

(No. 84.)



1878.

---

T A S M A N I A.

H O U S E O F A S S E M B L Y.

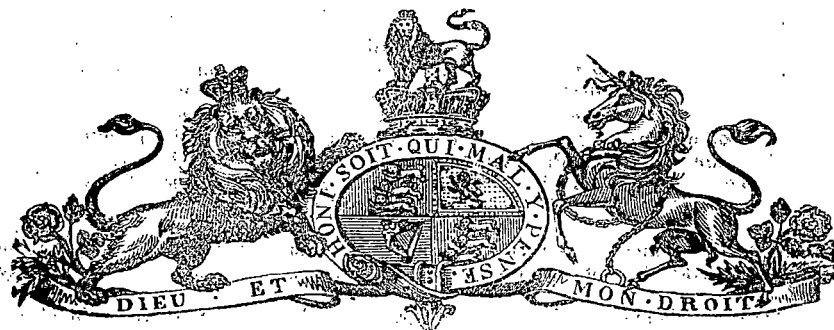
---

O A T L A N D S M U N I C I P A L I T Y.

P E T I T I O N S A N D P A P E R S.

---

Laid upon the Table by the Minister of Lands, August 27, 1878; and ordered by  
the House to be printed.



Oatlands, 17th January, 1878.

SIR,

ON behalf of the Petitioners I forward you the enclosed Petition. I also send you by to-night's post a Chart showing the portion of the Oatlands Municipality referred to in the Petition. Trusting the Petition will receive the favourable consideration of the Government,

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

R. JONES.

The Hon. P. O. Fysh, Esquire, Premier, Hobart Town.

FORWARDED to the Honorable the Minister of Lands and Works, with chart.

B. TRAVERS SOLLY.  
19th Jan. 1878.

RURAL MUNICIPALITY OF OATLANDS.

17th January, 1878.

WE, the undersigned Landholders whose properties are situate in that portion of the Oatlands Municipality at present embraced within the limits of the Great Lake Road District, respectfully pray that His Excellency the Governor will cause all those parts of the Oatlands Municipality at present in the Great Lake Road District to be transferred to and included in the Oatlands Road District; and that the boundaries of the said Oatlands Road District may be altered and re-defined accordingly.

A Map showing that portion of the Oatlands Municipality at present in the Great Lake Road District is forwarded herewith.

[Here follow 54 Signatures.]

REFERRED to Ministers.

F. A. WELD.  
Feby. 1, 1878.

A.

GREAT LAKE ROAD DISTRICT.		Portions of several Police Districts included in Great Lake Road District.	
	Acres.		Acres.
Private Property, about .....	120,000	Oatlands Municipality, about .....	77,000
Leased Lands .....	280,000	Ross Municipality .....	26,000
Vacant .....	173,000	Campbell Town P. D. ....	50,000
		Bothwell Municipality .....	120,000
		South Longford P. D. ....	300,000
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>573,000</b>	<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>573,000</b>

(Signed) J. E. CALDER.  
Survey Office, 17 September, 1863.

## B.

*To His Excellency Colonel THOMAS GORE BROWNE, C.B., Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over the Island of Tasmania and its Dependencies, &c.*

The humble Petition of the Landholders of the Great Lake Road District, in Public Meeting assembled, at Tunbridge, this 17th day of May, 1862.

## RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH:

THAT the Great Lake Road District was defined and proclaimed by the then Lieutenant-Governor of Tasmania, Sir William Denison, on the 7th day of October, 1852, and by such Proclamation the boundaries of the Road Districts of Bothwell and Longford were altered and curtailed and re-defined, as was expressly stated in the said Proclamation, "to enable the owners and occupiers of land in the Lake District to carry out their views,"—"to construct and maintain a Road commencing at or near Tunbridge on the Main Road and extending to and beyond the Great Lake. The Government by such Proclamation not merely sanctioning, but distinctly pledging itself to the furtherance of those objects, which it has since been the endeavour of the Trustees of the said Road District to carry out.

That by two subsequent Proclamations, dated respectively 21st February, 1853, and 26th November, 1857, the boundaries of the said Great Lake District were re-defined and altered with the same object expressly in view.

That by a special Act of Parliament, of date 4th October, 1860, the Trustees of the said Great Lake District were empowered to make a road through the same 100 feet wide, and from time to time to fence in, construct, and erect upon any Crown land adjacent to any cross road in the said district such paddocks, yards, huts, and other works as they may deem necessary for the accommodation of stock and persons in charge thereof using such road; and the expense of same to be defrayed by the trustees from the moneys at their disposal by virtue of "The Cross and Bye Roads Act."

That for the last seven years the trustees of the said District have been engaged in the formation of the Great Trunk Line of Road crossing the Western Tier and traversing the District from its east to its west boundary, a distance of nearly 70 miles.

That the works conducted by the Trustees have hitherto been confined almost entirely to the lands of the Crown, but now the Trustees have commenced operations on those portions of the road which pass through private property.

That almost in every case the Trustees have not only to purchase the land occupied by the road when it passes through such properties, but in every instance have to make a very heavy expenditure of capital for the clearing of the line of road and the erection of fences along the same.

That the Trustees have already expended upon the formation of the said line of Road about £8000, derived from the Assessment of the Lands comprised in the said Road District, and from contributions from the Crown as given under the Road Act.

That, although so large a sum has been so expended, the Ratepayers have hitherto derived but little benefit from such expenditure, as it may be said that little has been done in the formation of the said line of Road in comparison with what remains to be completed.

That in consequence of the very heavy expenditure for land and fencing the funds at the disposal of the Trustees for Road-making are very limited, and at the present time many miles of Road are yet unpurchased, unfenced, and unformed.

That, in order to open up the said great Trunk Line of Road with the least possible delay, the Trustees are preparing (with the sanction of the Ratepayers) to obtain a Loan on Mortgage of the Rates as now existing in accordance with the powers given them by "The Cross and Bye Roads Act, 1860."

That Petitioners have observed by the published proceedings of the Municipal Council of Oatlands that it is the intention of that body to apply to Your Excellency to proclaim their Municipality as and to be a Road District; and, as the boundaries of that Municipality have recently been proclaimed to be in accordance with the boundaries of the Police District of Oatlands, Petitioners respectfully point out to Your Excellency the very great injustice which would be done to the interests of your Petitioners, and also of the Crown, if such application should be acceded to, inasmuch as a considerable portion of the Police District of Oatlands is comprised in the Great Lake Road District, as are also portions of the respective Police Districts of Campbell Town, Bothwell, Hamilton, and Longford.

That, as the main road to Hobart Town and Launceston runs through the District and Township of Oatlands, and is kept in repair out of the General Revenue, the Municipality of Oatlands have the less reason to make their proposed application for a portion of the Great Lake Road District.

That, should the proposed application of the Oatlands Municipality be acceded to, the Great Lake Road District would lose the assessment on 90,000 acres; and, should a similar application be made from the Longford Municipality, and from Campbell Town and Bothwell and Hamilton—in the event of their becoming Municipalities, with like success—the Great Lake Road District would be altogether annihilated.

That, should the Great Lake Road District be eventually so absorbed by the surrounding Police Districts, the large sums of money already expended in opening up the Western Country would be in a great measure thrown away, and very great injustice would be done to those parties who have invested money in the purchase of Crown Lands on the faith of having roads opened up to them, for which especial purpose the said Road District was first proclaimed and has since been altered, redefined, and extended by various Proclamations having the same object in view, whilst the Crown would also suffer from the great deterioration in the value of its lands yet unsold which would inevitably ensue.

For the foregoing reasons, respectfully and earnestly submitted for the consideration of Your Excellency, your Petitioners pray that the existing boundaries of the Great Lake Road District may not be altered.

And Your Excellency's Petitioners will, as in duty bound, ever pray.

Signed by order and on behalf of the Meeting.

R. Q. KERMODE, *Chairman.*

*Lands and Works Office, Hobart Town, 6th September, 1878.*

SIR,

THE Government have received a Petition signed by a large number of the owners and occupiers of land in the Oatlands Municipality praying for a re-definition of the boundaries of the Great Lake and Oatlands Road Districts; and a consideration of the facts set forth in the Petition leads to the conclusion that, although the precise boundary for the Oatlands Road District suggested by the Petitioners is not one that, in justice to all parties concerned, ought to be adopted, yet some alteration in the boundaries may fairly be demanded.

I, therefore, herewith forward to you a lithographed plan of part of the Municipal District of Oatlands, and will be obliged if you will mark thereon, for the information of the Government, the boundary which, in the opinion of your Trust, would be a boundary such as, taking all the circumstances into consideration, should satisfy the ratepayers in the immediate vicinity of the Oatlands township, who complain that the rates paid by them are expended on roads in which they have no interest.

This communication would have been forwarded to you sooner but for the fact that the Petition, together with the papers and documents connected therewith, having been sent from this office for the consideration of the Cabinet, were mislaid for a period of nearly three months.

I have, &c.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

*The Chairman, Oatlands Road District.*

---

*Oatlands, 9th September, 1878.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor, by direction of the Chairman of the Oatlands Road Trust, to own receipt of your letter of the 6th instant regarding the Petition to have the boundary of the Oatlands District re-defined, as far as regards that portion of the Oatlands Municipality at present included in the Great Lake Road District, and to state that at a full meeting of the Trust, held on the 7th instant, the following resolution was unanimously agreed to:—

“That in the opinion of the Oatlands Road Trust the boundary of the Municipality of Oatlands, as asked for in the Petition referred to, be the boundary of the Oatlands Road District.”

I have, &c.

D. M'PHERSON, *Secretary Oatlands Road Trust.*

*The Hon. the Minister of Lands and Works.*

---