

(No. 17.)



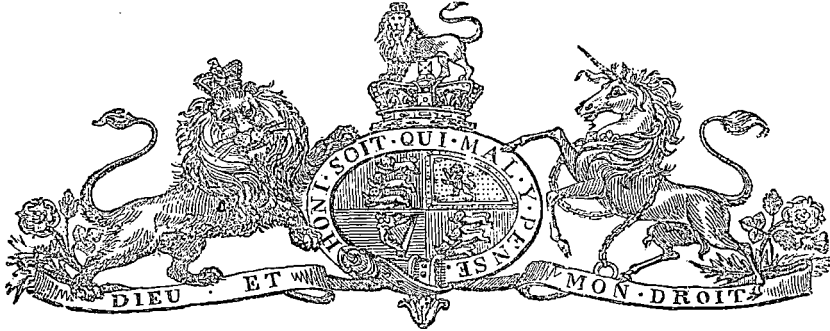
1860.

T A S M A N I A.

HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Colonial Treasurer, and ordered by the House to be printed, 31 July, 1860.



Office of Public Works, Hobart Town, 31st July, 1860.

SIR,

IN accordance with the Resolutions of Parliament, on the Report of the Joint Committee appointed to take into consideration during the Session of 1859 the correspondence respecting the accommodation and site of the Hospital for the Insane at New Norfolk, recommending that the Government ought to take the necessary steps to procure estimates of the cost that would probably be incurred in the erection of new buildings, proposed by the majority of that Committee, and of the reconstruction and enlargement of the present New Norfolk Asylum, I have the honor to submit, as directed by the Government, the accompanying sketch design for a New Asylum. This design provides for the accommodating of Two hundred and twenty Patients, with quarters for Officers and all requisite outbuildings; and the cost of erection, if in brick-work with stone dressings, is estimated at from £70,000 to £75,000,—if in stone, this amount would be increased to £90,000. Neither the cost of furniture for the building, nor for the site, if land has to be purchased for the purpose, is included in the foregoing amounts.

I may here observe, with reference to the comparative expense of buildings in the mother country of a similar kind, that £65,000, exclusive of furniture and the outlay for foundations, is the estimated expense for a new Asylum capable of containing 322 Patients, and intended to be erected at Dartford in England, where the supply of labour is abundant and much more cheap than in this Colony.

I have the honor further to state, that certain alterations urgently required at the New Norfolk Asylum, noticed in the second paragraph of the Resolutions in question, have been effected by the direction of the Commissioners of Lunacy, under the supervision of this Department, at a cost not exceeding £1400; that the new Laundry and further improvements in Wards, under a contract for £1600, are bordering on completion; and that the estimated probable cost of the works necessary in the reconstruction and enlargement of the Asylum, including the purchase of land, shown on tracing herewith, may be set down at from £12,000 to £13,000.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your very obedient Servant,

W. R. FALCONER, *Director of Public Works.*

The Honorable the Treasurer.