

(No. 26.)



1864.

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T A S M A N I A.

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DESPATCH FROM SECRETARY OF STATE.

DEFENCES. PURCHASE OF RIFLED ORDNANCE.

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Laid upon the Table by Mr. Colonial Treasurer, and ordered by the House to be printed, 29 June, 1864.



(Copy.)

TASMANIA.

No. 18.

*Downing-street, 5th March, 1864.*

SIR,

I REFERRED to the Secretary of State for War a copy of your Despatch, No. 124, of the 22nd of December, recommending, at the instance of your Responsible Advisers, that four Guns of large calibre should be supplied for the Defence of the Colony, with the necessary equipment and ammunition.

I enclose, for your information, a copy of the letter which was received in reply; and I have to acquaint you that a communication on the subject has been addressed to Captain Chesney and also to Captain Festing, who have been selected to act as Agents for your Government in the matter.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) NEWCASTLE.

Governor T. GORE BROWNE, C.B.

(Copy.)

*War Office, 1st March, 1864.*

SIR,

I HAVE laid before the Secretary of State for War your letter of the 19th ultimo, together with its enclosure from the Governor of Tasmania, in which it is suggested that steps may be taken for procuring four Guns of large calibre for the Defence of that Colony; and that Captain C. C. Chesney, R.A., and Captain Festing, R.E., may be allowed to act as Agents for the Colony in this matter. In reply, I am to request that you will acquaint the Duke of Newcastle that the description of Guns specified cannot be supplied by the Department, but that any information which may be required, or assistance in the proof of the Guns, will readily be afforded.

Earl De Grey approves of Captains Chesney and Festing being employed on behalf of the Colony, and His Lordship would suggest that these Officers should be instructed to place themselves in personal communication with the Director of Ordnance at this Office.

I am to add that Captain Festing is at present attached to this Office.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) EDWARD LUGARD.

Sir FREDERIC ROGERS, *Bart.*