

School of Mines for the Colony of Victoria.

BALLARAT,

1870.

SIR,—

Having been appointed Collector to the Trustees and Treasurers of this proposed Institution, I have the honor to request your co-operation and pecuniary assistance towards its establishment and maintenance.

Your attention is respectfully requested to the appended outline of the Institution, with the names of gentlemen who have accepted provisional offices.

The object sought to be obtained is the combination of the highest scientific with the most practical training for all men engaged in the enterprise of mining in its various branches, whether so engaged as mining managers, engineers, surveyors, mechanists, working miners, directors or promoters of companies.

Hitherto, in this Colony, no means of scientific education in this most important occupation has been provided. The result has been an enormous waste of capital, time, and labor. Indeed, it may be fairly stated that the present depression in the mining market and the distrust of mining property as an investment may in great part be traced to the numerous failures of enterprises either ignorantly entered upon or unscientifically conducted.

The scientific education of those engaged in mining pursuits would, it is believed, not merely render gold mining a safe and generally more productive speculation, but would bring into profitable prominence and activity many branches of mining now wholly neglected, or distrustfully, and consequently unsuccessfully, pursued.

The Government has so far recognised the attempt to establish this, so much wanted, Institution as to grant a lease, at a nominal rent, of the old Court-house in Lydiard street: and steps are being taken to put the building in repair and adapt it to the requirements of the proposed School.

You will see from the appended Outline that £600 at least must be subscribed before the School can be opened. Towards this sum several public bodies and private persons have given subscriptions; and it is earnestly hoped that no difficulty will be experienced in obtaining a large body of subscribers, either as Life Governors, Annual Governors, or Donors, by whose liberality the Institution may be not only opened, but permanently maintained in the highest state of efficiency.

I trust therefore that you will pardon my earnestly requesting your assistance, which may be effectually rendered by your returning to me one of the enclosed forms, signed by you either as a Life Governor (£50), an Annual Governor (£3 3s.), or simply as a Donor of any sum which you may see fit to give.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

JAMES BAKER,

Collector to School of Mines.

PROVISIONAL OFFICE BEARERS:

VISITOR:—HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.
PRESIDENT:—HIS HONOR SIR REDMOND BARRY.
VICE-PRESIDENT:—HIS HONOR JUDGE ROGERS.
TRUSTEES AND TREASURERS:—HIS HONOR SIR REDMOND BARRY, HENRY RIVET BLAND, Esq., S. LIVINGSTONE LEARMONTH, Esq.

PROVISIONAL COUNCIL:

THE PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT
THE PROVISIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT
THE HON. JAMES McCULLOCH, M.P.
THE HON. JOHN ALEXANDER MACPHERSON, M.P.
THE HON. WILLIAM McLELLAN, M.P.

THE HON. DUNCAN GILLIES, M.P.
PROFESSOR MCCOY
HARRIE WOOD, Esq.
THE CHAIRMAN OF EACH OF THE MINING BOARDS
AND FOURTEEN MEMBERS TO BE ELECTED.

Proposed Mining School, Library, and Museum,

For imparting instruction in the various branches of Moral and Physical Science in any way relating to Mining, the Theory and Practice of Mining, Mine Management, Mining Surveying, and Engineering, and all and every matter, and thing connected therewith.

OUTLINE OF CONSTITUTION.

VISITOR.—Elected for Life.
PRESIDENT.—Elected for Life.
VICE-PRESIDENT.—To be elected for Three years by the Council.
COUNCIL.—To consist of twenty-nine (29) Members:—The President; the Vice-President; Six (6) to be named by the Crown (Life); Seven (7), the Chairman of each of the Seven Mining Boards; Fourteen (14), elected for Three (3) years by the "Governors."
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL.—To consist of the President and Vice-President, and Seven Members, elected by the Council.
GOVERNORS.—Life, Donation of £50. Annual, Subscription of £3 3s.
Note.—Any Corporate Body may exercise the functions of a Life Governor.
MASTER OF THE SCHOOL.—To be elected by the Council, but liable to suspension or removal by the Administrative Council, subject to appeal to the Visitor.
PROFESSORS.—(Chemistry, Geology, Mineralogy, Metallurgy.)—To be elected by the Council.
PUPILS.—All persons desirous of entering as Pupils will (unless nominated by a Governor) be required to submit their names to the Administrative Council, and, if eligible, will be entered on the Roll as Pupils on paying an Entrance Fee of Three Guineas (£3 3s.), and such Annual or Terminal Fees as shall be fixed by Statute for Instruction and Lectures.
All Persons nominated by a Governor will be entitled, without the payment of any Entrance Fee, to be enrolled as Pupils on presenting their nomination to the Master of the School, but will have to pay the same Annual or Terminal Fees for Instruction and Lectures as non-nominated Pupils.
All Pupils must on entry sign the Pupils-Roll, and submit themselves to the Discipline of the School.

FUNCTIONS.

VISITOR.—The ordinary visitorial jurisdiction of the visitor of a college or corporate body.
PRESIDENT.—To preside at all meetings of the Council or Administrative Council, and at other meetings of the School; and to present to successful candidates Certificates of Efficiency and of Merit, and other distinctions conferred by the School. In addition to his deliberative vote, to have a casting vote at all meetings where the votes are equal.
VICE-PRESIDENT.—To act for the President in his absence, with similar authority and power of casting vote.
COUNCIL.—To frame all Statutes for the Government of the School, and to elect the President, Vice-President, Administrative Council, Master of the School, Professors, and Examiners; to regulate, by annual or other votes, the appropriation of the Revenues of the School.
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL.—To have entire executive control of the School, with power to suspend or dismiss Master,—dismissal to be subject to appeal to Visitor; to superintend examinations; to have the control of the Revenues of the School, and their expenditure, subject to the annual or other votes of the Council for their appropriation, with full proctorial authority over the Pupils, including the power of expulsion—but expulsion to be subject to appeal to Visitor. Power to appoint and remove Porter and other inferior Officers.
GOVERNORS.—To elect Members of Council (Life Governors to have two (2) votes; Annual Governors, only one (1) vote); and subject to Statutes, to present Pupils for Admission free of entrance fee: Life Governors to nominate two (2) Pupils in a year; and Annual Governors, one (1) Pupil only.
MASTER OF THE SCHOOL.—To act as Registrar until separate Office is created; to attend to the School daily during such hours as shall be fixed by the Administrative Council (excepting days fixed as holidays by the Statutes of the School); and to instruct in
ARITHMETIC, BOOK-KEEPING, ALGEBRA, EUCLID, and so to apply these (Algebra and Euclid) as to instruct in Mathematics and Mechanics generally, so far as the better to fit pupils to attend the Professor's Lectures.
MENSURATION, SURVEYING, DRAWING, and so to apply these as to enable the pupils to read plans, to plot from field books and to take mining surveys both on surface and below ground.
ENGINEERING.—As applied to Mining in all its branches, [not necessarily taught by the Master, but may be by an Assistant Master, or Master in Engineering.]
THE THEORY AND PRACTICE OF MINING.—To include periodical attendance with the pupils at the mine.
CHEMISTRY, as applied to Metallurgy, so far as to prepare the pupils for the Professor's Lectures. [This would probably require a separate Master.]
PROFESSORS.—To deliver so many Lectures on such subjects as shall from time to time be provided by the Statutes of the School. The first Professorships to be established to be in CHEMISTRY, METALLURGY, GEOLOGY, MINERALOGY. Professors also to act under the Statutes as Examiners.
EXAMINATIONS.—To be held so often, and on such subjects, as shall from time to time be fixed by the Statutes of the School.
CERTIFICATES.—To be granted for efficiency in Mining Engineering, Mining Surveying, Metallurgy, Chemistry as applied to Mining, Theoretical and Practical Mining.
Note.—Power should be given to the Council to substitute for attendance on Lectures at the School, attendance upon Lectures in the University.
Note.—School to be opened so soon as the sum of £600 is subscribed.