

1894.

## PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON UNEMPLOYED LABOUR.

Brought up by Mr. Mulcahy, April 17, 1893, and ordered by the House of Assembly to be printed.



## PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON UNEMPLOYED LABOUR.

Your Committee have the honor to report to your Honorable House that they have diligently enquired into the subject remitted to them for investigation, but feel that they are yet only on the threshold of an enquiry which will require their closest attention during the coming adjournment.

Your Committee have decided to present for your consideration a Progress Report.

From evidence taken your Committee find:-

- 1. That the unemployed difficulty is most extensive, there being, besides the large number in the chief cities, considerable bodies of men in the country districts who have been for some months past, and who will be for some time in the future, largely dependent upon relief works provided by the Government.
- 2. That it is absolutely necessary that some exceptional means should be taken immediately to cope with the difficulties of the position.

Your Committee accordingly submit the following suggestions to the favourable consideration of your Honorable House as affording some measure of immediate relief to the necessities of the unemployed:—

- 1. That, as far as practicable, all those items in the various Public Works Acts of 1891, which are included in the Urgent List in the Minister of Lands' Statement of 1893, be proceeded with at once. Amongst these may be specially mentioned, items [Railways] 27, New Engine Shed, Hobart, and 60, Section of Hobart Wharf Line.
  - 2. That a selection be made of such works on the deferred list in the Schedules of the said Acts as may, in the opinion of the Government, be of immediate benefit. Amongst these is Item 28,—Railway Workshops, Hobart.
  - 3. That plans for the Tamar Bridge, Launceston, (Item 2, Special Bridges), be prepared immediately, and tenders called for the work.
  - 4. That, besides the works in the authorised Schedules, other works of public necessity might be proceeded with. The following have been recommended to them as being suitable for the unemployed, and likely to prove of a profitable character to the country:—(a) Topping-up and widening Tamar Embankment from the Ferry to Mowbray; (b) completion of Road through Derwent Park to Glenorchy; (c) Road, Oyster Cove to Port Cygnet, opening a considerable area of Crown lands; and (d) Uxbridge Road deviation.

EDWARD MULCAHY, Chairman.

Committee Room, 17th April, 1894.