

(No. 70.)



1875.

T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

IMPORTATION OF SHEEP AT LAUNCESTON.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Chapman, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
September 3, 1875.



July 1st, 1875.

SIR,

ON the 25th instant, Mr. Williams, Manager of Quamby for the Messrs. Phelps, of N. S. Wales, came to me, saying he had received, per *Derwent*, 313 Lincoln sheep, and wished to take them to Quamby. I told him my instructions were to order them to be dipped before leaving the port of arrival. He said they were lambing ewes (some had actually lambed on board the steamer); and, taking this into consideration, as also the fact that they were going into a district well known to have plenty of scab in it, I at once told him I could give him a permit to take them to Quamby without dipping, provided he furnished me with clean certificates from the port of shipment. These I enclose. Now there is something like 1200 more coming to the same people shortly; how am I to act with them?—as it is now said I give privileges to one which I refuse to another. For instance, Mr. Bell said to me just now—“Suppose a man brings a lot of wethers over and wants to travel them inland, what would you do after letting these go to Quamby without dipping?” I replied—“Make him dip them if going into or through a clean district, but if going into or through a well-known diseased district I would give him a permit to take them, provided he showed me clean certificates from the port of embarkation.”—“And yet,” said he, “if I want to take sheep to Evandale, though you know they are clean, you *make me dip them*.”—I said, “Yes, because Evandale is a clean district; but under certain circumstances I should be justified in giving a permit for sheep to go into Evandale without being dipped.”

Please telegraph in reply to this to-morrow, in case more sheep come.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

M. FLETCHER.

Hon. JAMES WHYTE, *Hobart Town*.

Inspector of Sheep Office, 2nd July, 1875.

SIR,

I AM in receipt of your letter of 1st instant, with certificates of cleanness for sheep arrived from Victoria for Messrs. Phelps, of Quamby.

Under the circumstances stated in your letter, I think it was quite right and perfectly safe to allow the sheep to be removed to Quamby without being dipped.

They were breeding ewes and just about to lamb; and I have no doubt whatever perfectly clean. You can pursue the same course with those about to arrive; but in no case can they be allowed to enter a clean sheep district without being dipped.

Certificates returned herewith.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES WHYTE.

MELMOTH FLETCHER, *Esq., Inspector, Launceston*.