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INTRODUCTION.

GOVERNOR BLIGH.

Around the story of the life of William Bligh and of his administration of the government of New South Wales, more romance and misrepresentation have gathered than around the story of any other governor of the colony. The distortion of facts has been due in part to bitter party animosities, already prevalent in the colony, and in part to new antagonisms created by the determined, somewhat tactless action of a rugged, irascible nature. Throughout his life, Bligh possessed in a remarkable degree the faculty of making bitter and vindictive enemies. In the words of George Caley, he was "a man whom nature has intended to be the subject of abuse."

Prior to accepting the government of New South Wales, Bligh had spent his life in the navy. He was accustomed to the stern realities of service on the quarter-deck of a ship of the line. He was used to the rough manners of the navy and to the forceful and virile speech of the period. At that time, the press gang and its methods had full swing; stern measures were necessary to repress the opposition of men impressed; floggings were frequent; the seamen had long been restless, and this feeling had culminated in the mutiny at the Nore; human life was thought little of; men were punished severely for small offences; commissions were readily obtainable by purchase. Life generally was stern and hard. Men served their country in naval, military, and civil capacities with a keen intensity; but at the same time they sought with eagerness the emoluments and perquisites of office.

The birth and parentage of William Bligh are obscure. His own statement is not definite. He said* that he was born about 1753, probably at Tinten or Tynten in the parish of St. Tudy, Cornwall, and was the son of Charles and Margaret Bligh. Other

*See R. Polwhele's "Biographical Sketches in Cornwall," ii, 19.
accounts* affirm that his birth took place at Plymouth on the 9th of September, 1754, and that he was the son of John Bligh, of Tretawne in the parish of St. Kew, Cornwall.

On the 1st of July, 1762, he entered the navy as captain's servant to John Storr on the Monmouth, a ship of 60 guns, and in that capacity served seven months and three weeks. After his discharge his career is not known, until he shipped as A.B. on the Hunter on the 27th of July, 1770. He was made midshipman on the same ship on the 5th of February following, and was transferred as midshipman to the Crescent on the 22nd of September, 1771, and to the Ranger on the 2nd of September, 1774. From the Ranger he was discharged on the 17th of March, 1776, and on the 1st of July in the same year was appointed master of the sloop Resolution, under Captain James Cook, for his third and last voyage of discovery. Bligh, in his previous career, must have distinguished himself, for Cook selected him for this expedition, and thought that he "could be usefully employed in constructing charts." After the death of Cook and the return of the Resolution to England, the crew were paid off on the 24th of October, 1780. Under Admiral Parker, Bligh was present at the battle off the Doggerbank on the 5th of August, 1781. On the 5th of October following, he received his commission as fifth lieutenant on the Berwick, and was transferred to a similar rank in the Princess Amelia on the 30th of December. On the 20th of March, 1782, he was commissioned as sixth lieutenant on the Cambridge, and fought under Lord Howe at Gibraltar.

On the 14th of January, 1783, Bligh was placed on the half-pay list and obtained permission to seek employment in merchant vessels. During the next four years he sailed several voyages to different parts of the world. In a ship called the Britannia, he sailed for Jamaica under employment to a Mr. Campbell, a West Indian merchant. Fletcher Christian, afterwards leader of the Bounty mutineers, was a member of the Britannia's crew. Bligh rated him as a gunner, but gave instructions that he should be regarded as an officer. In the words of Edward Lamb, second in command of the Britannia, Christian was very indifferent in his duties, but Bligh treated him as a brother, was "blind to his faults, and had him to dine and sup every other day in the cabin."

* cf. Maclean's "Deanery of Trigg Minor."
Bligh returned from the West Indies on the 6th of August, 1787. During his absence, an expedition was organised with the object of transplanting bread-fruit and other trees and plants from the island of Otaheite to the West Indies. Sir Joseph Banks, who, for reasons unknown, had become a great patron of Bligh, had secured for him the command of this expedition. Accordingly, Bligh was appointed lieutenant and commander of the *Bounty*, an armed storeship of 215 tons, with a complement of forty-five men. Bligh's final instructions were issued on the 20th of November, and he sailed from Spithead on the 23rd of December, 1787. On the 26th of October, 1788, the *Bounty* anchored in Matavai bay, Otaheite. She remained there until the 25th of December, when she was removed to the neighbouring harbour of Toahroah. After securing the desired bread-fruit trees, Bligh sailed on the return voyage on the 4th of April, 1789. Twenty-four days later, when near Tofoa in the Friendly Islands, twenty-five of the crew, under the leadership of Fletcher Christian, the master's mate, mutinied and seized the ship.

Bligh and eighteen companions, provided with scanty provisions, were cast adrift by the mutineers in the ship's launch. In this open boat he successfully accomplished a daring voyage of about 3,600 miles to Koepang in Timor, without charts and through little known seas. At Timor, he purchased a small schooner and sailed for Batavia. From Java, he travelled via the Cape of Good Hope to England, and arrived at Portsmouth on the 14th of March, 1790. In November of the same year, he was tried and honourably acquitted by a court martial on the loss of the *Bounty*.

The story of Bligh's wonderful voyage in an open boat, the subsequent discovery of the survivor and descendants of the mutineers on Pitcairn Island under romantic and idyllic conditions, and the false use of the circumstances of the mutiny made by Bligh's enemies to damage his reputation have all tended to give an undue prominence to this minor episode in the history of the navy. It has been frequently asserted that the mutiny was due to the severity and harsh measures adopted by Bligh in his command, but probably no more unjust charge could have been made. Sworn testimonies* are extant which are directly contradictory to this.

*These are contained in the "Answer," published in 1792 by Bligh in reply to Edward Christian's criticism.
assertion. It is recorded that though, when things went wrong, Bligh frequently damned his men, "he was never angry with a man the next minute"; that he was not fond of flogging, and that "some deserved hanging who had only a dozen"; and that he was a father to every person on the ship. Christian received many special favours from Bligh. He was given the use of Bligh's cabin and liquor; he was taught navigation and drawing; he was asked to dine every third day with Bligh.

The actual causes of the mutiny were undoubtedly the attractions to the toil-hardened sailors of a life of indolence and sensuality at Otaheite. In his reports, Bligh mentioned these as the cause of the mutiny. The amours of the staff and crew of the Endeavour, when captain Cook visited the same island in 1769, are well known, and a mutiny was narrowly averted on that ship, the men having the same motives as Christian and his colleagues. Christian was twenty-four years of age, and, according to Lamb's testimony, during the voyage of the Britannia he had shown that he "was then one of the most foolish young men I ever knew in regard to the sex." In a spurious account* of Christian's travels, published in 1796, the cause of the mutiny is indicated. It is stated that Bligh, on his arrival at Otaheite, ordered the crew to be examined for venereal disease, as "the ladies in this happy island are known not to be the most reserved in granting their favours. The women at Otaheite are not only constitutionally votaries of Venus, but join to the charms of person such a happy cheerfulness of temper and such engaging manners that their allurements are perfectly irresistible." In the same book, testimony in Bligh's favour is given: "At the same time, it is but justice that I [Christian] should acquit Captain Bligh in the most unequivocal manner of having contributed in the smallest degree to the promotion of our conspiracy by any harsh or ungentleman-like conduct on his part. So far from it that few officers in the service, I am persuaded, can in this respect be found superior to him, or produce stronger claims upon the gratitude and attachment of the men whom they are appointed to command."

After his return to England, the crew of the Bounty was paid off on the 22nd of October, 1790, and Bligh was put on the half-

pay list with the rank of commander. Three weeks later he was given the command of the *Falcon*, and on the 15th of December he was promoted to the rank of captain. On the 7th of January, 1791, he was again placed on the half-pay list. In the meantime, a second expedition to obtain the bread-fruit trees from Otaheite was organised. The ship *Providence*, of 24 guns, and the brig *Assistant*, as a tender, were selected, and Bligh was appointed to the command on the 16th of April, 1791. The fact that Bligh was selected a second time for such a command indicates that the Admiralty did not consider that his conduct had contributed towards the mutiny. Bligh sailed from England on the 2nd of August, 1791. He was successful in securing the bread-fruit trees, and after landing some at Jamaica and some at St. Vincent's, he returned to England on the 4th of August, and the *Providence* was paid off on the 6th of September, 1793. For his services in successfully transplanting the bread-fruit trees, Bligh was awarded the gold medal of the Society of Arts.

During Bligh's absence eleven of the *Bounty* mutineers had been brought to England and tried by court martial on the 12th to 18th of September, 1792. At this time strong efforts were made by the friends of the mutineers to vilify Bligh's character. Edward Christian, brother of the mutineer, wrote many letters to the press alleging cruelty and harshness against Bligh in his command, but at the court martial no evidence in proof of this was tendered. Christian wrote a commentary on the court martial, and this provoked a rejoinder from Bligh in a pamphlet* which he published.

Similar allegations were made against Bligh in his second voyage. Matthew Flinders, who sailed as midshipman on the *Providence*, stated that Bligh's harshness caused discontent. The facts were that during the voyage from Otaheite a shortage of water occurred; as the bread-fruit trees were the primary object of the expedition, Bligh put the men on a short allowance in order that the plants might be watered. Someone secretly watered the plants with salt water, and Bligh threatened to flog the ship's company. This incident is certainly insufficient to justify the

*“An Answer to certain assertions,” etc., by Captain Wm. Bligh, London, 1792.*
statement that Bligh's harshness caused any permanent discontent. In a letter to the *Times*, dated 16th July, 1794, Edward Harwood, the surgeon during the voyage, wrote: "Captain Bligh's general conduct during the late expedition, which was crowned with the most ample success, his affability to his officers and humane attention to his men gained him their high esteem and admiration, and must eventually dissipate any unfavourable opinion hastily adopted in his absence." This opinion is confirmed by a notice in the *Kentish Register*, dated 6th September, 1793, which reported the paying off of the crew of the *Providence*: "The high estimation in which Captain Bligh was deservedly held by the whole crew was conspicuous to all present. He was cheered on quitting the ship to attend the Commissioner, and at the dock gates the men drew up and repeated the parting acclamation."

The adverse criticism to which Bligh was subjected appears to have had some influence on Lord Chatham, for he showed some diffidence in receiving Bligh at the Admiralty. This feeling must have been of short duration, for in 1794 Bligh was in service* off Ushant in command of the *Warrior*, of 74 guns. On the 30th of April, 1795, he was commissioned as captain of the *Calcutta*, and was employed in the North Sea with Admiral Duncan's squadron. On the 7th of January, 1796, he was given the command of the *Director*, of 64 guns. In this ship he was present first at the mutiny of the Nore in 1797, where he distinguished himself by his intrepidity and resourcefulness, and later in the year at the battle of Camperdown. In that engagement, the *Director* was in the larboard division of Vice-Admiral Onslow's squadron, and first silenced and then boarded the *Vryheid*, flagship of Admiral de Winter.

On the 3rd of July, 1800, the *Director* was paid off, and Bligh placed on the half-pay list. In the following September he was occupied in surveying the Irish coasts. On the 13th of March, 1801, he was given the command of the *Glatton*, on the 12th of April of the *Monarch*, and on the 8th of May of the *Irresistible*.

* This service is not recorded at the Admiralty. Between the 6th of September, 1793, and the 30th of April, 1795, Bligh's name is on the half-pay list. It has been generally accepted on Bligh's own statement.
In the *Glatton*, he was present in the action off Copenhagen, and for his services on that occasion was personally thanked by Lord Nelson.

On the 21st of May, 1801, Bligh was elected a fellow of the Royal Society. In the following year, Bligh was again put on the half-pay list when the *Irresistible* was paid off on the 28th of May. On the 2nd of May, 1804, he was appointed to the command of the *Warrior*, and was detailed for service in the channel. Whilst in command of this ship, Bligh was tried by court martial on charges preferred by his lieutenant. The latter had been ordered on deck when suffering from an injury to the foot. Bligh was acquitted by the court, but was cautioned to be more careful in the use of his words.

Whilst in command of the *Warrior*, Bligh was offered and accepted the government of New South Wales. The offer was conveyed to him by Sir Joseph Banks in a letter, dated 15th March, 1805. The fact that the salary attached to the governorship was increased from £1,000 to £2,000 *per annum* proves that it was the desire of the government to induce officers of a higher rank to accept the office. In his letter to Bligh, Sir Joseph Banks stated: “In conversation, I was this day asked if I knew a man proper to be sent out in his [Governor King’s] stead—one who has integrity unimpeached, a mind capable of providing its own resources in difficulties without leaning on others for advice, firm in discipline, civil in deportment, and not subject to whimper and whine when severity of discipline is wanted to meet emergencies. I immediately answered: As this man must be chosen from among the post captains, I know of no one but Captain Bligh who will suit.” Banks was not blind to the faults of his friends, for example the irascibility of Governor King. But he sincerely held the highest opinion of Bligh. What Bligh’s enemies called unnecessary harshness was regarded by Banks as necessary “severity of discipline.”

Bligh had been inured to the stern realities of exploring in unknown seas during his voyage under Captain James Cook and in the two expeditions under his own leadership. His long experience on the quarter-decks amidst the hardships of naval warfare had
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hardened him. In consequence, Bligh was a strict disciplinarian, and unfortunately had acquired an exaggerated coarseness of speech, which rebuffed an importunate petitioner, made him a man of few friends, and gave his enemies an opportunity to cavil. He was a fellow of the Royal Society, and a man of varied and considerable attainments, if it is possible to judge from the books he requisitioned for use at the government house in Sydney. Apart from the standard legal, geographical, and historical works, these included such varied books as Malthus on Population, Fontana on Venoms and Poisons, Dickson’s System of Agriculture, Cooper’s complete Distiller, Emmerson’s Mechanics, Kiel’s Astronomy, and a work on experimental researches in permanent dyes. The appointment of Bligh to the government of New South Wales placed a martinet in command of a colony whose inhabitants, during the thirteen years since the departure of Governor Phillip, had developed habits of unbridled license. Governor Hunter had attempted to stem the torrent, and had failed. Governor King had announced drastic reforms which he had proved unable to carry out. Governor Bligh was sent out with instructions to curb the will of a people who had become emboldened by their previous success, and his failure was perhaps almost inevitable. It was impossible for the efforts of any governor to be crowned with success until the disturbing elements, the New South Wales Corps and its partisans, were removed.

Bligh sailed from England on board the transport Sinclair in February, 1806, under the convoy of H.M.S. Porpoise, commanded by Joseph Short. During the voyage many disputes arose between Short and Bligh, and Bligh’s participation in them was criticised adversely by the secretary of state.* On an examination of the evidence given at the inquiries† held in Sydney in connection with Short’s conduct, it is clear that his command was irregular and that he was a difficult man to work with. It is probable that in the disputes with Bligh, his superior officer, Short was in the wrong, notwithstanding the criticism of the secretary of state.

Governor Bligh arrived off Port Jackson on the 6th of August, 1806, and made his official landing at 11 a.m. on the 8th. He

* See page 80.
† See page 44 et seq. and page 65 et seq.
assumed the government on the 13th, and his commission as captain-general and governor-in-chief was read with full ceremony in front of government house at noon on that day.

Bligh resided in Sydney as governor-elect for four days, and during that time he took the extraordinary action* of accepting land grants from the retiring governor, Philip Gidley King. On the 10th of August, 1806, three grants were given by King to Bligh. The first, "for a private residence near Sydney," consisted of 240 acres to be known by the name of Camperdown. This land adjoined the Grose Farm on the south side of the Parramatta-road, and now forms the suburb of Camperdown. The second "for a private residence near Parramatta" comprised 105 acres, to be known by the name of Mount Betham. It lay on the north side of the river at the town of Parramatta. The third, "for a private residence between Sydney and Hawkesbury," comprised 1,000 acres, to be known as Copenhagen, and lay on the south-western side of the Hawkesbury road in the neighbourhood of Rouse Hill. The subsequent history of the grant at Parramatta illustrates the opinion held on these transactions. After Bligh's death, these lands were inherited by his six daughters as co-heiresses. In 1840, the validity of the grants was questioned, and a suit for impeachment was threatened. Action was avoided by the surrender to the crown of the grant at Parramatta on condition that legal proceedings with a view to the impeachment of all three grants should be abandoned. This surrender was completed on the 24th of February, 1841, by Sir Maurice O'Connell, who had married Mrs. Mary Putland, one of Bligh's daughters. The acceptance of a compromise by the crown, instead of full impeachment of all three grants, indicates that there was an element of doubt as to the validity of the grants. At the same time it seems strange that there should have been a delay of so many years before any definite action was taken.

The grant of 790 acres to be known as "Thanks" to Mrs. Anna Josepha King, the wife of Governor King, by Governor Bligh on the 1st of January, 1807, has been discussed in a previous volume.*

Soon after his assumption of the government, Bligh had experience of the party feeling current in the colony. On the 14th

*See page xv, volume IV.
of August, 1806, an address* of welcome was presented to him, signed by George Johnston for the military, Richard Atkins for the civil, and John Macarthur for the free inhabitants. Bligh accepted this address in good faith, but in the following month addresses† were presented to him from the free inhabitants at Sydney and the Hawkesbury. In these addresses the validity of Macarthur’s signature was repudiated, the Sydney settlers stating “had we deputed anyone, John McArthur would not have been chosen by us, we considering him an unfit person to step forward upon such an occasion, as we may chiefly attribute the rise in the price of mutton to his withholding the large flock of wethers he now has to make such price as he may choose to demand.”

Philip Gidley King sailed from Port Jackson in H.M.S. Buffalo on the 10th of February, 1807. During these first six months of his administration Bligh attempted no reforms, but devoted himself to the task of acquiring a full acquaintance with the general condition of the colony. He called for reports on the public buildings, on the administration of the commissariat, and on the state of agriculture and the colony generally. Through no fault of his own, however, Bligh encountered opposition from the commencement of his administration. Within a fortnight of his arrival Bligh was presented with private letters written by under secretary Cooke, stating the intentions of Lord Camden to authorise grants of 600 acres to Joseph Short, commander of H.M.S. Porpoise, and of 1,000 acres to John Townson, a retired captain of the N.S.W. Corps. As neither Governor King nor himself had received “any authority according to the tenor of Mr. Cooke’s letter,” Bligh refused to make the grants, and on the 26th of August, 1806, wrote to the secretary of state for instructions. At the same time he authorised the applicants “to look out for the respective tracts they would approve of,” which would be granted to them when he “received directions to locate the same.” The neglect of the department to give orders to Bligh was unfortunate for Joseph Short, as he had brought out a considerable investment to be utilised on his anticipated grant.

During these first six months Bligh experienced considerable difficulty in the naval administration owing to the conduct of

*See page 566. †See pages 568 and 570.
Short, which necessitated the holding of two courts of inquiry.* These resulted in Short being sent to England under arrest for trial by court martial on charges preferred by his lieutenant. At the time of the court martial Bligh's refusal to give Short a land grant, a refusal which was perfectly justified, although it entailed considerable loss to Short, was utilised by Bligh's enemies to vilify his administration.

Although Bligh's administration and character were represented falsely on many occasions, the exchange of land grants with Governor King and the development of Bligh's farm at the Hawkesbury admit fairly of adverse criticism. On the 1st of January, 1807, Bligh purchased some land at the Hawkesbury.† Andrew Thompson acted as Bligh's overseer. If the evidence of Thompson in a sworn deposition‡ can be relied upon, Bligh erected buildings on his farm of the value of £1,000 at the cost of the crown; he employed twenty to thirty convicts victualled by the crown; he drew on the public stores at the Hawkesbury for articles for his private use; he stocked his farm by drawing animals heavy with young from the public herds, and after the young were born the mothers were returned without their progeny. Bligh and Thompson§ assert that the undertaking was of the nature of an experimental farm designed to demonstrate the value of industry and good management under conditions prevalent in the colony. If this was so, the experiment was valueless, for Bligh gave himself concessions far in excess of those proposed for settlers,|| and Thompson admitted this in the statement|| "that a common Farmer, who has to pay for everything, would by no means have such profits." Thompson asserted that the live stock and articles drawn from the public herds and stores were to be paid for in the produce of the farm. At that time very extended credits were given to settlers by government. As Bligh purchased his farm in January, 1807, and he was deposed in January, 1808, it is clear that the average duration of his credit did not exceed six months, and this was not excessive. Because Bligh had paid nothing into the public stores in return for goods and stock

* See page 44 et seq. and page 65 et seq.
† See note 106. ‡ See page 359. § See page 366.
|| See page 168. || See page 367.
delivered before January, 1808, it is unfair to assume that he did not intend to pay anything. It is not possible, therefore, to accept the charge put forward by the insurrectionaries that Bligh was guilty of conversion of public property to private uses. At the same time it was a grave error of judgment and utterly indefensible for a governor to engage in farming, which secured a pecuniary profit to himself in his private capacity, when the success of the enterprise was dependent largely on concessions granted by himself in his official capacity.

On the 14th of February, 1807, Governor Bligh initiated his first big reform by the publication of a general order which prohibited absolutely "the exchange of spirits or other liquors as payment for grain, animal food, labour, wearing apparel or any other commodity whatever." Severe penalties were ordered for offences against this regulation; for a prisoner, the punishment was 100 lashes and hard labour for twelve months; for a settler, free by servitude, pardon, or emancipation, deprivation of all indulgences from the crown, imprisonment for three months, and a fine of £20; for all other persons, deprivation of all indulgences from the crown and a fine of £50. This regulation was the first indirect cause which led to the deposition of Bligh. Although a wise and salutary measure, it operated adversely against the pecuniary interests of all classes of the community. John Macarthur and William Minchin admitted in their evidence at the court martial on George Johnston that everyone in the colony, officials, military, and all others, trafficked in spirits by necessity for want of a proper currency. Spirits were imported at a few shillings per gallon, and were bartered at 100 to 200 per cent. profit. Imported spirits were distributed according to the rank and influence of the individual, and it is clear that the senior officials and most favoured individuals reaped the greater profit. The colonists in general lacked the public spirit that should have won support for this well-adviced reform, while pecuniary loss provoked opposition that was active though secret. Lieutenant-colonel Foveaux stated* that the result of the restrictions was to make "the gentleman and the Man of character, who would blush at being detected in an

*See page 642.
illicit transaction, the tributaries of the daring and unprincipled Smuggler and distiller.” This testimony from Foveaux, who was an open antagonist of Bligh, indicates the peculiar attitude of many colonists who were opposed to Bligh. Although unwilling to commit a breach of the regulations openly, they connived at and participated in the profits of an illicit traffic. As in the case of the abolition of slavery by the British Parliament, and in the case of the prohibition of Kanaka labour on the Queensland sugar plantations, the pecuniary interest of the individual had been injured in the endeavour to procure the welfare of the community at large.

On the 9th of March, 1807, the ship Dart, belonging to John Macarthur and Messrs. Hulletts, of London, arrived in Port Jackson. In her two stills were imported; one had been sent out to the order of captain Abbott, and the second had been consigned to John Macarthur by his agent, who acted also for Abbott. The second still had been sent out without Macarthur’s foreknowledge. Bligh ordered these stills into the public stores to be returned to England.’ This action produced no opposition, although it had important consequences at a later date.

The first open and active opposition to Bligh was shown by John Macarthur. It arose out of a verdict given by Bligh sitting in the court of appeal. It had been the practice in giving promissory notes to express payment in some form of barter, owing to the lack of specie. Wheat notes were given as follows: the sterling value of the note was divided by the current selling price of a bushel of wheat, and the note made out for the corresponding number of bushels. The value of wheat naturally fluctuated. At the Hawkesbury, it had been fixed at 9s. 3d. per bushel by general order in January, 1806. Owing to the severe losses by floods in March, 1806, the government price offered in the December following was 13s. 9d. In June, 1807, private sales were transacted at 28s. Macarthur held a wheat note given by Andrew Thompson at prices current before the flood. On this note, Macarthur sued in the civil court for the specific performance of the contract on the basis of the bushels of wheat expressed. The court gave the decision that the note was an expression of value and not of quantity of produce. Against this verdict Macarthur appealed in
July, 1807, and Bligh dismissed the appeal without hearing the appellant. By this decision, Macarthur was compelled to accept a reduction in the number of bushels expressed in the note pro rata with the increased price of wheat between the dates on which the bill was drawn and on which it was liquidated. Thereafter, Macarthur ceased to visit at government house. The governor showed no resentment of this action, and subsequently called on Macarthur when he was reported to be ill.

In July, 1807, D’Arcy Wentworth, an assistant surgeon, was tried by a court martial for contempt and disobedience of orders on the complaint of captain Abbott. The court, under the presidency of major Johnston, found him guilty and sentenced him to be publicly reprimanded. On the 23rd of July, Wentworth was ordered to return to his duties, but two days later was suspended from office by orders of the governor. Wentworth immediately made application to Bligh for the reasons of his suspension; and when these were refused he sought permission to visit England, but this request was also refused. Bligh had caused a private inquiry* into the conduct of Wentworth, and he transmitted the charges to England without giving Wentworth the opportunity of making any reply. This action of Bligh was manifestly unjust. The court martial had been instigated by one of the military party, and it is probable that Bligh’s inquiries arose out of the trial. However, the military party, after the arrest of Bligh, took up Wentworth’s cause, when he was tried and honourably acquitted by court martial.† Wentworth’s suspension provoked his bitter hostility to Bligh.

In the meantime, Bligh had been making inquiries into the land tenures in the town of Sydney. He submitted a lengthy report on the subject in his despatch, dated 31st October, 1807. Bligh noted irregularities in many of the leases,‡ and on the 23rd of July issued a general order directing six named persons to quit and remove their houses from lands adjoining government house on or before the 1st of November following. These persons had received permissive occupancies from Governor King. Amongst other leases adversely commented on in his despatch there was a

*See page 188. †See page 446 et seq. ‡See note 38.
lease to John Macarthur, near St. Phillip's church. This lease was
dated 1st January, 1806, but Bligh asserted* that it was given after
the 12th of July, 1806, which statement is probably correct.† It
is very likely that this and other leases were given by King as a
placebo to some of his active opponents. Bligh prevented Macar­
thur taking possession of the lease, as it encroached on the church
lands.

In October, 1807, Bligh was again in open conflict with Macar­
thur. Bligh gave orders that the complete stills, which had been
imported in the *Dart*, should be shipped on the *Duke of Portland*
for their return to England. After their arrival the coppers had
been removed to Macarthur’s house to unpack the sundries which
they contained, and had not been returned to the public store.
When he heard of Bligh’s orders, Macarthur endeavoured to
obtain permission to sell the complete stills to some ship going to
India or China, or, if this was objected to, to retain the copper
only for domestic use. These requests were ignored. After some
petty objections raised by Macarthur, the coppers were removed
from the house of Garnham Blaxcell, Macarthur’s partner, under
the superintendence of Robert Campbell, junior, acting by the
orders of the naval officer, but without the consent of Macarthur.
Macarthur at once brought an action‡ against Campbell, junior,
for wrongful seizure of his property, and secured a majority
verdict in his favour on the ground that Campbell, junior, held no
official status. The vindictive words used by Macarthur in his
address to the court indicate that it was a malicious prosecution
directed at Bligh. The deportation of the stills was justified fully,
and the only error was committed by the naval officer when he
directed his nephew, R. Campbell, junior, to remove the coppers,
instead of personally superintending.

In the more important of his official acts, Bligh had been in the
right. But in smaller matters he had acted unwisely, and his
conduct had caused offence. By this time, there had developed,
especially amongst the military, a feeling of rancour and bitter­
ness. This was due to small causes, to his coarseness of speech, to
the directness of his remarks, and to his disregard for the feelings

* See page 424. † See note 128. ‡ See page 174.
of others. Major Johnston, in October, 1807, wrote to the military secretary of the Duke of York, and asked him to intervene between the governor and the commanding officer of the military. Johnston complained of Bligh’s “interfering in the interior management of the Corps by selecting and ordering both officers and men on various duties without my knowledge; his abusing and confining the soldiers without the smallest provocation and without ever consulting me as their commanding officer; and again, his casting the most unreserved and opprobrious censure on the Corps at different times in company at Government House.” Johnston was of a pacific nature, but it is clear that he was antagonised by the manners which Bligh had learnt on the quarter-deck.

Prior to the arrival of the schooner Parramatta, at the end of November, Bligh had acquired an unenviable position. John Macarthur and D’Arcy Wentworth were his open enemies; George Johnston, John Harris, William Minchin, and the military generally were in covert antagonism to him; many of the merchants were opposed to him owing to restriction of their trade. On the other hand, the middle and lower orders of settlers were warmly attached to him on account of his actions for their relief after the Hawkesbury floods. In the meantime Bligh’s enemies in England had not been idle. The opposition commenced by the friends of the mutineers of the Bounty had been continued. In Bligh’s absence, many calumnies had been circulated, just as had happened under the administration of governors Hunter and King. Short had obtained a hearing, and his reports had gained credence to Bligh’s prejudice. Bligh was accused of selling provisions at high prices for his own emolument during the scarcity in the colony. An agitation for Bligh’s recall was commenced, and Francis Grose, who had become a general, was suggested openly as his successor. As the appointment of Grose would have thrown the colony entirely into the hands of the military, it is highly probable that the agitation was originated by the friends of the military party in New South Wales. The opinion held in the office of the secretary of state is unknown, but the extent of the agitation may be gathered by the fact that the Morning Herald on the 1st of February, 1808, actually announced the recall of Bligh. This was incorrect.
In June, 1807, the schooner *Parramatta*, which belonged to John Macarthur and Messrs. Hulletts, of London, had cleared for Otaheite. John Hoare, a convict for life, secreted himself on board her, and at Otaheite escaped in the *General Wellesley* to India. By the port regulations, the master of every vessel at Port Jackson had to give security, himself in £800 and two inhabitants in £50 each, not to carry off any person without the governor’s sanction. Macarthur and his partner, Garnham Blaxcell, were the bondsmen for the *Parramatta*. When the schooner returned in November, 1807, the naval officer sued for the amount of the bond in the civil court, and it was decided that the bond was forfeited. An appeal against this verdict was entered. In the meantime the naval officer refused to allow the vessel to be entered, retained the ship’s papers, and placed two police officers on board in charge. Macarthur deeply resented this, and on the 7th of December notified* the master and crew of the schooner that he had abandoned her, and that they were no longer to expect pay or provisions. Seven days later the master and crew came on shore, and made affidavits† at the judge-advocate’s office that they had left the ship on account of Macarthur’s action. These affidavits were necessary, as it was contrary to the port regulations for seamen to remain on shore in Sydney. Up to this moment Macarthur was wholly in the wrong, and deliberately set the law at defiance. The decision of the civil court for the forfeiture of the bonds was given on a question of fact. The naval officer was justified in holding the schooner until the penalties were liquidated. The lodging of an appeal could have had only the object of delay. No fact justified Macarthur in abandoning the schooner and forcing the crew to commit a breach of the port regulations.

Acting under instructions from Bligh, judge-advocate Atkins wrote‡ on the same day (14th December) to summon Macarthur to appear on the following day and answer for his conduct. Macarthur somewhat contemptuously declined to appear.§ This was an error of judgment on the part of Macarthur, though strictly within his legal rights. The letter was virtually a command from

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* See page 295.
† See page 307.
‡ See page 307.
§ See page 296.
the representative of the King, and certainly should not have been
resented by him. On the 15th of December Atkins issued a war­
rant* for the arrest of Macarthur, and according to Atkins' 
evidence, Bligh approved of his action. In issuing this warrant, 
Atkins was wrong. The letter to Macarthur was not a summons,
and, until a legal summons had been served and ignored, no warrant
for Macarthur's arrest should have been issued. Bligh had the mis­
fortune of having a man as his legal adviser who was untrained in
the law and addicted to alcoholic excess.† The warrant was
served by a constable. Macarthur spurned the constable, told him
that he would never submit until he was forced, and added that
Bligh and his friends would soon make a rope to hang themselves.
This action was an open defiance of the civil power. On the fol­
lowing day a bench of magistrates,‡ which included major John­
ston, decided that a second warrant should be issued for his arrest.
This was executed, and Macarthur was brought before Atkins
and admitted to bail. On the 17th of December, he was again
brought before a bench of magistrates,§ consisting of the judge-
advocate, John Palmer, and two of the military party, George
Johnston and Edward Abbott. By this bench he was committed
to take his trial before the criminal court, and was admitted to bail.

The court of criminal jurisdiction did not meet until the 25th
of January, 1808, but in the interval Macarthur was not idle.
Four days after his committal he called upon Atkins for payment
of a bill drawn in 1793. When payment was not made, he applied
to Bligh for relief in a memorial,|| dated 29th December, and in
reply was informed "that a Court of Civil Jurisdiction is open to
take cognizance of all Civil Actions." He repeated his applications
to the governor without success on the 1st and 12th of January.

Macarthur then attempted to make use of his lease near St.
Phillip's church, which had been submitted by Bligh to the con­
sideration of the secretary of state. For this purpose he engaged
some soldiers of the New South Wales Corps to erect a fence
around the allotment, which included a public well. Bligh was
compelled publicly to put a stop to this work.

On the 20th of January Macarthur made a strong effort|| to
obtain a copy of his indictment, but this request was refused.

* See page 310. † See page 150. ‡ See page 312. § See page 314. || See page 231. || See page 228.
Two days later, when the members of the criminal court had been nominated, he wrote a letter* to Bligh protesting against Atkins sitting as judge-advocate. In reply, he was told that the law must take its course. In this action, Macarthur was clearly in the wrong. At the trial of major Johnston in England in 1811, the judge-advocate general stated that “it was perfectly incompetent to any person brought before that Court to offer a challenge against the Judge-Advocate sitting upon it; he might as well offer a challenge against a Judge in this country sitting at the Assizes. The Governor has no more right to change the Judge-Advocate who sits upon that Court than he has to change a Judge in England or anywhere else.”

There is no doubt that Macarthur, prior to his trial, had determined to force a crisis with Bligh. Whether the actual usurpation of the government had been determined will probably never be known. There are indications that some conspiracy was on foot. On the 11th of January the removal of captain Abbott from his command at Parramatta to headquarters was proposed. Abbott was a magistrate, and this change would have given the military party a preponderancy on the bench of magistrates at Sydney. This plan was checkmated by Bligh, who sanctioned the change to take place on the 27th of January, but dispensed with Abbott’s services as a magistrate. Abbott, in a private letter to Philip Gidley King, dated 13th February, 1808, stated that he had advised major Johnston that, in the event of taking the step to arrest Bligh, to send for lieutenant-governor Paterson, then stationed at Port Dalrymple, immediately afterwards. As Abbott was at Parramatta on the 26th of January, it is clear that this advice must have been given previously, and that the decision to make the arrest was not the mere impulse of the moment. Abbott, however, did not confirm this statement in his evidence at the trial of Johnston. At that trial Bligh swore that the screws were taken out of the breeches of the two field pieces at government house on the night of the 25th of January. Private Gillard swore that he removed the elevating screws from the same guns a few days before the 26th of January, by order of lieutenant Minchin. On the 24th of January, Edward and Hannibal Macarthur,

* See page 229.
Nicholas Bayly, and Garnham Blaxcell (Macarthur’s two bailsmen), and the six officers who were nominated for the criminal court on the following day, all dined together at a mess dinner of the New South Wales Corps. John Macarthur was not present at the dinner, but spent the evening walking to and fro on the parade in front of the mess-room. It seems highly probable that the usurpation was the result of a well-considered plan, in which the prime mover was John Macarthur; that major Johnston was the passive figure-head of a more active and energetic party behind him; that many of the malcontents against Bligh were averse to extreme measures; and that the trial of Macarthur was made the cause of action by the prisoner and his immediate adherents to force Bligh’s hands and to implicate the waverers and provoke them to take a decisive step.

The criminal court met for the trial of Macarthur* in the morning of the 25th of January. The members were the judge-advocate and six military officers. As was the custom, the oath was administered to the six officers by the judge-advocate, but, before Atkins had taken his oath, Macarthur entered a protest against him sitting as judge-advocate. The letters patent constituting the courts of justice enacted that the criminal court should consist of the judge-advocate for the time being and six officers of his Majesty’s sea or land forces. These were one and indivisible. Until all the members of the court were sworn in, no legal court was constituted. The six officer members of the court therefore could only hear the protest in a private capacity, as they had no judicial standing until the court was legally complete. As has already been stated, no protest could stand, and the governor had no power to remove or supersede the judge-advocate. Before the meeting of the court, Macarthur was in possession of Bligh’s opinion† on the merits of a protest against Atkins, and he knew that it would not be entertained. In the deliberations of a criminal court, the judge-advocate acted as an exponent of the law to his colleagues, but in the consideration of the verdict his vote was equal only to that of any other member of the court. As six of the seven members of the court were military officers, and probably in sympathy with him, Macarthur had little reason to fear the

* See page 221 et seq. † See page 229.
verdict. The only inference that can be drawn from these facts is that Macarthur, in making this irregular protest, deliberately attempted to upset the administration of the colony, to force an immediate issue with Bligh, and to implicate openly the members of the court in an illegal procedure. It is probable that this action was taken on Macarthur’s initiative, with the connivance of the extremist members of the military party. For some months previously, it must be remembered, Macarthur was not on terms of intimacy with Johnston and several of the senior officers.

At this stage, Bligh sought the advice of major Johnston, and at 5.30 p.m. on the 25th of January wrote requesting to see him without delay. Johnston sent a verbal message in reply that he was too unwell to attend. He had been present at the mess dinner on the night before, and had met with an accident on his return to Annandale. It is recorded that his face was much bruised and his arm in a sling for several days, and it is probable that a temporary incapacity was serious enough to affect Johnston’s judgment for the time.

Early in the morning of the 26th of January, Macarthur was arrested and lodged in gaol on a warrant, issued by Atkins, Arndell, Campbell, and Palmer, for his alleged escape from the custody of the provost-marshal. Probably the magistrates were wrong in issuing this warrant. Macarthur’s bailsmen were responsible for his appearance before the criminal court. As no criminal court had yet been legally formed, it is probable that technically Macarthur had not surrendered to his bail, was not in the custody of the provost-marshal, and that his bailsmen were still responsible for his appearance.

At 10 o’clock the six members of the criminal court met, and forwarded to Bligh Macarthur’s protest against Atkins and their own protest against the imprisonment of Macarthur. Bligh did not reply to these letters, and at 3 o’clock the members adjourned. Shortly afterwards Bligh forwarded a summons to each member to appear before him on the following day to answer certain charges. The crimes they were charged with were treason and usurpation of the government. It is probable that the issue of this summons or some similar action by Bligh was the aim and object of the provocative conduct of Macarthur and the extremists. Bligh immediately communicated to Johnston the
charges against the officers, and suggested that during his (Johnston’s) illness captain Abbott should take the military command. In reply to Bligh’s letter, Johnston sent a verbal message “that he was so ill as to be unable to write, but that he would get a person to write an answer in the evening.”

Johnston received Bligh’s letter at Annandale shortly after 4 o’clock, and notwithstanding his refusal to wait on Bligh, he hastened to the barracks, then situated around the site of Wynyard-square. It is evident that Johnston made no effort to achieve a peaceable settlement, but on the contrary was determined to let matters take their course. Soon after his arrival at the barracks Johnston committed the first open act of rebellion and usurpation of the civil power, when he assumed the title of lieutenant-governor and signed the warrant for the release of Macarthur from gaol. Macarthur had been confined in gaol throughout the day. The promptitude with which Johnston ordered the release is additional evidence that the insurrection was a preconceived plan. Macarthur was released, and shortly after 7 o’clock government house was surrounded by the soldiers, Bligh was arrested, and the colony was in the hands of rebels.

It is needless to discuss the problem as to which individuals were actually privy to the final decision for the arrest of Bligh. The opinion of the English counsel who were consulted was “that the evidence to be collected from the correspondence principally affects John McArthur, Nicholas Bayly, Doctor Townson, John Blaxland, Garnham Blaxcell, and Thomas Jamieson, as having previously concerted together with Major Johnston the arrest and imprisonment of Governor Bligh, and having afterwards borne a part in the assumed Government.”

A careful study of the papers will show that very few of the malcontents were desirous of extreme measures. The large majority of the insurrectionaries were men who sought unrestrained freedom of action, and a few weeks after the arrest of Bligh they were just as antagonistic to Johnston’s administration as they had been to Bligh’s. After the arrest misrepresentations were industriously circulated by the rebels to justify their action. It was stated even that Bligh had shown cowardice and was found under a servant’s bed. A picture illustrating this episode was
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freely exhibited by sergeant-major Whittle, and is still extant. Bligh's friends circulated pipes discrediting the leading rebels. In consequence it is impossible to reach a definite conclusion on many of the issues which were raised.

Governor Bligh was the victim of circumstances when he failed to maintain the government of the colony. Since the departure of Governor Phillip, in 1792, officials had received many privileges and perquisites, which, though inconsistent with the public welfare, had been excused by the fact that, owing to the high cost of living, the man who held a situation under government could barely subsist on his pay. Bligh put an end to these privileges and perquisites. He refused land grants, restricted assigned labour, and prohibited the barter of spirits. He acted with the best intentions, and his reforms were urgently needed. But he paid too little regard to the necessity of conciliating, so far as might be, powerful interests and powerful individuals. The determination of his actions and the coarseness of his speech gave, perhaps, unnecessary offence, but by no means justified the opposition to and the usurpation of his government.

A fact of importance is that at the critical moment in the story, the second in command in the colony was major Johnston. It was generally acknowledged that Johnston was "a well disposed good natured man—a cheerful companion and an idol of the soldiers and the lower order of society." His well meaning good nature made him an easy tool in the hands of men determined to overcome any obstacles which might interfere with their personal interests. Probably at no other time would Macarthur have been successful in attaining his ends. If lieutenant-governor Paterson had been present at headquarters, Macarthur would have been unsuccessful, for Paterson had a strong distrust of him. Lieutenant-colonel Foveaux had similar feelings, and when he superseded Johnston Macarthur was retired into private life. It was otherwise with Johnston, and Macarthur was able to mould his views, with the result that during the insurrection and Johnston's subsequent administration, Macarthur held the actual command. This view is well borne out by the subsequent action of the English government. In 1809, Johnston and Macarthur sailed for England in the Admiral Gambier. The government were desirous of dropping all further inquiry into the
rebellion, but Johnston forced an issue. He was tried by court martial in 1811, convicted of mutiny, and cashiered, a mild penalty for such a crime. He was allowed to return to the colony in 1812, and at the time of his death, in 1823, Lachlan Macquarie stated that the war office was favourably considering his reinstatement to his former rank in the army. Macarthur, on the other hand, was prevented from returning to the colony until the year 1817, except at the risk of standing his trial before the criminal court on his arrival in Sydney.

When Governor Macquarie arrived, in 1810, he made a general summary of the circumstances of the arrest. He stated:—

"It occurs to me that your Lordship may perhaps wish to know my opinion and Sentiments with regard to the extraordinary transactions and disturbances that took place here, as connected with the arrest of Governor Bligh, and the subversion of his Government, by Lieut.-Colonel Johnston, at the head of the New South Wales Corps, on the 26th of January, 1808.

"I have taken particular pains to discover the cause which gave rise to that most daring event, and to the mutinous conduct of Lt.-Colonel Johnston and the New South Wales Regiment, and find it extremely difficult to form a just Judgment on this delicate and mysterious subject, Party rancour having run so high as to preclude the possibility of arriving at the truth without a very minute and legal investigation of the whole business.

"But, in justice to Governor Bligh, I must say that I have not been able to discover any Act of his which could in any degree form an excuse for, or in any way warrant, the violent and Mutinous Proceedings pursued against him on that occasion, very few complaints having been made to me against him, and even those few are rather of a trifling nature.

"On the other hand, there cannot be a doubt but that Governor Bligh's administration was extremely unpopular, particularly among the higher orders of the People; And from my own short experience, I must acknowledge that he is a most unsatisfactory Man to transact business with, from his want of candor and decision, in so much that it is impossible to place the smallest reliance on the fulfilment of any engagement he enters into."
All the unbiassed contemporary opinions are in full accordance with Macquarie's summary.

After the insurrection Bligh was kept in confinement until February, 1809, when he was allowed to embark on H.M.S. Porpoise for the purpose of sailing direct for England. Bligh, however, sailed for Tasmania, and returned to Port Jackson after the arrival of Governor Macquarie. He took his final departure on the 12th of May, 1810. During the two years that elapsed between his arrest and departure, Bligh committed many breaches of faith in his negotiations with the insurrectionaries. These can be regarded only as distinct blemishes on an otherwise clean fighting career. On several occasions he pledged his word of honour, which he did not keep. His plea, that a promise to a rebel was not binding, can scarcely be accepted.

After his return to England, Bligh was promoted, in July, 1811, to the rank of rear-admiral of the blue squadron, and in June, 1814, to that of vice-admiral, but remained on the half-pay list. He died in Bond-street, London, on the 7th of December, 1817, and was buried in Lambeth churchyard.

The administration of Governor Bligh and its results form one of the most important milestones in the development of the civil life of Australia. Had this stormy epoch been eliminated from the history of this continent, progress might have been retarded indefinitely. In the interval between the departure of Governor Phillip in 1792, and the arrival of Governor Bligh, the administration of the colony had fallen into the hands of what was to all intents and purposes a small oligarchy, consisting of the military officers and a few wealthy partisans. Their one object was to acquire wealth. Everything was subordinated to this desire. With the result that the many outside the oligarchy were forced to lose the profits of their honest labour in the ruinous traffic which benefited chiefly the members of the ruling class. Bligh recognised the evil, and his deposition was brought about because it was perceived that this was the only means to prevent immediate and complete reform. But his arrest did not result in the failure of his efforts and a permanent reversion to the former conditions. It concentrated the attention of the English authorities on the conditions of the colony. It forced them to initiate immediate
reforms. It directly caused the recall of the New South Wales Corps, which, by long residence, had become the most powerful and perhaps the most evil factor in the community. It indirectly led to the reform of the law courts, to the removal of the restrictions on trade and commerce, and to the general betterment of the conditions of life in the colony.

GEORGE JOHNSTON.

George Johnston was born at Annandale, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, on the 19th of March, 1764. On the 6th of March, 1776, he obtained a commission as second lieutenant of the 45th company of marines. During the years 1777 and 1778, he was stationed at New York and Halifax. On the 27th of April, 1778, he was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant in the 91st company. In the years 1779 and 1780, he was employed recruiting in England. In 1781, he was despatched to the East Indies, and remained there until December, 1785. During this period he served on board H. M. ships Sultan and Worcester, and on four occasions was in action with the French fleet. In one engagement, he was severely wounded. He served under Earl Percy, who, after succeeding to the dukedom of Northumberland, became a patron of Johnston. In January, 1786, he obtained leave of absence for six months, and on resuming duty was attached to headquarters. Towards the end of the year, he was transferred as first lieutenant to the detachment of marines intended to form the garrison for the settlement at Botany Bay. In December, he embarked on board the Lady Penrhyn, a transport in the first fleet. When Governor Phillip examined Port Jackson in January, 1788, it is claimed that Johnston was the first man to land in that harbour. During the first twelve months of the settlement, Johnston acted as adjutant of orders to Governor Phillip. After the death of captain Shea, on the 2nd of February, 1789, he received the command of the vacant company as captain-lieutenant. In 1790, he was in command of the marines on detached duty at Norfolk Island. In 1791, the detachment of marines was relieved by the New South Wales Corps, and at the same time was given the option of being discharged or of remaining in the colony. Many availed themselves of the privilege, and were enlisted in an auxiliary or fifth
company in the corps. Johnston, who had returned from Norfolk Island with the marines, took command of this company, and a commission as captain was issued to him on the 25th of September, 1792. He was one of the first land-owners from the class of officers, and was granted 100 acres at Annandale by lieutenant-governor Grose on the 12th of February, 1793. In January, 1796, he was nominated by Governor Hunter to relieve Philip Gidley King in the command at Norfolk Island, but owing to ill-health he was unable to fulfil this duty. In the following September he was appointed aide-de-camp to the governor. In 1800, Johnston received his brevet rank as major. In the same year he was placed under arrest by lieutenant-colonel Paterson on charges of "paying spirits to a serjeant as part of his pay at an improper price, contempt, and disobedience of orders." He protested against trial by court martial in the colony, and his objection was upheld by Governor Hunter, who, in consequence, ordered him to England under arrest. He sailed in October, 1800, on H.M.S. Buffalo. In England his trial was quashed.* He returned to the colony on the 14th of December, 1801, on board the transport Minorca, but it was not until the 17th of October, 1802, that he was released from arrest and his reconciliation with lieutenant-colonel Paterson was announced.†

In January, 1803, Johnston took the temporary command of the New South Wales Corps during the illness of lieutenant-colonel Paterson. At this time inquiries and courts martial were being held in connection with certain libellous pipes about Governor King which had been circulated. These involved the governor in serious disputes with the military. During a court martial on Anthony Fenn Kemp, of which Johnston was president, John Harris, the judge-advocate and prosecutor, was charged with "scandalous infamous behaviour" in disclosing the votes of members at previous courts martial. Thereupon the court martial on Kemp was adjourned, and the trial of Harris demanded by Johnston.‡ The results of this action seriously interfered with the administration of the colony, and a bitter correspondence§ ensued. Johnston demanded the appointment of a judge-advocate in place of Harris. This request was strongly resisted by King.

* See page 270, volume III. † See page 322, volume IV.
‡ See page 177, volume IV. § See page 177 et seq., volume IV.
but he ultimately gave way “to Secure the Peace of the Colony by the Criminal Courts not continuing suspended for want of Members to compose it and on no other consideration.” This conflict between the military and King has a remarkable similarity to the final dispute between the military and Bligh. The action taken by Johnston was extremely doubtful. The papers that are available do not demonstrate how far his action was due to his personal initiative, how far to the instigation of a party behind him, as the papers in his actions against Bligh do.

In March, 1804, Johnston commanded the military sent in pursuit of the convicts who had risen in rebellion at Castle Hill. He acted with great courage and daring when he encountered the rebels at Vinegar Hill, and completely routed them. When lieutenant-colonel Paterson was detailed for the command of the settlement at Port Dalrymple, in 1804, the command of the New South Wales Corps devolved on Johnston, and he retained it until the arrival of lieutenant-colonel Foveaux, on the 28th of July, 1808. On the 1st of January, 1806, he received his commission as major.

In spite of a certain weakness of decision, Johnston’s character was an admirable one. He was “a well disposed good natured man.” He had few if any personal enemies, and was popular with all persons he came in contact with. In his routine military administration he was methodical and just, and was the idol of the rank and file. His very good nature made him the easy tool of conspirators, and this was his undoing. Prior to the rebellion, he resented the interference of Governor Bligh in military matters, but when making his report to the military secretary to the Duke of York on this subject, his diffidence and fairness were shown when he stated: “I will detail to you . . . some of the most glaring acts of Governor Bligh’s indecorous and, I hope I might be pardoned if I said, oppressive conduct.”

Prior to the arrest of Bligh, the malcontents probably held frequent conferences with Johnston, for without him action was impossible. Captain Abbott stated that the arrest had been discussed, but it is probable that Johnston was averse to extreme action. When John Macarthur arrived at the barracks after his liberation on the 26th of January, 1808, Johnston is reported to
have said: "God's curse! What am I to do, Macarthur? Here are these fellows advising me to arrest the Governor!" to which Macarthur replied: "Advising you; then, Sir, the only thing left for you to do is to do it. To advise on such matters is legally as criminal as to do them." If this conversation is correctly recorded it is proof that Johnston was the tool in the hands of the malcontents, and also that Macarthur at least recognised the guilt of the action.

Both at the time of the arrest and throughout his administration, Johnston failed to assert his personal authority, and it was generally recognised that the actual administration was in the hands of Macarthur. Johnston therefore was only the figurehead under whom the maladministration for the following six months was carried on.

His first official act was to assume the title of lieutenant-governor. This was quite unjustifiable. By the letters patent appointing each governor, the senior officer on the station was appointed administrator in the event of the death or absence of the governor or lieutenant-governor, and a lieutenant-governor was appointed only by a commission from the King. After this, acts of rebellion succeeded one another rapidly. On the 27th of January the judge-advocate, commissary, provost-marshal, naval officer, and, three days later, the chaplain, were suspended from their duties. If the rebellion had been only against the person of Governor Bligh, it is difficult to understand why these officers should have been promptly relieved of their duties before giving evidence of unwillingness to continue acting, unless the object of the rebels was to obtain a complete control of all branches of the government. During the first few days of power, an insurrectionary committee sat to examine Bligh’s public and private papers, with the object of securing incriminating evidence against him. With the possible exception of the papers in connection with Bligh’s farm, this search was a total failure, and is decidedly discreditable to the honour of the insurrectionaries.

The legal administration under Johnston was a parody of justice. On the 30th of January, a meeting of the criminal court was ordered for the trial of Macarthur. This trial was a pitiable farce. The indictment prepared by Atkins was read, but there
was no prosecutor. Under these circumstances the prisoner, Macarthur, had unlimited license; there was no one to object to his questions; no one to cross-examine or refute the evidence he tendered; no one to question his conduct in producing extracts from Bligh's correspondence. Captain Abbott advised Johnston of the shameful character of the proceedings, but the trial was allowed to be completed without interruption.

The court martial on D'Arcy Wentworth* on the 17th of February was also a mockery, as there was no prosecutor. On the 10th of February, Thomas Jamison demanded a court martial† on himself, but when Bligh refused to prosecute, no trial was held. The holding of the one trial and the refusal of the other were decidedly inconsistent actions. William Gore was convicted of perjury without trial after taking action similar to that of Macarthur at his first trial, in entering a protest against the constitution of the court. The trial of John and Gregory Blaxland and Simeon Lord was allowed to develop into the persecution of the prosecutor. Two men, Oliver Russell and Robert Daniels, were convicted and sentenced for perjury without trial.‡ In the case of Russell and Daniels, Johnston recognised the flagrant injustice committed, and released the two prisoners.

By the end of March a very strong party had arisen in opposition to the Johnston-Macarthur administration. To checkmate this, Johnston ordered Charles Grimes and John Harris to carry his despatches to England. On the 26th of April, he wrote a letter§ to all officers stationed at Sydney challenging them to produce charges against Macarthur, but the officers tactfully refused. The settlers' antipathy to Macarthur is shown by their address|| to Johnston on the 11th of April. According to the testimony¶ of Thomas Arndell, Macarthur endeavoured to silence all expression of opposition by the refusal of the individual's right to petition the representative of the king.

By his arrest of Bligh, Johnston took over the administration of a colony in which existed many discontented and discordant factions. The removal of Bligh did nothing to remove these causes of trouble, and the ease with which the rebellion was

*See page 446 et seq. †See page 442 et seq. ‡See page 484. §See page 518. ||See page 572. ¶See page 573.
accomplished increased rather than allayed the restlessness. The general peace of the colony was in a worse condition after than before the arrest.

Johnston was superseded in the administration by the arrival of his senior officer, lieutenant-colonel Foveaux, on the 28th of July. After living for some months in retirement, he sailed for England in company with Macarthur in the Admiral Gambier, in March, 1809, and arrived there on the 9th of October following. In the meantime counsel had been consulted on behalf of the crown, and had given their opinion that major Johnston, Macarthur "and the persons concerned with them were guilty of a conspiracy and high misdemeanor in the arrest and imprisonment of Governor Bligh"; that the military concerned should be tried by a court martial in England, and all others by a criminal court in the colony. The authorities were unable to take action until the witnesses for the prosecution arrived, on the 25th of October, 1810, and it is doubtful whether any action would have been taken if Johnston and his party had not been so persistent in their agitation for an inquiry.

Johnston, who had been promoted lieutenant-colonel on the 25th of April, 1808, was tried by court martial, held at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, on the 7th of May, 1811, and continued by adjournments until the 5th of June following. He was found guilty of mutiny, and sentenced to be cashiered.

Johnston returned to the colony in October, 1812, and lived in retirement on his estate called "Annandale," near Sydney. He died, universally respected, on the 3rd of January, 1823. At the time of his death his case was being considered by the war office, and it is probable that he would have been reinstated to his former rank in the army if he had lived a few months longer.

JOSEPH FOVEAUX.

JOSEPH FOVEAUX was born in the year 1765 of French parents resident in England. His career it not known until he obtained by purchase a commission as lieutenant in the New South Wales Corps on the 5th of June, 1789. He attained successive promotions to the rank of captain and major in the colony, the last being
INTRODUCTION.

dated the 10th of June, 1796. Prior to his appointment as commandant at Norfolk Island, on the 26th of June, 1800, his official colonial career was undistinguished. During his residence in the colony he acquired considerable property, and in December, 1801, he sold his estate of 1,770 acres at Toongabbe, together with 1,350 sheep, to John Macarthur for the sum of £2,000.

On the 9th of June, 1801, his commission as lieutenant-governor of Norfolk Island was signed, and on the 29th of April, 1802, as lieutenant-colonel of the New South Wales Corps. He retained the command at Norfolk Island until the 9th of September, 1804, when he sailed for England in the whaler Albion on leave of absence for reasons of health. His administration of the island was memorable chiefly for the severity he adopted in the suppression of an attempted rising amongst the convicts. Whilst in England he drew up a report on the proposed evacuation of Norfolk Island, and his suggestions were adopted.

He returned to the colony on the 28th of July, 1808, and on the following day relieved Johnston in the administration of the government. The camaraderie and mutual support prevalent amongst the officers of the New South Wales Corps are well shown by his action on his arrival. On the 28th of July, Foveaux first learned of the arrest of Governor Bligh, and "determined on the same day to continue the arrest and to carry on the government in his own name. This resolution seems to have been taken almost sooner than it was possible to have received the necessary information"* to form his own opinion as to the advisability of Bligh's deposition.

The most important episodes of Foveaux's administration were a continuation of the efforts to induce Bligh to leave the colony, the granting of lands in the city of Sydney, the endeavour to secure the cancellation of the contract† between Messrs. Campbell and Hook and lieutenant-governor Collins, the erection of commissariat stores and barracks, and the drastic action‡ he adopted with regard to the ship Rose.

* From a legal opinion given by T. G. Harris for the crown.
† See page 645.
‡ See page 648 et seq.
Foveaux was relieved of the government by the arrival of lieutenant-governor Paterson on the 1st of January, 1809. He remained in the colony until the 17th of March, 1810, when he sailed for England in the brig *Experiment*. After the death of David Collins, Foveaux was an applicant for the post of lieutenant-governor at Hobart, but the secretary of state would not entertain his candidature. The counsel acting for the crown had reported that Foveaux was liable to be tried by court martial on a charge of mutiny in continuing the arrest and imprisonment of Governor Bligh. In consequence, he was under a cloud until the trial of Johnston was concluded, and it was decided to take no further proceedings in connection with Bligh's arrest. On the 4th of June, 1811, he was appointed inspecting field officer of the recruiting district for Cork and Waterford. A month later he was appointed lieutenant-colonel to the Greek regiment of light infantry. On the 4th of June, 1814, he was promoted to the rank of major-general, and on the 22nd of July, 1830, to that of lieutenant-general. He died on the 20th of March, 1846, at New-road, London.


FREDK. WATSON.
DESPATCHES.
HISTORICAL RECORDS
OF
AUSTRALIA.

SERIES I.

GOVERNOR BLIGH’S COMMISSION.*

George the Third, by the Grace of God, &c., the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith.

To Our Trusty and Well beloved William Bligh, Esquire, Greeting: Whereas We did, by Our Letters Patent, under Our Great Seal of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date, at Westminster, the twentieth day of February, in the forty-second year of Our Reign, Constitute and Appoint Our Trusty and Well-beloved Philip Gidley King, Esquire, to be Our Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over Our Territory called New South Wales, extending from the Northern Cape or Extremity of the Coast called Cape York, in the latitude of Ten Degrees thirty seven minutes south to the Southern extremity of the said Territory of New South Wales, or South Cape, in the latitude of forty-three Degrees thirty-nine minutes South, and of all the Country Inland to the Westward as far as the One hundred and thirty fifth Degree of East Longitude, reckoning from the Meridian of Greenwich, including all the Islands adjacent in the Pacific Ocean within the Latitudes aforesaid of Ten Degrees thirty seven minutes South, and forty-three Degrees thirty-nine Minutes South, and of all Towns, Garrisons, Castle, Forts, and all other Fortifications or other Military Works which might be erected upon the said Territory or any of the said Islands for and during Our Will and Pleasure, as by the said recited Letters Patent, relation being thereunto had may more fully and at large appear: Now Know you that we have revoked and determined, and by these presents Do revoke and determine, the said Letters Patent, and every Clause, Article, and Thing therein contained; And further Know You that We, reposing Especial Trust and Confidence in the Prudence, Courage, and

Loyalty of You, the said William Bligh, of Our Especial Grace, certain knowledge, and Meer Motion, have thought fit to Constitute and Appoint You, the said William Bligh, to be Our Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over Our Territory called New South Wales, extending from the Northern Cape or Extremity of the Coast, called Cape York, in the Latitude of Ten Degrees thirty-seven Minutes South, to the Southern Extremity of the said Territory of New South Wales, or South Cape, in the Latitude of forty-three Degrees thirty-nine minutes South, and of all the Country Inland to the Westward, as far as the One hundred and thirty-fifth Degree of East Longitude, reckoning from the Meridian of Greenwich, including all the Islands adjacent in the Pacific Ocean within the Latitudes aforesaid of Ten Degrees Thirty-seven Minutes South, and Forty-three Degrees Thirty-nine Minutes South, and of all the said Islands; And We do hereby require and Command You to do and execute all things in due manner that shall belong to Your said Command, and the Trust We have Reposed in You, according to the several Powers and Directions granted or appointed You by this present Commission, and the Instructions and Authorities herewith given to you, or by such further Powers Instructions, and Authorities as shall at any time hereafter be granted or appointed You under Our Signet and Sign-Manual, or by Our Order in Our Privy Council, or by Us through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State. And Our Will and Pleasure is that You, the said William Bligh, after the Publication of these Our Letters Patent, do in the first place take the Oaths appointed to be taken by an Act passed in the first year of the Reign of King George the First, Intituled "An Act for the further Security of His Majesty's Person and Government and the Succession of the Crown in the Heirs of the late Princess Sophia, being Protestants, and for extinguishing the Hopes of the pretended Prince of Wales and his Open and Secret Abettors," as altered and Explained by an Act passed in the sixth year of Our Reign, Intituled "An Act for altering the Oath of Abjuration and the Assurance, and for amending so much of an Act of the seventh Year of her late Majesty Queen Anne, Intituled 'An Act for the Improvement of the Union of the Two Kingdoms,' as after the time therein limited requires the delivery of certain Lists and Copies therein mentioned to persons Indicted of High Treason or Misprison of Treason"; As also that You make, use, and subscribe the Declaration mentioned in an Act of Parliament made in the twenty-fifth year of the Reign of
King Charles the Second, Intituled "An Act for preventing Dangers which may happen from Popish Recusants"; And likewise that You take the usual Oath for the due execution of the Office and Trust of our Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over our said Territories and its dependencies for the due and impartial administration of Justice. And further, that you take the Oath required to be taken by Governors in the Plantations to do their utmost that the several Laws relating to Trade and Plantations be duly observed, which said Oaths and Declaration Our Judge-Advocate in our said Territory is hereby required to tender and administer unto You, and in Your Absence to Our Lieutenant-Governor, if there be any upon the place; All which being duly performed, you shall administer unto Our Lieutenant-Governor, if there be any upon the place, and to Our Judge-Advocate, the Oaths mentioned in the first mentioned Act of Parliament, altered as above, as also cause them to make and subscribe the aforementioned Declaration. And We do hereby authorize and empower you to keep and use the Public Seal, which will be herewith delivered to you or shall hereafter be sent to You, for sealing all things whatsoever that shall pass the Great Seal of Our said United Territory and its Dependencies. We do further Give and Grant unto You, the said William Bligh, full power and authority from time to time and at any time hereafter, by yourself or by any other to be authorized by you in that behalf, to administer and give the Oaths mentioned in the said first-recited Act of Parliament, altered as above, to all and every such Person or Persons as you shall think fit who shall at any time or times pass into Our said Territory or its Dependencies, or shall be resident or abiding therein. And We do hereby authorize and empower you to constitute and appoint Justices of the Peace, Coroners, Constables, and other necessary Officers and Ministers in Our said Territory and its Dependencies for the better administration of Justice and putting the Laws in execution, and to administer or cause to be administered unto them such Oath or Oaths as are actually given for the execution and performance of Offices and Places. And We do hereby Give and Grant unto You full power and authority where you shall see Cause or shall judge any Offender or Offenders in Criminal Matters, or for any Fines or Forfeitures due unto Us, fit Objects of Our Mercy, to Pardon all such Offenders, and to remit all such Offenders' Fines and Forfeitures (Treason and Wilful Murder only excepted), In which Cases You shall likewise have power, upon extraordinary occasions, to grant reprieves to the Offenders until and to the Intent Our Royal Pleasure may be known therein. And whereas it belongeth to Us, in right of Our Royal Pre-
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To pass grants for the custody of lunatics and their estates.

rogative, to have the Custody of Idiots and their Estates, and to take the Profits thereof to Our Own use, finding them necessaries; And also to provide for the Custody of Lunatics and their Estates, without taking the Profits thereof to Our Own Use. And whereas such Idiots and Lunatics and their Estates remain under our immediate Care, great Trouble and Charges may arise to such as shall have occasion to resort unto Us for directions respecting such Idiots and Lunatics and their Estates, We have thought fit to entrust You with the Care and Commitment of the Custody of the said Idiots and Lunatics and their Estates. And We do by these presents Give and Grant unto You full Power and Authority, without expecting any further special Warrant from us from time to time, to Give Order and Warrant for the preparing of Grants of the Custodies of such Idiots and Lunatics and their Estates as are or shall be found by Inquisitions thereof to be taken by the Judges of Our Court of Civil Jurisdiction, and thereupon to make and pass Grants and Commitments, under Our Great Seal of Our said Territory, of the Custodies of all and every such Idiots and Lunatics, and their Estates, to such Person or Persons, Suitors in that behalf, as according to the Rules of Law, and the use and practice in those and the like Cases you shall judge meet for that Trust, the said Grants and Commitments to be made in such manner and form, as nearly as may be, as hath been heretofore used and accustomed in making the same under the Seal of Great Britain, and to contain such apt and Convenient Covenants, Provisions, and Agreements on the parts of the Committees and Grantees to be performed, and such security to be by them given, as shall be requisite and needful. And We do hereby Give and Grant unto You, the said William Bligh, by Yourself or by your Captains or Commanders, by you to be authorized, full power and authority to levy, Arm, Muster, Command, and Employ all persons whatsoever residing within Our said Territory and its Dependencies under your Government, and as occasion shall serve, to march from one place to another, or to embark them for the resisting and withstanding of all Enemies, Pirates, and Rebels, both at Sea and Land; and such Enemies, Pirates, and Rebels, if there shall be occasion to pursue and prosecute in or out of the limits of Our said Territory and its Dependencies, and (if it shall so please God) them to vanquish, apprehend, and take, and being taken according to Law, to put to Death, or keep and preserve alive at your discretion, and to execute Martial Law in time of Invasion, or other times, when by Law it may be executed; and to do and execute all and every other Thing and Things which to Our Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief Doth or ought of Right to belong.
And We do hereby give and grant unto you full Power and Authority to erect, raise, and build in Our said Territory and its Dependencies such and so many Forts, Platforms, Castles, Cities, Boroughs, Towns, and Fortifications, as You shall judge necessary, and the same or any of them to fortify and furnish with Ordnance and Ammunition and all sorts of Arms fit and necessary for the Security and Defence of the same, or any of them to demolish or dismantle as may be most convenient. And for as much as divers Mutinies and Disorders may happen by persons shipped and employed at Sea during the time of War, And to the end that such persons as shall be shipped and employed at Sea during the time of War may be better Governed and Ordered, We do hereby give and grant unto you, the said William Bligh, full power and Authority to constitute and appoint Captains, Lieutenants, Masters of Ships, and other Commanders and Officers, and to grant to such Captains, Lieutenants, Masters of Ships, and other Commanders and Officers, Commissions to execute the Law Martial during the time of War, according to the directions of an Act passed in the twenty-second year of the Reign of Our late Royal Grandfather, Intituled "An Act for amending, explaining, and reducing into One Act of Parliament the Laws relating to the Government of His Majesty's Ships, Vessels, and Forces by Sea." And the same is altered by An Act passed in the nineteenth year of Our Reign, Intituled "An Act to explain and amend an Act made in the twenty-second year of the Reign of his late Majesty, King George the Second, Intituled 'An Act for amending, explaining, and reducing into One Act of Parliament, the Laws relating to the Government of His Majesty's Ships, vessels, and Forces by Sea,'" and to use such Proceedings, Authorities, Punishments, Corrections, and Executions upon any Offender or Offenders who shall be mutinous, seditious, disorderly, or any way unruly, either at Sea, or during the time of their abode or residence in any of the Ports, Harbours, or Bays of Our said Territory, as the Case shall be found to require, according to Martial Law, and the said directions during the time of War, as aforesaid: Provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed to the enabling you, or any of You, Authority to hold Plea or have any jurisdiction of any Offence, Cause, Matter, or Thing committed or done upon the High Sea, or within any of the Havens, Rivers, or Creeks of Our said Territory and its dependencies under Your Government, by any Captain, Commander, Lieutenent, Master, Officer, Seaman, or other person whatsoever, who shall be in actual service and Pay, in or on Board of Our Ships of War, or other Vessels acting by immediate Commission, or Warrant from Our Commissioners
for executing the Office of Our High Admiral of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or from Our High Admiral of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland for the time being, under the Seal of Our Admiralty; But that such Captain, Commander, Lieutenant, Master, Officer, Seaman, Soldier, or other person so offending shall be left to be proceeded against and tried as the merits of their Offences shall require, either by Commission under Our Great Seal of this Kingdom as the Statute of the twenty-eighth of King Henry the Eighth directs, or by Commission from Our Commissioners for executing the Office of Our High Admiral of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland or from Our High Admiral of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland for the time being, according to the aforesaid Act, intituled “An Act for amending, explaining, and reducing into one Act of Parliament the Laws relating to the Government of His Majesty’s Ships, Vessels, and Forces by Sea,” as the same is altered by an Act passed in the nineteenth Year of Our Reign, intituled “An Act to explain and amend an Act made in the twenty-second year of the reign of His late Majesty King George the second, intituled ‘An Act for amending, explaining, and reducing into One Act of Parliament the Laws relating to the Government of His Majesty’s Ships, Vessels, and Forces by Sea’”; Provided nevertheless that all Disorders and Misdemeanors committed on Shore by any Captain, Commander, Lieutenant, Master, Officer, Seaman, Soldier, or any other person whatsoever, belonging to any of Our Ships of War, or other Vessels acting by immediate Commission or Warrant from Our Commissioners for executing the Office of Our High Admiral of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or from Our High Admiral of our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland for the time being under the seal of Our Admiralty, may be tried and punished according to the Laws of the place where any such Disorders, Offences, and Misdemeanors shall be committed on shore, notwithstanding such Offender be in Our actual service and borne in Our Pay on Board any such Our Ships of War or other Vessels acting by immediate Commission or Warrant from Our Commissioners for executing the Office of Our High Admiral of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or from Our High Admiral of our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland for the time being as aforesaid, so as he shall not receive any protection for the avoiding of Justice for such offences committed on shore from any pretence of his being employed in Our Service at Sea. Our Will and Pleasure is that all Public Monies which shall be raised be issued out by Warrants from you, and be disposed of by
GOVERNOR BLIGH'S COMMISSION.

you for the support of the Government, or for such other purpose as shall be particularly directed, and not otherwise. And We do hereby Give and Grant unto You full Power and Authority to agree for such Lands, Tenements, and Hereditaments as shall be in Our Power to dispose of and them to Grant to any Person or Persons upon such Terms and upon such moderate Quit Rents, Services, and Acknowledgements to be thereupon reserved unto Us according to such Instructions as shall be given to You under Our Sign-Manual, which said Grants are to pass and be sealed by Our Seal of Our said Territory and its Dependencies, and, being entered upon Record by such Officer or Officers as you shall appoint thereunto, shall be good and effectual in Law against Us, Our Heirs and Successors. And We do hereby Give you, the said William Bligh, full power to appoint Fairs, Marts, and Markets, as also such and so many Ports, Harbours, Bays, Havens, and other Places for the conveniency and security of Shipping, and for the better loading and unloading of Goods and Merchandizes, as by you shall be thought fit and necessary. And We do hereby require and command all Officers and Ministers, Civil and Military, and all other Inhabitants of Our said Territory and its Dependencies, to be obedient, aiding and assisting unto You, the said William Bligh, in the execution of this Our Commission, and of the Powers and Authorities herein contained, And in Case of your Death or Absence out of Our said Territory, to be obedient, aiding, and assisting unto such Person as shall be appointed by Us to be Our Lieutenant-Governor or Commander-in-Chief of Our said Territory and its Dependencies, To whom We do, therefore, by these presents, Give and Grant all and singular the Powers and Authorities herein granted to be by him executed and enjoyed during Our Pleasure, or until your Arrival within Our said Territory and its Dependencies. And if, upon Your Death or Absence out of the said Territory and its Dependencies, there be no Person upon the place commissioned or appointed by Us to be Our Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander-in-Chief of Our said Territory and its Dependencies, Our Will and Pleasure is that the Officer Highest in Rank, who shall be at the time of Your Death or Absence upon Service within the same, and who shall take the Oath and subscribe the Declaration appointed to be taken and subscribed by you, or by the Commander-in-Chief of Our said Territory and its Dependencies, shall take upon him the Administration of the Government, and execute Our said Commission and Instructions, and the several Powers and Authorities therein contained, in the same manner and to all intents and purposes as other Our Lieutenant-Governor or Commander-in-Chief should or ought to do in Case of your
Term of office. 

Absence, until your return, or in all Cases until Our further Pleasure be known therein. And We do hereby Declare, Ordain, and Appoint that You, the said William Bligh, shall and may hold and execute and enjoy the Office and Place of Our Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief in and over Our said Territories and its Dependencies, together with all and singular the Powers and Authorities hereby granted unto You, for and during Our Will and Pleasure. In Witness, &c., the twenty-fourth day of May.

By writ of Privy Seal.

Instructions to Governor Bligh.

George R. 25th May, 1805.

INSTRUCTIONS for our trusty and well-beloved William Bligh, Esquire, &c., &c.

1st. With these our Instructions you will receive our Commission under our Great Seal, constituting and appointing you to be our Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief of our Territory called New South Wales, extending from the Northern Cape or Extremity of the Coast called Cape York, in the Latitude of Ten Degrees thirty-seven Minutes South, to the Southern Extremity of the said Territory of New South Wales, or South Cape, in the Latitude of Forty-three Degrees Thirty-Nine Minutes South, and of all the Country Inland to the Westward, as far as the One hundred and Thirty-fifth Degree of East Longitude, reckoning from the Meridian of Greenwich, including all the Islands adjacent in the Pacific Ocean, within the Latitudes aforesaid of the Ten Degrees thirty-seven Minutes South and Forty-three Degrees thirty-nine Minutes South, and of all Towns, Garrisons, Castles, Forts, and all other Fortifications or other Military Works which now are or may be hereafter erected upon the said Territory, or any of the said Islands, with directions to obey such Orders and Instructions as shall from time to time be given to you under our Signet and Sign Manual, or by our Order in our Privy Council. You are therefore to take upon you the execution of the Trust we have reposed in you, and as soon as conveniently may be, with all due solemnity to cause our said Commission under Our Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, constituting you Our Governor and Commander-in-Chief as aforesaid, to be read and published.

2nd. It is Our Royal Will and Pleasure that you do pursue such measures as are necessary for the Peace and Security of the same and for the safety and preservation of the Public Stores and Stock of every description, and that you do proceed without delay to the Cultivation of the Lands, the Curing of Fish and other Provisions, distributing the Convicts for those and other
purposes in such manner and under such Inspectors or Overseers, and under such regulations as may appear to you to be necessary and best calculated for procuring Supplies of Grain and ground Provisions, and for Curing of Fish and other Provisions, and for rendering their Services most useful to the Community.

The assortment of Tools and Utensils which have been from time to time provided for the use of the Convicts and other Persons who compose the said Settlement, are to be distributed according to your discretion, and guided by such further Instructions as you may receive from us through one of our principal Secretaries of State, and according to the Employment assigned to the several Persons. In the distribution, however, you will use every proper degree of Economy and be careful that the Commissary do transmit an Account of the Issues from time to time to the Commissioners of our Treasury and to one of our principal Secretaries of State, to enable them to judge of the propriety or expediency of granting further Supplies. The Clothing of the Convicts and the Provisions issued to them and the Civil and Military Establishments must be accounted for in the same manner pursuant to such instructions in that behalf as you from time to time shall receive from the Commissioners of our Treasury or one of our principal Secretaries of State.

3rd. AND WHEREAS the Commissioners of our Admiralty have commissioned certain of our Ships to be employed at our said Settlement under your Orders, for the purpose of supplying the same with Live Stock and other necessaries from such Places as shall be found most convenient for that purpose, you are, in consequence thereof, to consider the providing such Supplies of Live Stock and necessaries as an object of the first Importance, and you are to follow without delay such Directions in the Execution thereof as you shall from time to time receive from us under our Sign Manual, or from one of our principal Secretaries of State in that behalf, and all such Live Stock as shall be brought into our said Settlement by means of our aforesaid Ships, or otherwise at the Public Expense, are to be considered as Public Stock and for the use of the Settlers and emancipated Convicts being Settlers, and under no pretext whatever to be sold, given away, made over or transferred by them or any of them to whom such Live Stock shall be granted by you without your special leave and license in writing first had and obtained for that purpose, on pain of forfeiting the same, which shall in such Case revert and be added to the Public Stock of our said Settlement.

4th. And as the Increase of the Stock of Animals must depend entirely upon the measures you may adopt for their preservation, you are hereby particularly charged and directed to be extremely
cautious in preventing all Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, etc., which are to be preserved as much as possible for propagating the Breed of such Animals, from being slaughtered or taken away from our said Settlement on any pretence whatever by any Vessels or Craft which shall come there, until a competent Stock may be acquired to admit of your supplying the Settlement from it with Animal Food without having further recourse to the Places from whence such Stock may have originally been obtained.

5th. It is our Will and Pleasure that the Productions of all descriptions acquired by the Labour of the Convicts shall be considered as a Public Stock, which we so far leave to your disposal that such parts thereof as may be requisite for the subsistence of the said Convicts and their Families, or the subsistence of the Civil and Military Establishments of the Settlements, may be applied by you to that Use. The remainder of such Productions you will reserve as a Provision for such further number of Convicts as you may expect will from time to time be sent from hence to be employed under your directions in the manner pointed out in these our Instructions to you; and you are always to take care on the Arrival of such Convicts to obtain an Assignment to you or the Governor-in-Chief for the time being from the Masters of the Ships bringing the said Convicts, of the Servitude of such Convicts whose Services are assigned either for the remainder of the Terms which shall be specified in their several Sentences or Orders of Transportation, or for such less time as shall be specified in their respective Sentences in that behalf.

6th. And whereas we are desirous that some further Information should be obtained of the several Ports or Harbours upon the Coasts and the Islands contiguous thereto within the limits of your Government, you are, whenever any of our said Ships can be conveniently spared for that purpose, to send one or more of them upon that Service. You are to endeavour by every possible means to extend your Intercourse with the Natives and conciliate their affections, enjoining all our Subjects to live in Amity and Kindness with them; and if any of our Subjects shall wantonly destroy them, or give them any unnecessary interruption of the exercise of their several occupations, it is our will and pleasure that you do cause such offenders to be brought to Punishment according to the degree of the Offence. You will endeavour to procure from time to time Accounts of the number of Natives inhabiting the Neighbourhood of our said Settlement, and report your opinion to one of our Secretaries of State in what manner the intercourse with these People may be turned to the advantage thereof.
7th. And it is further our Royal Will and Pleasure that you do, by all proper Methods, enforce a due observance of Religion and good order among the Inhabitants of the said Settlement, and that you do take particular care that all possible attention be paid to the due celebration of Public Worship.

8th. And whereas it hath been represented to us that great Evils have arisen from the unrestrained Importation of Spirits into our said Settlement from Vessels touching there, whereby both the Settlers and Convicts have been induced to barter and exchange their Live Stock and other necessary articles for the said Spirits, to their particular loss and detriment, as well as to that of our said Settlement at large, We do, therefore, strictly enjoin you, on pain of our utmost displeasure, to order and direct that no Spirits shall be landed from any Vessel coming to our said Settlement without your Consent, or that of our Governor-in-Chief for the time being previously obtained for that purpose, which orders and directions you are to signify to all Captains or Masters of Ships immediately on their arrival at our said Settlement, and you are, at the same time, to take the most effective Measures that the said orders and directions shall be strictly obey’d and complied with.

9th. And whereas we have, by our Commission, bearing date the twenty-fourth day of May, 1805, given and granted unto you full power and authority to emancipate and discharge from their Servitude any of the Convicts under your superintendance who shall, from their good Conduct and a disposition to Industry, be deserving of Favor, It is our Will and Pleasure that in every such case you do issue your Warrant to the Surveyor of Lands to make Surveys of and mark out in Lots such Lands upon the said Territory as may be necessary for their Use, and when that shall be done that you do pass Grants thereof with all convenient speed to any of the said Convicts so emancipated, in such conditions and acknowledgements as shall hereafter be specified, Viz.:—

To every Male shall be granted Thirty acres of Land, and in case he shall be married Twenty Acres more, and for every Child who may be then at the Settlement at the time of making the said Grant, a further Quantity of Ten Acres, free of all Fees, Taxes, Quit Rents, or other acknowledgements whatsoever, for the space of Ten Years; provided that the Person to whom the said Land shall have been granted shall reside within the space and proceed to the Cultivation and Improvement thereof, reserving only to us such Timber as may be growing or to grow hereafter upon the said Land, which may be fit for Naval Purposes, and an Annual
Quit Rent of Six Pence for every Thirty Acres after the expiration of the Term or Time before-mentioned. You will cause Copies of such Grants as may be passed to be preserved, and make a regular return of the said Grants to the Commissioners of our Treasury, and the Lords of the Committee of our Privy Council for Trade and Plantations.

10th. And whereas it is likely to happen that the Convicts who may, after their emancipation in consequence of this Instruction, be put into Possession of Lands, will not have the means of proceeding to their Cultivation without the Public Aid, It is our Will and Pleasure that you do cause every such Person you may so emancipate to be supplied with such a Quantity of Provisions as may be sufficient for the sustenance of himself and also of his Family until such time as their Joint Labour may reasonably be expected to enable them to provide for themselves, together with an Assortment of Tools and Utensils, and such a Proportion of Seed Grain, Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, &c., as may be proper and can be spared from the General Stock of the Settlement.

11th. And whereas it is our Royal Intention that every sort of intercourse between our said Settlement, or other Places which may be hereafter established on the Coast of New South Wales and its Dependencies, and the Settlements of our East India Company, as well as the Coasts of China and the Islands situate in that part of the World to which any Intercourse has been established by any European Nation, should be prevented by every possible means, It is our Royal Will and Pleasure that you do not upon any Account allow Craft of any Sort to be built for the use of Private Individuals which might enable them to effect such Intercourse, and that you do prevent any Vessel which may at any time hereafter arrive at the said Settlement from any of the Ports beforementioned from having any Communication with any of the Inhabitants residing within your Government without first receiving especial Permission from you for that purpose.

12th. And whereas certain of our Subjects now resident within our said Settlement, and others from hence or from other Parts of our Dominions, may be desirous of becoming Settlers in our said Settlement, our Will and Pleasure is that in case such Persons shall apply to you for Grants of Lands you do afford them every encouragement that can be given in that undertaking without subjecting the Public to any Expense, and that Grants of Land to such Amount as you shall judge proper be made out for each Person applying, not exceeding One Hundred Acres over and above the Quantity herebefore directed to be granted to such Convicts as shall be emancipated or discharged from their Servitude, free of all Fees, Taxes, Quit Rents, and other acknowledge-
ments for the space of Ten Years, but after the expiration of that time to be liable to an Annual Quit Rent of One Shilling for every fifty Acres.

13th. It is nevertheless our Royal Intention, in case of any peculiarly meritorious Settler or well-deserving emancipated Convict becoming a Settler as aforesaid, that you shall be at liberty to enlarge the said Grants so respectively to be made to such Settler or emancipated Convict as aforesaid, by the addition of such further number of Acres to be granted to them respectively, as you in your discretion shall judge proper, subject nevertheless to our approbation thereof upon your transmitting to one of our Principal Secretaries of State, which you are hereby directed to do by the first opportunity, your reasons for making the same.

14th. And whereas such Persons as are or shall become Settlers upon our said Continent of New South Wales, or the said Islands dependent thereupon, may be desirous of availing themselves of the labour of part of the Convicts who are or may be sent there, It is our will and pleasure that, in case there should be a prospect of them employing any of the said Convicts to advantage, that you assign to each Grantee the Service of any number of them that you may judge sufficient to answer their purpose, on condition of their maintaining, feeding, and Clothing such Convicts in such manner as shall appear satisfactory to you and to our Governor of New South Wales for the time being.

15th. You are to take Care that all Grants to be given of Lands in our said Continent or Islands be made out in due form, and that the Conditions required by these our Instructions be particularly and expressly mentioned in the respective Grants, that the same be properly registered, and that regular returns thereof be transmitted by the proper Officers to our Commissioners of our Treasury and to the Committee of our Privy Council appointed for all matters of Trade and Foreign Plantations, within the space of Twelve Months after the passing of such Grant.

16th. It is also our Will and Pleasure that in all Grants of Land to be made by you as aforesaid, regard be had to the profitable and unprofitable Acres, so that each Grantee may have a proportionable number of one sort and of the other, as likewise that the breadth of each Tract to be hereafter granted be one-third of the length of such Tract, and that the length of such Tract do not extend along the Banks of any Bay or River but into the Main Land, that thereby the said Grantees may have each a convenient share of what accommodation the said Harbour or Rivers may afford for Navigation or otherwise.

17th. It is also our will and pleasure that between every Crown thousand Acres of Land so to be allotted to Settlers or emanci-
dated Convicts, being Settlers as aforesaid, you do reserve not less than five hundred Acres adjacent thereto for the benefit of us, our Heirs and Successors, which spaces so reserved you are not to grant without our especial direction and license; but you are at liberty to lease the same for any Term not exceeding fourteen Years, and on such Terms and Conditions as you shall judge advantageous to our Service, subject to such orders as shall be given to you in that behalf under our Sign Manual or by one of our Principal Secretaries of State.

18th. And whereas it has been found by experience that the settling Planters in Townships* has very much redounded to their advantage, not only with respect to the assistance they have been able to afford each other in their Civil Concerns, but likewise with regard to their Security, you are therefore to lay out Townships of convenient size and extent in such Places as you in your discretion shall judge most proper, having as far as may be natural boundaries extending up into the Country and comprehending a necessary part of the Sea Coast when it can be conveniently had.

19th. You are also to cause a proper place in the most convenient part of each Township to be marked out for the building of a Town sufficient to contain such a number of Families as you shall judge proper, to settle them with Town and Pasture Lots convenient to each Tenement, taking Care that the said Town be laid out upon or as near as conveniently may be to some navigable River or the Sea Coast; and you are to reserve to us proper Quantities of Land in each Township for the following Purposes, Viz., For erecting Fortifications and Barracks, or for other Military or Naval Services, and more particularly for the building a Town Hall and such other Public Edifices as you shall deem necessary, and also for the growth and production of Naval Timber, if there are any Wood-lands fit for that purpose.

20th. And it is our further Will and Pleasure that a particular Spot, in or as near each Town as possible, be set apart for the Building of a Church, and Four hundred Acres adjacent thereto allotted for the maintenance of a Minister, and Two hundred for a Schoolmaster.

21st. And whereas it is necessary that a reasonable Compensation shall be made to the Surveyor-General of our Lands for surveying and laying out the said Lands, for the use of such Persons who may be disposed to become Settlers in the said Continent or Islands dependent thereupon, We have thought fit to establish the Table of Fees hereunto annexed, which you are to allow him to demand from all Persons whatsoever, excepting the Non-commissioned Officers and Men of the Detachment of

* Note 2.
GOVERNOR BLIGH'S INSTRUCTIONS.

our Marine Corps, or to the Convicts, emancipated or discharged, who are not to be subjected to the Payment of such Fees.

22nd. You are to cause the above-mentioned Table of Fees to be hung up in one of the most Public Places, that all Persons concerned may be apprized of the Charges which may be demanded from them on their taking up Lands within the said Continent, or Islands dependant thereupon.

**LIST OF FEES UPON GRANTS OF LAND.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Governor's Fees</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For the Great Seal to every Grant not exceeding 1,000 Acres</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For all Grants exceeding 1,000 Acres, for every 1,000 each Grant contains</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For a License of Occupation</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Secretary's Fees</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For every Grant passing the Seal of the Province, if under 1,000 Acres</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between 1,000 and 5,000 Acres</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All above</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Grants of Land, when the number of Proprietors shall exceed 20, each Right</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In Ditto, where the number of Proprietors shall not exceed 20, the same as for Grants, in proportion to the Quantity of Land</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fees to be taken by the Chief Surveyor of Land.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For every Lot under 100 Acres</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From 100 to 500 Acres</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above 500 Acres</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every Township, if above 20 Rights, each Right</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Auditors' Fees</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For auditing every Grant</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Register's Fees</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For recording a Grant of Land for or under 500 Acres</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For every 1,000 Acres to the Amount of 20,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For recording a Grant of a Township</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS TO GOVERNOR BLIGH.**

Sir,

Downing Street, 20th Novr., 1805.

You are already in possession of His Majesty's Instructions for the guidance of your conduct as Governor of His Settlements, in New South Wales and its Dependencies and have

* Note 3.
HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA.

Instructions to Governor Bligh.

Supplies of provisions.

Proposed future shipments of stores.

Proposed freedom of trade and commerce.

had the opportunity of perusing the whole of the Correspondence between that Government and the Secretary of State to the latest period.

I have therefore at present only to draw your attention to those objects which appear to me to claim the most particular consideration, leaving such as are of less importance to the control of that discretionary power, which has been entrusted to you, in the confidence of your zeal and ability to employ it for the benefit of the Colony and in the furtherance of His Majesty's gracious and benevolent Intentions.

And first the progress made by the Settlement within these few years towards furnishing the Provisions requisite for the support of the Inhabitants is happily such as to call for little or no further assistance from England in this particular, excepting in regard to a certain quantity of Salt meat for the consumption of those who are victualled from the Government Stores at Port Jackson and in the subordinate Settlements, which will be continued as long as the necessity of drawing them from England exists.

The Supplies of Live Stock must hereafter be left entirely to the enterprize of Individuals, and the demands upon this Country will I trust in future be confined to the Stores indispensably requisite for the Clothing and maintenance of the Convicts remaining at the Charge of Government, and for enabling them to proceed with the Public Works on which they are usually employed; and to those Articles which it may be necessary to continue for some time longer, for the purpose of being exchanged in Barter with the Settlers.

Nothing, I conceive, will more essentially contribute to bring forward the Supplies, which the Country is become able to furnish in most of the Articles of first necessity, such as Corn, Poultry, Vegetables, etc. than the abolition of all restrictions in the disposal of those Supplies and in like manner it seems desirable that you should take the earliest opportunity of revising the regulations at present existing for fixing prices on Goods imported into the Colony, which I apprehend must (excepting in a few particular instances) operate to the disadvantage of the Inhabitants.

You will therefore understand that it is not judged necessary for you to interfere in future in respect to the demands of Adventurers bringing Articles for Trade to the Colony, further than to prevent improper communications between the Ships and the Convicts, excepting with regard to the Article of Spirits.

In this particular the exertions of Governor King have been productive of the most beneficial consequences, and I strongly
recommend you to persevere in the system he has so wisely laid down of a rigorous prohibition of this pernicious beverage without a regular licence from you for the purpose.

I need scarcely observe that the Articles sent out for Barter are to be disposed of as usual, but I think it proper to call your attention to a charge which I perceive is made of 15 per Cent. to the Commissary General for the superintendance of the Sales of these Goods. It seems to be a very high allowance and to require explanation.

It is my intention to propose to Parliament to provide for an establishment at Port Dalrymple upon the same footing as that which has been fixed for the Derwent; and it is His Majesty’s pleasure that you do not permit any new settlements to be formed from Head Quarters. The detachment at Newcastle may be continued on its present footing, but should not be extended beyond what is necessary for the security of the Convicts employed in working the Coal Mines and cutting Cedar.

I cannot approve of so great an importation of Cattle into the Settlement of Port Dalrymple, where I apprehend they can scarcely yet have the means of providing in a proper manner for their Security without neglecting the Cultivation of the ground or the erection of requisite Buildings. If a proper opportunity should offer, some proportion should be sent to the Derwent; but this I leave entirely to your discretion.

Lieutenant Colonel Foveaux will avail himself of the first opportunity to return to his Duty and will afford you the most material assistance in completing the measures to be taken for the evacuation of Norfolk Island, in conformity to the Instructions for that purpose, contained in Lord Buckinghamshire’s letter of the 24th June, 1803.

You will inform Lieutenant Governor Collins that all his Reports and Requisitions are to be addressed to you as Governor in Chief, and that it will be unnecessary for him to correspond with me excepting when an opportunity may offer of forwarding Copies of his communications to you, which he is never to neglect.

You will of course take a proper opportunity, if you shall think it desirable, to visit the dependent Settlements, and to examine the actual state of them, and will communicate to me the result of your proceedings for His Majesty’s information.

All the Supplies demanded by Governor King have been forwarded by the William Pitt and Tellicherry which sailed a short time since and by the Lady Magdelina Sinclair, and various Articles which have been judged desirable either in consequence of your suggestion or by the Accounts of Persons lately arrived...
Instructions to Governor Bligh.

Regulation of intercourse with Americans.

Encouragement of education and religion.

School teachers to be sent to the colony.

Education of the children.

from New South Wales have been added. A proportion of Clothing also beyond the quantity specified by Governor King has been sent out, as it had been provided for a particular service and not being applicable to use in England would have been damaged by remaining in Store.

I have only to add that such points of Governor King’s late Dispatches as seemed to require the opinion of His Majesty’s Law Officers have been referred for consideration, as soon as I receive their Reports they shall be communicated to you.

I am not enabled to give you my Instructions as to the conduct to be observed to Americans frequenting the Shores of New Holland for the purpose of fishing and traffic, that question being still under the consideration of the Committee of His Majesty’s Privy Council for Trade and Plantations. If they shall attempt to make any Settlement on any particular spot you will give them notice of His Majesty’s Right of Sovereignty and in all cases warn them to depart; and it will be in your discretion to regulate their Importation of any Articles of Traffic into the Colony as you see occasion, and to establish such Duties and Prohibitions as may prevent their interfering with the Trade of His Majesty’s Subjects.

I am to draw your particular attention towards forming some plan for the Education and particularly the religious Education of the Colony. The Duties levied for the support of the Orphan House when the Buildings are completed may be partly applicable to this important object. But I am to desire that immediately on your arrival you do state the necessity of making some Establishment for the Religious Education of the Inhabitants and that you do consult the principal Inhabitants and particularly Mr. Marsden on the best plan to be adopted and transmit to me their sentiments in conjunction with your own.

As considerable difficulty may occur in finding proper Persons within the Colony capable of instructing the Children of the Settlers I have directed enquiries to be made and shall hold out encouragement to a few correct and intelligent Persons to proceed to the Colony for this purpose.

In a Settlement, where the irregular and immoral habits of the Parents are likely to leave their Children in a state peculiarly exposed to suffer from similar vices, you will feel the peculiar necessity that the Government should interfere in behalf of the rising generation and by the exertion of authority as well as of encouragement, endeavour to educate them in religious as well as industrious habits—it is reasonable that the more wealthy Inhabitants should bear the charge of educating their own Children; but it is His Majesty’s gracious Direction that the Expence,
indispensably required to give effect to this interesting object, should not be withheld from the Public Funds and you are authorized to make such advances upon this account as you may deem requisite to afford the means of education to the Children of the Colony.

I have, &c,

CASTLEREAGH.

CAPTAIN KING TO THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WINDHAM.

(Despatch per ship Britannia.)

Sir, Sydney, New South Wales, 18th August, 1806.

I have the honor to enclose a Letter from Lieutenant Governor Paterson to my Lord Castlereagh, dated 12th August last—referring to one to Earl Camden, dated November 14th, 1805.

As those Letters with my former Communications on that Subject have been transmitted, I shall not trespass further on Your time than by referring to those documents, And such further Information as may be required of me on my return to England.

I have, &c,

PHILIP GIDLEY KING.

[Enclosure.]

[A copy of this letter will be found in volume I, series III.]

GOVERNOR BLIGH TO THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WINDHAM.

(Despatch No. 1, per ship Britannia; acknowledged by Viscount Castlereagh, 31st December, 1807.)

Government House, Sydney,

Sir, New South Wales, 26th August, 1806.

The opportunity by which I now have the honor to write to you will only allow me to state generally my arrival here, and entering into the Government of the Colony; perhaps my enlarged details will arrive as soon as this by the Ships which are to follow, and I shall have more due time to make my dispatches of the consequence which circumstances at this time render them.

I arrived on the 6th Instant, in the Sinclair, Transport, with His Majesty's Ship Porpoise, after a stormy passage of fifty-one days from the Cape of Good Hope, from whence I wrote the necessary information attending the Voyage that far.

The necessary arrangements would have been finally closed with Governor King, but I am concerned to say a severe illness of the Gout has delayed it, which, however, I hope will not be of
long duration, and that he will be able to sail in the Buffalo, the Ship he Commands, in the course of a Month, it being his anxious desire to do so. He will be particularly able to describe the state of this Colony, which at present I lament in representing is in considerable want of Grain from the overflowing of the Hawkesbury. This Evil I shall endeavour to provide against in future, if I find it practicable to put my Plans into execution to prevent so heavy a calamity as loss of Property and Food.

Governor King informs me his dispatches will before this have acquainted you of the misfortune, which unhappily I cannot immediately relieve.

A great want of Grain for Seed also pervades the Settlement, to remedy which my only hope is a supply from Norfolk Island, whither I shall send a Colonial Vessel without delay.

In addition to this misfortune, the Vessels that have arrived here came short victualled under expectations of plentiful supplies; so that I take the Government labouring under distress and embarrassment, but which I trust and hope will in part be removed by the ensuing Crops. It will, nevertheless, be some Years before the Individuals can realize their property again with all the assistance I may be able to give them; while I feel confident in due time to be able to restore it, and place them in greater opulence and comfort.

The Sydney, an East India Ship, was sent from hence to Calcutta to procure a Supply of Rice, the 14th April last, but it is feared she will not return until January next.

This circumstance will increase the expence of the Colony, and I am to observe also that it will be still increased by putting the Public Stores and Buildings into repair, without which they will become of no use.

The Wheat and Barley which has been sent out in the Sinclair will not grow, so that the intentions of Government in giving a supply of Seed is of no effect.

I find also that the Grain sent out in the Pitt was in the same state; and I recommend, instead of packing it in Casks, it should be put in Bags, stowed in an airy part of the Ship, and frequently aired.

Had I known what had been ordered out in the Sinclair, the Grain should have been landed in good order.

The Fortune and Alexander have landed their Convicts in good Health, and the former sailed for Bengal, the 19th Instant.

I beg leave to inclose the Sydney Gazettes, and I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, &c.

WM. BLIGH.
GOVERNOR BLIGH TO THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WINDHAM.

(Despatch No. 2, per ship Britannia; acknowledged by Viscount Castlereagh, 31st December, 1807.)

Sir, Sydney, New South Wales, 26th August, 1806.

On the 20th Instant Captain Short, Commander of His Majesty's Ship Porpoise, presented to me a Letter, dated 8th July, 1805, from Mr. Cooke, stating the intentions of My Lord Camden, giving me directions to locate to him Six hundred Acres of Land.

Mr. Townson, late a Captain in the New South Wales Corps, and a respectable Gentleman, and who has come out with means to do so, has presented me with a similar document for One Thousand Acres. As I am under uncertainty how to proceed, as Governor King nor myself have received any authority according to the tenor of Mr. Cooke's Letter, I beg leave to request instructions on the subject.

I have, &c,
WM. BLIGH.

GOVERNOR BLIGH TO SECRETARY MARSDEN.

(Per ship Britannia.)

His Majesty's Ship Porpoise,

Sir, Sydney Cove, New South Wales, 26th August, 1806.

I have the honor to acquaint you for the information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that I arrived here on the 6th Instant, and found His Majesty's Ship Buffalo fitting out to receive Governor King who will proceed to England in her in the course of a Month. The opportunity I now have is an uncertain one, which with my recent arrival to take the Command of the Colony makes it necessary to defer my regular dispatches until the Buffalo sails. From the Cape of Good Hope I sent accounts of my proceedings, from whence we sailed on the 17th of June, and performed this passage in fifty one Days.

The Stores sent out in the Porpoise for the Buffalo and Clothing for the New South Wales Corps have received great injury for want of being properly stowed and aired during the fine weather, and the loss is severely felt. Captain Short has informed me he had no Charge of them, but I nevertheless ordered a Survey thereon, the report of which I beg leave to inclose, and to refer their Lordships to my former dispatches respecting Captain Short's behaviour to me, and requesting he might be superceded from under my Command.

I have, &c,
WM. BLIGH.
HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA.

[Enclosure.]

SURVEY OF STORES ON H.M.S. PORPOISE.

By William Bligh, Esqr., etc., etc.

You are hereby required and directed to proceed on board His Majesty’s Ship Porpoise, and there take a strict and careful Survey of Stores which have been sent out to His Majesty’s Ship Buffalo and this Colony reporting to me such as are damaged, the state they are in, and the cause of such defects.

Given, etc., this 18th day of August, 1806, in Sydney Cove, Port Jackson.

WM. BLIGH.

Captain Houstoun
Mr. Jno. Oxley, Lieutenant of H. M. Ship Buffalo.
None Master
Mr. Willm. Jackson, Boatswain
Mr. Jackson, Master of the Ship Sinclair
Mr. Moore, Master Builder.

Attested: RD. ATKINS, J.-A.

PURSUANT to an Order from Captain William Bligh, Esqr., etc., etc.

We whose names are undersigned have taken a strict and careful Survey on the Stores brought out by that Ship for the use of His Majesty’s Ship Buffalo and do find as follows Vizt.

Cables of 1 ¼ Inch, four in No. Rotten and decayed in many places but may be converted to make Rope etc. Hawser of Eight Inch, One in No., cut entirely through by an Iron bound Cask being stowed in the heart of the Tier, besides being decayed in various places—Rope 3 Inch One Coil partly damaged. Rope 2. Do. Do. Do. 1 ½ Inch One Coil entirely rotten and decayed 2 ¾ Inch two Coils entirely rotten and decayed, One Coil of 1 Inch entirely rotten and decayed, One Case No. 11 containing one Bolt of No. 4 Canvass entirely destroyed, Twenty-three Yards of Red Fearnought, White Fearnought 60 Yards, some fit for use the other entirely rotten and decayed, Hammocks 12 in No. damaged but repairable, Foresails Two in No. decayed but repairable, Fore Topsails One in No. rotten and decayed and unfit for its proper Service.

Mainsail One in No. damaged but repairable
Fore Staysail One Do. Do. Do.
Main Topmast Staysail Do. Do. Do.

Marine Cloathing, Eleven Jackets, four pair of Breeches, One Waistcoat, Eight Pair of Stockings, Twenty four Shirts, 12 Haversacks, entirely rotten and destroyed, and we are of opinion
that the above Stores have been damaged and destroyed, from the above damp of the Ship and from the Hatches being Caulked down and not being aired since they were originally stowed at Deptford—and we farther declare that we have taken this Survey with such Care and Equity that we are ready if required to make Oath to the impartiality of our proceedings.

Given under our hands on board His Majesty’s Ship Porpoise in Sydney Cove, Port Jackson, this 19th day of August, 1806.

J. HOUSTOUN, 2nd Commander
J. OXLEY, Lieutenant
WM. JACKSON, Boatswain
J. H. JACKSON, Master of the Ship Sinclair.
THOS. MOORE, Master Builder.

Attested: RD. ATKINS, J.-A.

CAPTAIN KING TO THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WINDHAM.

(Per ship Richard and Mary.)

Sir, Sydney, New South Wales, 6th September, 1806.

With this I have the honor to transmit Duplicates of my late Dispatches, dated as p. Margin,* and those which I had written previous to Governor Bligh’s Arrival, when I had the honor to receive My Lord Castlereagh’s Dispatches, dated as per Margin.† Immediately on their receipt, I directed the Harrington to be liberated, and the Bonds given by the Commander, &c., were given up. For the proceedings which took place prior to my receiving that dispatch, and on hearing that War had taken place between England and Spain, I respectfully request Your reference to the accompanying Duplicate, dated 26th July, 1806.

Should the great Multiplicity of perhaps more important public Affairs have prevented your being informed of my Conduct and the Motives by which I have been guided in administering the Government of this Colony, you will readily conceive the great Satisfaction I experienced on receiving my Lord Castlereagh’s dispatch, dated 20th Nov’r last, which contained such an honourable and gratifying testimonial of the Royal Approbation of my Conduct in the Arduous task I have had to perform.

Agreeable to His Majesty’s Commands, I am possessing Governor Bligh of every Document and Circumstance which may tend to the future Welfare of these remote parts of His Majesty’s Dominions.

* 5th April, 1806; 30th June; 26th July. † 20th Nov’r.; 21st Novr., 1805.
Having given the Government up to Governor Bligh on the 13th ulto. with every Mark of respect and Ceremony due to his Situation, I propose sailing for England in His Majesty's Ship Buffalo between the 28th instant and 5th October and hope to arrive in England about the latter end of April.*

I have, &c.,

PHILIP GIDLEY KING.

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CAPTAIN KING TO SECRETARY MARSDEN.
(Per ship Richard and Mary.)

Sir,

Sydney, New South Wales, 6th September, 1806.

Although it is possible I may arrive in England as soon, or a Short time, after this Letter may reach You, Yet I consider it my Duty to acknowledge the receipt of their Lordships' directions, dated 15th Nov'r, 1805, requiring me, as soon as I was relieved in the Government by Captain Bligh, to repair, without loss of Time, with His Majesty's Ship Buffalo, to Spithead, to await their Lordships' further Orders.

Captain Bligh arrived here the 7th of August, and on the 13th of that Month I gave the Government up to him, with every mark of Respect and Ceremony due to his Situation. I intend to sail between the 28th instant and 5th October, And shall attempt the Western Passage, through Bass's Straits, in which case I propose touching at the Cape of Good Hope; But should the prevalence of the Westerly or South-West Winds oblige me to make the passage by Cape Horn, it is my intention to touch at St. Catherine's or Rio de Janeiro.

I have, &c.,

PHILIP GIDLEY KING.

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THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WINDHAM TO GOVERNOR BLIGH.
(Despatch per ship Brothers; acknowledged by Governor Bligh, 31st October, 1807.)

Sir,

Downing Street, 18 Sepr., 1806.

Mrs. Chapman, a Widow Lady, having applied to me for Permission to proceed to New South Wales with a View of establishing herself there as a Governess and Teacher, I have given the necessary Directions for her being provided with a Passage to Port Jackson on board of one of the Ships taken up by the Transport Board for the Conveyance of Convicts and Stores.

As there can be no doubt but that Benefit may accrue to the Settlement from the Residence of a respectable Person of Mrs. Chapman's Description, it is highly proper that She should

* Note 5.
receive suitable Encouragement, and I am to desire that you will have a Grant of Land consisting of fifty Acres, situated as conveniently as circumstances will permit, to be made out in her Name with the usual Reservations, and that you will allow to Mrs. Chapman the Assistance of one Female Convict, who is to continue to be clothed and victualled from the Public Stores until such Time as Mrs. Chapman shall be in Circumstances to enable her to dispense with such Indulgence; you will in all other Respects afford her due Encouragement and Assistance in establishing herself in the Settlement. I have, &c.,

W. WINDHAM.

SIR GEORGE SHEE TO GOVERNOR BLIGH.

(Per ship Brothers; acknowledged by Governor Bligh, 31st October, 1807.)

Sir,

Downing Street, 6th Octr., 1806.

Mr. Blaxland has undertaken at Mr. Windham's desire to give a Passage to two Otaheite Boys, whom it has been judged proper to send back to their Native Country, and Mr. Windham has directed me to desire that you will reimburse all reasonable expenses incurred by Mr. Blaxland on their Account. Mr. Windham also directs me to recommend the Boys to your Care and Protection until you may have an Opportunity of forwarding them to Otaheite; and he requests you will send them there under the Care of some proper Person as soon as you conveniently can.

I have, &c.,

GEO. SHEE.

CAPTAIN KING TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE NAVY.

(Per ship Alexander.)

His Majesty’s Ship Buffalo,

Gentlemen, Port Jackson, 1st Novr., 1806.

I have received Your Letter of the 7th December, 1805, And can by no Means Account for Your not having then received the Vouchers for Naval Stores purchased for the use of H. M. Ship Buffalo on the 13th September, 1804, As it appears from my Entry that one was put up and two only remaining. I have considered it necessary to forward one of them, And have to request that You will please to give directions for the imprest standing against me on that Account to be taken off. I have also the honor to transmit you an Account Current for the different Sums drawn by me on Your Board between the 13th day of March 1803 and the present date with attested Vouchers for each transaction.
1806.
1 Nov.

The Boatswain and other people are made acquainted with
the Stoppage against their Wages for the Overpay they received
for extra Work on the 25th September 1804.

I have, &c.,
PHILIP GIDLEY KING.

[Enclosures.]
[Copies of the account and vouchers are not available.]

GOVERNOR BLIGH TO THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WINDHAM.
(Despatch marked “General No. 3,” per ship Alexander; acknowledged by Viscount Castlereagh, 31st December, 1807.)

5 Nov.
Sir, Sydney, New South Wales, 5th November, 1806.

By Ships* which sailed on the 26th August and 7th September, I had the honor to inform you of my arrival and taking the
Command of this Colony. Since that time I have been arduously
employed in visiting the different parts of it, and endeavouring to
possess myself of a general knowledge both of its state and the
immediate things to be done for its advantage, concerning which
my constant attention for some time longer will be required to
mature the plans which may be adopted.

Under such a necessary mode of beginning, I trust, Sir, you
will see that my resting the information of the state of the
Colony to Governor King’s Despatches made up to the time of
my arrival is proper, except any observations on my part which
tend to shew what has been done since or changes taken place.

The distresses occasioned by the Inundation of the Hawkesbury
River has required great attention to relieve the wants of the
unfortunate Settlers in that part of the Country, and the losses
they sustained powerfully effecting the other parts of the Colony,
very extensive aid in Provisions has been necessary to be given
the poor generally.

In the midst of those difficulties, great exertions have been
necessary to the preservation of the ensuing Harvest of Wheat
and Barley, and planting Maize Corn to secure Seed, for which
I have adopted every means, and have every hope that we shall
do well, although the ensuing Crop will not be very abundant;
but here I must express my confidence that the Calamity will
make the grower of Corn more cautious, and set a juster value
on the produce of his Land.

The Harvest will soon begin; some Barley will be cut in the
course of a Week if the Weather turns fine, but at present it is
unseasonable. The Gardens are now giving Supplies of Potatoes,
and, as I demanded personally the exertions of every one to this
culture, I have the satisfaction to know we have so succeeded that

* Note 6.
in the course of a Month I shall be able to reduce our expences of victualling from the Public Stores, and the Settlers in general convinced they must depend more on themselves than they have done hitherto.

Government Farm, at Castle Hill, has at present One Hundred and Fifty Acres of Wheat; but it has been so much worn out the returns will be but small; in Maize we shall be productive, and particularly in the later Crops, the Worm having done some injury in the beginning of the season.

When the Wheat comes in, we shall be prepared to receive it securely, to which end such Artificers as we have here have been employed repairing the Granaries and finishing a New Wind Mill.

The Public Stores and Government Houses require great repairs, and building the church here, and what will be required at Parramatta, will considerably add to the expences of the first Year or two of my Government; nevertheless, the aggregate will, I trust, be found moderate.

In the customs and manners of the people here a great deal is to be corrected. The Settlers in general, and particularly those from Prisoners, are not honest, have no prudence, and little industry, besides being burthened with debts; great chicanery is used in all their dealings, and much litigation. All this will require a vast deal of attention on my part to remove, to which end the rising generation shall be watched over and educated, while the pernicious customs of the place shall be checked by every means in my power.

To the general expences which the Colony bears will be observed as soon as I can have time to ascertain them the very great proportion of Old and Infirm Persons who do no work for Government; and I take the liberty to make this observation on account of the selections of Prisoners which appear to have been sent out from England.

By my Letter A accompanying this Despatch you will observe, Bills drawn. Sir, I have been under the necessity to direct the Commissary to draw two Sets of Bills on His Majesty's Treasury, the one for Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds was occasioned by Governor King's sending a Ship called the Sophia to Port Dalrymple which did not return in his time; and the other for a Supply of Spirits for His Majesty's Colonial Vessels.

Demands also are made for Supplies of Stores and Provisions for the Year 1807, supposing those made in 1805 to be on their way, and to these are annexed the Remains of Stores up to the 12th August last; and that of Provisions on the 1st Instant.

The Demand for Stationery is likewise absolutely necessary being in great want thereof.
Governor King, who has suffered much ill health and has but little intermission from the Gout, expects to sail the latter end of this Month, by whom I shall have the honor of again writing to you.

This conveyance will take the *Gazettes* from the 31st August last to the 2nd Instant; the others of prior date were sent with my former Despatches.

I have, &c.,

WM. BLIGH.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

List of Articles to be sent for Barter with the Inhabitants of New South Wales for the year 1807.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Port Wine</td>
<td>20 Pipes</td>
<td>Iron Pots 1 to 4 Galls</td>
<td>300 No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow Soap</td>
<td>10,000 lbs</td>
<td>Saucepans</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hops</td>
<td>10 packets</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Paint</td>
<td>2,000 lbs</td>
<td>Weights from ½ to 2½ lbs.</td>
<td>20 Sets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>300 Gns.</td>
<td>Fish Hooks as per Drawing</td>
<td>100 Gross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paint Oil</td>
<td>1 Gross</td>
<td>Sheet Lead</td>
<td>2 Rolls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paint Brushes in Sorts</td>
<td>1 Gross</td>
<td>Solder for do</td>
<td>200 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoe Brushes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Iron assorted</td>
<td>6 Tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Window Glass</td>
<td>2000 feet</td>
<td>Scissors</td>
<td>200 Pcs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>do 10½</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>do 10/6</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>do 8½</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper Bell Wire</td>
<td>200 lbs.</td>
<td>Locks Drawer</td>
<td>50 No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earthen Ware sorted</td>
<td>10 Cases</td>
<td>Stock—sorted</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nails 6d</td>
<td>100,000 No.</td>
<td>Pad</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 8</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 10</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 12</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 18</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 20</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 24</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 30</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 40</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hair Sieves Sizes</td>
<td>24 No.</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wire Sieves Sets for Wheat</td>
<td>40 Sets.</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flour packed in light Cases</td>
<td>500 No.</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hats fine</td>
<td>200 lbs.</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton Wick</td>
<td>200 No.</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West India Hoes broad</td>
<td>24 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scythe Blades</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sickles</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spades with Handles</td>
<td>24 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saws, Pit</td>
<td>24 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Cross Cut</td>
<td>24 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Hand</td>
<td>24 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Files—Pit, Cross and Hand Saws</td>
<td>1000  &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>do sorted</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tin double</td>
<td>6 Cases</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; &quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N.B.—It is necessary that the Articles supplied are of good quality or they will not be purchased.

Approved—WM. BLIGH.  

JOHN PALMER, Commiss’y.

[Additional Enclosures.]

[Copies of these are not available.]
GOVERNOR BLIGH TO THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WINDHAM.

(Despatch No. 4 and A, per ship Alexander; acknowledged by Viscount Castlereagh, 31st December, 1807.)

Sir, Sydney, New South Wales, 5th November, 1806.

Referring to Governor King’s separate Letter A, dated 12th August, 1806, which goes with this Despatch, I have the honor to acquaint you that I have given the Commissary directions to pay the Owner of the Sophia the Sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Pounds Sterling being the agreed Sum for that Vessel’s Service in carrying People, Provisions and Stores from hence to Port Dalrymple as stated in the above mentioned Letter.

And as a proportion of Spirits here is requisite to issue as a Ration to His Majesty’s Colonial Vessels, I directed Five Hundred and Seventy Seven Gallons to be purchased for that purpose, for the payment of which I ordered the Commissary to draw Two Sets of Bills of Exchange on His Majesty’s Treasury and have the honor to inclose Vouchers for those Services which I hope will be approved of.

I have, &c,

WM. BLIGH.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

VOUCHER FOR THE FREIGHT OF THE SHIP SOPHIA.

Sydney, New South Wales.

Received this 13th day of Sept. 1806 of John Palmer Commissary of Stores and Provisions one Set of Bills of Exchange on the Right Honorable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty’s Treasury at Ninety Days sight in my favor for the Sum of Two Hundred and fifty Pounds Sterling being payment of Freight of the Ship Sophia to Port Dalrymple and from thence to this place.

For which I have Signed five Receipts of this tenor and Date.

ROB. CAMPBELL.

I do hereby Certify that the above sum was paid by my order.

WM. BLIGH.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

VOUCHER FOR THE PURCHASE OF SPIRITS.

Sydney, New South Wales, 13 Sept., 1806.

John Palmer Esqr. Commissary to His Majesty’s Territory of New South Wales.

To Messrs. Campbell and Co.

To 577 Gallons Spirits @ 9/- pr. Gall. ...... £259 13 0

Received this Thirteenth Day of Septr. One thousand Eight Hundred and Six of John Palmer Esqr. Commissary One Set of Bills of Exchange On the Right Honorable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty’s Treasury at Ninety Days sight for
1806.
5 Nov.
Voucher for the purchase of spirits.

the Sum of Two Hundred and Fifty Nine Pounds thirteen Shillings Sterling being payment for the above Spirits.
For which I have signed five Receipts of this tenor and date.

CAMPBELL AND CO.

We the undersigned do hereby Certify that the above purchase has been made on the Most Moderate terms.

RD. ATKINS, J.-A.
THOS. JAMISON, J.P.

I do hereby Certify that the above was purchased by John Palmer Esqr. Commissary Agreeable to my Order.

WM. BLIGH.

GOVERNOR BLIGH TO THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WINDHAM.
(Despatch No. 5, per ship Alexander; acknowledged by Viscount Castlereagh, 31st December, 1807.)

Sir,
Sydney, New South Wales, 5th November, 1806.

I beg leave to inclose the Gazettes of this place from the 31st August 1806 to the 2nd November following those from the 10th August being sent by the Britannia. I have, &c.,

WM. BLIGH.

GOVERNOR BLIGH TO THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WINDHAM.
(Despatch No. 6, per ship Alexander; acknowledged by Viscount Castlereagh, 31st December, 1807.)

Sir,
Sydney, New South Wales, 5th November, 1806.

In my former Despatches I had to mention that Captain Short of His Majesty’s Ship Porpoise and Captain Townson late of the New South Wales Corps had presented to me Letters from Mr. Secretary Cooke that it was the intentions of my Lord Camden to give them Grants of Land, since which Mr. G. Bunker, Master of the Elizabeth South Whaler, has presented me a similar Letter on his part, and in consequence thereof although I consider myself not authorised to comply fully until I receive authority so to do, I have directed the respective Persons to look out for such quantities of Land for farther approval, but not otherwise to be retained in their possession.
I have, &c.,

WM. BLIGH.

GOVERNOR BLIGH TO THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WINDHAM.
(Despatch per ship Alexander; acknowledged by Viscount Castlereagh, 31st December, 1807.)

Sir,
5th November, 1806.

I have the honor to transmit the Monthly Returns of the New South Wales Corps from the 1st September, 1806, to the 1st November following.

I have, &c.,

WM. BLIGH.
[Enclosure.]

MONTHLY RETURN of His Majesty's New South Wales Corps, commanded by Colonel Francis Grose, Sydney, 1st November, 1806.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Companies</th>
<th>Officers present.</th>
<th>Effective rank and file.</th>
<th>Wanting to complete.</th>
<th>Alterations since last Return.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Commissioned.</td>
<td>Staff.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonel Grose's</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieut-Col. Paterson's</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Foveaux's</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain Johnston's</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Abbott's</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Wilson's</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Savory's</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Grosser's</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N.B.—Three Serjeants one Drummer and Forty Six Rank and File Supernum'y doing duty with the Reg. not included.
# General Return of His Majesty's New South Wales Corps, 1st November, 1806.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Absent Officers' names and ranks</th>
<th>From what time</th>
<th>By whose leave</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colonel Gross</td>
<td>15th Decembr 1794</td>
<td>His Majesty's.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Foveaux</td>
<td>Not joined</td>
<td>Resignation given in; Commanding Officer's leave of Absence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain Savory</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>Commanding Officer's leave of absence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant Bayly</td>
<td></td>
<td>Resignation given in; Commanding Officer's leave of Absence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensign Cressy</td>
<td>25th April, 1805</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lieutenant Anderson</td>
<td>25th May, 1806</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of Officers present</th>
<th>Names and rank of officers on duty, and what duty</th>
<th>Vacant officers, and by what means</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lt Colonel Paterson.</td>
<td>Captain Kemp, Port Dalrymple.</td>
<td>Lieut't Davies, dead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captain Johnston.</td>
<td>Lieut't Moore, do</td>
<td>Assistant Surgeon Roberts, dead.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Wilson (Resignation given in and on leave of absence till His Majesty's pleasure is known).</td>
<td>Lieut't Laycock, do</td>
<td>Ensigns Barrallier and Wilson, Promoted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensign Lawson.</td>
<td>Ensign Piper, do</td>
<td>Serjeants on Command, 11.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Laycock.</td>
<td>Captain Abbott, at Parramatta.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pay Master Cox (suspended).</td>
<td>Lieut't Brabyn do</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qr. Master Laycock, in Arrest under Sentence of a General Court Martial.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgeon Harris.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asst Surgeon Smith Appointed by the Commanding Officer to act as Asst Surgeon till His Majesty's pleasure is known.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

W. Paterson, Lt.-Col., Commanding.
GOVERNOR BLIGH TO SECRETARY MARSDEN.

(Despatch per ship Alexander.)

Sir,

Sydney, New South Wales, 5th November, 1806.

His Majesty's Ship the Supply having been found unserviceable and cut down to a Hulk in the Harbour by Governor King's Order after a regular Survey, she continued so for the use of putting Casks and Lumber occasionally into her; but, becoming more rotten and leaky induced him to represent the same to me on my arrival, and that it would be necessary to break her up.

In consequence of this representation, and seeing the great risk of her sinking, I ordered a Survey, by the Report of which I have directed her to be broke up, and the Iron and Copper which may be taken off her to be delivered into Government Stores for the use of the Public Service, and accounts of the Issues to be kept by the Commissary and carried to the Credit of the Commissioners of His Majesty's Navy.

I beg leave to inclose Copies of Governor King's Letter; and the Order and Report of Survey.

I have, &c,

WM. BLIGH.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

GOVERNOR KING TO CAPTAIN BLIGH.

Sir,

Sydney, 12th August, 1806.

His Majesty's late Armed Vessel Supply, which was condemned by Survey in 1799, has been ever since at the King's Moorings in this Cove, and about three Years ago was cut down. From the very rotten State she is now in it is requisite to keep a Number of Men employed at least one day in the Week to keep her from sinking. As I had not a Sufficient Number of persons that I conceived properly qualified to Survey her so as to warrant my ordering her to be broke up, and the great inconvenience that will attend her sinking where she lays, I beg to suggest the propriety of her being surveyed, and if the Report meets Your Approbation I would recommend her being broke up, as the remaining Iron and Copper work about her will be very useful for the Government purposes in the Colony.

I have, &c.

PHILIP GIDLEY KING.

MR. THOMAS MOORE TO GOVERNOR BLIGH.

Sydney, 13th August, 1806.

I beg leave to acquaint your Excellency that H. M. Ship Supply, which was condemned in Ninety Seven, and since that Period
Survey of the hulk Supply.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

Order for the Survey of the Hulk Supply.

By William Bligh, Esquire, etc., etc.

WHEREAS the Supply Hulk lying at this place is represented to be rotten, irreparable, and in danger of sinking at her Moorings.

You are hereby required and directed to proceed with the Persons hereinafter named on board the said Hulk and taking a careful Survey of the same, report to me your opinion thereon.

Given, etc., this 4th Day of September, 1806.

Wm. Bligh.

To Joseph Short, Esq., 2nd Captain of His Majesty's Ship Porpoise; John Houston, Esqr., 2nd Commander of His Majesty's Ship Buffalo; Mr. Thomas Moore, Master Builder; Mr. Roger Best, Carpenter of H. M. Ship Buffalo; Mr. Benjn. Bannister, Carpenter of H. M. Ship Porpoise.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

[A copy of the report on the survey is not available.]

Governor Bligh to Secretary Marsden.

(Despatch per ship Alexander.)

Sir,

Sydney, New South Wales, 5th November, 1806.

I beg leave to inform my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that this conveyance, by a Ship called the Alexander for London, takes all the necessary documents relative to my situation in obedience to their Lordships' Commands, as likewise the circumstances which have taken place.

Governor King in His Majesty's Ship Buffalo will sail in the course of this Month, the extensive concerns of this Colony together with a want of Bread having detained him longer in settling than was expected.

The only Nautical occurrence is in the discovery of a Shoal* by the loss of the Britannia Whaler, Nathaniel Goodspeed Commander, a statement of which is inclosed.

The Colony has suffered materially in Grain by an Inundation of the River Hawkesbury as also the Settlers by loss of property. The present Harvest will however relieve their wants in that particular, and it is hoped that due precautions will prevent their again suffering a similar calamity. I have, &c.,

Wm. Bligh.

* Note 7.
PROTEST OF LATE SHIP BRITANNIA, NATHANIEL GOODSPREAD, MASTER.

By this public Instrument of Protest be it known unto all Men who shall see these presents that on the third day of October in the Year of Our Lord, One thousand, Eight hundred and Six before me, Richard Atkins Esquire, His Majesty's Judge Advocate and Notary public for the Territory of New South Wales and its Dependencies, Personally appeared Mr. Nathaniel Goodspeed, late Master of the Ship Britannia of London, William Dyer, Second Mate of the said Ship, John Douglas, Boat Steerer, and John Curtis, Boat Steerer, who being duly sworn on the holy Evangelists of Almighty God did solemnly deposite to be true the sundry Matters and things hereinafter mentioned in this Instrument of Protest viz.

That on August twenty-fourth, One Thousand Eight hundred and Six, at Noon, the Latitude by Observation was 30° 38' South, and the Longitude, by Lunar Observation at 3 P.M., was 156° 40' East, by Dead reckoning 157° 40' East; to the best of my recollection the course steered by Compass from Noon was west until 8 p.m., at the rate of four knots an hour. We then steered N.W., going nearly at the same rate until 2 A.M., when we discovered Breakers ahead, close to the Ship. We immediately put down the Helm, the Wind being nearly aft at the time; but, unfortunately, the Ship did not answer her helm quick enough to clear the said Breakers. Our Ship striking aft first, she fell round off, and was hove bodily on the said Breakers, which proved to be a Bed of Coral Rocks;* after Striking two or three times she broke her back, her Stern and bow dropping down and Midships hove up. The Sea was then breaking violently upon the Ship, so as rendered it impossible to have got her off, or even were it possible to have got her off, She would have immediately Sunk on account of the aforesaid Disaster. We were then under the Necessity of having recourse to our Boats to Save our lives; the first Boat we attempted to lower into the Water was unfortunately Stove by a Surge of the Sea, and the lives of the Crew was with difficulty Saved. We then had recourse to the others, And at two and half A.M. we were fortunate enough to get Safe from the Ship, clear of the Breakers, with two Boats, Nineteen Men being on board of them, myself included; there then remained on board the Wreck five Men, who could not get on board the Boats time enough before we were obliged to push from the Ship on Account of the Breakers; nor could we venture to approach the Ship again until daylight. The people on board lowered a rope from the Jib Boom end into the Water; we then

* Note 7.
vented under the Boom with one of our Boats, when the Second Mate and one of the Seamen were hauled on board, and with their Assistance the people on board were enabled to launch another Boat into the Water and get safe thro’ the Breakers with about forty pounds of Biscuit and ten Gallons of Water. The timbers of the Ship at that time were Sticking thro’ her Sides.

At low Water Saw a quarter of a Mile of dry Sand, but at high Water there was no part dry; the Shoal lay N.E. and S.W. Seven or Eight Miles, and about five or Six in breadth.

We left the Ship with three Boats, but four days after one of them, in a Gale of Wind, Separated from us, and has not been Since heard of. We were then Steering for New South Wales. On the 29th of August we made the Land, and on the 8th of September made New Castle, where we were treated with kindness, and on the thirteenth of September we happily arrived at Port Jackson.

And that against the aforesaid Wind, Weather Coral Rocks and subsequent loss of the said Ship they the aforesaid Deponents do most solemnly protest.

Sworn before me this 3rd day of October, 1806.
Notice of protest regularly entered. A true Copy.

R. ATKINS, J.-A. and N.P.

GOVERNOR BLIGH TO SECRETARY MARSDEN.

(Per ship Alexander.)

Sir,
Sydney, New South Wales, 5th November, 1806.

The Lady Nelson Brig having been employed as a Tender to His Majesty’s Ship Buffalo with a Lieutenant and fourteen Men and borne on her Books for Wages and Victuals pursuant to their Lordships’ orders to Governor King of the 4th March 1802, I have in consequence of Governor King’s representation to me directed the said Officer and Men to be turned over to His Majesty’s Ship Porpoise under my Command.

I herewith beg leave to inclose a Copy of their Lordships’ Order, dated 4th March, 1802, to bear the Lady Nelson’s Crew as Supernumeraries; a Copy of Governor King’s Letter, dated 3rd of September, 1806, requesting my order to discharge the Lady Nelson’s Crew to the Porpoise; a Copy of my Order to Governor King to discharge the said Crew, dated 4th September 1806; and a Copy of my Order to Captain Short to receive them of the same date.

I have, &c.,

WM. BLIGH.
[Enclosure No. 1.]

**ADMIRALTY WARRANT FOR THE CREW OF THE LADY NELSON.**

By the Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland etc.

Whereas we think fit that Fifteen Men shall be borne on a Supernumerary List for Wages and Victuals in the Ship you Command for the purpose of being lent to the Lady Nelson Tender when employed upon the Business of Surveying. You are hereby required and directed to bear the said Men on a Supernumerary List for Wages and Victuals accordingly and when she is employed in the abovementioned Service to deliver into the Charge of the Lieutenant whom you may appoint to Command her, the Stores and Provisions necessary on that Occasion who is to consider himself accountable for the same.

Given under our Hands, the 4th March, 1802.

T. TROWBRIDGE.
JAS. ADAMS.
J. MARKHAM.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

CAPTAIN KING TO GOVERNOR BLIGH.

Government House, Sydney,
Sir,

New South Wales, 3rd Sept., 1806.

Having by Order of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty dated 4th March, 1802, borne fourteen Men and one Lieutenant on the Books of His Majesty's Ship Buffalo under my Command as Supernumeraries for Wages and Victuals, for the purpose of being lent to the Lady Nelson Tender, I have to request your Order for their discharge into the Porpoise, under your Command, the said Tender devolving on you on my proceeding to England in His Majesty’s Ship Buffalo.

I have, &c.,

PHILIP GIDLEY KING.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

GOVERNOR BLIGH'S ORDERS RE CREW OF THE LADY NELSON.

By William Bligh, Esquire, etc., etc.

You are hereby required and directed to discharge from His Majesty’s Ship Buffalo, the Officer and Men which are borne by Admiralty Order, dated 4th March, 1802, on the Supernumerary List as the Lady Nelson’s Crew into His Majesty’s Ship Porpoise, taking care to comply with the Act of Parliament.

Given, etc., this 4th day of September, 1806.

Wm. Bligh.

To Philip Gidley King, Esquire.
1806.
5 Nov.
The Lady Nelson to be tender to the Porpoise.

8 Nov.
Causes of delay in King's departure.

Services of lieutenant Houston.

Services of John Oxley.

Services of William Kent.

HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA.

By William Bligh, Esquire, etc., etc.

You are hereby required and directed to receive from His Majesty's Ship Buffalo, The Lady Nelson as a Tender to His Majesty's Ship Porpoise, and to bear on your Books, as discharged from those of His Majesty's Ship Buffalo with proper Lists for Wages and Victuals, Lieutenant Symonds and fourteen Men as Supernumeraries belonging to the said Tender.

You will also direct the Warrant Officers to charge themselves with the Stores, and govern yourself always in Receipts and Expenditure for her use, according to the Rules of the Navy, observing the strictest Frugality.

Given, etc., this 4th day of September, 1806.

WM. BLIGH.

To Joseph Short, Esquire, 2nd Captain of His Majesty’s Ship Porpoise, Sydney Cove.

CAPTAIN KING TO SECRETARY MARSDEN.

Sir,

H. M. Ship Buffalo, Port Jackson, 8th Novr., 1806.

As settling the Colonial Accounts and arranging many public Objects to facilitate my Successors gaining a complete public Knowledge of the Trust he has undertaken and the necessity of waiting until some Supplies of Bread can be got from the coming Harvest I shall not be able to leave this place before the latter end of the Month.

Lieutenant Houstoun who has acted by my order as Second Commander of the Buffalo since Captain Kent was lent to the Investigator has been very active in the Command of the Ship on the different Voyages she has gone to Norfolk Island And the New Settlements And is a very Sober and assiduous good Officer.

Mr. John Oxley has acted as Lieutenant of the Buffalo since March 1805 on Lieut. B. Kent being lent to the Investigator. He is a very Active Sober and attentive young Man. As no opportunity offered of his passing his Examination for a Lieutenant until the Arrival of Capt. Bligh I have requested that Officer to give Mr. Oxley another Actg. Order after the date of his passing.

Mr. William Kent also passed at the same time, and has acted as Lieutenant of the Buffalo by my Order since Augt. 1805 on Acting Lieut. Robbins being lent to go to Valparaiso as stated in a former Letter. That Officer not being returned it is my intention to keep him open on the Books until the probability of his joining the Buffalo in those Seas is over, when I shall give Mr. Kent another Acting Order consequent on his passing his Accounts as Lieutenant of the Buffalo.
Mr. James Symons, having served as my Acting Lieutenant of the Lady Nelson and having conducted himself in the Command of that Vessel much to my Satisfaction. On his passing his Examination I have requested Captain Bligh to give him an Acting Order.

In stating the above Circumstances respecting those Officers I trust their Lordships will approve of my Motives in noticing those Gentlemen who have been so much out of that line of Service that might have brought them forward to their Lordships' Notice much sooner.  I have, &c,

PHILIP GIDLEY KING.

THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WINDHAM TO GOVERNOR BLIGH.
(Despatch per transport Duke of Portland; acknowledged by Governor Bligh, 31st October, 1807.)

Sir,      Downing Street, 6th Deer., 1806.

Mr. Bell, having been recommended to me in the strongest Recommendation by Persons of great Respectability, has received my permission to proceed to New South Wales as a Settler, and I take this Opportunity to recommend him and his Family to your Protection. You will direct a Grant of Five hundred Acres of Land to be made out in his Favor, subject to the usual Reservations; and you will afford him such Assistance of Convicts and Stores as he is entitled to expect and as can be spared consistently with other Claims: Mr. Bell takes out with him Property to the Amount of more than Five hundred Pounds.

I have, &c,

W. WINDHAM.

SIR GEORGE SHEE TO GOVERNOR BLIGH.
(Per transport Duke of Portland.)

Sir,      Downing Street, 8th Deer., 1806.

Since Mr. Secretary Windham's Letter to you of the 18th September last relative to Mrs. Chapman's Estab't in the Settlement under your Command was written, that Lady has married, and I have now to acquaint you that her Husband Mr. Marchant has received Mr. Windham's Permission to accompany her to Port Jackson.

I have, &c,

GEORGE SHEE.

GOVERNOR BLIGH TO SECRETARY MARS DEN.
(Despatch per H.M.S. Buffalo.)

Sir,      Sydney, New South Wales, 12th December, 1806.

I beg leave to inclose to You, for the information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, the proceedings of a
Court of Enquiry on the conduct of Joseph Short, Esquire, Commander of His Majesty's Ship Porpoise, and Lieutenant Tetley and Mr. Daniel Lye, Master, which I was under the necessity of ordering on account of the respective Charges in the Letters of representation which accompany the Minutes and verbal information I had received of Captain Short's severity. Annexed to these documents is my Order for a Survey on Mr. Lye's state of confinement, the Report of the Surgeons thereon, my Order to liberate Mr. Lye in consequence thereof, and Captain Short's Letters to obviate my Order.

I have, &c.,

WM. BLIGH.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

LIEUTENANT TETLEY TO GOVERNOR BLIGH.

His Majesty's Ship Porpoise,
Sydney Cove, Port Jackson,

Sir,
New South Wales, 15th November, 1806.

I am sorry to be under the Necessity of Writing You on so unpleasant an affair as that of making some Serious Complaints against Joseph Short, Esquire, Second Captain of His Majesty's Ship under Your Command, for having at different times appropriated the Ship's Stores to his own private use; that he has lent Men from the Ship to private persons on Shore, whereby the Service has materially suffered; The Articles of War were never but once read since the Ship was Commissioned, Nor any officer's Commissions ever read; The Boats' Crews have been kept up at different times most of the Night, either waiting for Captain Short or taking his Friends on Shore, And I have every reason to Suppose that, if an Opportunity offered, they would desert in Consequence; Since the Order of the 4th September respecting provisions he has had more than his Allowance; that he has at different times behaved to me in a cruel and oppressive Manner, and made use of the most unofficer-like language to me on the Quarter-Deck when in the Execution of my duty, and endeavoured to depreciate me in the Opinion of the Officers and Ship's Company; And I beg leave to say that, in Consequence of the ill-usage I have received from Captain Short, my peace of Mind is broke and my health much injured; That I have sufficient Witnesses (as per Margin*) to Substantiate the truth of my Assertions; And I hope you will, Sir, take Steps most conducive to the good of the Service.

I have, &c.,

J. S. TETLEY.

Sir,

Having a few days since waited on You with a Complaint against Captain Short, which You requested I would let You know by Letter, Captain Short having behaved in an unofficer-like and improper Manner to me and other Officers in the Ship, which has caused me to be very unhappy and uncomfortable for some time past, I therefore conceive it my Duty to point out to You the Unofficer-like Conduct of Capt'n Short, for which I have sufficient Witnesses, named per Margin,* to Substantiate the Charges which I shall bring against him. On the Ship's Arrival in False Bay, being late in the Afternoon, it falling nearly calm, We were obliged to come to Anchor about three Miles from Simon's Bay; at 7 o'Clock in the Evening the Harbour-Master came on board; when Capt'n Short came on Deck to receive him he was so much intoxicated that it was with great difficulty he could Stand, The Ship all this time being at an unsafe place at Anchor had it come on to blow from the N.E., but the light Airs of Wind prevented us getting to any other Anchorage that Night, and on the 13th of June Capt'n Short came off to the Ship so much intoxicated that without Assistance he could not get up the Ship's Side. I think it my duty also to point out that Capt'n Short has made a wasteful Expence of His Majesty's Stores in converting them to his own private use, Having likewise wanted the Gunner at the Cape of Good Hope to expend two of the Ship's Musquets, which the Gunner refused to do. The Articles of War have never been read since the Ship left England, which I think has been the Means of so many Punishments being inflicted in the Ship, owing to the People being ignorant of the Articles they are liable to fall under. Since the Ship has been in Port Jackson the Boats' Crews have been kept up almost every Night from 11, 12, and sometimes till 2 o'Clock in the Morning, when the Ship's Company is always turned out to whip the Chair up; And I am confident, if the Ship was in any other Port than this, the greatest part of the Ship's Company would have deserted. I hope, Sir, You will take those Charges into Consideration, And take such Steps as You think necessary for the good of His Majesty's Service to bring Capt'n Short to Justice, as it is impossible for the Officers of the Ship to live where such flagrant Abuses exist.

Attested: WM. BLIGH.

DAN'L LYE.

* Mr. Tetley, 1st Lieut't; Fran's Calver, Gunner; Wm. Hobbs, Boats'n; Benj'm Bannister, Cr.
1806.
12 Dec.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

**Daniel Lye to Governor Bligh.**

Sir,

H. M. Ship Porpoise, 9th December, 1806.

I beg leave to acquaint You that I have been close confined under an Arrest since the 28th of November and not even allowed to come out of my Cabin to my Meat, for Charges I am not yet acquainted with. I wrote to Capt. Short the 1st day of December, requesting to know the Charges for which I was so closely confined, but he has thought proper not yet to acquaint me with them. I wrote to the Surgeon the 2nd of December, finding myself unwell from the closeness of my Confinement, stating also to him the Small Size of my Cabin, from the Heat of the Climate, and the unpleasant Smells which comes from the next Cabin owing to a Woman and a family of Children being there, which the Officers of the Gun-Room can Witness, requesting him if I was not released from such close Confinement to enclose my Letter to You, of which there has been no further Notice taken of Since, nor has he come near me since to enquire if I was well or not. I hope, Sir, You will take my unpleasant State of confinement into Consideration, And take such Steps as You think proper, refering to my Letter of the 22nd of November, to crush such oppressive treatment.

I have, &c.,

Attested: Wm. Bligh.

DAN’L LYE.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

This Letter is wrong dated; as Mr. Murphy delivered it with 2 Order Books into my hands from the Ship by Capt’n Short’s Orders this Morning, 10th Dec. 1806, And might have been sent to me if written on the 1st having received Letters dated Subsequent to it from Capt’n Short.

W.B.

[Enclosure No. 5.]

**Captain Short to Governor Bligh.**

Sir,

His Majesty’s Ship Porpoise, 1st December, 1806.

I beg leave to acquaint You that on Friday, the 28th ultimo, I confined Mr. Lye, Acting-Master of this Ship for disobedience of my Orders. I have for a length of time had great reason of Complaint against him, both for disobedience of my Orders and treating me with Contempt. I have also to charge him, with Lieut. Tetley, of talking in presence of the Ship’s Company in language tending to make them discontented and to create Mutiny. I beg to lodge a Complaint against Lieut. Tetley for the above, together with other practices highly detrimental to His Majesty’s Service, and such as tended to create insubordination in His Majesty’s ship he was first Lieutenant of. I therefore Submit it to your Judgment the Steps to be taken;
But assure you that it is highly requisite for the discipline of the Ship that an Enquiry should be made; the reason I have not confined Lieutenant Tetley is my having no other Officer on board.*

I have enclosed the Order Books, which I hope will prove to You my Attention to the discipline of this Ship, as well as to your several Orders.

Attested: Wm. Bligh.

[Enclosure No. 5.]

GOVERNOR BLIGH TO CAPTAIN SHORT.

Sir, Government House, Sydney, 10th December, 1806.

On my Return from my Journey throughout the Settlement I received this Morning by the hands of Mr. Murphy, Midshipman of the Porpoise, Your Letter dated the 1st instant. I apprehend the date is wrong, as he had just received it from You, and a Letter Subsequent to it dated the 5th instant, which has been delivered to me by a Messenger in the Country.

I have to inform You likewise that on my Setting out on my Journey, Lieutenant Tetley wrote me a Letter complaining of you, And that Mr. Lye about the same time came with a Complaint to the same Effect, which I directed him to State in writing, but would not have any Conversation with him on the Subject, and since that he has written a Second Letter.

In Consequence, therefore, of these Circumstances and Your request, I have directed Captain King, Captain Houstoun, and Lieutenant Oxley to proceed on board the Porpoise and enquire into the Representations You have made, as likewise those of Lieutenant Tetley and Mr. Lye, with directions to report to me thereon.

I am, &c.,

WM. BLIGH.

The Enquiry will take place at ten o'Clock to-Morrow Morning.

Attested: WM. BLIGH.

[Enclosure No. 6.]

CAPTAIN SHORT TO GOVERNOR BLIGH.

His Majesty's Ship Porpoise,

Sir, Sydney Cove, 11th December, 1806.

In Answer to Yours of Yesterday's date I beg to acquaint You that there was no Mistake in the date of my Letter, As it was reported You was coming to Sydney daily I had it wrote to Send You on Your Arrival, as an Enquiry could not take place

*Marginal note.—John Bowman, Adam Brown, Wm. Harvey, when working in between the Heads. Mr. Harding, Mr. Oldrey, Mr. Basden, Mr. Pineo to prove the Speeches. Also their disobedience of my Orders. Also Mr. Tetley being drunk in his Watch, and Mr. Lye damning me, wishing the Boat to sink alongside.
until Your coming to this, I thought it sufficient time to acquaint You of my Complaint. As to Mr. Tetley’s and Mr. Lye’s Complaints against me I hope I have never given them just Ground for, Neither do I know what they are—But conscious of having done my duty as an officer will enable me with pleasure to meet the strictest Scrutiny into my Conduct.

I am, &c.,

Attested: Wm. Bligh.

JOSH. SHORT.

[Enclosure No. 7.]

WARRANT TO HOLD AN ENQUIRY ON H.M.S. PORPOISE.

By William Bligh, Esquire, etc., etc.

JOSEPH SHORT ESQUIRE, Commander of His Majesty’s Ship Porpoise under my Command, requesting an Enquiry into the Conduct of Lieutenant Tetley and Mr. Lye, Master, belonging to the said Ship, And these officers having in the first instance likewise made heavy Complaints against him their Said Commander, I therefore put You in Possession of their respective Letters requiring and directing You to proceed on board the said Ship taking with You to Your Assistance Captain John Houstoun and Lieutenant John Oxley of His Majesty’s Ship Buffalo and Enquire into the same, presenting to me a Statement, And Your Opinion thereon.

Given, etc., this 10th day of December, 1806.

WM. BLIGH.

To Philip Gidley King, Esq.,
Captain of His Majesty’s Ship Buffalo.
Attested: WM. BLIGH.

[Enclosure No. 8.]

ENQUIRY INTO THE COMPLAINTS OF CAPTAIN SHORT,
LIEUTENANT TETLEY AND DANIEL LYE.

Proceedings of PURSUANT to an Order from William Bligh, Esquire, principal Captain of H. M. Ship Porpoise, dated the 10th Decr., 1806, And to us directed.

In Compliance therewith we proceed to enquire into the respective Complaints exhibited by the 2d. Captain, 1st. Lieutenant and Master against each other.

MR. BASDEN, Purser of H.M. Ship Porpoise, called in to give testimony on the Charges alleged by Lieutenant Tetley against Captain Short, Commander of the Porpoise.

Q. 1, by Court.—Does it come within Your personal knowledge that Captain Short has at different times appropriated the Ship’s Stores to his own private use; If it does, relate the times and Circumstances?—A. It does not come within my knowledge that Captain Short has ever taken Stores out of the Ship for his own private Use.
Q. 2.—Has Captain Short ever appropriated any Provisions or Stores under Your Charge to his own private Use?—A. No more than he is entitled to.

Q. 3.—Does it come within Your knowledge that he has lent Men from the Ship to private persons on Shore whereby the Service has materially suffered?—A. I remember Captain Short directing Lieutenant Tetley to lend one of the Seamen to some person on Shore for a few hours, but I do not imagine the Service could suffer from it. I do not recollect the Seaman's Name, but believe the person he was lent to was Mr. Fitz. I do not know that the Man lent in consequence of that direction.

Q. 4.—How often has the Articles of War been read Since the Ship was commissioned, or since Your Appointment?—A. I have heard the Articles of War read by Captain Short to the Ship's Company, the hands being turned up for that purpose; reading the Articles of War took place when the Ship was in England, But cannot say whether it was more than once; does not remember their being read during the Voyage nor Since our Arrival in this Country, but that the Articles of War was read before punishment was inflicted relating to the Crime.

Q. 5.—Have You reason to believe that from the Boat's Crews being kept up at different times most of the Night, either waiting for Captain Short or taking his Friends on Shore, or any other oppressive Act of Captain Short, that the Boat's Crew or any other of the Ship's Company would in Consequence thereof desert if an Opportunity offered?—A. I have never known the Boat's Crews to be kept up past 12 o'Clock Except three or four times; Neither do I, to the best of my knowledge, believe that any would desert, or that Captain Short has ever treated the Ship's Company with Oppression.

Q. 6.—Has Captain Short received more than his Allowance of Provisions Since The Order, 4th September last?—A. Since that period Captain Short has not received more than his Allowance of provisions.

The Mess Book for October and November produced. It does not appear to us in the Article of Bread that he has exceeded his Allowance, And by the same Book he has drawn more than the Allowance of Beef; But Mr. Basden States that the Overplus of Beef is occasioned by more of that Article coming on board than will keep in this warm Climate; the Surplus has generally been divided between the Gun-room and the Cabin; the Mess Book for September being destroyed, No reference can be had to that Month; And he appears to have taken no Spirits whatever in the Months of October, November, and December. Mr. Basden also desires to state that upon balancing the Account, Captain Short will be found not to have exceeded his Allowance in any one Species.

Q. 7.—Relate every instance wherein Captain Short has behaved in a cruel and oppressive Manner to Lieutenant Tetley, using unofficer-like language to him on the Quarter Deck when in the Execution of his Duty, and endeavouring to depreciate him, Lieutenant Tetley, in the Opinion of the Officers and Ship's Company?—A. I never knew Captain Short behave to Lieutenant Tetley in an Oppressive or cruel Manner, And have never heard any unofficer-like language from Captain Short to him, And have never known Captain Short to depreciate Lieutenant Tetley in the Opinion of either Officers or Ship's Company, to the best of my knowledge.
Mr. Lye, Master of the Porpoise, called:—

Q. 1 being put.—A. I have heard of such things; but they do not come within my personal knowledge, except the circumstance of some green baize which he has seen the Taylor using for different purposes in Captain Short's cabin.

Q. 3 put.—A. At the Cape of Good Hope the Armourer was lent to a Mr. Rozelle for about a fortnight, and that the arms suffered materially during his absence for want of being cleaned; and at this place, during the time the ship was refitting, James Allen was lent from the ship to Mr. Fitz and Mr. Luttrell to work in their gardens; I think he was away for 16 days.

Q. 4 put.—A. I recollect their being read once in England, not once on the voyage, and once since the ship's arrival here, the 8th of the present month, by Lieutenant Tetley, in consequence of Captain Short's direction to him.

Q. 5 put.—A. I have known boats' crews to be kept up from 11 to 2 in the morning, and have overheard the people to murmur at being kept up, and from that circumstance think they would have deserted if they had been in a convenient port; and does not know of any oppressive act of Captain Short that would induce them to desert except the above, if it may be so termed.

Q. 6 put.—A. I cannot positively say he has.

Q. 7 put.—A. I remember hearing Captain Short saying to Lieutenant Tetley that he knew he kept an almanac against him, Lieutenant Tetley denying it. Captain Short said he despised him and his mean actions; but cannot recollect the date, but think it was about a month or two ago; at the time, the ship's company was clearing the long boat.

DAN'L LYE, Acting Master.

Mr. Calver, Gunner, called:—

Q. 1 put.—A. Not any of my stores, nor of any others to my knowledge.

Q. 2 answered by the above.

Q. 3 put.—A. I remember one man being lent—the Armourer—at the Cape of Good Hope, and corroborates the evidence of Mr. Lye as to that circumstance, and further states that having occasion to clean the navel bolts, for want of the Armourer to drive them out, was obliged to employ a soldier on that service, who broke the cheek of the carriage, which in his opinion has rendered the carronade unserviceable; and that he had pointed out to Captain Short the necessity of the Armourer being employed on that service, who said that any other person would do as well. With respect to James Allen being lent, corroborates Mr. Lye, but cannot recollect the time or to whom he was lent.

Q. 4 put.—A. I cannot recollect any other time than last Sunday, the 8th instant.

Q. 5 put.—A. I have heard some murmuring among the ship's company at being obliged to set up so late at the time the ship was fitting, but have no reason to think they would desert in consequence of it, altho' one of the boats crew has deserted since our arrival here, but I cannot state his reason.

Q. 6 put.—A. Evidence can give no opinion.

Q. 7 put.—A. I have heard altercations between them, but cannot speak as to the time or circumstance, and corroborates the evi-
dence of Mr. Lye with respect to Captain Short having said that Lieutenant Tetley kept an Almanac against him and the language made use of on that occasion.

Mr. Hobbs, boatswain, being called:—

Q. 1 put.—A. I recollect Captain Short appropriating about six yards of baize and canvas for dish stands; and on another occasion, the bolt of baize was sent for, and a quantity cut off to cover a desk; that he, the boatswain, was supplied with 20 yards of green baize, which was used by Captain Short for different purposes in his cabin, except what covered a sett of side ropes and chair slings, and side ropes for an accommodation ladder.

Q. 2 put, and answered by the 1st.
Q. 3 put.—A. At the Cape of Good Hope, the man I had appropriated to me for a yeoman was mostly ashore attending the washing, and corroborated the former evidence respecting James Allen being lent, as also the testimony of Mr. Lye and Mr. Calver, respecting the armourer being lent at the Cape of Good Hope.
Q. 4 put.—A. I do not recollect their having been read except last Sunday.

Q. What officers' commissions have you heard read?—A. I do not recollect any commissions being read but Captain Bligh's, which was read at sea; Captain Short's was also read at the same time.
Q. 5.—A. He corroborates Mr. Calver in that respect.
Q. 6 put.—A. But cannot recollect he has.
Q. 7 put.—A. Altercations so often happen between the captain and officers that he cannot charge his memory with anything particular.

Mr. Bannister, Carpenter, called:—

Q. 1 put.—A. I know of no other circumstance than Captain Short's appropriating about 100 feet of wainscot for the purpose of making shelves to contain books in the great cabin.
Q. 2.—A. Answered by the first.
Q. 3 put.—A. Not within my own knowledge.
Q. 4 put.—A. I never heard them read but on Sunday last.
Q. 5 put.—A. Not to my knowledge.
Q. 6 put.—A. But evidence cannot speak to it.
Q. 7 put.—A. Corroborates the former evidence of this charge.
Q. What officers' commissions have you heard read?—A. The same as Mr. Hobbs.

Mr. Harding called:—

Q. 1 put. —A. From my own personal knowledge I cannot say I do, but recollect the shelves in the great cabin being made out of the ship's stores.
Q. 2 put.—A. But cannot speak to it.
Q. 3 put.—A. He recollects a man being lent at the Cape of Good Hope (the armourer), but for what purpose he cannot say; also another man at this place, but cannot say to whom or for what reason.
Q. 4 put.—A. He cannot recollect how often except last Sunday.
Q. 5 put.—A. He has heard the ship's company murmur on that occasion, which he attributed to the short complement and boats' crew kept up, consequently the hard work occasioned thereby, but does not think it would cause them to desert.
Q. 6 put.—A. The Evidence cannot take upon himself to Answer.
Q. 7 put.—A. I have heard harsh language made use of by Captain Short to Lieutenant Tetley, but never particularly noticed the Expressions, as I always made a point of retiring when an Altercation took place between them.
Q.—What Officers’ Commissions have You heard read since You belonged to the Ship?—A. I have heard Captain Bligh’s Commission read as first Captain, and Capt’n Short’s Commission, or Order, as Second Captain—no others.
Q.—When did You join the Porpoise?—A. On the 7th of May, 1805.

F. L. HARDINGE.

JOHN SEYMOUR, the Armourer, called:—
Q. 3 put.—A. I understood I was lent to the Fiscull* at the Cape of Good Hope, where I remained for three or four days.

JNO. SEYMOUR.

CORP’L STEPHENS called:—
Q. 1 put.—A. I cannot say he ever did.
Q. 3 put.—A. Not to my knowledge.
Q. 4 put.—A. Three times—twice by Capt’n Short and once by Lieut. Tetley.
Q. 5 put.—A. They have been often kept up, but I cannot say they would desert.
Q. 7 put.—A. I do not know of any instance.
Q.—Have you ever heard any of the Officers’ Commissions read?—A. I have heard Capt’n Bligh’s and Capt’n Short’s and no others.

WM. STEPHENS.

JAMES ALLEN called:—
Q. 1 put.—A. I do not recollect.
Q. 3 put.—A. I have worked for Mr. Fitz, by his Order, for three weeks.
Q. 4 put.—A. I never recollect their being read but twice.
Q. 5 put.—A. Cannot say.
Q. 7 put.—A. He being below Cannot speak to this Charge.

JAMES X ALLEN.

WILLIAM HARVEY, Boatswain’s Mate, called:—
Q. 1 put.—A. I do not know of any.
Q. 3 put.—A. Corroborates the Circumstances as to Allen being lent.
Q. 4 put.—A. Cannot recollect, Except last Sunday, when they were read by Lieutenant Tetley.
Q. 5 put.—A. I cannot say they would desert.
Q. 7 put.—A. It does not come within my knowledge.

WM. HARVEY.


Mr. Daniel Lye, Master’s Letter, of the 22nd November, 1806, being read to the Court,—

LIEUTENANT TETLEY called:—
Q. 1.—Whether he ever saw Captain Short being so much intoxicated that it was with great difficulty he could stand when on the Quarter-Deck, and the Duty of the Ship going forward?—A. The Night he entered the outer part of Simon’s Bay, the Harbor-Master

* Note 8.
I acquainted Captain Short that he wished to know the particulars relative to the Ship’s Arrival at that place. Captain Short appeared drunk, and ridiculed the Officer, which the Harbour-Master expressed himself hurt at; that the Ship, at the time, was at Single Anchor—an unsafe Situation—and further States that on or about the 13th of June last Captain Short went out of the Ship in a State of intoxication.

Q. 2.—Does it come within Your knowledge that Captain Short has made a wasteful Expense of His Majesty’s Stores, and converted them to his own private use? — A. Yes. Shortly after our leaving Gravesend the Carpenter mentioned to me that there was no Wood on board to repair the Boats with, the Joiner, Corporal Stephens, having used the wood for furniture for Captain Short. At another time the Carpenter informed me that the Table I had lent from the Gun-room to the Midshipman’s berth, had been cut up by the Captain’s Order, to make a Writing desk for him. Two Cotts, and Canvas for two more Cotts designed for the passengers, was never appropriated to their use, altho’ applied for by them, But the Canvas made into a Cott for Captain Short. At the time we arrived at the Cape, I desired the Boatswain to get a pair of Side-ropes covered. He told me there was no Green Baize in the Ship. He had sent between 30 and 40 Yards into the Cabin to Captain Short, and had never received any back; That the Tailor had informed him it was made into Dish Stands and other uses for the Cabin. On Our passage between the Cape of Good Hope and Port Jackson, the Boatswain informed me that there were no log-lines in the Ship, and that for some time past he had been using Fishing lines for that purpose, and that he accounted for there being no log-lines by saying that Captain Short had used them for every trifling occasion, both in the Cabin and upon Deck. On the 28th day of April, 1806, It will appear by the Ship’s Log, that one of the Jolly-Boat’s Davits were carried away. No such thing took place, as it was in my particular watch that the Circumstance was mentioned, And that an Anchor-Stock had been cut up previous to this to repair the Boats in room of the Wainscots that had been used in the Cabin, And that Mr. Lye, the Master, informed me the Anchor-Stock had been expended to replace the Davits that were never carried away. He also says he heard Captain Short desire the Gunner to expend two Musquets as lost out of a Boat at the Cape of Good Hope, which the Gunner objected to, as no Musquets were lost at the time.

Q.—How often have You heard the Articles of War read Since You joined the Ship? — A. Once at Spithead, and once last Sunday; But whenever a Man was punished the Article under which he lay was always read.

Q.—Have the Boats’ Crews been kept up every Night from 11, 12, and sometimes 2 o’Clock in the Morning, when the Ship’s Company have been turned out to whip the Chair up? — A. It has frequently in this port happen’d till within the last fortnight.

Q.—Are You of Opinion that if the Ship was in any other Port than this, that the greater part of the Ship’s Company would desert thro’ that Cause? — A. One Man has already deserted since our Arrival, and another attempted to do so; that much murmuring has existed among the people, which leads me to suppose that might be the Case.

J. S. TETLEY.
MR. CALVER, the Gunner, called:—

Q. 1 put.—A. I saw him once at night when the Ship was in Symon's Bay, but no duty was going on at the time.

Q. 2 put.—A. He does not know of any wasteful Expenditure of stores, but recollects that Cap't Short asked him, after leaving the Cape of Good Hope, to expend two Musquets in a Boat that was swamped there, which he declined, as the Musquets were not lost.

MR. HOBBS, the Boatswain, called:—

Q. 1 put.—A. I have seen him two or three times intoxicated, but not so much so that he could not Stand; the only particular time was at the Cape of Good Hope, when he (Capt'n Short) was going on Shore to a Ball.

Q.—Did You ever tell Mr. Tetley that You have sent about 30 or 40 Yards of Green Baize into the Cabin, and had received none back?—A. I told him I had sent all the Green Baize I had, and rece'd none back.

Q.—Was the Canvas that was drawn for the Passengers' Cotts appropriated for that purpose?—A. As the passengers nor none of the Officers applied for them, I did not issue them; the Canvas is now on board, and remains on my Charge as Cotts.

Q.—Has Captain Short had any part of that Canvas for a Cott for his own Use?—A. No; the Canvas drawn for the Cotts being No. 3, And that made into a Cott for the Captain lately, No. 5.

Q.—Do you know of any wasteful Expenditure of the log-lines?—A. There has been a Number used for the Cabin; Several carried away, but not allowed to be expended by Capt'n Short.

MR. BANNISTER, Carpenter, called:—

Q. 1 put.—A. I have seen him at different times when he has appeared to me to be intoxicated, but cannot recollect any particular time.

Q.—Did You cut an Anchor Stock up on the passage to repair the Boats?—A. Yes.

Q.—What became of the plank You was supplied with for that purpose?—A. Used for making Scupper-Shoots, by the Captain's orders.

Q.—How did you expend the Anchor Stock?—A. Replacing one of the Quarter Davits.

Q.—To your knowledge, was that Quarter Davit carried away, or did you work the Anchor Stop up to replace it?—A. It was not carried away, but I was ordered by the Captain to expend it, with which I complied, not being better acquainted with the Service.

MR. PINEO called:—

Q.—Did Mr. Lye, since his Confinement, report to You his being unwell from the Closeness of his Confinement, the small Size of his Cabin, the heat of the Climate, and the unpleasant Smell of the next Cabin owing to a Woman and family of Children being there, by Letter?—A. He did. I visited him immediately in Consequence of it; and seeing his Cabin Door shut And Window leading into the Gun-room being also shut, I could not think he could suffer from a close Confinement, and there appear'd no Symptoms of ill-health.

O. PINEO.

Mr. Pimeo withdrawn.
The Sergeant of Marines, called and asked If any Orders were
given to the Centinels to prevent Mr. Lye’s Door and Window of his
Cabin being opened, who says that no Such Orders were given,
but that Captain Short the day after Mr. Lye being Con­fined, gave
directions that the door might be kept open.

JAS. PETTY, St. R. Ms.

Mr. pineo again called:—

Q.—Did Mr. Lye request You to forward the Letter he wrote to
You to Captain Bligh?—A. He did, which I communicated to Cap­tain
Short as my immediate Commanding Officer.

Q.—As Mr. Lye complained of being ill, Did You not conceive it
Your Duty to visit him since his first Complaint?—A. I do; but
from my Situation in the Gun-Room, and frequently hearing him
converse, I had no Apprehension of his being indisposed.

Q.—How long do You suppose Mr. Lye can remain in that close
State of Confinement without his Health being endangered?—A.
That will depend upon the State of the weather and other Circum­stances which I cannot foresee.

O. PINEO.

The Charge against Captain Short by Mr. Lye, the Master, being
ended, Captain Short is called and requested to State the Witnesses
he wishes to have brought forward in Support of the charges
alleged by him against Mr. Lye, the Master of the Porpoise, and
Lieutenant Tetley.

JOHN BOWMAN, Gunner’s Mate, called:—

Q. 1.—Do You know of Mr. Lye disobeying Captain Short’s Orders
at any time?—A. I was on the Quarter Deck on the 28th November
last assisting unfurling the Awning, and heard Captain Short order
Mr. Lye to go forward and order the Stream Cable to be boused
in, which Mr. Lye said he would do; But that as the people were all
employed there was no one forward to do it. Captain Short again
told him to go forward and see it done, to which Mr. Lye replied
that he would, but that the Awning was not furled. Captain Short
then ordered him to his Cabin.

Q. 2.—Do You know of no other instance of Mr. Lye’s disobeying
Captain Short’s Orders?—A. None; Except the Night we were work­ing
between the Heads, when I heard Captain Short desire Mr. Lye
to go forward and take his Great Coat off, and not to Set a bad
example to the Ship’s Company. Whether he complied I cannot
say, As my Attention was taken up in Steering the Ship.

Q. 3.—Did You ever see Mr. Lye treat Captain Short with Con­tempt?—A. Never.

Q. 4.—Did You ever hear Mr. Lye or Lieutenant Tetley talk in
the presence of the Ship’s Company in language tending to make
them discontented and to create Mutiny?—A. Never in my life;
quite the contrary.

Q. 5.—Do You know of any practices used by Lieutenant Tetley
tending to create insubordination in this Ship of which he is
first Lieutenant?—A. No.

Q. 6.—Have You ever seen Lieutenant Tetley intoxicated or
drunk in his Watch?—A. Never.
ADAM BROWN, Seaman, called:—

Q. 1 put.—A. I was on the Quarter-Deck when Captain Short ordered Mr. Lye to see the Slack of the Stream Cable taken in. Mr. Lye said he would go when the Awning was out of the way, and corroborates Bowman's Evidence on that Question.

Q. 2 put.—A. I know of none.
Q. —Can you speak to any disobedience of Orders when the Ship was working between the heads?—A. None.
Q. 3 put.—A. Never.
Q. 4 put.—A. Never.
Q. 5 put.—A. Never.
Q. 6 put.—A. No.

WM. HARVEY, Boatswain's Mate, called:—

Q. 1 put.—A. Corroborates the former Evidences.
Q. 2 put.—A. He knows of none.
Q. 3 put.—A. Not to my knowledge.
Q. 4 put.—A. No.
Q. 5 put.—A. No.
Q. 6 put.—A. No.

MR. HARDING called:—

Q. 1 put.—A. I know of none, But that some altercation took place.
Q. 2 put.—A. When working between the Heads, respecting the Captain's ordering Mr. Lye to take his great Coat off.
Q. 3 put.—A. Never.
Q. 4 put.—A. Positively never.
Q. 5 put.—A. I know of none.
Q. 6 put.—A. I have seen Mr. Tetley after dining in the Cabin, or with a party, gay, but never incapable of doing his Duty.

J. L. HARDINGE.

MR. OLDBY, called:—

Q. 1 put.—A. I do not, indeed, Except once when we were working between the Heads I heard Captain Short desire Mr. Lye to take off his Great Coat. It was in the Evening, and Mr. Lye replied he thought he might wear what Cloaths he thought proper; and I did not see him take it off.
Q. 3 put.—A. No.
Q. 4 put.—A. Never.
Q. 5 put.—A. Never.
Q. 6 put.—A. Never.

W. OLDBEY.

MR. BASDEN, Purser, called:—

Q. 1 put.—A. I remember one instance when the Ship was working between the Heads I heard Captain Short desire Mr. Lye to take off his Great Coat, which he did not do; And that he has gone on Shore since lying in this Harbour when left Commanding Officer, which was contrary to Capt'n Short's Order, which I believe is in the Order Book.
Q. 3 put.—A. I have heard Mr. Lye make use of replies to Capt'n Short which I have thought unbecoming an Officer to his superior, but cannot recollect the Circumstances.
Q. 4 put.—A. I have heard Lt. Tetley say before the Ship's Company it was a Shame the people should be kept up so late, and should not wonder if they were to desert.
Q. 5 put.—A. I know of none.
Q. 6 put.—A. I have—once.

Q. 7.—Was he incapable of doing his duty?—A. He was asleep on the After Gun on the Quarter-Deck.

Q.—Was there any other person on deck that Saw him in that State besides Yourself?—A. There was a petty Officer and the Man at the Wheel. I do not recollect the petty officer's Name, but the Name of the Man was John Woodhouse.

W. B. BASDEN.

MR. PINEO called:—

Q. 1 put.—A. No, I never did.

Q. 2 put.—A. As the first.

Q. 3 put.—A. I have seen him turn his Back when Capt'n Short has given him Orders, and Answer him in a very rough Manner, but cannot recollect any particular Circumstance.

Q. 4 put.—A. I have heard language from both of them which I have considered as being very improper, such as reflecting on the Mode of carrying on duty in the Ship; the Boats' Crews being kept up was enough to make Men run away; And particularly Mr. Lye saying that he wished the Boat would sink alongside; the best of his recollection, this language took place in the Gun-room, when it was reported the Captain was coming alongside. I have also heard Mr. Lye say if he had Capt'n Short in some other place he would retaliate or resent Injuries he had received, But cannot say whether this was in the Gun-Room or before the Ship's Company; and I have heard him damn Capt'n Short in the Gun-room.

Q. 5 put.—A. I do not recollect any but what is stated in my Answer to the 4th question.

Q. 6 put.—A. I have seen him intoxicated and asleep in his watch.

Q.—Was any other person present?—A. Mr. Basden, the purser, was present.

Q.—At what period of the Voyage was this?—A. On the passage from England to the Cape.

Q.—Had You and Mr. Basden had any Conversation on that Subject at the time You say he was drunk in his Watch?—A. We had. We expressed our sorrow at Seeing an Officer in that Situation.

Q.—From Your own Observation, do You consider Mr. Tetley addicted to getting drunk when at Sea?—A. I should not call him a Sober Man.

O. PINEO.

MR. BASDEN called in again:—

Q.—Was any of the Gentlemen of the Gun-Room on Deck at the time you observed Mr. Tetley to be drunk?—A. Not at the time I was, to the best of my knowledge; And I was not on deck myself more than ten Minutes.

Q.—Can You take it upon yourself to say that Mr. Pinoe was not present with You, and that You did not converse together upon the Impropriety of an Officer being in that Situation?—A. I do not remember, not having taken an Account, and so long a time having elapsed.

W. B. BASDEN, purser.

JOHN WOODHOUSE called:—

Q. 6 put.—A. I never have.

Q.—Do You recollect the Circumstance of Mr. Basden taking the Helm from You when you was at the Wheel?—A. He never took the Helm from me, but I remember his looking at the Compass one Night when I was at the Wheel. Lt. Tetley had the Watch at the
time, but was not intoxicated. I never took a turn at the Wheel but twice during the Voyage, which enables me to speak more particularly to this circumstance.

Q.—Do you recollect who was Mate or Midshipman of the Watch at that time?—A. I do not recollect.

Q.—Was Mr. Geo. Plane on deck at the time?—A. I cannot recollect.

JOHN WOODHOUSE.

MR. HARDING called:—

Q.—On Lieut’t Tetley’s Watch from England towards the Cape of Good Hope, was you Mate of his Watch?—A. I was.

Q.—Do you recollect Mr. Tetley being drunk and asleep sitting on a Carronade in any first or other Watch during that Passage?—A. I do not.

Q.—If Lieut’t Tetley was seen in that Situation by any other person walking the Quarter-Deck, could it escape your observation?—A. No, as I always reported the log to him every hour; and if he had been asleep I must have known it, as he is very difficult to wake when asleep.

Q.—From your own observation, and as Mate of Lieut’ Tetley’s Watch, do you consider him as a person addicted to getting drunk?—A. I do not.

J. HARDING.

FINDING.

In giving our opinions on the above, it appears to us that Captain Short had appropriated to his use some yards of green baize and about 100 feet of wainscot for conveniences about his cabin, and that a false entry has been made in the ship’s log-book respecting a davit being carried away, and that the carpenter was directed to expend an anchor stock to replace the davit, the anchor stock having been previously cut into boards to replace the wainscot used in Captain Short’s cabin. It also appears that Captain Short desired the gunner to expend two musquets when none were deficient. Respecting Captain Short’s lending men from the ship, it appears that the armourer was lent for some days to a person at the Cape of Good Hope, by which the service was injured by a carronade being disabled, and the arms in a bad condition. It also appears that the boatswain’s yeoman was lent as a gardener to Mr. Fitz at the time the ship was refitting. From the testimony adduced, it does not appear to us certain that the articles of war have been read more than twice since the ship has been in commission, and that no other officers’ commissions have been read than those of Captains Bligh and Short. It appears that the boats’ crew have been repeatedly kept up in this port after the hour of twelve at night at a time the ship was refitting, but no reason to suppose they would desert beyond conjecture. It also appears that much harsh language has been used by Captain Short to Mr. Tetley, as particularized by the master gunner’s and carpenter’s testimony. With respect to the charge of drunkenness alleged against Captain Short, we conceive that his being in that state at the Cape of Good Hope appears to be verified by the evidence of the boatswain, gunner, and carpenter—not laying any stress on Lieut. Tetley’s testimony on that behalf. On Captain Short’s charge against Mr. Lye for disobedience of orders, we do not in our conscience believe that any censure, beyond a reprimand, would be made by a court-martial, judging from the kind of testimony produced to us; nor do we conceive that the testimony
produced to verify Lt. Tettley and Mr. Lye's treating Captain Short with disrespect and exciting insubordination and Mutiny among the Ship's Company is at all proved; Nor can we help pointing out to Your Attention the Evidence of the Purser and Surgeon respecting Lieutenant Tettley being drunk in his Watch, which we consider to be entirely Shaken, from the variation there appears in their Evidence of Mr. Pineo being on Deck with Mr. Basden at the time he says he Saw Lieutenant Tettley drunk and asleep on his Watch, which Charge we consider as further invalidated by the testimony of the Mate of the Watch, the Man at the Helm, and all the other Evidences questioned on that behalf. Having given Our Opinion on the Charges contained in the respective Letters, We must Submit to Your Consideration how far the Charges against Mr. Lye contain sufficient Grounds for his being kept in the State of Arrest he is now in to be tried by a Court-Martial, which cannot be held in this Country, Nor can the prisoner and his Evidences be sent from hence for that purpose without a total hindrance of the Ship's Services, for Want of Officers and Men; And also Submit to Your determination whether there appears to be grounds sufficient for a Court Martial on Captain Short.*

Given under our hands, on board H.M. Ship Porpoise, in Sydney Cove, Port Jackson, the 12th December, 1806.

PHILIP GIDLEY KING, Principal Commander.

JNO. HOUSTOUN, Acting Second-Commander.

J. OXLEY, Acting-Lieutenant of His Majesty's Ship Buffalo.

Attested: Wm. BLIGH. Ship Buffalo.

[Additional Enclosures.]

[Copies of the papers relating to the medical examination and confinement of Daniel Lye are not available.]

THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WINDHAM TO GOVERNOR BLIGH.

(Despatch No. 1, per transport Duke of Portland; acknowledged by Governor Bligh, 31st October, 1807.)

Sir,

Downing Street, 18th Decr., 1806.

The Commanding Officer of the New South Wales Corps will receive by the present Opportunity the Orders of His Royal Highness the Commander in Chief to discharge G. L. M. Huon de Kerillac† a French Emigrant of a distinguished Family who has been for some time serving as a private Soldier in that Regiment. As soon as his Discharge is received I am to desire that you will do everything in your Power to contribute to the comfortable Establishment of M. Huon de Kerillac and afford him every assistance that he can reasonably expect, and that he is a Relation of the late venerable Bishop of St. Pol de Peon and strongly recommended to me by the Marquis of Buckingham I am sure you will feel Pleasure in complying with my Wishes in his favor.

I have, &c.,

W. WINDHAM.

* Note 9. † Note 10.
THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WINDHAM TO GOVERNOR BLIGH.

(Despatch No. 2, per transport Duke of Portland; acknowledged by Governor Bligh, 31st October, 1807.)

Sir,

Downing Street, 18th Dec., 1806.

An Application for a Grant of Land in New South Wales having been made to me by Richard Guise, formerly a Serjeant in the New South Wales Corps, who has been strongly recommended by Lieut. Col. Foveaux, and stated by him to be possessed of at least £1,000: I am to desire that you will cause to be made out to him in the usual Form and subject to the customary Reservations a Grant of 300 Acres and that you will give him every Encouragement to which he may appear entitled, together with such Assistance of Convicts as you may be enabled to afford him consistently with a due Attention to the Claims of other Individuals.

I have, &c.,

W. WINDHAM.

THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WINDHAM TO GOVERNOR BLIGH.

(Despatch No. 3, per transport Duke of Portland; acknowledged by Governor Bligh, 31st October, 1807.)

Sir,

Downing Street, 18th Dec., 1806.

An Application for a Grant of Land in New South Wales having been made by Thomas Hansen who has been recommended by Mr. Mellish and Mr. Mather, and who states that he has purchased an Estate of about 250 Acres in New South Wales, I am to desire that you will give him every Encouragement to which he may appear entitled, together with such Assistance of Convicts, as you may be enabled to afford him consistently with a due Attention to the Claims of other Individuals.

I have, &c.,

W. WINDHAM.

THE RIGHT HON. WILLIAM WINDHAM TO GOVERNOR BLIGH.

(Despatch No. 4, per transport Duke of Portland; acknowledged by Governor Bligh, 31st October, 1807.)

Sir,

Downing Street, 18th Dec., 1806.

An Application for a Grant of Land in New South Wales having been made to me by Captn. Kent of the Navy, who was employed many years on Services connected with the Colony, and who states that he is actually possessed of a considerable Quantity of Stock there, I am to desire that you will cause to be made out to him, in the usual Form and subject to the Customary Reservations, a Grant of 2,000 Acres, and that you will give him every Encouragement to which he may appear entitled, together