

(No. 84.)



1876.

TASMANIA.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

MR. HENRY'S CLAIM.

**REPLIES BY DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS TO
CERTAIN QUESTIONS.**

Laid upon the Table by the Colonial Secretary, and ordered by the House to be printed, October 10, 1876.



Colonial Secretary's Office, Hobart Town, 9th October, 1876.

THE Minister of Lands and Works will oblige by obtaining from the Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands answers to the several questions herewith submitted.

THOS. REIBEY.

WILL Mr. Hull be good enough to comply with the request of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary?

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

MEMORANDUM.

WILL the Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands be good enough to answer the following questions?

1. Was Mr. Sorell's letter of the 3rd July, 1876, with diagram forwarded with it, submitted to Mr. Moore personally?

Yes. It formed as it were the cover of the correspondence.

2. By whose authority did the Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands write the Memo. on Mr. Sorell's letter of 3rd of July, 1876, (initialed "J.H., 12. 7. 76.") written on behalf of Mr. Henry, and applying for the *second site* opposite to Barrack-street?

By the authority of the then Minister of Lands and Works (Mr. Moore).

3. Was the letter dated 12th of July written under the impression that it referred to the first or second application of Mr. Henry,—and did the Deputy Commissioner write the said letter and afterwards submit it to Mr. Moore for his signature?

I wrote the letter referred to under the impression that I was dealing with the second site. Mr. Moore read the letter and added to it in his own handwriting.

4. Did Mr. Moore read the said letter before he attached his signature to it?

Yes; and added to it.

5. Was the Deputy Commissioner present when Mr. Meredith attached his signature to the Memo. on Mr. Sorell's letter, initialed "J.H., 12. 7. 76?"

No. Mr. Meredith sent for me and showed me what he had done in the presence of Mr. Moore.

6. Was Mr. Moore present?

Mr. Moore and Mr. Henry, I believe, were present.

7. Was Mr. Henry present?

I do not know.

8. At whose request did Mr. Meredith attach his signature?

I am not quite sure upon this point, but I believe he did.

9. Did Mr. Moore name the annual rental of £5 in the presence of Deputy Commissioner and Messrs. Meredith and Henry?

10. Will the Deputy Commissioner *distinctly* state that he believed Mr. Moore expressed his willingness that Mr. Meredith should legally confirm, by attaching his signature to Memo. "Minister approves" on Mr. Sorell's letter, *the agreement* entered into with Mr. Henry by him previous to his resignation of office as Minister of Lands and Works?

I was not present when Mr. Meredith attached his signature: had I been present I would have got Mr. Moore's signature as well, because it was a record Mr. Moore told Mr. Henry, in his letter of the 12th July, that he had made.

11. Will the Deputy Commissioner state whether any objection to the second site had been received at the Lands and Works Office prior to the day on which Mr. Meredith was asked to sign the Memo. on Mr. Sorell's letter "Minister approves, &c.?"

Only one letter from Mr. C. Smith, J.P.

12. Did the Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands receive any private or official intimation from Mr. Moore that he had approved of Mr. Henry's application for Section No. 2 whilst under the impression his approval had reference to the original application of the 19th of April, 1876?

Yes; a private letter, after the matter had been before the Governor in Council.

13. If such intimation has been made, when did it reach Mr. Hull, and did he communicate it to the Minister of Lands and Works?

It reached me about the latter end of August. I did not show it to the Minister of Lands and Works, but I advised Mr. O'Reilly to let the matter stand over to be dealt with by Parliament.

H. J. HULL,
9 October, 1876.