.	8	Barnett, C. B.	8
Walsh, J.	1	Skarratt, C. C.	7
Robertson, J. (Sir)	20	Ferguson, D. G.	2
Prince, H.	32	Unallotted	8
Pinder, H.	8		
Carried forward.....	449		800

The Secretary, Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission, Sydney.

[To Evidence of J. F. Burns, M.P.]

T

Work of Unemployed on roads at Hornsby and Holt-Sutherland Estate.

(Petition from J. F. Burns—the House to appoint a Select Committee to complete inquiry on.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 6 March, 1889.

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of John Fitzgerald Burns, a Member of the said Assembly,—
Respectfully sheweth:—

1. That your Petitioner is a member of the land firm of Burns, Withers, and Smith, which, in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, acquired by purchase a large area of private lands in the district of Lane Cove, parish of Gordon, and South Colah, some of which lands are situate in what is now known as the Hornsby District.

2. That there are at least four thousand acres of Crown lands to the eastward of Hornsby with a long frontage parallel to but not adjoining the North Shore Railway which it was the desire of both the Jennings and the Parkes Governments to bring into market for auction sale.

3. That in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six, while the Jennings Government was in office, and while that Government was pressing the sale of Crown lands by auction for purposes of revenue as well as of settlement, application was made to your Petitioner by the Survey Department for permission to make a road through the lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith, from the Peat's Ferry Road across a railway bridge near Hornsby to the said Crown lands.

4. That your Petitioner agreed, on the sixteenth of November, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six, as expressed by letter of that date, addressed to the Under Secretary of Lands, to give the Government permission to open the said proposed road, provided that it was put in a passable condition for traffic in a reasonable time, and that the Government relinquished their right to open another road through the lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith, further north, which was of no use for such a purpose.

5. That, without any communication from or to your Petitioner, or any of his partners, some of the persons called the "Unemployed," who were under the direction of the Colonial Secretary, and the immediate supervision of Mr. Deering, the Metropolitan District Surveyor, and who had been at work on Crown lands on the western side of the Homebush and Waratah line, were put on to clear and form the said road, and also a road between the southern boundary of the Crown lands and the lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith, to the eastern road.

6. That, as has been proved in evidence, the Casual Labour Board, which was formed by the Colonial Secretary to relieve Mr. Deering of the charge of the unemployed, applied to your Petitioner by letter, on the recommendation of Colonel Wells and Mr. Houston, engineer, both of whom are officers of the Government, for permission to open a road further south than the Boundary Road, owing to its appearing that the Boundary Road could not be constructed throughout unless at great cost, to which application your Petitioner agreed.

7. That after your Petitioner had agreed to the opening of the said road, and to small roads leading thereto from the Boundary Road, his colleagues in the Ministry, at his request, caused an inquiry to be made independently of the Casual Labour Board as to whether the proposed roads were really required for the public benefit; and, in compliance with his wishes, reports on the subject were called for and furnished by Mr. W. C. Bennett, the Chief Engineer for Roads and Bridges, Mr. J. W. Deering, the Metropolitan District Surveyor, and Mr. W. M. Gordon, surveyor, dated the thirteenth February, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, seventeenth January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, and twenty-eighth January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, respectively.

8. That Mr. Bennett expressed his approval of the opening of the said roads, stating that all of them would be ultimately required and would enhance the value of the Crown lands. Mr. Deering reported chiefly in relation to the road across the bridge and the Boundary Road, the opening and forming of which he justified, stating likewise that while the clearing operations were under consideration or proceeding, "not the slightest communication was received by him from Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith," also, "that the work was initiated solely by himself, solely in the interest of the Crown whom alone he served," and that he only learned that Bellamy's one hundred acres, through which the Bridge Road was made, was the property of Burns, Withers, and Smith, by reason of the negotiations for the survey and opening of the said road, and also that "his only aim was to improve the Crown lands for sale;" Mr. Gordon stated that the roads constituted useful and reproductive works, taking into consideration the proximity of the Crown lands to both railway lines, as well as to such main roads as the Lane Cove, Peat's Ferry, and Pennant Hills.

9. That at the first sale of Crown lands at Hornsby about two hundred and fifty (250) acres were offered by auction on behalf of the Government by Messrs. Richardson and Wrench, of which one hundred and sixteen acres were sold, and realised upwards of four thousand six hundred pounds.

10. That on the fifteenth November, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, a Select Committee of your Honorable House was appointed, on the motion of the Honorable Member for Northumberland, Mr. Thomas Walker, consisting of Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Copeland, Mr. Henry Clarke, Mr. McMillan, Mr. Melville, Mr. Street, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Carruthers, and the mover, to inquire into and report upon the works of the unemployed in clearing, forming, and making roads through the property near Hornsby, owned by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, and also through those made through the Holt-Sutherland Estate and other private properties.

11. That the said Committee brought up, on the day your Honorable House adjourned for the Christmas holidays, a Report, which it termed a "Progress Report," which it appears was adopted by the Committee on the casting vote of its Chairman (Mr. Walker).

12. That your Petitioner takes exception to certain of the allegations and inferences drawn therefrom, made in the said Progress Report, respecting the expenditure on roads through private lands in the Hornsby district.

13. That your Petitioner takes exception to the statement in the second paragraph of the said Report, that some of the roads and streets formed on the estate of Burns, Withers, and Smith appeared on their subdivision plan, and that their construction had been commenced prior to the advent of the Casual Labour Board, inasmuch as it leaves the inference that the roads made through the lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith were in accordance with a plan of subdivision which is not true, the fact being, as has been proved in evidence, that the lands through which roads have been made, consisting of upwards of six hundred acres, had not been subdivided or marked on any plan of subdivision, and that it was not the intention of the proprietors to subdivide the said six hundred acres; while the only expenditure on any subdivision of theirs was a very small amount in roughly extending two or three roads or streets on a subdivision adjoining the railway line a few days before the sale of Crown lands already referred to.

14. That your Petitioner takes exception to the name of Mr. Oliver, the ex Under Secretary for Lands, being coupled with that of Mr. Deering, as condemning the roads at Hornsby as being beyond public requirements, and the superior quality of the work on some of the roads as being chiefly calculated to benefit private individuals. Your Petitioner is aware, as has been proved by the evidence, that Mr. Oliver did not see any of the roads through private lands, and that the superior work about which he expressed an opinion was on the Crown lands subdivision and not on the private roads.

15. That your Petitioner takes exception to the statement in paragraph four of the said Report, as follows:—"The cost of the roads at Hornsby, including the Government subdivision, was nearly seven thousand pounds, whilst the Government subdivision realised only four thousand three hundred pounds at the recent sale,"—which conveys the impression that the cost of the roads in the Hornsby district was seven thousand pounds, and that the Crown lands in the locality affected by the expenditure were worth only four thousand three hundred pounds; whereas, as the evidence of the officers of the Government and of others examined proved that the total of the expenditure for clearing roads, reserves, and the like work, was only six thousand three hundred pounds, and that there are still upwards of four thousand acres of Crown lands for sale, which, in the opinion of competent judges, are worth thirty thousand pounds.

16. That your Petitioner further objects to the paragraph in the said Report in which it is stated that one of the proprietors of the estate of Burns, Withers, and Smith had admitted that their property had been greatly enhanced in value by the construction of the roads. The partner referred to was no doubt Mr. George Withers, who was denied the privilege of amending his evidence before the Report was brought up, but who was subsequently examined on the 15th January last, when he stated that when he was previously examined he had been led to believe that five thousand to six thousand pounds had been expended on roads through the lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith, and that the area held by them in that quarter was one thousand to one thousand two hundred acres, whereas he had since then ascertained that the amount expended on any roads in which they were interested was only about one thousand eight hundred pounds (528); that the lands through which the roads were made did not exceed six hundred and eighty acres, and that the land taken for the roads was worth three thousand six hundred and twenty-five pounds (524); that, in his opinion, Burns, Withers, and Smith did not obtain any increment in value from the roads, that the roads were very inferior (484), and that his first estimate of increment was based upon representations made in the House by the Chairman of the Committee (Mr. Walker), also upon general rumour (533).

17. That although your Petitioner did not promote or control the expenditure on any of the roads through lands in which he is interested, he has been most anxious to discover whether any of the expenditure has been in excess of public requirements, and whether his estate has been unduly improved by any such expenditure, for which reason he requested that Mr. W. C. Bennett, the Chief Engineer for Roads, and Mr. Gregg, of the firm of Richardson and Wrench, who conducted the Crown land sale, might be examined by the Select Committee, which was refused before the Progress Report was presented to your Honorable House, but both of whom have since been examined and their evidence brought up with a Second Progress Report, of the sixteenth January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine; your Petitioner would invite the attention of your Honorable House to the additional evidence in question. Mr. Bennett, after inspecting the roads in the Hornsby district, stated that in his opinion two thousand pounds would represent the whole expenditure on roads through the property of Burns, Withers, and Smith (202); that Burns, Withers, and Smith have derived no advantage from the expenditure other than

than the exceptional position of the land absolutely rendered necessary, because access must be given to the Crown lands, no matter who owns the intervening land (205); that a larger proportion than nine-tenths of the roads are absolutely necessary (244); that he thought the roads were of inferior kind (186); Mr. Gregg also thought the roads were not of a good character (34); that any advantage from the expenditure on the 640 acres was about equalled by the roads being given without compensation.

18. Mr. Dawson has also inspected the roads at the request of your Petitioner, and has furnished a report in which states that the land given for the benefit of the Crown lands greatly exceeds in value the amount expended on the roads by the Government. Mr. Dawson has also prepared a plan, which shows that the plan put before the Select Committee of your Honorable House by Mr. Deering is misleading.

Your Petitioner therefore prays,—

That your Honorable House will appoint a Select Committee to take further evidence, and complete the inquiry on the Work of the Unemployed on the Roads at Hornsby.

And your Petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

J. F. BURNS.

T 1.

Gentlemen,

Department of Lands, Sydney, 9 September, 1887.

Mr. John Davies, C.M.G., having applied for the continuation of the Vanceville Road to the road which is being cleared from Hornsby, I am directed by the Secretary for Lands to request you to state (as the proposed road would traverse land belonging to you—being part of Hyndes' 2,000 acres) whether you will dedicate such road to the public free of any cost to the Crown beyond that of survey

I have, &c.,

STEPHEN FREEMAN,

For the Under Secretary.

Messrs. J. F. Burns, Geo. Withers, and R. Burdett Smith, care of the Hon. J. F. Burns, Esq., M.P.

T 2.

Dear Sir,

88, Pitt-street, 26 February, 1889.

In compliance with your request I visited Hornsby on Friday, the 15th instant, and made a careful inspection of the roads lately cleared by the unemployed in that locality, and beg to report as follows:—

The road along the east side of the railway line, and which is now called George-street, and which extends from Junction Road to Bridge Road, has been cleared, and about 15 chains of same has been roughly formed, but not ballasted.

Burdett-street is cleared, and a shallow water-table has been made in centre of same; but the street is not formed. This street has been extended easterly, from the subdivision at railway station to meet Boundary Road, with the intention of giving access to the Crown lands subdivision.

Hunter and Florence Streets have been cleared only, and Florence-street has been extended easterly to meet a road running southerly from the south-west corner of the Crown lands subdivision to Junction Road, and, with the exception of these extended portions, all the before-mentioned streets were cleared by your men some time ago, and the amount of money spent by Government on same would not, I consider, exceed £50.

Junction Road is cleared, formed, and roughly ballasted 15 feet wide, from George-street to the Vanceville Road, but this road from George-street to Forster's property is outside your property.

Road marked B on Mr. Deering's plan is cleared, formed, and ballasted very roughly, the ballast being only 15 feet wide, and consists mostly of broken sandstone that would not go through a 6-inch gauge. This road is in continuation of the road along the west side of the Crown lands subdivision, and was evidently made so as to give access from the Crown lands to Junction Road, and thence to railway-crossing and Peat's Ferry Road, and was made without your authority.

Road marked C on Mr. Deering's plan is cleared only, and a water-table has been made down one side, and this road has also been taken to give access from Crown lands to Pearce's Corner, and was also made without any authority.

Road marked D on Mr. Deering's plan is cleared and formed roughly, and half the land taken for said road comes out of Mrs. Edwards' property.

Road E on Mr. Deering's plan is cleared and roughly formed, but is not the shape as shown on his plan (*vide* my sketch herewith).

This road was not surveyed by me, but has been evidently taken to give access to the Crown lands, and which will be very beneficial to said lands when sold in subdivision.

Road H on Mr. Deering's plan is cleared, formed, and ballasted very roughly 15 feet wide, with the exception of 5 chains of same, which is only 10 feet wide.

This road, like D, has been taken equally from the lands of Mrs. Edwards and Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith.

Mistake Road is roughly cleared only, and is nothing like the shape shown on Mr. Deering's plan (*vide* sketch).

Burns Road is cleared, formed, and ballasted very roughly 15 feet wide. This road is outside your property, and I believe was done at the instance of Mr. Noonan and others, who have properties in that locality.

Road F on Mr. Deering's plan is cleared, formed, and ballasted 15 feet wide from Junction Road to Burns Road, and cleared and formed from Junction Road to Boundary Road, and this road was also taken to give access to the Crown lands, and which will be of immense benefit to same when subdivided, as will be seen on reference to plan.

Burns Road from Vanceville Road easterly is cleared, formed, and ballasted 15 feet wide. This road is then cleared and formed in a southerly and easterly direction till it meets Bobbin Road, and thence to the Lane Cove Road, and does not end at the boundary of Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith's land, as it appears to do on Mr. Deering's plan.

The land subdivided on the east side of the railway line contains about 52 acres, and the remainder of the estate has not been subdivided in any way.

In conclusion, I beg to state that in my opinion the land given for roads for the benefit of the Crown lands subdivision greatly exceeds in value the amount spent on said roads by the Government.

Yours, &c.,

C. B. DAWSON.

J. F. Burns, Esq., M.P., 75, Elizabeth-street.

T 3.

PLAN signed by C. B. Dawson, of Hornsby Roads, showing lands owned by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, tinted pink

[See Plan 2.]

T 4 (a).

Memorandum from the Chairman, Casual Labour Board, to W. M. Gordon, Esq., St. Leonards.

29 May, 1888.

ENCLOSED herewith I send you a rough sketch which the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer, Mr. Burns, handed me yesterday. Will you kindly supply a tracing of this locality, showing the names of property-holders, through which the Bobbin Rock Road* runs, where the delay in making has taken place.

J. DAVIES.

I have made all inquiry and endeavoured to find out the owner of Pymble's grant, through which the road will run, but failed. Whittingham is the owner of a small intervening strip. It would be much better to inspect the road, and make inquiries from the residents, who can tell at once the owner or owners of the land through which it will pass. I send you an approximate tracing of the continuation of the road, and if you think it necessary to go up, I could make it convenient to go on receiving your reply.—W. M. GORDON, 1 June, 1888. John Davies, Esq., C.M.G., M.L.C., Chairman.

For report.—J.D., Chairman, B.C., 4/6/88. Mr. O'Donnell.

The

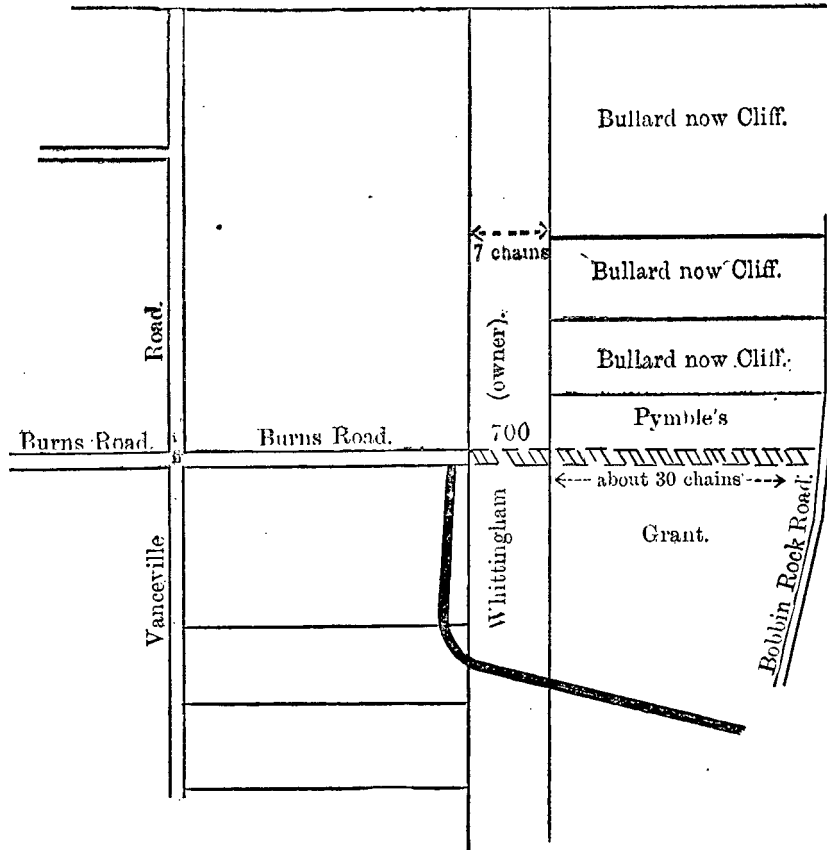
* Query.—The continuation of Burns-street runs. I have given the other information regarding the Bobbin Rock Road, also a tracing.

The road marked red on sketch plan attached impracticable; deviation suggested by previous report and sketch plan the only practicable road (on this black), unless at an enormous expense. The owners of property are Rogers, Clissold, and Myles McRae.—F. O'DONNELL, 9/6/88. To Chairman, Casual Labour Board.

T 4 (b).

SKETCH SHOWING BY LINES THUS // // // // // THE PROPOSED CONTINUATION OF BURNS ROAD, THROUGH WHITTINGHAM'S AND PYMBLE'S TO JOIN THE BOBBIN ROCK ROAD.

CROWN LANDS.



[To Evidence R. Burdett Smith.]

U.

Plan compiled by Frederick Wells, 27 November, 1888, showing Proprietors, as far as could be ascertained, and work done by "Unemployed" to date, near Hornsby Station. And Schedule of all roads shown on plan cleared or made by unemployed, giving name of road, length, estimated cost, amount, name of landowners, and explanatory remarks certified as correct by Mr. O'Donnell, 7 November 1888, and signed by Mr. Wells, 6 December, 1888.

[To Evidence of W. M. Gordon.]

V.

Sir, Adare Villa, North Shore, 17 October, 1887.
I have the honor to inform you that I have visited the works now being carried out by the unemployed in the Parish of Gordon, with regard to the further clearing of roads giving access to the Crown lands.

To illustrate my report more clearly I furnish herewith tracing showing by a red colour roads cleared and in course of completion.

First.—I have the honor to propose that the roads coloured brown on tracing be cleared. It will be seen at once the necessity of clearing roads marked A, B, C, to give access from Junction Road to the Crown Road dividing the private lands from the Crown lands. The roads marked D and E will also tap the Lane Cove Road at intervals, and F will be a continuation of road C to the Lane Cove Road, viz., Vanceville Road, which is a first-class road from Billyard-street to the Lane Cove Road.

Second.—As Junction Road has been cleared throughout from the Hornsby Railway Station, and is a very good road as regards gradient and crossings at the gullies, I have the honor to recommend that it (Junction Road) be formed and ballasted throughout, and culverts erected in about the position shown on tracing over the gullies, and one over a gully on Boundary Road.

I have, &c.,
W. M. GORDON,
Government Surveyor.

John Davies, Esq., C.M.G., Chairman.

Tracing here with.
John Davies, Esq., C.M.G., Chairman

TRACING of roads referred to in V.

V 1.

[See Plan 3.]

V 2.

COPY of Mr. Surveyor Gordon's tracing forwarded to Chairman of Casual Labour Board, and to accompany his report of 28th January, 1888.

[To Evidence of C. B. Dawson.]

W.

LITHOGRAPH subdivision plan of lands at Hornsby, prepared by Mr. Surveyor Dawson for sale of lands by auction by Messrs. Withers, Callaghan, and Brown.

[To Evidence of The Honorable Sir Henry Parkes, G.C.M.G., M.P.]

X.

DEED of Assignment for benefit of creditors, Sir Henry Parkes, to Messrs. Allen, Palmer, and Dickson, dated 12th October, 1887. Registered No. 215, Bk. 373.

[Appended to Evidence of Messrs. J. W. Johnson, S. A. Want, and E. P. Simpson, at their request.]

To the Secretary of the Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission, Sydney,—

Sir,

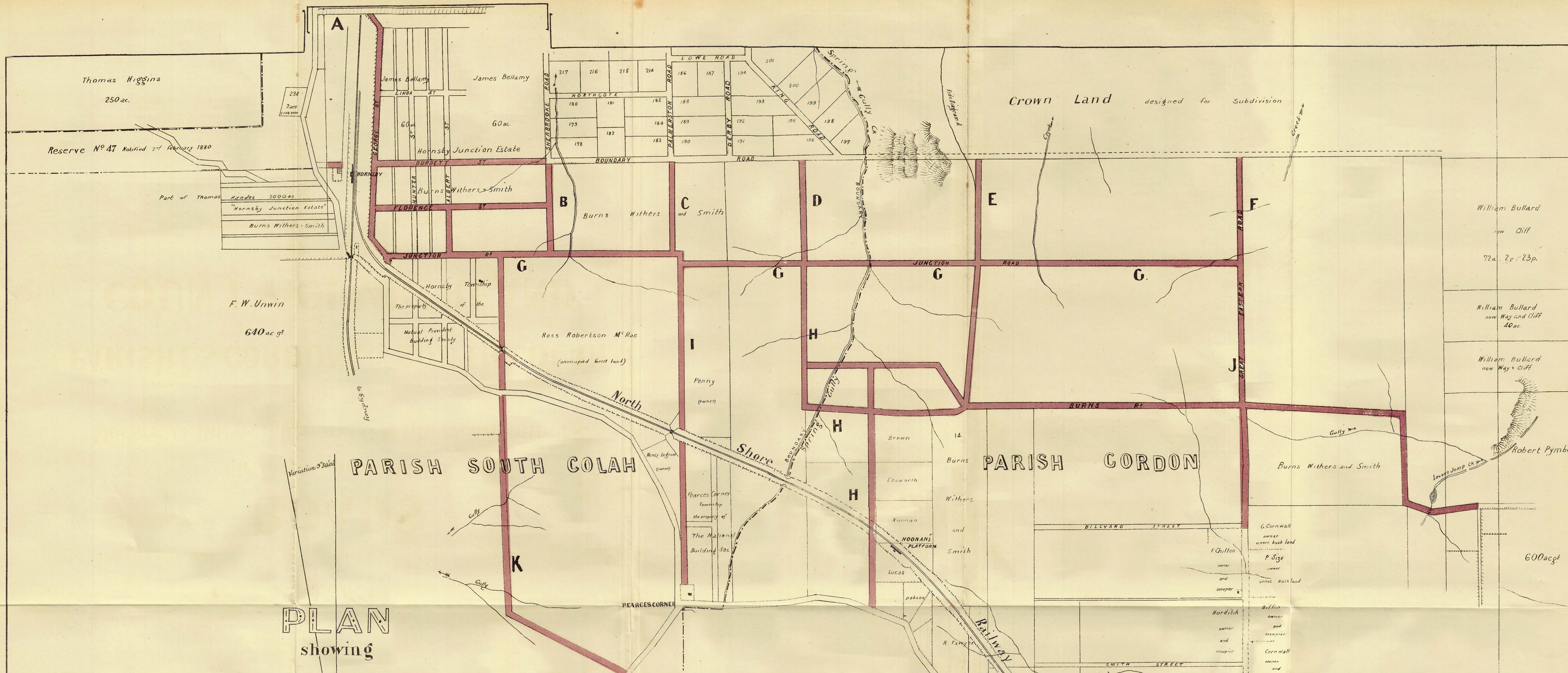
Norwich Chambers, Hunter-street, Sydney, 31 May, 1889.

We, the undersigned, being the members of the firm of Messrs. Want, Johnson, & Co., Solicitors, Sydney, declare that we were not aware, until within the last few weeks, that the signatures of the clerks in our office who signed the memorials petitioning for the making of roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate had been obtained to same; and we assert that if we had known at the time that any of our clerks were so signing the same, we should not have permitted them to do so.

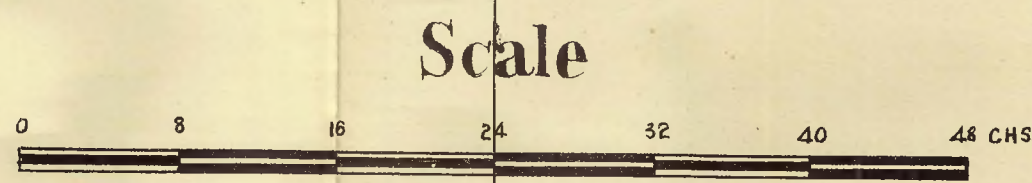
We have, &c.,

JAMES WM. JOHNSON.
SYDNEY A. WANT.
A. R. MINTER.
E. P. SIMPSON.

[Three plans.]



PLAN
showing
ROADS
through the properties of
Messrs J.F. Burns, R.B. Smith, G. Withers and others.
IN THE
PARISHES GORDON AND SOUTH COLAH
COUNTY CUMBERLAND



NOTES

Surveyed in accordance with regulations
 Azimuth taken from Cook T.S. to Barbara T.S. 348° 20' S.O. Meridian
 All Bearings are Magnetic for True add 9° 30' 00"
 Date of Survey December 27 1888 to January 23 1889
 4 x 4 Pegs at all Corners, Corners on rock are drilled and lockspits cut
 Centre line of all roads run and chained
 Field Book 5A Folios 1 & 57.

PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT THE GOVT. PRINTING OFFICE,
 SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES.

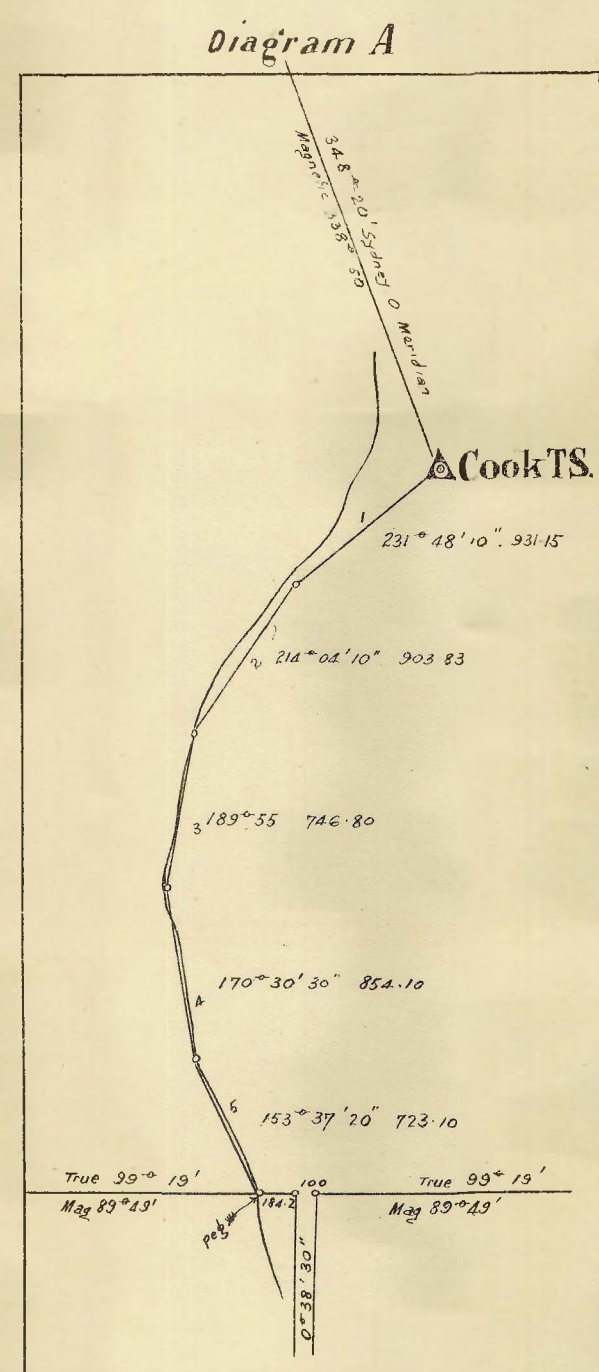
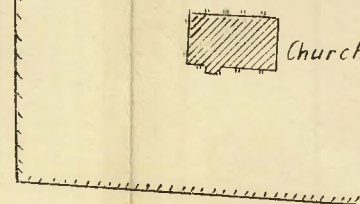


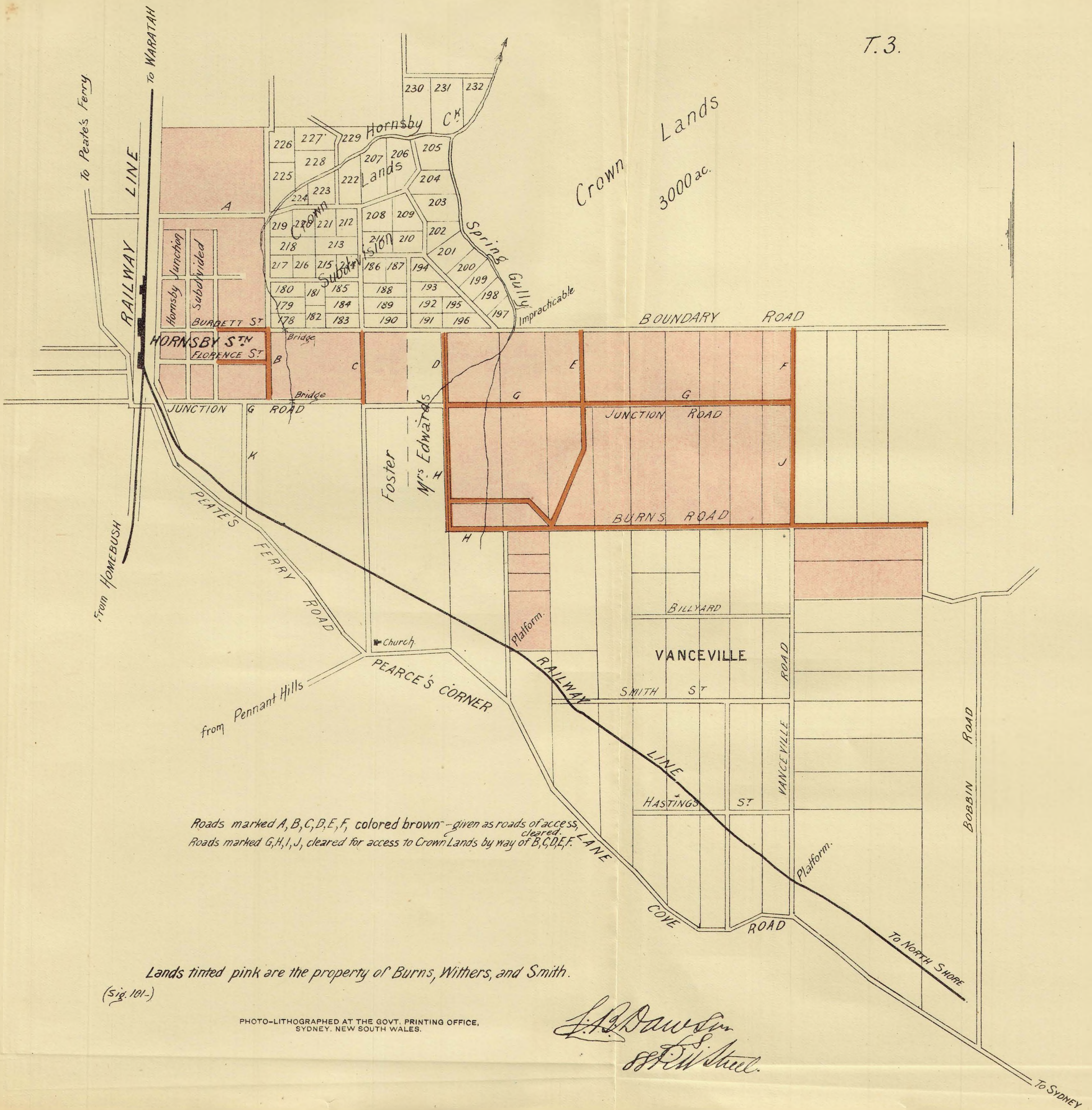
Diagram B



Transmitted to the Metropolitan District Surveyor with my letter N° 89/6 of the 18th February 1889

J. B. Gordon

T.3.



Roads marked A, B, C, D, E, F, colored brown - given as roads of access, cleared.
 Roads marked G, H, I, J, cleared for access to Crown Lands by way of B, C, D, E, F.

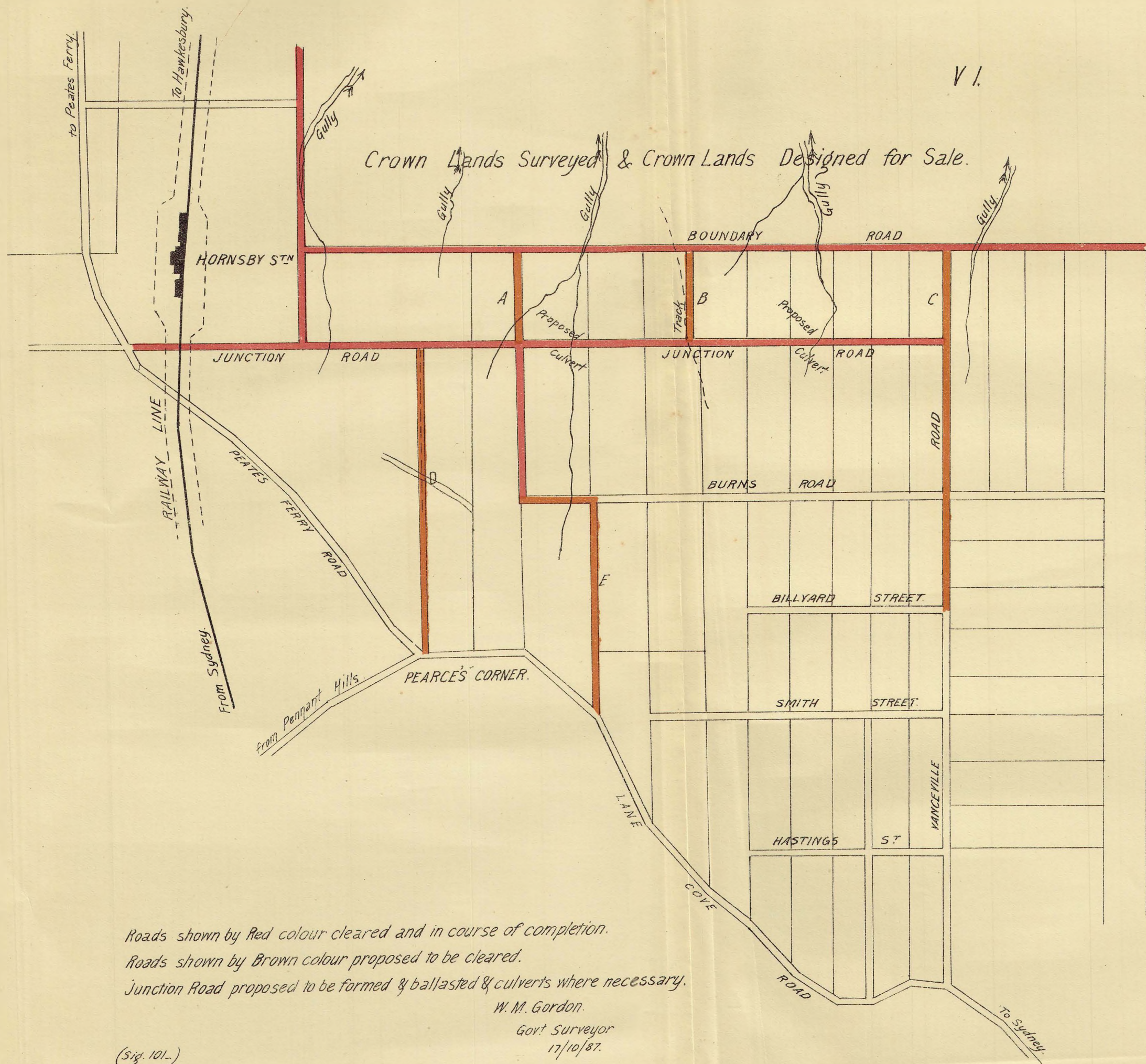
Lands tinted pink are the property of Burns, Withers, and Smith.

(Sig. 101-)

PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHED AT THE GOVT. PRINTING OFFICE, SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES.

L. P. Dawson
S. P. Steel

Crown Lands Surveyed & Crown Lands Designed for Sale.



Roads shown by Red colour cleared and in course of completion.
 Roads shown by Brown colour proposed to be cleared.
 Junction Road proposed to be formed & ballasted & culverts where necessary.

W. M. Gordon.
 Govt Surveyor
 17/10/87.

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

CASUAL LABOUR BOARD INQUIRY COMMISSION.
(SPECIAL REPORT BY.)

Presented to Parliament by Command.

A SPECIAL REPORT presented to His Excellency the Governor, by the Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission, upon a particular matter arising during the progress of the Inquiries directed by the Commission.

To His Excellency The Right Honorable CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, Her Majesty's Commissioners, were appointed by Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the Colony, dated the twentieth day of February, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, to make a diligent and full inquiry into the working of the Casual Labour Board, consisting of the Honorable John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., Frederick Wells, Esquire, and David Houison, Esquire, from the time of its appointment until the twenty-third day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, into the mode in and the purposes for which public moneys have been expended by the said Board, or any members or member thereof, or under their or his authority; into the manner in which the said Board and the members thereof have performed their duties in that behalf; and into the truth of all charges and statements which have been made before Parliament, or before any Select Committee thereof, touching any alleged improper expenditure by the said Board, or any members or member thereof, or under their or his authority, of any public moneys in the improvement of, or the making, or construction of roads or other works upon the property of any person, partnership, or company.

We received our Commission on the 22nd day of February last.

We have since that date diligently prosecuted the inquiry intrusted to us and we are still actively engaged in the examination of witnesses, whose evidence is, in our opinion, material and necessary for the purposes of the investigation.

We have held twenty-seven meetings and have examined fifty-two witnesses.

Excepting so far as the subjects referred to us for inquiry, and above indicated, trench upon and are unavoidably imported into that branch of the inquiry which relate to the charges and statements which have been made before Parliament or before any Select Committee thereof, as mentioned in the Commission, we have, we believe, unless other material witnesses are presented, concluded the actual taking of evidence, on what may be termed, for purposes of division of subject matter, the Departmental working.

We defer bringing up our Report on this head until we are in a position to present our Final Report upon the whole subject matter submitted for investigation, as, in some important respects, we are unable to come to a proper conclusion until evidence on the latter branch of the inquiry is completed.

In the course of the inquiry, a matter, in our judgment, of serious import has arisen, involving the Chairman of the late Casual Labour Board, the Honorable John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C.

We have, so far as we are able, investigated this matter, with the result that, in our opinion, the evidence taken and the examination of such books and documents as are available to us, disclose grounds for the belief that, at least, a grave irregularity, implicating Mr. Davies, has been committed.

We, therefore, after the fullest and most anxious deliberation, and in view of the responsible nature of our duties and the public interests, deem that the circumstances demand that we should submit a Special Report on the particular matter hereinafter indicated.

We, for reasons that will appear obvious, refrain here from pronouncing our definite finding on the matter.

We submit this Special Report, with the documents that are annexed to, and are to be taken as incorporated herein, in order that, if your Excellency sees fit the same may be referred for the opinion and advice of the Crown Law Officers, as to whether any further action shall be taken.

We have, as will be found later on in this Special Report, taken upon ourselves the responsibility of impounding certain books and documents which have been produced in evidence by various witnesses.

These books and documents are the property of certain persons and companies.

We doubt whether we have power, either inherent to our office as Commissioners, or by virtue of the statute 44 Victoriae No. 1, to warrant the impounding of such books and documents.

But, in the general interests, and to save what possibly might lead to a miscarriage of justice, we have assumed the authority to detain the books and documents, believing that our action in this respect will be supported.

The consideration of this has, in a large measure, induced us to the conclusion that the circumstances justify our submitting a Special Report, and on this point we seek to be directed as to what course we are to take, if the return of these books and documents is demanded and insisted upon by their owners.

We

We propose in this Special Report to refer to or quote only such evidence as, in our judgment, bears upon and is material for the purpose of conveying a clear comprehension of the particular matter to which this Report relates.

The Casual Labour Board, the members of which were Mr. John Davies, Mr. Frederick Wells, and Mr. David Houison, appears to have been appointed by Sir Henry Parkes, then Colonial Secretary, in or about the month of May, 1887.

The members of the Board rely upon a memorandum or minute under date 2nd May, 1887, signed by Sir Henry Parkes, and directed to them as conveying instructions for their guidance.

Messieurs F. Wells and D. Houison, at the time of the creation of the Board, and throughout its existence, held important, and, we believe, responsible offices in the Public Service, the former as an Assistant Engineer in the Roads and Bridges Department, the other as District Engineer in the Harbour and Rivers Department.

Shortly after the creation of the Board, the members thereof appointed Mr. John Davies to be the Chairman, and subsequently, what has been termed by different witnesses "the executive work," or general administration of the Department, was entrusted to him.

Messieurs F. Wells and D. Houison thenceforth, though in many respects bestirring themselves in regard to the professional working, did not actively and continuously engage themselves in the duties of the Casual Labour Board Department.

Mr. John Davies, on the other hand, assumed the active management of the office, and administered its affairs, virtually appearing and acting throughout as the responsible head of the Department.

He and some of the subordinate officers on the staff of the Department appear to have had almost the entire control of the funds which were placed at the disposal of the Casual Labour Board by the Government, and the application of the various moneys belonging and coming to the Department.

Amongst other things, Mr. John Davies was empowered to sign cheques, which were countersigned by Mr. Thomas Cooper Hinchcliffe, the senior clerk in the establishment, and in other respects Mr. Davies appears to have had and exercised a very wide discretion.

From our examination of the books of the Department, and from evidence we have taken on the subject, the practice appears to have obtained for the Colonial Treasurer to pass to the credit of the Casual Labour Board at the Australian Joint Stock Bank various sums from time to time, each amounting to £6,000.

For some months the bank account of the Board was thus kept in funds by periodical payments from the Treasury of £6,000, but at a later period the account with the Australian Joint Stock Bank became and remained for a considerable time overdrawn to the extent of several thousands.

For example: In December, 1887, the Board's current account with the Australian Joint Stock Bank was overdrawn upwards of £18,000. In July, 1888, the same account was overdrawn upwards of £29,000; and this overdraft went on increasing to the end of the year 1888, when it reached £77,722 14s. 8d., as shown by the Bank pass-book.

The account was then partially put in funds by a payment from the Colonial Treasurer of £72,000. But at the close of the Board's existence in January last there was again an overdraft, amounting to £12,203 10s.

The total payments made by the Casual Labour Board during the time of its existence, as taken from the cash-book kept by one of the officers of the Department, were £252,424 8s. 10d.

These facts and figures are mentioned to illustrate in a measure the extent of the control and responsibility of Mr. John Davies as the Chairman of the Board who administered the Department.

They are not further relevant to the special matter herein reported on, beyond noting that the Colonial Treasurer was, with certain exceptions to which we refer below, the source from which this Bank account was fed, and that the Casual Labour Board's Bank was the Australian Joint Stock Bank.

In examining the Bank pass-books, three in number, at an early stage of the inquiry we discovered in addition to the Colonial Treasurer's payments at various times of twenty-five sums of £6,000 each to the credit of the account and of the payments £18,000 and £72,000 from the same source, there were in the months of June, July, August, and September, 1887, and of June and September, 1888, six credit items appearing simply with the name "John Davies" before each item.

On referring to the cash-book of the Casual Labour Board, we found these entries in name, date, and amount, agreeing with the entries in the Bank pass-books, but we could not find amongst any of the other books or records of the Casual Labour Board Department anything to throw light on the items.

Mr. T. C. Hinchcliffe, the senior and responsible clerk employed in the Casual Labour Board office, and immediately under Mr. John Davies, was examined by us.

In his evidence, he claimed the position simply of Secretary and Paymaster to the Department, and distinctly disclaimed the position of Accountant, or full responsibility for the accounts, though he admitted that it was his duty to see the books were properly kept, and he said he sometimes checked them.

Several other witnesses, including members of the Board, described him as the responsible Accountant to the Department.

In the course of his examination he was asked whether moneys were received for or on account of the Casual Labour Board from any other source than the Treasury, and he replied: "Small sums sometimes."

In eliciting his knowledge on this point further by close questioning, we obtained the clue to the transactions to which some of the entries related.

In answer to a question, "What became of the moneys?" he replied, "They were paid into the Bank to the account of the Casual Labour Board. That, I may tell you, was irregular. I told the Chairman so with regard to several other sums, I think about £300 altogether, that the course he adopted was against the rules of the Department. He said he would take the responsibility, but when I left the office I got him to sign a voucher, transferring it from the Bank to the Treasury. It was simply an irregularity on his part. He said he would take the responsibility, and I let him do so. There is the voucher in the office, simply transferring the amount from the Bank to the Treasury."

Mr.

Mr. Hinchcliffe further said—Such moneys were paid to the Chairman, sometimes by cash and sometimes in cheques. He was asked—Whether such moneys would go through the books of the Department, and, in reply, he said, “No; that is where the irregularity came in. We were not allowed to receive any moneys, except from the Government, that is, the books did not show any money that we received. We were supposed to pay it into the Treasury, into the Miscellaneous Account, or wherever it had to go.”

He repeatedly affirmed that these amounts appeared only on the Bank deposit receipts and Bank pass-books, but on no book that was kept by the Casual Labour Board Department.

As a matter of fact, these items did appear as and in the way mentioned above, in the cash-book of the Department. This was pointed out to Mr. Hinchcliffe at the close of his evidence, and he explained that he did not know the items appeared there.

On further interrogation, Mr. Hinchcliffe said “That firewood was sold by auction. That the auctioneer sent accounts of the sales, which he saw when they came in but not afterwards. That the Chairman had possession of these accounts, and would keep them in his own drawers. That the Chairman would receive the moneys for the sales, and pay them into the Bank” (meaning the Australian Joint Stock Bank) “to the credit of the Casual Labour Board, and they would become absorbed in the balance of the £6,000 advances.”

This witness also stated, “The Chairman, when he received the *first* cheque, paid it into the Bank. I told him that that was not the usual way, but that it should be paid into the Treasury”; and further, “That the Chairman paid similar moneys in all the time, in spite of his (Mr. Hinchcliffe’s) remonstrances.”

Following this information up, we ascertained that men had been employed at or near the National Park from time to time in cutting timber, apparently the property of the Government, for firewood, which was sent on for sale to Sydney; that Mr. George Robert C. Neale, of Engine-street, was the auctioneer employed, who alleged that he had made several payments to the Casual Labour Board, and had always with such payments sent in account sales to the Chairman of the Board.

Mr. J. B. C. Miles, one of the gentlemen appointed in January last to take over and wind up the affairs of the Casual Labour Board, was examined before us, and stated that he had been unable to find any account sales in the office, and had applied to Mr. Neale for copies of same, but that he (Mr. Neale) had refused to furnish copies without payment therefor.

We accordingly summoned Mr. G. R. C. Neale to attend before us with his books, &c. He was examined by us on 26th March last. As he had not then with him certain cheques, on which the evidence he then gave bore, we required him to attend again and produce them.

On the following day, 27th March last, Mr. Charles William Beggs, the partner of Mr. G. R. C. Neale, attended before us and was examined. He produced nine cheques, which it was claimed had been paid over to the Casual Labour Board, and represented proceeds of sales of firewood.

Subsequently, occasion arising, Mr. G. R. C. Neale was again called and examined on 23rd April instant, and on 24th April instant with reference to a further payment that had turned up in the course of the taking of evidence.

As

“timber to the Casual Labour Board. Hillier got it because before they (the Casual Labour Board) gave him (Hillier) his cheque they (the Board) had to have Neale’s.” It is supposed, the Board wanted Neale’s cheque and account sales to check Hillier’s work.

We should here remark that we have not yet found where Hillier is for the purpose of obtaining his evidence, though we don’t think it can in any way materially affect the matter presently under report.

The Casual Labour Board cash book discloses a payment to Hillier, on 17th May, 1887, of £29 1s. 6d. This may relate to the same timber as the payment by Neale, but we have not yet been able to connect it with the particular transaction.

We do not think it affects the consideration of the evidence.

The evidence of Mr. Duchesne, of the City Bank, supported by the original deposit slip he produced, establishes that on the 16th May, 1887, apparently two days after its receipt by Mr. John Davies, as Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, this particular cheque of £26 17s. 7d., which Neale had paid to the Casual Labour Board Department, as proceeds of sale of firewood, was appropriated by Mr. John Davies to his own use, and paid into his private bank account in the City Bank, with special directions as to how it with other moneys then paid in should be applied, that is to say, according to the deposit or credit slip in Mr. Davies’ handwriting, “£50 in special reduction of Osborne’s bill, and £5 ~~7s. 7d.~~ account C. R., £5 7s. 7d. on 18th instant,” being evidently purposes connected with his (Mr. Davies’) private business, and in no way pertinent to or arising out of his position as Chairman of the Casual Labour Board.

We next come to the consideration of the sixth item in the foregoing statement of amounts, the item of £33 3s. 2d. It will be noted that Mr. G. R. C. Neale, when examined before us on 26th March last did not disclose this item. On the contrary he stated he had not anything further on his books than what he had just then previously stated to us in evidence, and that he did not know of any further sales.

Having, subsequently to Mr. Neale’s examination, of 26th March last, learnt that certain sums had been paid into the Colonial Treasury on account of the Casual Labor Board, we summoned the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade, and subsequently, Mr. Newcombe, an officer in the Treasury Department.

From them, we received a statement of the moneys so paid in, and the receipt vouchers, which had been handed in, when certain payments-in had been made, describing for what the particular payments-in purported to have been made:

The last item on this Treasury statement was £33 3s. 2d.; the date on which it had been paid in and credited at the Treasury was 29th March, 1889. The Department receipt voucher No. 4,635 was signed “John Davies,” and showed under the head of “Particulars of sums received” the words “Sale of firewood at National Park.”

This was the first clue we obtained to any further firewood transactions than what Mr. G. R. C. Neale had stated to us on 26th March last.

We followed it up, with the result that we discovered and the evidence established that in July, 1887, a sale of firewood was effected by Mr. G. R. C. Neale, on account of the Casual Labour Board; that the proceeds, amounting to £33 3s. 2d., were duly paid over by Mr. G. R. C. Neale by his cheque on the Bank of New South

South Wales, Haymarket Branch, dated 19th July, 1887; that that cheque was received by Mr. John Davies, and by him appropriated to his own use, such cheque having been paid by him personally into his private Bank, the City Bank, with a special direction written on the credit or deposit slip: "To provide for cheque to be drawn on Thursday."

We next come to the consideration of the payment of £52 3s. 2d., on or about 22nd September, 1887, being the tenth or last item in the foregoing statement of amounts. Though apparently trivial, it is worthy of notice that Mr. Neale, giving evidence on 26th March last, with his auction sales book in front of him, stated the amount, *as it does in fact appear there*, to be £52 3s. 2d., but when Mr. Beggs next day produced the original cheque given in payment it was found to be for £52 3s. 1d.

This circumstance is relied on as assisting to explain a matter later on in this Special Report.

Mr. Neale says—In all cases he sent the account sales and always paid by cheque.

That the sales for which he accounted were all on account of the Casual Labour Board, and that the Casual Labour Board generally got his account sales and cheques before they settled with Hillier.

A reference to the cash-book of the Casual Labour Board shows a payment to Hillier on 22nd September, 1887, of £38 1s. 6d., thus supporting Neale's evidence as to the practice. For this would appear to be in respect of the transaction he had accounted for to the Board that day.

When asked if he had seen Mr. Davies recently, Mr. Neale said, "About a month ago as near as possible." He was asked what Mr. Davies saw him about. His reply was, "He asked me whether I could give him a memo. of what cheques I paid to the 'Board.' I said, 'I can give you a rough one.' I did so far as I could. He said, "'That is about the same as I have, but I have a little more.' I looked it up and "found I had omitted something whilst copying from one book to the other."

Taking a month back from the time the witness spoke would bring the interview to nigh the end of February.

The evidence is that Messrs. Miles and Mason were appointed to take over control of the unemployed on 25th January last, and that Mr. Davies remained at the office for some days after that time.

He would probably become aware later on of the fact that some examination would be made into past transactions.

Messrs. Miles and Mason took some time to master the details of the office, and probably it was well on in February before mention of any firewood sales would come up.

Mr. Davies was not, we believe, in the office after January, but we are disposed from the evidence to think he had friends, or at least one there who would mention to him what was going on.

Apart from that, we readily believe, from what has happened in the course of this inquiry, that Mr. Davies would not lose an opportunity of inquiring what was being said or done by his successors.

This will probably account for his visit to Neale, and his anxiety to obtain from him a memo. of the payments.

Now

Now Mr. Neale says he was then asked for a memo.; that he gave a rough one; that Mr. Davies said he had more; Mr. Neale then said he looked it up and found he had omitted something.

Mr. Davies, in the course of giving his evidence before us, which is hereinafter referred to, produced the memorandum he said he had got from Mr. Neale, and also a memorandum he had obtained from the office of the Casual Labour Board.

This latter was in the handwriting of one of the clerks in the Board's service, for which probably Mr. Davies had asked after giving up charge.

It comprised a list of all the payments that had been made by him to the Australian Joint Stock Bank other than the moneys which had been paid into that Bank by the Treasury.

But the memorandum he got from Mr. Neale, and which he (Mr. Davies) produced did *not* contain either the items of £26 17s. 7d. and £33 3s. 2d.

This probably is what Mr. Neale meant by his evidence "he found he had omitted something in copying from one book to the other."

We have Mr. Neale's books, and we have observed that the item of £26 17s. 7d. is not carried into some new ledger account he opened, and that the item of £33 3s. 2d. appears on a different page to that on which all the other payments are noted, only a figure reference at foot of page being noted to direct attention to the separate entry.

We can readily understand how these entries might be overlooked in the hurry of supplying information on Mr. Davies' call. We are quite satisfied as to Mr. Neale's books.

Mr. Neale had in his book—as he gave it in evidence—£52 3s. 2d.; but when Mr. Beggs produced the cheque it was £52 3s. 1d.

Mr. Neale evidently had not noticed in his book the small discrepancy between the return of proceeds as per his book and the cheque he drew. It is clear though, now, from this small discrepancy, that when Mr. Davies paid the £52 3s. 2d. into the Treasury on 15th February last he got his information then recently from Mr. Neale, and not from the cheque which he had received in September, 1887.

As to this £52 3s. 1d. the evidence of Mr. Duchesne, and the original deposit slip in Mr. Davies' own handwriting, establishes that this sum of £52 3s. 1d. was on 26th September, 1887 (four days after the date of Mr. Neale's cheque for that amount), appropriated by Mr. John Davies to his own use, and paid into his No. 2 account in his own bank (the City Bank).

According to the statement we received from the Treasury Mr. John Davies, on 15th February last, paid into the Treasury a sum of £52 13s. 2d., of which £52 3s. 2d. is described in the departmental receipt voucher, signed by "John Davies" as "September 26th, amount received for sale of firewood from National Park."

As to Mr. Neale's omission of items in the memorandum he gave Mr. Davies in February last, it may be the first item of £26 17s. 7d., or it may be the item of £33 3s. 2d. It seems to afford some explanation for the items of £52 3s. 2d. and £33 3s. 2d. coming in separately when they appear in the statement we obtained from the Treasury—the one on the 15th February, 1889; the other on 29th March,

1889. But this can in no way explain the appropriation of these moneys in the months of July and September, 1887; while as to the £26 17s. 7d., there does not appear to have been ever any payment thereof made to the Treasury. So far as the evidence goes that money has never been disgorged.

It is beyond doubt that the payment-in to the Treasury of £52 3s. 2d. was made by Mr. Davies after he saw Mr. Neale in February last, and that the amount differing from the actual amount he received and paid into his own bank in September, 1887, was obtained from Mr. Neale's book.

Mr. Davies was examined by us on 23rd April instant specially in regard to any moneys he received or property he held for or on account of the Casual Labour Board or the Government in respect of the premises.

His evidence on this point is hereto appended.

It may appear unaccountable that Mr. John Davies should select only certain of Mr. Neale's cheques for proceeds of firewood sales to pay to his own bank for his private credit, while the bulk he paid to the Board's account in the Australian Joint Stock Bank.

There is this distinguishing feature:—All the seven of Mr. Neale's cheques—except one small one for £5 4s. 6d.—that were paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank, credit of account Casual Labour Board, were made in favour of—(1) Government Wood; (2) The Casual Labour Board; (3) Government Relief Works; (4) Casual Labour Board; (5) Chairman of Labour Bureau; (6) Government Labour Bureau.

Such cheques, if paid to a private account in a bank, might naturally excite question or remark at the time, or some talk amongst the officials.

The three of Mr. Neale's cheques that were at different times passed by Mr. John Davies to the credit of his private account in the City Bank were made in favour of “(1) Mr. T. S. Hinchcliffe, (2) Mr. E. M. Burrows, (3) Mr. Burrows.”

We may add that, in a measure, to test the value of the evidence as regards cashing cheques and “holding particular moneys in hand,” we inquired whether, between 1st May, 1887, and 31st March, 1889, any cheques had been drawn by Mr. Davies on any of his accounts in the City Bank for £26 17s. 7d., £33 3s. 2d., £52 3s. 2d., or £52 13s. 2d., and in reply we were informed that not any cheque for any of such sums had been drawn during the periods named.

The evidence given by Mr. Davies just at the close of his second day's examination came after we had had the bank's officer in attendance and under examination.

Mr. Davies' evidence on the whole matter herein referred to, is, in our opinion, extremely unsatisfactory, and does not alter the facts established by the evidence of Messrs. G. R. C. Neale, W. C. Beggs, and W. Duchesne,—

As to the misappropriation, on 16th May, 1887, and the absolute retention of £26 17s. 7s.

As to the misappropriation, on 26th September, 1887, of £52 3s. 1d., and its retention from that date until 15th February, 1889.

As to the misappropriation, on 19th July, 1887, of £33 3s. 2d., and its retention from that date to 29th March, 1889.

It

It has already been mentioned that, during a considerable portion of the period of the Casual Labour Board's existence, the account in the Australian Joint Stock Bank was overdrawn, and probably paying interest, while Mr. John Davies had the use of the above moneys for his private banking purposes.

It will be seen from Mr. Davies' evidence that he distinctly and frequently denies that he has now any money or property in his possession or under his control, or in the control of any person or company on his behalf, belonging to the Government or the Casual Labour Board.

It is proper for us to add that there is not any evidence whatever to connect the other members of the Board, Mr. Wells or Mr. Houison, with the matter herein specially reported on, and we believe they have not any knowledge of the same.

It will be gathered from the foregoing, the reasons that have induced us to impound the several books, cheques, and credit-slips, pending any further action that may appear to Your Excellency proper in the premises, or pending Your Excellency's commands or directions to us, which we humbly ask may be issued to us in this respect.

We certify this to be a Special Report made upon a particular matter arising during the progress of the inquiries entrusted to us by the Commission before referred to.

Certified under our hands and seals, at Sydney, this 29th day of April, 1889,—

ALFRED J. CAPE,
President.

F. A. FRANKLIN.

T. F. WALLER.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

George Robert Cartwright Neale called in, sworn, and examined:—

Mr.
G.R.C. Neale.
26 Mar., 1889.

2928. *President.*] I believe you had several transactions with the Casual Labour Board? Yes.
2929. What was their nature? Selling wood for them.
2930. Only wood? I think I sold one little lot of charcoal.
2931. Nothing else? Nothing else.
2932. What are you? An auctioneer.
2933. Carrying on business where? Engine-street.
2934. Will you refer to your books and give us the account of the first transaction you had with the Casual Labour Board? I fancy that was made out on account of Mr. Deering. The first lot that came down was sent from Mr. Deering, and the party that was cutting it used to come and get the account sales and take them to the Casual Labour Board. Until I went there on one occasion I did not know that Mr. Davies was one of the Board at the time.
2935. Give us the first account you had with the Board if you can? The first was, I think, about the 7th of May, 1887.
2936. What was that for? That was for wood.
2937. And the amount? The first cheque was drawn in favour of Hinchcliffe for £26 17s. 7d. on the 14th May, 1887.
2938. Did you say there was a previous account? I do not think there was a previous account.
2939. The first time the wood was sold for Mr. Deering? I think that was the commencement of it.
2940. You need not go back before 1887? Very well.
2941. Take the beginning of 1887, and give me the first amount after 1st January, 1887? The first time in 1887 was on 6th April. That was payable to Mr. Deering.
2942. How much was that? £2 15s. 1d.
2943. To whom was it paid? Mr. Deering.
2944. When was the next? The next payment was £14 6s. 11d., on the 14th April, 1887.
2945. To whom paid? The cheque was made in favour of Mr. Deering.
2946. And the next? £2 14s. 1d., on 15th April, 1887.
2947. And the next? I think they went from there to the National Park.
2948. When was the next cheque given? The next cheque was for £26 17s. 7d., on 14th May, 1887.
2949. Whom did you give that cheque to? That cheque was taken by the cutter to the Casual Labour Board.
2950. Who was the cutter? Mr. Hillier had the contract for cutting the timber.
2951. Did you give it to Hillier? I did. He used to come every week. Before they gave him his cheque they had to have mine. When they got my cheque they were able to check his work.
2952. Did you get any receipt for it? No, none. Of course the cheque would be a receipt of itself. It should go through the Bank to the credit of the Board.
2953. What Bank was it drawn on? The Bank of New South Wales, Haymarket Branch.
2954. What was the next cheque, the amount and date? £38 4s. 2d., on the 31st May, 1887.
2955. Whom did you pay it to? To the Casual Labour Board through Hillier.
2956. Have you the butt of your cheque-book here? No.
2957. Have you anything to show that you paid the £26 17s. 7d.? I have the butt of the cheque-book at home. I thought that was not necessary if I showed the cash-book. I can produce the bank-book with it in. It was only yesterday morning I knew of this inquiry. I can look up all these things in a few hours.
2958. Do you know Hillier? Yes.
2959. Who is he? He was a wood and coal merchant. He has moved from Sutherland to Ashfield. At the time he was there he had the first contract with the Government to cut wood.
2960. Have you got any receipt for the £38 4s. 2d.? I never got any receipt for any cheque.
2961. How did you know they went to the Casual Labour Board at all? I know Hillier went there. They said they could not pay him until I sent my cheque over. He used to come down and get his cheque once a fortnight or once a week. They said they wanted the account rendered when he came down for them. They used to give him sometimes so much on account. I think he has got a book of his own which would show what they paid him.
2962. Have you any account sales? This book here is the account sales-book.
2963. Are you giving your evidence from your book? Yes; it is copied from the sale-book into here.
2964. Did you send in account sales? Every one of them; we never omitted them.
2965. Tell me the next payment after 31st May, 1887? £66 12s. 6d.
2966. When? On 23rd June, 1887.
2967. How did you pay that? By cheque.
2968. To whom? To the Casual Labour Board.
2969. Who took it? I fancy I did myself. I went over with it because I told Hillier I would go with it myself. That is how I first came to know Mr. Davies was there. It was only on that occasion I saw Mr. Davies.
2970. When was the next payment? 7th July, 1887, £41 12s.
2971. What was that for? For wood.
2972. Whom did you pay that to? The same party.
2973. To Mr. Davies himself? I can hardly tell you that. If you want to verify this I can get the cheques, or the old butts. I can get them from the Bank, and see what Bank they passed through.
2974. I ask you to do that;—when was the next payment? 19th July, 1887.
2975. Are you quite sure this is all on account of the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

2976.

- Mr. G. R. C. Neale. 2976. How much on 19th July? £5 4s. 6d., for wood.
 2977. After that? I think you will find the next amount is £40 1s. 1d., on 4th August, 1887.
 2978. What for? For wood.
 26 Mar., 1889. 2979. Whom was it paid to? It was paid in the usual way to the Casual Labour Board.
 2980. To any individual you can name to us? I will get you the cheques as far as that goes. I think they are all made out to the Casual Labour Board.
 2981. What was the next payment? £36 3s. 10d., on 18th August, 1887.
 2982. The next? £40 12s. 3d., on 2nd September, 1887.
 2983. The next? £52 3s. 2d., on 23rd September, 1887.
 2984. The next? I think that is the last.
 2985. Nothing else? That is the lot.
 2986. Since 23rd September, 1887, can I take it, you have not sold anything on account of the Casual Labour Board? I have not paid them anything. There were a few bags of charcoal I sold for them. I had paid the Casual Labour Board for a truck of wood I never got paid for, sent by Mr. Burrowes to Ashfield. I never sent the wood to the parties. I said to Mr. Davies that the charcoal and that wood would about tally. That is the only thing that has not been paid to them. The twenty bags of charcoal sold at 1s. 6d. a bag.
 2987. Is that something you have not accounted for? It is.
 2988. When was it sold? On 21st September. I dare say it might have come down before, but I have no account of it until then. It was represented as being good. It was not good.
 2989. What became of the proceeds? I got them. As I told you, I never paid anything to the Labour Board for it. The weight of the wood was given me to charge a certain party for it, and I never got paid for it. There were four trucks of wood sent to a man of the name of Hanley, at Waterfall. I billed him for it and gave an order to get the money. I sent a man for it, and he said he would sue him for it.
 2990. Was that wood you got from the Casual Labour Board? No; I never got it at all. I never ordered it to be sent. I sent the bill in for it. I said, "The charcoal I have in hand will pay for the truck of wood." Twenty bags of charcoal would be £1 10s. Hanley said he would not pay. Hillier told me this. I gave him an order to collect the money. He said, "I have nothing to do with Neale at all. I did not buy the wood from him."
 2991. Can you tell whether, between August, 1887, and the end of December, 1888, you received any charcoal for sale by order of the Board? That was the only lot I ever received.
 2992. What was that? Thirteen hundred weight and a quarter (twenty bags). That is the only lot I ever got, and some of this was broken.
 2993. Did you in every case send the account sales with your cheques? Yes.
 2994. Did you always pay by cheque? Always.
 2995. Do these represent all sales of timber? Yes, of wood.
 2996. Except one you mention about charcoal? That is the only thing.
 2997. Can you recollect any instance in which you saw Mr. Davies personally and handed him a cheque? Well, I saw him on several occasions and handed him a cheque, but what the amount was I cannot say. I think there was a £66 12s. 6d. cheque that I handed to Mr. Davies. It was only then that I knew Mr. Davies was on the Board. The man who cut the wood informed me there was a Mr. Davies there, but I did not know it was John Davies.
 2998. Is there any other information you can give us as to sales effected by you on behalf of the Casual Labour Board? Nothing further.
 2999. Have you anything further on your books? No.
 3000. Has Mr. Davies seen you lately? About a month ago, as near as possible.
 3001. What about? He asked me whether I could give him a memo. of what cheques I paid to the Casual Labour Board. I said, "I can give you a rough one." I did, as far as I could. He said, "That is about the same as I have, but I have a little more." I looked it up and found I had omitted something whilst copying from one book to the other.
 3002. That was this year? A few weeks back.
 3003. *Mr. Franklin.*] I cannot understand how Hanley got this truck of wood? I believe it was sent to him from the Park.
 3004. That would be a loss to you if you were the salesman? If you called Hillier, he would tell you he never got paid for cutting it. I smoothed him down and said, "Think yourself lucky you got paid for what you did."
 3005. You lost your commission on the wood? Yes.
 3006. You were so far interested? Yes. I said I would not pay them for any more until I got the money myself.
 3007. What would be your commission on the sale? Well, it would only be a matter of 5s.; it was cheap wood.
 3008. So that you only lost 5s. by that transaction? Yes.
 3009. Did you lose by other transactions? Yes. The trifle I lost I did not care about. Only Hillier said, "Why don't you bill these people?"
 3010. Did you think, when you impounded 30s., you were justified in doing it for loss of commission? Not for loss of commission, but because I did not get paid for the wood. After this matter of Hanley's I said I would not pay for any more until I got the money. I could not summons the man for it, as I never sold it to him. I sent the bill to him, and I also sent Hillier, who was well known up there, to receive the money.
 3011. Were there any other contractors for cutting wood on the ground besides Hillier? No. He had the only engine. He got nearly 3,000 tons—1,000 at 3s., the remainder at 2s. 6d.
 3012. Is it not a fact that wood was sold in the stack on the ground? I know nothing about anything sold at the park excepting this one truck and another truck that went to Heathcote or Waterfall. The reply I got from Hillier was that Hanley would settle with Burrowes.
 3013. *Mr. Waller.*] Where was that charcoal? It was at Darling Harbour.
 3014. How did you know? I applied to Mr. Davies for some charcoal for Mr. Gillies, a wood and coal merchant. I fancy someone told me they had charcoal.
 3015. About what time? I really could not tell you.

3016. Was there a written answer or application? I fancy it was Mr. Davies I talked to about it. It appears this truck of charcoal had been lying some days at Darling Harbour. It was a bad lot; the water had got into it. Mr.
G. R. C. Neale.
26 Mar., 1889.
3017. That is how you became acquainted with the charcoal being there? Yes.
3018. You are sure you did not get any letter about it? There may have been a letter saying it was there.
3019. You are sure there were twenty bags? Yes.
3020. Suppose you found burst bags? I would not pay for burst bags.
3021. Would not the Railway know how many bags there were broken or unbroken? Yes; sometimes they invoice them "more or less." There were either twenty or twenty-five.
3022. You say Hillier said that certain persons paid Burrowes? I made out the accounts for the wood to Hanley.
3023. You say Hanley refused to recognize you? The answer was he would settle with Burrowes.
3024. Did not you say that in some cases Hillier did not get paid, and that settlement was made with Burrowes? I did not say settlement was made with Burrowes. I did not say any of them paid.

GEO. ROB. C. NEALE,
April 24, 1889.

Charles William Beggs called in, sworn, and examined:—

3370. *President.*] Are you a partner of Mr. G. R. C. Neale, who was examined yesterday before this Commission? Yes. Mr.
C. W. Beggs.
27 Mar., 1889.
3371. Do you produce some cheques, drawn by Mr. Neale, in favour of different persons? Yes.
3372. How many cheques are there? Nine.
3373. What is the first cheque? £26 17s. 7d., in favour of T. S. Hinchcliffe, dated 14th May, 1887.
3374. Can you say what became of that cheque? No.
3375. Looking at the cheque itself, can you give us any information? Only that it has gone through my partner's bank.
3376. Is there anything to show what other bank it has gone through? Yes; the City Bank.
3377. What is the amount of the next cheque? £38 4s. 2d., dated 31st May, 1887, in favour of the Government wood.
3378. What became of that? It appears to have gone through the A.J.S. Bank.
3379. The next? £66 12s. 6d., dated 23rd June, 1887, in favour of the Casual Labour Board.
3380. Has that gone through the A.J.S. Bank? Yes.
3381. The next? £41 12s., dated 7th July, 1887, in favour of the Government Relief Works.
3382. Has that gone through the A.J.S. Bank? Yes.
3383. The next? 19th July, for £5 4s. 6d., in favour of Mr. Burrowes, gone through the A.J.S. Bank.
3384. The next? 4th August, £40 1s. 1d., paid to the Casual Labour Board, through the A.J.S. Bank.
3385. The next? 18th August, £36 3s. 10d., to the Chairman of the Labour Bureau, through the A.J.S. Bank.
3386. The next? 2nd September, 1887, £40 12s. 3d., to the Government Labour Bureau, through the A.J.S. Bank.
3387. The next? 22nd September, 1887, in favour of E. M. Burrowes, £52 3s. 1d., paid into the City Bank.
3388. They all appear to have gone through the Australian Joint Stock Bank except two? Yes.
3389. Can you say whether that mark across the cheque is your stamp or the bank's stamp? I cannot say. That probably is our stamp in a different ink.
3390. All these cheques appear to be crossed cheques? Yes.
3391. *Mr. Waller.*] Do you ever pay cheques that are not crossed? No, not as a rule, unless we miss stamping some of them.

CHAS. W. BEGGS.

William Duchesne called in, sworn, and examined:—

4262. *President.*] You are clerk in the City Bank? City Bank, head office.
4263. Will you look at this cheque for £26 17s. 7d., drawn on the Bank of New South Wales, Haymarket Branch, purporting to be signed by George Robert Neale, in favour of Mr. T. S. Hinchcliffe or bearer, and tell me whether it passed through your Bank? It formed part of £55 7s. 7d. paid in by John Davies to his own account on 16th May, 1887; it was put through in the usual manner, and, of course, he received credit for it. Mr.
W. Duchesne.
28 Mar., 1889.
4264. Will you look at this cheque for £52 3s. 1d., purporting to be signed by George Robt. Neale, drawn on the Bank of New South Wales, Haymarket Branch, dated 22nd September, 1887, in favour of E. M. Burrowes or bearer. Has that cheque passed through your bank? That cheque was handed in by John Davies for credit of his own account on the 26th September, 1887. We put it through in the usual manner and credited him with it.
4265. To the same account as the previous cheque? To the same person's name, but to No. 2 account; the previous one was to John Davies', C.M.G., account.
4266. The cheque, £26 17s. 7d., went to John Davies No. 1 account? To John Davies only. The second account is No. 2, to distinguish between the two accounts.
4267. The second cheque went to John Davies, No. 2? To John Davies No. 2.
4268. Can you tell me how many accounts John Davies has in your bank? At the time of this transaction John Davies had two accounts.
4269. What were they called? John Davies, and John Davies No. 2.
4270. What position do you hold in the bank? Well, general clerk.

4271.

- Mr. W. Duchesne. 28 Mar., 1889. 4271. In the course of business would these cheques come before you? In the course of business they might come before me; but I am able to say what has been done, because I can recognize our marks on the back of the cheques, and the cheques would not be marked unless they had been treated in the usual manner.
4272. Do you know John Davies? Not personally.
4273. By sight? I have seen him, but I do not think I should recognize him again.
4274. Are you in a position to say whether the John Davies with whom your bank does business is the Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., late Chairman of the Casual Labour Board? He is known to us as John Davies, C.M.G., only.
4275. Can you say from your own knowledge of the bank's arrangements what the difference is between these accounts, John Davies and John Davies No. 2? I am not aware that there is any difference, we simply credit either account in accordance with the marks on the slips. The first slip is John Davies, C.M.G., that would be paid to the credit of John Davies, C.M.G., only. The second slip is John Davies, C.M.G., No. 2, and, therefore, we should credit No. 2 account.
4276. Do you produce the deposit slip which includes the sum £26 17s. 7d.? This is the deposit slip [*Deposit slip, marked "G," for identification*].
4277. Do you know who filled that up? John Davies.
4278. Do you know his handwriting? I know from his handwriting, and the fact that it is marked paid in by "self," shows it was paid in by John Davies.
4279. That slip shows that in addition to the cheque there were notes and gold paid in at the same time? £28 in notes and half-a-sovereign.
4280. That amount went to a private account? To a private account, and part of it for a particular purpose.
4281. Can you tell us what that foot-note on the deposit slip means? The total amount paid in was £55 7s. 7d. on the 16th May, 1887. Mr. Davies marked the slip to the effect that £50 was in special reduction of Osborne's bill, and the balance, £5 7s. 7d., to meet an account on the 18th instant. That second part is rather foggy, but we should judge it to be to meet an account on the 18th instant; but we cannot be quite clear about that.
4282. Do you know what that Osborne's bill means? I cannot answer clearly; but I should presume it was a bill drawn by or accepted by John Davies.
4283. Do you know what that C. R. £5 7s. 7d. means? I cannot understand what is the meaning of that; it is not quite clear.
4284. Do you produce a deposit slip, £52 3s. 1d.? I produce that slip. [*Deposit slip marked "G 1" for identification.*]
4285. Is there anything particular about that? Nothing unusual.
4286. Whose handwriting is that in? John Davies'.
4287. You believe it to have been paid in by himself? It is marked to the credit of account No. 2 by himself.
4288. Are you in a position to say what that No. 2 account is? Not at present; but there may be a note in the ledger that it is to operate with any special class of accounts. I am not certain. I can ascertain.
4289. Can you tell me whether John Davies is a regular customer of yours? John Davies has been for some time past, and is at present a customer of ours.
4290. Can you tell me whether his account is in funds or is in debt as a rule? It is an operative account.
4291. Is he overdrawn? Yes, overdrawn.
4292. Has he had an overdraft for any time? I cannot answer for what time without referring to the ledger.
4293. Can you say whether he has more than two accounts at your bank? These are the only two operative accounts I know of.
4294. Is there any dormant account there? There is a dormant account which is largely overdrawn.
4295. In the name of John Davies? In the name of John Davies.
4296. Can you recollect the amount of the overdraft approximately? I do not like to speak definitely, but if I am not mistaken the account is between £7,000 and £8,000 overdrawn.*

W. DUCHESNE.

* NOTE (on revision):—In my answer to Question 4296:—I found on referring to the ledger that the overdraft of from £7,000 to £8,000 was on account of a Mr. Davies, but not the John Davies, C.M.G., about whose account I was being questioned.—W. DUCHESNE.

Ernest Grant Cooper called in, sworn, and examined:—

- Mr. E. G. Cooper. 28 Mar., 1889. 4297. *President.*] What are you? Ledger-keeper in the Australian Joint Stock Bank.
4298. Are you aware that the accounts of the Casual Labour Board between May, 1887 and January, 1889, were kept in your bank? Yes.
4299. Do you produce any deposit slips for any amounts lodged in the bank to the credit of that Board between those dates? Yes, I have several here.
4300. Do you produce six deposit slips for amounts paid in to the credit of the Casual Labour Board? Yes, for £38 4s. 2d., £113 9s., £76 4s. 11d., £40 12s. 3d., £46 5s. 11d., and £20.
4301. Have you brought any books with you? The teller's cash-book.
4302. What does that show? Simply that these deposits have been passed through.
4303. I understand that the book simply goes to prove what became of this money? Yes, that is all—simply records.

E. GRANT COOPER.

TUESDAY,

TUESDAY, 23 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P., | T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

The Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., called in and further examined:—

President.] Have you the summons that was served on you to attend here? I have not. I am here in obedience to the summons.

You were summoned on the 19th of March last? I could not say that I was summoned on the 19th March—not from memory—but I have no doubt the date is correct.

Did you attend them? I did attend.

Were you ready then to be examined? I was.

Did you ask the Secretary to this Commission to be excused attendance on that or a subsequent day? Never.

Are you sure? Never. I do not understand the nature of the question.

Did you ask the Secretary to have your attendance excused on the 19th of March, or on any other date? No; I simply asked the Secretary to avoid summoning me on a Thursday, as it would entail a loss if I did not attend a Board meeting. That was the only exchange of words between the Secretary and myself. It was merely to avoid a loss to myself that I asked him that.

Did the summons ask you to produce any books and papers you had in any way relating to the Casual Labour Board? Yes.

Have you any? I produce printed papers, copies of which have been laid upon the Table of the House. I presume you have got copies of them already, and a few letters marked private and confidential, from the superintendent. I think you have got most of these papers before; they are simply official papers laid upon the Table of the House and ordered to be printed.

Have you any others? Not unless you want private papers.

I ask you to produce all the books and papers you have relating to the Casual Labour Board? These are only private papers.

Do you produce them? I shall produce them if the Commission insists upon them being produced.

Do you produce them? If you want them I will give them to you.

Do you decline to produce them? No; but I have no wish to put them in unless it is necessary.

If the inquiry says it is necessary, I will produce them; I brought them because they might be useful during the inquiry, but if it is necessary I will give them to you now. It is not the first time I have been on a Commission. I have been President myself of two or three Commissions, and I know how they should be conducted. That is a report from Mr. Gordon upon my taking charge of the works; that is a copy of a letter I sent to the Colonial Secretary asking that money be put at the disposal of the Board for the purpose of paying wages; that is a copy of a ticket which I made each ganger produce showing to the gang all the moneys that were received.

Have you any books—order-books or receipts—in your possession? No; I have receipts of money paid into the Treasury.

Do you produce these? Yes. Here is another letter, marked private and confidential; I may as well put that in, too. That is all I have got, sir. There are a large number of receipts besides these I hand you, but I have not got those. These, I think, are some of them that were paid just as I was leaving office.

Have you any other books, papers, receipts, butts, cheque-books, or documents of any kind in your possession, here or in your house, or anywhere else, beyond those that you have produced to me to-day? No; nothing more than I produce here.

When the Casual Labour Board came into existence, what was the arrangement that was made for having the necessary funds supplied? An arrangement was made that advances of £6,000 should be placed to the credit of the Board from time to time, as required. The three members of the Board signed a formal application for the advance. If you have the papers here you will see the form of applying for the advance signed by three members of the Board, to be adjusted for in conformity with the Audit Act.

Were there any written instructions given you? No; I received no instructions whatever except what are contained in the formal appointments in the printed papers. That was the only instructions that we had of any character.

Is that the document of the 2nd May, 1887, addressed to you, Mr. Wells, and Mr. Houison? Yes, quite so.

You had no other written instructions? No.

From whom did you learn the arrangement as to the £6,000 advances—was that a verbal arrangement? Well, I think the Paymaster had more to do with getting the advances than anyone else. He had had experience in connection with the unemployed before they were transferred from the Immigration Department to the Casual Labour Board. I think he proceeded simply on the lines that were in operation before.

How did you become aware of the bank that you had to deal with? By the Treasury. The Treasurer intimated that money would be placed to the credit of the Casual Labour Board in the Australian Joint Stock Bank.

Did he intimate that to you in writing? No.

Verbally? Verbally.

Did you see the bankers and ask what arrangement you had to make to draw the money? Yes.

Whom did you see? I saw Mr. Webster, the clerk in the Australian Joint Stock Bank.

What was the arrangement? That cheques should be made out under the signature of the Chairman, countersigned by the Secretary, and in the absence of the Chairman, by any of the other members of the Board.

Was there any arrangement made by which you were to have an overdraft? Well, that was an arrangement made, not by us, but by the Treasury officials. I may tell you that most of the operations of the Board were carried on by overdraft. We simply had letters of credit.

Hon.
John Davies,
C.M.G.,
M.L.C.
23 April, 1889.

How were the moneys made available to the Board from time to time? By our continual application. As one advance became exhausted—and sometimes before it was exhausted,—in order to make provision for the pay of the following week, we would apply for an additional £6,000.

Looking at these pass-books, I see the following sums credited:—7th June, 1887, £38 4s. 2d.?
Yes, that is correct.

19th July, 1887, £113 9s.? Yes.

22nd August, 1887, £76 4s. 11d.? Yes.

16th September, 1887, £40 12s. 3d.? Yes.

21st June, 1888, £46 5s. 11d.? Yes.

24th September, 1888, £20? Yes.

Do you know what these payments total up? No; I have not made them up, sir.

Will you add them up and give me the amount? Well, perhaps you will ask your Secretary to make them up. I am not here to give you an account—to make-up accounts. I will give you evidence—that is what I came here for, but I am not here to make-up accounts. No doubt the Secretary can give it to you in a minute.

What are these sums paid in for? For various purposes—principally, I think, for the sale of firewood. £20 was received, I think, from the Roads Department on account of Roberts' Bridge, Beecroft; £42 on account of sleepers from the Roads Department—sleepers that cost the Casual Labour Board £150. They were sent down on the estimate made by the superintendent that they could be delivered at Sydney Station at 22s. 6d. per hundred; the Board offered to do them at that price, relying upon the accuracy of the superintendent's estimate; we found that the weight of them alone was something like 4½ tons per hundred, and the consequence was that a loss was made of over £100 on the transaction. The total sum received was £42 odd, and the total cost was £150.

You spoke of some sales of firewood;—who sold the firewood? Mr. Neale.

Any one else? Not that I know of; not to my knowledge. A portion of the receipts I have given you to-day is for the proceeds of the sale of firewood.

Where did you get the proceeds from? From Mr. Neale.

Anybody else? Yes; £4 from Mr. Hanley.

Have you the accounts of these sales? No; they were left in the office when the new Board was appointed.

Did you leave them all in the office? Yes.

Were they in the office when you gave up charge? Yes.

Are you sure? I could not swear to it, but I saw them there a short time before I left possession.

Mr. Neale's accounts and Mr. Burrowes's letters;—amongst what papers were they put? On a file.

Where were they kept? In the office.

In what part of the office? Towards Mr. Larnach's desk, on a file on the table.

Who had charge of them? No one had charge of them. They were there in the office like all the other papers.

Were they ever put in a drawer? Never.

Had you not particular charge of them? No more than I had charge of all the other papers.

If other witnesses have sworn that you had them in a drawer, is their evidence true or false? False; absolutely false.

That is your evidence? I say, without any hesitation, absolutely false.

Then all those account sales should be amongst the papers that have been handed over to us? They should be.

Are these moneys, which you have paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank, all the moneys you received on account of the Casual Labour Board for sales of firewood, charcoal, sleepers, or any other produce or property belonging to the Board or the Government? I have received no money for the sale of charcoal. There is an outstanding account due by Mr. Wearne. What I paid into the Treasury, and paid into the bank, is the total amount I have received on account of the Government.

Are the moneys that you paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank, and the moneys that you paid into the Treasury, the total moneys that you received on account of the Casual Labour Board for sales of firewood, charcoal, sleepers, or any other produce or property belonging to the Board or the Government? Yes.

Absolutely? Yes.

You swear that? Of course, I have sworn it. Of course, if there was any little outstanding account that I have no knowledge of I am prepared to make an adjustment at any time. As head of the department I am prepared to do so. You must understand that I am placed at a great disadvantage; the whole of the books and papers were taken out of my custody without my having five minutes' notice.

Who were the persons entrusted with the sales of produce or property belonging to the Casual Labour Board? I told you Mr. Neale was the only one who had the sales of firewood. The sleepers were paid for by the Roads Department.

Was there any other property of the Casual Labour Board sold? There were some surplus stores taken over by me without any inventory—stores which I found were gradually becoming less—very much less, I may tell you. I took the opinion of the storekeeper of them, and I made the purchase and paid for them. I paid 2d. per lb. for some ration sugar, and 10s. for some broken crockery, so broken that it was scarcely worth anything; I am sure nobody would have given the same price for it; it was put in a little kerosene case.

Were Mr. Neale and the Roads Department the only persons from whom you received money? Yes, except Mr. Hanley.

Was there anybody else? I do not remember anybody else. Oh! there was a duplicate roller that we lent to the Kogarah Council. I lent it to them on the understanding that they were to return it in the same condition that they received it; they did not do so. I think the duplicate cost £24, and the money was paid into the Treasury. Then there were moneys for unclaimed wages. The moneys I held in hand for unclaimed wages I held with the full knowledge of the Audit Department. I held them in trust.

How

How was the sale of property in the shape of timber, sleepers, and firewood originated—who originated the sales? It was done before my time—at least the firewood business. It was started by Mr. Deering. I was simply carrying out what had been previously in existence. The matter of the sleepers was done on the application of Mr. Bennett. He asked whether we could not supply a number of sleepers for the Centennial Park, to enable him to carry out the necessary arrangements in connection with the formation of the roads there. We submitted the matter to the superintendent, and he said we could supply the sleepers at 22s. 6d. per hundred, but they cost us more like £2 2s. 6d. The weight alone per hundred was over 4 tons, and you can easily form an opinion that the timber would be worth a great deal more money.

What do you say was the cost in proportion to the result of the proceeds? I think we lost over £100 by that transaction. The cost was three times what it was put down at. Then there was a terrible loss over firewood. I may tell you that Mr. Deering made a contract with a man named Hillier for cutting 1,000 tons of firewood. It only realized 4s. 9d. per ton, and there was a loss of 4s. or 5s. a ton on the whole of it.

What practice did you adopt in the office to check the quantities of firewood—did you obtain the railway delivery-notes and the returns from the cutters? The only practice we could adopt was the practice that Mr. Burrowes had followed previously. He would see the trucks, get the weights, and send the weights to us. The auctioneer would send his weigh-bills, showing how much per ton and the prices. On this we paid the man Hillier according to as many tons we got.

How were you made aware that firewood, sleepers, and so forth, were available for sale? We were not made aware of the fact until after the sale.

Did you keep any record of this part of the work? No; of course our business was the disbursement of moneys. All our trouble arose with our taking over matters that had been initiated before our time—before our creation. If we had created the matter, we would have had proper supervision over everything. It was only regarded as a temporary affair.

Were you or the Board authorized to effect sales of property such as this and pass the proceeds to the credit of the Board at the Australian Joint Stock Bank? No; we had no special authority for it.

Did you know that it was irregular? I was told afterwards that it was irregular.

In what position was Mr. Hinchcliffe in the office? He was Paymaster and Accountant—he went to the pays and paid the men.

Was he accountant also? He was.

Are you sure? I am.

Did you hold him responsible for the accountant's work? I did.

Was he the responsible accountant in the department? Yes, he was.

If he has stated before us that he was not an accountant, what do you say to that? All I say is that the Government made a great mistake in appointing a man who was not an accountant. He was appointed there, so far as I understand, to look after the accounts and books. That was his particular work. I do not profess to have any knowledge of accounts myself—that is, any professional knowledge—neither I nor any other members of the Board.

Do you recollect his remonstrating with you in connection with these payments into the Australian Joint Stock Bank? I don't remember his remonstrating with me. He told me after some of the payments had been made that it was irregular. It was some time after. The money should, he said, be paid into the Treasury.

Did he ask to be relieved of any responsibility in the matter of these payments? He might have done so. I could not positively say that he did.

What position did Mr. Hibble occupy in the office? He was assistant clerk in the office.

Do you recollect him making any remark about it? No; it would not have been his place to make any remark about it.

Was he in too subordinate a position? Yes. I think, now you mention Mr. Hinchcliffe, I went to see the Under Secretary for Finance about it, and he said it was an irregularity, and he said it would be quite sufficient to pay the money into the Treasury when we settled up.

Did Mr. Hinchcliffe call your attention to it on the occasion of your first payment? I do not think so. He called attention to it afterwards by pointing out the irregularity.

When did he call your attention to it? I am not aware when he did so, but as soon as he pointed it out I saw the Under Secretary for Finance, and he said it was an irregularity, but it would be easily remedied when we paid the money to the credit of the Board into the Treasury.

Did Mr. Hinchcliffe ask to be exonerated from any responsibility in the matter? He may have done so, but I have no recollection at the present time that he did.

Do you know whether Mr. Wells or Mr. Houison received any moneys for the sales of firewood? No; I am not aware. I do not think they have. I think I am the only person who ever received money in the matter of sales.

Did you receive, between the 2nd May, 1887, and the 23rd January, 1889, from any person or firm any other moneys the proceeds from the sales of firewood, sleepers, charcoal, or any other produce, the property of the Government or the Casual Labour Board, that you have not paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank or the Treasury? No, sir.

Have you seen any of the evidence that has been taken before this Commission? No, sir.

Have you spoken to any of the witnesses that have been examined? I spoke to Sir John Robertson.

Have you spoken to Mr. Wells? I spoke to him casually upstairs in this building about a fortnight or three weeks' ago.

Have you spoken to Mr. Neale? No.

Have you spoken to Mr. Miles? No; I have not seen him since I left the Casual Labour Board office.

Have you spoken to a man named Charles Robertson? I have never seen him.

Have you spoken to Mr. Lawn? No; I have not been in their shop since this inquiry began.

Have you spoken to Mr. Woods? No.

Have you spoken to Mr. Franklin? Do you mean Mr. Franklin here?

Yes? I have only bowed to him.

Have

Hen.
John Davies,
C.M.G.,
M.L.C.
23 April, 1889.

Have you spoken to Mr. Taylor, the shorthand-writer here? Only to say, "How do you do?"—nothing further; I don't suppose there is any crime in that. I may say that Mr. Burrowes has circulated a report that he knows all the evidence that has been taken here, and states in a bold manner that he knows everything that happens on the Commission.

I will read you a portion of Mr. Hinchcliffe's evidence, being questions numbered 1047 to 1053, in reference to the firewood account sales. What do you say to that evidence? It is absolutely wrong with reference to my keeping them in the drawers.

Is it false? I would not say that; he may have been under a misapprehension.

Is it true about his remonstrating with you when you paid the first cheque into the Australian Joint Stock Bank? I have no recollection of anything of the kind. It was on a subsequent occasion that he said it was improper or irregular, and I saw the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade, Mr. Eagar. He said, "All right, you can pay it in when you are winding up the affairs of the office."

I see according to a receipt that you have just handed to me that you paid into the Treasury on the 29th March, 1889, the sum of £33 3s. 2d.? Yes; there was some difficulty in finding from the books and papers how these payments actually stood. I found I had paid that into my own bank in order to have the proceeds to pay into the Treasury. Of course I was placed at very great disadvantage. I had to fossick out information as best I could.

How did you find out that this sum had not been repaid by you? I got Mr. Neale's memorandum of the amounts. These were the amounts that I had from the office. I found that there was a sum owing, and that I should adjust it.

Where in those two papers that you have just handed in did you get the sum of £33 3s. 2d.? I got it from the totals. This is in such a muddled form I cannot make head or tail of it.

When did you get this memorandum of payments from Mr. Neale? I think it was in the beginning of this year.

What is the total amount shown on Mr. Neale's memo.? £320 13s. 6d. [*Document put in and marked P.*]

What paper is this other? That is a copy of the items out of the cash-book. [*Document put in and marked P1.*]

And this shows the total £334 16s. 3d.? Yes.

Yet you refused to give me the total of these very items just now? You asked me to make the total up for you.

Is this correct? I should think so.

Is not this document [*Exhibit P1*] copied out of the Casual Labour Board cash-book? I believe it is furnished to me as such.

By whom was this copy furnished from the office? I received it from Mr. Hibble when I was Chairman of the Casual Labor-Board.

Have you any reason to doubt its correctness? I suppose it is correct.

Were you Chairman of the Casual Labour Board at the time it was made out? Of course.

Up to what date were you Chairman? Up to the 25th January last.

And the officer who made it out was under you? He was.

Do you doubt its correctness? I don't at all doubt its correctness; I believe it is correct.

Where do you get this amount of £33 3s. 2d.? It is included in those two statements.

Can you point it out to me? It is the difference between the two.

How was it paid? By cheque. There were two cheques that I paid in and got cash for. The one was for £33 3s. 2d., and the other was for £52 something.

But do these two documents [*Exhibits P and P1*] which I have before me, one an account from Mr. Neale and the other a memo. from Mr. Hibble, do they explain in any way the £33 3s. 2d.? I think so.

Can you show me how? I have not gone into them.

Do you say that the £33 3s. 2d. is the difference between the two? Yes.

May I take it that that is your evidence. Look at the documents, sir? I don't know what you want, Mr. Chairman, from me.

I want to know, Mr. Davies, how that £33 3s. 2d. is made up from these documents? It is made up by the proceeds of a cheque that I received for the sale of firewood, paid in to my own credit.

Has it anything to do with these accounts? No; it is out of these accounts altogether. Mr. Neale will give you particulars.

I want your evidence; I don't want it from Mr. Neale. I ask you will you produce the account sales for this? I have not got them; I have not got the papers.

Did you receive the amount from Mr. Neale? Yes; it was an unpaid amount.

Have you any doubt about it? No doubt whatever. On finding that the amount was unpaid I paid it into the Treasury.

I ask you again have you any doubt about it? No doubt whatever.

What date was it you received this amount from Mr. Neale? I believe it was in July, 1887—I think that was the date.

Then what became of the money between July, 1887, and March, 1889? In my possession.

Where? In my possession.

Where in your possession—I ask you where? Some of it was in cash.

In the office or where? You are not aware, perhaps, that I was spending £20 a week out of my own pocket.

Where was this money between July, 1887, and March, 1889—this £33 3s. 2d.? It was in my possession.

As cash? Certainly, as cash; and I paid it in as cash to the Treasury.

Did Mr. Neale pay you this in cash? No; he paid it in a crossed cheque—£33 3s. 2d.

Are you sure of that? Well, as far as I can remember.

Did you ever pay that cheque into your bank? I paid it into the bank, and got the proceeds of it as far as I can remember.

Are you sure you paid it in? I am sure I paid it into the bank and got the proceeds.

When was that? I believe it was in July, 1887.

Then

Hon.
John Davies,
C.M.G.,
M.L.C.
23 April, 1889.

Then close upon two years you have been holding that money in your private bank account;—is that your evidence? No.

In whose account was it? In my possession.

All the time? Was I not perfectly justified in utilising it in the office—for the purposes of the office? I had to spend sometimes as much as £20 in a week.

Did you hold it in your possession all that time? I do not think it was any crime for me to hold it.

Will you look at this paper—this Treasury receipt voucher [*Exhibit O*]? Yes.

Read it? Chairman, Casual Labour Board, Sydney: Sale of firewood, National Park, £33 3s. 2d.

Is that signed by you? Yes.

Whom did you give that document to? Do you mean to pay it into the Treasury?

Yes? I gave it to my son.

What did your son do with it;—do you know? Paid it into the Treasury.

Cash? Of course; they would not take any cheques there.

Not even your cheque? No, nor anybody else's.

Where did you cash that cheque for £33 3s. 2d.? At the bank.

Did you get the cash for it? Yes.

And have you been holding that cash since July, 1887? I told you I have had it in my possession.

Let me ask you seriously whether you have from July, 1887, until March, 1889, been holding that cash, £33 3s. 2d., in your possession? I have already told you I have, and explained the reason.

Do you swear that you got that money from Mr. Neale? Most certainly I could.

Are those particulars correct in that document [*Treasury Receipt Voucher, Exhibit O*] which was handed to me by Mr. Newcombe? I believe so.

Who can vouch for the correctness of this [*Exhibit O*] if you cannot? I believe it is quite correct.

That payment, according to this document, was made on the 29th March last? Yes; that is the last payment I made.

On the 26th March last Mr. Neale was examined before this Commission; did you see Mr. Neale on the 26th, 27th, 28th, or 29th March? I do not think so.

You were very frequently at this office, upstairs? Yes.

Have you seen Mr. Neale while you have been here on any occasion? I have not seen him to speak to.

Will you tell me how it was that you waited until the 29th March, 1889, to pay this £33 3s. 2d. into the Treasury? Because I was a little confused as to whether I had paid it in with the money I paid into the bank. I subsequently found that I had not paid it in.

When did you find that you had been holding this money in your own private account for your own private purposes? I was not holding it in my own private account for my own purposes. I held it with other moneys, amounting to £86 in all, unpaid balances of wages.

Did you hold all that in cash? Yes.

In your pocket? I held it in the safe in the office in cash—about £100 altogether.

What did you do with it? I passed the cheque into the bank.

Why do you fence with me in this manner? There is no fencing.

Why, sir, don't you explain this matter clearly, if you can? I told you already I paid it into my credit with £52 odd.

Into what bank? In my own bank, in order that I might pay it into the Treasury.

Did you cash the cheque in your bank for £33 3s. 2d. to pay into the Treasury? Yes.

When? In July, 1887.

In July, 1887, you cashed that cheque—that is what you tell us,—and you have held the cash in your possession ever since? I did, and I see nothing wrong in doing so.

When you went out of office what moneys did you take with you? I took £85 odd out of my safe.

What did that represent? It represented trust moneys that I held by me—unclaimed wages—that I held with the full knowledge of the Auditor-General and the gentlemen in the Audit Office.

Why did you not adjust these sums before? I had never been asked to make this adjustment; but I have made the adjustment now.

Can you give me accurately the amount that you took out of the Casual Labour Board Office when your Board ceased to exist? The total amount.

Yes? About £115 or £116.

Can you tell me what you have done with it? I paid £86 on account of unpaid wages.

Are you sure that you took the amount you have stated? It must have been more, I think—about £170.

Have you got the exact figures? No.

Have you any figures? No. I took what few papers I could away at the time, but I had no time to do anything more.

How long were you in the office after Mr. Miles and Mr. Mason took charge? They took charge on the 25th of January, and I was not there afterwards.

Were you not in the office for three or four days after they took charge? No.

Were you not in the office some days afterwards? I was in the office downstairs, but I never was upstairs after I was informed of their appointment.

Did you not remain there until the next pay-day? The letter I put in will show that I offered to pay the money, but the Colonial Secretary did not think that it was prudent that this course should be taken, and asked that the gentlemen themselves should make the pay; and we were relieved of any further responsibility.

Were you not in the office three days after Mr. Mason and Mr. Miles took charge? No.

Were you in the office two days? No.

Were you in the precincts of the office? I was downstairs occasionally.

Did you not decline to give up the office before some official communication was made to you? No. I handed everything over to the gentlemen who came. I thought we had no right to be uncourteous towards the gentlemen who came, although I had great reason to complain of the action of the Colonial Secretary.

Here

Hon.
John Davies,
C.M.G.,
M.L.C.
23 April, 1889.

Here is a receipt that you have handed to us dated 15th February, 1889, purporting to be a receipt for £52 3s. 2d., and 10s.—in all £52 13s. 2d., received from you, and paid into the Treasury—what is that for? The sale of firewood and some damaged crockery. [*Receipt put in and marked P 3.*]

Is this the receipt voucher I show you which was put in by you alongside the payment. Is this document [*Exhibit O 1*] a receipt voucher put in by you at the same time as that payment? Yes.

Who made that payment? I made it.

In person? Yes.

Is your signature at the bottom of the paper? Yes.

Will you tell us what the £52 13s. 2d. represents? The sale of firewood at the National Park and proceeds of some damaged crockery.

When was the sale of that firewood effected at the Park? In the latter part of 1887.

What is the date you received the cheque for it from Mr. Neale? 26th September, 1887.

What became of that money between September 26th, 1887, and the 15th February, 1889? In my possession. I cashed the cheque, as I did the former cheque, and intended to pay the proceeds into the Treasury. It was in my possession all the time.

In cash? Yes. I may tell you that some of it was spent in expenses. You must remember that I had not one single shilling for my attendance or expenses up to the end of the year.

Can you tell me how you came to hold these proceeds of sale of firewood money, £52 3s. 2d., in your possession from 26th September, 1887, to 15th February, 1889, and the other sum, £33 3s. 2d., from July, 1887, to March 29, 1889, and yet paid the other moneys into the Australian Joint Stock Bank? Yes; because I held other trust moneys, as I have already explained—as much as £100 unclaimed wages. I held this money in order that when we wound up the affairs of the Casual Labour Board it might be adjusted and paid in due form to the Treasury.

Why then did you not hold the other moneys that you paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank in the same way? Simply because I had paid them in error. I had already done that.

Oh, you recognized the error as regards other receipts from Neale, but not the payments made by Neale in July and September, 1887? That is the only explanation I can give you just now. I think Mr. Hinchcliffe had spoken to me about it. But I should have felt perfectly justified in holding this money and using it for my travelling expenses. I should have no scruple whatever about it. It was not to be supposed that I was to use my own money. Some £400 or £500 might be spent in various directions without being paid or receiving any fees. I should have had no hesitation whatever in using it.

How comes it that the payment of £33 3s. 2d., made to you in July, 1887, is retained by you and not paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank, when other payments in May, June, July, August, and September, from the same source, are paid in by you to the Australian Joint Stock Bank? These were trade cheques, and it was my duty to see that they were negotiable.

Were not the other cheques in exactly the same category?—

Did you pay the money into the Treasury upon receiving it? No.

What is your explanation for not doing so? Simply because I kept it in hand for final adjustment when we wound up our affairs.

In reference to this Treasury receipt voucher signed by you [*Exhibit O 1*], what is this damaged crockery sold? That is some damaged crockery in a case that I got. I took it over after the Casual Labour Board was formed. It was gradually getting all smashed when we were moving the camp from the Park. I asked the storekeeper, and he said it was worth nothing. I said I did not mind giving him 10s. for it.

Who was the storekeeper? Mr. Johnson and Mr. Springall.

Do you think that was a correct thing to do as head of a department? The crockery was not worth 2s.

Do you think it was right that you should do that with property belonging to the Casual Labour Board? I do not think it was a wrong thing to do.

Do you think it was the proper thing to do? I do. It was not worth 2d. If you think it is of any value I can send it to you now.

I simply asked you if it was the proper thing to do? Perhaps if I had thought of it I might not have had anything to do with it; but it was not done with any motive of that kind.

I see on the 15th February last, after your Casual Labour Board had ceased to exist, there is a sum of £8 13s. 9d. paid into the Treasury;—do you know how long that was in your hands? Some of it only a few days, some of it months. There were some little sums—the duplicate roller from Kogarah Council.

There is a payment to the Treasury on the 25th February, 1889, £86 11s. 7d. unclaimed wages;—did you have that in your possession for a considerable time? Yes; off and on, small sums of unclaimed wages.

Did you ever pay that into the bank? No; I did not think it was necessary to do so. It was not like as if I were an unsubstantial person who had not £100.

There is a payment on the 25th February, 1889, into the Treasury of £8 10s.? That is for some sugar that I have already explained to you—17 bags of sugar I took over.

Is that the item referred to in this receipt voucher [*Exhibit O 2*]? Yes; there was originally 21 bags, but I was told by the storekeeper that Mr. Burrowes had helped himself. I had it brought to Sydney. But this did not belong to the Casual Labour Board, it was before our existence, and I presume that this inquiry has relation only to the period during which the Casual Labour Board was in existence.

You took it over? I bought it at 2d. per lb. I asked the storekeeper in the Park what the value of it was.

When did you buy it? I bought it about six months ago or so.

Are these the particulars—17 bags of sugar sold at Carlingford? It was not sold at Carlingford; it was sold last November, about six months ago, and when we were removing our stores from the National Park to Hurstville this sugar was taken over to Carlingford.

Was it ever at Hurstville? No; never.

Do you say that you bought this sugar six months ago, and paid it in on the 25th February last? Yes. [*Receipt put in and marked P 4.*]

Do you believe that you have accounted for everything else that you have received? I honestly believe I have accounted for everything.

Have you any property belonging to the Board or the Government now in your possession? Not a shilling.

Hon.
John Davies,
C.M.G.,
M.L.C.
23 April, 1889.

I don't mean money property only, I mean chattels? Not a pennyworth.

Have you any chattel property, any cash, or anything belonging to the Government or the Casual Labour Board? You don't think I am a thief, Mr. Chairman? That is a sort of insinuation against me that I don't know that I ought to submit to. The idea that I would take the Government property away! No; it has been all on one side so far that the Government are concerned.

When did it first dawn upon you that these payments of £33 3s. 2d. and £52 3s. 2d. had not been accounted for? When I was leaving office I set myself to work to see what sums had not been adjusted.

When did you leave office? On the 25th January—that I think was the last day—the day before the public holiday—Anniversary Day. It was my clear duty to make the adjustment as head of the department, so I did that; I think I have done so in every case.

Do you recollect a man named Larnach paying you a sum of money? What sum of money?

I ask you the question? No, sir; he never paid me any money.

Did Larnach ever pay you £6 10s.? No; he never paid me any money in his life.

Does he owe you any money? Yes.

How much? He owes me £1; just now it was £1 12s. 6d.

Was he a good clerk? No; he was a bad man—both a drunkard and a very unreliable man.

Did you make him a present at the end of last year? Yes.

What was it? 10s. 6d. to buy a hat. I did that to the other supernumeraries in the office as well.

How long had he been there? A little over twelve months.

Was not that rather inconsistent—giving a gratuity to a man who was a drunkard and an unreliable man? I have no doubt, but you might have made the same mistake that I have made.

When did you first find out that Mr. Larnach was both a drunkard and an unreliable man? It was towards the latter part of last year.

Before you gave him the hat? I gave him the hat in December. I did that to a large number of persons in the office. I do not think that was any great crime.

Mr. Larnach has sworn that, on the 15th December, 1887, he gave you £6 10s., proceeds of the sales of firewood;—he swore that he gave it to you in the presence of witnesses—is that true or false? False, absolutely false.

Mr. Larnach speaks somewhere else in his evidence about a sum of £2 surplus from the pay-sheet. Did he give you that? Not to me. He gave it to the Paymaster, Mr. Hinchcliffe, who gave him a receipt for the £2.

Do you know what became of that? It was paid into the Treasury.

Who paid it in? It was paid in by Mr. Hinchcliffe himself. That is before the Casual Labour Board was dissolved.

And you know that was paid in? I have been informed by Mr. Hinchcliffe that it was.

Mr. Larnach's evidence on that is in his answer to my question:—"How did you do in the case of absentees? Of course, if there was no payment made, there was no signature. On one occasion I had to go to Hornsby, and I had to take gold to pay the men with. There were two sovereigns found on the table, which I brought back and handed to Mr. Hinchcliffe. I could not tell how they got there, and I told Mr. Hinchcliffe to put them in the Paymaster's surplus cash. That was on 22nd December."—Is that a fact? I know that he handed the two sovereigns over to Mr. Hinchcliffe, and Mr. Hinchcliffe gave him a receipt. Mr. Hinchcliffe subsequently told me that he had paid it into the Treasury.

Did you see Larnach make the payment? I saw the payment made of £2 to the Paymaster on the pay-table.

But you deny any knowledge of the £6 10s. Larnach says he paid you? I never saw it. Mr. Larnach was not the man—if he handed money to anyone, he would take the receipt for it.

I see in the statement of the amounts paid into the Treasury between May, 1887, and April, 1889, several payments in your name in the year 1887, and in the year 1888, and several payments in the name of the officers of the Casual Labour Board? The only payments I have made direct have been in February, winding up the affairs of the Board.

What I, and I am sure my colleagues as well, want to get at is this: How, in some cases, you paid the money you received into the Treasury, which it appears was the proper place; in other cases into your own bank; and in other cases, you paid it into the Australian Joint Stock Bank? I have already explained that I made a mistake; but I do not know that it was a very great mistake after all. You were asking me about the payments made into the Treasury of the trust moneys. You will find the vouchers in the Auditor-General's department, giving the whole particulars, from a penny up to 25s., making £86 altogether. That is the only payment I have made direct into the Treasury as regards unclaimed wages. Other sums have been paid in from time to time by the Paymaster.

In February, 1889, you appear to have paid in £334 16s. 3d.? No, I did not pay it in. That wants a little explanation. I left this voucher filled up in that form for my successors, so that they would have no difficulty in transferring from the Australian Joint Stock Bank the amount of money there to the credit of the Casual Labour Board and paying it into the Treasury.

Can you tell me what that £4 item is? That I believe to be from Mr. Hanley, for wood sold by Mr. Burrowes. Mr. Burrowes sold this £4 worth of wood to Mr. Hanley, and he brought the amount to the office, and the cheque was paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank.

Have you ever received any money from Mr. Wearne? Not a shilling.

Does he owe the Government any money? I think he owes about £10; but the bill will show.

Have you ever asked him for it? I have instructed that application should be made to him for it, but he has treated the applications with indifference.

To whom did Mr. Neale pay the money, the proceeds of all sales? Usually to me.

Are there any returns of the wood cut that you got from the cutters, and of the charcoal and the sleepers? Yes. The papers will show, and the books will show the amounts. You will find them in the press copy-books.

Do you know of anybody who has any interest in these sales of sleepers and firewood who would be likely to take away the papers? No. The papers ought to be all there.

When did you see them last before you left the Casual Labour Board office? In the latter part of December.

All

Hon.
John Davies,
C.M.G.,
M.L.C.

23 April, 1889.

All of them? Most of them. I could not say all of them, because I did not go through them all. How was it that you went to Mr. Neal for particulars of these sales? Because I was out of the office altogether, and I felt it was my clear duty to have these matters adjusted, and I felt that I was at full liberty to get them adjusted up to the 31st March, in accordance with the letter of the Colonial Secretary.

Where did you get information about these payments of £33 3s. 2d., and £52 3s. 2d.? From Mr. Neale.

And after you got the information from Mr. Neale, you paid them into the Treasury? Yes.

Did you ever receive £52 3s. 2d. from Mr. Neale? Yes.

Are you quite sure? I am quite sure.

How did you receive it? By cheque.

When? As far as I know, it is eighteen months ago.

Can you tell me what you did with the cheque? Paid it into the bank and cashed it.

How long after you paid it in did you cash it? I suppose it would be cashed the next day after it was paid in.

Are you aware of any accounts outstanding between the cutters of the wood and the Casual Labour Board that have not been adjusted? No; they have all been adjusted.

What precautions did you take against the sale of the wood by the officials at the Park? I could not take any precautions beyond trusting to the superintendent.

Where did the wood come from principally? All round the National Park.

Any from Hornsby? No.

Liverpool? No.

Narrabeen? No; there is no getting it there.

Referring again to the item £33 3s. 2d., have you any memorandum or account sales, or any other documents to fortify that? I have no memorandum of account sales or anything else. The documents were left in the office.

Does that represent proceeds of the sale of firewood that you received from Mr. Neale? Yes.

In the presence of last witness, George Robert Cartwright Neale called in and examined (*his evidence being interposed by the President*):—

Mr. G. R. C.
Neale.

23 April, 1889.

President.] What are these books that you produce? These are the account salebooks.

What dates do they cover—from when to when? From 10th July, 1886, up to 12th May, 1888.

Have you not got here any book after that? Nothing showing dealings with the Casual Labour Board.

Had you any transactions with the Casual Labour Board after May, 1888? I think not. These are the only two books that we have relating to them.

What are the papers in the bag you have there? I have got some books.

Books relating to this matter? Yes.

Will you allow me to see them? Yes.

Are those books the rough books from which these entries are posted? Yes.

Do you produce two account salebooks, two small ledgers, and two cash-books? Yes.

Do these books contain the history of all the transactions that you have had between January, 1887, and May, 1888, with the Casual Labour Board? Yes; so far as I am aware they are there. If there is anything else I know nothing of it.

Now answer this question categorically—give me an answer to the question and go no further; will you look through these books from January, 1887, until the end of the records in the books, and tell me if there is any payment made to the Casual Labour Board, or any member or officer of it, amounting to £33 3s. 2d.? I think that is a matter I turned up the other day. In my book, ledger lettered A, I find that there has been an account or cheque paid of £33 3s. 2d. drawn on the 19th July, in the year 1887.

Have you got the butt of the cheque-book? No; I have not got it here. I was not aware of this until the other day, when, looking at some old accounts, I found this entry.

Have you anything to show how you paid that money? Well, I paid it by cheque. It was paid, £33 3s. 2d., on the 19th July, 1887, by cheque.

To whom? Well, it was made payable to Mr. Burrowes.

Do you know whom the cheque would be handed to? It would be taken on to the Casual Labour Board, in Pitt-street.

Does that book that you are looking at now show you the date and the name of the payee? It does.

Who drew it out? Well, it was drawn out by my office-boy.

Do these entries on page 405 of your ledger, under the heading of Government Relief Works, appear in these account sale books? I think so.

When was this entry made in this book? At the time it was made out, I suppose.

You notice it is in different ink? Yes; the one entry was made out by myself, and the other was copied in by the boy.

Do you recollect when you gave Mr. Davies these particulars? No; I do not.

This year or last? I do not think I gave him any account at all.

When did you give him the amount of it? Well, I could not tell you that.

GEO. ROBT. C. NEALE,
April 29, 1889.

The Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., resumed his evidence:—

Hon.
John Davies,
C.M.G.,
M.L.C.

23 April, 1889.

President.] You have heard Mr. Neale's evidence as to that £33 3s. 2d. Do you still adhere to your evidence then that you have no other moneys not accounted for? To the best of my knowledge I believe there are none.

Have you any doubt upon the matter? I have no doubt myself.

* * * * *

WEDNESDAY,

WEDNESDAY, 24 APRIL, 1889.

Present:—

A. J. CAPE, Esq., M.A., PRESIDENT.

F. A. FRANKLIN, Esq., C.E., J.P.,

T. F. WALLER, Esq., J.P.

George Robert Cartwright Neale called in and further examined:—

President.] Will you look through your books and give us a statement of the amounts paid by you to the Casual Labour Board or officers between the 1st January, 1887, and the end of 1888? Well, Mr. Cape, I have been brought here several times to the sittings of this Commission, and I should like to know who is going to pay me for all this lost time.

Mr.
G. R. Neale.
24 April, 1889.

If you will send an application to the Commission it will be considered. You must recollect that there are a large number of persons in exactly the same position as yourself? Perhaps they are in the Government service.

Some of them may be, but look how many hundreds are subpoenaed to the Courts who are in the same position as you. However, submit your application; I do not say that it will be successful, but my colleagues and myself will give it our consideration. It will shorten your time and our time immensely if you will just go through your books and give me out of them what I ask? The first payment was 14th May, 1887, for the sale of firewood, £26 17s. 7d.; the next, 31st May, 1887, sale of wood, £38 4s. 2d.; the next, 23rd June, 1887, sale of wood, £66 12s. 6d.; July 7th, 1887, sale of wood, £41 12s.; July 19th, 1887, sale of wood, £5 4s. 6d.; July 19th, 1887, sale of wood, £33 3s. 2d.; August 4th, 1887, sale of wood, £40 1s. 1d.; August 19th, 1887, sale of wood, £36 3s. 10d.; September 1st, 1887, sale of wood, £40 12s. 3d.; September 23rd, 1887, sale of wood, £52 3s. 2d.

Now, how is it that the first item, £26 17s. 7d., is not in your ledger books? For the simple reason that we never ledger any country people's stuff; we send the cheques every day, and the amounts would be in the account sales books. It is only in cases when we get weekly or fortnightly payments that I do this.

After that payment of £26 17s. 7d., you opened a ledger account? Yes.

Before that you had not a ledger account? No; but all these items are in the account sales book.

How does it come about that when you were examined before us on the 26th of March last you omitted to tell us of the item £33 3s. 2d.? Yes; because there was no memo. made as to where it was placed; it was only, as I told you, the other day that I found it out.

On the same date as that you see you made a payment, £5 4s. 6d.? Yes; when transferring this from the account sales book the boy omitted to make an entry of the folio it was on. It was only a few days ago that I found out where it was placed.

Then through a purely clerical mistake in your office the item £33 3s. 2d. had been overlooked by you in giving your last evidence? Yes; the cheque had been paid, but through the fault of the lad not folioing it it had been omitted.

Will you read out the amounts making up this payment? July 6th, £2 9s. 2d.; 7th, £2 8s. 6d.; 8th, £2 7s. 11d.; 9th, £2 4s. 9d.; 9th, £3 4s. 5d.; 11th, £2 1s.; 11th, £2 2s. 11d.; 12th, £1 19s. 11d.; 15th, £2 19s. 5d.; 16th, £1 18s. 8d.; 18th, £5 5s. 9d.; 19th, £4 0s. 9d.

Are these the items representing the account sales for £33 3s. 2d.? Yes.

Did you give that item to Mr. Davies when he asked recently? I could not say; he asked me whether I knew the amounts of the cheques I sent over or paid to the Casual Labour Board.

This account [*Exhibit P*] which Mr. Davies says you gave him, is the item £33 3s. 2d. in that? I do not see it. I have told you the reason that I did not give it to you before, because it was not mentioned where the other amounts were.

Do you recollect giving that amount to Mr. Davies when he called upon you about a month previous to your giving your former evidence? No, I cannot. He said at the time, "I fancy there is something more." I said, "I cannot find it."

Do you think that the item of £33 3s. 2d. was given to Mr. Davies when he called? I do not think so. That is my writing [*Exhibit P*]. I am sure I gave that.

But you do not recollect giving him the item £33 3s. 2d.? I should have given it to him had I known it to be there.

Do you notice in your account [*Exhibit P*] that you have not mentioned the £26 17s. 7d. Why is it not mentioned there? I cannot say; it was not in the ledger.

What took place at your interview with Mr. Davies? I was going out myself, and he shook hands and said, "Can you give me the amount of the cheques you paid to the Casual Labour Board." I said, "I am in a hurry now." He said, "That won't take you five minutes." I turned up the ledger, but I did not attempt to go through my account sales book, so I did not give him the amount of £26 17s. 7d., for it would have taken me some time to find it out.

Then this account [*Exhibit P*] which you gave him was an abstract from the ledger, and you did not give him the other items because you did not attempt to go into your other books to fish them out? That is so.

Have you brought here the cheque you gave for £33 3s. 2d.? Yes. I produce the cheque, dated 19 July, 1887, payable in favour of Mr. Burrowes or bearer, for £33 3s. 2d. This cheque is on the Bank of New South Wales, Haymarket Branch, and is signed by me.

The cheque is crossed BANK,—is that done by you? It was done in my office; the cheque bears the stamp of Bank of New South Wales, Haymarket Branch; Bank of New South Wales, Sydney, and of the City Bank, and is also marked C.B. on the back.

Read over your evidence of 26th March last, which I hand you? Yes.

Are there any alterations or additions that you desire to make? Yes; in my answer to question 2969, I wish to say that is how I first came to know Mr. Davies was there.

I show you the cheques for £26 17s. 7d. and £52 3s. 1d., which you handed us when you gave evidence on 26th March last, and the cheque for £33 3s. 2d., which you produced to us to-day;—are these all signed by you? Yes. [*Cheques put in and marked Q, Q 1, Q 2.*]

I show you also the copy account sales for £26 17s. 7d. and £52 3s. 2d., furnished by you to this Commission? Yes. [*Copy account sales put in and marked Q 3 and Q 4.*]

GEO. ROBT. C. NEALE,

April 29, 1889.

Wm. Duchesne called in and further examined :—

Mr. W.
Duchesne.
24 April, 1889.

Will you look at this cheque purporting to be signed by George Robt. Neale, dated the 19th July, 1887, payable to Mr. Burrowes or bearer, £33 3s. 2d., and say whether it has passed through the City Bank? It has been through.

Have you with you to-day the deposit slip that contains that? I have. That cheque is part of a deposit of £38 3s. 2d. paid into the account of John Davies, C.M.G., on the 19th July, 1887.

Do you produce the credit slip evidencing that? I do. [*Deposit slip put in and marked G 2.*]

By whom was that payment made? It was paid in by John Davies.

Is that credit slip in the handwriting of Mr. John Davies? It is in Mr. John Davies' handwriting.

Then this cheque of £33 3s. 2d. is part of a deposit of £38 3s. 2d.? Yes, the balance being made up in notes and gold—4 notes and £1 in gold.

Will you read the body of the deposit slip? "Paid in for the credit of John Davies, C.M.G., the sum of thirty-eight three shillings and two-pence, by self, to provide for cheque to be drawn on Thursday."

Do you believe that the whole of that deposit slip is in Mr. Davies' handwriting? I should say so. Undoubtedly the figures are rather more clearly made than Mr. Davies usually makes them, but I could not say that they are not his.

Do you produce from amongst the cheques in your hand any cheque by John Davies, C.M.G., for £26 17s. 7d.? I have no cheque for that amount.

What cheques are these—from what date to what date? These cheques were debited to John Davies, C.M.G., on his account No. 1, from the 19th May, 1887, to 31st September, 1887.

Are these all the cheques that would be debited to his two accounts between those dates? Yes, these are all the cheques.

Is there a cheque for £33 3s. 2d. amongst that lot? There is no cheque for that amount.

Is there a cheque for £52 3s. 2d.? I have no cheque for that amount.

Is there one for £52 13s. 2d.? I have none for that amount; but one for £53 12s. 4d.

Will you kindly search the account of John Davies, C.M.G., and the account of John Davies No. 2, and any other accounts of John Davies in your bank, from the 1st May, 1887, to 31st March, 1889, and inform this Commission whether there is any cheque drawn by him for £26 17s. 7d.; £33 3s. 2d.; £52 3s. 2d.; £52 13s. 2d.; £8 10s.; £86 11s. 7d.; £139 12s. 11d.; £26 6s. 4d.;—all or any of those? Yes.

Will you kindly attend this afternoon with the information? Yes.

[Witness attended subsequently and stated that there was not any cheque drawn for any of the amounts given to him.]

W. DUCHESNE.

The Hon. John Davies called in and examination continued :—

* * * * *

Hon.
John Davies,
C.M.G.,
M.L.C.
24 April, 1889.

With reference to this payment of £33 3s. 2d., made by you into the Treasury on 29th March last, am I to understand that that payment was made by you in cash? Yes; in fact all the payments were made in cash.

Am I right in my recollection of your evidence that you say you had held that money in cash for a considerable time? Yes.

Am I right in my recollection of your evidence that you say you originally received a cheque for that amount from Mr. Neale? Yes.

And that you paid it into your own private bank? Yes; I cashed it at my bank, got the proceeds, and placed them in the safe, so as to be available to be paid.

Then, after you paid it into the bank you drew a cheque for it? No, I did not draw a cheque for it; I drew it out from my rents and from other moneys. I paid that into the safe and recouped it in that way.

Did you say anything about that yesterday? I think I did.

Then is this your evidence now: That you paid Mr. Neale's cheque for £33 3s. 2d. into your own bank, and afterwards, in lieu of paying some rents and other moneys belonging to you into your bank, you took a certain sum from those rents and moneys and withheld it —? Yes; so as to recoup the proceeds of the cheque.

Did you say a word about that yesterday? I think I did.

If we cannot find it at all on your evidence, as transcribed by the shorthand-writer, is it not probable you did not say a word about it? I could not be positive; I intended to say it; it was not my intention to avoid a word about it.

Now, again, this payment of £52 13s. 2d., made by you into the Treasury on 15th February last, and which represents £52 3s. 2d., you say you received from Neale, and 10s. "Proceeds of sale of damaged crockery";—do I understand that you paid that sum into your bank and afterwards drew a cheque or cheques for it? I had no occasion to draw cheques; I had the money in a safe; about £170.

Have you in your possession, under your control, or in the control of any person or company on your behalf, any money, property, goods, or chattels belonging to the Government or Casual Labour Board at the present time? Certainly not.

APPENDIX.

[To the Evidence of W. Duchesne.]

G.

No.		£	s.	d.
Cheques		26	17	7
Notes		28	0	0
Gold			10	0
Silver				
Copper				
Total.....£		55	7	7

All Cheques to be enumerated on the other side.

W. THE CITY BANK.
 Sydney, 16 May, 1887.
 PAID IN for the credit of John Davies, C.M.G., the sum of fifty-five pounds seven shillings and seven pence.
 By SELF.
 Teller.—(Cd.)—T.F.J.
 £50 spl. reduction Osborne's B/, and £5 7-7 a/c. C.R.
 £5 7s. 7d. on 18th inst.

Cheques, &c.

On Back	DRAWER. G. R. Neale.....	BANK. N. S. W. ...	AMOUNT. £26 17s. 7d.
---------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------	-------------------------

G 1.

No.		£	s.	d.
Cheques		52	3	1
Notes				
Gold				
Silver				
Copper				
Total.....£		52	3	1

All Cheques to be enumerated on the other side.

W & THE CITY BANK.
 Sydney, 26 September, 1887.
 PAID IN for the credit of John Davies, C.M.G., No. 2, the sum of fifty-two pounds three shillings and one penny.
 By SELF.
 Teller.—(Cd.)—T.F.J.

Cheques, &c.

On Back	DRAWER. G. R. C. Neale...	BANK. N. S. W. ...	AMOUNT. £26 3s. 1d.
---------------	------------------------------	-----------------------	------------------------

G 2.

No.		£	s.	d.
Cheques		33	3	2
Notes		4	0	0
Gold		1	0	0
Silver				
Copper				
Total.....£		38	3	2

All Cheques to be enumerated on the other side.

W. THE CITY BANK.
 Sydney, 19 July, 1887.
 PAID IN for the credit of John Davies, C.M.G., the sum of thirty-eight three shillings and two-pence.
 By SELF.
 Teller.—(Cd.)—T.F.J.
 To provide for cheque to be drawn on Thursday.

Cheques, &c.

On Back.—Blank.

[To Evidence of W. Newcombe.]

O.

Receipt Voucher No. 4635; C. A. 31.—Misc. Coll. Vou.
 Head of Revenue or Receipt—Sales of Government Property.
 STATEMENT of all sums handed over or remitted to the Colonial Treasurer, in payment of the undermentioned collections, by Chairman, Casual Labour Board, Sydney, from July, 1887, to December, 1888.

Particulars of Sums received.	Total.
Sale of Firewood at National Park	£ 33 s. 3 d. 2
Total	£ 33 3 2

Amounting in all to thirty-three pounds three shillings and two pence.
 Credited at the Treasury, on the 29th March, 1889.

JOHN DAVIES.

O 1.

Receipt Voucher No. 2437; C. A. 31.—Misc. Coll. Vou.
 Head of Revenue or Receipt—Sales of Government Property.
 STATEMENT of all sums handed over or remitted to the Colonial Treasurer, in payment of the undermentioned collections, by Chairman, Casual Labour Board, Sydney, from September, 1887, to December, 1888.

Particulars of Sums received.	Total.
September 26.—Amount received for sale of Firewood from National Park	£ 52 s. 3 d. 2
„ Damaged Crockery sold	0 10 0
Total	£ 52 13 2

Amounting in all to fifty-two pounds thirteen shillings and two pence.
 Credited at the Treasury, on the 15th February, 1889.

JOHN DAVIES

02.

Receipt Voucher No. 2798; C. A. 31st—Misc. Coll. Vou.

Head of Revenue or Receipt—Sales of Government Property.

STATEMENT of all Sums handed over or remitted to the Colonial Treasurer, in payment of the undermentioned collections, by Chairman, Casual Labour Board, from to 188 .

Particulars of Sums received.	Total.
Proceeds of sale of Surplus Stores—17 bags of Sugar, sold at Carlingford, at 10s. per bag	£ s. d. 8 10 0
Total	£ 8 10 0

Amounting in all to eight pounds ten shillings.

Credited at the Treasury on the 25th February, 1889.

JOHN DAVIES.

[To the Evidence of the Hon. John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C.]

P.

101½ Engine-street, Haymarket, and Darling Harbour,
Sydney, 188 .

Sold on account of M

By GEORGE R. C. NEALE, Auctioneer and Commission Agent,—

	£	s	d
May 14 to 31 Cheque	38	4	2
June 2 to 22 „	66	12	6
June 22 to July 6 „	41	12	0
July 19 „	5	4	6
August 4 „	40	1	1
August 19 „	36	3	10
September 1 „	40	12	3
September 23 „	52	3	2
	£320	13	6

P 1.

	£	s	d
1887.			
January 7 . . . Amount for sale of firewood, National Park	38	4	2
July 19 . . . Amount received sale of firewood, from National Park	113	9	0
August 22 . . . Do do do	76	4	11
September 6 . . . Do do do	40	12	3
1888.			
June 21 . . . Do do do	4	0	0
June 21 . . . From Roads Department, for sleepers	42	5	11
September 25 . . . From A. H. McCulloch, for road at Carlingford	20	0	0
	£334	16	3

P 2.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 9714.

The Treasury, 29 March, 1889.

RECEIVED from the Chairman, Casual Labour Board, the sum of thirty-three pounds three shillings and two pence, sterling, for collections, 1st July, 1887, to 31st December, 1888, sale of firewood, National Park.

P. J. HOLDSWORTH,
Pro Treasurer.

£33 3s. 2d.

Entd.—D.S.

P 3.

NEW SOUTH WALES

No. 5248.

The Treasury, 15 February, 1889.

RECEIVED from John Davies, Chairman, Casual Labour Board, the sum of fifty-two pounds thirteen shillings and two pence sterling, for collections, 1st September, 1887, to 31st December, 1888.

£52 3 2 amount received from sale of firewood.
10 0 damaged crockery sold.W. H. BARRACLOUGH,
Pro Treasurer.

£52 13 2

Entd.—D.S.

P 4.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

No. 6030.

The Treasury, 25 February, 1889.

RECEIVED from the Chairman, Casual Labour Board, the sum of eight pounds ten shillings sterling, for proceeds of sale of surplus stores—17 bags of sugar, sold at Carlingford, at 10s. per bag.

P. J. HOLDSWORTH,
Pro Treasurer.

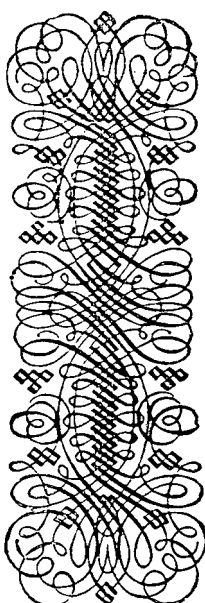
£8 10s.

Entd.—V.H.

[To

[To the Evidence of G. R. C. Neale.]

Q.



George R. C. Neale,
Auctioneer and Commission Agent, 78,
Engine-street, opposite
Hordern & Sons,
Haymarket,
and Darling Harbour.

Bank of
New South Wales,
Sydney.

Bank of
New South Wales,
Haymarket Branch,
paid May 17, 1887.

No. 031311.

The City Bank,
Sydney.

THE BANK OF
HAYMARKET

BANK.

NEW SOUTH WALES,
BRANCH,

Sydney, May 14th, 1887.

PAY Mr. T. S. Hinchliffe,

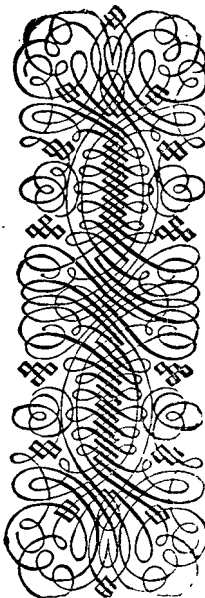
or Bearer, Twenty-six Pounds 17/7.

£26 17s. 7d.

~~GEO. ROBT. NEALE.~~

On back, C.B.

Q 1.



George R. C. Neale,
Auctioneer and Commission Agent, 78,
Engine-street, opposite
Hordern & Sons,
Haymarket,
and Darling Harbour.

Bank of
New South Wales
Sydney.

Bank of
New South Wales,
Haymarket Branch,
Paid September 26th,
1887.

No. 035306.

The City Bank,
Sydney.

THE BANK OF
HAYMARKET

BANK.

NEW SOUTH WALES,
BRANCH,

Sydney, September 22nd, 1887.

PAY Mr. E. M. Burrows, or

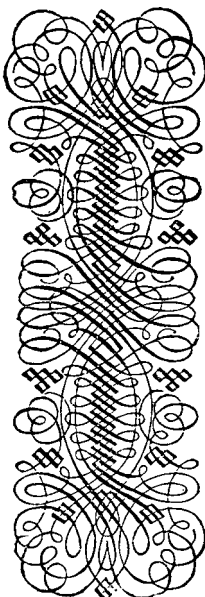
Bearer, Fifty-two Pounds 3/1.

£52 3s. 1d.

~~GEO. ROBT. NEALE.~~

On back, C.B.

Q 2.



George R. C. Neale,
Auctioneer and Commission Agent, 78,
Engine-street, opposite
Hordern & Sons,
Haymarket,
and Darling Harbour.

Bank of
New South Wales,
Sydney.

Bank of
New South Wales,
Haymarket Branch,
paid 20 , 188 .

No. 033009.

The City Bank,
Sydney.

THE BANK OF
HAYMARKET

BANK.

NEW SOUTH WALES,
BRANCH,

Sydney, July 19th, 1887.

PAY Mr. Burrowes, or Bearer,
2d. stg.

Thirty-three Pounds Three Shillings and

£33 3s. 2d.

~~GEO. ROBT. NEALE.~~

On back, C.B.

Q 3.

Q 3.

101 Engine-street, Haymarket, and Darling Harbour,
Sold on account of Mr. J. W. Deering, By GEORGE R. C. NEALE, Auctioneer and Commission Agent.

Sydney, April 2, 1889.

		Tons cwt.		s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
May 7, 1887.	No. 4,132.	Wood	4 7	5 6	1 3 11			
	2,394.	"	4 0	5 9	1 3 0			
	843.	"	4 6	5 9	1 4 9			
	2,944.	"	4 12	5 9	1 6 5			
	B 90.	"	4 9	5 9	1 5 7			
		Freight and stamp			2 9 1		6 3 8	
		Commission			0 6 3			
							<u>2 15 4</u>	3 8 4
May 9, 1887.	No. 1,525.	Wood	3 15	7 9	1 9 0			
	809.	"	4 2	7 0	1 8 8			
	2,036.	"	3 16	6 6	1 4 8			
	2,524.	"	4 2	6 9	1 7 8			
		Freight and stamp			1 17 0		5 10 0	
		Commission			0 5 3			
							<u>2 2 3</u>	3 7 9
May 9, 1887.	No. 811.	Wood	4 2	5 9	1 3 6			
	1,784.	"	4 5	5 9	1 4 5			
	4,050.	"	4 0	5 3	1 1 0			
	827.	"	4 6	5 9	1 4 8			
	2,766.	"	4 1	5 6	1 2 3			
		Freight and stamp			2 7 6		5 15 10	
		Commission			0 5 9			
							<u>2 13 3</u>	3 2 7
May 11, 1887.	No. 2,666.	Wood	3 19	5 6	1 1 8			
	G 18.	"	7 0	5 6	1 18 6			
	253.	"	3 15	5 3	0 19 8			
	1,607.	"	3 18	5 3	1 0 5			
		Freight and stamp			2 5 6		5 0 3	
		Commission			0 5 0			
							<u>2 10 6</u>	2 9 9
May 11, 1887.	No. 1,111.	Wood	3 14	5 6			1 0 4	
		Freight and stamp			0 9 3			
		Commission			0 1 0			
							<u>0 10 3</u>	0 10 1
May 12, 1887.	No. 2,372.	Wood	4 0	5 0	1 0 0			
	3,508.	"	3 11	5 0	0 17 9			
	2,943.	"	3 9	5 6	0 18 11			
	3,923.	"	4 0	5 6	1 2 0			
	1,454.	"	3 11	5 0	0 17 9			
		Freight and stamp			2 5 6		4 16 5	
		Commission			0 5 0			
							<u>2 10 6</u>	2 5 11
May 13, 1887.	No. 4,348.	Wood	3 15	4 9	0 17 9			
	3,545.	"	4 2	4 6	0 18 5			
		Freight and stamp			0 18 3		1 16 2	
		Commission			0 1 9			
							<u>1 0 0</u>	0 16 2
May 13, 1887.	No. 1,298.	Wood'	4 6	5 0	1 1 6			
	1,978.	"	4 1	5 0	1 0 3			
		Freight and stamp			0 19 2		2 1 9	
		Commission			0 2 0			
							<u>1 1 2</u>	1 0 7
May 7, 1887.	No. 1,631.	Wood	4 1	5 3	1 1 3			
	1,647.	"	4 4	5 3	1 2 0			
	1,492.	"	4 9	5 3	1 3 4			
	2,444.	"	4 3	5 6	1 2 10			
	2,829.	"	4 5	5 6	1 3 4			
		Freight and stamp			2 7 10		5 12 9	
		Commission			0 5 9			
							<u>2 13 7</u>	2 19 2
								20 0 4
		Carried forward.....						

				Brought forward.....		£ s. d.
		Tons. cwt.	s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	14 12 5
Sept. 3, 1887.	No. 3,525.	Wood	5 7	5 0	1 6 9	
	1,810.	"	4 8	5 0	1 2 0	
	4,419.	"	4 9	5 0	1 2 3	
	1,553.	"	4 5	5 0	1 1 3	
		Freight and stamp			2 2 8	4 12 3
		Commission			0 4 9	2 7 5
						2 4 10
Sept. 5, 1887.	No. 1,271.	Wood	4 9	5 0	1 2 3	
	1,139.	"	4 15	5 6	1 6 1	
	2,033.	"	4 13	5 0	1 2 3	
		Freight and stamp			1 12 1	3 11 7
		Commission			0 3 9	1 15 10
						1 15 9
Sept. 7 1887.	No. 2,546.	Wood	4 10	7 6	1 13 9	
	1,955.	"	4 15	7 6	1 15 7	
	3,779.	"	4 6	7 6	1 12 3	
		Freight and stamp			1 11 5	5 1 7
		Commission			0 5 3	1 16 8
						3 4 11
Sept. 7, 1887.	Rockdale, Nos. 3,753-1,410.	Wood	9 10	6 0		2 17 0
		Freight and stamp			0 17 11	
		Commission			0 3 0	1 0 11
						1 16 1
Sept. 10, 1887.	No. 2,099.	Wood	3 11	7 3	1 5 8	
	1,919.	"	4 19	7 3	1 15 10	
	811.	"	3 13	7 3	1 6 5	
	562.	"	4 4	7 3	1 10 5	
	1,717.	"	4 7	7 3	1 11 6	
		Freight and stamp			2 9 9	7 9 10
		Commission			0 7 6	2 17 3
						4 12 7
Sept. 15, 1887.	No. 1,492.	Wood	4 9	7 6	1 13 4	
	443.	"	4 17	7 6	1 16 4	
	968.	"	5 0	7 6	1 17 6	
	2,111.	"	5 3	7 6	1 18 7	
		Freight and stamp			2 5 0	7 5 9
		Commission			0 7 3	2 12 3
						4 13 6
Sept. 16, 1887.	No. 512.	Wood	4 6	6 0	1 5 9	
	3,006.	"	4 16	6 0	1 8 9	
	839.	"	4 16	6 0	1 8 9	
	1,263.	"	4 10	6 0	1 7 0	
	3,860.	"	5 0	6 0	1 10 0	
		Freight and stamp			2 14 1	7 0 3
		Commission			0 7 0	3 1 1
						3 19 2
Sept. 17 1887.	No. 719.	Wood	4 15	6 6	1 10 10	
	1,348.	"	4 13	6 6	1 10 2	
	1,713.	"	4 17	6 6	1 11 6	
	2,728.	"	4 19	6 6	1 12 2	
		Freight and stamp			2 4 4	6 4 8
		Commission			0 6 3	2 10 7
						3 14 1
Sept. 19, 1887.	No. 3,033.	Wood	4 9	5 6	1 4 5	
	3,024.	"	4 4	5 9	1 4 1	
	448.	"	3 16	5 6	1 0 10	
	1,141.	"	4 6	5 9	1 4 8	
	1,625.	"	4 4	5 6	1 3 1	
		Freight and stamp			2 9 1	5 17 1
		Commission			0 6 0	2 15 1
						3 2 0
Sept 20, 1887.	No. 4,100.	Wood	5 1	6 0	1 10 3	
	3,813.	"	4 17	6 0	1 9 0	
	3,507.	"	4 13	6 0	1 7 11	
		Freight and stamp			1 13 7	4 7 2
		Commission			0 4 6	1 18 1
						2 9 1
						46 4 5

Carried forward..... 46 4 5

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

LATE CASUAL LABOUR BOARD.

(REPORT OF MESSRS. MASON AND MILES ON WORKING OF.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 8 May, 1889.

Casual Labour Board, 82 Goulburn-street,

Sydney, 11 March, 1889.

Sir,

We have the honor to report that, in accordance with the instructions of the Honorable Colonial Secretary (Mr. Dibbs), we took charge of the duties appertaining to the Casual Labour Board on 25th January last, superseding the Board originally appointed.

Our instructions were confined to carrying on the works then in progress, *and to discharge one-third of the workmen at the end of each month so as to close the works at the end of the present month*, and finally wind-up the business of the Board.

These instructions so far have been carried out, and at the end of the present month the last section of workmen will be discharged and the works closed, although it will be necessary for a short period to retain a few men, overseers, and superintendents, for the purpose of collecting, and storing the plant, tools, &c., &c.; and also to keep this office open until the whole of the accounts of the Casual Labour Board have been finally settled.

With reference to the works which have been carried out under the Board in the construction of roads, &c., &c., Mr. Mason confined his attention principally to the works then in progress, and took every opportunity of visiting and examining them. He found in very many cases that great want of skill had been shown, both in laying them out and in their execution. Had this labour been skilfully directed, the result would have been works of a more permanent and satisfactory kind, as well as a great saving of useless expenditure.

All that could practically be done to remedy this state of things has been done, during the short time we have had charge of the works.

With reference to the form of rendering accounts to the Treasury and Audit Departments we have, according to our instructions, complied with their wishes, the form used being practically the same as that of the former Board; we find that accurate records have been kept of all moneys disbursed by the late Board.

The vouchers for the expenditure before our appointment having been forwarded to the Treasury (some of them having been sent on thence to the Auditor-General) have not been available to us, but in the unpaid accounts against the late Board, which were handed over to us, there are a few apparent discrepancies of unimportant amounts, into which we are now inquiring. The most serious matter connected with the accounts which has come under our notice is the double payment of £125 17s. 8d. for seed purchased; but we have obtained a refund of that amount from the contractor, and have lodged it in the Treasury.

We have also found the late Board received the aggregate sum of £334 16s. 3d. for proceeds of the sale of firewood, &c., from the National Park, which instead of having been paid into the Treasury was deposited in the Australian Joint Stock Bank, Sydney, to the credit of the account opened there by the Government in favor of the late Board, and has been disbursed by the late Board as per vouchers in our possession.

A small sum of money was, we were informed, in the hands of the Chairman of the late Board, on behalf of a few men who had not applied for wages due to and drawn for them.

The respective amounts are noted in a book now in the possession of the Auditor-General, and probably the total amount has ere this been paid into the unclaimed wages account at the Treasury.

In due course we shall render a final and complete report of our dealings with the matter entrusted to us.

We have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servants,

WILLIAM MASON, C.E.
JOHN B. C. MILES.

The Principal Under Secretary, Sydney.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

LATE CASUAL LABOUR BOARD.

(MR. JOHN DAVIES' EXPLANATION ON ALLEGATIONS MADE AGAINST HIM IN THE SPECIAL REPORT OF ROYAL COMMISSION ON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 8 May, 1889.

The Principal Under Secretary to The Honorable John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C.

Sir,

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 6 May, 1889.

I am directed by the Colonial Secretary to transmit herewith, for your perusal, a copy of a Special Report from the Royal Commission now inquiring into the general management of the late Casual Labour Board, together with a Report from the two gentlemen appointed to examine into the accounts and the working of that Board, and shall be glad if you will be good enough to furnish me with any explanation you may desire to make.

I have, &c.,

CRITCHETT WALKER,

Principal Under Secretary.

The Honorable John Davies, C.M.G., M.L.C., to The Colonial Secretary.

Sir,

Sydney, 8 May, 1889.

I have the honor to enclose an explanatory paper, for your information, having reference to the allegations contained in the Progress Report of the Royal Commission to inquire into the workings of the Casual Labour Board.

I desire to inform you that when Colonel Wells was being examined by the Commission, he, on behalf of the Board, requested that permission be granted for the representation of the Board during the inquiry, in order that we might hear the evidence and cross-examine witnesses, which application was refused.

This is a sample of the justice and impartiality shown to the members of the late Board by the Commission.

I have, &c.,

JOHN DAVIES.

[*Enclosure.*]

The Honorable Sir Henry Parkes, G.C.M.G., Colonial Secretary,—

Sir,

6 May, 1889.

With your usual sense of justice, you afford me an opportunity of placing this explanatory paper before the Assembly concurrently with the Report of a Royal Commission, and of Messrs. Mason and Miles, on the expenditure under the late Relief Board.

In May, 1887, when the difficulty of finding work for the unemployed was very considerable, you, Sir, requested me to undertake the task of finding employment for them of a kind which would make some return to the State for the contemplated expenditure.

From May, 1887, to January, 1889, I performed this duty, associated with Colonel Wells and Mr. Houston, until 25th January last, when, on a change of administration, I was peremptorily called upon by the new Colonial Secretary, Mr. G. R. Dibbs, to discontinue my connection with the work, which was then transferred to the hands of Messrs. Mason and Miles. Later on (20th February, 1889) a Royal Commission was appointed by Mr. Dibbs to make a diligent and full inquiry into the working of the Casual Labour Board, from the time of its appointment until the 23rd January, 1889, and for other purposes named in the Commission.

On

On the 11th of March of the present year, Messrs. Mason and Miles made a Progress Report, which I do not quote here, but I refer to it as showing that the *bona fides* of myself and those acting with me has not been questioned.

With respect to the Report of the Royal Commission, the case is different. The gentlemen forming the Commission seem to have felt themselves called upon to report that, in the management of the affairs of the Casual Labour Board, I have been guilty of grave irregularities, in reference to which they recommend that the opinion and advice of the Crown Law Officers should be taken as to whether any further action should be adopted.

I am perfectly willing to admit that the conduct of any person charged with the expenditure of public money should be open to the fullest scrutiny, but then inquiry should be surrounded with some of the forms of justice. The object of the Commission was really to try me; and, during that trial, I have been deprived of those rights which would have been maintained in a court of justice. For instance, I was not allowed to be present at the inquiry. I was not allowed to cross-examine witnesses; I was not allowed to call witnesses. Everything, so far as I was concerned, was conducted with the secrecy which is alien to British sentiment and practice. I know of no case where the magistrate at a police office, or the Judge on the Bench, would find it to be consistent with the nature of his office to run about from place to place, and from person to person, to seek for evidence to inculcate the accused.

There are three charges made against me:—

1. As to the alleged misappropriation on the 16th of May, 1887, and the absolute retention of £26 17s. 7d.
2. As to the alleged misappropriation, on the 26th of Sept., 1887, of £52 3s. 1d., and its retention from that date until the 15th of February, 1889.
3. As to the alleged misappropriation, on 19th July, 1887, of £33 3s. 2d., and its retention from that date to 29th of March, 1889.

So far as the Commission has reported, there are but three irregularities in the expenditure of £240,000, extending over a term of nearly two years. I do not think that this circumstance involves any great censure upon me, engaged in a very arduous task, the nature of which compelled prompt payment to a large number of individuals scattered over various localities, without much opportunity of personally attending to accounts as matters went along.

The first amount of £26 17s. 7d. is shown to be paid into my private account in the City Bank, and it is also shown that on the credit-slip directions as to its use, apart from a public use, are marked in my handwriting. But this very circumstance, which shows the absence of concealment, deprives the transaction of the badge of fraud. Is it not plain that a person contemplating fraud would never by paying money over a Bank counter, and using a Bank deposit slip, establish against himself documentary evidence of a damaging character?

I deeply regret that, owing to a clerical omission in connection with the recording of the transactions of account sales and the disbursements relating to the same, this cheque for £26 17s. 7d. was paid with other moneys of my own to my personal credit, and in consequence was not adjusted prior to my relinquishing office. Now that I am made aware of the fact, I have at once paid the amount for adjustment into the Treasury.

With respect to transactions Nos. 2 and 3, which are most erroneously termed misappropriations, the question in the minds of the Commissioners seems to have resolved itself into one of interest, and it is made a matter of lamentation that the Government account in the Joint Stock Bank should have been deprived of a sum of interest due to the Crown of some £4 or £5. I myself emphatically dissent from the allegation that these sums (2 and 3) can in any proper sense of the word be termed misappropriations. Charged with the expenditure of some £240,000 of public money over a continuous period, with the obligation to make periodical adjustments, if in my final adjustment I paid in this money, which I did of my own free-will, the only damage done to the Government is the loss of the interest before referred to.

I have further to say, with reference to the allegations Nos. 2 and 3 contained in the Report, that I had appropriated for my own use the proceeds of two cheques from a given date to a given date, that this is totally untrue, and at variance with my evidence given before the Commission. As is well known, the Treasury do not receive cheques from tradespeople, and I cashed the cheques referred to in my own bank, and placed sums equivalent in gold and notes in the office-safe with other trust moneys, of which the Audit Department had a knowledge. This course was rendered necessary for the convenience of the men, so that they could obtain the small balances of wages which were owing, varying from one penny to twenty-five shillings. These sums remained in the office-safe until the adjustments were made for the closing up of the affairs of the Casual Labour Board, making a total of £180; consequently, there was no misappropriation, as the amounts were ultimately paid into the Treasury. While under examination I offered to give written authority to the President to go to my bankers and ascertain from them whether I had drawn or cashed any cheques for the purpose of the adjustments referred to, as a further proof that the money was in the office awaiting payment into the Treasury. All these sums I paid into the Treasury long before my examination, and I was in no way requested to do so by the Audit Department, or by Messrs. Miles and Mason. As the Chairman of the late Board I was responsible, and recognized it as my duty to do so. I informed the Commission, in answer to a question, that I had as far as I knew adjusted all moneys that I held, but should there be found any outstanding discrepancies, I was prepared to make the adjustment, on being permitted to have access to the books, papers, and documents of the office, of which my colleagues and self were deprived when superseded by Messrs. Miles and Mason, and they were placed in possession of all books and records of the office before we received any official intimation of the appointment.

Previous to the above appointment we applied to the late Colonial Secretary for the Treasury Inspector to examine our books, vouchers, &c., but instead of complying with our request we were summarily removed; and I have no hesitation in saying that if our request had been complied with, a saving of at least £3,000 would have been effected, which will now be absorbed in fees to pay the Royal Commission and staff. It is only fair to say that Messrs. Miles and Mason reported that they found that correct records were kept of the receipts and expenditure, and that they practically carried out the system that we had adopted.

During

During our term of office we spent on the several works under our control up to the 31st December, 1888, the sum of £240,000. Acquittances for this expenditure were forwarded to the Treasury and the Audit Department. Although a great expenditure has been incurred in directing this large body of labour, it will be seen that the work carried out in improving Crown lands subdivisions, the making of public roads, the beautifying of public parks, and other public works, that good and substantial value has been realized for the expenditure.

When we took over the charge of the "unemployed," there were on the several works 4,010 men, and during the period we were in existence upwards of 8,000 men passed through the books, and of this number about 2,400 were provided with private employment at the current rate of wages, and a large number, profiting by the temporary assistance afforded them, have been enabled to find employment in the ordinary channels of labour. We found it no easy task in directing so large a body of mixed labour, so that the best results might be obtained, and the prejudicial impression created abroad by the massing of large numbers of unemployed in the city, and the besieging of public offices, was abolished by the action taken by us. I submit from the above facts that I have good cause to complain of the treatment I have received in return for the time and labour spent in the performance of the onerous duties devolving upon me as Chairman of the late Board—occupy my time, on an average, from twelve to fourteen hours daily, and travelling about 500 miles per week, rendered necessary in consequence of the works being distributed over five-and-twenty different places, and many of them very inaccessible. I am sure it was never contemplated, nor was it desired by the State, that I should devote the whole of my time, and spend my own money, in carrying out the duties of my office without fair remuneration, of which I have yet not received one shilling.

I have, &c.,

JOHN DAVIES.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

LATE CASUAL LABOUR BOARD.

(OPINION OF C. E. PILCHER, ESQUIRE, Q.C., ON CHARGES PREFERRED AGAINST THE HONORABLE JOHN DAVIES, C.M.G., IN SPECIAL REPORT OF ROYAL COMMISSION ON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 17 May, 1889.

No. 1.

The Colonial Secretary to The Attorney-General.

My dear Mr. Simpson,

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 9 May, 1889.

I am sorry to trouble you in your present state of indisposition, but the case presented by the accompanying papers requires immediate attention. The papers consist of:—

* A. A Special Report from the Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission.

* B. A Report from the present Casual Labour Board.

* C. A letter in reference to the foregoing Reports from the Hon. John Davies.

You will observe that on page 2 of this printed copy of the Report from the Commission it is suggested that the special matter reported upon be "referred for the opinion and advice of the Crown Law Officers as to whether any further action shall be taken." Having received from Mr. Davies such explanation as he has considered it necessary to make, I invite you, as the legal adviser of the Government, to give your opinion on the transaction in which that gentleman is reported to have been concerned.

Yours, &c.,

HENRY PARKES.

No. 2.

The Principal Under Secretary to The Crown Solicitor.

Sir,

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 9 May, 1889.

I am directed by the Colonial Secretary to send you herewith copies of documents* relating to No. 1. certain conduct of the Honorable John Davies, as Chairman of the late Casual Labour Board, together with copy of a letter to the Attorney-General.

Sir Henry Parkes regrets to say that he has received a message from Mr. Simpson that he is at present too ill to attend to anything. Under these circumstances the Colonial Secretary desires you to retain the services of a barrister of the Supreme Court to act in this matter, placing him in possession of the documents and a copy of the letter to the Attorney-General.

I have, &c.,

CRITCHETT WALKER,

Principal Under Secretary.

No. 3.

The Crown Solicitor to C. E. Pilcher, Esq., Q.C.

In re the Casual Labour Board and the Honorable John Davies.

A COMMISSION, under the Great Seal of the Colony, having been appointed to inquire into the working of the Casual Labour Board, the Commissioners on 29th April last forwarded to His Excellency the Governor a Special Report upon a particular matter which came under their notice while the inquiry was being made by them; that matter is the way in which the Chairman of the Board has dealt with moneys received by him as such Chairman.

A copy of the Special Report is forwarded herewith; it is marked A.*

The Report being laid upon the Table of the Assembly, thereupon Mr. Davies forwarded a letter to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, a printed copy of which, marked C,* is also forwarded herewith.

Upon this the Colonial Secretary forwarded the papers to the Honorable the Attorney-General, inviting him as the legal adviser of the Government to give his opinion upon the transaction in which Mr. Davies is reported to have been concerned.

In reply the Attorney-General informed the Colonial Secretary that he is too ill to attend to anything; the Colonial Secretary has therefore instructed me to retain the services of a barrister of the Supreme Court to act in this matter, and directed me to place in the hands of the gentleman so retained the documents above-mentioned, and also a copy of Sir Henry Parkes' letter to the Attorney-General; No. 1. of this letter the paper herewith sent, marked D, is a copy. As

* Laid upon the Table of the Legislative Assembly on 8th May, 1889.

[Enclosure.]

As it seems to me to be necessary that the document by which the Casual Labour Board was appointed should also be considered, I have obtained a copy, and herewith forward same; it is marked E.

Although the papers are sent to be advised upon because the Attorney-General is not able to deal with the matter, who, as a member of the Executive Council, could have advised his colleague generally upon the matter, the only advising now required is as to the legal aspect of the case; that is, whether the papers disclose facts in respect of which Mr. Davies is liable to be prosecuted criminally.

This will, it is thought, depend mainly upon the question of his position with the Government; and a copy of the letter under which he was appointed and acted is with the papers herewith sent.

It is thought that Sir Henry Parkes' minute of date 2nd May, 1887, addressed to Messrs. Davies, Wells, and Houison, and their acting thereunder, constitute such an employment in the Public Service, and would render them liable to be dealt with under the 121st and 122nd sections of the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1888. Nor probably can Mr. Davies be said to be an agent as to the money received by him, with a direction in writing as to the way in which such money is to be dealt with, so as to come under the 126th section of the Act, nor under the 127th section; and it is difficult to see in what way he can be said to be a trustee under the 133rd section, which makes trustees of any property for a public purpose liable for its misappropriation.

It has been suggested that by reason of his employment, and acting under the minute above referred to, if there is no section of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act under which he may be dealt with, he may be proceeded against as for a misdemeanour at Common Law, the appropriation to his own use of the cheque given in payment for wood supplied by the Board, being a fraud committed by him in his official capacity. (*See Russell on Crimes, vol. 1, p. 302.*)

It is thought desirable that counsel in advising upon this matter should state fully his reasons for thinking either that Mr. Davies can or cannot be proceeded against criminally.

Will counsel please consider this matter as urgent, as the Honorable the Colonial Secretary is anxious to deal with it at once.

JOHN WILLIAMS,
Crown Solicitor,
11 May, 1889.

[Enclosure E.]

THE chief object I have in view, ultimately, is to draft the men off in parties of 400 to 600 to permanent works where their labour may be of value to the country, and from which they may be gradually absorbed (or, at least, a portion of them) by private employers.

In furtherance of this object, work will be provided in the Northern, Southern, and Western divisions of the Colony, in making tanks, works for irrigation purposes, deepening water-courses, and the like. Besides these works, commenced sooner than they might have been under other circumstances, but still of a legitimate character, there will be the construction of the North Shore Railway within a short time, and the conversion of the Lachlan Swamp into a public park, and some limited employment under municipal bodies.

By these various means it is hoped that employment may be found shortly for all industrious men, and that the difficulty will be practically removed.

In the meantime I wish a kind of Labour Bureau opened in Sydney, where a proper register shall be placed in charge of a careful and trustworthy person. I assume that a suitable office may be obtained in Hyde Park Barracks, and one of the clerks there hitherto employed may be detailed off for this duty. In this register the name of every applicant must be entered, with the following particulars:—

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Trade or calling—
Age—
Nationality—
Married or single. If married—number and ages of children—
Date of arrival in the Colony—
Where from—
How long unemployed—
Name of last employer—
Substance of any certificate of character—

In connection with this principal office in Sydney communication will be established with local authorities in the principal country districts, with a view to obtaining employment for individuals.

All temporary assistance must be given after due inquiry, and in view of the ultimate objects arrived at.

2nd May, 1887.

HENRY PARKES.

John Davies, Esq., C.M.G.; Col. F. Wells; D. Houison, Esq.

No. 4.

The Crown Solicitor to The Principal Under Secretary.

Sir,

Crown Solicitor's Office, Sydney, 15 May, 1889.

I have the honor to state that having submitted a case to Mr. Pilcher, Q.C., as to the action, if any, that can be taken against the Honorable John Davies, with reference to the matter mentioned in the Special Report as to the Casual Labour Board, I have received Mr. Pilcher's advising thereon, a copy of which I forward herewith.

I have, &c.,

JOHN WILLIAMS,
Crown Solicitor.

[Enclosure.]

[Enclosure.]

Opinion of C. E. Pilcher, Esq., Q.C.

THE Government of New South Wales in the year 1887 determined to establish a Labour Bureau for the regulation of the employment of the surplus labour in the Colony. For that purpose the then Colonial Secretary, Sir Henry Parkes, upon the 2nd day of May, 1887, addressed a letter, from which the following is an extract, to John Davies, Esq., C.M.G., Colonel F. Wells, and D. Houston, Esq. :—

“The chief object I have in view ultimately is to draft the men off in parties of 400 to 600 to permanent works, where their labour may be of value to the country, and from which they may be periodically absorbed (or at least a portion of them) by private employers.

“In furtherance of this object, work will be provided in the Northern, Southern, and Western Divisions of the Colony, in making tanks, works for irrigation purposes, deepening water-courses, and the like. Besides these works, commenced sooner than they might have been under other circumstances, but still of a legitimate character, there will be the construction of the North Shore Railway within a short time, and the conversion of the Lachlan Swamp into a public park, and some limited employment under municipal bodies.

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“In connection with this principal office in Sydney, communication will be established with local authorities in the principal country districts with a view to obtaining employment for individuals.

“All temporary assistance must be given after due inquiry, and in view of the ultimate objects arrived at.”

This is the document under which I understand these three gentlemen became what has come to be known as the Casual Labour Board, and this document is, as I am instructed, the only appointment or authority, in writing or verbal, under which these gentlemen performed any duties on behalf of the Government. It will be observed that the duties and position of the Board are not defined. Further, I understand that those duties were performed voluntarily and without any consideration.

It is clear, therefore, that any or all of these gentlemen could have declined at first to act, or could at any time have refused to continue the duties of the Board; they were in no way bound to the Government.

It appears that after the letter of the 2nd May these gentlemen did act as the Casual Labour Board, Mr. Davies being Chairman, and practically doing everything that was done.

According to the evidence taken before the Royal Commission, it appears that before the Casual Labour Board came into existence a certain contract for cutting wood had been let by a Mr. Deering.

This wood was after being cut sent to Sydney to Mr. Neale, an auctioneer, for sale on behalf of the Government.

The sale of the wood was, it appears, carried out after the Casual Labour Board came into existence, and the evidence shows that Mr. Neale was in the habit of transmitting the proceeds of the wood sales by cheques to the Casual Labour Board.

The auctioneer's cheques, or perhaps the account-sales attached thereto, appear to have been used as the vouchers upon which payments were made to the contractors.

Of the cheques so sent by Mr. Neale to the Casual Labour Board, Mr. Davies personally received, amongst others, three cheques, bearing date respectively 16th May, 1887, for £26 17s. 7d., 19th July, 1887, for £33 3s. 2d., and 26th September, 1887, for £52 3s. 1d. These three cheques were drawn in favor of T. S. Hinchcliffe, E. M. Burrowes, and Burrowes respectively, and were paid by Mr. Davies himself into his own private account at the City Bank.

The proceeds of two of these cheques Mr. Davies seems to have retained for a very long time, in fact until the 15th February, 1889, and the 29th of March, 1889. The proceeds of the first cheque are still in his possession. These cheques were all received by Mr. Davies as Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, and there can be no doubt, altogether apart from the question of criminality, that his appropriation of the cheques and their proceeds, as disclosed in the evidence, was highly reprehensible.

Upon the above evidence being disclosed, the Royal Commission made an interim report to His Excellency the Governor, and Mr. Davies made a reply thereto, addressed to the Colonial Secretary. Both of these documents, together with the evidence, have been perused by me.

Under these circumstances I am asked to advise whether Mr. Davies can be prosecuted successfully for any criminal offence.

The evidence taken before the Royal Commission is certainly strong to prove that Mr. Davies received the cheques on behalf of the Government, and that he appropriated them and their proceeds to his own use.

That is, upon his trial there would be ample evidence to go to the Jury upon that part of the case. The main question, and the only one which creates any difficulty in the case, is whether Mr. Davies occupied a position with reference to the Government at the time of his receipt and appropriation of the cheques and their proceeds which would make his conduct criminal. I think that, although he sailed very close to the wind, his position at the time saves him from any criminal proceeding.

I have already said that, apart from Mr. Davies' position, there was ample evidence to go to the Jury upon the rest of the case on a charge of embezzlement. What was his position? He was acting purely voluntarily and without any remuneration, and in fact without any appointment other than that contained in the letter of 2nd May, 1887.

The position he filled was not held under any contract or appointment, nor was he bound to accept it, or to retain it, or to perform all or any part of the duties devolving upon the position.

Besides, he was not requested or instructed to receive the proceeds of the wood sales, nor indeed does it appear to have been a matter contemplated by the Government that moneys would arise from any such sources, and the cheques were received by him as moneys arising out of a contract with which he, as Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, had nothing to do; it was no part of his duty to receive the cheques in any way whatever; at the same time his receipt of the cheques was perfectly legal and free from any crime. The question of criminal liability in respect of the cheques seems to me to depend upon the construction of the 121st, 122nd, 126th, 127th, 133rd, and 129th sections of the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1888, and upon the question whether Mr. Davies has been guilty of a common law offence. The 121st section provides that "whosoever being employed in the Public Service shall" &c. The 122nd section provides that "whosoever being employed as last aforesaid" that is employed in the Public Service. There is no definition in the Act of what these words mean, but I clearly take them to mean a person who has been duly appointed to some position in the Public Service and not to a mere volunteer, who, in fact, holds no appointment, receives no remuneration, and is not under any legal obligation to perform any work for the Government.

Next as to the 126th and 127th sections, I do not think the case comes within the 126th section, nor within the 127th. Not under the 126th, because at any rate there was no direction in writing given to Mr. Davies with reference to the cheques; nor within the 127th section, because Mr. Davies was not an agent within the meaning of the section. The 129th section provides that the word "agent" shall include banker, &c., &c., and any other person acting in the capacity of an agent so entrusted." In my opinion these words do not include a person who voluntarily and without remuneration, and not being one of the class of persons enumerated, nor following similar avocations, receives cheques on behalf of another.

The last section is the 133rd. That section provides that "whosoever being a trustee of property," &c. The word "trustee" is defined in the interpretation clause, section 3, to mean a trustee upon some express trust howsoever created, and shall include," &c. Mr. Davies does not appear to me to be a trustee within the meaning of the 133rd section.

I do not find any other section in the Criminal Law Amendment Act which includes such a case as the present. It seems to be a case omitted from the statute.

As to the common law liability, I cannot find any authority for saying that under the circumstances in this case, especially with reference to the position Mr. Davies held in regard to the Government, a criminal prosecution can be successfully undertaken.

I may add that I have not lost sight of the statements contained in Mr. Davies' letter to the Colonial Secretary, under date the 6th day of May, 1889. They do not appear to me to alter the case, or to establish any criminal liability in respect to his dealings with the cheques.

Upon the whole, I cannot advise that a criminal prosecution will be successful, as in my opinion Mr. Davies' position as Chairman of the Casual Labor Board does not, under the circumstances disclosed to me in my instructions, make him amenable to any provisions in the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1888, nor do I think he is criminally liable at common law.

C. E. PILCHER.

14 May, 1889.

No. 5.

The Crown Solicitor to The Principal Under Secretary.

Sir,

Crown Solicitor's Office, Sydney, 17 May, 1889.

I have the honor to inform you that I have just received from Mr. Pilcher, Q.C., a further opinion in the matter of the Hon. John Davies, which I forward herewith.

As I have not had time to make a copy of this opinion I send the original, and shall therefore be obliged by you returning it to me when it is no longer required.

I have, &c.,

JOHN WILLIAMS,
Crown Solicitor.

[Enclosure.]

Further Opinion of C. E. Pilcher, Esq., Q.C.

Re Davies.—When writing my opinion, which I have already sent to the Crown Solicitor, my attention was directed entirely to the question of Mr. Davies' liability to indictment for a criminal offence. It did not occur to my mind, nor indeed did I suppose that the Government contemplated taking any proceedings which could only result in a summary conviction, with a comparatively trifling punishment. I mention this because I have since considered the 154th section of the Criminal Law Amendment Act. That section would apply to Mr. Davies' case if the word person includes the Government. The word person is defined in the third section of the said Act to include any society, company, or corporation. It seems to me that to make either of these appellations include the Government of New South Wales would be straining the ordinary meaning of the words. In addition, the punishment provided is on summary conviction, and is limited to three months' imprisonment, or a fine of £20. I admit I overlooked the section at first, but I must add that I am strongly of opinion this is not the kind of proceeding contemplated by the Government, or upon which my opinion was asked. And further, for the reasons above given, I doubt extremely whether the section applies.

C. E. PILCHER.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

LATE CASUAL LABOUR BOARD.

(OPINIONS OF C. E. PILCHER, ESQUIRE, Q.C., AND F. E. ROGERS, ESQUIRE, Q.C., ON CHARGES PREFERRED AGAINST THE HONORABLE JOHN DAVIES, C.M.G., IN SPECIAL REPORT OF ROYAL COMMISSION ON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 5 June, 1889.

No. 1.

The Colonial Secretary to The Attorney-General.

My dear Mr. Simpson,

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 9 May, 1889.

I am sorry to trouble you in your present state of indisposition, but the case presented by the accompanying papers requires immediate attention. The papers consist of:—

* A. A Special Report from the Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission.

* B. A Report from the present Casual Labour Board.

* C. A letter in reference to the foregoing Reports from the Hon. John Davies.

You will observe that on page 2 of this printed copy of the Report from the Commission it is suggested that the special matter reported upon be "referred for the opinion and advice of the Crown Law Officers as to whether any further action shall be taken." Having received from Mr. Davies such explanation as he has considered it necessary to make, I invite you, as the legal adviser of the Government, to give your opinion on the transaction in which that gentleman is reported to have been concerned.

Yours, &c.,

HENRY PARKES.

No. 2.

The Principal Under Secretary to The Crown Solicitor.

Sir,

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 9 May, 1889.

I am directed by the Colonial Secretary to send you herewith copies of documents* relating to certain conduct of the Honorable John Davies, as Chairman of the late Casual Labour Board, together with copy of a letter to the Attorney-General.

No. 1.

Sir Henry Parkes regrets to say that he has received a message from Mr. Simpson that he is at present too ill to attend to anything. Under these circumstances the Colonial Secretary desires you to retain the services of a barrister of the Supreme Court to act in this matter, placing him in possession of the documents and a copy of the letter to the Attorney-General.

I have, &c.,

CRITCHETT WALKER,

Principal Under Secretary.

No. 3.

The Crown Solicitor to C. E. Pilcher, Esq., Q.C.

In re the Casual Labour Board and the Honorable John Davies.

A COMMISSION, under the Great Seal of the Colony, having been appointed to inquire into the working of the Casual Labour Board, the Commissioners on 29th April last forwarded to His Excellency the Governor a Special Report upon a particular matter which came under their notice while the inquiry was being made by them; that matter is the way in which the Chairman of the Board has dealt with moneys received by him as such Chairman.

A copy of the Special Report is forwarded herewith; it is marked A.*

The Report being laid upon the Table of the Assembly, thereupon Mr. Davies forwarded a letter to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, a printed copy of which, marked C,* is also forwarded herewith.

Upon this the Colonial Secretary forwarded the papers to the Honorable the Attorney-General, inviting him as the legal adviser of the Government to give his opinion upon the transaction in which Mr. Davies is reported to have been concerned.

In reply the Attorney-General informed the Colonial Secretary that he is too ill to attend to anything; the Colonial Secretary has therefore instructed me to retain the services of a barrister of the Supreme Court to act in this matter, and directed me to place in the hands of the gentleman so retained the documents above-mentioned, and also a copy of Sir Henry Parkes' letter to the Attorney-General; of this letter the paper herewith sent, marked D, is a copy.

As No. 1.

* Laid upon the Table of the Legislative Assembly on 8th May, 1889.

[Enclosure.]

As it seems to me to be necessary that the document by which the Casual Labour Board was appointed should also be considered, I have obtained a copy, and herewith forward same; it is marked E.

Although the papers are sent to be advised upon because the Attorney-General is not able to deal with the matter, who, as a member of the Executive Council, could have advised his colleague generally upon the matter, the only advising now required is as to the legal aspect of the case; that is, whether the papers disclose facts in respect of which Mr. Davies is liable to be prosecuted criminally.

This will, it is thought, depend mainly upon the question of his position with the Government; and a copy of the letter under which he was appointed and acted is with the papers herewith sent.

It is thought that Sir Henry Parkes' minute of date 2nd May, 1887, addressed to Messrs. Davies, Wells, and Houison, and their acting thereunder, constitute such an employment in the Public Service, and would render them liable to be dealt with under the 121st and 122nd sections of the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1888. Nor probably can Mr. Davies be said to be an agent as to the money received by him, with a direction in writing as to the way in which such money is to be dealt with, so as to come under the 126th section of the Act, nor under the 127th section; and it is difficult to see in what way he can be said to be a trustee under the 133rd section, which makes trustees of any property for a public purpose liable for its misappropriation.

It has been suggested that by reason of his employment, and acting under the minute above referred to, if there is no section of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act under which he may be dealt with, he may be proceeded against as for a misdemeanour at Common Law, the appropriation to his own use of the cheque given in payment for wood supplied by the Board, being a fraud committed by him in his official capacity. (*See Russell on Crimes, vol. 1, p. 302.*)

It is thought desirable that counsel in advising upon this matter should state fully his reasons for thinking either that Mr. Davies can or cannot be proceeded against criminally.

Will counsel please consider this matter as urgent, as the Honorable the Colonial Secretary is anxious to deal with it at once.

JOHN WILLIAMS,
Crown Solicitor,
11 May, 1889.

[Enclosure E.]

THE chief object I have in view, ultimately, is to draft the men off in parties of 400 to 600 to permanent works where their labour may be of value to the country, and from which they may be gradually absorbed (or, at least, a portion of them) by private employers.

In furtherance of this object, work will be provided in the Northern, Southern, and Western divisions of the Colony, in making tanks, works for irrigation purposes, deepening water-courses, and the like. Besides these works, commenced sooner than they might have been under other circumstances, but still of a legitimate character, there will be the construction of the North Shore Railway within a short time, and the conversion of the Lachlan Swamp into a public park, and some limited employment under municipal bodies.

By these various means it is hoped that employment may be found shortly for all industrious men, and that the difficulty will be practically removed.

In the meantime I wish a kind of Labour Bureau opened in Sydney, where a proper register shall be placed in charge of a careful and trustworthy person. I assume that a suitable office may be obtained in Hyde Park Barracks, and one of the clerks there hitherto employed may be detailed off for this duty. In this register the name of every applicant must be entered, with the following particulars:—

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Name of last employer—
Substance of any certificate of character—

In connection with this principal office in Sydney communication will be established with local authorities in the principal country districts, with a view to obtaining employment for individuals.

All temporary assistance must be given after due inquiry, and in view of the ultimate objects arrived at.

2nd May, 1887.

HENRY PARKES.

John Davies, Esq., C.M.G.; Col. F. Wells; D. Houison, Esq.

No. 4.

The Crown Solicitor to The Principal Under Secretary.

Sir,

Crown Solicitor's Office, Sydney, 15 May, 1889.

I have the honor to state that having submitted a case to Mr. Pilcher, Q.C., as to the action, if any, that can be taken against the Honorable John Davies, with reference to the matter mentioned in the Special Report as to the Casual Labour Board, I have received Mr. Pilcher's advising thereon, a copy of which I forward herewith.

I have, &c.,

JOHN WILLIAMS,
Crown Solicitor.

[Enclosure.]

[Enclosure.]

Opinion of C. E. Pilcher, Esq., Q.C.

THE Government of New South Wales in the year 1887 determined to establish a Labour Bureau for the regulation of the employment of the surplus labour in the Colony. For that purpose the then Colonial Secretary, Sir Henry Parkes, upon the 2nd day of May, 1887, addressed a letter, from which the following is an extract, to John Davies, Esq., C.M.G., Colonel F. Wells, and D. Houston, Esq. :—

“The chief object I have in view ultimately is to draft the men off in parties of 400 to 600 to permanent works, where their labour may be of value to the country, and from which they may be periodically absorbed (or at least a portion of them) by private employers.

“In furtherance of this object, work will be provided in the Northern, Southern, and Western Divisions of the Colony, in making tanks, works for irrigation purposes, deepening water-courses, and the like. Besides these works, commenced sooner than they might have been under other circumstances, but still of a legitimate character, there will be the construction of the North Shore Railway within a short time, and the conversion of the Lachlan Swamp into a public park, and some limited employment under municipal bodies.

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“All temporary assistance must be given after due inquiry, and in view of the ultimate objects arrived at.”

This is the document under which I understand these three gentlemen became what has come to be known as the Casual Labour Board, and this document is, as I am instructed, the only appointment or authority, in writing or verbal, under which these gentlemen performed any duties on behalf of the Government. It will be observed that the duties and position of the Board are not defined. Further, I understand that those duties were performed voluntarily and without any consideration.

It is clear, therefore, that any or all of these gentlemen could have declined at first to act, or could at any time have refused to continue the duties of the Board; they were in no way bound to the Government.

It appears that after the letter of the 2nd May these gentlemen did act as the Casual Labour Board, Mr. Davies being Chairman, and practically doing everything that was done.

According to the evidence taken before the Royal Commission, it appears that before the Casual Labour Board came into existence a certain contract for cutting wood had been let by a Mr. Deering.

This wood was after being cut sent to Sydney to Mr. Neale, an auctioneer, for sale on behalf of the Government.

The sale of the wood was, it appears, carried out after the Casual Labour Board came into existence, and the evidence shows that Mr. Neale was in the habit of transmitting the proceeds of the wood sales by cheques to the Casual Labour Board.

The auctioneer's cheques, or perhaps the account-sales attached thereto, appear to have been used as the vouchers upon which payments were made to the contractors.

Of the cheques so sent by Mr. Neale to the Casual Labour Board, Mr. Davies personally received, amongst others, three cheques, bearing date respectively 16th May, 1887, for £26 17s. 7d., 19th July, 1887, for £33 3s. 2d., and 26th September, 1887, for £52 3s. 1d. These three cheques were drawn in favor of T. S. Hinchcliffe, E. M. Burrowes, and Burrowes respectively, and were paid by Mr. Davies himself into his own private account at the City Bank.

The proceeds of two of these cheques Mr. Davies seems to have retained for a very long time, in fact until the 15th February, 1889, and the 29th of March, 1889. The proceeds of the first cheque are still in his possession. These cheques were all received by Mr. Davies as Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, and there can be no doubt, altogether apart from the question of criminality, that his appropriation of the cheques and their proceeds, as disclosed in the evidence, was highly reprehensible.

Upon the above evidence being disclosed, the Royal Commission made an interim report to His Excellency the Governor, and Mr. Davies made a reply thereto, addressed to the Colonial Secretary. Both of these documents, together with the evidence, have been perused by me.

Under these circumstances I am asked to advise whether Mr. Davies can be prosecuted successfully for any criminal offence.

The evidence taken before the Royal Commission is certainly strong to prove that Mr. Davies received the cheques on behalf of the Government, and that he appropriated them and their proceeds to his own use.

That is, upon his trial there would be ample evidence to go to the Jury upon that part of the case. The main question, and the only one which creates any difficulty in the case, is whether Mr. Davies occupied a position with reference to the Government at the time of his receipt and appropriation of the cheques and their proceeds which would make his conduct criminal. I think that, although he sailed very close to the wind, his position at the time saves him from any criminal proceeding.

I have already said that, apart from Mr. Davies' position, there was ample evidence to go to the Jury upon the rest of the case on a charge of embezzlement. What was his position? He was acting purely voluntarily and without any remuneration, and in fact without any appointment other than that contained in the letter of 2nd May, 1887.

The position he filled was not held under any contract or appointment, nor was he bound to accept it, or to retain it, or to perform all or any part of the duties devolving upon the position.

Besides, he was not requested or instructed to receive the proceeds of the wood sales, nor indeed does it appear to have been a matter contemplated by the Government that moneys would arise from any such sources, and the cheques were received by him as moneys arising out of a contract with which he, as Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, had nothing to do; it was no part of his duty to receive the cheques in any way whatever; at the same time his receipt of the cheques was perfectly legal and free from any crime. The question of criminal liability in respect of the cheques seems to me to depend upon the construction of the 121st, 122nd, 126th, 127th, 133rd, and 129th sections of the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1888, and upon the question whether Mr. Davies has been guilty of a common law offence. The 121st section provides that "whosoever being employed in the Public Service shall" &c. The 122nd section provides that "whosoever being employed as last aforesaid" that is employed in the Public Service. There is no definition in the Act of what these words mean, but I clearly take them to mean a person who has been duly appointed to some position in the Public Service and not to a mere volunteer, who, in fact, holds no appointment, receives no remuneration, and is not under any legal obligation to perform any work for the Government.

Next as to the 126th and 127th sections, I do not think the case comes within the 126th section, nor within the 127th. Not under the 126th, because at any rate there was no direction in writing given to Mr. Davies with reference to the cheques; nor within the 127th section, because Mr. Davies was not an agent within the meaning of the section. The 129th section provides that the word "agent" shall include banker, &c., &c., and any other person acting in the capacity of an agent so entrusted." In my opinion these words do not include a person who voluntarily and without remuneration, and not being one of the class of persons enumerated, nor following similar avocations, receives cheques on behalf of another.

The last section is the 133rd. That section provides that "whosoever being a trustee of property," &c. The word "trustee" is defined in the interpretation clause, section 3, to mean a trustee upon some express trust howsoever created, and shall include," &c. Mr. Davies does not appear to me to be a trustee within the meaning of the 133rd section.

I do not find any other section in the Criminal Law Amendment Act which includes such a case as the present. It seems to be a case omitted from the statute.

As to the common law liability, I cannot find any authority for saying that under the circumstances in this case, especially with reference to the position Mr. Davies held in regard to the Government, a criminal prosecution can be successfully undertaken.

I may add that I have not lost sight of the statements contained in Mr. Davies' letter to the Colonial Secretary, under date the 6th day of May, 1889. They do not appear to me to alter the case, or to establish any criminal liability in respect to his dealings with the cheques.

Upon the whole, I cannot advise that a criminal prosecution will be successful, as in my opinion Mr. Davies' position as Chairman of the Casual Labor Board does not, under the circumstances disclosed to me in my instructions, make him amenable to any provisions in the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1888, nor do I think he is criminally liable at common law.

C. E. PILCHER.

14 May, 1889.

No. 5.

The Crown Solicitor to The Principal Under Secretary.

Sir,

Crown Solicitor's Office, Sydney, 17 May, 1889.

I have the honor to inform you that I have just received from Mr. Pilcher, Q.C., a further opinion in the matter of the Hon. John Davies, which I forward herewith.

As I have not had time to make a copy of this opinion I send the original, and shall therefore be obliged by you returning it to me when it is no longer required.

I have, &c.,
JOHN WILLIAMS,
Crown Solicitor.

[Enclosure.]

Further Opinion of C. E. Pilcher, Esq., Q.C.

Re Davies.—When writing my opinion, which I have already sent to the Crown Solicitor, my attention was directed entirely to the question of Mr. Davies' liability to indictment for a criminal offence. It did not occur to my mind, nor indeed did I suppose that the Government contemplated taking any proceedings which could only result in a summary conviction, with a comparatively trifling punishment. I mention this because I have since considered the 154th section of the Criminal Law Amendment Act. That section would apply to Mr. Davies' case if the word person includes the Government. The word person is defined in the third section of the said Act to include any society, company, or corporation. It seems to me that to make either of these appellations include the Government of New South Wales would be straining the ordinary meaning of the words. In addition, the punishment provided is on summary conviction, and is limited to three months' imprisonment, or a fine of £20. I admit I overlooked the section at first, but I must add that I am strongly of opinion this is not the kind of proceeding contemplated by the Government, or upon which my opinion was asked. And further, for the reasons above given, I doubt extremely whether the section applies.

C. E. PILCHER.

[NOTE.—The foregoing correspondence was laid upon the Table of the Legislative Assembly on the 17th May, 1889.]

No. 6.

No. 6.

The Crown Solicitor to The Principal Under Secretary.

Sir,

Crown Solicitor's Office, Sydney, 31 May, 1889.

I have the honor to inform you that I have this afternoon received from F. Rogers, Esq., Q.C., his Opinion upon the case submitted to him with reference to the Honorable John Davies' action in certain matters as Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, and to forward herewith a copy of that Opinion for the information of the Honorable the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,
JOHN WILLIAMS,
Crown Solicitor.

[Enclosure.]

Opinion of F. E. Rogers, Esq., Q.C.

In re the Casual Labour Board and the Honorable John Davies.

In this matter I think that the 126th, 127th, and 133rd sections of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act have no bearing. There is no direction in writing to bring the case within the 126th section, nor is there anything to show that Mr. Davies was entrusted as an agent within the meaning of the 127th section, and there is not in my opinion any case against him under the 133rd section. I do not see that he was a trustee on some express trust in the sense contemplated by that section. When the cheques were given in payment by Mr. Neale, it seems to me that he paid them to the authorised quarter, and considered that as far as he was concerned his indebtedness was discharged, and that he had no concern with their further disposal. Therefore I cannot see that he entrusted them to Mr. Davies as an agent or as a trustee.

I speak with more hesitation about the 71st section; but I do not think that it would be held that Mr. Davies was a bailee of these cheques. I do not think that the giving of the cheques by Mr. Neale was a bailment, because, as above said, Mr. Neale gave them in payment of the proceeds of the sales of wood. Neither do I think that Mr. Davies was bailee of them for the Government, because it seems to me that Mr. Davies was not bailee of the wood. How was he bailee? As I understand the facts, certain trees on Government land were cut down by persons employed for that purpose by the Casual Labour Board (as it was called). The wood of those trees was sold and the three cheques to be presently referred to were the proceeds of the sales of the wood. But what bailment was there of the wood? To create a bailment it seems to me that there must be *possession* by the bailor and an actual or constructive delivery to the bailee. But this wood, although no doubt the property of the Government, was never in the *possession* of the Government. Therefore I do not see how it can be contended that there was any bailment of the wood; and if not, it seems to me that there was not any bailment of the cheques, as the property into which the chattel bailed had been converted, cannot, in my opinion, be regarded as in any other position than the chattel itself.

I now come to the sections which, in my opinion, do bear on the case,—and they are the 121st and the 122nd.

The 121st section says:—"That whosoever, being employed in the Public Service, steals any property, or any part thereof entrusted to him, or taken into his possession, or being in his custody or under his control, by virtue or color of such employment shall be liable, &c."

The 122nd section says:—"That whosoever, being employed as last aforesaid, fraudulently embezzles any property or any part thereof so entrusted to him, or taken into his possession, or being in his custody or under his control, or fraudulently secretes, removes, or in any manner fraudulently appropriates or disposes of the same or any part thereof, shall be deemed to have stolen the same."

It cannot be doubted that the evidence taken before the Royal Commission is strong to establish that three cheques, the first in favour of Mr. T. S. Hinchcliffe for £26 17s. 7d., the second in favour of Mr. E. M. Burrowes for £52 3s. 1d., and the third in favour of Mr. Burrowes for £33 3s. 2d.—were improperly appropriated, and there is ample evidence to support an information preferred under the above quoted sections, so far as regards the wrongful appropriation. The next and most important consideration is whether Mr. Davies was employed in the Public Service within the meaning of those sections.

It appears that on the 2nd May, 1887, the Colonial Secretary addressed a letter to Mr. Davies and two other gentlemen, which was the cause of the Board, afterwards called the "Casual Labour Board," coming into existence. From the extract of that letter before me I cannot see that there was anything like an appointment to any specific office; in fact the letter seems to me to be no more than an expression of the Colonial Secretary's wishes, with suggestions for carrying out the object he had in view. But on that letter the gentlemen to whom it was addressed associated themselves together and acted together in fulfilment of its suggestions. They came to be called the Casual Labour Board. Mr. Davies became Chairman, and took an active and prominent part in the work done by the Board.

Now it seems to me that it is a question proper for determination by a jury whether Mr. Davies was employed in the Public Service, and I think that his having acted on the Board, and taken the prominent part above alluded to, is evidence of his employment. I think it matters not whether he acted gratuitously or in anticipation of future pecuniary recognition; and I think it is equally immaterial that the duties to be performed by the Board should be definitely specified. If it can be shown that any claim for his services has been made by Mr. Davies, I think that would also strengthen the case, as showing that he himself recognized an employment. In compliance, then, with the letter of my instructions that "the only advising now required is as to the legal aspect of the case, that is, whether the papers disclose facts in respect of which Mr. Davies is liable to be prosecuted criminally?"—I have to say that in my opinion, for the reasons above given, he is liable to prosecution under the sections last referred to

With regard to the suggestion that perhaps Mr. Davies is liable to prosecution at Common Law, I may say that owing to my being asked to consider this matter as urgent, it has not been possible for me in the time at my disposal to consider the question as carefully as one would wish, but so far as can be gathered from the cases consulted by me, my opinion is that Mr. Davies is not liable to prosecution at Common Law.

The papers laid before me, and upon which this opinion is given are:—

1. The Report of and the Minutes of Evidence given before the Royal Commission, marked A.
2. The Report of Messrs. Mason and Miles, marked B.
3. Mr. Davies' letter to the Hon. Sir Henry Parkes, dated 6th May, 1889, marked C.
4. Extract from Sir Henry Parkes' letter to Messrs. Davies, Wells, and Houson of 2nd May, 1887, marked E.

F. E. ROGERS,
31st May, 1889.

No. 7.

The Principal Under Secretary to The Crown Solicitor.

Sir,

Colonial Secretary Office, Sydney, 4 June, 1889.

I am directed to invite your attention to that portion of Mr. Rogers' Opinion (enclosed) which deals with the 121st and 122nd clauses of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act in relation to the case of the Honorable John Davies, and to inform you that it was decided by Ministers in Cabinet Council to-day that you be instructed to proceed against Mr. Davies accordingly.

I have, &c.,

CRITCHETT WALKER,
Principal Under Secretary,

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

LATE CASUAL LABOUR BOARD.

(FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE ON OPINIONS OF C. E. PILCHER, ESQUIRE, Q.C., AND F. E. ROGERS, ESQUIRE, Q.C., ON CHARGES AGAINST THE HONORABLE JOHN DAVIES, C.M.G., IN SPECIAL REPORT OF ROYAL COMMISSION.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 20 June, 1889.

No. 1.

The Colonial Secretary to The Attorney-General.

My dear Mr. Simpson, Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 22 May, 1889.

I send herewith copies of the papers on the reference of the case of the Hon. John Davies to Mr. Pilcher, Q.C., in your absence through indisposition. These papers are sent to you for any opinion you may desire to express as a Member of the Government.

For myself I hold that we are bound to abide by the opinion of the eminent counsel employed in your absence, just in the same way as we must have been bound by the opinion of the Attorney-General, and that we can take no further step in law.

Several of our colleagues, however, hold that a prosecution of Mr. Davies ought to be instituted, not only on public grounds but to enable Mr. Davies to justify himself, if he can, in a Court of law. But the Crown Solicitor states that he knows of no provision of the law under which any such prosecution could be properly initiated.

I remain, &c.,

HENRY PARKES.

No. 2.

The Attorney-General to The Colonial Secretary.

My dear Sir Henry, Darling Point, 23 May, 1889.

I received your note yesterday, forwarding copies of papers on the reference of the case of the Honorable John Davies to Mr. Pilcher, Q.C., in my absence through indisposition, and stating that they were sent to me for any opinion I might desire to express as a member of the Government. I agree with you that the Government are bound to abide by the opinion of the eminent counsel employed in my absence (*unless it can be shown that that opinion is wrong*). Mr. Pilcher was asked by the Crown Solicitor to advise "as to the legal aspect of the case—that is, whether the papers disclose facts in respect of which Mr. Davies is liable to be prosecuted criminally,"—and Mr. Pilcher has expressed his opinion that "Mr. Davies' position as Chairman of the Casual Labour Board does not, under the circumstances disclosed to him in his instructions, make him amenable to any provisions of the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1883, nor does he think he is criminally liable at Common Law."

In his second opinion he refers to section 154 of the Act, and he states that that section (under which a person could only be summarily convicted before two Justices and punished by imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or by the infliction of a fine not exceeding £20) would apply to Mr. Davies if the word person includes the Government, and after referring to the definition of the word "person" he expresses extreme doubt whether the section applies.

Assuming—as I do at present—that the opinion of Mr. Pilcher is correct, I certainly would be opposed to the initiating of any criminal proceedings against Mr. Davies; and in the face of that opinion—that Mr. Davies has *not* committed any offence for which he is amenable to the Criminal Law—I think that the instituting of such proceedings by the Crown "on public grounds, or to enable Mr. Davies to justify himself, if he can, in a Court of law," would be altogether unjustifiable. I am writing this note in bed.

Believe me, &c.,

G. B. SIMPSON.

I am not strong enough to express any opinion or consider the case carefully as to the legal liability (criminally) of Mr. Davies, and it would be impossible for me to do so without access to legal authorities. If any of our colleagues doubt the correctness of Mr. Pilcher's conclusions it might be desirable to obtain the opinion of another eminent counsel, say Mr. Rogers, Q.C.—G.B.S.

No. 3.

The Colonial Secretary to The Crown Solicitor.

My dear Sir,

Sydney, 23 May, 1889.

No. 2.

In the letter herewith from Mr. Simpson you will observe that he suggests that the opinion of "another eminent counsel, say Mr. Rogers, Q.C.," might be obtained on the case of the Honorable John Davies. You will be good enough to take the necessary steps to obtain that opinion.

Yours, &c.,

HENRY PARKES.

No. 4.

The Crown Solicitor to F. E. Rogers, Esq., Q.C.

In re The Casual Labour Board and The Honorable John Davies.

A COMMISSION under the Great Seal of the Colony having been appointed to inquire into the working of the Casual Labour Board, the Commissioners on 29th April last forwarded to His Excellency the Governor a special Report upon a particular matter which came under their notice while the inquiry was being made by them; that matter is the way in which the Chairman of the Board has dealt with moneys received by him as such Chairman.

A copy of the special Report is forwarded herewith; it is marked "A."*

The Report being laid upon the Table in the Assembly, thereupon Mr. Davies forwarded a letter to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, a printed copy of which, marked "C,"* is also forwarded herewith.

Upon this the Colonial Secretary forwarded the papers to the Honorable the Attorney-General, inviting him, as the legal adviser of the Government, to give his opinion upon the transaction in which Mr. Davies is reported to have been concerned.

In reply, the Attorney-General informed the Colonial Secretary that he is too ill to attend to anything; the Colonial Secretary has therefore instructed me to retain the services of a Barrister of the Supreme Court to act in this matter, and directed me to place in the hands of the gentleman so retained the documents above-mentioned, and also a copy of Sir Henry Parkes' letter to the Attorney-General. Of this letter the paper herewith sent, marked "D,"† is a copy.

As it seems to me to be necessary that the document by which the Casual Labour Board was appointed should also be considered, I have obtained a copy, and herewith forward same; it is marked "E."†

Although the papers are sent to be advised upon, because the Attorney-General is not able to deal with the matter, who, as a member of the Executive Council, could have advised his colleague generally upon the matter, the only advising now required is as to the legal aspect of the case, that is, whether the papers disclose facts in respect of which Mr. Davies is liable to be prosecuted criminally.

This will, it is thought, depend mainly upon the question of his position with the Government, and a copy of the letter under which he was appointed and acted is with the papers herewith sent.

Counsel's attention is requested to the 122nd, 127th, 133rd, and to the 71st section of the Act, Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1883.

It has been suggested that, by reason of his employment, and acting under the Minister above referred to, if there is no section of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act under which he may be dealt with, he may be proceeded against as for a misdemeanour at Common Law, the appropriation to his own use of the cheque given in payment for wood supplied by the Board being a fraud committed by him in his official capacity. (See Russell on Crimes, vol. 1, page 302.)

It is thought desirable that counsel, in advising upon this matter, should state fully his reasons for thinking Mr. Davies can or cannot be proceeded against criminally.

Will counsel please consider this matter as urgent, as the Honorable the Colonial Secretary is anxious to deal with it at once?

JOHN WILLIAMS,

Crown Solicitor.

No. 5.

The Crown Solicitor to The Principal Under Secretary.

Sir,

Crown Solicitor's Office, Sydney, 5 June, 1889.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday directing me to proceed to prosecute the Honorable John Davies under the 121st and 122nd sections of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act, and to state that I have, this morning, called upon Mr. Rogers and informed him that I proposed delivering a brief to him to attend for the prosecution at the Police Court.

Mr. Rogers, in reply, stated that his numerous engagements in the several Courts now sitting for the trial of causes in the Supreme Court renders it impossible that he can accept a brief in this matter.

I did not refer to the Honorable the Attorney-General in this matter, as it seemed to me so very desirable that as the proceedings would be instituted under Mr. Rogers' advice that there could be no doubt that he should be offered the brief for the prosecution; as he declines to accept the brief it will have to be offered to some other member of the Bar, and as the prosecution is undertaken by the Government, the Attorney-General will doubtless consider that he should be consulted as to the counsel to be employed.

It is therefore necessary that reference should be made to the Honorable the Attorney-General.

I have, &c.,

JOHN WILLIAMS,

Crown Solicitor.

No. 6.

3

No. 6.

The Colonial Secretary to The Attorney-General.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 7 June, 1889.

My dear Mr. Simpson,

I send you copies of all the papers in the case of Mr. John Davies, including a letter from the No. 5. Crown Solicitor.

I purpose coming out to see you to-morrow forenoon, when we will consult on the matter.

My sympathies are very warmly with you and Mrs. Simpson in your protracted illness, and most sincerely do I hope that you will soon be restored to your usual state of health.

Very truly yours,
HENRY PARKES.

No. 7.

The Crown Solicitor to The Principal Under Secretary.

Sir,

Crown Solicitor's Office, Sydney, 20 June, 1889.

In reply to your verbal inquiry of this morning, I have the honor to state that some days since a brief was delivered to Mr. Cohen, who accepted same, and upon his request, with the approval of the Honorable the Attorney-General, a consultation has been held between Mr. Cohen and F. E. Rogers, Esq., Q.C., as to matters connected with the prosecution of this case at the Police Court.

I have, &c.,
JOHN WILLIAMS,
Crown Solicitor.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

CASUAL LABOUR BOARD.

(COST OF ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 3 July, 1889.

[Laid upon the Table of this House in answer to Question No. 9 of 3 July, 1889.]

Questions.

9. MR. KIDD *to ask* THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,—

(1.) How many of the following works, viz., Beacroft, Hornsby, Berowra, Carlingford, Ryde, Gordon, National Park, Sutherland, Waterfalls, Otford, Port Hacking, Camp Creek, Bulgo, Cawley's Creek, Heathcote, Hurstville, Cook Park, Liverpool, Campbelltown, Narrabeen, Dobroyd, French's Forest, Helsarmel Creek, White's and Johnson's Creeks, and Garic Beach, which were carried out by the Casual Labour Board, did the Royal Commission visit and inspect, and what length of time (if any) did they devote to each inspection?

(2.) Is it a fact that only two hours were devoted to the inspection of the Holt-Sutherland works by the Commission, and a shorter period to the Hornsby works by Mr. Franklin?

(3.) What is the total cost of the Royal Commission of Inquiry, including fees paid or to be paid to Commissioners, salary to the Secretary, shorthand and type-writers, witnesses' expenses, stationery, printing, and other incidental expenses?

Answers.

The following information has been supplied by the Secretary of the Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission:—

(1.) From the Report it is gathered that the Commissioners visited the Holt-Sutherland works and the Hornsby works, and that they conceived that the official reply (forwarding certain papers) to their letter of the 25th February last, asking for particulars of the charges and statements, confined them to an examination of those papers which principally affected the abovenamed works. The time and expense involved in more fully examining the works, &c., of the late Casual Labour Board not being at the disposal of the Commission, they confined their inquiry to the papers before mentioned.

(2.) No.

(3.) The total cost of the Royal Commission up to date (3rd July, 1889) is £582 15s. 11d., viz.:—

	£	s.	d.
Shorthand-writers	361	15	0
Secretary	126	8	6
Clerical expenses	43	8	6
Witnesses' expenses	16	12	5
Incidental expenses	34	11	6

£ 582 15 11

The members of the Commission have not received any remuneration, nor have they yet made any claim.

1889.

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

LATE CASUAL LABOUR BOARD.

(FEES, &c., TO MEMBERS OF.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 17 May, 1889.

The Chairman, Casual Labour Board, to The Colonial Secretary.

Dear Sir Henry,

Casual Labour Board,
82, Goulburn-street, Sydney, 31 December, 1888.

In compliance with your request, I have the pleasure to inform you that I have been engaged as Chairman of the Casual Labour Board for the past twenty months, and during that time, in performing the duties of my office, I have travelled on an average of 500 miles per week, and have been occupied twelve to fourteen hours daily. The duties devolving upon me have been both difficult and onerous, but it will be admitted, I think, by all, that they have been discharged with good and satisfactory results to yourself and the country. During the period referred to, upwards of 8,000 men have passed through our hands, and a large proportion of them have been provided with private employment at current rate of wage, and also a large number who were temporarily employed have subsequently found employment among the ordinary avenues of labour, leaving 930 on the different works; and the several works performed by the large number of men temporarily engaged from time to time in road-making, clearing Crown lands, &c., will yield a splendid return for the outlay, most of the works being of a highly reproductive character. The following are the localities where the men have been employed:— On the Northern Railway Line, at Ryde, Eastwood, Carlingford, Beecroft, Hornsby, and Berowra, in road-making and clearing Crown lands. The Southern Line, at Bankstown, Rookwood, Liverpool, and Eckersley, in clearing and road-making. Illawarra Line—Unwin's Bridge Road, Peakhurst, Great Illawarra Road, Cook Park, Kogarah, Sutherland, Woniara Road, National Park, Heathcote, Waterfalls, Cawley's Creek, Camp Creek, Otford, and Bulgo, in road-making and clearing. Pearce's Corner Line, at Gordon, land cleared and roads made. Manly Beach, Dobroyd, French's Forest, and Narrabeen, land cleared and roads made; besides sewerage works at Johnson's and White's Creeks; forming Leichhardt Park, clearing Little Bay Hospital Reserve, and improving University and Prince Alfred Hospital grounds.

All these works it was necessary for me to frequently visit, some of them being very inaccessible, and consequently caused me to incur travelling expenses, for which I have enclosed voucher for £261 10s., for a period of 521 days. I also enclose voucher for £873 12s. in payment of fees for services rendered as Chairman of the Casual Labour Board, from the 2nd May to the 29th December, 1887, being the period prior to my appointment to the Legislative Council. The twelve months since my appointment to the Legislative Council I shall regard as honorary service.

I have, &c.,
JOHN DAVIES,
Chairman.

Minute by The Colonial Secretary.

Fees to Casual Labour Board.

MR. DAVIES was appointed early in May, 1887, and he certainly has devoted his time most assiduously to the direction of the work he undertook, and his management has upon the whole been entirely satisfactory. He claims £873 12s. as fair compensation in the shape of fees to the end of 1887, making no charge for the time since he has been a Member of the Legislative Council. He also claims £261 10s. to cover his expenses, and I have authorized the payment of this latter sum as just and reasonable. Mr. Davies informs me, in respect to the first claim, that he frequently attended two meetings of the Board in one day, and that he has sat as late as 10 o'clock at night engaged in business. Unquestionably the work has been very heavy. My colleagues, however, think that the payment of this principal claim for services should be left for the consideration of our successors, chiefly on the ground that the Committee sitting on the Hornsby and Holt-Sutherland Estate roads have not completed their inquiry.

H.P.,
4/1/89.

Minute by The Colonial Secretary.

THE question of fees to Casual Labour Board to stand over, pending inquiry by the Royal Commission.

G.R.D.,
16/2/89.

The Secretary to the Casual Labour Board to The Principal Under Secretary.

Sir,

Casual Labour Board, 82, Goulburn-street, Sydney, 10 January, 1889.

I have the honor to forward herewith, for the approval of the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, vouchers for the payment of expenses and fees to the Chairman and Members of the Casual Labour Board from the 2nd May, 1887, to the 31st December, 1888.

I have, &c.,

THOMAS S. HINCHCLIFFE,
Secretary.

[Enclosure.]

New South Wales.

Sub-head of Estimate—Public Relief Works.

Pay Voucher No.

Claimant—John Davies, Campbelltown.	Amount.
For the undermentioned services :—	
Date of service, May 2nd to December 29th, 1887—	£ s. d.
To attendance as Chairman Casual Labour Board (416 attendances).....	873 12 0

New South Wales.

Sub-head of Estimate—Public Relief Works.

Pay Voucher No.

Claimant—David Houison, Parramatta.	Amount.
For the undermentioned services :—	
Date of service, January 9, 1889—	£ s. d.
To attendance as Member of the Casual Labour Board, from May 2, 1887, to December 31, 1888 ...	200 0 0

New South Wales.

Sub-head of Estimate—Public Relief Works.

Pay Voucher No.

Claimant—F. Wells, Sydney.	Amount.
For the undermentioned services :—	
Date of service, January 9th, 1889—	£ s. d.
To attendance as Member of the Casual Labour Board, from May 2nd, 1887, to December 31st, 1888	200 0 0

New South Wales.

Sub-head of Estimates—Public Relief Works.

Pay Voucher No.

Claimant—John Davies, Campbelltown.	Amount.
For the undermentioned services :—	
Date or period of service—January 1 to January 25, 1889—	£ s. d.
To amount of daily expenses allowed as Chairman of Casual Labour Board in visiting the following works under my control :—Narrabeen, Ryde, Hornsby, Cook Park, Hurstville, Sutherland, Woronora River Road, Waterfalls, National Park, Bulgo, Camp Creek, Liverpool, Campbelltown, Woolwash Road, Leichhardt Park. (22 days at 10s. per day)	11 0 0

Minute

Minute by The Cabinet.

Casual Labour Board.

THE Cabinet has had under its serious consideration the question of the unemployed and the Casual Labour Board, and it has decided, in view of the evidence given at the Select Parliamentary Committee, and having regard to the unsatisfactory working of the existing Board, to terminate the labours of the gentlemen forming the Board, who will be relieved forthwith.

The Cabinet has further decided to appoint two gentlemen of standing to adjust the accounts and wind-up the Casual Labour business, it being the intention to go further into this subject when time can be given to its consideration, and a full attendance of the Cabinet secured.

It appears to the Cabinet that the method hitherto adopted of distributing large sums of public money is loose, imperfect, and unsatisfactory. The gentlemen to be appointed will be requested, in making payment, to adopt a system more in accordance with that followed in the Treasury Department. The gentlemen to be appointed will close the unemployed work in terms of the minute of my predecessor of 31st December last.

The question of payments to the men now employed will be dealt with on the report of the gentlemen referred to.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Sydney, 23rd January, 1889.

G.R.D.

Minute by The Colonial Secretary.

SINCE the above was written the Government has decided on and has appointed a Royal Commission, pending the result of which no further action should be taken for paying Mr. Davies.

G.R.D.,
7/3/89.

Minute by The Colonial Secretary.

THE question raised by the minute of Sir Henry Parkes will stand over for further consideration, and may be submitted when the unemployed are finally disposed of.

G.R.D.,
23/4/89.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

CASUAL LABOUR BOARD.
(INFORMATION RESPECTING.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 21 May, 1889.

[Laid upon the Table of this House in answer to Question No. 1, of 17 May, 1889.]

Questions.

1. MR. O'SULLIVAN asked THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,—

- (1.) How many men are now employed under the direction of the Casual Labour Board?
- (2.) What is the amount per diem paid to Mr. Miles for his services in connection with the Casual Labour Board?
- (3.) The same information with regard to Mr. Mason?
- (4.) What is the salary received per week by Mr. McPherson?
- (5.) How much is paid to Semple, the groom or coachman of Mr. McPherson?
- (6.) What salaries are paid to Messrs. Boylan, Munce, Bell, Bell junior, and Hibble for their services in connection with the Casual Labour Board?
- (7.) Is it a fact that two detectives are still employed in connection with the Casual Labour Board?
- (8.) What rent is paid for the premises occupied by the Board in Goulburn-street?
- (9.) What works are the unemployed still engaged upon?
- (10.) The date of the starting of these works?

Answers.

- (1.) 233.
- (2 and 3.) Nothing has yet been paid to Mr. Miles or Mr. Mason for their services in connection with the Casual Labour Board.
- (4.) £4 10s. per week.
- (5.) Semple is paid 30s. per week, including Sundays, as a labourer in charge of the plant, &c., belonging to the Casual Labour Board at Hurstville.
- (6.) Boylan, 49s. per week, including Sundays; Munce, 30s. per week, including Sundays; Bell, 60s. per week; Bell junior, 30s. per week; Hibble, 60s. per week.
- (7.) Yes.
- (8.) £2 per week.
- (9 and 10.) National Park, started November, 1886; Leichhardt Park, started May, 1888; Sydney University Grounds, started February 7th, 1889; Clearing Liverpool Common, started April 2nd, 1889.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

CASUAL LABOUR BOARD.

(EXPENDITURE ON ROADMAKING BY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 3 July, 1889.

[Laid upon the Table of this House in answer to Question No. 12, of 3 July, 1889.]

Questions.

12. MR. WILLIAM STEPHEN *to ask* THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,—Referring to the Commission of Inquiry into the expenditure of money in roadmaking on the Holt-Sutherland Estate and the Hornsby District,—
- (1.) What was the total amount expended in the formation of roads by the Casual Labour Board on the Holt-Sutherland Estate?
 - (2.) What was the total amount expended for a like purpose by the abovenamed Board in the Hornsby District?
 - (3.) What was the whole cost of the inquiry by the Commission appointed to inquire into the expenditure in connection with roadmaking by the Casual Labour Board in the abovenamed localities, specifying the amount of fees which each Commissioner received separately; also, the number of witnesses called to give evidence, and the amount of costs or fees which they each received for attendance during the inquiry, and all other costs in connection therewith?
 - (4.) The cost of the inquiry on account of roadmaking by the Casual Labour Board in each of the abovenamed localities, separately?

Answers.

- (1.) The total amount expended on making roads on the Holt-Sutherland Estate was £3,004 11s. 2d. The total amount expended on the Port Hacking River Road and Illawarra Public Roads, which pass through and beyond the Holt-Sutherland Estate was £10,393 3s.
- (2.) The total amount expended in the Hornsby District was £8,155 6s. 9d.
- (3. and 4.) The Secretary to the Casual Labour Board Inquiry Commission reports that it is impossible to distribute the cost of the inquiry between these two estates. The Commission directed a general inquiry into the working and expenditure of the Board, and into the alleged improper expenditure upon any private properties. The cost incurred, and the witnesses called, had reference to the whole subjects of inquiry. The cost incurred up to date (3rd July, 1889), is £582 15s. 11d., viz. :—

Shorthand-writers	...	...	...	...	...	...	£361	15	0
Secretary	...	...	...	...	...	...	126	8	6
Clerical expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...	43	8	6
Witnesses' expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	12	5
Incidental expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...	34	11	6
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	£582	15	11

The members of the Royal Commission have not received any remuneration, nor have they yet made any claim.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

WORK OF UNEMPLOYED ON ROADS AT HORNSBY AND HOLT-SUTHERLAND ESTATE.

(PETITION FROM J. F. BURNS—THE HOUSE TO APPOINT A SELECT COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE
INQUIRY ON.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 6 March, 1889.

To the Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of John Fitzgerald Burns, a Member of the said Assembly,—

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:—

1. That your Petitioner is a member of the land firm of Burns, Withers, and Smith, which, in the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, acquired by purchase a large area of private lands in the district of Lane Cove, parish of Gordon, and South Colah, some of which lands are situate in what is now known as the Hornsby District.
2. That there are at least four thousand acres of Crown lands to the eastward of Hornsby with a long frontage parallel to but not adjoining the North Shore Railway which it was the desire of both the Jennings and the Parkes Governments to bring into market for auction sale.
3. That in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six, while the Jennings Government was in office, and while that Government was pressing the sale of Crown lands by auction for purposes of revenue as well as of settlement, application was made to your Petitioner by the Survey Department for permission to make a road through the lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith, from the Peat's Ferry Road across a railway bridge near Hornsby to the said Crown lands.
4. That your Petitioner agreed, on the sixteenth of November, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six, as expressed by letter of that date, addressed to the Under Secretary of Lands, to give the Government permission to open the said proposed road, provided that it was put in a passable condition for traffic in a reasonable time, and that the Government relinquished their right to open another road through the lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith, further north, which was of no use for such a purpose.
5. That, without any communication from or to your Petitioner, or any of his partners, some of the persons called the "Unemployed," who were under the direction of the Colonial Secretary, and the immediate supervision of Mr. Deering, the Metropolitan District Surveyor, and who had been at work on Crown lands on the western side of the Homebush and Waratah line, were put on to clear and form the said road, and also a road between the southern boundary of the Crown lands and the lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith, to the eastern road.
6. That, as has been proved in evidence, the Casual Labour Board, which was formed by the Colonial Secretary to relieve Mr. Deering of the charge of the unemployed, applied to your Petitioner by letter, on the recommendation of Colonel Wells and Mr. Howison, engineer, both of whom are officers of the Government, for permission to open a road further south than the Boundary Road, owing to its appearing that the Boundary Road could not be constructed throughout unless at great cost, to which application your Petitioner agreed.
7. That after your Petitioner had agreed to the opening of the said road, and to small roads leading thereto from the Boundary Road, his colleagues in the Ministry, at his request, caused an inquiry to be made independently of the Casual Labour Board as to whether the proposed roads were really required for the public benefit; and, in compliance with his wishes, reports on the subject were called for and furnished by Mr. W. C. Bennett, the Chief Engineer for Roads and Bridges, Mr. J. W. Deering, the Metropolitan District Surveyor, and Mr. W. M. Gordon, surveyor, dated the thirteenth February, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, seventeenth January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, and twenty-eighth January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, respectively.
8. That Mr. Bennett expressed his approval of the opening of the said roads, stating that all of them would be ultimately required and would enhance the value of the Crown lands. Mr. Deering reported chiefly in relation to the road across the bridge and the Boundary Road, the opening and forming

forming of which he justified, stating likewise that while the clearing operations were under consideration or proceeding "not the slightest communication was received by him from Messieurs Burns, Withers, and Smith," also, "that the work was initiated solely by himself," "solely in the interest of the Crown whom alone he served," and that he only learned that Bellamy's one hundred acres, through which the Bridge Road was made, was the property of Burns, Withers, and Smith, by reason of the negotiations for the survey and opening of the said road, and also that "his only aim was to improve the Crown lands for sale;" Mr. Gordon stated that the roads constituted useful and reproductive works, taking into consideration the proximity of the Crown lands to both railway lines, as well as to such main roads as the Lane Cove, Peat's Ferry, and Pennant Hills.

9. That at the first sale of Crown lands at Hornsby about two hundred and fifty (250) acres were offered by auction on behalf of the Government by Messrs. Richardson and Wrench, of which one hundred and sixteen acres were sold, and realized upwards of four thousand six hundred pounds.

10. That on the fifteenth November, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight, a Select Committee of your Honorable House was appointed, on the motion of the Honorable Member for Northumberland, Mr. Thomas Walker, consisting of Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Copeland, Mr. Henry Clarke, Mr. McMillan, Mr. Melville, Mr. Street, Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Carruthers, and the mover, to inquire into and report upon the works of the unemployed in clearing, forming, and making roads through the property near Hornsby, owned by Messrs. Burns, Withers, and Smith, and also through those made through the Holt-Sutherland Estate and other private properties.

11. That the said Committee brought up, on the day your Honorable House adjourned for the Christmas holidays, a Report, which it termed a "Progress Report," which it appears was adopted by the Committee on the casting vote of its Chairman (Mr. Walker).

12. That your Petitioner takes exception to certain of the allegations and inferences drawn therefrom, made in the said Progress Report, respecting the expenditure on roads through private lands in the Hornsby district.

13. That your Petitioner takes exception to the statement in the second paragraph of the said Report that some of the roads and streets formed on the estate of Burns, Withers, and Smith appeared on their subdivision plan, and that their construction had been commenced prior to the advent of the Casual Labour Board, inasmuch as it leaves the inference that the roads made through the lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith were in accordance with a plan of subdivision which is not true, the fact being, as has been proved in evidence, that the lands through which roads have been made, consisting of upwards of six hundred acres, had not been subdivided or marked on any plan of subdivision, and that it was not the intention of the proprietors to subdivide the said six hundred acres; while the only expenditure on any subdivision of theirs was a very small amount in roughly extending two or three roads or streets on a subdivision adjoining the railway line a few days before the sale of Crown lands already referred to.

14. That your Petitioner takes exception to the name of Mr. Oliver, the ex Under Secretary for Lands, being coupled with that of Mr. Deering, as condemning the roads at Hornsby as being beyond public requirements, and the superior quality of the work on some of the roads as being chiefly calculated to benefit private individuals. Your Petitioner is aware, as has been proved by the evidence, that Mr. Oliver did not see any of the roads through private lands, and that the superior work about which he expressed an opinion was on the Crown lands subdivision and not on the private roads.

15. That your Petitioner takes exception to the statement in paragraph four of the said Report, as follows:—"The cost of the roads at Hornsby, including the Government subdivision, was nearly seven thousand pounds, whilst the Government subdivision realized only four thousand three hundred pounds at the recent sale,"—which conveys the impression that the cost of the roads in the Hornsby district was seven thousand pounds, and that the Crown lands in the locality affected by the expenditure were worth only four thousand three hundred pounds; whereas, as the evidence of the officers of the Government and of others examined proved that the total of the expenditure for clearing roads, reserves, and the like work, was only six thousand three hundred pounds, and that there are still upwards of four thousand acres of Crown lands for sale, which, in the opinion of competent judges, are worth thirty thousand pounds.

16. That your Petitioner further objects to the paragraph in the said Report in which it is stated that one of the proprietors of the estate of Burns, Withers, and Smith had admitted that their property had been greatly enhanced in value by the construction of the roads. The partner referred to was no doubt Mr. George Withers, who was denied the privilege of amending his evidence before the Report was brought up, but who was subsequently examined on the 15th January last, when he stated that when he was previously examined he had been led to believe that five thousand to six thousand pounds had been expended on roads through the lands of Burns, Withers, and Smith, and that the area held by them in that quarter was one thousand to one thousand two hundred acres, whereas he had since then ascertained that the amount expended on any roads in which they were interested was only about one thousand eight hundred pounds (528); that the lands through which the roads were made did not exceed six hundred and eighty acres, and that the land taken for the roads was worth three thousand six hundred and twenty-five pounds (524); that in his opinion Burns, Withers, and Smith did not obtain any increment in value from the roads, that the roads were very inferior (484) and that his first estimate of increment was based upon representations made in the House by the Chairman of the Committee (Mr. Walker), also upon general rumour (533).

17. That although your Petitioner did not promote or control the expenditure on any of the roads through lands in which he is interested, he has been most anxious to discover whether any of the expenditure has been in excess of public requirements, and whether his estate has been unduly improved by any such expenditure, for which reason he requested that Mr. W. C. Bennett, the Chief Engineer for Roads, and Mr. Gregg, of the firm of Richardson and Wrench, who conducted the Crown land sale, might be examined by the Select Committee, which was refused before the Progress Report was presented to your Honorable House, but both of whom have since been examined and their evidence brought up with a Second Progress Report, of the sixteenth January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine; your Petitioner would invite the attention of your Honorable House to the additional evidence in question. Mr. Bennett, after inspecting the roads in the Hornsby district, stated that in his opinion two thousand pounds would represent the whole expenditure on roads through the property of Burns, Withers, and Smith

(202); that Burns, Withers, and Smith have derived no advantage from the expenditure other than the exceptional position of the land absolutely rendered necessary, because access must be given to the Crown lands, no matter who owns the intervening land (205); that a larger proportion than nine-tenths of the roads are absolutely necessary (244); that he thought the roads were of inferior kind (186); Mr. Gregg also thought the roads were not of a good character (34); that any advantage from the expenditure on the 640 acres was about equalled by the roads being given without compensation.

18. Mr. Dawson has also inspected the roads at the request of your Petitioner, and has furnished a report in which he states that the land given for the benefit of the Crown lands greatly exceeds in value the amount expended on the roads by the Government. Mr. Dawson has also prepared a plan, which shows that the plan put before the Select Committee of your Honorable House by Mr. Deering is misleading.

Your Petitioner therefore prays,—

That your Honorable House will appoint a Select Committee to take further evidence, and complete the inquiry on the Work of the Unemployed on the Roads at Hornsby.

And your Petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

J. F. BURNS.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1888,

BY

HER MAJESTY'S SPECIAL COMMISSIONER

FOR THE PROTECTED TERRITORY;

WITH

APPENDICES.

ORDERED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TO BE PRINTED,8 *March*, 1889.



SYDNEY: CHARLES POTTER, GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

1889.

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1888.

BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

R E P O R T.

I now make my third and last Annual Statement of Receipts and Expenditure on account of the Protected Territory of British New Guinea, from the 1st December, 1887, to the 31st October, 1888. Sovereignty was proclaimed at Port Moresby by Dr. McGregor, the present Administrator, on the 4th of September. A subsequent proclamation in the Queensland *Government Gazette* of the 11th September brought the "British New Guinea Act of Queensland" into operation, and the agreement entered into between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of Queensland is now made effective.

SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.

During the eleven months which this Report covers it has been necessary for me to visit Brisbane, Sydney, and Melbourne more than once in connection with the collection of contributions, the publication of my reports, and the final arrangements consequent on the assumption of Sovereignty. I have also visited all the different points of any importance from the western to the eastern extremity of the Protected Territory, and I am happy to be able to say that during the period here referred to, and since my last report, there has not been a single instance of any serious outrage by the natives against white men, or of white men against the natives. There have been some intertribal disturbances, and cases of what I suppose might be termed native murders have come to my knowledge, but they have been less frequent than formerly, and they have not been such as to call for interference on the part of the protecting authorities. The only difficulty of any importance connected with white men took place on the occasion of Mr. Cameron's visit to the San Joseph River. This arose simply from a misunderstanding, and from the fact that there was no competent interpreter with the party. It resulted in a somewhat precipitate retreat, and in the abandonment of the trade and provisions, but a portion of these was afterwards brought down to the coast by the natives. There has been no period during the last ten years when the relations of the natives to the white men and of the white men to the natives have been on a more friendly or a more satisfactory footing.

Mr. Deputy Commissioner Milman, as hitherto, has been in charge of the Western Division.

Mr. Deputy Commissioner Romilly has been in charge of the Central Division, and Mr. Deputy Commissioner Musgrave has been in charge of the Eastern Division.

Early in the year, in consequence of representations made to me by Mr. Romilly as to some discontent and disturbances among the natives of the Central Division, I visited Port Moresby. I then increased the number of water police by obtaining six acclimatised South Sea Islanders from Mackay, and removed Mr. Robert Hunter from Port Moresby to replace Mr. Frank Lawes, who had been granted three months' leave of absence after a residence at Samarai of twelve months. Mr. George Hunter continued to occupy the Government Station at Rigo, with the supervision of the valley of the Kemp Welch.

Mr. E. G. Edelfelt, having been removed from Motu-Motu to Port Moresby, was afterwards sent to Samarai to succeed Mr. Robert Hunter.

WESTERN

WESTERN DIVISION.

Mr. Milman has exercised a general supervision from Thursday Island.

In reference to this Division, and bearing in mind that it is intersected by several navigable rivers, I must once more state, what I have previously urged, that its great requirement at the present time is a light-draught steamer capable of navigating the shoals on the coast and the inland waters of the Fly, which is the great natural highway to the interior of British New Guinea.

I have been in correspondence with Messrs. Yarrow, of Poplar, and have ascertained that a stern-wheel steamer drawing 2 feet and capable of carrying deck cargo could be built for about £5,000. Such a vessel could, no doubt, be built in Brisbane or Sydney for a sum not much in excess of the London price, and could be towed up to Thursday Island for service in the Straits and on the rivers of New Guinea.

Mr. Milman's brief though interesting report on the condition of the natives at Mowatta (Appendix C), and Mr. Strode Hall's report on the Mai Cussa and Wasu Cussa Rivers (Appendix G), throw some light upon the position of affairs in this District. As regards the Fly and the great deltaic region between the Fly and the Aird, very little is yet known. It promises to be a most interesting field for future discovery. I visited this portion of the coast in April, and finding that a native known as "Mowatta Jack" had been very troublesome and truculent, I deported him for a time to Port Moresby. This compulsory transfer has had a very salutary effect; and "Jack," on his return to Mowatta, broke his bows and arrows, announcing at the same time that he was going to lead a new life. It will be seen by a reference to Mr. Milman's report that there is much need for reformation at Mowatta.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

Mr. Romilly's report (Appendix D) summarises sufficiently the condition of affairs at Port Moresby. The improvements effected during the last few months have been done well and economically. The horses and cattle under the care of Denis Gleeson are thriving, in spite of the very dry season. When I was last at Port Moresby in July only twenty points of rain had fallen since the 1st of January. This terrible drought continues up to date, and the consequence is that fully one half of the cocoanut palms and the fruit trees planted last season are dead. This drought appears to extend to the west of Port Moresby, but not so much to the eastward. Nothing like it has been experienced since the country has become known to us.

EASTERN DIVISION.

Most of the pearl-shelling boats which had visited the Louisiade Archipelago last season have now returned to Thursday Island. There is plenty of shell to be had but it lies in too deep water, and the divers cannot stand the pressure. A fair amount of shell, however, has been obtained in China Straits and in Fortescue Straits. Copra still comes in small quantities from Milne Bay.

I found it necessary to decide the question as to the locality where a permanent Government Station should be formed in this division. I finally fixed on Samarai or Dinner Island. The choice lay between China Straits, South Cape, and Teste Island. The late Special Commissioner, Sir Peter Scratchley, was understood to be rather in favour of South Cape (Su-a-u), and he purchased some land there from the natives for the purpose; Mr. Deputy Commissioner Musgrave was in favour of Teste Island, as being likely to prove more healthy and as being inhabited by an intelligent seafaring population who had relations with many of the neighbouring islands. After a full consideration, however, of the whole case, and after a thorough examination of the different localities, I felt bound to decide on China Straits as being the most central, and as providing the best anchorage. The question then lay as to what position in China Straits it was best to choose. I had purchased the Island of Quato from the natives, and the London Missionary Society had, so far as they could obtain a title at all from the natives, acquired Samarai or Dinner Island. This latter place was resorted to by traders; a coal depôt for Her Majesty's ships had been established there, and it was regarded by the natives themselves as a general rendezvous. From the

fact

fact that it was specially resorted to by white traders it had become less eligible as a centre of missionary enterprise. I therefore entered into negotiations with the representatives of the London Missionary Society with a view to transfer their interest, whatever it was, from Samarai to Quato, in order that the Government of the Protectorate might have the undisputed possession and occupation of Samarai. Mr. Lawes and Mr. Chalmers recognising the position of affairs, and especially in view of the fact that the island had ceased to be for them an advantageous *point d'appui*, considerably arranged to remove their establishment to one of the neighbouring islands, and accepted from me a transfer to them of the Island of Quato in exchange. I then entered into sole and undisputed possession of Samarai. The Island has since then been surveyed. An excellent residence has been erected on one of the highest points of the Island at an elevation of about 200 feet above the sea-level, and various improvements have been carried out in the way of drainage. The building of the house caused a great deal of wonderful attention to it on the part of the natives, and many hundreds came from distant localities to see it. The officers resident in China Straits may now, I hope, live under conditions favourable to good health, and the Island itself may, I think, by the judicious expenditure of a few hundred pounds in addition to what has already been done, be made as healthy as any locality which could be chosen in China Straits. The amount of rainfall is very considerable, and when there is much rain there are sure to be malarious exhalations after the rainy season, but I do not think that Samarai is likely to prove exceptionally unhealthy. The Island, though only 40 acres in area, is very fertile, contains high land, and will provide all the space which is likely to be required by traders for some years to come. The native inhabitants of the neighbouring islands and the mainland immediately opposite are intelligent and interesting. Many of them can be found who will do a fair day's work for what they consider a fair day's wage. Milne Bay in the vicinity of Samarai is a populous District, and one which at no distant time is likely to be resorted to by white men. An interesting excursion for explorers would be to connect the head of Milne Bay with the head of Mullins Harbour. The neck of land which separates them cannot be more than 15 miles across and there does not appear to be any high land intervening.

The discovery of gold at Sudest was made in June, and came about in the following way:—David Lindsay White, who had been engaged in pearl-shelling at Coral Haven, applied to me in April last, at Thursday Island, for a protection area to secure him in the possession of certain gold-bearing reefs which he asserted that he had discovered on Joannet Island. My reply to him was that I could not secure to him any rights, but that I would recommend his application for favourable consideration when Sovereignty was proclaimed, and that, in the meantime, if he discovered anything I would be guided by the usage of the Queensland Gold-fields. He came with me to Cooktown, and having obtained assistance there from several enterprising citizens, he organised a party to go to the Louisiade. I chartered to him, at the rate of £10 a month for three months, a small cutter named the "Juanita" which I purchased at Cooktown for the Protectorate, arranging with Whyte that it should be delivered to me at the end of the time at Samarai.

The party were not successful in finding payable reefs on Joannet, but came on alluvial gold in the bed of the Runcie, a locality which I had visited the year before and which I recommended them to try. This discovery has led to several hundred men going to Sudest. It is as yet uncertain whether a really payable gold-field exists, but there can be no doubt that gold is to be found in various localities in New Guinea. Coal is also said to have been found, though I have not myself seen any traces of it.

APPLICATIONS FOR LAND.

I have at various times during my tenure of office had applications for land in British New Guinea from persons who either professed to be desirous to embark in schemes for the settlement of the country or who conceived that their services as explorers entitled them to reap some reward in this form. I have invariably replied that I had no power to make grants or to confer any special immunities of this kind, and I have drawn attention to the notifications which have from time to time appeared to the effect that no purchases of land from the natives except those made through the Government would have any validity; but I have at the same time stated that these applications would be referred to the Administrator when appointed.

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The first application of this kind was from a London syndicate which appeared to have no further knowledge of the country than that which was derived from the very imperfect geographical data available.

The second was from Mr. John Strachan, a master mariner of Sydney.

The third was from Mr. H. C. Everill the leader of the New South Wales Geographical Society's expedition to the Fly.

The fourth was from Mr. Theodore Bevan, and in addition to these I have received several applications of a minor character based on personal claims to recognition.

With regard to Mr. John Strachan's application, he has stated that he was promised concessions in writing by my predecessor, Sir Peter Scratchley. I can only say that I am not aware that any such promise was made—no such letter was ever shown to me, and I do not believe that any promise of the kind was made, either verbally or in writing. John Strachan's claims on account of discovery are, moreover, very doubtful.

The Mai Cussa or Baxter River, which forms by its bifurcation what this discoverer has been pleased to call Strachan's Island, was navigated and defined by Mr. Chester under instructions from me when I was Colonial Secretary of Queensland in 1877. Strachan's so-called explorations and definitions, subsequently made in 1885, have been proved to be gravely in error by Mr. Strode Hall, who was despatched by me in April last from Thursday Island in order to ascertain whether the statements made were correct (Appendix G). Nevertheless, if Mr. John Strachan can find men and money to form a settlement on the Mai Cussa, I see no reason why he should not have a slice of land in that locality. There are hardly any natives on Strachan Island, and they are in mortal terror of their lives from the Togari pirates. If, therefore, Mr. Strachan would undertake to keep off the Togari people from the westward he might be of great use to the New Guinea tribes, which have been decimated by these marauders, and I feel disposed, with my knowledge of the country and its inhabitants, to recommend that his application should be favourably entertained, always taking care that no large monopoly should be granted, and that the native rights, such as they are, should be carefully respected.

The next application which I have referred to is that of Mr. H. C. Everill on behalf of several influential capitalists who state their willingness to take an active interest in the colonization of New Guinea. Mr. Everill, no doubt, did good work in the exploration of the Fly and the Strickland in command of the New South Wales Geographical party, and judging from his papers appears to have had large experience in tropical agriculture. There are great stretches of country on the Fly unoccupied by the natives, and if these can be pointed out and defined, I cannot see any reason why some inducements should not be offered to people to go there, if they are prepared to risk their health, their lives, and their money in these pursuits. It is just a question of *bona-fides*. There can be no reason why British New Guinea should not be colonised, always provided that the rights of the native inhabitants are respected. When once a recognised government has been established it should be possible to discriminate and adjust, and I see no reason why this should not be done. It has been proved to be possible in British Borneo, and what has been done there may certainly be done in British New Guinea. If, therefore, Mr. Everill is prepared to find men who will expend their lives and their enterprise on the watershed of the Fly or the Aird, I cannot see why he should not be permitted to do so. The deepest darkness of savagery overhangs that region now, and why should not the light of commerce and civilization be let in upon it? I know that Mr. Everill spent many months in England in connection with this application, and that he received great encouragement from the Colonial Office in response to my recommendations. He was assured, I am informed, that his proposals would be favourably entertained when a decision had become possible, after the proclamation of Sovereignty. A letter has been forwarded to me by Mr. Everill signed by several influential and responsible business men in London indicating the support he was likely to receive there and the amount of money which it is anticipated could be raised there for expenditure in New Guinea, if a concession of unoccupied land could be obtained. I myself see no chance of any improvement in the western portion of British New Guinea except in some such way as this.

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The last application I shall refer to is that of Mr. Theodore Bevan, who considers that his services as an explorer ought to be recognised by a grant of 254,000 acres. This is an estimate very much beyond what I am disposed to think would be an equivalent for the discoveries made by that gentleman, though I willingly admit their importance. Nor ought it to be forgotten that a large share of the honor attached to them should be credited to Messrs. Burns, Philp, and Co., who supplied the steamer employed in the service and who bore a large proportion of the cost of the outlay. These are considerations which ought, I think, to be borne in mind if the claims thus made are seriously considered by the present Administration. That they should in some way be recognised I do not doubt, if their recognition can be made to serve towards the opening out and civilising of the country at the head of the Papuan Gulf. Experience in other countries, however, has amply proved that the granting of land apart from conditions of settlement and a real equivalent obtained in some form of value is the most fatal impediment to future improvement. It would be the same in New Guinea, and though I do not think there are any valid reasons against the moderate alienation of land where there is so much which is of no utility whatever to the natives, care should be taken to secure some real equivalent in settlement and civilization.

MISSION WORK.

There has been a healthy expansion of Mission work during the past year on the part of the London Missionary Society.

The Rev. Mr. Pierce has gone to live at Kerepuna. All the preparatory arrangements have also been made for Mr. Chalmers to reside at Motu-Motu, a station from which the important tribes inhabiting the country at the head of the Papuan Gulf can be approached much more readily than from Port Moresby. I am happy to say that the Rev. Mr. Savage, from Murray Island, has also established some new Stations on the Fly. There is unlimited scope in that district for missionary enterprise. At the east end there is no resident white missionary, and until there is there will be no advance in Mission work. I regard Milne Bay as a hopeful field for the work of an intelligent white missionary, and Killerton would be a suitable place, I think, for him to reside.

The French Catholic Missionaries at Yule Island are likely to be useful pioneers. Members of the Fraternity have explored the San Joseph River, and the first difficulties connected with the establishment of the station have been overcome. I visited them in July, and found them all in good health. Father Navarre, who lately visited Rome in order to receive episcopal consecration, has now returned, bringing with him both sheep and cattle. The relations between the two Missions are perfectly friendly at present, and I see no reason why they should not continue to be so. Where British Sovereignty and Supremacy exists perfect toleration is guaranteed. There will be a fair field and no favour shown; and if there is rivalry, as there will be, it ought to be of the kind which strives how best to illustrate the virtues of Christian charity.

MAIL CONTRACT.

Early in January, Messrs. Burns, Philp, & Co. gave me notice, under the terms of their contract, that they proposed to terminate their mail contract in July. They had been originally induced to undertake this contract in the hope that the regular service of the steamers along the coast might lead to some settlement and to the opening out of new channels of commerce. Mr. Burns visited England last year, partly with the intention of forming a trading company for New Guinea, and there is no doubt that money amply sufficient for such an enterprise would have been forthcoming, but there was then much uncertainty as to the proclamation of Sovereignty, and this being in suspense no company was formed. It is possible that the proposals then contemplated may be revived now that Sovereignty has been proclaimed. Nothing is likely to conduce more to the benefit of the natives or to the security of those who may be induced to settle on the coast of New Guinea than regular steam communication. Messrs. Burns, Philp, & Co. made a spirited effort to open out a trade, and they lost money, I know, in making the attempt. Circumstances were somewhat against them, and the long delay in the proclamation of Sovereignty was discouraging to those who were willing to invest money in

in New Guinea enterprise. The discovery of gold, however, taken in connection with the establishment of a recognised Government, is now certain to direct fresh attention to the means of communication along the coast, and I am not without hopes that either Messrs. Burns, Philp, and Co., or some equally enterprising firm, may be induced to enter the field once more. On receiving notice of discontinuance from Messrs. Burns, Philp, and Co. I called for fresh tenders. No eligible offer was received, and I then entered into an arrangement for a monthly service by a top-sail schooner—the “Lucy and Adelaide.” This contract is for six trips from Cooktown to Samarai, and Port Moresby, returning to Cooktown, a subsidy of £80 being paid for each trip.

So far the service has been well conducted, the schooner making the round trip in about thirteen days, but this regularity cannot be expected to last after the north-west monsoon sets in. As regards the carrying out of the Mail Service during the eighteen months it was in operation, I was on the whole perfectly satisfied with the manner in which it was conducted. There were occasional delays, and there was one complete break down, but having regard to the exceptional nature of the service and to the small subsidy paid I have no reason to complain. I regret that it resulted in a money loss to the contractors, for the cessation of the service is likely to prove a discouragement to enterprise on the coast, but I trust that it may be revived under more hopeful circumstances.

MELBOURNE EXHIBITION.

An interesting collection of objects of Natural History and of Ethnographical Art connected with New Guinea was made for the Melbourne Exhibition.

These were forwarded through the Queensland Commissioners, who kindly agreed to see that they were properly shown.

It was found, however, that the space available for Queensland was limited, and that it was not sufficient to admit of the New Guinea exhibits being advantageously displayed.

It was arranged, therefore, that they should be removed to an annexe allotted specially for the purpose, and Mr. W. C. Lindt, who had been appointed by me to act as an honorary commissioner on behalf of British New Guinea, kindly undertook to supervise the Court, which was fitted up with taste and attracted some attention.

CONTRIBUTIONS.

A statement will be found at page 15 (Appendix B) of the sums contributed by the Australian Governments to the Government of the Protected Territory. The proportionate amounts paid by the several Governments were estimated on a population basis fixed in 1885, and adhered to subsequently. A deficiency arose in the annual subsidy of £15,000, in consequence of the withdrawal of South Australia from the number of the contributing Colonies. Victoria and Queensland having originally agreed to guarantee the stipulated amount, I felt bound to look to them as guarantors as long as the provisional arrangement was in force. The Government of Victoria, however, held that the guarantee only applied to the first year, and that it did not refer to any subsequent period. Queensland recognised the obligation so far as the terms of the Act of Parliament permitted. These prescribed that “A sum bearing the same proportion to the sum of £15,000 as the population of Queensland bears to the total population of the Australasian Colonies which for the time being contribute towards such expenses should be paid to the maintenance of the Government.” An amount of £297 13s. 8d. has, accordingly been received from the Government of Queensland, and this represents the proportionate amount required to make up the deficiency. The correspondence arising out of these claims led to the expression of a difference of opinion between the Government of Victoria and myself. Mr. Gillies regarded some statements I had made as imputing a breach of faith to the Government of South Australia. I could not myself regard it in any other light, though I regretted that expressions I had made use of should have caused any feeling of soreness on the part of Victoria, a Colony which had always faithfully and promptly responded to my requisitions. Nevertheless, the fact could not be disputed—South Australia by its Legislature had passed very strongly worded resolutions requesting Her Majesty’s Government to
annex

annex New Guinea. The delegated representatives of South Australia, afterwards, in combination with the representatives of the other Australian Governments in conference assembled, pledged themselves by resolution to find the means to carry out this annexation, and to pass Acts of Parliament securing the subsidy. Yet, after accepting this responsibility for two years, and without consulting the Legislature, the Government of South Australia discontinued its payments.

This capricious action of a passing Administration I have not hesitated to characterise as it deserves. It became my duty to endeavour to obtain a recognition of this deficiency from the concerting Colonies, and to secure from them the means to make up the stipulated amount. I corresponded with all the Colonies on the subject. Queensland met the matter in the way I have stated. Mr. Gillies, the Prime Minister of Victoria, addressed a letter to Sir Henry Parkes, of New South Wales, and agreed to be guided by the decision of Sir Henry Parkes.

I received an assurance from Sir Henry Parkes that he would communicate with Mr. Gillies, and come to a settlement one way or another. I regret to say, however, that this intention was not carried out, and no settlement was arrived at. I am obliged, therefore, to enter the short payments on account of South Australia as unsatisfied. Whatever steps may be taken hereafter to make up this deficiency, I feel bound to record it. It seems to be specially unfair to those Governments which have honorably kept their word that any one of the number should have declined to recognise its obligations without consulting Parliament, and without also consulting the Colonies with which it had entered into engagements equally binding on all.

Short payments, amounting in the case of New Zealand to £667 4s. 8d., and in the case of Western Australia to £40 9s. 2d., are also recorded, but those only refer to the last quarter, from 1st June to the 31st of August, for which no demand has been made.

The balance to credit of my account on the 31st October, amounting to £1,397 2s. 5d., has been transferred to the public account of the Administrator of British New Guinea.

MORTALITY AMONG THE NATIVE TEACHERS.

Mr. Deputy Commissioner Musgrave has supplied me with a memorandum on the mortality of the native teachers. The reasons which led to that exceptional mortality have now to a great extent passed away. They were incidental to the first occupation of the country. Similar exceptional mortality has at times prevailed on the coast of Queensland.

I quite agree with Mr. Musgrave that a fitting monument should be erected at Port Moresby to those who laid down their lives as the early pioneers of Christian missionary enterprise in New Guinea. A sum of £300 might with great propriety be set apart for this purpose from the amount handed over by me to the Administrator.

TRADE OF NEW GUINEA.

A paper by Mr. Musgrave dealing with the trade and resources of New Guinea will be found in Appendix F. It contains much valuable information. The natural resources of New Guinea are no doubt very considerable. Its contiguity to Australia renders it certain that these resources will some day be adequately dealt with.

The real question is—how is it to be colonised—by what race, white or black?—It is a tropical country, intensely tropical.

Hitherto tropical countries have been regarded as the home of the dark races. Australia, however, declares that tropical Australia is not for the dark races, and if this be so it may be concluded that British New Guinea, being now an appanage of Australia, is destined ultimately to be the habitation of a white race. This is at variance with all our previous colonial experience, but it has not yet been proved to be at variance with natural laws. It may be hoped, however, that the analogy and example of the West Indies referred to by Mr. Musgrave will not be followed, for they add nothing to our strength as a people, and they count for little in an estimate of either our national or our imperial resources. The immediate value of British New Guinea to Australia at the present time is the strategical advantage which the possession of the south coast gives us. Along that coast line, from Hall Sound to Pitt Bay, there is a series of magnificent natural harbours. It

It is well both for British and Australian interests that the British flag flies on that coast.

The ten years of administration which are provided for under the Act now in force will see great changes in British New Guinea, and if during that period it should appear that £500,000 is required from the associated Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland, instead of £150,000, I am very confident that the expenditure will be well repaid in the development and preparation for settlement of a very fine and a very interesting country.

It has been a source of some honest pride to me that I have been permitted to have a share in giving effect to the first imperfect forms of administration.

I beg to tender my grateful thanks to those officers who have acted under me in Her Majesty's service during my term of office, and who have aided me effectually in the discharge of my duties.

JOHN DOUGLAS,
Her Majesty's Special Commissioner.

Brisbane, 31st October, 1888.

APPENDIX A.
PROTECTORATE OF BRITISH NEW GUINEA.
(Statement of Accounts.)

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FROM 1ST DECEMBER, 1887, TO 31ST MAY, 1888, INCLUSIVE.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
TO BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 30TH NOVEMBER, 1887 ... ..	...	4,050 10 0
TO GRANTS IN AID—		
New South Wales—Six Months' Contributions to 31st May, 1888	2,042 7 2	
Victoria—Six Months' Contribution to 31st May, 1888	2,346 14 4	
Queensland—Six Months' Contribution to 31st May, 1888	£581 11 11	
Queensland—Proportion of South Australian Contribution 1st December, 1887, to 31st May, 1888	66 3 0	
Tasmania—6 Months' Contribution to 31st May, 1887	647 14 11	
	316 2 6	5,352 18 11
TO OTHER RECEIPTS—		
Proceeds, Sale of Coal	247 10 0	
Gun Licenses	19 5 0	
"Juanita" Cutter, Rent of	30 0 0	
		296 15 0
		£9,700 3 11
Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
BY ESTABLISHMENTS—		
SALARIES FIXED—		
Special Commissioner, 1st December, 1887, to 31st May, 1888	1,250 0 0	
Deputy Commissioner, 1st October, 1887, to 31st March, 1888	100 0 0	
Assistant Deputy Commissioner, 1st January, 1888, to 31st May, 1888	262 10 0	
Accountant and Private Secretary, 1st December, 1887, to 31st May, 1888	200 0 0	
ALLOWANCES—		1,812 10 0
Travelling Expenses, Special Commissioner and Staff ... ..	...	360 9 9
		2,172 19 9
BY SERVICES (EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS)—		
MAIL SERVICE—		
Burns, Philp, and Co. (6 months)	300 0 0	
SCHOONER "HYGEIA"—		
Clothing	£54 6 8	
Insurance	77 12 6	
Victualling	150 4 0	
Wages of Master	100 0 0	
Wages of Crew	265 2 0	
Marine Stores, &c.	225 7 4	
Incidental Expenses	26 15 10	
Repairs	78 10 11	
	977 19 3	
SCHOONER "GOVERNOR CAIRNS"—		
Survey of Hull (further Expenses)	34 4 9	1,312 4 0
THURSDAY ISLAND SETTLEMENT—		
Deputy Commissioner, 1st January, to 31st March, 1888	25 0 0	25 0 0
PORT MORESBY SETTLEMENT—		
Salaries and Wages—		
E. G. Edelfelt, 1st February to 30th April, 1888	£62 10 0	
G. Hunter, 1st November, 1887, to 30th April, 1888	120 0 0	
R. Hunter, 1st November, 1887, to 31st May, 1888	140 0 0	
Master of Cutter, 1st November, 1887, to 30th April, 1888	90 0 0	
General Wages, 1st November, 1887, to 30th April, 1888	650 6 6	
Wages of Signalman, 1st November, 1887, to 30th April, 1888	48 0 0	
Allowances, &c.—		1,110 16 6
Travelling Expenses	46 18 0	
Miscellaneous Expenditure—		
Furniture for various Buildings	£38 5 6	
Erima Cottage, Improvements	12 0 0	
Fencing	66 5 11	
Building Material	111 1 3	
Water Supply	10 0 0	
Tools, &c.	32 14 6	
Stores and Trade	172 15 3	
"Maino," Stores, &c.	19 12 6	
Horses, Purchase of (Stallion)	68 10 0	
Bungalow, Additions to	23 0 0	
Saddlery	23 6 3	
Accommodation, House Furniture, &c.	407 15 8	
Badili Lands, Survey of	30 0 0	
Boat-house, Erection of	12 0 0	
Breakwater, Granville West	50 0 0	
"Maino," Repairs, Spars, and Sails	123 6 11	
Agricultural and Horticultural	8 0 0	
Incidental Expenses	52 11 7	
Agency Fees, &c. (A. Goldie)	9 18 5	
	1,271 3 9	
		2,423 18 3
Carried forward	£	3,766 2 3
		2,172 19 9

APPENDIX A—*continued.*PROTECTORATE OF BRITISH NEW GUINEA—*continued.*STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FROM 1ST DECEMBER, 1887, TO 31ST MAY, 1888, INCLUSIVE—*continued.*

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brought forward... ..	...	3,766 2 3	2,172 19 9
By SERVICES (EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS)—<i>continued.</i>			
MOTU-MOTU SETTLEMENT—			
Government Agent, 1st May, 1887, to 31st January, 1888... ..	..	77 10 0	
DINNER ISLAND (SAMARAI) SETTLEMENT—			
Salary of Agent, 1st January to 31st May, 1888 ... £131 13 4			
Wages, &c. (General)	68 0 0		
	199 13 4		
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE—			
Stores and Trade	£27 8 8		
Furniture	75 15 6		
Incidental Expenditure	16 0 0		
	119 4 2		
GENERAL CONTINGENT EXPENDITURE—			
Cutter "Juanita," Purchase of	150 0 0	318 17 6	
Polynesian Boatman, Engagement of	98 7 11		
Audit Fees, 1st June, 1887, to 31st May, 1888	50 0 0		
Cablegrams	26 16 3		
"Truganini," Special Services	74 12 6		
Incidental Expenditure	139 11 1		
General Agency Fees	32 16 2		
Melbourne Exhibition, Curios, &c.	61 13 6	633 17 5	
EXPEDITIONS—			
H. O. Forbes to Mount Owen Stanley, Compensation Loss of Instruments, Horses, &c.	37 10 0		
H. O. Forbes to Mount Owen Stanley, Balance of Sustenance Allowance to 31st December, 1887	15 0 0	52 10 0	
			4,848 17 2
			7,021 16 11
			2,678 7 0
By BALANCE to 1st of June ... ..	...	...	9,700 3 11

BINGHAM A. HELY, Accountant.

JOHN DOUGLAS,
Special Commissioner.

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT.

I hereby certify that I have examined the Accounts of the Protectorate of British New Guinea for the period between the 1st December, 1887, and the 31st May, 1888, amounting on the Debit side (including the sum of £4,050 10s. balance brought forward) to £9,700 3s. 11d., and on the Credit side to £7,021 16s. 11d.; and find that all sums received have been duly brought to account; and that the several payments made have been correctly computed, and are supported by duly certified and acquitted vouchers.

The Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, and Queensland have paid their contributions in full to the 31st May, 1888. New Zealand, Tasmania, and Western Australia have each paid to the 31st May, 1887, only. South Australia has not contributed since the 1st June, 1886; but Queensland, in addition to her own contribution, has paid £132 6s. in each of the Financial Years 1886-7 and 1887-8 towards making good the Grant withdrawn by South Australia. No other Colony has similarly contributed.

Department of Audit, Queensland,
Brisbane, 9th June, 1888.W. L. G. DREW,
Auditor-General.

APPENDIX A—continued.

PROTECTORATE OF BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FROM THE 1ST JUNE TO THE 3RD SEPTEMBER, 1888. (a)

Dr.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 31st MAY, 1888 ... ..		...	2,678 7 0
To GRANTS IN AID—			
Western Australia—Twelve Months' Contribution to 31st May, 1888		161 16 9	
New South Wales—Three Months' Contribution to 31st August, 1888		1,021 3 7	
Victoria—Three Months' Contributions to 31st August, 1888		1,173 7 2	
New Zealand—Twelve Months' Contribution to 31st May, 1888		2,668 18 9	
Queensland—Three Months' Contribution to 31st August, 1888	£290 15 11		
Queensland—Proportion of South Australian Contribution to 31st August, 1888	33 1 6		
		323 17 5	
Tasmania—Fifteen Months' Contribution to 31st August, 1888... ..		790 6 3	6,139 9 11
To OTHER RECEIPTS—			
Bank Interest ... ..		...	34 8 1
			£8,852 5 0
Cr.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By ESTABLISHMENTS—			
SALARIES FIXED—			
Special Commissioner	833 6 8		
Deputy Commissioner	83 6 8		
Assistant Deputy Commissioner	180 16 8		
Accountant and Private Secretary	103 6 8		
ALLOWANCES—		1,200 16 8	
Travelling Expenses, Special Commissioner and Staff ... ..	...	338 18 8	1,534 15 4
By SERVICES (EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS)—			
MAIL SERVICE—			
Burns, Philp, and Co. (Six Months', 1st March to 31st August, 1888)	300 0 0		
SCHOONER "HYGELA"—			
Victualling... ..	£412 17 5		
Wages of Master	210 13 4		
Wages of Crew	534 12 8		
Marine Stores and Fittings	97 3 3		
Incidentals	31 17 2		
Repairs	42 17 0		
Insurance	70 2 6		
	1,400 3 4		
THURSDAY ISLAND—		1,700 3 4	
Deputy Commissioner	41 13 4		
PORT MORESBY SETTLEMENT—		41 13 4	
Salaries and Wages—			
Government Agents	£227 6 8		
Master of Cutter	61 10 0		
Signalman	32 0 0		
General Wages	769 3 9		
Allowances—		1,090 0 5	
Travelling Expenses ... ..	...	19 0 6	
Miscellaneous Expenditure—			
Building Materials, Tools, &c.	£34 15 0		
Fencing	111 2 0		
"Maino," Stores, &c.	22 16 6		
Stores and Trade	163 1 0		
Saddlery	59 18 6		
Boat House, erection of	4 0 0		
Agricultural and Horticultural... ..	6 12 0		
Furniture for Various Buildings	29 9 9		
Incidental Expenses	25 5 6		
Agency Fees, &c. (A. Goldie)	17 13 0		
	474 13 3		
DINNER ISLAND (SAMARAI) SETTLEMENT—		1,583 14 2	
Mail Service—			
German New Guinea Co. (six months, 1st March to 31st August, 1888)	150 0 0		
Quato Island (China Straits)—			
Erection of House	50 0 0		
Salaries and Wages—			
Government Agent	£64 11 8		
Wages, &c. (General)	128 3 6		
Contingencies—		192 15 2	
Draining Swamp, &c.	£73 9 3		
Building Material and Residence	951 13 0		
Furniture	45 6 6		
R. Hunter, allowance for Special Service	20 0 0		
Stores and Trade	67 15 1		
Incidentals, Tools, &c.	22 7 6		
Rent of House	36 13 4		
Clearing, &c.	30 0 0		
Surveys	54 9 0		
Purchase of Cattle	40 0 0		
	1,341 13 8		
		1,734 8 10	
Carried forward	£	5,059 19 8	1,534 15 4

(a) Including Sundry Payments on account of this period, made to the 31st October, 1888.

APPENDIX A—continued.

PROTECTORATE OF BRITISH NEW GUINEA—continued.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FROM THE 1ST JUNE TO THE 3RD SEPTEMBER, 1888—continued.

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Brought forward ... ..	...	5,059 19 8	1,534 15 4
BY SERVICES (EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS)—continued—			
GENERAL CONTINGENT EXPENDITURE—			
H. Burkitt, Honorarium for issuing "Permits"	50 0 0		
Clerical Assistance	20 5 0		
Incidental Expenditure	290 15 11		
Cablegrams, &c.	23 16 3		
Audit Fees... ..	16 13 4		
General Agency Fees	99 9 1		
Melbourne Exhibition—Curios, Services of Attendant, &c... ..	223 19 6		
Refund to Tasmania of Contribution overpaid	6 6 2		
		731 5 3	
EXPEDITIONS—			
<i>Forbes Expedition to Mt. Owen Stanley—</i>			
Compensation to D. Gleeson for loss of personal effects	8 10 0		
<i>Strode Hall's Expedition to Mai Cussa River</i>	120 12 4		
		129 2 4	
			5,920 7 3
By BALANCE TRANSFERRED TO CREDIT OF ADMINISTRATOR...	...	...	7,455 2 7
			1,397 2 5
			£8,852 5 0

BINGHAM A. HELY, Accountant.

JOHN DOUGLAS,
Special Commissioner.

CERTIFICATE OF AUDIT.

I hereby certify that I have examined the Accounts of the Protectorate of British New Guinea for the period between the 1st June and the 3rd September, 1888, inclusive, amounting on the Debit side (including the sum of £2,678 7s. balance brought forward) to £8,852 5s., and on the Credit side to £7,455 2s. 7d., and find that all sums have been duly brought to account, and that the several payments have been correctly computed, and are supported by duly certified and acquitted vouchers. This account is now finally closed, the available balance, viz., £1,397 2s. 5d., having been transferred by the Special Commissioner to the present Administrator, the Honorable Dr. Wm. Macgregor.

The Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and Tasmania have paid their contributions in full to the 31st August, 1888. New Zealand and Western Australia have paid to the 31st May, 1888. South Australia has not contributed. Queensland, in addition to her own contribution, has paid £33 1s. 6d. during the period under Audit towards making good the grant withdrawn by South Australia.

Department of Audit, Queensland,
Brisbane, 31st October, 1888.

W. L. G. DREW,
Auditor-General.

APPENDIX B.

PROTECTORATE OF BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

STATEMENT showing the CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID due from and made by the several CONTRIBUTING COLONIES for the FINANCIAL YEARS ended 31st May, 1885, 1886, 1887, and 1888, respectively, and for the QUARTER ended 31st AUGUST, 1888.

Contributing Colony.	Total Contributions due to 31st August, 1888.	CONTRIBUTIONS ACTUALLY PAID FOR FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED.								Contributions Paid for Quarter ended 31st August, 1888.		Amount short-paid.	
		31st May, 1885.		31st May, 1886.		31st May, 1887.		31st May, 1888.		Date.	Amount.		
		Date.	Amount.	Date.	Amount.	Date.	Amount.	Date.	Amount.				
Victoria ...	£ 19,947 1 10	1885. 19 May...	£ 4,693 8 8	1886. 1 April..	£ 4,337 19 2	1887. 21 Jan. ...	£ 2,346 14 4	1887. 1 Dec. ...	£ 2,346 14 4	1888. 29 Aug. ...	£ 1,173 7 2	£	
New South Wales ...	£ 17,360 0 11	22 ,, ...	£ 4,084 14 4	22 ,, ...	£ 4,084 14 4	18 Feb. ...	£ 4,084 14 4	1887. 19 Dec. ...	£ 2,042 7 2	1888. 7 Sept. ...	£ 1,021 3 7	£	
New Zealand ...	£ 11,342 19 8	1 June...	£ 2,668 18 9	23 July...	£ 2,668 18 9	18 July...	£ 2,668 18 9	12 Sept..	£ 2,668 18 9	.....	.....	£ 667 4 8
South Australia ...	£ 6,479 9 3	22 May...	£ 1,524 11 7	9 April..	£ 1,524 11 7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£ 3,430 6 1
Queensland* ...	£ 4,943 10 11	19 ,, ...	£ 1,500 0 0	29 ,, ...	£ 826 7 6	4 Jan. ...	£ 581 11 11	1887. 23 Nov. ...	£ 647 14 11	1888. 23 Aug. ...	£ 323 17 5	£	
Tasmania ...	£ 2,678 16 3	23 June...	£ 600 0 0	2 ,, ...	£ 630 6 2	26 Jan. ...	£ 315 3 1	1888. 3 April..	£ 647 14 11	29 Oct. ...	£ 630 6 2	29 Oct. ...	£ 157 11 7
Western Australia ...	£ 687 16 2	1886. 2 April..	£ 161 16 9	15 April..	£ 161 16 9	15 Feb. ...	£ 161 16 9	1 Sept. ...	£ 161 16 9	.....	.....	£ 40 9 2
Fiji ...	£ 310 5 0	1885. 26 June...	£ 100 0 0	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£ †210 5 0
TOTAL ...	£ 63,750 0 0		£ 15,333 10 1		£ 14,620 9 11		£ 13,534 14 6		£ 13,534 14 6		£ 2,675 19 9	£ 4,348 4 11	

* Queensland has paid £297 13s. 8d. as the proportionate amount due to make up South Australian deficiency.

† Fiji has been excused payment.

APPENDIX C.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MILMAN to THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.

Sir,

Government Residency, Thursday Island, 31 August, 1888.

I have the honor, in compliance with your Excellency's request, to furnish you with the following short supplementary report on the western portion of British New Guinea. Though I have only been able to pay one visit this year to the mainland I have been in constant communication with people who have had better opportunities of observing than I have had.

As regards the extreme western boundary, the expedition of Mr. Strode-Hall up the Wai-Cussa and Mai-Cussa Rivers points to the conclusion that in the immediate neighbourhood of these rivers the country is very sparsely populated. This I attribute to the fear of the Dogari or Togari pirates, who keep the inhabitants of the southern shores in a constant state of dread during the months that they infest the coast. These people should certainly be checked, and the only way to do so would be for a party to lay wait for them at Dauan, where information could be obtained of their approach at the commencement of the north-west monsoon. Boigo (Talbot Island) still remains deserted on account of the Togari pirates, the few remaining natives having settled permanently at Dauan (Cornwallis Island). They are a quiet, peaceable sort of people, and I prefer them to their neighbours of Saibai.

As regards the Saibai people, I have at last induced them to make and bring in for sale here the mats they manufacture so neatly. I have found a ready sale for them, and I trust that in this way a small industry may be regularly established. I look upon the Saibai people as belonging to New Guinea, though they are really Queensland subjects, and it should be the endeavour of future administrators to encourage small industries as much as possible both here and elsewhere. They get a little *bêche-de-mer*, but not as much as they ought, considering that they have a good cutter which has been given them by the Government.

I am glad to say that I have found a safe passage to Mowatta by keeping near to the east end of Saibai, and getting within 3 miles or so from the New Guinea coast before steering eastward for the mouth of the Katow River. In only one place did I get less than 2 fathoms, and I think that even this shallow spot might be avoided. On my last visit I anchored in 6 fathoms about a mile off the village of Mowatta, and had no difficulty either in landing or in returning to the "Albatros." The village at Mowatta has been greatly improved since I visited it last year. Nearly all the natives now wear clothes; formerly even a shirt only was quite an exception. This change is entirely owing to the fact that many of the men are now willing workers in the *bêche-de-mer* fisheries. Several boats are now worked from Mowatta, and are manned entirely by Mowatta natives; they are doing well. The chief matter is to see that the natives get fairly paid for their work, and I would suggest that an agent be appointed to see that this is done. All engagements and discharges should be made before him. For this purpose I have temporarily authorized Mr. Edward Beardmore to exercise a certain amount of supervision over the trade and the natives engaged in it, and I have instructed him to report to me occasionally. I believe that Mr. Beardmore might with propriety be permanently appointed. He gets on well with the natives, does not interfere with their women, and he has shown himself very willing to carry out any instructions I have given him.

Previous to my last visit to Mowatta I had heard that the younger chief Gamia was in the habit of brutally ill-treating the women. This has caused great discontent among the people, and he has virtually lost all authority over them. On my visit to Mowatta I practically deposed Gamia, and gave my recognition to the other chief Gabia, by presenting him with a staff of authority from Queen Victoria. I also transferred the custody of the flag to him, and in the presence of the assembled people I told them that I should henceforth recognize Gabia as head chief, and that I should look to him in future to keep order in the village. They all appeared to understand what I had done, and to be content with it. I arranged also with Gabia that he was to build a native house for "Government" to come to when they were visited by anyone in authority. In payment for this I left 10 lb. of tobacco with Mr. Beardmore. I further addressed Gabia and told him that he must do his best to put down the hideous practice of sodomy, which is carried on most extensively, and almost openly, young boys being initiated in the practice formally at a certain season of the year. It is probable that this abominable habit is not confined to Mowatta.

During my visit a large number of natives came off to the "Albatros," and were astonished at the practice made by the Nordenfeldt at 1,500 yards.

A missionary teacher is now stationed at Mowatta, but he is a weak specimen, and will have, I fear, but little influence over the natives. The Rev. E. B. Savage has been up the Fly lately to Soomioot, and reports the natives as quiet and well. He also reports that the Keiwai people are more hopeful than they were. He has established a teacher at a large village on the eastern side of Keiwai Island. He speaks well of these people. He proposes on his next visit to the Fly to go as far as Abru, the large village visited by Mr. Cholmondeley and myself last year. He intends further to take Karossa with him, and will try to bring Papina, the chief of Abru, into Thursday Island. I think that much good may be done by bringing some of the principal chiefs across the Straits, so that they may see our houses and some of our big ships.

A bird-shooting party penetrated inland a short time since from Mowatta to about the same distance as that reached by Captain Cole last year. They report that the natives were quiet and friendly. I believe that the same party, though unknown to me, have gone out a second time on a prospecting expedition.

In conclusion, I should wish to point out that if the natives were regularly visited much good could be got out of them by fostering their small local industries and teaching them new ones. The dread of these Togari people, I must repeat, keeps them in a most unsettled and unsatisfactory condition.

I must add that the deportation of "Jack" to Port Moresby under your Excellency's personal instructions, and his brief period of enforced retirement there, has had a most salutary effect on the people of Mowatta. On his return from Port Moresby he burned his weapons, and announced that he was going to lead a new life, following the ways of peace.

The

The system of appointing a few policemen at each place, one which I have found work well in the islands of Torres Straits, might, I think, be adopted at Mowatta and at other places in New Guinea.

A separate code of punishments might be drawn up for the offences most rife at each place, and the chief should be held responsible for giving effect to them.

I was accompanied on my last visit to Mowatta by Professor Haddon, who has come out from England to report on the marine zoology of our coral reefs. He was much interested by what he saw, and I am pleased to know that he thought highly and hopefully of the first Papuans he has seen.

I am, &c.,

HUGH MILMAN,

Deputy Commissioner for the Western Division of New Guinea.

To the Special Commissioner for British New Guinea.

APPENDIX D.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER ROMILLY TO THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.

Sir,

Cooktown, 11th September, 1888.

I have the honor, in compliance with your request, to forward you herewith a detailed statement of the work done during the term of my residence at Port Moresby.

After spending some months in the eastern part of New Guinea I handed the "Hygeia" over to Your Excellency, and at the beginning of November, 1887, took up my residence at Port Moresby, where I remained until the beginning of September this year. For the first two or three months there were no means, owing to the want of money, of doing anything of consequence, except keeping the natives quiet. These, generally speaking, are coastal tribes extending as far to the eastward as Aroma, and as far to the westward as Motu-Motu. All the landing places, villages, and districts between these two points I visited in the cutter "Maino." During the whole term of my residence at Port Moresby there was no disturbance of any sort. There were the ordinary native reports of fighting and quarrelling among themselves, but these disputes were not worth interfering with, and, in fact, I had no means of stopping them.

As regards the actual work done, the following are the particulars:—From the 19th to the 26th January the men were employed putting up a flagstaff at the Government Bungalow, and the necessary timber was got, with great trouble, at a place called Manu-Manu, about 36 miles from Port Moresby. On the 31st January I started in the cutter on a visit to the districts to the eastward, which lasted until the 7th February. I found everything quiet. From the 7th to the 25th February the men were employed getting timber for fencing in the land bought by the Protectorate Government. After Your Excellency's departure for Cooktown on the 24th February I commenced making improvements in Mr. Edelfelt's cottage, and building a verandah, store-room, and kitchen. On the 5th March I began painting the Government Bungalow, and on the 9th March I began building a bath-room off the kitchen. On the 17th March I took over four additional hands, engaged by Mr. Musgrave in Queensland. On the 21st March the bath-room was finished, and I began connecting the bungalow with the bath-room and cook-house by a covered passage. On the 23rd March the painting was finished. On the 26th March I sailed in the "Ellangowan" westward to Motu-Motu, visiting the intervening districts. I called at the French Mission at Yule Island, and while there ascertained that the natives who had molested Cameron's party up the St. Joseph's River had not intended to do them any harm. They simply, like most natives, could not resist their habit of pilfering, and as a proof of their good will sent bags of rice and other trade which they had stolen, down to a coast village 50 miles away, to lie there until the owners should take it away. This is a course of action I never knew natives take before. On the 31st March I got to the village of Motu-Motu, where my reception by the natives was of a very gratifying character. On the 2nd April I returned to Port Moresby. I found that the boat-house, a very frail structure, had been blown down, and on the 4th April started to build a new one. I commissioned Mr. Cameron, a well-known Queensland surveyor, to survey the Badili land, which had been purchased by the Protectorate, and on the 11th April he completed his work. On the 12th April the Motu-Motu trading fleet arrived at Port Moresby. It consisted of eleven "lakatois," or trading canoes, and their crews, numbering some 300 men, came to the bungalow to return the visit I had paid them at Motu-Motu. Mr. Edelfelt had brought back the chief's baton of office, the man with whom Commodore Erskine had left it having died. I now presented it to Hori, in the presence of the whole of his tribe. Before doing so I asked the assembled tribe, "Is it your wish that I should give this stick to Hori?" And they all cried out, "Hori! Hori!" On the 14th April I sent out a shooting party to collect specimens, birds of paradise, &c., for the Melbourne Exhibition. On the 18th April I began improving the road from the beach to the bungalow, which was in a very bad state indeed. On the 19th April I began building a solid stockyard, as the old one was in a bad condition. The site selected by yourself is at the corner of the old and new paddocks. Towards the end of April there appeared to be an epidemic of malarial fever here. On the 15th May I appointed my old servant Charles Kowald, caretaker, at £8 a month, of the accommodation house at Ela, which had been occupied by De-Raeve, the recent lessee of it. On the 24th May, the anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday, I dressed the flagstaff, and had the whole of the population of the village up to the bungalow. I informed them of the fact that it was Her Majesty's birthday, and gave each person two pannikins of rice, one stick of tobacco, and a biscuit. There were 800 natives present on this occasion. On the 29th May the fence round the Government property was finished. It is about 2 miles in length. On the 30th May I engaged Neil Anderson, an Islay man, as mate for the cutter, at £9 a month. In the middle of May a prospecting party went up the St. Joseph's River, but returned in the middle of June without having found more than the colour of gold. On the 22nd June Mr. Cameron began to survey the road through the Badili land, and I sent some of my men with him to put pegs in and otherwise help him. On the 29th June I sailed to Kabidi, to the westward, to visit the inland villages there. Crossing the Kido bar our boat was upset. There were twenty-two persons in her, including two women,

women, and a child a year old. We lost everything, my own property, which included eight guns and rifles, being worth about £200. However, we all reached the beach safely. On the 23rd July, in accordance with instructions, I commenced forming the Badili road, following the contoured track marked by Your Excellency round the hill from Ela beach. It is about a mile and a-half in length, and will for the future be the principal road inland. On the same day I put another gang of men on cleaning out the waterholes, and laying down pipes to them from the springs. On the 24th July I sent the cutter away to cut mangrove timber for renewing all the beacons in the harbour. On the 30th July I started a new tract to intersect the Ela track. Kerr, the master of the cutter, with his men was then working at the beacons in the harbour, and a gang of men was employed at the waterholes. On the 2nd August I started another dam out at Ela. The harbour beacons and both tracks were finished on the 4th August, and on the 8th August the principal dam, estimated to hold 140,000 gallons, was finished. On the 20th August fencing in the native reserve was completed, the fence being all new. On the 23rd August I started refencing the cemetery, as the old fence was tumbling to pieces, and on the 1st September this work was finished. On the 3rd September the yearly fleet of trading canoes, fifteen in all, sailed from Port Moresby westward, and on the 4th September the "Opal" came in. Dr. Macgregor read the commission, and my term of office under the Protectorate came to an end.

I have, &c.,
HUGH H. ROMILLY.

His Excellency the Special Commissioner for British New Guinea.

This Paper is published at Mr. Musgrave's request.—J.D.

APPENDIX E.

MEMORANDUM ON THE MORTALITY OCCURRING AMONGST POLYNESIAN TEACHERS OF THE LONDON MISSION SOCIETY IN BRITISH NEW GUINEA, AND THE ALLEGED DANGEROUS UNHEALTHINESS OF THE TERRITORY.

The accompanying returns, copies of extracts, &c., which together form an Appendix herewith yield almost sufficient information to prove that the alleged dangerous nature of the New Guinea climate as exemplified by the deaths of mission teachers, is still a question *sub judice*, since, if the testimony of impartial witnesses quoted is to be received, it implies that the exceptional death rate among the teachers is to be explained by their having been often placed in exceptional positions, and having been subjected from time to time to exceptional privations.

After being associated with British New Guinea, however, for three years, and having given my best efforts to obtain all *facts* possible, without being unduly influenced by strong statements or hastily drawn inferences, a few additional remarks may tend to correct certain conclusions on the question of the *presumed insalubrity* of British New Guinea, as suggested by numerous deaths of Polynesian mission teachers. In making them I shall studiously avoid any that appear of a controversial character. The subject of the sanitary conditions of nearly 100,000 square miles of valuable territory (to be presently added to Her Majesty's dominions) is of so much intrinsic interest and importance that it must negative the idea of any such intention; and it is, of course, indispensable, in respect of the future settlement of the country, that definite views should, if possible, be formed both for administrative and politico-economical reasons.

2. The explanation of my obtaining the returns herewith (*Appendix I*) was noted by me under date 13th January, 1886, viz. :—

"The history of my getting the detailed returns of teachers and their deaths is as follows:— Before the late Special Commissioner* left Port Moresby for his first cruise to the eastward, I suggested to him the propriety of erecting a simple monument to the memory of the teachers who had lost their lives in the service of the mission before the proclamation of Her Majesty's Protectorate; and that the tribute should be made at the expense of the Government. It would have been both a deserved memorial to those who had lost their lives in a worthy cause and, to a certain extent, a recognition of the assistance which has been freely given to the officers of Her Majesty's Civil and Naval Services in the territory by the local mission.

"The present cemetery in Port Moresby (a small one) is full of the graves of mission teachers and their wives; nor is there any (not the commonest) kind of headstone or board to mark their several graves. For this reason (and the site of the cemetery being in the natural line of a street, running parallel with the beach road) His Excellency proposed to close it as a burial ground at once, and enclose and turf it as a public square instead, at a moderate cost, placing the teachers' monument within the square. This latter was to carry the simplest and briefest inscription of the name of each teacher, and the date of his death and that of his wife."

My allusion to an obelisk in the annexed copy of my letter (*Appendix II*) to the Rev. Mr. Lawes, will thus be understood as referring to a proposed memorial monument to the several teachers who had lost their lives in British New Guinea. The late Sir Peter Scratchley had fully approved of the idea; but in some measure, owing to his premature death, the matter has not been pursued.

3. From the annexed returns it would appear that out of a total number of 187 Polynesians of both sexes, introduced from the Savage Islands, Loyalty Islands, &c., ninety succumbed to disease or the hostility of the natives. Of the latter twelve are stated to have been so massacred. Allowing also a necessary and reasonable percentage of deaths from constitutional or causes other than those peculiar to the climate, it will be seen that between fifty and sixty deaths only can be imputed to local malefic conditions—even taking the latest figures quoted by the Queensland Press (*Brisbane Courier*, 28th June, 1888), from a recent lecture of the Rev. Mr. Lawes in Brisbane, at 201 South Sea Islanders introduced, of whom 103 have died in fifteen years. If due consideration be given to the above points it follows that not more than seventy persons have died from strictly local causes in seventeen † (not fifteen) years.

4.

* Major-General Sir P. H. Scratchley, R.E., K.C.M.G. † July, 1871, to July, 1888.

4. The mortality to be accepted, however, is, no doubt, great, but may be found somewhat exceptional. Within the past twenty years, in which the coasts of British New Guinea have become gradually more frequented by missionaries and their agents, traders, and their associates, crews of Her Majesty's ships, collectors, and explorers, officials and miscellaneous visitors, &c., there is not only no startling loss of life discoverable, but, regarding the comparatively primitive "environment," there are notably few cases of fatal illness* except in the mission teachers' families.

Taking the European missionaries associated with British New Guinea up to date, they will be found to number twenty persons (fourteen missionaries and six wives), as stated in an appended list. (*Enclosure X.*)

The only death in this group that has, I believe, been attributed to fever is that of the Rev. Mr. Sharpe, who died in Cooktown not many months after he joined the New Guinea Mission in 1885. Of the three senior missionaries (Messrs. McFarlane, Dawes, and Chambers) resident for so long in British New Guinea, I may say that it would be difficult to select, in the healthiest temperate climate, men apparently enjoying better health and vitality or more capable of active, mental, and physical efforts. Probably all these gentlemen specified suffered from malarial or other fevers of severe types, at one time or another, but this is natural in a new tropical country. It is more remarkable that their local death-roll only includes one name, and that traces of the "ravages of climate" are not more observable.

5. With regard to the traders, bêche-de-mer fishers, visitors,† &c., in the time under review, the deaths are almost *nil*, nor am I aware of any constitutions "broken down" by residence in British New Guinea. A sufficient number have worked in those waters for some years past to show that the climate need not yet be considered any worse than that of North Queensland.

Of the mining parties which prospected the country inland from Port Moresby, in 1878 and 1879, amounting to about 100 persons, only five or six at most died from actual fever; yet they were subjected to exceptionally severe privations for want of proper food and medicines, and exposed in many instances to the trying effects of the rainy and most unhealthy season.

A mail steamer ran between Thursday Island, Port Moresby, and Samarai, from July, 1886, to June of this year, and on twenty-four trips took over several tourists besides those allowed passages in the Government vessel. None of these have died, though some may have contracted temporary fevers.

Officials quartered at Samarai (the east end) Motu-Motu (at the head of the Gulf of Papua) and at Port Moresby, with Government employés, imported carpenters, boatmen, members of a survey party, &c., have fortunately no deaths to record in their ranks, except the sad case of the first Special Commissioner. Whether his were a clear case of virulent fever or no may, however, be questioned, but it is certainly true that few officers have escaped slight attacks during the currency of the Protectorate.

Of exploring parties the same truths may be stated, and I find on reference to a return ‡ from the Secretary of the Cook District Hospital (whose prompt courtesy in the matter I have much pleasure in acknowledging), that out of 28 admissions from British New Guinea from 1883 to the end of last year 16 are described as fever, 5 of which were malarial fever. Of those 28 persons, only 1 died of the latter disorder.

The reports of the proceeding of H.M.'s ships visiting, patrolling, or surveying in British New Guinea waters show nothing exceptionally dangerous as to climatic effects, so far as I am aware. The crews of the survey ships "Lark" and "Dart" had a share of fever in 1886, and there were one or two fatal cases; but considering the numbers engaged, the exceptional season, &c., there was no reason for inferring special risk to life from their experience. It is to be regretted that I cannot add a list of the several voyages made by these vessels in Protectorate waters. I have made an imperfect list of over twenty names that have been on the coast generally (if not always) during the dry season; but the actual number of visits is much higher.

The Order of the Sacred Heart established a Catholic Mission at Yule Island in June, 1885. It has been maintained for three years without any deaths having occurred I believe—none, at any rate, have come to my knowledge, though the little community now numbers about ten Europeans of both sexes. I can personally testify also to the undesirable exposure and strenuous physical exertions of the two devoted pioneers of the Mission, Fathers Verjus and Coupé, and that they endured severe attacks of fever during their earliest residence, and difficulties in planting the Mission in 1885.

6. One of the most noteworthy points in the history of alien communication with British New Guinea is that Malays, Polynesians, &c., employed in vessels and otherwise on the coast—even when brought from the same islands as the mission teachers—do not show any extraordinary mortality. A remarkable instance of this occurs in respect of a cedar-cutting party. The position of the timber camp, selected by Mr. Clayton F. Page (a gentleman of well-known experience in North Queensland cedar forest), is on an arm of Galley Reach, an estuary of Redscar Bay. It lies behind the village of Manu-Manu, the scene of one of the first mission stations in British New Guinea—very properly abandoned as such owing to its unhealthy surroundings. A mass of mangroves and brackish creeks intervene between Manu-Manu and the original camp built by a fresh stream emptying into a tidal inlet, where fetid muddy banks uncover with the ebb-tide. Thick scrub (forest lands with undergrowth close enough to check the free circulation of air) surrounded the damp spot. I visited it in 1885, and thought it one of the most pestilential-looking places I had ever seen in the tropics. Amongst the men, from twelve to fifteen were natives from the Loyalty Islands, the Savage (Nieué) Islands, &c., from whence teachers have generally been introduced. This force was at work for three years—from 1884 to 1887. They suffered, as might fully have been expected, badly at times from fever, but Mr. Page possessed some knowledge of medicine, and was liberal in respect of rations, as well as careful about their quality. When the men were much prostrated from malaria they were sent to Port Moresby to recruit, and I never heard that there was a fatal case amongst them.

7. In contemplation of the preceding facts the conclusion is irresistible that there must be some special features in the lives of the teachers or defects in the system for their care and control which have operated prejudicially. It is much to have narrowed the question to this point, and the above inference is greatly confirmed by the impressions of impartial witnesses, such as Captain Moresby, R.N., and others which

* Massacres by natives have, of course, no connection with the subject.

† The numbers can be approximately obtained from the shipping returns in the "Queensland Annual Statistical Register."

‡ Not printed.

which appeared in print during the past history of British New Guinea, and are given in the appendix. (*Enclosures IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, and IX.*) The persistent statements as to its extreme unhealthiness are therefore practically baseless, and it is not necessary to dwell further on the subject. Indeed, I should not have treated it so exhaustively had not they been emphatically made from time to time. In an article, for instance, by the Rev. W. G. Lawes, entitled "The Effect of the Climate of New Guinea upon Exotic Races," published in the *Australasian Medical Gazette* of May, 1887, the same pessimistic view of the "utter unhealthiness" of the climate is elaborated. A copy of this is appended. (*Enclosure XI.*)

I have no desire to seem antagonistic to Mr. Lawes' views, but cannot allow one statement to pass unnoticed. He says: "Only five ladies have attempted to live in British New Guinea. Of these two died, and the third is just leaving—now so reduced by fever that her only hope of life is in getting away. I have just heard of the death of the Baroness von Schleinitz in German New Guinea."

I presume that the above two deaths are those of Mrs. W. G. Turner and Mrs. Chalmers. The first died at Murray Island (in Queensland waters), and I have always clearly understood *not* from climatic causes. Mrs. Chalmers died in Sydney, also, I have heard, from ailments unconnected with local influences. If, however, Murray Island be included in British New Guinea (as in many respects is desirable) then *nine* ladies have lived in British New Guinea *none* of whom have died from their sojourn there. Three ladies not connected with the mission—Mrs. H. O. Forbes, Mrs. I. de Racee, and Mrs. E. G. Edelfelt—have all lived for months together in the Protectorate, and are alive and well. The first was at the east end of New Guinea—a less healthy region, probably, than Port Moresby; the second lived at the latter point, and the third for more than a year at the head of the Papuan Gulf, in a low situation, which I should consider decidedly unhealthy. She suffered, in common with the other ladies, more or less severely from fever at times, and I suppose this is the case cited by Mr. Lawes as so critical. This lady returned subsequently, however, and is now quite well. The others have left the Protectorate, but are also well.

The Baroness von Schleinitz died of aggravated bronchitis (to attacks of which she had been subject in Europe), and I have been told on good authority that probably over-exertion at Finschafen, on account of certain hospitable preparations for Christmas or New Year entertainments of the local officials, intensified the malady to a fatal degree.

8. Since writing the previous paragraph relating to the miners' parties of 1878 and 1879, I have held some conversation with one of the number—Mr. Trotter, senior, of Cooktown. He knew of not less than sixty members of these parties from the "Economist" and "Colonist" vessels, &c., and assures me that not more than three persons died from the distinct effects of fever in British New Guinea. Many, if not all, suffered, but of those admitted to the local hospital none died, and the only other deaths were one from drowning and one apparently from sunstroke.

A. MUSGRAVE, JUN.

Cooktown, 27th July, 1888.

Enclosure I.

RETURNS of LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY'S TEACHERS associated with BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

Name.	Where from.	Date of Arrival and Location.	Remarks.
Josaia	Loyalty Islands ...	July, 1871	Alive at Darnley Island
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Siwene	" "	" "	Returned to Maré
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Kerisiano	" "	" "	Died on Mabuia
Wife	" "	" "	Widow returned to Maré
Mataika	" "	" "	Returned to Loyalty Islands
Wife	" "	" "	Died, Dinner Island
Gucheng	" "	" "	Died on Fly River
Wife	" "	" "	" Mabuia
Tepeso	" "	" "	" Warrior Island
Wife	" "	" "	" Darnley
Jerry (Katehuma) ...	" "	" "	Died at Teste Island
Wife	" "	" "	Returned to Lifu
Tom (Isahun)	" "	" "	Died on Dinner Island
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Elia	" "	" "	Returned to Lifu
Wife	" "	" "	Died on Saibai Island
Waunaea	" "	" "	Died in China Straits
Wife	" "	" "	Widow returned to Maré
Peri	Rarotonga	Oct., 1872, Boera ...	Alive at location
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Rau	Aitutaki	" " Port Moresby ...	Returned "
Wife	" "	" "	Died soon after arrival
Anederea	Rarotonga	" " Kerepuna	Killed at Kalo, 1881
Wife	" "	" "	Died at Port Moreoby
Ruatoka	" "	" " Port Moresby ...	Alive at location
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Adamu	Manihiki	" " Manu-Manu	Died at station
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Eneri	" "	" " Port Moresby ...	Died, 1875
Wife	" "	" "	" 1873
Saneish	Loyalty Islands ...	" " " "	Returned to Maré
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Gutacene	" "	" "	" "
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Wanegi	" "	" "	Died "
Wife	" "	" "	Married to "Dick"
Locat	" "	" "	Died at Tauan Island
Wife	" "	" "	Widow married Gucheng
Pethin	Loyalty Islands ...	Oct., 1872	Returned to Uvea
Wife	" "	" "	Died at Darnley Island
Cho	" "	" "	Killed at Bampton Island
Wife	" "	" "	" "

Enclosure I—continued.

RETURNS OF LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY'S TEACHERS associated with BRITISH NEW GUINEA—continued.

Name.	Where from.	Date of Arrival and Location.	Remarks.
Mataio	Loyalty Islands	Oct., 1872	Killed at Bampton Island
Wife	" "	" "	" " " "
Murray, Rev. A. W.	" "	" 11 "	Resided at Somerset until Nov., 1874, when he left with Mrs. Murray for Sydney
McFarlane, Rev. S.	" "	23 July, 1874	Left Mission, Dec., 1885
" Mrs.	" "	2 Nov., 1874, Murray Island	" " 1884
Lawes, Rev. W. G.	" "	20 Oct., 1874	" " " "
" Mrs.	" "	Port Moresby	" " " "
Tupugalei	Nieué	Nov., 1874	Died, 1875
Wife	Savage Island	Lea Lea	Returned
Seasi	" "	" "	" "
Wife	" "	Baruné	" "
Isaako	" "	" "	Still at Station
Wife	" "	Pari	" "
Talima	Nieué	" "	Died, 1876
Wife	Savage Island	Tatana	Returned, 1876
Viliani	Nieué	November, 1874, Pari	Died, 1880
Wife	Savage Island	" " " "	Returned, 1882
Reubena	Manihiki	" " " "	Died, 1875
Wife	" "	" " " "	Returned, 1876
Motu	Mangaia	November, 1874, Pari	Died, 1875
Wife	" "	" " " "	Remarried to Anederea, and killed at Kalo, 1881
Peka	" "	" " " "	Died, 1875
Wife	" "	" " " "	Returned, 1876
Moana	Rarotonga	" " " "	Died, 1875
Wife	" "	" " " "	" "
Tavini	" "	" " " "	Returned, 1876
Wife	" "	Boribada	" "
Toria	Mangaia	" "	Died, 1875
Wife	" "	" "	Returned, 1876
Turner, Rev. W. G., M.D.	" "	" "	Returned, November, 187
" Mrs.	" "	March, 1876	*Died at Somerset, Nov., 1876
Peni	" "	October "	Died
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Sekarai	" "	" "	" 1876
Wife	" "	Boribada	" "
Materua	Mangaia	Oct., 1876, Kalo	Killed, 1881
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Asafo	" "	" " Lea Lea	Died, 1876
Wife	" "	" "	Widow married Mata
Taria	Aitutaki	" " Hula	Killed, 1881
Wife	" "	" "	Died, Suou, 1884
Gativaro	" "	" "	" " "
Wife	" "	" "	" 1876 "
Tamarua	" "	" " South Cape	" "
Wife	" "	" "	" 1882
Pi	Rarotonga	" "	Alive at Station
Wife	" "	" "	Died
Reboamo	Savage Islands	" " Kalle	Living at Station
Wife	" "	" "	Died, 1877
Napota	" "	" " Tupuselei	" 1882
Wife	" "	" "	Returned, 1884
Ioane	" "	" " Kapa Kapa	Living at Station
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Chalmers, Rev. J.	" "	21 October, 1877	" "
" Mrs.	" "	" "	†Died at Sydney, 20th Feb., 1879
Toakinga	Rarotonga	November, 1878	Died
Wife	" "	" "	Remarried and left mission
Mataio	" "	" " South Cape	Died, 1884
Wife	" "	" "	Died
Jakoba	Manihiki	" " Koiari	Left, 1883
Wife	" "	" "	Died
Tipoki	" "	" " Maiva	Still in L.M.S. (?)
Wife	" "	" "	Died at Aroma
Teineoré	Society Islands	" " Aroma	Still at Station
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Matina	Rurutu	" "	Died, 1884
Wife	" "	" "	Returned
Matatuhi	" "	" " Koiari	Killed, Kalo, 1881
Wife	" "	" "	Died
Taatae	Raiatea	" " Aroma	" "
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Marearé	" "	" "	" "
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Zekaria	Rarotonga	" "	" "
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Maka	" "	" " Maiva	Alive in British New Guinea
Wife	British New Guinea	" "	" "
Tofolia	Savage Islands	" " Isu Isu	Died, 1879
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Palahitogia	" "	" "	" "
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Falailé	" "	" " Bapaka	Died, 1879
Wife	" "	" "	" "
Iatafa	" "	" "	" "
Wife	" "	" "	Remarried to Rebanno

* This was not a case of fever.

† Did not die of fever.

*Enclosure I—continued.*RETURNS of LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY'S TEACHERS associated with BRITISH NEW GUINEA—*continued.*

Name.	Where from.	Date of Arrival and Location.	Remarks.
Ipuncso	Loyalty Islands	November, 1878	Returned to Lifu
Wife	"	"	"
Warewen	"	"	Died in China Straits
Wife	"	"	Widow married Dien
Kaica	"	"	Died in China Straits
Wife	"	"	"
Imamin	"	"	"
Wife	"	"	Widow returned to Lifu
Opan	"	"	Dead
Wife	"	"	"
Haxen	"	November, 1878	Alive at Mabuig
Wife	"	"	"
Beswick, Rev. T.	"	January 7, 1879	Left Mission, 1881. Reappointed and died on return voyage
Scott, Rev. Tait	"	1880, Murray Island	Returned to England, 1882
Tua	Rarotonga	April, 1882, Maiva	Died, 1882
Wife	Atiu	"	Remarried to Sunia
Pakia	Rarotonga	"	Died, 1885
Wife	"	"	Still in British New Guinea
Heneré	Aitutaki	" Delena	"
Wife	"	"	"
Tekovi	"	"	Died, 1882
Wife	"	"	Remarried to Tipoki
Itama	Maniluki	" Hula	Still in British New Guinea
Wife	"	"	"
Terai	Taluti	" Aroma	"
Wife	"	"	"
Maru	Rurutu	" Kerepuna	"
Wife	"	"	"
Mama	Raiatea	" Aroma	"
Wife	"	"	Died
Wenoewo	Loyalty Islands	"	Still in British New Guinea
Wife	"	"	Died, Murray Island
Wacene	"	"	At Kewai Island
Wife	"	"	"
Jakobo	"	"	At Saibai Island
Wife	"	"	"
Dien	"	"	At Killertow Island
Wife	"	"	Dead
Ridgley, Rev. T., M. D.	"	17th April, 1882	Left Mission 3rd June, 1882
Scott, Rev. Harry	"	December, 1883	Still in British New Guinea
Mrs.	"	"	"
Sumeo	Samoa	February, 1884, Kabadi	"
Wife	"	"	"
Timoteo	"	"	"
Wife	"	"	"
Sunia	Vavau	" Tupeselei	"
Wife	"	"	Died
Tau	Rarotonga	" Kalo	Still in British New Guinea
Wife	"	"	"
Tauraki	Manihiki	" Motu-Motu	"
Wife	"	"	"
Esekiela	"	"	Died, 1884
Wife	"	"	"
Amaarua	Raiatea	February, 1884, Motu-Motu	Still in British New Guinea
Wife	"	"	"
Tuaana	"	February, 1884, Motu-Motu	Died, 1884
Wife	"	" Kivori	Still in British New Guinea
Tabutu	"	" Aroma	"
Wife	"	"	"
Nun	"	"	Died
Wife	"	"	Remarried to Mama
Salamo	Savage Islands	February, 1884, Saroa	Still in British New Guinea
Wife	"	"	Died, 1884
Lika Lika	"	" Rigo	Still in British New Guinea
Wife	"	"	"
Tima	Aitutiki	" Naara	"
Wife	"	"	"
Dick (Kiaki)	Loyalty Islands	"	Married Wanegi's widow
Jimmy (Whalu)	"	"	Still in British New Guinea
Wife	"	"	"
Joe Brown (Inahau)	"	1884	"
Wife	"	"	"

Port Moresby, British New Guinea,
January, 1886.

N.B.—The preceding list of London Missionary Society's teachers and wives, who have been associated with British New Guinea from the earliest date of mission effort, was copied by me from a record book kindly lent by the Rev. Mr. Lawes, on the 6th January, 1886, and a list of the Loyalty Island teachers subsequently obtained from Murray Island at my request.

The returns, therefore, should be complete to the close of 1885, and give all important information now at my disposal. To show that I endeavoured to secure the best possible precision in the returns, I annex copy of a note written by me to Mr. Lawes at that time.

Another importation of teachers took place in 1886, and in a brief memo. of mine early in 1887 the deaths of two more teachers, six wives of teachers, and three children are noted. Having, however, been absent from Port Moresby for more than a year, and not being able now to communicate with that point, I regret that the additional returns for two and a-half years, up to date, will have to be printed hereafter.

Cooktown, 20th July, 1888.

A. MUSGRAVE, JUN.
Enclosure

*Enclosure II.*Government Bungalow,
13th January, 1886.

DEAR MR. LAWES,

I return the book containing the data concerning your mission teachers with my best thanks. It has evidently given you some trouble to compile, and is a melancholy record. I therefore the more regret trespassing upon you with another question or two.

In the return of the introduction of teachers you refer to Iponeso and wife and five other Loyalty Island teachers, &c., but without stating the date of their arrival or subsequent disposition. I presume, however, they came here according to the order otherwise adopted in 1882.

In the event, also, of the erection of the obelisk of which we have before spoken, it would not merely be a memento of the earliest local Christian effort, but be an historical record as well, and its inscription should be as accurate as we can possibly make it. If, therefore, you could give me the information required, I should be exceedingly obliged, and the return would be absolutely complete.

Yours, &c.,
A. MUSGRAVE, JUN.

P.S.—I accordingly send a list of the queries to which replies seem to be desirable.
The Rev. W. G. Lawes.

*Enclosure III.**Extract from Letter by the Rev. S. McFarlane of the 11th July, 1875 (?), to the Editor of the "Times."*

(Treats of proposed scheme of colonising Yule Island by certain persons in New South Wales.)

* * * * *

There is one product of the country not mentioned by the immigrants, but which they are likely to get before any of the others—viz., fever.

We have not yet found any part of the coast or any island in Torres Straits free from the dangerous malady, Cape York and Port Moresby not excepted. Our Polynesian teachers and their families have been sadly reduced; they cannot stand the climate as well as Europeans. Although our mission is still young, we have lost no less than twenty-one of our number—seventeen by the diseases of the climate, and four by the clubs of the savages. These are facts which it may be well for those proposing to emigrate to New Guinea to consider. It is true that a few of the seventeen had diseases in their system which this climate rapidly developed and brought to a fatal termination. Humanly speaking, they would have lived longer in their own country.—*Vide* page 312, "Discoveries in New Guinea," by Captain John Moresby, R.N.

*Enclosure IV.**Comment by Captain John Moresby, R.N., on preceding Extract.*

* * * * *

Mr. McFarlane descants on the unhealthiness of New Guinea, and supports his opinion by making a statement as to the mortality of the native Christian Polynesian teachers employed by the London Missionary Society in New Guinea, but he instances no case of a white man suffering from climatic causes.

It has already been seen that Mr. McFarlane, except at Port Moresby (which the missionaries have publicly announced to be a healthy locality), has no knowledge of the high and healthy parts of New Guinea, which are alone fitted for the white man's occupation; but his facts are so striking that I would fain direct his attention to some of their causes. I am satisfied, from the evidence which came under my own eyes, as I think he will be on consideration, that influences other than climatic arrayed themselves against the lives of these poor creatures.

During the first four years which passed after the native teachers were established in New Guinea, they were unwisely scattered at stations in Torres Straits and Redscar Bay, whilst the agent of the London Missionary Society residing at Cape York (Somerset) had no adequate means of visiting and supplying them with necessary food. The teachers and their families were left unguided and unprovided amongst savages who refuse to supply them with food gratis, and in a country whose produce was different from their native islands. The result was that when in 1872-3, the "Basilisk" visited these poor creatures, she found them in such a deplorable state from want of sufficient food and medicines that several had died, and others were only saved by being brought on board and given nourishing food and proper medicines. These facts, together with the opinion of the surgeon of the "Basilisk" were officially reported by me to the agent of the London Missionary Society at the time. By the possession of the "Ellengowan" missionary steamer the mission is now placed on a more satisfactory footing, and it is probable that we shall henceforth cease to hear of so heavy a death-rate amongst the native teachers, even in the unhealthy parts, where they have, in my opinion, been most unwisely settled. It should also be remembered that these native teachers came from various South Sea Islands, more than a thousand miles distant, where all the conditions of their lives were different.

The general health of the men of the "Basilisk's" ship's company during the eight months spent in New Guinea, when they were exposed to all the vicissitudes of climate, in open boats, on detached service up rivers, on shore work surveying, visiting natives, and cutting 700 tons of firewood for steaming purposes, was exceptionally good. The men occasionally suffered from boils, caused by a scarcity of fresh provisions; and whilst on the north* coast of New Guinea a low fever prevailed among us for a time, but it was of a mild type, soon passing over, and leaving no bad effects.—*Vide* page 316, *idem*.

*Enclosure V.**Extract from Report of Mr. Henry M. Chester, dated 27th August, 1878, at Stacey Island, South Cape.*

(Vide Parliamentary Papers, N.G., C 3617, page 79.)

* * * * *

It is melancholy to think of the number of good men who have been sacrificed since the commencement of the New Guinea Mission. These poor fellows were brought from their pleasant island homes in a delightful climate, dropped here and there along an unhealthy coast, and left to their fate until it was convenient for the "Ellengowan" to visit them. If the place proved healthy, well and good; if otherwise, their places were supplied with fresh arrivals. Their pay is £15† a year, out of which they have to feed and clothe themselves, build houses, and buy land to cultivate. In an unhealthy climate like this, men require something more than cocoa-nuts to sustain life, and these teachers ought to be supplied with meat, flour, tea, and sugar. They are the true heroes of the mission, but at the May meetings at Exeter Hall who hears their names?

Enclosure VI.

An interesting leading article, entitled "Mission Work in New Guinea," will be found in *The Queenslander* of the 16th August, 1879. It treats of a letter from the Rev. S. McFarlane on the same subject (under the same date), and holds that the sacrifice of life—even to that time, nine years ago—had been so serious that radical changes should be made by which Papuan would be substituted for Polynesian teachers. The letter and article deserve reference, but are too long to reprint in this connection.

Enclosure

* The italics are Captain Moresby's. † Now £20 per annum.

Enclosure VII.

Extract from Letter from "Wanderer," in "The Queenslander," 8th November, 1879.

* * * * *

I cannot close this without referring to a letter signed S. McFarlane, which appears in your issue of 16th August. Were it not that I am naturally expected to give you all information coming within my "ken," especially any pertaining to such an important matter as the Christianising, and consequent civilising, of the New Guinea inhabitants, I should sincerely like to suppress these remarks on the "working of the gospel," as it is called, in these heathen lands. I say this because I have been the guest of the missionaries on more than one occasion, and I have many reasons to remember their kindnesses. Messrs. Chalmers, Beswick, and the writer of that letter I both admire and respect for fulfilling the duties in the state of life which they have chosen fearlessly and to the best of their abilities, with the means at their command—and I shall be very sorry if the remarks I feel bound to make on this subject are considered by them to be inimical to their labours; but I am thoroughly convinced that they will give me credit for not being actuated by any other than disinterested motives.

In a former letter I said I did not think the game was worth the candle—when that represented human life—and I say now that I have, after seeing and interviewing nearly all the missionaries in this part of the world, found nothing to alter my opinion. Mr. McFarlane, after alluding to the unhealthiness of Port Moresby, and the consequent formation of stations at the south-east end of the Peninsula, remarks:—

"It has been said that our native agents are not properly provided for. The value of a statement depends a good deal upon the person who makes it. *Who* knows the teachers better than we do, who have lived with most of them since they were children, and trained them for their work? And who are so likely to have their best interests at heart as those who have devoted their lives to their elevation and usefulness? If our teachers are good and deserving, no thanks to some of their white admirers with whom they have associated."

In regard to the first sentence, I must say that my experience is that the teachers are not properly provided for, although I freely admit that I do not take all the statements which these coloured teachers make for gospel; indeed I know, despite their teaching, that the majority of them are untruthful, and this the missionaries have admitted is the case. When I was at Teste Island there were three teachers down with fever, and of my own knowledge I know that they had no medicine, and that they had not been visited for months. At Dinner Island the teacher complained of his wife and children being sick, having no medicine, and no food but what the island produced. At Leocadie, man and wife both sick, no medicine, and complaining of a scarcity of food. At Suo or South Cape, where Mr. Chalmers was then residing, both the missionary and his wife seemed happy and contented. At Kerepuna, although the "Ellengowan" had shortly before been there, the teacher complained of having no medicine, and also said that he had on plenty of occasions, when there was a bad season, been short of provisions. Mr. Andrew Goldie endorsed this statement, and told me that he had often carried yams from further up the coast to supply this man with food. While at Kerepuna I saw a man who was stationed at Aloma, but had travelled down to Kerepuna to be near his countryman, who looked to me to be dying. He was a perfect skeleton, and he both moved and breathed with difficulty. He also said he had no medicine, and was supplied by Captain de Hoghton with quinine properly mixed. At Kemp Welsh the missionary's wife and child were very ill; the man and woman both complained of being without medicine and of having insufficient food. Another man, "Isaako," stationed close to Port Moresby, came on board whilst we were at anchor outside the port, bringing with him numerous curios which he wished to trade for medicine. The man, whom the Government presented with a rifle for his kindness to sick diggers, had, when first placed at Port Moresby, to shoot his dinner before eating it, and the inside of the banana plants was the only vegetable he had with his kangaroo for months, and that he had to pay dearly for. "The value of a statement depends a good deal upon the person who makes it," says Mr. McFarlane. These statements emanate from the men themselves: and as they are the men whose virtues and usefulness Mr. McFarlane extols so much, they surely must be worth some credence.

* * * * *

According to Mr. McFarlane, the missionaries have been on the island for six months. Can he point to one convert, or show, beyond the establishment of a number of stations and the death of a lot of half-civilised teachers, anything for the money expended?

Extract from Letter from the Rev. J. Chalmers.

(*Vide Queenslander*, 3rd January, 1880.)

After reviewing the statements of "Wanderer" *seriatim*, and denying them, Mr. Chalmers writes:—

* * * * *

I fearlessly reiterate that during the last twenty-seven months no teacher can complain of being left without food or medicine. I have been connected with the mission work for a number of years, and I give it as my experience that our New Guinea teachers are overpaid and treated too much as if they could not take care of themselves.

* * * * *

We cannot speak of "converts," but we can say the teachers' influence has been widely felt, and we are willing to work on patiently.*

Enclosure VIII.

Extract from Letter from Captain Pennfather of Queensland Government schooner "Pearl."

(*Vide Queenslander*, 1st May, 1880.)

* * * * *

On Friday, 5th March, got under way, and made sail for Bampton Island.

* * * * *

Landed with armed boat's crew, accompanied by Messrs. Bowme and N. Chester; inquired into the death of the two native teachers and their wives reported to have been murdered by these islanders. The natives denied the murder, saying that the teachers had been left on the island for months without provisions or medicine; that they (the natives) supplied them with yams, cocoa-nuts, &c.; that the teachers took ill with fever, and after a time died, and their wives shortly after, also from fever; and that they did all they could for them. This was told me by one of the natives, who had been, according to his account, to Sydney in some ship, and who spoke very good English. He argued that they could have gained nothing by killing them, as they were anxious to keep friendly with the white men, as they wished to obtain knives, tomahawks, and calico from them. They also told me that a large vessel had been some time ago ashore on the reef surrounding their island, and that they had assisted the crew to jettison the cargo (flour), when she got off and proceeded on her voyage. These people are superior in physique and intelligence to those of Kiwai, but the island has every appearance of being fever stricken, being low and swampy.

* * * * *

Enclosure

* The rest of the letter is too long to reprint.

Enclosure IX.

MR. ANDREW GOLDIE to MR. DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MUSGRAVE.

Port Moresby,

DEAR SIR,

13th January, 1886.

I forward to you extracts of old letters that appeared in the Colonial Press—one of the letters by Mr. Chalmers in reply to "Wanderer." I may state I was in Sydney when this letter was published. I dined on board the "Beagle" in Sydney. Captain de Houghton had Mr. Chambers' letter on the table before him. He was most indignant when he read it. He requested me to answer it, and to use his name, that what "Wanderer" wrote regarding the teachers was perfectly true, and were facts indisputable.

I did not answer the letter. I was going back to New Guinea, and I did not wish to be further wrangling and writing on mission work.* I had learned to look upon their Press correspondence with scorn and contempt—so much so that I have scarcely patience to read a missionary's letter through. The years that have passed since have only added to the feeling I then had.

* * * * *

European Missionaries associated with British New Guinea from 1871 to July, 1888.

1. Rev. A. W. Murray.	8. Rev. Tait Scott.
2. " W. Wyatt Gill.	9. " T. Ridgley.
3. " W. G. Lawes and Mrs.	10. " Harry Scott and Mrs.
4. " S. McFarlane "	11. " — Savage.
5. " W. G. Turner "	12. " — Sharpe.
6. " J. Chalmers, "	13. " Geo. Pratt.
7. " T. Beswick.	14. " — Pearce and Mrs.

*Enclosure X.**Extracts from the "Australasian Medical Gazette" (Rev. W. G. Lawes), May, 1887.*

THE EFFECT OF THE CLIMATE OF NEW GUINEA UPON EXOTIC RACES.

In all that has been said and written about New Guinea during the last few years, scarcely any attention has been paid to its climate, and yet it is a subject of the first importance in considering the many schemes and proposals suggested for its colonisation by a European race. The country may be rich and its resources great, but is its climate such that the white race can live there and make it a home?

The belief has been growing in my mind for a long time that New Guinea is entirely unfitted to be the home of the Anglo-Saxon, and this belief is strengthened every year. I settled here at Port Moresby in 1874, and, with the exception of a visit to England (1878-80), have been resident ever since. One round of seasons may be exceptional and misleading, but a decade of seasons is amply sufficient to show what the climate really is. I have had, during the whole time, a large number of South Sea Islanders under my care, and have had almost the sole medical care of the mission.

The entire number of South Sea Islanders who have been here since the beginning of the mission in 1872 is 201. Of these 103 have died, including eight who were killed. It must be remembered that these were all men and women in the prime of life, between 25 and 45 years of age. They were also picked men, none being accepted for New Guinea service who had any physical weakness or disease. The 201 might reasonably have been expected in their own homes to have lived to a good old age, and yet in New Guinea ninety-five have died. Most of them died within two or three years of their arrival. They were all from tropical islands, such as Rarotonga, Tahiti, Savage Island, Lifu, and Maré. During the early years of the mission, when we were all alike ignorant of the climate, and the best means of preventing or treating the fever, some deaths may have occurred which were preventable. But the fact remains that with all the care and attention which the experience of those years has taught us there is no sensible diminution of the death-rate. The immediate cause of death has not always been fever—there has been some cases of phthisis, and some women have died in childbirth, and some cases have been obscure and difficult to diagnose; but I do not think there is one out of the 201 who escaped fever.

All the above were coloured men—Polynesians and Melanesians. How has the white race fared on New Guinea during the same period? The white immigrants have been almost entirely men, and most of them visitors rather than residents. Only five ladies have attempted to live on British New Guinea. Of these two died, and the third is just leaving—now so reduced by fever that her only hope of life is in getting away. I have just heard of the death of the Baroness von Schleinitz, in German New Guinea. She passed through Cooktown with her husband about a year ago, full of health and vigour. The largest number of white men who have been in New Guinea at one time were the diggers, in 1877. Of these several died, and the whole party were so stricken with fever that they were only anxious to get away with their lives. Of the scientists and other visitors who have been to New Guinea, almost all have suffered from fever. D'Albertis and party at Yule Island, and up the Fly River, had an experience with which almost every traveller in New Guinea is only too familiar. The deaths have not been numerous, but in most cases the patient has had an opportunity of leaving, and he has gladly taken it. From all the white men I have known to come to New Guinea since 1874, I can only say it has been the exception for anyone to be here a few weeks without getting fever, and the exceptions have been very, very few. The decimation of Sir Peter Scratchley's party on the "Governor Blackall" is a fair illustration of what has befallen most parties of travellers or visitors in New Guinea.

No part of New Guinea that we are acquainted with is free from fever. Inland and on the coast, on high ground and low, on the mainland and on small outlying islands, there seems no escape from malaria. Port Moresby—or, as it is now to be called, Granville—is perhaps as healthy as any place we know, and that is not saying much. Men have been here in Government employ since the proclamation of the Protectorate who have been living for years in North Queensland, and who pooh-poohed the idea of fever, but in a few weeks they have been down with it. Working on the best site, and sheltered from the sun, with no swamp or miasma near, they have succumbed and gone down like nine-pins. Captain Musgrave, the Deputy Commissioner here, is one of the few who have escaped fever, but then he is away on furlough three months in the year—an impossibility to those who come to New Guinea to make a living.

The fever may be called the "New Guinea fever," for, while it has much in common with other malarial fevers, there are some characteristics which distinguish it as endemic to New Guinea. It assumes different forms. We have the simple intermittent fever and ague. This, though, often very severe, is the most tractable and the most amenable to treatment. The more pronounced the cold stage, the more regular are the others, and the more thorough the recovery in the interval. A remittent type is very difficult to deal with. In these cases there is no cold stage and no violent symptoms, but a total loss of appetite, great depression, and continual fever. The Rev. Mr. Sharpe, who died in Cooktown from fever contracted here last year, had this remittent fever more than a fortnight before he left for Cooktown. Day after day, he seemed just about the same. His temperature in the morning was just over 100 degrees, and in the evening 102 and 103 degrees. He slept well, had no vomiting, but loathed all food, and got gradually weaker. This is a typical case.

But there is another form which seems to partake of the character of both intermittent and remittent. The cold stage is not very marked, the hot stage prolonged, and symptoms very violent; at length the sweating stage comes on, but is soon over, and brings very little relief. Long before the proper time the fever returns, and then it is the same thing over again. In these cases vomiting is often very severe, enormous quantities of pure bile being thrown up.

No age or condition is free. My own infant, who was born here, had his first attack of fever when he was six weeks old, and from that time until his death at eighteen months he was constantly the subject of fever and ague. In the case of children especially, the spleen becomes very much enlarged. The natives suffer from fever, but the symptoms are not often violent. Dogs undoubtedly have it. One dog we had used to shiver, and go and lie in the sun, and then came the hot stage, with dry burning nose. I don't know whether it ended in sweating; it lasted a few hours, and used to return at regular intervals. Those who become acclimatised are liable to frequent returns of a milder form of fever and ague. I am writing, not only from my observations of those who have been my patients, but from my own personal experience.

* Mr. Goldie alludes to certain former letters of his printed in the Sydney Press.

I hardly like, as a non-professional, to say anything about treatment. Our resources are very limited. Those who do not know by experience what tinned meats are can scarcely imagine how difficult it is to tempt a fickle appetite or keep up the strength of a patient with them. Next to quinine, Liebig's extract of beef is our greatest necessity. And what would we not give for ice, or even *cold* water? The very large doses of quinine recommended by some practitioners in India have not been a success in my hands. I have found about 15 gr. a day the best quantity with myself and most of my patients. Some, who can never keep down quinine in a liquid form, take it easily in gelatine-covered pills. Arsenic I have found of great service with some, after the recurrence has been broken by quinine. The vomiting almost always yields to hydrocyanic acid. My attention was called last year by Mr. H. O. Forbes to Warburg's fever tincture, and I have tried it with great success. My supply was but limited, but no case in which I took or administered it did it fail; it has a high reputation in India, and I believe will be as successful in the treatment of New Guinea fever.

There are but few diseases besides fever which need any notice. Ulcers are the most common affliction of the natives. Children almost all have, during some period of childhood, the skin disease, known in Eastern Polynesia as *tona*, and which resembles frambœsia; these sores, however, often develop into corroding ulcers, from which many infants die. A form of leprosy is endemic in some places in this neighbourhood. In white men the smallest wound becomes a troublesome sore, very difficult to heal.

Syphilis is certainly unknown among the natives. I have always been on the look out for signs of its existence, and it could not possibly have been hidden if any men had been so afflicted. I fear it has been introduced within the last two years at a village about 40 miles from here, but the surprise and disgust of the natives are strong corroborative proof that they were previously unacquainted with it.

Ophthalmia is uncommon. Isolated cases occur, but it is not epidemic, as it often is in the South Sea Islands, nor yet of so virulent a type.

If blight was common, as it is in Queensland, there would be much blindness, for the habits of the people would increase rather than cure it. The proportion of blind to the population is very, very small.

Port Moresby, New Guinea,
19th March, 1887.

APPENDIX F.

Mr. Deputy Commissioner Musgrave was instructed by me, after communication with the Sub-Collectors of Customs at Thursday Island, Cooktown, and Townsville, to draw up a paper on the trade of New Guinea—Exports and Imports. The following paper dealing rather more widely with the resources of New Guinea has been furnished to me.

J. DOUGLAS.

MEMORANDUM.

1. Having lately expressed the opinion that the natural resources of British New Guinea are considerably greater in proportion than those of the valuable West Indian Colony of Jamaica (even relatively to the areas involved*), and that the territory possesses an "early prospective value for Queensland," I hope by the following returns, appended extracts and remarks, to show that these views are not "unwarrantably sanguine" as has been stated of them. In putting them forward I did not fail to see that they ran directly counter to the growing idea of a "barren heritage," which Queensland has undertaken the responsibility of supporting for the next ten (10) years, and were tolerably sure to be discredited—especially in the face of equally recent adverse opinions on the sanitary condition and value of British New Guinea. As these views have been gradually and carefully formed, however, after some lapse of time and residence, and personal visits to several districts, and are conscientiously held, I could not see any objection to stating them at a moment of political "slack water," so to speak, between the gratifying disappearance of an undeveloping form of administration, and the entrance of a new and necessary one.

2. The comparison drawn between Jamaica when first settled and British Papua is a good deal closer than may at first sight appear to those who have not interested themselves, especially as to the potential wealth, progress, and prosperity of tropical colonies. Both territories are situated within the tropical belt, and the configuration of both is remarkably similar in many respects. British Papua, like Jamaica, possesses magnificent central ranges, more than lofty enough to give all the zones suitable for tropical products which require considerable altitudes, and an ample rainfall, while other kindred atmospheric conditions, steady and healthful trade winds, &c., are equally noticeable. "The aboriginal name of Jamaica was 'Xaymaca,' a word supposed to imply an overflowing abundance of rivers. Bridges tells us that the name is derived from two Indian words, 'Chabaian' signifying water, and 'Makia' wood. The compounded sound would approach to Chab-makia, and harmonized to the Spanish ear would be Cha-makia, corrupted by us to Jamaica, denoting a land covered with wood, and, therefore, watered by shaded rivulets, or in other words, fertile." †

In these respects British Papua might have been called after Jamaica, for there can hardly be a land with a more "overflowing abundance of rivers," as well as streams and springs. Its highest points are nearly twice the elevation of those in Jamaica,‡ and are clothed with dense forests apparently to the summits of the ranges. No one who realises the irrepressibly rapid increase of trade and population throughout Australia, and the developments taking place in Northern Queensland, can doubt that these highlands will as surely be sources of wealth and health hereafter as those of Jamaica and Ceylon. In consequence of this greater internal elevation, the rivers are not merely greater and more numerous, but are navigable in some cases for important distances into the interior.||

In connection with the many admirable bays, harbours, and anchorages which indent the main coast line, and yield shelter among the "satellite" islands of the Protectorate, these useful waterways should be borne in mind amid other natural advantages. Jamaica has, of course, plenty of ports conveniently placed for her oversea trade, but British Papua is equally well endowed in this respect for all her needs in the future.

With

* British New Guinea and its islands probably contain not less than 90,000 square miles. Jamaica has a super. area of 4,000 odd square miles

† Brisbane *Evening Observer*, 16th July, 1888.

‡ See "Handbook of Jamaica," 1887-88, page 25.

§ Mount Owen Stanley, British New Guinea, is 13,000 feet, and the Blue Mountain, Jamaica, a little over 7,000 feet. These are the crowning points, but there are several others of 10,000 feet in British New Guinea; while the greatest altitude in Queensland, one of the Bellenden Ker Range, is only somewhat above 5,000 feet.

|| The Mai-Cussa, Fly, Aird, Jubilee, and St. Joseph Rivers may be mentioned, but there are others. The Fly River was ascended for about 500 miles in a steam launch by the distinguished naturalist and explorer, Signor D'Albertis.

With regard to lands lying between the ranges and the sea, they are extensive and splendidly suitable in various districts, for pastoral and agricultural interests. Enough has been seen of cattle, horses, pigs, goats, and poultry, to say that they thrive perfectly. High-bred sheep imported do not seem so successful; but no careful experiments have yet been made.

African or Indian sheep would, probably, furnish a satisfactory meat supply, but such excellent South Down mutton can be eaten in Jamaica, where trouble has been taken in the matter, that there is no reason yet to expect ultimate failure to produce good stock of this kind.

Cattle thrive as well as possible, and also pigs. The latter are indigenous, not merely on the mainland, but on the islands to the eastward.

Of agricultural lands a cleared tract exists, no great distance west of "Granville," equal apparently to Vere, the best sugar-cane district in Jamaica. It is as level for agricultural operations, as well watered, seemingly as fertile, and as accessible by sea and river. Other fine areas occur of much the same character, many covered with valuable virgin forest, while the sugar-canes cultivated in native gardens look as healthy and vigorous as any to be seen anywhere. The same can be stated of specimens of tobacco, pine-apples, yams, bananas, sweet potatoes, and numerous other tropical fruits and vegetables which it would be tedious to dwell upon.

3. The aborigines of Jamaica were described as very numerous by the early Spanish authorities, when the island was first occupied by that power at the end of the 15th century. One of their historians (I believe, Las Casas) described it as a "land of cottages," and estimated the inhabitants at over 60,000 souls.

These unfortunate people, everywhere mentioned as a mild and confiding race, rapidly disappeared under the slavery and cruelty of the Spaniards. After a century and a half (the term of Spanish control) they seem to have been wholly exterminated, and on the capture of the island by the English in 1655 the chief native tenants of the soil were "Maroons"—descendants of Spaniards and negroes, who had ensconced themselves in remote glens and fastnesses of the hills. British New Guinea, like Jamaica, therefore, has a numerous native population on its earliest settlement.

The earliest exports from the West India Island, during Spanish occupation, seem to have been mahogany, logwood (and probably fustic and "lignum vitæ"), hides, hogs' lard, and some minor products. One hundred and seventy years after its discovery, and in 1664, one of the first English Governors, Sir Thomas Modyford, thus stated its interests and natural resources:—"After having a census taken, which showed the population to be 4,205 persons, in his first report on the condition of the island he informed the King that sugar, ginger, indigo, cotton, tobacco, dyeing woods, and cocoa may be and are produced as well as anywhere; but pimento, China-roots, aloes, rhubarb, sarsaparilla, tamarinds, cassia, vaiguillios, hides, and tallow are the proper commodities. There is the best building timber and stone in the whole world, and great plenty of corn, cassada, potatoes, yams, plantains, bananas, peas, hogs, fowls, cattle, horses, asincoes, sheep, fish and turtle, and pasturage—in fine, nothing wanting but more hands and cows. The low valley grounds are feverish and aguish from June to Christmas—the rainy weather, but the uplands and hills are as healthy as Costall in England."

Passing over the quaintness of expression, it may be said that many of these products, or their equivalents, already exist in British New Guinea; nor are there any, I believe, unlikely to flourish profitably hereafter.

In addition to valuable timbers the new territory yields "jungle produce," such as sago, rattans, copra, massoi bark, bird skins, &c.† (unknown in Jamaica), while its bêche-de-mer and pearl-shell beds are of considerable value and are products that do not rank among Jamaica exports.

Sir Thomas Modyford's remark at starting his new administration (some ten years after the conquest of Jamaica, and when matters were doubtless in a somewhat transitional state), that the only things wanting were "hands and cows" does not apply to British Papua, where there are numbers of "hands," and hands that will be very available and useful (under judicious treatment) in assisting to develop latent industries. Speculations have been made as to the numbers of the native population, but they are of no value whatever—rather the reverse in fact, since they suggest a comparatively even distribution of aborigines, which is not the case.

All that we know at present with certainty is, that some districts are thickly peopled, others much less so, and that there are tracts apparently without any inhabitants at all. The irregular and unknown nature of a large part of the country will render it a difficult matter for some time to form even an approximately correct estimate in this respect. Still the Papuan is to be counted upon as the most important element in the local labour force for some time hence. It is acclimatised, it is cheap, and it is not an unintelligent class of service under certain circumstances. It is not generally understood, I believe, that the copra, gum, and bêche-de-mer exported from the British New Guinea coast is all collected by natives, and the two latter articles cured and "bagged" without supervision, once the collector has been shown the process. It is impossible here to describe the various ways, indeed, in which natives have rendered useful and willing aid to traders and visitors, but their skill as boatmen and wood-cutters may be noted. They are generally well satisfied with good meals of rice as rations, and a few sticks of tobacco pays for a day's work. The Papuan is not an idler in any true sense, although his efforts for an employer are often intermittent and not fully satisfactory.

We have, therefore, in the indigenous labour supply of British New Guinea a valuable factor for evoking its wealth, and in this respect may feel an important advantage over the West Jamaica Colony when it passed into British possession, for instead of 4,000 odd persons, we assuredly have many more than that number conveniently resident in very accessible positions.

These remarks are more lengthy than I at first intended, but I believe they will serve to show that the parallel drawn between the two places is a fair one, and yields considerable historical encouragement to future effort for the utilization and settlement of a spacious, valuable, and beautiful national property.

PAST

* "Handbook of Jamaica," 1887-88, page 35.

† My feeling as a student of natural history revolts against the inclusion of these as economic articles, but a good many valuable packages have left British New Guinea in the past ten or twelve years.

PAST AND PRESENT TRADE WITH BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

It is doubtful whether a clear appreciation generally exist as to the proximity and accessibility of British New Guinea and its islands to Queensland ports.

A table of distances and list of the principal islands appended to this paper (Appendix 1 and 2) will best show the comparatively insignificant spaces which in the present day of steam and electric communication divide the several points. The main coast line from the 141° meridian of east longitude (about 1 degree west of our chief western river—the Mai Cussa River) to Mitre Rock at the boundary of German New Guinea (N.E. coast) is some 1,000 miles in length. And the aggregate measurements of the various islands along shore must be equal to if not more than the same extent. The total number of islands and islets in Protectorate waters may be approximately taken from the Admiralty charts and the Australia Directory, 1879 (also an Admiralty publication), at over 300 in number. A proportion is, however, neither placed on the charts or enumerated, and do not appear in the above total. Hardly any of those mentioned are so small or barren that they are not utilized as fishing resorts or cultivated by the natives. No such large and sterile islands exist in the Protectorate, for instance, as Magnetic, Stradbroke, and Moreton Islands. Even the low mangrove-clad islets have a value in the wood they carry, which is used as a common fuel for shipping, while the red mangrove furnishes excellent material for piles and posts, resisting the attacks of the wood-louse. The larger islands are well watered and timbered, and of most fertile character. Many in the Calvados chain, Sudest Islands, &c., would be suitable for stock, having abundant grass and water, while the inhabitants are not numerous.

The innumerable rocks, reefs, and lagoons* amid the groups of the Louisiade, Engineer, Bonvouloir, Lachlans, Woodlarks, Laseinie, D'Entrecasteaux, Luscancy, Trobriand, and other islands† are swarming with fish, turtle, and other marine products, which form a very important staple of diet for the aboriginal populations. The fish-fauna of British New Guinea is rich in different species, and includes the best edible tropical varieties, while the supply of each kind is abundant at many points, although not easily procured from the natives by visitors.

From May to October inclusive the S.E. monsoon blows with force and regularity varying from this point, but slightly as a rule throughout the season. There is thus abundance of favourable wind for vessels running backwards and forwards between the coasts of Queensland and British New Guinea. At this season also the climate along the mainland or amid the Eastern islands is extremely agreeable, and apparently healthy—the rainfall being reduced to a minimum. At the east end of New Guinea proper, where much moisture collects about the densely forested high lands, the weather is proportionately wet for a great part of the year. In the Archipelagoes north, south, and east of Samarai (Dinner I.) the atmosphere seems drier and clearer and hardly at all malarial.

It is difficult to conceive more beautiful scenes for yachting cruises than are presented by the natural features and grouping of these islands. They are almost certain to become popular resorts for those whose health or pleasure is enhanced by life at sea or such voyages as that of the well known Earl and the Doctor.

When it is realized that Port Moresby is nearer to Brisbane (*via* Cooktown) than Port Kennedy (Thursday Island), and that in fact there is *no point* in the remotest part of Protectorate Oceania waters as far from Brisbane and Cooktown as Normanton,‡ while the conditions for traffic between the two communities are so suitable, it is no longer surprising that some trade has been created in past years, or that such relations are being more rapidly developed in the present, in spite of the possession of many similar natural resources by Queensland, the massacres of aliens and destruction of vessels by aboriginals, and the consequent serious pecuniary losses of merchants in Cooktown and Thursday Island.

Considering the small size of the several crafts employed in the "bêche-de-mer" and other industries, &c., it seems to argue favourably for the absence of bad weather in these waters that hardly a wreck has taken place from this cause in the past.

Trade with British New Guinea, as will be seen from the accompanying returns (Appendices 3 to 6), is almost wholly confined to the North Queensland towns—viz., Cooktown, Townsville, and Thursday Island. Sydney furnishes certain supplies for the use of the London Missionary Society Stations in British New Guinea, but the details of this branch of trade are not now available for reference. Certain quantities of coal for the services of Her Majesty's ships is also sent in from Newcastle.

Probably almost the earliest regular transactions and negotiations for land with the natives of the mainland of British New Guinea were those of the London Missionary Society, who placed "teachers" at certain points in 1871. It is stated that a Sydney merchant (Captain Towns) has despatched a vessel or vessels to the Louisiade group for bêche-de-mer, &c., either before or about that date; and the Woodlark Islands were a resort for whaling ships some years previously. Definite information on these points would be of considerable interest. It is not to be had at this point, however, and indeed is not material to a paper which cannot attempt to deal exhaustively with the historical side of British enterprise in New Guinea. Bartering by the first discoverers and explorers with the natives for ethnographic and other curiosities was no doubt the earliest simple step towards trading relations, which are thus contemporaneous with the history of the territory itself.

The returns herewith exhibit an encouraging expansion of commercial interests, which have been created in the past fourteen (14) years. It is obvious from them, I believe, that British New Guinea is virtually a district of Queensland—a valuable district—and one far easier of approach and entrance than many of her western "back blocks."

The shipping and interchange returns are necessarily imperfect as to past transactions. They do not appear to show the full and true qualities of natural produce from British New Guinea, nor always represent the real values of what is specified.

With

* The largest lagoon in the world is stated to exist between the Trobriand Islands and Mitre Rock (Findlay's South Pacific Directory).

† The Admiralty chart entitled Australia, Coral Sea, and Great Barrier Reef, sheet 2, No. 2764, should be consulted if further details are required.

‡ Distances given in the A.U.S.N. Company's Handbook are as follows:—Brisbane to Cooktown, 1,008; Cooktown to Thursday Island, Thursday Island to Normanton, 500.

With regard to goods outwards from Queensland, also, it would seem that there are omissions and understatements, more particularly as to those transhipped in this Colony. These points of uncertainty can soon be avoided by an improved public service in British New Guinea itself, and they do not invalidate the proofs presented by the returns that a trade almost wholly confined to Queensland, and decidedly increasing, has been fairly established.

It is to be borne in mind, also, that considerable yields of pearl-shell and bêche-de-mer have been appropriated from waters both geographically and equitably those of British New Guinea. The parallel of 10° S. lat. bisects Torres Straits, and the waters and islands northward of that line, which were included ten years ago by the extension of the Queensland boundary*, legitimately belong to British New Guinea. At that date the annexation was no doubt a judicious and statesmanlike step, not only in order to control those engaged in the Fisheries of Torres Straits, but for securing the command of what is virtually a great inter-oceanic canal. Still, the fact remains, that by the projection northwards of the boundary beyond the par. 10° lat. S., between 7 and 8,000 square miles (geo.) of the just proportion of British New Guinea fishery fields with other rights were appropriated by Queensland, and that the valuable proceeds of the Warrior and other rich reefs and pearl-shell deposits have never been credited to the account of the opposite territory. The fisheries of Torres Straits have declined of late years, but are still very profitable in places. Acts for the protection of both pearl-shell and bêche-de-mer fisheries will, however, shortly have to be enforced on both sides of the Straits, unless permanent injury to these important marine resources is to be regarded with indifference. The pearl-shell, bêche-de-mer, and turtle shell exported in the thirteen years from 1875 to 1887, and specified as the "Produce and manufacture of the Colony," amounts to over £920,000†, or probably nearly £1,000,000 sterling to date. There is no doubt that a fair and important percentage of this should be added to British New Guinea returns, but it is impossible to fix the amount.

Since trade opened with British New Guinea (about the year 1875) 373 vessels of 20,592 tons and carrying 3,283, are recorded as passing between the two coasts. Those clearing, however, for the Louisiade, Woodlark, and other groups would be included in traffic with the South Sea Islands.

The vessels enumerated, transported goods in exchange to the value of £80,000, and it is noteworthy that the imports from British New Guinea were largely in excess of the exports thither—being some £50,000 in value against £30,000—this, too, in spite of the fact that the small alien resident and visiting population is chiefly dependent upon foreign provisions of most kinds. This surplus of imports over exports in the early "balance of trade" would be held an especially promising indication in the views of certain political economists.

Of products from British New Guinea, bêche-de-mer has hitherto yielded far the most important share, being stated at over £40,000, or four-fifths of the total imports. The first importation of this article was probably made by Captain Colin Thomson in 1873, when some 12 tons of fish were taken to Townsville from the Louisiade Archipelago. He was one of the earliest, if not the first, pioneer in those waters.

The principal goods sent from Queensland are, firstly, tobacco, which forms the leading item of the statistics. This is the ordinary American manufactured tobacco in use throughout the Pacific for trafficking with native races, the total export of which to the end of June this year reached a value of £5,288. Rice, flour, and salt beef, &c., &c., are now articles of regular, if not yet very considerable consumption in the new territory.

In order to show the most recent developments of supply and demand, the returns of the interchange in detail for the first half of the current year is herewith appended. (Appendix 7).

It will be seen that besides "bêche-de-mer," pearl-shell, copra, and gum have been exported from British New Guinea. A few bundles of rattans shipped have escaped notice in the returns. No mention is made either of birdskins, which have been sold in some numbers yearly since the commencement of local trade by Mr. A. Goldie, the first merchant settled at Port Moresby‡, and other traders. These and numerous packages of natural history specimens, ethnographic curiosities, turtle-shell, "green snail" and nautilus shells, &c.§, scarcely mentioned in the returns, would all serve to swell the amount derived from British New Guinea.

With the exception, however, of copra, none of these should perhaps be regarded as contributing permanently to the trade of the territory.

There are still thousands of square miles of unvisited and almost unknown waters which will doubtless yield bêche-de-mer and pearl-shell for years to come; but, in a forecast of future proceeds it would be unsafe to rely too closely upon these articles. Both are found, of the best possible quality, but the most valuable shell has hitherto chiefly been found at depths which make it difficult and even dangerous to obtain. The accessible bêche-de-mer reefs, likewise, have been exhausted in several places, although the prospect of further productive finds may be considered good.

The two or three cargoes of cedar and malava cut in the forests of Redscar Bay and the Tate River, being sold in Melbourne, do not appear in Queensland statistics. Stress has been laid on the fact that this industry has been deserted for the present as unprofitable. There is nothing, however, to discourage future enterprise of the kind under more satisfactory arrangements than have hitherto been adopted. The development of Northern Australia is proceeding, and many of the timbers required may be conveniently supplied in time to come from the neighbouring and accessible forests of British New Guinea, which undoubtedly contain innumerable valuable woods of abundant growth and fit for almost every purpose.

I

* Act No. 1, 43 Vic., 1879.

† Turtle-shell, £3,972; pearl-shell, £732,349; bêche-de-mer, £185,248; total, £921,569.

‡ Mr. Goldie first visited New Guinea as a Nat. Hist. specimen collector in 1874, and having found the labours of an explorer too trying for his health, opened a general store in Port Moresby, I believe about 1880. Mr. A. H. Kissack commenced a similar enterprise at East End in 1885. Both deserve note from the marked success they have had in improving alien relations with the natives.

§ *Vide* "Commercial Products of the Sea," by Simmonds.

I have said nothing about the supposed mineral wealth of the country, because next to nothing is known. Small quantities of gold have been found of best quality at more than one point, and it is a reasonable expectation that it will find a place amid other valuable resources. But there are many other tropical products of reliable and profitable character to be encouraged, without being over-influenced by a desire for one particular resource which may not exist in British New Guinea, and which is in no way essential to a sufficient measure of agricultural and commercial prosperity. Of course, it is not to be denied that, should it be discovered (as is quite possible still) in payable quantities, it would not only be a direct source of wealth, but that it would probably prove the greatest stimulant to other interests in its vicinity.

Cooktown,
31st August, 1888.

A. MUSGRAVE, JUNR.,
Deputy Commissioner for British New Guinea.

Enclosure 1.

TABLE OF DISTANCES between certain points in QUEENSLAND and BRITISH NEW GUINEA, &c.

Geographical Points.	Geographical Miles.
Port Kennedy (Thursday Island) to the point of coast on 141° long. E. (the boundary line of Dutch New Guinea)	(About) 120
Port Kennedy to Talbot Island (mouth of Maicassa River)	82
Port Kennedy to Kiwai Island (mouth of Fly River)	150
Port Kennedy to Motu-Motu (head of Gulf of Papua), <i>via</i> Dalrymple, York, and Darnley Islands*	325
Motu-Motu to Yule Island*	53
Motu-Motu to Port Moresby	68
Port Moresby to Samarai (E. end)	259
Port Kennedy to Port Moresby direct	300
Cooktown to Motu-Motu	480
Cooktown to Port Moresby	380
Cooktown to Samarai	425
Samarai to Mitre Rock (coast boundary point of German New Guinea)	240
Samarai to north island of Trobriand group	180
Samarai to N.E. extreme Protectorate waters (intersection of Mer. 155° E. long., and par. 8° S. lat.)	380
Samarai to Woodlark Islands	180
Samarai to Laughlans	210
Samarai to Adèle Island (S.E. extreme of Louisiade archipelago)	240
Samarai to S.E. extreme of Protectorate waters (intersection of Mer. 155° E. long., with par. 12° S. lat.)	350

* This was the course pursued during the steam service which existed from July, 1886, to July of this year between Thursday Island and Port Moresby.

Enclosure 2.

LIST OF PRINCIPAL ISLANDS* in WATERS OF BRITISH NEW GUINEA.

<i>Woodlark Island.</i>				<i>Goodenough Island.</i>			
Circumference, about	...	...	100 miles.	Circumference, about	...	...	50 miles.
Length,	..	...	35 "	Length,	..	...	20 "
Breadth,	..	...	15 "	Breadth,	..	...	12 "
<i>Rossel Island.</i>				<i>Ferguson Island.</i>			
Circumference, about	...	...	50 miles.	Circumference, about	...	...	90 miles.
Length,	..	...	25 "	Length,	..	...	25 "
Breadth,	..	...	10 "	Breadth,	..	...	18 "
<i>Sudest Island.</i>				<i>Normanby Island.</i>			
Circumference, about	...	...	95 miles.	Circumference, about	...	...	85 miles.
Length,	..	...	45 "	Length,	..	...	35 "
Breadth,	..	...	10 "	Breadth,	..	...	15 "
<i>St. Aigman's Island.</i>				<i>Saibai Island.†</i>			
Circumference, about	...	...	50 miles.	Circumference, about	...	...	26 miles.
Length,	..	...	25 "	Length,	..	...	12 "
Breadth,	..	...	8 "	Breadth,	..	...	4 "

* The Admiralty Charts have been referred to for these measurements.

† This island is within the present northern water boundary of Queensland, but is one of several coast islands which properly belong to the Protectorate.

Enclosure 3.

STATEMENT OF SHIPPING passing between BRITISH NEW GUINEA and QUEENSLAND for FOURTEEN YEARS (from earliest accessible date, 1875, to 30th JUNE, 1888), compiled from QUEENSLAND ANNUAL STATISTICAL REGISTERS.

ENTERED.									CLEARED.										
Years.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.			Years.	With Cargoes.			In Ballast.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Cargoes.	Vessels.	Tons.	Cargoes.	Vessels.	Tons.	Cargoes.		Vessels.	Tons.	Cargoes.	Vessels.	Tons.	Cargoes.	Vessels.	Tons.	Cargoes.
1875	1	16	6	1	16	6	1875	..	..	..	1	239	10	1	239	10
1876	Nil.	..	Nil.	..	..	Nil.	..	1876	..	..	Nil.	..	Nil.	..	..	Nil.	..
1877	..	59	10	2	74	13	4	123†	23	1877	..	5	134	27	..	..	5	134	27
1878	..	16	267	43	8	284	43	24	551	1878	..	27	728	204	5	117	44	32	845
1879	..	15	394	107	7	43	65	22	637†	1879	..	15	447	127	5	143	49	20	590
1880	..	9	171	84	6	147	53	15	318	1880	..	8	84	38	6	208	87	14	292
1881	..	11	375	98	8	2,866	332	10	3,241	1881	..	13	429	105	8	666	142	21	1,095
1882	..	17	731	125	6	167	50	23	898	1882	..	17	578	104	4	88	19	21	666
1883	..	30	803	184	11	315	62	41	1,118	1883	..	37	915	201	4	105	37	41	1,020
1884	..	30	801	130	12	4,306	530	42	5,107	1884	..	29	792	128	12	4,036	530	41	4,823
1885	..	29	2,651	244	15	1,174	182	44	3,825	1885	..	27	3,472	287	16	1,548	191	43	5,020
1886	..	28	1,484	190	14	308	73	42	1,792	1886	..	26	1,409	180	14	308	74	40	1,717
1887	..	40	2,040	277	4	418	31	44	2,458	1887	..	44	2,520	391	32	412	164	76	2,932
1888*	..	19	1,325	188	20	215	112	39	1,540	1888	..	17	1,206	140	1	8	4	18	1,214
Totals	..	246	11,101	1,680	114	10,333	1,552	360	21,434	Totals	..	265	12,714	1,932	108	7,878	1,351	373	20,592

* NOTE by Sub-Collector, Cooktown:—"All the above were in cargo, Government vessels and H.M.S.'s not included.—(Signed) H. BURKITT."

† These totals are incorrectly given in the printed Statistics, but are left unaltered. The slight difference will not affect several conclusions.

‡ The figures for 1888 only relate to the first half of the year and to the ports of Cooktown and Thursday Island only.

N.B.—It may be added that the German steamers which have been running monthly to Finschhafen, *via* Samarai, with cargoes and passengers for the latter port, are not included.

Enclosure 4.

RETURN of IMPORTS and EXPORTS EXCHANGED between QUEENSLAND and BRITISH NEW GUINEA in past FOURTEEN YEARS, from 1875 to 30th JUNE, 1888.

Years.	Imports Values.	Exports Values.	Total Values.
1875* ...	£ Nil.	£ Nil.	£ Nil.
1867 to 1876 ...	805†	Nil.	805
1877 ...	8	743	751
1878 ...	3,459	3,107	6,566
1879 ...	1,658	531	2,189
1880 ...	2,190	311	2,501
1881 ...	2,372	676	3,048
1882 ...	7,246	804	8,050
1883 ...	8,831	1,608	10,439
1884 ...	6,203	2,555	8,758
1885 ...	5,658	2,816	8,474
1886 ...	3,019	4,972	7,991
1887 ...	2,527	7,564	10,091
1888 ...	5,613‡	4,650‡	10,263
TOTALS ...	£49,589	£30,337	£79,926

* Nothing is shown in Queensland Annual Statistics of 1875.

† In 1869, *vide* Queensland Annual Statistical Register for 1876, page 44.

‡ These values are for first half of current year, and are only from ports of Townsville, Cooktown, and Thursday Island.

N.B.—1875 is chosen as an initial date, since the first record of a vessel going to British New Guinea from Queensland occurs in that year, *i.e.*, so far as shown by the references at hand.

Enclosure 5.

RETURN of BECHE-DE-MER IMPORTED from BRITISH NEW GUINEA, from 1878 to 30 JUNE, 1888.

Year.	Quantity.				Values.	Remarks.
	Tons.	cwt.	qrs.	lb.	£	
1878	45	1	0	0	2,893	Many of the British New Guinea reefs have doubtless been "over-fished" for this product, and will have to be protected shortly; but there are still extensive fields in Protectorate waters hardly examined as yet.
1879*	40	15	0	0	4,285	
1880	19	7	0	0	2,190	
1881	23	15	1	21	2,312	
1882	60	7	0	14	5,816	
1883	96	15	0	0	8,771	
1884	65	10	0	0	6,033	
1885	53	6	0	0	4,739	
1886	23	16	0	0	1,836	
1887	22	19	3	0	1,335	
1888†	14	3	3	0	1,055	
TOTALS	165	16	0	7	£41,265	

* This Quantity and Value includes a Receipt from Bampton Island, near the Fly River.

† This is merely for the first six months of the year.

Enclosure 6.

RETURN of FLOUR, RICE, and TOBACCO (Manufactured) EXPORTED from QUEENSLAND to BRITISH NEW GUINEA from 1875 to 30th June, 1888.

YEARS.	FLOUR.				RICE.				TOBACCO.						
	Quantities.				Values.	Quantities.				Values.	Quantities.				Values.
	Tons	cwt.	qrs.	lb.	£	Tons	cwt.	qrs.	lb.	£	Tons	cwt.	qrs.	lb.	£
1875 ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1876 ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1877	3	0	0	0	65	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1878*	8	0	0	0	149	8	10	0	0	217	0	13	0	3	159
1879	1	0	0	0	17	11	18	0	0	193	0	5	0	18	47
1880 ... ..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	12	0	0	157	0	10	3	1	81
1881	2	0	0	0	23	7	11	0	0	113	1	0	2	19	144
1882	1	0	0	0	18	4	18	0	0	96	0	11	2	13	104
1883	4	12	0	0	78	12	8	0	0	199	3	3	3	4	383
1884	8	0	0	0	118	6	16	0	0	108	8	2	2	22	604
1885	6	0	0	0	78	12	15	3	20	187	6	7	1	23	706
1886	15	4	0	0	233	17	17	3	0	238	6	4	2	16	819
1887	26	0	0	0	296	41	11	1	4	543	11	7	3	18	1,443
1888†	15	0	0	0	182	14	9	3	2	190	6	16	0	0	798
TOTALS	89	16	0	0	£1,257	148	7	2	26	£2,241	45	3	2	25	£5,288

* This was the year of the first mining expeditions to British New Guinea from Sydney and Cooktown.

† For first six months, and only from Townsville, Cooktown, and Thursday Island.

Enclosure 7.

RETURN showing PARTICULARS of IMPORTS and EXPORTS between BRITISH NEW GUINEA and QUEENSLAND during the FIRST HALF of the CURRENT YEAR, 1888.

Returns of Imports from British New Guinea into Queensland for the Half-year ending 30th June, 1888.

(From Townsville, Cooktown, and Thursday Island.)

Articles.	Quantities.	Values in Sterling.
Bêche-de-mer	9 tons 1 cwt. and 83 bags.	£ 1,055
Copra	2 tons and 621 bags	277
Curiosities	6 pkgs.	13
Gum	29 tons 10 cwt.	470
Shell, Pearl*	54 tons 24 cwt.	3,770
Shell, Turtle	1 cs. and 13 lb.	18
Specimens, Natural History	1 pkg.	10
		£5,613

* In the Return of Exports, for the first six months of this year from the G.O. at Samarai, at least 10 tons more Pearl-shell are recorded as shipped, amounting to an additional £1,000. This agrees with the Sub-Collector's note that the Customs Returns do not show the whole trade, part lost in transshipment.

Enclosure 7—continued.

Returns of Exports, Half-year ending 30th June, 1888, from Queensland to British New Guinea.

(Townsville, Cooktown, and Thursday Island.)

Articles.	Quantities.	Values in Sterling.
Anchors and Chain Cables	3	£
Arrowroot	80 lb.	3
Bags	6 pkgs.	2
Beer (Bottled)	490 galls.	62
Biscuits	3,437 lb.	105
Butter	1,356 lb.	65
Building Materials	34 pkgs.	75
Candles	3 pkgs.	81
Cocoa and Chocolate	50 lb.	2
Coffee (Roasted)...	20 lb.	7
Cordage and Rope	13 cwt. and 2 qrs.	1
Coals	496 tons.	42
Drapery	17 pkgs.	745
Fish (Salmon)	945 lb.	394
Fish (Sardines)	72 lb.	32
Fish (Salted, &c.)	286 lb.	4
Flour	14 tons 9 cwt. 3 qrs. 20 lb.	7
Furniture	21 pkgs.	181
Fruits (Bottled)...	72 lb.	80
Grain (Rice)	14 tons 9 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lb.	4
Grain (Maize)	8½ bshl.	190
Hardware	73 pkgs.	2
Iron (Bar)	1 cwt.	169
Iron (Galvanized)	4 tons	2
Leather	20 lb.	86
Maizena and Corn-Flour	40 lb.	1
Matches and Vestas	2 pkgs.	1
Metal (Yellow)	1 cwt.	8
Miscellaneous Articles (Diving, &c.)	1 pkg.	1
Nails	2 cwt.	103
Oils (Kerosene)	251 galls.	3
Oils (Other)	75 galls.	22
Oilmen's Stores (Pickles)	18 doz.	8
Oilmen's Stores (Others)	68 pkgs.	9
Onions	6 cwt.	265
Paints, &c.	10 cwt.	6
Potatoes	400 lb.	17
Preserves (Jams)	600 lb.	4
Provisions (Salt Beef)	3 tons 1 cwt. 0 qrs. 8 lb.	15
Provisions (in Tins, &c.)	4,984 lb.	88
Provisions (Hams)	65 No.	152
Salt	3 cwt.	31
Ship Chandlery	3 pkgs.	2
Soap	6 cwt.	6
Spirits (Brandy)	41½ galls.	5
Spirits (Geneva)...	85 galls.	46
Spirits (Rum)	76½ galls.	37
Spirits (Whisky)	100½ galls.	51
Sugar	4 tons 7 cwt. 1 qr.	78
Tar	24 galls.	99
Tea	937 lb.	2
Timber	87 pkgs.	52
Timber (Sawn Pine)	23,912 ft.	80
Timber (Rough Pine)	1,000 ft.	293
Tobacco (Cigars)	52 lb.	13
Tobacco (Manufactured)	15,232 lb.	6
Turps	5 galls.	798
Vegetables	5 pkgs.	1
Vinegar	8 galls.	11
Wine	20 galls.	2
		23
TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS	.....	£4,680

NOTE (by Sub-Collector, Customs, Cooktown). N.B.—“These lists include only goods for which Warehousing, Import, or Export Entries have been passed at the Customs. A considerable quantity of *bêche-de-mer* and pearl-shell is simply transferred from the New Guinea vessels to foreign-going vessels on ‘Tra shipment Warrants,’ and consequently does not appear in the Statistical Return of Queensland imports and exports. It is optional with owners to tranship goods thus, and, being a little less troublesome than warehousing goods for exportation, they often prefer it, forgetting that they thereby exclude so much cargo from the Statistical Returns of the port. (Signed) H. BURKITT.”

Enclosure 8.

EXTRACT.—LETTER OF CAPTAIN MORESBY, R.N., to THE EDITOR OF “THE TIMES,” 1875. (?)

As to the character of this country, I can only speak generally within the limits of a letter. The New Guinea coast north of Torres Straits, as far as Yule Island, appears to be an almost unbroken level of swampy, mangrove-covered, and probably malarious country, on the low dreary shores of which the surf breaks unchecked by any barrier reef; a home of the black Papuan race, and wholly unsuited for white occupation.

Reaching Yule Island, some 30 miles west of Redscar Bay, we find a change. The Owen Stanley range approaches the coast to within 20 or 25 miles; but the high and healthy land of their slopes is cut off from the sea-board by a belt of this same low, mangrove-covered swamp, through which the rivers discovered by Her Majesty's ship “Basilisk” will in time afford steam water-ways, for their currents are too rapid for sail or oar, to the high lands within. At Redscar Head, 35 miles east of Yule Island, an entire change is found to have obtained; the shore is sheltered

sheltered by a great barrier reef, which uprears itself from bottomless depths, at a distance of from 4 to 10 miles from the shore, inside which lies calm navigable water, which ripples up to a coral beach, backed by round-topped swelling hills openly timbered, with rich tropical valleys between. From this point to the extreme east of New Guinea, the coast, as far as my knowledge and judgment go, is suitable for white settlement, and it is peopled by a mild Malayan race, with which it seems possible to live on terms of easy friendship.

The three considerable islands, Hayter, Basilisk, and Moresby, which lie off the east end of New Guinea and command the new route, are, I think, suitable for white habitation, especially the last, which attains an elevation of 1,500 feet, and is larger and more fertile than the others. The sago palm is particularly prolific on this island, and its harbours are numerous.

The north-eastern shores of New Guinea are apparently more tropically luxuriant than the south-eastern, and their lofty mountains, where a cool temperature is obtainable, appears more accessible. There is no barrier reef to create a succession of secure harbours, but the anchorages are sufficiently good and numerous. It must, however, be remembered that the natives, after passing Cape Vogel, appear to be a treacherous and savage race.

With regard to the natural wealth of this country, some certainties, probabilities, and possibilities exist, which should not be confounded, but disentangled, and rated according to their value. First, then, as to the certainties:—

New Guinea is rich in timber, which ought to form an immediate article of export. And here I would speak a word of warning against indiscriminate and wasteful felling, by pointing attention to the New Hebrides group, where the supply of sandal wood, once bountiful, has been all but exhausted by wasteful treatment.

New Guinea is fruitful in the sago palm, and the yield might be increased so as to form a permanent and paying export. Yams and roots are abundant, and might be cultivated to any extent for food or export; but the main source of wealth in New Guinea at present is the cocoa-nut, of which the supply appeared to me to be practically unlimited. I can scarcely give a better idea of the value of the cocoa-nut harvest than by quoting from a late report of the Consul Miller, of Tahiti, who says that the value of the coprah (dried cocoa-nut kernals) exported from Tahiti in 1874 was £20,191, and that of cocoa-nut oil (311 tons) £11,190. These products, actually in existence, would doubtless be the first support of an infant Colony, and to them I think its immediate attention should be directed.

The probabilities are as follows:—Pearl-shell, bêche-de-mer, and tortoise-shell fisheries would doubtless offer a paying return, but would need time and material for their development.

Tens of thousands of acres of low land could probably be cultivated for rice, cotton, and sugar-cane with profit. On my late visit to the New Hebrides group I was struck by the excellence of its increasing cotton plantations, and felt the importance of English industry in this direction as tending to make us sufficiently independent of the American supply. The cultivation of such crops is not, however, a task for European labour, and would doubtless fall to the lot of the Chinese in New Guinea, whose importation would be a matter of time. Jute and other fibres are also among the products existent in New Guinea. We found steel sand in Hall Sound and Milne Bay. The high grass lands, which, as far as my observation went, seemed to be better watered than the generality of Australian pastures, would doubtless afford runs to millions of sheep and cattle, and much of the high land appears suitable for coffee culture.

On the possible sources of wealth in New Guinea, by which I intend the mineral, too much stress has, in my opinion, been laid, and this with the risk of attracting the least valuable, because the least plodding, class of colonists. The only sign of mineral wealth seen by the "Basilisk's" company were the fragments of gold quartz picked up by us at Fairfax Harbour, Port Moresby. It is probable, for several reasons, that a mountainous country like New Guinea has not been forgotten by Nature in respect of minerals; but we must await the verdict of a geological survey as to the accessibility and amount of each deposit before we allow a consideration of them to enter into any calculation. The postponement of the discovery of gold in New Guinea is doubtless to be desired, for the restraint and assuredness of established law, the existence of easy inter-communication, the creation of a sufficient food supply, and the presence of a large balance of population engaged in the regular industry of civilised life are needed to mitigate the evils attending a gold rush, and to turn the new wealth with least delay into its true channels.

The wish that no gold may be found in New Guinea can be indulged in only by those who do not travel beyond first aspects, who fail to perceive that solvent and purifying forces exist in a healthy body politic, which, working by natural law, transmute such evils as may be dreaded here into final good, and who fail to consider the impetus that such an accidental force must give to the development of a country.

Enclosure 9.

EXTRACT.—LECTURE DELIVERED BY THE REV. S. McFARLANE ON "PAPUA AND PAPUANS." (*Vide the Brisbane Courier, January 30th, 1886.*)

If they wanted land they would have to arrange with the natives for it, and in the vicinity of Port Moresby they would frequently find as many as twenty different natives laying claim to one piece of land. He predicted that so far as the peninsula itself was concerned, the land question would in the future prove to be a difficult one. In the interior, however, they might take up as much land as they liked. Speaking of the question of the Government of New Guinea, he said it could even now be made self-supporting. They had for products, pearl-shell, bêche-de-mer, and cedar, and a royalty on these would recoup the expenses of governing the island. The proper way to govern it would be from Torres Straits, and that was the manner in which the Honorable John Douglas wished it should be governed. The central place of government should be a healthy spot, and for this reason he thought Torres Straits the most suitable place. If they settled at Port Moresby they would be 200 miles from the Gulf. If they had a depôt at Port Moresby and one at the east end of the island, and the head station at Torres Straits, the government of the place could be carried on by placing the various depôts within communication of each other by means of a government steamer. As for produce, there was such land as he had described. They had about fifty teachers all along the coast, and these had informed him of large quantities of cedar grown in that portion of the island. He would not be much surprised to find that if gold was ever discovered in New Guinea it would be on the Gulf. There was in that vicinity a spot about two days' journey from Katow, which had never yet been visited by white men, in which it was possible there might be gold. There was no doubt plenty of mineral wealth in New Guinea; but apart from that the Government could be supported by revenue in the manner mentioned.

Enclosure 10.

EXTRACT.—LETTER FROM CAPTAIN CYPRIAN A. G. BRIDGE, R.N., to MAJOR-GENERAL SCRATCHLEY, dated February 11th, 1885, relating to the Organization of a Government for Protected Territory in New Guinea.

I am of opinion—an opinion confirmed by several conversations with my distinguished friend, Mr. Chalmers—that New Guinea, as a dependency of Great Britain, may eventually be made self-supporting.

The true way to raise a revenue is to get it out of the products of the country. There are many things for which a market could be found in the neighbouring colonies that could be produced in New Guinea, without competing with the colonial industries. Cinchona, coffee, sago, arrowroot, cocoa, copra, cocoa-nut fibre, possibly cotton, might be obtained and exported without much risk of its being supposed that the native labour was in competition with the labour of our fellow-countrymen in Australia. The forests of New Guinea probably contain timber which would form a valuable export. I believe that it would not be difficult to teach the natives, who in many parts are industrious and ingenious agriculturists, to cultivate what has been mentioned; whilst it would not take very long to make them understand that the produce was to be handed over to the white chiefs to be sold to defray the cost of Government, any surplus being devoted to the benefit of the producers.

APPENDIX G.

THE MAI CUSSA.

MR. STRODE HALL to THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.

SIR,

Thursday Island, 1st June, 1888.

In handing you an account of my trip to the Mai Cussa and Chester Rivers, I beg to report as follows:—My instructions were—To verify and correct (if necessary) the reports brought in by Captain Strachan, Mr. Brew, and Mr. Chester; to make a flying survey of the Mai Cussa and Chester Rivers and their tributaries, and also of the coast as far as the western boundary of British New Guinea; and also to try and find out where the hostile tribe known as the "Togari men" come from. On no account was I to allow the boats under my command to part company, or the members of my party, who might be landed for any purpose, to be absent from the boats during night time. The party under my charge, consisting of Mr. G. A. Johnson, four natives of Prince of Wales Island, two from Mobiac, and four from Saibai, left Saibai in the cutter "Queen Victoria" and gig "Crystal" for Tauan on the 19th April, and on the following morning, after having filled our casks with fresh water, we left for Boigoo, where we arrived after a run of four and a-half hours. Here we hauled the cutter upon the beach for repairs to rigging, and left half our stores in charge of Kitab, the chief, so as to give us more room in the boats. The village at Boigoo, which consists of four or five very inferior huts, is situated on the northern point of the island, with an ironstone beach and a mud flat extending out for a quarter of a mile fronting it. The island itself is very low and closely resembles Saibai, having a large swamp in the centre of it. The natives could neither understand nor talk English so our conversations were carried on through the Saibai men acting as interpreters. They were very friendly, and from their gardens—which are extensive—they brought us cocoa-nuts, sugar-cane, and sweet potatoes, in exchange for tobacco. Whilst at Boigoo I got the following information regarding the tribe known as "Togari":—Togari is the name of the wood of which their canoes are built. The natives here have never seen any of this wood growing either on the mainland near here or on any of the adjacent islands. I was able to get a specimen of this wood from an old Togari canoe which is now lying on the beach at Boigoo, and have brought it in with me to Thursday Island. It is apparently a description of cedar. The Togari natives vary in colour from almost white to jet black. Their hair is curly and long. They wear short-sleeved shirts, made from the pith of a tree known to the natives here as "dum." Their noses are pierced through each nostril and also through the cartilage. The women wear a piece of twine round their waists, and a piece of cocoa-nut fibre passed between their legs, and the ends tucked under the twine. Their canoes are from 33 to 38 feet long, the longer ones being about 4 feet wide and nearly as deep. They have no outriggers, and so are only fit to travel during fine weather; they are propelled by paddles alone. The larger canoes are paddled by the men standing two abreast, but when they are fighting the men then stand in single file. They prefer to fight on the shore, as their canoes are very crank. Before leaving Boigoo, Kitab, the chief, asked me if I would take Awattie, a native of Boigoo, with me. As this man had been up the Mai Cussa on a previous trip—namely, with Captain Strachan—and I was told that he was able to talk to the mainland natives, I was very glad to take him. We left Boigoo on the 22nd instant and ran over to the mouth of the Mai Cussa, a distance of about 5 miles, anchored just inside, in front of an old Togari camp, the scene of the murder of Pino (the late missionary teacher of Boigoo), in $2\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms, low-water soundings. The river here is over a mile wide, and we could not get bottom with the lead at 13 fathoms in the centre. We found some fresh water close to the camp, and although it was very dirty we had to fill up our casks, as our supply was already running short. I also had a tree here branded with the broad-arrow. The following morning we got outside the river at slack water, intending to run to the westward on the flood tide, but as there was a strong south-easterly wind blowing and a nasty sea the boats shipped a great deal of water, which I was afraid would spoil our stores; besides as the water which we had got the previous day was already becoming tainted, I determined to run up the river. After having proceeded up for about 30 miles we came to its junction with the Wassen Cussa or Chester River. Here the width of the Mai Cussa is about 300 yards and depth of water 6 fathoms, whilst the Wassen Cussa is 150 yards wide with a depth of 5 fathoms. All the way up the Mai Cussa the banks were low and muddy, and lined with mangroves, with the exception of a few places, where the banks, for the distance of a few yards were, from 5 to 10 feet high, with a break in the mangroves. We anchored for the night in the Wassen Cussa, about a quarter of a mile below the junction. The next day we proceeded to beat down the Wassen Cussa, and at about 10 miles below the junction with the Mai Cussa we came upon another old Togari camp, off which we came to anchor. This camp, and several similar ones which we found later on during the trip, consisted of several "break winds" formed of twigs and saplings covered with paper bark, and large enough to contain about 300 men. All these camps were the same size, and appeared to be the same age. I think they must have been formed by the party who came along the coast last year. The Togari natives had evidently lived on shell-fish, cocoa-nuts, wallabies, and pigs. But I found no traces to prove them cannibals. I also found evidence to prove that they were accustomed to chew the betel nut, and in one camp three young betel palms were growing. I also saw a specimen of their mode of burial, which is quite new to this part of the country. A hole is dug about $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep, 7 feet long, and 3 feet wide, and the body, having been covered with paper bark, is laid therein; a flat roof of sapling covered with paper bark is then made about 2 feet above the body, and the hole is then filled in with earth and levelled off, the place being marked by a spear stuck in the ground at the head and a bow at the foot. On the 25th we continued our journey down the Wassen Cussa, and reached the mouth the following day. The mouth of this river is about three-quarters of a mile wide; the river itself is very similar to the Mai Cussa, and has a depth of from 5 to 12 fathoms. After some little search, I found a navigable passage that took us to the north-west point of Aderberdana Kaua, the most western of three islands situated at the mouth of the river. By referring to the plan you will see I have shown three islands here instead of two, as shown on the Admiralty charts of this portion of the coast. Here, I regret to say, we were stopped from proceeding further to the west, as the boats placed at my disposal were unsuited for the journey, the cutter drawing too much water to pass over the shoals, which are dry at low water from the coast to the reefs, which are shown on the Admiralty charts lying from 5 to 7 miles off the land, and the gig being unable to navigate with safety the heavy sea which was running

on

on the weather side of the reefs. Whilst searching for a navigable channel amongst these shoals, the mainmast of the gig was sprung at the thwart. However, this was remedied later on in the trip by Mr. Johnson making a very good substitute out of some timber we got when we returned to the river. Our fresh water, too, was running short; so I very reluctantly gave up the idea of getting to the western boundary line, and after having made a rough survey of the islands, we returned to the mouth of the Wassen Cussa, which we reached on the 29th. From here I began the work of completing a flying survey of both rivers and all their tributaries. We travelled up the Wassen Cussa as far as its junction with the Mai Cussa, exploring all the tributaries that we could get the boats into as we came to them, and running them up until they either became blocked with snags or else so narrow as to prevent further navigation. We also landed at several places, chiefly the sites of old Togari camps, and penetrated inland a distance of several miles for the purpose of examining the country. At the furthest point reached up each tributary, and also at most of the places where we landed, I had the broad-arrow cut in trees. From where the two rivers junction I followed up the main stream the same way, and reached our furthest point, about 50 miles from the mouth, and in latitude 8 degrees 33 minutes south on 9th May. Here the river was running through undulating open forest country, lightly timbered, and was only about 10 yards wide. The water was fresh, although we were not above tidal influence. Shortly after starting to return, the gig got stove-in on a hidden snag. However, when we came to a suitable place we hauled her up and repaired the damage so as to stop all leakage. On my way down the Mai Cussa I explored all the numerous tributaries running into it from the eastward, and also ascertained that one of its western tributaries below its junction with Wassen Cussa penetrated completely through to that river, by that means proving that the so-called Strachan Island is in fact two distinct islands. On a dry rock which I found in one of the eastern tributaries of the Mai Cussa, I planted a bottle containing a piece of paper, on which I put the date of our arrival there (16th May). On the 18th, whilst coming down the Tobeow Cussa, which heads out of Strachan Island, we met the only natives seen during our trip. They were a hunting party, consisting of from thirty to forty men from Määt, a village which was rather more than a day's walk in a south-westerly direction from where we met them. At first they were very frightened, but, after a good deal of persuasion on the part of Awattie (who was able to talk to them), four of them were induced to come on board the cutter, where they received a present of some tobacco. I then went ashore in the gig to where the rest of the natives were and gave them some tomahawks, knives, and tobacco, in exchange for bows, arrows, necklaces, and head dresses. These men were perfectly nude. Some have copied the Togari men by piercing each nostril besides the cartilage of the nose; some of the ornaments worn about their bodies are also copied from the Togari men. Several of the men were suffering from skin disease similar to that which is prevalent in Eastern New Guinea. These natives were of medium height, muscular, and active, and varied in colour. Their hair was short and curly. I was able to find the chief, named Parwee, and told him that one of the objects of the expedition was to find the whereabouts of the Togari men. He told me he did know how far they came from, but that they came regularly every other year, and that they made the same raids at his village that they do further along the coast to the east. Before leaving him I gave him a knife, a tomahawk, and some tobacco. The country on the banks of the rivers, at the back of the mangroves, is low-lying, open forest country, covered with long grass, and in some places swampy. The soil is very poor generally; but there are a few ridges from 10 to 20 feet high, which carry good dark loam, and are covered with dense jungle. The banks of the rivers are low and muddy, and lined with dense mangroves towards the mouths and palms towards the head. The timber growing inland is principally paper bark, ironbark, gum, and wattle. At three places up eastern tributaries of the Mai Cussa, we came across native gardens of from 1 to 3 acres in extent, containing yams, taro, sugar-cane, and tobacco. Fresh water was scarce, and I think that in a few weeks time the holes where we obtained our water from would be dry. I examined carefully all tributaries coming into the Wassen Cussa from the west, hoping to find communication with the sea, and also all eastern branches of the Mai Cussa, lest any should lead into the Fly River, but failed in each case to find any such communication or indication of such. I am convinced from what I saw that this is a separate system. We arrived at Boigoo, on our return, on the 23rd May, and found that the natives had all left for Tauan, and that the stores we had left were all safe and in good order. The following day, after a rough trip, we reached Tauan. Here we left the gig, after having hauled her up on the beach and covered her with the sails. On leaving Tauan we passed to the north of the Ormon Reef, and anchored for the night at Mobiae. The following day we reached Hawkesbury Island, where we anchored, and arrived at Thursday Island on the afternoon of the 28th. The natives I had with me worked splendidly, with the exception of the Saibai men, who were lazy, useless, and very insolent. The health of the party throughout the trip was excellent. The accommodation at my disposal on board the cutter was very limited, and I could hardly find a plank to lie down on at night. From the observations I took I ascertained that Captain Strachan greatly over-estimated the distance he travelled up the Mai Cussa and also the size of its tributaries. His description of the country on Strachan Island is also incorrect. The soil on the southern island is very poor, but that on the northern, where the ground is rather higher, is a little better. I was unable to find the very dangerous rock which he reports being 5 miles from the mouth and in mid-stream. I do not believe it exists. His plan is so much out of position that it is difficult to understand to what islands or creeks he refers. I found Mr. Chester's report on the Mai Cussa very correct. I cannot agree with anything Mr. Brew stated with regard to the Chester River, and some of his locations are very inaccurate. For instance, he places the mouth of that river 16 miles north of the mouth of the Mai Cussa, whereas it is really only about 7 miles, and in a western direction. His description of the country is equally incorrect and misleading. I am unable to complete my plan in time to accompany this report, but as soon as it is finished I will forward it to your Excellency.

I have, &c.,

C. E. STRODE HALL.

To His Excellency The Special Commissioner for British New Guinea.

APPENDIX H.

STATEMENT FURNISHED TO THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER BY MR. W. WHITTON, OF THE "ALBATROSS" CUTTER.

On our way out to the Woodlarks we sometimes make the Alcester Islands first. During the south-east season there is an anchorage at the village on the north side of the western island. Alcester Island, or Tokuna, is the home of the Tokuna tribe, quite a roving race of people. They are the greatest shipwrights of the eastern end of New Guinea, and on landing at the village a number of large sailing canoes may always be seen on the stocks there. Most of the canoes of the Engineer Group, Foriba, Milne Bay, and South Cape, were built here or in other parts of the Woodlarks. The Tokuna people apparently only stay on their island while they are canoe building, for they have no gardens there, nor is there water. Their drinking water they bring from Woodlark Island. Once every year they form a fleet, and go to the Engineer Group and through a great part of the Lousiades. I have met Tokuna men at East Cape. Their last expedition mustered fourteen large sailing canoes, and they were away during parts of December, January, and February. Often when we visit Tokuna there are no natives there, and looking through the houses we see their pots and pans and baskets just as they left them. Two or three years ago they founded a village, Bugisse, at the western end of Woodlark Island, but they depend little on food of their own growing as they pass their time sailing from place to place, often staying months in each village. According to the fashion of New Guinea hospitality, they are not allowed to work, and when they leave their canoes are filled with "ki-ki" of all sorts. They leave presents of armshells, shell necklaces, stone tomahawks, and other valuables. A-pe-ana and Ga-re-tow are their chiefs, the former an old man and the latter middle-aged. They have told me that the Tokuna people originally came from Tokuna, or Toguna, on the north side of Sudest Islands, but they have the same language as the East Islanders (Panemote). Between Tokuna and Woodlark Island is a chain of small uninhabited islets. When we leave Dinner Island for the Woodlarks, after rounding Ventenant (Duou) on Normanby Island, we steer direct for a group of small islands which I surveyed and called the Albatross Group some months ago. It consists of fourteen islands or islets. A few small basaltic islands in the centre are surrounded by a circular reef at an average distance of 7 miles. A great part of this reef has from 4 to 7 fathoms of water over it, but along the northern side it rises a few feet above the water, forming beautiful tree-covered islands. Yan-iba or Evans Island is the largest, and in a sandy bay on its southern side are the three villages, a few hundred yards from each other. The population of Yan-iba is about 200; Tou-se-arua, an old man is the chief. Eguin, in the centre of the group, has sheltered anchorage. The small village has only ten or twenty natives belonging to it. All the islands are low; Egum, the highest, is about 150 feet. From this group, two high islands, Garwa and Koir-wata, of the Marshall Henry Group, can be seen. Sailing from Egum to the Woodlark Islands we generally make Bugisse, where there is a narrow anchorage for a small vessel. This is the new Tokuna village mentioned before. From Bugisse we sail to the north-west point. The district and tribe about there is called Marow. Through the hostility of the tribes from Mon-e-va-ove, the Marow people have retired to their villages in the bush. Proceeding along the north coast a couple of miles, we see a gap through the bush through which the natives drag their canoes overland into the large bay on the other side which is marked on the chart. A mile further east we see the village Mon-e-va-ove. A tree that he was felling killed a chief here in April, this year, and about the same time a man fell from a tree, and also several women died, so the Mon-e-va-ove people came to the conclusion that the Marow people had cast an evil spell over them. Now they are "talking fight," and the Marow have retired to their securest village in the bush. The next village, Noo-gueg-i, is about 6 miles along the coast. A little to the west of it, almost undiscoverable as we sail along, is a canoe passage through the mangroves to the large bay on the other side. The next place on the north coast is Oose-pe-mat-e, a very snug anchorage where in the old days many a whaler and trader got water. We are now in Wamena district. There are many villages in the bush belonging to this tribe. At the west corner of Richards Bay is the principal Wamena village, Kana-ki-boo-a, situated at the entrance of a pretty little lagoon. Many of the men speak very good English, some having been in Queensland, others in trading or labour schooners. On the left of the passage and facing the Wamena village are the four or five houses of the natives who escaped from the massacre at Guas-op, when the Wacoir surrounded the village at night and killed thirteen. The feud that was bound to ensue still exists, and the Wamena and Manemanena (the Laughlins) having made common cause with the refugees from Guas-op, they find their "natural" enemies in the Wacoir people. Yet we meet Wamena men who have married and settled down in Wacoir and who can be in safety in either tribe. From Kana-ki-boo-a, 5 or 6 miles to the north-east cape of Woodlark Island, and 7 miles north-east, brings us to the extreme eastern point, but we have to go to the second small island off it (Sim-o-wah, to find a passage to the west through the reef. In all the eastern part of New Guinea there are no villages. The low island to the eastward is Noo-bara, on the road out to the Laughlins (Manemanena or Na-di), barren islands, but producing a great quantity of cocoa-nuts. I believe a German, called Charlie, is still there, making copra for Hershheim and Co., of Matupi. Parties of Laughlin Islanders live for months on Woodlark Island, and return, their canoes loaded with taro and other "ki-ki," for which they pay cocoa-nuts. Coming west along the south coast of Woodlark Island the first indentation of the land is Wacoir Bay. This is the district of the enemies of Wamena, and two villages on the bay are named Koo-ma-row and Soo-a-ke-te, and the two most influential chiefs are Ma-ma-di and Kwarna. The latter, who speaks a little English, is called Jim Canoe. The Wacoir people do not make long voyages, consequently they have no large canoes. This Wacoir Bay is shallow and without a good anchorage, and in dealing with these people it is more convenient to anchor in the next bay, where Guas-op is marked on the chart. Leaving Wacoir Bay and proceeding westward we past a point and open the beautiful Guas-op harbour. Skirting the reef a little before we get to the first island, Le-au is the spot where years ago a French whaler was wrecked. Between the two islands Le-au and Wavi-ai is the passage though the reef. On the east side of the bay, near a conspicuous white tree, is where the ill-fated Guas-op stood. It was there the wrecked crew of the whaler lived, and whence they started in their boats. One boat's crew was killed on the north coast, but the man-of-war came and bombarded the bush about Guas-op, fortunately without doing any damage. The district of the west part of the bay is occupied by the Wumuda-muda tribe. They live in two villages on the coast and a number of small scattered ones, of four or five houses each, in the bush. Men-ari, the chief of the village Koir-wata, speaks a little English. At Yow-bonis village, on the small harbour, is a powerful sorceress, who can bring wind, rain or fine weather, health, or death.

death. She has a blind son who is also supposed to possess supernatural powers. Before leaving here, be sure to taste the Woodlark special luxury, land crab. The natives will bring plenty from Wavi-ai. Continuing our course west, we can go inside the reef to the point abreast of Round Island. Inside the large island Mapasa is a harbour, smooth as a mill pond. There is a small village here, and on the ridge of the mountain where the cocoa-nut trees are growing, are a few houses with three or four men. The Mapasa people have no gardens; their food is exclusively "rabair." Natives of other places think Mapasa very poor. Johnnie, quite a young man, is chief. Vessels going to the anchorage must go to the eastward of the island, the other passage is too shallow. Note! Send the natives for the splendid mangrove oysters (Sim-ki-ote). Kwairgi is an inlet in the high land a couple of miles west of Suloga, the name of the highest mountain of the Woodlarks. Through the mangroves at the bottom of Quoirgi Bay is a canoe passage to a shallow lagoon behind. The chief of Kwairgi is an old man, Tau-ro-ke-de. Leaving Kwairgi we pass all the high land, and a long narrow inlet into the low ground is seen. This inlet almost cuts the island in two and is called Oo-ka-da-o. Lemons grow here, the seeds of which were left by a captain long ago. The navigation from here to Bugisse requires care on account of the reefs, and a vessel drawing much water will have to keep a long way out. The land is low, and there are but few villages at the end. This brings us back to the western end of the Woodlark Island with its long reef and islands. The islands to the north-west that stretch in a chain to the Trobriands are Garwa and Koir-wata and Dugu-menu, Ewa (Jouvency), and Kitawa (Jurien Islands)—all, except Dugu-menu, inhabited. The chart of the Woodlark Group is very incorrect. Islands and reefs are down that have no existence now. It is useful only as a general idea of the group. There are two languages, the Murua or Mu-yua and the Tokuna; but as the people travel so much they understand many languages, particularly that used in the Engineer Group. Woodlark Island is called by the people on the south side, and all who live to the southward of it, Murua; on the north coast and in the Trobriands, as Mu-yua.

Cooktown, 5th June,

W. WHITTON,
Master of the Cutter "Albatross."

[Two maps.]



MAP OF
PORTION OF SOUTH-EAST
NEW GUINEA

Compiled from the Surveys of
M^r HENRY O. FORBES, F.R.G.S.
the Admiralty Charts and other Material

M^r Forbes' Route shown thus
Villages marked thus

Scale 1/4 inch to One Statute Mile = 253440 to Miles

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

COLONY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

(CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING PROPOSED ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION OF.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 31 July, 1889.

Telegram from The Speaker, Legislative Council, Western Australia, to The Colonial Secretary, New South Wales.

Perth, 27 July, 1889.

HAVE been requested to telegraph to the Government, President, and Speaker of the Legislatures of Australasian Colonies as follows:—"The Legislative Council of Western Australia, finding, the passing of the Enabling Bill introduced in the Imperial Parliament with a view of granting Responsible Government to this Colony, menaced by serious opposition, and not likely for the present to be withdrawn, earnestly appeals for your assistance, and trusts that the Agent-General of your Colony may be instructed to press upon the Cabinet of Great Britain the necessity, in the interests both of Western Australia and of the Australian group generally, for the passing of the measure before the approaching prorogation. The following resolution, adopted by Legislative Council, has been telegraphed to Secretary of State:—"That this House desires to express its strong and unalterable opinion that the Colony has now reached a stage of development when the present Constitution is no longer adapted to its circumstances, and that the anticipated delay in the passing of the Enabling Bill will most seriously affect its material prospects, will give rise to universal irritation, and deal a fatal blow at that trustful confidence in the fair dealing and justice of the House of Commons, which has hitherto been reposed in a body credited throughout the civilized world with a reputation for sympathy with, and active support of, the principles of self-government, which is enjoyed by every other Colony of Australasia, and which is now demanded by Western Australia in accordance with the provision of the 32nd section of the Imperial Statute, 13th and 14th Victoria, chapter 59. The Legislature earnestly request that the Imperial Government will reconsider their position in regard to the Enabling Bill, and in the interests of this Colony, so strenuously menaced by any further delay in the introduction of self-government, will still endeavour to pass the measure during the current Session of Parliament. There is but one opinion throughout the whole of Australasia as to the extreme un wisdom and injustice of shelving the West Australian Constitution Bill for another year. Please supply copies President of Council and Speaker.'"

Telegram from The Colonial Secretary, New South Wales, to The Speaker, Legislative Council, Western Australia.

Sydney, 28 July, 1889.

YOUR telegram received. This Government fully sympathises with the Legislature and people of Western Australia in their desires and efforts to obtain Responsible Government, in the achievement of which the whole of Australasia have a deep and equal interest. Will instruct Agent-General to support your cause, and address circular despatch to other Colonies, urging united action:

Telegram from The Honorable P. O. Fysh, M.L.C., Tasmania, to The Colonial Secretary, New South Wales.

Hobart, 29 July, 1889.

JOINT or simultaneous addresses from Australian Parliaments now in Session is the better form of dealing with Western Australia's request. I await your reply before submitting on Tuesday next a resolution to Parliament.

Telegram

Telegram from The Colonial Secretary, New South Wales, to The Honorable
P. O. Fysh, M.L.C., Tasmania.

Sydney, 30 July, 1889.

I AGREE with you that the joint action of the Colonies is very desirable in the Western Australia difficulty, but the action of one Colony without knowing the precise action of the others would hardly be likely to produce the desired joint effect. Deliberation seems essential to effectual agreement. The question, for the Colonies outside Western Australia, is not one devoid of serious complications. Letter posted to you yesterday.

Telegram from The Colonial Secretary to The Agent-General.

Sydney, 29 July, 1889.

You will take occasion to represent to the Secretary of State that this Colony, in common with the other Colonies under Parliamentary Government, feels that its interest is bound up with the interest of Western Australia in her efforts to obtain a free Constitution. Without any appearance of forcing our views, you will urge the sound policy of the question being settled with as little delay as possible.

Telegram from The Agent-General to The Colonial Secretary.

London, 29 July, 1888.

DELIVERED your message to Secretary of State for the Colonies *re* Responsible Government for Western Australia. Lord Knutsford hopes Bill will be read second time this Session, but fears it will be impossible to pass it beyond that stage before prorogation Parliament, in consequence of opposition on both sides of House, late period of Session, and important necessary work to be accomplished.

Circular Despatch to The Governments of Victoria, South Australia, Queensland,
New Zealand, and Tasmania.

Sir,

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 29 July, 1889.

The present state of the measure before the Imperial Parliament to confer the powers of self-government upon Western Australia has engaged the anxious attention of this Government, and throughout the consideration of the matter from the first, both in England and in the Colonies, some collateral questions of first importance have prominently presented themselves which it would be well for the other Colonies to deal with in concert. It is assumed that all are agreed that it would be sound policy to bring all the Australasian Governments under one and the same form of Constitution. If this is assented to as a principle, the objection to Western Australia remaining a Crown Colony would be in its nature equally strong against the creation of any new Crown Colony out of her vast territory. Looking to the rapid developments of national life over the whole Continent, it is essential to the general welfare that the free institutions enjoyed by the more populous Colonies should be extended to all.

It seems, then, that the first matter of common concern is that Western Australia should receive a Constitution fully endowing her with all the rights and powers of self-government, like the other Parliamentary Governments in Australia; and that the time is come, owing to threatened delays and complications, when the other Governments should extend to her cause their united support.

In the next place arises the question whether it is not the imperative duty of the free Parliamentary Governments to oppose the creation of any Colony or settlement to be under a system of rule at variance with, and inferior to that enjoyed by, the vast majority of the Australian people. In this is embraced other questions of inferior grades of population and restricted rights of citizenship, and possibly of new casts of national character.

The whole subject of projected changes in Western Australia is so full of interest to each and all of the Colonies that a Conference for its mature consideration would, it is believed, be attended by beneficial results. Though it may be inconvenient for all the Governments to send representatives to such a Conference at the present time; still the subject is one closely affecting the dearest interests of all these young Australian commonwealths, and one of such urgency that it cannot be recalled if once settled under unpropitious influences. It seems, therefore, that it is deserving of some endeavour and sacrifice to bring it under the most effective and satisfactory examination and decision.

I shall feel much indebted to you if you can give early attention to the whole matter, and inform me of your views.

I have, &c.,

HENRY PARKES.

Telegram from The Honorable John Cockburn, South Australia, to The Colonial
Secretary, New South Wales.

Adelaide, 29 July, 1889.

PROPOSE suspending Standing Orders to-morrow, to pass addresses from both Houses to Her Majesty, in favour of Western Australian Enabling Bill. Tasmania also suggests addresses desirable simultaneous action. Please reply.

Telegram from The Colonial Secretary, New South Wales, to The Honorable
John Cockburn, South Australia.

Sydney, 30 July, 1889.

IMPOSSIBLE for us to take the course which you propose in the matter of the Western Australia difficulty. Irrespective of other pressing business, joint action to be effectual should be on definite and the same lines, and we have no knowledge of the precise representations you propose to make. Deliberation in respect to points of importance seems essential to sound agreement. Letter posted to you yesterday. We have instructed the Agent-General to support the cause of Western Australia with the Imperial Government.

Telegram from The Colonial Secretary, New South Wales, to The Honorable
Duncan Gillies, M.P., Victoria.

Sydney, 30 July, 1889.

THE following telegrams in reference to the Western Australia difficulty have been sent to South Australia and Tasmania respectively:—

Telegram to South Australia.

IMPOSSIBLE for us to take the course which you propose in the matter of the Western Australia difficulty. Irrespective of other pressing business, joint action, to be effectual, should be on definite and the same lines, and we have no knowledge of the precise representation you propose to make. Deliberation in respect to points of importance seem essential to sound agreement. Letter posted to you yesterday. We have instructed the Agent-General to support the cause of Western Australia with the Imperial Government.

Telegram to Tasmania.

I AGREE with you that the joint action of the Colonies is very desirable in the Western Australia difficulty, but the action of one Colony without knowing the precise action of the others would hardly be likely to produce the desired joint effect. Deliberation seems essential to effectual agreement. The question, for the Colonies outside Western Australia, is not one devoid of serious complications. Letter posted to you yesterday.

Telegram from The Chief Secretary, Queensland, to The Colonial Secretary, New
South Wales.

Brisbane, 30 July, 1889.

WHAT action, if any, do you intend taking with reference to the difficulty which has arisen in the Imperial Parliament, *re* passing of the Western Australian Enabling Bill?

Telegram from The Colonial Secretary, New South Wales, to The Chief Secretary,
Queensland.

Sydney, 30 July, 1889.

YOU will receive letter from me to-day on the Western Australia difficulty. Beyond doubt it would be best for the other Colonies to act in concert in dealing with it. But for the outside Colonies the question is not devoid of complication, and it seems to me that consultation is essential to effectual agreement.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

COLONY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

(FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING PROPOSED ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION OF.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 7 August, 1889.

Telegram from The Honorable Duncan Gillies, M.P., Victoria, to The Colonial Secretary, New South Wales.

Melbourne, 31 July, 1889.

Re Western Australia, have received your telegram and letter. Did time permit, your suggestion of a Conference would no doubt be a very useful one. It appears to me, however, at this juncture that if we are to be of real service to Western Australia it might be wise to follow the example of South Australia and ask our respective Parliaments to send an address to the Queen similar to theirs. I am firmly of opinion that should the united representations of these Colonies be successful in obtaining the grant of Responsible Government to Western Australia, everything else will follow. I have communicated in this sense with the Government of Queensland. The following is the South Australian address:—"To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty: May it please your Majesty,—we your Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Members of the House of Assembly of South Australia, in Parliament assembled, humbly approach your Majesty with every assurance of our devotion to your Majesty's Crown and person, having in common with other Australian Colonies long enjoyed the advantages of self-government, under which our material prosperity has been increased, and our loyalty and devotion to your Majesty have continued unabated; and feeling that the same results will follow the granting of similar powers to our fellow colonists in Western Australia, we humbly pray that your Majesty will be pleased to speedily extend to Western Australia a full measure of Responsible Government, thus advancing the cause of federation, and completing Australian unity, by adding Western Australia to the group of loyal, contented, and autonomous Colonies."

Telegram from The Colonial Secretary, New South Wales, to The Hon. Duncan Gillies, M.P., Victoria.

[Urgent.]

Sydney, 1 August, 1889.

MUCH indebted to you for your frank expression of views on the Western Australia question. Must respectfully dissent from your opinion that if the Western Australia Bill were obtained everything else would follow. On the contrary, I fear the passage of that Bill into law might render the right settlement of other questions of highest importance extremely difficult. I still urge Conference. To meet your convenience let it assemble in Melbourne; though our Parliament is sitting we will arrange to come to you. A united agreement may be arrived at within a week or ten days."

Telegram from The Chief Secretary, Queensland, to The Colonial Secretary, New South Wales.

Brisbane, 31 July, 1889.

In regard to Western Australian Enabling Bill this Government are quite in accord with the suggestion contained in your letter of 29th July. Will you consult other colonies there anent. If Conference as proposed is held Sir Thomas M'Ilwraith will represent Queensland, and I would suggest Sydney as the place of meeting, and that Conference meet at earliest possible date.

Telegram from The Colonial Secretary, New South Wales, to The Chief Secretary,
Queensland.

Sydney, 1 August, 1889.

THANKS for your message. I send copy of message to Government of Victoria. I have a very strong view that the question is eminently one to be considered and settled in Conference, on account of the many subordinate questions involved. The difference between Melbourne and Sydney to you is only one of a few hours. The following is copy:—

Telegram from The Colonial Secretary, New South Wales, to The Hon. Duncan Gillies, M.P., Victoria.

Sydney, 1 August, 1889.

“MUCH indebted to you for your frank expression of views on the Western Australia question. Must respectfully dissent from your opinion that if the Western Australia Bill were obtained everything else would follow. On the contrary, I fear the passage of that Bill into law might render the right settlement of other questions of highest importance extremely difficult. I still urge Conference. To meet your convenience let it assemble in Melbourne; though our Parliament is sitting we will arrange to come to you. A united agreement may be arrived at within a week or ten days.”

Telegram from The Honorable Duncan Gillies, M.P., Victoria, to The Colonial
Secretary, New South Wales.

Melbourne, 1 August, 1889.

I FIND a difficulty in reconciling your letter of 29th July, in which you say that it is a matter of common concern that Western Australia should receive a Constitution, fully endowing her with all the rights and powers of self-government, like the other Parliamentary Governments in Australia, and that the time is come, owing to threatened delays and complications, when the other Governments should extend to her cause their united support, with your telegram of this morning dissenting from my view that if Western Australia Bill were obtained everything else would follow, and expressing the fear that the passage of that Bill into law might render the right settlement of other questions of highest importance extremely difficult. I can only gather from this that, under present circumstances, it is not your desire that the Bill should become law. You do not explain what it is that forms the ground of this fear. It is only because I feel strongly that these delays may be fatal that I am reluctant to go into Conference; but, in addition, it is extremely improbable that Western Australia would be able to join the Conference; and for all the Colonies, in her absence, to deal with a question vitally affecting her constitutional rights would be a course which, to me, would present considerable difficulty, unless such a course could be justified in the interests of Australia.

Telegram from The Colonial Secretary, New South Wales, to The Honorable Duncan
Gillies, M.P., Victoria.

Sydney, 2 August, 1889.

YOUR telegram of yesterday on the matter of Western Australia very much surprises me. I fail to see your difficulty in reconciling my letter of the 29th ultimo with my subsequent telegram, in which, while urging the consideration of all the features of the question affecting Australia as a whole, I say the passage of the Bill (meaning obviously enough its passage without such consideration) might render the right settlement of other questions of highest importance extremely difficult afterwards. The grounds of my fears are fairly indicated in my letter of the 29th. I think I am entitled to complain of the construction you put upon my language, when you say that you can only gather from it that it is not my desire that the Bill should become law, because, in prospect of its not being finally dealt with in England for some months, I urge that all the surroundings of the case should be considered; and, moreover, when this Government has instructed its Agent-General to give its direct support to Western Australia with the Secretary of State. Permit me to add that the many points of difficulty raised in your message—all easy of explanation, though not by the electric telegraph—seem to show forcibly the necessity for a Conference if any satisfactory agreement is to be arrived at.

Telegram from The Chief Secretary, Queensland, to The Colonial Secretary,
New South Wales.

Brisbane, 3 August, 1889.

WESTERN Australia Enabling Bill. This Government are urging Victoria, South Australia, and Tasmania to agree to your suggestion as to Conference.

Telegram from The Honorable P. O. Fysh, M.L.C., Tasmania, to The Colonial
Secretary, New South Wales.

Hobart, 3 August, 1889.

CIRCULAR. All that you urge may be admitted, and a Conference presently granted, or possibly Commissioners appointed by these Colonies to sit with those to be entrusted by the Imperial Parliament to bring up a report for the next Session of the Imperial Parliament upon the matters shadowed forth in this morning's and late English cablegrams, but the future Government and population of a country not embraced in the proposed boundaries of Western Australia need not delay the granting to her of local self-government.

Telegram

Telegram from The Chief Secretary, Queensland, to The Colonial Secretary,
New South Wales.

Brisbane, 5 August, 1889.

THE attitude of Victoria seems to preclude possibility of Conference. If position is not altered before Wednesday will reluctantly have to follow course pursued in South Australia.

Telegram from The Honorable John Cockburn, South Australia, to The Colonial
Secretary, New South Wales.

Adelaide, 5 August, 1889.

AM of opinion that the fact that Western Australia in not asking for all that we hope she may eventually obtain, viz., complete autonomy co-extensive with territory, does not afford a valid reason for withholding immediate response to earnest appeal for assistance. Our neighbourly feeling prompted us to render, without hesitation, the required help; but we are willing also to consider any proposals for formulating a united opinion on the subject of obtaining still further concessions. In addition to address to Queen, we have cabled Agent-General to press passage of Enabling Bill this Session.

Telegram from The Chief Secretary, Queensland, to The Colonial Secretary, New
South Wales.

Brisbane, 7 August, 1889.

SEE by Press telegrams you have decided in meantime to pass Address through Parliament regarding Western Australian Enabling Bill. This course will be adopted here. I still hope that a Conference may meet later on to deal fully with this most important matter.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

CORPS OF COMMISSIONAIRES.
(INFORMATION RESPECTING.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 29 May, 1889.

[*Laid upon the Table of this House in answer to Question No. 11 of 29 May, 1889.*]

Questions.

11. MR. EDMUNDS *asked* THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,—
- (1.) How many men members of the Corps of Commissionaires are engaged in the Public Service?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that certain officers of that Corps are maintained by fees payable by the members for whom employment in this Colony is procured?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that every member for whom employment is procured in the Government Service pays a fee for such procurement?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that the Corps of Commissionaires is an organization in England, whose object, so far as its working in New South Wales is concerned, is to procure, as far as possible, employment for its members in this Colony?

Answers.

The following information has been supplied by the Major-Commanding the Sydney Division of the Corps of Commissionaires:—

- (1.) Three at the Government Asylum, Parramatta.
No; the Officers' salaries are paid from a fund contributed to by Officers past and present of the Imperial Services "Army and Navy" and the Marchioness of Westminster.
- (3.) Every man getting regular employment pays one week's wages to the Corps Funds, and an annual contribution of £1 10s. This goes towards paying the expenses of the Institution, which is self supporting. It receives no assistance from the Home or Colonial Governments.
- (4.) The Corps of Commissionaires is an organization whose sole object is to get respectable employment for men of good character who have served in the Imperial and Colonial Services, including police and volunteers, irrespective of where they come from. Half of the men at present in the Corps have been in the Colony several years before the Corps was started in Sydney.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

DEATH OF WORKMAN EMPLOYED ON HAWKESBURY BRIDGE.
(PARTICULARS RESPECTING.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 16 April, 1889.

Questions.

3. MR. WALKER asked THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,—

- (1.) In reference to the death of the man Baker, killed whilst working on the Hawkesbury Bridge, is it a fact that the scaffolding on which he was at work was of a dangerous character, inasmuch as on it there was a large hole unprotected by a trap-door or covering of any kind?
- (2.) Is it a fact that no inquest was held for two days, and that in the meantime the scaffolding was altered so as to appear safe.
- (3.) Were a number of the jury employés on the bridge?
- (4.) Did the sub-contractors, Messrs. Ryland and Morse, attempt to have the corpse buried, sewn up in a bag, without any coffin?

Answers.

The Secretary for Public Works has furnished me with the following replies:—The District Engineer reports, that he was not a witness of the accident nor of any of the circumstances referred to in this question; but he has obtained the following information of the occurrence:—

- (1.) The original staging of the scaffold was perfectly safe. Two or three planks were removed from it to form an additional higher staging on which deceased was working when he fell. The gap left in the lower stage by the removal of the planks allowed deceased to fall through on to the punt beneath.
- (2.) The accident took place on the afternoon of the 27th March, and the inquest was held on 29th idem. The removed planks were at first put back to their original position immediately after the accident but were at once raised again by order of the contractors, so that the state of things should be exactly as when the fatality occurred.
- (3.) Yes. Walter Cooper and Charles King, jurymen, were employés on the bridge.
- (4.) No.

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

FOREIGN DESERTERS ACT, 1852.
(DESPATCH RESPECTING PROVISIONS OF—THE UNITED STATES OF MEXICO.)

Presented to Parliament by Command.

The Treasury, New South Wales, 20 August, 1889.

His Excellency the Governor directs the publication, for general information, of the following Order of Her Majesty in Council, extending the provisions of the "Foreign Deserters Act, 1852," to the United States of Mexico.

W. McMILLAN.

Downing-street, 13 June, 1889.

(Circular.)

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to you, for publication in the Colony under your Government, a copy of an Order of Her Majesty in Council, extending the provisions of the "Foreign Deserters Act, 1852," to the United States of Mexico.

I have, &c.,

KNUTSFORD.

The Officer Administering
the Government of New South Wales.

At the Court at Windsor, the 28th day of May, 1889.

Present :

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, Lord President, Earl of Coventry, Lord Ashbourne.

WHEREAS by the "Foreign Deserters Act, 1852," it is provided that whenever it is made to appear to Her Majesty that due facilities are or will be given for recovering and apprehending seamen who desert from British merchant ships in the territories of any foreign power, Her Majesty may, by Order in Council stating that such facilities are or will be given, declare that seamen, not being slaves, who desert from merchant ships belonging to a subject of such power, when within Her Majesty's dominions, shall be liable to be apprehended and carried on board their respective ships, and may limit the operation of such Order, and may render the operation thereof, subject to such conditions and qualifications, if any, as may be deemed expedient.

And whereas it has been made to appear to Her Majesty that due facilities will be given for recovering and apprehending seamen who desert from British merchant ships in territories belonging to the United States of Mexico under a treaty between the Governments of Great Britain and the United States of Mexico, signed at the City of Mexico on the 27th November, 1888 :

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue of the power vested in Her by the said "Foreign Deserters Act, 1852," and by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, is pleased to order and declare, and it is hereby ordered and declared, that from and after the publication hereof in the London Gazette, seamen, not being slaves, and not being British subjects, who, within Her Majesty's dominions, desert from merchant ships belonging to citizens of the United States of Mexico, shall be liable to be apprehended and carried on board their respective ships. Provided always, that if any such deserter has committed any crime in Her Majesty's dominions, he may be detained until he has been tried by a competent Court, and until his sentence, if any, has been fully carried into effect.

And the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the Secretary of State for India in Council are to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

C. L. PEEL.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISEMENTS.

(RETURN SHOWING AMOUNTS PAID FOR, IN DAILY PAPERS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 15 August, 1889.

[Laid upon the Table in accordance with a promise made by the Colonial Treasurer, in reply to a Question asked on 11th July, 1889.]

RETURN showing amounts paid for advertising in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Daily Telegraph*, *Australian Star*, and *Evening News*, from 1st July, 1888, to 30th June, 1889, as far as can be readily ascertained from the records of this Department (being the information asked for by Mr. Dowel on 11 July last):—

	£	s.	d.
<i>Sydney Morning Herald</i>	1,326	18	9
<i>Daily Telegraph</i>	1,228	2	9
<i>Australian Star</i>	245	4	3
<i>Evening News</i>	829	15	0

No vouchers for payments for services later than 31st March, 1889, have been received in this Department.

Department of Audit, 11th July, 1889.

E. A. RENNIE,
Auditor-General.

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING.

Cabinet Minute, by which the public advertising is regulated.

THERE can be but little doubt that much waste of public money has been incurred by negligence or want of knowledge in giving Government advertisements to newspapers.

In every case, and in all Departments of the Public Service, the first thing to be considered is whether the newspaper affords a medium of publicity for the advertisement, and *no other consideration should be allowed to have weight*. For general purposes, it is certain that both the morning journals published in Sydney (the *Herald* and *Telegraph*) and the *Evening News* afford this medium of publicity. The same may be said, though with less certainty, of the weekly papers (the *Sydney Mail*, the *Town and Country Journal*, and the *Tribune*). Again, advertisements which require publicity in one portion of the Colony more than in another may properly be given to any newspaper possessing an established circulation in that district. In the Hunter River District, for example, the *Maitland Mercury* probably affords a better medium than any other newspaper.

These circumstances may be fairly taken into account when advertisements of a special character have to be ordered.

In no instance is any Government advertisement to be given as a matter of favour or patronage, or for any reason whatever apart from the ascertained value of the medium of publicity which the newspaper presents.

Cabinet approve.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 6th December, 1887.

HENRY PARKES.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

(COST AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK DONE, FROM 1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER, 1888.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 30 July, 1889.

ANNUAL RETURN to an *Order* made by the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, dated 6th May, 1884, That there be laid upon the Table of this House annually, a Return showing,—

“(1.) The total cost, wages, and material of the printing, bookbinding, photography, and lithography done for each Department of the Public Service, at the Government Printing Office, during each year ending 31st December.

“(2.) A statement, in tabular form, showing the title of each book, pamphlet, and collection of photographs or lithographs published at the Government Printing Office during each year ending 31st December; such statement to show the number of copies of each produced, and the total cost of each set.

“(3.) That a statement of the number of copies, and the cost of printing (labour and material), be printed on the title-page of each Return or Departmental Report laid before Parliament.”

(*Mr. Hutchinson.*)

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

(I.)

RETURN of the Total Estimated Cost, Wages, and Material of the Printing, Bookbinding, Photography, and Lithography done for each Department of the Public Service, at the Government Printing Office, during the year ended 31st December, 1888.

Department for which the work was performed.	Estimated Value of Letter-press & Lithographic Printing.	Estimated Value of Bookbinding, &c.	Photo-lithography, Photography, &c.	Total Value of Work performed.	Cost of Paper and Parchment.	Total Value.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
PARLIAMENTARY PRINTING.						
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—						
Under statutory obligation, &c.....	2,854 2 5	273 18 6	114 3 0	3,242 3 11	286 11 0	3,528 14 11
Upon motion of Members of Parliament.....	282 11 9	27 15 6	6 17 6	317 4 9	40 2 4	357 7 1
Total	3,136 14 2	301 14 0	121 0 6	3,559 8 8	326 13 4	3,886 2 0
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:—						
Under statutory obligation, &c.....	6,233 12 11	246 12 3	400 4 6	6,880 9 8	752 0 2	7,632 9 10
Upon motion of Members of Parliament.....	2,374 1 0	107 0 0	637 19 6	3,119 0 6	340 12 10	3,459 13 4
Total	8,607 13 11	353 12 3	1,038 4 0	9,999 10 2	1,092 13 0	11,092 3 2
Total Parliamentary Printing	11,744 8 1	655 6 3	1,159 4 6	13,558 18 10	1,419 6 4	14,978 5 2
Parliamentary Debates	3,455 9 8	804 9 0	.....	4,259 18 8	499 0 4	*4,758 19 0
Government Gazette	13,623 14 8	250 0 0	.....	13,873 14 8	2,651 6 6	16,525 1 2
JOB PRINTING.						
No. II.—EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE:—						
2a Government House.....	68 7 6	19 17 6	.....	88 5 0	3 0 0	91 5 0
2b Executive Council	2 16 0	26 3 10	.....	28 19 10	2 17 10	31 17 8
2c Legislative Council	24 16 4	6 0 1	.....	30 16 5	4 17 3	35 13 8
2d Legislative Assembly	98 2 1	17 14 9	.....	115 16 10	6 8 11	122 5 9
2e Legislative Council and Assembly	28 19 0	0 13 6	.....	29 12 6	0 12 8	30 5 2
2f Parliamentary Library	129 4 6	7 14 10	.....	136 19 4	3 8 6	140 7 10
2g Parliamentary Reporting Staff	6 9 6	7 5 0	.....	13 14 6	2 13 9	16 8 3
Total	358 14 11	85 9 6	.....	444 4 5	23 18 11	468 3 4
No. III.—COLONIAL SECRETARY:—						
3a Colonial Secretary	419 13 2	204 10 10	382 17 6	1,007 1 6	89 17 7	1,096 19 1
3a* Protectorate of Aborigines.....	7 16 6	2 19 5	.....	10 15 11	1 10 9	12 6 8
3aa Vine Diseases Board	1 14 6	0 2 6	.....	1 17 0	0 3 9	2 0 9
3b Civil Service Board.....	4 4 6	6 8 6	.....	10 13 0	1 8 2	12 1 2
3bb Government Statistician.....	804 10 1	361 16 4	.....	1,166 6 5	68 0 2	1,234 6 7
3c Military Forces	522 11 9	154 17 7	.....	677 9 4	105 2 8	782 12 0
3c* Naval Dépôt	22 19 6	3 15 3	.....	26 14 9	2 3 2	28 17 11
3d Naval Brigade.....	3 0 0	0 7 6	.....	3 7 6	0 11 8	3 19 2
3d* Naval Artillery Volunteers	7 10 6	5 11 9	.....	13 2 3	0 6 11	13 9 2
3e Police { Police Department	123 5 0	137 19 11	.....	261 4 11	105 2 8	366 7 7
{ Police Gazette	499 16 0	.....	.....	499 16 0	26 4 2	526 0 2
3e* Fire Brigades Board	2 11 6	0 2 0	.....	2 13 6	0 3 5	2 16 11
3g Lunacy	18 7 6	17 10 0	.....	35 17 6	5 6 0	41 3 6
3h Master in Lunacy	16 3 6	9 11 10	.....	25 15 4	4 16 8	30 12 0
3i Medical Board.....	4 8 6	9 9 0	.....	13 17 6	1 2 0	14 19 6
3k Medical Adviser, Vaccination, Medical Officers, &c.	8 13 6	3 1 11	.....	11 15 5	3 2 2	14 17 7
3l Department of Audit.....	88 7 6	125 6 7	.....	213 14 1	49 7 3	263 1 4
3m Registrar-General	102 19 11	114 10 10	.....	217 10 9	222 15 10	440 6 7
3n Do Land Titles Branch	142 8 9	120 17 9	.....	263 6 6	313 15 9	577 2 3
3o Immigration Agent.....	2 16 6	2 6 0	.....	5 2 6	0 12 9	5 15 3
3p City of Sydney Improvement Board	1 5 0	.....	.....	1 5 0	.....	1 5 0
3q Inspector of Public Charities.....	1 16 6	0 4 0	.....	2 0 6	0 16 9	2 17 3
3r State Children's Relief Department.....	75 1 8	53 13 5	.....	128 15 1	29 11 7	158 6 8
3s Asylums for Infirm and Destitute	45 1 3	41 8 1	.....	86 9 4	24 12 4	111 1 8
3t Fisheries Commission.....	27 18 3	3 13 0	30 9 0	62 0 3	4 1 4	66 1 7
3u Botanical Gardens	1 9 6	0 18 0	.....	2 7 6	0 5 3	2 12 9
3w Returning Officers	10 10 3	0 2 6	.....	10 12 9	0 8 2	11 0 11
3x Rifle Association	90 15 0	72 19 0	.....	163 14 0	8 17 6	172 11 6
3y Electoral Lists.....	5,117 13 9	79 19 6	.....	5,197 13 3	35 19 9	5,233 13 0
3z Electoral Rolls	2,664 1 6	18 13 6	.....	2,682 15 0	93 4 7	2,775 19 7
Total	10,839 11 4	1,552 16 6	413 6 6	12,805 14 4	1,199 10 9	14,005 5 1

* Includes £30 11s. 2d. for printing separate copies of the speeches of several Members in important debates.

RETURN of Value of Work performed for each Department of the Public Service, &c.—*continued.*

Department for which the work was performed.	Estimated Value of Letter-press & Lithographic Printing.	Estimated Value of Bookbinding, &c.	Photo-lithography, Photography, &c.	Total Value of Work performed.	Cost of Paper and Parchment.	Total Value.
No. IV.—TREASURER AND SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE:—						
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
4a The Treasury	1,602 3 3	646 5 5	79 10 6	2,327 19 2	261 11 1	2,589 10 3
4b Stamp Duties	124 2 3	41 15 3	.....	165 17 6	49 12 5	215 9 11
4c Customs	352 19 9	342 19 5	.....	695 19 2	184 19 4	880 18 6
4e Colonial Distilleries and Refineries	11 0 0	3 15 5	.....	14 15 5	1 18 3	16 13 8
4f Government Printer's Department	441 11 8	158 17 10	.....	600 9 6	207 19 7	808 9 1
4g Pamphlets and Forms for Stock	1,954 9 9	1,365 16 8	.....	3,320 6 5	1,778 12 2	5,098 18 7
4i Stores and Stationery.....	76 15 9	95 5 1	.....	172 0 10	408 14 3	580 15 1
4m Ordnance and Barrack Department	39 14 9	18 13 3	.....	58 8 0	8 19 3	67 7 3
4n Board of Health	28 1 9	66 19 8	.....	95 1 5	10 0 7	105 2 0
4o Board of Pharmacy.....	1 3 6	4 3 0	.....	5 6 6	0 0 9	5 7 3
4p Shipping Masters	47 19 9	25 14 3	.....	73 14 0	28 15 4	102 9 4
4q Glebe Island Abattoirs	0 11 6	.....	.....	0 11 6	0 0 9	0 12 3
4r Marine Board	284 6 6	31 3 9	.....	315 10 3	42 3 4	357 13 7
4s Branch Royal Mint	18 13 0	27 2 10	.....	45 15 10	9 7 0	55 2 10
4t Quays and Wharves	15 1 6	19 17 0	.....	34 18 6	12 0 9	46 19 3
Total	4,998 14 8	2,848 8 10	79 10 6	7,926 14 0	3,004 14 10	10,931 8 10
No. V.—MINISTER OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION:—						
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
5a Public Instruction	830 18 2	393 4 2	7 19 6	1,232 1 10	436 17 6	1,668 19 4
5b Industrial Schools	12 1 0	5 15 8	.....	17 16 8	3 19 2	21 15 10
5d Observatory	426 10 1	31 17 2	15 0 0	473 7 3	47 17 2	521 4 5
5e Museum	70 13 6	8 1 8	207 0 0	285 15 2	12 10 2	298 5 4
5e* Australian Technological Museum.....	8 2 0	7 12 0	.....	15 14 0	2 10 3	18 4 3
5f Free Public Library	61 2 9	117 18 10	.....	179 1 7	24 6 4	203 7 11
5g Church and School Lands	8 1 0	6 2 0	.....	14 3 0	3 4 1	17 7 1
5h* Geographical Society	67 13 9	12 6 6	.....	80 0 3	14 16 11	94 17 2
5i Technical Education	55 16 0	3 1 3	.....	58 17 3	7 4 4	66 1 7
Total	1,540 18 3	585 19 3	229 19 6	2,356 17 0	553 5 11	2,910 2 11
No. VI.—MINISTER OF JUSTICE:—						
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
6a Department of Justice	111 11 1	141 15 4	.....	253 6 5	13 17 10	267 4 3
6a* Patents Office	38 2 3	143 15 3	.....	181 17 6	71 18 9	253 16 3
6b Master in Equity's Department	11 18 6	11 14 3	.....	23 12 9	5 2 5	28 15 2
6c Prothonotary	113 19 6	130 1 9	.....	244 1 3	16 13 3	260 14 6
6c* Curator of Intestate Estates.....	11 17 6	12 16 8	.....	24 14 2	7 6 5	32 0 7
6d Sheriff	57 15 10	67 4 11	.....	125 0 9	25 15 0	150 15 9
6e Bankruptcy Court	91 9 0	68 6 7	.....	159 15 7	67 17 7	227 13 2
6f District Courts.....	9 18 6	23 17 10	.....	33 16 4	7 0 8	40 17 0
6g Coroners' Inquests	3 19 0	18 14 2	.....	22 13 2	4 4 6	26 17 8
6h Petty Sessions	7 4 9	32 4 4	.....	39 9 1	1 11 6	41 0 7
6i Central Police Office	28 17 6	28 18 0	.....	57 15 6	7 0 4	64 15 10
6k Water Police Office.....	41 13 0	38 0 2	.....	79 13 2	11 18 0	91 11 2
6l Prisons	29 15 11	14 18 3	.....	44 14 2	9 19 2	54 13 4
6m Darlinghurst Gaol	30 6 6	131 5 5	.....	161 11 11	26 11 10	188 3 9
6n Shaftsbury Reformatory for Girls	0 7 0	0 5 0	.....	0 12 0	0 1 0	0 13 0
6o Registrar of Copyright	5 15 0	2 8 2	.....	8 3 2	2 15 8	10 18 10
Total	594 10 10	866 6 1	.....	1,460 16 11	279 13 11	1,740 10 10
No. VII.—THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL:—						
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
7a The Attorney-General	8 11 6	64 18 0	.....	73 9 6	1 7 3	74 16 9
7b Parliamentary Draftsman	0 12 0	3 7 7	.....	3 19 7	0 14 10	4 14 5
7c Crown Solicitor	80 7 0	17 7 0	.....	97 14 0	12 6 11	110 0 11
7d Clerk of the Peace	6 6 6	23 10 2	.....	29 16 8	2 2 10	31 19 6
7e Registrar of Friendly Societies	13 17 0	2 15 0	.....	16 12 0	2 16 9	19 8 9
Total	109 14 0	111 17 9	.....	221 11 9	19 8 7	241 0 4
No. VIII.—SECRETARY FOR LANDS:—						
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
8a Department of Lands	725 13 5	755 4 4	1,520 7 6	3,001 5 3	496 3 10	3,497 9 1
Total	725 13 5	755 4 4	1,520 7 6	3,001 5 3	496 3 10	3,497 9 1
No. IX.—SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS:—						
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
9a Department of Public Works	89 9 3	47 9 10	.....	136 19 1	10 7 8	147 6 9
9a* Water Supply and Sewerage	254 4 9	130 15 2	.....	384 19 11	53 2 4	438 2 3
9aa Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works	5 15 6	16 14 0	.....	22 9 6	0 6 8	22 16 2
9b Railways	4,979 19 10	1,912 16 10	119 16 6	7,012 13 2	2,681 5 2	9,693 18 4
9b* Tramways	551 10 9	94 12 4	1 15 0	647 18 1	210 8 2	858 6 3
9c Harbours and Rivers Navigation	347 19 6	146 13 3	46 7 6	541 0 3	45 12 4	586 12 7
9d Colonial Architect's Department	59 4 6	23 11 3	24 8 0	107 3 9	10 9 11	117 13 8
9e Roads and Bridges	484 14 0	68 1 9	28 0 0	580 15 9	67 16 4	647 12 1
9f Land Valuer.....	0 18 0	18 9 3	.....	19 7 3	3 14 5	23 1 8
Total	6,723 16 1	2,459 3 8	220 7 0	9,403 6 9	3,083 3 0	12,486 9 9

RETURN of Value of Work performed for each Department of the Public Service, &c.—*continued.*

Department for which the work was performed.	Estimated Value of Letter-press & Lithographic Printing.	Estimated Value of Bookbinding, &c.	Photo-lithography, Photography, &c.	Total Value of Work performed.	Cost of Paper and Parchment.	Total Value.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
No. X.—THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL:—						
10a The General Post Office	6,880 19 6	688 11 6	9 15 0	7,579 6 0	1,974 7 8	9,553 13 8
10b Money Order and Government Savings Bank Department	598 7 6	378 2 11	.....	976 10 5	521 13 9	1,498 4 2
10c Electric Telegraphs	749 12 3	684 14 5	.....	1,434 6 8	1,429 5 0	2,863 11 8
Total	8,228 19 3	1,751 8 10	9 15 0	9,990 3 1	3,925 6 5	13,915 9 6
No. XI.—SECRETARY FOR MINES:—						
11a Department of Mines	622 9 7	295 18 0	138 0 6	1,056 8 1	228 17 9	1,285 5 10
11b Forest Conservancy Branch .....	.....	0 5 2	.....	0 5 2	.....	0 5 2
11c Stock Branch	538 7 6	37 16 2	.....	576 3 8	27 8 5	603 12 1
11d Rabbit Branch	0 7 0	0 15 0	.....	1 2 0	0 0 5	1 2 5
11e Public Watering-places Branch	140 19 6	11 13 4	.....	152 12 10	3 9 9	156 2 7
Total	1,302 3 7	346 7 8	138 0 6	1,786 11 9	259 16 4	2,046 8 1
No. XII.—MISCELLANEOUS:—						
12a Miscellaneous	393 9 6	484 7 8	584 17 6	1,462 14 8	71 19 2	1,534 13 10
12b Public Service Inquiry Commission	35 13 0	3 9 0	.....	39 2 0	3 3 6	42 5 6
12c United Religious Celebration	31 10 2	4 8 0	.....	35 18 2	9 4 0	45 2 2
12d Postal Conference	27 8 3	0 11 6	.....	27 19 9	0 6 0	28 5 9
12e Exhibition of Women's Industries	163 5 0	68 11 4	.....	231 16 4	41 19 0	273 15 4
12f Tanks and Wells Commission	0 15 6	1 11 0	.....	2 6 6	.....	2 6 6
12g Adelaide Jubilee International Exhibition Commission	4 10 3	.....	.....	4 10 3	1 17 4	6 7 7
12h Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition Commission	488 4 6	118 7 4	134 2 0	740 13 10	87 15 9	828 9 7
12i Casual Labour Board	8 19 0	1 14 7	.....	10 13 7	3 3 3	13 16 10
12k Centennial Celebration Commission	71 15 9	19 12 8	.....	91 8 5	14 2 3	105 10 8
12l Water and Sewerage Transfer Account	146 17 0	410 8 9	.....	557 5 9	82 18 10	640 4 7
12m Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Extermination of Rabbits	4 12 6	0 8 0	.....	5 0 6	0 2 5	5 2 11
Total	1,377 0 5	1,113 9 10	718 19 6	3,209 9 9	316 11 6	3,526 1 3
Paper used by Binder and for Proofs .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	281 1 9	281 1 9
Separate Slips of Gazette Notices for Departmental use	667 19 0	.....	.....	667 19 0	*.....	667 19 0
Total	667 19 0	.....	.....	667 19 0	281 1 9	949 0 9
Total Job Printing	37,467 15 9	12,476 12 3	3,330 6 0	53,274 14 0	13,442 15 9	66,717 9 9

SUMMARY.

Parliamentary Printing	{ Legislative Council	3,136 14 2	301 14 0	121 0 6	3,559 8 8	326 13 4	3,886 2 0
	{ Legislative Assembly	8,607 13 11	353 12 3	1,038 4 0	9,999 10 2	1,092 13 0	11,092 3 2
Parliamentary Debates		3,455 9 8	804 9 0	.....	4,259 18 8	499 0 4	4,758 19 0
Government Gazette		13,623 14 8	250 0 0	.....	13,873 14 8	2,651 6 6	16,525 1 2
Job Printing for the Public Departments		37,467 15 9	12,476 12 3	3,330 6 0	53,274 14 0	13,442 15 9	66,717 9 9
Stereotyping, Electrotyping, Engraving, Repairs to Machinery, Type-founding, &c., and Clerical Work		9,266 3 9	.....	.....	9,266 3 9	.....	9,266 3 9
Total		75,557 11 11	14,186 7 6	4,489 10 6	94,233 9 11	18,012 8 11	112,245 18 10

* The cost of paper for Gazette slips is placed against each Department for which the work was done.

† In this amount is included 50 per cent. for incidental expenses, viz.:—
Superintendence, including Accounts, 10 per cent.; Reading, 10 per cent.; Publishing, 10 per cent.; Correcting Authors' Proofs, 15 per cent.; Wear and tear, and interest on capital invested, 5 per cent.

(II.)

STATEMENT showing the Title, Number of Copies, and total Cost of each Book and Pamphlet published at the Government Printing Office during the year ended 31st December, 1888.

Title.	Books : Number of Copies.	Pamphlets : Number of Copies.	Total Number of Copies.	Total Cost.
Time-tables and Fares, Great Southern, Western, Richmond, and Northern Lines, from 12th March, 1888, with Diagrams		9,900	9,900	£ s. d. 136 13 9
Do do do 3rd June, 1888, with Diagrams		12,600	12,600	189 8 0
Do do do 3rd October, 1888, do		10,250	10,250	183 8 6
Working Time-tables of Passenger, Live Stock, Goods, and Mineral Trains, Great Southern and Western Railways, from 13th February, 1888		5,200	5,200	111 18 6
Do do do 12th March, 1888		4,000	4,000	93 5 9
Do do do 3rd June, 1888		4,000	4,000	98 6 6
Do do do 3rd October, 1888		5,000	5,000	111 3 0
Do do do 1st January, 1889		5,000	5,000	102 10 9
Appendix to Working Time-table, Great Southern and Western Railways, 3rd October, 1888		5,000	5,000	78 6 8
Working Time-tables of Passenger, Goods, Live Stock, and Mineral Trains, Great Northern, North-Western, Morpeth, Wallsend, and Newcastle-Sydney Lines, from 12th March, 1888		2,000	2,000	37 8 2
Do do do 2nd December, 1888		2,500	2,500	38 19 3
Coaching Rates for Great Southern, Western, and Northern Lines and Branches, 15th May, 1887		250	250	2 18 11
Merchandise Rates for Great Southern, Western, and Richmond, and Great Northern Lines, October, 1887		4,050	4,050	31 3 4
Do do do February, 1888		1,550	1,550	14 12 11
Do do do 1st July, 1888		3,050	3,050	88 15 0
New South Wales Railways Ambulance Handbook. Copiously illustrated. Accidents and their treatment, aids in cases of injuries, sudden illness, &c., &c. Enlarged edition issued by the Commissioner for Railways. Compiled by G. P. M. Woodward, M.D., F.R.C.S.L., Railway Medical Board	2,040		2,040	163 0 2
Railway Department—Officers classified under Civil Service Act.....		50	50	82 9 9
List of Hotels, Boarding-houses, &c., at or near Railway Stations—Southern and Western Lines		875	875	9 2 9
Amended Rules and Regulations of the New South Wales Railways Ambulance Corps		5,000	5,000	71 6 6
Rules and Regulations for Conveying Passengers' Luggage on the New South Wales Government Railways		300	300	1 14 6
Rules for the Management of Technical Schools and Libraries in connection with the Locomotive Engine-drivers', Firemen's, and Cleaners' Association, New South Wales		1,050	1,050	1 10 4
Government Tramways—Time-tables and Fares, from 21st January, 1888		10,500	10,500	33 4 9
Do do do 13th February, 1888		6,400	6,400	23 19 2
Do do do 21st March, 1888		6,300	6,300	10 16 6
Do do do 5th June, 1888		6,300	6,300	23 14 9
Do do do 9th July, 1888		12,600	12,600	22 7 2
Do do do 7th September, 1888		6,300	6,300	23 10 8
Do do do 3rd October, 1888		3,150	3,150	6 5 9
Do do do 1st December, 1888		5,250	5,250	21 6 0
Do do do Service Time-tables—City Lines		1,900	1,900	139 9 2
Do do do Botany Line		800	800	4 5 8
Do do do Redfern Line		2,450	2,450	22 18 1
Do do do Leichhardt Line		900	900	6 7 11
Do do do North Shore Line		50	50	5 19 11
Do do do		200	200	1 9 0
Aliens' Act		1,000	1,000	0 16 5
Criminal Law Amendment Act		300	300	7 10 9
Distress and Replevin Act		500	500	5 17 0
Wharfage and Tonnage Rates Act.....		1,000	1,000	4 4 4
Poisons Act				
Towns Police Act; Dog Act; Hospitals Act; Dairies Supervision Act; Fire Brigades Act; Nuisances Prevention Act.....		24	24	9 13 6
Careless Use of Fire Prevention Act.....		200	200	0 15 5
Companies Act		500	500	28 17 2
Small Debts Recovery Act		500	500	9 12 10
Common Law Procedure Act.....		200	200	19 0 3
Beer Duty Act		750	750	3 4 4
Trade Marks Act		250	250	3 12 7
Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act.....		750	750	17 9 4
Coroners Inquests concerning Fires Act		250	250	0 10 3
Oyster Fisheries Act		150	150	6 14 0
Dairies Supervision Act		1,000	1,000	9 18 4
No Liability Mining Companies Act.....		200	200	1 8 3
Contractors' Debts Act		200	200	2 4 8
Riots Act		150	150	1 6 4
Married Women's Property Act		250	250	0 10 8
Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act Amendment		250	250	0 10 3
Patents Statutes of New South Wales and Regulations thereunder		2,000	2,000	8 9 1
Mining Act (37 Vic. No. 13); also Amending Acts (43 Vic. No. 28; 46 Vic. No. 7; 48 Vic. No. 10; and 48 Vic. No. 17); with Regulations thereunder. Seventh edition.....		2,000	2,000	81 4 6
The Stamp Duties Act (44 Vic. No. 3); Stamp Duties Act Amendment of 1886 (50 Vic. No. 10) and Regulations		500	500	18 18 9
Prisons Acts, Punishment Statutes and Reformatory Schools Act, with Regulations thereunder and Extracts from 46 Vic. No. 17		300	300	26 0 6
The Rabbit Nuisance Act of 1883 (46 Vic. No. 14) with Regulations, Appointments, Circular to Owners, and Lists of Stations of Inspectors. Revised edition.....		300	300	11 11 3
The Copyright Act, 1879 (42 Vic. No. 20), together with an Index to the Act and the Regulations thereunder; also, the International Copyright Act, 1886 (49 and 50 Vic. chapter 33)		250	250	23 6 0
Diseases in Sheep Act of 1866 (30 Vic. No. 16); Diseases in Sheep Acts Amendment Act of 1878 (41 Vic. No. 19), and Diseases in Sheep Acts Amendment Act of 1882 (46 Vic. No. 5), with Regulations thereunder.....		500	500	23 16 4

STATEMENT showing the Title, Number of Copies, and total Cost of each Book and Pamphlet, &c.—*continued.*

Title.	Books: Number of Copies.	Pamphlets: Number of Copies.	Total Number of Copies.	Total Cost.
The State Children's Relief Act of 1881, with Regulations made by the Governor and Executive Council		2,500	2,500	£ s. d. 16 14 2
Bankruptcy Act, 1887 (51 Vic. No. 19). Sections and General Rules made pursuant to section 119 of the Act, relating to the inspection or management of the Accounts or in other ways concerning the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer or the Officers of the Treasury Department		37	37	4 3 2
The Crown Lands Act of 1884—Report of cases heard before the Court of Appeal, 1887. Vol. 1, Part VII		250	250	13 19 5
Do do do 1888. Vol. 1, Part VIII		300	300	25 2 2
Do do do 1888. Vol. 2, Part X		400	400	14 13 9
Regulations under Crown Lands Act of 1884		500	500	1 12 5
Regulations relating to Mining Leases under the Mining Act Further Amendment Act of 1884		200	200	1 5 4
Do do (Published in the <i>Government Gazette</i> of the 2nd May, 1888)		1,500	1,500	1 18 5
The Law and Practice of New South Wales Letters Patent for Inventions and Improvements in the Arts and Manufactures. By A. G. Taylor, Examiner of Patents, New South Wales	1,012	2,000	3,012	107 8 9
General Rules under the Bankruptcy Act of 1887		1,000	1,000	8 3 3
Notes of a Model showing one Form of Serpentine Progression. By Lawrence Hargrave With Diagram		100	100	3 5 0
Transactions and Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia, New South Wales Branch. Vols. III and IV. 1st January, 1885, to 31st December, 1886. With Map		1,300	1,300	94 19 8
Emin Bey and his Surroundings. By Sir Alfred Strickland, K.C.B., F.R.S., President of Royal Geographical Society of Australasia		100	100	2 11 6
Results of Meteorological Observations made in New South Wales during 1886, under the direction of H. C. Russell, B.A., F.R.S., Government Astronomer of New South Wales. With Diagrams, &c.		900	900	279 4 5
Department of Mines—Memoirs of the Geological Survey of New South Wales. C. S. Wilkinson, F.G.S., &c., Geological Surveyor-in-Charge. Palæontology No. 1. The Invertebrate Fauna of the Hawkesbury-Wianamatta Series (Beds above the productive Coal Measures) of New South Wales; by Robert Etheridge, jun., Palæontologist to the Geological Survey, Department of Mines, and the Australian Museum, Sydney. Issued by direction of the Hon. Francis Abigail, M.P., Minister for Mines. With Plates		600	600	24 0 3
Department of Mines—Memoirs of the Geological Survey of New South Wales. C. S. Wilkinson, F.G.S., &c., Geological Surveyor-in-Charge. Palæontology No. 2. R. Etheridge, jun., Palæontologist. Contributions to the Tertiary Flora of Australia; by Dr. Constantin Baron Von Ettingshausen (Corr. Member Imp. Acad. Sciences, Vienna), Professor of Botany, University of Graz, Austria. Issued by direction of the Hon. Francis Abigail, M.P., Minister for Mines. With Plates	600		600	111 5 11
Department of Mines, Sydney—Mineral Products of New South Wales; by Harrie Wood, Under Secretary for Mines. Notes on the Geology of New South Wales, by C. S. Wilkinson, Local Surveyor-in-Charge. And Description of the Seams of Coal worked in New South Wales; by John Mackenzie, F.G.S., Examiner of Coal-fields. With Plates, &c.	700		700	369 15 4
Extracts relating to the History of, and best known methods to be adopted for the prevention and extermination of the Hessian Fly. Published for the information of the Farmers of New South Wales. By the direction of the Hon. F. Abigail, Minister for Mines. With Diagrams		550	550	6 0 3
Extracts from Reports by W. S. Campbell on certain Agricultural Districts of New South Wales		550	550	17 12 0
A Report to the President of the Board of Health, containing Photographs of a Person suffering from Variola Discreta, and an account of the case; to which is added a Clinical Report and Diagnosis of the Five Cases with which the Outbreak of Small-pox of 1885 began. By J. Ashburton Thompson, M.D. (Brux.), San. Sci. Cert. (Camb.), Medical Inspector under the Board	150		150	70 18 3
Report of a Contagious Animal Skin Disease, Prurigo, with directions for its treatment. By Edward Stanley, Esq., F.R.C.V.S., Government Veterinarian, New South Wales; together with suggestions by the Chief Inspector of Stock		300	300	1 18 8
Euphorbia Drummondii (commonly known as Milk-weed). Report by Edward Stanley, Government Veterinarian, New South Wales, on the Australian Weed, Euphorbia Drummondii, with results of Experiments therewith in the Urana District and at Randwick		250	250	5 12 0
Grammar and Vocabulary of Language spoken by Motu Tribe (New Guinea). By Rev. W. G. Lawes, F.R.G.S. With Introduction by the Rev. George Pratt. Second and Revised Edition	500		500	97 12 3
Mr. Theodore F. Bevan's Fifth Expedition to British New Guinea. With Map and Illustrations	150		150	64 19 5
Anthrax Demonstration. With Diagram		250	250	1 12 11
Centenary of New South Wales—Service of Song for Grand United Sunday School Demonstration in Agricultural Society's Ground, on Saturday, 4th February, 1888		20,000	20,000	14 3 8
Centenary of New South Wales—Order of Service at the United Religious Celebration in the Exhibition Building, Prince Alfred Park, on Sunday, 29th January, 1888, at 3 p.m.		10,000	10,000	9 19 1
Centenary of New South Wales—Hymns and Music to be used at the United Religious Celebration in the Exhibition Building, Prince Alfred Park, on Sunday, 29th January, 1888, at 3 p.m.		600	600	8 18 0
Centenary of New South Wales—Order of Service at the United Religious Celebration in the School of Arts, Ashfield, on Sunday, 29th January, 1888, at 3 p.m.		1,000	1,000	1 12 6
A Centennial Ode (an Impromptu), in Commemoration of the Completion of the First Hundred Years' Settlement in New South Wales. By Henry Halloran, C.M.G.		2,000	2,000	7 9 6
Memorials of the Celebration of the Australasian Centenary in New South Wales. By J. Sheridan Moore		4	4	20 11 6
Centennial International Exhibition, Melbourne, 1888. Register of Applications for Space		20	20	26 14 7
Centennial International Exhibition, Melbourne, 1888. List of Commissioners for New South Wales. Regulations and General Classification		500	500	11 13 2
New South Wales Commission for the Melbourne Centennial Exhibition. Mr. Rae's Sketches of Colonial Scenes in the Olden Time		1,000	1,000	2 10 3

STATEMENT showing the Title, Number of Copies, and total Cost of each Book and Pamphlet, &c.—*continued.*

Title.	Books: Number of Copies.	Pamphlets: Number of Copies.	Total Number of Copies.	Total Cost.
Centennial International Exhibition, Melbourne, 1888. Catalogue of Printing, Book-binding, Photography, &c, Exhibited by Charles Potter, Government Printer, New South Wales		300	300	£ s. d. 4 14 7
New South Wales—Official Catalogue of Exhibits from the Colony forwarded to the Centennial International Exhibition, Melbourne, 1888		5,000	5,000	77 16 8
Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition, 1888—New South Wales Mineral Court Descriptive Catalogue of Exhibits of Metals, Minerals, Fossils, and Timbers (Government and Private). Prepared and arranged on behalf of the New South Wales Commission, by direction of the Hon. Francis Abigail, Minister for Mines, Sydney		1,025	1,025	63 8 6
Ways and Means: The Financial Statement of the Hon. J. F. Burns, Colonial Treasurer of New South Wales. Made 1st December, 1887		62	62	47 0 11
The Supplementary Financial Statement of the Hon. J. F. Burns, Colonial Treasurer of New South Wales. Made 17th July, 1888		100	100	32 13 6
Financial Statement of the Hon. J. F. Burns, Colonial Treasurer of New South Wales. Made 31st October, 1888		137	137	39 0 2
Report of the Minister of Public Instruction upon the Condition of Public Schools established and maintained under the Public Instruction Act of 1880, for the year 1887.	400	....	400	64 18 11
State Children's Relief Department: Report of the President, the Hon. Arthur Renwick, M.L.C., B.A., M.D., F.R.C.S.E., &c, &c., for the year ending 5th April, 1888		1,200	1,200	6 3 5
Colony of Australia: Views of Sir Alfred Stephen and Sir John Robertson		100	100	0 11 4
History and Constitution of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George New South Wales. Her Commerce and Resources. By G. W. Griffin, United States Consul at Sydney; author of "My Danish Days," "Studies in Literature," "Memoir of C. S. Todd," "New Zealand: Her Commerce and Resources," &c., &c. With Map	2,000	....	2,000	434 0 7
The Wealth and Progress of New South Wales, 1886-87. By T. A. Coghlan, A.M., Inst. C.E., Government Statistician. With Maps and Tables	5,000	....	5,000	791 5 4
Handbook of New South Wales Statistics for 1887 and previous years, being an abridgment of the tables contained in the Statistical Register. By T. A. Coghlan, A.M., Inst. C.E., Government Statistician		1,000	1,000	339 16 0
Report on the Vital Statistics of Sydney and Suburbs for the year 1887. By T. A. Coghlan, A.M., Inst. C.E., Government Statistician		600	600	31 11 9
Particulars of Customs Receipts. Collections for the year 1887, showing the Amounts received under each Article subject to duty; also, the Amount paid for Drawback and Refund of Duties during the year		300	300	14 12 6
Customs Handbook. Revised and corrected to 1st October, 1888		700	700	71 7 9
Catalogue of Books added to the Parliamentary Library during the Quarter ended 31st March, 1888		250	250	4 15 3
Catalogue of Books added to the Parliamentary Library during the Quarter ended 30th June, 1888		250	250	3 9 0
Catalogue of Books added to the Parliamentary Library to 31st December, 1887		250	250	2 13 11
Inventory for 1869-84 with Supplement for 1885-87. Class F Jurisprudence		125	125	31 16 10
Catalogue. Class J. Miscellaneous Literature and Collected Works.....		125	125	45 14 7
List of Scientific Serials and Club Publications, &c, in the Collection of the Free Public Library, Sydney, 1888		50	50	2 17 10
Supplementary Catalogue, Lending Branch, Free Public Library, June, 1887	25	1,500	1,525	40 4 9
1887. Books in the Library of the Hospital for the Insane, Parramatta		50	50	10 15 3
Catalogue of Mining Maps in the Department of Mines, Sydney, New South Wales 1st January, 1888		150	150	23 14 4
List of Pastoral Leases showing the dates upon which the rents are payable		600	600	33 16 4
Catalogue of Overtime Goods, Seizures, &c., to be sold at the Overtime Sale to be held in the Queen's Warehouse on the 30th May, 1888		300	300	8 8 3
Catalogue of Overtime Goods, Seizures, &c., to be sold at the Overtime Sale to be held in the Queen's Warehouse on the 6th December, 1888		300	300	3 10 2
Inventory of Stores left on board H.M. Schooner "HARRIER," to be sold with the vessel by Public Auction in April, 1888		50	50	2 18 8
Inventory of Stores to be sold with Steam Cutter, 21 ft., No. 131, by Public Auction in April, 1888		50	50	0 15 8
Inventory of Stores to be sold with H.M. Schooner "Undine," by Public Auction, April, 1888		50	50	3 0 1
Inventory of Stores to be sold with Steam Cutter, 21 ft., No. 130, by Public Auction, April, 1888		50	50	1 10 4
Catalogue of Cordage, Canvas, Mess Traps, Casks, Provisions, Clothing, and Sundries, to be sold at H.M. Naval Depot, Circular Quay, on Friday, 8th June, 1888		50	50	2 18 3
List of Printed Public Documents on sale at the Government Printing Office, Sydney		2,000	2,000	28 2 3
List of Forms in Stock at the Government Printing Office, 1888		2,000	2,000	18 0 0
Rules and Catalogue of the Garrison Library, Sydney, New South Wales, corrected to 31st March, 1888		200	200	48 18 0
Borough of Hunter's Hill By-laws		300	300	4 17 9
Borough of Shellharbour do		100	100	2 16 7
By-laws of the Municipality of Tumut.....		300	300	2 10 0
Board of Water Supply and Sewerage. Metropolitan Water By-laws		20	20	6 17 9
Do do		100	100	7 3 7
Do do		500	500	6 3 0
Do Water Service. Plumbers' Regulations		25	25	1 19 9
Do do		500	500	2 8 4
Rules of Practice and Procedure for the Conduct of Business in the Court of Petty Sessions at Wollongong		12	12	1 15 8
Regulations for the Issue of Certificates of Naturalization under 39th Victoria No. 19... ..		250	250	1 18 11
Marine Board of New South Wales. Regulations relating to the Examination of Masters, Mates, Engineers, &c, in the Mercantile Marine. With Appendices and Code of Signals		350	350	34 6 9
Laws and Regulations to be observed in the Harbour of Port Jackson, New South Wales. With Diagram		2,300	2,300	56 1 3
Laws and Regulations to be observed in the Harbour of Newcastle, New South Wales. With Diagram		2,000	2,000	44 15 11
Mining Regulations (Mining Board), New South Wales		1,000	1,000	21 3 0
Rules and Regulations under which the Fire Brigades Board will register or subsidize Volunteer Fire Companies		250	250	2 7 2
Instructions to Quarantine Keepers		100	100	3 3 5

STATEMENT showing the Title, Number of Copies, and total Cost of each Book and Pamphlet, &c.—*continued.*

Title	Books: Number of Copies.	Pamphlets: Number of Copies.	Total Number of Copies.	Total Cost.
Sessional Orders of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales (Thirteenth Parliament, Third Session).....		25	25	£ s. d. 1 13 8
Postal Guide. No. 184. January, 1888.....		2,814	2,814	321 19 0
Do No. 185. April, 1888.....		2,750	2,750	328 6 9
Do No. 186. July, 1888.....		3,000	3,000	330 3 1
Do No. 187. October, 1888.....		3,000	3,000	337 5 3
Special Supplementary Issue of Postal Guide for January, 1888.....		2,812	2,812	117 7 11
English Mails—Time-tables <i>via</i> Suez, Colombo, San Francisco, Marseilles, and Torres Straits.....		50	50	3 9 8
Time-table for Contract Mail Service between Sydney and New Hebrides; also, furnishing Dates for calling at Noumea and Fiji when it suits the Contractors.....		262	262	1 12 1
Time-table for Contract Mail Service to the New Hebrides <i>via</i> Fiji and New Caledonia.....		500	500	1 6 6
Private Letter-box List, 1888.....		200	200	7 14 6
Despatch Book showing circulation of Correspondence from General Post Office, Sydney.....		50	50	13 7 0
Tables showing the interchange of Mails, one Post Office with another.....		1,514	1,514	28 19 0
Sydney Government Telephone Exchange. List of Subscribers.....		1,100	1,100	19 17 0
Do do do do October, 1888.....		1,500	1,500	25 1 6
Do do do do do do Supplementary List. March, 1888.....		1,250	1,250	22 17 1
Do do do do do do Supplementary List. April, 1888.....		1,100	1,100	0 19 11
Do do do do do do Supplementary List. July, 1888.....		1,100	1,100	1 16 9
Do do do do do do Supplementary List. September, 1888.....		1,200	1,200	1 0 8
Do do do do do do Supplementary List. December, 1888.....		1,200	1,200	1 15 6
General Orders, 1st January, 1888.....		1,500	1,500	3 16 11
Do 1st April, 1888.....		1,500	1,500	1 18 6
Do 1st July, 1888.....		1,500	1,500	5 11 6
Do 1st October, 1888.....		1,500	1,500	1 18 7
Index to Printed Series of General Orders for 1887.....		1,500	1,500	2 11 3
General Order, No. 43. Programme of Parades (Partially-paid Corps) for the June Quarter of the year 1888.....		3,100	3,100	12 1 3
Do No. 99. do do September Quarter, 1888.....		3,100	3,100	13 3 7
Do No. 168. do do December do 1888.....		3,100	3,100	13 10 11
Do No. 238. do do March do 1889.....		4,000	4,000	14 12 6
Do No. 48. Programme of Drills (Reserve Corps) June do 1888.....		2,500	2,500	11 14 9
Do No. 99. do do September do 1888.....		2,500	2,500	11 6 10
Do No. 168. do do December do 1888.....		2,000	2,000	9 17 3
Do No. 238. do do March do 1889.....		750	750	6 0 6
Definitions of Gunnery Terms and Duties, &c., of Numbers, at the Guns generally used by the Volunteer Artillery in New South Wales; also, Mounting and Dismounting Guns, Company Drill, &c., &c.....		1,000	1,000	39 7 4
The New South Wales Military Force, 1887, containing the names of Officers of the Military Forces of Her Majesty's Government in New South Wales. Corrected to 31st December, 1887.....		400	400	9 19 2
Notes on Armour and the Artillery Defence of a Coast Fortress. By Major W. St. P. Bunbury, Royal Artillery, Military Instructor, New South Wales. With Diagrams. Books I and II. A Catechism of Infantry Drill, compiled from the latest edition of the Field Exercise and Evolutions of Infantry, comprising Battalion and Brigade Drill, Infantry Outposts and Route Marching. Parts I, II, III, IV, V, and VI. By Warner M'Cutcheon, Lieutenant, 1st Regiment, Infantry. Revised edition.....	1,000		1,000	127 6 6
Scale of Camp Equipment, 1887. With two Plans.....		150	150	20 12 4
Hymns for Religious Services, Encampment, Military Forces, Easter Sunday, 1888.....		1,000	1,000	2 12 0
Continuous Training Military Forces, Church of England Services, Easter Sunday.....		2,000	2,000	3 9 3
5th Regiment Scottish Rifles, New South Wales—Regimental and Rifle Club Rules.....		500	500	3 13 8
Examination of Officers for Promotion—Syllabus. Officers of Permanent Artillery, New South Wales, 1888.....		100	100	2 5 6
Conditions framed for the Promotion of Reserve Rifle Companies.....		2,000	2,000	6 3 8
Trumpet and Bugle Sounds for the New South Wales Military Forces.....		200	200	5 4 11 0
1st Regiment New South Wales Volunteer Artillery—Rules for the Sergeants' Mess.....		100	100	0 18 6
Rules of the United Service Association of New South Wales.....		500	500	1 3 11
Do do do do do do.....		500	500	1 4 9
Report of the New South Wales Rifle Association for the year 1887 and Grand Centennial Matches.....		650	650	61 15 6
Report of the Proceedings of the New South Wales Rifle Association for the year 1887... Centennial Matches, 1888—New South Wales Rifle Association.....		250	250	2 2 9
New South Wales Rifle Association—Time-table, Prize Meeting, 1888.....	620		620	35 11 11
Do do Programme and Time-tables of the Matches for 1888.....		500	500	1 17 8
The Sheep Brands and Marks Directory of New South Wales for 1887.....		500	500	19 7 6
Description and Explanation of the System of Sheep Ear-marks in use in the Colony of New South Wales.....	712		712	431 16 1
In the Supreme Court of New South Wales—Judge's Notes. Hall and Others (Plaintiffs) <i>v.</i> Commissioner for Railways (Defendant).....		36	36	8 17 3
In the Supreme Court of New South Wales, No. 1 Jury Court—Thomas Slocombe and John Slocombe (Plaintiffs) <i>v.</i> the Municipal Council of Sydney (Defendants).....		16	16	14 5 0
In the Supreme Court of New South Wales—Judge's Notes. George Gordon (Plaintiff) <i>v.</i> the Hon. Thomas Garrett, sued as, &c. (Defendant).....		25	25	1 2 9
In the Supreme Court of New South Wales—James Keefe (Plaintiff) <i>v.</i> the Hon. W. J. Clarke (Defendant). Judge's Notes.....		25	25	1 9 9
Judges Notes—The Hon. William G. Markham (Plaintiff) and the Hon. Joseph Palmer Abbott (Defendant).....		37	37	12 18 3
Contract Prices for 1888.....		1,250	1,250	44 9 0
Prison Manufactures—Prices for 1888.....		200	200	4 2 0
Boundaries of the Police Districts of New South Wales.....	325		325	30 19 3
The Registration Stamp of New South Wales. By Andrew Houston, M.B., J.P., President of the Philatelic Society of Australia.....		310	310	2 16 11
Alphabetical Lists of Names and Addresses of the Members of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly, January, 1888.....		48	48	2 18 6
Do do do do do do February, 1888.....		123	123	0 17 3

STATEMENT showing the Title, Number of Copies, and total Cost of each Book and Pamphlet, &c.—*continued.*

Title.	Books: Number of Copies.	Pamphlets: Number of Copies.	Total Number of Copies.	Total Cost.
Alphabetical Lists of Names and Addresses of the Members of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly, March, 1888		48	48	£ s. d. 0 10 5
Do do do April, 1888		169	169	0 19 9
Do do do May, 1888		50	50	0 7 7
Do do do July, 1888		100	100	0 15 3
Do do do September, 1888		50	50	0 16 7
Do do do October, 1888		50	50	1 4 2
Do do do November, 1888		50	50	0 7 2
Names and Addresses of Officers and Employees, Government Printing Office, Sydney.....		12	12	3 10 9

STATEMENT showing the Title or Description of each collection of Photographs or Lithographs published at the Government Printing Office during the year ended 31st December, 1888, with the number of Copies and Total Cost of each set.

Title or Description.	Whether Photographs, Phototypes, Photo- lithographs, or Lithographs.	For what Department done.	No. of Plates.	No. of Copies of each Plate.	Total No. of Copies.	Total Cost.	Remarks.
						£ s. d.	
<i>Photo-lithographic Branch.</i>							
Parish Maps	Photo-lithographs...	Surveyor-General			329	822 10 0	
Do.	Photographs	do			261	97 17 6	
Sale Plans	Photo-lithographs...	do			286	600 0 0	
Plans	do	Colonial Architect			8	10 0 0	
Views	Photographs	do			28	13 18 0	
Plans	Photo-lithographs...	Observatory			21	15 0 0	
Do	do	Colonial Secretary			41	19 12 6	
Views	Photographs	do			291	26 7 6	
Do	do	Public Instruction			48	3 12 0	
Plans	Photo-lithographs...	do			9	4 7 6	
Do	do	Harbours and Rivers			20	46 7 6	
Do	do	Mines			110	84 2 6	
Views	Photographs	do			30	2 0 0	
Plans	Photo-lithographs...	Railways			141	138 10 6	
Do	do	Roads and Bridges			14	28 0 0	
Views	Photographs	Treasury			423	47 2 6	
Plans	Photo-lithographs...	Miscellaneous			21	17 15 0	
Views	Photographs	do			2,743	236 11 6	
<i>Photo-mechanical Branch.</i>							
Miscellaneous Collection	Photographs	Treasury			293	32 8 0	
Do	do	Colonial Secretary			305	34 5 6	
Do	Phototypes and Photographs	do	26	1	26	4 3 0	
Postage Stamp Designs	Photographs	General Post Office			6	2 15 0	
Reproduction (Dr. Drummond)	Phototype	Medical Board	1	200	200	2 10 0	
Jenolan Caves—Interiors	Photographs	Mines			160	23 8 0	
Various Eggs, &c.	Phototype	Museum	20	610	12200	194 0 0	
Photographing from Nature, and Printing Fish	Photographs	Fisheries Commission	38	2	76	30 9 0	
Departmental Exhibit	Phototypes and Photographs, &c.	Melbourne Centennial International Exhibition				120 15 0	
View to assist in preparing Exhibits	Photographs	do			128	14 2 0	
Various Photographs	do	Miscellaneous			173	23 11 0	
Negatives		do				30 0 0	

CHARLES POTTER,
Government Printer.

Government Printing Office,
Sydney, 25 July, 1889.

Sydney : Charles Potter, Government Printer.—1889.

[9d.]

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

(LETTING BY PUBLIC TENDER OF CERTAIN WORK EXECUTED AT.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 8 May, 1889.

Minute by The Government Printer to The Under Secretary for Finance and Trade.

Government Printing Office, Sydney, 8 May, 1889.

"7. MR. FRANK SMITH *to ask* THE COLONIAL TREASURER,—Is he favourable to letting by public tender "all printing work now executed at the Government Printing Office, excepting that required for the "purposes of Parliament?"

THE systems in vogue in other countries afford perhaps the best guide in the above matter of the advisability of letting Government printing out to contract, instead of maintaining a separate Department as at present.

I find (with the exception of England) that in all the chief countries of the world the same system is adopted as here.

In America, after having given the system of contracts a trial, it was abandoned. The whole of the printing required by the States Government is executed in the Government Printing Office, Washington.

In France.—The official organ of the Government and all work required in the conduct of Government business in Paris, as well as the proceedings of the Senate, are printed in the Government Printing Office. The printing required by officials in the departments or provinces is, however, done by local private firms.

In Germany until recently part of the work was let out on contract. But I am informed that within recent years a change has been made and that Government now does the whole of its printing.

In Austria there has been for many years established one of the largest and most complete Government Printing Offices in the world, where all Government work is done.

In England the work is entrusted to a number of large firms, who have done the printing for a great many years. But even in this case all the elements of a contract are absent. Tenders are not invited. The firms of Eyre and Spottiswoode, and Hansard & Co., have done the Parliamentary printing for the last forty years. The contract for book printing has not been revised since 1851; that for job printing has been in existence since 1850. In fact, in the chief branches large houses have for years had a monopoly. The Comptroller of the London Stationery Office stated, in evidence before a Committee of the House of Commons, that he could do the printing of *Hansard* for 45 per cent. less than was then being paid for it. He stated exorbitant over-charges, which it was impossible to control, were made for "corrections" in proofs, &c. Confidential matter is charged for at from 20 per cent. to 45 per cent. over ordinary prices.

In Canada and all the Australian Colonies the same system as here is adopted, and the whole of the work, both Parliamentary and general, is done in the Government Printing Office.

The author of the *Encyclopædia of Printing*, one of the greatest authorities on the subject, gives it as his opinion "that the Government Printing Office at Washington, U.S., annually saves the Government fully half a million dollars."

I do not know of any country in the world where calling for tenders (in the strict sense of the word) for Government printing is in vogue; and, while deprecating the performance of private work in the Department, my own opinion is that the introduction of a system of contract printing would lead to an enormous loss to the country, and to the amassing of large fortunes (as has been the case in England) by the contractors.

It is worthy of notice in this connection that this question has almost invariably been introduced when the discussion of the Estimates was pending, and has generally originated from parties more or less connected with the trade.

The question has at various times been discussed in the Legislative Assembly, notably on the following dates, viz. :—1 April, 1864; 15 March, 1866; 6 June, 1871; 12 June, 1877.

CHARLES POTTER,
Government Printer.

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

LANDS FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES ACQUISITION ACT.

(RESUMPTION OF LAND FOR CEMETERY, AT CLIFTON, IN LIEU OF NOTIFICATION LAID ON TABLE OF HOUSE, 1 MARCH, 1889, VESTING THE LAND IN THE MINISTER FOR LANDS.)

Presented to Parliament, pursuant to Act 44 Vic. No. 16, sec. 6.

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER
44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, } Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor. } Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS I, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have duly sanctioned the carrying out of certain works for and in connection with the establishment and construction of a Public Cemetery at Clifton, for and towards the completion of which said works public funds are available, under the provisions of the "Appropriation Act of 1888"; and whereas the land hereinafter described is required for the construction of the said Works: Now I, the Governor of the said Colony, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, in pursuance of the powers in this behalf given to or vested in me by the "Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," do, by this notification published in the Gazette and in a newspaper, that is to say, in the "Wollongong Argus," circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, declare that the land hereinafter described has been resumed for the public purpose hereinafter mentioned, that is to say, for and in connection with the establishment and construction of a Public Cemetery at Clifton, to the intent that upon the publication of this notification in the Gazette, the legal estate in the said land shall forthwith be vested in the Minister for Public Works and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty for the purpose of the said last-mentioned Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee-simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interest, contracts, charges, rates, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever, and to the intent further that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the said

Minister as a trustee, with the powers stated in the said last-mentioned Act: And I declare that the following is the description of the land hereinbefore referred to, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situate in the parish of Southend and county of Camberland: Commencing at a peg marked broad-arrow over CEMETERY, on the right bank of Menarko Creek, at the intersection of the eastern side of the road from Bulli to Clifton; and bounded thence on the south-west and north-west by that side of that road, being lines bearing south 40 degrees 30 minutes east 2 chains 17 links, south 13 degrees 10 minutes west 2 chains 71 links, south 26 degrees 28 minutes west 1 chain $67\frac{2}{10}$ links, and south 50 degrees 28 minutes west 1 chain $60\frac{7}{10}$ links; thence on the south-west by a line bearing south 76 degrees 50 minutes east 3 chains $37\frac{7}{10}$ links to the north-west boundary of a reserve of 100 feet from high-water mark on the Pacific Ocean; thence by that boundary, being lines bearing north 50 degrees 28 minutes east $63\frac{5}{10}$ links, north 43 degrees 9 minutes east 1 chain $82\frac{2}{10}$ links, north 68 degrees 29 minutes east 2 chains $5\frac{2}{10}$ links, north 79 degrees 3 minutes east 2 chains $44\frac{2}{10}$ links, north 34 degrees 58 minutes east $26\frac{2}{10}$ links, north 11 degrees west 1 chain $21\frac{7}{10}$ links, north 17 degrees west 1 chain 18 links, north 52 minutes west $61\frac{2}{10}$ links, and north 4 degrees 40 minutes west $95\frac{2}{10}$ links to Menarko Creek aforesaid; and thence by that creek upwards, to the point of commencement,—containing 4 acres 1 rood and 18 perches, and said to be in the possession and occupation of the North Illawarra Coal-mining Co.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this seventeenth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

BRUCE SMITH.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

LANDS FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES ACQUISITION ACT.

(RESUMPTION OF LAND FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE PUBLIC CEMETERY AT GALONG.)

Presented to Parliament, pursuant to Act 44 Vic. No. 16, sec. 6.

NOTIFICATION OF RESUMPTION OF LAND UNDER 44 VICTORIA No. 16.

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable
to wit. } CHARLES ROBERT, BARON CARRINGTON,
a Member of Her Majesty's Most
(L.S.) Honourable Privy Council, Knight
CARRINGTON, } Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished
Governor. } Order of Saint Michael and Saint
George, Governor and Commander-in-
Chief of the Colony of New South
Wales and its Dependencies.

WHEREAS I, the Governor aforesaid, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, have duly sanctioned the carrying out of certain works for and in connection with the extension of the Public Cemetery at Galong, for and towards the completion of which said works public funds are available; and whereas the land hereinafter described is required for the construction of the said Works: Now I, the Governor of the said Colony, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said Colony, in pursuance of the powers in this behalf given to or vested in me by the "Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," do, by this notification published in the Gazette and in a newspaper, that is to say, in the "Burrowa News," circulated in the Police District wherein the said land is situated, declare that the land hereinafter described has been resumed for the public purpose hereinafter mentioned, that is to say, for and in connection with the extension of the Public Cemetery at Galong, to the intent that upon the publication of this notification in the Gazette, the legal estate in the said land shall forthwith be vested in the Minister for Public Works and his successors, on behalf of Her Majesty for the purpose of the said last-

mentioned Act, for an estate of inheritance in fee-simple in possession, freed and discharged from all trusts, obligations, estates, interest, contracts, charges, rates, rights-of-way, or other easements whatsoever, and to the intent further that the legal estate therein, together with all powers incident thereto or conferred by the said Act, shall be vested in the said Minister as a trustee, with the powers stated in the said last-mentioned Act: And I declare that the following is the description of the land hereinbefore referred to, that is to say:—

All that piece or parcel of land situate at Galong, in the parish of Galong, county of Harden, and Colony of New South Wales: Commencing at the north-western corner of portion 171, 2 acres for General Cemetery, dedicated 18th January, 1884; and bounded thence on the east by a line bearing south 5 chains 60 links, part of which forms the western boundary of that portion; thence on the south by a line bearing west 20 links; on the west by a line bearing north 5 chains 60 links; and on the north by a line bearing east 20 links, to the point of commencement,—containing about 18 perches, and said to belong to the estate of John Nagle Ryan, deceased.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand, and caused the Great Seal of the Colony to be hereto affixed, at Government House, Sydney, this twentieth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine, and in the fifty-third year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

BRUCE SMITH

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

LETTERS ADDRESSED TO DRS. GERMONT AND LOIR.

(CORRESPONDENCE.)

*Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 4 April, 1889.**[Laid upon the Table of this House in accordance with promise made in answer to Question No. 2 of 3 April, 1889.]*

Questions.

- (2.) Letters addressed to Drs. Germont and Loir:—MR. TRAILL asked the COLONIAL SECRETARY,—
- (1.) Is it true that a cable message addressed to Messrs. Germont and Loir, received in Sydney on 18th July, 1888, was not delivered to these gentlemen till the 21st August?
 - (2.) Was such cablegram noted as follows—"Mislaid.—H.P."?
 - (3.) Were the initials "H.P." written by Sir Henry Parkes, the then Colonial Secretary?
 - (4.) What was the reason for so long a detention as thirty-six days?
 - (5.) How was the cablegram mislaid, and by whom?
 - (6.) Is it a fact that two letters, one directed to M. Loir, the other to Messrs. Germont and Loir, care of General Post Office, Sydney, were sent to the Colonial Secretary's Office?
 - (7.) Are these the letters which the Colonial Secretary, replying to Mr. Lyne in November last, admitted to have been opened in the Colonial Secretary's Office?
 - (8.) Was there any indication on the exterior of such letters that they came from the Pasteur Institute, or any other source?
 - (9.) Is the explanation given to the daily papers by the Under Colonial Secretary, to the effect that the delay in delivering these letters to the addresses, in accordance with the facts as known to the Colonial Secretary?
 - (10.) Is it the case that other letters similarly addressed, but having no external indication of their source, were delivered to Messrs. Germont and Loir during the period when the Under Colonial Secretary alleges the addresses of those gentlemen were being sought in vain?
 - (11.) Is it true that the Under Secretary was resident in the same house with Messrs. Germont and Loir during that time, or at any time?
 - (12.) Is he aware of any reason why certain letters addressed to Messrs. Germont and Loir, or either of them, were sent from the General Post Office to the Colonial Secretary's Office, and there opened, while other letters, simultaneously received by mail, were delivered direct to those gentlemen?
 - (13.) Had the Post Office officials any instructions relating to any such letters?
 - (14.) If so, has he any objection to state what these instructions were?
 - (15.) Has any despatch or correspondence been received in this Colony from the Imperial authorities in relation to the opening or detention of the letters and cablegram above referred to?
 - (16.) If so, has he any objection to state what is the nature of such despatch or correspondence?

Answers.

SIR HENRY PARKES answered,—I will cause an explanatory Return to be made, giving the information which is required by this question. I may state, however, that I, as Colonial Secretary at that time, never saw any one of the letters addressed to those gentlemen. The "H.P." I imagine, must have been written by me, and it is exactly the thing I should write. If the telegram had been mislaid, I should write "mislaid" upon it, no doubt.

(1 & 2.) A message appears to have been received on 18th July last, and was delivered on 23rd August, having been mislaid. It is believed it is noted as stated, and was delivered as soon as discovered.

(3.) Yes.

(4 & 5.) The message was sent after hours to the private residence of the Colonial Secretary and inadvertently got mislaid; hence the cause of delay.

(6.) Yes, two letters, which in all probability were directed as stated, were received at the Colonial Secretary's Office from the Post Office.

(7.) Yes.

(8.) It would be impossible to say without seeing the documents.

(9.) Yes, as far as I am aware.

(10.) I cannot say.

(11.) Yes, part of the time, namely, from the beginning of July.

(12, 13, & 14.) No.

(15.) No.

1889.

—
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

MELBOURNE CENTENNIAL INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

(STATEMENT OF MONEYS PAID TO MR. OSCAR MEYER IN CONNECTION WITH.)

—
Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 22 August, 1889.
 —

[Laid upon the] Table of this House in accordance with promise made in answer to Question No. 5 of
 13 August, 1889.]

Questions and Answers.

- (5.) Mr. Oscar Meyer:—Mr. Crick asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) What amount was paid to Mr. Oscar Meyer as expenses and remuneration in connection with the Melbourne Exhibition?
 - (2.) What is the total amount paid to this gentleman by the Government of New South Wales?
 - (3.) Will he delay any further payments to Mr. Meyer until he obtains the sanction of this House?

Sir Henry Parkes answered,—I have not been able to get this information; but I will lay a Return upon the Table, giving the required information. We shall not delay any payment that is necessary.

STATEMENT showing amount paid to Mr. Oscar Meyer as salaries, &c., in connection with the Melbourne Centennial Exhibition, as far as can be ascertained from the records of the Auditor-General's Department.

	£	s.	d.
Salaries, 1st May to 31st December, 1888	333	6	8
1st January to 30th June, 1889	250	0	0
Expenses, petty, 1888	25	13	3
" 1889	3	13	6
travelling, 1888	12	0	0
Bonus, 1889	105	0	0
	£729	13	5
	£729	13	5

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

MINT.

(GOLD COINAGE STRUCK, &c.—DESPATCH RESPECTING.)

Presented to Parliament by Command.

The Treasury to The Colonial Office.

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, 13 November, 1888.

I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to transmit herewith, for the information of Lord Knutsford, the enclosed copy of a letter of the 9th instant from the Deputy Master of the Mint, and of its accompanying report upon the gold coinage struck at the Sydney Mint during the year ended 30th June, 1888.

I am, &c.,

R. E. WELBY.

[Enclosure.]

Sir,

Royal Mint, 9 November, 1888.

I have the honor to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, that the following Returns have been duly transmitted to this Department by the Deputy Master of the Sydney Branch of the Royal Mint, in conformity with the Order in Council of the 19th August, 1853 :—

I. Twelve Monthly Returns, showing the transactions in bullion of the Sydney Mint from July, 1887, to June, 1888, both inclusive. The amount of coin issued to the public in these months was as follows :—

1887.			1888.		
Month.	Sovereigns.	Half-sovereigns.	Month.	Sovereigns.	Half-sovereigns.
	oz.	oz.		oz.	oz.
July	44,944·92	Nil.	January	49,053·40	Nil.
August	43,147·12	Nil.	February	36,983·59	Nil.
September	49,051·36	Nil.	March	63,436·38	Nil.
October	45,713·46	Nil.	April	39,810·90	Nil.
November	14,381·75	17,207·19	May	40,063·11	Nil.
December	58,816·79	Nil.	June	61,936·71	Nil.

II. Four Returns of Waste in coining gold for the quarters ended—
 30 September, 1887,
 31 December, 1887,
 31 March, 1888,
 30 June, 1888.

III. Four Returns by the Board of Verification to the Governor of the Colony on the state of the bullion and coin in the Mint on the—
 30 September, 1887,
 31 December, 1887,
 31 March, 1888,
 30 June, 1888.

I have also to request you to submit to their Lordships my Report, enclosed, being the fifty-fifth, on the weight and fineness of the gold coins produced at the Sydney Mint during the year ended 30th June, 1888, this report being based upon the assay of Pyx Pieces transmitted by the Deputy Master in accordance with the provisions of the Order in Council before referred to.

A copy of the report has been forwarded as usual to the Deputy Master at Sydney for his information.

I have, &c.,

C. W. FREEMANTLE.

The Secretary, Treasury, S.W.

[Sub-Enclosure.]

[Sub-Enclosure.]

SYDNEY MINT.

FIFTY-FIFTH Report addressed to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury on the weight and fineness of gold coins struck at the Sydney Branch of the Royal Mint, and transmitted to the Deputy Master for examination in accordance with the provisions of Her Majesty's Order in Council of the 19th August, 1853.

Pieces taken without preference by the Colonial Treasurer at the deliveries of the Sydney Mint :—

Half-year ending	Denomination of coin.	No. of pieces.	Total weight.	Average weight of a piece.	Average proportion of gold in 1,000 parts.
1887.			oz.	oz.	
31 December	Sovereigns	204	52,392	·2568	916·649
	Half-sovereigns	30	3,852	·1284	916·676
1888.					
30 June	Sovereigns	233	59,836	·2568	916·739

The standard weight of the sovereign is oz. ·25682, and of the half-sovereign oz. ·12841, and the standard fineness (in 1,000 parts) is 916·666.

9 November, 1888.

C. W. FREEMANTLE,
Deputy Master and Comptroller Royal Mint.

[3d.]

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PARIS INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1889.

(CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE CONSUL FOR FRANCE RESPECTING.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 14 June, 1889.

The Consul for France to The Colonial Secretary.

Sir,

Sydney, 20 February, 1888.

I have the honor to enclose, for the information of your Government, a translation of extract from a Despatch of His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs in France, addressed to me as the representative of that country in New South Wales, having reference to the International Exhibition to be held in Paris during the year 1889, and I beg the favour of your consideration of its contents.

I need not draw your attention to the results that would follow the participation of the prosperous Colony under your Government to this peaceful gathering of the world's industries. I may, however, point out that one of the most beneficial effects the representation on a scale worthy of your Colony's great resources and importance would undoubtedly be to add materially to extend to Continental and other nations a wider and more correct knowledge of the position held by New South Wales as the Parent colony of Australasia, from whose loins all the others have sprung—but none of whom can approach her in point of population, commerce, and revenue, and whose ports are open to the free intercourse of trading communities.

The approaching completion of the Panama Canal will necessarily greatly increase the commercial relations between the old and the new worlds, and in view of the possibilities which the perfection of this great enterprise opens out for the commerce of New South Wales, the participation of the Colony to the Paris Exhibition becomes a matter of the importance of which you are the best judge. The central position of New South Wales ports and the immense superiority of her harbours must soon command the attention of Europe as the natural terminus in the Southern Hemisphere for the distribution of the old world's products.

With regard to the trade with France alone, it will open the way for direct communication with those ports on the Channel which are situated in close proximity to the great manufacturing centres of northern France and Belgium, whence come the largest buyers of New South Wales wool, and the Colony's best customers for its staple produce.

I beg to draw your attention to the first paragraph in His Excellency's letter, having regard to the cordial action of the British Government, which, although not officially participating at this Exhibition, nevertheless offers all facilities and encouragement to the establishment of organizations having that object in view.

His Excellency also expresses a hope that the Colony of New South Wales will be represented on a scale worthy of its importance, and will take the place which its great resources, its industry, and its commerce assign to it in this peaceful competition of the industries of all nations in the capital of France.

I shall be greatly obliged, therefore, if you will give this communication your early consideration, and acquaint the colonists of New South Wales with the information therein contained as regards the holding of the International Exhibition of 1889 in Paris.

I beg to enclose translations of the various documents I have referred to above.

I have, &c.,

C^{TE} DE SÉQUIER,

Consul de France à Sydney.

[Enclosure.]

EXTRACTS from a letter from His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs of France to the French Consul at Sydney, re the Paris International Exhibition of 1889.

Sir,

Paris, 10 October, 1887.

The British Government, without officially participating at the International Exhibition to be held in Paris in 1889, has, nevertheless, given British subjects in all parts of the Empire the fullest liberty to take part in it, and has shown itself ready to facilitate in every way the action of private and collective organizations having that object in view.

Under these circumstances, the Exhibition, which preserves its international character, will be open to agriculturists, artisans, engineers, artists, and from all countries, who may either singly or collectively express their desire to exhibit thereat.

In

In 1867 and 1878 every Foreign Government had formed a special Commission, whose President, assisted by an Executive Committee similarly appointed, undertook the organization of a national section at the Champ de Mars. The President was in direct communication with the French Administration or through the intermediate of a special Commissioner, who was appointed as Executive Delegate in Paris, and came to reside thereat with an appropriate staff.

This method, at once the simplest and most effective, seems to be susceptible of being adopted with advantage in your consular district, with the amendments that might be suggested in view of the possibility of abstention on the part of the Public Administration of the country.

In any case the necessity is apparent of forming, if such is possible in your district, a local "Exhibition Committee," with the support of Societies for the encouragement of arts, industry, and agriculture, of the Chambers of Commerce, or of already existing committee under the patronage of high notabilities, whose rank, influence, honorability, and French sympathies would be a guarantee of success. To this local element would be doubtless added such of our countrymen who have gained for themselves a respected position in the business section of the community.

A committee so constituted would act in the fullness of its independence, and might, if it were considered opportune, extend the limit of its operations by the aid of sub-committees established in other commercial and industrial centres of the territory, whose duty would be to canvass their respective districts, gather exhibits, and attend to the work of forwarding the same; and, in short, do all in their power to secure a successful representation in Paris of the industries of their countries.

Once such a committee is constituted, the appointment of a delegate would devolve upon its members, who, as well as their President, would be in direct communication with His Excellency the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Commissary-General. The selection of this delegate will be a delicate one, in view of the conditions which so important an appointment require, and as it is necessary to eliminate those persons who often desire this position with a view to use it in their own self-interest and profit, often at the detriment of the exhibitors and the Exhibition itself.

It may be necessary that the committees should grant an indemnity for their expenses, although it may be hoped that persons of distinction and independent means, residing in Paris, will readily fill without remuneration an enviable and honorable position, and offer their personal services to the Commissioners of their nationality.

In all cases the committee would have to provide for the expenses of its working staff in Paris.

Such are, sir, the main points which I think likely to answer best to the interests of intending exhibitors in your district, if they wish to secure in the most practical manner their successful participation at the International Exhibition of 1889.

I have had the honor, on the 1st September last, to forward you a note prepared by the General Commission, in which are stated the arrangements already taken for the methodical distribution of exhibits, their classification, their localisation by groups, according to their distinct nationalities of similar productions in the various buildings at the Champ de Mars and Quay d'Orsay, for transporting the same and placing them in position within the buildings, and for the preparation of catalogues. In the same note, to which a plan of the Exhibition grounds and buildings is annexed, the expenses which are to be defrayed by exhibitors are also stated, the ground-space being freely granted.

This note, to which the greatest publicity should be given, places you in a position to answer all questions that might be asked on the subject. If additional information was required by intending exhibitors, until a local committee is formed or a Commission appointed, you will be good enough to invite interested persons to address themselves to Mr. Berger, Director-General of the Administration of the Exhibition, Avenue de la Bourdonnais (Champ de Mars), à Paris.

I rely upon your devotion for the execution, in the manner best appropriated to the conditions of the country you reside in, of these instructions. You will be good enough also to take advantage of the good dispositions you may meet with on the part of the local Administration to obtain in favour of the products of the Colony of New South Wales all the advantages in the way of carriage rates, facilities of Custom House formalities, &c., which will permit that colony to come at the Champ de Mars and occupy the position to which she is entitled in this pacific competition of labour, intelligence, and industry.

I have, &c.,

The Minister for Foreign Affairs,
FLOURENS.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

International Exhibition of 1889, Paris—General Manager's Office—Foreign Sections—General Informations.

I.

THE Paris Exhibition of 1889 will be universal and international in character, as exhibits of agricultural, industrial, and artistic productions from all countries of the world will be received thereat.

The ground will occupy the following position:—

1. On the left bank of the Seine—the Champ de Mars and the river bank, the Esplanade des Invalides, and that part of the Quay d'Orsay lying between the Esplanade and the Champ de Mars.
2. On the right bank of the Seine—the park and the unoccupied portion of the Trocadero Palace.

The bridge of Jena, which joins the Trocadero grounds to the Champ de Mars, will also be enclosed within the Exhibition grounds.

The Exhibition will have four principal subdivisions.

I.—CHAMP DE MARS.

1. Palace of the Fine Arts (A)—Group I—Works of Art.

In this palace, which has an upper gallery, works of art will be exhibited in rooms, or groups of rooms, corresponding with the different foreign sections, by order of nationality.

2. Palace of the Liberal Arts (B)—Group II—Education and Instruction—Material of Schools and Teaching Apparatus for the Liberal Arts.

In this palace, which comprises a large central hall, surrounded with a gallery with an upper floor, the space will be divided in two sections, subdivided into classes—one for French and the other for foreign exhibits.

3. Gallery of various Industrial Products (C)—Group III—Furniture and accessories; Group IV—Cloths, Dress and its accessories, Tissues of various kinds; Group V—Extractive Industries—Rough Products and Manufactures.

The space of 90,000 square metres, with covered galleries, will be divided into three main divisions for each of the above-described groups of exhibits, each department being also subdivided into two parts. The one reserved for French exhibits will be further subdivided into classes; and the second, reserved for foreign countries, will likewise be subdivided, according to nationalities.

4. Hall of the Machinery (D)—Group VI—Industrial and Mechanical Working Plant—Electricity.

The hall will be divided into sections of classes, in each of which the various products will be exhibited according to nationalities, in the best manner which the supply of motive-power will allow.

II.—QUAY D'ORSAY.

1. Palace of Alimentary Productions (E)—Group VII—Alimentary Productions.

In this palace, which contains several upper floors, the international products will be exhibited according to the class to which they belong.

2. Galleries of Agricultural Products.

These galleries will be subdivided into sections, each devoted to a separate nationality.

III.—ESPLANADE DES INVALIDES.

- 1.—Open spaces planted with trees reserved as additional of space for the Agricultural Section.

2. Various Exhibitions; French Colonies and Protected States; Private Exhibitions of the various French Ministerial Departments; Social Economy; Hygiene and Sanitation, &c.

IV.

IV.—TROCADERO.

International Exhibition of Horticulture and Arboriculture—Group IX—Horticulture.

The spaces which can be affected to the different groups, both for foreign and French exhibits, have been already calculated on the basis of statistics furnished by previous Exhibitions.

The International Exhibitions of 1867 and 1878 in Paris had both comprised one grand main building, whose galleries, sometimes circular, sometimes rectilinear in shape, permitted the products of France and of foreign countries to be so grouped that the visitors could examine successively all the productions of the same class and of various national origin, or all the products of various classes from the same national origin.

This system resulted in the formation for each country of one special and well-defined section. It was carried out successfully in 1867, although the relegation of French and foreign agricultural exhibits in a distant portion of the Exhibition grounds was a departure from the general rule. In 1878 the system of 1867 was also adopted, but the abundance of exhibits was so great that the covered space within the Palace of the Champ de Mars was insufficient to contain them all, and it was found necessary to construct a number of annexes, disseminated without method throughout the grounds.

The plans adopted for the International Exhibition of 1889 have, by reason of their distribution, substituted a kind of "divided methodical order" to the old compact order adopted previously for the arrangement of exhibits.

II.

Ground-space gratuitously granted.

In conformity with the traditions of hospitality which ruled at the International Exhibitions held in Paris in 1855, 1867, 1878 and 1881, French and foreign exhibitors alike will not be charged any rent for the ground-space they may occupy.

Expenses to be paid by Exhibitors.

The French Administration will construct covered buildings for the agricultural, industrial, mechanical, and artistic productions which cannot be exhibited in the open air.

Exhibitors have, however, to provide, either collectively or singly, for all the expenses contingent upon the subdivision of these buildings, comprising the construction and decoration of partitions, ceilings, glass cases for exhibits, and furniture, the whole of these fixtures according to plans approved by the Administration. They also have to provide for expenses in connection with the flooring of the ground-space they hold, as the Administration, in conformity with Article 16 of the General Regulations, only provides the flooring of the roads and means of communication. As regards specially the flooring, the Administration may, in view of a more economical and homogeneous work, construct the whole of the flooring, and recover from exhibitors the quota due by each for this work. Exhibitors will also be held responsible for any damage done to these fixtures by themselves or their agents.

Watchmen and Cleaners.

Exhibitors have to provide for the salary and uniform of guardians entrusted with the watching and cleaning of the various sections.

Section of Machinery.

French and foreign constructors of engines, boilers, &c., will be admitted to tender for the supply of the motive-power which the Administration has to provide, according to Article 34 of the Regulations, for working the machinery exhibited. The conditions of the tenders for supplying motive-power by steam have already been settled.

Horticultural Exhibition.

Special regulations will be issued with regard to the permanent and temporary exhibition of horticultural products, and the conditions upon which the use of hot-houses may be granted.

Live-stock Exhibition.

If an exhibition of live stock takes place special regulations will be issued on the subject.

Carriage of Exhibits.

Arrangements have been entered into with the French railway companies to the effect that all products, except works of art or precious matters, intended to be exhibited will be charged at rates 50 per cent. below the ordinary rates of carriage.

The same reduction of 50 per cent. upon ruling rates will also be granted for all transport by sea on board the steamers of the Compagnie Générale Transatlantique and the Cie. des Messageries Maritimes.

As regards the internal moving of exhibits within the Exhibition grounds, the expenses connected therewith will be supported by the exhibitors; but the Administration, although granting to them the fullest liberty to employ whomsoever they choose, will do all in its power to allow them, under the most practical and economical conditions, the use of all the material and personnel which they may require for loading, unloading, and transporting their exhibits.

Customs and Octroi.

By a Presidential decree, dated the 25th August, 1886, all the buildings affected to the International Exhibition of 1889 will be considered as Customs bonded warehouses. Moreover, the Prefect of the Department of the Seine, by letter dated 28th October, 1886, has informed the Minister of Commerce and Industry that the same privilege will be granted as regards the Octroi of Paris.

Protection of Industrial Property.

The Administration will take the same measures to insure the protection of all industrial property as were taken in previous Exhibitions.

Catalogue.

A complete methodical catalogue of the exhibits of all nations, indicating the various places they occupy in the palaces, parks, or gardens, as well as the names of the exhibitors, will be compiled in the French language.

Each nation will be at liberty to publish, at its own expense, but in its own language only, a special catalogue of the products exhibited in its own sections, in conformity with the "specifications" which will be issued by the Administration.

The Director-General of the Exhibition,

GEORGES BERGER.

Approved.—The Minister of Commerce and Industry, Commissary-General, LUCIEN DAUTRESME.

The Consul for France to The Colonial Secretary.

Sir,

22, Bridge-street, Sydney, 13 September, 1888.

I have the honor to refer you to my letter of 20th February last containing translated copies of the Despatch of His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs of France, on the subject of the Paris Exhibition of 1889. I have not yet been honoured with an acknowledgement of, or an answer to, that communication.

It may be, however, that your Government wished to be guided by the action of the Colony of Victoria, or that of other colonial Governments, before taking any steps in this matter.

Having since been informed that the colonies of Victoria, Canada, and New Zealand have signified their intention to exhibit in Paris, and be officially represented there next year, I think that I would not be justified in the eyes of my Ministry if I delayed any longer to ascertain the views of the Government and the public of New South Wales.

Having

Having previously communicated with you on that subject, I was thereby, as a matter of courtesy alone, precluded from taking any other steps, such as addressing myself to the Chamber of Commerce, or to the merchants and manufacturers of this city, until after the receipt of your answer.

I shall therefore be greatly obliged if you will give this matter your consideration, that in the event of your Government not seeing its way clear to officially participate in the Paris Exhibition of 1889, I might address myself to private exhibitors.

Accept, sir, the assurance of my most distinguished consideration.

C^{TE} DE SÉQUIER,
French Consul.

The Consul for France to The Colonial Secretary.

Sir,

Sydney, 5 December, 1888.

In reply to a cable message that I sent on the 28th ultimo, after the conference that I had the honor of having with yourself, I have this day received a telegram from His Excellency, Mr. Goblet, Minister of Foreign Affairs, informing me that, in spite of his renewed efforts on your behalf, the Commissariat-General of the Universal Exhibition of Paris has not the least space available, and that London Committee alone can allot a place for the New South Wales exhibits.

His Excellency desires me to express to you his regret under the circumstances, and at the same time to remind you that the inability of the French Government to accede to your request is caused by the delay occasioned by the Colony in replying to its invitation.

I have, &c.,
C^{TE} DE SEQUIER,
French Consul.

The Colonial Secretary to The Consul for France.

Sir,

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 6 December, 1888.

I am much obliged by the trouble you have taken to represent the case of this Colony in desiring to obtain space at the Paris Exhibition.

I fear there is no course open to this Government but to retire from taking any part in the Exhibition.

I have, &c.,
HENRY PARKES.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PREMISES ADJACENT TO PARLIAMENT HOUSE.

(RETURN SHOWING THE NAMES OF THE TENANTS WHO OCCUPY.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 9 May, 1889.

*Laid upon the Table in accordance with the promise made by the Colonial Treasurer to Mr. Lakeman.
See Question No. 8, Votes No. 19, 1st May, 1889.]*

MACQUARIE-STREET RESUMPTION.

LIST of Tenants, with Rentals and Tenancies.

No.			£	s.	d.		
1	Richmond Terrace...	... Newman, Mrs. ...	225	0	0	per annum...	} Tenancy terminable by six months' notice to quit.
3	do ...	... Cheers, Mrs. ...	208	0	0	do ...
5	do ...	... Aldis, Mrs. ...	202	10	0	do ...
7	do ...	... Dawson, T. H....	235	16	0	do ...
9	do ...	... Aldis, Mrs. ...	202	10	0	do ...
11	do Martyn, Mrs. ...	202	10	0	do ...	} Weekly tenancy.
	Richmond Villa ...	... Griffiths, G. N.	240	0	0	do ...
4	Macquarie-street Mathews ...	3	0	0	per week ...	} Monthly tenancy.
6	do ...	... Robertson ...	0	15	0	do ...
10	do ...	... Lennon ...	84	0	0	per annum...
1	Domain Terrace Byrne ...	0	15	0	per week ...	} Weekly tenancy.
2	do ...	... Delaney ...	0	15	0	do ...
3	do ...	... O'Donnell ...	0	15	0	do ...
4	do ...	... Lyde ...	0	15	0	do ...
5	do ...	... Ahern ...	0	15	0	do ...
6	do ...	... Daly ...	0	15	0	do ...
7	do ...	... McCawley ...	0	17	6	do ...
8	do ...	... McKenna ...	0	17	6	do ...
9	do ...	... Peddie ...	0	17	6	do ...
10	do ...	... Hyde ...	0	17	6	do ...
11	do ...	... Dunneen ...	0	17	6	do ...
12	do ...	... Madden...	0	17	6	do ...
13	do ...	... Lake ...	1	0	0	do ...
14	do ...	... Vacant ...	0	17	6	do ...
15	do ...	... Corcoran ...	0	17	6	do ...
16	do ...	... Carey ...	0	17	6	do ...
17	do ...	... Brown ...	0	17	6	do ...
18	do ...	... Keefe ...	0	18	0	do ...

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC GATES—RICHMOND RIVER DISTRICT.
(RETURN OF, WITH CONDITIONS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 2 July, 1889.

RETURN to an *Order* made by the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, dated 23rd May, 1889, That there be laid upon the Table of this House,—

“ A Return of the Public Gates, with conditions, in the Richmond River District.”

(*Mr. Ewing.*)

PUBLIC GATES in the Electorate of The Richmond.

No. of Gate.	To whom granted.	Description.	Conditions.
6	Barnes and Smith Bros.	Gate, distant about 17 miles from Casino, on the road from Casino to Mount Lindsay, at a place known as “Croak’s Waterhole,” near the south boundary of portion No. 3, parish of Runnymede, county of Rous.	
107	Barnes and Smith Bros.	Gate not less than 11 feet wide, with a wicket 4 feet wide for horsemen, on the road from Grafton to Solferino, on Coal Range, and distant about 3 miles from the crossing of Barrett’s Creek, parish of Hassan, county of Drake.	
108	Barnes and Smith Bros.	Gate not less than 11 feet wide, with a wicket 4 feet wide, on the road from Grafton to Solferino, at the boundaries of Tempe and Yulgilbar Runs, near Ogilvie’s Gap, parish of Yarralkiarra, county of Drake.	
153	W. C. Bundock	Gate not less than 11 feet wide, on the road from Casino up the Richmond River towards Queensland, at fence about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile south of Wiangaree, and within W. C. Bundock’s 631 acres, together with a small wicket for horsemen, parish of Wiangaree, county of Rous.	Gate approaches to be metalled and kept in repair by applicant.
154	W. C. Bundock	Gate, not less than 11 feet wide, on the road from Casino up the Richmond River towards Queensland, at fence about 1 mile north of Wiangaree, and near the north boundary of W. C. Bundock’s 163 acres, together with a small wicket for horsemen, parish of Wiangaree, county of Rous.	
155	W. C. Bundock	Gate, not less than 11 feet wide, at fence at McLeod’s Lagcon, about 3 miles north of Wiangaree, together with a small wicket for horsemen, parish of Wiangaree, county of Rous.	

No. of Gate.	To whom granted.	Description.	Conditions.
201	S. Garrard	Gate not less than 11 feet wide, with a wicket for horsemen, on the road from Blakebrook to Lismore, at the north-west corner of M. Garrard's 57 acres conditional purchase, portion No. 10, parish of Blakebrook, county of Rous.	
202	S. Garrard	Gate not less than 11 feet wide, with a wicket for horsemen, on the road from Blakebrook to Lismore, at the crossing of Boerie Creek, within A. Cheeke's 201 acres, portion No. 6, parish of Blakebrook, county of Rous.	
488	Executors of the late Mrs. M. Girard.	Gate not less than 11 feet wide, together with a wicket for horsemen, on the road from Lismore to Gundurimba, at the north boundary of W. Wilson's 163 acres S. P., portion No. 2, parish of Lismore, county of Rous.	
489	Executors of the late Mrs. M. Girard.	Gate not less than 11 feet wide, together with a wicket for horsemen, on the road from Lismore to Gundurimba, at the south boundary of W. Wilson's 494 acres, S. P., portion No. 1, parish of Lismore, county of Rous.	
820	Donald Campbell.....	Gate not less than 11 feet wide, with a wicket for horsemen, on the road from Casino to Coraki, at fence on the west boundary of D. Campbell's 162 acres, portion No. 3, parish of East Casino, county of Richmond.	
821	Donald Campbell.....	Gate not less than 11 feet wide, with a wicket for horsemen, on the road from Casino to Coraki, at fence on the east boundary of D. Campbell's 172 acres, portion No. 5, parish of East Casino, county of Richmond.	
836	H. F. Smith.....	Gate not less than 11 feet wide, on the road from Casino to Mount Lindsay, at fence on the south boundary of H. F. Smith's 50 acres, portion No. 8, parish of Runnymede, county of Rous.	
890	W. C. Bundock	Gate not less than 11 feet wide, with a wicket for horsemen, on the road from Casino to Queensland, at fence on the south boundary of J. White's (now W. C. Bundock's) 320 acres conditional purchase No. 2, parish of Wiangaree, county of Rous.	The approaches to the gate to be kept in repair.
1048	Crook Brothers	Gate not less than 12 feet wide, on road leading from Teven Crossing to G. Cooper's 40 acres conditional purchase, portion No. 65, at fence on the northern boundary of G. Roberts' (now Crook Brothers) 40 acres conditional purchase, portion No. 110, parish of Tuckombil, county of Rous.	
1049	Crook Brothers	Gate not less than 12 feet wide, on road leading from Teven Crossing to G. Cooper's 40 acres conditional purchase, portion No. 65, at fence on the southern boundary of B. Cooper's (now Crook Brothers) 40 acres conditional purchase, portion No. 97, parish of Tuckombil, county of Rous.	
1235	J. Hodgkinson	Gate not less than 11 feet wide, on the road from Ballina to the Tweed and Brunswick Rivers, at the north boundary of J. Hodgkinsons (now the Australian Joint Stock Bank's) 80 acres, portion No. 20, parish of Ballina, county of Rous.	
1236	J. Hodgkinson	Gate not less than 11 feet wide, on the road from Ballina to the Tweed and Brunswick Rivers, at the south boundary of J. Hodgkinsons (now the Australian Joint Stock Bank's) 80 acres, portion No. 20, parish of Ballina, county of Rous.	

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC WORKS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

(MESSAGE No. 10.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 4 April, 1889.

CARRINGTON,

Message No. 10.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to alter the constitution of, and mode of appointing the Parliamentary Standing Committee on, Public Works, to empower such Committee to appoint Sectional Committees, and for other purposes hereinafter set forth.

Government House,

Sydney, 4th April, 1889.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

(ANNUAL STATEMENT OF WORKS CARRIED OUT BY, DURING THE YEAR 1888.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 28 May, 1889.

Annual Statement of Works carried out by the Department of Public Works
during the Year 1888.

1. Harbours and Rivers Branch.
2. Colonial Architect's Branch.
3. Railway Construction Branch.
4. Land Valuer's Branch.

The Returns from the Roads and Bridges and Sewerage Branches have not yet been furnished.

No. 1.—Harbours and Rivers Department.

RETURN of Public Works carried on by the Harbours and Rivers Department in the Year 1888.

Work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Estimated Expense	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Com-menced.	Whether Finished or Unfinished.	If Finished, actual amount of Expenditure.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888.	Amount expended for Furniture in 1888.	Remarks.
						£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
WATER SUPPLY.										
Sydney	Constructing		Loans	1880	Unfinished		2,141,882 12 6	78,798 9 4		
Providing Water Supply, Country Towns	"		Loans & Con. Rev	1879	"		623,153 4 9	76,118 4 1		
Extension of Sydney Water Supply to Western Suburbs	"		Loans	1887	"		5,357 16 11	3,372 5 0		
Working Expenses, Hunter Water Supply	Annual Service		Revenue	1888	"		2,695 12 9	2,695 12 9		
Construction Storage Reservoir, Potts' Hill	Constructing		Loans	"	"		14,820 16 0	14,820 16 0		
Laying Second Pipe Line between Potts' Hill and Crown-street Reservoir	"					"	"		41 10 0	41 10 0
Working Expenses, Sydney Water Supply	Annual Service		Revenue	"	"		2,317 6 10	2,317 6 10		
						"	"			
DREDGE SERVICE.										
Excavation of Silt by Dredges	"		Loans	1887	Finished	76,389 16 2		4,953 6 9		
"	"			1888	Unfinished		80,345 16 1	80,345 16 1		
Additional Dredge and Punts for Sydney	Constructing		Loans	1885	"		10,224 5 1	4,835 10 6		
Additional Punts for Dredges	"			1887	"		1,841 7 5	350 14 0		
New Engines, &c, "Ajax"	"		Revenue	1888	Finished	8,390 7 0		6,136 5 6		
Fitting up Repairing Shop, Newcastle	"				Unfinished		285 15 8	285 15 8		
New Ladder and Steam Winch, Dredge "Hunter"	"		Loans	1883	Unfinished		330 7 1	330 7 1		
New Engines, "Little Nell"	"							130 11 5	130 11 5	
Alterations and Improvements, "Pluto"	"		Revenue	1888	Unfinished	1,470 7 3		1,470 7 3		
Dredging Plant, Richmond and other Northern Rivers	"							23,758 8 5	1,931 12 7	
Landing Silt and forming ground	Annual Service		Revenue	1888	"		2,625 3 4	2,625 3 4		
Construction and Maintenance Small Dock, Northern Rivers, for Dredge Plant	Constructing					"	"		106 5 8	106 5 8
Dredge and Punts to be used on Myall River	"		Loans	"	"		23 14 10	23 14 10		
SYDNEY.										
Completion Darling Harbour Wharf, including Compensation for Land	"		Loans	1882	"		270,298 19 2	13,479 14 11		
Wood-paving Circular Quay	"			1885	Finished	32,565 15 2		1,923 10 1		
Wharf and Wall, Blackwattle Bay	"		1886	"	7,150 16 3		3,041 18 4			
White Bay Reclamation	Improving		Revenue	1887	Unfinished	4,794 2 8		5 10 1		
Widening Pyrmont Bridge	Constructing					Unfinished		2,103 7 4	705 6 4	
Shed, Cowper Wharf	"		Revenue	1888	Unfinished	2,926 3 8		1,860 10 10		
Roadway to Crane, A.S.N. Co.'s Wharf	"					Unfinished		213 6 5	213 6 5	
Cargo Shed, West Side Circular Quay	"		Loans	"	Finished	2,847 10 10		2,847 10 10		
Circular Quay Improvements	"					Unfinished		3,940 2 5	3,940 2 5	
Woolloomooloo Bay Improvements	"		Revenue	1887	"		225 2 0	225 2 0		
Reclamation and Dredging Cook's River	"					Unfinished		9,148 17 0	9,148 17 0	
Snail's Bay Reclamation	"		1888	"		2,506 5 9	2,506 5 9			
HUNTER RIVER AND NEWCASTLE DISTRICT.										
Wharf and Shipping Appliances, Newcastle, Bullock Island, and Stockton, exclusive of Steam Cranes, Newcastle Wharf.	"		Loans and Con. Rev.	1858	Unfinished		204,196 2 0	9,277 3 11		
Protecting Banks of Hunter River, West Maitland	"		Revenue	1879	"		20,735 7 2	888 19 8		
Removal of Rocks, Newcastle Harbour	Improving		Loans & Con. Rev	1858	"		7,452 12 3	325 17 6		
Repairs, Newcastle Wharf	Repairs		Revenue	1887	"		8,460 4 7	594 12 11		
LAKE MACQUARIE.										
Improvements at Entrance	"		Loans & Con. Rev	1878	"		76,612 17 6	2,894 9 3		
Wharf, Cockle Creek	Constructing		Con. Rev	1888	"		48 16 10	48 16 10		
CLARENCE RIVER.										
Improvements at Clarence Heads	"		Loans & Con. Rev	1862	"		177,097 11 4	3,928 17 2		
Jetty, Woolgoola Bay	"		Con Rev.	1886	Finished	336 4 1		2 0 0		
Wharf, King's Creek	"			1888	Unfinished		260 11 0	260 11 0		

1354

MANNING RIVER.									
Public Wharf, Wingham	Constructing		} Con. Rev. {	1888	Unfinished	480 15 6	480 15 6		
Wharf, Ghinni Ghinni	"			"	"	250 0 2	250 0 2		
TRIAL BAY.									
Harbour of Refuge	Improving		Loans & Con Rev	1874	"	69,050 10 9	3,780 4 2		
RICHMOND RIVER.									
Removing Obstructions, Richmond River			} Con. Rev. {	1878	"	6,788 8 6	720 13 8		
Wharf and Shed, Tatham	Constructing			"	1884	Finished	256 11 4	57 2 6	
Jetty, Byron Bay	"		} Loans & Con Rev	1886	Unfinished	12,134 1 3	5,293 7 0		
Wharf, Wyrallah	"			"	1887	Finished	353 17 2	336 2 2	
Wharf, Woodlark-street, Lismore	"		"	"	363 5 6		104 6 10		
Wharf below Gundarimba	"		"	1888	Unfinished	327 18 10	327 18 10		
Wharf and Shed, Boat Harbour, Richmond	"		"	"	8 11 8		8 11 8		
Wharf and Shed, Steve King's Plains, below Gundarimba	"		"	"	9 13 6		9 13 6		
Wharf and Shed, North Creek	"		"	"	13 14 2		13 14 2		
NAMBUCCOA RIVER.									
Clearing Obstructions	"		} Consoli- dated Revenue.	1879	"	3,219 16 9	64 10 0		
TWEED RIVER.									
Wharf and Shed, South Side Byangum	"		"	1888	"	34 0 10	34 0 10		
MACLEAY RIVER.									
Wharf opposite Fredericton	"		"	1887	"	336 10 3	234 5 10		
Wharf at Euroka	"		"	1888	"	3 9 0	3 9 0		
HASTINGS RIVER.									
Punts for Grab Dredge	"		"	1884	"	2,336 4 5	340 14 6		
WOLLONGONG.									
Towards Deepening Wollongong Harbour	Improving		Loans	1886	"	4,817 1 6	1,527 19 0		
MORUYA.									
Improving Entrance, Moruya River	"		Loans & Con Rev	1861	"	1,318 14 11	1,318 14 11		
SHELLHARBOUR.									
Breakwater	Constructing		} Consoli- dated Revenue.	1878	"	8,820 8 8	226 6 5		
SHOALHAVEN.									
Protection Banks, of Shoalhaven River, at Terrara	"		"	1887	"	82 12 6	78 2 6		
MURRAY, MURRUMBIDGEE, AND DARLING RIVERS.									
Yanko Creek Cutting	Improving		} Loans & Con Rev	1885	"	5,474 6 1	494 8 5		
Improving Rivers	"			"	1866	"	192,206 9 7	1,407 9 7	
Wharf, Wilcannia	Constructing		"	1888	Finished	1,500 0 0	1,500 0 0		
COCKATOO.									
Docking Vessels and other Contingent Expenses..	Annual service		} Consoli- dated Revenue.	"	Unfinished	2,114 19 9	2,114 19 9		
Fitzroy Dock—Salaries	"			"	"	1,525 0 0	1,525 0 0		
New Dock, Bilola	Constructing		Loans	1881	"	230,282 17 7	55,040 9 1		
MISCELLANEOUS.									
Harbour and River Surveys	Annual service		} Consoli- dated Revenue.	1887	Finished...	5,029 4 3	127 0 9		
"	"			"	1888	Unfinished	3,499 14 9	3,499 14 9	
Wharf, Green Point, Brisbane Water	Constructing		"	1886	Finished...	622 11 11	483 2 11		
Clearing and Deepening Mullet Creek	Improving		"	1887	"	481 1 10	132 11 9		
Incidental Expenses to Wharfs, &c.	Annual service.....		"	1888	Unfinished	12,609 3 3	12,609 3 3		
Enlarging Gosford Wharf	Constructing		"	"	Finished	445 12 1	445 12 1		
Erection Cranes, Balranald	"		"	"	Unfinished	124 9 3	124 9 3		
Wharf, Wiseman's Ferry	"		"	"	Finished	340 5 6	340 5 6		
" Port Hacking	"		} Consoli- dated Revenue.	"	Unfinished	48 0 0	48 0 0		
" and Shed, Mangrove Creek	"			"	"	25 0 0	25 0 0		
Jetty, Nelson's Bay, Port Stephens	"		"	"	8 6 8	8 6 8			
Wharf and Shed, M'Donald Town	"		"	"	30 12 0	30 12 0			
" Post Office, Pemberton's, Mangrove	"		"	"	12 10 0	12 10 0			
" Colo River	"		"	"	20 14 2	20 14 2			
Expenses of Tugs on Special Services unconnected with Dredging, together with Expenses of Rocket Apparatus, Newcastle.	Annual service		"	1887	Finished...	436 13 11	63 15 6		
"	"		"	1888	Unfinished	508 10 6	508 10 6		
Casino Wharf Enlargement	Constructing		"	"	14 10 0	14 10 0			
Construction Lighthouse, Kiama	Repairs		Loans	1885	Finished...	1,997 18 6	2 8 6		
					£	148,843 7 11	4,251,633 11 5	435,658 5 6	

No. 2.—Colonial Architect's Department.

RETURN of Public Works carried on by the Colonial Architect's Department in the Year 1888.

Work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Estimated Expense.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Com-menced.	Whether Finished or Unfinished.	If Finished, actual amount of Expenditure.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888.	Amount expended for Furniture in 1888.	Remarks.	
		£				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, &c.											
SYDNEY.											
Attorney-General's Office.....	Repairs		Consolidated Revenue.	1888	Finished...	1 2 8		1 2 8	6 10 4		
Audit Office	"			"	"	"	60 17 0		60 17 0	233 0 4	
Belmore Barracks	"			"	"	"	69 4 0		69 4 0	107 8 0	
Botanic Gardens	"			"	"	"	144 0 7		144 0 7	24 16 2	
Brigade Office	Furniture			"	"	"				30 18 6	
Central Police Court.....	Repairs			"	"	"	36 16 6		36 16 6	30 1 6	
Centennial Celebrations	"			"	"	"	4,171 6 9		4,171 6 9		
Centennial Park	Wall and railing			"	Unfinished	"		1,250 0 0	1,250 0 0		
"	Entrance gates.....			"	"	"		3,000 0 0	3,000 0 0		
Central Railway Parcels Office	Repairs			"	Finished...	"	110 0 0		110 0 0		
Central Police Court (new).....	Excavations			"	"	"	6 0 0		6 0 0		
Centennial Exhibition Commissioners' Office.....	Repairs			"	"	"	4 16 10		4 16 10	3 14 6	
Circular Quay Morgue	"			"	"	"	96 4 3		96 4 3	29 1 0	
City Improvement Board Office	Furniture			"	"	"				4 5 0	
Civil Service Board Office.....	Repairs			"	"	"	11 4 0		11 4 0	2 18 10	
Clerk of Peace Office.....	"		"	"	"	2 12 0		2 12 0	136 8 4		
Comptroller-General of Prisons Office	"		"	"	"	0 4 6		0 4 6	2 5 0		
Cook Park	Gas supply		"	"	"	14 1 6		14 1 6			
Coroner's Office	Repairs		"	"	"	4 14 7		4 14 7	171 6 3		
Crown Law Offices	"		"	"	"	12 16 3		12 16 3	24 12 9		
Custom House	Additions	44,000	Surplus and Con. Rev.	1884	Unfinished		42,407 17 0	3,500 0 0			
"	Fittings			"	Finished...	"	849 15 0		849 15 0		
"	Asphalting, &c.....		Consolidated Revenue.	"	Unfinished	1,088 6 0		1,088 6 0	166 13 1		
"	Turret clock			"	Finished...	"		150 0 0	150 0 0		
Colonial Architect's Office	Repairs, &c.....		"	"	"	188 6 3		188 6 3	8 7 9		
Darlinghurst Gaol.....	Additions		Loans	"	"	1,206 16 4		1,206 16 4			
"	Repairs			"	"	"	243 0 8		243 0 8	52 13 1	
" Court-house	Wall and railing	1,000	"	1887	"	724 8 10		404 8 10			
"	Additions	9,000		"	Unfinished	"		5,050 0 0	5,050 0 0		
"	Repairs		"	"	"	74 3 10		74 3 10	42 11 1		
" Police Station.....	"		"	"	"	41 5 6		41 5 6			
" Reception-house.....	"		"	"	"	136 10 8		136 10 8	30 7 7		
Dawes Point Barracks	"		Consolidated Revenue.	"	"	153 2 6		153 2 6	6 16 5		
" (Captain Hixson's Residence)	"			"	"	"	118 17 7		118 17 7		
" (General Richardson's Residence)	"		"	"	"	17 5 6		17 5 6			
Department of Justice	"		"	"	"	94 5 1		94 5 1	61 0 5		
District Court.....	"		"	"	"	19 16 1		19 16 1			
Domain	"		"	"	"	4 17 6		4 17 6			
"	Gas supply		"	"	"	335 4 4		335 4 4			
Elizabeth-street Lock-up	Erection	1,000	"	"	"	1,016 10 6		1,016 10 6			
Erskine-street Police Station	Alterations & repairs		"	"	"	151 14 7		151 14 7			
Fire Brigade Station (Central)	Erection	13,600	Loans	1887	"	13,882 17 11		3,112 17 11			
Fisheries Department	Repairs			"	"	"	2 0 2		2 0 2		
Fort Macquarie	Gas supply		Con. Revenue.	"	Finished...	14 10 7		14 10 7			
Fort Phillip Signal Station.....	Repairs			"	"	"	67 11 9		67 11 9		
Free Public Library	Rebuilding old wing... ..	12,000	Loans	1887	Unfinished		8,016 17 8	7,106 0 0			
"	Alterations & repairs.. ..			"	Finished...	"	357 8 2		357 8 2	113 6 7	
Flagstaff Hill Reserve	Gas supply		Con. Revenue.	"	"	56 5 10		56 5 10			
General Post Office	Finishing trades	50,000		"	"	"	53,542 11 5		8,942 11 5		
"	Hydraulic lifts.....	5,000	Loans	1886	"	7,494 2 8		2,570 2 8			

	Raising roof of operating-room.	1,300	Loans	1887	Unfinished	2,300 0 0	1,000 0 0			
	Alterations to resumed premises.	650			"	Finished	918 9 6	318 9 6		
	Extension of private boxes.				"	"	750 13 11	750 13 11		
	Pneumatic pumping gear.				"	Unfinished	200 0 0	200 0 0		
	Alterations, additions, repairs, &c.		Consolidated Revenue.	1888	Finished	878 14 9	878 14 9	540 12 6		
George-street North Police Station	Repairs			"	"	"	1 8 7	1 8 7		
George-street South Police Station	"			"	"	"	6 3 11	6 3 11		
Government Printing Office	Additions & alterations			"	"	"	1,235 16 1	1,235 16 1	443 4 2	
" " " Circular Quay Store	"			"	"	"	23 16 6	23 16 6		
" " " Dawes Point Store	"			"	"	"	267 12 6	267 12 6		
Government Guard-house	Repairs			"	"	"	88 6 4	88 6 4		
" Boat-shed	Furniture			"	"	"			12 8 10	
" Medical Officer	Repairs			"	"	"	0 4 6	0 4 6	29 1 4	
" House	Alterations, repairs, &c.			"	"	"	869 19 7	869 19 7	382 5 8	
" " Stables	Additions, repairs, &c.		"	"	"	661 5 8	661 5 8	95 7 1		
Health Office	Repairs, &c.		"	"	"	81 10 11	81 10 11	132 15 4		
Harbours and Rivers Office	"		"	"	"	30 17 1	30 17 1	121 1 6		
Hyde Park	Gas supply		"	"	"	544 9 11	544 9 11			
Imperial Pensions Office	Furniture		"	"	"			7 5 1		
Insolvency Court	Repairs		"	"	"	69 7 9	69 7 9	259 9 0		
Inspector-General of Police Office	Additions, repairs, &c.		"	"	"	223 18 3	223 18 3	14 9 4		
" " Residence	Repairs		"	"	"	26 0 11	26 0 11			
Immigration Barracks	Alterations for Coroners & Patents Offices	1,500	Loans	1887	"	1,467 15 0	467 15 0			
" " "	Clerk of Peace Office	2,500		"	"	"	2,026 10 0	2,026 10 0		
" " "	Curator of Intestate Estates Office.			"	"	"	160 0 6	160 0 6		
" " "	Supreme Court.	4,000		"	"	"	4,272 0 0	1,272 0 0		
" " "	Repairs, &c.			"	"	"	3 5 0	3 5 0		
Labour Bureau	Furniture			"	"	"			15 19 8	
Lands Office	Completion	100,000		Loans	"	Unfinished	1,366 13 4	1,366 13 4		
" " "	Working lift.				"	Finished	"	301 0 0	301 0 0	
" " "	Alterations & repairs.				"	"	"	637 2 5	637 2 5	462 19 3
" " "	Lighting lamps.				"	"	"	29 7 6	29 7 6	
" " (Young-street)	Alterations & repairs.		"		"	"	141 8 9	141 8 9		
" " (Old)	"		"		"	"	93 9 7	93 9 7	0 16 6	
Lands Titles Office	Repairs		"		"	"	8 15 2	8 15 2	36 13 6	
Local Government Board Office	"		"		"	"	38 6 1	38 6 1	9 12 1	
Lunacy Department	"		"		"	"	13 16 9	13 16 9	52 18 10	
Master in Equity Office	"		"		"	"	21 0 0	21 0 0	297 17 1	
Marine Board Office	"		"	"	"	2 18 1	2 18 1	66 12 8		
Melbourne Exhibition Commissioners' Office	"		Consolidated Revenue.	"	"	2 5 6	2 5 6	10 5 6		
Mines Department	Alterations, repairs, &c.			"	"	"	296 16 7	296 16 7	167 1 5	
Mint	Repairs			"	"	"	1 2 3	1 2 3		
Money Order Office	Furniture			"	"	"			3 3 7	
Moorcliff Hospital	Retaining wall	850		"	"	"	843 8 9	343 8 9		
Morgue, South Sydney	Alterations & repairs.			"	"	"	137 6 5	137 6 5		
" " "	Gas supply			"	"	"	11 14 6	11 14 6		
" " "	Repairs			"	"	"	72 2 9	72 2 9	53 9 4	
Museum	Furniture			"	"	"			2 1 7	
Naval Brigade Office	Alterations & repairs.			"	"	"	656 18 9	656 18 9	44 1 5	
Naval Depot	"		"	"	"	134 15 5	134 15 5	24 15 2		
Ordnance Stores	"		"	"	"	184 12 10	184 12 10			
Observatory	"		"	"	"	1,466 9 4	1,466 9 4	522 19 7		
Parliamentary Buildings	"		"	"	"			1 5 0		
" Draftsman	Furniture		"	"	"					

SUBURBS.									
ASHFIELD.									
Lockup	Erection	1,500	Consolidated Revenue.	1887	Finished...	1,457 8 10		857 8 10	14 1 11
BALMAIN.				1888	"	6 5 0		6 5 0	
Police Station	Repairs			1885	"	15,470 5 0		864 5 0	266 18 6
"	Court-house and Post and Telegraph Office	9,600		1888	"	43 17 4		43 17 4	
"	"								
BOTANY.			Loans	1881	"	33,861 14 10		1,777 4 10	24 3 0
Fortifications, Bare Island	Construction	26,500		1888	"	402 2 1		402 2 1	74 11 11
Sanatorium, Little Bay	Alterations & repairs..			"	"	135 15 0		135 15 0	
Cable Station, La Perouse	"			"	"	62 5 0		62 5 0	
Custom-house	Repairs			"	"	12 0 3		12 0 3	
Lock-up	"								
BILOELA.			Consolidated Revenue.	1887	"	2,238 8 6		1,338 8 6	23 13 11
Gaol	Alterations, &c.	2,585		1888	"	11 2 3		11 2 3	
Sheriff's Residence	Repairs								
CALLAN PARK.			Consolidated Revenue.	"	Unfinished		150 0 0	150 0 0	
Asylum	Additions	800		"	Finished...	136 15 0		136 15 0	
"	Verandah			"	"	536 9 5		536 9 5	365 4 6
"	Alterations & repairs..								
CAMPERDOWN.									
Lock-up	Additions			"	"	338 15 0		338 15 0	3 17 3
CONCORD.									
Police Station	Repairs			"	"	7 10 0		7 10 0	
COOK'S RIVER.									
Lock-up	"			"	"	12 0 0		12 0 0	
GARDEN ISLAND.			Loans	1886	"	16,385 17 2		200 8 11	
Sail-loft, &c.	Erection	13,000		1888	"	623 10 0		623 10 0	
"	Fittings, &c.			1887	Unfinished		8,965 11 10	3,815 11 10	
Barracks	Erection	11,000		1888	"		500 0 0	500 0 0	
Boat-cradle	Construction								
GLEBE.			Consolidated Revenue.	"	Finished...	11 1 2		11 1 2	
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs			"	"	27 10 0		27 10 0	
Police Station	"								
GLEBE ISLAND.									
Bridge	Gas supply			"	"	74 18 6		74 18 6	
Abattoir	Deodorising, &c.			"	Unfinished	1,725 0 0	757 0 0	1,725 0 0	
"	Fencing, asphalt, &c.			"	"		680 17 8	680 17 8	
"	Tanks, shoots, &c.			"	Finished...	373 16 7		373 16 7	
"	Alterations & repairs..								
GLADESVILLE.									
Asylum	"			1887	"	691 15 7		691 15 7	208 19 3
"	Additions	1,450		"	"	1,141 1 0		116 1 0	
GEORGE'S HEAD.			Consolidated Revenue.	1888	"	51 12 6		51 12 6	
Barracks	Repairs			"	"	48 1 7		48 1 7	
GOAT ISLAND.									
Magazine	"			"	"	159 3 8		159 3 8	57 1 2
KIRIBILLI POINT.									
Admiralty House	"			"	"				
LEICHHARDT.									
Lock-up	Erection	2 000		"	Unfinished		325 0 0	325 0 0	
Post and Telegraph Office	"	3 000		"	Finished...	2,535 0 0		2,535 0 0	
LONGBOTTOM.									
Police Station	Repairs			"	"	2 0 0		2 0 0	
MIDDLE HEAD.									
Barracks	Sheds, &c.			"	"	946 4 0		946 4 0	
"	Repairs			"	"	383 15 0		383 15 0	
Steel Point Barracks	"			"	"	129 4 10		129 4 10	
MANLY.									
Quarantine Station	"			"	"	86 16 9		86 16 9	46 10 11

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair	Estimated Expense.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Commenced	Whether Finished or Unfinished.	If Finished, actual amount of Expenditure.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888.	Amount expended for Furniture in 1888.	Remarks.
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, &c.—continued.			£			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
NEWINGTON.										
Asylum	Repairs			1888	Finished	123 3 3		123 3 3	35 15 0	
NEWTOWN.										
Police Station	"			"	"	53 2 4		53 2 4	21 13 8	
Court-house	"			"	"	156 10 2		156 10 2	35 17 4	
Post and Telegraph Office	"			"	"	2 6 4		2 6 4	.. .. .
NORTH WILLOUGHBY.										
Police Station	"			"	"	125 2 0		125 2 0	.....
PARRAMATTA.										
Gaol	Additions			"	"	3,295 6 5		3,295 6 5	.....
"	Land			"	"	115 14 7		115 14 7	.. .. .
"	Repairs			"	"	35 16 8		35 16 8	24 8 5	
Lunatic Asylum...	Alterations & repairs			"	"	626 1 11		626 1 11	56 3 3	
Benevolent Asylum	Repairs			"	"	6 5 0		6 5 0	.....
Protestant Orphan School for Asylum for Insane	Alterations	1,000		"	Unfinished	.....	300 0 0	300 0 0	.....
Police Station	Repairs			"	Finished	26 12 7		26 12 7	108 11 7	
Roman Catholic Orphan School for Industrial School	Alterations			"	"	127 18 2		127 18 2	.....
Court-house	Repairs			"	"	16 0 0		16 0 0	19 19 1	
Post and Telegraph Office				"	"	80 17 9		80 17 9	.....
Health Office	Furniture			"	"	.....		.....	26 11 1	
PADDINGTON.										
Court-house	Erection	4,500		"	"	3,977 14 6		3,977 14 6	.....
PORT JACKSON.										
Fortifications	Construction	21,000		1882	"	52,774 18 9		3,940 16 3	.....
" Position-finding and Firing Stations	"			1888	Unfinished	.....	3,898 0 0	3,898 0 0	.....
RANDWICK.										
Lock-up	Repairs			"	Finished	23 0 0		23 0 0	.....
Stock Inspector's Residence	"			"	"	14 5 4		14 5 4	.....
REDFERN.										
Court-house and Lock-up	"			"	"	37 9 2		37 9 2	49 13 11	
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture			"	"	.....		.....	4 8 9	
RODD ISLAND.										
Laboratory	Erection			"	"	3,028 9 2		3,028 9 2	49 16 1	
ROOKWOOD.										
Reformatory	Repairs			"	"	0 17 3		0 17 3	.....
Mortuary	"			"	"	119 0 0		119 0 0	.....
RYDE.										
Court-house	Furniture			"	"	.....		.....	1 8 4	
Police Station	Repairs			"	"	6 15 0		6 15 0	.....
St. LEONARDS.										
Court-house	Furniture			"	"	.....		.....	4 15 5	
Post and Telegraph Office and Court-house	Erection	11,500		1886	Unfinished	.....	10,818 10 0	2,000 0 0	.....
Police Station	Repairs			1888	Finished	0 16 0		0 16 0	32 5 5	
SOUTH HEAD.										
Hornby Light-house	Repairs			"	"	26 8 3		26 8 3	0 13 4	
Macquarie	Alterations and repairs			"	"	490 16 2		490 16 2	9 1 2	
"	Gas supply			"	"	320 1 1		320 1 1	.....
Barracks	Alterations and repairs			"	"	423 18 9		423 18 9	.....
Signal Station	Repairs			"	"	7 11 10		7 11 10	10 10 1	
Reformatory	"			"	"	96 16 0		96 16 0	4 11 0	

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SPECTACLE ISLAND.										
Table Tanks	Construction		Loans	1888	Unfinished	600 0 0	600 0 0
Magazine	Repairs			"	Finished.	221 16 10	221 16 10	1 13 10		
WAVERLEY.										
Post and Telegraph Office	"			"	"	5 0 0	5 0 0	72 9 9		
Lock up	Furniture			"	"	.....	.....	0 15 9		
COUNTRY.										
ADELONG.										
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture			"	"	.....	.....	1 15 9		
ANEMBO										
Police Station	Erection			"	"	620 0 0	620 0 0	...		
ARAKOON.										
Police Station	Repairs, &c			"	"	120 0 0	120 0 0	...		
ALBURY.										
Court house	Repairs			"	"	53 17 10	53 17 10	...		
Police Station	"			"	"	32 16 5	32 16 5	...		
Gaol	"			"	"	12 14 1	12 14 1	..		
Post and Telegraph Office	"			"	"	5 0 0	5 0 0	...		
Inspector Schools' Office.	Furniture			"	"	.....	.....	17 18 5		
Lock-up	Additions			"	"	465 18 0	465 18 0	...		
Foreman of Works' Office	Repairs			"	"	1 1 0	1 1 0	...		
Police Barracks	"			"	"	12 10 0	12 10 0	...		
Lands Office	Furniture		Consolidated Revenue.	"	"	...	...	2 14 8		
ARALUEN.										
Post and Telegraph Office	"			"	"	.....	.....	2 12 6		
Court house	Repairs			"	"	4 5 0	4 5 0	1 16 0		
Police Station	"			"	"	36 17 9	36 17 9	...		
ARMIDALE.										
Court house	"			"	"	30 0 0	30 0 0	..		
Police Station and Officers' Quarters	Additions and repairs			"	"	64 4 4	64 4 4	16 7 2		
Gaol	Repairs			"	"	31 5 4	31 5 4	.....	
Lock-up	Fencing and repairs			"	"	82 4 3	82 4 3	.....	
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs			"	"	24 7 3	24 7 3	.....	
Lands and Survey Office	Fencing			"	"	54 12 6	54 12 6	31 2 2		
BALRANALD.										
Court-house	"			"	Unfinished	.....	403 0 0	403 0 0	..	
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs			"	Finished	1 12 6	1 12 6	16 19 8		
Police Station	Additions	800		1887	"	785 17 0	685 17 0	.....	
	Repairs			1888	"	41 0 0	41 0 0	...		
BALLINA.										
Court-house and Lock-up, &c.	Additions	318		1887	"	273 17 6	53 17 6	...		
Post and Telegraph Office	Erection	1,860		"	"	2,083 0 0	1,408 0 0	76 12 8		
Police Station	Repairs			1888	"	22 17 6	22 17 6	8 1 10		
BARADINE										
Police Station	"			"	"	3 0 0	3 0 0	.....	
BARRENJUEY.										
Light-house	"			"	"	81 12 10	81 12 10	.....	
BATHURST.										
Gaol	Erection	95,000	Loans	1884	"	102,254 12 4	12,471 9 11	.....	
"	Lay on gas, water, &c			1888	Unfinished	.....	500 0 0	500 0 0	..	
"	Repairs			"	Finished	100 2 6	100 2 6	.....	
Post and Telegraph Office	"		Consolidated Revenue.	"	"	242 16 9	242 16 9	.....	
Court-house	"			"	"	52 15 0	52 15 0	..		
Police Station	"			"	"	170 2 7	170 2 7	17 0 0		
Clerk of Works' Office	"			"	"	98 0 0	98 0 0	2 13 1		
	"			"	"	3 4 0	3 4 0	..		

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Work, and where situated	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Estimated Expense	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed	When Com-menced	Whether Finished or Unfinished.	If Finished, actual amount of Expenditure.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888.	Amount expended for Furniture in 1888	Remarks.
		£				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, &c.—continued.										
BEGA.										
Court-house	Alterations	.....	}	1888	Finished	230 19 0	.....	230 19 0	.....
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture	.....		"	"	.....	.....	.....	12 12 2	
Gaol	Repairs	.....		"	"	8 0 0	.....	8 0 0	.....
Public Buildings	"	.....		"	"	86 9 6	.....	86 9 6	.....
BENDEMEER.										
Police Station	Additions	.....		"	"	70 10 0	.....	70 10 0	.....
BINDA.										
Police Buildings	Repairs	.....		"	"	1 10 4	.....	1 10 4	.....
BINGERA.										
Lock-up	"	.....		"	"	4 0 0	.....	4 0 0	.....
BERRIMA.										
Court-house	"	.....		"	"	15 2 6	.....	15 2 6	.....
Post and Telegraph Office	Fencing, repairs, &c.	.....		1887	"	189 17 0	.....	114 17 0	30 12 11	
Gaol	Additions, repairs, &c.	.....		1888	"	393 16 7	.....	393 16 7	46 11 9	
BINALONG.										
Police Station	Repairs	.....		"	"	13 10 0	.....	13 10 0	.....
BLAYNEY.										
Court-house	"	.....		"	"	121 0 0	.....	121 0 0	.....
Police Quarters	"	.....		"	"	8 15 0	.....	8 15 0	.....
Post and Telegraph Office	"	.....		"	"	1 10 3	.....	1 10 3	.....
BLACKVILLE.										
Police Station	"	.....		"	"	5 0 0	.....	5 0 0	.....
BOAT HARBOUR.										
Court-house	Alterations	.....	} Consoli- dated Revenue.	"	"	139 10 0	.....	139 10 0	.....
Police Station	Repairs	.....		"	"	12 0 0	.....	12 0 0	.....
BOWRAL.										
Post and Telegraph Office	"	.....		"	"	68 13 6	.....	68 13 6	12 14 9	
BOURKE.										
Post and Telegraph Office	Additions	1,800		1886	Unfinished	.....	1,823 0 0	1,050 0 0	.....
Court-house	"	.....		1888	Finished	407 15 0	.....	407 15 0	17 12 2	
Lands and Survey Office	Repairs	.....		"	"	1 17 0	.....	1 17 0	4 3 5	
Gaol	Additions	.....		"	"	162 10 6	.....	162 10 6	.....
Police Station	Erection	2,000		"	Unfinished	.....	1,773 18 0	1,773 18 0	28 8 9	
Foreman of Works' Office	Furniture	.....		"	"	.....	.....	.....	0 5 6	
BRAIDWOOD.										
Gaol	Repairs	.....		"	Finished	1 17 7	.....	1 17 7	12 7 8	
BREWARRINA.										
Court-house	Additions	600		"	Unfinished	.....	506 0 0	506 0 0	.....
BROKEN HILL.										
Police Station	"	.....		"	Finished	91 6 0	.....	91 6 0	.....
Court and Watch-house	Erection	6,500		"	Unfinished	.....	300 0 0	300 0 0	.....
BROUGHTON CREEK.										
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture	.....		"	Finished	.....	.....	.....	2 14 2	
Court-house	"	.....		"	"	.....	.....	.....	5 18 0	
BRUNSWICK.										
Police Station	Repairs	.....		"	"	1 10 0	.....	1 10 0	7 13 4	
Court-house	Furniture	.....		"	"	.....	.....	.....	38 12 9	
BUNDARRA.										
Police Quarters	Repairs	.....		"	"	6 0 0	.....	6 0 0	.....

BURROWA.									
Court-house	Fencing		1888	Finished...	273 16 6		273 16 6		
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture		"	"				7 12 5	
BELLADELAH.									
Court-house	Erection	2,700	"	Unfinished		300 0 0	300 0 0		
BUNGWALL.									
Court-house	Furniture		"	Finished...				31 4 6	
BYEROCK.									
Court-house	"		"	"				44 2 8	
CAMDEN.									
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs		"	"	54 15 0		54 15 0		
CAMPBELLTOWN									
Police Station	"		"	"	1 15 6		1 15 6		
Court-house, and Lock-up, &c.	Erection	10,300	1887	Unfinished		9,037 0 0	5,000 0 0	19 14 0	
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs		1888	Finished...	4 9 0		4 9 0		
CARCOAR.									
Gaol and Police Station	"		"	"	3 0 0		3 0 0		
CAPE ST. GEORGE.									
Light-house	"		"	"	26 3 4		26 3 4		
CASINO.									
Gaol	Furniture		"	"				12 13 3	
CANDELO.									
Court-house	"		"	"				22 13 4	
CANONBAR.									
Police Station	Stable		"	"	72 10 0		72 10 0		
CASSILIS.									
Post and Telegraph Office	Additions		1887	"	166 10 0		91 10 0		
CESSNOCK.									
Court-house	Repairs		1888	"	90 4 0		90 4 0		
CLARENCETOWN.									
Police Station	"		"	"	7 5 4		7 5 4	7 10 6	
Court-house	"		"	"	6 12 0		6 12 0		
COBARGO.									
Court-house	"		"	"	4 0 0		4 0 0		
COBBORAH.									
Police Buildings	Fencing		"	"	408 10 0		408 10 0		
Court-house	Repairs		"	"	3 0 0		3 0 0		
COBAR.									
Court-house and Lock-up	Furniture		"	"				117 18 2	
Gaol	"		"	"				19 7 10	
COOMA.									
Court-house	Erection	7,500	1886	"	8,612 1 10		1,794 4 4	195 9 9	
"	Underground Tank	350	1888	Unfinished		374 0 0	374 0 0		
"	Repairs		"	Finished...	59 15 0		59 15 0		
Lands and Survey Office	"		"	"	2 8 8		2 8 8		
Lock-up	"		"	"	1 15 0		1 15 0		
Post and Telegraph Office	"		"	"	3 15 0		3 15 0		
COONAMBLE.									
Police Station	Stables		"	Unfinished		100 0 0	100 0 0		
Gaol	Repairs		"	Finished...	13 5 0		13 5 0	12 11 11	
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture		"	"				5 12 7	
COORANBONG.									
Court-house	Repairs		"	"	50 0 0		50 0 0		
CORDILLELA.									
Police Tent	Flooring		"	"	5 0 0		5 0 0		
COOLAH.									
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture		"	"				8 15 10	
Court-house	"		"	"				2 8 0	

Consolidated Revenue.

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Work, and where situated	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Estimated Expense.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed	When Com-menced	Whether Finished or Unfinished.	If Finished, actual amount of Expenditure	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1883.	Amount expended in 1883	Amount expended for Furniture in 1883	Remarks.	
		£				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, &c.—continued.											
COONABARABRAN.											
Gaol	Repairs .. .	..	Consoli- dated- Revenue.	1888	Finished.	13 8 10	.. .. .	13 8 10	.....	
Police Quarters .. .	" .. .	..		"	"	21 0 0	.. .. .	21 0 0	.....	
Lands and Survey Office .. .	" .. .	..		"	"	0 15 0	.. .. .	0 15 0	.....	
Court and Watch House .. .	" .. .	..		"	"	5 0 0	.. .. .	5 0 0	.. .	
COORANBONG.											
Post and Telegraph Office .. .	Stable .. .	..		"	"	49 0 0	.. .. .	49 0 0	..	
Police Station .. .	Repairs .. .	..		"	"	4 0 0	.. .. .	4 0 0	.....	
COLLECTOR											
Police Station .. .	" .. .	..		"	"	3 8 6	.. .. .	3 8 6	.. .	
Court-house .. .	Stable, &c. .. .	..		"	"	304 12 6	.. .. .	304 12 6	..	
COLOMBO.											
Police Station .. .	Erection .. .	..	"	1887	"	5 9 7	.. .. .	347 0 0	9 1 3	
COROWA.											
Court-house .. .	" .. .	2,000	"	1886	Unfinished		2,007 0 0	850 0 0	.....	
Police Station .. .	Additions .. .	2,000	"	1888	"		922 0 0	922 0 0	11 18 0		
	Repairs .. .	..	"	"	Finished	5 0 0	..	5 0 0	..	
COOTAMUNDRA.											
Gaol .. .	" .. .	..	"	"	"	20 2 10	.. .. .	20 2 10	4 9 5	
Police Station .. .	Additions .. .	..	"	"	"	480 10 0	.. .. .	480 16 0	..	
Post and Telegraph Office .. .	Turret clock .. .	..	"	"	"	345 0 0	.. .. .	345 0 0	..	
" .. .	Repairs .. .	..	"	"	"	110 15 2	.. .. .	110 15 2	..	
CONDOBOLIN.											
Post and Telegraph Office .. .	Furniture .. .	..	"	1886	"	..	.. .. .	..	13 7 4	
Lands Office .. .	Repairs .. .	..	"	1888	"	20 0 0	.. .. .	20 0 0	..	
COWRA.											
Police Buildings .. .	" .. .	..	"	"	"	4 0 0	.. .. .	4 0 0	.....	
Lock-up .. .	Additions .. .	1,000	"	"	"	1,007 9 9	.. .. .	457 9 9	..	
Court-house .. .	Repairs .. .	..	"	"	"	122 10 0	.. .. .	122 10 0	2 13 0	
CROOKWELL.											
Police Station .. .	Stable .. .	..	"	"	"	82 18 0	.. .. .	82 18 0	..	
Post and Telegraph Office .. .	Site .. .	..	"	"	"	330 0 0	.. .. .	330 0 0	..	
CROWDY HEAD.											
Lighthouse .. .	Repairs .. .	..	"	"	"	0 9 0	.. .. .	0 9 0	.....	
CORAKI.											
Court-house .. .	Erection .. .	2,300	"	1887	"	2,658 15 0	.. .. .	2,138 15 0	..	
" .. .	Cell .. .	..	"	1888	"	10 18 0	.. .. .	10 18 0	..	
CUDGEON.											
Police Station .. .	Repairs .. .	..	"	"	"	0 6 0	.. .. .	0 6 0	.....	
CUDGELLICO.											
Police Station .. .	Furniture .. .	..	"	"	"	..	.. .. .	..	1 18 0	
CUNDELTOWN.											
Police Station .. .	Additions .. .	750	"	"	"	764 15 6	.. .. .	764 15 6	..	
CUDAL.											
Court-house .. .	Furniture .. .	..	"	"	"	..	.. .. .	..	1 12 6	
DARLINGTON POINT.											
Police Station .. .	Repairs .. .	..	"	"	"	7 16 3	.. .. .	7 16 3	..	
DENILQUIN.											
Police Station .. .	" .. .	..	"	"	"	29 11 9	.. .. .	29 11 9	57 11 4	
Gaol .. .	" .. .	..	"	"	"	39 12 0	.. .. .	39 12 0	.....	
Lock-up .. .	" .. .	..	"	"	"	4 0 0	.. .. .	4 0 0	..	

DRAKE.			} Con. Rev. {	1888	Finished	4 10 0	4 10 0	.....
Police Station	Repairs .....			"	"	.....	.....	35 8 4
Court-house	Furniture							
DUBBO.			} Loans ...	1886	Unfinished	.....	11,023 0 0	5,700 0 0
Court-house	Erection	10,000		1888	Finished..	42 3 2	42 3 2	35 4 0
"	Repairs		} Con. Rev. {	1887	Unfinished	.....	6,140 0 0	3,300 0 0
Lands and Survey Office	Furniture			1888	Finished..	156 3 2	156 3 2	44 1 1
Gaol	Additions		} Loans ...	"	"	36 8 0	36 8 0	35 12 5
"	Alterations, &c.			"	Unfinished	.....	1,025 0 0	1,025 0 0
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs							
Police Station	Erection	3,000						
DUNGOO.								
Court-house	Repairs			"	Finished...	165 15 0	165 15 0	.....
EDEN.								
Court-house	"			"	"	18 18 4	18 18 4	.. ..
Light-house	"			"	"	33 6 3	33 6 3	.. ..
Post and Telegraph Office	Erection			"	Unfinished	.....	450 0 0	450 0 0
Pilot Station	Repairs			"	Finished..	15 14 0	15 14 0	.....
EMMAVILLE.								
Court-house	Sheds, &c.			"	"	303 3 4	303 3 4	10 6 6
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs			"	"	29 10 0	29 10 0	.....
Lock-up and Police Station	"			"	"	18 12 11	18 12 11	0 15 0
Police Quarters	"			"	"	12 10 0	12 10 0	.....
EUADALONG.								
Police Quarters	Erection			"	"	791 4 3	791 4 3	.....
EUGOWRA.								
Police Station	Repairs			"	"	77 0 0	77 0 0	.....
EUROWRIE.								
Police Station	"			"	"	10 10 0	10 10 0	.....
FERNMOUNT.								
Police Station	"			"	"	5 0 0	5 0 0	.. ..
FINGAL HEAD.			} Consoli- dated Revenue.					
Light house	"			"	"	7 3 2	7 3 2	.. ..
FORBES.								
Police Station	"			"	"	14 0 0	14 0 0	.....
Post and Telegraph Office	"			"	"	63 14 2	63 14 2	.. ..
Court-house	"			"	"	70 4 0	70 4 0	.....
FROGMORL.								
Court-house	Furniture .....			"	"	.....	.....	8 18 0
GABO ISLAND.								
Telegraph Station	Quarters			"	"	1,624 5 0	1,624 5 0	.....
GADDOGA.								
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture .....			"	"	.....	.....	71 3 5
GERMANPON.								
Post and Telegraph Office .....	" .....			"	"	.....	.....	4 16 10
Court-house .....	" .....			"	"	.....	.....	3 0 7
Police Station	Repairs			"	"	0 18 5	0 18 5	.....
GILGANDRA.								
Court-house	Furniture .....			"	"	.....	.....	5 17 0
GININDERA.								
Police Buildings	Repairs			"	"	34 15 0	34 15 0	.....
GLADSTONF.								
Police Station	Underground tank ..			"	"	76 15 0	76 15 0	.....
GORDON.								
Police Station	Cell			"	"	82 13 0	82 13 0	.....

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair	Estimated Expense	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Com-menced	Whether Finished or Unfinished	If Finished, actual amount of Expenditure.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888	Amount expended in 1888	Amount expended for Furniture in 1888.	Remarks.
		£				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, &c.—continued.										
GOULBURN.										
Court-house	Erection	25,000	Surplus Rev.	1884	Finished	30,446 19 2		2,702 15 2		
Gaol	Alterations & repairs.			1888	"	"	956 10 10		956 10 10	735 9 7
Lands and Survey Office	Repairs			"	"	"	739 4 10		739 4 10	1 16 7
Foreman of Works' Office	"			"	"	"	16 0 0		16 0 0	1 4 8
Post and Telegraph Office	"			"	"	"	2 0 8		2 0 8	
Police Station	Fencing			"	"	Unfinished	199 6 10	370 0 0	199 6 10	
	Additions, &c.		"	"	Finished	308 0 6		370 0 0		
								308 0 6	28 17 7	
GOSIORD.										
Court-house	"			"	"	138 8 6		138 8 6	3 8 6	
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs			"	"	45 14 0		45 14 0		
Lands and Survey Office	Furniture			"	"				29 2 4	
Police Station	Repairs			"	"	17 0 0		17 0 0		
GLEN INNES.										
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture			"	"				2 0 5	
Gaol	Fencing			"	"	162 10 0		162 10 0		
Police Station	Repairs			"	"	7 8 0		7 8 0		
Court-house	"			"	"	51 13 4		51 13 4	1 14 0	
GRENFELL.										
Gaol	Shed, fencng, &c.			"	"	74 15 5		74 15 5		
GRESFORD										
Court-house	Repairs			"	"	48 4 6		48 4 6	15 4 0	
GREEN CAPE.										
Lighthouse	"		Consoli- dated Revenue.	"	"	49 12 0		49 12 0	0 5 6	
GRAFTON.										
Court-house	Alterations & repairs.			"	"	329 1 0		329 1 0	5 2 3	
Post and Telegraph Office	Alterations			"	Unfinished		350 0 0	350 0 0		
"	Repairs			"	Finished	30 0 0		30 0 0		
Foreman of Works' Office	"			"	"	26 0 0		26 0 0		
Police Station	"			"	"	25 9 5		25 9 5	9 1 3	
Harbours and Rivers Department	"			"	"	1 5 6		1 5 6		
Gaol	"			"	"	15 11 3		15 11 3		
GULGONG.										
Court-house	Furniture			"	"				6 6 0	
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs			"	"	89 2 0		89 2 0		
GUNDAGAI										
Post and Telegraph Office	"			"	"	150 0 0		150 0 0		
Court-house	"			"	"	25 10 0		25 10 0	15 0 0	
Gaol	Drainage			"	"	125 7 3		125 7 3		
Police Barracks	Repairs			"	"	55 0 0		55 0 0	3 3 7	
GUNNEDAH.										
Court-house	Alterations & repairs.			"	"	236 14 0		236 14 0	2 18 1	
Post and Telegraph Office	Additions			"	"	54 4 0		54 4 0		
Gaol	Repairs			"	"	105 16 9		105 16 9		
Police Buildings	"			"	"	5 0 0		5 0 0		
GUNNING.										
Court-house	"			"	"	12 0 0		12 0 0		
GUYEA.										
Police Barracks	"			"	"	13 19 4		13 19 4		
HAMILTON.										
Post and Telegraph Office	Erection	1,800		"	Unfinished		400 0 0	400 0 0		

HARGRAVES.										
Lock-up	Repairs	...	...	1888	Finished.	11 0 0		11 0 0		
HATFIELD.										
Police Station .. .. .	"	..	..	"	"	6 0 0	..	6 0 0		
HILLVIEW.										
Governor's Residence .. .	"	..	..	"	"	204 12 2	..	204 12 2	19 5 0	
HAY										
Gaol	"			"	"	19 17 4	....	19 17 4	6 2 3	
Lands and Survey Office	Furniture			"	"		... ..		8 15 1	
Police Barracks	Repairs			"	"	18 6 0		18 6 0	16 19 6	
Court-house	Furniture			"	"		.... . . .		26 9 3	
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs			"	"	6 4 4		6 4 4		
Police Officers' Quarters	Additions	..	600	1887	"	550 12 3	...	150 12 3		
HILLSTON										
Police Station	Repairs			1888	"	1 0 0		1 0 0		
Court-house	Furniture			"	"				15 13 2	
Gaol	"			"	"				0 15 0	
ILFORD.										
Police Buildings	Repairs	..	..	"	"	84 6 0		84 6 0	....
INVERELL										
Court-house .. . . .	"	..	..	"	"	17 17 7		17 17 7	181 16 1	
Post and Telegraph Office .. .	"	..	..	"	"	23 3 8		23 3 8	...	
Police Buildings .. . . .	"	..	..	"	"	0 4 9		0 4 9	3 18 0	
IVANHOE.										
Court-house .. . . .	"	..	..	"	"	7 10 0		7 10 0	41 15 0	
JERILDERRIE										
Police Barracks .. . . .	"	..	..	"	"	109 10 3	....	109 10 3		
Post and Telegraph Office .....	"	..	..	"	"	263 0 0	..	263 0 0		
JERRY'S PLAINS										
Post and Telegraph Office .. .	"	..	..	"	"	0 10 0		0 10 0		
Police Station .. . . .	"	..	..	"	"	7 10 0		7 10 0		
JUNBE										
Police Station	"	..	..	"	"	4 12 6	....	4 12 6		
Court house	Furniture			"	"				5 6 11	
Post and Telegraph Office .. .	Repairs			"	"	0 18 6		0 18 6		
JUNBE JUNCTION										
Court house .. . . .	"	..	..	"	"	59 10 0	.....	59 10 0		
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture			"	"				26 17 11	
KEWPSLEY (WTS1)										
Court-house	Repairs		...	"	"	2 10 0		2 10 0	0 15 0	
Police Station .. . . .	"	..	..	"	"	5 5 0	..	5 5 0		
Lock up Gaol	Additions	..	1,200	"	"	1,152 14 4		1,152 14 4		
KIAMA										
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs		..	"	"	15 0 0		15 0 0	...	
Police Station	"			"	"	21 19 10	.....	21 19 10		
Court-house	"			"	"	125 13 2		125 13 2	11 2 9	
LAKE MACQUARIE										
Lock-up	Additions		500	"	Unfinished		200 0 0	200 0 0		
LAMBTON										
Court house	Repairs		...	"	Finished.	16 0 0		16 0 0	13 10 0	
Post and Telegraph Office	"		..	"	Unfinished		50 0 0	50 0 0	.....
LAWRENCE										
Court house	Additions		..	"	"		80 0 0	80 0 0		
LITHGOW.										
Court-house	Furniture		..	"	Finished				19 15 0	
LOCHINVAR										
Lock-up	Repairs		..	"	"	4 11 0	.....	4 11 0	.....

Consolidated Revenue.

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Estimated Expense.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Com-menced.	Whether Finished or Unfinished.	If Finished, actual amount of Expenditure.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888.	Amount expended for Furniture in 1888.	Remarks.
		£				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, &c.—continued.										
LISMORE.										
Court-house	Additions, &c.		}	1888	Finished.	628 19 1	.....	628 19 1	.....
Post and Telegraph Office . . .	"	410		1887	"	529 7 4	.....	250 0 11	.....
Police Station	Repairs			1888	"	8 0 0	.....	8 0 0	.....
LIVERPOOL.										
Benevolent Asylum	Additions and repairs		"	"	131 19 9	.....	131 19 9	.....	
Post and Telegraph Office	"		"	"	102 13 6	.....	102 13 6	.....	
Court-house	Furniture .....		"	"	.....	.....	.....	0 8 4		
LOUTH.										
Post and Telegraph Office	Erection	1,500	}	1887	"	2,172 9 0	.....	997 9 0	.....
Lock-up	Cell			1888	"	43 0 0	.....	43 0 0	.....
MAITLAND.										
Gaol	Additions, &c.		}	"	"	1,383 2 1	.....	1,383 2 1	11 14 10	
Lands and Survey Office	Repairs, &c.			"	"	113 17 6	.....	113 17 6	.....
Court-house	"			"	"	235 11 0	.....	235 11 0	67 2 3	
Police Barracks	"			"	"	65 9 5	.....	65 9 5	9 15 11	
Post and Telegraph Office	"			"	"	12 1 3	.....	12 1 3	.....
MAITLAND (WEST).										
Post and Telegraph Office	Alterations and repairs		}	"	"	216 10 9	.....	216 10 9	.....
Court-house	Repairs			"	"	3 10 0	.....	3 10 0	.....
Police Station	"			"	"	10 1 1	.....	10 1 1	.....
MATHOWRA.										
Court-house	Furniture .....		}	"	"	.....	.....	.....	4 10 0	
MACLEAY.										
Pilot Station	Repairs		}	"	"	1 0 0	.....	1 0 0	.....
MARSDEN.										
Court-house	"		}	"	"	3 0 0	.....	3 0 0	0 14 11	
MACLEAY.										
Police Buildings	"		}	"	"	11 0 0	.....	11 0 0	.....
MANILLA.										
Court-house	U.G. Tanks, &c.		}	"	"	128 10 0	.....	128 10 0	6 0 11	
MARULAN.										
Police Station	Repairs		}	"	"	1 14 0	.....	1 14 0	.....
MERRIWA.										
Court-house	Furniture .....		}	"	"	.....	.....	.....	14 0 7	
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs			"	"	1 5 0	.....	1 5 0	.....
Police Station	"			"	"	23 5 10	.....	23 5 10	2 4 6	
MENINDIE.										
Court-house	"		}	"	"	21 15 0	.....	21 15 0	.....
Lock-up	"			"	"	5 0 0	.....	5 0 0	.....
MITTAGONG.										
Court-house	Additions, &c.		}	"	"	248 1 11	.....	248 1 11	.....
MILPARINKA.										
Police Station	Stable		}	"	"	153 0 0	.....	153 0 0	.....
MILLE.										
Court-house	Furniture .....		}	"	"	.....	.....	.....	53 11 1	
MOAMA.										
Court-house	Repairs		}	"	"	2 17 6	.....	2 17 6	5 4 6	
Post and Telegraph Office	"			"	"	4 0 0	.....	4 0 0	.....
Custom-house	Erection	875		1887	"	846 3 9	.....	571 3 9	0 15 6	
Lock-up	"			1888	Unfinished!	.....	760 0 0	760 0 0	.....

MONTAGUE ISLAND.											
Light-house	Repairs			1888	Finished.	76 13 10		76 13 10			
MOREE.											
Lands and Survey Office	Furniture			"	"	134 18 7		134 18 7		3 16 0	
Court-house	Repairs, & Additions			1887	"	288 9 4		128 9 4			
Post and Telegraph Office											
MORPETH.											
Court house	Repairs			1888	"	65 7 0		65 7 0			
MOLONG.											
Court-house	U.G Tank, &c			"	"	120 0 0		120 0 0			
MOGIL MOGIL.											
Court-house	Furniture			"	"					40 13 7	
MOONBI											
Police Station	Repairs			"	"	2 15 0		2 15 0			
MORANGARILL.											
Post and Telegraph Office	Erection			"	"	92 0 0		92 0 0			
MORUYA.											
Post and Telegraph Office	Additions			1887	"	394 0 0		284 0 0		59 8 8	
Court-house	Repairs			1888	"	6 0 0		6 0 0			
Pilot Station	"			"	"	0 9 11		0 9 11			
Police Station	"			"	"	6 10 0		6 10 0			
MOSSGIEL.											
Court-house	Furniture			"	"					6 8 11	
MOUNT MACDONALD.											
Police Buildings	Repairs			"	"	9 14 0		9 14 0			
MOUNT VICTORIA											
Lock-up	Furniture			"	"					3 1 7	
MULWALA											
Court-house	"			"	"					65 6 5	
MUDGLE.											
Court-house	Repairs			"	"	21 8 6		21 8 6			
Gaol	Furniture			"	"					3 12 0	
Police Station	Repairs			"	"	151 8 0		151 8 0			
Post and Telegraph Office	Additions	2,000		1887	Unfinished		2,259 1 6	1,759 1 6			
MURWILLUMBAH											
Court-house		800		1888	Finished	865 7 6		865 7 6		6 15 0	
MURRURUNDI.											
Court-house	Furniture			"	"					12 19 2	
Police Station	Repairs			"	"	14 0 0		14 0 0			
Gaol	"			"	"	3 10 0		3 10 0			
MURRUMBURAH											
Lock-up	Site for			"	"	70 0 0		70 0 0			
MUSWELLBROOK.											
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs			"	"	14 12 4		14 12 4			
Court-house	Furniture			"	"					0 3 0	
NARRABRI											
Gaol	Repairs	3,500	Loans	"	"	6 0 0		6 0 0			
Court-house	Erection			1887	"	3,245 10 0		885 10 0		233 15 2	
Do	U.G Tank			1888	"	85 0 0		85 0 0			
Post and Telegraph Office	Additions	1,000		"	"	1,061 16 0		1,061 16 0		10 2 11	
NARRANDERA											
Court-house	Repairs			"	"	21 5 0		21 5 0		13 1 9	
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture			"	"					5 1 5	
Police Station	Additions			1887	"	701 13 0		421 13 0			
NOWRA.											
Court-house	Repairs			1888	"	3 10 0		3 10 0		18 1 11	
Lands and Survey Office	Furniture			"	"					1 6 0	

Consolidated Revenue.

Loans

Consolidated Revenue.

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Work, and where situate l.	Whether Constructing or under Repair	Estimated Expense	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Com- menced	Whether Finished or Unfinished	If Finished, actual amount of Expenditure.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888.	Amount expended for Furniture in 1888.	Remarks.	
		£				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, &c.—continued.											
NEWCASTLE.											
Asylum for Imbeciles	Alterations and repairs	.....	} Consolidated Revenue.	1888 ..	Finished...	185 15 0	.....	185 15 0	38 5 4	
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs	.....		" ..	" ..	41 17 6	.....	41 17 6	.....	
Court-house	"	.....		" ..	" ..	69 2 6	.....	69 2 6	8 8 II	
Custom-house	"	.....		" ..	" ..	73 9 2	.....	73 9 2	.....	
"	Gas for Clock	.....	} Loans	" ..	" ..	85 6 10	.....	85 6 10	.....	
Clerk of Works' Office	Repairs	.....		" ..	" ..	3 3 9	.....	3 3 9	.....	
Seamen's Shelter Shed	"	.....		" ..	" ..	67 4 0	.....	67 4 0	.....	
Fortifications	Construction	.....		" ..	Unfinished	.....	43,235 0 10	350 0 0	.....	
"	Drainage, repairs, &c.	.....	} Loans	1888 ..	Finished.	191 10 0	.....	191 10 0	.....	
Pilot Bain's Quarters	Alterations and repairs	.....		" ..	" ..	33 0 0	.....	33 0 0	.....	
" Melville's Quarters	"	.....		" ..	" ..	157 0 9	.....	157 0 9	.....	
" Oldfield's	"	.....		" ..	" ..	4 2 10	.....	4 2 10	.....	
" Hacking's	"	.....		" ..	" ..	1 19 11	.....	1 19 11	.....	
" Powell's	"	.....		" ..	" ..	135 19 4	.....	135 19 4	.....	
Morgue	"	.....		" ..	" ..	44 17 6	.....	44 17 6	.....	
Lightkeeper's Quarters	"	.....		" ..	" ..	18 10 0	.....	18 10 0	.....	
Police Quarters	"	.....		" ..	" ..	15 0 0	.....	15 0 0	.....	
Leading Light-towers	"	.....		" ..	" ..	34 9 0	.....	34 9 0	.....	
Public Buildings	"	.....		" ..	" ..	0 18 0	.....	0 18 0	.....	
NIMITYBELLE.											
Police Station	Repairs		} Loans	" ..	" ..	21 8 II	21 8 II	
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture			" ..	"	2 0 6	
NUNDLE.											
Court-house	Repairs	.....	} Loans	" ..	" ..	27 0 0	.....	27 0 0	.....	
NYMAGEE.											
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture	.....	} Loans	" ..	" ..	.....	.....	.....	78 10 1	
NYNGAN.											
Police Buildings	"	.....	} Loans	" ..	" ..	.....	.....	.....	1 1 4	
OBERON.											
Post and Telegraph Office	"	.....	} Loans	" ..	" ..	.....	.....	.....	36 6 8	
Court-house	"	.....		" ..	" ..	.....	.....	.....	2 14 0	
ORANGE.											
Lands and Survey Office	"	.....	} Loans	" ..	" ..	.....	.....	.....	8 18 7	
Police Barracks	Alterations and repairs	.....		" ..	" ..	168 2 6	.....	168 2 6	.....	
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs	.....		" ..	" ..	36 5 9	.....	36 5 9	.....	
Court-house	"	.....		" ..	" ..	26 0 0	.....	26 0 0	17 6 II	
Gaol	"	.....	" ..	" ..	0 2 6	.....	0 2 6	.....		
OXLEY.											
Police Buildings	Erection	.....	} Loans	1887 ..	" ..	940 6 0	.....	100 0 0	.....	
PATERSON.											
Court-house	Alterations and repairs	.....	} Loans	" ..	" ..	321 0 0	.....	180 14 0	.....	
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture		" ..	1888 ..	"	8 3 II	
PENRITH.											
Court-house	Alterations and repairs	.....	} Loans	" ..	" ..	159 19 6	.....	159 19 6	.....	
Post and Telegraph Office	"	.....		" ..	" ..	81 7 6	.....	81 7 6	.....	
PICTON.											
Court-house	Repairs	} Loans	" ..	" ..	7 12 10	7 12 10	64 10 2		
Lands Office	Furniture		" ..	"	5 11 5		

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PORT MACQUARIE.			} Consolidated Revenue.	1888	Finished..	2 0 0	2 0 0	
Court-house	Repairs			"	"	4 10 0	4 10 0	
Pilot Station	"			"	"	3 12 10	3 12 10	
Light house ..	"			"	"	18 11 10	18 11 10	
Goal	"			"	"			
PORT ST. PHILAS								
Light-house . . .	"			"	"	44 12 4	44 12 4	11 17 9
QUANBEYAN.								
Goal	Additions			"	"	10 12 10	10 12 10	
Police Station	"			"	"	193 15 0	193 15 0	
Court-house	"		"	"	79 11 0	79 11 0		
QUIRINDI								
Police Station	Repairs		"	"	10 0 0	10 0 0		
RAYMOND TERRACE.								
Lands Office	Furniture		"	"			4 11 7	
Court-house	"		"	"			7 3 10	
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs		"	"	36 16 6	36 16 6		
RICHMOND.								
Court-house	Furniture		"	"			4 8 5	
Post and Telegraph Office	Additions	1,000	1887	"	994 10 0	424 10 0	9 4 0	
ROBERTSON.								
Court-house	Repairs		1888	"	65 15 11	65 15 11	29 3 2	
ROCKLEY.								
Post and Telegraph Office ..	"		"	Unfinished	60 0 0	60 0 0		
RYDAL.								
Police Station ..	Furniture		"	Finished			0 9 8	
RYLSTONE								
Post and Telegraph Office	Additions		"	"	104 16 0	104 16 0		
Court-house	Repairs		"	"	2 13 0	2 13 0		
Police Buildings	Erection	1,200	1887	Unfinished	864 19 7	389 19 7	10 19 6	
SALT CREEK								
Police Station ..	Repairs		1888	Finished	61 0 0	61 0 0		
SEAL ROCKS.								
Light-house ..	"		"	"	11 19 0	11 19 0	4 19 0	
SEYMOUR.								
Court-house ..	Furniture		"	"			3 14 5	
SHELLHARBOR.								
Court-house ..	Repairs		"	"	6 10 0	6 10 0		
SILVERTON.								
Circuit Court ..	"		"	"	15 0 0	15 0 0		
Custom-house	Furniture		"	"			28 9 0	
Police Station and Lock-up	Cells		"	"	90 0 0	90 0 0		
Court-house	Erection	3,500	1887	Unfinished	2,450 0 0	2,250 0 0		
Foreman of Works' Office	Furniture		1888	Finished..			0 10 0	
SINGLETON								
Police Station ..	Repairs		"	"	6 0 0	6 0 0		
Court-house	"		"	"	9 3 0	9 3 0		
Post and Telegraph Office	"		"	"	129 0 0	129 0 0		
SOMERTON.								
Police Station ..	"		"	"	8 0 0	8 0 0		
SMITHFIELD								
Police Station...	"		"	"	4 0 0	4 0 0		
SOUTH CREEK								
Post and Telegraph Office ..	"		"	"	81 12 6	81 12 6		
SOUTH SOLITARY ISLAND.								
Light-house ..	"		"	"	16 1 9	16 1 9		
STOCKTON								
Custom-house ..	Furniture		"	"			9 9 8	
Lock-up	Repairs		"	"	2 8 0	2 8 0		

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Work, and where situated	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Estimated Expense.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Com-menced.	Whether Finished or Unfinished.	If Finished, actual amount of Expenditure.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888.	Amount expended for Furniture in 1888.	Remarks.	
		£				£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, &c.—continued.											
STROUD.											
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture	...	Consolidated Revenue.	1888	Finished	.....	.....	.....	8 10 7	
Lands and Survey Office	"	.....		"	"	.....	.....	.....	1 2 0	
Court-house	"	.....		"	"	.....	.....	.....	37 6 1	
STUARTTOWN.											
Court-house	"	.....		"	"	.....	.....	.....	0 5 11	
Police Station	Fencing	.....		"	"	72 15 0	.....	72 15 0	.....	
TAMWORTH.											
Gaol	Repairs	.....		"	"	1 18 0	.....	1 18 0	.....	
Post and Telegraph Office	"	.....		"	"	76 12 7	.....	76 12 7	.....	
Police Station	"	.....		"	"	14 6 6	.....	14 6 6	.....	
Court-house	Furniture	.....		"	"	.....	.....	.....	18 11 0	
TAREE											
Court-house	Fencing	.....		"	"	52 10 0	.....	52 10 0	.....	
Police Station	Repairs	.....		"	"	3 0 0	.....	3 0 0	.....	
Lock-up	"	.....		"	"	3 0 0	.....	3 0 0	.....	
TENTERFIELD.											
Gaol	Additions	.....	"	"	374 14 0	.....	374 14 0	1 1 8		
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs	.....	"	"	18 0 0	.....	18 0 0	.....		
TIBOOBURRA.											
Lock-up	Additions	.....	"	"	148 10 0	.....	148 10 0	.....		
TINGHA.											
Court-house	Furniture	.....	"	"	.....	.....	.....	70 1 7		
TINONFE.											
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs	.....	"	"	34 3 6	.....	34 3 6	14 0 8		
TRUNKEY CREEK.											
Post and Telegraph Office	"	.....	"	"	9 11 0	.....	9 11 0	.....		
Court-house	Furniture	.....	"	"	.....	.....	.....	5 11 6		
TUENA.											
Court-house	"	.....	"	"	.....	.....	.....	14 5 2		
Warden's Quarters	"	.....	"	"	.....	.....	.....	12 7 3		
TUMBERUMBA.											
Police Station	Additions	.....	"	"	207 8 0	.....	207 8 0	.....		
TUMBULGUM.											
Police Station	Furniture	.....	"	"	.....	.....	.....	9 8 4		
TUMUT											
Lock-up	Repairs	.....	"	"	12 10 0	.....	12 10 0	.....		
Post and Telegraph Office	Alterations, &c.	.....	"	"	219 0 0	.....	219 0 0	.....		
TWEED RIVER.											
Light-house	Repairs	.....	"	"	5 3 1	.....	5 3 1	.....		
Pilot Station	"	.....	"	"	4 0 0	.....	4 0 0	.....		
Custom-house	"	.....	"	"	0 16 0	.....	0 16 0	.....		
ULLADULLA.											
Light-house	"	.....	"	"	11 13 10	.....	11 13 10	.....		
ULMARRA.											
Court-house	Furniture	.....	"	"	.....	.....	.....	36 19 0		
URALLA.											
Court-house	Fencing, tank, &c.	.....	"	"	180 18 0	.....	180 18 0	3 8 10		
Foreman of Works' Office	Rent	.....	"	"	18 0 0	.....	18 0 0	.....		
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs	.....	"	"	35 18 0	.....	35 18 0	20 3 9		

WAGGA WAGGA.			1888	Finished	16 11 5	16 11 5	...
Gaol	Repairs		"	"	9 13 10	9 13 10	...
Lands and Survey Office	Furniture		"	"	8 7 9	8 7 9	...
Court-house	Repairs		"	"	72 0 0	72 0 0	...
Public Buildings	"		"	"	345 15 0	345 15 0	...
Lock-up	Additions		"	"	32 1 11	32 1 11	8 12 6
Police Station	Repairs		1887	"	1,076 5 4	1,076 5 4	...
Post Office	Erection	3,000	1888	"	3,667 19 0	3,667 19 0	...
"	Land		"	"	65 15 2	65 15 2	82 14 0
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs		"	"			...
WALGETT.			"	"			21 12 6
Gaol	Furniture		"	"	182 0 0	182 0 0	9 11 9
Court-house	Repairs		"	"			...
WALLSEND.			"	"			...
Police Station	"		"	"	3 10 0	3 10 0	...
Post and Telegraph Office	"		"	"	11 0 0	11 0 0	...
Court-house	Furniture		"	"			13 10 0
WALLERAWANG.			"	"			2 13 1
Court-house	"		"	"			...
WARREN.			"	"			...
Police Station	Repairs		"	"	5 10 0	5 10 0	...
Court-house	Additions	1,300	"	"	1,167 0 0	1,167 0 0	19 1 3
WARATAH.			"	"			...
Post and Telegraph Office	Repairs		"	"	95 1 0	95 1 0	...
WEE WAA.			"	"			41 1 9
Post and Telegraph Office	Erection	1,200	"	"	1,195 15 0	1,195 15 0	...
Police Barracks	Repairs		"	"	26 5 0	26 5 0	...
WELLINGTON.			Consolidated Revenue.	"			...
Public Buildings	Additions & repairs		"	"	232 0 0	232 0 0	...
Gaol	Repairs		"	"	7 6 3	7 6 3	...
Police Station	"		"	"	2 19 0	2 19 0	1 16 7
WERRIS CREEK.			"	"			...
Lock-up	"		"	"	2 15 0	2 15 0	...
WENTWORTH.			"	"			...
Court-house	"		"	"	25 0 0	25 0 0	...
Police Station	"		"	"	29 14 3	29 14 3	...
Post and Telegraph Office	"		"	"	5 0 0	5 0 0	...
Gaol	"		"	"	29 9 0	29 9 0	1 1 0
WHITTON.			"	"			...
Lock-up	"		"	"	7 0 0	7 0 0	...
WILCANNIA.			"	"			...
Court-house	Additions & repairs		"	"	123 1 5	123 1 5	...
Police Barracks and Gaol	Addns, altrns., &c.	850	1887	Unfinished	931 6 6	137 18 0	...
Public Buildings	Fencing		1888			200 0 0	...
WINDSOR			"	Finished			...
Gaol	Repairs		"	Finished	0 5 1	0 5 1	...
Post and Telegraph Office	Land		"	"	55 10 8	55 10 8	...
Court-house	Repairs		"	"	3 15 6	3 15 6	...
WINGHAM			"	"			4 17 10
Post and Telegraph Office	Furniture		"	"	65 0 6	65 0 6	...
Police Buildings	Repairs		"	"			...
WOODBURN.			"	"			...
Court-house	Additions		"	"	160 0 0	160 0 0	...
WOODENBONG.			"	"			...
Police Buildings	Erection		"	"	500 0 0	500 0 0	...
WOLLAR.			"	"			14 11 3
Court-house	Furniture		"	"	5 0 0	5 0 0	...
Police Station	Repairs		"	"			...

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Work, and where situated	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Estimated Expense.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed	When Com-menced.	Whether Finished or Unfinished.	If Finished, actual amount of Expenditure.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888.	Amount expended for Furniture in 1888	Remarks.	
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, &c.—continued.			£			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
WOLLOMBI.											
Police Buildings	Repairs .....	..	Consolidated Revenue.	1888	Finished	11 0 0	.. .. .	11 0 0	..	
Court-house	Alterations and repairs .. .	.. .		"	"	384 10 0	.. . . .	384 10 0	.. . . .	
WOLLONGONG											
Gaol	Repairs .. .	.. .		"	"	16 19 9	.. . . .	16 19 9	..	
Court-house .. .	" .. .	.. .		"	"	38 6 3	.. . . .	38 6 3	40 15 0	
Custom-house .. .	" .. .	.. .		"	"	10 0 0	.. . . .	10 0 0	..	
WOY WOY.											
Police Station .. .	" .. .	..		"	"	10 10 0	..	10 10 0	..	
YANTABULLA											
Police Buildings .. .	" .. .	..		"	"	11 10 0	..	11 10 0	..	
YASS											
Gaol	Additions and repairs .. .	..	"	"	303 0 0	..	303 0 0	..		
Post and Telegraph Office ..	" .. .	..	"	"	318 12 10	..	318 12 10	..		
Police Buildings .. .	Turret Clock .. .	..	"	"	444 8 6	..	444 8 6	..		
Court-house .. .	Repairs .. .	.. .	"	"	93 12 6	..	93 12 6	..		
	" .. .	..	"	"	16 15 0	..	16 15 0	21 9 4		
YOUNG											
Court-house .. .	" .. .	..	Consolidated Revenue.	"	"	205 11 6	..	205 11 6	1 0 0	
Gaol	Additions and repairs .. .	..		"	"	228 13 9	..	228 13 9	6 9 6	
Warden's Quarters .. .	Shed .. .	..		"	"	13 18 4	..	13 18 4	..	
Post and Telegraph Office .. .	Repairs, &c. .. .	..		"	"	24 10 0	..	24 10 0	..	
Public Buildings generally .. .	Alterations and repairs .. .	..	"	"	949 14 5	..	949 14 5	142 9 6		
" .. .	Superintendence .. .	..	"	"	3,250 13 5	..	3,250 13 5	..		
Gaols and Court-houses .. .	" .. .	..	"	"	1,446 9 9	..	1,446 9 9	..		
Post and Telegraph Offices .. .	" .. .	..	"	"	199 7 11	..	199 7 11	..		
Public Buildings generally .. .	Advertising .. .	..	"	"	36 9 3	..	36 9 3	..		
Coffins for Paupers .. .	Coffins and Burials .. .	.. .	"	"	364 13 5	..	364 13 5	..		
Ballot-boxes .. .	Freight .. .	.. .	"	"	2 5 2	..	2 5 2	..		
Public Buildings generally .. .	Fuel and light .. .	.. .	"	"	1,283 1 9	..	1,283 1 9	..		
Institutions for Insane .. .	Superintendence .. .	.. .	"	"	150 0 0	..	150 0 0	..		
Police Stations and Officers' Quarters .. .	Repairs, &c. .. .	.. .	"	"	51 11 0	..	51 11 0	..		
						483,951 18 10	240,369 0 9	243,910 17 4	15,225 16 2		

No. 3.—Railway Construction Branch.

Railway Construction Branch, Public Works Department,

Sir,

Sydney, 18 April, 1889.

In compliance with the request contained in the circular of the Under Secretary, dated 16th January, viz., that I would cause to be prepared annually a report upon the operations of this Branch during the preceding twelve months, I have the honor to report as follows:—

The Railway Construction Department was separated from the Department for the Management of Railways by the "Government Railways Act of 1888," becoming operative on 22nd October, 1888.

At the commencement of the year 1888 there were in hand eight railway contracts, viz.:—

Tenterfield to Queensland Border.
 Hawkesbury River Bridge.
 Hawkesbury to Gosford.
 Hornsby to St. Leonards.
 Illawarra Railway Contract No. 2 (from Waterfall to North Clifton).
 Illawarra Railway Contract No. 3 (from North Clifton to Clifton).
 Blayney to Cowra.
 Michelago to Cooma.

The following lengths were opened for traffic during the year:—

Tenterfield to Wallangarra	...	...	...	Jan. 16	11 miles.
Mullet Creek to Gosford	...	...	...	" 16	10 "
Blayney to Cowra	...	...	...	Feb. 13	47 "
Portion of Illawarra Railway, Contract No. 3 (from North Clifton to Clifton)	...	...	...	July 23	2½ "
Portion of Illawarra Railway, Contract No. 2 (from Waterfall to North Clifton)	...	...	...	Oct. 3	10 "

The unfinished works at the end of the year were:—

Hawkesbury River Bridge.
 Hawkesbury to Mullet Creek Station.
 Hornsby to St. Leonards.
 Michelago to Cooma.

These works are all approaching completion.

In Appendix A, I give a brief description of all the lines mentioned, together with a statement of payments to the contractors on works in hand during the year. I may here state that I have in course of preparation a detailed description of all extensions taken in hand since my report of March, 1876. This information will be forwarded as soon as completed.

A staff of surveyors has been engaged during the year in the survey of various new lines, and in the improvement and permanent staking of others authorized in previous years.

In Appendix B will be found a statement descriptive of these lines of survey, with a table of the cost.

I have, &c.,

JOHN. WHITTON.

APPENDIX A.

Tenterfield to Wallangarra.

This extension commences at a point 381 miles 45 chains from Newcastle, and terminates at 392 miles 42 chains, being a distance of 10 miles 77 chains.

The contract for the works was carried out by Messrs. M'Arde and Thompson, as representing Stephens & Co., to whom the contract was let. The earthworks are not of a heavy character. The principal work of importance is the bridge over the Tenterfield Creek, at 388 miles 50 chains, which consists of six 42-inch timber under-trusses, resting on brick piers and abutments.

Stockyards for Tenterfield are erected on this extension near the beginning of the section. The works at the Border Station carried out by this Department consist of a joint goods-shed on the New South Wales side, the widening of the passenger platform and erection of a verandah for the New South Wales trains on the Queensland side, a joint stockyard on the Queensland side, and the necessary connections and extension of the respective roads on either side of the Border. A platform has been made at Sunnyside, 387 miles 31 chains. The line was opened for traffic on the 16th January.

Hawkesbury to Gosford.

Portion—Mullet Creek to Gosford.

This length forms part of contract No. 3 of the Southern and Northern Junction Railway, let to G. Blunt, commencing at the Hawkesbury River, 36 miles 60 chains, and terminating at Gosford, 50 miles 48 chains. Owing to delay in completing embankments 5, 6, 8, and 10, a portion only of the contract, namely, that from 40 miles 40 chains to 50 miles 48 chains, could be opened for traffic, a temporary station being erected at the head of Mullet Creek as the southern terminus. The works on this extension are of a heavy character. Between 41 miles 42 chains and 42 miles 52½ chains the railway is in tunnel (= 1,991 yards). This tunnel has been constructed for a double line, and has been lined with brick throughout. It was originally intended to be only 84 chains in length, but the treacherous nature of the ground at the southern end rendered it desirable to extend it for a length of 6½ chains.

There are two iron bridges built for double line, both of the same construction—one over the Woy Woy Creek, at 45 miles 47 chains, and the other at the Broadwater, over the entrance of the Narrara Creek, at 49 miles 40 chains. The superstructure consists of continuous plate girders, extending over three spans of 66 feet, with plate cross girders and timber deck. The piers are formed by 5-foot cast-iron cylinders in pairs, filled with concrete. Timber approaches are built at each end.

A

A commodious station has been made at Gosford, and a platform and waiting-shed built near the crossing of the Woy Woy Creek at 45 miles.

The works were finally inspected and the iron bridges tested on the 12th January. The line was opened for traffic on the 16th January.

Blayney to Cowra.

The contract for this extension was let to Mr. J. S. Robertson.

The line was practically finished at the end of 1887, but there still remained some road-lifting, boxing up, and trimming to be done. It was finally inspected on February 8th, 9th, and 10th, and opened for traffic on the 13th February. The contract was 45 miles 13 chains in length, but in addition to this the main line between the junction and the station at Blayney was duplicated, this work being also carried out by Mr. Robertson.

The principal work on the contract was the tunnel (308 yards in length) through the hill south of Carcoar Station. This tunnel, which is for a single line, was lined with concrete, and is the first of its kind in this Colony.

Concrete has been exclusively used for the culverts and piers to bridges.

Several creeks of considerable size are crossed, as for instance, Mackenzie's Creek, Belubula River, Coombing Creek, Mandurama Creek, and Wangoola Creek, to provide waterway, for which a series of 26-foot timber openings have in each case been erected. The station at Carcoar is the most commodious on this line. In order to render this station-ground more accessible the original formation was lowered for a length of 1 mile 6 chains, extending through the tunnel, which had to be lengthened in consequence. The increased hardness of the earthworks was the subject of claim on the part of the contractor, and new prices had to be arranged. The other stations are :—

				miles	chains.
Mandurama	...	...	at	187	45
Lyndhurst	...	...	"	191	0
Baker's Crossing	...	...	"	194	0
Burley Jackey...	...	...	"	202	10
Woodstock	...	...	"	206	50
Holmwood	...	...	"	214	60

Water has been provided for engine purposes at 199 miles 15 chains by sinking a well. At Cowra a supply of water is obtained from the river Lachlan, near the road bridge, for the use of the station and the town. This work was completed early in the year.

Illawarra Railway—Contract No. 3.

Portion—North Clifton to Clifton.

This length forms the hitherto unopened portion of contract No. 3 of the Illawarra Railway, and extends from the 34-mile peg to 36 miles 60 chains at Clifton Station. Messrs. Proudfoot and Logan were the contractors. The portion was opened for traffic on the 23rd July, 1888, a temporary station at North Clifton having been made for the purpose.

The works include a tunnel through the Coal Cliff 1,093 yards in length. This tunnel was designed to be 1,056 yards long, but the treacherous nature of the ground necessitated its lengthening at each end. In connection with the culvert at the crossing of Stony Creek, at 34 miles 61 chains, a considerable outlay was necessary in the shape of inlet works. In Clifton township a slip having occurred which had the effect of throwing a railway bridge out of position, and of producing the subsidence of bank 99, this bank was removed and the material got rid of by tipping over the cliff on the land of the North Illawarra Coal-mining Company. The centre line was altered for about 20 chains by bringing it nearer to the hill; an approximation to a surface line was thus obtained, and one that could be easily kept in repair if further slipping took place. This work was commenced on February 17th, and completed April 20th, 1888.

The cuttings between Bulli and Clifton gave a good deal of trouble. This portion had been opened for public traffic in the previous June, before the earthworks were properly finished, and the work done after that date was carried out by day labour, and was necessarily costly. It was completed on March 20th, 1888.

Illawarra Railway—Contract No. 2.

Portion—Waterfall to North Clifton.

This length forms the unopened portion of contract No. 2 of the Illawarra Railway from 24 miles to 34 miles, which was let to Messrs Rowe and Smith.

This line was finally inspected on the 1st October, and opened for traffic on the 3rd. The works include seven tunnels of a total length of 3,498 yards, constructed for a single line, and lined with brick throughout; also, a timber-trussed bridge of seven spans of 42 feet each, over Port Hacking Creek, and some large brick culverts, viz., two of 15 feet, two of 20 feet, and one of 30 feet. The earthworks are extremely heavy.

The wet weather which prevailed throughout the year 1887 hindered the making of bricks for the tunnel lining, and was, further, the cause of a number of earthwork slips more or less serious. The works, which should have been completed by 31st December, 1887, were thus only handed over for traffic on the 3rd October, 1888.

A platform has been erected at Helensburg, at 27 miles 30 chains, and one at Otford, near 30 miles 15 chains, and a junction with the Metropolitan Coal Company's line has been made near 27 miles 70 chains.

Hawkesbury

Hawkesbury River Bridge.

The construction and erection of this bridge was let to the Union Bridge Company of New York. The contract was signed on May 20th, 1886, and two and a-half years were allowed for completion, so that the time expired on November 20th last. The superstructure of the bridge consists of 7 (seven) spans, and is entirely of steel; the distance from centre to centre of the piers is 416 feet. The design of the superstructure is of an American type; the top boom alone being riveted and made rigid throughout—the vertical struts or posts, the diagonal ties, and the bottom boom or chord have pin attachments—the diagonals and members of the bottom chord being eye bars. The piers consist of concrete enclosed in a steel and iron skin up to near low-water level; above this they are of masonry. No. 1 is the shallowest pier, the bottom being about 100 feet below high water; No. 6 is the deepest, and its base is 162 feet below high water; Nos. 5 and 6 piers were the first attempted, but owing to the taper at the lower end of the caissons it was found impossible to keep them in their right position; afterwards the other caissons were altered so as to make the sides at the bottom vertical instead of tapered. No. 5 pier was so much out of line that the masonry could not be built upon it as it was; an attempt was made to sink a crescent-shaped piece at the west end to afford the additional support required. This was a failure, and had to be abandoned. Afterwards, the end of the existing caisson was corbelled out with large stone blocks to receive the masonry. The caisson of No. 6 pier, during sinking, got out of line, out of distance, and twisted, and was considerably out of plumb. The question of distance was overcome by increasing the length of No. 6 span 4 ft. 3 in. The twist was not so great that the masonry could not be built upon it; and, before stopping on the rock, which was ultimately reached, the top came over, so as to enable the masonry to be built upon it, in line with the rest of the piers. The question of the propriety of building up the masonry when the caisson below was in this inclined position was referred by the contractors to Sir John Fowler, who recommended its adoption. The alteration in the length of span No. 6 has caused delay in completion of the contract, the necessary steel-work having only arrived in the Colony in December.

The work done during 1888 was as follows:—

South abutment built.			
No. 1 pier	—	masonry finished.	
2	—	45 ft. sinking, and masonry built.	
3	—	60	”
4	—	Masonry finished.	”
5	—	6 ft. sinking, and masonry built.	”
6	—	30	”
North abutment built.			
Superstructure.			
No. 4 span	put in position	—	May 25th.
1	”	”	—July 12th.
2	”	”	—Sept. 8th.
3	”	”	—August 16th.
7	”	”	—October 6th.

Hawkesbury to Gosford.

Mullet Creek Works.

The unopened portion of No. 3 contract was still incomplete at the end of the year.

Banks 8 and 10 were finished at the beginning of the year, settlement having practically ceased. Banks 5 and 6 still continued to subside. Bank 6 afterwards arrived at a satisfactory state, leaving bank 5 as the only one giving trouble. At the present date this one is also finished.

The quantity of earth and rock tipped into banks 5, 6, 8, and 10 during the year was 125,261 cubic yards, and the total put into those banks over the quantity originally estimated, was, up to the end of 1888, 468,351 cubic yards. The permanent-way has been laid over the whole of this length.

Hornsby to St. Leonards.

This contract, which was let to Mr. E. Pritchard, should have been completed at the end of the year. Delay has occurred chiefly through the neglect or inability of the contractor to obtain sleepers.

The contract originally comprised a length of 10 miles 69 chains, but owing to uncertainty as to where the terminus should be, orders were given not to proceed with any work beyond the 10-mile peg, and the proclamation of the line extended only to this point.

The contract up to this point is now complete.

There are no works of special interest on this line, but the line is rather remarkable for the large number of private level crossings and overbridges which had to be granted to satisfy the demands of the numerous landowners.

The present terminus at 10 miles is far removed from the main road, and the whole line will be practically useless, and, if opened for traffic, must be worked at a loss till the extension to Milson's Point is carried out.

Stations and platforms have been erected at:—

1 mile	40 chains	—	Pearce's Corner.
2 miles	60	”	—Eastern Road.
3	”	37	” —Beechworth Road.
5	”	0	” —Gordon.
6	”	40	” —Lindfield.
7	”	30	” —Roseville.
8	”	30	” —Chatswood.

Michelago to Cooma.

This portion of the Goulburn to Cooma extension was let to Messrs. Walker and Swan. It commenced at 224 miles 55 chains and ended at 263 miles 48 chains, being a length of 38 miles 73 chains. Afterwards the works were stopped at 261 miles 68 chains, and the line deviated into the town of Cooma, the new terminus being at 264 miles 45 chains.

There is one tunnel on this contract 196 yards long at 239 miles; it is made for single line, and lined with brickwork.

The only large brick culvert is on the Gaugoandra Creek, at 239 miles 57 chains, and has a diameter of 20 feet. Other important rivers and creeks are spanned by timber bridges and viaducts, as follows:—

Michelago River, at commencement of contract, spanned by 8-26 feet timber openings.

Ingalara Creek, at 232 miles 48 chains, by 5-42 feet spans, with timber under-trusses and trestles on brick piers.

Colyer's Creek, at 236 miles 4 chains, by 5-26 feet timber openings.

Bredbo River, at 244 miles 43 chains, by 10-42 feet spans on the skew with timber under-trusses on pile trestles and brick abutments.

Umaralla River, at 252 miles 47 chains, by 5-42 feet spans with timber over-trusses on squared pile trestles, and 40-26 feet timber openings; also, 12-26 feet timber openings detached from the main viaduct to give additional space for flood-waters.

Cooma Creek, at 258 miles 26 chains, with altogether 15-26 timber openings on the skew. The permanent-way was commenced about the beginning of the year, and at the end of December about 37 miles in a direct line, not including sidings, had been laid.

Stations at Bredbo, Bunyan, and Cooma, and platform at Umaralla, have been constructed. Works for water supply at Umaralla River and Cooma are in progress.

The contract should have been completed at the end of the year, but owing to delay in obtaining sleepers, it will not be finished until about the end of May.

STATEMENT of payments to the contractors on works on the following extensions during 1888:—

Contract.	Amount.	
	£	s. d.
Hawkesbury Bridge	102,817	4 1
Hawkesbury to Gosford	43,490	6 6
Tenterfield to Queensland Border	6,562	17 10
Blayney to Cowra	16,851	3 8
Sydney to Kiama, section 2... ..	63,353	5 4
Do do 3... ..	21,256	12 4
North Shore Railway	76,953	5 0
Michelago to Cooma... ..	100,575	16 5

WORK PERFORMED BY THE RAILWAY SURVEY BRANCH IN 1888.

Allandale to Wollombi.

In compliance with the wishes of a deputation of the residents from Wollombi and Cessnock, the Minister, in February, ordered a trial survey to be made of this route.

Two deviations, which more than double the distance surveyed, have also been run. The districts traversed are important; near the Allandale end the coal lands are attracting attention.

A survey was made some years ago to connect the Western and Northern Railways, which included this length, but all the records were lost in the Garden Palace fire.

The length of the surveyed line is 28 miles.

The trial plan and section have been prepared.

Grafton to The Tweed.

The first survey made was from Casino to Byron Bay, *via* Lismore, a distance of about 46 miles, but the plans of this were destroyed in the Garden Palace fire.

During 1883-4 the survey was continued from Byron Bay, *via* Brunswick, to Murwillumbah, a distance of 36 miles; and about the same time a survey was commenced in Grafton and carried on to Casino, a distance of about 60 miles.

The coast line between Byron Bay and Chinderah, *via* Brunswick and Cudgen, was also commenced in 1885. Since that time a large amount of deviation for the improvement of the line has been made, and, of this, much has been adopted.

By the end of 1888 the position of the survey was as follows:—About 92 miles of the improved line, commencing from Grafton, had been permanently staked, leaving a length of about 14 miles to Byron Bay yet unfinished.

Working plan and section have been in part prepared.

From Byron Bay to Murwillumbah the line had been roughly marked out and prepared for final staking. On the Chinderah route the portion between Brunswick and Chinderah had been prepared for this operation, leaving a length of 12 miles between Byron Bay and Brunswick to prepare for final staking.

The sum of £1,980,000 was voted in 1884 for this line.

Cootamundra to Temora, Temora to Barmedman, Barmedman to Hillston.

This line was projected in the first instance as a "feeder" to the Great Southern Railway at Cootamundra from Temora only. The survey was commenced in July, 1888, and subsequently extended to Barmedman. An application then being received from Hillston, on the Lachlan, for a connection with Coolamon, on the Hay extension, it was considered advisable to extend the Cootamundra-Barmedman line to Hillston instead; this portion is still in progress.

The lengths of the sections surveyed are:—Cootamundra to Temora, 34 miles 65 chains; Temora to Barmedman, 22 miles 50 chains. The trial plans and sections of the whole of the line to Barmedman have been prepared.

Jerilderie to Deniliquin.

The plans of the original trial survey of this route were lost in the Garden Palace fire.

This line, which would complete a connecting link between the New South Wales and Victorian railway systems, was commenced in July and finished in October, 1888. The length of the connection is $44\frac{3}{4}$ miles.

Trial plan and section have been completed, and also the Parliamentary plan and section.

Molong to Wilcannia, *via* Parkes and Condobolin.

All information respecting the original surveys was destroyed in the Garden Palace fire. The survey, however, only extended to Condobolin.

In 1882 trial surveys were made, and the route afterwards permanently staked for a line from Orange, *via* Borenore and Molong, to a point near Forbes, 275 miles from Sydney. This survey was extended to Condobolin, and thence to Wilcannia. For connecting this proposed line with Parkes a trial survey was made from $251\frac{1}{2}$ miles, *via* Flagstone Creek, to that town, a distance of about $10\frac{1}{2}$ miles. From Molong to Condobolin by this route is 112 miles, and to Wilcannia 270 miles, making 382 miles in all.

A portion of the line from Orange to Molong was constructed, but that from Molong to near Forbes was, in 1884, rescinded, and the route from Borenore, *via* Cudal, Toogong, and Eugowra, to Forbes, substituted and permanently staked. Recently, however, this route has been discarded, and that *via* Molong in part resuscitated.

The working plans and sections of the line, as originally staked, from Molong to 275 miles had been plotted, but the resurvey now made as far as 241 miles cancels this portion.

The work of the year 1888 has included the making of trial surveys for improvement of the alignment of the permanently-staked line between Molong and 241 miles, to bring it within the category of a light line, and the trial survey of another line from this point into Parkes, a distance of 23 miles. The survey of the latter, known as the Bumberry route, was in progress at the end of 1888.

One of the improvements mentioned above has been in continuing the line through Molong Station and round the north and west of the hilly ground, instead of a direct route across the hills, as laid out originally.

In 1884 a sum of £1,050,000 was voted for the line between Forbes and Wilcannia.

Marrickville to Liverpool.

Several trial lines have been surveyed in past years, commencing in 1884, *viz.*:—One *via* Belmore to the south of the route that has been finally staked, and two *via* Bankstown and Lansdown Creek to the north of that route. The line actually adopted prior to 1888 followed an almost direct line from Canterbury to Liverpool, crossing George's River twice.

During the year 1888 another trial survey was made passing to the north of Bankstown, and the staked line was also improved by two deviations which were made for the purpose of reducing the earthworks entailed by the use of a ruling gradient of 1 in 100.

The length is $13\frac{3}{4}$ miles. The working plan and section of the line as finally staked have been plotted and nearly completed, but the deviations since made have yet to be worked up.

Bowling to Burrowa.

This survey which is about 30 miles in length has been undertaken during the year, and is still in progress. About one-third of the work has been completed.

Blacktown to Blayney.

An exploration of this country was made in October by direction of the Minister along the Warragamba and Cox Rivers, *via* Mount Werung. The result showed that had a railway to be constructed along this route the work would be of a very costly nature, and the gradients extremely objectionable.

Kiama to Jamberoo.

On representation by the residents, a surveyor was sent in December to survey a new route for connecting Jamberoo with the existing railway into Kiama. This survey was about half completed at the end of the year. Its length will be about $5\frac{1}{4}$ miles.

One of the surveys for the Illawarra Railway was taken through Jamberoo, but the route was not adopted.

Kiama to Nowra.

Deviations have been made on the staked line between Kiama and the crossing of the Shoalhaven River, on the Kiama to Jervis Bay Extension, which will much reduce the cost of construction at those places.

Sutherland to Kurnell.

This survey was commenced in August, and finished in November. The line is projected to connect the site chosen for the Noxious Trades with the Illawarra Railway at Sutherland, 15 miles from Sydney. Its length being a little under 11 miles.

The trial plan and section have been completed.

Goulburn to Crookwell.

In 1883-4 a trial survey was made to connect Crookwell with the Southern Railway at Yarra. A line was also run from Breadalbane, connecting with the first line from Yarra, and subsequently a deviation was surveyed *via* Grabbengullen.

During 1885-6 a trial survey, which was afterwards approved for final staking as the permanent route, was made from Goulburn *via* Woodhouselee to Crookwell; and from a point on this line, a branch line to Teralga, a distance of 15 miles, was surveyed.

The working plan and section of the staked line were plotted, but since then, and during the year under review, considerable deviation has been made.

In 1884 the sum of £259,500 was voted for this line.

The Balmain Lines.

In 1887 trial surveys were commenced from Homebush and Strathfield on the Western Line *via* Five Dock, across Long Cove to Long Nose Point. Another survey, starting from Tempe on the Illawarra Line, crossing under the Western Line at the Petersham Viaduct, has been made to this point. All these lines meet at Leichhardt, on the Southern shore of Long Cove.

During the year 1888 two other trial lines were made between Tempe and Petersham Viaduct. These not proving satisfactory, another deviation was laid out, which has been adopted.

The plans and sections of the various trial surveys have been prepared, and Parliamentary plan and section of the adopted route, from Tempe to Long Nose Point, have been forwarded to the Minister.

The Dural Lines.

At the latter end of 1887 and early part of 1888 trial lines were run to connect Dural with the Western Railway. One of these started from Parramatta, and a deviation connects this line also with Westmead. Another line, in continuation of the Rosehill Branch Railway, was run to meet the Parramatta and Dural survey.

The route adopted for submission is that leaving the present railway at Westmead.

The length of the adopted line is a little over 11 miles.

Trial plans and sections have been prepared.

The Inverell Lines.

The first route surveyed, for connecting Inverell by railway with Glen Innes, was *via* Swanbrook Creek, giving a distance of $45\frac{1}{2}$ miles. A deviation from this route, *via* Wellingrove, has been permanently staked, and the working plan and sections completed.

From Kentucky a line was surveyed to Inverell, resulting in impracticable gradients; but a renewed exploration being made, a good route was found. This line passes through Bundarra.

A short alternative line was laid down to make Uralla the connecting point on the main line instead of Kentucky. This connection was $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles only in length. Trial plans and sections of these lines are ready.

The length to Inverell from Kentucky, *via* Bundarra, is 82 miles.

There has also been surveyed an independent line from Uralla, *via* Yarrowick, which joins the Guyra to Inverell line at Tingha. Guyra and Inverell have been connected by trial survey, the distance being 55 miles. Plan and section are complete.

Diagram sections of all the proposed lines to Inverell, and a large diagram plan showing them all, have been prepared.

For the line from Glen Innes to Inverell the sum of £578,000 was voted in 1884.

Eden to Bega.

Surveys between Eden and Bega were commenced in 1881. Routes have been tried *via* Pambula, Merimbula, Candelo, &c. The line which had been adopted for final staking, prior to 1888, went *via* Pambula, and was 34 miles in length. In 1888 various deviations were made and permanently staked, making the total distance 37 miles.

The working plans and sections of both lines have been prepared.

The sum of £606,000 was voted for this line in 1884.

Musclebrook to Cassilis.

The surveys for this line were commenced in 1882. They all pass through Merriwa. Various deviations have been tried, and the best route selected and permanently staked.

The working plans and sections have been plotted, and the Parliamentary plans were nearly completed at the end of 1888.

An amount of £700,000 was voted for this line in 1884.

Hornsby to St. Leonards.

This line, as permanently staked, terminated at Crow's Nest, at St. Leonards, a distance of $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Hornsby.

Starting at a point $8\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Hornsby, a branch $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles was laid out to Ball's Head, on Port Jackson. The branch line has been abandoned, while of the main line to Crow's Nest 10 miles only have been

been under construction, the present terminus being at Gore's Hill. From this point trial surveys were made and plans and sections prepared for continuation to the waters of Port Jackson, terminating respectively at Robertson's Point (Cremorne), Blue's Point, and Milson's Point. Of these the latter only has been found favourable for the construction of a railway.

Plans, sections, and estimates have been prepared and submitted.

City Extension.

A survey has been made and plans and sections prepared for a proposed double line of railway from Redfern to the Circular Quay, *via* Kent and Sussex Streets and Dawes Point. The length of this line is 2½ miles.

Plans and sections have also been in preparation for a continuation of the present railway at Redfern, through Hyde Park, to a terminus at King-street.

Eastern Suburbs Railway.

A preliminary survey has been made for a double line of railway to serve the Eastern Suburbs, starting from the end of the line *via* Dawes Point at the Circular Quay, and passing through Darlinghurst, Woollahra, Waverley, and Randwick, skirting the Randwick racecourse, thence through Waterloo, and joining the Illawarra Railway at Erskineville. There are four tunnels on this route, and the total length of the line is 8½ miles.

Plan and section of the line are ready, and estimate is being prepared.

APPENDIX B.

EXPENDITURE on Lines under construction during 1888.

Extension.	To end of 1888.			During 1888.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Homebush to Waratah	1,934,146	13	5	212,332	1	7	2,146,478	15	0
Goulburn to Cooma	1,133,226	5	1	164,359	0	5	1,297,585	5	6
Murrumburrah to Blayney	992,736	12	4	52,235	18	1	1,044,972	10	5
Hornsby to St. Leonards	23,238	6	7	101,902	17	9	125,141	4	4
Tenterfield to Border	103,304	1	7	9,638	17	3	112,942	18	10
Sydney to Kiama	1,574,460	4	2	117,127	6	10	1,691,587	11	0
Glen Innes to Tenterfield	772,796	9	3	2,693	8	4	775,489	17	7
Cootamundra to Gundagai	222,456	11	10	596	5	9	223,052	17	7
	6,756,365	4	3	660,885	16	0	7,418,251	0	3

Cost of Railway Surveys.

Name.	Old charges.			1888.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Allandale to Wollombi				973	19	0	973	19	0
Cootamundra to Temora				378	11	10	378	11	10
Temora to Barmedman				134	15	2	134	15	2
Barmedman to Hillston				68	1	4	68	1	4
Jerilderie to Deniliquin				650	0	3	650	0	3
Molong to Parkes				218	13	3	218	13	3
Parkes to Condobolin				397	2	6	397	2	6
Marrickville to Liverpool	1,766	2	3	354	14	5	2,120	16	8
Bowning to Burrowa				181	12	4	181	12	4
Blacktown to Blayney				101	14	10	101	14	10
Kiama to Jamberoo									
Sutherland to Kurnell				265	5	10	265	5	10
Goulburn to Crookwell..... { Trial Survey	1,466	15	2				1,466	15	2
..... { Permanent Survey	1,786	6	7	242	14	6	2,029	1	1
Tempe to Balmain	579	16	7	988	5	9	1,568	2	4
Strathfield to Long Nose Point	287	5	11				287	5	11
Homebush to Long Nose Point	356	2	4	154	13	7	510	15	11
Parramatta to Dural	154	7	5	245	0	1	399	7	6
Guyra to Inverell	15	7	2	850	14	3	866	1	5
Glen Innes to Inverell	2,836	15	8				2,836	15	8
Kentucky to Inverell	54	16	11	1,350	6	3	1,405	3	2
Uralla to Inverell	1,156	7	6	115	6	0	1,271	7	6
North Shore Railway to Harbour	169	12	8	1,408	15	1	1,578	7	9
Bega to Eden	4,187	5	5	1,475	16	11	5,663	2	4
Musclebrook to Cassilis ... { Trial Survey	1,090	16	5				1,090	16	5
..... { Permanent Survey	3,689	19	1	310	14	1	4,000	13	2
Grafton to Tweed River ... { Trial Survey	1,474	18	10				1,474	18	10
..... { Permanent Survey	10,232	11	7	6,716	5	8	16,948	17	3

STATEMENT of the average number of Men Employed on Railway Contracts, and the Amounts Paid to Contractors, in each year, from 1883 to March, 1889.

Year.	Number of Men.	Amount.
		£
1883	7,278	1,222,000
1884	9,163	1,588,000
1885	9,810	1,677,000
1886	7,470	1,451,000
1887	3,671	862,000
1888	1,606	488,000
1889*	504	60,000

* To the end of March, including retention money paid to contractors on completed contracts.

No. 4.—Land Valuer's Branch.

Minute by Mr. Land-Valuer Thompson to The Under Secretary for Public Works.

Subject: Annual Report of the Work of the Valuation Branch of the Public Works Department.

Department of Public Works, Valuation Branch,
Sydney, 15 May, 1889.

IN compliance with the circular instructions of the Under Secretary for Public Works, No. 89/155 P.W., I have now the honor to submit a Report of the work of this Branch for 1888.

During the year claims to the amount of £108,033 11s. 1d. for compensation for land taken for railway and tramway purposes were received and reported on. The number of claims settled during the same period was 155, and the amount paid, £84,327 6s. 7d. At the close of the year there were 245 cases unsettled from various causes, but in none of them is delay attributable to this Branch, nor can any of them be regarded as arrears. Numerous resumptions have also been made under the "Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act," for sewerage, water supply, cemeteries, and other purposes.

In addition to the foregoing, the following, which are beyond the ordinary or routine work of the Branch, may be mentioned:—

1. The Land Valuer had to attend to several arbitration cases, and to collect evidence therein; to make special reports on many important matters; and to furnish estimates of cost of resumptions for public purposes, such, for instance, as the proposed quadruplication of the railway from Redfern to Homebush.
2. A large quantity of extra clerical work was done, such as the compilation of a Deed Register of all railway lands, which involved a careful and laborious search of over 3,500 documents, and extraction therefrom of many particulars. Also the collection and entry in registers and ledgers of particulars of all resumptions of land under the "Land for Public Purposes Acquisition Act" resumed prior to the transfer of this Branch to the Public Works, and a large amount of other work consequent upon that transfer.
3. Considerable progress has been made by Mr. Rae (draftsman in this office) in the important work of accurately defining the boundaries of the railway lands upon the working plans.

Statement showing work executed by this Branch since its initiation is annexed hereto.

J. B. THOMPSON,
Land Valuer.

ABSTRACT of the Total Quantity and Cost of Land taken for Railway Purposes to the 31st December, 1888, under the Government Railways Act of 1858.

Railway Lines.	Length.	Quantity taken.				Total.	Amount claimed.	Amount paid.					Probable Amounts to be paid.	Total Cost.	Rate.								
		Private.		Crown.				For Land and Buildings.	Severance.	As Costs of Arbitration.	Claimants' Costs on Conveyances.	Per Mile of Line.			Per Acre.								
	Miles chns.	a.	r.	p.	a.	r.	p.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
GREAT WESTERN LINE.																							
Granville to Bathurst	131 30	1,346	2 27	1,600	2 25½	2,947	1 12½	88,463	19 1	42,054	3 2	5,888	8 5	199 6 2	1,874	19 5	749	18 2	50,766	15 4	386	8 6¼	37 13 11½
Bathurst to Orange	47 75	613	0 31	141	3 5	754	3 36	37,684	11 0	13,627	15 3	2,804	7 3	987 11 5	709 9 9	237 0 0	18,366	3 8	383	2 6¼	29 19 0½		
Orange to Dubbo	85 25½	342	3 8	920	3 25	1,263	2 33	34,611	6 6	14,687	9 4	1,356	13 8	312 14 0	720 1 6	168 5 2	17,245	3 8	202	2 6¼	50 6 1¾		
Dubbo to Nyngan	99 49½	39	1 1½	2,325	3 4	2,365	0 5½	2,987	10 0	1,660	12 4	93	7 6	.....	59 0 2	.....	1,813	0 0	18	4 0	46 3 7½		
Nyngan to Bourke	125 49	6	0 0	3,180	2 30	3,186	2 30	55	0 0	38	4 0	.....	.....	.....	4 16 0	.....	43	0 0	0	6 10¼	7 3 4		
Wallerawang to Mudgee	84 54	734	2 6½	1,166	1 29	1,900	3 35½	25,399	7 5	13,821	1 2	1,114	16 7	169 2 6	1,050	10 1	269	3 3	16,424	13 7	193	19 5½	22 7 2½
Richmond Branch	16 11½	128	1 15	17	1 29½	145	3 4½	8,057	16 8	3,540	3 9	1,744	13 1	.....	313 9 9	274 16 10	5,873	3 5	303	16 1	45 15 2½		
Orange to Molong	22 61½	418	0 19	80	3 39	499	0 18	21,038	16 10	12,898	8 2	1,368	12 6	180 10 0	178 6 6	5 0 0	14,630	17 2	642	11 8½	35 0 0		
Total, Great Western	613 35½	3,628	3 28	9,434	2 27¼	13,063	2 15¼	218,298	7 6	102,327	17 2	14,370	19 0	1,849 4 1	4,910 13 2	1,704 3 5	125,162	16 10	204 0 7¾	34 9 9¾			
GREAT NORTHERN LINE.																							
Newcastle to Murrurundi	119 44	1,479	1 20	374	2 15½	1,853	3 35½	170,676	0 0	60,022	7 1	8,396	11 11	647 14 9	1,924	16 3	1,021	9 3	72,012	19 3	602	7 4	48 13 6½
Murrurundi to Tamworth	62 36	503	0 13	381	0 1	884	0 14	14,134	6 7	5,181	6 7	1,755	11 8	.....	280 2 2	74 18 3	7,291	18 8	116	15 3½	14 9 10½		
Tamworth to Uralla	63 44	435	0 14	261	3 25½	696	3 39½	47,577	3 0	23,231	14 8	2,793	9 4	1,789 2 2	831 16 10	33 14 8	28,679	17 8	451	5 11¼	65 18 4¼		
Uralla to Glen Innes	78 36	681	3 34	1,144	2 26	1,826	2 20	41,440	19 0	12,475	12 3	2,860	12 6	774 11 8	486 15 6	117 3 10	16,714	15 9	213	1 3	24 10 2¼		
Glen Innes to Tenterfield	57 45½	310	1 20	743	0 9	1,053	1 29	32,517	18 2	3,939	13 2	818	6 10	5 5 0	189 15 7	734 8 5	5,687	9 0	98	15 11¼	18 6 6		
Tenterfield to Queensland Border	10 76½	52	3 16	159	3 1	212	2 17	2,321	17 1	718	15 3	455	1 8	.....	76 10 9	.....	1,250	7 8	114	1 10¼	23 13 2		
Morpeth Branch	3 35½	34	3 22½	1	2 28½	36	2 11	32,367	4 10	18,088	0 9	1,500	16 3	605 16 2	368 7 11	62 17 11	20,631	19 0	5,991	2 7	591 7 2		
Bullock Island Branch	1 25½	19	2 18½	6	2 32½	26	1 11½	14,710	2 0	9,465	16 3	.....	.....	156 0 6	161 14 5	8 16 0	9,792	7 2	7,425	9 8½	499 3 2¼		
Total, Great Northern	397 23	3,517	0 38½	3,073	1 19½	6,590	2 17½	355,745	10 8	133,123	6 0	18,580	10 2	3,978 10 3	4,319 19 5	2,053 8 4	162,055	14 2	407 18 1¼	46 1 5¾			
GREAT SOUTHERN LINE.																							
Sydney to Granville	13 50	339	3 0	40	3 3	380	2 3	246,635	1 4	200,336	15 11	1,458	18 1	2,066 0 7	1,091 4 0	3,166 0 4	208,118	18 11	15,274	15 8¼	612 11 4		
Granville to Goulburn	120 51	1,317	0 39	751	1 0	2,068	1 39	80,829	3 0	32,810	13 9	7,295	2 10	680 13 3	1,571 15 4	2,364 2 6	44,722	7 8	370	14 4	33 19 0¼		
Goulburn to Yass	54 21	549	1 12½	226	2 35	776	0 7½	42,389	3 9	16,314	17 2	2,492	10 3	317 13 6	602 15 1	1,103 0 0	20,830	16 0	383	17 9½	37 18 5		
Yass to Cootamundra	64 55	469	3 23	511	3 25½	981	3 9½	14,893	9 3	6,615	0 3	561	19 1	175 10 6	295 15 11	328 11 0	7,976	16 9	123	6 3¼	16 19 6¼		
Cootamundra to Wagga Wagga	55 35	210	3 21	566	3 9½	770	2 30½	12,266	9 6	6,801	1 0	738	14 3	.....	235 11 11	199 12 10	7,975	0 0	143	17 1½	37 16 4¼		
Wagga Wagga to Albury	77 49	591	2 8	637	0 12	1,228	2 20	60,847	4 0	22,289	13 10	6,428	6 4	25 0 0	389 5 2	264 9 6	29,396	14 10	378	15 3	49 13 10½		
Albury to the River Murray	1 31½	47	0 25	.....	.....	47	0 25	33,576	10 0	11,326	14 10	1,522	1 3	.....	123 3 6	120 15 0	13,092	14 7	9,414	19 11	275 11 3¼		
Murrumburrah to Young	17 66	230	3 8	133	2 5	364	1 13	51,406	1 5	14,880	7 4	1,451	16 1	68 1 8	414 0 9	21 19 6	16,836	5 4	944	10 7½	72 18 11½		
Young to Blayney	91 66	1,060	3 9	681	0 6	1,741	3 15	46,751	3 9	11,936	4 3	3,328	16 7	71 14 6	683 9 11	3,920 2 3	19,940	7 6	217	3 15	18 15 11		
Goulburn to Bungendore	39 32½	642	0 38	76	2 23	718	3 21	40,153	6 2	11,926	12 6	2,195	11 8	697 15 2	396 17 2	260 10 9	15,477	7 3	392	14 8	24 1 11¼		
Bungendore to Michelago	47 55	555	1 24	281	1 18	836	3 2	22,789	7 2	6,471	7 8	1,883	15 0	21 0 0	542 12 0	885 4 3	9,803	18 11	205	11 9	17 13 0½		
Michelago to Cooma	38 70½	492	0 10	203	3 5	695	3 15	24,349	13 9	4,388	3 10	2,068	5 0	21 0 0	357 3 5	320 5 0	7,154	17 3	184	0 4¼	14 10 9¾		
Cootamundra to Gundagai	33 17½	518	2 19	158	2 31	677	-1 10	38,761	14 2	5,896	19 8	944	1 7	15 15 0	333 16 2	5,017 4 6	12,207	16 11	367	10 8.	23 10 9¾		
Total, Great Southern	656 39¾	7,025	2 36½	4,269	2 14	11,295	1 10½	715,648	7 3	351,994	12 0	32,369	18 0	4,160 4 2	7,037 10 4	17,971 17 5	413,534	1 11	629 18 2½	58 17 2¼			

ABSTRACT of the Total Quantity and Cost of Land taken for Railway Purposes—continued.

Railway Lines.	Length.	Quantity taken.		Total.	Amount claimed.	Amount paid.				Probable Amounts to be paid.	Total Cost.	Rate.	
		Private.	Crown.			For Land and Buildings.	Severance.	As Costs of Arbitration.	Claimants' Costs on Conveyances.			Per Mile of Line.	Per Acre.
	Miles chns.	a. r. p.	a. r. p.	a. r. p.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
DARLING HARBOUR BRANCH...	1 11½	17 1 16	.....	17 1 16	59,150 12 6	46,242 10 6	.....	348 15 0	354 5 3	2,194 12 2	49,140 2 11	42,964 1 2½	2,832 5 8½
NORTH-WESTERN LINE.													
Werris Creek to Gunnedah ...	41 22	402 3 28	378 3 3	781 2 31	10,242 11 7	6,632 3 5	382 8 6	717 5 0	170 9 0	280 19 3	8,183 5 2	198 5 2¾	20 6 2¼
Gunnedah to Narrabri	55 43	234 3 14	1,407 3 4	1,642 2 18	5,280 1 10	2,593 17 11	581 0 0	133 3 6	88 3 4	.....	3,396 4 9	61 3 0¾	14 9 3
Total, North-western.....	96 65	637 3 2	1,786 2 7	2,424 1 9	15,522 13 5	9,226 1 4	963 8 6	850 8 6	258 12 4	280 19 3	11,579 9 11	119 12 1¾	18 3 1½
SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.													
Sydney to Bottle Forest.....	24 18¼	268 0 3	119 0 10	387 0 13	283,296 11 8	147,128 9 2	13,016 10 3	3,275 2 11	2,974 5 0	1,251 1 4	167,645 8 8	6,919 9 1½	625 9 11¾
Bottle Forest to Coal Cliff.....	9 3¼	107 2 20	94 0 26	201 3 6	104,479 18 0	11,014 3 4	20 0 0	160 0 0	123 7 2	135 1 3	11,452 11 9	1,219 11 6½	106 8 2¾
Coal Cliff to Macquarie River	26 20	490 0 34	13 1 25	503 2 19	335,888 9 3	59,624 6 9	9,036 19 2	1,673 3 5	1,861 2 6	2,781 6 10	74,976 18 8	2,856 5 3¼	152 18 11¼
Macquarie River to Kiama.....	10 30	200 0 8	10 3 38	211 0 6	31,888 10 9	7,233 17 0	970 4 9	583 16 2	23 6 8	1,265 4 6	10,076 9 1	971 4 5¾	50 7 4¾
Total, South Coast.....	70 19½	1,065 3 25	237 2 19	1,303 2 4	755,553 9 8	225,000 16 3	23,043 14 2	5,692 2 6	4,982 1 4	5,432 13 11	264,151 8 2	3,760 9 11¼	247 16 4½
SOUTH-WESTERN LINE.													
Junee to Narrandera	61 32¾	110 3 32	1,314 2 24	1,425 2 16	5,852 12 11	2,739 16 3	364 5 0	.....	49 6 2	.....	3,153 7 5	51 7 0	28 8 5¼
Narrandera to Hay.....	106 57¾	519 3 18	648 0 6	1,167 3 24	17,195 17 0	4,891 2 8	4,662 5 0	5 5 0	31 3 6	669 10 0	10,259 6 2	96 2 7¾	19 14 8¼
Narrandera to Jerilderie	64 71¼	821 3 19	721 1 31	1,543 1 10	24,086 9 4	7,531 7 5	1,643 15 0	5 5 0	102 5 9	199 9 1	9,482 2 3	146 2 5¾	11 10 9
Total, South-western.....	233 1¾	1,452 2 29	2,684 0 21	4,136 3 10	47,134 19 3	15,162 6 4	6,670 5 0	10 10 0	182 15 5	868 19 1	22,894 15 10	98 5 0½	15 15 2½
SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN JUNCTION RAILWAY.													
Homebush to Hawkesbury River	28 55¾	326 3 32	265 3 24	592 3 16	98,979 13 4	46,696 2 11	8,607 16 5	225 11 0	1,011 13 5	960 4 9	57,501 8 6	2,003 15 0¾	175 17 5¼
Hawkesbury River to Hamilton Platform.	63 78½	754 0 5	524 3 6	1,278 3 11	323,364 15 11	36,964 19 11	2,931 13 3	2,702 0 0	675 4 6	11,464 8 3	54,738 5 11	855 10 6¾	72 11 10½
Total, Southern and Northern Junction Railway	92 54¼	1,080 3 37	790 2 30	1,871 2 27	422,344 9 3	83,661 2 10	11,539 9 8	2,927 11 0	1,686 17 11	12,421 13 0	112,239 14 5	1,211 1 5	103 16 7½
GREAT NORTHERN BRANCH RAILWAY.													
Pearce's Corner to St. Leonards	10 69¼	177 1 21	26 2 35	204 0 16	154,257 6 2	21,823 10 5	3,205 10 0	330 17 6	480 18 4	19,305 0 0	45,145 16 3	4,154 18 5	254 10 3
TOTAL ON ALL LINES TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1888	2,171 79¾	18,603 3 32½	22,303 1 13	40,907 1 5½	2,743,655 15 8	988,562 2 10	110,743 14 6	20,148 3 0	24,213 13 6	62,236 6 7	1,205,904 0 5	555 4 1¼	64 16 4¾

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ABSTRACT of the Total Quantity and Cost of Land taken for Railway Purposes to the 31st December, 1888, under the Public Railways Land Resumption Act of 1874.

Railway Lines.	Length.	Quantity taken.		Amount paid.				Probable Amounts to be paid.	Total Cost.	Rate.					
				For Land.	For Improvements.	Claimants' Costs on Conveyances.	For Appraisalment.			Per Mile of Line.	Per Acre.				
	Miles chains	a.	r.	p.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
GREAT WESTERN LINE.															
Orange to Dubbo	85 25½	6	1	35	3	4	7	90	0	0	.....	93	4	7
Dubbo to Nyngan	99 49½	60	2	26	126	18	5	17	2	6	.....	148	5	1
Wallerawang to Mudgee	84 54	117	0	2	129	0	0	847	17	6	.....	1,045	6	3
Orange to Molong	22 61½	16	2	34	4	3	1	79	5	0	.....	93	5	11
Total, Great Western	292 30½	200	3	17	263	6	1	1,034	5	0	.....	1,380	1	10
GREAT NORTHERN LINE.															
Tamworth to Uralla	63 44	219	3	10	160	16	4	228	4	3	.....	93	12	0
Uralla to Glen Innes	78 36	94	1	21	55	16	7	24	10	0	.....	113	6	1
Glen Innes to Tenterfield	57 45½	34	1	7	5	12	0	.....	.....	.....	.....	54	6	2
Tenterfield to Queensland Border	10 76½	15	2	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26	17	1
Total, Great Northern	210 42	364	0	18	222	4	11	252	14	3	.....	207	9	9
GREAT SOUTHERN LINE.															
Goulburn to Bungendore	39 32½	68	1	9	30	5	5	43	7	6	.....	74	17	5
Bungendore to Michelago	47 55	96	1	38	42	10	6	198	5	0	.....	7	18	8
Michelago to Cooma	38 70½	71	1	9	28	6	2	28	15	0	.....	17	15	1
Young to Blayney	91 66	9	3	11	4	17	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	0	0	3
Cootamundra to Gundagai	33 17½	12	2	32	1	13	5	10	2	6	.....	29	15	1
Total, Great Southern	251 1½	258	2	19	107	13	4	280	10	0	.....	130	6	6
SOUTH-WESTERN LINE.															
Junee to Narrandera	61 32½	238	0	16½	320	2	11	557	0	0	.....	145	15	0
Narrandera to Hay	106 57½	1,223	3	13	2,369	12	1	1,540	7	6	.....	241	2	9
Narrandera to Jerilderie	64 71½	114	3	4	111	11	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	91	9	11
Total, South-western	233 1¼	1,576	2	33½	2,801	6	4	2,097	7	6	.....	478	7	8
SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.															
Sydney to Bottle Forest	24 18½	29	3	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	59	8	3
SOUTHERN AND NORTHERN JUNCTION RAILWAY.															
Homebush to Hawkesbury River	28 55½	23	3	25	47	11	0	458	17	0	527	18	11
Hawkesbury River to Hamilton Platform	63 78½	49	0	36	50	1	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	17	7	2
Total, Southern and Northern Junction	92 54½	73	0	21	97	12	2	458	17	0	.....	17	7	2
NORTH-WESTERN LINE.															
Gunnedah to Narrabri	55 43	105	0	30	166	12	9	38	15	0	.....	66	3	0
TOTAL ON ALL LINES TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1888	1,159 31	2,608	1	32½	3,658	15	7	4,162	8	9	973	11	5	

[1s. 6d.]

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1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

(ANNUAL STATEMENT OF WORKS CARRIED OUT BY, DURING THE YEAR 1888.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 24 July, 1889.

Annual Statement of Works carried out by the Department of Public Works during the
Year 1888.

1. Roads and Bridges.
2. Sewerage.

Returns relating to the other Branches of the Department, laid upon the Table of the Legislative Assembly on the 28th May, 1889.

Roads and Bridges Department.

RETURN of Public Works carried on by the Roads and Bridges Department in the year 1888.

Work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Com- menced.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888.
ROADS AND BRIDGES.					
Main North Road	Maintenance,		1857	£ s. d. 442,377 6 9	£ s. d. 6,908 11 8
„ South Road	repair, and		„	626,476 11 5	11,789 1 11
„ Western Road	construction		„	534,503 0 1	11,311 13 10
Grafton, <i>via</i> Glen Innes, to Inverell	„		1866	211,008 5 8	9,173 11 8
Grafton Punt Tolls	„		1888	2,247 9 9	2,247 9 9
Armidale to Maryland	„		1868	114,988 19 7	2,551 17 11
'Possum Shoot to Cooper Shoot	„		1887	685 5 5	500 8 8
Boat Harbour to Cowalong	„		„	510 11 1	260 6 7
Cowalong to Staine's Mill	„		1885	1,410 18 8	266 15 1
Cowalong, <i>via</i> Pearce's Creek, to Tintenbar and Byron Bay	„		1886	1,082 16 10	643 17 4
Bexhill to Williams'	„		1884	2,477 14 7	486 18 1
Bexhill to Tintenbar	„		1881	2,570 7 1	591 10 10
Byangum to Queensland Border	„		1879	9,016 12 7	1,159 2 5
Gunderimba to Ballina Road	„	Consoli- dated	1888	26 13 7	26 13 7
Ballina to Cape Byron	„	Revenue.	1883	9,353 8 5	1,418 15 10
Clunes to Durobygrass	„		1887	201 18 0	76 13 6
Ballina to Byron Bay, <i>via</i> North Creek	„		„	918 11 0	129 16 0
Murwillumbah to Tumbulgum	„		1880	1,008 6 5	135 5 6
Palmer's Channel to Rocky Mouth	„		1884	511 9 0	107 6 2
Palmer's Island Road	„		1888	68 10 0	68 10 0
Clunes to Byron Bay	„		1887	963 3 3	732 19 3
South Bank, Palmer's Channel	„		1888	100 0 0	100 0 0
Lismore to Hanging Rock	„		1887	507 8 8	216 8 9
Roads, Lismore District	„		„	639 6 4	609 1 10
Near Derumbah, Tweed River	„		1888	123 14 6	123 14 6
Lismore to Nimbin	„		1883	6,562 6 5	1,350 12 6
Lismore to Numulga	„		1882	1,628 11 2	19 18 0
Lismore and Woodburn to Coraki	„		1887	188 9 0	82 16 0

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—*continued.*

Work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Commenced.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
ROADS AND BRIDGES—<i>continued.</i>					
Lismore to Woodburn	Maintenance,		1883	6,754 6 7	513 3 7
Geary's Gap Road	repair, and		1887	49 6 0	11 1 0
Lismore to Queensland Border.....	construction		1875	37,665 12 3	3,166 14 7
Lismore to Brunswick	"		1880	14,209 19 7	1,550 2 8
Lismore and Ballina to Ballina and Cape Byron	"		1883	953 0 7	103 11 1
Lismore and Ballina to Teven Junction	"		1888	130 0 0	130 0 0
Blakebrook Road to Nimbin Road	"		"	60 0 0	60 0 0
Lismore Road, <i>via</i> Mullimbimbi, to Tweed and Brunswick Road	"		1887	573 3 0	529 11 0
South Lismore to Wyrallah	"		"	724 4 0	449 4 0
Tumbulgum, <i>via</i> Chindera Village, to Teranora Creek	"		1886	550 12 0	175 0 0
Brunswick Road to Tweed Road, <i>via</i> Whian Whian	"		1887	315 15 0	140 5 0
Brunswick Road, <i>via</i> Whian, to Bexhill and Williams'	"		1888	17 7 7	17 7 7
Brunswick Road to Condong	"		1887	221 6 6	220 11 6
Ballina to Emigrants' Creek and Teven Junction	"		1888	400 12 8	400 12 8
Tweed River to Brunswick Road.....	"		1883	6,650 13 11	1,946 11 10
Mobil to Tweed and Brunswick Road	"		1888	94 2 0	94 2 0
Durembah to Tweed River	"		"	113 1 0	113 1 0
Kynamboon to Tumbulgum	"		"	92 6 0	92 6 0
Cudgen to Tweed	"		1878	2,387 13 1	421 11 6
Balambil, <i>via</i> Sebastopol, to Tweed Heads	"		1888	418 19 3	418 19 3
Road up Middle Arm	"		"	290 2 3	290 2 3
Pocket, Brunswick River, to Tweed River	"		"	336 13 0	336 13 0
Roads, Tweed River District.....	"		1884	4,403 17 4	768 0 0
Mullumbimbi to Byron Bay	"		1888	90 6 0	90 6 0
Mullumbimbi to Tweed River	"		"	14 0 0	14 0 0
Casino to Mount Lindsay	"		1876	7,097 4 5	1,329 13 11
Mullumbimbi to Lismore and Brunswick	"		1888	550 0 0	550 0 0
Sandylands, Mountain Road.....	"		1886	600 0 0	14 8 0
Casino to Tabulam	"		1884	7,132 2 7	3,856 6 1
Mitchell's to Coraki Punt	"		1888	128 16 9	128 16 9
Casino to Coraki	"		1886	1,002 0 10	454 15 8
Coraki to Wyrallah.....	"		1888	51 9 5	51 9 5
Casino to Bushby's Flat.....	"		1887	538 18 2	79 17 6
Casino to Gundarimba	"		1884	658 0 0	296 7 11
Casino, District Roads	"		1887	297 5 6	216 15 9
Wyrallah to Tucki	"		1883	6 0 0	6 0 0
West Nimbin Road.....	"		"	73 3 6	73 3 6
Brunswick to Ballina, <i>via</i> Byron Bay.....	"		"	377 8 6	377 8 6
Cross Roads to Casino	"		1873	18,734 19 4	1,905 12 4
Casino to Lismore and Ballina	"		1888	1,270 18 6	1,270 18 6
Grafton to Cross Roads, towards Casino.....	"		1884	2,236 11 0	382 4 0
Grafton and Armidale to Hillgrove Mines	"	Consoli-	1887	639 14 2	595 14 2
Goonellabah to Jeswoolgen	"	dated	"	311 18 1	167 8 7
Richmond-street, Wardell.....	"	Revenue.	1888	38 18 0	38 18 0
Goonellabah to Chilcott's Wharf	"		1887	200 10 10	29 0 0
Casino, <i>via</i> Wyrallah, to Casino and Ballina, at Chilcott's Wharf	"		1880	6,161 14 11	1,717 17 11
Italian Settlement to Swan Bay	"		1887	149 19 2	89 19 2
Wardell and Tuckombil to Lismore and Ballina.....	"		1875	9,657 14 8	500 13 0
Wardell Ferry to Sea Beach	"		1888	59 15 0	59 15 0
Wardell to Ballina Roads	"		"	463 4 0	463 4 0
Tintenbar to Abstonville	"		1883	2,577 13 0	552 17 9
Tintenbar to Toohy's Mill	"		1884	924 15 7	284 17 10
Woodburn to Wardell	"		1881	3,944 3 1	856 1 1
Casino to Woodburn	"		1879	5,580 2 10	674 1 0
Jiggi Creek Road	"		1888	65 17 8	65 17 8
Woodburn to Selman's	"		1880	8,690 10 5	1,291 1 9
Bluff Point to South Arm Ferry	"		1884	857 8 7	366 10 4
Brush Grove to Bluff Point Ferry	"		1887	257 8 0	124 1 4
Bluff Point Ferry to Tindal's	"		1885	318 0 3	69 16 0
Brush Grove to Public Wharf	"		1887	59 5 0	57 0 0
Roads and Punts, Lower Clarence	"		1886	1,997 15 5	455 18 3
South Grafton to Rushworth	"		1888	75 2 3	75 2 3
South Grafton to Yamba	"		1886	3,408 9 4	969 9 9
Goonengerry to Lismore and Ballina Roads	"		1888	1 8 0	1 8 0
Upper Urana Road.....	"		"	119 1 4	119 1 4
Grafton, <i>via</i> Copmanhurst, to Apple-tree Flat	"		1886	1,186 8 3	540 18 6
Grafton to Solferino	"		1874	12,940 3 11	631 12 0
Coff's Harbour Road	"		1888	140 0 0	140 0 0
North Grafton to Broadwater	"		1883	3,838 11 6	1,059 17 4
Smith's Selection to Water Reserve.....	"		1888	40 5 0	40 5 0
Coutts' Crossing, <i>via</i> Kangaroo Creek, to Nymboida	"		1881	2,419 13 7	531 18 5
Harwood to North Arm Ferry, Clarence River	"		1883	858 2 9	203 16 3
Newton Boyd Road to Nymboida	"		1878	1,324 16 2	98 4 3
Newton Boyd Road to Emmaville	"		1875	3,082 1 11	708 19 5
Yarrowford to Rangers' Valley	"		1881	2,322 1 2	226 13 8
Barney Downs to Poverty Point	"		1883	994 8 10	138 15 3
Ulmara to Corindi	"		1887	199 11 2	124 11 2
Lawrence to Tenterfield	"		1864	118,472 4 0	5,622 11 11
Lawrence to Round Mountain	"		1888	50 0 0	50 0 0
Tent Hill to Deepwater.....	"		1884	3,068 3 2	1,102 11 0
Tenterfield and Grafton to Boorook	"		1881	621 4 6	40 9 5
Torrington to Deepwater	"		1888	345 2 2	345 2 2
Armidale and Inverell Road, up Dumaresq Creek, to Duval	"		1886	216 18 1	70 0 0
Armidale and Inverell Road, near Booralong, Black Mt. Ray. Station to Aberfoyle	"		1888	250 0 0	250 0 0
Armidale and Maryland Road towards Puddledock	"		"	70 0 0	70 0 0

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—*continued.*

Work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Com- menced.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888.
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
ROADS AND BRIDGES—<i>continued.</i>					
Armidale and Maryland Road, nr. Old Ben Lomond, to Wandsworth	Maintenance, repair, and construction		1888	69 0 0	69 0 0
Armidale to Long Swamp	"		1887	84 0 2	70 0 0
Sumarez Public School	"		1888	26 18 6	26 18 6
Armidale, <i>via</i> Mihi Creek, to Walcha	"		1879	1,742 8 8	354 0 7
Gramen and Reedy Creek to Bingera and Big Plain	"		1888	12 0 0	12 0 0
Bingera to Inverell	"		1879	3,907 15 11	580 16 11
Bingera to Inverell and B. Whitton	"		1888	50 0 0	50 0 0
Coolati to Wallangra and Ashford	"		1884	214 17 7	124 7 1
Warialda to Gunyerwarialda	"		1879	2,378 5 3	565 10 9
Warialda to Ezzie's	"		1885	466 2 3	106 2 3
Warialda, <i>via</i> Gragin, to Reedy Creek	"		1886	232 16 3	13 10 0
Bingera to Warialda	"		1884	3,567 4 4	698 6 4
Eulowrie to Goolagong	"		1888	223 17 3	223 17 3
Cobbedah to Rocky Creek	"		1874	8,634 19 9	333 6 3
Sternbrook to Scrub, <i>via</i> Tenterfield	"		1888	27 9 10	27 9 10
Warialda to Moree	"		1876	9,155 5 10	718 11 4
Tenterfield to Scrub	"		1885	772 13 5	224 9 4
Tenterfield to Wallangra	"		1888	263 16 0	263 16 0
Tenterfield to Sandy Creek	"		1887	204 16 8	124 16 8
Tenterfield to Bonshaw	"		1888	563 11 6	563 11 6
Tenterfield to Bonshaw and Clifton	"		1878	5,523 18 2	187 4 5
Tenterfield to Fairfield	"		1888	157 3 4	157 3 4
Tenterfield, <i>via</i> Glen Lyon, to Border	"		1883	1,380 10 7	28 10 0
Amosfield to Border	"		1888	600 0 0	600 0 0
Wilson's Downfall to Acacia Creek	"		1887	982 11 10	353 16 6
Acacia Creek to Korellah	"		1888	147 19 0	147 19 0
Emmaville to Webb's Silver Lode	"		1885	607 3 7	173 4 4
Acacia Creek to Border	"		1888	600 0 0	600 0 0
Graham's Valley to Glen Innes	"		1886	219 7 9	119 7 9
Glen Innes to Emmaville	"		1881	5,335 7 10	642 1 3
Emmaville to Table-land	"		1883	1,908 19 4	69 12 10
Emmaville to Tent Hill	"		1888	140 0 6	140 0 6
Tent Hill to Table-land'	"		"	198 13 5	198 13 5
Lyonsville to Poverty Point	"		"	23 8 0	23 8 0
Ben Lomond Railway Station Approach	"		1887	225 1 8	139 1 8
Armidale to Grafton	"		1864	82,201 1 2	3,512 0 11
Armidale Road to Wheel Herbert Mines	"		1888	36 12 0	36 12 0
Pint-pot Creek to Chandler River	"		1886	301 11 1	140 12 1
Armidale to Kelly's Plains	"		1888	103 0 0	103 0 0
Armidale to Yarowick	"		1884	1,106 8 0	199 3 11
Armidale and Maryland Road to Langworthy's	"		1888	42 1 3	42 1 3
Armidale to Kangaroo Hills	"		1886	1,251 10 3	400 0 0
Main North Road to Goorangoola	"	Consoli- dated Revenue.	1888	99 3 6	99 3 6
North Road, Uralla and Bundarra, to Inverell	"		1879	13,955 5 5	2,419 17 0
Main North Road at Cragin to Uralla and Bundarra	"		1886	210 9 9	65 12 3
Main North Road, Uralla to Walcha	"		1877	3,864 1 6	195 10 6
Mihi, <i>via</i> Gostwyck, to Uralla	"		1886	310 0 0	127 0 0
Llangothliia Platform Approach	"		1888	82 9 10	82 9 10
Armidale to Eastera Plains	"		"	231 8 8	231 8 8
Armidale to Gostwyck	"		1884	600 16 7	157 8 7
Armidale, <i>via</i> Kelly's Plains, to Armidale and Gostwyck Road	"		1888	90 0 0	90 0 0
Armidale to Castle Doyle	"		1886	323 14 3	103 12 9
Attunga to Somerton	"		1888	14 7 6	14 7 6
Uralla, <i>via</i> Ballala, to Bundarra	"		1881	1,146 11 5	129 5 0
Uralla and Walcha Road, at Salisbury Plains, <i>via</i> Kentucky Station, to Main North Road	"		1887	120 7 0	30 7 0
Manilla, <i>via</i> Barraba, to Bundarra	"		1874	49,412 11 10	3,207 18 0
Barraba to Bundarra	"		1884	983 19 4	182 15 3
Bingera to Bundarra	"		1878	3,541 19 8	386 16 9
Barraba to Brown Mountain	"		1888	26 2 10	26 2 10
Glen Innes, <i>via</i> Wellingrove, to King's Plains	"		1875	5,276 14 1	661 13 1
Glen Innes to Blair Hill	"		1888	86 5 3	86 5 3
Glen Innes to Red Range and Kingsgate	"		1882	2,266 0 4	519 8 7
Inverell to Emmaville	"		1881	4,190 13 1	945 1 2
Inverell, <i>via</i> Newstead, to Kangaroo Camp	"		1884	3,114 4 7	373 2 3
Glen Innes to Mount Mitchell	"		1888	150 0 0	150 0 0
Inverell, <i>via</i> Dinton Vale, to Bukulla	"		1885	785 11 5	233 14 5
Inverell to Gramen, Yetman, and Goondiwindi	"		1878	8,696 13 3	2,189 10 9
Inverell to King's Plains	"		1885	1,096 3 5	239 19 6
Inverell to Reedy Creek	"		1880	1,040 8 11	108 9 6
Tingha to Main Road, Glen Innes to Inverell	"		1888	78 15 6	78 15 6
Tingha, <i>via</i> New Valley, to Wandsworth	"		1887	80 0 0	63 18 0
Tingha, <i>via</i> Stannifer, to Inverell	"		1888	155 4 1	155 4 1
Wilson's Downfall to the Border	"		1885	1,971 6 7	252 13 10
Inverell to Warialda	"		1877	13,407 2 10	1,990 1 9
Inverell to Stannifer	"		1888	33 12 5	33 12 5
Black Mountain Railway Station Approach	"		1887	382 0 0	100 0 0
Guyra, <i>via</i> Tingha, to Inverell	"		"	3,211 3 5	3,103 3 5
Guyra Railway Station Approach	"		"	203 4 7	1 6 0
Guyra Railway Station towards Oban	"		1888	180 0 0	180 0 0
Inverell to Queensland Border	"		1878	6,699 17 0	954 7 3
Rock Vale Road, up Baker's Creek	"		1886	207 0 0	76 15 1
Rocky Creek to Moree	"		1881	958 15 11	109 11 7
Warialda to Yetman	"		1876	6,632 12 11	467 18 8
Willow-tree to Gunnedah	"		1868	34,912 0 5	285 11 0
Moree, <i>via</i> Goonal, to Mogil Mogil	"		1887	919 11 6	774 12 9

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Describe the work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Com-menced	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888	Amount expended in 1888
ROADS AND BRIDGES—continued.					
Narrabri, <i>via</i> Moree, to Mungindi	Maintenance,		1876	£ 14,560 s. 1 d. 6	£ 889 s. 16 d. 4
Moree to Goondawindi	repair, and		1887	1,400 13 2	1,013 5 6
Old Gunnedah and Narrabri Road to Eulalie Creek	construction		1881	1,261 11 4	139 0 10
Bingera to Moree	"		1878	4,410 15 5	989 15 7
Bingera, <i>via</i> Pallal, to Eulowie	"		1888	61 6 8	61 6 8
Narrabri, <i>via</i> Walgett, to Brenda	"		1879	16,766 8 11	1,584 7 6
Eulah to Bullarra	"		1888	218 3 4	218 3 4
Holders to Baradine	"		"	100 5 0	100 5 0
Main Road through Walgett	"		"	247 0 0	247 0 0
Narrabri to Eulah and Bullara Creeks	"		"	73 3 0	73 3 0
Narrabri to Bingera	"		1880	12,481 11 4	1,365 6 10
Narrabri to Boggabri	"		1888	224 7 2	224 7 2
Gorler-street, West Narrabri	"		"	34 0 0	34 0 0
Walgett to Coonamble	"		1881	4,386 15 10	399 3 4
Narrabri to Terry-Hie-Hie	"		1888	74 16 6	74 16 6
Boucheys to M'Leod's	"		"	150 0 0	150 0 0
Kempsey to Fernmount	"		1881	15,009 16 6	2,740 4 0
Hickey's Creek crossing	"		1888	20 0 0	20 0 0
Oaklands to Dongingalong	"		1887	192 6 11	73 0 6
Kinchela Creek to Spencer's Creek	"		1885	543 15 5	88 2 4
Kempsey to Armidale and Grafton	"		1872	68,775 11 3	2,359 12 11
Payne Creek to head of Stockyard Creek	"		1888	30 0 0	30 0 0
Ferry to M'Guire's, Belmore River	"		1884	1,150 4 0	215 1 9
Kempsey to Trial Bay	"		1882	5,926 16 11	983 17 2
Roads, Kempsey District	"		1887	107 8 0	97 0 0
Congarini Ferry, Boat Harbour, to Nambuccra River	"		1885	533 19 11	34 0 0
Boat Harbour, <i>via</i> Spickett's, to Nambuccra Heads	"		1882	2,822 10 4	456 0 1
South Bellinger School to Upper South Arm	"		1886	466 17 8	337 4 0
Darkwater Ferry, left bank, Belmore River	"		1888	157 18 6	157 18 6
Moone Creek to Corindi	"		1885	1,638 11 3	578 6 0
South Arm to Buckra Bendini	"		1887	122 5 4	87 3 4
Fernmount to Armidale Road	"		1878	11,503 5 8	1,027 9 7
Boat Harbour to Raleigh Mill	"		1883	1,965 18 8	359 12 2
Boat Harbour to Little North Arm	"		1886	348 19 0	67 3 6
Boat Harbour to Laverty's Plains	"		1887	476 8 11	474 16 11
Fernmount to Grafton	"		1881	15,558 0 0	2,681 4 9
South Grafton to Corindi	"		1885	1,436 3 6	609 7 6
Long Reach to Clybuccra	"		"	313 12 1	70 4 2
Missabotti to Nambuccra Heads	"		1878	3,911 18 9	661 15 8
Nambuccra Ferry to Macleay Heads	"		1885	618 10 9	256 3 5
Nambuccra to Upper Warroll Creek	"		1886	132 13 0	32 1 0
Neville's Gate to Rolland's Plains	"		1885	414 0 0	100 0 0
Port Macquarie to Kempsey	"		1864	19,118 10 3	1,636 0 3
Port Macquarie to Tacking Point	"		1886	317 16 6	132 0 0
Walcha to Great Northern Railway	"		1881	5,894 2 10	675 19 0
Walcha to Port Macquarie	"		1872	36,747 5 10	2,418 10 10
Walcha to Glen Morrison	"		1881	1,320 13 9	249 12 10
Walcha Road Railway Station to Glen Morrison	"		1888	49 17 4	49 17 4
Port Macquarie and Walcha to Taree Road	"		1887	135 0 0	32 6 0
Walcha to Mulerindi	"		1885	290 0 0	95 19 0
Ennis Punt to Glen Esk, Upper Plains	"		1884	1,322 12 0	300 0 0
Rolland's Plains to Ballengarry Wharf	"		1885	183 12 6	57 2 0
Rolland's Plains to Yarroll Falls	"		1880	1,766 15 11	291 3 0
East Kempsey to Bogy Creek	"		1877	3,028 15 9	106 15 3
Fast Kempsey to Sherwood	"		1880	1,613 12 2	188 11 3
Bouraville to Lumley Argents	"		1879	2,901 12 6	307 12 5
Bouraville to Broker's	"		"	1,537 9 4	100 5 6
Green Hills to Nelson's, Warrieton	"		1881	1,426 18 0	147 4 6
Cooperbrook to Harrington	"		1884	398 11 2	191 8 8
Cooperbrook to Upper Lansdowne	"		1887	120 0 0	80 0 0
Myers' Selection to Never Never Plains	"		1884	512 7 0	63 18 6
Bouraville to Congarini	"		1882	2,332 15 1	81 4 6
Road through Rawden Island	"		1885	445 15 0	136 15 0
Wingham, up Cedar Party Creek	"		1882	796 1 2	212 16 0
Onkes Plains to Macleay Heads	"		1887	4,757 5 2	560 0 4
Wilson's River, <i>via</i> Bar Scrub, to Walcha	"		1877	1,933 5 0	245 5 0
Tinonee to Port Macquarie	"		1872	28,019 14 2	3,413 13 7
Cundle, <i>via</i> Lansdowne, to Jones' Island	"		1876	2,930 13 3	162 4 0
Cundle, <i>via</i> Lansdowne, to Pappenburra	"		1888	29 8 0	29 8 0
Upper Camden Haven to Laurieton	"		1883	922 6 6	223 17 0
Tinonee and Gloucester to Clarkin's Crossing	"		1876	2,398 16 10	493 0 10
Goolongalook to Clarkin's Crossing	"		1888	204 10 0	204 10 0
Tinonee to Farquhar's Inlet	"		1883	602 0 0	155 0 0
Road to Seal Rock Lighthouse	"		1888	100 0 0	100 0 0
Tinonee to Wingham Ferry	"		1876	1,897 19 3	577 6 6
Little Dingo Road	"		1888	140 14 0	140 14 0
Tinonee and Cundle Road to Wingham	"		1876	2,606 6 3	236 6 4
Wingham and Nowendoc to Karaah Flat	"		1884	298 4 6	3 3 0
Wingham and Nowendoc to Dolby's Flat	"		1887	67 17 6	17 17 6
Wingham, <i>via</i> Brimbin, to Lansdowne	"		1885	467 10 0	100 0 0
Wingham, on left bank of Manning River, to Nowendoc	"		1883	7,034 15 2	1,606 6 6
Wingham, &c, to Tinonee and Gloucester Road	"		1887	142 15 3	72 11 3
Wingham, <i>via</i> Dingo Creek, to Kelvin Grove	"		1876	1,697 0 7	148 0 0
Pappenburra Creek to Cowal	"		1888	484 3 6	484 3 6
Cedar Party Creek to Wingham	"		"	161 5 6	161 5 6
Wingham and Wherrol Flat to Bobbin Flat	"		1876	1,377 3 6	133 7 0

Consolidated Revenue.

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Describe the work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Com menced.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
ROADS AND BRIDGES—continued.					
Burril Creek to Wingham and Black Flat ...	Maintenance,		1876	333 15 6	99 3 0
Taree to North Forster ...	repair, and		1883	1,347 11 3	494 17 3
Telegraph Point, along Bank of Wilson River, to Hack's Farm ...	construction.		1888	51 5 0	51 5 0
Wharf at Wauchope to Carrington Inn ...	"		"	41 16 6	41 16 6
Oxley Island Road ...	"		1877	1,674 15 10	204 2 6
Chalk Hills to Apple-tree Flat ...	"		1884	266 3 6	74 2 0
Stroud, via Gloucester, to Timonee ...	"		1875	40,066 10 6	4,874 6 0
Morton's Creek Wharf Approaches ...	"		1887	39 19 10	10 11 10
Mitchell's Island Road ...	"		"	444 18 6	439 13 6
Dingo Creek to the Elinbro, over the Bulga ...	"		"	99 15 0	51 15 0
" Old Bulladelah Inn" to Raymond Terrace Road ...	"		1878	880 14 6	168 8 6
Bulladelah to Raymond Terrace and Stroud ...	"		1876	5,982 17 7	997 2 2
Bulladelah to Foster ...	"		1878	5,013 9 1	391 5 4
Flyer's Creek to Dorney's ...	"		1884	755 3 9	194 13 0
Dungog and Monkerai to Stroud ...	"		1876	2,210 2 0	394 19 1
Dungog to Dingadee ...	"		1888	78 12 6	78 12 6
Gostwyck to New Park ...	"		1882	4,194 14 5	660 16 11
Dungog to Stroud and Gloucester, at Weismantels ...	"		1883	11,091 16 9	1,021 5 2
Monkerai Road, up Karuah River, to Tittacombes ...	"		1888	50 0 0	50 0 0
Shaw's to Barrington Cemetery ...	"		"	63 0 0	63 0 0
Dungog to Underbank and Little River ...	"		1876	2,099 6 0	223 11 3
Dungog to Underbank ...	"		1887	1,994 17 6	1,180 4 0
Dungog and Gloucester Road to Fosterton ...	"		1877	1,469 12 1	182 11 1
Road, Association Ground, Dungog ...	"		1887	174 16 0	78 16 0
Upper Myall to Bulladelah ...	"		1877	5,032 13 5	365 11 6
Upper Myall to Larry's Flat ...	"		"	2,023 14 3	249 17 1
Trangie to Dandaloo ...	"		1888	21 5 6	21 5 6
Bungwall Creek to Upper Wallamba ...	"		1882	866 3 6	13 15 0
Warkworth Road to Putty ...	"		1879	5,252 19 0	479 13 2
Laguna to Railway Station, Morrisett's ...	"		1883	5,427 7 3	2,095 17 6
Laguna to Main Range ...	"		1888	205 4 6	205 4 6
Mount McDonald to Wood's Flat ...	"		"	16 16 0	16 16 0
Wollombi and Yango Road along Croft's Creek ...	"		"	50 0 0	50 0 0
Bullock Wharf to Wallumba River and Larry's Flat ...	"		1883	1,653 13 10	748 3 11
Cessnock to Rathbury Public School ...	"		1887	161 16 3	141 11 6
Cessnock to South Boundary of Josephson's 2,000 acres ...	"		1884	1,467 5 5	858 5 6
Cessnock to Mountain View Orizaba ...	"		1887	41 14 6	25 12 6
Cessnock to M'Donald's, at Pokolbin ...	"		"	133 11 8	64 17 8
Kincumber to Little Beach ...	"		1888	100 0 0	100 0 0
Main North Road, Back Creek, to Cessnock ...	"		1887	97 0 0	27 0 0
Islington to Newtown ...	"		1888	627 4 6	627 4 6
Wallsend to Gosford Road, Cooranbong ...	"	Consoli- dated Revenue	1878	7,024 11 6	955 11 2
Wallsend to Sandgate ...	"		1884	830 17 9	91 7 0
Wallsend to Lake Macquarie ...	"	"	"	2,692 5 6	585 4 2
Adamstown to Lake Macquarie ...	"	"	1885	1,054 13 2	809 14 3
Road through Wickham ...	"	"	1888	700 0 0	700 0 0
Lambton to Charlestown ...	"	"	1883	1,623 6 5	243 8 3
Union-street, Adamstown, to Platform ...	"	"	1887	843 3 11	641 11 11
Murray's Run to Wyong Creek ...	"	"	"	1,220 2 9	520 2 9
Glebe, near Newcastle, to Adamstown ...	"	"	1886	1,515 19 1	99 18 4
Cooranbong to Newport ...	"	"	1887	104 0 0	54 0 0
West Maitland to Black Waterhole ...	"	"	1885	1,679 2 4	611 2 10
Maitland and Paterson Road to Lushintyre Bridge ...	"	"	1887	598 13 6	571 1 6
Waratah to Maitland ...	"	"	1882	7,021 14 5	2,669 6 4
Hamilton to Waratah ...	"	"	1888	159 7 6	159 7 6
Maitland and Dagworth Road to Wallis Creek ...	"	"	1887	180 4 3	45 8 3
East Maitland to Broken Back Gap ...	"	"	"	14,485 12 5	1,416 15 9
Scotch Creek Road ...	"	"	1888	500 0 0	500 0 0
Mount Vincent to Millfield ...	"	"	1887	148 18 8	70 8 4
Gates to Ellalong ...	"	"	1888	17 0 0	17 0 0
Glennie and Chicott's Flat to Goorangoola Road ...	"	"	"	50 0 0	50 0 0
West Maitland to Dunmore ...	"	"	1883	1,085 2 6	151 13 7
Raymond Terrace to Martin's Wharf ...	"	"	1888	557 4 8	557 4 8
Raymond Terrace to Hexham ...	"	"	1884	1,883 8 3	386 1 5
Ironbarks to Shanahan's ...	"	"	1888	13 4 6	13 4 6
Raymond Terrace Road to Parading Ground ...	"	"	1887	159 9 7	159 9 7
Raymond Terrace to Telegraphy Creek, east side Williams' River ...	"	"	1886	197 14 8	13 10 0
Raymond Terrace, east side Williams' River, to Seaham ...	"	"	1884	1,058 14 2	312 19 10
North Arm Ferry to Goodwood Ferry ...	"	"	1887	72 19 10	22 19 10
Raymond Terrace Punt to Morpeth ...	"	"	"	807 6 5	797 10 8
Clarence Town to Dungog ...	"	"	1877	14,859 8 11	993 4 1
Harwood to North Arm Ferry ...	"	"	1888	39 6 8	39 6 8
Clarence Town to Limeburner's Creek ...	"	"	1884	1,299 10 11	433 11 6
Dunmore to Clarence Town ...	"	"	1877	5,246 3 0	546 1 11
Dunmore and Seaham to Dennis Creek ...	"	"	1888	91 16 9	91 16 9
Lochinvar to Railway Station ...	"	"	1885	152 14 0	56 11 1
Mount Kanawary to Hinton ...	"	"	1887	220 11 2	193 18 2
Dunmore Bridge to Paterson Punt ...	"	"	1880	1,421 17 11	140 6 3
Morpeth, via Hinton Punt, to Dunmore and Seaham Road ...	"	"	1887	328 13 3	153 2 9
Improvement, Letter Box Road, Cooperbrook ...	"	"	1888	200 0 0	200 0 0
Road through Southport, Mitchell's Island ...	"	"	1887	226 4 9	129 9 9
Raymond Terrace to Stockton ...	"	"	1882	5,360 13 7	1,552 14 3
Raymond Terrace to Stroud ...	"	"	1878	22,037 13 4	1,762 0 11
" Union Inn," Rutherford, to Melville Ford ...	"	"	1885	346 12 10	65 19 0
Raymond Terrace and Stroud Road to Raymond Terrace and Seaham ...	"	"	"	84 9 0	15 10 6
Roads, Manning and Hastings ...	"	"	1887	726 4 0	143 8 2

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Describe the Work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Com-menced.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount Expended in 1888.
ROADS AND BRIDGES—continued.					
Blackman's Point to Ennis Ferry	Maintenance, repair, and construction.		1888	£ s. d. 125 14 6	£ s. d. 125 14 6
Deep Creek to Allandale Railway Station			1878	993 9 3	185 19 5
Hexham to Fullerton Cove			1884	899 17 0	264 14 2
Alwrick to Martin's Wharf			1885	412 19 9	193 15 6
Alwrick to Raymond Terrace and Morpeth			1888	154 19 1	154 19 1
Minmi to Woodford			1878	2,588 19 9	398 2 9
Harper's Hill to Allandale Railway Station			1879	398 1 6	59 7 0
Plattsburg to Minmi			1884	2,727 3 8	199 16 3
Muswellbrook Iron Bridge to Denman and Cassilis			1888	797 2 8	797 2 8
Denison Town, via Warby, to Cassilis			1886	448 2 6	179 8 4
Coolah to Malally			1887	2,238 15 5	1,232 8 5
Goolma Creek Crossing			1888	77 1 1	77 1 1
Denman and Cassilis to Mudgee				1,317 1 4	1,317 1 4
Belford Public School Road			1886	158 12 6	90 5 0
Gulgong to Coolah			1888	925 8 5	925 8 5
Merriwa Road to Sparks Creek				79 2 0	79 2 0
Main North Road to Lincoln's Creek			1885	528 13 6	182 8 6
Muswellbrook to Denman			1876	4,870 4 10	728 1 7
Lower to Upper Rouchal			1888	10 0 0	10 0 0
Muswellbrook to Sandy Creek			1887	80 0 0	30 0 0
Kynga to Aberdeen			1888	109 3 0	109 3 0
Muswellbrook to Wyong			1887	150 0 0	105 0 0
North Road, Munimba, to Jerry's Plains			1882	1,529 8 10	405 3 10
Scone and Merriwa Road, at Kingdon Ponds, to Middle Creek			1888	55 0 0	55 0 0
Dunolly to Hunter River, Scott's Flat				49 19 1	49 19 1
Muscle Creek Road			1887	297 7 6	141 1 6
Muscle Creek to Beggery Creek			1888	65 6 0	65 6 0
Aberdeen, up Rachel Brook, to Scrumlow			1882	1,280 16 4	148 17 0
Scone to Merriwa			1877	4,433 2 10	339 13 0
Singleton, via Newbridge, to Cooper's Flat			1884	1,999 0 8	508 17 4
Jerry's Plains to Denman				910 13 1	208 7 0
Denman to Merriwa			1887	745 9 6	590 16 0
Merrygoen, via Caigan, to Coonabarabran			1880	5,475 7 8	24 12 6
Quirindi, up Jacob and Joseph Creek			1879	485 3 2	145 19 4
Quirindi to Yarraman			1887	230 19 6	97 19 6
Quirindi, via Colly Blue, to Tambar			1885	2,875 9 0	351 1 0
Coonabarabran to Wingidgeon			1882	3,356 9 10	406 9 10
Coonabarabran to Spring Creek			1888	178 6 0	178 6 0
Castlereagh River to Coonabarabran				100 0 0	100 0 0
Coonabarabran to Ulimambri				146 5 5	146 5 5
Coolah to Birrawa				241 9 6	241 9 6
Coonabarabran to Malally		Consoli-dated Revenue.	1887	423 3 7	373 3 7
Robertson to Coonabarabran			1888	49 18 9	49 18 9
Gunnedah to Narrabri			1884	3,088 6 6	249 14 3
Gunnedah to Barraba			1882	2,872 6 5	180 16 10
Coolah, via Birrawa, to Gulgong			1888	1,054 5 2	1,054 5 2
Sandy Creek to Aberdeen			1887	80 0 0	30 0 0
Sandy Creek to Boorook			1888	51 12 5	51 12 5
Scone to Denison Diggings at Moonan			1879	2,559 13 1	431 4 6
Upper Aley to Upper Williams'			1888	100 0 0	100 0 0
Underbank to Upper Williams'				1 0 0	1 0 0
Gunnedah to Malally				952 11 8	952 11 8
Gunnedah to Black Stump				158 1 0	158 1 0
Yarraman to Bundella			1887	137 16 0	47 16 0
Coolah to Spring Creek			1888	1,015 2 5	1,015 2 5
Spring Creek to Merrygoen				106 12 9	106 12 9
Wallabadah to Quirindi			1878	2,766 3 8	586 11 5
Blandford to Isis River			1882	1,339 0 0	248 0 6
Gloucester to Copeland			1880	2,369 19 0	382 7 9
Gloucester to Cobark			1885	515 9 11	154 11 0
Nowendoc to Walcha			1879	2,483 11 6	279 5 9
Walcha to Bendemeer			1887	98 5 4	35 14 0
Gloucester to Nowendoc			1879	5,627 0 10	427 7 1
Bowling Alley Point to Dungowan			1884	651 15 0	17 10 0
Dungowan Creek, via Caddel's, to Ogumbil Creek			1879	1,650 7 0	133 8 4
Dungowan Creek, north bank of river			1878	584 11 9	9 12 9
Wallabadah to Nundle and Swamp Creek			1882	4,057 4 6	189 7 8
Werris Creek Gap to Railway Station			1885	129 17 0	25 0 0
Tamworth to Bowling Alley Point and Nundle			1878	15,181 15 4	1,130 18 7
Attunga to Somerton			1887	168 12 6	2 0 0
Tamworth, via Moore Creek, to Attunga			1878	673 4 11	57 18 2
Reedy Creek to Bannockburn Station			1888	17 15 0	17 15 0
New England Road to Turner's Flat			1885	292 2 3	16 10 0
Werris Creek, via Currabubula, to Tamworth			1880	6,485 18 1	198 2 8
Morton's Creek to New England Road			1885	461 18 11	185 8 9
Tamworth to the Forest			1883	305 6 5	19 7 3
Neminga Flat Road			1887	478 10 0	119 7 0
New England to Hickey's Creek			1885	601 5 0	69 19 2
Tamworth to Gunnedah			1874	23,419 7 7	680 7 6
Poole's Lane			1888	228 10 0	228 10 0
Tamworth to Manilla			1864	22,245 13 2	1,403 14 0
Fairfield Railway Station to Old South Road			1888	20 0 0	20 0 0
Bringelly Cross Roads to Main South Road, at Cobbity			1881	377 17 10	7 13 6
Main South Road, Camden to Vanderville			1888	261 0 11	261 0 11
Approach Merrylands Railway Station				50 0 0	50 0 0
Main South Coast Road to St. George's Basin				50 0 0	50 0 0

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Commenced	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888	Amount expended in 1888
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
ROADS AND BRIDGES—continued.					
Maryvale Road	Maintenance		1888	75 0 0	75 0 0
Picton to Burragorang Mountain	repair, and		1874	12,633 14 6	1,571 17 8
Foot of Burragorang to Cox's River	construction		1881	830 18 6	150 13 11
Foot of Burragorang to Wollondilly	"		1882	771 11 9	200 7 3
Long Gully to Burragorang, via Rock Barton	"		1888	43 0 0	43 0 0
Broughton Creek to Woodhill	"		"	140 8 9	140 8 9
Main South Coast Road	"		1879	46,130 5 4	4,996 15 7
Bottle Forest to Main South Coast Road	"		1883	2,625 14 9	222 4 8
Bowral, via B. M. Osborne's, to Main South Road	"		1887	299 19 9	100 0 0
Bowral, via Alcorn's, to Robertson	"		1874	11,298 10 5	1,285 2 9
Nowra to Yalwal	"		1881	2,257 4 11	304 15 0
Burrier, via Gap, to Cambewarra	"		1888	74 0 0	74 0 0
Main South Coast Road to Jervis Bay	"		1886	169 5 0	45 0 0
Nowra, via Narriga, to Braidwood	"		1882	3,944 4 10	501 12 1
Nowra, via Tomerong, to Milton	"		"	11,714 6 8	2,027 19 0
Kangaroo Valley to Broughton Creek	"		1888	381 4 3	381 4 3
Moonan to Kangaroo Flat	"		1887	273 10 0	242 6 0
Kangaroo Ground, at Byrnes', to Old South Road, Moss Vale	"		1883	1,036 3 2	146 18 8
Bundanoon to Old South Road	"		1888	182 3 8	182 3 8
Bundanoon to South Lambton	"		"	90 0 10	90 0 10
Good Dog Mount to Kangaroo Mount	"		1887	502 0 0	304 12 0
Cross Roads to Taralga	"		1883	497 1 6	157 1 6
Alcorn's Hill to Macquarie Pass Road	"		1880	431 5 0	47 0 0
Appin to Brook's Point	"		1884	173 1 0	27 6 0
Old South Road Cross Roads to Little Forest	"		1875	11,695 6 5	1,006 9 6
Wild's Meadow to Robertson Road	"		1884	592 16 11	165 10 11
Bulli, via Coal Cliff, to Blue-gum Forest	"		1882	7,531 1 9	599 13 5
Bulli Road	"		1886	2,932 19 6	239 4 6
Minnamurra Road	"		1887	1,069 2 0	800 7 0
Near Wallaby Creek to Central Illawarra	"		1875	1,306 7 0	137 17 6
Mittagong to Joadja Creek	"		1883	492 16 7	224 9 0
Throsby Park and Kiama Road, at Mittagong, to Illawarra Road	"		1888	1 5 0	1 5 0
Fitzroy Iron Mines to Bowral	"		1871	2,584 10 5	183 14 8
Kangaroo Road, at Robertson, to near Mount Murray	"		1888	179 16 0	179 16 0
Kangaloon Road to Wincarrabee	"		1884	427 5 0	60 0 0
Old South Road, Mittagong, to Main South Road, near Fitzroy Inn	"		1879	394 13 0	79 13 0
Berrima to Railway Station, Moss Vale	"		1876	2,480 16 5	256 17 8
Main South Road, near Berrima, to Bowral	"		1882	1,481 0 0	128 14 6
Burradoo Platform to Kangaloon Road	"		1888	26 0 0	26 0 0
Kangaroo Mount to Kangaroo Valley	"		1882	760 1 7	137 3 0
Upper Kangaroo Creek to Middle Creek	"		1888	22 0 0	22 0 0
Illawarra Road to Bond's Road	"		1878	797 16 3	100 0 0
Sutton Forest to Main South Road, Cowley's	"		1881	619 15 8	1 10 6
Roads and Bridges, Illawarra District	"		1887	1,338 8 11	774 17 6
Sutton Forest to Bundanoon	"		1882	964 4 6	158 7 9
Approaches, Dapto Railway Station	"		1888	399 18 10	399 18 10
Kiama Road, Blenkinsops to Barrengarry	"		1877	2,428 13 10	33 10 3
Burrawang to Robertson Road	"		1884	398 14 0	43 13 0
Moss Vale and Shoalhaven Road to Wallanderry	"		1882	1,974 2 8	248 14 10
Lackey Road, Moss Vale	"		1888	153 15 3	153 15 3
Spring Hill Deviation to Jamberoo Mount	"		1887	1,983 14 10	507 1 0
Moss Vale and Nowra Road to foot Jamberoo Mount	"		1878	16,494 15 10	1,728 18 9
Tait's Hotel to Lumsden's Corner	"		1888	2 2 6	2 2 6
Aylmerton Road	"		"	60 0 0	60 0 0
Moss Vale to Kangaroo Valley	"		"	256 3 8	256 3 8
Moss Vale, via Kangaroo Valley, to Nowra	"		1880	14,421 2 5	2,071 13 2
Yarra Yarra Road	"		1888	75 4 2	75 4 2
Goulburn to Cooma	"		1874	113,536 12 0	3,256 2 6
Goulburn and Wheeo Road, at Hawthorne Tree, to Wheeo and Crookwell Road	"		1882	273 6 8	32 2 6
Goulburn to Pomeroy	"		1880	3,335 14 7	412 18 7
Goulburn to Upper Tarlo and Roslyn	"		1878	5,183 10 3	386 12 8
Goulburn and Tuena Road, via Lamekins, to Goulburn and Tarlo Road	"		1880	547 10 1	74 19 1
Goulburn and Bindo Road, at Carter's, to Goulburn and Wheeo Road, near Wollondilly	"		1887	153 19 0	25 19 0
Goulburn and Crookwell Road, near Marsden's, to Goulburn and Tarlo Road, near Confoy's	"		1886	156 0 0	50 0 0
Goulburn and Tuena Road, via Fullerton, to Sherwood	"		"	1,327 2 9	44 10 0
Goulburn to Bungoma	"		1874	5,719 5 3	394 13 6
Goulburn to Windelluma	"		1876	7,386 4 1	331 17 1
Goulburn to Taralga	"		1888	1,513 1 11	1,513 1 11
Goulburn to Boxer's Creek	"		1887	108 8 1	58 8 1
Goulburn, via Crookwell, to Binda	"		1876	25,958 7 9	2,049 13 10
Kippelaw, via Parkesbourne, to Bredalbane Railway Station	"		1887	208 15 0	50 15 5
Parkesbourne to Parks' Run of Water	"		"	129 0 0	72 0 0
Gurrunda Road	"		1888	80 0 0	80 0 0
Main South Road, Towrang, to Paddy's River	"		1881	1,176 14 5	99 8 6
Gurrunda Road, near Kippelaw, to Bealla	"		1888	267 17 0	267 17 0
Richlands to Wombeyan Caves	"		1887	281 2 0	176 2 0
Collector towards Goulburn	"		1874	4,001 19 2	175 10 8
Currawang to Lake Bathurst	"		1888	66 6 0	66 6 0
Collector, via Currawang, to Terania	"		1882	3,444 9 3	448 10 9
Collector to Main South Road, Bredalbane	"		1881	1,649 13 7	211 5 11
Goulburn, via Gullen, to Wheeo	"		1874	27,667 14 7	1,063 17 5
Campbell's Lane, Middle Arm, to Rhyanna	"		1884	579 10 8	90 0 0
Cotta Walla to Mount Wayo and Peelwood	"		1881	917 15 11	168 1 6
Crookwell, via Red Ground, to Laggan and Binda	"		1883	340 7 0	43 9 9

Consolidated Revenue.

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Work, and where situated	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Commenced	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888	Amount expended in 1888
ROADS AND BRIDGES—continued.					
Mummel Township to School at Junction	Maintenance, repair, and construction.		1887	£ 90 s. 0 d.	£ 30 s. 0 d.
Crookwell, via Grabben Gullen, to Gunning	"		1882	1,345 6 8	235 2 9
Old Gunning and Crookwell Road to Rossi's Bridge	"		1888	53 2 6	53 2 6
Bungonia to Inverary Park	"		1885	296 19 2	74 19 2
Gullen, via Crookwell, to Laggan	"		1874	5,306 9 3	856 12 1
Goldspie to Taralga and Rockwell	"		1881	710 3 10	51 17 0
Taralga to Laggan	"		1887	363 3 9	30 0 0
Taralga, via Barnaby, to Swallowtail	"		1882	609 4 0	117 9 6
Taralga to Curraweela	"		1888	195 17 4	195 17 4
Taralga to Stonequarry	"		1887	337 7 0	151 11 6
Stonequarry to Leighwood	"		"	108 8 6	41 8 6
Laggan to Leighwood	"		"	92 14 3	13 8 0
Marulan to Limekilns	"		1882	2,273 7 5	195 8 3
Marulan to Windellima	"		1878	8,537 5 10	442 19 7
Marulan to Greenwich Park	"		1879	3,032 0 0	354 2 6
Marulan to Big Hill	"		1887	110 18 2	11 11 6
Dalton and Burrowa Road to Junction of Pudman Road	"		1885	467 11 4	51 11 4
Dalton to Gunning	"		1884	1,248 5 10	202 18 9
Dalton to Fish River	"		1888	100 0 0	100 0 0
Dalton to Burrowa	"		1885	2,323 6 6	266 19 1
Greenwich Park to Towrang	"		1882	1,435 9 4	209 1 10
Laggan to Binda	"		1875	2,160 18 10	92 19 0
Binda to Peelwood	"		1879	626 3 0	168 1 9
Wheeo to Crookwell	"		1884	3,244 0 2	228 17 6
Wheeo to Binda	"		1877	1,176 15 2	180 0 0
Wheeo Post Office to Gunning	"		1888	279 16 0	279 16 0
Wheeo to Burrowa	"		1879	6,110 14 8	538 12 2
Goulburn and Binda Road to Abererombie	"		1881	19,952 17 4	2,648 9 2
Bigga to Abererombie	"		1879	950 4 0	37 5 6
Binda to Bigga	"		1885	827 10 9	167 10 9
Binda and Bigga Road, via Junction, to Tuena	"		1888	265 2 3	265 2 3
Collector to Gunning	"		1878	2,878 6 6	110 15 9
Sharpening-stone Creek to Burrowa and Binalong Road, near Burrowa	"		1872	7,137 1 5	278 3 8
Sharpening-stone Creek and Burrowa Road, near Wall's, to Bowning	"		1879	429 0 6	57 2 3
Binalong to Burrowa	"		1877	9,774 2 1	1,030 8 0
Queanbeyan, via Yaraluma, to Uryarra Post Office	"		1881	1,498 13 4	89 13 10
Queanbeyan and Gundaroo to Gunning	"		1874	21,035 9 6	472 9 0
Queanbeyan to Murrumbateman	"		1878	7,545 12 11	308 6 0
Yass to Fairfield Bridge	"		1875	4,748 17 7	243 10 0
Yass to Woolgarlo	"		"	3,080 12 7	266 2 8
Yass to Black Range	"		1885	95 19 9	23 18 9
Gunderra to Weetangra	"		1884	256 8 9	55 13 3
Canberra and Weetangra to Junction Uryarra Road	"		1887	106 12 0	6 19 8
Yass, via Kitty's Creek, to Dog Trap Ford, Murrumbidgee	"		1888	5 5 0	5 5 0
Rye Park School to Main Road	"		"	50 0 0	50 0 0
Yass to Bloomfield	"		1879	2,188 1 6	293 4 6
Gunderra and Gundaroo Road, via Mack's Reef, to Bungendore	"		1884	697 0 8	132 14 6
Bloomfield Road, at Waroo Creek, to Boambolo Ford and Mulhon	"		1881	929 8 0	93 12 0
Bloomfield, via Weejasper, to Tunut	"		1886	695 12 0	311 11 9
Dalton and Jerrawa Platform to Yass Railway Station	"		1880	1,189 11 5	166 0 4
Bungendore, via Molonglo, to Queanbeyan and Bungendore Road	"		1879	3,292 6 9	538 7 6
Yass to Bungendore	"		1882	6,378 18 4	587 13 9
Bungendore to Doughboy Hill	"		"	2,338 10 0	159 4 6
Bungendore, via Molonglo, to Black Range	"		1881	435 3 2	45 17 0
Bookham to Bowning and Binalong Road, at Illalong	"		1884	397 18 5	26 9 7
Bowning to Binalong	"		1878	2,784 19 4	171 12 6
Coppabella to Bookham and Bowning Road at Illalong	"		1888	50 0 0	50 0 0
Gunning and Burrowa Road to Yass Railway Station	"		1880	1,294 4 3	18 19 0
Main S. Road, Bookham to Cooradigbie Junction	"		1881	969 1 2	109 13 0
Dalton to Narrawa	"		1882	1,732 13 4	312 17 2
Grahams, via Frogmore, to Junction Wheeo and Burrowa Road	"		"	805 0 8	165 12 3
Burrowa to Young	"		1876	10,470 16 8	678 6 0
Burrowa to Kenya	"		1885	735 18 9	154 2 3
Murrumburrah, via Wombat, to Young	"		1888	424 12 7	424 12 7
Young and Cowra Road to Jerrybang	"		"	206 4 2	206 4 2
Young to Moppity	"		1880	854 15 7	79 0 0
Young Municipality	"		1888	100 0 0	100 0 0
Young to Temora	"		1883	5,204 19 6	854 8 3
Young to Grenfell	"		1888	1,620 7 4	1,620 7 4
Young to Thuddinga	"		"	33 0 0	33 0 0
Wallendbeen to Murrumburrah	"		1872	2,552 10 9	113 10 6
Jugeong to Murrumburrah	"		1887	1,052 14 1	331 13 6
Morangarell and Young Road to Yeo Yeo Bridge	"		1888	174 14 0	174 14 0
Morangarell to Young	"		1887	2,060 1 1	1,074 14 11
Cullinga to Wallendbeen	"		1883	561 18 2	103 3 7
Douglas to Harden	"		1888	222 8 5	222 8 5
Tarago to Bradwood	"		1866	76,831 12 7	1,418 1 1
Larbert to Bradwood and Tarago Road	"		1888	47 8 9	47 8 9
Elrington to Araluen	"		1870	2,020 1 3	42 3 4
Monga to Major's Creek (Elrington)	"		1871	5,499 5 9	222 4 0
Major's Creek to Fairfield	"		1880	2,800 11 8	213 11 0
Bradwood to Elrington	"		1872	3,216 4 6	258 2 2
Mayfield to Tarago	"		1888	315 10 6	315 10 6
Bradwood and Tarago Road, via Larbert, to Lower Boro	"		1881	585 19 0	135 19 0
Bradwood to Colombo	"		1888	7 14 0	7 14 0

Consolidated Revenue.

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Com-menced	If unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888.
ROADS AND BRIDGES—continued.					
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sam's Corner to Colombo	Maintenance		1887	102 1 6	95 11 6
Braidwood to Sergeant's Point.....	repair, and		1881	1,573 10 10	234 14 0
Sergeant's Point to Clyde River	construction		"	348 9 1	94 8 3
Braidwood to Reidsdale and Bell's Creek ...	"		1872	1,983 5 4	126 12 4
Windellma to Braidwood and Nerriga Road	"		1888	55 2 6	55 2 6
Hoskington to Saw Mills	"		1887	159 5 8	146 5 8
Hoskington to Foxlow	"		1888	30 0 0	30 0 0
Braidwood to Araluen	"		1864	15,110 17 1	689 11 9
Old Man Bed, Moruya, to Heads	"		1888	24 0 0	24 0 0
Jerrebat Gully Road	"		"	45 7 6	45 7 6
Captain's Flat to Molonglo	"		1887	433 19 2	240 0 0
Braidwood to Molonglo	"		1874	3,593 8 5	67 5 0
Foxlow to Captain's Flat and Molonglo	"		1887	562 13 11	365 18 0
Elrington to Ballalaba	"		1875	1,211 14 2	14 2 0
Moruya to Upper Wamban	"		1887	105 13 5	47 0 1
Moruya to Silver Mines	"		1888	94 1 0	94 1 0
Moruya to Glenderry.....	"		1887	40 10 8	10 5 0
Braidwood to Nelligen (Clyde Road)	"		1863	30,525 3 1	1,513 7 11
Nelligen and Bateman's Bay Road at McMillan's.....	"		1874	1,184 15 10	121 19 2
Milton and Bateman's Bay Road, via Brooman's Ford, to Nelligen..	"		1885	1,499 12 10	390 11 5
Milton and Bateman's Bay to Moruya and Bodalla	"		1874	26,132 18 11	4,428 6 5
Trunkatabella Bridge to Reedy Creek	"		1873	1,224 10 4	379 3 5
Milton and Bateman's Bay Road, via Burril	"		1888	558 14 6	558 14 6
Araluen to Moruya.....	"		1865	23,619 18 10	1,480 9 1
Parish of Wamboota to Moama	"		1888	70 0 0	70 0 0
Pambula to Wolumla	"		1867	3,158 11 6	82 14 0
Nelligen to Bateman's Bay	"		1884	320 10 6	99 7 0
Colombo to Nimitybelle, Mountain Incline	"		1887	3,755 2 11	1,688 15 8
Bega to Numbugga and Bembooka	"		1878	3,707 1 9	161 2 0
Bega, via Wapangue, and Murrrah to Bermagui	"		1877	4,450 14 0	862 13 3
Bega to Bodalla	"		1872	19,058 12 8	1,547 4 6
Upper Brogo to Bega and Bodalla Road	"		1887	22 15 0	12 5 0
Cataract Road to Eden	"		1888	89 12 0	89 12 0
Eden to Sturt	"		1879	2,743 4 2	508 13 6
Towamba to New Buildings.....	"		1884	765 13 1	33 10 0
Towamba to Bondi	"		1887	230 18 6	201 4 6
Eden to Panbula	"		1881	4,374 16 2	324 0 6
Eden to Clarke's Selection	"		1888	325 18 6	325 18 6
Wolumla Junction to Cross Roads	"		1872	46,184 12 7	183 15 11
Wolumla and Lithgow to Candelo and Wyndham	"		1879	1,042 13 0	73 10 0
Mogo to Tomakin	"		1887	133 7 3	73 7 3
Pittman's Bridge to Bodalla	"		1880	2,181 10 2	259 10 4
Mogo to Nelligen	"	Consoli- dated Revenue.	1887	24 8 0	7 0 0
Bombala to Delegate	"		1871	8,730 2 5	373 18 7
Bombala to Gunningarah	"		1881	660 7 10	448 6 10
Bombala to Merimbula	"		1864	74,509 16 6	1,826 19 3
Bodalla to Dignam's Creek	"		1879	5,140 10 1	876 17 3
Cobargo to Wadbilliga	"		1883	1,721 10 8	189 17 6
Dry River to Bermagui	"		1885	727 16 0	287 14 6
Saltwater Creek to Clarke's Selection	"		1888	52 8 0	52 8 0
Wallugla Lake to Bermagui	"		1887	94 9 0	19 9 0
Cobargo to Bermagui	"		1883	1,789 3 9	409 4 6
Brianderry to Bega	"		1874	944 13 6	59 11 3
Bega to Wolumla	"		"	9,478 0 7	537 5 11
Tilba Tilba to Punkally	"		1888	78 8 0	78 8 0
Bega to Tathra	"		1873	8,278 16 10	115 5 10
Cathcart to Panbula	"		1875	20,705 12 5	715 15 8
Cathcart to Bibenluka Junction	"		1888	349 15 9	349 15 9
Big Jack Mountain Road	"		"	1,376 7 5	1,376 7 5
Bobundarra to Seymour	"		1880	2,455 0 8	423 13 10
Bibenluka to Bobundarra	"		1887	553 1 4	307 16 6
Burrogate to Honeysuckle	"		1882	814 8 7	136 6 0
Merimbula to Jellat Jellat	"		1874	2,047 8 0	173 19 0
Cross Roads, Merimbula Road to Tathra Road	"		1887	525 0 0	158 19 0
Perico and Towambo Road to Burrogate	"		1888	1 8 0	1 8 0
Candelo to Wyndham and Burrogate	"		1882	2,263 1 0	641 2 6
Wyndham up Wattaganna	"		1888	189 2 6	189 2 6
Candelo to Kameruka	"		1877	536 2 4	48 19 6
Wyndham to Burrogate.....	"		1888	82 3 1	82 3 1
Candelo to Brown Mountain and Mogilla	"		1882	3,373 8 3	490 4 11
Brown Mountain, via Kameruka, to Finger Post	"		1877	4,211 8 8	182 1 0
Nimitybelle via Kameruka to Finger Post	"		1888	895 12 9	895 12 9
Buckley's Crossing to Bolocco and Jindabyne	"		1883	911 11 5	215 8 6
Cooma to Braidwood	"		1875	12,033 14 5	716 12 5
Prahaur, via Cowbed, to Rocky Plains	"		1888	70 0 0	70 0 0
Cooma to Green Hills	"		1887	201 12 3	66 5 0
Lanyan Ford to Tuggeranong Platform	"		1885	378 17 8	378 17 7
Cooma to Bobundarra	"		1880	2,394 8 1	436 8 6
Old Burra Road to Michelago	"		1886	381 3 5	177 6 0
Cooma to Jindabyne	"		1881	4,427 2 11	624 1 7
Cooma to Bombala	"		1864	33,677 14 6	1,187 12 4
Cooma and Jindabyne to Buckley's Crossing... ..	"		1878	3,937 19 11	372 7 3
Cooma and Jindabyne Road to Midlungbank ..	"		1888	140 11 5	140 11 5
Holt's Flat to Railway Bridge	"		"	767 13 2	767 13 2
Cooma and Jindabyne to Eiantra	"		1879	9,964 10 2	1,676 2 2
Cooma to Countaguineu	"		"	2,501 5 9	197 12 8

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—*continued.*

Work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Com- menced	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888
ROADS AND BRIDGES— <i>continued.</i>					
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Thirteen Mile Post on Bombala and Delegate Road, to Border	Maintenance, repair, and construction		1887	174 14 7	91 10 0
Buckley's Crossing to Jindabyne	"		1888	80 0 0	80 0 0
Billyingra, via Gap, to Murrumbucera	"		"	92 19 0	92 19 0
Brungle Bridge to Wagga	"		1887	342 0 0	171 0 0
Brungle Bridge to Goperalong	"		1888	54 8 0	54 8 0
Tumut to Brungle	"		1870	3,110 15 10	374 1 1
Tumut to Adelong	"		1868	11,110 12 1	523 19 10
Tumut to Wyangle	"		1887	607 5 2	8 8 0
Cooma to Bobundarra and Nimitybelle	"		1884	496 2 1	154 8 5
Nimitybelle to Bobundarra	"		1887	336 9 1	294 15 1
Nimitybelle Mountain Incline	"		1888	307 18 3	307 18 3
Cootamundra to Stockimbringal Bridge	"		1885	663 12 9	271 18 9
Cootamundra to Culinga	"		1888	162 11 0	162 11 0
Main South Road to Middle Adelong	"		1864	18,293 5 3	1,200 19 11
Adelong to Cemetery	"		1887	145 0 0	25 0 0
Adelong to Main South Road, Hillas Creek	"		1874	3,628 11 8	323 10 2
Gundagai to Bongongolong	"		1883	1,439 15 2	283 18 6
Cootamundra to Ironbong	"		1888	56 0 0	56 0 0
Gundagai to Wagga	"		1864	17,658 18 9	869 12 3
Gundagai to Tumut	"		"	18,853 1 1	1,179 5 8
Coolac to Cootamundra	"		1875	5,039 2 2	405 1 0
Dry River to Bermagoe	"		1888	110 0 6	110 0 6
Coolac to Goobarlong	"		1887	567 11 9	336 5 0
Welaregang to Tumberumba	"		1878	12,023 4 1	840 7 6
Welaregang to Tatala Punt	"		1888	121 18 0	121 18 0
Bowna Station to Welaregang	"		"	3,154 14 2	3,154 14 2
Welaregang, via Greg Greg, to Kancoban	"		1886	10,27 0 0	891 0 0
Glenroy to Mundaroo	"		1888	317 12 6	317 12 6
Middle Adelong to Tumberumba	"		1875	7,132 4 1	1,377 11 4
Bridge-street Tumberumba	"		1888	196 5 6	196 5 6
Tumberumba to Upper Burra	"		1885	461 19 3	385 3 3
Tumberumba to Newtown	"		1887	412 14 7	120 14 7
Upper Burra Road	"		1888	100 0 0	100 0 0
Upper Tumberumba to Tumberumba	"		1874	2,191 9 3	181 7 0
Upper Tumberumba, Tantaldia, to Marked Tree Line	"		1888	63 5 0	63 5 0
Tumberumba, via Muderoo, to Jingellic	"		1882	9,526 16 3	1,739 5 3
Main South Road, Little Billabong, to Tumberumba	"		1876	14,845 3 11	1,518 17 5
Tumut to Kiandra	"		1870	5,258 13 7	896 9 8
Tumut to Lacmalac	"		1877	1,614 13 3	207 11 9
Piper's Lane, near Tumut	"		1888	80 0 0	80 0 0
Gilmore Creek to Riley's Crossing	"		1872	2,642 15 6	157 12 4
East side Gilmore Creek	"		1888	40 5 5	40 5 5
Riley's Crossing to Reedy Flat	"	Consolidated Revenue.	1877	1,673 18 4	389 12 1
Gundagai to Brungle	"		"	5,597 5 2	393 17 2
Wagga to Parish of Warren	"		1888	99 5 0	99 5 0
Wagga to Cowabbee	"		1877	1,997 11 7	319 6 3
Murrumburrah to Harden	"		1887	75 1 9	61 5 4
Wagga to Bullenbong	"		1883	2,505 11 5	540 1 8
Humula to Kyamba	"		1888	484 17 11	484 17 11
Wagga to Lake Albert	"		1878	544 0 1	32 12 6
Urangeline to Yerong Creek	"		1888	187 0 0	187 0 0
Wagga to Murrumburrah and Grenfell Road	"		1868	16,294 5 9	433 7 8
Wagga to Narrandera	"		1864	13,493 8 3	821 12 3
Rock Railway Station to Urana	"		1883	5,829 12 7	369 1 0
The Rock to Green's Gonyah	"		1887	148 0 9	91 15 9
Yamba Station to Wagga	"		"	197 0 0	147 0 0
Yerong Creek to Mingo Flat	"		1888	34 2 0	34 2 0
Main South Road, Tarcutta to Alfred Town	"		1879	11,700 12 6	378 10 9
Main South Road, Kyamba to Wagga	"		1881	6,098 5 2	605 2 10
Carabost to Kyamba	"		1880	3,271 12 6	663 2 4
Temora to Makinlay	"		1888	160 0 0	160 0 0
Temora to Barmedman	"		1887	876 15 0	328 6 1
Temora to Junees	"		1888	22 2 3	22 2 3
Cootamundra to Temora	"		1882	10,245 16 2	1,600 15 0
Conargo to Narrandera, via Cudal	"		1880	4,065 13 1	695 3 8
Narrandera to Hay	"		1872	6,310 13 0	247 10 0
Culcairn to Germantown	"		1882	7,471 18 2	890 6 0
Germantown to Jingellic	"		1886	1,365 4 1	294 3 1
Germantown to Cookardina	"		1883	1,195 11 4	217 0 8
Germantown to Mountain Creek	"		1887	93 16 3	84 19 9
Corowa to Mount M'Donald	"		1888	48 0 0	48 0 0
Corowa to Piney Range	"		1885	1,795 4 0	757 13 2
Corowa to Murray Hut	"		1888	130 0 0	130 0 0
Corowa, via Sandy Ridges, to Jerilderie	"		1883	3,051 8 2	926 6 5
Jerilderie to Tocumwal	"		1884	1,917 7 9	989 1 1
Jerilderie to Berrigan	"		1888	184 9 8	184 9 8
Albury to Urana	"		1872	18,294 16 11	1,913 17 4
Coonong Railway Station to Urana	"		1885	1,422 0 4	604 6 1
Coonong Railway Station to Goolgumla	"		1887	616 3 0	178 0 8
Albury and Corowa Road to Urana	"		1874	15,458 11 10	1,060 17 5
Albury to Deniliquin	"		1888	57,927 0 8	2,631 0 11
Drysdale and Wanganang Road, to Price's Bog Hole	"		"	40 0 0	40 0 0
Albury to Wagga	"		1864	44,263 17 4	1,193 17 9
Approach, Ettamogah Railway Station	"		1888	137 9 0	137 9 0
Geogery Railway Station to Howlong	"		1881	8,288 8 6	1,687 3 10
Manus to Rosewood	"		1887	632 2 0	548 2 0

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Commenced.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888.
ROADS AND BRIDGES—continued.					
Gerogery Railway Station to Bungowannah	Maintenance,		1876	£ 4,438 14 1	£ 285 5 6
Howlong to Walbundry	repair, and		1883	2,206 2 6	344 8 11
Walla Walla to Jindera	construction.		1888	95 0 0	95 0 0
Walla Walla to Gerogery and Bungowannah	"		1876	4,057 1 7	562 8 0
Howlong Station to Cudgellico	"		1881	7,486 16 7	949 12 8
Deniliquin to Urana	"		1874	15,543 18 10	1,093 1 7
Wakool Bridge to Deniliquin	"		1888	154 6 1	154 6 1
Deniliquin to Hay	"		1873	15,235 16 11	485 7 4
Yathong Railway Station Approach	"		1887	68 15 10	14 8 0
Deniliquin to Balranald	"		1875	18,917 11 6	1,947 3 9
Deniliquin to Mathoura Old Road	"		1888	127 16 11	127 16 11
Deniliquin to Morocco	"		1887	87 12 3	67 12 3
Mathoura to Moulamein	"		1888	84 6 8	84 6 8
Mathoura to Bunaloo	"		1887	894 6 11	163 6 11
Mathoura to Moama	"		1888	468 5 10	468 5 10
Moulamein to Wangonilla	"		1887	554 12 0	549 12 0
Balranald to Hay	"		1877	6,315 8 0	448 18 0
Balranald to Swan Hill Ferry	"		1887	767 10 0	363 8 0
Whealbah to Gunbar	"		1882	1,736 1 8	196 14 6
Booligal to Wilcannia	"		1880	12,309 3 9	989 10 3
Hay to Booligal	"		1879	8,416 1 9	662 14 0
Hay to Gunbar	"		1881	3,794 14 8	289 11 0
Booligal to Hillston	"		1880	2,589 16 7	261 6 0
Hillston to Cudgellico	"		1887	611 13 0	371 13 0
Carathoul to Hillston, via Gunbar	"		1881	3,965 11 2	754 10 3
Moama to Moulamein	"		1875	7,512 3 0	1,461 0 5
Moama to Caloola, Mars, and Wamboota	"		1879	3,630 15 11	586 14 6
Walbundry to Culcairn	"		1882	1,874 11 10	326 11 10
Moama to Bama	"		1888	38 10 0	38 10 0
Nyngan down the Bogan	"		1887	87 6 0	17 6 0
Wentworth to South Australian Border	"		1885	736 0 0	229 4 11
Balranald to Wentworth	"		1886	1,446 5 7	304 9 7
Bankstown to Rookwood	"		1886	451 10 5	145 13 5
Irishtown to Rookwood	"		1888	193 3 4	193 3 4
Road, Nepean at Stonequarry	"		1887	1,005 6 6	7 7 6
Main West Road, Eastern Creek to Perkins	"		1886	787 15 0	530 17 6
Approach, Railway Platform, Sunnyside	"		"	129 12 0	129 12 0
Main West Road, St. Mary's to Orphan School Road	"		1878	2,031 10 10	200 12 6
Main West Road, St. Mary's to Blacktown Road	"		"	783 7 1	216 0 9
German's Road, Ellerslie	"		1888	56 0 0	56 0 0
Parramatta to Ryde	"		1884	4,962 12 4	581 5 3
Duffy's Lane to South Colah	"		1887	129 15 8	64 15 8
Parramatta to Pennant Hills	"		1885	395 9 1	102 12 5
Main West Road to Rooty Hill Station	"		1888	79 14 1	79 14 1
Upper Bankstown to Rookwood Road	"		"	307 11 3	307 11 3
Blacktown, via Riverstone, to Box Hill	"		1873	2,788 10 6	250 6 6
Thirlmere to Pictou	"		1888	55 8 0	55 8 0
Clarendon to Cornwallis	"		1884	461 13 5	27 14 0
Long Reach to Big Hill Post Office	"		1888	35 0 0	35 0 0
West Portland Road, Bulga Road, Upper Colo.	"		1884	402 4 6	10 17 0
West Portland to Comleroy Road	"		1888	81 17 0	81 17 0
Pitt Town Wharf Approaches	"		1887	83 12 4	7 1 6
Pitt Town to Maroota	"		1888	111 4 2	111 4 2
Churchill's Wharf to West Portland	"		1884	426 14 10	9 2 0
Bell's Line to Putty	"		1871	7,438 1 1	884 7 4
Bell's Line to Pitman's Farm	"		1888	148 15 0	148 15 0
Rouse Hill to Schofield's Siding	"		"	151 14 3	151 14 3
Sackville Reach to East Portland	"		1883	489 16 0	26 7 0
Windsor to Penrith	"		1884	820 6 8	260 18 8
Windsor, via Sackville, to Wiseman's	"		1883	5,652 4 7	1,988 9 0
Cutting, Gosper's Rock, Colo	"		1888	264 0 0	264 0 0
Completion Cutting, Colo Rock	"		"	440 0 0	440 0 0
Blaxland's Ridge to Upper Colo	"		"	90 19 0	90 19 0
Upper Hawkesbury to Wiseman's	"		"	1 8 0	1 8 0
Road through Peat's Ferry	"		"	285 0 0	285 0 0
Springwood to the Hawkesbury	"		1879	2,042 13 3	134 18 8
Yarramundi, via Ashton Falls, to Wilberforce	"		1883	983 17 0	404 7 6
Richmond Bridge to King's Road	"		1888	1,272 2 6	1,272 2 6
Bowenfels to King's Road	"		"	414 1 4	414 1 4
Bowenfels to Marsden and Lowther	"		1881	1,743 15 5	471 18 3
Oberon to Shooter's Hill	"		1883	526 19 0	155 0 0
Katoomba to Caves	"		1888	194 9 0	194 9 0
Katoomba to Bridle Track	"		1887	319 15 9	259 18 9
Bowenfels to Mount Tomah	"		1888	402 11 0	402 11 0
Main West Road, via Bonnyblink, to Cox's River	"		1887	95 14 6	29 12 6
Duggan's to the Caves	"		1888	279 12 7	279 12 7
Oberon to Jenolan	"		1877	2,846 11 0	289 3 8
Tarana to Oberon	"		1888	357 17 9	357 17 9
Katoomba Streets	"		1887	186 10 0	86 10 0
Binda to Caves	"		"	6,260 4 5	720 8 7
Four-mile Trec to Rockley	"		1884	550 13 0	36 1 0
Mount Victoria to Mount Wilson	"		1885	1,827 18 0	476 15 4
Blackeath Railway Station to Brewery Wharf	"		1888	175 13 4	175 13 4
Snelson-street, Mount Victoria	"		1887	75 5 0	41 5 0
Lowther to Gambenang	"		1888	184 6 9	184 6 9
Rydal to Off Flats	"		1887	266 0 0	140 0 0

Consolidated Revenue.

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—*continued.*

Work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Com. menced.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888	Amount expended in 1888
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
ROADS AND BRIDGES—<i>continued.</i>					
Single's Ridge Road	Maintenance, repair, and construction		1887	257 9 3	99 0 3
Hartley to Lithgow	"		1878	3,228 4 9	321 2 0
Lithgow to Vale of Clwydd	"		1886	1,700 3 6	150 3 6
Road to connect road at Caves to Hartley and Oberon Road	"		1888	400 0 0	400 0 0
Little Hartley to Hartley Vale Platform	"		1885	1,170 0 0	527 12 8
Hartley to Oberon	"		1887	4,276 15 4	212 18 0
Little River to Fifty-mile Tree, Oberon and Swatchfield Road	"		1879	1,545 2 8	94 6 0
Mutton's Falls to Public School, Oberon	"		1884	1,194 0 1	60 10 11
Oberon to Swatchfield	"		1877	3,050 6 0	120 9 0
Little Hartley to Gambenang	"		1878	1,487 16 4	338 14 1
O'Connell to Swatchfield	"		1879	2,709 3 4	147 6 0
O'Connell to Locksley	"		1888	63 6 0	63 6 0
Middle River to Meadow Flat	"		1878	2,489 1 5	241 1 6
Lidsdale to Wolgan Valley	"		"	1,561 9 6	103 18 8
Bowenfels to Wallerawang	"		"	2,000 9 8	130 10 10
King's Tableland Road	"		1888	120 17 10	120 17 10
Meadow Flat to Mitchell's Creek	"		1880	1,471 4 1	393 1 3
Mitchell's Creek to Piper's Flat, Railway Station	"		1886	552 6 11	124 4 0
Bathurst and Caloola to Trunkey	"		1866	26,047 16 8	739 0 1
Martin's Hill to Spring Hill	"		1888	50 0 0	50 0 0
Bathurst, <i>via</i> Gorman's Hill, to Campbell's River	"		1879	3,486 18 8	654 17 6
Bathurst to Gorman Hill and Perth Station	"		1878	1,233 9 3	141 18 6
Bathurst to O'Connell Plains	"		1876	8,484 2 1	655 8 0
Bathurst and O'Connell Plains to Dunkeld	"		1888	19 10 8	19 10 8
Meadow Flat to Tarana	"		1885	477 6 0	279 11 0
O'Connell Plains, <i>via</i> Dirty Swamp, to Road from Mutton Falls to O'Connell Plains	"		1872	2,883 17 5	282 0 0
O'Connell Plains to Campbell's River	"		1885	356 4 6	83 13 6
Bathurst and O'Connell Plains to Cooper's Overbridge	"		1880	811 4 2	42 10 4
Main West Road to Diamond Swamp	"		1887	183 15 0	60 7 9
Tarana to O'Connell	"		1885	222 0 0	123 11 0
Bathurst, <i>via</i> Kelloshiel, to Monkey Hill	"		1877	8,251 15 5	773 12 3
Main West Road to Page's Lane	"		1887	184 15 11	9 16 0
Bathurst and Caloola to Rockley	"		1873	12,098 4 5	841 9 10
Bathurst and Caloola to Teapot Swamp	"		1878	1,465 4 4	184 2 0
Rockley to Charlton	"		1887	466 8 1	420 8 1
Caloola Road, <i>via</i> Limekilns, to Rockley	"		1878	4,547 14 2	410 18 2
Cross Roads, Limekilns, Road to Paling Yards	"		1888	93 6 0	93 6 0
Rockley Streets	"		1887	151 3 8	141 13 8
Bathurst to Sofala	"		1871	24,280 18 2	588 16 3
Osborn's Lane	"	Consolidated Revenue.	1888	140 10 3	140 10 3
Bathurst to Ophir	"		1864	10,592 14 3	518 17 8
Wimbleton to Fitzgerald Valley	"		1888	97 15 7	97 15 7
Bathurst to Blayney	"		"	471 3 2	471 3 2
Newbridge Station to Arthur Town	"		1877	8,999 18 5	309 9 0
Newbridge, <i>via</i> Hobbys, to Abercrombie River	"		1888	1,400 6 0	1,400 6 0
Newbridge to Evans Swamp	"		1885	909 12 8	376 4 5
Newbridge Station to Caloola	"		1879	2,603 10 11	319 14 11
Macquarie Plains to Bloom Hill	"		"	430 11 6	25 0 0
Kelso and Sofala Road to Upper Turon	"		1886	310 16 11	142 0 1
Kelso to the White Rock	"		1879	1,194 7 7	112 19 4
Kelso to Kelloshiel	"		1888	56 0 0	56 0 0
Kelloshiel to Little Forest	"		1878	3,556 0 6	276 12 0
Kelso, <i>via</i> Limekilns, to Peel and Sofala	"		1887	7,950 0 9	871 11 9
Mount Lawson, <i>via</i> Judge's Creek, to Burruga Copper Mines	"		1880	4,491 13 0	1,352 3 1
Mitchell's Reef to Palmer's Oakey	"		1879	2,475 13 9	566 15 1
O'Connell to Oberon	"		"	5,916 11 3	177 15 6
Sidmouth Valley to Tarana	"		1875	2,482 2 10	160 19 0
Ironbarks to Macquarie	"		1888	43 7 0	43 7 0
Rockley Road to Camping Reserve, Vale Creek	"		1883	155 5 3	28 3 0
Rockley to Caloola and Tuena	"		1874	4,090 12 5	419 1 0
Rockley to Isabella River	"		1883	1,853 10 8	827 0 8
Four-mile Tree to Rockley	"		1887	183 4 0	89 15 11
Rockley, <i>via</i> Campbell's River, to Dog Rocks	"		1880	1,947 6 0	366 1 9
Teapot Swamp to No. 1 Swamp	"		1879	4,295 4 3	232 11 5
Teapot Swamp to Carcoar	"		"	1,332 10 11	172 16 10
Carcoar to Village of Shaw	"		1883	1,003 4 11	39 0 0
Evans Plains to Trunkey Road	"		"	705 1 4	192 5 0
Carcoar to Flyer's Creek	"		1879	1,089 17 10	162 15 6
Carcoar to Forest Reefs	"		1888	43 10 0	43 10 0
Peel to Duramana	"		1879	1,404 10 7	11 4 0
Peel to Junction Kelso and Sofala Road	"		1888	31 8 0	31 8 0
Limekilns to Palmer's Oakey	"		1878	3,671 4 8	211 6 3
Milthorpe Railway Station Approach	"		1888	207 19 3	207 19 3
Blayney, <i>via</i> Hood's, to Teapot Swamp	"		1880	1,831 15 10	3 14 10
Milthorpe to Cadia	"		1888	170 0 0	170 0 0
Blayney, <i>via</i> Grahamstown, to Milthorpe	"		1883	1,282 13 10	201 14 0
Blayney, <i>via</i> Shaw, to No. 1 Swamp	"		1877	8,099 3 9	904 2 6
Blayney, <i>via</i> Cowra, to Grenfell	"		1888	2,259 13 6	2,259 13 6
Vittoria to Blayney and Guyong	"		"	98 11 6	98 11 6
Blayney to Guyong	"		1881	1,702 8 8	109 17 0
Blayney, <i>via</i> Hills, to Fairfield Chapel	"		1888	53 19 4	53 19 4
Blayney, <i>via</i> Parker's, to Five Islands	"		1883	714 2 6	121 5 10
Tabrabucca, <i>via</i> Crudine, to Monkey Hill	"		1888	55 12 5	55 12 5
Monkey Hill to Hill End	"		1876	10,800 6 8	293 10 6
Windeyer, <i>via</i> Campbell's Creek, to Raynor's	"		1883	758 5 0	211 0 8

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Describe the work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Fund from wh the Expense defrayed	When Com menced	f Unfinished, Amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888		Amount expended in 1888.	
				£	s d.	£	s d.
ROADS AND BRIDGES—continued.							
Cudgegong to Reedy Creek	Maintenance		1888	625	0 0	625	0 0
Cudgegong, via Cullenbone, to Gulgong .	repair, and		1880	6,184	7 0	489	9 4
Gratti to Sally's Flat	construction.		1886	681	13 10	27	2 0
Sofala to Rylstone	"		1878	6,607	15 1	300	0 0
Wallerawang to Mudgee	"		1857	163,085	8 5	935	12 7
Sofala, via Cockatoo Hill, to Monkey Hill	"		1873	8,828	14 8	726	6 6
Goodman to Junction, Tallywang	"		1887	99	9 0	47	9 0
Gulgong to Birrewa	"		1885	1,291	19 2	15	13 0
Gulgong to Dunadoo	"		1886	84	0 0	15	0 0
Gulgong to Jackson's Crossing	"		1888	95	14 0	95	14 0
Cowra, via Meringlo and Gudgebong, towards Burrowa	"		1886	581	19 1	467	19 1
Cowra to Young	"		1875	5,952	19 1	292	2 4
Bimbi to Carnagable	"		1888	400	0 0	400	0 0
Grenfell to Goolagong	"		1885	1,768	1 2	124	16 2
Grenfell to Eualderie	"		1887	228	0 0	51	9 10
Cowra to Hovell's Creek	"		1883	1,131	14 2	229	4 6
Grenfell to Morangerell	"		1882	3,302	14 10	574	11 6
Cowra to Milburn Creek	"		"	1,012	6 3	156	18 6
Hill End to Main West Road	"		1873	18,506	0 1	518	4 5
Hill End to Cudgegong	"		"	22,798	9 1	635	6 7
Cowra to Forbes	"		1878	5,210	4 6	779	13 7
Cowra to Wood's Flat	"		1887	100	0 0	60	0 0
Cowra, via Benni Creek, to Walli	"		1886	817	16 4	282	15 0
Cowra, via Molonglo, to Frogmore	"		1882	1,741	10 3	36	12 9
Village to Dairy Creek	"		1887	214	2 0	129	13 8
Bogobogolong to Marsden	"		1883	3,481	15 9	1,134	15 9
Piper's to Williams'	"		1887	367	1 0	335	16 0
Macquarie to Dairy Creek	"		1888	200	0 0	200	0 0
Mandurama to Galley Swamp	"		1881	1,511	7 5	473	18 7
Mandurama to Canowindra	"		1873	14,209	10 6	175	9 2
Walli Walli to Sheet of Bark and Burley Jacks	"		1888	68	5 0	68	5 0
Sheet of Bark to Mount M'Donald	"		1883	1,805	14 0	320	2 4
Cargo to Canowindra	"		1882	1,315	14 0	128	17 6
Cargo Road to Forbes	"		1888	115	18 4	115	18 4
Cargo to Cudal	"		1883	1,419	13 10	324	18 6
Cadia towards Cargo	"		1888	131	18 0	131	18 0
Cowra to Canowindra	"		1880	1,744	8 1	105	3 3
Bigga to Mount M'Donald	"		1883	1,511	18 0	182	1 1
Cowra, via Breakfast Creek, to Burrowa	"		1888	238	18 1	238	18 1
Canowindra to Eugowra	"		1876	5,132	18 5	347	0 0
Canowindra to Sheet of Bark	"		1887	100	0 0	49	0 0
Orange to Ophir	"		1864	4,062	16 2	105	1 6
Matthews to Brown's Creek Mine	"	Consoli-	1885	901	8 6	96	0 0
Orange to Pinnacle, at Renshaw's	"	dated	1884	729	11 10	120	0 0
Branch Road Pinnacle to Orange	"	Revenue	1888	79	14 7	79	14 7
Orange to Spring Creek	"	"	"	52	0 0	52	0 0
Orange to Mullion	"	"	1880	915	2 3	67	9 0
Orange and Carcoar Road at Gosling's Grant	"	"	1888	122	7 6	122	7 6
Whitely's Flat to Mullion Railway Station	"	"	1887	96	0 6	11	11 0
Mullion to Ophir	"	"	1885	545	0 10	267	16 2
Orange to Canoblas	"	"	1881	2,196	13 2	433	10 10
Broken Shaft Creek to Molong Creek	"	"	1888	45	9 6	45	9 6
Burrawang Cross Roads to Balderogery	"	"	"	153	19 5	153	19 5
Main West Road Yetholme and M'Cabe's to Mitchell	"	"	"	103	4 6	103	4 6
Orange to Cadia	"	"	1880	3,595	15 3	492	16 8
Millthorpe to Cadia	"	"	1887	679	11 8	549	11 8
Piesley-street, Orange	"	"	1888	110	1 9	110	1 9
Cadia towards Carcoar	"	"	"	119	16 6	119	16 6
Orange to Forbes	"	"	1886	76,971	16 5	4,098	13 6
Orange to Icely	"	"	1881	1,519	16 1	337	8 0
Orange to Carcoar	"	"	1871	12,636	4 0	1,192	12 7
Orange, via Cargo, to Nanima	"	"	1875	23,323	9 0	18	18 0
Orange to Cargo	"	"	1888	497	7 6	497	7 6
Orange, via Cargo Road, to Boree	"	"	"	48	0 0	48	0 0
Wall's Junction to Botabolar	"	"	1884	778	8 8	278	0 0
Cheeseman's Creek to Oakey Creek	"	"	1887	109	0 0	49	0 0
Lewis Ponds to Orange	"	"	1882	708	5 6	173	2 6
Lucknow to Orange and Carcoar	"	"	1875	3,581	6 4	109	12 2
Mallow Grove towards Trunkey	"	"	1882	651	14 10	144	16 6
Blaynev to Millthorpe	"	"	1888	57	10 9	57	10 9
Forest Reefs to Blayney	"	"	1880	3,030	9 0	240	15 0
Springs Railway Station to Newrea Bridge	"	"	"	361	12 0	361	12 0
Burrendong to Springs Railway Station	"	"	1888	6	12 0	6	12 0
Martin's to Spring Hill Railway Station	"	"	1882	632	3 4	147	5 0
Spring Terrace to Long Swamp	"	"	1887	712	17 1	76	2 1
Spring Hill to Long Swamp	"	"	"	237	5 6	137	5 6
Spring Hill Station to Orange and Cadia Road	"	"	1888	119	3 6	119	3 6
Spring Hill Station to Hennessy's	"	"	1879	1,550	0 8	107	8 8
Spring to Jamberoo	"	"	1888	311	18 0	311	18 0
Icely to Spring Grove Station	"	"	1876	4,983	12 6	30	18 0
Icely to Millthorpe Station	"	"	1888	274	18 11	274	18 11
Spring Grove, via Guyong, to Byng	"	"	1882	1,694	4 5	178	16 2
Western Road at Favell's to Byng	"	"	1884	729	17 9	222	16 3
Spring Terrace to Forest Reefs	"	"	1883	735	3 2	225	10 4
Spring Grove Station to Cadia	"	"	1878	4,967	2 9	154	13 6
Boree to Parkes	"	"	1870	37,065	2 9	1,185	3 6

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Describe the work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed	When Com-menced	If Unfinished, Amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888
				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
ROADS AND BRIDGES—continued.					
Lyndhurst, via Cobbs, to Abererombie	Maintenance,		1879	4,273 3 2	33 10 4
Lyndhurst, via Abererombie, to Bigga .. .	repair, and		1888	676 19 4	676 19 4
Molong to Obley	construction.		1866	13,469 10 8	952 9 3
Molong to Warne Railway Station .. .	"		1882	2,028 6 7	18 12 0
Molong to Norah Creek	"		1887	162 5 7	74 11 7
Molong, via Toohey's Inn, to Toogong .. .	"		1880	5,259 13 11	625 0 0
Parkes to Coradgery	"		1888	66 0 0	66 0 0
Molong to Sandy Creek	"		1887	150 19 9	73 19 9
Stony Creek to Crown Lands	"		1888	114 5 6	114 5 6
Parkes to Balderogery	"		1887	512 3 0	382 18 6
Parkes to Forbes	"		1878	4,875 11 5	250 13 8
Parkes to Ten Mile Ridges	"		1888	162 0 0	162 0 0
Forbes to Gunningbland Junction	"		"	187 1 0	187 1 0
Forbes to South Condobolin	"		1882	3,356 10 11	694 9 3
Parkes to Condobolin	"		1884	3,979 7 1	518 2 8
Forbes to the Bogan	"		1883	1,874 0 6	49 7 10
Forbes to Grenfell	"		1887	367 12 4	342 18 4
Forbes to Condobolin	"		1870	7,920 13 8	964 2 0
Obley to Dubbo	"		1878	4,026 5 6	79 2 9
Dubbo District Stock Routes	"		1888	19 4 9	19 4 9
Dubbo to Coonamble	"		1874	24,098 8 0	1,366 2 10
Warren to Coonamble	"		1888	64 3 9	64 3 9
Nevertire Trucking Yards	"		1887	161 3 0	40 10 0
Rylstone to Bylong	"		1886	892 13 2	342 12 1
Rylstone to Ilford Railway Station .. .	"		1888	47 0 0	47 0 0
Cudgegong to Rylstone	"		1883	1,563 18 0	270 1 0
Cudgegong Village to Rylstone	"		1885	590 11 4	274 5 3
Cudgegong to Cassilis	"		1873	13,943 13 8	33 16 1
Cullenbone to Dubbo	"		1868	18,311 1 6	1,857 7 10
Cudgegong to Home Rule	"		1881	532 5 8	76 12 6
Falconer's to Gilgandra	"		1879	11,294 5 4	1,887 8 7
Guntawang to Wellington	"		1878	6,199 7 1	594 17 6
Wellington, via Buckinbali, to Balderogery	"		1880	5,943 0 2	1,109 10 10
Wellington to Cobborah	"		1882	2,503 13 6	583 11 10
Wellington to Burrendong	"		1880	2,742 18 1	155 11 6
Mumbil Railway Station to Burrendong ..	"		1888	45 1 0	45 1 0
Wellington to Arthurville	"		1880	1,579 0 9	36 0 0
Cobar at Nyngan	"		1887	467 11 11	217 9 6
Nymagee to Nyngan	"		1888	501 11 8	501 11 8
Nymagee to Condobolin	"		"	134 8 0	134 8 0
Cobar to Wilcannia	"		1866	2,138 16 1	699 1 0
Lachlan, at Murrin, to Mount Hope .. .	"	Consoli-	1886	1,003 7 11	11 19 9
Warren to Nevertire Railway Station .. .	"	dated	"	850 13 2	420 12 10
Bourke to Barrengun	"	Revenue.	1888	867 13 9	867 13 9
Crossing Darling River at Louth	"	"	"	35 0 0	35 0 0
Bourke to Ford's Bridge and Hungerford ..	"	"	1885	2,544 17 7	511 0 7
Bourke to Wanaaring and Milparinka .. .	"	"	"	2,219 3 1	678 16 6
Bourke to Cobar	"	"	"	1,367 0 8	103 16 0
Main-street, Bourke	"	"	1888	500 0 0	500 0 0
Wilcannia to Thackaringa	"	"	1885	2,493 11 2	1,173 9 0
Wilcannia to Tibaburra	"	"	"	1,375 6 2	140 18 4
Wilcannia to Wentworth	"	"	1888	185 7 11	185 7 11
Main-street, Silverton	"	"	1887	900 0 0	450 0 0
Argent-street, Broken Hill	"	"	1888	1,277 8 5	1,277 8 5
Silverton, via Purnamoota, to Poolamacca and Tarella	"	"	1887	949 9 6	805 9 6
Miller-street, via Abattoirs, to Iron Cove Bridge	"	"	"	889 6 1	308 7 7
Abattoirs to "White Bay Hotel"	"	"	1885	2,049 19 8	249 19 8
Petersham to Abattoirs	"	"	1886	2,441 15 4	852 7 8
Pymont Bridge Road between Parramatta Road and Orphan School Road	"	"	1884	10,331 6 4	24 18 6
Missenden Road	"	"	1888	76 0 0	76 0 0
Bonds Road, Belmore to Peekhurst .. .	"	"	"	66 10 0	66 10 0
Half-way House to Ricketty-street, Botany .. .	"	"	1886	385 0 0	100 0 0
La Perouse to Little Bay	"	"	1884	539 3 9	96 10 0
Randwick Toll Gate to La Perouse	"	"	1886	3,969 15 2	404 5 6
Bondi, via Coogee, to Long Bay	"	"	1879	9,997 0 4	1,294 5 11
Bondi, Sewer Road	"	"	1887	2,000 0 0	922 9 8
South Head Roads	"	"	1888	8,000 0 0	8,000 0 0
Croydon to Hurstville	"	"	1887	133 12 0	106 6 0
Bank's Meadow to Whusker's Road .. .	"	"	1886	256 0 0	56 10 0
Sydney to Bank's Meadow, Old Botany Road .. .	"	"	1887	1,525 8 5	1,287 3 8
Metalling and completion, Botany Roads .. .	"	"	1888	1,418 12 4	1,418 12 4
Sydney and Cook's River Road	"	"	1876	57,601 12 9	4,688 7 7
Belmore Road, Old Illawarra Road to Canterbury Road	"	"	1887	62 11 8	18 11 8
Rocky Creek to George's River	"	"	1888	500 0 0	500 0 0
Rocky Point to George's River	"	"	1879	4,974 17 1	16 1 11
George's River Forest Road	"	"	1888	2 0 0	2 0 0
George's River Ferry	"	"	1887	265 13 6	199 9 8
Tom Ugly's Point to Main South Road, near Croydon	"	"	1881	2,059 9 4	154 0 0
Half-way House to Rocky Point	"	"	1882	1,563 0 5	666 12 0
Centennial Park Roads	"	"	1887	37,810 11 3	30,864 14 7
Half-way House to Croydon	"	"	1888	100 0 0	100 0 0
Port Jackson to Pest's Ferry	"	"	1875	32,887 9 6	2,970 16 2
Lane Cove Road Metalling Miller-street .. .	"	"	1886	3,557 1 7	1,134 14 0
Lane Cove to Cowan's Creek, Bobbin Head .. .	"	"	1884	239 1 11	107 19 11

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Describe the work, and where situated.	Whether Constructing or under Repair.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Commenced	State whether Finished or Unfinished.	If finished actual Amount of Expenditure.	If Unfinished, Amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888.
ROADS AND BRIDGES—continued.							
Lane Cove Bridge Approaches	Maintenance, repair, and construction.	Consolidated Revenue.	1886	.....	.....	£ s. d. 1,215 8 0	£ s. d. 15 8 0
Lane Cove, via Stony Creek, to Pittwater			1883	.....	.....	3,592 5 9	1,200 5 10
Pittwater Wharf Approaches			1887	.....	.....	130 0 0	30 0 0
Pearce's Corner to Pennant Hills			1884	.....	.....	1,262 12 11	516 14 2
Pearce's Corner to Peat's Ferry			1885	.....	.....	1,644 18 8	555 1 3
Peat's Ferry to Berowra Creek			"	.....	.....	240 0 0	10 10 0
Hornsby to Parramatta			1888	.....	.....	593 8 11	593 8 11
Field of Mars Common			1881	.....	.....	9,383 15 6	371 1 0
Cox's Road to Field of Mars			1888	.....	.....	584 13 10	584 13 10
Iron Cove, via Ryde, to Gladesville			1886	.....	.....	2,360 0 0	855 12 6
Military Road, St. Leonards			1885	.....	.....	5,656 9 5	1,290 17 11
Webb's Road			1888	.....	.....	50 0 0	50 0 0
St. Leonards to Manly			1884	.....	.....	3,010 8 5	17 11 0
Thornleigh Railway Station Approach			1888	.....	.....	508 4 6	508 5 6
Spit Road, St. Leonards to Manly			1886	.....	.....	10,168 16 4	4,109 15 8
Manly Cove to Pittwater			1879	.....	.....	8,310 2 4	805 13 7
Pittwater to Barranjuue			1886	.....	.....	712 17 3	100 18 6
Defence Road to Pittwater Road			1888	.....	.....	276 8 9	276 8 9
Balgowlah to Pittwater			1881	.....	.....	706 3 0	65 15 0
Ben Boyd Road and Approaches Neutral Bay Wharf			1887	.....	.....	100 13 5	50 13 5
Manly and Pittwater to M'Garr's Creek			1884	.....	.....	338 19 4	52 6 0
Repair to Bridges			1888	.....	.....	5,814 8 7	5,814 8 7
Expenses, Punts and Approaches			"	.....	.....	7,125 11 8	7,125 11 8
Contingent Vote			"	.....	.....	15,017 0 7	15,017 0 7
Conveyance of Officers' Equipment by Rail			"	.....	.....	4,707 19 1	4,707 19 1
Construction and Maintenance of Tanks and Wells			"	.....	.....	183,167 8 11	13,438 7 0
Tank, Broken Hill			1887	.....	.....	3,000 0 0	2,361 7 9
Tanks and Wells Maintenance			"	.....	.....	8,612 15 10	3,474 18 9
Fencing, Special Leases, Tanks			1885	.....	.....	27,344 0 1	4,334 1 3
Tank, Menindie to Silverton			1888	.....	.....	1,273 6 11	1,273 6 11
Carathool Ferry	"	.....	.....	240 0 0	240 0 0		
Hinton Approaches	"	.....	.....	205 14 4	205 14 4		
Koree Island	"	.....	.....	50 0 6	50 0 6		
Coraki	"	.....	.....	500 0 0	500 0 0		
Hinton and Raymond Terrace Ferries	"	.....	.....	3 10 3	3 10 3		
Culvert, Kingsgrove to Kogarah Railway Station	"	.....	.....	1,000 0 0	1,000 0 0		
" and Approaches Murray Downs Punt to Swan Hill	"	.....	.....	97 10 0	97 10 0		
" Big Plain Creek	"	.....	.....	131 17 0	131 17 0		
" Macquarie River to Swamp	"	.....	.....	70 13 9	70 13 9		
" Hartley to Lucknow	"	.....	.....	14 16 0	14 16 0		
" Black Creek Crossing	"	.....	.....	18 0 0	18 0 0		
" Murray's Run to Wyong Creek	"	.....	.....	30 0 0	30 0 0		
" Woolshed, Yanbunah	"	.....	.....	49 0 0	49 0 0		
Bridge, Mohi, at Telegraph	Erection		1887	Finished..	1,654 13 7	.....	404 13 7
" Humambah and Approaches	"		1884	"	6,021 0 0	.....	2,472 14 0
" Brungle Gully	"		1886	"	1,465 4 0	.....	354 4 0
" Wilson's Creek, Bexhill, to Tintenbar	"		1888	Unfinished	.....	338 9 0	338 9 0
" Culgoa River, at Brenda	"		1884	"	2,232 11 0	.....	351 0 0
" Murrumbidgee, at Taemas and Approaches	"		1886	Finished..	1,205 5 1	.....	3,075 18 8
" Kangaroo Creek	"		"	"	460 12 4	.....	260 12 4
" Brungle Creek	"		1887	"	781 14 10	.....	209 15 10
" Corindi Creek	"		"	"	376 12 8	.....	124 12 8
" Woolgoolga Creek and Approaches	"		"	"	336 10 5	.....	108 13 9
" Mundaroo to Jingellic Bell's Creek and Gad's Creek	"		"	"	816 4 5	.....	617 4 5
" Hunt's Gully	"		"	"	430 0 0	.....	230 0 0
" Namoi River, at Tulladurra, and fencing Approaches	"		"	"	1,468 13 3	.....	440 10 10
" Wallis' Creek and Approaches	"	Loans and Consolidated Revenue.	"	Unfinished	.....	761 12 11	761 12 11
" Jones Creek Gundagi	"		"	Finished...	800 0 0	.....	400 0 0
" Foot M'Grath's Hill and Approaches	"		"	"	336 15 1	.....	133 13 4
" Between East and West Burrows and Approaches	"		"	"	497 10 0	.....	297 10 0
" Cocketgegong Creek Reserve	"		"	"	930 10 4	.....	730 10 4
" Forest Creek, Deniliquin	"		"	"	320 15 1	.....	114 15 1
" Paterson (Iron)	"		"	Unfinished	.....	11,143 9 10	1,423 14 11
" Smollett-street, Albury and Approaches	"		"	Finished...	2,405 7 5	.....	1,575 7 5
" Pudman Creek, at Rye Park	"		"	"	400 0 0	.....	240 0 0
" Throsby Creek, Wickham Approaches	"		1885	"	3,426 11 11	.....	471 5 8
" Paddy's River, Welaregang	"		1887	"	625 2 5	.....	456 2 5
" Bingell Creek, Wardell Bay, and Approaches	"		"	"	364 10 6	.....	43 14 6
" Tenterfield Creek, at Molesworth-street, and Approaches	"		"	Unfinished	.....	1,656 5 6	1,543 0 9
" Swan Creek, South Grafton	"		"	Finished..	431 1 6	.....	241 1 6
" Gamberang Creek	"		"	"	663 5 8	.....	4 16 0
" Snowy River, Buckley's Crossing	"		"	Unfinished	.....	7,349 17 6	5,139 17 6
Hay Bridge, Repairs and Maintenance	"		1888	"	.....	340 17 2	340 17 2
Bridge, Punchbowl and Approaches	"		1887	Finished...	1,334 18 11	.....	482 16 0
" Allison and Musk Valley Creek	"		"	"	160 0 0	.....	126 8 0
" Bedlam Creek	"		"	Unfinished	.....	155 4 6	120 4 6
" Hunt's Creek, Broken Back Bridge to Pennant Hills	"		"	"	.....	205 1 6	204 15 0
" Upper Wyong Creek	"		"	"	.....	223 14 10	173 14 10
" Brewarrina at Barwon River and Cato Creek	"		"	"	.....	11,406 12 5	3,037 5 1

RETURN OF PUBLIC WORKS—*continued.*

Describe the work, and where situated.	Whether Con-structing or under Repair.	Fund from which the Expense is defrayed.	When Com-menced.	State whether Finished or Unfinished.	If finished, actual Amount of Expenditure.	If Unfinished, amount of Expenditure to 31 December, 1888.	Amount expended in 1888.	
ROADS AND BRIDGES—<i>continued.</i>								
Bridge, Gum Creek	Erection	Loans and Consolidated Revenue.	1888	Unfinished	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 52 10 0	£ s. d. 52 10 0	
„ Wilson's Creek, Clunes, to Byron Bay .....	„ ..		„	„	.....	86 6 0	86 6 0
Unclassified Roads under Trustees .....	.....		„	„	.....	.....	1,610 0 0
Roads under Trustees as per schedule issued to Trustees :—								
Northern Roads .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20,799 0 0
Southern Roads .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,304 0 0
Western Roads .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,400 0 0
Totals .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	57,030 19 5	6,349,851 15 8	695,431 14 10
SEWERAGE BRANCH.								
Sewerage, City of Sydney	Con-structing	Loans and Consolidated Revenue.	1880	Unfinished	.....	750,554 9 11	59,684 6 7
Pipe Sewer, Darlington	Complete		1884	Finished	3,661 12 1	.....	.....
Drain, Eveleigh Railway Yards	„ ..		1885	„	2,477 15 10	.....	.....
Country and Suburban Surveys	Con-structing		„	Unfinished	.....	3,556 18 6	552 18 4
Storm-water Sewers, Wentworth Park	Complete		„	Finished	9,355 5 2	.....	.....
Liverpool-street Collecting Sewer	„ ..		1886	„	3,800 0 0	.....	.....
Opening New Street, Paddington	Con-structing		„	Unfinished	.....	2,845 9 8	1,329 17 5
University Connections with Bligh-street	Complete		Consolidated Revenue.	1887	Finished	1,500 0 0
Drain, Regent-street to Abercrombie-street	Con-structing				Unfinished	1,466 13 4	194 18 5
Baptist Estate Drainage .....	„ ..		„	„	.....	5,501 16 10	2,147 16 8
Storm-water Channel, Rushcutters Bay .....	„ ..	„	„	.....	3,742 5 5	1,011 4 0	
Drainage, Wallsend and Plattsburg	Complete	„	Finished	700 0 0	.....	.....
Drain, Lincoln Crescent	„ ..	„	„	700 0 0	.....	.....
Paddington Drainage	Con-structing	1888	Unfinished	.....	10 1 0	10 1 0	
Alexandria Drainage .....	„ ..	„	„	.....	45 3 0	45 3 0	
Waterloo Drainage .....	„ ..	„	„	.....	1,394 6 9	1,394 6 9	
Redfern Drainage	„ ..	Trust Fund Consolidated Revenue.	„	„	.....	2,446 6 3	2,446 6 3
Telopea-street Storm-water Drain .....	„ ..		„	„	.....	104 8 3	104 8 3
Maintenance of Sewers	Annual Vote		„	„	.....	1,219 4 5	1,219 4 5
Totals .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	22,194 13 1	772,887 3 4	70,140 11 1

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

REAL PROPERTY ACT.

(RETURNS UNDER, FOR 1888.)

Presented to Parliament by Command.

RETURN of the Number of Applications, with amount of Fees, &c., under the Real Property Act, from 1st January to 31st December, 1888.

Months.	No. of Applications.	No. of Properties.	Area.						Fees.														
			Town and Suburban.			Country.			Value.		Assurance.	Com-missioners.	Certificates and other Dealings.	Total.									
			a.	r.	p.	a.	r.	p.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			
January	24	53	7	0	10 ³ / ₄	10,136	1	28	112,805	0	0	235	0	2	42	10	0	1,441	13	0	1,719	3	2
February	29	47	69	3	7 ³ / ₄	8,156	3	1	78,208	0	0	162	18	8	63	0	0	1,477	2	4	1,703	1	0
March	36	56	23	3	10 ³ / ₄	4,427	1	13	133,502	0	0	278	2	8	71	0	0	1,697	10	4	2,046	13	0
April	26	38	41	2	13 ³ / ₄	4,108	0	34 ³ / ₄	122,310	0	0	254	16	5	48	10	0	1,498	4	0	1,801	10	5
May	24	38	79	1	7 ³ / ₄	5,624	1	31	92,582	0	0	192	17	7	52	10	0	1,913	9	4	2,158	16	11
June	31	45	824	1	25 ³ / ₄	1,847	3	13 ³ / ₄	327,153	0	0	681	11	6	63	0	0	1,745	3	4	2,489	14	10
July	39*	64	39	1	37 ¹ / ₂	4,350	2	12	109,558	0	0	227	9	4	75	10	0	1,964	16	0	2,267	15	4
August	38	65	151	2	4	1,729	2	4 ³ / ₄	135,848	0	0	283	0	5	76	10	0	1,924	8	4	2,283	18	9
September	24	39	211	1	22 ¹ / ₄	786	3	4	128,366	0	0	267	8	7	48	0	0	1,576	9	4	1,891	17	11
October	37	97	290	0	18 ³ / ₄	13,994	0	33	338,478	0	0	705	3	5	78	10	0	1,823	13	0	2,607	6	5
November	36	53	56	1	26	1,958	2	36	61,452	0	0	128	0	8	70	0	0	1,508	12	8	1,706	13	4
December	41	68	205	0	21 ¹ / ₂	2,964	0	30 ³ / ₄	199,746	0	0	416	2	10	90	10	0	1,415	5	4	1,921	18	2
Totals..	385*	663	2,000	0	6 ¹ / ₂	60,085	0	1 ¹ / ₂	1,840,008	0	0	3,832	12	3	779	10	0	19,986	7	0	24,598	9	3

* Includes one application, lodged on behalf of the Crown, of value of £375, on which fees were not charged.
The above Return is exclusive of three applications which have been withdrawn.

E. G. WARD,
Registrar-General.

RETURN of the Number of Crown Grants registered under the Real Property Act, from 1st January to 31st December, 1888.

Months.	No. of Grants.	Area.						Total Area.	Value.	Assurance.						
		Town and Suburban.			Country.											
		a.	r.	p.	a.	r.	p.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			
January	327	189	0	12	26,806	0	18	26,995	0	30	39,420	2	4	82	4	7
February	369	160	2	14	34,679	3	17 ¹ / ₂	34,940	1	31 ¹ / ₂	42,903	18	11	89	11	7
March	231	42	0	30	20,930	1	39	20,972	2	29	25,863	1	8	54	4	10
April	391	112	0	7 ¹ / ₂	43,812	3	15	43,924	3	22 ¹ / ₂	56,536	11	3	117	19	0
May	291	59	2	19	39,071	2	37	39,131	1	16	46,572	10	0	96	18	1
June	344	108	3	3 ¹ / ₂	40,333	0	8	40,441	3	11 ¹ / ₂	53,713	0	6	112	5	6
July	282	145	0	26 ³ / ₄	22,565	2	3	22,710	2	29 ¹ / ₂	28,296	11	2	58	12	1
August	75	61	0	36 ³ / ₄	2,854	0	3	2,915	0	39 ¹ / ₂	6,095	1	3	12	14	8
September	326	213	1	3 ³ / ₄	20,223	2	19	20,436	3	22 ³ / ₄	26,612	0	5	55	10	7
October	296	188	1	24 ¹ / ₄	25,039	3	24	25,228	1	8 ¹ / ₄	36,602	16	6	76	6	8
November	312	183	1	5 ¹ / ₂	28,321	3	36	28,505	1	1 ¹ / ₂	35,273	4	5	73	11	1
December	319	320	2	33 ¹ / ₂	12,451	3	37	12,772	2	30 ¹ / ₄	23,169	15	4	48	6	10
Totals	3,563	1,784	1	16 ¹ / ₂	317,091	0	16 ¹ / ₂	318,875	1	33	421,058	13	9	878	5	6

NOTE.—Amount of consideration-money for Transfers under the Act for the year 1888 £5,175,500 0 0
Amount secured by Mortgage under the Act for the year 1888 7,520,914 0 0
Total area under the Act at end of 1888—15,912,208 acres 1 rood 17 perches.
Total declared value of land under the Act at end of 1888 £29,194,855 15 0

E. G. WARD,
Registrar-General.

Land Titles Office, Registrar-General's Department,
Sydney, January, 1889.

RETURN of Memorials registered under the Real Property Act for the year ending 31st December, 1888.

Months.	Transfers.	Consideration of Transfers.	Mortgages.	Consideration of Mortgages.	Discharges.	Consideration of Discharges.	Transfers of Mortgage.	Foreclosures of Mortgage.	Encumbrances.	Consideration of Encumbrances.	Transfers of Encumbrance.	Leases.	Transfers of Lease.	Surrenders of Lease.	Re-entry of Lease.	Caveat.	Withdrawal of Caveat.	Writs or Warrants.	Satisfaction of Writs or Warrants.	Notices of Death.	Notices of Marriage.	Notices of Resumption.	Vesting Orders.	Powers of Attorney.	Registered Proprietor (Official Assignee).	Transmissions by Indorsement.	Total.
January.....	691	£ 227,793	334	£ 382,726	242	£ 227,893	23	1	1	...	...	11	6	1	...	25	17	7	1	17	...	2	...	...	2	33	1,414
February	747	285,202	358	415,160	248	485,626	24	...	...	...	...	8	3	2	...	20	20	4	...	17	...	1	1	...	4	34	1,491
March	775	546,641	333	862,621	264	255,119	19	...	2	...	...	11	3	4	...	29	8	9	...	9	...	3	1	...	4	22	1,496
April	706	436,270	350	736,688	239	222,530	17	1	...	...	...	6	3	2	...	42	23	5	...	7	1	1	1	...	3	32	1,439
May	856	436,923	403	716,671	237	282,085	11	...	...	...	...	14	9	3	1	27	30	7	3	12	...	...	1	...	3	37	1,654
June	847	677,418	362	968,574	250	488,437	12	4	...	...	...	13	2	4	...	34	38	10	...	13	2	...	1	3	3	35	1,633
July	936	403,252	347	489,465	302	523,030	17	...	1	...	...	29	4	3	...	38	27	6	2	14	1	3	8	...	3	32	1,773
August	872	529,540	429	925,291	265	169,718	19	2	...	...	...	10	5	4	...	49	29	7	...	19	2	2	2	...	3	30	1,749
September	788	487,170	350	482,904	231	471,596	13	5	1	...	...	11	3	2	1	38	27	4	...	10	...	...	...	...	3	34	1,521
October	856	483,581	371	696,097	245	642,309	12	1	...	...	...	9	6	1	1	28	24	7	2	12	1	2	...	...	4	27	1,609
November	774	389,960	350	516,611	202	243,792	12	2	1	...	...	18	7	2	...	32	29	7	...	9	...	...	3	...	...	34	1,482
December	637	271,750	287	328,106	201	167,368	10	...	1	...	...	16	1	3	...	17	21	2	1	10	...	1	2	...	1	8	1,219
Totals	9,485	5,175,500	4,274	7,520,914	2,926	4,179,503	189	16	7	...	...	156	52	31	3	379	293	75	9	149	7	15	20	3	33	358	18,480

NOTE.—Total number of Indorsements 20,198
 Total number of New Certificates 7,248

Land Titles Office, Registrar-General's Department,
 Sydney, 11th February, 1889.

E. G. WARD,
 Registrar-General.

Sydney: Charles Potter, Government Printer—1889.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

REAL PROPERTY ACT.
(LEASEHOLD PROPERTIES BROUGHT UNDER PROVISIONS OF.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 14 June, 1889.

[Laid upon the Table in accordance with promise made in answer to Question 3 of 17 May, 1889.]

3. Real Property Act:—*Mr. Traill*, for *Mr. Edmunds*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that only a very few proprietors of leasehold interests have taken advantage of the Real Property Act to register their titles?
 - (2.) How many leaseholds have been registered under that Act, and where are the properties situated?
 - (3.) Are the registered proprietors original lessees, or are their titles derived through those lessees by assignment, or under lease?
 - (4.) If it is a fact that there are only a few registered leaseholds under the Act, will he ascertain from the proper authorities at the Land Titles Office what the reasons are, and whether the form of the certificate issued to applicants for leasehold registration is one reason?
 - (5.) Has the freehold estate been brought under the Act in any (and, if so, in what) cases in which leaseholds have been brought under it?

Mr. McMillan answered,—Upon inquiry of the Registrar-General, I find that these questions will entail a large amount of labour and research, and that it will take considerable time to prepare the answers. I will endeavour to obtain the information asked for, and will lay it upon the Table in the shape of a Return in the course of a week or fortnight.

LEASEHOLD Properties brought under the provisions of the Real Property Act.

No.	Property.	Title, how derived.	Remarks.
1	2 roods 37 perches, lots 2 and 3 of the Pymont Estate, city of Sydney; and 2 roods 8 perches, lot 4, and part of lot 5 of the said estate.	Original lessee.	The freehold has not been brought under the Real Property Act.
2	11 acres, lots 27 to 35 inclusive of a subdivision of St. James' Glebe, on the South Head Road.	Original lessee.	do do
3	3 acres and 23 perches, lots 1 to 4 inclusive, of a subdivision of St. James' Glebe.	Original lessee.	do do
4	36 perches, Piper-street, Woollahra, part of Point Piper Estate.	Under lessee...	do do
5	36 perches, Piper-street, Woollahra, part of Point Piper Estate.	Under lessee...	do do
6	31 perches, lots 11 to 15 inclusive, of Geo. Pile's subdivision of block 59A of the Ultimo Estate, at Pymont.	Lessee (by assignment).	do do
*7	20 acres 1 rood and 10 perches, part of Thrupp's grant, parish of Willoughby.	Original lessee.	do do
8	30 $\frac{3}{4}$ perches, part of lot 23, and 1 rood 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ perches, part of lot 24 of M'Leay's Elizabeth Bay Estate.	Executors under Will of — (the original lessee).	do do
9	30 $\frac{1}{4}$ perches, part of lot 23, of M'Leay's Elizabeth Bay Estate.	Lessee (by assignment).	do do

* Under investigation.

No.	Property.	Title, how derived.	Remarks.
10	7 acres 1 rood and 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ perches, parish Wilmoughby, at the intersection of Thrupp's road and Spruson-street, East St. Leonards.	Original lessee.	The freehold has not been brought under the Real Property Act.
*11	6 perches, lot 21 of section 3 of the Cleveland Estate, Redfern.	Lessee (by assignment).	do do
*12	6 perches, lot 22 of section 3 of the Cleveland Estate, Redfern.	Lessee (by assignment).	do do
*13	4 acres 1 rood 28 perches, 2 acres 1 rood 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ perches, 3 acres and 23 $\frac{1}{4}$ perches, 2 acres $\frac{1}{4}$ perch on and near Thrupp's Point Road, Neutral Bay, part of Thrupp's 700-acre grant.	Lessee (by assignment).	do do

* Certificate of Title in course of preparation.

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) See Return.
 (3.) See Return.
 (4.) I can assign no reasons. I have not heard any complaint as to the form of Certificate of Title to leaseholders.
 (5.) See Return.

Land Titles Office, Sydney, 3rd June, 1889.

E. G. WARD,
 Registrar-General.

[3d.]

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

SUPPOSED FOSSIL MAN.

(FOUND NEAR ORANGE—REPORT OF GEOLOGICAL SURVEYOR ON).

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 30 May, 1889.

Sir,

Geological Survey Branch, Department of Mines,
Sydney, 29 May, 1889.

Observing in the annexed notice in to-day's *S.M. Herald* that the supposed "petrified man," said to have been found in a marble quarry in the Orange district, was on view at 294, Castlereagh-street, I inspected it this morning, in company with Mr. David, Mr. Etheridge, Mr. Slee, and Mr. Carne, of this Department.

We were allowed to do so on payment each of one shilling admission. It is quite unnecessary to describe the specimen, as it is unquestionably an artificial production. It consists of white-veined marble that has been rudely carved into the form of a human body and smeared over with clayey white-wash. The surface in parts is highly polished, as though it had been washed with some acid solution. We can therefore entirely confirm the opinion of Dr. Souter, of Orange, who first examined the specimen, that it is certainly a piece of rude carving, and not petrified human remains as it has been represented. The white marble, of which it is composed, resembles that of Cow Flat, near Bathurst. The marble of the quarry in which it is reported to have been found is of a pinkish mottle description, two large blocks of which may be seen at the office of the Colonial Architect.

I have, &c.,
C. S. WILKINSON,
Geological Surveyor.

The Under Secretary for Mines.

For the information of the Minister.—H. W., 29/5/89.

Seen.—S.S., 29/5/89.

EXTRACT FROM *S.M. Herald*, 29 MAY, 1889.

A SPECIMEN of a petrified human body, discovered by Messrs. Brydon and Sala in their marble quarry at Calula, Mullion Creek, near Orange, now lies at 294, Castlereagh-street. It is the body of a man, about 5 feet 10 inches in height, well-formed, and evidently, from the shape of the head and the contour of the features, a European. To geologists, and scientific men generally, an examination of this strange discovery should prove interesting. The marble in which the body was found is of various colours, but the body itself is petrified in white marble. With the exception of the arms, which are broken off at the shoulders, the limbs and features are intact, the left side of the body, however, being slightly flattened, due no doubt to the fact that it was found lying on this side.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

THE FRUIT INDUSTRY.

(PETITION FROM FRUIT-GROWERS.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 6 March, 1889.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the undersigned fruit-growers, exporters of fruit, as well as other persons interested in the fruit industry, and in obtaining better fruit marketing facilities,—

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:—

1. That urgent need exists for increased fruit market accommodation; that the present George-street Markets are a disgrace to the city of Sydney, devoid of every convenience required by the fruit-growers to enable them to display their fruit to advantage.

2. That since 1885 the fruit-growers have been incessant in their applications to the City Council to erect suitable fruit markets on an eligible site, but nevertheless, and notwithstanding the promises of various Mayors, fruit markets have not yet been erected in a central position.

3. That, according to statistics, there is annually carried, by rail, about 18,000 tons of fruit, and 34,000 loads taken into the George-street Markets.

4. That a large sum of money is annually expended by the fruit-growers for the delivery of fruit by drays at the George-street Markets, thereby entailing unnecessary expense and delay as well as an incalculable amount of injury to the fruit by the continual handling in the frequent loading and unloading, which would be avoided by having markets erected upon an eligible site, and so constructed that the fruit would be unloaded from the railway truck into the market place.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honorable House will cause immediate steps to be taken for the resumption of that block of land, situated between Quay-street and the railway line leading to the deep waters of Darling Harbour, with frontages to George-street West, to Thomas-street, and to the railway line in the city of Sydney, and suitable markets erected thereon.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

[*Here follow 869 signatures.*]

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

THE FRUIT INDUSTRY.

(PETITION FROM FRUIT-GROWERS' UNION OF NEW SOUTH WALES, PRAYING FOR ERECTION OF MARKETS.)

Received by the Legislative Assembly, 18 July, 1889.

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled.

The humble Petition of the Fruit-growers' Union of New South Wales, representing the exporters of fruit, as well as other persons interested in the fruit-growing industry, and in obtaining better fruit-marketing facilities,—

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :—

1. That urgent need exists for increased fruit-market accommodation; that the present George-street Markets are a disgrace to the City of Sydney, devoid of every convenience required by the fruit-growers to enable them to display their fruit to advantage.

2. That since 1885 the fruit-growers have been incessant in their applications to the City Council to erect suitable fruit-markets on an eligible site, but nevertheless, and notwithstanding the promises of various Mayors, fruit-markets have not yet been erected in a central position.

3. That according to statistics there is carried annually by rail about 18,000 tons of fruit and 34,000 loads taken into the George-street Market.

4. That a large sum of money is annually expended by the fruit-growers for the delivery of fruit by drays at the George-street Fruit-markets, thereby entailing unnecessary expense and delay, as well as an incalculable amount of injury to the fruit by the continual handling in the frequent loading and unloading, which would be avoided by having markets erected upon an eligible site, and so constructed that the fruit would be unloaded from the railway truck into the market-place.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honorable House will cause immediate steps to be taken for the resumption of that block of land between Quay-street and the railway-line leading to the deep waters of Darling Harbour, with frontages to George-street West, to Thomas-street, and to the railway-line in the City of Sydney, and suitable markets erected thereon.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c., &c.

GEORGE LOVELL,
Acting Chairman, Fruit-growers' Union, New South Wales.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

THE SUGAR BOUNTIES CONVENTION.
(MINUTE OF COLONIAL SECRETARY RESPECTING.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 17 July, 1889.

Minute for His Excellency the Governor.

The Sugar Bounties Convention.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney, 6 June, 1889.

IN reference to the despatches from the Right Honorable the Secretary of State, of 31st December, 1888, and 17th September, 1888, and the papers accompanying them, this Government, after mature consideration of the several questions involved in relation to existing laws and the public policy of this Colony, does not see its way, at the present time, to be included in the proposed Convention.

It is intended in a short time to bring the whole fiscal policy of this Colony under review, with the design of carrying out important changes; and the objects of the Convention will be kept before your Excellency's advisers in any such review and readjustment of existing taxation.

HENRY PARKES.

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP, COMMERCE, AND NAVIGATION BETWEEN
GREAT BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES OF MEXICO.
(DESPATCH RESPECTING.)

Presented to Parliament by Command.

[Circular 1.]

Downing-street,
29th March, 1889.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit to you, for publication in the Colony under your Government, a copy of a Treaty of Friendship, Commerce, and Navigation between Her Majesty and the United States of Mexico, signed at Mexico on the 27th of November, 1888, the ratifications of which were exchanged at Mexico on the 11th of February last.

I have to call your attention to Article XIV of the Treaty, from which you will observe that, if it is desired that the Colony under your Government should come within the operation of the Treaty, notice to that effect must be given to the Mexican Government within two years from the 11th ultimo, the date of the exchange of the ratifications.

I have therefore to request that you will be good enough to acquaint me as soon as possible of the wishes of your Government in the matter.

The Officer Administering
the Government of New South Wales.

I have, &c.,
KNUTSFORD.

TREATY of Friendship, Commerce, and Navigation between Her Majesty and the United States of Mexico.

*Signed at Mexico, 27th November, 1888.**[Ratifications exchanged at Mexico, 11th February, 1889.]*

HER Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Excellency the President of the United States of Mexico, being desirous of maintaining and strengthening friendly relations, and of promoting commercial intercourse between the dominions of Her Britannic Majesty and the territories of the Mexican Republic, have resolved to conclude a Treaty of Friendship, Commerce, and Navigation, and have named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:—

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; Sir Spenser St. John, Knight Commander of St. Michael and St. George, Envoy Extraordinary, and Minister Plenipotentiary of Her Britannic Majesty in Mexico;

And His Excellency the President of the United States of Mexico, Señor Senador Don Emilio Velasco, ex-Minister Plenipotentiary of Mexico in France, &c., &c., &c.;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

ARTICLE I.

There shall be perfect peace and sincere friendship between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the United States of Mexico. The High Contracting Parties shall use their best endeavours that this friendship and good understanding may be constantly and perpetually maintained.

ARTICLE II.

The Contracting Parties agree that, in all matters relating to commerce and navigation, any privilege, favour, or immunity whatever, which either Contracting Party has actually granted, or may hereafter grant, to the subjects or citizens of any other State, shall be extended immediately and unconditionally to the subjects or citizens of the other Contracting Party, it being their intention that the trade and navigation of each country shall be placed, in all respects, by the other on the footing of the most favoured nation.

ARTICLE III.

The produce and manufactures of the dominions and possessions of Her Britannic Majesty which are imported into the United States of Mexico, and the produce and manufactures of Mexico which are imported into the dominions and possessions of Her Britannic Majesty whether intended for consumption, warehousing, re-exportation, or transit, shall be treated in the same manner as, and, in particular, shall be subjected to no higher or other duties, whether general, municipal, or local, than the produce, manufactures, and goods of any third country the most favoured in this respect. No other or higher duties shall be levied in Mexico on the exportation of any goods to the dominions and possessions of Her Britannic Majesty, or in the dominions and possessions of Her Britannic Majesty on the exportation of any goods to Mexico, than may be levied on the exportation of the like goods to any third country the most favoured in this respect.

Neither of the Contracting Parties shall establish a prohibition of importation, exportation, re-exportation, or transit against the other which shall not, under like circumstances, be applicable to any third country the most favoured in this respect.

In like manner, in all that relates to local dues, customs, formalities, brokerage, patterns, or samples introduced by commercial travellers, and all other matters connected with trade, British subjects in Mexico, and Mexican citizens in the dominions and possessions of Her Britannic Majesty, shall enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment.

In the event of any changes being made in Mexican laws, Customs Tariff or Regulations, sufficient notice shall be given, in order to enable British subjects to make the necessary arrangements for meeting them.

The Mexican authorities shall, moreover, deal equitably with all cases arising from unintentional ignorance of any of the changes above mentioned.

ARTICLE IV.

British ships and their cargoes shall, in Mexico, and Mexican vessels and their cargoes shall, in the dominions and possessions of Her Britannic Majesty, from whatever place arriving, and whatever may be the place of origin or destination of their cargoes, be treated in every respect as ships and cargoes of the most favoured nation.

The preceding stipulation applies to local treatment, dues, and charges in the ports, basins, docks, roadsteads, harbours, and rivers of the two countries, pilotage, and, generally, to all matters connected with navigation.

Su Excelencia el Presidente de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos y Su Majestad la Reina del Reino Unido de la Gran Bretaña é Irlanda, deseosos de conservar y vigorizar relaciones amistosas y de promover el tráfico comercial entre los territorios de la República Mexicana y los dominios de Su Majestad Británica, han resuelto celebrar un Tratado de Amistad, Comercio, y Navegacion, y han nombrado sus Plenipotenciarios, á saber:—

Su Excelencia el Presidente de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos al Señor Senador Don Emilio Velasco, ex-Ministro Plenipotenciario de México en Francia, &c., &c., &c.;

Y Su Majestad la Reina del Reino Unido de la Gran Bretaña é Irlanda á Sir Spencer St. John, Caballero Comendador de San Miguel y San Jorge, Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario de Su Majestad Británica en México;

Los cuales, despues de haberse comunicado sus respectivos plenos poderes, encontrándolos en buena y debida forma, han convenido en los Artículos siguientes:—

ARTICULO I.

Habrà perfecta paz y sincera amistad entre la República Mexicana y el Reino Unido de la Gran Bretaña é Irlanda. Las Altas Partes Contratantes harán los mayores esfuerzos para que esta amistad y buena armonía se mantengan constante y perpetuamente.

ARTICULO II.

Las Partes Contratantes convienen en que, en todo lo relativo á comercio y navegacion, cualquier privilegio, favor ó inmunidad, sea cual fuere, que alguna de las Partes Contratantes tenga concedidos en la actualidad ó concediere en lo sucesivo á los súbditos ó ciudadanos de cualquiera otro Estado, se extenderán inmediata é incondicionalmente á los súbditos ó ciudadanos de la otra Parte Contratante, siendo su intencion que el comercio y navegacion de cada país sean colocados por el otro, en todo respecto, sobre la base de la nacion mas favorecida.

ARTICULO III.

Los productos y manufacturas de la República Mexicana que se importen en los dominios y posesiones de Su Majestad Británica, y los productos y manufacturas de los dominios y posesiones de Su Majestad Británica que se importen en la República Mexicana, sea para el consumo, almacenaje, re-exportacion ó tránsito, serán considerados del mismo modo, y particularmente no estarán sujetos á otros ni mas altos derechos, ya generales, municipales, ó locales, que los productos, manufacturas y mercancías de una tercera nacion que sea mas favorecida á este respecto. No se impondrán otros ni mas altos derechos en los dominios y posesiones de Su Majestad Británica á la exportacion de cualesquiera mercancías para la República Mexicana, ó en la República Mexicana á la exportacion de cualesquiera mercancías para los dominios y posesiones de Su Majestad Británica, que los que se impongan á la exportacion de iguales mercancías para un tercer país que sea mas favorecido á este respecto.

Ninguna de las Partes Contratantes establecerá, respecto de la otra, prohibiciones de importacion, exportacion, re-exportacion, ó tránsito que no sean aplicables, en iguales circunstancias, á un tercer país que sea mas favorecido á este respecto.

Igualmente, en todo lo que se refiere á derechos locales, aduanas, formalidades, corretajes, modelos, ó muestras introducidos por agentes viajeros, y todo lo demas relativo á comercio, los ciudadanos Mexicanos, en los dominios y posesiones de Su Majestad Británica, y los súbditos Británicos en la República Mexicana, gozarán del tratamiento de la nacion mas favorecida.

En caso de hacerse algunas alteraciones en las leyes Mexicanas, aranceles ó reglamentos de Aduanas, se concederá un plazo suficiente para que los súbditos Británicos cumplan con ellos.

Las autoridades Mexicanas, ademas, tratarán con equidad todos los casos originados de ignorancia inculpable de alguna de las alteraciones antes mencionadas.

ARTICULO IV.

Los buques Mexicanos y sus cargamentos en los dominios y posesiones de Su Majestad Británica, y los buques Ingleses y sus cargamentos en la República Mexicana, cualquiera que sea el lugar de su procedencia, y cualquiera que sea el lugar de origen ó destino de sus cargamentos, serán tratados, en todo respecto, como los buques y cargamentos de la nacion mas favorecida.

La estipulacion precedente se aplica al tratamiento local, derechos y cargas en los puertos, fondeaderos, diques, radas, bahías y rios de ambos países, practicafe, y, en general, á todo lo relativo á navegacion.

Every favour or exemption in these respects, or any other privilege in matters of navigation, which either of the Contracting Parties shall grant to a third Power, shall be extended immediately and unconditionally to the other Party.

All vessels which, according to British law, are to be deemed British vessels, and all vessels which, according to the law of Mexico, are to be deemed Mexican vessels, shall, for the purposes of this Treaty, be respectively deemed British or Mexican vessels.

For the same purpose shall be considered as ports of each of the Contracting Parties those which are, or hereafter may be, declared open by the respective Governments for import or export trade.

The two Contracting Parties agree to consider, as a limit of their territorial waters on their respective coasts, the distance of 3 marine leagues reckoned from the line of low water mark. Nevertheless, this stipulation shall have no effect, excepting in what may relate to the observance and application of the Custom-house Regulations and the measures for preventing smuggling, and cannot be extended to other questions of civil or criminal jurisdiction, or of international maritime law.

ARTICLE V.

The subjects or citizens of each of the Contracting Parties shall be permitted to reside, permanently or temporarily, in the dominions or possessions of the other, and to occupy and hire houses and warehouses for purposes of commerce, whether wholesale or retail. They shall also be at full liberty to exercise civil rights, and therefore to acquire, possess, and dispose of every description of property, movable and immovable, as far as the laws of each country will permit. They may acquire and transmit the same to others, whether by purchase, sale, donation, exchange, marriage, testament, succession *ab intestato*, and in any other manner, under the same conditions as natives of the country. Their heirs and legal representatives may succeed to and take possession of it, either in person or by procurators, in the same manner and in the same legal forms as natives of the country.

In none of these respects shall they pay upon the value of such property any other or higher impost, duty, or charge than is payable by natives of the country.

In every case the subjects or citizens of the Contracting Parties shall be permitted to export their property, or the proceeds thereof, if sold, freely and without being subjected on such exportation to pay any duty different from that to which natives of the country are liable under similar circumstances.

The citizens or subjects of each one of the Contracting Parties, who may be residing, temporarily or permanently, in the dominions and possessions of the other, are subject to the laws of the country where they reside, especially to those which determine the rights and obligations of foreigners, on the same conditions as those of the citizens or subjects of the most favoured nation.

ARTICLE VI.

The dwellings, manufactories, warehouses, and shops of the subjects or citizens of each of the Contracting Parties in the dominions and possessions of the other, and all premises appertaining thereto, destined for purposes of residence or commerce, shall be respected.

It shall not be allowable to proceed to make a search of, or a domiciliary visit to, such dwellings and premises, or to examine or inspect books, papers, or accounts, except under the conditions and with the forms prescribed by the laws for natives of the country.

The subjects or citizens of each of the two Contracting Parties in the dominions and possessions of the other shall have free access to the Courts of Justice for the prosecution and defence of their rights, without other conditions, restrictions, or taxes beyond those imposed on natives of the country, and shall, like them, be at liberty to employ, in all causes, their advocates, attorneys, or agents from among the persons admitted to the exercise of those professions according to the laws of the country.

ARTICLE VII.

The subjects or citizens of each of the Contracting Parties in the dominions and possessions of the other shall be exempted from all compulsory military service whatever, whether in the army, navy, or national guard, or militia. They shall likewise be exempted from all contributions, whether pecuniary or in kind, imposed as a compensation for personal service, and, finally, from forced loans, and from charges, requisitions, and war contributions, unless imposed on real property, when they shall pay them equally with nationals.

ARTICLE VIII.

The subjects or citizens of either of the two Contracting Parties residing in the dominions and possessions of the other shall enjoy, in regard to their houses, persons, and properties, the protection of the Government in as full and ample a manner as the subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation.

Todo favor ó extencion á este respecto ó cualquiera privilegio en materia de navegacion, que una de las Partes Contratantes conceda á una tercera Potencia se extenderá inmediata ó incondicionalmente á la otra Potencia.

Todos los buques que, conforme á las leyes Mexicanas, se consideren Mexicanos, y todos los buques que, conforme á las leyes Británicas, se consideren Británicos, se considerarán respectivamente Mexicanos ó Británicos para los efectos de este Tratado.

Para los mismos efectos se deberán entender por puertos de cada una de las Partes Contratantes aquellos que estan ó en adelante estuvieren habilitados por los Gobiernos respectivos para el comercio de importacion ó exportacion.

Las dos Partes Contratantes convienen en considerar como límite del mar territorial en sus costas respectivas, la distancia de 3 leguas marítimas contadas desde la línea de la marea baja. Sin embargo, esta estipulacion no tendrá efecto, sino en lo relativo á la vigilancia y aplicacion de los Reglamentos Aduanales y de las medidas para evitar el contrabando, y no podrá extenderse á otras cuestiones de jurisdiccion civil ó criminal, ó de derecho internacional marítimo.

ARTICULO V.

Los ciudadanos ó súbditos de cada una de las Partes Contratantes podrán residir permanente ó temporalmente en los dominios ó posesiones de la otra; ocupar y arrendar casas y almacenes para el ejercicio del comercio, ya por mayor ó al menudeo. Tendrán tambien plena libertad en el ejercicio de derechos civiles, y por consiguiente para adquirir, poseer y disponer de toda clase de propiedades muebles ó inmuebles en cuanto lo permitan las leyes de cada país. Pueden adquirirlas y transmitir las á otros por compra, venta, donacion, permuta, matrimonio, testamento, sucesion intestada y de cualquiera otro modo, bajo las mismas condiciones que los naturales del país. Sus herederos y representantes legales pueden suceder en ellas y tomar posesion de las mismas, ya personalmente ó por procurador, del mismo modo y con las mismas formas legales que los naturales del país.

En ninguno de estos casos pagarán sobre el valor de dicha propiedad otros ni mas altos impuestos, derechos ó cargas, que los que se paguen por los naturales del país.

En todo caso se permitirá á los súbditos ó ciudadanos de las Partes Contratantes exportar su propiedad, ó los productos de la misma, si hubiere sido vendida, libremente y sin estar sujetos en la exportacion á pagar derechos diferentes de aquellos á los cuales están sometidos en circunstancias análogas los naturales del país.

Los ciudadanos ó súbditos de cada una de las Partes Contratantes que residan temporal ó permanentemente en los dominios y posesiones de la otra estan sujetos á las leyes del país de su residencia, especialmente las que fijan los derechos y obligaciones de los extranjeros, en los mismos terminos en que lo estén los ciudadanos ó súbditos de la nacion mas favorecida.

ARTICULO VI.

Serán respetadas las habitaciones, fábricas, almacenes y tiendas de los ciudadanos ó súbditos de cada una de las Partes Contratantes en los dominios y posesiones de la otra, y todas las localidades que les sean anexas destinadas á habitacion ó comercio.

No se permitirá hacer cateos ó visitas domiciliarias en estas habitaciones y sus dependencias, ó examinar ó inspeccionar los libros, papeles, ó cuentas, excepto bajo las condiciones y con las formas prescritas por las leyes para los naturales del país.

Los ciudadanos ó súbditos de cada una de las dos Partes Contratantes en los dominios y posesiones de la otra tendrán libre acceso en los Tribunales para hacer valer y defender sus derechos sin otras condiciones, restricciones, ó contribuciones que las impuestas á los naturales del país, y, como estos, tendrán libertad, para emplear en sus litigios, los abogados, procuradores, ó agentes de entre las personas admitidas al ejercicio de estas profesiones, conforme á las leyes del país.

ARTICULO VII.

Los ciudadanos ó súbditos de cada una de las Partes Contratantes en los dominios y posesiones de la otra estarán exentos de todo servicio militar forzoso, ya en el ejército, la marina, ó la guardia nacional ó milicia. Tambien estarán exentos de toda contribucion, sea pecuniaria ó en especie, impuesta en compensacion de servicios personales, y finalmente, de préstamos forzosos y de cargas, requisas y contribuciones de guerra, á menos que sean impuestas sobre la propiedad inmueble, en cuyo caso la pagarán en iguales terminos que los nacionales.

ARTICULO VIII.

Los ciudadanos ó súbditos de cada una de las Partes Contratantes residentes en los dominios y posesiones de la otra gozarán en sus casas, personas y propiedades, de la proteccion del Gobierno, tan completa y amplia como los ciudadanos ó súbditos de la nacion mas favorecida.

In like manner the subjects or citizens of each Contracting Party shall enjoy in the dominions and possessions of the other full liberty of conscience, and shall not be molested on account of their religious belief.

ARTICLE IX.

The subjects or citizens of each of the Contracting Parties shall have, in the dominions and possessions of the other, the same rights as natives, or as subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation, in regard to patents for inventions, trademarks, and designs, upon fulfilment of the formalities prescribed by law.

ARTICLE X.

Each of the Contracting Parties may appoint Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, Pro-Consuls, and Consular Agents to reside respectively in towns or ports in the dominions and possessions of the other Power, each one of them reserving the right of excepting those places where it may not appear convenient to admit them whenever this exception is extended to the Consular functionaries of all other nations.

Such Consular officers, however, shall not enter upon their functions until after they shall have been approved and admitted in the usual form by the Government to which they are sent. They shall exercise whatever functions, and enjoy whatever privileges, exemptions, and immunities are, or may hereafter be, granted there to Consular officers of the most favoured nation.

The archives and official papers of Consular functionaries shall be respected as inviolable, without the authorities of the country being able, on any account, to seize them, or take note of their contents.

ARTICLE XI.

The Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents of each of the Contracting Parties, residing in the dominions and possessions of the other, shall receive from the local authorities such assistance as can by law be given to them for the recovery of deserters from the vessels of their respective countries.

ARTICLE XII.

Any ship of war or merchant-vessel of either of the Contracting Parties which may be compelled by stress of weather, or by accident, to take shelter in a port of the other, shall be at liberty to refit therein, to procure all necessary stores, and to continue their voyage without paying any dues other than such as would be payable in a similar case by a national vessel. In case, however, the master of a merchant-vessel should be under the necessity of disposing of a part of his merchandise in order to defray his expenses, he shall be bound to conform to the Regulations and Tariffs of the place to which he may have come.

If any ship of war or merchant-vessel of one of the Contracting Parties should run aground, or be wrecked within the territory of the other, such ship or vessel, and all parts thereof, and all furniture and appurtenances belonging thereto, and all goods and merchandise saved therefrom, including any which may have been cast out of the ship, or the proceeds thereof if sold, as well as all papers found on board such stranded or wrecked ship or vessel, shall be given up to the owners or their agents when claimed by them within the period fixed by the laws of the country; and such owners or agents shall pay only the expenses incurred in the preservation of the property, together with the salvage or other expenses which would have been payable in the like case of a wreck of a national vessel.

The goods and merchandise saved from the wreck shall be exempt from all duties of customs unless cleared for consumption, in which case they shall pay the same rate of duty as if they had been imported in a national vessel.

In the case either of a vessel being driven in by stress of weather, run aground, or wrecked, the respective Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents shall, if the owner or master or other agent of the owner is not present, or is present and requires it, be authorized to interpose in order to afford the necessary assistance to their fellow countrymen.

ARTICLE XIII.

For the better security of commerce between the subjects of Her Britannic Majesty and the citizens of the United States of Mexico, it is agreed that, if at any time any interruption of friendly intercourse or any rupture should unfortunately take place between the two Contracting Parties, the subjects or citizens of either of the said Contracting Parties who may be residing in the dominions or territories of the other, or who may be established there, in the exercise of any trade or special employment, shall have the privilege of remaining and continuing such trade or employment, without any manner of interruption, in full enjoyment of their liberty and property, so long as they behave peacefully and commit no offence against the laws; and their goods, property, and effects, of whatever description they may be, whether in their own custody, or intrusted to individuals, or to the State, shall not be liable to

Igualmente los ciudadanos ó súbditos de cada una de las Partes Contratantes gozarán en los dominios y posesiones de la otra plena libertad de conciencia, y no serán molestados por razon de sus creencias religiosas.

ARTICULO IX.

Los ciudadanos ó súbditos de cada una de las Partes Contratantes tendrán en los dominios y posesiones de la otra, los mismos derechos que los nacionales, ó que los súbditos ó ciudadanos de la nacion mas favorecida, respecto á patentes de invencion, marcas de fábrica y dibujos para objetos industriales, siempre que cumplan las formalidades prescritas por la ley.

ARTICULO X.

Cada una de las Partes Contratantes puede nombrar Cónsules-Generales, Cónsules, Vice-Cónsules, Pro-Cónsules, y Agentes Consulares para residir respectivamente en las ciudades ó puertos situados en los dominios y posesiones de la otra Potencia, reservándose cada una de ellas el derecho de exceptuar los lugares donde no le parezca conveniente admitirlos, siempre que esta excepcion se extienda á los funcionarios Consulares de todas las demas naciones.

Estos funcionarios Consulares, sin embargo, no entrarán en el ejercicio de sus funciones hasta despues de haber sido aprobados y admitidos en la forma usual por el Gobierno al cual han sido enviado. Ejercerán las funciones, y gozarán de los privilegios, exenciones é inmunidades, cualesquiera que sean, concedidos ó que se concedan en lo sucesivo á los funcionarios Consulares de la nacion mas favorecida.

Los archivos y papeles oficiales de los funcionarios Consulares serán respetados como inviolables, sin que por ningun motivo puedan las autoridades del país embargarlos ni tomar conocimiento de ellos.

ARTICULO XI.

Los Cónsules-Generales, Cónsules, Vice-Cónsules, y Agentes Consulares de cada una de las Partes Contratantes, residentes en los dominios y posesiones de la otra, recibirán de las autoridades locales el auxilio que por la ley se les puede dar para recobrar los desertores de los buques de sus países respectivos.

ARTICULO XII.

Todo buque de guerra ó mercante de una de las Partes Contratantes que esté obligado, á causa de mal tiempo ó de accidente, á refugiarse en un puerto de la otra, estará en libertad para repararse allí procurarse las provisiones necesarias y continuar su viaje sin pagar otros derechos que los que en casos semejantes se pagarían por un buque nacional. En caso, sin embargo, de que el capitán de un buque mercante tuviere necesidad de disponer de una parte de sus mercancías para cubrir sus gastos, estará obligado á conformarse con los Reglamentos y Tarifas del lugar á que haya llegado.

Si un buque de guerra ó un buque mercante de una de las Partes Contratantes encalla ó naufraga en el territorio de la otra, este buque y todas sus partes, su aparejo y pertenencias, todos los efectos y mercancías salvados de él, incluso los echados fuera del buque, ó sus productos si se han vendido, así como los papeles encontrados á bordo del buque encallado ó naufrago, serán entregados á los propietarios ó sus agentes, al ser reclamados por ellos en el término fijado por las leyes del país; y estos propietarios ó agentes pagarán solamente los gastos que se hayan causado en la conservacion de la propiedad, así como el salvamento ú otros gastos que un buque nacional pagaría en igual caso de naufragio.

Los efectos y mercancías salvados del naufragio estarán exentos de todos los derechos de aduanas, á menos que se destinen al consumo interior, en cuyo caso pagarán los mismos derechos que si hubiesen sido importados en un buque nacional.

En el caso de que por razon de mal tiempo un buque se refugiare en un puerto ó encallare ó naufragare, los Cónsules-Generales, Cónsules, Vice-Cónsules, y Agentes Consulares, si el propietario ó capitán ú otro agente del propietario no están presentes ó si están presentes y lo pidiere, estarán autorizados para intervenir á fin de impartir los auxilios necesarios á sus compatriotas.

ARTICULO XIII.

Para mayor seguridad del comercio entre los ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos y los súbditos de Su Majestad Británica, se conviene que, si desgraciadamente en algun tiempo se interrumpieren las relaciones amistosas ú ocurriese alguna ruptura entre ambas Partes Contratantes, los ciudadanos ó súbditos de una de las dos Partes Contratantes que residan en los dominios ó territorios de la otra, ó que allí estén establecidos, ejerciendo el comercio ó empleados en otra ocupacion, tendrán el derecho de permanecer y de continuar en su comercio ú ocupacion, sin interrupcion alguna, con el pleno goce de su libertad y propiedad, mientras se conduzcan pacíficamente y no contravengan las leyes; y sus bienes, propiedades, y efectos, de cualquiera clase que sean, ya estén en su poder, ó confiados á particulares ó al Estado, no estarán sujetos á embargo ó secuestro, ni á otras cargas ú obligaciones que las

seizure or sequestration, or to any other charges or demands than those which may be made upon the like goods, property, and effects belonging to native subjects or citizens. Should they, however, prefer to leave the country, they shall be allowed to make arrangements for the safe keeping of their goods, property, and effects, or to dispose of them, and to liquidate their accounts; and a safe-conduct shall be given them to embark at the ports which they shall themselves select.

ARTICLE XIV.

The stipulations of the present Treaty shall be applicable to all the Colonies and foreign possessions of Her Britannic Majesty, so far as the laws permit, excepting to those hereinafter named, that is to say, except to—

India.
The Dominion of Canada.
Newfoundland.
New South Wales.
Victoria.
South Australia.
Western Australia.
Queensland.
Tasmania.
New Zealand.
The Cape.
Natal.

Provided always that the stipulations of the present Treaty shall be made applicable to any of the abovenamed Colonies or foreign possessions, on whose behalf notice to that effect shall have been given by Her Britannic Majesty's Representative in Mexico to the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs within two years from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of the present Treaty.

ARTICLE XV.

Any controversies which may arise respecting the interpretation or the execution of the present Treaty, or the consequences of any violation thereof, shall be submitted, when the means of settling them directly by amicable agreement are exhausted, to the decision of Commissions of Arbitration, and the result of such arbitration shall be binding upon both Governments.

The members of such Commissions shall be selected by the two Governments by common consent, failing which, each of the Parties shall nominate an Arbitrator, or an equal number of Arbitrators, and the Arbitrators thus appointed shall select an Umpire.

The procedure of the arbitration shall in each case be determined by the Contracting Parties, failing which the Commission of Arbitration shall be itself entitled to determine it beforehand.

ARTICLE XVI.

The present Treaty shall continue in force during ten years, counted from the day of the exchange of the ratifications; and in case neither of the two Contracting Parties shall have given notice twelve months before the expiration of the said period of ten years of their intention of terminating the present Treaty, it shall remain in force until the expiration of one year from the day on which either of the Contracting Parties shall have given such notice.

ARTICLE XVII.

The present Treaty shall be ratified by Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and by his Excellency the President of the United States of Mexico, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Mexico as soon as possible.

In witness whereof, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done, in two originals, at the City of Mexico, the twenty-seventh day of November, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-eight.

(L.S.) SPENSER ST. JOHN.
(L.S.) EMILIO VELASCO.

que se impongan en bienes, propiedades y efectos análogos pertenecientes á los nacionales. Sin embargo, si prefiriesen salir del país, se les permitirá hacer los arreglos convenientes para la seguridad de sus bienes, propiedades, y efectos, ó para disponer de ellos y para liquidar sus cuentas; y se les dará un salvo-conducto para que se embarquen en los puertos que elijan.

ARTICULO XIV.

Las estipulaciones del presente Tratado serán aplicables á todas las Colonias y posesiones extranjeras de Su Majestad Británica, en cuanto lo permitan las leyes, exceptuando las que en seguida se designan, es decir, excepto—

La India.
El Dominio de Canadá.
Terranova.
Nueva Gales del Sur.
Victoria.
Australia Meridional.
Australia Occidental.
Queensland.
Tasmania.
Nueva Zelanda.
El Cabo.
Natal.

Sin embargo, las estipulaciones del presente Tratado serán aplicables á cualquiera de las expresadas Colonias ó posesiones extranjeras, en cuyo favor se dé noticia para este efecto por el Representante de Sue Majestad Británica en México al Secretario de Relaciones Exteriores de la República Mexicana, dentro de dos años contados de la fecha del canje de las ratificaciones del presente Tratado.

ARTICULO XV.

Las controversias que se susciten sobre la interpretación ó ejecución del presente Tratado, ó sobre las consecuencias de alguna violación de él, se someterán, cuando se agoten los medios de arreglo directo por convenios amistosos, á la decisión de Comisiones de Arbitraje, y el resultado de este arbitraje será obligatorio para ambos Gobiernos.

Los miembros de estas Comisiones serán nombrados de comun consentimiento por los dos Gobiernos; y no estando de acuerdo, cada una de las Partes nombrará un Arbitro, ó un número igual de Arbitros, y los Arbitros así nombrados designarán un tercero para el caso de discordia.

Las Partes Contratantes determinarán en cada caso el procedimiento del arbitraje, y no estando de acuerdo, la Comisión de Arbitraje estará facultada para determinarlo de antemano.

ARTICULO XVI.

El presente Tratado durará diez años, contados desde el día del canje de las ratificaciones, y en caso de que ninguna de las dos Partes Contratantes haya dado noticia doce meses ántes de la espiración de dicho período de diez años, de su intención de terminar el presente Tratado, continuará en vigor hasta la terminación de un año contado desde el día en que una de las Partes Contratantes dé esta noticia a la otra.

ARTICULO XVII.

El presente Tratado será ratificado por su Excelencia el Presidente de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos, y por Su Majestad la Reina de la Gran Bretaña é Irlanda, y las ratificaciones se canjearán en México tan pronto como sea posible.

En testimonio de lo cual los respectivos Plenipotenciarios han firmado y sellado.

Hecho, en dos originales, en la Ciudad de México, el diecisiete de Noviembre, de mil ochocientos ochenta y ocho.

(L.S.) SPENCER ST. JOHN.
(L.S.) EMILIO VELASCO.

1889.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COMMERCE BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN
AND SERVIA.

(DESPATCH RESPECTING.)

Presented to Parliament by Command.The Treasury, New South Wales,
29th May, 1889.His Excellency the Governor directs the publication, for general information, of the following Circular
Despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

W. McMILLAN.

[Circular.]

Downing-street,
13th March, 1889.

Sir,

With reference to my Circular Despatch of the 22nd of July, 1880,* I have the honor to acquaint you that I am informed by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs that the Servian Minister for Foreign Affairs has addressed a note to Her Majesty's Minister at Belgrade announcing that the Servian Government give thereby the notification required by Article XIV. of the Treaty of Friendship and Commerce between Her Majesty and the Prince of Servia, signed at Nisch on the 7th of February and 26th of January, 1880, to terminate the said Treaty, which will accordingly expire on the 18th of May, 1890.

I have, &c.,
KNUTSFORD.The Officer Administering
the Government of New South Wales.

* Published in Government Gazette Supplement No. 450, of 18th November, 1880.

1889.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

(PARTICULARS RESPECTING.)

Ordered by the Legislative Assembly to be printed, 28 August, 1889.

[Laid upon the Table of this House in answer to Question No. 5 of 28 August, 1889.]

Questions.

5. MR. W. E. ABBOTT asked THE COLONIAL SECRETARY,—
- (1.) Who is the owner of the land and buildings occupied by the Zoological Society?
 - (2.) On what tenure does the Zoological Society occupy their land and buildings?
 - (3.) Who owns the animals in the Zoological Society's Gardens?
 - (4.) To whom does the money received as charges for entrance into the Zoological Society's grounds belong?
 - (5.) Has any request at any time been made to him, or to the Government collectively, to place a sum of money on the Estimates as a special grant, or to give any sum of money to pay a debt incurred by some members of the Zoological Society?
 - (6.) Was any sum of money placed on the Estimates in consequence of such a request?
 - (7.) On what representations was any sum of money placed on the Estimates as a special grant to the Zoological Society?
 - (8.) What are the names of the gentlemen who are personally liable for the debt incurred by the Zoological Society?

Answers.

Reply to Mr. W. E. Abbott's Questions, supplied by the Secretary to the Zoological Society,—

- (1.) The Municipal Council of the City of Sydney. The buildings belong to the Fellows and Members of the N.S.W. Zoological Society.
- (2.) The Zoological Society occupy their land and buildings on sufferance from the Municipal Council, but a lease of the land has been promised to the Society by the City Corporation.
- (3.) The animals in the Zoological Gardens are owned by the Society.
- (4.) The money received as charges for entrance into the Zoological Society's grounds belong to the Society, and is expended exclusively in the interest of the Society under the superintendence of the Council, who generously give their services gratuitously.
- (5.) Yes, a request was made to the Honorable the Colonial Secretary to place a sum of money on the Estimates as a special grant, but not to give any sum of money to pay a debt incurred by any member of the Zoological Society.
- (6.) Yes, the sum of £3,000.
- (7.) On the representation of the Council of Management by letter, and by representations of deputations from the Society to the Colonial Secretary, on the ground that similar Societies in Melbourne and Adelaide are subsidized by the Governments of Victoria and South Australia, and last year they received respectively the sums of £3,800 and £2,700.
- (8.) No individual Fellow or Subscriber is personally liable for the debt incurred by the Society, but the money is advanced on the security of the Society as an Educational Institution.

MEMO.—26,825 school children of all denominations and 675 teachers were admitted free to the Gardens last year. Total free admissions, 27,500.—W.H.C., Secretary.