

(No. 64.)



1892.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

WILLIAM TARLETON, ESQUIRE, POLICE
MAGISTRATE, HOBART :

RETIREMENT FROM OFFICE.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command..



Hobart, 25th April, 1892.

SIR,

HAVING nearly completed my 72nd year, I feel that the time must shortly arrive when my retirement from the offices which I now hold will be desirable both for the public interests and my own comfort. In view, therefore, of the necessity for the consideration of the question by the Ministry before the meeting of Parliament, I desire now to submit that my case is strictly parallel to that of Mr. Whitefoord, and that my long and faithful service in important and responsible positions in the Civil Service fairly entitles me also to the privilege which was conceded to him, of retiring upon the full salary I am now receiving.

From the annexed record of my services it will be seen—

1. That I have completed 50 years of continuous service.
2. That throughout the whole of that period I held magisterial, quasi-judicial, and other important offices.
3. That at every stage of my official career the zeal and fidelity with which I performed the duties entrusted to me were acknowledged by the respective Governments under which I served, by all those with whom I was brought into official relations, and by the public.
4. That, in addition to the duties for which I was paid, I have devoted no little time and labour to the fulfilment of a variety of unpaid offices, and have endeavoured in every way that lay in my power to promote the welfare of the public.

On these grounds I therefore now beg to request that the Ministry, recognising my services to have been of an exceptional character, will be kind enough to bring into Parliament a Bill to grant to me the same pension which Mr. Whitefoord now receives,—namely, £600 per annum.

In making this request I have only further to add that, as I have always hitherto been uniformly treated with courteous consideration by Ministries and Parliaments, so now I confidently trust that the present Ministry and Parliament will view my appeal in a kind and liberal spirit, and will grant to me the means of enjoying in ease and comfort the rest which a lifetime of honest work in the service of the Colony justly entitles me to seek.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,
W. TARLETON.

The Honorable the Attorney-General.

RECORD OF MR. TARLETON'S SERVICES, 1842-1892.

On the 18th March, 1842, I was appointed by Lord Stanley, Secretary of State for the Colonies, Assistant Police Magistrate of Hamilton. In pursuance of that appointment I sailed from England on the 1st June, 1842, arrived at Hobart on the 20th September, and, after sitting on the Hobart Bench for a month with the late Mr. Price, P.M., proceeded to Hamilton and took charge of that district on the 20th October. I continued there, having the executive control of the police, and performing magisterial duty at Hamilton and as Visiting Magistrate of two large convict stations at Victoria Valley and Seven-mile Creek, until the 1st December, 1845, when I was promoted by Lieutenant-Governor Sir Eardley Wilmot to the Police Magistracy of Launceston.

My appointment having been confirmed by Mr. Gladstone, then Secretary of State, I remained at Launceston, presiding on the Police Court Bench and having charge of the Police Force, consisting of 2 district and 52 petty constables, till the 1st July, 1850, when the office of Police Magistrate was combined with that of Superintendent of Convicts in the person of Mr. Wm. Gunn, my senior officer, and I was temporarily removed to Bothwell. In the letter informing me of this change, Mr. Bicheno, the Colonial Secretary, says:—"His Excellency cannot allow this opportunity to pass without conveying to you the approbation of the Government for the efficient manner in which you have conducted the duties of your office;" and in the *Gazette* notice,—“His Excellency desires to record the high sense he entertains of the public character of Mr. Tarleton, and of the value of that gentleman's services during the five years he has acted as Police Magistrate at Launceston, from which office he would not now have been transferred but for considerations of economy.” I was also presented by the inhabitants of the district with a silver tea service, and an address signed by thirty magistrates, and a large number of others of a highly laudatory character.

In March, 1851, I was appointed to the Police Magistracy of New Norfolk. In notifying my appointment, the Chief Police Magistrate says:—"I am directed to express to you the pleasure which His Excellency feels in being able to place you in a position analogous to that which you held at Launceston."

I acted as Police Magistrate of New Norfolk till the end of July, 1857, when I was appointed Police Magistrate of Hobart. In apprising me of this, Mr. Wm. Henty, Colonial Secretary, says:—"I have great pleasure in expressing the high sense the Government entertains of the ability, the zeal, and the fidelity with which you have acquitted yourself as a magistrate, in consideration of which your appointment has been approved to the office of Police Magistrate at Hobart." On leaving the New Norfolk District I received a complimentary address and plate of the value of £50 from the inhabitants.

I took charge of the Hobart Police Court on the 1st August, 1857, and performed the duties of Police Magistrate and Coroner of the City and Suburbs, also visiting Kingston and Clarence Plains, until May, 1862, when I was selected to fill the office of Recorder of Titles under the provisions of the Real Property Act, then about to be brought into operation in this Colony. Proceeding to Adelaide, I spent a month studying the working of the system at the Lands' Titles Office there under Mr. Torrens, and returned to Hobart in time to open the new Department on the 1st July. On relinquishing the office of Police Magistrate I received an address signed by the Mayor (Mr. Alfred Kennerley) and forty other magistrates, in which they express their sense of "the ability, uprightness, and independence which had marked my public career in this Colony."

From the 1st July, 1862, I performed the duty of Recorder of Titles, with which were combined the Offices of Registrar of Deeds, Collector of Stamp Duties, and for a short time Commissioner of Succession Duties, till 25th September, 1868, when, without any addition to my salary, the additional office of Administrator of Charitable Grants was imposed upon me. The duties of this office, which at that time included the whole distribution of the Government Grants both in Hobart and throughout the Colony, as well as the admissions to all Charitable Institutions, entailed on me not only serious responsibilities but a large amount of heavy correspondence which necessitated constant night-work to get through. I feel happy to think that it was during my tenure of this office that the boarding-out system of dealing with pauper children, which has since worked so successfully, was first established on my recommendation.

On the 1st May, 1871, the Real Property Act system having become firmly established, I reverted, at the request of the Attorney-General, Mr. W. R. Giblin, to my former position of Police Magistrate and Commissioner of the Court of Requests, Hobart, retaining the office of Administrator of Charitable Grants. In notifying to me this new arrangement, Mr. Giblin says:—"I am directed to express His Excellency's sense of the very efficient and painstaking manner in which you have performed the duties of these offices, more especially those of the Recorder of Titles, which you have held since the first passing of the Real Property Act."

On the 31st December, 1879, I was relieved of the duty of administering the Charitable Grants, and was appointed Master Warden of the Hobart Marine Board. I held this office till the 31st August, 1882, and during the time I did so I paid into the Treasury the salary of £200 per annum which I received from the Marine Board Funds, the General Revenue thereby gaining the sum of £533 6s. 8d.

On the 30th of June, 1882, a serious attack of paralysis incapacitated me for a time for work of any sort, and I was compelled to seek leave of absence. On my recovery, towards the end of 1883, I resumed my duties of Police Magistrate and Commissioner of the Court of Requests, Hobart, and have continued to discharge them up to the present date.

It will be thus seen that I served as—

	Yrs.	Mths.
Police Magistrate in the Districts of Hamilton, Bothwell, and New Norfolk	10	4
Police Magistrate, &c., Launceston.....	4	8
Recorder of Titles, Registrar of Deeds, and Administrator Charitable Grants	9	0
Police Magistrate, Commissioner Court of Requests, &c., Hobart, Administrator of Charitable Grants, and Master Warden, Marine Board, for part of the time.....	26	0
	<u>50</u>	<u>0</u>

Irrespective of the appointments for which I received salary, I have also filled a number of unpaid offices, in all of which I have zealously striven to advance the interests of the community; namely—

- Commissioner and Regular Visitor of Lunatic Asylums for over 20 years.
- Member of the Board of Education for about 15 years.
- Member of the Council of Education for 10 years.
- Salmon Commissioner and Member of the Fisheries Board for 10 years.
- Captain Commanding Hobart Volunteer Artillery for over 10 years.
- Member of the Central Board for Boarded-out Children for 7 or 8 years.
- Member of the Council of the University of Tasmania for 2 years.
- Member of the original Committee of the Benevolent Society for the first 2 or 3 years.
- Trustee of the Church of England Property.
- Trustee of Christ's College Property.
- Trustee of Hutchins' School Property.
- And other offices under the Church of England Synod.

W. TARLETON.

Hobart, 25th April, 1892.