

(No 45.)



1864.

T A S M A N I A .

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

I M M I G R A T I O N .

REPORT FOR HALF-YEAR TO JUNE 30, 1863.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Whyte, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
July 26, 1864.



Immigration Office, Hobart Town, 8th August, 1863.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to furnish the Report on Immigration to Tasmania for the half-year ended 30th June, 1863, with the usual Returns (Nos. 1 to 6) appended.

It will be seen that the arrivals under the Bounty System during that period amounted to 61; in addition to which 13 single females are included in the Returns, although they actually arrived during the preceding year per *Lady Egidia**, having been introduced by the St. Andrew's Society, Launceston, over and above the number authorised by the Board of Immigration on the Tickets issued to that body, and the payment of whose passage-money was not sanctioned until the commencement of the present year.

The entire number of Immigrants introduced during the half-year came by the "Black Ball" and "White Star" Lines of Passenger Ships, viâ Melbourne. The disposal of these people to their friends, who provided for them on arrival, was effected without impediment. The Immigration Agent for Launceston, in his Report, thus remarks:—

"The arrivals here were introduced by parties who had purchased Bounty Tickets. They were all of the labouring class, and seemed well fitted for the Colony into which they had been introduced. Having been sent for by their friends, immediate employment was secured for them, and that without my interposition; had it been otherwise, no difficulty would have been experienced in finding situations for them."

The Prospectuses of the National Colonial Emigration Society, London, and Colonial Emigration Society, Birmingham, having been received last year by His Excellency the Governor, and referred by him to the Immigration Commissioners, the Board decided, in January last, on forwarding to the Colonial Agents, London, 50 Single Female Tickets for issue to the Secretary of each of the above Societies, on the same terms and conditions as were adopted when issuing to Tasmanian Societies; viz., "payment of £5 per each Ticket applied for." 100 Bounty Tickets were accordingly transmitted to Messrs. Julyan & Sargeant by the January mail.

Advices have since been received from Mr. John Bate, Secretary to the National Society (with which, it appears, the Birmingham Institution has been amalgamated,) intimating that the Committee did not as yet consider themselves as being in a position to accept the offer of the Board. As, however, the Tickets will be negotiable until July, 1864, it is possible that a portion, if not the entire number, may be made use of within the ensuing twelve months.

The Board of Immigration have availed themselves of the gratuitous services of Duncan M'Pherson, Esq., who sailed in the *Percy* for London on 11th February last, and have issued 50 Single Female Tickets to that gentleman, whose position and long residence in Tasmania must render his knowledge of the Colony's requirements, as regards domestic servants, indisputable. It may therefore be reasonably expected, that a carefully selected, though limited, number of domestic servants will arrive at Hobart Town about the end of the year, destined for general engagement.

The issue of Bounty Tickets was (with a few exceptional cases) suspended in March last, and altogether ceased on the 23rd June. Return No 4 appended to this Report may, therefore, be considered as representing the maximum number of Bounty Tickets for which the Colony can be rendered liable under the Regulations of 21st December, 1858.

The Bounty System, originated and established on 24th January, 1854, has, with occasional modifications, stood the test of nearly ten years' operation; and (considering that Tasmania has never been able to hold out to intending Emigrants from the United Kingdom and Germany the attractive

* Vide Report for half-year ended 30th June, 1862.

inducements afforded by the adjacent Colonies, consequent upon the discovery of extensive and remunerative Gold Fields) may be pronounced, without doubt, as the most practically useful and successful mode as yet adopted in the Australias.

The suspension of this system has therefore, as might naturally have been expected, given rise to much disappointment, from its having hitherto exercised a most advantageous influence in deterring Immigrants themselves from leaving the Colony, by the privilege afforded them of sending for their relatives from the United Kingdom; the withdrawal of which, now, will, I fear, lead to further emigration from here, as the desired re-union can be effected in Victoria and New South Wales, to which Government Immigration is altogether or nearly free.

On this subject Mr. Thompson writes—"A great deal of disappointment has been caused by the suspension of the issuing of Bounty Tickets. The being able to purchase a Ticket and introduce a friend or a relative was looked forward to by many with pleasure: the Immigrant, if he be satisfied, desires to be joined by those he has left. All the Scotch Immigrants were led to believe, that if they remained in the Colony they could purchase Tickets and send for their friends. In the faith of this, funds have been saved; and the suspension will be felt the more, that it is known that in Victoria all who desire it will be assisted in introducing labour into that Colony. I trust, therefore, that the suspension is only temporary."

In my Reports for 1862, I had occasion to draw the attention of the Commissioners to the steadily increasing demand for female domestic servants,—a demand which has now assumed proportions of such magnitude as to create, naturally, a grave and very general solicitude as regards the future supply of this essential element in the community. Many of those introduced by the Board, under the agency of the late Tasmanian Society in London, having married, may be considered as no longer available for service; and a glance at the advertising columns of the daily newspapers, or at the placards displayed in the windows of the numerous Registration Offices through the town, will suffice to confirm this statement. The applications made by the public at the Immigration Office for information with regard to expected arrivals have been almost incessant, and have of late ceased, simply from the fact of its having become generally known that the prospect of an adequate supply was very doubtful.

Mr. Thompson also comments on this point; he states—"There is now a great want of female labour. Wages have not only advanced, but good domestic servants cannot be got. The enquiries are almost daily at this office for disengaged servants: especially are these frequent when it is notified that some female Bounty Immigrants have arrived. Nor do I see how the present want is to be supplied, unless by Immigration."

The Returns furnished by the Collectors of Customs, Hobart Town and Launceston, show an excess of departures over arrivals during the half-year amounting to 527 souls. Of these, only 24 were male adults, while 234 were female adults, and 269 were children. The principal loss to the Colony by emigration, since the commencement of 1863, may, therefore, be accounted for on the score of married women with their children having left for the purpose of joining their husbands in other Colonies; and, as the Returns referred to make it appear that this excess of departures has occurred at Hobart Town alone, it may be assumed that New Zealand has been the point of attraction.

I have now, I trust, fully and unreservedly drawn the attention of the Commissioners to the result of inquiries made by me on both sides of the Island with respect to matters affecting this Department; and, in conclusion, I would submit my opinion, that a permission from the Board to deviate, in however limited a manner, from the instructions lately received touching the issue of Tickets, would tend to establish a much greater degree of contentment amongst Immigrants than, I regret to say, at present exists.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

G. SMITH, *Immigration Agent.*

The Hon. the President, Board of Immigration.

No. 1.

RETURN of IMMIGRANTS introduced into TASMANIA at the Public Expense during the Half-year ended 30th June, 1863.

Under Bounty Regulations of 21st December, 1858.	IMMIGRANTS INTRODUCED, WITH AMOUNT OF PASSAGE MONEY PAID.																BIRTHS DURING VOYAGE	DEATHS DURING VOYAGE	TOTAL COST OF PAS- SAGE.	TOTAL SOULS ARRIVED.						
	Married.		Single.		Total Adults.	Rate. £	Amount. £	Children 3 and under 12 Years.			Rate. £	Amount. £	Children under 3 Years.			Rate. £							Amount. £			
	M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	Total.			M.	F.	Total.									M.	F.	Total.
On Bounty Tickets issued to the Public generally, at—																										
Hobart Town.....	5	5	7	11	28	16	448	1	—	1	8	8	1	—	1	4	4	Nil.	Nil.	460	14	16	30			
Launceston	4	4	8	6	22	16	352	3	2	5	8	40	1	3	4	4	16	Nil.	Nil.	408	16	15	31			
On Bounty Tickets issued to St. Andrew's Society, Launceston, for 13 additional Single Females introduced per <i>Lady Egidia</i>	—	—	—	13	13	16	208	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Nil.	Nil.	208	—	13	13			
TOTALS	9	9	15	30	63	—	1008	4	2	6	—	48	2	3	5	—	20	—	—	1076	30	44	74			

Total Passage Money	£	s.	d.	
	1076	0	0	
Deduct amount of Payments on 10 Family, 15 Single Male, and 30 Single Female Bounty Tickets.....	450	0	0	Statute Adults.....
	£626	0	0*	<u>68½</u>
Expenditure				

* Of this amount, £15 yet remain unpaid, the Bounty Tickets not having been forwarded with 3 Single Females per *Merrie Monarch*.

G. SMITH, *Immigration Agent.*

No. 2.

NATIVE COUNTRIES and RELIGIONS of IMMIGRANTS arrived during the Half-year ended 30th June, 1863.

	<i>Married.</i>		<i>Single.</i>		<i>Children.</i>		<i>Total Souls.</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
England.....	8	8	3	6	5	4	34
Scotland.....	—	—	2	14	—	—	16
Ireland.....	1	1	10	10	1	1	24
TOTALS.....	9	9	15	30	6	5	74
Protestants.....	8	8	5	19	5	4	49
Roman Catholics	1	1	10	11	1	1	25
TOTALS	9	9	15	30	6	5	74

G. SMITH, *Immigration Agent.*

No. 3.

RETURN of the LIABILITIES of the Government on 30th June, 1863, for Repayments on OVERDUE BOUNTY TICKETS under the Bounty Regulations of 24th January, 1854, 1st March, 1856, and 1st July, 1856.

	TICKETS OVERDUE.			TOTAL LIABILITY.
	<i>Family Tickets.</i>	<i>Man and Wife Tickets.</i>	<i>Single Tickets.</i>	
Liability under Regulations of 24th January, 1854, (chargeable against General Revenue)	62	—	137	£ 721
Ditto 1st March, 1856, (chargeable against Board of Immigration).....	32	—	67	361
Ditto 1st July, 1856, ditto.....	1	—	32	170
TOTALS.....	95	—	236	1252

G. SMITH, *Immigration Agent.*

No. 4.

CONDITION of the BOUNTY IMMIGRATION SYSTEM, under the Regulations of the 21st December, 1858, up to 30th June, 1863.

	FAMILY TICKETS.	SINGLE TICKETS.	
		<i>For Males.</i>	<i>For Females.</i>
General Issue, Hobart Town.....	85	148	261
Ditto, Launceston	85	120	231
Issued to St. Andrew's Society, ditto	59	200	263
Ditto Immigration Aid Society, ditto	20	20	10
Ditto Duncan M'Pherson, Esquire	—	—	50
Ditto National Colonial Emigration Society, London	—	—	50
Ditto Colonial Emigration Society, Birmingham	—	—	50
TOTALS	249	488	915
Less certified for payment, or acted on.....	187	359	532
Cancelled	32	59	90
Overdue	7	19	30
OUTSTANDING	23	51	263

G. SMITH, *Immigration Agent.*

No. 5.

OCCUPATIONS of the MALE IMMIGRANTS introduced during the Half-year ended 30th June, 1863.

	<i>Married.</i>	<i>Single.</i>	TOTAL.
Agricultural Laborers	2	3	5
Basket-maker	1	—	1
Boot and Shoemakers	—	2	2
Carpenter and Cooper	1	—	1
Carpenter and Joiner.....	—	1	1
Chain-smith	1	—	1
Cooper.....	—	1	1
Engineer	—	1	1
Laborers	3	6	9
Machinist	—	1	1
Watchmaker	1	—	1
TOTALS	9	15	24

G. SMITH, *Immigration Agent.*

No. 6.

OCCUPATIONS of the FEMALE IMMIGRANTS introduced during the Half-year ended 30th June, 1863.

Boot Closer	1
Dairymaid	1
Dressmaker	1
General Servants	20
Housekeeper	1
Housemaids	2
Lady's maid	1
Nursemaids	2
Silk weaver	1
TOTAL	<u>30</u>

G. SMITH, *Immigration Agent.*