

(No. 5.)



1875.

SESSION II.

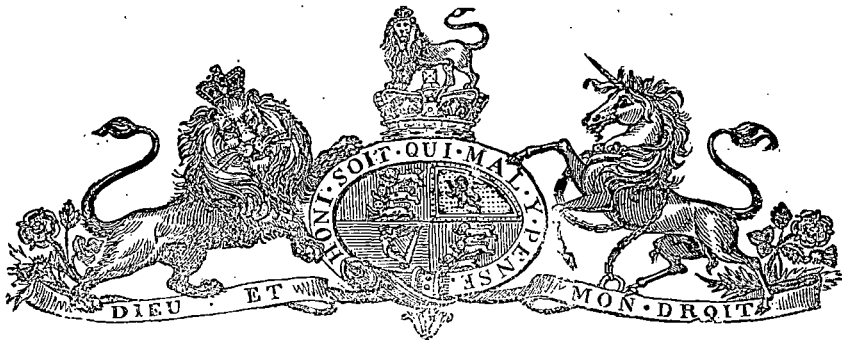
TASMANIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TASMANIAN SCHOLARSHIPS.

**LETTERS FROM MR. H. M. PIKE RELATING TO THE RECENT
EXAMINATION FOR THE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 1875.**

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Chapman, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
November 2, 1875.



City School, Hobart Town, 20th October, 1875.

HONORABLE SIR,

I HAVE the honor to bring under your notice, as the head of the Education Department in the Colony, the following facts in reference to the Examination for Tasmanian Scholarships lately held in this City, and my son Charles J. Pike's connection therewith.

1st. That the papers set were generally much below the standard that has been maintained for some years past, (which fact has, I have reason to believe, been admitted by the Examiner); and that therefore candidates excelling in either Classics or Mathematics, the two fundamental branches of a sound, superior education, were placed at a disadvantage, which in this case told heavily against my son, who is a most promising mathematician.

2nd. That the papers in History were originally set *outside* the prescribed portion, which was also undoubtedly adverse to my son's success; as when, subsequently, this serious mistake was as far as possible remedied by setting questions on the right period of History, my son was still unfairly handicapped by the naturally disturbed and dispirited state of mind in which he found himself.

3rd. That, notwithstanding these discouraging circumstances, my son obtained the same number of marks, save *one*, as his successful competitor,—a position which, I believe I am right in saying, would have led to the two being bracketed *equal* in any of the Home University Examinations.

4th. That my son will be disqualified by age from competing again for the Scholarship.

5th. That I am not in a position, unaided, to send him home for the purpose of completing his education at an English University.

I have, therefore, to beg that you will kindly bring these matters before the Executive at your earliest convenience; and I sincerely hope that body will receive with favourable consideration my request that a sum of £100 (one hundred pounds) per annum for 4 (four) years may be placed on the Estimates, or be otherwise provided by the Government, to enable me to carry on my son's education in the manner above indicated.

I have the honor to be,
Honorable Sir,
Yours obediently,

H. M. PIKE.

The Hon. T. D. CHAPMAN, Esq., Colonial Secretary.

City School, 25th October, 1875.

MY LORD,

I TAKE the liberty of reminding your Lordship of the promise you kindly made to use your influence to obtain some recognition of my son's claim to consideration on the part of the Government; and as the matter, if brought forward at all, will have to receive attention to-morrow (Tuesday) night, I trust this fact will be a sufficient apology for what might otherwise seem like intrusion on my part. I also beg to subjoin a brief statement of the grounds on which I base my claims, which are these:—

1st. The generally easy nature of the papers set, which was disadvantageous to candidates excelling in any of the prescribed subjects, and therefore to my son.

2nd. The mistake at first made in setting the History paper, which dispirited my son both while answering that paper and the one subsequently given.

3rd. The virtual equality of the 2nd and 3rd on the list.

4th. My son's disqualification, by age, from again competing.

5th. My limited means, which will be a bar to my sending my boy to study at one of the Home Universities, unless the Government renders me the assistance I ask for, viz., a grant of £100 per annum for 4 years.

Hoping your kind exertions in my behalf may prove successful, and thanking you beforehand,

I have the honor to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's obedient Servant,

H. M. PIKE.

To *Bishop* BROMBY.