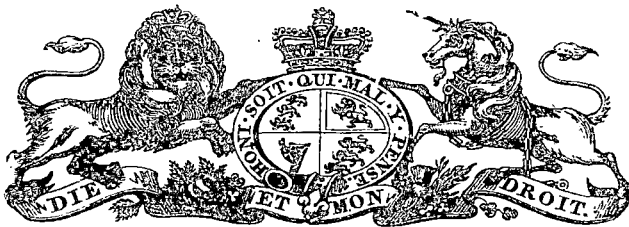


(No. 51.)
(Revised Statement.)



1895.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

COMPARATIVE RETURN OF TAXATION, REAL ESTATE
AND CUSTOMS, IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Return to an Order of the House of Assembly. (Mr. N. J. Brown.)

Laid upon the Table by the Treasurer, and ordered by the House of Assembly
to be printed, August 1, 1895.

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CUSTOMS Duties in the Seven Colonies of Australasia, (1890-94).
(Per Head.)

| COLONY. | 1890. | 1891. | 1892. | 1893. | 1894. |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| New South Wales | 1 14 4 | 1 17 10 | 2 5 4 | 1 15 2 | 1 13 5 |
| Victoria | 2 6 2 | 2 4 2 | 2 1 1 | 1 9 9 | 1 11 11 |
| Queensland | 2 19 10 | 2 15 10 | 2 13 1 | 2 9 10 | * |
| South Australia | 1 17 4 | 1 18 6 | 1 15 3 | 1 10 3 | 1 8 11 |
| Western Australia | 4 0 11 | 4 12 2 | 4 17 10 | 4 3 0 | * |
| Tasmania | 2 5 10 | 2 10 6 | 2 1 8 | 1 17 1 | 1 16 2 |
| New Zealand | 2 9 1 | 2 9 4 | 2 11 7 | 2 10 9 | * |
| SEVEN COLONIES | 2 4 5 | 2 4 11 | 2 5 9 | 1 18 1 | * |

* Information for this year not yet available.

DIRECT Taxation on Real Estate in respect of General Government in various Australasian Colonies (Period 1890-93.)

| COLONY. | 1890. | | 1891. | | 1892. | | 1893. | |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| | Rate per £ Capital Value. | Equivalent per £ Annual Assessment | Rate per £ Capital Value. | Equivalent per £ Annual Assessment | Rate per £ Capital Value. | Equivalent per £ Annual Assessment | Rate per £ Capital Value. | Equivalent per £ Annual Assessment |
| New South Wales | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> |
| Victoria ^a | <i>15d.</i> | <i>3d.</i> | <i>15d.</i> | <i>3d.</i> | <i>15d.</i> | <i>3d.</i> | <i>15d.</i> | <i>3d.</i> |
| Queensland | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> |
| South Australia ^b | $\frac{1}{2}d.$ | <i>10d.</i> | $\frac{1}{2}d.$ | <i>10d.</i> | $\frac{1}{2}d.$ | <i>10d.</i> | $\frac{1}{2}d.$ | <i>10d.</i> |
| West Australia | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> | <i>Nil.</i> |
| Tasmania ^c | $\frac{1}{2}d.$ | <i>10d.</i> | $\frac{1}{2}d.$ | <i>10d.</i> | $\frac{1}{2}d.$ | <i>10d.</i> | $\frac{1}{2}d.$ | <i>10d.</i> |
| New Zealand ^d — | | | | | | | | |
| Ordinary Land Tax | <i>1d.</i> | <i>20d.</i> | <i>1d.</i> | <i>20d.</i> | <i>1d.</i> | <i>20d.</i> | <i>1d.</i> | <i>20d.</i> |
| Special Graduated Land Tax on Unimproved Land, £5000 and over | ... | ... | ... | ... | $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{8}d. \text{ to} \\ 1\frac{1}{8}d. \end{array} \right.$ | $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 2\frac{1}{2}d. \text{ to} \\ 35d. \end{array} \right.$ | $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{8}d. \text{ to} \\ 2d. \end{array} \right.$ | $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 2\frac{1}{2}d. \text{ to} \\ 40d. \end{array} \right.$ |

^a VICTORIA.—Tax confined to all holdings exceeding 640 acres.

^b SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Tax only levied upon that portion of Real Estate known as "Unimproved Land" element. Improvements are exempted.

^c TASMANIA.—The tax is here levied on Capital Value of all Real Estate, whether improved or unimproved. In the year 1894 the tax was raised to *1d.* in the pound of Capital Value, with provision for abatement of $\frac{1}{2}d.$ in the pound on value of property covered by mortgage.

^d NEW ZEALAND.—The direct taxation prior to 1892 consisted of a Property Tax of *1d.* in the pound on all assessed real and personal property (with exemption of £500) and the Stamp Duties.

In 1891 a Land and Income Assessment Act was passed, which repealed the Property Tax and provided for an "ordinary Land Tax" of *1d.* in the pound on the actual value of land, a deduction being allowed to each owner of the present value of improvements up to £3000; and an owner is also allowed by this Act to deduct any amount owing by him secured on a registered mortgage, the mortgagee returning the amount owing to him on registered mortgage, and being assessed thereon. The whole value of the land, subject to other deductions and exemptions allowed by law, is in this way assessed for Land Tax. The other deductions provided for in this Act are:—(1) an exemption of £500 allowed when the balance, after making deductions as stated, does not exceed £1500; (2) and above that a smaller exemption is allowed when the balance amounts to £2500.

In addition to the ordinary Land Tax, there is also a provision for levying a "Graduated Land Tax," which commences when the "Unimproved Value" is £5000; the rate graduates from $\frac{1}{8}d.$ in the pound up to $1\frac{1}{8}d.$ when value exceeds £210,000.

In 1893 the law was amended, the following being a summary of the principal modifications of the Land Tax provisions of the Land and Income Assessment Act, 1891:—Under the original Act, improvements up to £3000 only were exempted from taxation. The Act of 1893 exempted all improvements. The range of the original Graduated Tax on unimproved land of £5000 and over was from $\frac{1}{8}d.$ in the pound up to $1\frac{1}{8}d.$ In the Act of 1893 the extreme range of tax is raised to *2d.* in the pound. Mr. M'Gowan, Commissioner of Taxes in New Zealand, summarises the latest results of Annual Land Tax revenue as follows:—Using round figures "the Land Tax yields £285,000, including £83,000 for Graduated Tax.

R. M. JOHNSTON, *Government Statistician.*