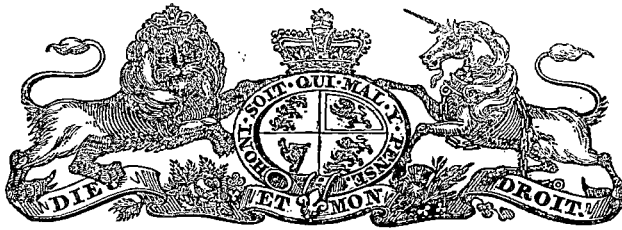


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1856.

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T A S M A N I A.

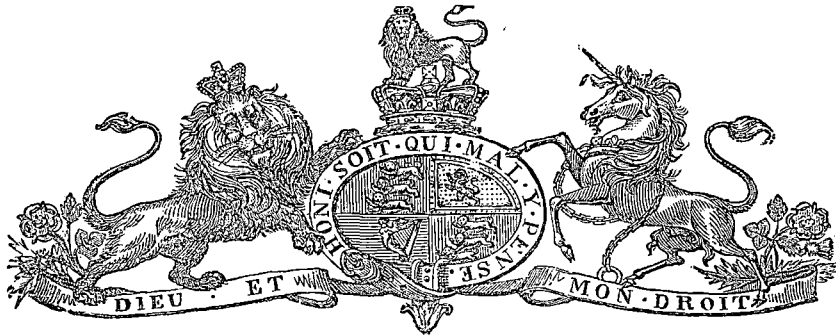
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**BRIDGEWATER BRIDGE.**

CORRESPONDENCE.

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Laid on the Table by Mr. Colonial Secretary, and ordered by the House to be printed, 31 March, 1857.



*Colonial Secretary's Office, 13th March, 1857.*

GENTLEMEN,

BEFORE the adjournment of the House of Assembly, Dr. Officer gave notice of his intention to ask the Colonial Secretary what amount of debt still remains unpaid on the Bridgewater Bridge; and whether it is the intention of the Government to make any reduction in the existing rate of tolls?

Should the question be put to me after the Parliament re-assembles, I should be glad to be in a position to answer it.

I have, &c.

THOMAS GEORGE GREGSON.

*The Bridgewater Commissioners.*

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*Bridgewater Commissioners' Office, 19th March, 1857.*

SIR,

IN reply to the questions contained in your letter of the 13th instant, we have the honor to state, first, that the amount of our debt still remaining unpaid is £1800.

During the year 1856-7 we paid the sum of £2000; but as various works, such as painting the Bridge, tarring the piles, &c. will have to be performed, as also the erection of a new house for the Collector, which is urgently required, we cannot expect to pay so large an amount during the present year, but we hope that by the end of 1858, provided the tolls remain as they are, we shall have paid off the whole encumbrance on the Bridge.

With regard to the reduction of the tolls, we beg to refer to the 22nd Section of the Act of Council, 10 Victoria, No. 11, by which any lowering of the tolls is prohibited while any debt, for which such tolls are security, remains unpaid; but as the Government themselves are the mortgagees, and the tolls were raised by them after the money had been advanced, it might perhaps be lawful for them to reduce them to their original rates.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servants,

WM. P. KAY, } *Bridgewater*  
WM. SORELL, } *Commissioners.*  
E. J. MANLEY, }

*The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.*

BRIDGEWATER BRIDGE.

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*Ordered to be printed, 31 March, 1857.*

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JAMES BARNARD,  
GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.