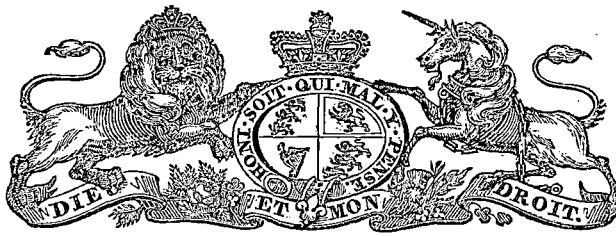


(No. 34.)



1856.

T A S M A N I A.

DESPATCH—FREE PARDONS.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Colonial Secretary, and ordered by the House to be printed, 13 January, 1857.

(No. 34.)



(No. 110.)

Downing-street, 5th October, 1856.

SIR,

I REFERRED for the consideration of the Secretary of State for the Home Department your Despatches, of the numbers and dates specified in the margin, recommending certain Convicts holding Conditional Pardons for the indulgence of Absolute Pardons.

No. 27—4th March, 1856. No. 42—25th March, 1856. No. 52—28th April, 1856.

I am aware that Lord John Russell's Despatch of the 12th June, 1855, stated that there might be individual cases in which men might, by reformed habits and an industrious course of life, have entitled themselves to your representing the special circumstances which, in your eyes, would justify a grant of a full and free Pardon. But no such special circumstances are mentioned in the list of names which you have sent Home. It has also been urged upon me by the Secretary of State for the Home Department, that the allowance of Free Pardons is altogether out of the usual course, and that no such practice could become general without being open to very serious objections. I have to instruct you, therefore, that, for the future, no person holding a Conditional Pardon is to be recommended merely on the ground of general respectability for an Absolute Pardon. The same reason must prevent a compliance with the recommendations already received from you, unless there should exist in any of the instances circumstances of a very special and unusual character, which, in that case, you will be at liberty to report for future consideration.

I have, &c.

H. LABOUCHERE.

Governor SIR HENRY YOUNG,
Tasmania.

DESPATCH—FREE PARDONS.

Ordered to be printed, 13 January, 1857.

JAMES BARNARD,
GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.