

(No. 35.)



1885.

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PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

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**FIRE BRIGADE BOARD, HOBART :**

**REPORT FOR 1884.**

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



*REPORT of the Fire Brigade Board, Hobart, for the Year ending 31st  
December, 1884.*

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THE under-mentioned gentlemen were appointed to constitute the Board by *Gazette* Notice of 24th March, 1884; namely,—Messieurs Benjamin Travers Solly, William Belbin, Charles Harbottle, John Roberts, and Crawford Mayne Maxwell; and on the same date Mr. Edward Maher was appointed Superintendent.

At the commencement of operations this Board was saved a considerable outlay in consequence of the very liberal gift from the Associated Fire Insurance Companies, consisting of engines, reels, plant, and fire-bell tower.

There have been 16 fires and 10 alarms during the past year. Two fires occurred on uninsured premises, and the expenses incurred in attending these were recovered from the owners of the properties, as provided for by "The Fire Brigades Act, 1883."

The expenses of the year amount to £531 18s. 4d., less amount received for sale of old hose and expenses recovered, equal to £8 9s., leaving the net expenditure at £523 9s. 4d., which has been divided equally between the Government, the Corporation, and the Insurance Companies. Statement of Receipts and Expenditure is annexed.

Schedule of Fires and Alarms is also annexed.

Telephonic communication has been established between the Police Station, the Superintendent's residence and Engine Station, the Fire-bell, and the Reservoir in Lansdowne Crescent near the *Marquis of Hastings Hotel*. Battery Point will be connected with the fire-bell very shortly.

The Board have endeavoured to keep down the expenses as much as possible, having due regard to the efficiency of the Brigade, which consists of 18 men under the Superintendent.

The Superintendent reports the Plant of the Brigade as being in good order.

B. TRAVERS SOLLY.  
WILLIAM BELBIN.  
CHARLES HARBOTTLE.  
JOHN ROBERTS.  
C. M. MAXWELL, *Chairman*.

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*DETAILED Statement of Fires attended by the Fire Brigade for the City of Hobart for the Year ending 31st December, 1884.*

Date.	Time.	Locality.	Trade used as.	Occupied by	Construction.	Extent of Damage.	How insured.		Result of Inquest, if any held.	Origin, and General Remarks.
							Buildings.	Contents.		
<b>1884.</b>										
Jan. 6	1:15 A.M.	Barrack-street	Dwelling	Mr. Lilly	Brick	Slight	Uninsured	...	None held	Curtains set fire to by candle
17	12 NOON	Liverpool-street	Cabinetmaker	Whitesides & Son	Wooden shed	Slight	Insured London and Liverpool	...	None held	Sparks from engine at tannery next door
18	9:40 P.M.	Barrack-street	Builder	— Stabb	Weatherboard	...	Derwent and Tamar	...	None held	False alarm—burning shavings
Feb. 13	11:30 P.M.	Liverpool-street	Hatter and tobacconist	Cahill and Fraser	Wood & brick	Considerable	Derwent and Tamar Co.	Tasmanian Co., Commercial Union Co.	Open verdict	Unknown
25	...	Lower Murray-st.	Market	Hobart Corporation	Open shed, of wood	Slight	Uninsured	...	None held	Unknown
Mar. 14	12:45 P.M.	Macquarie-street	Timber merchant	A. Crisp	Open shed	Slight	...	Cornwall Co.	ditto	Sparks from engine
18	8 P.M.	Elizabeth-street	Greengrocer	— Myler	Brick	Slight	Uninsured	...	ditto	Chimney on fire.
April 3	8:15 P.M.	Melville-street	Private house	Wilson	Brick	Slight	Derwent and Tamar, Liv. and Lon. Co.	...	ditto	Candle set fire to clothes
23	11:50 P.M.	Liverpool-street	General dealer	Mrs. Fox and others	Brick & wood	Very considerable	Tasmanian Co.	...	Open verdict	Unknown; fire originated in shop of Mrs. Fox
May 8	7:40 P.M.	Elizabeth-street	Livery stables	Jeffrey	Brick	Slight	Tasmanian Co.	London and Lancashire Co.	ditto	Unknown; fire originated in loft over stable
9	6:40 P.M.	Campbell-street	Theatre	Turner	Stone	Considerable	Derwent and Tamar, Liv. & Lon. & Globe, National Co. of N.Z.	London and Lancashire, Union Co. of New Zealand	ditto	Children playing with matches (supposed)
23	7:30 P.M.	Melville-street	Private house	Hogan	Brick	Slight	...	...	None held	Chimney on fire
June 24	6 P.M.	Patrick-street	Dwelling	C. J. Piesse	Brick	Slight	New Zealand Ins. Co.	...	ditto	Children playing with matches
27	7:15 P.M.	Liverpool-street	Baker	E. Ivey	Brick	Slight	Hamilton & Co.	Der. and Tam. Co.	ditto	Curtains in bedroom caught fire
July 4	4 P.M.	Bathurst-street	Dwelling	Ready	Brick & wood	Slight	Com. Union Co.	...	ditto	From copper
30	3:30 P.M.	Brisbane-street	Grocer's shop	P. J. Sinclair	Brick	Slight	Mut. Co. of Tasmania	...	ditto	From chimney on fire
Aug. 1	1:20 P.M.	Cascade Brewery	Brewer's	Cascade Brewery Co.	Stone	Very considerable	Der. & Tam. Co., Liv. & Lon. & Globe Co.	...	Open verdict	Hay being stored in premises [room]
Sept. 5	6:45 P.M.	Bathurst-street	Dwelling	Mrs. M'Clean	Brick	Slight	Mut. Co. of Tasmania	...	None held	Candle ignited curtains in bed-
22	8:40 A.M.	Elizabeth-street	Baker's shop	Cripps	Weatherboard	Slight	Liv. & Lon. & Globe Co., Com. Union Co.	...	ditto	Washing copper, built against lath and plaster partition, set fire to same [alight]
Oct. 10	11:15 A.M.	Macquarie-street	Dwelling	Mr. Pemberton	Brick	Considerable	Der. and Tam. Co.	...	ditto	Chimney on fire set shingles
13	8 P.M.	Murray-street	Merchant	Huybers & Co.	Stone	Slight	Derwent and Tamar	Der. and Tam., Liv. & Lon. & Globe Co., Victoria Ins. Co., Tasmanian Co.	Open verdict	Commenced in cellar of store
28	12:30 P.M.	Collins-street	Fruit and jam manufactory	Knight & Co.	Wood	Slight	Uninsured [Com. Union Co.]	...	None held	Sparks from blacksmith's forge (supposed)
Nov. 1	7:30 P.M.	Liverpool-street	Draper	Hood & Co.	Brick	Slight	New Zealand Co. & ...	...	ditto	Gas lighting in window of shop
10	4 P.M.	Hobart Rivulet	Wood-work of retaining walls of rivulet	...	...	Slight	...	...	ditto	Caught from burning rubbish
17	7:15 P.M.	Old Wharf	Merchants	Webster & Son	Stone	Considerable	Commercial Union	Corn. Co., Royal Co., Liv. & Lon. & Globe	Open verdict	No evidence to show how the fire originated.
18	7:40 P.M.	Collins-street	Tannery	W. Sherwin	Wood	Slight	Uninsured	... [Co.]	None held	Sparks from engine