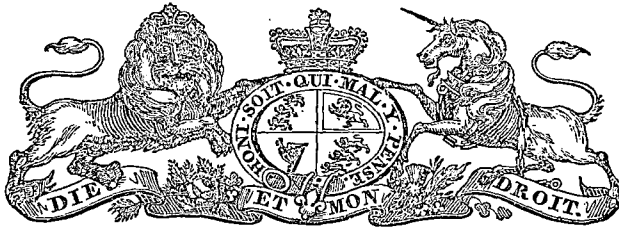


(No. 21.)



1857.

T A S M A N I A.

IMMIGRATION AGENT'S REPORT

FOR HALF YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE, 1857.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Henty, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
19 December, 1857.



Immigration Office, Hobart Town, 7th August, 1857.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the following Report on Immigration for the half-year ending June 30, 1857, including Tabular Returns showing the particulars regarding the 1069 Immigrants introduced at the public expense; the condition of the Bounty System under the various Regulations; the rates of wages; and demand for labour.

2. The issue of Bounty Tickets was suspended at the end of March last. Frequent inquiries are made as to whether the issue will be resumed—chiefly by persons desirous of introducing their relatives, but also by employers.

3. Precautions continue to be taken, as far as possible, at Hobart Town,—and the Immigration Agent at Launceston informs me also at that place,—in order to prevent the departure of Immigrants without the fulfilment of their agreement of residence or repayment of passage-money.

The amount thus collected from Immigrants leaving the Colony during the past half-year is £683 9s. 10d., which exceeds the cost of the whole Immigration Establishment. This has been effected without the occurrence of any Police cases.

With greater facilities for the performance of the duties, the amount would have been larger; but the preventive measures adopted, doubtless, form a general check upon the departure of persons under engagement, who would otherwise leave the Colony without repayment, occasioning loss in labour as well as money.

I have again to submit, as in preceding Reports, that I feel satisfied that Immigrants have not left this Colony from this Port; and there is reason to be assured also, not from Launceston to a great extent—far less to the extent which has been very generally imagined—although a certain proportion have quitted the country, and must be expected to do so.

Of this I have been always fully persuaded, having positive knowledge, derived from the examination of passenger-lists and the boarding of vessels, that the great majority of those of the working population who quitted the Colony were of a different class. Communication also with the employers of labour, together with personal observation, convince me that the great body of the Immigrants are still here; and that the nature of the population has undergone a very great change in consequence of their introduction, joined with an extensive emigration of another class of persons from hence.

These views I have submitted whenever occasion arose; and I regard with great pleasure the confirmation of them, as it appears to me, by the recent Census, under the belief that the introduction of these Immigrants, and especially of those under the Bounty System, has been highly beneficial to the Colony. As this is a subject of interest and great public importance, I beg to show the manner in which the Census appears to me to bear upon the question.

4. By a comparison of this Census, taken March 31, 1857, with that taken March 1, 1851, the following results are obtained as to the number of persons in the Colony who have “arrived free:”—

Census of March 1, 1851, “arrived free”	14,585
Ditto, March 31, 1857, ditto.	25,923
Increase of persons who “arrived free”	<u>11,338</u>

The number of Immigrants introduced within those periods is 13,795, which leaves 2457 apparently to be accounted for : but it is not to be presumed that the whole of those persons have left the Colony ; because, under the column headed "arrived free," are included persons of all ranks and callings ; and it is well known that many free persons of various descriptions, who may have arrived as Immigrants previous to March, 1851, or otherwise, have quitted the Colony for Victoria or elsewhere within the last six years, while the immigration within that time otherwise than at the public expense has been trifling.

It may therefore, I submit, be justly concluded that the number of Immigrants who have arrived and again quitted the Colony within those six years is much less than the apparent deficiency of 2457.

That a very considerable emigration has taken place from this Colony since March, 1851, is unquestionable. The following further facts will tend to show of what description of persons it has chiefly consisted, and that they are not Immigrants.

The number of "Bond" in the Colony at the several periods is stated as follows :—

Census of 1851, "Bond"	17,099
Ditto 1857, ditto.	3,008
	14,091
Decrease of "Bond"	14,091

It will be seen that many of the persons thus shown to have been emancipated have quitted the Colony ; for had they all been in the Colony when the last Census was taken, they would have appeared as a corresponding increase in the column headed "other free persons," (that is, persons neither "born in the Colony" nor "arrived free,") but such is not the case, the results being as follows :—

Census of 1851, "other free persons"	15,903
Ditto, 1857, ditto.	21,720
	5817
Showing the increase of emancipated persons in the Colony } as only	5817

Which number deducted from 14,091 (the decrease of Bond) leaves 8274 "other free persons" not accounted for in the Census ; and the only conclusion that can be arrived at is, as it appears to me, that they must have quitted the Colony before the Census was taken.

Thus, I submit, these two points may be regarded as established—1st, that the great body of the Immigrants introduced at the public expense during the last six years are still in the Colony ; and 2ndly, that the emigration from the Colony during those six years has been chiefly from a class not including Immigrants.

On this last head I may further observe, that a considerable number of Convicts must have arrived in the Colony between the taking of the Census on the 1st, March, 1851, and the time when transportation ceased (about August 1853)—which persons, of course, do not appear in that Census ; but in ascertaining the number of persons of that class who have left the Colony within the six years they must be taken into account.

The number I do not know—but taking it as 2000, this added to the 17,099 "Bond" shown by the Census of 1851 gives	19,099
From which is to be deducted the number of "Bond" shown by the Census of 1857 ; viz.....	3,008
	16,091
Leaving decrease of Bond.....	16,091
And from this being deducted as above.....	5,817
	10,274
There remains as the number of "other free persons" who } have left the Colony.....	10,274

It is, I submit, quite evident that there has been a very large emigration of that class of persons from this Island, and not of the Immigrants.

5. With regard to any *pecuniary* loss sustained by this Colony through the re-emigration of Immigrants introduced at the public expense, I have to submit that the amount collected as repayment of passage-money from such persons *actually leaving* the Colony amounts, within the two periods at which a Census was taken, to £2640;* and that five Emigrants ships, containing 1334 Immigrants, (included in the above calculations), and I believe a further number, have within these periods been sent out at the entire cost of the British Government, in consideration of this being a penal Colony.

Considering these facts, I submit that the pecuniary loss to this Colony from the re-emigration of Immigrants cannot have been great; and that, were it possible to make an exact calculation, it might be found that there had been no pecuniary loss whatever.

These deductions may tend to show the incorrectness of the belief frequently entertained, that the money expended by this Colony for Immigration has been thrown away, and that the Immigrants have been brought out at the cost of this Island for the benefit of Victoria; and thus demonstrate how easily the public may adopt erroneous conclusions upon subjects of the utmost general importance, and which their interest requires should be carefully examined.

It is further to be considered that, though I have stated the sums received from Immigrants actually leaving the Colony as £2640, yet the amount obtained by this office under various forms from Immigrants after arrival in part repayment of passage-money amounts, to the 31st March, to £7982;† and the sums paid by the Public as deposits for Bounty Tickets, or otherwise for the introduction of Immigrants, to £16,524,‡ making a total of £24,542; and if from this is deducted in round numbers £10,000 for rent, maintenance of Immigrants,§ hospital charges,§ transport in the Colony,§ aid to Immigration Societies, and other expenses under the various systems of Immigration, and £7133 for establishment and occasional expenses, there remains about £7409 to be appropriated to the payment of passages or set against any supposed loss to the Public Funds by re-emigration; and I may observe that, in estimating the cost of Immigration, or any believed loss, it is very usual to overlook the contributions thus made by the introducers of labour, and by Immigrants themselves, and to regard the whole outlay as borne by the ordinary Public Funds.

It is, indeed, surprising that persons living in the Colony, and surrounded by evidences, can question or deny, as is found to be the case, the very presence of the Immigrants,—though, indeed, the full amount of progress made could scarcely have been anticipated by the most sanguine, and may not be clearly perceived without consideration. One thing, however, is so evident that it might be thought it could not escape the observation of the most indifferent; viz., the great increase which has taken place throughout the Colony with regard to the number of married persons and children, proving a great and most important change in the description and habits of the population. The foundation has been effectually established of such a population as it has been the great object of the Colonists to substitute for that of former times; and, without entering upon points beyond the question immediately at issue, I may safely submit that the Colony has received, and retained, full value for the expenditure.

The disposition of the labouring class to leave the Colony has, for the present, diminished; and, with reference to the extent to which Immigrants remain in this Colony, I must beg to bring particularly to notice the check which has certainly been exercised upon the disposition to quit it by the boarding of ships departing by this Department, in order to discover Immigrants attempting clandestinely to leave the Island.

On the 26th February last, I reported my conviction that a system existed by which Immigrants were secretly conveyed from the Colony without making

* Further collections as repayments are stated below.

† After allowing for £787 payments returned to individuals on the relinquishment of the Indenture System, &c.

‡ After allowing for £4309 returned to individuals on account of Bounty Tickets not used, &c.

§ These charges chiefly for Immigrants through the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners,

repayment. The vessel alluded to was the *Don Pedro* of this Port; and having recently received information that certain persons not on the passenger list, and who the description satisfied me were Immigrants, had sailed by her for Melbourne, I forwarded the requisite information to the Immigration Agent of Victoria by the steamer, with a request for his assistance; and the persons alluded to, as well as others, having been found on board the *Don Pedro* on arrival, the Master became liable to a prosecution under the Passenger Act, which, I trust, will have a salutary effect, though I have not yet heard the result.

6. Under my instructions to report upon the demand for labour, I beg particularly to advert to the scarcity of female servants.

For several years past I have taken every opportunity of submitting to notice the great importance of considering and adopting measures for introducing an adequate number of suitable Female Immigrants. The scarcity has gone on increasing: it is now serious, and if not remedied will shortly become a great social evil.

Women are continually withdrawn from service by marriage, by entering into business, or by leaving the Colony; and the comfort of many families, and much valuable time, are sacrificed from the scarcity of servants, and the consequences of it, while the rate of wages—from £20 to £30 per annum—which is higher than at any previous period, forms an expenditure oppressive to most persons, and which some, who would employ servants on more moderate terms, are unable to incur.

During the year 1856, three hundred and fifty Blank Bounty Tickets were issued for the introduction of that number of young women from Shetland, or elsewhere in Scotland,—though it was feared at the time that the improved condition of the people would render them indisposed to emigrate. This has proved to be the case, and few or none will be obtained upon those tickets, though the demand is greater than when they were issued.

Five hundred Female Domestic Servants might certainly be introduced into the Colony within the next two or three months, with great advantage to the public and to themselves.

The further, or the annual, number which would be requisite to supply the demand must be considerable, though it is impossible now to determine it with certainty.

There is also a demand for Male Domestic Servants, useful Farm Labourers, and Miners.

In almost every pursuit the high rate of labour forms a restriction upon the employment of it. It is cheaper to import various articles of ordinary use than to manufacture them; and persons are deterred from engaging in building and improvements by the great expense attending them.

The Immigration Agent at Launceston reports that ploughmen have recently been engaged at the rate of £40 to £45 per annum, but that three or four who held out for the latter sum are left without engagements. Male domestic servants at £40, and female servants £20 to £25. He adds, "I think many single female servants would meet employment at £20 a year, but not beyond that amount; and that farm servants in a month's time would not obtain more than £25 to £30 a year. Agriculturists cannot afford higher wages. The demand is great for servants; but the high rate of wages induces most to dispense with the employment of hands from whom no prospect of gain can be expected."

7. Particular Reports having been submitted as requisite during the half-year, it does not appear necessary further to occupy your attention on the present occasion.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

JOHN D. LOCH, *Immigration Agent.*

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

No. 2.

STATEMENT of the NATIVE COUNTRIES and RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS of EMIGRANTS introduced into Tasmania, during the Half-year ending 30th June, 1857.
Under the Bounty Regulations.

	Married.		Single.		Children.		Total Souls.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
England	59	61	100	97	59	58	434
Scotland	51	52	110	67	52	41	373
Ireland	18	22	95	74	22	29	260
Other Countries .....	..	1	..	..	1	..	2
<i>Totals</i>	128	136	305	238	134	128	1069
Protestants	112	117	216	172	110	102	829
Roman Catholics	16	19	88	66	24	26	239
Other Religions .....	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
<i>Totals</i>	128	136	305	238	134	128	1069

JOHN D. LOCH, *Immigration Agent.*

No. 3.

CONDITION of the BOUNTY IMMIGRATION SYSTEM under the Regulations of the 24th January, 1854, up to the 30th June, 1857.

	ON DEPOSIT.		BLANK TICKETS.			
	Family Tickets.	Single Tickets.	FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.		FROM GERMANY.	
			Family Tickets.	Single Tickets.	Family Tickets.	Single Tickets.
Issued	891	1329	124	200	100	200
Less certified for payment—						
United Kingdom... <small>Fam. Tick. Sing. Tick.</small> 694 .. 999	725	1025	123	194	100	198
Germany .....							31 .. 26
Cancelled	100	144	—	1	—	2
Overdue	66	160	1	5	—	—
Outstanding	—	—	—	—	—	—

Liability for return of Deposits on 66 Family and 159 Single Tickets..... £807

JOHN D. LOCH, *Immigration Agent.*

No. 4.

CONDITION of the BOUNTY IMMIGRATION SYSTEM under the Regulations of the 1st March, 1856, up to the 30th June, 1857.

	ON DEPOSIT.		BLANK TICKETS.	
	Family Tickets.	Single Tickets.	FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.	
			Family Tickets.	Single Tickets.
Issued	536	1194	26	500
Less certified for payment	272	436	4	98
Cancelled	15	43	—	—
Outstanding	249	715	22	402

JOHN D. LOCH, *Immigration Agent.*

These Regulations were suspended by those of the 1st July, 1856.

No. 5.

*CONDITION of the BOUNTY IMMIGRATION SYSTEM under the Regulations of the
1st July, 1856, up to the 30th June, 1857.*

	ON DEPOSIT.		
	<i>Family Tickets.</i>	<i>Man & Wife Tickets.</i>	<i>Single Tickets.</i>
Issued	91	11	173
Less certified for payment	8	3	8
— cancelled	1	1	3
Outstanding	82	7	162

JOHN D. LOCH, *Immigration Agent.*

No. 6.

*OCCUPATIONS of the Male Immigrants introduced during the Half-year ending
30th June, 1857.*

OCCUPATION.	MARRIED.	SINGLE.	TOTAL.
Agricultural Labourers	85	207	292
Boot and Shoemakers	2	3	5
Butchers	2	7	9
Bricklayers	1	..	1
Brickmakers	2	..	2
Blacksmiths	2	5	7
Boatmen .....	..	1	1
Carters .....	..	2	2
Coachmen	1	1	2
Carpenters	3	4	7
Coach-makers .....	..	1	1
Coach Painters	2	..	2
Dairymen .....	..	1	1
Domestic Servants	2	6	8
Gardeners	6	5	11
Grooms .....	..	7	7
Gas-fitters	1	..	1
Herdsmen .....	..	5	5
Hairdressers .....	..	1	1
Labourers	7	26	33
Millers .....	..	5	5
Masons (Stone)	2	4	6
Miners (Coal)	5	5	10
Shopmen .....	..	1	1
Storemen .....	..	1	1
Ship and Boat Builders	1	..	1
Shepherds	2	4	6
Tailors	1	..	1
Tanners	1	1	2
Wheelwrights .....	..	2	2
<i>Totals</i>	128	305	433

JOHN D. LOCH, *Immigration Agent.*

No. 7.

OCCUPATIONS of the Female Emigrants introduced during the Half-year ending 30th June, 1857.

OCCUPATIONS.	TOTAL.	OCCUPATIONS.	TOTAL.
		<i>Brought forward</i>	139
Bonnet-maker	1	House and Parlour Maid	1
Cooks	23	Housemaids	61
Cooks and Laundresses	2	Lady's-maid	1
Dressmaker	1	Laundresses	6
Dairy-maids	18	Milliner	1
Domestic Servants	65	Needlewomen	5
Farm Servants	25	Nursery-maids	23
Governesses or Teachers	2	Staymaker	1
Housekeepers	2		
<i>Carried forward</i>	139	<i>Total</i>	238

JOHN D. LOCH, *Immigration Agent.*

No. 8.

STATEMENT of Wages, and Demand for Labour.

TRADE OR CALLING.	WAGES PER DIEM.	WAGES PER ANNUM.	OBSERVATIONS.
Agricultural Labourers, single..	6s.	£25 to £35	In demand.
Ditto, married .....	..	£35 to £70.	Ditto, if without children.
Butchers	£1 per week, with keep, &c.	..	In demand.
Brass-founders	10s. to 12s.	..	No demand.
Bakers .....	..	£25 to £40	Ditto.
Brickmakers	7s. to 12s.	Or piece-work	Fair demand.
Bricklayers	8s. to 10s.	..	Ditto.
Blacksmiths	8s. to 12s.	..	Demand for country..
Carpenters	7s. to 12s.	..	Fair demand.
Cabinet-makers	8s. to 14s.	..	Ditto for 1st class workmen.
Cooks (professed) .....	..	£35 to £70	In demand.
Coopers	10s.	..	No demand.
Coach Builders	10s. to £1.	..	Ditto.
Engineers (working)	10s. to 15s.	..	Ditto.
Glaziers	8s. to 14s.	..	Demand at times, not at present.
Gardeners .....	..	£20 to £60	In demand.
		with board, &c.	
Grooms and Coachmen .....	..	£25 to £50	Ditto.
Harness-makers	£1 10s. per week, with board, &c.	..	No demand.
Hut-keepers .....	..	£25 to £30	Chiefly performed by women.
House Servants .....	..	£30 to £45	In demand.
Iron-founders	8s. to 12s.	..	Not much demand.
Labourers, Town	6s.	..	Ditto.
Ditto, Country	6s.	..	Ditto.
Masons	10s. to 12s.	..	Employment for steady men and good workmen.
Millwrights and Engineers	10s. to 14s.	..	No demand at present.
Millers	6s. to 9s., or 1s. 2d. per 100.	..	No demand..
Miners (Coal)	8s.	..	In demand.
Ploughmen .....	..	£30 to £40	Ditto.
Painters	8s. to 10s.	..	No demand.
Printers	6s. to 9s.	..	Fair demand.
Plasterers	10s. to 12s.	..	In demand.
Sawyers	12s. to £1, or 16s. per 100 feet	..	Fair demand.
Shoemakers	8s. to 14s.	..	Ditto.
Shipwrights	10s. to 15s.	..	Employment for Boat-builders.
Shepherds .....	..	£30 to £45	Fair demand.
Stock-keepers .....	..	£30 to £40	Ditto.
Saddlers	£1 10s. per week, with board, &c., or 9s. without.	..	No great demand.
Tailors	10s. to 15s.	..	Demand in winter.
Tanners	7s. to 9s.	..	No demand.
Tin-plate-workers	8s. to 10s.	..	Ditto.
Upholsterers	8s. to 12s.	..	Demand uncertain.
Watchmakers	10s. to £1	..	No demand.
Wheelwrights	9s. to 13s.	..	Employment for good workmen, especially in the Country.
White-smiths	8s. to 10s.	..	No demand.
Female Domestic Servants .....	..	£18 to £30	

JOHN D. LOCH, *Immigration Agent.*