

(No. 167.)



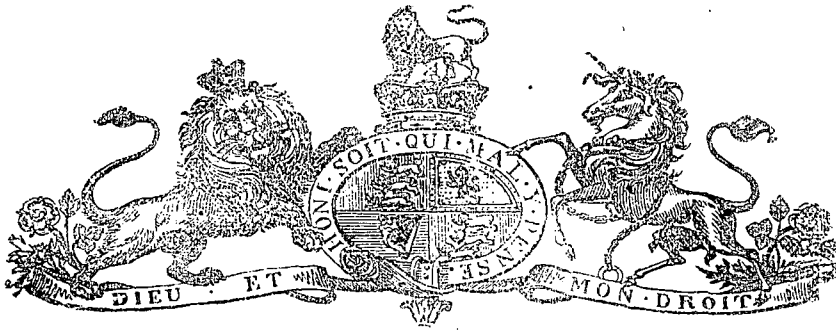
1884.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

MR. H. J. HULL'S CASE:

LETTERS AND PAPERS.

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be printed, October 30, 1884.



REVENUE.

QUERY or observation on the Accounts of the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer for the months of July and August, 1882, to which answer or explanation, written in the blank space left for that purpose, requested as early as possible.

*Audit Office, Hobart,
26th Sept., 1882.*

The Hon. the Treasurer.

[For Query referred to, *vide* page 4.]

Will the Hon. the Minister of Lands be good enough to supply me with the information which will enable me to explain the discrepancy?

*J. S. DODDS.
27.9.82.*

INFORMATION as requested is herein forwarded to the Hon. the Treasurer, with a full explanation.

The cheque for £1266 2s. 9d., received from the Deputy-Commissioner of Crown Lands, was paid in to the credit of the Surveyor-General's Account at the Commercial Bank, Hobart, on the 13th October, 1882.

Memorandum enclosed herewith from the Commercial Bank states that the amount standing to the credit of the Surveyor-General's Account on the 17th October was £1676 7s.

*C. O'REILLY, Minister of Lands and Works.
24th October, 1882.*

The Hon. the Treasurer.

To the Surveyor-General.

From the Commercial Bank, Hobart Town.

17th October, 1882.

SIR,

THE amount to credit of your Account this morning is Sixteen hundred and seventy-six pounds seven shillings (£1676 7s.)

JNO. A. LOVETT, Ledger-keeper, Commercial Bank.

E. & O. E.

20th October, 1882.

MEMORANDUM.

It is reported to me by the Manager of the Commercial Bank that the amount now standing to the credit of the "Surveyor-General's Account" at that Bank is £1676 7s.

Will the Hon. the Colonial Treasurer be good enough to give instructions that a cheque drawn for £1124 18s. 6d., being the amount due the Treasury as Collections for the month of August, be presented for payment?

C. O'REILLY, Minister of Lands and Works.

The Hon. the Treasurer.

Query No. 81.

<i>Description of Voucher.</i>	<i>Query or Observation.</i>	<i>Answer or Explanation.</i>
<p>Statement of fees received in the Lands and Works Office during the month of July, 1882. Amount, £1477 15s. 1d.</p>	<p>The amount shown in the statement referred to, on account of the deposit of the first six months' rent for Mineral Leases, is £414 2s. 6d.; whilst the amount paid to the Treasury for the same period on account of the above was £416 12s. 6d.</p>	<p>The statement of fees was prepared and signed by Mr. Hull; but upon being checked, the name of J. C. Joyce was found to have been omitted in the Return of first half year's rents for the month of July. £416 12s. 6d. is the correct amount, and a cheque was given to the Treasury for that sum.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">G. F. L. 24. 10. 82.</p>
<p>Statement of fees received in the Lands and Works Office during the month of August, 1882. Amount, £1587 3s. 6d.</p>	<p>As a sum of £462 5s. only appears to have been paid to the Treasury on account of the receipts for August, which, according to the statement, amounted to the sum of £1587 3s. 6d., there still appears a sum of £1124 18s. 6d. which requires to be accounted for.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Explanation is requested.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">W. LOVETT, <i>Colonial Auditor.</i></p>	<p>The sum of £1587 3s. 6d. included sums received during the month of August and former periods, which were only brought to account for that month by the Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, which, I understand, has been the practice for some years.</p> <p>A cheque was drawn on the Commercial Bank in favour of the Colonial Treasurer and signed by Mr. Hull, dated 12th September, 1882, for £462 5s.; and another cheque for £1124 18s. 6d. was also drawn by Mr. Hull, dated the 15th of September, 1882; these amounts making a total of £1587 3s. 6d.</p> <p>The cheque for £462 5s. on being presented was honored, but that for £1124 18s. 6d. appears to have been dishonoured, owing to there being an insufficiency of funds to meet it. The Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands has been called upon to explain how such deficiency has arisen, but, in consequence of continued ill-health, is unable, at present, to go into his accounts. He has this day, however, tendered a cheque for £1266 2s. 9d. to cover the Bank deficiency and further sums alluded to in the Colonial Auditor's Report dated the 20th September, 1882, to be cashed and placed to the credit of the Surveyor-General's Account, until such time as he may be sufficiently recovered in health to explain, if possible, the alleged deficiency.</p> <p>On the whole term, from 20th of April, 1882, the day on which I first acted on behalf of Mr. Hull owing to absence through ill-health, all collections received by me have been banked to credit of Surveyor-General's Account up to the 18th September last inclusive, the day upon which I was instructed to discontinue paying into the Bank any further sums received on account of the Government.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">GEO. F. LOVETT. 13th Oct., 1882.</p>

Chief Secretary's Office, Hobart, 30th September, 1882.

MEMO.

THE accompanying letter from the Colonial Auditor, reporting certain apparent deficiencies in the Bank balance of the Surveyor-General, is forwarded to the Honorable the Minister of Lands and Works, with the request that the Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands may be called upon to offer such explanations as he may be in a position to make in relation thereto.

WM. MOORE.

The Hon. the Minister of Lands and Works.

MEMO.

The accompanying Report from the Colonial Auditor, respecting certain apparent deficiencies in the Bank balance of the Surveyor-General's Account at the Commercial Bank, is forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, with the request that he will offer such explanation as he may be in a position to make relative thereto.

A reply is requested not later than the 7th instant.

C. O'REILLY, *Minister of Lands and Works.*
2nd October, 1882.

H. J. HULL, *Esq., Deputy Commissioner Crown Lands, Tolosa.*

Audit Office, Hobart, 26th September, 1882.

SIR,

HAVING received information that a cheque drawn by the Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands upon the Surveyor-General's account for the sum of £1124 18s. 6d., and presented at the Commercial Bank on the 16th instant, had been dishonoured, the amount of the cheque representing the collections of revenue stated to have been made during the month of August ultimo, less the sum of £462 5s. previously paid to Treasury, I immediately instructed the Chief Clerk of this Department to attend at the Lands and Works Office and investigate the state of the accounts. Mr. Israel having completed this investigation as far as at present possible, I have the honor to report the result thereof for the information of the Governor in Council. In doing so it is desirable to explain that, according to an arrangement made by the Treasurer under Section 4 of the General Regulations of the Audit Act, it has been the custom for the Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands to pay over the amount of his collections every month, and that the requirements of the Audit Department under Section 10 had been complied with as far as could be seen; but the recent investigation proves that the "Returns" have not been, as stated, "true and faithful accounts" of the sums collected, although they have been solemnly declared to by the Deputy Commissioner every month.

The result of the investigation has been to discover a deficiency of £1266 17s. 3d., as explained in the following statement:—

Dr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Collections for August due to the Treasury	1124	18	6			
Ditto, to September 19 inclusive	507	8	0			
				1632	6	6
Cr.						
Balance as per Bank pass-book 16th September ..	170	9	9			
Bank receipt for deposit 18th September	239	14	6			
Cash vouchers on hand, say	55	0	0			
				465	4	3
				1167	2	3
Adding application fees and not yet brought to account ..				99	15	0
				£1266	17	3

It has been understood hitherto that the attested statement of collections forwarded to the Audit Office each month represented the whole of the money received by the Lands Department during the previous month, and it is evident that the declaration attached to these "Returns" could have no other meaning; but it is now discovered that only the sums finally dealt with were brought to account and included in the statements, and that the practice of the Department has been, with respect to amounts received under the Mineral Lands Act, to omit to bring such sums to account until the surveys of the leases applied for had been ordered, the sums thus in suspense being also excluded in the Returns forwarded to the Treasury and Audit Departments. This gross irregularity should not have been allowed for a moment; but it will be easily understood that it gave an opportunity for any one in charge of the cash of falsifying his accounts for a time with small chance of detection. The above practice has rendered it possible to hide a deficiency that may have occurred years ago, and it is evident that the current receipts banked would not in some months amount

to the declared sum in which the charges for receipts prior to that month were included, unless sums received for the current month were also omitted to be brought to account but banked to make up the deficiency. That this process has been going on is evident from the fact that an overdraft at the Bank has not been caused previously to the month of April; but since that month the greater bulk of the amounts in suspense have been gradually brought to account, causing the month subsequently to be charged in the statements furnished with considerably more than the actual receipts during the period included. For example—

	£	s.	d.
Banked March (including 3rd April)	1714	7	0
Ditto June	1126	4	9
Ditto July (including 3rd August)	1359	13	0
Ditto August (including 5th September)	932	15	4
	£5133	0	1
	£	s.	d.
Collections declared for March	2201	7	6
Ditto June	1491	6	3
Ditto July	1477	15	1
Ditto August	1587	3	6
	£6757	12	4

showing an apparent deficiency of £1624 12s. 3d. The months of January, February, April, and May showed, on the contrary, an apparent surplus of about £600. These cannot, however, be looked upon as actual surplus or deficient deposits, but have been merely given to prove that no proper system of disposing of *bonâ fide* cash receipts during a stated period has been carried out.

It appears that since the 21st April Mr. Hull, the Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, has been absent from office through illness, and that Mr. G. F. Lovett has been dealing with the cash received on his (Mr. Hull's) account subsequently; it was thought necessary therefore on Mr. Lovett's behalf, to ascertain the deficiency on the night of the 20th April. This has been done with considerable trouble and difficulty, through the want of system in the accounts of the Department; the result is shown in the following statements:—

MINERAL APPLICATIONS.

Brought to Account in	Collected prior to 21 April.	Collected 21 to 30 April.	Collected May.	Collected June.	Collected July.	Collected August.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
May	621 3 0	454 10 0	63 1 0	...	...	...
June	53 14 0	...	968 8 0	160 1 0	...	...
July*	189 0 0	...	...	624 16 0	155 7 6	...
August†	27 19 0	19 15 0	...	...	622 19 0	360 11 0
Not yet brought to account— Table A. attached	97 15 0	...	...	2 0 0	...	...
Cheques drawn for repayments since 1st April, the amounts not included in declaration	170 13 0	...	54 15 0	57 10 0	25 4 6	...
	1160 4 0	474 5 0	1086 4 0	844 7 0	803 11 0	360 11 0
				£3568	18	0

* Includes £18 in Survey Fee Book. † Includes £13 15s. in Survey Fee Book.

	£	s.	d.
Included in the figures £1160 4s. is the amount which was collected before the 1st April and found accounted for in May, June, July, and August	539	3	6
A further sum received prior to, but brought to account in April, and not included in the above figures	507	2	6
There should therefore have been on hand on 1st April waiting to be charged to the succeeding months	1046	5	6
Also at the 1st April, included in the figures £97 15s. there were applications not yet accounted for, amounting to	76	9	0
	1122	14	6

And in the figures £170 13s. at 1st April, there were applications for repayments on hand for which cheques have since been drawn, amounting to	£ s. d.
Add to this the actual collections from 1st April to 20th April inclusive	164 11 0
	919 9 0
The total amount due to the Treasury on the night of the 20th April, was therefore	2206 14 6
The amount in Bank on 21st April (including £416 18s. banked that day) was.....	940 11 9
Therefore the deficiency on 21st April was	£1266 2 9

Being within a few shillings the deficit on 19th September.

With the limited staff of this office, it would be impossible to thoroughly investigate the state of the accounts previously to April last in order to prove the commencement of the deficiency, as from the fact of no entry having been kept of moneys as they were actually received until the month of August (ultimo), and no consecutive number having been used for the applications, it would be a most difficult matter to trace the dates of receipt and final disposal of the same; therefore such an investigation could not probably be satisfactorily carried out at all, but if it could it would require the assistance of an expert accountant for some months.

The necessity for the extra skilled assistance, which has so frequently been asked for without that attention on the part of the Government which its importance deserves, is proved by this unfortunate case: it is my duty, therefore, to again earnestly urge the Government to place this Department in a position to take up the important work of frequent personal investigation of Collectors' accounts.

I have, &c.

The Hon. the Chief Secretary.

W. LOVETT, *Colonial Auditor.*

TABLE A, referred to in accompanying Report.
Statement of Applications in abeyance and not yet brought to account.

No. on Application.	Date of Receipt.	Applicant.	Mineral Lease.	Water-right.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
57	January 25, 1878	Simmonds, G. W.	1 0 0	—
224	July 1, 1878	Simpson, F.	—	1 0 0
1108	December 16, 1880	Ogilvie, C. A.	—	8 10 0
1150	March 23, 1881	Walden, Jas.	—	1 0 0
1208	March 9, 1881	Powell, D.	—	1 0 0
1211	March 5, 1881	Bell, G. R.	—	1 0 0
1494	July 18, 1881	Daniels, Thos.	1 0 0	—
1495	July 25, 1881	Hawkes, S.	7 2 0	—
1589	August 11, 1881	Ogilvie, C. A.	—	1 0 0
1710	September 9, 1881	Walker, E. S.	—	1 0 0
1716	September 12, 1881	M'Carthy, F. G.	7 2 0	—
1770	September 16, 1881	Budgeon, Thos.	—	1 0 0
1883	September 30, 1881	Brewer, P. W.	7 2 0	—
2178 & 2179	November 8, 1881	Wilson, G.	—	2 0 0
2349	November 29, 1881	Cornish, Jno.	9 15 0	—
2624-5-6-7	January 10, 1882	Lamond, D.	—	4 0 0
2920	March 1, 1882	Fry, Geo.	7 2 0	—
2907	February 24, 1882	Herriott, R. B.	—	1 0 0
2965	March 11, 1882	Boyes, W. L.	6 7 0	—
2973	ditto	Murray Bros. & Co.	7 2 0	—
3019	March 21, 1882	Pickford, J.	1 7 0	—
3106	April 4, 1882	Kean, Jas.	7 2 0	—
3130 and 3131	April 8, 1882	M'Kernine, R.	14 4 0	—
3411	June 28, 1882	Mussel Roe T. M. Co.	—	1 0 0
Transfer	June 10, 1882	Archer, R. F.	—	1 0 0
TOTALS			£76 5 0	£24 10 0

Chargeable to period prior to 21st April, £97 15s. (to June £1, and £1 not included in Report).

W. LOVETT,
26th September, 1882.

Tolosa, 5th October, 1882.

SIR,

IN reply to your Minute of the 2nd instant in the Auditor's Report, I can only say that in the present state of my health it will be impossible for me to give an explanation as to the apparent discrepancies in my accounts, further than to state that there must be some great blunders somewhere which, I feel sure, I shall be able to rectify when in a position to resume my duties. All I can do in the meantime is to forward you a cheque for the amount reported by the Auditor as being deficient, but with the distinct understanding that if I can satisfy the Auditor that the amount, or any part of it, has been accounted for, that I shall have a repayment.

I have, &c.

The Hon. C. O'REILLY.

H. J. HULL.

CHEQUE may be received (and be cashed), upon the distinct understanding that if Mr. Hull can satisfy the Auditor that the amount deficient, or any part of it, has been accounted for, he shall have a repayment for such amount accounted for; and should any larger amount beyond that already reported be found to be deficient, Mr. Hull to pay such additional amount.

C. O'REILLY.
7. 10. 82.

9th October, 1882.

SIR,

IN reply to your letter of the 5th instant, I have to acquaint you that a cheque will be received and cashed for £1266 2s. 9d., being the amount of alleged deficiencies in the "Surveyor-General's Account," at the Commercial Bank, upon the distinct understanding that if you can satisfy the Colonial Auditor that the amount deficient, or any part of it, has been accounted for, you will be allowed a repayment for such amount accounted for and in the event of any larger amount beyond that already reported be found to be deficient, you will be required to make good such additional amount. The above cheque to be paid in not later than the 11th instant.

I have, &c.

C. O'REILLY, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

HENRY J. HULL, *Esq., Deputy Commissioner
of Crown Lands, Tolosa.*

MEMO.

OWING to Mr. Hull's very bad state of health he has been unable up to this time to investigate his accounts, and therefore has not made any satisfactory explanation respecting the reported deficiency.

It has been arranged that pending the recovery of his health to enable him to examine his accounts Mr. Hull should make good the deficiency; and he has paid a sum of £1266 2s. 9d. into this office, which has been placed to credit of the Surveyor-General's account at the Commercial Bank, being the amount reported as being deficient by the Auditor.

A copy of Mr. Hull's letter addressed to me, under date the 5th October last, and my Memo. thereon, dated the 7th of that month, is forwarded herewith.

C. O'REILLY, *Minister of Lands and Works.*
29th November, 1882.

13th October, 1882.

MEMORANDUM.

THE Manager of the Commercial Bank is requested to receive as a deposit, to be placed to the credit of the "Surveyor-General's Account," a marked cheque drawn on the Bank of Van Diemen's Land by Mr. H. J. Hull in favour of the Hon. C. O'Reilly, on account of the Government, for a sum of £1266 2s. 9d.

C. O'REILLY, *Minister of Lands and Works.*
C. J. BARCLAY, *Esq., Manager Commercial Bank, Hobart.*

Lands and Works Office, 16th October, 1882.

SIR,

HAVING, in accordance with your letter of the 9th instant, forwarded cheque for £1266 2s. 9d., being the amount of alleged deficiencies in my accounts, I beg that the letter of suspension may be withdrawn, and that my salary be paid to me for month of September last.

I have, &c.

The Hon. C. O'REILLY.

H. J. HULL.

Lands and Works Office, Hobart Town, 27th October, 1882.

SIR,

IN reply to your request that your suspension from office may be withdrawn and payment of your salary resumed, I am compelled to remind you that the payment by you of the amount of the deficiencies in your account by no means serves (taken by itself) to justify your request for reinstatement in your former position.

Up to the present time you have given no explanation of how these deficiencies arose, nor have you attempted to clear yourself from the charge of very grave dereliction of duty which the state of the banking account under your control necessarily involves.

Having regard to your very long connection with this Department, the arduous nature of your duties, and your recent illness, I have endeavoured to take the most lenient view of your conduct which the facts would permit; but I cannot too clearly impress upon you that until you furnish me with a complete and satisfactory explanation of your dealing with the various moneys which reached your hands on the part of the Government, and show that those moneys have been duly accounted for, I am quite unable to remove your suspension or to permit you to resume duty.

I must request you, within fourteen days from this date, to furnish such an explanation as I have indicated, otherwise I must bring the matter before the Governor in Council with a view to terminating your connection with the Public Service.

I have, &c.

H. J. HULL, *Esq.*C. O'REILLY, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

Tolosa, 8th November, 1882.

SIR,

I REGRET to inform you that I am now suffering from an abscess on my thigh, which prevents me leaving the house; and, coupled with general debility consequent upon my recent very severe illness, compels me to ask for leave of absence until I am sufficiently restored to health to enable me to resume my duties. I may be pardoned for reminding you that I have had no leave for the last 21 years.

I have, &c.

The Hon. C. O'REILLY.

H. J. HULL.

FORWARDED to the Hon. the Premier. This application has been handed me to-day by Dr. Butler, who informed me that he does not entertain any hope of Mr. Hull's recovery. No reply has yet been received from Mr. Hull to my letter of the 27th ult.

C. O'REILLY.
13. 11. 82.

RECEIVED 14. 11. 82, and returned at once, with letter of same date.

W. R. GIBLIN
14. 11. 82.

13th November, 1882.

I CERTIFY that Mr. Henry Jocelyn Hull is now suffering from an abscess of the thigh, occurring from blood poison. I desire that he should move for change of air when he can. He is very enfeebled, and I would recommend that he be granted two months' leave of absence.

HENRY BUTLER, *F.R.C.S., Eng., by Exam.*

Attorney-General's Office, Hobart, 14th November, 1882.

DEAR MR. O'REILLY,

I CANNOT see how you can grant leave of absence to Mr. H. J. Hull under existing circumstances. He must clear himself from present suspicions before that could be done, or even before he could be granted a retiring allowance. I understood you that new deficiencies were coming to light since his last payment. I think, in consideration of his ill-health, further time to clear himself should be allowed if applied for, but not leave of absence, Mr. Hull being at present under suspicion.

Yours, &c.

Hon. C. O'REILLY, *Minister of Lands.*

W. R. GIBLIN.

Lands and Works Office, Hobart, 22nd November, 1882.

SIR,

REFERRING to your letter of the 8th instant, received at this office on the 13th instant, accompanied by a medical certificate from the Hon. Dr. Butler, applying for leave of absence until you are sufficiently restored to health to resume your duties :

Having submitted your application to the Hon. the Premier, I have now to inform you that under the existing circumstance of your suspension from office I would not be justified in acceding to your request.

I may remind you that no reply has yet been received to my letter to you of the 27th ultimo, nor has any attempt been made to clear up the matters referred to therein, to which I desire to draw your immediate attention.

I have, &c.

C. O'REILLY, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

H. J. HULL, *Esq., Tolosa.*

Lands and Works Office, Hobart, 27th November, 1882.

SIR,

SINCE the date of the Colonial Auditor's Report on deficiencies stated to exist in the Surveyor-General's bank accounts, I have from time to time verbally explained to you, and pointed out to Mr. Hull, that certain additional sums included in the annexed return were coming to light, and did not appear to have been included by Mr. Hull in either of the Monthly Returns furnished to the Treasury. I desire you clearly and distinctly to understand that Mr. Hull himself prepared the Returns at the end of each month and took the necessary declaration, and has accepted the responsibility of any collections during his absence. Mr. Hull was in the office to-day, when I took occasion to draw his attention to the several sums included in the Returns, when I understood him to say he would give a cheque for the amount, in the terms of your letter to him of the 9th October last.

I may state that some of the amounts marked with a * have been received by me, and the money duly banked, but were not included in Mr. Hull's Returns as prepared by him and declared to regularly each month from April to August, 1882, inclusive.

I have, &c.

GEORGE F. LOVETT.

The Hon. C. O'REILLY, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

FORWARDED to the Honorable the Premier, together with a copy of letter sent to Mr. Hull calling upon him to pay a further sum of £193 16s. 6d., unless he can satisfy the Colonial Auditor that the sum, or any part of it, has been accounted for.

C. O'REILLY, *Minister of Lands and Works.*
29th November, 1882.

Lands and Works Office, Hobart, 28th November, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE to draw your attention to the fact that the several sums included in the accompanying Return, amounting to £193 16s. 6d., do not appear to have been included in either of the monthly returns declared to by you and forwarded to the Treasury.

I have therefore, in the terms of your letter to me of the 5th of October last, and your reply thereto of the 9th of October last, to call upon you to pay that amount, unless you can satisfy the Colonial Auditor that the sum of £193 16s. 6d. apparently deficient, or any part of it, has been accounted for.

Should any further sums beyond those already reported be found to be deficient, you will be required to make good such additional amounts as agreed to by your letter of the 5th of October last.

I have, &c.

H. J. HULL, Esq., Tolosa.

C. O'REILLY, Minister of Lands and Works.

RETURN of Fees and Rent which do not appear to have been included in any Returns forwarded to the Treasury.

Name.	Date of Application.	Area.	No.	Amount.
		ACRES.		£ s. d.
MINERAL LANDS ACT.				
Walker, E. S.	5 August, 1881	20	1573	7 2 0
Butler, R. W.	19 August, 1881	80	1624	19 15 0
Blackley, Joseph	2 Sept., 1881	W.R.	1697	11 0 0
Krushka, William	15 Dec., 1881	80	2514	11 0 0
Heslop, Alexander	17 Dec., 1881	80	2527	19 15 0
Croft, Walter	17 Dec., 1881	80	2528	19 15 0
Rockliff, Roger	21 Feb., 1882	20	2902	7 2 0
Fry, George	1 March, 1882	20	2920	7 2 0
Budgeon, Theresa	27 March, 1882	20	3095	7 2 0
Iles, Samuel	10 May, 1882	20	3255	7 2 0*
Babington, George.....	8 June, 1882	W.R.	3344	1 0 0*
M'Gough, Chas.....	20 July, 1882	80	3461	19 15 0*
Ogilvie, Jas.	24 July, 1882	20	3465	7 2 0*
Ditto	24 July, 1882	20	3466	7 2 0*
WASTE LANDS ACT.				
Brakey, James	19 April, 1879	100	6228	7 15 0
Hoare, W. & J.	19 May, 1881	60	8454	8 15 0
Crawford, Robert	9 Jan., 1882	50	8939	5 0 0*
Wakefield, Jacob	3 April, 1882	30	9109	5 0 0*
Hughes, Thomas	6 April, 1882	100	9198	8 15 0
Liddall, Thomas.....	Received 13	June,	1882	+1 17 6
Walker, Thomas.....	14 Feb., 1881	50	8241	15 0 0
Total .....	...	...	...	193 16 6

† Difference of Survey Fee. ‡ Received by Mr. Boothman.

Tolosa, 27th November, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE already informed you that I can give no explanation as to the discrepancies in my accounts without investigation, and my medical adviser has certified to you that my present state of health will not admit of such investigation.

I regret you refuse me leave of absence, as it will only retard my speedy recovery, which will be my loss, not the Government's.

The leave of absence was asked simply because, as Dr. Butler will tell you, and his certificate bears out, I am at present utterly unable to undertake the investigation necessary to give you the information you ask, and which I am very anxious to afford, and leave of absence might give me that strength without which I am incapable of any sustained exertion. If you really desire to have the matter cleared up you can hardly refuse me the leave asked.

The Hon. C. O'REILLY, Minister of Lands and Works.

I have, &c.

H. J. HULL.

FORWARDED to the Hon. the Premier, that he will favour me with his views upon this communication.

A copy of my reply to Mr. Hull's letter of the 8th instant is forwarded herewith.

C. O'REILLY,
28th Nov., 1882.

(Copy.)

Lands and Works Office, Hobart, 7th December, 1882.

SIR,

IN accordance with my verbal promise made to you at our interview on Tuesday last, that I would as soon as possible inform you what decision the Cabinet had arrived at as to your application for leave of absence, I have now to state that while each member of the Cabinet, so far as he is personally concerned, would be only too glad to be relieved from the pain of doing that which public duty demands in the matter, yet, after full and careful consideration of the circumstances of the case, it has been decided that the leave of absence you ask for cannot be granted.

As your continued illness has prevented you from giving attention to the investigation of accounts which the Government are still anxious to give you the opportunity of making, either personally or by any skilled accountant approved by me, the demand for payment of the amount of £193 16s. 6d. mentioned in the letter of my predecessor dated the 28th November, 1882, will be held over for the present. But it is to be hoped that if you should not be able to attend to the matter yourself you will authorise an accountant to act in your behalf, before the expiration of four weeks from this date.

I have further to inform you that whatever may be the result of an investigation of the accounts, the fact that large sums of money have been permitted from whatever cause to be diverted from the Treasury compels me to intimate to you that your connection with the Public Service will cease on the 31st December instant.

Whether the Government will be in a position to grant the retiring allowance to which your long service would under ordinary circumstances entitle you must depend entirely upon whether you can satisfy the Cabinet that you have not been guilty of any gross dereliction of duty.

I have, &c.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN,
Minister of Lands and Works.

[H. J. HULL, Esq., Tolosa.]

Tolosa, 18th December, 1882.

SIR,

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 7th inst., refusing me the leave of absence which my medical adviser, with myself, feel absolutely necessary to enable me to undertake the investigation of my accounts. Change of scene seems indispensable to my recovery, but as the Members of the Cabinet decline me the opportunity I must submit.

Believe me I need no incentive to undertake the investigation of my accounts, for I am satisfied I will be able to explain much that now bears an unfavourable interpretation. That investigation must, however, be personal. A skilled accountant with the same material to work on would almost to a certainty arrive at the same conclusion as has the Auditor, whose ability and desire to be fair I by no means impugn; but my apparent deficiencies are consequent on irregular book-keeping,

and the Auditor's Report assumes correct book-keeping, while a personal investigation of papers and books would bring facts to my recollection which would put a different face on my apparent deficiencies; and as I hope to be able to show that no moneys have been "diverted from the Treasury," I trust to be able to induce you to reconsider your decision that my connection with the Public Service must cease. I only ask that you defer fixing any definite period till my health enables me to personally do what I fear I cannot do by another, no matter how skilled.

I have, &c.

H. J. HULL.

The Hon. N. J. BROWN, Minister of Lands and Works.

Lands and Works Office, Hobart, 15th August, 1883.

MEMORANDUM.

A DEPUTATION, consisting of the Hon. A. Dobson, M. H. A., W. H. Burgess, Esq., M.H.A., the Rev. James Scott, and others, waited upon the Minister of Lands and Works on the 17th January, 1883, for the purpose of urging upon the Government that the utmost consideration should be shown to Mr. Hull, late Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, in dealing with the matters arising out of the deficiency in his accounts, and in deliberating upon the question of recommending the granting of a pension to Mr. Hull to the favourable consideration of Parliament.

The following is a copy of a letter addressed by the Minister of Lands and Works to the Hon. A. Dobson, as representing the Deputation.

T. R. ATKINSON, *Ministerial Clerk.*

The Hon. the Minister of Lands and Works.

(Copy.)

Hobart, January 5th, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to ask that you will receive a Deputation with reference to Mr. H. J. Hull's, the late Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, claim for a pension.

If it would be convenient to you, I would suggest Monday next at 3.30 P.M. as a suitable time.

The favour of an early reply will oblige.

I am, &c.

W. H. BURGESS.

Hon. N. J. BROWN, Minister of Lands.

Lands and Works Office, Hobart, 16th January, 1883.

MY DEAR SIR,

I SHALL be happy to receive the proposed Deputation with reference to the accounts of the late Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, Mr. H. J. Hull, at 3.30 to-morrow afternoon.

Yours very truly,

NICHOLAS J. BROWN.

W. H. BURGESS, *Esq., M.H.A.*

22nd January, 1883.

SIR,

IN reply to the requests of the Deputation which I had the honor to receive on the 17th instant upon the subject of the deficit in the accounts of Mr. H. J. Hull, recently Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, I have the honor to inform you that upon the first opportunity I brought the views of the Deputation under the consideration of the Cabinet, and obtained a decision thereupon as follows:—

- 1st. The Government agree to accept from Mr. Hull the sum of £225 1s. 6d., being the amount of deficiency ascertained up to the present date, such amount to be received on the same terms and conditions as those upon which the previous payment of £1266 2s. 9d. was received.
- 2nd. Upon payment of the amount the Government will be prepared to pay to Mr. Hull the amount of salary which, under ordinary circumstances, would have been due to him from the 1st September to 31st December, 1882.

3rd. The question of Mr. Hull's claim for a pension must stand over until Mr. Hull has availed himself of the opportunity which is still open to him, and of which, I trust, he will avail himself at the earliest possible moment, to go through the accounts with a skilled accountant acting on behalf of the Government, for the purpose of proving, if he can do so, that he has not been guilty of very grave dereliction of duty.

I need scarcely repeat the assurance I have already given to the Deputation that I personally, and, I believe, each member of the Cabinet, will be much pleased if Mr. Hull can succeed in placing himself in such a position as will enable the Government to recommend his claim to a pension to the favourable consideration of Parliament.

I have, &c.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

The Hon. ALFRED DOBSON, M.H.A., Hobart.

6th March, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE again to draw your attention to the fact that you have not fulfilled your promise with reference to the sum of £225 1s. 6d., the amount agreed to be accepted by the Government on the same terms and conditions as those upon which the previous payment was received.

I have further to remind you that you have taken no steps in the matter of the sum of £11, a cheque for that amount being received by you, and, so far as can be ascertained by the officers of this Department, not accounted for.

I have to request that you will give your immediate attention to these matters, and favour me with a reply as early as possible.

I have also to reiterate the desire of the Cabinet that you should take an early opportunity of going through the books of your late office with an accountant to be appointed by the Government, in order that as full an explanation as possible may be offered as to the several amounts of money which do not appear to have been accounted for.

I have, &c.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

H. J. HULL, *Esq., Glenorchy.*

Maryville, Glenorchy, 8th March, 1883.

SIR,

IN reply to your letter of the 6th instant, I beg to inform you that at the last interview I had with you I pointed out that there were several sums of money debited to me that I had been informed had been previously accounted for, and that I was prepared to hand you a cheque for the amount now claimed less these items. You informed me that as the matter had been dealt with by the Cabinet before you took office, it would be necessary you should consult your colleagues. I have been waiting patiently for your reply.

With regard to the item of £11 referred to, I beg to say that I have been to the office and ascertained that Mr. Thompson never made any application for land on the date mentioned in his letter; the application referred to was in the name of Thomas Boyd, and the Secretary for Mines promised to have it looked up in order to see how it had been disposed of.

With reference to the last paragraph of your letter, I beg to inform you that when I feel sufficiently strong to undertake the arduous task of adjusting the accounts of the Lands and Works Office I shall require no incentive to do so; but I am advised not to risk my life again in doing what ought to have been done by others years ago. The delay, unfortunately, will be my loss.

I have, &c.

H. JOCELYN HULL.

The Hon. N. J. BROWN, Minister of Lands and Works.

30th May, 1883.

SIR,

I REGRET that I have again to address you on the subject of your promise to refund to the Government the amount shown to have been received by you and unaccounted for during the time that you occupied the office of Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands.

The amount of ascertained deficiency has been increased since I addressed you on the 6th of March last, by the discovery of several further sums which are unaccounted for, the total on the 10th instant being £260 5s. 6d. I have to request that this sum be immediately paid to the Treasury in fulfilment of your promise on the occasion of the arrangement by which the Government agreed to accept the payment by you of ascertained deficiencies on terms and conditions which I need not recapitulate.

On referring to your last letter dated 8th March, I find that you excuse your delay in attending to this matter by regarding my communication to you as not embodying the decision of the Cabinet. In this, however, you were in error; and I now intimate to you, that the whole of the facts of the case had, previous to the date of my letter of 6th March, been fully considered by the Cabinet, and my letter conveyed to you the decision of the Cabinet. I am somewhat at a loss to understand upon what ground you could assume that it was otherwise.

I have again to call your attention to the often expressed wish of the Government that you should accept the opportunity which is offered to you to examine the books of your late office in order that you may offer as full an explanation as possible of the irregularities which have occurred.

The near approach of the meeting of Parliament renders it necessary that if you intend to make this investigation at all, it should be made at once. I shall be glad to be informed whether you have decided that you will not embrace this opportunity of removing, if it be possible, the obstacles which exist to your claim for a pension.

If you have not so decided, will you please name a date upon which you will be prepared to undertake the investigation, in order that arrangements may be made for an accountant on behalf of the Government to assist you. Such an investigation will not be what you somewhat offensively—certainly incorrectly describe as “the arduous task of adjusting the accounts of the Lands and Works Office.” That work is adequately provided for. The examination of accounts is only suggested and urged in your own interest, in order that you may do for yourself that which no other person can do, that is, bring to light such explanation as may be possible of the mode in which the several deficiencies in the accounts have occurred.

I have, &c.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

H. J. HULL, *Esq., Glenorchy.*

Maryvale, 1st June, 1883.

SIR,

IN reply to your letter of the 30th ult., permit me to remind you that I am prepared, as I have always been, to pay any balance brought out against me on obtaining the decision of the Cabinet whether they will allow me credit for the arrears of salary due me at 31st December last, £166 13s. 4d., and the several items wrongly debited me. I did not make such credit a condition of payment, I expressed myself prepared in either case, though I was naturally anxious to obtain the deduction.

Permit me also to say that I must have failed to express my meaning if I led you to believe that I doubted whether your action was that of the Cabinet. The decision of Government I wanted was on the above point of credit of arrears of salary, &c.

I do wish I were as able to enter on the investigation of my accounts as you seem to believe. Permit me to suggest that you send one or two medical gentlemen to see me, in company with my own medical advisers, and if they say I can with safety undertake the task, I will attempt it even if I should die in the effort.

I have, &c.

The Hon. N. J. BROWN.

H. J. HULL

14th June, 1883.

SIR,

I REGRET that pressure of business has caused some delay in acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant.

With reference to your statement that payment of the amount of ascertained deficiency has been delayed pending the receipt from me of the decision of the Cabinet as to the terms on which the payment would be received, it is only necessary to refer you to the following extract from a letter addressed by me, on the 22nd of January last, to the Hon. Alfred Dobson, M.H.A., who introduced a deputation of gentlemen on your behalf:—

"I have the honor to inform you that upon the first opportunity I brought the views of the deputation under the consideration of the Cabinet, and obtained a decision thereupon as follows—

"1st. The Government agree to accept from Mr. Hull the sum of £225 1s. 6d., being the amount of deficiency ascertained up to the present date, such amount to be received on the same terms and conditions as those upon which the previous payment of £1266 2s. 9d. was received.

(I need scarcely remind you that the terms referred to were, that any amount found to have been improperly debited to you would be returned to you.)

"2nd. Upon payment of the amount, the Government will be prepared to pay to Mr. Hull the amount of salary which, under ordinary circumstances, would have been due to him from the 1st of September to 31st of December, 1882."

I was assured by Mr. Dobson that this letter, or a copy of it, had been forwarded to you, and with this before you there could not possibly be any doubt as to the terms upon which it was intended, that the payment of the sum of £260 5s. 6d., the amount of ascertained deficiencies, as requested in my letter of 30th ultimo, was intended to be received. It may, perhaps, be that in the verbal communication to which you refer a few words, prompted by a kindly spirit of consideration, and intended to convey to you my very great regret that I personally had to deal with the matter, were somewhat misinterpreted by you. After perusal of the above extracts, however, there can be no misapprehension of the terms upon which I now repeat the request for payment of the amount mentioned.

I regret to say, that up to the present date, the officers of the department are unable to find any clue which would warrant them in the belief that any portion of this, or of the amount previously paid, has been improperly debited to you.

With reference to the concluding paragraph of your letter, I can only express the very deep regret which is felt by each member of the Cabinet that you are at present unable to undertake the investigation of accounts which, it appears, could alone afford any prospect of explaining the manner in which the several deficiencies have occurred.

I have, &c.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

H. J. HULL, *Esq., Maryvale, Glenorchy.*

Maryvale, Glenorchy, 2nd July, 1883.

SIR,

REFERRING to your letter of the 14th ult., and to mine of the 1st, I have now the honor to enclose you cheque for £260 5s. 9d.

I have, &c.

H. J. HULL.

The Hon. N. J. BROWN, Minister of Lands and Works.

FORWARDED to Cashier, with cheque, £260 5s. 9d.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN.
3. 7. 83.

4th July, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that the sum of £260 5s. 6d., being the amount outstanding charged against the late Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, as shown in my report to you of the 9th of May last, has been paid.

The advance obtained from the Treasury in January last to meet the outstanding claim will now be immediately settled.

I have, &c.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

The Colonial Auditor.

Lands and Works Office, Hobart, 28th August, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor, by direction of the Hon. the Minister, to forward to you the accompanying correspondence between the Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands and the Accountant in the Lands Branch of this department, together with a list of items which cannot be traced in the books of this office, and to which your early attention is respectfully requested.

I have, &c.

T. R. ATKINSON, *Ministerial Clerk.*

H. J. HULL, *Esq., Glenorchy.*

Maryvale, 1st September, 1883.

MY DEAR SIR,

KINDLY inform the Hon. the Minister of Lands and Works that I will be in town on Tuesday, and will call at the office with reference to the subject of your letter.

Most faithfully yours,

H. J. HULL.

T. R. ATKINSON, *Esq.*

Maryvale, Glenorchy, 7th September, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE been waiting for some time past to see whether the Government intended recognising my long services of 36 years, by granting me the usual retiring allowance for loss of office. I now beg respectfully to ascertain the intention of the Government in the matter.

By the action of the Government in not affording me that assistance which has been found to be absolutely necessary since my retirement, I have not only been ruined in health, but nearly so in pocket; and, unless I am granted my pension, I see nothing before me and my family but starvation.

You are already made aware that my health is such as to preclude my going into accounts, and I am still advised not to think of doing so; but, inasmuch as I have more than satisfied all claims for alleged deficiencies in my accounts, and still hold myself ready to do this to the uttermost, within the conditions already agreed upon, I trust that the Government may see their way to recognising my claims for pension.

Trusting for the favor of an early reply,

I have, &c.

H. J. HULL.

The Honorable the Minister of Lands and Works.

Maryvale, 21st September, 1883.

SIR,

I BEG respectfully to draw your attention to my letter of the 7th instant, and to inform you that I have not yet been honored by an acknowledgment.

I have, &c.

H. J. HULL.

The Hon. N. J. BROWN, Minister of Lands and Works.

Lands and Works Office, Hobart, 24th September, 1883.

SIR,

I AM directed by the Hon. the Minister to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, drawing his attention to yours of the 7th instant, to which you have not received a reply and to inform you that he wrote to you privately on Saturday last.

I am also directed to inform you that the matter referred to in your letter of the 7th inst. shall be attended to as early as possible.

I have, &c.

T. R. ATKINSON, *Ministerial Clerk.*

H. J. HULL, *Esq., Maryvale, Glenorchy.*

Lands and Works Office, Hobart, 4th October, 1883.

MY DEAR SIR,

I AM directed by the Minister to say that he will be glad to see you here on Saturday morning, at 12 o'clock, with reference to your claim for pension.

Faithfully yours,

T. R. ATKINSON.

H. J. HULL, Esq., *Glenorchy.*

Maryvale, 8th October, 1883.

SIR,

REFERRING to our conversation of Saturday last, I have the honor to inform you that I am willing to take a pension of £250 per annum from 1st January last as a final settlement of my claim upon the Government, learning from you that the Cabinet are not disposed to grant me the amount I expected, viz., £333 6s. 8d.

I have, &c.

The Hon. N. J. BROWN, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

H. J. HULL.

10th October, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th ultimo, informing me that you have been waiting for some time past to see whether the Government intended recognising your long services of 36 years by granting you the usual retiring allowance for loss of office, and requesting to be informed as to the intention of the Government in this matter.

In reply, I have the honor to inform you that at the earliest opportunity I brought your application under the consideration of the Cabinet, and I regret to have to intimate that, with every desire to take the most lenient view of the circumstances attending the discontinuance of your connection with the Public Service, the Members of the Cabinet have decided that they would not be justified in recognising your claim to a full superannuation allowance, inasmuch as it is impossible for the Head of the Department to certify, in accordance with the provisions of Section 6 of the Superannuation Act, that the duties of the office held by you have been "discharged with diligence and fidelity to the satisfaction of such Head Officer."

The Government, however, will be glad to avail themselves of the provision contained in Section 7 of the Superannuation Act; and as you have stated in your letter of the 8th instant that you acquiesce in this course, and will accept a pension of Two hundred and fifty pounds (£250) commencing from the first of January last, as a final settlement of your claim upon the Government, they will recommend His Excellency the Governor to grant to you a pension of the above-mentioned amount per annum.

I regret exceedingly that since this decision of the Cabinet was arrived at, further deficiencies in the accounts of the office recently held by you have been brought under my notice, such unaccounted for deficiencies amounting to the sum of Thirty-seven pounds fifteen shillings (£37 15s.).

It will be necessary for you to pay this amount into the Treasury, in fulfilment of the terms of the engagement entered into by you with regard to such deficiencies, before the payment of any portion of the proposed pension.

I take this opportunity to again repeat the anxious desire of the Government that you will at the earliest possible date avail yourself of the offer which has been so repeatedly pressed upon you, to enter upon an examination of the books of your late office, with the assistance of an accountant to be approved by the Government, in order that, if it be possible, the deficiencies which have come to light may be accounted for.

I have, &c.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

H. J. HULL, Esq., *Maryvale, Glenorchy.*

Maryvale, 22nd October, 1883.

DEAR SIR,

SINCE the receipt of your letter *re* my pension, I have been laid up with an attack of erysipelas.

I now send you cheque for the amount mentioned in your letter, although I had previously pointed out to the Cashier that some of the items had been erroneously debited to me.

Yours, &c.

The Hon. N. J. BROWN.

H. J. HULL.

REV. J. Scott tells me H. J. Hull cannot obtain his promised pension from Treasury. Will you please inquire what is the cause?

Yours,

The Hon. J. S. DODDS, *Treasurer*.

N. J. B.

MR. DODDS wishes a Minute prepared for next Council. Rightly, this matter ought to be done by the Chief Secretary, in whose Department Pensions are managed.

J. E. PACKER.
28. 11. 83.

T. R. ATKINSON, *Esq.*

29th November, 1883.

MEMO.

WILL Mr. Hull be good enough to fill in the enclosed form, and return to this office at his earliest convenience.

T. R. ATKINSON, *Ministerial Clerk*.

H. J. HULL, *Esq., Glenorchy*.

Maryvale, 1st December, 1883.

MEMO.

THE accompanying Superannuation Form is filled in as far as I can do it, and is herewith returned.

H. J. HULL.

T. R. ATKINSON, *Esq.*

FORWARDED to the Colonial Auditor, with the request that he will be good enough to certify as to the correctness of the calculation in the accompanying Superannuation Form.

T. R. ATKINSON, *Ministerial Clerk, Lands and Works*.
18. 12. 83.

BEFORE attaching his signature to the accompanying pension paper, the Colonial Auditor requests he may be informed why the essential particulars required on the second and third pages of the document have not been filled in according to the usual practice.

W. LOVETT.

Audit Office, 19th December, 1883.

Lands and Works Office, Hobart, 21st December, 1883.

MEMO.

THE accompanying Superannuation Form omitted to be enclosed with Memo. to the Hon. the Chief Secretary this morning.

T. R. ATKINSON.

The Hon. the Chief Secretary.

FORWARDED, with the Form and Memo. referred to, to the Colonial Auditor.

B. TRAVERS SOLLY.
21st Dec. 1883.

21st December, 1883.

MEMORANDUM.

THE accompanying statement of particulars of claim to superannuation allowance by Mr. Henry Jocelyn Hull is forwarded to the Hon. the Chief Secretary, with the request that he will take the necessary steps to secure the payment to Mr. Hull of a reduced pension of £250 per annum, commencing from the first day of January, 1883, such reduced pension being proposed to be paid to Mr. Hull under the following circumstances:—

On assuming office as Minister of Lands and Works on the 1st day of December, 1882, I found that Mr. Henry Jocelyn Hull, Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, had been absent from the Office for seven months and ten days previously,—namely, from the 20th day of April, 1882; that such absence had been necessitated by continuous ill health; that shortly after Mr. Hull's discontinuance of the duties of his office and the assumption of them by Mr. G. F. Lovett as Acting Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, serious discrepancies had been discovered in the accounts of the office, and that it appeared that various sums of money, amounting in the aggregate to upwards of £1200, had been received by Mr. Hull in his official capacity and had not been duly accounted for; that an arrangement had been entered into between my predecessor in office and Mr. Hull that such moneys should be paid into the Treasury by Mr. Hull on the condition that if on investigation of the accounts, which in his then state of health Mr. Hull was quite unable to undertake, it should appear that if the whole or any portion of the moneys which appeared to be unaccounted for had in fact been carried to account and had been duly paid into the Treasury by Mr. Hull, then that such money should be repaid to Mr. Hull.

Subsequently to the first of December, 1882, various further sums, amounting in the aggregate to £298 Os. 6d., were found to have been received by Mr. Hull which, so far as could be ascertained, had not been duly carried to account by him. These amounts were paid into the Treasury by Mr. Hull on the before-mentioned conditions. Mr. Hull's continued, and at one time critical state of ill-health, rendered it impossible for him to enter into an examination of the accounts of his office, an examination which, he confidently stated, would, if it were possible for him to undertake it, conclusively prove that the discrepancies were apparent only, and that all moneys that he had received had been duly accounted for. Much confusion had existed in the Department for some time owing to the insufficiency of the staff to transact the large accession of business which had been thrown upon it by the rapid development of mining enterprise, and a large amount of such increased business having necessarily to be attended to by Mr. Hull, it was deemed possible that the supposed deficiencies had arisen from error, as maintained by Mr. Hull. There being no prospect of Mr. Hull's restoration to health, it was intimated to him that his connection with the Public Service must cease after the 31st day of December, 1882.

Mr. Hull having applied for a pension, all the above-mentioned facts were carefully considered by the Cabinet, and it was decided that, although it was impossible to admit that Mr. Hull could be considered entitled to a full retiring allowance, yet, in consideration of the special circumstances of his case, and the undisputed fact that he had for some time been overworked in consequence of the inadequacy of the staff of his office, the Cabinet agreed to offer to him the reduced pension of £250 per annum, in accordance with the terms of Section 7, 24 Victoria, No. 15.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

The Hon. the Chief Secretary.

Lands and Works Office, Hobart, 8th January, 1884.

SIR,

WITH reference to your application for pension, I have now to return you the Superannuation Form, upon which I find that it will be necessary for you to fill in statement as to cause of retirement, and dates, &c. of appointments held by you. It will also be necessary for you to forward to me a medical certificate of the state of your health at the time of your retirement, and of the probability of your infirmity being continuous.

I have, &c.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

H. J. HULL, *Esq., Maryvale, Glenorchy.*

Maryvale, 12th January, 1884.

SIR,

IN compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 8th instant, I beg to return herewith my pension paper with the required information.

I have, &c.

The Hon. N. J. BROWN.

H. J. HULL.

FORWARDED to the Hon. the Chief Secretary.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN.
12.1.84.

Particulars required to be furnished in reference to Persons recommended for Retiring Allowances.

Name of Applicant—Henry Jocelyn Hull.

Official Station—Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands and Commissioner of Mines and Gold Fields Recommended for Superannuation.

Age, 54 years.

Service, in years and months—35 years and 4 months.

Actual Salary, if 3 years have elapsed since last promotion ; but if not, then } £500.
average Salary for the last three years—

Correct.

Allowances.	Quarters	<i>Nil.</i>
	Servant	<i>Nil.</i>
	Rations	<i>Nil.</i>
	Fuel and Light	<i>Nil.</i>

Total Amount on which Pension is calculated...£

Service in years 35

Addition under 5th Section of Superannuation }
Act, 1860, and Council Minute of 9th June, }
1862

Total Years..... 35 60ths of £500 = £291 13s. 4d.

Certified that the above calculation is correct.

Colonial Auditor.

Cause of Retirement, [with annexed Medical Certificate, if from infirmity of mind or body, and under 60] :—Ill health.

I HEREBY certify that Mr. Henry J. Hull was a patient under my care from April to end of December, 1882, suffering from a carbuncle at the back of the neck, which left an ulcerated surface to a great extent, and he was unable to leave the house for most of the time, and was quite unable to work during the whole of that period. He is now recovered, but is still weak, and would be unable to do regular work.

January 10, 1884.

GAML. H. BUTLER, *M.R.C.S.E.*

Dates of commencement and termination of the several Appointments held by Applicant, with their Emoluments, distinguishing Salary from other Allowances, and specifying such Allowances—

- 1 August, 1847, Police Department, £80 per annum.
- 1 February, 1852, Survey Department, £120 per annum.
- 1 July, 1873, Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Whether holding any other Public Appointment, or receiving any Public Money by Compensation, Half-pay, or otherwise—

Did not hold any other appointment, and have never received any Public money by Compensation, Half-pay, or otherwise.

Absences during each of the last 10 years—

Date of cessation of Duty, 31st December, 1882. Absent through illness from 20th April to 31st December.

Date of cessation of Salary, 31st December, 1882.

STATEMENT in terms of Section vi. of *The Superannuation Act* of 1860, that the Applicant “has discharged his duties with diligence and fidelity, to the satisfaction of the Head Officer or Officers of his Department,” (without which no Pension or Compensation can be granted), to be signed by any two of such Head Officers if there shall be more than one, or by such Head Officer if there should be but one, together with “such a statement as will exhibit the merit and value and labour of the services of the person recommended, embracing as long a period of his public service as can be authentically stated,” together with observations as to Special Services, Suspension, Reprimand, &c., with full particulars of any injuries received on duty, or other claims or matters for consideration.

16th January, 1884.

SIR,

On further consideration by the Cabinet of your application for a retiring allowance, it was found that it would be necessary that you should, in accordance with the terms of your letter of the 18th December, 1882, and in accordance with verbal representations made by you to me from time to time, undertake the personal investigation of the accounts of your late office, which you have stated would result in proving that the deficiencies in the accounts are apparent only, and that, in terms of your letter of 18th December, 1882, “No moneys received by you have been diverted from the Treasury.”

I shall be glad if you will name an early date upon which you will be prepared to undertake this investigation. If you fail to do so, it will be necessary for you to furnish me with good and sufficient reasons for your declining to adopt a course which has been so frequently urged upon you.

I have, &c.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

H. J. HULL, *Esq., Maryvale, Glenorchy.*

Maryvale, Glenorchy, 24th January, 1884.

SIR,

REFERRING to your letter of the 16th instant, I have respectfully to set forth that, owing to my continued ill-health, I feel quite unequal to the task of undertaking the investigation of accounts of my late office, or of naming any time for doing so. I beg to enclose a certificate from my medical adviser in corroboration of this.

Earnestly trusting that you will now be able to give early effect to the resolution arrived at by the Cabinet in October last, on account of the pecuniary position which my long continued illness, coupled with cessation of salary, has placed me,

I beg to remain, &c.

H. J. HULL.

The Hon. N. J. BROWN.

I HEREBY certify that Mr. Henry J. Hull is still suffering from weakness and general debility consequent on his long illness, and it will be many months before he could do any work, if ever he will be able to do any.

GAM. H. BUTLER, *M.R.C.S. Eng.*

January 25th, 1884.

MINUTE PAPER FOR THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Chief Secretary's Office, Hobart, 30th January, 1884.

SUBMITTED.

THAT, in accordance with the provisions of the 7th Section of "The Superannuation Act" (24 Vict., No. 15), a reduced Superannuation Allowance of Two hundred and fifty pounds per annum be granted to Mr. Henry Jocelyn Hull, late Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, on the ground of Mr. Hull having failed, while acting as Deputy Commissioner, to keep the accounts of his receipts and payments of public moneys in proper order, and not being able to satisfactorily account to the Government for the non-entry by him in his books of moneys admitted to have been received by him on account of the Public Service—the amount of which moneys he has since repaid to the Government.

To take effect on and from the 1st January, 1883, and to be provided for upon a Supplementary Estimate.

WM. MOORE.

THE Governor in Council approves.

E. C. NOWELL.
30. 1. 84.

G. C. S.

Chief Secretary's Office, Hobart, 31st January, 1884.

SIR,

IN accordance with the provisions of the 7th Section of "The Superannuation Act" (24 Victoria, No. 15), I have the honor to inform you that the Governor in Council has approved of a reduced Superannuation Allowance of Two hundred and fifty pounds (£250) per annum being granted to Mr. Henry Jocelyn Hull, late Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, on the ground of his having failed, while acting as Deputy Commissioner, to keep the accounts of his receipts and payments of public moneys in proper order, and not being able to satisfactorily account to the Government for the non-entry by him in his books of moneys admitted to have been received by him on account of the Public Service—the amount of which moneys he has since repaid to the Government.

To take effect on and from the 1st January, 1883, and to be provided for upon a Supplementary Estimate.

Will you be good enough to inform Mr. Hull, and that after the payment for the year 1883 the Pension will be payable quarterly?

I have, &c.

B. TRAVERS SOLLY, *for the Chief Secretary (absent.)*

The Hon. the Minister of Lands and Works.

2nd February, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that, in accordance with the provisions of the 7th Section of "The Superannuation Act" (20 Victoria, No. 15), the Governor in Council has approved of a reduced Superannuation Allowance of Two hundred and fifty pounds per annum being granted to you; to take effect on and from the 1st January, 1883.

I have further to inform you that after the payment for the year 1883 the Pension will be payable quarterly.

I have, &c.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

H. J. HULL, *Esq., Maryvale, Glenorchy.*
