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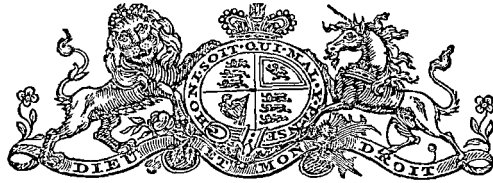
1856.

T A S M A N I A.

M E M O R A N D U M.

ADJUSTMENT OF THE SALARIES OF PUBLIC SERVANTS.

Presented to the House, and ordered to be printed, 9 December, 1856.



MEMORANDUM respecting the adjustment of the Salaries of Public Servants for the year 1857, submitted for consideration of the Governor in Executive Council, and approved of on 21st November, 1856.

A CONSIDERABLE reduction in the price of the necessaries of life having taken place since the temporary augmentation of the Salaries of Government Employés, and it appearing improbable that any considerable change will again occur in the cost of living in the Colony, it seems that the time has now arrived when a final adjustment of the Salaries of Public Servants should be effected, with the view of reducing the Expenditure as far as may be practicable, consistently with the maintenance of efficiency in the various Public Departments.

Simply to withdraw the temporary aid, and thus to reduce the Salaries to their original level, would be, I think, unjust to Officers of the lower grades, who would obviously, in many cases, be unable to subsist on the Salaries which they received previous to the year 1852; and it is to be feared that such an indiscriminate reduction would, if attempted, seriously injure the interests of the Public, by compelling many of its most valuable Servants to quit their present employment for more lucrative pursuits, or by driving them into pecuniary difficulties from which they would be unable to extricate themselves.

I propose, therefore, that in framing the Estimates for 1857 the following plan be adopted.

The temporary increase to be abolished, and the Salaries to be permanently fixed as follows:—

In all cases where the fixed Salary of an Officer is not less than £400 per annum, or where the existing temporary aid is $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. only, the fixed pay to remain as at present.

Clerks to be paid at the following rates:—

Fourth Class, £100 per annum.

Third Class to commence at £120 per annum, and to increase annually £10 to £180.

Second Class to commence at £180 per annum, and to increase annually £10 to £280.

First Class to commence at £280 per annum, and to increase annually £10 to £400.

Police Magistrates to be all placed on the same footing, and to receive £300 per annum (without house allowance), with augmentations, as at present, of £50 at the expiration of each of two successive periods of five years. Those who receive more fixed pay at present to be allowed to continue in receipt of the excess as a personal allowance: those in the Country to discharge, without additional pay, the duties of Deputy Commissioners of Courts of Requests and Deputy Chairmen of Quarter Sessions.

Clergymen who receive at present £30 per annum in lieu of house to be allowed £60 in future.

Other Salaries not referred to above, and but few in number, to be dealt with specially in the same proportion.

All increases for length of service to be retrospective.

With regard to Clerks, I think that the Fourth Class should include a certain number of the juniors in each Department, according to circumstances; and that all junior Clerks entering the Service should remain in that Class for twelve months on probation; after which, if reported competent and attentive by the head of the Department in which they are serving, they should be eligible for the third Class on a vacancy occurring.

W. C.

15th September, 1856.

MEMORANDUM.

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