

(No 35.)



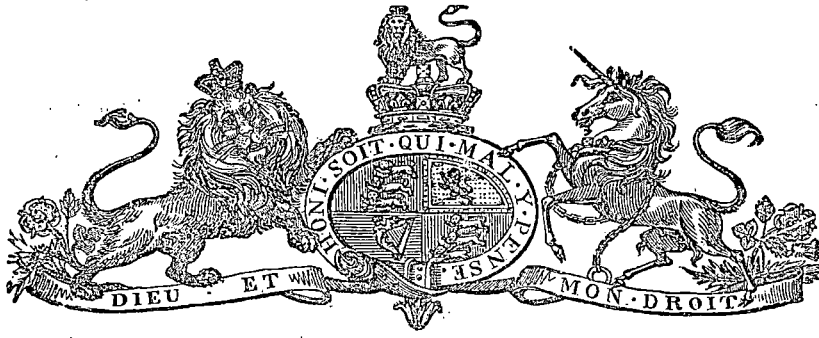
1867.

T A S M A N I A.

T I M B E R L I C E N C E S.

Return of Amount collected in the Electoral Districts of Kingborough,
Queenborough, and Franklin during the Years 1864, 1865, 1866, and
up to 30th June, 1867.

Laid upon the Table by the Colonial Treasurer, and ordered by the House to be
printed, 6 September, 1867.



MEMORANDUM.

Survey Office, 3rd September, 1867.

THE information asked for by the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer is herewith forwarded.

The Timber Licence Fees were reduced in October, 1866, from 2s. 6d. to 1s. per week; and, consequently, the fees which are now collected only represent £300 a year: whereas, had the reduction not been made, the amount would have been £750.

Presuming the information required by the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer has some connection with the duties performed by Mr. Laffer in the Huon District, I think it necessary to point out to Mr. Chapman that the Inspector of Timber Licences is not solely engaged in the collection of Timber Licence Fees: his services have saved the Government many pounds, inasmuch as he has been called upon to make reports upon good land and timber in the District, encroachments, &c., which—had the District Surveyor been employed—would have entailed an expense of £2 2s. *per diem* for every day he was engaged upon the work.

Two works are now going on under Mr. Laffer's supervision; viz.—the cutting of Tracks to ascertain the extent of good land at the back of the Township of Gordon at Three Hut Point, and also in the vicinity of Dr. Crowther's establishment at Oyster Cove.

Mr. Laffer's designation should, in justice to himself, be altered: he is not only Inspector of Timber Licences, but a general referee for all sorts of questions appertaining to his District; and he has been employed by the Public Works Department in connection with the Scheme of Reproductive Works.

When the office of Inspector of Timber Licences was abolished the fees dwindled down to £173 15s. for the year 1858, and to £157 15s. for 1859, whereas the year following the appointment they rose at once to £575 2s. 6d.: this alone is a convincing proof of the necessity for having such an officer as Mr. Laffer in the Huon District; and, instead of calling him Inspector of Timber Licences, it would be more correct to designate him either Inspector or Agent for the Huon District.

J. E. CALDER, *Surveyor-General.*

In addition to the above, I would take leave to add that I should not be doing justice to Mr. Laffer were I not to say that I have always found him to be thoroughly trustworthy, and most useful and energetic.—J.E.C.

The Honorable the Colonial Treasurer.

RETURN of the Amount collected for Timber Licences in the Electoral Districts of Kingborough, Queenborough, and Franklin, during the Years 1864, 1865, 1866, and up to 30th June, 1867.

Year.	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
From 1st January to 31st December, 1864	548	2	6
Ditto, 1865.....	360	2	6
Ditto, 1866.....	248	5	0
From 1st January to 30th June, 1867	150	2	0
	£1306	12	0

J. E. CALDER.

Survey Department, 2nd September, 1867.

RETURN showing the Amount of Timber exported from Hobart Town during the first Seven Months of the Years 1866 and 1867.

<i>Date.</i>	<i>Battens.</i>	<i>Laths and Shingles.</i>	<i>Palings.</i>	<i>Piles and Beams.</i>	<i>Posts and Rails.</i>	<i>Sawn Timber.</i>	<i>Treenails and Staves.</i>
1866.	feet.	No.	No.	No.	No.	feet.	No.
January	28,350	725,500	287,200	128	4000	179,800	6,000
February	16,000	883,500	387,000	—	2500	202,600	14,400
March	15,000	1,089,800	300,200	56	6700	259,000	14,400
April	14,100	437,000	262,800	—	4300	252,400	4,490
May	10,000	1,699,000	407,550	—	3200	353,414	17,314
June	—	33,000	119,500	—	1400	128,750	4,500
July	—	1,098,000	218,200	—	8205	175,400	5,202
	83,450	* 5,965,800	* 1,982,450	184	* 30,305	1,551,364	* 66,306
1867.							
January	—	702,500	342,395	—	6670	232,000	16,732
February	3000	600,000	289,820	—	11,500	201,081	9023
March	8000	556,800	355,235	—	11,084	197,798	3800
April	—	357,000	169,700	—	500	106,738	3000
May	5577	150,000	361,628	—	—	161,370	4900
June	4000	276,000	271,800	—	7640	127,100	11,400
July	—	368,000	336,315	—	—	333,000	17,670
	20,577	* 3,010,300	* 2,126,893	—	* 37,394	1,359,087	* 66,525

It will be seen from the above comparison that three out of the four articles of split stuff (marked *) are on the increase. Sawed stuff, which appears in the Return to make it complete, is diminishing; but with this article of produce Mr. Laffer's duties have nothing to do.

J. E. CALDER.