

# Government order states tolls must be paid by all persons, 1815

**Government order, tolls must be paid by all persons regardless of rank. Jeffery Hart Bent had refused to pay toll on turnpike road. NRS 1046 [SZ759, page 134-135; Reel 6038]**

134

Government and General Orders

Civil Department

Government House, Sydney

Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup> 1815

The Governor has been officially informed,  
with much surprise and Regret, that an officer  
of very high Rank in the Civil Service of this  
Colony has refused to pay the toll ordered in  
the Proclamation under Date the 30<sup>th</sup> of  
March 1811, to be levied on all Persons trav-  
elling on Horseback or in Carriages on the Turn  
pike Road, established by that Proclamation  
and subsequently approved of by His Majesty's  
Ministers.

Whilst the Governor laments that any  
Person should be found in the Colony so want-  
ing in public spirit as to wish to evade contri-  
buting his mite towards the support of so

useful and beneficial an Establishment for  
the Country and the Community at large, he  
cannot allow any person whatsoever, however  
high his Rank may be, to break through or set  
at Defiance the established Regulations of the  
Colony, and he thus publicly declares, that no  
Persons whatsoever can or shall be exempted from  
paying the Tolls in Question, excepting those few  
already specified in the Government Orders.

The Farmers of the several Tolls through-  
out the Colony are hereby accordingly authorised  
to instruct and direct their respective Toll-Gate  
Keepers to enforce the Orders and Regulations  
contained in the Proclamation herein alluded to,  
under Date the 30<sup>th</sup> of March 1811, on the subject  
of Tolls, and not to permit any Horse or Carriage  
to pass through them without the Owners or  
Riders paying the Dues therein prescribed.

And in the Event of any Person or Persons  
attempting to use Force or Violence to evade  
paying such Tolls or Dues, the Toll-gate Keepers

are

[1815]

are hereby directed to call for assistance from  
the Police to enforce the established Regulations of  
the Colony in this particular Instance.

The Police Magistrate at Sydney, and also  
the several District Magistrates in the Interior,  
when or so called upon, are accordingly hereby author  
ised and directed to afford the necessary Aid of  
Peace Officers, to assist the said Toll Gate Keepers  
in enforcing the established Regulations of  
Government in the manner prescribed by the  
said Proclamation, bearing Date the 30<sup>th</sup> of March  
1811, as well as to preserve the Public Peace from  
being violated and the Government from being in-  
sulted in the just Exercise of its Authority.

Although the Governor forbears, from  
Motives of Delicacy, and out of Respect for  
the high Office he holds, to name the Officer  
herein alluded to, he cannot help expressing

thus publicly his Astonishment and  
Regret, that he should be the first and only  
Person in this Colony who has openly and a-  
vowedly attempted to break through and counter act  
the Regulations the Governor had deemed it  
necessary to establish for the Benefit and  
improvement of the country. From a person  
at the Head of so high an Office, the Governor  
had just Reason to hope and expect every De-  
gree of reasonable support, instead of Oppositi-  
on and violent Resistance to his public  
measures.

By Command of His Excellency

The Governor

(signed) J T Campbell

Secretary