

(No. 31.)



1869.

T A S M A N I A .

CONVICT ESTIMATES.

DESPATCH.

Laid upon the Table by the Colonial Treasurer, and ordered by the House to be printed, August 24, 1869.



TASMANIA.
No. 28.

Downing-street, 19th March, 1869.

SIR,

I HAVE had under my consideration your Despatch No. 48 of the 2nd September last, accompanied by the Estimates for the Convict Service in Tasmania for the year ending the 31st of March, 1870; and I transmit to you, for your information, copies of a Correspondence between this Department and the Treasury on the subject.

You will observe that I have postponed the consideration of the reduction suggested by the Treasury in the Grant in Aid of Colonial Police until I receive an answer to my predecessor's Despatch No. 43 of the 30th of September last, on the subject of the transfer of the Establishment at Port Arthur to the Colony. I request, however, that you will make your Government aware that such a reduction is under consideration, and that you will express to them my wish for an early reply, if one has not already been sent, to the Duke of Buckingham's Despatch.

I observe that the Estimates are not drawn up in the amended form which came into use last year, and I request that you will again impress upon the Officers concerned the importance of framing both the Cash Estimates and the Requisitions for Stores according to the sub-heads of expenditure which appear in the printed Estimates.

Class III. of the Civil Service Estimates, to which the Colonial Convict Votes belong, is not yet published, but you will be furnished with copies as soon as they are ready.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,
GRANVILLE.

Governor DU CANE.

(Copy.)

SIR F. ROGERS to MR HAMILTON.

Downing-street, 16th January, 1869.

SIR,

I AM directed by the Earl Granville to transmit to you, for the consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, the enclosed copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Tasmania, accompanied by the Convict Estimates for the year ending the 31st of March, 1870, and by an explanatory Letter from the Comptroller-General's Office.

The annual Requisition for Stores to be supplied from England has recently been received, and has been sent to the Chairman of the Directors of Convict Prisons, with a request that he will furnish a statement of the cost of the articles. When this information is received His Lordship will be able to state the amount required for Stores, which is at present left blank in the Estimates.

Supposing the same amount of £3500 to be required as in the previous year, the gross amount of the Estimates would be £32,934 to provide for the maintenance of 757 Convicts, of whom 499 are chargeable to Imperial and 258 to Colonial Funds. The amount repayable by the Colony on account of Colonial Convicts is £10,069. Compared with the preceding year there is a reduction of £1540 in the gross amount, and a reduction of 106 in the number of Convicts to be provided for.

Subject to the amount to be inserted for Stores, Earl Granville would recommend the Estimates for their Lordships' sanction.

I am, &c.,

GEO. A. HAMILTON, *Esq.*

(Signed)

F. ROGERS.

MR. LAW to the Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office.

(Copy.)

Treasury Chambers, 5th February, 1869.

SIR,

THE Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury have had before them your Letter of the 16th ultimo, submitting the Convict Estimates of Tasmania for the year 1869-70; and my Lords desire me to convey to you for the information of Lord Granville their approval of these Estimates.

My Lords observe, however, that although some slight reductions have been made in the Establishment, they would scarcely appear to be in proportion to the decrease in the number of Convicts; and they would also suggest whether the time has not arrived for some reduction in the sum of £6000 for Police, Gaols, &c., adverting to the large diminution in the number of Convicts that has taken place since the arrangement under which that amount was fixed as the contribution from Imperial Funds.

My Lords would further suggest that this opportunity should be taken for again urging upon the Colonial Government the desirableness of their undertaking the whole management of the Convict Establishment, as my Lords understand that the Governor has been instructed to submit the question of such an arrangement for the consideration of the Local Government.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

WILLIAM LAW.

The Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office.

SIR F. ROGERS to Secretary to Treasury.

(Copy.)

Downing-street, 15th March, 1869.

SIR,

WITH reference to your Letter of the 5th ultimo, conveying the sanction of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury of the Estimates for the Convict Service in Tasmania for the year 1869-70, I am directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a Letter from the Chairman of the Directors of Convict Prisons, stating the amount that will be required to cover the cost of Prison Stores and Clothing to be supplied from this country.

I am desired to state that the sums detailed in Colonel Henderson's Letter, amounting to £1927 12s. 5d., together with the sum of £160 for freight and other charges, will be inserted in the Convict Estimates.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

F. ROGERS.

The Secretary to the Treasury.

COLONEL HENDERSON to the Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.

(Copy.)

45, Parliament-street, 12th February, 1869.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 11th ultimo, transmitting the demand for Stores for Convict Establishment in Tasmania for the year ending 31st March, 1870, for supply in due course, and requesting to be furnished with a statement of their cost, classified under the various sub-heads of the Parliamentary Estimate; and in reply have the honor to acquaint you for the information of Earl Granville, that the estimated cost may be stated at £1927 12s. 5d. as detailed on the other side, to which sum may be added an estimated amount of £160 for freight, shipping, packing, and other incidental charges.

I am, &c.,

(Signed)

G. Y. W. HENDERSON.

The Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.

<i>Heads of Service.</i>		£	s.	d.
Clothing	.....	478	17	5
Bedding	.....	75	0	0
Furniture and Fittings	.....	107	4	8
Soap, Scouring, &c.	.....	10	0	8
Incidentals	.....	5	3	9
Buildings, &c.	{ Tools	83	17	11
	{ Material	1167	8	0
		£1927	12	5

SIR F. ROGERS to the Secretary to Treasury.

(Copy.)

Downing-street, 19th March, 1869.

SIR,

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge your Letter of the 5th ultimo, conveying the approval by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury of the Convict Estimates of Tasmania for the year ending the 31st of March, 1870.

In reply to their Lordships' observations, I am desired to state that Lord Granville does not think that it would be expedient to reduce the Grant in Aid of Colonial Police for the approaching financial year, but that the subject will be considered when the answer is received from the Colony to the proposal of Her Majesty's Government for the transfer of the Imperial Convict Establishment at Port Arthur to the Local Government. The Colony will, however, be made aware that the reduction of the Vote is under consideration, and the Governor will be requested to furnish an early answer, if one has not already been sent, to the Secretary of State's Despatch dated the 30th of September last, proposing the transfer.

The sum required to be inserted in the Estimate for the purchase and freight of Stores supplied from this country was communicated to you in my Letter of the 15th instant.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) F. ROGERS.

The Secretary to the Treasury.