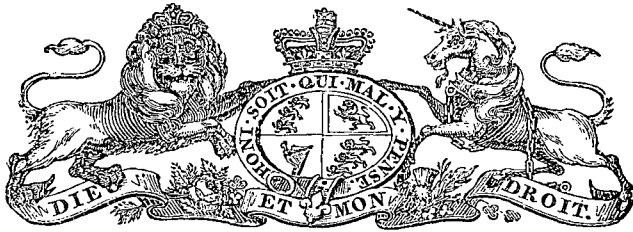


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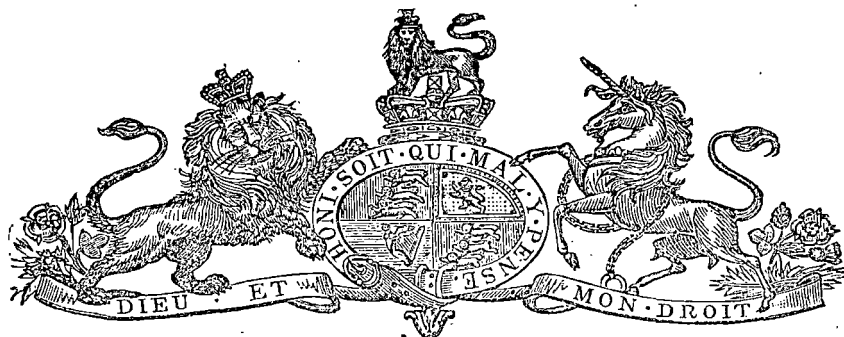
PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

INSPECTION OF MACHINERY DEPARTMENT:

REPORT FOR 1895.

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

Cost of printing—£1 3s.



INSPECTION OF MACHINERY DEPARTMENT.

REPORT FOR 1895.

*Inspection of Machinery Department,
27th February, 1896.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward you my Report of the work done by this Department for the year ending 31st December, 1895.

Inspections made.

Land Boilers, including portable boilers, 343; Machinery only, 2; Marine Boilers, 167; Marine Declarations made, 32.

Land Engine Drivers' Certificates.

During the past year a number of candidates presented themselves as applicants for Certificates of Competency or Service. The total number of Certificates issued for the year is 85, of which 28 are for Competency and 57 for Service.

Examinations under the Merchant Ships Officers' Examination Acts.

Seven candidates have passed—five First-class and two Second-class.

Machinery Accidents to Persons not ending fatally.

An accident occurring on the 10th June last at the office of the *Mercury* was reported to me. I made careful enquiry, and found that the injury to the lad was not of a serious nature, and was clearly attributable to his own carelessness. My attention was drawn to another accident at the saw-mills of Mr. Cheverton, by which a boy named Michael Watson had his arm cut severely. This also was attributable to the lad's own carelessness. In both cases the machinery was properly fenced.

In the North the Assistant Inspector reports one accident only causing injury, and that also was attributable to the carelessness of the injured person.

Accidents ending fatally.

It is with regret that I have to report an accident to a boy named Noble, aged 12 years, which occurred on the afternoon of the 3rd August last at the Mornington Brickworks. The boy was literally torn limb from limb, and death must have been instantaneous. *No inquest was held.* The accident was undoubtedly caused by the unsafe arrangement and working condition of the machinery, as I reported (*vide* my letter of 11th September last) "the working condition of the engine is such as to court serious accident." The owner of the machinery not having notified this Department of the accident, as required by the 44th Section of the Act, I laid an information under that section against him, which was heard at Bellerive on the 17th September last, before the Warden and several magistrates of the district, and the defendant pleading guilty was fined 2s. 6d. *without costs.*

I should be wanting in my duty in the responsible office I occupy if I omitted to enter my protest against such a failure of justice as allowing the remains of a person killed under such circumstances to be buried without coronial enquiry. Such would set all doubts at rest by shewing whether the death was attributable to the deceased's own act of omission or commission, or sheet home the blame and responsibilities to the person entitled to bear them.

Boilers and Boiler Accidents.

No boiler accidents causing bodily injury have occurred. It became necessary to condemn three boilers as unserviceable, and instruct repairs to 45 others.

Accidents causing no bodily harm.

Several have been reported, mostly overwinding, and the engine-drivers have in each case been severely cautioned. I am glad to report that the larger proportion of engine-drivers I have come in contact with are careful.

Fees received.

Total Fees to Inland Revenue received and paid into the Treasury by this Department, £310 5s. In addition to which there have been earned for inspections and surveys, Hobart, Launceston, Devonport, and Strahan, which would be received by the Marine Boards, £69, and for examinations under the Board of Trade Regulations, £19, which would be paid to the Customs Department. Fees unpaid, 1895, £15.

Steam Pressure Gauges, &c.

Steam-pressure gauges found serviceable, 335; unserviceable, 59. There is no fee chargeable under the Act for these tests.

Steam Vessels under Survey.

Hobart, 33; Launceston, 14; Devonport, Strahan, and other Ports, 6.

Mining Machinery Plants

Are increasing in number and effectiveness on the various mining fields, and of course the revenue ought to proportionably benefit, whilst every increase will entail additional travelling and work to the Department.

Travelling Expenses.

The sum voted is totally inadequate; the exigencies of the Department compel one officer to be more than 75 per cent. of the year continually on the move. The necessary travelling expenses not being available, it will not be wondered at if some of the boilers and machinery in the Colony have to go uninspected, which is very unsatisfactory.

Synopsis of other duties performed by the Department.

Engineers, Iron Shipwright-Surveyors, and Examiners in Steam to the Hobart, Launceston, Strahan, and Mersey Marine Boards, including the steam vessels on the several slips in course of overhaul and repairs. Inspection of repairs to machinery Government Printing Department; inspection of boiler and machinery Powder Hulks; inspection of machinery and steam-boilers Defence Department, including torpedo boat; inspecting and reporting on water-power and site for proposed electric lighting for the New Norfolk Asylum; examinations of mining and other land engine-drivers; valuating and advising for Customs Department *re* imported machinery, &c.; examinations under "The Merchants Ships Officers Examination Act," and port engineers under Marine Board Acts.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

The Hon. the Chief Secretary.

JOHN CLARK, *Chief Inspector of Machinery.*

RETURN for the Year ending 31st December, 1895.

Certificates granted to stationary and portable boilers.....	173
Ditto ditto machinery (only)	2
Marine declarations given	32
Total number of inspections of land boilers	343
Ditto ditto marine	167
Steam-gauges tested and found serviceable	335
Ditto ditto unserviceable.....	59
Steam-boilers tested and found defective, and instructions given to repair.....	45
Steam-boilers condemned	3
Total number of accidents ending fatally	1
Ditto ditto causing bodily harm..	3
Certificates issued to Land Engine-drivers	85
Examinations under Merchant Ships Officers Examination Acts (steam).....	7
Examinations Port Engineers' Certificates (Marine Boards Acts).....	4
FEEES.	
Amount collected by this Department.....	£ 310 5 0
Amount collectable by Marine Boards.....	69 0 0
Ditto ditto Merchant Ships Officers Act	19 0 0
Amount owing for land boiler inspections.....	15 0 0
	<u>£413 5 0</u>