

(No. 149.)



1883.

TASMANIA.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT:

REPORT OF LIBRARIAN.

Laid upon the Table by the Premier, and ordered by the House to be printed,
October 26, 1883.



Parliamentary Library, Hobart, 25th October, 1883.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward the following Report on the Parliamentary Library for the last twelve months :—

State of the Books.—The books, generally speaking, are in good order, and are arranged as neatly and conveniently as the very limited space at disposal will allow; and I have the satisfaction of reporting that no works have been lost during the past twelve months, a fact which is largely attributable to the careful supervision of the Library Attendant.

Missing Books.—Three of the books belonging to the list of those reported missing between 1857 and 1882 have been recovered; viz.—Ricardo on Politics, People's Blue Book, Monarchy and Democracy; but it is to be feared that the majority of those reported as missing during the extended period referred to will not now be recovered.

New Books purchased since last Report.—The following new works, recommended by Members of the Legislature, or ordered by the Library Committee, have been added to the Library since the last Report was presented in October, 1882 :—

English Men of Letters—

Bunyan : Froude, 1.
 Bentley : Jebb, 1.
 Burke : Morley, 1.
 Burns : Sharp, 1.
 Byron : Nichol, 1.
 Chaucer : Ward, 1.
 Cowper : Smith, 1.
 De Quincey : Mosson, 1.
 De Foe : Minto, 1.
 Dickens : Ward, 1.
 Dryden : Saintsbury, 1.
 Goldsmith : Black, 1.
 Gibbon : Momson, 1.
 Hawthorne : James, 1.
 Johnson, Stephen, 1.
 Landon : Collier, 1.
 Locke : Fowler, 1.
 Milton : Patterson, 1.
 Pope : Stephen, 1.
 Scott : Hutton, 1.
 Shelly : Symonds, 1.
 Southey : Bowden, 1.
 Spencer : Church, 1.
 Swift : Stephen, 1.
 Thackeray : Trollope, 1.
 Wordsworth : Myers, 1.
 Gray : Morley, 1.
 Lamb : Ainger, 1.
 Sterne : H. T. Trail, 1.
 Macaulay : J. E. Morison, 1.
 Fielding : Dobson, 1.

Tasso : Hassell, 1.

Diseases of Memory : Ribat, 1.

John Inglesant : Shorthouse, 1.

Rousseau : Graham, 1.

Buxton's Ideas of the Day, 1.

Science of Politics : Amos, 1.

Elementary Meteorology : Scott, 1.

Epoch of English History—

Early England : Powell, 1.
 England a Continental Power : Creighton, 1.
 Modern England : Browning, 1.
 Struggle against Absolute Monarchy, 1.
 The Settlement of the Constitution : Rowley, 1.
 England during the American and European Wars : Tancock, 1.

Epoch of English History—

The Rise of the People : Rowley, 1.

The Tudors : The Reformation : Creighton, 1.

Animal Intelligence, 1.

Four Years Irish History : Duffy, 1.

English Citizen, 8.

Books of Reference—

Hart's Army List, 1.

M'Culloch's Commercial Dictionary, 1.

Addison on the Law of Contracts, 1.

Addison on the Law of Torts, 1.

Clarke on Extradition, 1.

Roger's Law of Mines and Minerals, 1.

Bainbridge on the Law of Compensation, 1.

Fitzgerald on Public Health and Local Government, 1.

Chambers' Highways, Bridges, and Lighting, 1.

Statesman's Year Book, 1883, 1.

Oxford University Calendar, 1883, 1.

Twiss on the Law of Nations, 1.

Fowler, Collieries and Colliers, 1.

Woolf's Law of Adulterations, 1.

Hood's Australian Dictionary, 1.

Colonial Office List, 1883, 1.

British Almanac and Companion, 1.

Dod's Peerage, 1883.

M'Lachlan on Shipping, 1.

Blackstone's Commentaries, 4.

Transactions Society for Promotion Social Science, 1.

Cushing's Legislative Assemblies, 2.

Annual Register, 1.

May's Parliamentary Practice, 6. (Edition, 1883.)

Dictionary of Christian Biography, 2.

Chambers' English Dictionary, 1.

Stephen's History of Criminal Law, 3

Glen's Law of Public Health, 1.

Kay's Law of Shipmasters, 2.

Maxwell on the Statutes, 1.

Forsyth's Constitutional Law, 1.

Coulson's Law of Waters, 1.

Patterson's Liberty of the Subject, 2.

Hamel's Law of the Customs, 1.

Cockburn's Nationality, 1.

History of the Year.

International Exchanges, American Books.—Two cases of International Exchanges, containing a number of valuable American works, have been received from the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, and placed in the Library.

Blue Books of Imperial Parliament.—The usual supply of Blue Books of the English Parliament has been received, but the selection of these publications is so badly managed that a very large proportion are of a useless character, while many invaluable papers referred to in the official monthly Précis are not forwarded at all. I observe that arrangements are made in connection with the Queensland Parliament Library whereby these publications are carefully selected by an agent in England acquainted with the requirements of the Library and the wants of the Colony. It would be very desirable to introduce a similar system with regard to this Library.

Journals of Lords and Commons.—The great want of having the Journals and Votes of both Houses of the Imperial Parliament is very seriously felt, there being at present only a few old volumes of those books now in the Library.

Journals and Papers of other Colonial Parliaments.—The Journals and Papers of neighbour Colonies were, until recently, in a very defective state. I, however, took steps during the last twelve months to have the missing volumes supplied, and with sets now on their way to Tasmania, this collection will soon be complete.

Want of Accommodation for Books and Newspapers.—Great inconvenience continues to be felt in consequence of the want of room in which to arrange the books and newspapers. In fact during Session it is impossible to arrange the latter in any way making them easily accessible to Members, and I therefore venture to submit that ample additional room could be obtained at no great cost by building out a spacious Newspaper and Reading Room towards the Parliament stables. Without some such arrangement, new books coming in will very soon have to be dispersed in various parts of the building.

Old Volumes of Legislative Council and House of Assembly Journals.—The back numbers of the Journals and Papers of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly are now becoming very scarce, so much so that it was impossible, some months since, to supply certain missing copies required to complete a set belonging to the Hon. the Treasurer's Department. I therefore took advantage of an opportunity presented at the sale of the library of the late Hon. James Whyte, formerly President of the Legislative Council, to purchase fifty volumes of these books, all in good preservation, for the sum of £6, the Clerk of the Legislative Council concurring with me in the great desirability of so doing.

Books connected with History of Tasmania.—Under existing regulations there is no restriction whatever with regard to the issue of books connected with the history of the Colony; and as these works are now exceedingly scarce, and in some instances actually irreplaceable, I would recommend that they should now be classed with books of reference, and their issue from the Library prohibited.

Arrangements for Committee to sit during Recess.—I beg also to bring under notice that the Library Committee expires with the close of each Session, and has no further control over the Library until it is re-appointed in the following Session. The Legislative Council, by its Standing Orders, can give power to a Committee to sit during the recess, and a similar Standing Order made by the House of Assembly would enable the Joint Committee of the Library to act out of Session, an arrangement much to be desired.

Books and Periodicals recommended by Members for purchase.—I have the honor to submit a list of new books, newspapers, and periodicals recommended to be purchased by Honorable Members whose names are attached.

Your obedient Servant,

FRED. A. PACKER, *Clerk of the House, and Librarian to Parliament.*

The Honorable the Chairman of the Library Committee.