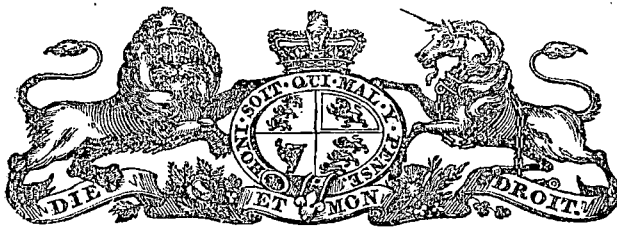


(No. 15.)



1863.

TASMANIA.
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.

ROYAL COMMISSION—SOUTHERN SIDE.

Laid on the Table by Mr. Whyte, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
March 3, 1863.



(L.S.)

VICTORIA by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith.

To Our trusty and well-beloved the Honorable JAMES WHYTE, Esquire, the Honorable CHARLES MEREDITH, Esquire, the Honorable JAMES MILNE WILSON, Esquire, the Honorable WILLIAM CARTER, Esquire, ROBERT WALKER, Esquire, FRANCIS HARTWELL HENSLOWE, Esquire, CRAWFORD MAYNE MAXWELL, Esquire, and JOSEPH PENNY, Esquire.

GREETING :

WHEREAS We have thought it expedient for divers good causes and considerations Us thereunto moving that an Inquiry should forthwith be made into the mode and system of keeping and auditing the Public Accounts now observed in the Treasury and at all other Public Offices and Departments of Our Government, and whether any and what alterations and improvements can be made in the same with advantage to the Public Service, and also into the nature and amount of the business transacted in the several Departments of Our Government whose offices or places of business shall be and lie to the Southward of the Town of Campbell Town in Our Colony of Tasmania, and whether any and what alterations can be made therein by which a reduction may be effected in the Expenditure without any diminution in the efficiency thereof, either by consolidation of offices or by reducing the number of persons employed in each or any Department : KNOW YE that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your fidelity, discretion, and integrity, have authorised and appointed, and do by these Presents authorise and appoint you the said JAMES WHYTE, CHARLES MEREDITH, JAMES MILNE WILSON, WILLIAM CARTER, ROBERT WALKER, FRANCIS HARTWELL HENSLOWE, CRAWFORD MAYNE MAXWELL, and JOSEPH PENNY, or any three or more of you, to make a diligent enquiry into the mode and system of keeping and auditing the Public Accounts now observed in the Treasury and at all other Public Offices and Departments of Our Government, and whether any and what alterations and improvements can be made in the same with advantage to the Public Service ; and also into the nature and amount of the business transacted in the several Departments of Our Government whose offices or places of business shall be and lie to the Southward of the Town of Campbell Town in Our Colony of Tasmania, and whether any and what alterations and arrangements can be made in the several Offices and Departments of Our Government in order to promote the efficiency and economy thereof : AND for the better discovery of the truth in the premises We do by these Presents give and grant to you or any three or more of you full power and authority to call before you or any three or more of you such and so many of the Officers and Clerks of the several Offices and Departments of Our said Government as aforesaid and other persons as you shall judge necessary by whom you may be better informed of the truth in the premises, and to enquire of the premises and of every part thereof by all other ways and means whatsoever : AND We do hereby give and grant unto you or any three or more of you full power and authority where the same shall appear to be requisite to administer an oath to any person whomsoever to be examined before you or any three or more of you touching or concerning the premises : AND We do also give and grant unto you or any three or more of you full power and authority to cause all and singular the Officers and Clerks of the several Departments of Our said Government as aforesaid or other persons as you shall judge necessary to bring and produce upon Oath before you or any three or more of you all and singular books, records, and papers, or other writings belonging to Our said Government, or the several Departments thereof as aforesaid or to any Officers within the same as such Officers : AND Our further will and pleasure is that you or any three or more of you upon due examination of the premises do propose and reduce into writing under your hands such regulations as you may think fit to recommend to be established respecting the premises, and do and shall within the space of Three Months after the date of this Our Commission, or sooner if the same can reasonably be, certify unto Us in Our Executive Council in Our said Colony in writing under your hands and seals respectively all and every of your several proceedings by force of these Presents together with what you shall find touching or concerning the premises upon such enquiry as aforesaid, and what regulations respecting such matters as aforesaid you shall think fit to recommend to be established : AND We further will and command and by these Presents ordain that this Our Commission shall continue in full force and virtue, and that you Our said Commissioners or any three or more of you shall and may from time to time proceed in the execution thereof, and of every matter and thing therein contained, although the same be not continued from time to time by adjournment : AND We do hereby direct and appoint that you or any three or more of you may have liberty to certify your several proceedings from time to time to Us in Our said Executive Council as the same shall be respectively completed and perfected : AND We hereby command all and singular Our Officers and Clerks and other persons as you shall judge necessary and all other Our loving subjects whomsoever within Our said Colony of Tasmania that they be assistant to you and each of you in the execution of these Presents : IN TESTIMONY whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Public Seal of Our Colony of Tasmania to be hereunto affixed : WITNESS Our trusty and well-beloved Colonel THOMAS GORE BROWNE, Companion of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Our Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of Tasmania and its Dependencies at Hobart Town in Tasmania aforesaid this twelfth day of February one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three.

T. GORE BROWNE.

By His Excellency's Command,

JAMES WHYTE, *Colonial Secretary.*