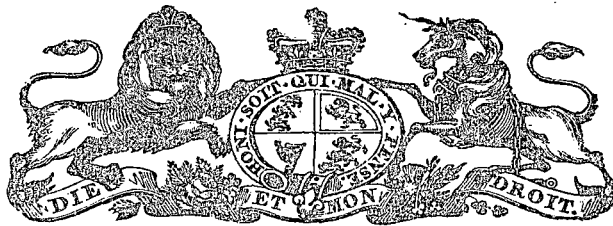


(No. 151.)



1861.

T A S M A N I A.

COST OF SURVEY DEPARTMENT.

Presented by Mr. Innes, and ordered by the House to be printed,
29 January, 1862.



Survey Office, 27th January, 1862.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor of placing before you a Table, compiled from Parliamentary Records, showing the respective costs of the Survey Departments of the three oldest Colonies of this portion of the Empire,—namely, New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania,—during the Years 1858, 1859, and 1860; and giving a comparative view of the money-value and usefulness of their operations.

In examining the Table, it will be seen that, notwithstanding the singular and nearly unequalled difficulties which the surface of Tasmania presents to the Surveyor (at least three times heavier than those of the other Colonies), our progress here has been the greater of the three; that is to say, we have prepared for sale, and have sold, more land, according to our population, than either of the others; though, from the unfavourable circumstances under which our operations are carried on, they ought to have surpassed us threefold. It will also be seen that the cost of our work per acre, which is always below that charged to the Victorian Revenue, is very greatly under that of New South Wales; being about four times less costly than New South Wales in 1858, five times in 1859, and six times so in 1860.

The document now respectfully presented to the Honorable the Executive is offered in defence of a Department charged with conducting its operations, not only without regard to economy, but with an amount of extravagance which has been described as perfectly monstrous, and exhibiting such a degree of recklessness as to call for the interposition of the Legislature to restrain it by giving existence to an entirely new element in its management.

The communities of the great Australian Provinces, with whose Survey operations I have compared our own, abound with professional men to a degree utterly unknown here, from whom they doubtless receive a far greater amount of information on all professional subjects of great moment to them, which cannot be expected here for many a year. Yet there, so I am informed, no such complaints are made against their Survey Departments as are cast on us, whose operations bear so favourable a contrast with theirs,—as, indeed, they will with those of any other Country. For, take the labours of whatever year of the series presented us that we please, and it will be found that, both in economy of our Survey expenditure and the progress of occupation (according to population), Tasmania can show the best accounts of the three. This fact, taken with due consideration of the difficulties that opposed our progress, should, I humbly submit, give birth to other expressions than those lately used towards us, wherein censure is the predominating element; but which, relying on the strong sentiment of justice that pervades the community, I feel assured the accompanying document will dissipate.

I remain, Sir,

Your very obedient Servant,

J. E. CALDER.

The Hon. the Colonial Treasurer.

VICTORIA.

<i>Cost of the Survey Department.</i>		<i>Amount.</i>			<i>Average Column.†</i>		
		<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1858.							
1 Surveyor-General		1,200	0	0	1,200	0	0
1 Acting ditto, for part of year.....		275	0	0			
66 Salaried Surveyors*		35,625	0	0	539	15	5
14 Office Draftsmen, £6,150, and 1 Plan Mounter, £300		6,450	0	0	430	0	0
28 Clerks (15 Ordinary, £6,350, 11 Field Clerks and Draftsmen, £2,950, and 2 Deed Clerks, £850)		10,150	0	0	462	10	0
Land Occupation Branch		10,110	0	0			
5 Lithographers, £1600; and 3 Pressmen, £900		2,500	0	0	312	10	0
5 Royal Engineers and Sappers		511	0	0	102	4	0
3 Messengers, £360; and 1 Housekeeper, £50		410	0	0	102	0	0
		67,231	0	0			
Population of Victoria.....	504,519						
Lands disposed of (granted, 68a. 0r. 23p.; and sold, 255,724 acres)	255,792 acres.						
Area of Land per head disposed of.....	2 roods 1 perch.						
Cost of the Survey of each Acre granted and sold	5s. 3d.						
1859.							
1 Surveyor-General		1,200	0	0	1,200	0	0
1 Deputy ditto		1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0
58 Salaried Surveyors*		31,850	0	0	549	2	9
13 Office Draftsmen, £5750; and 1 Plan Mounter, £300.....		6,050	0	0	442	2	10
34 Clerks (20 Ordinary, £7300; 11 Field Clerks and Draftsmen, £3050; and 3 Deed Clerks, £950).....		11,300	0	0	332	7	0
Land Occupation Branch		12,260	0	0			
7 Lithographers, £2400; and 3 Pressmen, £900		3,300	0	0	330	0	0
4 Royal Engineers and Sappers		419	15	0	83	19	0
3 Messengers, £360; and 1 Housekeeper, £50		410	0	0			
		67,789	15	0			
Population of Victoria	530,262						
Lands disposed of (granted, 122a. 2r. 1p.; and sold, 459,081a. 2r. 7p.)	459,204 acres.						
Area of Land, per head, disposed of	3r. 18·5p.						
Cost of the Survey of each Acre granted and sold	2s. 11d.						
1860.							
1 Surveyor-General		1,200	0	0	1,200	0	0
1 Deputy ditto		1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0
57 Salaried Surveyors*		31,200	0	0	547	7	4
27 Office Draftsmen, £8950; and 1 Plan Mounter, £300		9,250	0	0	330	7	1
20 Clerks (19 Ordinary, £6700; and 1 Accountant, £500)		7,200	0	0	360	0	0
Land Occupation Branch		4,827	10	0			
4 Photo-Lithographers, £1300; and 3 Pressmen, £900		2,200	0	0	314	5	8
4 Royal Engineers and Sappers		420	0	0	105	0	0
3 Messengers and 1 Housekeeper.....		410	0	0	102	10	0
		57,707	10	0			
Population of Victoria	548,412						
Lands disposed of (granted, 26a. 3r. 7p.; and sold, 492,247a. 2r. 7½p.)	492,274 acres.						
Area of Land, per head, disposed of	3r. 2·36p.						
Cost of Survey of each Acre granted and sold.....	2s. 4d.						

* † Vide Note to New South Wales.

RETURN showing the respective Cost of the SURVEY DEPARTMENTS of NEW SOUTH WALES, VICTORIA, and TASMANIA; giving also a Comparative View of their Operations:—

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Cost of the Survey Department.	Amount.	Average Column.†
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1858.		
1 Surveyor-General	1,072 16 3	
1 Deputy ditto	800 0 0	
68 Surveyors (22 Salaried, £21,010 8s. 9d.; and 46 licensed, £19,431 10s. 8d.)*	40,441 19 5	594 14 8
19 Office Draftsmen	5,253 10 0	276 10 0
28 Clerks (25 Ordinary, £5416, and 3 Description Writers, £450)	5,866 0 10	309 15 3
17 Commissioners of Crown Lands	7,587 10 0	446 5 10
69 Land Agents	3,678 7 8	53 9 0
2 Rangers	148 0 0	74 0 0
2 Messengers, £200; and 1 Office Keeper, £100	300 0 0	
	£65,148 4 2	
Population of New South Wales	342,062	
Lands disposed of (granted, 527a. 0r. 21p.; and sold, 169,314 acres)	169,841 acres.	
Area of land per head disposed of	1r. 38p.	
Cost of the Survey of each Acre granted and sold	7s. 8d.	
1859.		
1 Surveyor-General (retired 12 August)	647 0 0	
1 Acting Surveyor-General	667 17 0	
17 Surveyors (26 salaried, £29,623 18s. 6d.; and 50 licensed, £16,551 6s.)*	46,175 4 6	607 11 3
18 Office Draftsmen	4,282 3 4	236 15 6
27 Clerks (24 Ordinary, £5668 7s.; and 3 Description Writers, £450)	6,118 7 0	226 13 6
5 Commissioners of Crown Lands	2,350 0 0	470 0 0
55 Land Agents	2,642 13 0	48 0 8
1 Land Bailiff	200 0 0	
2 Messengers, £200; and 1 Office Keeper, £50	250 0 0	83 6 8
	£63,333 4 10	
Population of New South Wales (Queensland, with a Population of 23,450 separated this year)	336,572	
Lands disposed of (granted, 444a. 0r. 37½p.; and sold, 135,611a. 0r. 4¾p.)	136,055 acres.	
Area of land per head disposed of	1r. 24p.	
Cost of the Survey of each Acre granted and sold	9s. 3¾d.	
1860.		
1 Acting Surveyor-General	800 0 0	800 0 0
53 Surveyors (20 salaried, £29,310, and 33 licensed, £21,713 1s. 7d.)*	51,023 1 7	962 14 0
26 Office Draftsmen	4,418 10 0	169 18 5
23 Clerks	5,431 15 8	216 11 6
5 Commissioners of Crown Lands	2,350 10 0	470 0 0
5 Troopers to Commissioners	912 10 0	182 8 0
55 Land Agents	3,275 0 0	59 10 10
4 Messengers, 1 Housekeeper, and 5 Servants to Commissioners of Lands	463 0 0	46 3 0
	£68,674 7 3	
Population of New South Wales	348,546	
Lands disposed of (granted, 192a. 3r. 29¼p.; and sold, 109,216a. 2r. 33¾p.)	109,409 acres.	
Area of land per head disposed of	1r. 1-02p.	
Cost of Survey of each Acre granted and sold	12s. 7½d.	

* NOTE.—I cannot discover in the Statistical Registers of either New South Wales or Victoria that any portion of the cost of surveying lands is recovered on the sale of the same as is done in Tasmania. The lengthened papers on the subject of the fees collected by the Governments of those Colonies are silent on the subject.

† NOTE.—In the "Average Column" of Salaries of New South Wales and Victoria considerable differences will be observed in those of the same class of employees, which is attributable in a great degree to the frequent changes in the strength of staff during the year, whereby partial salaries are paid (for broken periods of the year). In the Department of Tasmania these changes are quite unknown, and therefore no great diversity in the average salaries of the fixed staff will be seen. There have in fact been—to the credit of the service be it said—neither dismissal nor retirement for very many years, though with an increasing business there has been a moderate augmentation of Staff.

TASMANIA.

Cost of the Survey Department.	Amount.	Average Column.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1858.		
1 Surveyor-General (retired 31 August)	400 0 0	
1 Acting ditto (from 1 September)	166 13 4	
17 Surveyors (1 to 31 August, £508; and 16 Contract, £5821 4s. 10d.)	6,329 4 10	372 6 0
7 Draftsmen	1,400 0 0	200 0 0
3 Clerks	460 0 0	152 0 0
1 Deputy Commissioner and Chief Clerk	400 0 0	400 0 0
1 Land Agent (from 1 April)	133 6 4	
Lithographing	163 15 2	
Commission paid for Sale of Crown Land	54 1 9	
2 Messengers	180 0 0	90 0 0
	£9,687 1 5	
Survey Fees paid on account of Land Sales and Selections made in 1858	5,712 18 0	
Thereby reducing Total Cost of Department to	£3,974 3 5	
Population of Tasmania	84,080	
Lands disposed of (granted, 14a. 0r. 34p.; and sold, 43,131½ acres)	43,145 acres.	
Area of Land, per head, disposed of	2r. 2p.	
Cost of the Survey of each Acre granted and sold	1s. 10d.	
1859.		
1 Surveyor-General	600 0 0	600 0 0
17 Surveyors (2 Inspecting, £1524; and 15 Contract Surveyors, £7314 2s. 3d.)	8,838 2 3	525 15 3
8 Office Draftsmen	1,541 13 0	192 14 1
4 Clerks	520 0 0	130 0 0
1 Deputy Commissioner and Chief Clerk	450 0 0	450 0 0
1 Land Agent and Superintendent of Branch Office	200 0 0	200 0 0
Lithographing	312 1 2	
Commission paid for Sale of Crown Lands	63 1 6	
2 Messengers	180 0 0	
	£12,704 17 11	
Survey Fees paid on account of Land Sales and Selections made in 1859	5,441 3 9	
Thereby reducing Total Cost of Department to	£7,263 14 2	
Population of Tasmania	85,968	
Lands disposed of (granted, 790a. 3r. 33p.; and sold, 76,371a. 1r. 33p.)	77,162 acres.	
Area of Land, per head, disposed of	3r. 23-6p.	
Cost of the Survey of each Acre granted and sold	1s. 10½d.	
1860.		
1 Surveyor-General and Commissioner of Crown Lands	600 0 0	600 0 0
23 Surveyors (2 Inspecting, £1524; and 20 Contract Surveyors, £9826 17s. 2d.)	11,350 17 2	493 9 6
8 Draftsmen	1,617 0 0	202 2 6
4 Clerks	630 0 0	157 10 0
1 Deputy Commissioner	450 0 0	450 0 0
1 Land Agent	253 6 8	
1 Inspector of Timber Licences	175 0 0	175 0 0
Lithographing	199 13 2	
Commission paid for Sale of Crown Land	50 2 0	
2 Messengers	180 0 0	90 0 0
	£15,495 19 0	
Survey Fees paid on account of Land Sales and Selections made in 1860	5,551 15 0	
Thereby reducing Total Cost of Department to	£9,944 4 0	
Population of Tasmania	87,775	
Lands disposed of (granted, 15a. 0r. 30p.; and sold, 88,195a. 3r. 15p.)	88,211 acres.	
Area, per head, disposed of	1a. 0r. 0-1½p.	
Cost of Survey of each Acre granted and sold	2s. 2½d.	

COST and Operations of SURVEY DEPARTMENT of TASMANIA in 1861.

	<i>Amount.</i>			<i>Average Column.</i>		
	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
1 Surveyor-General and Commissioner of Crown Lands	600	0	0	600	0	0
23 Surveyors (1 Inspecting, £762; and 22 Contract, £10,070 11s. 0d.)	10,832	17	2	471	0	0
11 Draftsmen	1639	13	2	149	0	0
5 Clerks	800	0	0	160	0	0
2 Deputy Commissioners of Crown Lands	750	0	0	375	0	0
1 Lithographer, £180; 1 Pressman, £30 ..	210	0	0			
1 Inspector of Timber Licences	175	0	0	175	0	0
1 Land Agent	280	0	0	280	0	0
2 Messengers	180	0	0	90	0	0
	15,467	10	4			
Survey Fees paid on account of Land Sales and Selections made in 1861	4,740	15	0			
Thereby reducing Cost of Department to	£10,726	15	4			
Population of Tasmania	89,977					
Lands disposed of (granted, 64a. 1r. 3p.; sold, 100,962 acres)	101,022	acres.				
Area per head disposed of	1a. 0r. 19.6p.					
Cost of Survey per Acre	2s. 1½d.					

27 January, 1862.

J. E. CALDER.