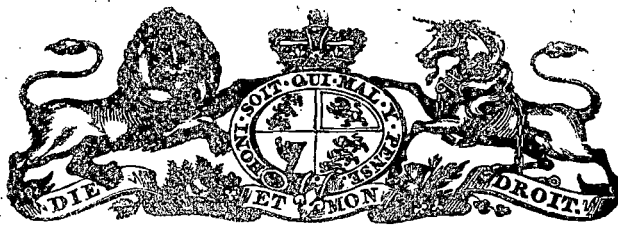


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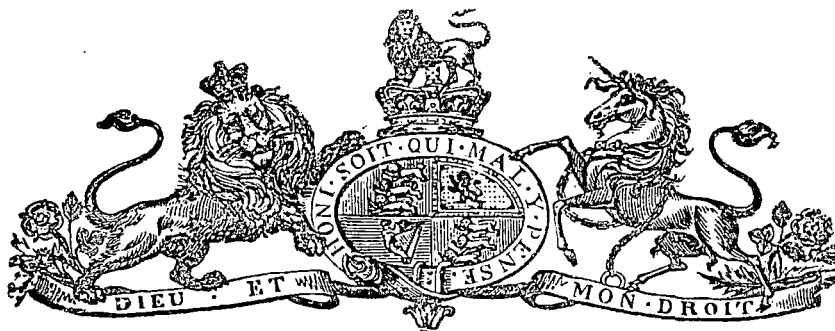
TASMANIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

DIPPING IMPORTED SHEEP:

CORRESPONDENCE AS TO RELAXING REGULATIONS.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Moore, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
October 23, 1883.



CIRCULAR.
No. 710.

Premier's Office, Melbourne, 28th September, 1883.

SIR,

I BEG to inform you that a Deputation from the Australian Sheepbreeder's Association recently waited upon my colleague, the Honorable the Minister of Agriculture, and asked that the Quarantine Regulations requiring the dipping of all sheep imported into Victoria from other Colonies might be relaxed.

It was stated, in support of the request, that the sheep imported are sometimes of very great value, and that the process of dipping them involves risk to their lives.

Further, it was urged that as all the Australasian Colonies, except New Zealand and Western Australia, are now free from Scab disease, there is really no reason, except in the case of those two Colonies, for enforcing the extreme precautions at present observed.

The only risk which could possibly occur would arise from either—

1. A diseased animal being transferred from a foreign to an intercolonial vessel, or—
2. From fittings used for infected sheep in a foreign vessel being transferred to a colonial vessel.

On a full consideration of the matter, the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Levien, concluded that no danger would arise from relaxing the Regulations in the manner desired, and has therefore granted the request, subject to the provisions—

1. That precautions are taken to admit only sheep bred in those Colonies which are free from the disease of Scab; namely,—Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia, and Tasmania; and—
2. That the pens used for confining the sheep on shipboard are such as could not possibly have contained diseased sheep.

I may mention that the Deputation suggested that it should be stipulated that importers of sheep should provide themselves with a certificate from an Inspector of Sheep at the port of shipment, which certificate should amply cover the two points before mentioned.

As it would seem desirable that uniform Regulations in the matter should prevail in the Colonies which are free from Scab, the Honorable the Minister of Agriculture asks me to enquire whether your Government will grant the same concession as that which, on the request of the Deputation, he has consented to grant.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

The Honorable the Premier, Hobart.

JAMES SERVICE, *Premier.*

FORWARDED to the Hon. the Chief Secretary for his perusal and consideration. I should be glad to be enabled to reply to this letter promptly, as the arrangement suggested seems one likely to be advantageous to sheepbreeders in Tasmania.

W. R. GIBLIN.
3. 10. 83.

FORWARDED for the observations of the Chief Inspector of Sheep.

B. TRAVERS SOLLY.
3rd October, 1883.

Office of Inspector of Sheep, Hobart, 4th October, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt from your office of a circular letter from the Premier of Victoria, dated 28th ultimo, for my observations thereon.

It affords me much pleasure, and I have great confidence in being able to recommend the Tasmanian Government to acquiesce in the proposal of the Premier of Victoria to unite with the Colonies therein named in relaxing the Quarantine Regulations on imported sheep.

This will necessitate the repeal of Section 44, Scab Act, 1875, (39 Victoria, No. 20).

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

The Hon. WILLIAM MOORE, Chief Secretary.

W. HARRISON, *Chief Inspector.*

FORWARDED to the Hon. the Premier.

WM. MOORE.

4 Oct., '83.

Premier's Office, Hobart, 4th October, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter, No. 710, of 28th September, as to the proposed relaxation of the Quarantine Regulations requiring the dipping of all sheep imported into Victoria from other Colonies.

I desire to express the satisfaction felt by this Government with the decision at which you have arrived, and to assure you that it will afford us much pleasure to modify the Regulations in force in Tasmania so as to grant the same concession, and on similar conditions, as to sheep which may be imported into this country from Victoria.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

The Honorable the Premier, Melbourne.

W. R. GIBLIN.