

1882.

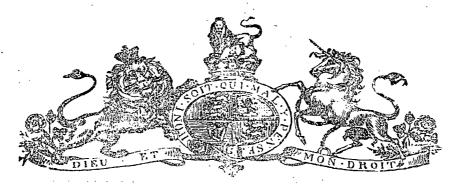
TASMANIA.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

TASMANIAN MAIN LINE RAILWAY:

TREASURY CORRESPONDENCE.

Laid upon the Table by the Colonial Treasurer, and ordered by the House to be printed, July 12, 1882.



TREASURY CORRESPONDENCE.

GUARANTEED INTEREST.

Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited, General Manager's Office, Hobart, 14th January, 1882.

SIR.

I have the honor to forward you herewith an Abstract of the Traffic Receipts and Expenditure of the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited, so far as it can be made up in this Colony, for the quarter ending the 31st December, 1881.

In collating the accounts for the four quarters of last year, you will perceive that for the first time the receipts and expenditure have closely approximated: an equilibrium which I have been steadily endeavouring to obtain; and I trust that no succeeding year will show a deficiency in the working account.

This satisfactory result has not been obtained at the expense of the line or rolling stock, since the renewals of permanent way materials have been exceptionally heavy, and some additional rolling stock has been constructed to replace what had gone out of use, and provide the necessary equipment for the line. A further expenditure has been made on some much-needed extra accommodation to provide for the necessary traffic at various stations and road crossings; and the railway may now, I venture to state, be pronounced in a satisfactory condition, the renewals of each description being as liberal as is necessary.

The total receipts for the year amount to £54,793 6s. 5d., as compared with £50,179 18s. 2d. in 1880, and £38,743 7s. 8d. in 1877. The increase is wholly in the passengers' department, it seeming impossible to increase the goods' traffic in a similar ratio, notwithstanding the excessive lowness of the rates, and my desire to afford freighters every reasonable accommodation.

There being still a debit of loss to the revenue account, the whole guaranteed interest becomes payable: I have, therefore, the honor to enclose an account for £8125, the payment of which, in due course, will greatly oblige.

In addressing your predecessors in office on the occasion of sending in the preceding six quarterly returns, I have alluded to the questions at issue between the Government and the Company—the settlement of which has been delayed by the Government,—and have expressed the earnest desire of the Company for a final arrangement, the amount which they claim being very considerable, and their interests having greatly suffered by the delay.

The Company's Solicitors inform me that they are unable to proceed with the suits, or with an adjustment of the very long-pending disputes, without the consent of the Government; and therefore I have again to state that this quarterly account is rendered without prejudice to such legal questions at issue, and to express the earnest desire of the Company that a speedy settlement of them should be arrived at.

I have, &c.

C. H. GRANT, General Manager.

The Hon. J. S. Dodds, Colonial Treasurer.

THE GOVERNMENT OF TASMANIA Dr.

To THE TASMANIAN MAIN LINE RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Guaranteed Interest Department. 1881. To One full Quarter's Interest due as per Contract between the Government of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the full sum of £650,000 expended on the Construction of the Railway, as shown by previous accounts and vouchers in the possession of the Government— October 1 to December 31. One full Quarter of guarantee of £32,500 per annum £8125 0 0

Amounting to Eight thousand one hundred and twenty-five Pounds sterling.

(Signature of Claimant)-The Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited, By their Attorney

£8125 0

Memo —This claim has reference to the Quarter mentioned only and is rendered without prejudice in anyway to the claims made in previous accounts sent to the Government and which still remain unsettled.

R. J. Ellis, Accountant.

RECEIVED from the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer the Sum of Eight thousand one hundred and twenty-five Pounds, being the amount of the above Account of Particulars: but such payment is made and received without prejudice to any further or other claims by or against the Government of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company under or arising out of the Contract between the Government and the Company.

> The Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited, By their Attorney-

C. H. GRANT.

C. H. GRANT.

s. d.

TASMANIAN MAIN LINE RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Accountant's Office, Hobart, January 14, 1882.

AN Abstract of Receipts and Expenditure on account of Traffic, &c. conveyed over the Tasmanian Main Line Railway for the Three Months ending December 31, 1881.

£	s.	đ.	Cr.	£.	٠.	d
34.969	14			~	٠.	٠.
•				9027	19	3
5042	16	5	Parcels	483	0	7
4210	2	2	Horses, Carriages, and Dogs	235	17	10
588	0	1	Excess Luggage	82	19	6
2011	18	2	Left Luggage	7	14	9
1000	7	8	Telegrams	56	17	10
820	19	0	Mails	748	5	. 0
	7	9	Goods	3269	4	. 2
984	7	6	Minerals	287	1	6
			Live Stock	420	11	4
			Rents and Sundries	89	12	10
				34,973	8	3
£49.682	12	10	4	49 682	19	10
	34,969 5042 4210 588 2011 1000 820 54 984	34,969 14 5042 16 4210 2 588 0 2011 18 1000 7 820 19 54 7 984 7	34,969 14 1 5042 16 5 4210 2 2 588 0 1 2011 18 2 1000 7 8 820 19 0 54 7 9 984 7 6	34,969 14 1 By Receipts—	34,969 14 1 By Receipts— Passengers 9027 5042 16 5 Parcels 483 4210 2 2 Horses, Carriages, and Dogs 235 588 0 1 Excess Luggage 82 2011 18 2 Left Luggage 7 1000 7 8 Telegrams 56 820 19 0 Mails 748 54 7 9 Goods 3269 984 7 6 Minerals 287 Live Stock 420 Rents and Sundries 89 Balance to next Quarter 34,973	34,969 14 1 By Receipts— Passengers 9027 19 5042 16 5 Parcels 483 0 4210 2 2 Horses, Carriages, and Dogs 235 17 588 0 1 Excess Luggage 82 19 2011 18 2 Left Luggage 7 14 1000 7 8 Telegrams 56 17 820 19 0 Mails 748 5 54 7 9 Goods 3269 4 984 7 6 Minerals 287 1 Live Stock 420 11 Rents and Sundries 89 12 Balance to next Quarter 34,973 8

C. H. GRANT, General Manager.

R. J. Ellis, Accountant.

MAIN LINE RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

(Compiled at the Treasury from Manager's certified Accounts.)

HEAD.	Quarter ending 31 March,	Quarter ending 30 June.	Quarter ending 30 September.	Quarter ending 31 December.	Total for the Year.
1876. Passengers Parcels, &c. Telegraphs Goods Minerals Live Stock Rents Mails	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
		7020 5 11	4637 2 11	6878 13 4	£18,536 2 2
1877. Passengers, No. 69,621 Parcels, &c Telegraphs Goods Minerals Live Stock Rents Mails	8081 6 10 402 6 2 21 17 5 2649 16 7 241 16 1 56 10 0 	5069 13 9 512 7 10 24 1 11 2230 9 10 632 17 9 33 8 4 335 16 8	4460 0 8 541 19 3 23 15 4 2100 0 2 61 9 11 709 17 2 58 12 0 503 15 0	6164 7 2 542 9 1 25 16 3 2268 12 10 113 7 4 308 6 4 64 15 0 503 15 0	
	11,453 13 1	8838 16 1	8459 9 6	9991 9 0	£38,743 7 8
Passengers, No. 89,102 Parcels, &c Telegraphs Goods Minerals Live Stock Rents Mails	8847 9 8 721 9 0 54 7 10 3371 15 10 165 4 3 576 7 8 79 11 0 503 15 0	5943 0 8 633 13 10 35 11 11 2574 7 5 314 17 2 747 14 4 68 16 0 505 1 8	4833 13 6 518 12 9 29 18 7 1784 0 0 420 9 3 731 2 4 49 0 0 { 718 5 0} 141 13 4}	6572 7 0 579 4 10 31 18 10 2984 15 9 290 2 10 481 10 11 65 16 0 718 5 0	
· -	14,320 0 3	10,823 3 0	9226 14 9	11,724 1 2	£46,093 19 2
Passengers, No. 157,470 Parcels, &c. Telegraphs Mails Goods Minerals Live Stock Rents.	9780 3 10 722 12 4 42 12 9 718 5 0 3391 11 1 273 11 4 557 7 8 25 0 0	6590 10 5 602 16 5 28 1 7 718 5 0 3152 10 9 347 5 2 769 0 6 50 10 0	4988 4 8 521 18 10 24 12 11 718 5 0 2337 10 0 480 18 0 728 2 3 45 2 0	7070 10 9 621 13 11 31 2 1 718 5 0 2745 17 1 380 1 7 406 14 9 138 6 6	
	15,511 4 0	12,258 19 10	9844 13 8	12,112 11 8	£49,727 9 2
1880. Passengers, No. 163,454 Parcels Horses, Carriages, & Dogs Excess of Luggage Left Luggage Telegrams. Mails Goods Minerals Live Stock Rents and Sundries	9427 18 6 430 3 7 247 1 6 76 4 4 11 14 6 46 10 6 718 5 0 3598 11 8 276 0 0 558 5 8 125 13 0	5952 4 0 425 16 4 135 18 3 59 10 9 6 13 8 35 1 6 718 5 0 3311 15 8 339 19 6 525 4 6 71 14 7	4944 15 10 . 410 17 11 114 19 0 67 18 11 5 7 6 29 16 4 718 5 0 2402 0 0 427 1 6 522 14 4 59 2 6	7867 17 1 419 0 7 158 10 5 58 18 6 6 10 7 37 13 7 718 5 0 3221 7 3 274 6 4 513 2 2 102 15 10	
	15,516 8 3	11,582 3 9	9702 18 10	13,378 7 4	£50,179 18 2
1881. Passengers, No. 179,106 Parcels Horses, Carriages, & Dogs Excess of Luggage Left Luggage Telegrams Mails Goods 23,558 tons Live Stock Rents and Sundries	10,554 2 7 464 5 5 293 16 8 92 0 2 7 1 4 51 14 2 868 5 0 3827 15 5 226 5 5 323 19 9 134 0 10	6873 11 5 515 12 8 173 3 4 66 13 9 7 2 5 45 18 3 748 5 0 3236 18 4 359 12 5 562 18 4 116 7 2	6047 3 9 447 3 8 108 15 10 47 5 1 4 14 11 42 3 10 718 5 0 2200 13 8 282 16 6 531 17 10 103 11 11	9027 19 3 483 0 7 235 17 10 82 19 6 7 14 9 56 17 10 748 5 0 3269 4 2 287 1 6 420 11 4 89 12 10	
					

Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited, General Manager's Office, Hobart, 14th April, 1882.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward you herewith an Abstract of the Receipts and Expenditure of the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited, for the quarter ending the 31st March last, so far as it can be made up in this Colony.

You will notice that the expenses of conducting the traffic exceeds the receipts by a small sum only, and that the business done compares favourably with that of the corresponding quarter of any previous year, being £82 19s. 4d. in excess of the receipts of the first quarter of 1881; the deficiency in the "Goods" Traffic having arisen from an important reduction on the charges for freight of agricultural produce, &c., made last year by the Government of Victoria. The works of the line have been well maintained, and are in a satisfactory condition.

An account is enclosed for the full quarter's guaranteed interest, amounting to Eight thousand one hundred and twenty-five Pounds, which I shall be obliged by your directing to be paid, in accordance with the terms of the Contract.

I regret to have again to make the usual remark that this account is rendered without prejudice to the questions in issue between the Government and the Company, and which the Company have for years past been exceedingly anxious to have adjusted. I sincerely trust that this is the last occasion on which I may have to allude to these claims, made by the Company on strictly equitable considerations; and which they have forborne to push forward in the Courts of Law, because of the amicable adjustment so long promised by the Government.

I have, &c.

C. H. GRANT.

The Hon. J. S. Dodds, Colonial Treasurer.

TASMANIAN MAIN LINE RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Accountant's Office, Hobart, April 14, 1882.

AN ABSTRACT of Receipts and Expenditure on account of Traffic, &c. conveyed over the Tasmanian Main Line Railway for the Three Months ending March 31, 1882.

Dr. To Balance from last Quarter			d. 3	Cr. By Receipts—	£	ε.	d
Expenditure—	01,010	O	. •	Passengers	10,636	5	1
Permanent Way	7904	11	4	Parcels	499		-
Locomotive Power	3450		_	Horses, Carriages, and Dogs		_	
Carriages and Wagons	927			Excess Luggage	97		
Traffic Expenses	1880			Left ditto	10	-	
General Charges, London	800			Telegrams	69	_	
Ditto, Tasmania	750	10	Ó	Mails	718	5	Č
Miscellaneous Expenses	234	4	7	Goods	3661	11	5
Launceston & Western Railway Toll	1009	7	6	Minerals	178	4	3
J	,			Live Stock	564	8	10
				Rents and Sundries	192	8	10
				Balance to next Quarter	34,990	10	2
•	~				<u> </u>		
:	£51,931	11	0		£51,931	11	(
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	=:==					

C. H. GRANT, General Manager.

R. J. ELLIS, Accountant.

THE GOVERNMENT OF TASMANIA Dr.

To THE TASMANIAN MAIN LINE RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

1882.

Guaranteed Interest Department.

e e d

January 1 to March 31.

To One full Quarter's Interest due as per Contract between the Government of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the full sum of £650,000 expended on the Construction of the Railway, as shown by previous accounts and vouchers in the possession of the Government—

One full Quarter of guarantee of £32,500 per annum.....

£8125 0 0

Amounting to Eight thousand one hundred and twenty-five Pounds sterling.

(Signature of Claimant) -For the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited,

£8125 0 0

C. H. GRANT.

Memo.—This claim has reference to the Quarter mentioned only and is rendered without prejudice in any way to the claims made in previous accounts sent to the Government and which still remain unsettled.

R. J. Ellis, Accountant.

RECEIVED from the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer the sum of Eight thousand one hundred and twenty-five Pounds, being the amount of the above Account of Particulars.

For the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited,

C. H. GRANT.

Witness to the payment—J. Bennison. 29 4 82.

(Treasury Voucher, No. 1218.)

Colonial Treasury, Hobart, 29th April, 1882.

RECEIVED from the Colonial Treasury the sum of Eight thousand one hundred and twenty-five Pounds, being the amount of attached account for one quarter's guaranteed interest from 1 January to 31 March, 1882: but such payment is made and received without prejudice to any further or other claim by or against the Government of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company under or arising out of the Contract between the Government and the Company.

For the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited,

C. H. GRANT.

£8125 0 0

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

COLONIAL Auditor's Report on the Accounts of the Tasmanian Main Line Railway for the Quarterly periods ending respectively 30th September and 31st December, 1881.

Audit Office, Hobart, 29th May, 1882.

SIR.

In accordance with the provision of the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Contract, the books and accounts of the Company have been duly examined for the quarterly periods ending respectively 30th September and 31st December, 1881, and with respect to the same I have now the honor to report as follows:—

Accounts for Quarterly periods ending 30th September and 31st December, 1881. (Table A.)

The accounts for the above periods have been carefully examined, and have been found to be correctly stated; and with the exception of an unimportant item, which will be rectified in the next quarter, the details are fairly carried to appropriate heads of Revenue and Expenditure. With the exception of the London Office Expenses for the current quarter, which will be referred to more particularly, the various items are supported by properly accredited vouchers.

Vouchers and statements of the actual London Office Expenses for the year 1880, amounting to £3400 7s. 8d., have been submitted for examination, and have been found to be correct.

The estimated sums already taken to account for 1880 under this head only amounts to £3200.

The difference, £200 7s. 8d., consequently has been adjusted and brought to account in the quarter ending 31st December, 1881; thus—Estimated London Office Expenses for quarter ending 31st December, 1881, £800; adjustment on account of London Office Expenses for the year ending 31st December, 1880, £200 7s. 8d.: total, £1000 7s. 8d.

The estimated sums which still remain to be adjusted are as follows:-

London Office Expenses, 1881—Quarter ending 31st March Ditto ditto, 30th June Ditto ditto, 30th September	800 800
Ditto ditto, 31st December Total	

It will be seen from the accompanying Tables A. and B. that the Working Expenses for the quarter ending 30th September and 31st December, 1881, respectively, are in excess of the receipts by the amounts £3 5s. 4d. and £3 14s. 2d. respectively. This is an index of the fact to which attention has been drawn in the last six months' Report, dated 6th September, 1881, that, in order to save showing a profit in any one quarter, when there is really a working loss upon the year as a whole, the Company have been forced to regulate the issue of the costly stores to each Department each quarter in exact relation to the quarterly fluctuation of receipts.

As already stated, it would seem difficult to object to the method so long as the working expenses within a yearly period seem reasonable in relation to the work done as indicated by the number of train miles run. This is the true explanation why the cost of working for quarter ending 30th September, 1881, is 2s. 9.81d. per train mile, while it rises relative to work done to 3s. 8.3d. per train mile for the quarter ending 31st December, 1881. The average for the year 1881, however, is creditably low; viz.—Train miles 299,839; working expenses, £54,815 19s. 4d.; ditto per train mile, 3s. 7.8d.; ditto per mile worked, £412: train miles per mile worked, 2254.

These results, as compared with similar undertakings of a narrow gauge upon other Australian railways, show that upon the whole year due economy has been observed.

Government Guarantee.

The working expenses for both quarters named being slightly in excess of receipts, the maximum guarantee may be claimed for each quarter, that is, £8125.

The following is a summary of the amounts due and advanced in respect of guarantee up to the present time, as recognised by the Government:—

Dr.	£	s.	d.	£	S	d
To Government guarantee due prior to 1st July, 1881	147,530					
Ditto for six months ending 31st December	16,250	0	0			
Interest on deferred payments due	3063	3	4			
Balance over-advanced to date	2075	13	10			
				168,919	15 1	0
•					===	=
(C+	œ	~	J			
Cr.	£	s.	d.			
	£	s.	d.			
By cash advanced to Company on account of guarantee prior	£ 149,541		***			
By cash advanced to Company on account of guarantee prior to 1st July, 1881		13	4			
By cash advanced to Company on account of guarantee prior to 1st July, 1881	149,541	13	4			
By cash advanced to Company on account of guarantee prior to 1st July, 1881	149,541 16,250	13	4	168,919	15 1	0

General.

The following is a statement of the aggregate of train mileage, receipts, working expenses, &c. for the period commencing from the opening of the line according to contract, and ending 31st December, 1881:—

*Total train mileage	1,394,535		
	£	s.	d.
Total traffic receipts	244,713	10	8
Ditto working expenses			
Ditto loss in working	25,691	14	5

As usual, I have to acknowledge that the Officers of the Company most courteously gave every facility for the proper and thorough investigation of the accounts.

I have, &c.

W. LOVETT, Colonial Auditor.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

^{*} Note.—Does not include train mileage prior to 1st Januaay, 1877.

Table A.

ABSTRACT of Traffic Receipts and Expenditure for Quarterly periods ending respectively 30th September and 31st December, 1881.

Receipts.							Expend	iture.									
	Quarter 30th Sep			Quarter 31st Dec				Quarter 30th Sep			Quarter 31st Dec						
Coaching traffic	£ 7415		1	10,642	14	9	Maintenance of permanent	£	s.			8.					
Goods, live stock, &c Miscellaneous	3015 103					0 10	Locomotive power	2518 3194 406	7	5 2 0	4210		2				
:	10,534	12	0	14,709	4	7	Traffic expenses	1869 756 7		10 5 0		19					
Balance, loss	3	5	4	. 3	14	2	Tolls and compensation, L. and W. Railway * London office expenses	984 800		6 0		7 7	8				
	10,537	17	4	14,712	18	9		10,537	17	4	14,712	18	ξ				

[•] Estimated item, subject to amendment in subsequent quarters, in accordance with Clause 9 of Contract.

W. LOVETT, Colonial Auditor.

Hobart, 29th May, 1882.

Table B.

ABSTRACT of Receipts and Expenditure for the various Quarterly periods since the opening of the Line according to Contract.

QUARTER ENDING.		MILE	s.	TRAFFIC	REC	EIPTS.	WORKING	COST.		BALAN	ICE.	GOVERNMENT	GUARANTE)
COMILIN ENDING.	Open.	Worked	Train.	RECEIPTS,	Per Mile.	Per Train Mile.	EXPENSES.	Per Mile.	Per Train Mile.	Profit.	Loss.	Due.	Advanced.
31 Dec. 1876 (portion only)				£ s. d. 5175 10 1	£ 	s. ā.	.€ s. d. 5978 10 10	£	sd.	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 803 0 9	£ s. d. 5416 13 4	£_s. d.
1877.													
31 March)	} .	(11,453 13 1		ļ	11,931 19 2]			528 6 1	8125 0 0	. ~
30 September	122	133	240,183	8838 16 1	291.3	3 2-71	11,697 8 6	367-1	.4 0.6	{	2858 12 5	8125 0 0	-
31 December			1 1	8459 9 6			12,433 17 4				3974 7 10	8125 0 0	_
			. `	9991 9 0	۲	1	(12,010 14 9)		(2627 5 3	8125 0 0	-
· 1878.				14,320 0 3	. '	,	(12,154 11 7	,		2165 8 8		5959 11 4	
30 June	lj		[10,964 16 4	}		13,807 6 4		1 1	, ,	2842 10 0	8125 0 0	54,166 13 4
30 September	122	133	265,757	9095 1 5	346·G	3 5-62	114,159 12 4	409.9	4 11 4	••	5074 10 11	8125 0 0	8125 0 0
81 December	•		}	11,724 1 2		1	14,404 12 10		`	••	2680 11 8	8125 0 0	8125 0 0
			·	11,724 1 2	ľ	1	(11,101 12 10	,		•• 	2000 11 8	0125 0 0	0120 0 0
1879. 31 March	ļ		,	15,511 4 0			(18,029 10 2				2518 6 2	8125 0 0	8125 0 0
30 June	11			12,258 19 10	:	ľ	12,132 18 3		•	 126 1 7		7998 18 5	8125 0 0
SO September	l > 122	133	292,284	9844 13 8	373-8	3 4.83	12,130 2 0	418 ·2	3 9.6		2285 8 4	8125 0 0	8125 0 0
31 December	[] -		[12,112 11 8			(13,333 9 8	 '	. [·	1220 18 `0	8125 0 0	8125 0 0
1880.	ľ		\ \.	1, ,	ĺ	İ	. ,	,					
31 March,	h			15,516 8 3)	1	(13,672 3 10)		1844 4 5	••	6280 15 7	. 6000 O D
80 June				11,582 3 9	Ì	1	11,771 0 4		1	••	188 16 7	8125 0 0	8125 0 0
30 September.,	122	133	296,472	9702 18 10	377-2	3 4.62	11,901 16 4	381.4	3 6.4	••	2198 17 6	8125 0 0	8125 0 0
31 December]			13,378 7 4)		13,381 12 0				3 4 8	-8125 0 0	8125 0 0
1881.						,						ţ	
31 March	h		75,304 (16,843 6 9	126.64	4 5.68	16,858 1 6	126-75	4 5 72		14 14 9	8125 0 0	8125 0 0
30 June			73,079	12,706 3 1	95.53	3 5.12	12,707 1 9	95.54	3 5.73	 .	Ó 18 8	8125 0 0	8125 0 0
30 September	122	133	74,794	10,534 12 0	79-21	2 9.80	10,537 17 4	79:23	2 9.81	••	3 5 4	8125 0 0	8125 0 0
31 December)		76,662	14,709 4 7	110.61	3 5.92	14,712 18 9	110-63	3 8.32	· ••	3 14 2	8125 0 0	8125 0 0
TOTALS		_	1,394,535	£244,713 10 8	<u> </u>		270,405 5 1	_	-	£4135 14 8	£29,827 9 1 £25,691 14 5	£163,780 18 8	£165,791 13 4
Inter	est on de	eferred pa	ntee due yments due.	EBIT,	163,780 3063	3 4 13 10	-	Guarantee paid	CREDIT. to dated payment	165,791	s. d. 1 13 4 3 2 6	·	1

Hobart, 29th May, 1882.

W. LOVETT, Colonial Auditor.

(Continuation of Paper No. 57, House of Assembly.)

Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited, General Manager's Office, Hobart, 14th July, 1882.

SIR

I HAVE the honor to forward you herewith an Abstract of the Traffic Receipts and Expenditure of the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited, so far as they can be made up in this Colony, for the quarter ending the 30th June last, which I trust you will consider satisfactory.

You will notice that the Receipts for the past quarter amounted to £14,316 19s. 4d., as compared with £12,706 3s. 1d. in the corresponding quarter of the previous year; thus showing a progressive increase since the Line was opened for traffic. On the other hand, the Expenses amount to £14,320 11s. 11d., being also increased, owing to the greater cost of maintenance of Permanent Way and Stations, and repairs and renewals of Rolling-stock, due to the length of time the Line has now been worked. The item of Sleepers is now attended with great expense, since the full average life of the first sleepers laid down has been attained, and is proved not to exceed 8 years.

The full quarter's interest, amounting to Eight thousand one hundred and twenty-five Pounds, is now payable, and therefore I enclose an account for the same. It is with much pleasure on this occasion I can allude to the questions at issue between the Government and the Company as being in a fair way for settlement, through your Government having agreed to an Arbitration of all matters in dispute; but pending such adjustment, I have still to remark that this account is rendered without prejudice to the existing claims of the Company.

I have, &c.

C. H. GRANT.

The Hon. J. S. Dodds, Colonial Treasurer.

TASMANIAN MAIN LINE RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Accountant's Office, Hobart, 14th July, 1882.

AN Abstract of Receipts and Expenditure on account of Traffic, &c. conveyed over the Tasmanian Main Line Railway for the Three Months ending June 30, 1882.

$D_{\mathbf{R}}$.	£	s.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
To Balance from last Quarter	34,990	10	2	By Receipts-			
Expenditure—	,			Passengers	8039	9	1
Permanent Way	5166	3	3	Parcels		17	3
Locomotive Power	3550	6	5	Horses, Carriages, and Dogs	182	18	11
Carriages and Wagons	893	9	4	Excess Luggage		5	10
Traffic Expenses	2133	11	0	Left ditto		0	3
General Charges, London	800	0	0	Telegrams	53	13	3
Ditto, Tasmania	743	16	10	Mails	718	5	0
Miscellaneous Expenses	23	17	7	Goods	3553	6	4
Launceston & Western Railway Toll.	1009	7	6	Minerals	277	6	0
·				Live Stock		15	8
				Rent and Sundries	129	1	9
				Balance to next Quarter	34,994	2	9
							_
1	E49,311	•2	1		£49,311	2	1
			_			===	_

C. H. GRANT, General Manager.

R. J. Ellis, Accountant.

THE GOVERNMENT OF TASMANIA Dr.

To THE TASMANIAN MAIN LINE RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

1882.

Guaranteed Interest Department.

E s. d

April 1st to June 30th.

To One full Quarter's Interest due as per Contract between the Government of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the full sum of £650,000 expended on the Construction of the Railway, as shown by previous accounts and vouchers in the possession of the Government—

One full Quarter of guarantee of £32,500 per annum.....

£8125 0 0

Amounting to Eight thousand one hundred and twenty-five Pounds sterling.

(Signature of Claimant)-For the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited,

£8125 0 0

C. H. GRANT.

Memo.—This claim has reference to the Quarter mentioned only, and is rendered without prejudice in any way to the claims made in previous accounts sent to the Government and which still remain unsettled.

R. J. Ellis, Accountant. 14 July, 1882.

RECEIVED from the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer the sum of Eight thousand one hundred and twenty-five Pounds, being the amount of the above Account of Particulars: but such payment is made and received without prejudice to any further or other claim by or against the Government of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company under or arising out of the Contract between the Government and the Company.

For the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited,

£8125 0 0

C. H. GRANT.

Witness to the payment—W. Benson.

(Continuation of Paper No. 57, House of Assembly.)

[Laid upon the Table by the Premier, and ordered to be printed, September 5, 1882.]

AUDITOR'S REPORT TO 30 JUNE, 1882.

Audit Office, Hobart, 21st August, 1882.

Sir.

In accordance with the provisions of the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Contract, the books and accounts of the Company, with regard to the quarterly periods ending March 31st, and June 30th, 1882, have been duly examined, and I have now the honor to submit the following Report:—

Accounts for Quarterly periods ending 31st March and 30th June, 1882.

The accounts for the above periods are correctly stated, and are fairly distributed under the various heads of Receipts and Expenditure. The unimportant item referred to in my last Report has been adjusted, and all other items, with the usual exception of the estimated London Office Expenses, have been supported by properly accredited vouchers.

. The following are the estimated sums which remain to be adjusted:-

London Office Expenses, 1881 Ditto, quarter ending 31st March, 1882 Ditto, quarter ending 30th June, 1882	£ 3200 800 800
TOTAL	£4800

From the accompanying Table it will be observed that there has been a loss on the quarter ending 31st March of £17 1s. 11d., and on the quarter ending 30th June of £3 12s. 7d.

Attention has been repeatedly drawn in former Reports to the fact that the Company have so distributed their charge of costly stores over the various quarterly periods for some time past, that they are enabled to approximate their expenditure to receipts, and thus avoid showing a profit. It is only fair to state, however, as I have before done, that the yearly expenses are reasonable, both with regard to the distribution of stores and to the total expenditure.

I take this opportunity of pointing out, in reply to certain statements which recently appeared in a public journal, that the Company's accounts undergo the most severe scrutiny by this Department, and no amount which should be charged against Construction could be allowed against Revenue.

It was stated "that though the receipts have increased from £38,743 in 1877 to £54,793 in 1881, Tasmania has still to pay its subsidy * * * * and would have to pay the amount were the receipts to rise to £100,000." This opinion was arrived at because "this manipulation had been affected by charging to Revenue the cost of a continuous construction to supply original defects that should have been charged to Capital."

It should be observed that although the receipts had increased by £16,050, the expenses had increased by £6084 only, or £10,000 less than receipts, the loss in 1881 being £22 12s. 11d. as compared with £9988 11s. 7d. in 1877. It would therefore be more correct to say that the improved receipts had saved the Company from loss to the extent of the improvement, not to suggest that the expenditure had been raised to balance them.

I again repeat that the distribution of stores is the only way in which the approximation of receipts to expenditure is achieved, and as the yearly result is so satisfactory as compared with all other colonial lines, the method can scarcely be objected to. Had works of Construction been unduly charged beyond those expenses for renewals and ballasting, which all railways charge against their Revenue account, this favourable result could not possibly have been arrived at.

I have thought it right to notice the statements referred to at some length, as I felt they reflected directly upon the vigilance of this department; and as there is no account which is examined and audited with more strict regard to detail and with more keen scrutiny than that of the Main Line Railway, I felt it my duty not to allow the remarks to pass unchallenged.

Government Guarantee.

The result of both quarters referred to having shown a loss, the full Guarantee for each (£8125) may be claimed.

The following is a summary of the amounts due and advanced in respect of Guarantee up to the present time, as recognized by the Government:—

₽t.	${f \pounds}$	s.	d.
To Government Guarantee due prior to 1st January, 1882	163,780	18	8
Ditto for six months ending 30th June, 1882	16,250	0	0
Interest on deferred payments due	3063	3	4
Balance over-advanced to date	2075	13	10
	£185,169	15	10
			
Or.			
	£	s.	d.
By cash advanced to Company on account of Guarantee prior to 1st January, 1882	£ 165, 7 91	13	4
By cash advanced to Company on account of Guarantee prior to 1st January, 1882	165, 7 91 16,250	13	4 0
By cash advanced to Company on account of Guarantee prior to 1st January, 1882	165, 7 91 16,250	13	4

General.

The total receipts and expenditure for the six months ending June 30th, 1882, were respectively £31,258 0s. 2d., and £31,278 14s. 8d. The train mileage for the same period was 151,419.

The aggregates of train mileage, receipts, working expenses, &c., for the period commencing from the opening of the line according to contract, and ending 30th June, 1882, are as follow:—

* Total train mileage	1,545	,954	±
	£	s.	d.
Total traffic receipts	275,971	10	10
Ditto working expenses	301,683	19	9
Ditto loss on working	25,712	8	11

I have, in conclusion, to make the usual acknowledgment of the courtesy of the Company's officers, who rendered every facility for the complete audit of the accounts.

I have, &c.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

W. LOVETT, Colonial Auditor.

* Note.—Does not include train mileage prior to 1st January, 1877.

ABSTRACT of Traffic Receipts and Expenditure for Quarterly periods ending respectively 31st March and 30th June, 1882.

Receipts.							Expenditure.							
	Quarter 31st M	Quarter ending 30th June.				Quarter ending 31st March.			Quarter ending 30th June.					
O-1: m	£		d.					£	s.	d.	£	 s.	d.	
Coaching traffic	12,344	7	8 4				Maintenance of permanent	7904	7.1	4	5166	3	3	
Miscellaneous	192		10				way	3450		1	3550	_	_	
•			_			-	Carriage and wagon repairs	927		10		_		
•	16,941	0	10	14,316	19		Traffic expenses	1880		5			-	
•						. '	General charges	750		0				
•							Miscellaneous	234	4	7	23	17	7	
							ceston & Western Railway.	1009	7	6	1009	7	6	
Balance, loss	17	1	11	3	12	7	*Loudon office expenses	800		Ü				
	16,958	2	9	14,320	11	11		16,958	2	_ 9	14,320	11	11	

[•] Estimated items, subject to amendment in subsequent quarters, in accordance with Clause 9 of Contract.

W. LOVETT, Colonial Auditor. Hobart, 21st August, 1882. (Continuation of Paper No. 57, House of Assembly, 1882.)

Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited, General Manager's Office, Hobart, 14th October, 1882.

SIR.

I HAVE the honor to forward you herewith a Statement of the Traffic Receipts and Expenditure of the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited, so far as it can be made up in this Colony, for the quarter ending the 30th September last; and trust you will be pleased with the satisfactory results it discloses in regard to the increase of revenue.

The gross receipts for the past quarter amount to £13,049 8s. 3d., as compared with £10,534 12s. in the corresponding quarter of 1881; £9702 18s. 10d. in 1880; £9844 13s. 8d. in 1879; £9226 14s. 9d. in 1878; and £8459 9s. 6d. in 1877: thus showing an altogether unprecedented proportionate increase.

You will observe that this principally arises from the passenger traffic, which has been augmented in a manner entirely unexpected; and is not due so much to the enhanced inter-colonial as to local sources. The goods traffic, at the beginning of the quarter, began to fall off; but new sources of traffic have arisen, which account for the increased tonnage and freight earned.

It is gratifying to notice that each item of the revenue, except the unimportant one of rents and sundries, shows a very marked proportionate increase.

The quarter's expenses, not having been relieved in the manner specified in writing you on this date last year, again slightly exceed the revenue; but it is satisfactory to observe that we have tided over the worst quarter of the year with an inconsiderable loss.

The whole amount of the guaranteed interest being payable on the quarter, I have the honor to enclose you an account, amounting to Eight thousand one hundred and twenty-five Pounds, which will doubtless receive your usual prompt consideration.

The long pending disputes between the Colony and the Company being now, I trust, in train for an amicable settlement, I am happy to be able to express the belief that no future difference can possibly arise; and that the Railway, while remaining for some years of the same value (practically) to the Company, will prove an ever increasing benefit to the Colony.

I have, &c.

C. H. GRANT.

The Hon. J. S. Dodds, Treasurer.

TASMANIAN MAIN LINE RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

Accountant's Office, Hobart, 14th October, 1882.

AN Abstract of Receipts and Expenditure on account of Traffic, &c. conveyed over the Tasmanian Main Line Railway for the Three Months ending September 30, 1882.

£	8.	d.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
34,994	2	9	By Receipts—			
,				7362	15	1
4914	16	4			18	1
3290	13	4			3	2
525	6	3			10	6
1900	9	10			16	1
617	15	8	Telegrams	61	3	1
737	13	11	Mails	718	5	(
61	10	9	Goods	2740	0	10
			Minerals	422	3	8
			Live Stock	857	12	£
					0	4
			Balance to next Quarter	35,002	8	1
			_			
248,051	16	4		£48,051	16	4
	34,994 4914 3290 525 1900 617 737 61 1009	34,994 2 4914 16 3290 13 525 6 1900 9 617 15 737 13 61 10 1009 7	34,994 2 9 4914 16 4	34,994 2 9 By Receipts—	34,994 2 9 By Receipts—	34,994 2 9 By Receipts—

C. H. GRANT, General Manager.

· R. J. Ellis, Accountant.

THE GOVERNMENT OF TASMANIA Dr.

.To THE TASMANIAN MAIN LINE RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

1882.

Guaranteed Interest Department.

 ε s. d.

July 1st to September 30th. 8125 0 0

Amounting to Eight thousand one hundred and twenty-five Pounds sterling.

(Signature of Claimant)-For the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited,

C. H. GRANT.

£8125 0 0

MEMO.—This claim has reference to the Quarter mentioned only, and is rendered without prejudice in any way to the claims made in previous accounts sent to the Government and which still remain unsettled.

R. J. Ellis, Accountant. Oct. 14, 1882.

£8125 0 0

Treasury, Hobart, 23rd October, 1882.

RECEIVED from the Colonial Treasury the sum of Eight thousand one hundred and twenty-five Pounds, being the amount of Account for One full Quarter's Interest from 1 July to 30 September, 1882; but such payment is made and received without prejudice to any further or other claim by or against the Government of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company under or arising out of the Contract between the Government and the Company.

For the Tasmanian Main Line Railway Company, Limited,

C. H. GRANT.