

(No. 124.)



1878.

TASMANIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE COLONY:

REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE.

Brought up by Mr. Innes, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
June 4, 1879.



REPORT of the Select Committee appointed to enquire into and Report upon the Financial Affairs of the Colony ; with Minutes of the Proceedings of the Committee and Evidence.

R E P O R T.

THE Select Committee appointed by the Legislative Council to enquire and report on the Financial affairs of the Colony have the honor to report that they have made enquiry and taken evidence on certain matters which they beg to lay before the Council.

Your Committee examined Mr. Watt, the Collector of Customs ; Mr. Windsor, the Assistant Colonial Treasurer ; Mr. Douglas, the Secretary to the Post Office Department ; Mr. Lord, the Manager of the Launceston and Western Railway ; Mr. Hull, Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands ; and Mr. Lovett, of the Lands and Works Department.

1. The evidence given by the Collector of Customs shows, that about twelve months since he prepared an estimate of the probable amount of Duties likely to be collected during the year 1879 ; viz.—

At the Port of Hobart Town.....	£ 107,221
At Launceston and Sub-ports on the North Coast	100,500
Together a total of.....	£207,721
Less probable amount for drawbacks.....	6500
Leaving the probable net Customs for the year 1879	<u>£201,221</u>

being £8779 less than the amount named by the Colonial Treasurer in the Financial Statement laid before Parliament on the 23rd of April last.

2. The evidence given by Mr. Hull, the Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, is to the effect that he is of opinion the estimate he made of the Territorial Revenue will probably be realised ; viz.—£55,500, less about £2000 for repayments, thereby reducing the net revenue to £53,300, and £2000 less than the sum named in the Treasurer's Financial Statement.

3. The evidence given by Mr. Lord, the Manager of the Launceston and Western Railway, is to the effect that he believes the Traffic receipts for the year 1879 will amount to £19,350 or thereabouts, being £1000 less than the sum named in the Treasurer's Financial Statement.

4. The evidence given by Mr. Douglas, the Secretary to the Post Office, satisfied your Committee that the revenue of the Post Office Department was likely to be realised.

5. The evidence given by Mr. Windsor, the Assistant Colonial Treasurer, is to the effect that a further outstanding expenditure for the service of the year 1878, amounting to £3091 17s. 7d. (*See Appendix H.*), in addition to the £8600 (*See Appendix G.*) referred to in the Consolidated Revenue Account for the year 1878 in the Treasurer's Financial Statement, will require to be provided for.

Your Committee therefore beg to call the attention of the Council to the fact that the principal officers in the several Financial departments of the Government are of opinion that in addition to the probable deficiency shown by the Treasurer in the Financial Statement—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
There will be a probable deficiency of Customs amounting to..	8779	0	0			
There will be a probable deficiency in the Territorial Revenue amounting to.....	2000	0	0			
There will be a probable deficiency in the Traffic receipts of the Launceston and Western Railway of.....	1000	0	0			
Together amounting to.....	11,779	0	0			
There will be required to be provided a further sum to meet additional outstanding expenditure for the service of the year 1878, amounting to.....	3091	0	0			
And a further sum to meet the interest on overdrawn accounts at the Banks during the year 1879, amounting to £3000 or thereabouts.....	3000	0	0			
Together amounting to.....	.	..		17,870	0	0
Which added to the probable deficiency shown in the Treasurer's Financial Statement, amounting to.....	..			35,841	0	0
Shows a probable deficiency amounting to.....	..			<u>£53,711</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

at the close of the year 1879, in addition to the arrears of interest on the Main Line Railway Subsidy, amounting to £73,544, as shown in the Tasmanian Financial Statement. Your Committee are of opinion that, during the present depression in the pastoral, agricultural, and other industrial pursuits of the inhabitants of the Colony, it would not be prudent to calculate on any increase during the present year from the existing sources of revenue. Your Committee, therefore, consider it very desirable that efforts should be made to bring up the Revenue sufficiently to meet the Expenditure of the Government as early as practicable, as the credit of the Colony must suffer by the question being postponed.

F. M. INNES, *Chairman.*

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS.

THURSDAY, 22 MAY, 1879.

The Committee met at 12·5 P.M.

Present—Messrs. Innes, Chapman, Moore, Aikenhead, Gellibrand, James Lord, and Robertson.

Mr. Innes was elected Chairman.

The Committee adjourned at 12·30 P.M. until Friday, May 23rd, at 11 A.M.

FRIDAY, 23 MAY, 1879.

The Committee met at 11 A.M.

Present—Messrs. Innes, Moore, Gellibrand, James Lord, Robertson, Aikenhead, and Chapman.

Mr. Watt examined, and handed in return (Appendix A.)

Mr. H. J. Hull examined.

Mr. Douglas examined.

Mr. W. Windsor examined.

The Committee adjourned at 1·20 P.M. until Tuesday, May, 27th, at 11 A.M.

TUESDAY, 27 MAY, 1879.

The Committee met at 11·5 A.M.

Present—Messrs. Innes, Chapman, Gellibrand, Aikenhead, James Lord, Robertson, and Moore.

Mr. R. W. Lord examined.

The Committee adjourned at 12·15 P.M. until Wednesday, 2 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, 28 MAY, 1879.

The Committee met at 2·45 P.M.

Present—Messrs. Innes, Aikenhead, and Chapman.

Mr. Windsor examined, and handed in documents (Appendix B.)

The Statistician furnished the Committee with a Statistical Return (Appendix J).

The Committee adjourned at 3·30 P.M. until June 2nd, at 12 o'clock.

MONDAY, 2 JUNE, 1879.

The Committee met at 12 o'clock.

Present—Messrs. Innes, Moore, Gellibrand, and Chapman.

Mr. Innes laid Mr. R. W. Lord's account, £3 0s. 6d. before the Committee, which was agreed to.

The Committee adjourned at 12·55 P.M. until 2·30 P.M.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

The Committee met at 3 P.M.

Present—Messrs. Gellibrand, Moore, and Chapman.

Mr. Gellibrand in the Chair.

The Committee adjourned at 4 P.M. till 2·30 P.M. to-morrow.

TUESDAY, 3 JUNE, 1879.

The Committee met at 3 o'clock.

Present—Messrs. Innes, Moore, Aikenhead, Chapman, Robertson, and Gellibrand.

The Committee adjourned at 3·35 P.M. until June 4th, at 3 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, 4 JUNE, 1879.

The Committee met at 3·30 P.M.

Present—Messrs. Innes, Chapman, Moore, Robertson, Gellibrand, and Aikenhead.

Mr. Chapman submitted a Draft Report; Mr. Robertson moved that it be adopted, Mr. Moore seconded it.

The Committee adjourned at 3·50 P.M. until *sine die*.

EVIDENCE.

FRIDAY, 23 MAY, 1879.

Present—Messrs. Innes, Moore, Gellibrand, James Lord, Robertson, Aikenhead, Chapman.

MR. T. T. WATT *examined*.

By Mr. Innes.—1. Your name is Thomas Traill Watt, and you are Collector of Customs? Yes; and head of the Customs Department.

2. It is your duty to furnish annual or other collections and estimates of Customs Revenue of the Island? Yes.

3. What was your estimate for 1879? For Hobart Town, £107,221; for Launceston and Sub-ports, £100,500.

4. What are your actual receipts up to the present time? For the four months ending 30th April, 1879, £65,907 9s. 11d., showing a decrease against 1878 of £3110 6s. 5d. for four months.

5. From the experience of the first 4 months and other information which you possess are you led to anticipate a Customs Revenue in 1879 equal to that supplied as your estimate for that year? I believe my estimate for 1879 will be realised; at the same time I calculate on a falling off from 1878 to 1879 of from £8000 to £10,000.

6. There is an apparent discrepancy between the figures you quote; will you account for it? It arises through the drawbacks and repayments being deducted in one instance, and not in my estimate.

7. Allowing for these in both cases, 1878-9, how will the comparison, according to your estimate, stand? Total collections 1878, exclusive of drawbacks, were £216,202 12s.; my estimate that there will be collected for 1879 at the present tariff, including drawbacks, is £207,721. The collections for the month of May up to Saturday last amounted to £10,056; and I believe an equal revenue for that month, as compared with the same month of 1878, will be realised, which was £19,029.

By Mr. Chapman.—8. Do you anticipate to realise a sugar revenue amounting to £30,350 for the year 1879, when only £23,730 was realised in 1877? Yes, I do; my estimate sent to the Treasurer was £31,335.

9. Are you aware that there is a falling off of £2270 in the sugar duties for the first quarter of this year? Yes.

10. Last year there was a drawback of £5201 on goods exported; what amount of that £5201 do you estimate would be the drawback on jam? About £5000.

11. Then as the drawback last year amounted to £5201, when the sugar duties up to the 31st December, 1877, only amounted to £23,730, while the sugar duties in 1878 amounted to £31,917, do you anticipate that the drawback on jam exported during the present season will exceed the amount allowed last year? Yes; I anticipate that the drawback will be from £1000 to £1500 in excess of the season of 1878; I think it will amount to £6500 this year.

12. Do you anticipate any increase on the spirit duties during the year 1879 over the collections of 1878, which amounted to £49,981? No; my estimate sent to the Treasurer was £49,970. [Mr. Watt handed in a copy of the estimate furnished to Mr. Lewis, the Hon. Colonial Treasurer (Appendix A), which is identical to that supplied to Mr. Giblin last year.]

13. You had no interview with the Hon. Colonial Treasurer of the present Administration with respect to the estimate of the Customs Revenue of the present year? No.

MR. H. J. HULL *examined*.

By Mr. Innes.—14. Your name is Henry Jocelyn Hull, and you are Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands? Yes.

15. It is part of your duty to frame estimates of the Revenue and Expenditure under the head of Territorial Revenue? Yes.

16. Your estimate for 1879 was £55,500? Yes.

17. How has the Revenue for the first 4 months, 1879, come up to the receipts of 1877 and 1878 for the same period of the year? There has been a falling off; but I hope by the 30th June that there will be an increase on last year.

By Mr. Chapman.—18. Will you state to the Committee the falling off for the first 4 months of the present year ending 30th April? There is a decrease of £2838 14s. 5d.

19. Calling your particular attention to the estimated amount of £13,000 likely to be realised from lands sold under the 24th Section of "The Waste Lands Act," 34 Vict. No. 10, are you still of opinion that that amount is likely to be realised during the year? Yes.

20. Also total estimate of Land Revenue of £55,500, are you still of opinion that that amount is likely to be realised? I have no reason to doubt it. I think when I prepared my estimate in that I was within the mark.

21. Have you prepared a fresh estimate for the present Administration? No, but my estimate was handed to me and I was asked if I wanted to make any alteration, but I saw no reason for doing so.

22. Calling your attention to repayments from the Land Revenue amounting to £1796 9s. 7d. for the year 1877, and £1841 15s. from the revenue of 1878, what amount do you consider will be necessary to meet the repayments of 1879? About £2000 at a rough estimate,—thereby reducing the Land Revenue from £55,500 to £53,500.

By Mr. Moore.—23. In that estimate are the receipts from the sale of land and buildings on Tasman's Peninsula included? Yes.

MR. A. C. DOUGLAS *examined.*

By Mr. Innes.—24. What is your office and title? Secretary to the Post Office Department, and it is my duty to frame estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for that Department from year to year.

25. What estimates under Inland Revenue do you prepare? None.

By Mr. Chapman.—26. Is there any falling off in the sale of stamps for the current year? No, there is an increase of £204 during the first 4 months compared with the corresponding months of 1878. The total stamps sold through the Post Office Department during the year 1878 amounted to £23,382 15s. 8d.

27. I place in your hands the Government *Gazette*, showing a falling off of £201 11s. 11d. in the total stamp receipts for the first 4 months of the present year? Yes, that appears to be correct, but the falling off is not in the revenue collected through the Post Office. (Appendix L.)

28. Calling your attention to the large expenditure on mail contracts, will you furnish the Committee with a report in detail? I shall be happy to do so. (Appendix K.)

MR. W. H. WINDSOR *examined.*

By Mr. Innes.—29. Your name is William Henry Windsor, and you are Assistant Colonial Treasurer? Yes.

By Mr. Chapman.—30. Will you furnish us with a report showing the receipts of stamps sold at the Treasury for 1878 and the 4 months of 1879? Yes. (Appendix B.)

31. Will you furnish the Committee with details of the estimated outstanding ordinary expenditure referred to in the Account Current, page 8, of the Financial Statement, with the continued account to the present date? Yes. (Appendices G., H.)

TUESDAY, 27 MAY, 1879.

Present—Messrs. Innes, Chapman, Aikenhead, Robertson, James Lord, Gellibrand, and Moore.

MR. R. W. LORD *examined.*

By the Chairman.—32. You are Manager of the Launceston and Western Railway, and annually frame estimates of Revenue and Expenditure? Yes.

33. What is the date of the latest estimate framed by you for the current year? 1st June, 1878; the Estimate of Ways and Means dated by Mr. Giblin on 25th September, 1878, with the exception of the Main Line Tolls which were not then settled.

34. Do you still adhere to that as a probable estimate? Yes; with the exception of the goods traffic, receipts, viz., £7850.

35. In what respect would you modify that, and why? The crops having turned out particularly light I told the Minister of Lands and Works in February that the receipts would be, I thought, at least £500 less.

36. But you would not modify the other heads of estimates? No; I think they will be realised. Mr. Lord handed in document. (Appendix C.)

37. How do you account for the gradual diminution of goods traffic? In consequence of the withdrawal of the Quamby and other estates from cultivation. From the estate of Quamby alone no less than 800 people, I believe, have left in the past two years.

By Mr. Chapman.—38. As the revenue from goods only amounted to £6461 in 1878, are you of opinion that we are likely to realise that amount during the present year? Yes, I think from information I have been able to gather as to the quantity of grain still held in the districts that this amount will be considerably exceeded. I think if I had to frame estimates of goods traffic for the present year with the knowledge I now possess I should put it down at £6850 instead of £7850, which estimate it must be remembered was made a year ago. I think the estimates for parcels, &c. will be fully realised.

39. On the whole you think the estimate of £20,350 made to Parliament will be realised within £1000, due to the unprecedented falling off of the goods traffic? Yes, I will submit a statement of the falling off of acreage under crop, and the corresponding traffic. (Appendix D.)

40. Are you of opinion that the estimate of £17,956 provided in the Estimates for the year 1879 will be sufficient to cover the total expenditure for the Railway Department for that year? Yes; I am of opinion that there will be a slight saving.

41. With regard to £1650 provided in the Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for 1879, will any portion of that amount be likely to be required for Railway purposes for the current year? Of the £1650, £1500 will be required for steel rails for stores,—when I say stores I mean “stock account;” as the rails, &c. are used they will be debited to the proper head of expenditure, which is amply provided for in the Estimates for 1879 in the total sum of £17,956 previously alluded to; £150 will be expended on the fences and gatekeeper’s cottage.

By Mr. Innes.—42. Do these Estimates embrace all you estimated for expenditure? Yes, certainly.

43. What relation does the total revenue bear to the total expenditure? I will submit a certified statement. (Appendix F.)

44. Do you anticipate any large increase in traffic receipts in the next 5 years? No, I do not, unless some new industry is developed so as to bring a large increase in population, and I am of opinion we have reached the maximum traffic receipts.

45. Have you given in a report to the Government for 1878, and when was it supplied? Yes; I submitted a report for 1878 to the Minister of Lands on 13th May.

WEDNESDAY, 28 MAY, 1879.

Present—Messrs. Innes, Chapman, and Aikenhead.

MR. W. H. WINDSOR *examined*.

By Mr. Chapman.—46. In addition to the outstanding expenditure referred to in Appendix G, is there any other outstanding expenditure for the year 1878? The authority of the Governor in Council has been given for various expenditure chargeable to that year, amounting to £3091 17s. 7d. (Appendix H.)

47. Are you aware of any other payments besides that £3091 17s. 7d.? No, I am not aware of any.

48. What amount do you estimate our overdraft at the banks to be on the 30th June, after providing for the usual payments on account of the Public Service, exclusive of Loans Bill? About £50,000. (Appendix I.)

MONDAY, 2 JUNE, 1879.

Present—Messrs. Gellibrand, Chapman, Moore.

MR. GEORGE LOVETT *examined*.

By Mr. Chapman.—49. Your name is George Lovett, and you are Ministerial Clerk in the Lands and Works Department? Yes.

50. Can you produce to the Committee the Report of the Manager of the Launceston and Western Railway for 1878? Yes; and do so.

51. Will you point out to the Committee the Traffic Receipts and Expenditure for the years 1876–7–8? Yes; and hand it in. (Appendix E.)

52. I call your attention to a return dated 6th May, 1879, furnished by the Assistant Colonial Treasurer, and laid on the Table of the House of Assembly on the 8th May, 1879, Paper 128; what amount of Debentures were issued on account for the purpose of construction of Launceston and Western Railway? £460,000; £400,000 bearing interest at 6 per cent. and £60,000 at 5 per cent., together making a charge on the Consolidated Revenue Fund of £27,000 per annum.

53. How much of the interest was during construction charged to the above loans? £96,000.

54. And that included all interest up to and inclusive of the amount due on the 1st January, 1873? Yes.

55. Since then what amount has been paid for interest up to, and inclusive of 1st January, 1879? Six years interest at £27,000 per annum, making a total of £162,000 charged to the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

56. Can you furnish the Committee with the amount of the Railway Rate collected for the years 1873–4–5? Yes; the net amount collected and paid to the Treasury was £31,295 10s. 3d.

57. Can you furnish the Committee with a report of the stores on hand, showing their value, of the Launceston and Western Railway on the 31st December, 1878? No; but I can furnish the Committee with the value of the stock taken on 31st December, 1878; it was £2819 12s. 5d.

58. Can you furnish the Committee with an inventory of the stores of the Launceston and Western Railway on the 31st December, 1878? No.

APPENDIX A.

ESTIMATED Revenue from Customs for the Year 1879.

<i>Customs Duties.</i>	<i>Estimate, Port of Hobart Town.</i>	<i>Estimate, Port of Launces- ton.</i>	<i>Total Customs, 1879.</i>
Spirits	24,600	25,370	49,970
Tobacco, Cigars, and Snuff	14,350	12,632	26,982
Wine	1300	1387	2687
Malt Liquors	950	1192	2142
Tea	8917	8315	17,232
Coffee, Chicory, Cocoa, and Chocolate...	1170	1033	2203
Sugar	16,800	14,535	31,335
Dried Fruits	1641	2130	3771
Hops	233	33	266
Salt	620	845	1465
Oils	2220	2671	4891
Sheep and Cattle	1500	130	1630
Coals	500	438	938
Stationery, Paper, &c.....	500	1266	1766
Hardware, Ironmongery, Holloware, &c..	2850	3686	6536
Drapery, Apparel, and Slops	13,500	13,931	27,431
Boots and Shoes.....	900	1049	1949
Drugs and Medicines	550	721	1271
Earthenware, Glassware, &c.	620	640	1260
All other Goods	13,500	8496	21,996
	£107,221	£100,500	£207,721

THIS is a copy of the Estimate furnished to the Hon. W. R. Giblin in September, 1878, and identical to that lately furnished to the present Treasurer, Hon. D. Lewis.

THOMAS T. WATT, *Collector.*
23rd May, 1879.

APPENDIX B.

COMPARATIVE Statement showing the Amount received from the Sale of Stamps during the four Months ended 30th April, 1878 and 1879 respectively.

	1878.				1879.		
	£	s.	d.	..	£	s.	d.
January	143	19	2	..	159	17	4
February	162	14	8	..	121	1	10
March.....	104	13	0	..	153	15	10
April	114	18	7	..	173	16	10
	<u>£526 5 5</u>				<u>608 11 10</u>		
					<u>526 5 5</u>		
Increase, 1879.....					<u>£82 6 5</u>		

Amount collected for impressed Stamps for the year 1878—£1576 6s. 10d.

WM. H. WINDSOR, *Assistant Colonial Treasurer.*

Colonial Treasury, 24th May, 1879.

APPENDIX C.

LAUNCESTON AND WESTERN RAILWAY.

COMPARATIVE Table showing the Analysis of Goods Traffic on the Launceston and Western Railway for Years 1874, 1875, 1876, 1877, and 1878.

	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
Grain	10,616	13,787	8379	8966	7713
Firewood, Fencing, Bark, and Wool	13,098	10,772	11,357	8508	8663
Manure	1088	1278	894	1042	1045
	24,802	25,837	20,630	18,516	17,421

R. W. LORD, *Manager.*

APPENDIX D.

STATEMENT showing the close relation between the Per-centage of Lands in Crop to Land in Cultivation; the actual Tonnage carried upon the Launceston and Western Railway for the same Years when reduced to a common equivalent.

	1874.	1875.	1876.	1877.	1878.
Per-centage of Acreage to Land in cultivation in L. & W. Railway District.....	43.9	45.6	41.5	35.5	34.3
L. & W. Railway Goods Tonnage reduced to common equivalent	43.9	45.6	36.3	32.7	30.3

COMPARATIVE Table showing relatively mode of Cultivation during Years 1869—1878.

	1869. <i>Per cent. to Total.</i>	1878. <i>Per cent. to Total.</i>	<i>Increase.</i>	<i>Decrease.</i>
Land under crop.....	52.3	37.5	—	14
Ditto in permanent grasses	25.4	34.3	8.6	—
Ditto under bare fallow	7.8	7.4	—	—
Ditto otherwise cultivated	14.5	21.1	6.6	—

R. W. LORD, *Manager.*

APPENDIX E.

COMPARATIVE Statement of Receipts, Traffic, and Working Expenses for the Years 1876, 1877, & 1878.

TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

YEAR.	MILES OPEN.	COST OF CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT.		TOTAL TRAIN MILES.	LOCOMOTIVE.	GOODS AND PASSENGER TRAFFIC.		RECEIPTS.					RECEIPTS PER TRAIN MILE.	WORKING DAYS.
		Amount.	Per Mile.			Tons.	Passengers.	Passengers.	Parcels, &c.	Goods and Live Stock.	Miscellaneous.	TOTAL.		
		£	£					£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	s. d.	
1876	45	481,613	9591	89,101	5	20,630	103,017	9838 4 7	698 4 0	6787 19 4	1589 8 3	18,913 16 2	4 2 9	313
1877	45	433,409	9631	102,471	5	18,516	102,959	9899 2 8	571 15 9	6804 9 2	4167 9 9	21,442 17 1	4 2 2	313
1878	45	435,445	9676	101,712	5	17,421	106,472	10,250 19 8	674 9 7	6448 3 11	4816 6 8	22,189 19 10	4 4 3	312

WORKING EXPENSES.

YEAR.	MILES WORKED.	MAINTENANCE.			LOCOMOTIVE AND CARRIAGE AND WAGGON CHARGES.			TRAFFIC CHARGES.			GENERAL CHARGES.			TOTAL WORKING EXPENSES.			WORKING DAYS.
		Amount.	Per Mile open.	Per Train Mile.	Amount.	Per Mile open.	Per Train Mile.	Amount.	Per Mile open.	Per Train Mile.	Amount.	Per Mile open.	Per Train Mile.	Amount.	Per Mile open.	Per Train Mile.	
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
1876	45	4650 15	8 108 3 1	0 5	5081 16	7 111 8 1	1 5	4665 18	1103 7 1	0 5	1433 18	6 31 9 0	3 9	15,782 9	8 350 7 3	6 4	313
1877	45	5960 1	2 106 5 1	1 1	5657 9	2 125 7 1	3 1	4884 1	9 87 2 0	10 7	1601 13	2 28 6 0	3 5	18,103 5	3 348 0 3	6 4	313
1878	45	5341 10	0 97 2 0	11 7	5662 8	6 125 8 1	3 4	4905 18	4 85 5 0	10 5	1871 4	0 33 4 0	4 1	17,681 0	10 342 2 3	5 7	312

The above extracted from the Annual Report on the Launceston and Western Railway for the year 1878.

GEORGE F. LOVETT.

NOTE.—For two months of 1876, and for the years 1877 and 1878, the amount received as toll and compensation for running powers by the Tasmanian Main Line Railway is included as receipts.

G. F. L.

APPENDIX F.

THE following is a summary of the net earnings since the opening of the railway:—

	£	s.	d.
1871 }	440	13	7
1872 }			
1873	3441	13	1
1874	1939	0	9
1875	3222	12	2
1876	3131	6	6
1877	3339	11	10
1878	4508	19	0
TOTAL	£20,023	16	11

1. Amount of Debentures issued for the purpose of the Launceston and Western Railway—£460,000.
2. The proportion of such amount used for the purpose of defraying Interest both during construction and afterwards—£96,000.
3. The total amount paid for Interest upon such Debentures from the time of issue to the close of the year 1878—£254,722 10s.

4. The amount collected from the Inhabitants of the Launceston and Western Railway District for Railway Rates, distinguishing the gross and net amount, and the years in which the same was paid, and the amount collected in each year:—

YEAR.	AMOUNT.			EXPENSES OF COLLECTION.			NET AMOUNT.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1873.....	15,624	17	0	704	17	11	14,919	19	1
1874.....	10,389	9	4	4088	9	10	6300	19	6
1875.....	10,557	18	6	490	15	6	10,067	3	0
1876.....	7	8	8	—			7	8	8
TOTAL.....	£36,579	13	6	£5284	3	3	£31,295	10	3

5. The amount of profit (if any) received from the working of the Railway since it came into the hands of the Government, distinguishing the years in which a profit was made, and the amount in each year of such profit:—

YEAR.	EXPENDITURE EXCLUSIVE OF INTEREST.			REVENUE.			PROFIT.			LOSS.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1872.....	6377	11	7	4675	11	3	..			1702	0	4
1873.....	14,746	5	4	17,075	16	5	2329	11	1			
1874.....	17,445	15	6	18,120	9	6	674	14	0			
1875.....	17,970	8	3	19,413	10	11	1443	2	8			
1876.....	17,685	12	4	18,373	5	4	687	13	0			
1877.....	19,893	13	4	21,386	9	10	1487	16	6			
1878.....	19,750	19	9	22,141	8	1	2390	8	4			
Deduct loss.....	£113,875	6	1	£121,186	11	4	9013	5	7	£1702	0	4
TOTAL PROFIT..			1702	0	4			
							£7311	5	3			

Colonial Treasury, 6th May, 1879.

WM. H. WINDSOR, Assistant Treasurer.

APPENDIX G.

DETAILS of the estimated outstanding Ordinary Expenditure referred to in the Account Current, page 8, of the Financial Statement; namely,—

Postal Service between Great Britain and Melbourne	£	s.	d.
Aid to Municipalities	1000	0	0
Crown Agents, London	2000	0	0
Road Trusts, in excess of Reserve 1877, chargeable to 1878	200	0	0
Miscellaneous items	3000	0	0
	2400	0	0
	£8600	0	0

APPENDIX H.

ADDITIONAL Expenditure authorised on account of 1878 since above Statement made up.

Mr. Atkins' Imperial pension, refused to be paid	£	s.	d.
South Esk Bridge—Interest advanced on Debentures	125	7	6
Salaries, Allowances, and Contingencies—Permanent Staff	887	5	7
Volunteer Force—Contingencies	57	10	0
Post Office—Postmaster, Wattle Hill	300	0	0
Board of Education—In aid of Vote to Public Schools	1	5	0
Allowance to Lieut.-Colonel Home of Northern Division	172	12	6
Travelling Expenses	50	0	0
Unforeseen Expenses—Testing Gas Apparatus	25	0	0
Police—Ferryage, Constables, &c.	7	0	0
Commandant and Inspecting Field Officer; also Lieut.-Colonel Rifle Regiment	5	13	0
Ditto—Travelling Expenses	100	0	0
Legislative Council—Witnesses' Expenses	35	0	0
Road Trusts—In excess of Reserve 1877, chargeable to 1878	25	4	0
	1300	0	0
TOTAL.....	£3091	17	7

Colonial Treasury, 27th May, 1879.

APPENDIX I.

REPORT of the state of the Colonial Treasury on the evening of the 24th May, 1879.

	£	s.	d.
Specie and Bank Notes in the Treasury.....	124	16	5
Deposit in the Commercial Bank			
Ditto in the Bank of Van Diemen's Land	57	2	5
Ditto in the ditto, Launceston	137	4	11
Ditto in the Commercial Bank, ditto	2424	2	3
Ditto in the Union Bank of Australia, Latrobe..	132	19	6
Ditto in the Commercial Bank, Special Account	20,000	0	0
	22,876	6	3
<i>Amount overdrawn at the Bank.—Commercial Bank, Hobart Town..</i>	37,259	15	0
Overdrawn balance on the evening of Saturday, the 24th May, 1879..	£14,383	8	9

WM. H. WINDSOR, *Assistant Colonial Treasurer.*

Colonial Treasury, Hobart Town, 27 May, 1879.

APPENDIX J.

STATEMENT furnished by the Government Statistician, at the request of the Committee.

WOOL exported between 1st December and 30th November in the years following:—

	lbs.	Value. £	Average Price per lb. s. d.
1875—6.....	6,629,211	434,039	1 3 $\frac{3}{4}$
1876—7.....	7,058,393	449,814	1 3 $\frac{3}{4}$
1877—8.....	7,599,033	491,926	1 3 $\frac{1}{2}$

AGRICULTURAL.

The principal crops are Wheat, Oats, Potatoes, Hay, and Hops.

Wheat.—The average was greater in 1878-9 than in the previous year in the Districts of Bothwell, Campbell Town, Evandale, George Town, Glenorchy, Hamilton, Hobart, Longford, Oatlands, Portland, Ross, and Spring Bay; Clarence, Deloraine, and Sorell not having sent in returns as yet, and the average for Westbury not being yet calculated. It was smaller at Brighton, Emu Bay, Glamorgan, Huon, Kingborough, Launceston, Port Sorell, and Russell. At Port Sorell there was only half a crop; and I am informed by the Collector for Deloraine that he does not expect the average to be more than 10 bushels per acre. In the remaining Districts the average was about the same as in the previous year, and the general average will probably be not much below it.

In several parts a good deal of damage is reported to have been done by rust.

The acreage of land in wheat last year, so far as the returns already received go, was greater than in the year before.

Oats.—Average smaller at Glenorchy, Green Ponds, Hobart, Huon, Kingborough, and New Norfolk; greater in the other districts. Crop generally good.

Potatoes.—Seemed to yield a fair average.

Hay.—Above the average of 1877-8.

Hops.—At Huon and New Norfolk were more productive, but less so in the other districts.

PASTORAL.

Several of the Collectors speak favourably of the pastoral interest in regard to improvements in the breeding of sheep.

As to the number of Sheep, as far as our present information extends, there was an increase of about 27,000.

APPENDIX K.

RETURN of Inland Mail Contracts, showing the Modes of Conveyance, Distances, Frequency of Communication, and Amounts paid per annum.

Description of Contract.	How conveyed.	Distance of Mail Line in miles.	Frequency of communication.	Amount per annum.		
				£	s.	d.
Launceston and Deloraine, Carrick and Hadspen, Bracknell and Oaks.....	L. & W. Railway	56	Twice Daily	675	0	0
New Norfolk and Ouse.....	Coach	31	Ditto	270	0	0
Hamilton, Montacute, and Glen Quoin.....	Horse	5	Bi-weekly	35	0	0
Circular Head and Montagu River.....	Ditto	35	Once a week	30	0	0
Hagley and Westwood, Westwood and Rose Vale, Rose Vale and Bridgenorth.....	Ditto	10	Bi-weekly	40	0	0
Ross and Auburn.....	Ditto	12	Tri-weekly	40	0	0
Branxholm and Ringarooma Road.....	Ditto	6	Bi-weekly	435	0	0
Deloraine and Torquay, <i>via</i> Elizabeth Town, Sassafras, and Latrobe.....	Cart	35	Daily	50	0	0
New Norfolk and Glenora.....	Ditto	12	Ditto	150	0	0
Richmond and Spring Bay.....	Ditto	35	Bi-weekly	60	0	0
Franklin and Honeywood.....	Ditto	8	Daily	56	0	0
Victoria and Port Cygnet.....	Ditto	11	Ditto	25	0	0
Port Cygnet and Garden Island Creek.....	Horse	6	Bi-weekly	169	0	0
Ross and Longford.....	Cart	40	Tri-weekly	36	5	0
Launceston and Upper Piper's River.....	Horse	14	Once a week	150	0	0
Honeywood, Port Esperance, and Southport.....	Ditto	25	Tri-weekly	137	0	0
Launceston and Ilfracombe.....	Ditto	35	Bi-weekly	79	10	0
Scottsdale and Ringarooma.....	Ditto	22	Ditto	180	0	0
George's Bay and Gould's Country.....	Ditto	15	Tri-weekly	80	0	0
Thomas's Plains and Blue Tier.....	Ditto	14	Bi-weekly	70	0	0
Thomas's Plains and Krushka's Bridge.....	Ditto	10	Ditto	85	0	0
Gould's Country and Blue River.....	Ditto	10	Ditto	51	0	0
Latrobe and Green's Creek, <i>via</i> Moriarty Road and Northdown.....	Ditto	15	Tri-weekly	35	0	0
General Post Office and Main Line Railway Station.....	Mail cart	3	Twice a day	80	0	0
Trains, Risdon Road, and Post Offices, New Town and Augusta Road.....	Foot	4	Daily	55	0	0
Brighton Railway Station and Melton Mowbray.....	Coach	18	Ditto	90	0	0
Richmond and Campania.....	Ditto	5	Ditto	25	0	0
Melton Mowbray and Jericho.....	Horse	11	Ditto	45	0	0
Trains and Lower Jerusalem.....	Ditto	3	Ditto	35	0	0
Oatlands and Railway Station.....	Cart	4	Ditto	23	0	0
Breadalbane and Evandale Road Station.....	Horse	3	Ditto	25	0	0
Post Office, Launceston, and Main Line Railway Station.....	Mail cart	3	Ditto	25	0	0
Latrobe, Torquay, and Formby.....	Horse	7	Ditto	2850	0	0
Hobart Town and Launceston.....	T. M. L. Railway	133	Ditto	23	0	0
Trains and Post Offices, Tunbridge, Snake Banks, and Cleveland.....	Foot	27	Ditto	180	0	0
Hobart Town and Franklin.....	Coach	30	Ditto [week	70	0	0
Sorell, Carlton, and East Bay Neck.....	Horse	18	Four times a	50	0	0
Ringarooma and Cascade River.....	Ditto	5	Bi-weekly	135	0	0
Launceston and George Town.....	Ditto	35	Four times a	58	0	0
Hobart Town, Brown's River, and Tinder Box Bay	Coach	18	Daily [week	80	0	0
Latrobe and Barrington, <i>via</i> Kentishbury and The Nook.....	Horse	25	Tri-weekly	45	0	0
Deloraine and Chudleigh.....	Ditto	5	Ditto	50	0	0
Hobart Town and Sorell.....	Coach	15	Daily	200	0	0
Emu Bay and Mount Bischoff.....	Tramway	40	Tri-weekly	30	0	0
Launceston and Nine Mile Springs.....	Coach	32	Bi-weekly	28	0	0
Lymington and Deddington.....	Horse	6	Tri-weekly	208	0	0
Mount Bischoff and Pi-man River.....	Foot	45	Twice a month	55	0	0
Corners and Kingston, <i>via</i> Vauluse, Ellerslie, and Kelvin Grove.....	Horse	20	Bi-weekly	40	0	0
Cranbrook and Bichenon.....	Ditto	19	Ditto	760	0	0
Latrobe and Burnie. Don Bridge and Post Office	Coach	33	Daily	571	0	0
Burnie and Wynyard.....	Horse	12	Ditto	50	0	0
Wynyard and Circular Head.....	Ditto	31	Tri-weekly	170	0	0
Corners and St. Mary's.....	Coach	48	Daily	220	0	0
St. Mary's and George's Bay.....	Ditto	24	Tri-weekly	170	0	0
Fingal and Reedy Marsh.....	Horse	17	Bi-weekly	220	0	0
Boobyalla and Mount Cameron, North and South	Ditto	15	Once a week	50	0	0
George Town Road and Cape Portland.....	Ditto	70	Ditto	170	0	0
Launceston and Scottsdale.....	Ditto	39	Bi-weekly	170	0	0
Ayca and Swansea.....	Cart	40	Ditto	50	0	0
Swansea and Little Swanport.....	Horse	16	Ditto	43	0	0
Spring Bay and Little Swanport.....	Ditto	14	Ditto			
Carried forward.....				£9452	15	0

<i>Description of Contract.</i>	<i>How conveyed.</i>	<i>Distance of Mail Line in miles.</i>	<i>Frequency of communication.</i>	<i>Amount per annum.</i>
<i>Brought forward</i>	£ 9452 15 0
Melton Mowbray and Bothwell.....	Coach	12	Daily	85 0 0
Oatlands and Ponsonby Vale.....	Horse	13	Ditto	40 0 0
Brown's River and Three Hut Point.....	Ditto	25	Bi-weekly	75 0 0
Kangaroo Point and Clarence Plains.....	Ditto	4	Daily	30 0 0
Clarence Plains and Muddy Plains	Ditto	6	Bi-weekly	
Hobart Town and Richmond.....	Coach	14	Daily	30 0 0
Kelly's Point, Tinder Box Bay, Barnes' Bay, and Trumpeter Bay.....	Boat and horse	10	Bi-weekly	30 0 0
Bream Creek and Carlton.....	Horse	12	Ditto	30 0 0
Hobart Town and Glenorchy.....	Omnibus	5	Once a day	25 0 0
Winkleigh and <i>Bush Inn</i>	Horse	15	Once a week	10 0 0
Hobart Town and New Norfolk.....	Coach	21	Daily	80 0 0
Launceston and White Hills	Horse	10	Bi-weekly	20 0 0
Bothwell and Shannon	Ditto	15	Ditto	10 0 0
Falmouth and Seymour.....	Ditto	16	Ditto	20 0 0
Castra and Leven.....	Ditto	7	Ditto	10 0 0
Tunnack and Oatlands	Ditto	14	Daily	35 0 0
Tunnack and Dairy Farm.....	Ditto	12	Tri-weekly	35 0 0
Brighton, Black Brush, Lower and Upper Broad Marsh	Ditto	13	Ditto	50 0 0
Nine Mile Springs and Back Creek.....	Ditto	5	Bi-weekly	15 0 0
Extra work, Mails to and from the Trains, and Evandale Road Station	Foot	—	Daily	20 0 0
Brighton and Old Beach.....	Horse	5	Tri-weekly	20 0 0
Longford and Cressy.....	Coach	5	Twice daily	12 0 0
Spring Bay and Oakhampton.....	Horse	3	Bi-weekly	13 0 0
George's Bay and Gould's Country. Extra mail..	Ditto	12	Once a week	10 0 0
Muddy Plains and South Arm	Ditto	4	Bi-weekly	15 0 0
Recherche Bay and Southport.....	Ditto	10	Once a week	10 0 0
General Post Office and Upper Macquarie-street ..	Omnibus	1½	Daily	12 0 0
Hobart Town and Sandy Bay.....	Ditto	1	Twice daily	12 0 0
Fingal and Mangana	Horse	5	Bi-weekly	18 0 0
The Trains and Post Office, Epping Forest	Foot	½	Daily	5 0 0
The Steamer and Post Offices, Hobart Town and Kangaroo Point.....	Ditto	1	Twice daily	5 0 0
Hobart Town and Risdon.....	Horse	5	Daily	10 0 0
Launceston and George Town	Steamer	35	Bi-weekly	25 0 0
Sorell and Wattle Hill.....	Horse	7	Ditto	12 0 0
Exeter and Glengarry, West Tamar.....	Ditto	7	Ditto	12 0 0
Hobart Town and Salt-water River.....	Vessel	40	Twice a month	20 0 0
Launceston and Brandy Creek.....	Steamer	30	Bi-weekly	52 0 0
Myrtle Bank and Lisle.....	Horse	7	Ditto	25 0 0
				£10,390 15 0

General Post Office, 28th May, 1879.

A. C. DOUGLAS, Secretary.

APPENDIX L.

ACCOUNT of Stamp Duties received by the Collector of Stamp Duties.

During the year 1878.....	£ 3000 12 6
Probable amount to be collected during the year 1879..	2500 0 0

G. PATTEN ADAMS.
2nd June, 1879.