

(No. 74.)



1879.

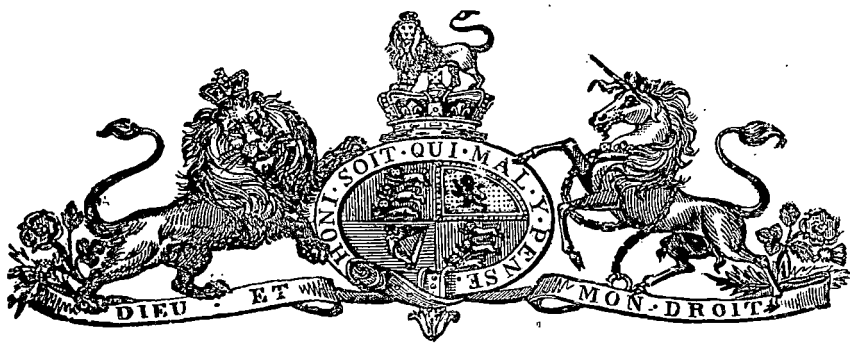
T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

EDDYSTONE LIGHT-HOUSE:

CORRESPONDENCE. (*In continuation of Paper No. 56.*)

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Moore, January 13; and ordered by the Council to be printed, January 29, 1880.



EDDYSTONE LIGHT-HOUSE.

Colonial Treasury, Hobart Town, 21st November, 1879.

MEMO.

THE last letter from the Chief Secretary of Victoria, dated 6th March, 1879, respecting the erection and maintenance of a Light-house at Eddystone Point, on the east coast of this Island, states that the Government of Victoria "cannot undertake to bear any larger proportion of the cost of the Eddystone Point Light than it originally agreed to undertake when the project was first discussed," but "will faithfully carry out the agreement arrived at on that occasion; and cannot see any valid reason why it should be called on to make up a deficiency arising out of the action of another Government."

From this letter it appears to me that some misapprehension exists, as from the outset the only colonies interested in the light have been Victoria and Tasmania, so that neither colony could be called on to make up a deficiency arising out of the action of another.

In the proceedings of the Conference held in Sydney in 1873 it was resolved, "that the lights recommended to be erected on Cape Hamlin, near Cape Leeuwin in Western Australia, and on Eddystone Point in Tasmania, should be considered to be lights maintained especially for the use of another colony." It was never contemplated that New South Wales should be called on to contribute in any way to the Eddystone Point Light, but that the work should be undertaken by the only two colonies interested, Victoria and Tasmania.

As the erection and maintenance of this light is of great importance to the shipping of the colonies most concerned in the work, I shall be glad if the Hon. the Colonial Secretary will bring the matter under the notice of the Government of Victoria again, and endeavour to ascertain whether that Government is prepared to join this colony in the cost of erection and future maintenance of this light, in the same way as was done in the case of the light at Currie Harbour, King's Island; that is, the cost of the whole service shall be borne by Victoria and Tasmania alone, the accounts both for erection and future maintenance to be adjusted between the two colonies on the basis of the tonnage of each colony using the light.

W. R. GIBLIN, *Colonial Treasurer.*

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hobart Town, 26th November, 1879.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor, at the request of my colleague the Colonial Treasurer, to bring under the notice of your Government the very great importance of an Ocean Light on Eddystone Point, on the eastern coast of Tasmania.

I enclose, herewith, a copy of a Memorandum from the Colonial Treasurer on the subject; and I trust that,—as originally decided at the Intercolonial Conference,—the erection and maintenance of this light on the responsibility of Victoria and Tasmania, without reference to any other colony, may meet with your concurrence.

I have, &c.

WM. MOORE.

The Hon. the Chief Secretary, Victoria.

No. 5603.

*Victoria,
Chief Secretary's Office, Melbourne, 4th December, 1879.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo, No. 571, with further reference to the proposal for the erection of a Light-house on Eddystone Point, on the eastern coast of Tasmania.

I have, &c.

(For the Chief Secretary,)

W. H. ODGERS.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Tasmania.