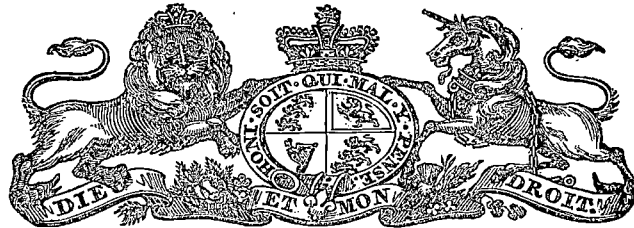


(No. 57.)



1876.

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T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

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MR. ROBERT RITCHIE:

MEMORANDUM FROM BOARD OF IMMIGRATION AS TO  
CLAIM TO LAND.

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Laid upon the Table by Mr. Crowther, Oct. 31 ; and ordered by the Council to be  
printed, November 1, 1876.



MEMO.

THE Board of Immigration desire to bring under the consideration of the Executive Government the following case, with the request that it may be submitted to Parliament during the present Session :—

Robert Ritchie having decided to emigrate to this Colony in 1874, and having heard that persons paying their own passage money would be entitled to a grant of land upon their arrival, wrote to the Colonisation Commissioners in London for information how to proceed ; and, in reply, was informed that the only particulars they could give him were those contained in the Colonisation Circular, copy of which they sent him. This information is restricted to the following paragraph :—  
“ Persons paying their own passages are entitled, under certain conditions, to grants of land varying from 10 to 30 acres, according to the age of the emigrant and the amount paid for his passages.”

At the same time they advise him to apply, on his arrival in the Colony, to the Immigration Agent in Hobart Town or Launceston, “ who will give you all the information on the subject that you may require.”

Subsequently he applied to the Emigration Agent in Liverpool, who told him it would be all right if he “ went to Tasmania and then applied to Mr. Smith or Mr. Solly ;” and he further told Mr. Ritchie “ that there was no Agent for the Colony in England.”

Upon this Mr. Ritchie came to Tasmania, *via* Melbourne, in the ship *Marpesia*, with his wife and family, as steerage passengers ; but having failed to obtain the necessary instructions for his guidance before leaving England, he did not procure the “ Land Order Warrant” requisite under the Act (31 Vict. No. 26, Sec. 5) to enable him to claim his “ Land Order” on arrival.

As Mr. Ritchie made every effort to obtain correct information, and failed through no fault of his own, but was led to believe that he could make good his claim after his arrival in the Colony, the Board recommend his case for the favourable consideration of the Executive Government and Parliament.

THOS. REIBEY, *President.*

*Immigration Office, 11th October, 1876.*