

(No. 32.)



1889.

---

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

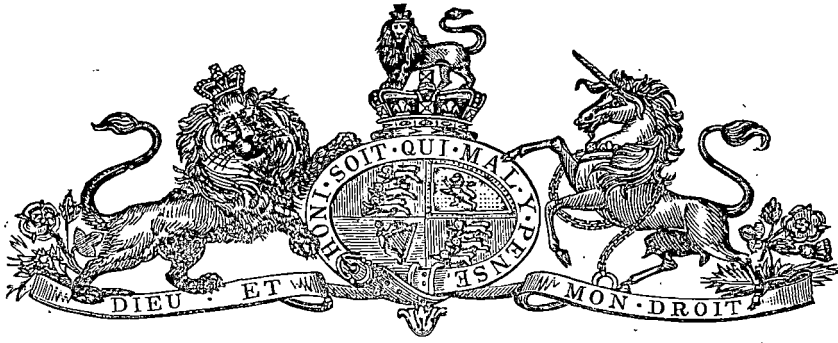
---

TASMANIAN MAIN LINE RAILWAY :

REPORT OF INSPECTION OF LINE BY THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF, WITH CORRESPONDENCE RELATING THERETO.

---

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



*Engineer-in-Chief's Office, Hobart, 4th March, 1889.*

TASMANIAN MAIN LINE RAILWAY.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report that I have examined the works and stock of the Main Line Railway during the past month.

I found that necessary renewals had been effected in many places; also, that they had been done in a good and substantial manner.

The work is, however, incomplete, and permanent repairs are required at several bridges, notably at Taki Creek and ends of Risdon Viaduct, although the precautions taken with temporary works render the structures free from any actual danger.

Some fourteen to fifteen miles of fences have been renewed. There appears to be a very good supply of material in hand for further renewals, and which are most required in the Evandale district. Gates are required at Evandale Main Road crossing.

There is improved security in the earthworks, but in a few places the normal waste and subsidence should be made up.

The permanent way is now in good order, with the exception of a few bad rails left in the road on the Evandale section.

The blind siding at Rhyndaston has been taken up and a loop of greater extent laid in.

Substantial concrete abutments have been built at Clarendon Bridge, and repairs of piers and top are now going on. The renewal of Taki Creek Bridge should be put in hand without delay, as should the required renewals of two ends of the Risdon Viaduct; the other repairs (*see* List No. 1) should be put in hand and completed some time during the present year. The trusses at Humphrey's Rivulet have been removed, and a substantial floor built on a central pier.

The Tunnel, in lined and unlined portion, appears to be in sound condition, but I should like to see a more secure finish to the arch-rings where the southern-lined portion terminates.

Repairs have been made to some buildings, but others—such as goods sheds at Evandale and Snake Banks—need attention.

Alterations are being made in the station-yard at Brighton for accommodation of the Government line to Green Ponds and Apsley. The junction will necessitate the usual signals, and these should be provided at every station on the Main Line where trains pass regularly, especially where such stations are at foot of steep inclines, as at Brighton and Ross.

The stock generally appears to be in fair condition. Improvements of an acceptable character are being commenced in carriage stock by the adoption of bogie-trucks, as in the Government carriages; but the inferior original stock should now be replaced as soon as practicable, especially for through traffic, as it is very comfortless for a long journey either in winter or summer. I learn from the General Manager, on enquiry, that the gradual substitution of bogie-carriage stock is contemplated, and that the usual precautions have been taken as to testing boilers of the locomotives and as to the pressure allowed.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. FINCHAM, *Engineer-in-Chief.*

*The Hon. the Minister of Lands and Works.*

LIST No. 1.—*Permanent Repairs of Bridges required.*

At Clarendon. (Completion).  
 19m. 35c. (Noted last year.)  
 \*Taki Creek. Ditto.  
 Macquarie Bridge (end of one truss).  
 Blackman Floodways. (Noted last year.)  
 63m. 38c. (Noted last year.)  
 Currajong Creek. (Partly done ; to be completed.)  
 69m. 75c.  
 70m. 57c. (Noted last year.)  
 Campania Bridge  
 Strathallern Rivulet.  
 Jordan River (a few piles to be scarfed).  
 Bridgewater (some top beams to be renewed).  
 \* Risdon Viaduct (ends to be rebuilt).

Items marked \* are of most importance.

LIST No. 2.—*New Works.*

Long loop siding at Rhyndaston to replace shorter blind shunt.  
 Addition of new offices at Epping.  
 Addition to station-house at Conara Junction.  
 New cottage at Tea Tree siding.  
 Ditto at Crooked Billet.  
 Ditto at Rosetta.  
 Addition to store at Hobart.  
 Signals.

*Lands and Works Office, Hobart, 22nd March, 1889.*

SIR,

TASMANIAN MAIN LINE RAILWAY.

I HAVE the honor to forward herewith a copy of the last Report of the Engineer-in-Chief, dated 4th inst., upon the works and stock of your line, and to request your careful consideration of same. I would specially call your attention to the two items marked \* in List No. 1 attached to such Report (these being mentioned by the Engineer-in-Chief as the most urgent), and also that you will be good enough to inform me when they will be carried out. I should be glad of your assurance that the other items of List No. 1 will receive prompt attention.

I have, &c.

ALFRED T. PILLINGER,

*Minister of Lands and Works.*

C. H. GRANT, *Esq., C.E., General Manager*  
*Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited.*

*Tasmanian Main Line Railway,*  
*General Manager's Office, 26th March, 1889.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 22nd inst., with its enclosure of copy of the Report made by the Engineer-in-Chief on the present condition of the works and rolling-stock of the Main Line Railway.

I note that you request my careful consideration of the same, and especially of the items marked \* on List No. 1, which you desire should receive prompt attention.

There is little doubt that the work included in the whole of List No. 1 will be completed within the next twelve months, since I am quite in accord with Mr. Fincham's statement that they deserve prompt attention.

I have, &c.

C. H. GRANT.

*Hon. A. T. PILLINGER, M.H.A., Minister of Lands and Works.*

*Lands and Works Office, Hobart, 4th April, 1889.*

SIR,

TASMANIAN MAIN LINE RAILWAY.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th ult., and note with satisfaction your concurrence in the opinion of the Engineer-in-Chief that the works included in List No. 1 deserve prompt attention.

I also note your assurance that those works will be completed within the next twelve months, and would again call your serious attention to the items marked\*.

I have, &c.

ALFRED T. PILLINGER,

*Minister of Lands and Works.*

C. H. GRANT, *Esq., General Manager*  
*Tasmanian Main Line Railway, Hobart.*