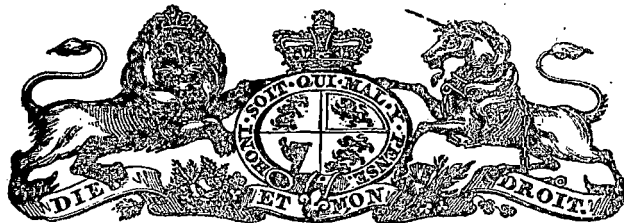


(No. 40.)



1884.

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PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

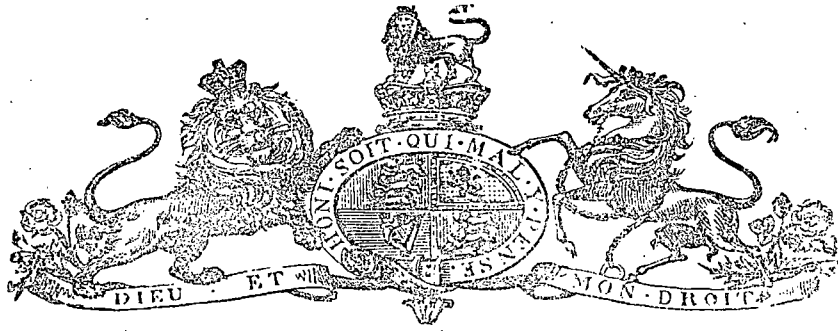
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**MARINE SURVEY OF THE COAST OF  
TASMANIA :**

**CORRESPONDENCE.**

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Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.



## MARINE SURVEY OF THE COASTS OF TASMANIA.

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Tasmania.  
No. 25.

*Downing-street, 5th June, 1878.*

SIR,

WITH reference to the Memorandum prepared by Rear-Admiral E. K. Barnard, R.N., relating to the harbours, roadsteads, and landing-places on the coasts of Tasmania, which forms an appendix to Sir W. Jervois' Report upon the Defences of the Colony, I have the honor to transmit to you, for the consideration of your Government, a copy of a letter from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, stating the terms upon which their Lordships will be prepared to undertake a Marine Survey of the coasts of the Colony.

I have, &c.

M. E. HICKS-BEACH.

*Governor WELD, C.M.G.*

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*The Admiralty to the Colonial Office.*

*Admiralty, 28th May, 1878.*

SIR,

WITH reference to your letter of the 13th ultimo, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that their Lordships having had under consideration the desirability of proceeding with a Marine Survey of the Coasts of Tasmania, to which attention was drawn in the statement prepared by Rear-Admiral Barnard, and referred to in Sir W. Jervois' Memorandum which accompanied your letter above referred to, my Lords are prepared to undertake such a survey, provided the Government of Tasmania will bear half the cost (as has been the case in other Australian Colonies); the total cost being estimated at not less than £3000 (three thousand pounds) nor more than £4000 (four thousand pounds) in any one year.

2. My Lords consider that the larger amount would be preferable, as it would allow for the occasional hire of a small steam-vessel for off-shore soundings.

3. On hearing that the Tasmanian Government will agree to this proposal, the necessary steps will be taken by the Admiralty to send properly qualified Naval Officers from this country.

I am, &c.

*The Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office.*

THOS. WOLLEY.

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FOR MINISTERS.

I CALL the special attention of Ministers to this Despatch. I obtained the same offer for Western Australia, and carried it into effect. I wish to note that a very great saving is to be made by the employment, and still more by the purchase, of a steam-boat, if the latter was thought of: it could be used as a look-out boat and torpedo boat in case of war; also for visiting the islands and communicating in case of need with the West Coast.

FRED. A. WELD.  
*July 19, 1878.*

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TELEGRAM.

*Hobart Town, 7. 9. '78.*

VICTORIAN Marine Survey is discontinued. Please let me know if you have come to decision about Tasmania, that I may make application to Imperial Government.

STANLEY, *Custom House.*

*The Hon. MOORE, Commissioner of Lands.*

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## TELEGRAM.

TASMANIAN Government will join Imperial Government in carrying out Marine Survey.

WM. MOORE.  
Sept. 7, '78.

Captain STANLEY, Custom House, Melbourne.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hobart Town,  
10th September, 1878.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that on Saturday last, the 7th instant, I forwarded the following telegram to you:—

“Tasmanian Government will join Imperial Government in carrying out Marine Survey.”

In order to avoid any possible misconception, I deem it right to point out that the action of the Government in this matter is of course contingent upon the consent of Parliament to provide the necessary funds, which they will be invited to do without delay.

Based upon your experience of surveys already effected by you, I should be glad to learn your estimate of the probable time the completion of the survey of the coasts of Tasmania would occupy provided you were supplied with a steamer for the purpose.

I have, &c.

WM. MOORE.

Commander STANLEY, R.N., Custom House, Melbourne.

## TELEGRAM.

Melbourne, 11. 9. '78.

HAVE got orders England. If you want survey and me please apply by telegram to England immediately.

STANLEY.

The Hon. MOORE, Colonial Secretary.

Custom House, Melbourne, 13th September, 1878.

SIR,

In reply to your request to be informed of the probable time a survey of the coasts of Tasmania will occupy if a steamer is provided for the work, I have the honor to state that a survey such as would satisfy the Admiralty cannot, in my opinion, be completed in less than six years.

I find by measuring your coast line that you have about 1200 miles, and I think I may estimate a year's work at 200 miles.

I desire, however, to explain that so much depends upon the nature of the coast, and the necessity or otherwise for close sounding, that you must only consider my estimate as a rough one. I also desire to mention that the officer in charge of the survey would not have it in his power to lessen the time by making the surveys less accurate. The Admiralty would expect the work to be conducted with all the accuracy of an English survey.

You will have received my telegram informing you that I have been ordered to England, and asking you to telegraph home requesting that I may be given the charge of your survey. I myself have also telegraphed to England; and I can only repeat what I think I remarked to you in person, that I shall, if I come to you, take an immense interest in the work and have the welfare of your Colony at heart.

If I get no further instructions I must leave for England early next month.

I have, &c.

H. J. STANLEY, Admiralty Surveyor.

The Honorable WM. MOORE, Commissioner of Lands.

## TELEGRAM.

TASMANIA accepts proposals Marine Survey. Requests appointment of Commander Stanley. Please instruct him by telegram.

*Colonial Secretary, London.*

WELD,  
*Tasmania, 14th September, 1878.*

## TELEGRAM.

PARLIAMENT having approved the Marine Survey, the following telegram has been forwarded to the Secretary of State:—"Tasmania accepts proposals Marine Survey. Requests appointment of Commander Stanley. Please instruct him by telegram.—WELD, *Tasmania.*"

*Commander STANLEY, Custom House, Melbourne.*

COLONIAL SECRETARY.  
*Hobart Town, 16th September, 1878.*

## TELEGRAM.

20 September.—Commander Stanley already ordered home. Officer will be sent to take charge of Tasmania Survey.

*Governor Tasmania.*

SECRETARY OF STATE.  
*London, 20th September, 1878.*

## TELEGRAM.

MINISTERS request suspension of action if Stanley cannot survey immediately.

*Colonial Secretary, London.*

WELD.  
*Tasmania, 23rd September, 1878.*

*Colonial Secretary's Office, Hobart Town, 23rd September, 1878.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that the reply to the two last paragraphs of your letter of the 13th instant was anticipated by my telegram to you of the 16th instant, of which the following is a copy:—

"Parliament having approved the Marine Survey, the following telegram has been forwarded to the Secretary of State:—

'Tasmania accepts proposals Marine Survey. Requests appointment Commander Stanley. Please instruct him by telegram.—WELD, *Tasmania.*'"

I have, &c.

Signed) WM. MOORE.

*Commander STANLEY, R.N., Custom House, Melbourne.*

P.S.—Since writing this letter, the following telegrams have passed between the Right Honorable the Secretary of State and His Excellency the Governor:—

## TELEGRAM.

20th September.—Commander Stanley already ordered home. Officer will be sent to take charge of Tasmania survey.

*Governor Tasmania.*

SECRETARY OF STATE.  
*London, 20th September, 1878.*

## TELEGRAM.

MINISTERS request suspension of action if Stanley cannot survey immediately.

*Colonial Secretary, London.*

WELD.  
*Tasmania, 23rd September, 1878.*

## TELEGRAM.

MINISTERS will recommend Marine Survey to Parliament at once.

*His Excellency SIR GEORGE BOWEN.*

WELD.  
*Tasmania, 9th September, 1878.*

## TELEGRAM.

IN view of the Marine Survey being transferred to Tasmania, will you purchase the Government steamer *Victoria*, which hitherto has been used for that work?

GRAHAM BERRY, *Premier.*  
*Melbourne, 9th September, 1878.*

*Hon. Chief Secretary, Hobart Town.*

## TELEGRAM.

THE *Victoria* is not considered suitable for the survey of the Tasmanian coast, owing to her great draught of water.

*Chief Secretary, Melbourne, Victoria.*

WM. MOORE.  
*Hobart Town, 10th September, 1878.*

*Marine Survey Office, Melbourne, 26th September, 1878.*

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE received your letter of 23rd September, in which you inform me of the action you have taken relative to the survey of Tasmania, and I thank your Government very much for your flattering value of my abilities, as shown by your decided expression of opinion. My own course (that of telegraphing for the charge of your survey) was taken in the firm belief that the Admiralty would have been glad to have availed themselves of my services as the services of an officer who had done his duty well, and was in possession of much valuable information which would be of great assistance in the prosecution of the survey. I regret that I was mistaken, and can only suppose that some officer in England is considered to have prior claims. But as regards my future employment in your Colony, if the Admiralty still decline to consider your request, and you should thereby be left without a survey, I have an idea that, upon arrival in England, it may be wise of me to request permission to retire, and having obtained that permission, I would return to Tasmania and be prepared to undertake any surveys you might require. I should not, in that case, hold you compelled to give me employment, but would simply throw in my lot with your Colony.

I wrote you word about several steamers which are for sale, and since I wrote I have spoken to Captain M'Lean (of M'Meckan, Blackwood & Co.'s firm). He recommends the *Despatch* as being the best sea boat, as well as the fastest (she steams 12 knots), and I think I ought to let you know the opinion of so good an authority.

Please consider that until I leave I am ready to do anything for Tasmania as a matter of pleasure, *not of business*; and while informing you of my readiness in this respect, I think it as well to mention that if I go to England I shall have to dispose of by auction two capital whaleboats, built expressly for the survey. They cost, complete, about £50 each, and I should not be surprised if they have to be sold for £15 or £20 each, perhaps less.

Do you want boats? because if so, I would buy them for you. Of course, if you go on with the survey you must have boats, and if you have a shed they could be kept in good order.

In conclusion, I can only reiterate that I shall be happy to be of service to you in any way; and if you again get a negative reply to your request, will you kindly send me word?

*The Hon. WILLIAM MOORE.*

I am, &c.

H. J. STANLEY.

## TELEGRAM.

*Hobart Town.*

MARINE Survey, Tasmania, can only be carried out by Admiralty Officers, Colony paying proportion of expense.

Government could not hold out to you prospect of employment as a Marine Surveyor.

WM. MOORE.  
*9th October, 1878.*

*Commander H. J. STANLEY, Marine Survey Office, Melbourne.*

## MEMO.

WITH reference to the request of Ministers that His Excellency the Governor would convey by telegram to the Secretary of State the expression of their wish that if Commander Stanley could not be permitted to commence the Marine Survey of the Coast of the Colony at once, any action on the part of the Imperial Authorities might be suspended, the Premier has the honor to explain to His Excellency that the prompt acceptance by the Government of the offer contained in the Despatch of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, No. 25, of the 5th June, returned herewith, was in great measure owing to their desire to secure the services of Commander Stanley for the immediate prosecution of the survey of the western coast, especially the neighbourhood of the Pieman River and Macquarie Harbour.

As His Excellency is aware, the rapid development of the mineral wealth in the Western District has created a coasting trade, constantly growing in importance, and at present carried on with no small risk to life and property, from the stormy and ironbound character of the coast, and the absence of any reliable charts.

Ministers, therefore, knowing that Commander Stanley's services were no longer required in Victoria, and highly appreciating the value of his local experience in connection with survey of the adjoining coasts, and his knowledge of the tides and winds in these seas, were glad of the opportunity of ensuring the prompt commencement of the work under such favourable circumstances, without waiting to ascertain any details as to the probable duration and cost of the survey as proposed by the Lords of the Admiralty.

If, however, their Lordships decide upon the recall of Commander Stanley, Ministers would prefer to institute further enquiries, so as to be in a position to lay fuller information before Parliament, before finally accepting the joint liability with the Imperial Government in so important and costly an undertaking.

W. R. GIBLIN.

Cabinet Office, Hobart Town, 27th September, 1878.

His Excellency the Governor.

Tasmania.  
No. 37.

Downing-street, 21st September, 1878.

SIR,

ON the receipt of your telegram of the 14th of September, I caused a copy of it to be referred for the consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and on the 20th of September I informed you by telegraph that Commander Stanley had been already ordered home, and that an officer will be sent from this country to take charge of the Marine Survey of Tasmania.

I have now the honor to enclose for your information a copy of the letter from the Admiralty on which my telegram was founded.

I have, &c.

M. E. HICKS-BEACH.

Governor WELD, C.M.G., &c.

The Admiralty to the Colonial Office.

Admiralty, 17th September, 1878.

SIR,

WITH reference to former correspondence relative to the proposed survey of Tasmania, and to your letter of the 16th instant, requesting to be informed what answer should be given to a telegram received from the Governor of Tasmania stating that the Colony accepts the proposal for a Marine Survey, and requests that Staff Commander Stanley should be appointed, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, that an officer from England will be appointed to take charge of the Tasmanian Survey, and that Staff Commander Stanley is to return to England, as he has been already ordered by their Lordships.

I am, &c.

(Signed) ROBERT HALL.

The Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Tasmania.  
No. 42.

*Downing-street, 10th October, 1878.*

SIR,

I DULY received and communicated to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty a copy of your telegram of the 23rd of September, in regard to Commander Stanley's employment in connection with the Marine Survey of Tasmania; and I have now the honor to enclose, for the information of your Government, a copy of the reply from the Admiralty, on which my telegram of the 9th instant was founded.

I have, &c.

Governor WELD, C.M.G.

M. E. HICKS-BEACH.

*The Admiralty to the Colonial Office.*

(Copy.)

*Admiralty, 5th October, 1878.*

SIR,

WITH reference to your letter of the 25th ultimo, enclosing a telegram from the Governor of Tasmania, requesting that "action in the matter of the Tasmanian Survey may be suspended if Acting Staff Commander Stanley cannot survey immediately," I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that my Lords adhere to their previous decision, that Staff Commander Stanley is to return to England, and another properly qualified officer be appointed for the survey in question.

2. On receiving information that this view is concurred in by Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, an officer will be at once sent out to commence the survey.

I have, &c.

*The Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office.*

(Signed) ROBERT HALL.

*Colonial Secretary's Office, Hobart Town, 24th March, 1879.*

MEMO.

THE accompanying Correspondence, relating to the Marine Survey of the Coasts of the Colony, is forwarded for the perusal of the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer.

THOS. REIBEY.

*Treasury, 25th March, 1879.*

I HAVE perused the whole of the Correspondence referred to in the within Note from the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, and do not recommend any further action to be taken in the matter of Marine Survey alluded to, for the present.

*The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.*

D. LEWIS, Colonial Treasurer.

*Colonial Secretary's Office, Hobart Town, 14th June, 1879.*

MEMO.

WITH reference to the Secretary of State's Despatch, No. 42, of the 10th October, 1878, enclosing copy of a letter from the Admiralty to the Colonial Office, notifying that Staff Commander Stanley would not be the officer appointed to carry out the Marine Survey of the Coast of Tasmania, and to the Memorandum of the Honorable W. R. Giblin, dated 27th September, 1878, addressed to His Excellency, containing the reasons which induced him and his Colleagues to desire that that officer should be employed, the Colonial Secretary has the honor to state, for His Excellency's information, that Ministers fully appreciate the importance of the proposed survey, and would desire to avail themselves of the offer of the Lords of the Admiralty to bear a moiety of the expense, but at the present juncture they are not prepared to apply to Parliament for the necessary funds.

During the approaching recess the subject will receive full consideration by Ministers, and upon the re-assembling of Parliament it is their intention to seek the concurrence of the Legislature in the undertaking.

THOS. REIBEY.

*His Excellency the Governor.*

*Colonial Treasury, 9th August, 1881.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to request that Your Excellency will be pleased to convey to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State an expression of the desire on the part of the Government of Tasmania to make arrangements, in conjunction with the Lords of the Admiralty, for the Marine Survey of the West Coast of Tasmania by an officer of the Royal Navy.

The increasing commerce along that coast, its liability to heavy westerly gales, and the character of the harbours and anchorages, render it of great importance that a reliable survey should be made as soon as possible; and in order to save time I shall be glad if Your Excellency would intimate to the Secretary of State that the Government of Tasmania are prepared to defray a moiety of the cost of the survey, and to afford the officer who may be entrusted with the duty every assistance in their power in carrying on the work.

In conclusion, I desire to state that should the Lords of the Admiralty be pleased to take action in this matter the Government of Tasmania would be glad if the services of Commander Stanley, R.N., who is now in the Colony, could be utilised, but they desire to leave the selection of the officer for this service entirely in the hands of the Admiralty.

I have, &c.

*His Excellency the Administrator of the Government.*

W. R. GIBLIN.

*Government House, 12th August, 1881.*

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honor to enclose a communication from the Premier of this Colony, expressing the desire of the Government for the execution by the Admiralty of a Marine Survey of the West Coast of Tasmania, the Colony undertaking to defray a moiety of the cost.

Mr. Giblin suggests the employment of Commander H. J. Stanley, R.N., who is resident here, and is well known as an Australian Hydrographer. It would be superfluous in me to express my opinion of his competency; but of the work itself I may state that it is very urgently required, and must be more so as commerce extends.

There are three navigable rivers of considerable size issuing on the coast,—the Arthur, the Pieman, and the Gordon,—which will before long be frequented by shipping, as that region is developing great mineral wealth. Of the two first almost nothing is known, and the delineation of the coast line generally is entirely dependent upon an imperfect survey executed in the last century by Captain Flinders.

I have, &c.

*The Right Hon. the Earl of KIMBERLEY, &c.*

(Signed) J. H. LEFROY.

Tasmania.

No 33.

*Downing-street, 5th November, 1881.*

SIR,

I REFERRED for the consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty a copy of your Despatch, No. 43, of the 12th of August last, enclosing a letter from the Premier expressing the desire of the Colonial Government for the execution by the Admiralty of a Marine Survey of the West Coast of Tasmania, the Colony undertaking to defray a moiety of the cost.

I now enclose for communication to your Government a copy of the reply which has been received from the Admiralty.

I have, &c.

*The Officer Administering the Government of Tasmania.*

KIMBERLEY.

*The Admiralty to the Colonial Office.*

(Copy.)

*Admiralty, 25th October, 1881.*

SIR,

I HAVE laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your letter of the 29th ultimo, forwarding copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Tasmania, in which he expresses a desire that a survey of the Western Coast of Tasmania should be carried out by the Admiralty, the Colony paying half the expense.

2. My Lords desire me to request that you will state to the Earl of Kimberley that they have carefully considered this proposal, bearing in mind the circumstances under which the survey commenced in 1860 was abruptly closed by the Government of Tasmania, and that the projected survey of 1878, for which arrangements were almost complete, was, for some reason unknown to the Admiralty, also dropped by the same Government.

3. Their Lordships, while recognising the desirability of the Tasmanian Coasts being accurately charted in the general interests of navigation, cannot overlook the facts that the proposed survey is limited to the West Coast only, where there is at present but little traffic, and where, so far as the Australian Squadron is concerned, there is not that need for more detailed surveys which exists on the East Coast.



4. In view of these considerations, and as it is principally in the direction of Colonial interests and enterprise that the survey would be undertaken (though navigation generally would hereafter share the benefit), my Lords are prepared to make the following offer to the Colony :—

“The services of one, or, if they wish it, two qualified Naval Surveying Officers to be appropriated for this duty, the Admiralty guaranteeing the full pay and surveying pay of such officers on the scale allowed by the Naval Regulations; all other expenses, of whatsoever nature, being borne by the Colonial Government.”

5. Should this offer be accepted by the Colonial Government, my Lords will take the necessary steps to select officers whose appointments under these conditions would be reconsidered after a term of three years (one of whom would in all probability be Staff Commander Stanley).

6. Their Lordships would require periodical reports from the Surveying Officer as to the measures adopted for the satisfactory progress of the survey, as also copies of all manuscripts, charts, and other hydrographical information of general interest to navigation, for publication at the Admiralty.

I am, &c.

*The Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office.*

(Signed) ROBERT HALL.

#### MEMORANDUM.

THE Premier has the honor to return herewith Lord Kimberley's Despatch, No. 33, of the 5th November last, enclosing copy of a letter from the Admiralty to the Colonial Office, in which the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty state that they are not prepared to accede to the request of this Government that a survey of the West Coast of Tasmania should be undertaken by the Admiralty, the Colony paying a moiety of the cost.

Mr. Hall's letter refers to the discontinuance of the survey of the Tasmanian Coast commenced in 1860, and to the fact that the projected survey of 1878 was not carried out; and it would appear that the action of this Government on those occasions has operated in inducing the Admiralty to treat the present application unfavorably.

The Premier desires to point out that at the periods referred to the circumstances of the Colony were in a very depressed state, and the Revenue wholly insufficient to warrant the Government in continuing in the one case, and undertaking in the other, the heavy expenditure involved in an Admiralty Survey of the Coasts of this Island.

That there has always been a full recognition by the Government of the importance of such surveys is shown by their readiness to contribute their share to the cost of the survey of King's Island and Banks' Straits, and by their employment of Staff Commander Stanley to survey the entrance to the River Tamar.

The improved circumstances and prospects of the Colony now, for the first time for many years, warrant the Government in proposing the re-commencement of the survey of the Coasts of Tasmania under the directions of the Lords of the Admiralty,—the Colony, as on the previous occasions, defraying a moiety of the expense; and, in the full assurance that the co-operation of the Imperial Government in this work would not be withheld, the Tasmanian Parliament, by Act 45 Victoria, No. 34, set apart a sum of £5000 to defray the estimated half cost of the Marine Survey of the West Coast of Tasmania.

It is not competent to Ministers, under this Act, to accede to the suggestions made by the Lords of the Admiralty to defray the full cost of such survey, with the exception of the pay of one or two qualified Naval Surveying Officers; but they are prepared to recommend the Parliament of Tasmania to hereafter supplement the vote now granted for further extensions of the surveys of the Coast of Tasmania as may be hereafter determined on, upon the terms of Earl Kimberley's Despatch of 5th June, 1878, addressed to His Excellency the Governor of Tasmania.

The Premier trusts that, with this explanation as regards the past, their Lordships will be pleased to reconsider their decision in the interests of navigation generally, as well as of those of this Colony, and will sanction a resumption of the survey upon the same terms as formerly authorised, for such a term of years, and for such additional portions of the Coast of this Colony beyond that now asked to be surveyed, as the Lords of the Admiralty may agree upon with this Government.

W. R. GIBLIN.

*His Excellency the Governor.*

*Cabinet Office, Hobart, 18th January, 1882.*

Tasmania.  
No. 20.

*Downing-street, 5th June, 1882.*

SIR,

I caused to be forwarded to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty a copy of your Despatch, No. 13, of the 11th of March, with the Memorandum from the Premier which accompanied it, in which a reconsideration was urged of their Lordships' decision in connection with the survey of the West Coast of Tasmania; and I have the honor to transmit to you, for communication to your Government, a copy of the letter which has been received from the Admiralty in reply.

I have, &c.

Governor SIR G. C. STRAHAN, K.C.M.G.

KIMBERLEY.

*The Admiralty to the Colonial Office.*

(Copy.)

*Admiralty, 31st May, 1882.*

SIR,

WITH reference to your letter of the 3rd instant, transmitting a copy of a Despatch from the Governor of Tasmania, with a Memorandum from the Premier relating to the proposed survey of the West Coast of that Colony, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to request that you will state to the Earl of Kimberley that my Lords regret they are unable at present to afford further assistance to the Tasmanian Government than that proposed in their letter of 25th October, 1881, M. 2257, as contributions to the extent requested for the Tasmanian Survey would disturb surveys in progress in other parts of the world which are of more general value.

I am, &c.

*The Under Secretary of State, Colonial Office.*

(Signed) ROBERT HALL.

MEMORANDUM FOR HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

MR. GIBLIN has the honor to return to His Excellency Despatch, No. 20, of 5th June, 1882, (with enclosure).

The Lords of the Admiralty, in their letter of 31st May, 1882, express their regret that they were "at present" unable to comply with the request of the Tasmanian Government, "as contributions to the extent requested for the Tasmanian Survey would disturb surveys in progress in other parts of the world which are of more general value." Ministers therefore consider that their proposals must remain for reconsideration when the circumstances are more opportune, as the Government of Tasmania will at all times be happy to co-operate with the Admiralty in recommencing the survey of the coasts of the Colony, and prosecuting such survey to completion, on the same terms as former surveys have been carried on,—viz., the Colony bearing one half the expense.

W. R. GIBLIN.

*Cabinet Office, 6th February, 1883.*

Tasmania.  
No. 15.

*Downing-street, 4th April, 1883.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch, No. 9, of the 8th of February, forwarding a Memorandum from Mr. Giblin, the Premier, respecting the proposed survey of the West Coast of Tasmania, and I have to acquaint you that a copy of the same has been communicated to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

I have, &c.

Governor SIR G. C. STRAHAN, K.C.M.G.

DERBY.