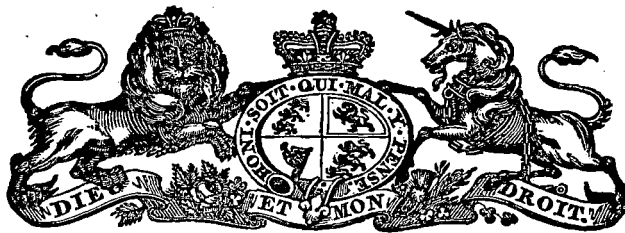


(No. 52.)



1870.

T A S M A N I A.

H U O N B R I D G E.

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Butler, August 31, 1870, and ordered by the House to be printed.



Hobart Town, 23rd September, 1869.

SIR,

IN pursuance of your instructions I proceeded to the Huon, and inspected the river as to the site of the bridge to be erected over the said river.

The site I should recommend is opposite the road as now laid out between the Store and the new building now being erected; the ground is favourable for pile driving, being a good sound gravel bottom lying on a freestone rock.

I should advise a bridge of 6 spans of 85 feet each, on piles properly driven and braced together, the superstructure to have a trussed beam, the truss part to be a laminated arch composed of 5 three-inch planks well spiked and bolted together, to be connected to the lower beam by radial struts fastened together with proper straps, gibs, and colters; the floor to have 12 in. \times 5 in. joists 30 in. apart, 4 in. thick, planking laid longitudinally and covered at right angles with 4 in. \times 2 in. hardwood planking; hand-railing, and painting the whole of the bridge and approaches, will not exceed the sum £3000 (Three thousand Pounds.)

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN R. FRITH.

The Director of Public Works.

Public Works Office, Hobart Town, 24th September, 1869.

The expense of erecting a bridge as Mr. Frith proposes will depend entirely on the possibility or otherwise of driving piles a sufficient depth to ensure the safety of the superstructure.

As we have no certain information on this point, I cannot advise the Government that the work can be completed for the amount stated.

FRANCIS BUTLER, *Director of Public Works.*

The Hon. the Treasurer.

Office of Lands and Works, Hobart Town, 26th August, 1870.

SIR,

I AM directed by the Honorable the Minister of Lands and Works to inform you, for the information of the Deputation which represented the Public Meeting held at Franklin on the subject of the erection of a bridge over the Huon River, that the Government cannot undertake to recommend to Parliament a special appropriation of money for the purpose in question; but, in a measure which it is their intention to submit to Parliament, increased aid will be given to the erection of bridges under the Public Works Act.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

E. W. BOOTHMAN.

RICHARD HILL, *Esq., Honeywood.*