

(No. 116.)



1862.

T A S M A N I A.

M U L G R A V E S T R E E T.

BILL No. 38.

Presented by Mr. Chapman, and ordered by the House to be printed,
1 October, 1862.



Town Clerk's Office, Launceston, 22nd September, 1862.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor of enclosing copy of a Report by the Street Committee in reference to the Bill now before Parliament to vest a portion of Mulgrave-street in Her Majesty.

The Report was brought before the Municipal Council this afternoon, and adopted unanimously.

I have therefore to request, on behalf of the Corporation, that the Government may be pleased to act upon the recommendations it contains.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your very obedient Servant,

JAMES HENRY, *Town Clerk.*

The Hon. T. D. CHAPMAN, M.H.A., Hobart Town.

REPORT of STREET COMMITTEE on Draft Bill to vest a Portion of Mulgrave-street in Her Majesty.

It would appear that the Colonial Secretary is in error when he states that, during the erection of the Hospital, it had never presented itself to the minds of any persons that this was supposed to be a Street, and that no attempt had ever been made to form it into one.

We find that several persons, upon the understanding that it was a public thoroughfare, (and of which fact they satisfied themselves by a reference to the Official Chart of the Town,) gave a higher price for their Lands than they otherwise would have done.

We also find that, when the erection of the Hospital was about being commenced, certain proprietors in the locality were about to apply to the Municipal Council to have the Line of Street defined; but they ascertained at the time that the Government had done this, and consequently the Petition was not presented.

We are of opinion that the Government would not object to reserve twenty feet in width for a Street. And we recommend that application be made either to have this done, or that a Clause be introduced in the Bill providing for compensation to the adjoining owners.

ADYE DOUGLAS.
W. H. CLAYTON.
JAMES SCOTT.
J. MEYERS.

18th September, 1862.

PROPOSED Bill to close a Portion of Mulgrave-street, Launceston.

THE proposed closing of this Street has three aspects: 1st. as regards the Hospital; 2nd, as regards the public of Launceston; and 3rd, as regards the proprietors of the adjoining property.

1st. As regards the Hospital, there can be no doubt that the matter is one of grave importance. A strip 66 feet wide taken from the ground in rear of the Establishment will seriously curtail the space necessary for its proper efficiency; and this curtailment is rendered still more objectionable from the fact of this separated portion being used as a public Street. Nor is this all; for the Street, if not closed, runs along a high bank overlooking the whole Establishment,—indeed on a level with the windows of the upper story, and not more than 60 or 70 feet from them. It must be obvious to all that this state of things would be most objectionable in connection with a Hospital. Indeed, if the space of 66 feet be reserved as a Street, the original plan of the Buildings, as intended to be carried out when the circumstances of the Colony would permit, can never be accomplished.

2nd. As regards the public of Launceston. It is surely a matter of the greatest importance to the inhabitants of Launceston that the Hospital should be efficient; and nothing should, if possible, be allowed to interfere with that efficiency. Is, then, the portion of Mulgrave-street proposed to be closed of such value

to the public as a line of traffic, that it should be allowed to interfere with the interests of the Hospital? Every unbiassed person who knows the locality will at once say *No!* The Street has never been formed, or even marked out as a Street, but, in common with all the rest of the ground known as Mulgrave Square, (and on which, after great excavation and levelling the Hospital, has been built), has always been a rugged hill side, only accessible to foot passengers, or adventurous individuals on horseback. Nor, at any future time, is there any rational probability of any amount of traffic in that portion of the street. Its locality, its great elevation, and the fact that from its ending in Frankland-street there is no thoroughfare, while by going round the other side of the Square there is already a good and level road with a complete thoroughfare, will always prevent any traffic worth mention on that portion of Mulgrave-street.

3rd. As regards the proprietors of property fronting on this portion of the Square. There is the undoubted evidence of Mr. James Scott, the Surveyor, that, when all this ground was originally sold by the representative of the first proprietor, Mr. Scott was instructed in preparing the plans to give *no* frontage to Mulgrave-square, and the diagram was prepared accordingly. A copy of this diagram is in the hands of the Government. If then the present proprietors, who may have bought at second-hand, were led to believe that their properties had a frontage on a continuation of Mulgrave-street, running along that side of the Square, it is reasonable to infer that if they have a claim for compensation it is against the parties from whom they purchased. In any case, however, it will surely be better to adjust somehow any just claims they may be shown to have, than that the interests of a new Hospital, which will have to serve as such to the public of the Northern side of the Island for years to come, should be sacrificed.

By Order of the Trustees of the Launceston Hospital,

J. L. MILLER, *Surgeon Superintendent and Secretary.*

Colonial Secretary's Office, 26th September, 1862.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor, by direction of the Honorable the Premier, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant, forwarding a copy of Report by the Street Committee of the Launceston Council, in reference to a Bill now before the Parliament to vest a portion of Mulgrave-street in Her Majesty.

In reply, I am to inform you that the document will be duly laid before the Committee of the House of Assembly, which it is proposed should be appointed to consider the measure.

I have, &c.,

B. TRAVERS SOLLY.

The Town Clerk, Launceston.