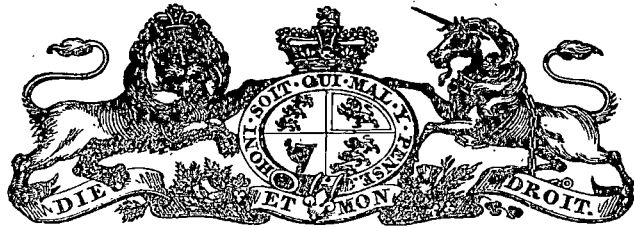


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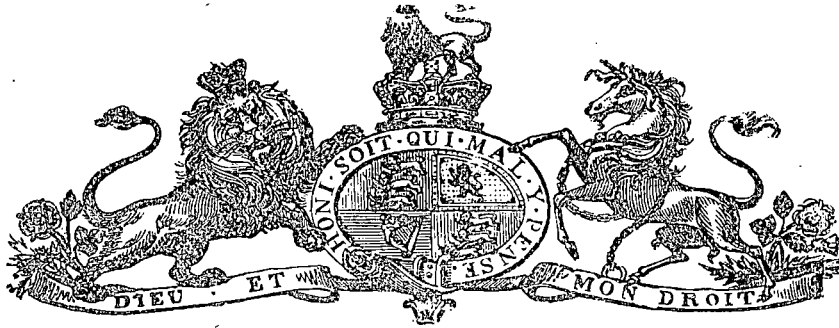
PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

BRIDGEWATER RAILWAY BRIDGE:

REPORT BY THE ENGINEER OF EXISTING LINES,
TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.

Cost of printing—15s.



CONDITION OF RAILWAY BRIDGE, BRIDGEWATER.

*Tasmanian Government Railways,
Engineer's Office, Hobart, 22nd September, 1899.*

MEMORANDUM for F. BACK, *Esq.*, *General Manager.*

SIR,

REPLYING to the inquiry of the Honourable the Minister, I have the honour to report that the Railway Bridge over the Derwent, at Bridgewater, has been thoroughly maintained, extensive renewals being made from time to time, as required.

The piles below water were examined by an experienced diver, who is also a good ship's carpenter, in 1893. This examination, with an inspection of wood cut from the piles, satisfied me that they were in a fairly good condition, with some years of life in them.

The time has now come for a further inspection under water; and I have made arrangements for this. Should the diver's report confirm my opinion as to the necessary additional renewals required, I estimate that such renewals will cost, when completed, less than £1000; and this expenditure will, of course, be gradual.

Permit me to again assure you that this bridge is, and will be, as it always has been, safely and carefully maintained for public traffic.

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN M. M'CORMICK, *Engineer of Existing Lines.*