

(No. 78.)



1875.

TASMANIA.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

MR. SANDFORD SCOTT.

APPOINTMENT AS SUPERINTENDENT OF THE QUEEN'S
ASYLUM.

Laid upon the Table by the Colonial Treasurer, and ordered by the House to be
printed, August 27, 1875.



Colonial Secretary's Office, 28th April, 1874.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to inform you that the Administrator of the Government in Council has been pleased to appoint you to be Superintendent of the Queen's Asylum at New Town, with salary at the rate of One hundred and fifty Pounds per annum, with quarters, fuel, and light, and the services of one of the female children up to the age of fifteen years, for whom you will draw the usual ration.

To take effect on and from the 1st May next.

I have, &c.,

(Signed)

ALFRED KENNERLEY,

For Colonial Secretary, absent.

SANDFORD SCOTT, Esq., Hobart Town.

EXTRACT from Colonial Auditor's Letter to the Hon. Colonial Treasurer, dated 20th July, 1875.

No. 2.

QUERY No. 332 of 8th June, 1874, on Voucher No. 79, Mr. Sandford Scott's receipt for Pension for month of May, 1874; amount £17 10s.: and No. 40, Salary Abstract, Queen's Asylum, for May, 1874; amount £79 5s. Paid 1st June.

Mr. Sandford Scott was pensioned on a salary of £350 per annum from 1st October, 1869, the amount granted to him being £210 per annum. His present salary and emoluments as Superintendent of the Queen's Asylum, according to an authority furnished to this Office dated 28th April, 1874, would amount to about £250, as shown below, amounting together to £460; viz,—

	£	s.	d.
Salary.....	150	0	0
Value of Allowances at the usual rates—			
Quarters.....	60	0	0
Fuel and light.....	23	10	0
Servant.....	16	16	0
		100	6
		£250	6

According to the 10th Section of "The Superannuation Act," any Pensioner who is appointed to fill any office of emolument under the Crown shall not receive a larger amount in pension, salary, and emoluments combined than the sum on which he may have been pensioned, and the rule hitherto has been to deduct the excess from the pension in all cases when such excess has occurred. But no deduction appears to have been made in the amount of either pension or salary for the month of May in Mr. Scott's case.

W. LOVETT.

Answer or Explanation:—Mr. Sandford Scott's pension has been voted by Parliament at £210 per annum, and also his salary as Superintendent of the Queen's Asylum and the New Town Charitable Institution for Indigent Females at £150; these two items are therefore duly authorised by the Legislature, although combined they exceed by £10 the amount of the salary upon which he was pensioned. Mr. Scott's allowances, which are estimated at—

	£	s.	d.
Quarters.....	30	0	0
Fuel and light.....	20	0	0
Services of one of the children in the Asylum.....	15	0	0
		£65	0

are granted to him as a Bonus, and therefore do not enter into the calculation as regards the question raised by the Auditor. The circumstances under which Mr. Scott was re-employed are exceptional. He is over 60 years of age and the Government could not compel him to re-enter the service, but availed themselves of his willingness to accept employment in order to secure a competent Superintendent for the institutions above mentioned at a rate of remuneration far below what any gentleman similarly situated would have accepted.

B. TRAVERS SOLLY.
15th May, 1875.

Further remarks in reply:—I do not think the statement of the Honorable the Colonial Secretary that the allowances of the Superintendent of the Queen's Asylum are granted as a Bonus alters the case, for a Bonus certainly would form part of the emoluments of office, and therefore a considerable sum has been granted contrary to the provisions of the Superannuation Act. When the vote for the salary of the Superintendent of the Queen's Asylum was taken, it did not appear that Parliament fully understood the arrangement, more especially with regard to the point introduced in this Query.

I did not intend to question the desirability of the arrangement as a matter of economy or in other respects beyond the bare fact stated, and would consider the Query satisfied if the Executive will engage to explain the case to Parliament when the vote for the Queen's Asylum for 1876 is taken.

W. LOVETT.
Audit Office, 18th May, 1875.

Perused and returned.

THOS. D. CHAPMAN.
17th June, 1875.