

(No. 74.)



1856.

T A S M A N I A.

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INTRAMURAL INTERMENTS.

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

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Brought up by Dr. Butler, and ordered by the House to be printed,  
3 June, 1857.



## REPORT.

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THE Select Committee of the House of Assembly appointed, on the 28th May, 1857, for the purpose of enquiring into the best means of preventing the continuance of Interments within the boundaries of Hobart Town and Launceston, have met and deliberated on the question referred to them by the House; and have the honour to send up the following Report, which only embraces the Towns of Hobart Town and Launceston, but it is apprehended that the main principles of the plan will be found applicable to other Towns whose circumstances may hereafter require a similar provision.

To protect the public health, and to secure decency and solemnity of burial, Interments within the boundaries of Hobart Town and Launceston should be discontinued. It will, however, be necessary, in order to effect this object, that Cemeteries be provided; and, as the duties incidental to the management of Cemeteries are strictly of a public character, it is indispensable that they should be vested in one responsible and disinterested body in each locality, by which simplicity and uniformity in the construction, with economy in their administration, will be secured, without detracting from the solemnity which accompanies the rites of Burial.

The immediate outlay for carrying out this proposal may be obtained by the issue of Debentures, bearing interest and guaranteed by the Government. The charges consequent on Interments will, in the opinion of your Committee, be sufficient to defray all the necessary current expenses, together with the interest on the Loan.

In the selection of an appropriate site the Committee derived considerable advantage from the information afforded by the Director of Public Works, whose attention had been previously directed to the subject; and they are gratified to be enabled to report that the site selected possesses the necessary qualifications of proximity to the Town and facility of access, while the nature of the soil is specially adapted for the purpose required, and its isolation prevents the erection of dwelling-houses in its immediate vicinity.

Having thus stated the general opinion at which the Committee have arrived, it will be requisite that the immediate attention of Government should be directed to the preparation of a Bill during the Recess of Parliament; and they have adopted the following Resolutions as the basis of such enactment:—

“Resolved, that, in the opinion of this Committee, Interments within the boundaries of Hobart Town and Launceston should be discontinued.

Resolved, that the Cemeteries to be constructed outside these Towns should, in the opinion of this Committee, be vested in their respective Corporations.

Resolved, that the Corporations should have power to raise money by Debentures guaranteed by the Government for the purpose of constructing the Cemeteries, and the necessary approaches to them.

Resolved, that the site (with a slight alteration of the boundaries) indicated by the Director of Public Works, and shown on the chart of the Government Domain, Hobart Town, laid by him before the Committee, is the most convenient one for a Cemetery in the vicinity of Hobart Town.

Resolved, that the Government be requested to introduce a Bill early in the next Session of Parliament to carry into effect the Resolutions agreed to by this Committee.”

HENRY BUTLER.

INTRAMURAL INTERMENTS.

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*Ordered to be printed, 3 June, 1857.*

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JAMES BARNARD,  
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