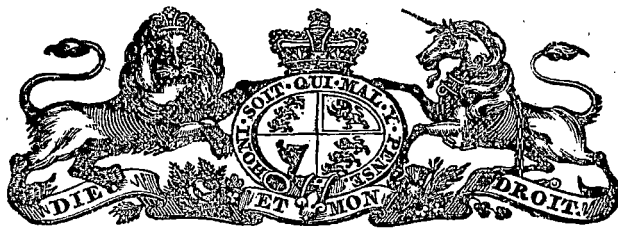


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TASMANIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

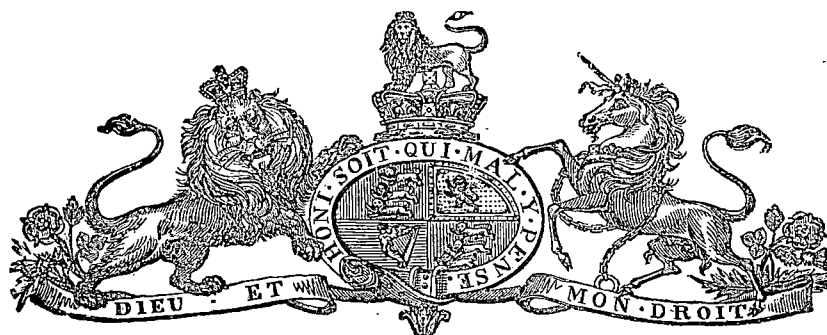
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PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

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Brought up by Mr. Kennerley, September 20; and ordered by the Council to be printed, September 24, 1867.



## R E P O R T.

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THE Joint Committee on the Parliamentary Library have the honor to report that, under arrangements which came into effect on the 1st March last, by which the office of Librarian was united to that of Clerk of the House of Assembly, stock has been taken of the Books in the Library, and a new Catalogue prepared and issued.

The Committee find that 37 Volumes are missing; and although the works which to this date have not been traced are fortunately not of great value nor difficult to replace, it is their duty to represent that either their number will be greatly increased, or Members must be denied the use of the Books during the recess, if adequate assistance is not provided to the Clerk and Librarian.

The Committee believe that arrangements are practicable by which the inconvenience of which they complain can be remedied without any material increase of expenditure being incurred. And as an additional reason for their adoption, they have to refer to the fact of the plans, &c. of Patents valued at £2000 having been transferred to the custody of the Parliamentary Librarian during the last half year.

It appears that there are several works of a standard character in the Library, which were published in serial volumes, incomplete at the present time. To complete these, and also to supply the new publications which should be found on its shelves, the sum provided in the Estimates for the current year, and also for the ensuing year, is quite insufficient. Originally, and for a period of ten years, £200 were voted annually, to be expended under the direction of the Library Committee; and although the Committee are desirous of accommodating their expenditure to the state of the finances, they respectfully urge that a reduction of £140 in its amount is too large, and that it is only reasonable that Members of the Legislature should have the means of obtaining information pertinent to their public duties made accessible to them.

A considerable outlay is immediately required in binding or re-binding a large number of Volumes, without which they must either be withheld from the use of Members, or be liable to such further injury as will make them valueless. The Committee learn with satisfaction that the Executive Government proposes to adopt arrangements by which that object will be accomplished without trenching on the inadequate funds applicable to the Library.

The Committee beg to submit to your Honorable House the expediency of conferring powers either upon the Joint Committee, or upon such persons as may be deemed fitting, to regulate the affairs of the Library, and to order any Books required for it during the recess.

The Houses of Assembly of Canada and Newfoundland now exchange Journals and Papers; and arrangements have been made to file Newspapers from Queensland and South Australia, as well as other Colonies from which they have not hitherto been obtained.

The Committee, in concluding their Report, desire to acknowledge the zeal and assiduity of the Librarian, and the courtesy and promptitude with which in the interval of the Parliamentary Sittings he has attended to the wishes of Honorable Members of both branches of the Legislature.

W. NAIRN, *Chairman.*

*Parliamentary Library, 20th September, 1867.*