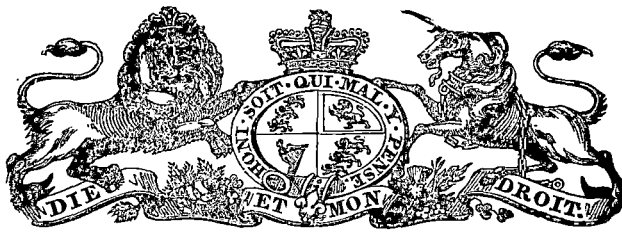


(No. 101.)



1888.

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PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

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CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SHEEP:

REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1888.

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



## REPORT OF CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SHEEP.

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*Office of Inspector of Sheep, Hobart, 30th June, 1888.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit my Report upon the working of "The Scab Act" for the past year ending the 30th June.

It is again my pleasant duty to announce that the Sheep in Tasmania continue entirely free from Scab.

The formulation of existing Regulations will, I feel certain, prevent the re-introduction of Scab from Colonies that are unfortunately still infected with this disease.

This is the fourth Annual Report furnished by me, and I must again reiterate my protest against the title of this Act, it being misnamed, injurious to the sheep interests of this Colony, and a misnomer, from the fact that no Scab has existed for the past nine years in Tasmania.

The Australasian Stock Conference, held in Sydney during the months of September and October, 1886, which was the outcome of my repeated visits to the adjoining Colonies urging the admission of Tasmanian Stud Sheep upon more favourable terms, and the assimilation as nearly as possible of the Regulations controlling the export and importation of Stock from and into clean Colonies by sea, has at length resulted in some of the most objectionable restrictions being removed.

I beg to quote the following instances of the benefits which have already resulted :—

*Victoria* now admits Tasmanian Stud Sheep with one dipping and no quarantine. Formerly two dippings were enforced before being allowed to move inland.

*South Australia* allows our Stud Sheep to be taken inland after one dipping; no quarantine. Previously our Sheep had to undergo six days' quarantine and dippings, as directed by the Inspector of Stock.

*New South Wales* now receives our Stud Sheep with one dipping and only quarantine from arrival of the steamer at the Port of Sydney to the term necessary to complete this dipping. All Sheep have to be accompanied by an Inspector's Certificate of Inspection, one by one, to the effect that they are free from disease. Crates and cages have to be disinfected as the Chief Inspector may direct. Fodder and litter cannot be landed if it has been in direct contact with Sheep during the voyage; other fodder can be landed from the same vessel. All vessels must be disinfected before receiving Sheep on board.

Prior to the above law being in force, Tasmanian Stud Sheep had to undergo a quarantine of twelve days and one dipping. The Chief Inspector's Certificate of Inspection, one by one, was a necessity, without which three dippings could be enforced; crates or cages were not allowed to be removed from the vessel except conditionally that they were placed upon a hulk for transshipment from whence they came. Fodder had to be paid for as freight in a steamer to arrive in Sydney before the Sheep.

*Queensland* has up to this date made no concession, or relaxed the stringency of "The Sheep Act," so that in the face of a twenty-one days' quarantine and an absolute three dippings, that Colony is not at all likely to benefit by the introduction of any high-class Sheep from Tasmania. But I have reason to hope that the law in force in Queensland relating to Stock will shortly be amended with a view of facilitating the import of Sheep.

The alteration in the Stock Acts of South Australia, Victoria, and New South Wales will have a good effect upon the export of pure Sheep, and will be specially beneficial when flock rams are

forwarded. This description of stock would not justify their exportation on account of the heavy expenses entailed when a twelve days' quarantine was demanded by New South Wales, and the compulsory two dippings enforced upon Sheep landing from Tasmania in Victoria. As I anticipated, already breeders are taking advantage of the relaxation of the Regulations, and are now establishing a sale for Flock Rams to be held in Sydney in April. On the 18th of that month about seven hundred of this description of Sheep were forwarded to Sydney by different breeders. I feel satisfied better prices will be the outcome, as there will not be the clashing when the stud rams are submitted later on in the season.

The sale of Stud Sheep during the past year has only in a few instances been remunerative. The disastrous drought in the adjoining Colonies with which the squatter has had to contend, is, I feel assured, the cause of the low prices, and not over-production, as is alleged by some. I furnish the following Table of number and Custom House value placed upon Stud Sheep exported since 1870, up to June, 1888 :—

Year.	Number.	Value.	Year.	Number.	Value.	Year.	Number.	Value.
		£			£			£
1870.....	807	4115	1876.....	1403	18,157	1882.....	1937	34,012
1871.....	998	4660	1877.....	1303	10,103	1883.....	2913	62,275
1872.....	2433	15,500	1878.....	651	8485	1884.....	3234	60,758
1873.....	2586	15,547	1879.....	1496	47,259	1885.....	2825	51,325
1874.....	1997	20,825	1880.....	—	—	1886-7.....	5240	67,424
1875.....	1673	23,414	1881.....	1306	38,305	1887-8.....	1677*	26,157

\* This decrease is owing to the Sydney sales being later than usual, consequently the Sheep were not shipped until early in July.

It is my unpleasant duty to bring under your serious consideration the large annual decrease of Sheep in Tasmania. I view with alarm the gloomy outlook upon what may be the ultimate effect to the pastoral interest if the steady decrease which has taken place in the flocks of the Colony for the past eleven years continues. I trust you will pardon my diverging from the subject matter of this Report to comment upon this question (it being a national one), so that some decided action may be resorted to without delay to deal with the cause. The bad seasons experienced throughout Tasmania for the past few years must undoubtedly have had some effect upon the fall of lambs, causing the per-centage to be below the average of good seasons. But the primary cause, there is no denying, is the large increase of rabbits throughout the Colony.

The carrying out of "The Rabbits Destruction Act" of 1882 was placed under my administration, but, from the want of an effective inspecting staff being allowed me, I was unable to have the law strictly enforced.

During the year 1886 I was allowed three Inspectors for the whole Island; in 1887 two Inspectors were only retained to perform the duty. This, with the absurdity of nominal fines inflicted in most prosecutions, rendered the Act all but inoperative.

Under the present Board system it has been found a necessity to proclaim twenty-three Rabbit Districts. The Boards appointed for each of these districts are composed of seven landholders, who may all exercise the functions of Inspectors. The Board has also the power to appoint an Inspector or Inspectors in these districts to carry out the provisions of the Act.

This action clearly demonstrates that the staff allowed me for the administration of the law was altogether inadequate to the requirements. For the past three years I have strongly urged upon the Government in my annual Report the necessity of allowing me such a staff of Inspectors as would enable me to stringently enforce the Act. When requesting the appointment of additional Inspectors I submitted estimates that would have provided the necessary funds to maintain the requisite staff at a less cost to the stockowners than is involved by the present arrangement, but I regret to say Parliament deemed it inexpedient to pass the vote. It is almost needless to inform you that, from the first initiation of the present Board system, I have been opposed to the present method, and for the following reasons :—In some of the proclaimed districts the seven members of the Board propose to perform the duty of Inspectors themselves: I would ask, is it likely that these gentlemen will act as informers against each other and prosecute? One member of a Board told me decidedly he would not. And, again, should an Inspector be appointed, would he, in nine cases out of ten, dare to prosecute a member of the Board, which is often, if not generally, composed of the largest rabbit owners and of the chief magistrates of the district, they being his masters?

I express these opinions advisedly, from my own experience when administering the Californian Thistle Act in a district where the properties of nearly all landowners (magistrates included) are infested with the pest. I need only remark, is it to be expected that justice would be meted out?

Herewith I beg to furnish an extract of the experience of a gentleman capable and qualified to form a practical opinion of the abuses that result from the Board system.

Mr. Thomas H. Myring, the officer in charge of the rabbit extermination, has addressed a letter to the Under Secretary of Mines in New South Wales, which treats forcibly against the good supposed to be effected under the Rabbit Board system, and is headed "Local Government and Vermin Boards." Mr. Black, the Chief Inspector of the work of rabbit extermination in Victoria, expressed himself strongly against the system of local government which obtains in that colony with respect to rabbit extermination affairs. He pointed out that it was impossible to secure uniform action from various Boards, and quoted an instance where vigorous work performed by the Board in one district (through which we were travelling at the time) was void in its effect through the neglect of the Board controlling the work of extermination in the adjoining districts. Another example of the bad effects of this system was communicated to me by a well-known gentleman in the Wimmera District. A certain person whose land was, and is still notoriously infested, is a member of a Vermin Board. At one of the sittings the president asked the inspector, who is, of course, under the Board's control, if he had any complaint to make. "Yes," he replied, "I have to complain of Mr. — (alluding to one of the members present); his land is badly infested, and he won't do anything to kill the rabbits." Whereupon Mr. — arose and informed the Board that its officer was a perverter of the truth, and that he, Mr. —, had no rabbits. The inspector, not being protected by the other members of the Board, collapsed, and the matter dropped.

In addition to the above instances of maladministration, we have our own experience of local management, for it will be remembered that "The Rabbits Destruction Act" of 1883 was framed for the express purpose of taking the work out of the hands of the Boards, by many of whom it was grossly neglected. Had a law been passed last session giving me the power to have additional Inspectors appointed, and a workable Rabbit Bill enacted such as that presented to Parliament in 1886, which was the outcome of opinions expressed by practical gentlemen at the meeting convened and held at the Town Hall, Hobart, under the auspices of the Southern Agricultural and Pastoral Society, I feel confident that with the past favourable season for rabbit destruction the result would not have been so barren of success, and that instead of the large increase of rabbits, and the extension of the area infested, a considerable reduction would have been effected. If this increase continues, as there is every possibility of it so doing, I shall have again to chronicle for 1889 a still growing decrease in our sheep stock.

I have to inform you that since the creation of the Midland Rabbit Board under the Act of 1887, (51 Victoria No. 32), Mr. Charles Tabart, the Inspector under the Scab Act, has been appointed Inspector under that Board. In consequence of this I deemed it expedient to request that you would be pleased to release the Scab Act Fund of a portion of its responsibility, which met with your approval. Therefore, I intimated to Mr. Tabart that from the 1st April the salary he would receive from the Scab Act Fund would be £125 per annum, with £75 allowances. It is also clearly understood by the gentlemen constituting the Board that the Chief Inspector of Sheep has the first call upon Mr. Tabart's services for any duty required under "The Scab Act" within Tasmania. I may further inform you that Mr. Inspector Tabart has always performed work under the Scab and Rabbit Acts, but instead of having to supervise, as far as relates to rabbits, I may say, an unlimited area, his efforts are now solely concentrated within the Midland Rabbit District.

During last Session I observed that there was a disposition on the part of some Members of the House of Assembly to dispense with the Scab Act Department, but upon my representing to the Government the injurious effect this would have upon the pastoral interests, the matter was reconsidered and salaries voted. I must beg respectfully to point out that had the Department been swept away, great difficulty would have arisen when stud-breeders were shipping their sheep to the adjoining Colonies, where the authorities would not admit sheep unless accompanied by the certificates required under their respective Stock Acts. There is also supervision absolutely required to prevent the introduction of Scab into Tasmania. Sheepowners have paid, since 1870, £46,202 5s. 7d. to obtain immunity from this disease. Surely, after such an expenditure, the stock interests should continue to be protected. Since my last report there has been a fresh outbreak of scab in New Zealand, which demonstrates the great caution that must be exercised by all clean Colonies if they wish to enjoy absolute freedom from scab in sheep.

Before closing this Report, I beg to bring under your notice my memorandum of 24th of August, 1887, wherein I informed you that I considered it desirable to amend "The Scab Act" for the purpose of inserting a provision to compel all sheep throughout Tasmania to be dipped to eradicate ticks and lice. The result of destroying these parasitic insects will greatly enhance the value of wool annually exported, and by the insertion of a clause rendering compulsory a similar dipping for all skins imported (compelling them to be taken direct from the vessel to the recognised dip in use at either Hobart, Launceston, or Torquay, and that they shall not be landed at any other port) will secure a desirable reformation, and prevent these parasites being re-introduced by skins imported. In New Zealand there is an Act in force to eradicate these pests, which must ultimately be a boon to sheepowners. I feel satisfied such legislation would be received favourably by sheepowners in Tasmania.

Appended will be found a copy of a letter received by Messrs. A. G. Webster & Son, also account sales of wool from the Wetheron Estate showing the benefit to be derived from a compulsory dipping Act.

I purpose furnishing an estimate with this Report upon the continued administration of the Act as at present carried out; also an estimate for working "The Scab Act," "The Rabbits Destruction Act," "The Codlin Moth Act," and "The Californian Thistle Act," as amalgamated Acts, with a staff of Inspectors who would perform duties under all the above Acts.

The number of Inspectors to perform these duties in a satisfactory manner would be 17, with two additional Inspectors for a short period of the year to control the export of infected fruit, and immersion of all fruit cases leaving Hobart and Launceston for the Channel and Coast ports, and also to retain the services of the Inspectors at Hobart, Launceston, and Torquay to see that the provisions regulating the importation of stock from the adjoining Colonies are carried out.

The following summary will show the number of Inspectors required to carry out these Acts if properly administered under the present Board system:—

Inspectors required to supervise 25 Codlin Moth Districts .....	25
Ditto 23 Rabbit Districts .....	23
Inspectors now employed under "Californian Thistle Act" .....	3
Ditto Scab Act .....	2
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>53</b>

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS A. TABART, *Chief Inspector.*

*The Honorable the Chief Secretary.*

## APPENDIX A.

*RETURN showing the Number of Sheep and Lambs in each District in the Colony.*

<i>District.</i>	<i>Sheep.</i>	<i>Lambs.</i>	<i>TOTAL.</i>
Bothwell .....	106,832	18,691	125,523
Brighton .....	18,311	4636	22,947
Clarence .....	10,797	2717	13,514
Campbell Town .....	84,897	24,563	109,460
Deloraine.....	18,085	9100	27,185
Evandale .....	83,690	27,828	111,518
Fingal .....	94,003	23,543	117,546
George Town .....	34,853	5596	40,449
Glamorgan .....	44,512	10,437	54,949
Green Ponds .....	21,785	6882	28,667
Great Lake .....	45,775	582	46,357
Glenorchy .....	573	126	699
Hamilton.....	107,664	27,588	135,252
Horton.....	8329	3271	11,600
Hobart and Kingborough .....	2885	522	3407
Huon .....	2977	571	3548
Longford .....	89,056	30,093	119,149
New Norfolk .....	18,299	3779	22,078
Oatlands .....	123,099	33,930	157,029
Port Sorell .....	10,085	5867	15,952
Richmond .....	31,740	7127	38,871
Ross.....	74,509	17,454	91,963
Sorell .....	27,410	8233	35,643
Selby .....	46,330	11,551	57,881
Spring Bay .....	29,913	4822	34,735
Westbury.....	37,136	14,140	51,276
	<b>1,171,064</b>	<b>303,246</b>	<b>1,474,310</b>

## APPENDIX B.

*STATEMENT of the Number of Head of Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs received at the Hobart Station of the Tasmanian Main Line Railway.*

Year.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	TOTAL.
1877.....	1370	17,250	559	19,183
1878.....	2042	26,732	1289	30,063
1879.....	1767	27,527	1388	29,682
1880.....	2099	22,465	1671	26,235
1881.....	2071	18,226	2087	22,384
1882.....	3084	27,445	2077	32,606
1883.....	2685	21,241	2152	26,078
1884.....	3116	28,290	2691	34,097
1885.....	2148	33,991	2471	38,610
1886.....	2864	34,063	3271	40,198
1887.....	1858	30,444	3795	36,097

## APPENDIX C.

*RETURN of Stock slaughtered during the Year 1887.*

AT HOBART.		AT LAUNCESTON.	
<i>Cattle—</i>		<i>Cattle—</i>	
Colonial.....	2758	Colonial.....	3545
Imported.....	1758		
<i>Sheep—</i>		<i>Sheep—</i>	
Colonial.....	27,380	Colonial.....	20,841
Imported.....	22,855	Imported.....	5371
<i>Lambs—</i>		<i>Lambs—</i>	
Colonial.....	13,652	Colonial.....	9266
Imported.....	1626	Imported.....	448
<i>Calves.....</i>	491	<i>Calves.....</i>	156
<i>Pigs.....</i>	8626	<i>Pigs.....</i>	733

## APPENDIX D.

*ABSTRACT of Wool Exports for the last Eighteen Years, and number of Sheep for the 12 months ending June 30.*

	Hobart.		Launceston.		TOTAL.		No. of Sheep.
	Lbs.	Value.	Lbs.	Value.	Lbs.	Value.	
		£		£		£	
1869-70.....	2,583,876	134,855	2,609,718	163,709	5,193,594	298,564	1,531,186
1870-71.....	2,682,193	136,380	2,264,188	123,971	4,946,381	260,351	1,349,775
1871-72.....	2,678,171	183,500	2,230,819	170,246	4,908,990	353,746	1,305,489
1872-73.....	2,390,400	182,710	2,286,750	173,378	4,677,150	356,088	1,405,862
1873-74.....	2,873,207	207,205	2,357,584	181,728	5,530,791	388,933	1,531,242
1874-75.....	3,258,032	229,847	2,311,897	199,036	6,069,299	428,883	1,700,454
1875-76.....	3,761,993	242,498	2,345,321	195,300	6,607,214	437,798	1,783,072
1876-77.....	3,648,020	235,440	3,205,510	200,828	6,853,530	436,268	1,804,486
1877-78.....	4,020,152	260,543	3,436,453	218,799	7,436,453	479,342	1,845,810
1878-79.....	4,305,322	259,093	3,717,926	225,770	8,022,926	484,863	1,845,086
1879-80.....	4,283,926	229,226	3,862,734	224,416	8,146,660	453,642	1,800,639
1880-81.....	4,321,445	253,175	3,389,401	233,222	7,710,846	486,398	1,739,088
1881-82.....	4,620,892	239,819	3,582,717	311,655	8,203,609	451,475	1,759,420
1882-83.....	4,395,721	230,843	3,842,217	216,312	8,237,938	447,155	1,739,254
1883-84.....	3,924,145	197,708	3,846,553	233,436	7,770,698	431,144	1,704,333
1884-85.....	3,902,396	194,444	3,795,185	207,121	7,697,581	401,565	1,597,184
1885-86.....	3,798,057	126,882	4,264,666	169,127	8,062,723	296,009	1,566,881
1886-87.....	3,636,534	138,728	4,182,996	187,401	7,819,530	326,129	1,543,153
1887-88.....	3,470,092	125,896	4,597,314	208,964	8,067,406	334,860	1,474,310

## APPENDIX E.

The number of Sheep returned in Live Stock Returns, and under the Scab Act, since 1860 is as under :—

	<i>In Live Stock Returns.</i>	<i>Under Scab Act.</i>
From 1860 to 1869, average number .....	1,730,000	...
1870 .....	1,531,187	... 1,416,665
1871 .....	1,349,775	... 1,349,134
1872 .....	1,305,489	... 1,306,359
1873 .....	1,395,353	... 1,323,480
1874 .....	1,501,531	... 1,531,242
1875 .....	1,714,168	... 1,700,454
1876 .....	1,719,768	... 1,783,072
1877 .....	1,755,142	... 1,804,486
1878 .....	1,831,278	... 1,845,810
1879 .....	1,838,831	... 1,845,086
1880 .....	1,848,591	... 1,800,639
1881 .....	1,783,611	... 1,739,088
1882 .....	1,847,479	... 1,759,420
1883 .....	1,830,951	... 1,739,254
1884 .....	1,817,069	... 1,704,333
1885 .....	1,705,835*	... 1,597,184
1886 .....	1,648,627	... 1,566,881
1887 .....	1,605,646	... 1,543,153
1888 .....	1,547,242	... 1,474,310

## APPENDIX F.

Number of Sheep and Cattle imported since 1869, as under :—

YEAR.	<i>Bullocks.</i>	<i>Sheep.</i>	<i>Value.</i>	YEAR.	<i>Bullocks.</i>	<i>Sheep.</i>	<i>Value.</i>
			£				£
1869 .....	1722	16,540	31,695	1879 .....	1476	18,920	33,402
1870 .....	1640	17,900	27,945	1880 .....	1707	11,193	24,815
1871 .....	928	13,053	18,230	1881 .....	1953	11,458	30,173
1872 .....	827	5398	12,102	1882 .....	927	4795	15,814
1873 .....	900	13,188	19,843	1883 .....	943	10,967	22,177
1874 .....	790	19,958	29,158	1884 .....	462	27,730	34,897
1875 .....	1211	22,971	36,462	1885 .....	1353	65,339	69,921
1876 .....	805	12,054	22,708	1886 .....	601	52,088	50,141
1877 .....	904	8385	19,820	1887 .....	1907	50,790	61,361
1878 .....	1347	10,980	23,392				

## APPENDIX G.

Number in the Colony, as per Stock and Crop Returns, since 1873 :—

In 1873 Cattle were returned at.....	104,594 head
1874 ditto .....	106,308 ditto
1875 ditto .....	110,450 ditto
1876 ditto .....	118,694 ditto
1877 ditto .....	124,459 ditto
1878 ditto .....	121,187 ditto
1879 ditto .....	126,276 ditto
1880 ditto .....	129,091 ditto
1881 ditto .....	126,900 ditto
1882 ditto .....	130,526 ditto
1883 ditto .....	122,504 ditto
1884 ditto .....	130,525 ditto
1885 ditto .....	128,834 ditto
1886 ditto .....	138,642 ditto
1887 ditto .....	147,758 ditto
1888 ditto .....	147,092 ditto

THOMAS A. TABART, *Chief Inspector.*

APPENDIX H.  
SCAB ACT FUND.

*RECEIPTS and Expenditure from 1st March, 1870, to 31st December, 1887.*

YEAR.	RECEIPTS.						EXPENDITURE.		
	Amount of Contribution.	Licences.	Sheep by Sea.	Fines.	Miscellaneous, Rent, Refund, Costs, &c.	TOTAL.	Salaries and Allowance.	Other Expenditure.	TOTAL.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1870	1448 12 5	..	16 3 1	22 0 0	..	1486 15 6	794 19 10	66 9 6	861 9 4
1871	1393 18 3	..	8 6 0	53 9 9	..	1460 14 0	1810 0 0	23 10 7	1833 10 7
1872	1373 4 5	115 12 1	5 6 3	103 12 5	..	1600 15 2	1830 0 0	48 14 5	1878 14 5
1873	2841 15 8	379 8 0	12 9 6	213 10 0	..	3447 3 2	2593 1 1	50 5 0	2643 6 1
1874	3241 6 6	497 18 7	18 2 1	176 18 6	12 10 0	3946 15 8	2720 0 0	163 14 0	2883 14 0
1875	1799 6 6	407 14 9	18 19 10	308 7 0	21 2 6	2555 10 7	2768 9 2	511 8 8	3279 17 10
1876	3794 14 10	169 2 0	18 10 9	165 6 0	29 17 10	4177 11 5	3677 10 0	233 4 6	3910 14 6
1877	3827 12 4	271 9 0	5 7 7	82 16 0	22 10 9	4209 15 8	3700 0 0	143 11 0	3843 11 0
1878	3921 18 4	..	31 15 3	87 4 0	18 10 0	4059 7 7	3484 10 9	272 17 8	3757 8 5
1879	1940 2 10	..	21 0 4	30 4 0	58 3 6	2049 10 8	3380 0 0	165 6 1	3545 6 1
1880	1921 9 9	..	19 2 8	11 5 0	5 0 0	1956 17 5	2805 0 0	119 15 7	2924 15 7
1881	3690 17 4	..	22 8 3	2 4 6	..	3715 10 1	1967 10 0	199 6 3	2166 16 3
1882	1897 4 4	..	8 4 6	1 15 0	..	1907 3 10	2143 16 7	128 13 6	2272 10 1
1883	1894 13 1	..	0 0 2	5 5 0	114 8 6*	2014 6 9	2450 0 0	96 1 7	2546 1 7
1884	1903 2 11	..	..	14 16 0	..	1917 18 11	2450 0 0	57 4 2	2507 4 2
1885	1923 4 1	..	..	28 11 0	..	1951 15 1	1690 17 1	90 3 4	1781 0 5
1886	1703 17 0	..	105 8 2	88 14 6	..	1897 19 8	1750 0 0	175 8 8	1925 8 8
1887	1778 9 3	..	15 1 4	51 0 6	2 3 4	1846 14 5	1410 0 0	141 4 10	1551 4 10
	42,295 9 10	1841 4 5	326 5 9	1454 19 2†	284 6 5	46,202 5 7	43,425 14 6	2686 19 4	46,112 13 10

\* Includes balances from Rabbit Trusts, £103 15s. 10d.

† Includes Fines under Rabbit Act and Californian Thistle Act.

J. E. PACKER, *Under Treasurer.*

*Treasury, 25th July, 1888.*

*Wetheron, Bothwell, 24th August, 1887.*

DEAR SIRS,

THE prices of my wool are satisfactory ; indeed, the 10 bales sold well. It shows the advantage of dipping, as those 10 were dipped (in Cooper's Dip), the rest not ; and all was off the same breed of sheep.

Yours faithfully,

SAMUEL PORTER.

*Messrs. A. G. WEBSTER & SON, Hobart.*

*Old Wharf, Hobart, 8th July, 1887.*

WE certify that the above-mentioned wool sold as follows :—

				s.	d.
Wetheron—10 Bls.	Grs.	Com.,	at	1	2
21	"	"	"	0	10½
5	"	"	"	0	9
2	"	"	"	0	9
4	"	"	"	0	8½
6	"	"	"	0	5
	&c. &c.				

The first 10 bales, at 14d., contain the wool which was dipped.

A. G. WEBSTER & SON.