

(No. 74.)



1869.

T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

GOVERNOR'S ALLOWANCES.

DESPATCH AS TO DISALLOWANCE OF BILL No. 30, 32 VICT.

Return to an Address dated September 29, 1869. (Mr. Clerke.)

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Wilson, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
October 6, 1869.



TASMANIA.
No. 4.

Downing-street, 4th January, 1869.

SIR,

I HAVE received and have had under my consideration the reserved Bills of the Legislature of Tasmania, and the Petitions relating to Bill No. 30, which accompanied your Despatch, No. 54, of the 7th of October last.

I am glad to find that the Bill No. 31, "to reduce the Allowances of every future Governor of Tasmania," does not contemplate any reduction of the Salary of the Governor; and I shall be prepared to give the subject of this Bill my full and careful consideration as regards any future appointment to the Governorship of the Colony.

Under the present circumstances, however, and referring to the fact that Mr. Du Cane accepted this appointment before receiving any intimation of the intention to reduce the Allowances, and that he is now on his way to assume the Government, I do not feel that I should be justified in advising Her Majesty to bring this Law into operation.

The other two Bills forwarded in your Despatch—viz., No. 30, "to provide for the Commutation of the Sum of £15,000 a year reserved by the Constitutional Act for Public Worship in Tasmania," and No. 32, "to make provision for the disposal of Escheated Property in Tasmania,"—have been duly submitted to Her Majesty for confirmation, and the Orders in Council will be forwarded to you as soon as they shall have received Her Majesty's signature.

I think it right, however, to transmit to you, with reference to the latter Bill, copies of two Circular Despatches* which were addressed in 1867 to Governors of Colonies not having responsible Governments for their guidance in dealing with this question; and I would suggest that these documents and the present Despatch should be brought under the notice of your Responsible Advisers, in order that they may consider whether the Law should not be amended by inserting the words "for such public purposes" after the words "applied and disposed of" which occur in the 9th line of the Bill; and by declaring the Law and practice in cases of Escheat with the amendments required by the Circular of the 18th of December, 1867.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,
GRANVILLE.

The Officer Administering the Government of Tasmania.

* Circulars, 25 January, and 18 December, 1867.