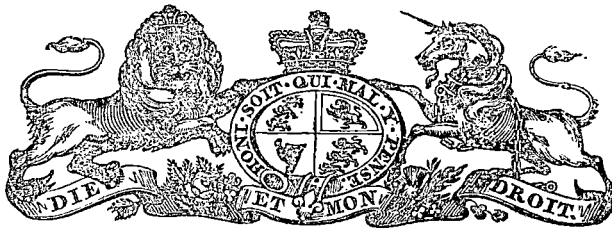


(No. 3.)



1862.

TASMANIA.

COPY OF SECRETARY OF STATE'S DESPATCH RELATIVE
TO REDUCTION OF GOVERNOR'S ALLOWANCES.

Laid on the Table by Mr. Henty, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
July 22, 1862.



[TASMANIA.—No. 13.]

Downing-street, 20th March, 1862.

SIR,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch of the 16th December last, No. 2, forwarding a Copy of a Bill passed by the Legislature of Tasmania for altering the sum payable to the Governor for Allowances and Contingent Expenses, and which you had reserved for Her Majesty's consideration.

I find that it is proposed that the sum set apart under the provisions of "The Constitutional Act" for these purposes should be reduced from £2500 to £1000; and I infer, from your Despatch, that this reduction arises from the present Financial difficulty of the Colony.

I should have been quite ready to assent to any prospective reduction in the amount in question that the Legislature might have considered was called for,—whether that necessity arose from temporary or other causes; but I am not prepared to advise Her Majesty to give effect to an Act that would in any way curtail either the Salary or the Allowances to which a Governor was entitled when he was selected by the Crown for the Administration of the Government.

Nor would any objection to such a curtailment be removed by your own assent to it. I do not think a Governor ought to be called upon to choose between protecting or abandoning his own interest; and the only effectual means of relieving him from this dilemma, is to decide the question on general principles, irrespectively of his wishes.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,
NEWCASTLE.

Governor GORE BROWNE, C.B.