

(No. 123.)



1892.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

CASE OF JOHN BURT, IN COURT OF
GENERAL SESSIONS, FINGAL :

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE, WITH MINUTES
OF THE PROCEEDINGS.

Brought up by Mr. Reibey, December 1, 1892, and ordered by the House of
Assembly to be printed.



SELECT COMMITTEE appointed, on the 4th November, 1892, to inquire into the case of John William Burt, of Fingal, Papers relating to which were laid upon the Table of the House on 21st October last: with power to send for Persons and Papers.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE.

MR. DAVIES.
COL. ST. HILL.
MR. GILL.

MR. MACKENZIE.
MR. REIBEY. (*Mover.*)

DAYS OF MEETING.

Thursday, 10th November, 1892. Friday, 11th November, 1892. Friday, 25th November, 1892.
Thursday, 1st December, 1892.

REPORT.

YOUR Committee have the honor to report to your Honorable House that, having given careful consideration to the Papers and Correspondence submitted to them, and having obtained and duly weighed additional written evidence from those interested, they are of opinion that it would be quite impossible to arrive at any satisfactory decision without a *vivá voce* examination of several witnesses whose written evidence appears to be of a most conflicting nature.

Your Committee regret that at this late stage of the Session the summoning of witnesses is not practicable.

THOS. REIBEY, *Chairman.*

Committee Room, House of Assembly, 1st December, 1892.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1892.

The Committee met at 12 noon.

Present.—Colonel St. Hill, Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Reibey.

On the motion of Mr. Mackenzie, seconded by Colonel St. Hill, Mr. Reibey was voted to the Chair.

The Chairman tabled the following document—

Papers relating to the case of John Burt laid upon the Table of this House on the 21st October.

The Committee deliberated.

The Committee adjourned at 12:15 P.M. until Friday, the 11th instant, at 3 P.M.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1892.

The Committee met at 3 P.M.

Present.—Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Davies, Colonel St. Hill.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Committee deliberated.

The Committee Clerk was directed to write to Messrs. F. and T. Ransom, and Messrs. Lyne and Grueber, of Fingal, asking them to supply the Committee with any information in their possession which bears on the subject.

The Committee deliberated.

The Committee adjourned at 3:50 P.M. until the 25th instant, at 11 P.M.

FRIDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER, 1892.

The Committee met at 11 A.M.

Present.—Mr. Gill, Col. St. Hill, and Mr. Reibey (Chairman).

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

An apology was received from Mr. Davies for non-attendance on the plea of urgent private business.

The Chairman reported having received a watch from Mr. Burt, which had been the subject of legal action in the case.

The Clerk Assistant was directed to return the watch to Mr. Burt, as its production did not assist the Committee in their inquiry.

Resolved, That the Registrar of the Court of General Sessions, Fingal, be requested to forward a *verbatim* copy of the charge-sheet of the Fingal Court of General Sessions of the 7th November, 1888, to be duly certified to by him.

Resolved, That ex-Superintendent of Police, Mr. Dineen, be requested to forward a written statement of any knowledge he possessed bearing on the case.

The Committee adjourned at 11:50 A.M. until 11 A.M. on Thursday, the 1st December.

THURSDAY, 1ST DECEMBER, 1892.

The Committee met at 11 A.M.

Present.—Mr. Davies, Mr. Mackenzie, Col. St. Hill, and Mr. Reibey (Chairman).

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman tabled—(1.) Exact copy of the charge-sheet of the Court of General Sessions, Fingal, of the 7th November, 1888, certified to by Registrar; (2.) Letter from Mr. Dineen, ex-Superintendent of Police.

The Committee deliberated.

The Draft Report was read and agreed to.

Resolved, That it be an instruction to the Chairman to present the Report to the House at its next sitting.