

(No. 30.)



1887.

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PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

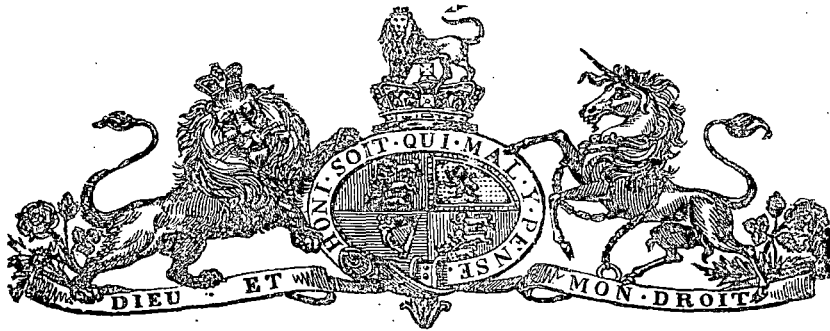
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INSPECTOR OF MACHINERY:

REPORT FOR 1886.

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



*Office of Inspector of Machinery, Hobart, 25th April, 1887.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit for the information of the Government the following Report for the year ending 31st March, 1887.

*Working of Machinery Act.*

The Act has now been in force upwards of two years, and where applied the results have proved generally beneficial and satisfactory.

I would suggest the following amendments :—

*Certificates.*

A Clause requires to be inserted in the Machinery Act making it compulsory for owners and users of machinery to be in possession of a Certificate of Inspection, or in default to be liable to a fine under Police Regulations.

*Safety Valves.*

A Clause in the Act is required similar to provisions by Board of Trade for marine boilers, to ensure immunity from over-pressure upon portable and stationary steam boilers, viz., by the use of two safety valves, one under the control of the attendant, the other a lock-up spring-loaded valve, to which the attendant should not have access.

*Part IV., Clause 49, Inspection of Machinery Act, 1884.*

I recommend that the Clause be amended by the addition of the words “unless by special order of the Government.”

*Part I., Clause 14, Inspection of Machinery Act, 1884.*

Does not provide for the payment of any person whom the Inspector may call to his aid when making inspection ; some provision for it is necessary.

*Fees (Collection of.)*

Some other method of collecting fees than that at present adopted would effect a great saving of the Inspector's time now taken up by its performance.

With reference to the examination of candidates in steam marine engineering, I would point out that the only provision for this is a Marine Board By-law which applies only to engine-drivers for steam-ferry and river boats, which is insufficient, as it provides no fixed standard of previous service or services for which the candidates must produce testimonials, to accord with the custom of other Colonial ports. Considerable dissatisfaction prevails amongst engineers and engine-drivers relative to the need of a legally appointed Examiner; and as regards the examination of candidates for sea service, the want of a legally appointed Examiner in steam for the examination of candidates for the sea service is keenly felt, and involves much inconvenience and expense.

For Colonial Certificates two classes are requisite; viz.—One for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class Engineers, and one for Engine-drivers, dealing with the respective special qualifications required.

All fees received to date by the Inspector (£134) have been paid into the Commercial Bank, Hobart, to the credit of the Honorable the Treasurer (Inland Revenue).

One set of wire and metal gauges, and one Craven's Pitchometer, have been received from Messrs. Stanley (London).

*Steam Launch Tarinna, and I.S.H.G. Dredge Agnew.*

These vessels are approaching completion, and reflect credit alike for construction and supervision.

Appended is a Return of inspections of machinery made during the year ending 31st March, 1887.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN CLARK.

*The Hon. the Chief Secretary, Hobart.*

*RETURN for Year ending 31st March, 1887.*

<i>Description of Information.</i>	<i>Locality.</i>	<i>No.</i>
Stationary Steam Engines inspected .....	Hobart and Country	16
Portable ditto .....	"	56
Gas Engines ditto .....	Hobart	2
Water Wheels ditto .....	Country	8
Steam Marine ditto .....	Hobart and Launceston	107
Number of Accidents ending fatally .....	Hobart	2
" " of slight nature .....	"	5
" Proprietors instructed to fence off .....	"	2
" Steam Boilers found defective .....	"	3
" Steam Gauges ditto .....	Hobart and Country	8
" Complaints made against Act. Character of complaint—Objection to pay Fees .....	Hobart	1
Number of Establishments using steam or other Machinery uninspected, approximately .....	Throughout Colony	300
Amount of Fees received for inspections above .....	£ s. d.	
" unpaid due to Inland Revenue, as per Machinery Act .....	134 0 0	
	59 0 0	
Total amount of Fees on all Inspections .....	£193 0 0	
Amount of Fees paid by Inspector into Commercial Bank, Hobart, to the credit of the Hon. the Treasurer (Inland Revenue) .....	134 0 0	

*SYNOPSIS of other Duties performed, in obedience to instruction received from the Hon. the Chief Secretary.*

Acting as Engineer Surveyor to Hobart and Launceston Marine Board.  
Ditto ditto of Iron Steam Hopper Grab Dredge *Agnew*.  
Ditto ditto Steam Launch *Tarinna*.  
Various duties as Consulting Mechanical Engineer for Defence Department.  
Various drawings and specifications prepared for ditto.  
Various duties as Consulting Mechanical Engineer for Printing Office.

## R E M A R K S.

*Re FEES.*

From November, 1885, fees for Marine Machinery Inspections and Surveys of Iron Hulls and Equipments have been collected by the Marine Board, by which the Inspector is much assisted, a considerable saving of his time being thereby effected.

*Re ESTABLISHMENTS THROUGHOUT THE COLONY UNINSPECTED.*

The Inspector respectfully suggests that, in order to enable him to carry out the Machinery Act systematically and profitably to the Government, another Inspector or Assistant be appointed, so that all the establishments throughout the Colony could be inspected annually, thereby avoiding much discontent expressed by those who have been inspected when others have not been reached.

JOHN CLARK, *Inspector of Machinery.*

25th April, 1887.