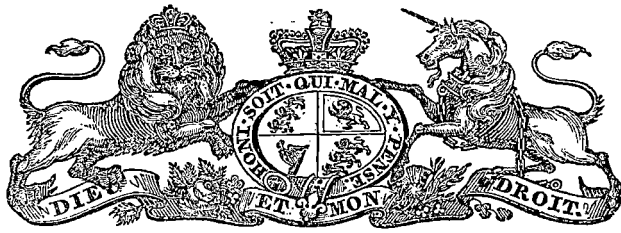


(No. 37.)



1857.

T A S M A N I A.

KANGAROO POINT STEAM FERRY.

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Colonial Secretary, and ordered by the House to be printed, 15 January, 1857.



Hobart Town, 13th January, 1857.

SIR,

I now enclose you a letter that I have just received from Mr. W. Smith respecting the Twin Ferry Boat, stating the terms on which she might be handed over to us.

Also a scale of the charges intended to be made, subject to any alterations which may be found advisable to be made at any time.

Should you require any further explanation on this matter, I will be very glad to call at your office for that purpose.

Waiting reply at your earliest convenience,

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

ASKIN MORRISON.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

Campania, 10th January, 1857.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to communicate, for the consideration of the Executive, the following propositions, having for their object the continuance of the Steam Bridge on the Kangaroo Point Ferry, and to request an answer directed to Askin Morrison, Esq., New Wharf, at your earliest convenience.

Messrs. A. Morrison, George Stokell, Senior, and myself, undertake to work the said Steam Bridge upon the Kangaroo Point Ferry for the period of Six Months from the 20th instant: to be responsible for any damage occurring to the boat or engines excepting that by storm, tempest, or fair "wear and tear,"—and to restrict the fares charged for ferrying passengers and goods, &c. to the subjoined rates, subject to re-adjustment with the concurrence of the Executive,—paying all expenses for fuel, wages, &c. with the exception of the Engineer's wages, which, we are given to understand, have been guaranteed by the Government, under a contract entered into in England, for a specified period.

We further propose to publish monthly, in the *Government Gazette*, a Statement of the Receipts and Expenditure of the said Steam Bridge; and in the event of an excess of Receipts over the Expenditure, to hand over the balance to the Trustees of the several Road Districts between Kangaroo Point and Jerusalem, for the purpose of being expended on the making and maintenance of the intermediate Roads.

The gentlemen I have named above and myself have limited the continuance of our undertaking to six months, solely with the view of protecting ourselves against the possibility of incurring a long-continued loss, in the event of its being definitively ascertained that the Steam Bridge will not pay the expense of working it: but as we have no doubt whatever that, on the completion of the Kangaroo Point Road, the Receipts will not only cover the Expenditure, but also afford a considerable surplus to expend in the maintenance of that Road, and its extension towards Jerusalem, the junction with the Main Road to Launceston, and the Bye Road to the Eastern Marshes, we trust that, at the expiration of the period named, we shall be in a position to prolong our undertaking indefinitely, fully appreciating as we do the great benefit which must accrue, not only to the several Districts in which we are directly interested, but

also to the Colony generally, owing mainly to the fact that between Jerusalem and the extremity of the Eastern Marshes there is a larger extent of more fertile Crown Land than in, I believe I am correct in saying, any other District of similar extent on the southern side of Tasmania, with the exception only of the Huon country,—so that, by the means we are thus about to attempt to carry into effect, in addition to the benefit which will be obtained by several large Agricultural Districts east of the Derwent, a considerable tract of reclaimable land will eventually be made highly productive to the General Revenue, instead of, as at present, remaining comparatively waste.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

W. VILLENEUVE SMITH.

The Honorable the Colonial Secretary.

PROPOSED Rate of Fares, subject to Re-adjustment only with the Consent of the Executive.

	s.	d.	
Passengers, each.....	0	6	Returning same day free of charge.
Children under 12 years of age, ditto	0	3	Ditto.
Horses, ditto	1	6	Unbroken Colts, &c. 1s. extra.
Horned Cattle, ditto.....	1	6	
Sheep, ditto	0	1½	
Pigs and Calves (if not carried in a Vehicle)	0	6	
Poultry (ditto)	0	1	per couple.
Vehicles loaded with goods, per wheel....	1	6	} Returning same day unloaded, free; loaded, half fare.
Ditto, unloaded, per wheel	1	3	
Goods (not in a vehicle) per ton	6	0	
Parcels (ditto), under 1 foot in length	0	1	
Ditto (ditto) above 1 foot in length	0	3	Not exceeding 56 lbs.
Ditto (ditto) ditto.....	0	6	Not exceeding 112 lbs.

Over 1 cwt. at the rate of Six Shillings per ton.

(This Scale subject to alterations if found necessary.)