

(No. 76.)



1879.

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T A S M A N I A.

H O U S E O F A S S E M B L Y.

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V O L U N T E E R   O F F I C E R S :

R E P O R T   O F   E X A M I N A T I O N.

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Laid upon the Table by the Colonial Treasurer, and ordered by the House to be  
printed, January 13, 1880.



DESPATCH.  
No. 48.

*Tasmania,*  
*Government House, Hobart Town, 2nd August, 1879.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report that on the 4th June an examination of Infantry Officers of the Local Forces was held in Hobart Town.

2. The Examination was conducted by Colonel Anderson, C.M.G., commanding Local Forces in Victoria, whose services, as requested, were placed at the disposal of my Government by the Government of Victoria.

3. I beg to enclose copy of the Examination which, in addition to the practical part, these Officers were made subject to, and to state that only one Officer out of 18 failed to pass, for the information, should you see fit to forward it, of the Deputy Adjutant General Auxiliary Forces, War Office.

4. I also have the honor to enclose copy of Colonel Anderson's Report on the Tasmanian Volunteer Force, also for transmission, if so permitted, to the War Office.

The "Officers entrusted with their command and supervision," referred to in the concluding portion of Colonel Anderson's Report, are Lieut.-Colonel St. Hill, 19th Regiment, Commandant, and Captain Boddam, Staff Officer, late Lieutenant Royal Artillery.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

FRED. A. WELD, *Governor.*

*The Right Honorable Sir M. HICKS BEACH, Bart.*

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*PROCEEDINGS of a Board appointed by His Excellency the Governor of Tasmania in Council to examine as to the Military Qualifications of certain Officers of the Tasmanian Rifle Regiment.*

PRESIDENT :

Colonel W. A. D. ANDERSON, C.M.G., Commanding the Forces of H.M. Government in Victoria.

MEMBER :

Lieutenant H. B. WILLIAMS, F.A., Travelling Instructor, Victorian Forces.

The Board having duly examined the Officers who presented themselves, both practically in the field, and theoretically by set questions, find that the Officers below named are qualified:—

<i>Captains.</i>	<i>Lieutenants.</i>	<i>Sub-Lieutenants.</i>
J. O'Boyle.	F. Scott.	J. R. Betts.
T. C. Just.	J. E. Addison.	H. J. Rooke.
W. H. Smith.	W. Hunt.	E. J. Freeman.
J. G. Davies.	J. Coates.	H. S. Barnard.
W. Aikenhead.		J. L. Maddox.
T. Marsden.		F. V. Smith.

W. A. D. ANDERSON, Commanding Victorian Forces, *President.*

H. B. WILLIAMS, Lieut., F.A. Victorian Forces, Travelling  
Instructor, *Member.*

*Head Quarters, Melbourne, 23rd June, 1879.*

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*FROM the Officer Commanding the Forces, Victoria, to His Excellency Governor WELD, Tasmania.*

*Head Quarters, Melbourne, 23rd June, 1879.*

SIR,

IN compliance with the wish which Your Excellency was, before my departure from Tasmania, pleased to express, that I should submit for your consideration my opinion as to the condition and efficiency of the Military Forces of the Colony, I now have the honor to address to Your Excellency the following observations, the result, not only of the practical and theoretical examination of Officers—for the purpose of conducting which I was specially present in Tasmania—but of a series of parades and inspections which I, at the express desire of the Officer Commanding the Tasmanian Forces, had the honor to hold.

#### ARTILLERY.

The smart and soldier-like appearance of the Batteries of both districts was most creditable; and the efficient manner in which the guns, both garrison and field, were handled, as well as the knowledge evinced by both officers and men of their respective duties and positions, was very satisfactory, the more so taking into consideration the diverse and partly obsolete nature of the ordnance on which the gun detachments were formed.

#### INFANTRY.

After having seen this Battalion "march past" in the manners severally prescribed, and having further seen Companies comprehensively exercised in "Company" and "Battalion" drill, I feel that I can speak highly in its praise. The arms and accoutrements were in excellent order, the men soldier-like, and for steadiness might compare with Regiments of branches of the Service (other than Volunteer) possessing far greater advantages as to time for, and means of, training.

The precise manner in which each movement was executed, and the several "points" given, indicated careful instruction.

In conclusion I would state that although the greatest credit is due to all ranks for the energy and perseverance of which the present satisfactory state of the Forces is the result, yet I cannot but impress upon Your Excellency my opinion that such result is equally owing to the zealous and efficient instruction and training bestowed upon the Volunteers by those Officers entrusted with their command and supervision.

I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant,

W. A. D. ANDERSON, *Commanding the Forces, Victoria.*

TASMANIA.

No. 48.

*Downing-street, 22nd September, 1879.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 48, of the 2nd ultimo, with its enclosures, reporting the result of an Examination of Infantry Officers of the Local Forces in Tasmania.

I have read with pleasure your remarks relating to the satisfactory examinations passed by these Officers, as well as the Report of Colonel Anderson bearing testimony to the efficiency of the Volunteers and the Officers entrusted with their command and supervision.

I have caused a copy of your Despatch, together with the enclosures, to be transmitted to the Department of the Secretary of State for War.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

M. E. HICKS BEACH.

Governor WELD, C.M.G.