

(No. 104.)



1871.

T A S M A N I A.
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

ROBERT MASON.

PETITION OF, RESPECTING HIS PURCHASE OF CROWN LAND.

Laid upon the Table by the Minister of Lands and Works, and ordered by the House to be printed, November 30, 1871.



Hamilton-on-Forth, March 4th, 1871.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to represent that in the year 1861 I applied to the Government to purchase 50 acres of land on the Gawler River, District of Devon, and that I paid the survey fee of £5, a deposit of £12, and four instalments of £6 each, amounting altogether to £41. Having the misfortune to meet with an accident, and being laid up with illness in consequence, I was precluded, being only a labouring man, from making further payments to complete the purchase.

I respectfully beg to appeal to you to take the hardship of the case into your favourable consideration, and to comply with this my humble application, that the grant may be issued for the quantity of land I have paid for.

I beg to forward certificates of the accident and illness which caused me to fail in paying the remaining instalments for the 50 acres of land from the Rev. Mr. Noone, R. C. P., James Fenton, Esq., J.P., and Alfred Walker, Esq., J.P.

I have the honor to remain,
Your obedient Servant,

ROBERT MASON.

*The Hon. HENRY BUTLER,
Minister of Lands and Works, Hobart Town.*

February 25th, 1871.

THIS is to certify that I have, some time ago, attended Robert Mason when he was very ill.

JAMES NOONE, *Catholic Chaplain.*

MEMO.—I am aware that the applicant, Robert Mason, was ill, and consequently unable to provide means to pay his instalments regularly.

JAMES FENTON, *J.P.*

THE applicant, Robert Mason, met with an accident, which rendered him unable to work for some time.

A. M. WALKER, *J.P.*

Lands and Works Office, 15th March, 1871.

SIR,

I AM directed by the Honorable the Minister of Lands and Works to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, requesting that a grant may issue to you for a portion of the 50 acres of land you selected for purchase on the Gawler, equivalent to the money you have paid on the same.

In reply, I am to inform you that Dr. Butler regrets that the Waste Lands Act does not admit of a compliance with your application.

I may add that as the land is undisposed of you are at liberty to re-select it under the present Land Act, on the terms set forth in Schedule I on the accompanying form.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your very obedient Servant,

E. W. BOOTHMAN,
Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands.

ROBERT MASON, *Hamilton-on-Forth.*

To His Excellency the Governor in Council.

The humble Petition of Robert Mason.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH :

THAT in the year 1861 he applied to purchase 50 acres of land on the River Gawler on credit.

That he paid to the Government instalments of the purchase money as follows :—

	£
21 June, 1861	12
" 1862	6
17 June, 1863	6
20 June, 1864	6
2 June, 1865	6
	<hr/>
	36
Survey Fee	5
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Total	£41
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That in 1866 your Petitioner was unable to continue the payment of the yearly instalments in consequence of illness caused by the accidental falling of a tree, of which certificates from James Fenton, Esq., J.P., Alfred Walker, Esq., J.P., and the Rev. Father Noone were forwarded to the Honorable the Minister of Lands and Works, applying that he might have granted to him a portion of the land selected equivalent to the amount of money he had paid.

That in reply your Petitioner was informed that the Waste Lands Act does not admit of a compliance with the application, but that as the land is undisposed of it is open to your Petitioner to select under the present Land Act.

That in consequence of this communication your Petitioner applied to the Honorable the Minister of Lands and Works, and requested that in making a selection as suggested by him under the terms of the present Land Act the money he has paid should be taken in payment for the land, or in the event of this request not being acceded to, that the amount of money paid may be returned to him.

That your Petitioner regrets to state that this reasonable request has not been complied with.

Your Petitioner begs most humbly and respectfully to represent to Your Excellency and the Honorable Gentlemen of your Council that he is only a labouring man, and that under the above circumstances he feels it to be a hard, a very hard, case that he should be thus deprived of his hard earnings; and therefore your Petitioner appeals to Your Excellency in Council, and prays that a grant of land may be made to him equivalent to the amount of money he has paid, or that the money, £41, may be returned to him.

And your Petitioner will ever pray.

ROBERT MASON.

Lands and Works Office, 28th November, 1871.

SIR,

THE Petition transmitted by you to His Excellency the Governor in Council has been referred to me, and I have the honor to inform you that the land selected by you is still vacant; that the instalments which were unpaid amount to £24, viz.—£6 due in June, 1866, and the subsequent years 1867, 1868, 1869.

In the event of your being enabled to complete the payments of these instalments, I shall be prepared to recommend to the Governor in Council that permission be accorded, and a grant of the land issued to you.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your very obedient Servant,

Mr. ROBERT MASON, *Hamilton-on-Forth.*

HENRY BUTLER.