

(No. 78.)



1863.

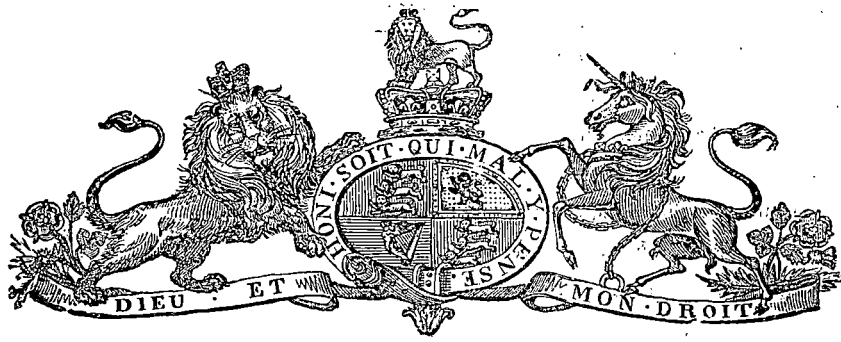
[SECOND SESSION.]

T A S M A N I A.

P O R T S.

REPORT FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE.

Brought up by Mr. Davies, and ordered by the House to be printed,
21 August, 1863.



REPORT from the Select Committee appointed to enquire into the operation and results of the Acts of Parliament which regulate the management and control of the Ports of Hobart Town and Launceston.

THURSDAY, 25 JUNE, 1863.

Resolved, That a Select Committee appointed at the late Session of Parliament to enquire into the operation and results of the Acts of Parliament which regulate the management and control of the Ports of Hobart Town and Launceston, with power to send for persons and papers, be re-appointed for similar purposes with like powers.

Resolved, That leave be granted for the appointment of more than Seven Members.

Then the following Members were nominated to be of the said Committee:—

Mr. Chapman.
Mr. Allison.
Mr. Balfe.
Mr. Davies.
Mr. Lette.
Mr. Rose.
Mr. Haggitt.
Mr. Murray, (*Mover.*)

PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEE.

- No. 1. 30 June, 1863. *Present.*—Mr. Murray, Mr. Balfe, Mr. Allison, Mr. Davies, Mr. Lette, and Mr. Chapman.
- No. 2. 3 July, 1863. *Present.*—Mr. Murray, Mr. Rose, Mr. Lette, Mr. Davies, and Mr. Chapman.
- No. 3. 7 July, 1863. *Present.*—Mr. Balfe, Mr. Lette, Mr. Rose, Mr. Haggitt, Mr. Davies, and Mr. Murray.
- No. 4. 9 July, 1863. *Present.*—Mr. Davies, Mr. Rose, Mr. Lette, Mr. Murray, and Mr. Balfe.
- No. 5. 29 July, 1863. *Present.*—Mr. Chapman, Mr. Murray, Mr. Davies, Mr. Lette, and Mr. Haggitt.
- No. 6. 31 July, 1863. *Present.*—Mr. Haggitt, Mr. Lette, Mr. Rose, Mr. Murray, Mr. Chapman, and Mr. Davies.
- No. 7. 4 August, 1863. *Present.*—Mr. Davies, Mr. Rose, Mr. Murray, Mr. Balfe, Mr. Lette, and Mr. Haggitt.
- No. 8. 7 August, 1863. *Present.*—Mr. Haggitt, Mr. Rose, Mr. Lette, and Mr. Murray.
- No. 9. 13 August, 1863. *Present.*—Mr. Murray, Mr. Haggitt, and Mr. Lette.
- No. 10. 20 August, 1863. *Present.*—Mr. Rose, Mr. Lette, Mr. Murray, and Mr. Davies.
- No. 11. 21 August, 1863. *Present.*—Mr. Rose, Mr. Haggitt, Mr. Lette, Mr. Murray, and Mr. Davies.
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WITNESSES EXAMINED BY PRINTED QUERIES.

1. Captain Woods, of Steamer.
2. W. Williams, Esq., Merchant.
3. Mr. E. Ackerman, ditto.
4. W. Johnstone, Esq., ditto.
5. Henry Dowling, Esq., J.P.
6. John Crookes, Esq., Merchant.
7. E. P. Tregurtha, Esq., Master Mariner.
8. C. T. Weetman, Esq., Merchant.
9. E. L. Ditcham, Esq., ditto.
10. James Aikenhead, Esq., J.P.
11. M. Gaunt, Esq., J.P.
12. George Fisher, Esq., Master Mariner.
13. Marine Board, Launceston.

R E P O R T.

THE Select Committee appointed to enquire into the operation and results of the Acts of Parliament which regulate the management and control of the Ports of Hobart Town and Launceston, having completed their labours, beg now to present their Report to your Honorable House.

Upon one of the subjects remitted for their consideration, namely, that of Light Houses, your Committee reported on the 4th August, 1863; and they have now to complete their Report on the other portions of the subject.

Your Committee are of opinion that it inexpedient that the affairs of the Launceston Port should be conducted by the Marine Board as at present constituted, and that a re-construction of that Board should be at once made by the Government.

That the 27th Clause of the Marine Board Act shall not apply to Launceston, but that the Marine Board of that Port should be composed of only three Wardens, of which the Mayor and Collector of Customs at Launceston should be Honorary *ex officio* Members; the third Member being appointed by the Governor, with an adequate salary.

That this Member should be called the Master Warden, and should either be an Officer of the Royal Navy, or duly qualified as a Master Mariner, and be required to perform the duties of Port Officer and Harbour Master.

That no alteration should be made in the present mode of collecting the Dues by the Customs Department.

The opinions which your Committee have formed on these subjects have been based on the results of an analysis of the expressed opinions of twelve Merchants and others deeply interested in the commerce of the Northern Ports; and your Committee confidently submit the result of their labours for the consideration of your Honorable House.

Having taken no evidence as to the working of the Hobart Town Marine Board, but having recommended that the duties of all the Members of the Launceston Marine Board with the exception of the Master Warden should be Honorary, your Committee think that it would be invidious were they not to express an opinion that the rule should be applied to the Wardens of the Hobart Town Marine Board; more especially as, in the case of the Hospital, the Queen's Asylum, the Hospital for the Insane, and other Public Institutions, all the Members of the Boards are Honorary.

JOHN DAVIES, *Chairman.*

Committee Room, 21st August, 1863.