

(No. 126.)



1878.

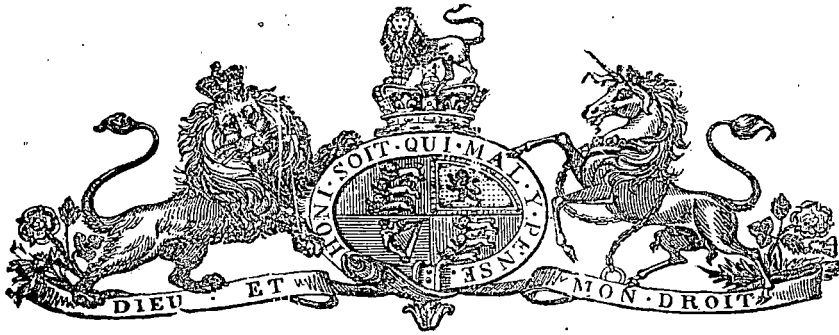
TASMANIA.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

MERSEY AND DELORAINÉ TRAMWAY :

CORRESPONDENCE.

Laid upon the Table by the Minister of Lands, and ordered by the House to be printed, May 1, 1879.



Stone Buildings, 14th September, 1875.

SIR,

REFERRING to our recent interview with the Honorable the Colonial Secretary and yourself, as to varying the offer of the proprietors of the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway for the sale of the line, we have now to state that they are prepared to sell all the land held with the line, as well as the property included in the previous offer, for the sum of twenty-five thousand pounds.

We have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servants,

ALLPORT, ROBERTS, & ALLPORT.

The Hon. the Minister of Lands.

Stone Buildings, Hobart Town, 9th July, 1876.

SIR,

At a meeting of the respective executors of the late John Foster and Askin Morrison, Esquires, held some days since, it was determined to offer to the Government the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway, with land on each side to the same width as stated in the Conditional Agreement entered into with you in January of last year; also the land in the Township of Latrobe described in same Agreement, together with the rolling stock and plant, for the low sum of eight thousand pounds. We have now the honor to place this offer before you, and to state that it may remain open for three months, within which time we presume you will have every opportunity of submitting your views upon it to the Legislature.

We have, &c.

ALLPORT, ROBERTS, & ALLPORT.

The Hon. the Minister of Lands and Works.

Lands and Works Office, 7th February, 1877.

GENTLEMEN,

REFERRING to an offer of sale of the "Mersey and Deloraine Tramway," as contained in your letter of the 9th July, 1876, together with land to a width of 50 links on each side of the line, rolling stock and plant, and land in Latrobe, for a sum of £8000, (eight thousand pounds), I have the honor to ask whether you are still in a position to treat with the Government for the sale of this property? And await the favour of an early reply.

I have, &c.

C. O'REILLY, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

*Messrs. ALLPORT, ROBERTS, & ALLPORT,
Solicitors, Hobart Town.*

BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

Launceston, 27th February, 1877.

Re Mersey and Deloraine Tramway. Any reply from Allport yet? If not, see him and Mr. Browne on the matter, and write to me. Direct to Latrobe. Endeavour to have the condition you mentioned inserted in the offer.

C. O'REILLY.

Mr. G. F. LOVETT, Lands and Works Office.

BY ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

No reply yet: saw Browne and Roberts this morning; letter will not contain condition desired, but Browne gives a personal assurance Government to have the refusal.

GEO. F. LOVETT.

Hon. C. O'REILLY, *Latrobe.*

Stone Buildings, 31st March, 1877.

SIR,

WE have the honor to inform you that we submitted to the respective Executors of Messrs. Foster and Morrison your letter dated 7th ultimo, respecting the offer made through us to the Government, on the 9th July last, of the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway; and, in reply, we are to state that our clients are still prepared to sell on the terms stated.

We have, &c.

ALLPORT, ROBERTS, & ALLPORT.

The Hon. the Minister of Lands and Works.

Lands and Works Office, Hobart Town, 14th July, 1877.

GENTLEMEN,

REFERRING to your letter of the 31st March last, whereby an offer of sale is made to the Government of the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway, with rolling stock and land to a certain width along the line, for the sum of £8000, I have now the honor to ask whether the Executors of the late John Foster and Askin Morrison, Esquires, are disposed to sell the fee simple of the whole of the lands either granted to or vested in the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway Company in pursuance of a resolution of Parliament.

I am, &c.

C. O'REILLY, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

Messrs. ALLPORT, ROBERTS, & ALLPORT,
Solicitors, Hobart Town.

Stone Buildings, 25th July, 1877.

SIR,

WE have the honor to inform you that we submitted your letter of the 14th instant to the Representatives of the late John Foster and Askin Morrison.

In reply, we are instructed to state that the Trustees decline to sell any land beyond that indicated in our letter of 31st March last.

We have, &c.

ALLPORT, ROBERTS, & ALLPORT.

The Hon. the Minister of Lands and Works.

9th October, 1878.

SIRS,

THE Government having had under consideration the question of purchasing the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway, I shall be obliged if you will inform me whether you, as representing the Estates of the late John Foster and Askin Morrison, will place the Tramway, with all material, rolling stock, and plant now upon the line under offer to the Government, and at what price, and upon what terms.

I am, &c.

NICHOLAS J. BROWN, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

Messrs. JUSTIN M'CARTY BROWNE, NEIL LEWIS,
and others, Hobart Town.

*Derwent and Tamar Assurance Company,
Hobart Town, 9th October, 1878.*

SIR,

WE beg to offer you the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway for the sum of *Six thousand Pounds* (£6000) with the land over which it runs, as it appears recorded in the Survey Office as "the line," conveyed to the Company, (but excluding portions of the line that are not absolutely vested in the Company; any claims, however, that we may have to those portions we will make over, as far as we can legally do so,) together with all railway material and plant now upon the line and in our possession.

We are prepared to receive payment in cash, or in Tasmanian Government Five (5) per cent. Debentures extending over a term of at least Five (5) years.

We leave this offer open for your consideration till the 10th November next.

We are, &c.

J. M'C. BROWNE, NEIL LEWIS, LAVINGTON ROOPE, C. M. MAXWELL,	}	<i>Representing the Estates of JOHN FOSTER and A. MORRISON.</i>
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The Hon. the Minister of Lands & Works.

Lands and Works Office, Hobart Town, 12th November, 1878.

GENTLEMEN,

I AM directed by the Honorable the Minister of Lands and Works to draw your attention to the fact that the offer of sale to the Government of the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway, &c., as contained in your letter of the 9th ultimo, was to remain open until the 10th of November instant.

Owing to an unexpected adjournment of Parliament, until the 3rd of December next, the decision of the Legislature must of necessity remain in abeyance until a subsequent date.

Under those circumstances an extension of time, say up to the 1st January next, is desirable; and I have the honor to request your concurrence, in writing, to the offer of sale remaining open until that date.

Yesterday, being a close holiday, I was unable to communicate with you with respect to this matter.

I have, &c.

GEORGE F. LOVETT, *Ministerial Clerk.*

*Messrs. J. M'CARTY BROWNE, NEIL LEWIS, LAVINGTON
ROOPE, and C. M. MAXWELL, Hobart Town.*

Hobart Town, 18th November, 1878.

SIR,

WE have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, requesting that the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway, offered for sale to the Government on the 9th of October, with a limit of time expiring on the 10th instant, may be renewed to the 1st January, 1879, and, in reply, to inform you that we have much pleasure in complying with the request.

We have, &c.

J. M'C. BROWNE, LAVINGTON ROOPE, NEIL LEWIS, C. M. MAXWELL,	}	<i>Representing the Estates of JOHN FOSTER and A. MORRISON.</i>
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*Hon. NICHOLAS J. BROWN, Minister of Lands
and Works, Hobart Town.*

Lands and Works Office, Hobart Town, 30th December, 1878.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE the honor to request that the offer of sale to the Government of the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway, now open until the 1st January, 1879, may be extended to, say the 1st March next.

An adjournment of Parliament to the 28th January, 1879, renders it necessary that the offer of sale of the property referred to should be kept open, in order that the question of purchase may be considered by the Legislature.

I have, &c.

C. O'REILLY, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

*Messrs. J. M'C. BROWNE, NEIL LEWIS, LAVINGTON ROOPE,
and C. M. MAXWELL, Hobart Town.*

Hobart Town, 8th January, 1879.

SIR,

WE have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 30th December, requesting that the offer of the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway may be extended to the 1st March next, in terms of our letter of the 9th October last, to which we readily assent.

We have, &c.

<p>J. M'C. BROWNE, NEIL LEWIS, C. M. MAXWELL, LAVINGTON ROOPE,</p>	}	<p><i>Representing the Estates of JOHN FOSTER and A. MORRISON.</i></p>
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Hon. CHRISTOPHER O'REILLY, Minister of Lands and Works, Hobart Town.

Lands and Works Office, 25th February, 1879.

GENTLEMEN,

PARLIAMENT having adjourned until the 22nd April next, the question of the purchase of the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway must necessarily remain in abeyance.

Under those circumstances I have to request that the offer of sale of the line and plant, &c. may be kept open until the 1st June next, to afford the Government an opportunity of bringing the subject under the consideration of Parliament.

I have, &c.

C. O'REILLY, *Minister of Lands and Works.*

*Messrs. JUSTIN M'C. BROWNE, NEIL LEWIS, LAVINGTON
ROOPE, and C. M. MAXWELL, Hobart Town.*

Hobart Town, 1st March, 1879.

SIR,

WE have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 25th February, requesting that the offer of the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway, made to you on the 9th October last, may now be extended to the 1st June next, to enable you to bring the subject under the consideration of Parliament.

In reply, we beg to inform you that we have much pleasure in extending the terms to the 1st June next, on the conditions named last October.

We have, &c.

<p>J. M'C. BROWNE, NEIL LEWIS, C. M. MAXWELL, LAVINGTON ROOPE,</p>	}	<p><i>Representing the Estates of JOHN FOSTER and A. MORRISON.</i></p>
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*Hon. CHRISTOPHER O'REILLY, Minister of Lands
and Works, Hobart Town.*

Tasmanian Club, Hobart Town, 4th April, 1879.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to state that should the Government determine to complete the Mersey and Deloraine Railway, I should be glad to enter into negotiations for carrying out the works by contract, should the Government think of constructing the Line in this way. I am about leaving for England, and my permanent address there is Junior Athenæum Club, Piccadilly, London.

I have, &c.

J. W. REEVE.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

FORWARDED to the Hon. the Minister of Lands and Works.

THOS. REIBEY.

7th April, 1879.

Lands and Works Office, 26th April, 1879.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE the honor to request that you will be good enough to furnish me with full particulars of the land referred to in your letter of the 9th October, 1878, as "the line," which, as trustees to the estates of the late John Foster and Askin Morrison, you have placed under offer of sale to the Government for a sum of £6000, giving short abstract of title to land either purchased or acquired by the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway Company for tramway purposes, and distinguishing it from the land to which you refer as not being actually vested in the Company.

I have also to request that you will be good enough to state in writing the extent and particulars of land included in the offer of sale for "station" purposes, in order that there may be no misunderstanding as to what is actually placed under offer for the sum named.

A schedule of the rolling stock is also required, to enable me to bring the matter fully under the notice of Parliament in dealing with the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway Bill, which, coming under discussion at an early date, necessitates a prompt compliance with the above requirements.

I have, &c.

C. O'REILLY, *Minister of Lands and Works*

*Messrs. J. M'C. BROWNE, NEIL LEWIS, LAVINGTON
ROOPE, C. M. MAXWELL, Trustees to the Estates
of A. MORRISON and JOHN FOSTER, Hobart Town.*

MEMO.

Mr. Justin Browne called this morning, and stated that:—

On the 9th October, 1878, he had an interview with Mr. W. Moore, Colonial Secretary.

The result was that certain allotments of land at Latrobe upon which the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway station stands and through which the line runs should, in part, be put under offer to the Government, to such an extent as would be required for the purposes of the Railway, but no more; and to that extent the price was not to exceed £200.

Mr. Browne is under the impression that he communicated the above to Mr. John Roberts the same day for the purpose of recording the result of the interview on behalf of the estate of the late John Foster.

B. TRAVERS SOLLY.

Colonial Secretary's Office, 29th April, 1879.

The Hon. the Minister of Lands and Works.

Stone Buildings, 1st May, 1879.

SIR,

WE have the honor to return the plan left with us by your Secretary, and have marked thereon, as requested, the portions of the Mersey and Deloraine Tramway Line which are vested by purchase in the trustees of Messrs. Morrison and Foster.

The land at Latrobe is correctly defined in the plan, and comprises three acres. We enclose a diagram of it drawn on a larger scale, and which shows the land clearly.

Our Clients are prepared to deliver, on completion of the purchase, all rolling stock and plant of every description, but they have no inventory of it at hand.

We have, &c.

ROBERTS & ALLPORT.

To the Hon. the Minister of Lands and Works, Hobart Town.