

(No. 55.)



1867.

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T A S M A N I A .

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

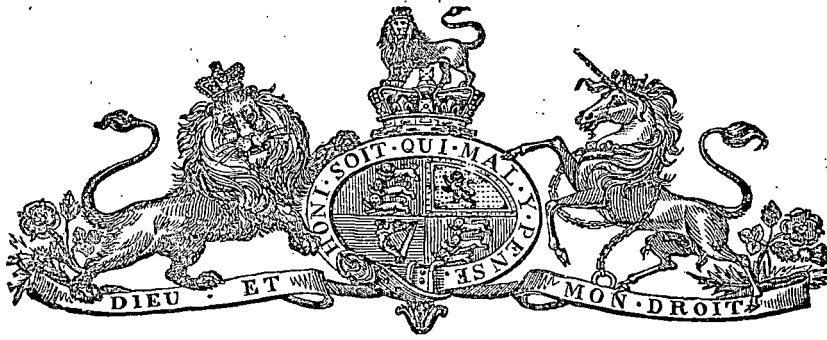
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DEFENCES OF THE COLONY.

REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

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Brought up by Mr. Whyte, and ordered by the Council to be printed, October 3,  
1867.



*REPORT from the JOINT COMMITTEE on the DEFENCES of the Colony.*

TUESDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER, 1867.

*Ordered,* That a Select Committee be appointed to consider the Defences of the Colony.

MEMBERS.

*Legislative Council.*

MR. FYSH.  
MR. KERMODE.  
MR. WHYTE.  
MR. LOWES.  
MR. INNES.  
MR. WILSON.  
CAPT. LANGDON.  
SIR R. DRY.

*House of Assembly.*

MR. BALFE.  
MR. DAVIES.  
MR. LEWIS.  
MR. LETTE.  
MR. PRATT.  
MR. JOHN SCOTT.  
MR. WALKER.  
MR. CHAPMAN.

DAYS OF MEETING.

FRIDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

*Legislative Council.*

Mr. Whyte, *Chairman.*  
Sir R. Dry.  
Captain Langdon.  
Mr. Lowes.  
Mr. Wilson.  
Mr. Innes.

*House of Assembly.*

Mr. Lette.  
Mr. Davies.  
Mr. Sharland.  
Mr. J. Scott.  
Mr. Balfe.  
Mr. Chapman.

Reports of Commodore Wiseman and General Carey, as also Memorandum and Estimate by Capt. Chesney, R.E., read.

Mr. Wilson moved, That this Committee is of opinion that the recommendation of Commodore Sir W. Wiseman and Brigadier-General Carey, for the Defence of the City and Port of Hobart Town, be approved.

Question put and passed.

Mr. Wilson moved, That a Militia Bill be submitted to Parliament with as little delay as possible.

Question put and passed.

THURSDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

*Legislative Council.*

Sir R. Dry.  
Captain Langdon.  
Mr. Whyte.  
Mr. Fysh.  
Mr. Wilson.

*House of Assembly.*

Mr. Lette.  
Mr. Pratt.  
Mr. Lewis.  
Mr. Davies.  
Mr. Chapman.

Sir Richard Dry handed in an estimate of the probable expense of maintaining a Volunteer Force.

Mr. Fysh moved, That the Chairman call a Special Meeting for Friday, at 11 o'clock, to reconsider the Resolutions with reference to the completion of the Fortifications passed at the last Meeting.

Question put and passed.

TUESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER.

## MEMBERS PRESENT.

*Legislative Council.*

Mr. Whyte.  
Mr. Wilson.  
Mr. Lowes.  
Mr. Innes.  
Capt. Langdon.  
Sir R. Dry.

*House of Assembly.*

Mr. Balfe.  
Mr. Lette.  
Mr. Davies.

Certain Papers are laid on the Table, a list of which accompanies the Report.

FRIDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER.

## MEMBERS PRESENT.

*Legislative Council.*

Sir R. Dry.  
Captain Langdon.  
Mr. Whyte.  
Mr. Fysh.  
Mr. Innes.  
Mr. Wilson.

*House of Assembly.*

Mr. Walker.  
Mr. Pratt.  
Mr. J. Scott.  
Mr. Lette.  
Mr. Balfe.  
Mr. Davies.  
Mr. Chapman.  
Mr. Lewis.

Mr. Davies moved, That Mr. Wilson's Motion, No. 1, of Tuesday, be rescinded. Which Motion he afterwards withdrew.

Mr. Chapman moved, That before proceeding to carry out the recommendations of Commodore Sir W. Wiseman and Brigadier-General Carey, this Committee would recommend that His Excellency the Governor be requested to address the Secretary of State on the subject, pointing out the necessity of erecting the Towers recommended by Commodore Wiseman [and Brigadier-General Carey], and requesting the assistance of the British Government towards the cost of the same.

Question put and passed.

MONDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER.

## MEMBERS PRESENT.

*Legislative Council.*

Sir R. Dry.  
Captain Langdon.  
Mr. Whyte.  
Mr. Wilson.  
Mr. Lowes.

*House of Assembly.*

Mr. J. Scott.  
Mr. Lette.  
Mr. Balfe.  
Mr. Davies.  
Mr. Lewis.

Sir R. Dry moved, That the name of General Carey be inserted in Mr. Chapman's Motion of Friday, 20 September.

Question put and passed.

Mr. Wilson moved, That this Committee recommend that the Report of the Royal Commission appointed to enquire into the present state of the Volunteer Force be approved.

Sir R. Dry moved as an Amendment, That in the opinion of this Committee the Volunteer Force should be confined to such a body of Artillery as that indicated in the Estimate submitted by the Colonial Secretary on the 19th instant.

Sir R. Dry laid on the Table a letter from the Commander of Engineers.

Committee adjourned. Mr. Wilson's and Sir R. Dry's Motions stand over till next Meeting.

FRIDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER.

## MEMBERS PRESENT.

*Legislative Council.*

Mr. Whyte.  
Mr. Lowes.  
Mr. Fysh.  
Mr. Innes.  
Mr. Wilson.  
Captain Langdon.  
Sir R. Dry.

*House of Assembly.*

Mr. Chapman.  
Mr. Lette.  
Mr. J. Scott.  
Mr. Pratt.  
Mr. Davies.  
Mr. Lewis.  
Mr. Balfe.

Sir R. Dry's Amendment on Mr. Wilson's Motion of 23 September put. Committee divided.

AYES.  
 Captain Langdon.  
 Mr. Lowes.  
 Mr. Pratt.  
 Mr. Scott.  
 Mr. Lette.  
 Mr. Fysh.  
 Mr. Chapman.

NOES.  
 Mr. Davies.  
 Mr. Innes.  
 Mr. Lewis.  
 Mr. Wilson.

And so it passed in the Affirmative.

Mr. Wilson moved, That a Sergeant-Instructor of Musketry and Orderly-room Clerk be added to the Permanent Staff of the Southern Division.

Question put and passed.

Mr. Davies moved, That in the opinion of this Committee, and in accordance with the recommendation of the Royal Commission, the present Volunteer Force should be immediately disbanded, in order that a Force in accordance with Resolution No. 8 may be forthwith organised, and that the Members of the present Force be invited to join in such proposed organisation.

Question put and passed.

Mr. Lette moved, That in the opinion of this Committee it is desirable the said Force should be trained in Light Infantry as well as Artillery Drill.

Question put and passed.

Mr. Pratt moved, That any Volunteer should, in the opinion of this Committee, be entitled at the end of Five years service to a grant of Agricultural Land of 35 acres, and that in computing the said Five years Two years and a half, or any less period, of efficient service in the old Force shall be allowed to count.

Mr. Lewis moved as an Amendment, That Prizes be offered for attendance at Drill, and the best Shots with Ordnance and Rifle, in lieu of Grants of Land.

Amendment put. Committee divided.

AYES.  
 Mr. Lowes.  
 Mr. Lewis.  
 Mr. Scott.  
 Mr. Balfie.  
 Captain Langdon.

NOES.  
 Mr. Davies.  
 Mr. Pratt.  
 Mr. Lette.  
 Mr. Scott.

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TUESDAY, 1 OCTOBER.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

*Legislative Council.*

Mr. Whyte.  
 Mr. Lowes.  
 Mr. Wilson.  
 Mr. Innes.

*House of Assembly.*

Mr. Lette.  
 Mr. Lewis.  
 Mr. Davies.  
 Mr. Chapman.

Mr. Whyte presented a Draft Report, which was adopted.

Ordered, That Mr. Whyte and Mr. Davies bring up the Report in the Legislative Council and House of Assembly respectively.

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*THE JOINT COMMITTEE appointed to consider the DEFENCES OF THE COLONY have the honor to submit the following*

## R E P O R T.

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THE Joint Committee have had under consideration the following Papers, Letters, and Despatches:—

House of Assembly Paper No. 48, Copy of Report of the Committee on expense of Military Defences in the Colonies, 1860.

Ditto, No. 66, Military Defences, 1863.

Ditto, No. 89, Report of Select Committee, 1863.

House of Assembly Votes, 9 September, 1863.

House of Assembly Paper No. 26, Defences—purchase of Rifled Ordnance, 1864.

Ditto, No. 97, Report of Select Committee, 1865.

Ditto, No. 14, Accounts, 1867.

Ditto, No. 23, Despatch from the Secretary of State, with the Colonial Secretary's Memo., 1866.

Report of the Royal Commission appointed to enquire into the present condition of the Volunteer Force, and documents connected therewith, 22 May, 1867.

Letter from Colonel Eagar to the Hon. J. M. Wilson, 23 December, 1865.

Ditto from the Hon. J. M. Wilson to Colonel Eagar, 4 January, 1866.

Ditto from Sir W. Wiseman to Colonel Gore Browne, 5 May, 1866.

Ditto from General Carey to Colonel Gore Browne, 13 March, 1866.

Memorandum on the measures necessary to secure Hobart Town against bombardment.

Memorandum on the Defences of Hobart Town, by B. T. Solly, 7 June, 1866.

Letter from the Hon. J. Whyte to Colonel Gore Browne, 19 September, 1863.

Memorandum by Mr. E. M. Lloyd on the present Defences of Hobart Town and Launceston, 27 November, 1866.

Estimated cost of Defences of the Colony, 4 December, 1866.

Memoranda respecting purchase of land for new Battery on St. George's Hill.

Plan of present proposed Batteries.

The most important of these Papers are appended to this Report.

The Joint Committee did not consider it necessary to call for further evidence than is to be found in the documents before referred to.

At various sittings, and after a full discussion of the important questions submitted, this Joint Committee have passed the following Resolutions:—

1. That this Committee is of opinion that the recommendations of Commodore Sir William Wiseman and Brigadier-General Carey for the defence of the City and Port of Hobart Town be approved.

2. That a Militia Bill be submitted to Parliament with as little delay as possible.

3. That, before proceeding to carry out the recommendations of Commodore Sir W. Wiseman and Brigadier-General Carey, this Committee would recommend that His Excellency the Governor be moved to address the Secretary of State on the subject, pointing out the necessity of erecting the Towers recommended by Commodore Sir W. Wiseman and Brigadier-General Carey, and requesting the assistance of the British Government towards the cost of the same.

4. That in the opinion of this Committee the Volunteer Force should be confined to such a body of Artillery as that indicated in the Estimate submitted by the Colonial Secretary on the 19th instant.

*ESTIMATE of Annual Cost of a Volunteer Artillery Force for Hobart Town and Launceston.*

**SOUTHERN DIVISION.**

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
UNIFORM (to last three years).						
200 men, at £2 4s. per annum .....	—			440	0	0
STAFF.						
Sergeant-Instructor of Artillery and Musketry and Master Gunner (with quarters) .....	150	0	0			
Assistant to Master Gunner and Keeper of Drill Ground and Artillery School (with quarters) .....	50	0	0			
Armourer Sergeant .....	50	0	0			
				250	0	0
PRIZES.						
Artillery and Rifle Prizes .....	—			150	0	0
AMMUNITION.						
Artillery .....	240	0	0			
Rifle .....	60	0	0			
				300	0	0
				£1140	0	0

**NORTHERN DIVISION.**

UNIFORM (to last three years).						
70 men, at £2 4s. per annum .....	—			154	0	0
STAFF.						
Sergeant-Instructor of Artillery and Master Gunner and Instructor of Musketry .....	—			80	0	0
PRIZES.						
Artillery and Rifle Prizes .....	—			50	0	0
AMMUNITION.						
Artillery .....	80	0	0			
Rifle .....	20	0	0			
				100	0	0
				£384	0	0

**MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES (INCLUDING BOTH DIVISIONS).**

Travelling Expenses of Inspecting Field Officer .....	50	0	0
Champion Prize .....	20	0	0
Fuel and Gas .....	60	0	0
Repairs to Butts, and labour .....	50	0	0
Stationery .....	10	0	0
Repairs to Arms .....	40	0	0
Incidental and unforeseen expenses, and travelling .....	46	0	0
	£276	0	0

	£
Southern Division .....	1140
Northern ditto .....	384
Miscellaneous .....	276
Total .....	£1800

5. That a Sergeant-Instructor of Musketry and Orderly-room Clerk be added to the permanent staff of the Southern Division.

6. That in the opinion of this Committee, and in accordance with the recommendations of the Royal Commission, the present Volunteer Force should be disbanded, in order that a force in accordance with Resolution No. 4 may be forthwith organised; and that members of the present Force be invited to join in such proposed organisation.

7. That in the opinion of this Committee it is desirable the said Force should be trained in Light Infantry as well as Artillery drill.

8. That Prizes be offered for attendance at drill, and the best shots with ordnance and rifle, in lieu of grants of land.

In conclusion, the Committee recommend that an Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor, praying that he will be pleased to give effect to the foregoing Resolutions, by desiring his responsible Advisers, at an early date, to prepare such a paper setting forth the claims of the Colony for assistance in the matter of Defence, as will enable him to make an appeal to the Imperial Government with some hope that the liberality which has recently been displayed towards the rich Colony of Victoria will be extended to Tasmania, either by supplying or assisting to supply Towers of the kind recommended by Commodore Sir William Wiseman and General Carey, or by a remission of such an amount of the debt due by the Colony to the Imperial Government as may, under the circumstances, seem just and reasonable.

JAMES WHYTE, *Chairman.*