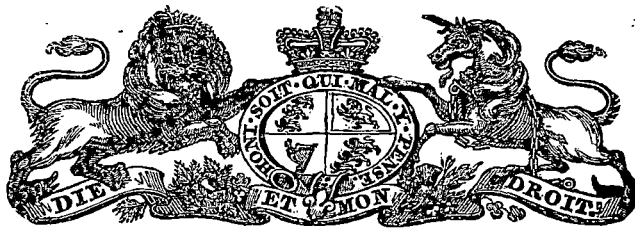


(No. 107.)



1891.

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PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

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CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY :

LETTER AS TO EMOLUMENTS OF OFFICE.

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Laid upon the Table by the Treasurer, September 2, 1891, and ordered by the House of Assembly to be printed, September 3, 1891.



*House of Assembly, 21st August, 1891.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER,

MAY I ask that you will kindly forward the enclosed letter to the Honorable the Chief Secretary?

Faithfully yours,

FRED. A. PACKER, *Clerk of the House.*

*The Honorable the Speaker.*

FORWARDED to the Honorable the Chief Secretary, with a request that the application of the Clerk of the House of Assembly may have favourable consideration.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN, *Speaker.*

21st August, 1891.

*House of Assembly, 13th August, 1891.*

SIR,

I BEG to bring the following circumstances under your notice, and consideration.

I have now held the position of Clerk of the House and Librarian to Parliament for the last ten years. My predecessor (Mr. H. M. Hull) received a salary of £400 a year, with a personal allowance of £100 for length of service, making his total salary £500 a year. I was appointed to succeed him at £400 a year, which was increased in 1885 by a personal allowance of £50 per annum, making my total salary £450 per annum.

A comparative statement of the past and present work of the House shows that it has increased to an enormous extent, and that the clerical staff maintained 30 years ago was much larger, and very much more expensive, than at the present time, consisting of—

Clerk of the House (Mr. Henslowe) .....	£600
Clerk Assistant (Mr. Hull) .....	400
Office Clerk .....	240
	<hr/>
	£1240
	<hr/>
Against, in 1891—	
Clerk of the House (Mr. Packer) .....	£450
Clerk Assistant .....	300
Library Attendant .....	150
	<hr/>
	£900
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It will thus be seen that I was appointed at the minimum salary, or £200 per annum less than Mr. Henslowe's salary, and £100 per annum less than the salary paid to Mr. Hull, and that I have only received £50 increase in ten years—and that only since 1885. Against this I have to provide myself with expensive official dress, an outlay which my predecessors were not called upon to incur. As an extra allowance of £50 has been placed upon the Estimates as an increase to the salary of the gentleman who so worthily occupies a similar position in the Legislative Council, I presume my own case must have been unintentionally overlooked, and accordingly venture to bring the matter under your notice. In so doing, I beg to direct your

attention to the high and valued testimonials which I have had the great honor to receive from the several Speakers under whom I have served, and I respectfully submit that any officer who is deemed competent and worthy to fill the high and honorable office that I do, and who continues to discharge the duties connected with it to the entire satisfaction of the House, is justly and fairly entitled to the full rights, privileges, and concessions which were made to his predecessors under precisely similar circumstances. It will be seen by reference to the report of the debate on the House of Assembly vote (*vide* "Mercury" of 21st October, 1885) that this was the general opinion of the House, strongly supported by the present Treasurer, when the personal allowance of £50 was voted to me in the Session of 1885.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

FRED. A. PACKER, *Clerk of the House.*

*To the Honorable the Chief Secretary.*

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*From the Honorable Dr. Butler on his retirement from the office of Speaker.*

*Stowell, July 28th, 1885.*

I HAVE much pleasure in bearing my testimony to the uniform care and attention of Mr. F. A. Packer, Clerk of the House of Assembly.

He brought to the discharge of his duties both zeal and intelligence, and in my opinion deserves such recognition as the Government can offer.

HENRY BUTLER, *M.H.A., late Speaker.*

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*From the Honorable Alfred Dobson on his retirement from the office of Speaker in 1887.*

LET me thank you for the great assistance you have given me, and for the kind and courteous manner in which you have always co-operated in our work.

While holding the position of Speaker it was a great satisfaction to me to observe that, in addition to performing your ordinary duties, you took a daily increasing interest, if that were possible, in looking up questions as they arose, and in helping generally to make the Parliamentary machine work smoothly. I look forward to the new Speaker receiving very valuable assistance at your hands. With kind regards,

Believe me to be,  
Yours very faithfully,

ALFRED DOBSON.

F. A. PACKER, *Esq.*

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*From the Honorable Thomas Reibey, Speaker of the late House of Assembly.*

*Entally, 15th August, 1891.*

MY DEAR MR. PACKER.

I HAVE much pleasure in stating that during the time I held the office of Speaker I found you to be most efficient, attentive, and ready at all times to afford me that loyal aid which your long experience and knowledge of Parliamentary practice enabled you to give. In thanking you, I can only express the hope that you may long hold the office which your abilities and knowledge of the Rules of Parliament must enable you to fill with advantage to the House of Assembly, and with credit to yourself.

I am,

Sincerely yours,

THOS. REIBEY.

FRED. A. PACKER, *Esq., House of Assembly.*