Sunday, 14th.—At eleven o'clock ordered the Prisoners to be assembled for muster and inspection in general; found them very decent and clean; ordered the Indulgence of Tea, Sugar and Tobacco to be disallowed to John Ryan, one of the sawyers for the next week, for gross insolence and general misconduct; the natives have not been seen today; ordered the Prisoners not to go further than half a mile from the Camp, and on no pretence to go into the plain at the back of the Hill without orders and their names to be called every four hours on Sunday. Therm. at noon 75.

Monday, 15th.—A Party at work in the Garden and others collecting Wood, etc., for additional Huts for the use of the Officers, etc., of the settlement. Yesterday was counted twelve large smokes or fires at the back of the encampment about two miles apart, forming a complete semicircle; what the motive was for it cannot be known, but from so many fires there must be assembled a number of the Natives. The wind has been very unpleasant, blowing hard from the westward, covers everything in the Tent with dust and sand. Therm. at noon 76.

Tuesday, 16th.—People employed as yesterday at the Garden and collecting Materials for Huts and clearing ground, the stores being all landed, and having no further cause for detaining the Brig than will be necessary to make the required reports for His Excellency’s information of the Progress made in the settlement, etc., Lieut. Festing proposes quitting this for Sydney calling at western Port in about a week; it is but Justice to this Officer to say that I am under great obligations for his assistance and that He has exerted himself on all occasions to the utmost for the good of the Public Service, and which I am confident will be duly appreciated by His Excellency; on departure of the Brig, I should be considerably at a loss for two experienced Seaman as Boat-Keepers, and who would be able to act as Pilots to bring Vessels into the Harbour from the sound, as well as to visit oyster Harbour occasionally, as also to enable us to draw the seine and to preserve it in good order; on the propriety of the above, Lieut. Festing also agrees with me, as he has promised and undertaken to make them acquainted with the proper Channel to take Vessels in and out. It will be also necessary to have some local regulations regarding Vessels casually visiting this place, which on their arrival should be made known to them.

Two Seamen having volunteered to remain for rations and wages that is given Government Vessels, under these considerations I have consented to their remaining to be employed as above until the approval of His Excellency shall be made known. It appears that a French Ship of War* has been here in October or November last and made a survey of the Harbours and Sound and left this to Visit Sydney. Therm. at noon 76.

Wednesday, 17th.—Had the two Guns taken from the Beach to the point over the Landing place, where they are to be mounted and the Flag Staff put up. From the lawless manner in which these Sealers are ranging about requires some immediate measures to control them as, from what we know as also from what I have learnt from themselves, they are a complete set of Pirates going from Island to Island along the southern coast from Rottenest Island to Bass’s Strait in open Whale Boats, having their Chief resort or Den at Kangaroo Island, making occasional descents on the main Land and carry off by force native women, and when resisted make use of the Fire arms with which they

* Note 102.
are provided; amongst themselves they rob each other, the weak being obliged to give way to the stronger; at Kangaroo Island a great scene of villainy is going on, where to use their own words there are a great many graves, a number of desperate characters, runaway prisoners from Sydney and Van Diemen's Land.

A Government vessel or small man of war to be kept for the purpose of cruising on this would check a great deal of the lawless proceedings now going on, as also restrictions should be made respecting the seal fishery, which from their destroying the cubs as well as old ones will cause them to become scarce. I should think it would prove both beneficial to Government and to the merchants and speculators if these islands were farmed out to those who offer a reasonable rent for them, for a certain extent of coast subject to such regulations as Government exact.

Immense quantities of salt can be collected on this coast at Middle Island particularly, as also in these harbours; a quantity of good fish taken. Therm. 76.

Thursday, 18th.—Several natives visited the settlement today that I have every reason to hope that they are getting reconciled. Settled with Lieut. Festing that the brig shall leave this on Tuesday next, as the boat that was expected is not arrived that the persons expected by her said to be concerned in the murder of the native. I have requested that Lieut. Festing will, if it does not take him out of his way and cause him too great a delay, to call at the islands to the eastward, and if possible secure the persons named in the information and take them to Sydney. Therm. at noon 74.

Friday, 19th.—About a dozen of the natives came into the settlement this morning, and after satisfying their curiosity went away pleased with the presents made to them. Therm. 76.

Saturday, 20th.—Employed the prisoners as before in collecting materials and gardening. We have in and coming through the ground a quarter of an acre of potatoes, turnips, cabbages, peas and beans sown. The natives have again visited us with several strange faces, the Sydney native pigeon extremely useful in communicating with them, though he cannot understand a word of their language.

Sunday, 21st.—This day at sunrise the colors were displayed on the flagstaff; at twelve o'clock a royal salute was fired from the battery and a feu de joie by the troops, and an extra allowance of flour with raisins and suet was ordered on the occasion to be issued to the troops and convicts; a number of the natives having come to the settlement in the morning the seine was hauled on purpose to give them a feast; about three hundred weight was taken of capital fish. The day proved fine and the whole went off well.

As the Amity is to sail on Tuesday, I have ordered that the little girl Fanny, who was taken off the main land to the eastward of this and having no means of restoring her to the tribe to which she belongs, to be taken to Sydney for the disposal of his excellency; not having been able to visit the interior for the present, I cannot of course give any opinion as to how far this part of the country will suit the views of settlers, though I have little doubt that there is good soil perfectly fit for cultivation, as I am informed by the sealers, some of them having been a considerable way up the Swan River, which is about 180 miles to the W.N. West of this, that there is plenty of fine cedar on its banks and plenty of fine pine of very large size. I propose leaving this on an expedition in about a week or ten days.
INFORMATION of William Hook, Native of New Zealand, Mariner and late belonging to the Schooner Brisbane of Hobart Town, touching the murder of a Male Native on Green Island, Oyster Harbour, King George's Sound, and forcibly taking away and carrying off two Female Natives, and also forcibly taking away from the Main natives-Land at Oyster Harbour four Male Natives, and landing them on Michaelmas Island in King George's Sound, and there leaving them to perish, of the truth of which he, William Hook, voluntarily maketh Oath before Edmund Lockyer, Esquire, Major if His Majesty's 57 Regt. of Infantry, and Justice of the Peace of His Majesty's Territory in New South Wales and Commandant of the Settlement at King George's Sound, this Twelfth day of January, One thousand, Eight Hundred and Twenty Seven.

THAT he, William Hook, being with the following persons at Oyster Harbour that composed the Crew of a Boat employed Sealing, John Randall Steersman, James Kirby, George Magennis and Samuel Bailey, with another Boat belonging to a Mr. Robinson of Hobart Town, and of which one Everitt was Steersman, the names of the Crew he does not recollect, whilst there, had frequently been visited by the Natives, who were friendly, accompanying the Sealers fishing in their Boats, though the Native Women were never seen or came to the place where the Sealers huttet. That, about Eight Weeks ago, a French Man of War* anchored in the Sound and remained some time. That, one day after this Ship had left, Five of the Natives came to where their Boats stopped and requested to be taken to Green Island in Oyster Harbour to catch Birds, when this Informant and another Man of the Hunter's Boat, by name Ned, was ordered by John Randall and Everitt, the Boat Steerers, to take the Natives there and land them and come off leaving them there, which they did; the Natives, perceiving the Boat going away, called out to Informant to return, making all the signs possible for that purpose; but, having been ordered to leave them, Informant was afraid to act otherwise. Next day Randall set out, accompanied by Kirby, Magennis and Bailey, armed with Guns and Cutlasses soon after five O'Clock in the morning, and returned about Four or Five in the Evening bringing with them four Native Women; that during their absence Informant was ordered to stay and take care of the Boat; during the night, two of the Women made their escape though the Sealers had tied them two together by the Arms; next Morning both Boats' Crews again went off armed, leaving Informant and another to watch the Boats; in the Evening they returned saying they had not seen any of the Natives or the two Women that had made their escape, but had found hanging to the Trees at their encampment a Pocket Compass and a knife that had been given to the Natives by the Captain of the French Ship.

That, on the next day, Informant was sent with Ned and four others in the Boat to Green Island with a keg of Water for the Natives; and, on the Boats approaching the Shore, they made a rush to get into it; the people in the Boat shoved off to prevent them, and returned to the Party on shore, when four fresh hands got into the Boat, taking with them two Guns and two Swords and again went to the Island, and one Man got out to take the keg of Water on shore; the Natives making a rush to get into the Boat, the Europeans resisted by striking them with their Oars and Swords; and, finding that they

* Note 102.
1827.
22 Jan.

Information by W. Hook re outrages by sealers on natives.

persisted, a Gun was fired with slugs over their Heads to frighten them, which did not answer; when a second shot was fired the Informant saw one of them fall forwards on his Face in the Water and the Blood spouting out from both his sides. Kirby, who steered the Boat, fired the first shot, but Informant cannot tell who fired the second; the Boat was then shoved off and went to the Shore, and the next Morning Randall went again to the Island, and at first the Natives hid themselves; but, on seeing Randall who was a great favorite with them, they came out and kissed him; he then took the four into his Boat, leaving the dead Body on the Island, and left Oyster Harbour and landed the four Natives on Michaelmas Island, and left them making great lamentations; Randall then went to Breaksea Island where the other Boat joined, bringing with them the two female Natives that they had taken away from the Main land at Oyster Harbour. One of these Females is now at Eclipse Island with Samuel Bailey, also a native Girl, a child Seven year old; the other Female taken from this is with George Magennis with the Boat to the Eastward; and this Informant further states that these men have other Native Women that they take about with them, Two from Van Dieman's Land taken in Bass' Strait, and one from the Main Land opposite Kangaroo Island.

The Mark of x WILLIAM HOOK.

Witness:—E. LOCKYER, junr.
Sworn before me:—E. LOCKYER, J.P., Major, H.M. 57 Regt.

[Sub-enclosure B.]

MAJOR LOCKYER TO LIEUTENANT FESTING.

Sir, Camp, Princess Royal Harbour, 12th January, 1827.

From information made to me on Oath that a most atrocious murder has been committed on a male native on Green Island in Oyster Harbour, at which a seaman named Samuel Bailey was present and aiding at the said murder, and I am further informed that he is now at the Eclipse Island; and, for the furtherance of Justice, I have to request that You will be pleased to use such means as in Your Judgment You may deem expedient for the immediate apprehension of the said Samuel Bailey, who is also charged with having taken away a native Female from the main Land, in order that he may be sent to Sydney there to be dealt with according to Law.

I have, &c.,
E. LOCKYER, J.P.,
Major, H.M. 57 Regt., Commandant.

MAJOR LOCKYER TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.
(Despatch No. 2.)

Princess Royal Harbour,
Sir, King George's Sound, 22 Jany., 1827.

I have the Honor to transmit to you the Information of Wm. Hook, a Native of New Zealand, respecting a Murder committed by Samuel Bailey, Seaman, and others on the Person of a Male Native on Green Island in Oyster Harbour by shooting him with a Gun.

Transmission of information of W. Hook.

Request for arrest of S. Bailey.
Samuel Bailey is in custody and with William Hook forwarded to Sydney by the Brig Amity.

E. Lockyer, Major, H.M. 57 Regt., Commandant.

[Enclosure.]

[This was a copy of the information of W. Hook; see page 473 et seq.]

RETURN OF CROWN PRISONERS AT KING GEORGE'S SOUND.

1st April, 1827.

[This return will be found on page 305, volume XIII, series I.]

MAJOR LOCKYER TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

(Despatch No. 3.)

Sir, King George's Sound, 2 April, 1827.

I have the Honor to enclose you the returns of the Settlement from No. 1 to 6, as also the Journal of the daily labour of the Prisoners, for the Information of His Excellency the Governor.

E. Lockyer, Major, H.M. 57 Regt., Commandant.

[Enclosures.]

[Copies of these papers are not available.]

MAJOR LOCKYER TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

(Despatch No. 4.)

Sir, King George's Sound, 2 April, 1827.

His Majesty's Ship Success*, having called at this place on her return to Sydney from Swan River, I intend availing myself of Captain Stirling's offer of taking me there, having received His Excellency the Governor's directions to that effect by the Vessel,† which was to have accompanied the Success, which Vessel has not arrived and conclude she must have returned to Sydney.

In consequence I had adopted measures to make the Provisions in Store here hold out as long as possible; and, with the addition of what has been received from His Majesty's Ship Success, Captain Stirling having ordered all that could possibly be parted with to be sent on shore, there is an ample supply for upwards of Four Months, and if necessary on a reduced allowance much longer, there being plenty of Fish, Oysters and abundance of Birds on the Islands.

* Note 103. † Note 104.
Captain Stirling also on my requisition supplied the Settlement with an Oyster Dredge on my promise that another would be furnished His Majesty’s Ship at Sydney.

The establishment are all in excellent Health, there being only one Individual in the Sick report, one of the Prisoners with a sore Foot.

One Soldier, William Banks, Private His Majesty’s 39th Regt., died on the 8th of March last from a long illness and general decay and not from any local cause.

Dennis Dineen, Prisoner of the Crown, who was severely wounded by the Natives shortly after our arrival, continuing inefficient and no chance of his recovery so as to enable him to Work, I have applied and obtained a passage for him to Sydney in the Success, and have ordered him to embark accordingly.

The Sealers,* concerned in the Murder of the Male Native on Green Island in Oyster Harbour, having arrived at the Settlement in Two Boats on the Evening of the 10th March last, I caused them to be detained, though in Justice to those persons they voluntarily offered to proceed to Sydney by the first opportunity to meet any charge that might be brought against them, stating that they had come in for the purpose of surrendering themselves; having made application to Captain Stirling to allow those Persons to be received on board His Majesty’s Ship Success for conveyance to Sydney, he declined acceding to it; his communication I herewith enclose as it is quite uncertain when the Isabella may arrive on her return from Melville Island; and, not deeming it prudent to have to feed those Individuals from the Stores and from the peculiar nature attending the transaction, as also being doubtful as to the Law extending to these Individuals for a Crime committed at this particular Place and before it had been occupied, I set them at large with the understanding that, whenever they appeared at Sydney, that they would surrender themselves to the Civil Power to answer to this transaction; Two of them John Randall and James Kirby have entered and are now serving on board His Majesty’s Ship Success.

I also enclose a Copy of my Journal with a Report of the Country, etc., in the Neighbourhood of King George’s Sound.

And I have further to acquaint you that I have this day delivered over the Command and charge of the Settlement to Captain Wakefield of His Majesty’s 39th Regt., with all the Official Papers and documents as directed by your Letter No. 1, and I have, &c., E. LOCKYER, Major, H.M. 57 Regt., Com., K. G. Sound.

* Marginal note.—John Smidmore; John Randall; James Kirby; George McGennis; James Leadenhall; Edward Edwards.
CAPTAIN STIRLING TO MAJOR LOCKYER.

His Majesty's Ship Success,

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of yesterday's date, relative to certain Individuals whom you are desirous should be forwarded to Sydney on board His Majesty's Ship Success.

In reply, I beg leave to acquaint you that I am not authorized to order a Passage for any Individuals except such as may be engaged in His Majesty's Service, unless the urgency of the case may render such departure from established regulation a matter of necessity. As I understand from you that the Colonial Vessel Isabella is shortly expected to touch here on her return to Sydney, it does not appear to me that their is any necessity for the Individuals alluded to being received on board the Success, and therefore I cannot accede to your request.

I am, &c,

JAMES STIRLING, Captain.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

JOURNAL OF MAJOR LOCKYER.

Monday, January 22nd.—Journal of proceedings to this date forwarded to Sydney by Lieutenant Festing, Royal Navy, in the Brig Amity which will leave the first change of Wind. The Natives come to the settlement every day and appear to be getting more confidence; from their rubbing their Hair and Bodies with seal oil of a rancid nature causes a most disagreeable smell when they approach too near. Therm. at noon 78.

Tuesday, 23rd.—The Wind still easterly prevents the Brig going to sea; all employed in the various duties of the settlement. Therm. at noon 76.

Wednesday, 24th.—This morning at Eight o’Clock the Amity left the Harbour on her return to Sydney, with a fine, fair wind; this day three natives, strangers that we have not seen before, came to the settlement; ordered them a present of a Tomahawk and blanket each. Therm. at noon 80.

Thursday, 25th.—Preparing Ground for maize and others employed falling and bringing the materials for the Buildings going on; at Half past nine o’Clock this morning a number of Natives were reported to be seen on Mount Melville the Hill to the westward of the Settlement; on observing them with the Spy Glass, I saw Thomas Woods, Royal Veteran Corps with three prisoners apparently in a scuffle or an affray with the Natives; the latter forced their way through the former and I saw Woods almost immediately fire his Musquet at the runaways; on reaching the spot, to which I instantly repaired, I learnt that Thirteen natives, most of them had been at the settlement, were detected creeping down with their spears all ready shipped for action.
to attack the Sawyers whilst at Work and but for the chance of overseer William Woods of the Royal Veterans seeing them and calling out to Thomas Woods who was protecting the Sawyers, prevented the Party being speared. Conscious of doing wrong on being detected threw their spears into the Bush and their Womeras also; the Overseers wanted to bring down some of them to the settlement which caused the resistance, I saw made, and the Shot fired which I was glad to find had done no further mischief than frightening these Gentry, who ran off as fast as they could, and we have since ascertained that they are a Tribe from the borders of the Lakes and are very fierce, the other Natives pointing to the spot and shaking their heads and then pointing to Oyster Harbour as the place of their residence. Their spears were picked up on the spot and there is very little doubt of their Intention, as a stout Fellow amongst Them was following ten yards in their rear with a large Bundle of spears like a Faggot of Wood; on the first alarm He was off as nimble as a Kangaroo; it now becomes indispensable to be constantly on the lookout to prevent any of the settlement from becoming the Victim of such Treacherous people.

I am not without hope that they will become peaceable and Friendly.

Friday, 26th.—This day at Five o’Clock went out round the settlement and found in the Bush on Mount Melville Two Spears. Pidgeon yesterday tracked the Natives through the Bush and brought Captain Wakefield and two Soldiers within Ten Yards of Three of them who on being called set up a hideous scream and ran off. The Natives from Oyster Harbour came to-day to the Settlement and two very old Men were of the party; one of them must certainly have been at least seventy or Eighty years of age and had been a fine Man. Therm at noon.

Wednesday, February 1st.—Prisoners employed as yesterday. Therm at noon.
has only water for Barges or Boats and is in my opinion the most suitable for the Establishment of stock and the commencement of a farm for the Settlement. Therm. at noon.

Monday, 5th.—The Prisoners employed as most useful at the quarters erecting for the Officers, in the Garden, clearing Grounds, etc., etc. Therm. at noon.

Tuesday, 6th.—The Timber being very scarce sent the Sawyers to the Wood on the opposite side of the Harbour. Therm. at noon.

Wednesday, 7th.—Rain much wanted, everything sown in the Garden is up but wants moisture; the weather still continues fine, and the Climate I think far preferable to Sydney, as we have not experienced the hot winds here, so unpleasantly felt there at times. Therm. at noon.

Thursday, 8th.—Visited the Sawyers at the Wood on the opposite shore, excellent clear Water from a Spring to be had there in abundance. The sawyers reported that the Timber to be had there is good, chiefly Blue Gum; on my return found that Two Natives had been at the settlement being the first since the 25th of last Month. Therm. at noon.

Friday, 9th.—The Weather has taken a change and become cold with showers. Therm. at noon.

Saturday, 10th.—The weather still unpleasant; making preparations to go into the Country on an excursion. Therm. at noon.

Sunday, 11th.—This morning the wind came from the Eastward and judging we might now expect a Vessel from Sydney, I ordered two men to go to the top of Mount Clarence and look out; on their getting up they soon held up a Handkerchief on a stick as a Signal that a Vessel was in sight; on their coming down learnt she was a great distance off and was a Vessel square rigged forward and Cutter aft, which I concluded must be the Isabella Schooner; in the Evening she had passed to the southward of Bald Head from which supposed she must be a Vessel going to the Isle France or India, and could not be coming here. Therm. at noon.

Monday, 12th.—At Five o’Clock this morning having left the Exploration settlement I proceeded on my excursion passing the Sound to Oyster Harbour, and landed on Green Is’ld to Breakfast; the Men caught three Dozen of Mutton Birds whilst we stopped and we proceeded to the French River, going up several reaches for about six miles, when a Ridge of Rocks which lays across prevents Boats going any further; the tide comes thus far; above which the River is fresh and runs in long deep Lagoons with still water except at that end which overflows and rises suddenly to a considerable height; evident marks of this having passed through. The Prisoners all the grounds near their Banks; evident marks of this having passed through from the very level appearance of the Country, this River was...
April 2, 1827.

Journal of
E. Lockyer.

Exploration of
country.

about four miles; found excellent Timber, the soil varies, some tolerable and would do well for grazing Cattle and even sheep in many places, though a great deal of it near the Banks is covered with Ironstone Gravel which no Plough could ever encounter; the Timber is Chiefly Iron Bark and the Blood Tree; there were fine streams of excellent water much superior to what is to be had at the settlement as regards the Color, but cannot be more wholesome; from the long continuance of dry weather is a proof that there is never a scarcity of water; on Entering the River Black Swans, Pelicans, Wild Geese, Ducks, Teal, Curlews, Red Legs and a great variety of water Fowl; the scenery is very pretty and the Ground as you enter the River on the Right side is a place I would select for a farming Establishment, and was it not too far from the Sound and Princess Royal Harbour, I think the settlement had better been placed there; no Vessel drawing Eleven Feet can get even to the entrance of oyster Harbour, she would be then six miles by Channel to the French River. Therm, at noon.

Tuesday, 13th.—This morning set out and made a course due north on the left Bank of the River through the Country which though in appearance level undulates in gentle rising Hills composed chiefly of Ironstone and covered with forests of large Trees of Iron Bark and Flooded Gum, on which is plenty of Food for cattle but would not do for sheep or for cultivation; the soil in the Valleys with few exceptions is Boggy with Sand under, and would do well for Barley, Wheat or Maize and artificial Grasses would answer well from the moist nature of the Ground; the further you get into the Country the Better the Soil; a road from the Settlement could easily be made to this place and carried on with little labour to where I now am, distant about Twenty-five miles from Princess Royal Harbour and from the mountains which run East and West about forty miles are now distant about Thirty miles; and from where I am now, I have a most excellent view of them and the Country which appears now in view and in the Horizon at the East end of Them an immense space can be seen all Flat. Returned to the Boat at Five o’Clock, having walked not less than Ten miles out and of course the same distance back. I intend tomorrow to set out and endeavour to reach the Ridge of Mountains. Therm at noon.

Wednesday, 14th.—This morning early set out with four days’ provisions, making nearly the same course as yesterday which we continued to twelve o’Clock, when the sky became overcast and shortly down came the rain in Torrents, which was very unfortunate though much required for the Gardens; having reached a spot eligible for remaining in case the Weather break up, and a hollow Tree to secure the Party; A Fire was soon lighted and some Bark provided; before, however, they could be of use we were all wet to the skin; all hopes of the Rain ceasing was soon abandoned as it came down very heavy with Thunder and Lightning and we were completely caught and commenced making a Hut for the night, which was effected after some trouble. One of the Soldiers was seized with a violent fit of ague, which he informed me he was subjected to on getting wet. I was much vexed at this, as he looked very ill and would prevent my proceeding further; the Rain now continued falling until nine o’Clock; very heavily and partially during the Night.

Thursday, 14th.—At daylight the Weather still very threatening. The Soldier, though stating Himself to be better, looked very unwell and two others of the Party being lame, under these considerations I
decided on returning to the settlement, and immediately set out on our way to the Boat which I had left moored in the middle of the River, being perfectly safe there from the natives, who cannot swim and are dreadfully afraid of the water; arrived at half past Eleven, having come a distance by march and Boat not less than Thirty Five miles.

On entering the Harbour saw laying there the Isabella Schooner which passed on Sunday last from Sydney, not having been able to make into the place until the wet day, Monday, when she was observed in the Sound from the settlement.

Received Letter No. 2 from the Colonial Secretary and two Prisoners arrived per Isabella; she is to proceed to Melville Island and to call here on her return to Sydney.

also found here George Thomas, John Hobson, who had left this with Lieutenant Festing in the Amity Brig to go to middle Island for their things and had come back in a small Whale Boat with two seamen requiring a passage to Sydney and to my surprise learnt that the Whale Boat with the Sealers, who were concerned in the murder of the native on Green Island in Oyster Harbour, had actually come into the Harbour with the schooner and that the Black Woman was in the Boat which they had taken away, and though Mr. Nind, the Colonial Assistant Surgeon, was on board, did not ask them who they were or what they were doing, though He was well acquainted with all the particulars regarding Them; some one gave them a hint to be off, as they left the schooner before she anchored and went off again and are supposed to be gone to the westward.

Received instructions from Lieut. Colonel Dumaresq by order of His Excellency to return to Sydney by a Vessel that was to leave a few days after the Isabella. Therm. at noon.

Friday, 16th.—Some repairs required by the Isabelle which was done. Ordered a new Store Hut to be erected to put the Cargo of the Vessel expected into. Therm. at noon.

Saturday, 17th.—Prisoners all employed on various matters. Therm. at noon.

Sunday, 18th.—The Isabella owing to a strong Breeze from the Eastward could not get out.

Prayers read this morning.

Monday, 19th.—This morning the Isabella left the Harbour about Ten o’Clock; it soon after came to blow a gale of Wind from the S.W.; the Pilot did not return. The Prisoners all employed except Two in the sick report. Sent the Boat for the shells. Therm. at noon.

Tuesday, 20th.—The Schooner at anchor in the Sound; blowing very hard from the Westward prevents her proceeding.

The prisoners employed as most useful. Therm. at noon.

Wednesday, 21st.—The Weather very cold and wet. The Prisoners all employed; the Carpenters and Sawyers at their respective callings; the Gardener with two Labourers at the Garden; Two men assisting the Sawyers in felling and getting the Logs on the Pit; Two men in the Boat with Pidgeon collecting shells; Two making a Kiln and others cutting rafters in the Bush.

The natives are constant visitors but no new Faces.
1827.
2 April.
Journal of E. Lockyer.
General transactions.

The schooner still at anchor outside, the Pilot returned this day and reported he could not leave the Vessel from its blowing so hard. Therm. at noon 74.

Thursday, 22nd.—The Prisoners employed as yesterday; the schooner still at anchor. Therm. at noon 75.

Friday, 23rd.—This morning went across the Harbour at Five o’Clock to visit the Sawyers, and, as I observed they have not done the work that they ought, I shall order their indulgences of Tea, Sugar and Tobacco to be stopped until they are more industrious.

The Wind blowing south east the schooner left the Sound and proceeded to Sea.

Saturday, 24th.—The Prisoners employed variously; a soldier of 38th Regt. very ill; it was necessary to remove him from the Barracks and build a Hut for him, which was commenced this day. I am informed that He has been gradually declining a long time. Therm. at noon.

Sunday, 25th.—The Vessel being daily expected with the supply of stores and provisions, and not having a place to deposit the same, I deemed it advisable not only that the supply should remain separate from what is now here in the store hut, also as a matter of precaution against accidents by fire to keep it apart and erect another store Hut for them, which was commenced this day. I am informed that He has been gradually declining a long time. Therm. at noon 74.

Monday, 26th.—All busily employed on the new Store Hut, which this Evening was completed in Frame 35 Feet Long and 20 Feet Broad and only requires Thatching to finish it. The Seine was hauled on Saturday last and an immense quantity of excellent fish taken. Therm. at noon 72.

Tuesday, 27th.—Getting Thatch for new Store Hut and repairing the Boat, which is a very slight one and badly Built. Had the Guns with their Carriages given a Coat of Tar and Pitch to preserve them. Therm. at noon 70.

Wednesday, 28th.—This morning the seine was hauled and a good supply of Fish taken and equally distributed to the settlement. The Prisoners employed as yesterday. I would recommend for the consideration of Government the propriety of establishing two Fish days in the week when the Ration of meat should be withheld and on those days in lieu of the meat to issue half a pound of Flour extra with suet and Raisins which would be fully equal to fresh provisions. Therm. at noon 68.

Thursday, March 1st.—The Wind being Easterly we are expecting the vessel from Sydney with stores as also His Majesty’s Ship Success. The Prisoners employed as usual. Therm. at noon.

Friday, 2nd.—The Weather being very fine made a visit to Breaksea Island in the Sound and was surprised on getting to the Top of it to find it far from being what I considered, a Bare Rock; there is at least Eight or Ten Acres of excellent mould where Potatoes and Cabbage would grow well; from its not being Inhabited and never resorted to by the natives, it is in the quiet possession of sooty petrel and Seals. Numbers of Quail as well as the Bronze Winged Pigeon are on it; it is chiefly composed of Granite and partially of White sandstone; a very dangerous sunken rock has been lately seen, the sea breaking on it when there is a heavy swell from the Southward and lays directly mid-channel, between the Breaksea Island and Bald Head; it is fortunate that it has been seen as no knowledge of it
the sound would naturally be inclined to keep nearly midway, right
towards it. Therm. at noon.

Saturday, 3rd.—The Prisoners all employed variously. The new store Hut completed and ready to receive the Cargo of the Vessel expected. Therm. at noon.

Sunday, 4th.—Inspected at Eleven o’Clock when Prayers were read in the square, ordered every person to attend. Therm. at noon.

Monday, 5th.—Went to the opposite shore to remove the Sawyers to another Wood where there is sufficient Timber to supply the settlement for a long time. Chiefly Blue Gum of a good quality and large size; several spots fit for cultivation and a plain of great extent where Cattle would graze in perfect security. Good Water and sandstone fit for Building. Therm. at noon.

Tuesday, 6th.—Sent the Boat to the sawpit to bring such Plank and Stuff over as might be ready; on the return of the Boat, a report was brought of a Vessel being seen in the offing which prove to be a mistake; the wind however being easterly and fresh the expected Vessels cannot be far off. The natives come every day and some strangers have lately visited the settlement, and to-day a tall, well-made fine looking man came and expressed himself more surprised at what he saw and appeared to take more Interest examining different things, more so than any of the others that have visited us, and what is not a bad trait of Them in their visits with us, though permitted to go about and consequently must have had frequent opportunities had they been inclined to do so; not a single article of any description has been purloined until yester­day when One, a stranger, was tempted to take an axe, with which he slunk away, and the article was not missed nor probably would it have been as it was private property of Mr. Nind; this morning it was brought back and given up by Two of the Tribe who made signs that it had been taken away, and fear of the consequences probably had been the Cause of their anxiety to return it; a small present was made to them to show them that what they had done was approved of. Therm. at noon.

Wednesday, 7th.—Prisoners employed on the various duties of the settlement. Therm. at noon.

Thursday, 8th.—As yesterday. This Evening Private Wm. Banks of His Majesty’s 39th Regt. departed this life. He had been a long time ill.

This morning Five natives of a Tribe we have not seen before came to the settlement; all stout well-made men, caused one to be measured and he was six Feet two Inches, and better, as I could not make him hold himself up strait, as he did not understand what I wished him to do. Gave a Tomahawk each. Therm. at noon.

Friday, 9th.—The Prisoners employed as yesterday; four natives with the tall man, who was here yesterday and from the fame of the Tomahawks having spread abroad the object of their visit was to solicit that they might be furnished with one each, which I ordered to be given to them; as these natives appear now to know that we are not come here to make war on them, I am confident they will continue peaceable. In the morning they walk in with great confidence, pass away four or five hours in gratifying their curiosity and occasionally obtaining some fish, which they roast upon the first Fire that presents and afterwards walk off, taking care to show that they have nothing concealed. Therm. at noon.
1827.
2 April.
Journal of E. Lockyer.
Arrival of sealing boats.

Saturday, 10th.—The Weather this morning indicated a stormy day and about Ten o’Clock it commenced blowing a very severe Gale from the East S. East, with heavy rain, Thunder and Lightning and continued without ceasing until six o’Clock when two Boats were reported to have just come in on the Beach.

Ordered the Guard down, and, ascertaining it was the two sealing Boats in charge of John Randall and James Everitt, ordered them to surrender and deliver up their Arms and found them to contain the following persons:

James Everitt’s Boat.—James Leadenhall; John Smidmore; Edward Edwards; Native Boy Harry, belonging to main opposite Kangaroo Island; Mooney, a native woman of Van Diemen’s Land.

John Randall’s Boat.—James Kirby; George McGinnis or Machaness; John Sigsworth; Sally, a native woman of the main opposite to Kangaroo Island; Dinah, a native woman of Van Diemen’s Land.

Had them confined in the Store Hut in charge of a sentry and the Boats secured with their Equipments to prevent their going off.

Therm, at noon.

Sunday, 11th.—This morning Private Wm. Banks late of H.M. 39th Regt. was interred.

Sent for the Boat crews individually and informed them that they were charged with murder and piracy and that they would be sent to Sydney to answer the same.

With regard to the charge of murder, they protested that most of them were not present at the death of the native, but John Smidmore acknowledged he shot the unfortunate man but that it was in self defence, which he would prove. I recommended him as well as the others to say nothing that would incriminate them; to which they replied they were anxious the matter should be fully investigated and that, learning that there was a settlement established here, they came to give themselves up. The taking away the Women they admitted four in number, two made their escape, brought away and restored to her Tribe from the Eclipse Islands, the other landed by Boat upwards of two months ago on the main Land in the Sound; also the landing of the four natives on Michaelmas Island stating that from the affray, which had taken place, the shores were lined with mobs of natives and they could not in safety Land these men on the main, which was the cause of their leaving them on Michaelmas Island where there is plenty of small Kangaroo, Fish, and some seal.

John Sigsworth was not at the Sound when this affair happened, consequently is not included as participating in the above.

Ordered the above persons to receive one pound and a half of flour each man, and one pound to each Woman per Diem, as a Ration until an opportunity offers for sending them to Sydney. Therm. at noon 76.

Monday, 12th.—This day the Prisoners employed as usual. Therm. at noon 75°.

Tuesday, 13th.—The Vegetables that was sown in the Garden has made little or no progress; whether the season is unfavourable or the soil too sour for want of being properly worked, must remain for some time to be ascertained. I think it is likely to be from both causes.

The sheep have been particularly unlucky, out of Ten the Ram and three Ewes are only left; they suffered chiefly from the Voyage as they are now doing well and the Ewes are in Lamb.
The Pigs only require to be taken out to feed and are amazing fine, and will increase here rapidly from the great quantity of roots they can grub up.

The Geese, Ducks, and Fowls all thrive well. The prisoners all employed except those in the sick list. Therm, at noon.

Wednesday, 14th.—Having no one here who can make a sail for the Government Boat, employed two of the Sealers for that purpose.

Sent for a Boatload of shells and for some Wood from the Sawyers; prisoners all employed; the Surgeon has recommended that Lime Juice shall be given to some of them. Therm. at noon 64.

Thursday, 15th.—The Vessel expected is anxiously looked for; the Wind having been blowing these several days from the Eastward. Therm. at noon 68.

Friday, 16th.—Went this morning to the french River accompanied by Captain Wakefield to examine the soil on its Banks; though by no means good, being chiefly sand, it is however better than at the settlement but only partially so; there being other requisites such as good Timber on the spot, I should recommend when an increase takes place in the establishment that the farming and agricultural concerns should be carried on there. Therm. at Noon 78.

Saturday, 17th.—Ordered two days’ Ration of meat in the Week to be substituted by an issue of Rice in proportion on Tuesdays and Saturdays which will make the meat hold out as well as being beneficial to the people; the non-arrival of the Vessel expected to arrive with supplies makes it necessary to take every precaution to make them hold out as long as possible what we have in store.

Having it communicated to me that the Vessel with the supplies was to leave Sydney a few Days after the Isabella, which Vessel arrived at this place five weeks since, the former must have met with some accident or could not have left Sydney as was intended so soon. This morning to the Westward of the settlement a great number of Natives were discovered on the Beach employed Spearing Fish; some of the Prisoners being at work in a Wood near there, they came to them and offered their spears as a proof they meant no harm; they were at least Fifty or Sixty in number, besides Women and Children. The Boat being out with the seine, it soon attracted their notice and thirty of them came to the settlement and assisted hauling the net and expressed their astonishment at the quantity of Fish taken by shouting and making a great noise, no doubt thinking this a far better method than their own tedious as well as precarious method of taking Fish. I took care that they should have a share, for which they appeared much pleased, cooking some on the spot and carrying the rest to their women and children; several within these last few days have brought spears as presents to different individuals looking about for the person they intended them for. I am in hopes that the good understanding which now exists will continue. I am very sanguine that in a short time they may be made very useful in a variety of ways in making roads, as they can handle a Hoe and a spade as well as any of our people and are very strong, making them a small remuneration for what they can do will induce them to work as it will also help towards their becoming civilized.

About six o’Clock this Evening a most tremendous Thunder Storm came on with very vivid Flashes of Lightning, the Rain pouring down in Torrents, which lasted nearly all night. Therm. at noon 76.

Sunday, 18th.—This morning was calm but about Eight o’Clock a violent hurricane came on and blew for nearly two hours, and afterwards
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HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA.

1827.

2 April.

Journal of
E. Lockyer.

Large catch of fish.

A Gale until Four o’Clock in the afternoon, when it began to moderate, the Weather was so unpleasant with Rain and very cold there was no moving about. Therm. at noon 59.

Monday, 19th.—The Weather having broken, it became fine and pleasant after what we experienced yesterday. Therm. at noon.

Tuesday, 20th.—The Seine was hauled this morning and a most extraordinary number of Fish was enclosed in one cast of the net, that it was quite impossible to move it without letting some of them out, probably as many as were left, which filled a Whale Boat, and think there must have been a Ton Weight taken; the natives were in waiting on the arrival of the Boat. I desired that they might be allowed to take away as much as they pleased and upwards of Forty went away laden with as much as they could carry highly delighted and every one at the settlement was well supplied. The fish taken this day was principally Bream, about the size of a middling Snapper, sand mullett also large mullett and salmon all particularly good. The Prisoners employed as usual. Therm. at noon.

Wednesday, 21st.—Ordered the Pilot to go with the Boat across the Harbour this morning to bring a load of shells and to take two of the sealers with him that are detained here to assist, which they refused, stating that, as their Ration was small, One pound and a Half of Flour per day for five days in the Week and the remaining two one pound of Flour and one pound of Beef each day; and giving them meat at all with our small stock I considered an Indulgence. In consequence of their refusal to work, I deemed it my duty to withdraw the order for the Issue of meat to these men and to give them nothing but flour and Fish, which it is to be hoped will bring them to their senses, and shall be glad when an opportunity offers to send them to Sydney that they may be got rid of.

Information has been made to me that a Box either public or private property has been broken open on Board the Schooner Isabella when here, and some new Colored Handkerchiefs had been brought on shore by the Carpenter of that Vessel disposed of with some other articles, as also he had been tampering with James Shuttleworth, one of the Prisoner Carpenters for Tools that he wanted. Henry McGee, Convict, had one of the Handkerchiefs which he denied getting from the Carpenter until another Convict, James Landon, produced two more Handkerchiefs of the same pattern and description, which he stated he received from the Carpenter for mending his shoes.

The Parties not being here, the matter must rest until the Isabella returns here from Melville Island. Therm. at noon 74.

Thursday, 22nd.—Wind East and has been in that quarter some days past. Therm. at noon 68.

Friday, 23rd.—The Vessel not making her appearance, allowing she did not leave Sydney until the first of February, sufficient time has elapsed for her arrival as my communication intimated that she was to leave in a few days after the Isabella, which latter Vessel left Sydney on 11th of January. It therefore becomes necessary to guard against the probable chances of any accident, which may have beenfallen that Vessel with the supplies. I have in consequence ordered all on the stores to be placed on short allowance from 25th inst., by which means we can make our present stock last nearly four months from this time; an Increase took place this morning; a sow littered Five little ones. Therm. at noon 74.

Saturday, 24th.—The seine was hauled, as much fish taken as required. Prisoners employed as usual. Therm. at Noon 74.
LOCKYER TO MACLEAY.

Sunday, 25th.—Much Rain during the night and until Twelve O’clock at noon and blowing hard from S.E. very cold. Therm. at noon 71.

Monday, 26th.—More moderate though cloudy and the air from the wind blowing south, very keen; all employed in various ways. Therm. at noon 65.

Tuesday, 27th.—The convicts employed variously, the Garden has been completely labour lost as yet, everything dies after coming up. Therm. at noon 67.

Wednesday, 28th.—Went out to the Sound and landed on the Break­sea Isle; returned in the afternoon; another sow had an increase today of six. Therm. at noon 72.

Thursday, 29th.—Numbers of the natives are constantly about us and though we could dispense with their visits, I am Cautious that they shall not be offended as in case of a rupture, from their numbers it would prevent our sending out the Stock Keepers with the Pigs and Sheep. Therm. at noon 71.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

Report by Major Lockyer on the Newly-formed Settlement at King George’s Sound.

IN Obedience to the Instructions given to me, I embarked on board the Government Colonial Brig Amity, and proceeded in conjunction with Lieut. Wilm. Festing, H.M. Ship Fly, to King George’s Sound, and have to submit the following Report of the country and its productions, as also a description of its Sound and Harbours:—

After a boisterous and tedious passage of Six Weeks, we arrived at our destination on the 25 Decr., 1826, and, passing through the Sound, we entered the Southern or Princess Royal Harbour by a narrow passage scarcely half Mile in width between the Heads, the Southern one or Point Possession being a large bare mass of Granite about Eighty or one Hundred Feet High with little or no Vegetation on it, this point being connected with a Ridge of Hills, which forms the Southern Boundary of the Harbour from Bald Head, the entrance of the Sound by a small neck of Sand Hills, The North Point being a part of the Main land separating this from Oyster Harbour; on passing entrance, Princess Royal Harbour presents a most magnificent sheet of Water but does not afford, except in a small space, sufficient depth of Water for Ships of any considerable Tonnage. Lieutenant Festing having caused the Brig to be anchored as close the Northern Shore as the depth of Water would allow and nearly as possible where Captn. Flinders had anchored His Majesty’s Ship Investigator* when on discovery. On looking about for an eligible scite for fixing the settlement and on no one presenting a more favourable one than the spot nearly abreast of where the Vessel was at anchor on the North shore in a pretty situation between two Hills, the eastern one of at least from Four to Five hundred Feet in height, the one to the Westward being nearly as high but more bluff at the Top, being one solid Granite Rock with a part of its side being quite steep for about Thirty or Forty Feet, under which is some large Timber, but little of it fit for the Saw Pit. The Eastern Hill sloping, some parts suddenly and others more gradually, thickly covered with a coarse grass, Honeysuckle Trees of different species and a stunted Gum with considerable quantities of loose granite of various Shapes and Sizes.

* Note 100.
1827.
2 April.

Report by E. Locker on settlement.

Description of site selected;

The ground on the lower part between these Hills is a mixture of a dry sandy vegetable mould from Twelve to Eighteen Inches in depth, varying considerably in its proportion of Sand, with the remainder Boggy or swamp Land. On a rising spot of ground nearer the Western Hill or Mount Melville, is a piece of ground of about Five Hundred yards square is Fredericks Town, where the Store Hut, Barracks and Officers' residences are at present built; on a projecting Point on the Beach below the Settlement a Flag Staff is placed and the Two Carronades mounted, which is easily seen on a Ship crossing the Sound and opening Princess Royal Harbour.

No River beyond a small running stream in one or two places in this Harbour.

The Sound itself is a fine Harbour completely shut in from all Winds or heavy Seas from the Ocean, Mt. Gardner and The Two Islands, Michaelmas and Breaksea, protecting it completely from any Gale from N.E. and East, Bald Head affording the same protection from S.S.E. to S. and S.W. For large Ships, the Sound is perfectly secure for all purposes of refitment and need not resort to the Inner Harbour except for heaving down.

A Rock under water, not previously known, was discovered after our being there nearly two Months in the very centre of the passage leading into Sound from sea, between Bald Head and Breaksea Island, and has only Eight or Ten Feet water on it. With the Wind from the Southward, the Sea breaks on it.

Oyster Harbour, lying about Two Miles and half to Three Miles North East of Princess Royal Harbour, has a bar entrance on which the greatest depth of water is Thirteen Feet, between the heads Five to Seven Fathoms for a short distance, when it becomes a shoal all over except a very narrow channel, the passage of two Rivers at the head or North Shore, one on the North West side of no importance being very small, the other much larger being one Hundred and Sixty yards broad for Six Miles, when a ridge of Rocks running across prevents Boats going further up, and immediately the River which is here Fresh becomes considerably narrower and full of Falls and rapids having more or less strength when influenced by Rains.

The Banks on both sides are covered with very large Timber of various descriptions common about Port Jackson and the Blue Gum though not in such plenty as other kinds is far better than is about Sydney.

The soil, even on the banks of this River, is very indifferent, being chiefly a Red Earth covered with Iron Stone Rubble and large pieces on its surface, through which a number of Shrubs force themselves in great variety and a number of running rivulets of beautiful Fresh Water are met with on its banks.

The ground between the Two Harbours is principally very rocky, chiefly Granite on the rising grounds, but the low parts being all swamps; near the Sea Shore a large Lake of Fresh Water of a Mile in Length and one quarter in breadth; between this Lake and the Settlement, there is some good Land and which would answer well to commence a Farm on to produce Vegetables as well as Grain. With this exception, I could find very little Soil that was capable of immediate cultivation, but with some little trouble and time the Bogs or Swamps, which could be easily drained, might be brought into cultivation with every probability of success, being precisely similar to those
around Port Jackson, and under all circumstances I consider King George's Sound to present far more advantages than was at first experienced there.

That there must be good Land in the Interior is certain and not far distant, the natives having all Kangaroo Mantles made from the Skin of the larger sort and which are always found in good Soil where is fine grass.

Having penetrated nearly Forty Miles into the Interior direct North from the Settlement, the Country passed through became better as I proceeded inland, where a Ridge of Mountains similar to the Blue Mountains on this coast and from the Luxuriant Green Foliage of the Trees on this Ridge, which I could plainly discover with my Spy Glass leaves little doubt but that good Land commences there.

The ground on which Gardens have been commenced has as yet failed in producing any Vegetables, which I attribute as much to the Season not being favorable as to the Soil, as also that the ground requires a little management previous to the Seed being sown and which experience will remedy. A small quantity of Maize was sown shortly after our arrival and failed from the same cause as also that I am of Opinion Maize will not answer so near the Sea Shore at King George's Sound, the Climate being much colder there than in the same latitude on the East Coast; everywhere Fresh Water is in the greatest abundance and of good quality.

The Timber is in great variety and fit for any purpose being very Timber, similar to what is found in the Country around Port Jackson.

Limestone can be procured whenever it may be required as the Settlement advances; for present uses, immense quantities of Shells can be obtained more convenient. Granite in variety, convenient for all purposes of buildings, etc. Ironstone is also common.

Fish to be had in almost any quantity and variety, very good with Fish, exceeding fine Oysters.

Kangaroo are not scarce and some very large.

Black Swans, Wild Geese, Ducks, Musk Duck and Teal with Curlew, Kangaroo, Red Legs, Sand Pipers and a number of other Water Birds with Wild fowl, Pelicans.

Black and White Cockatoo with a great variety of Parraquetts with also great variety of small Birds that sing very prettily; but I did not observe any with particular handsome plumage.

The only Animal except the Kangaroo, that was met with, was the Wild Native Dog; some of them were observed in a tame state accompanying the Natives.

The Natives are numerous and from appearance, their condition being good, they cannot be at a loss for Food; many of them are tall, above the middle size and well made and some good countenances and may fairly said to be good looking; their Colour in general very dark, many of them had light Hair.

At first, they are shy and cautious of approaching Strangers, but are soon reconciled and become familiar and are a lively good natured set of People, with proper management perfectly harmless.

Their weapons consist of a Spear about Seven Feet, barbed and thrown with the Woomera, a Stone Hatchet and a Knife of very rude construction.

I did not observe any disease amongst them; their Skins were sleek without a blemish, neither did any of them present an unhealthy appearance. Two only had marks of Spear Wounds, whether caused by accident or by War I could not learn.
1827.
2 April.

Report by E. Lockyer on settlement.

Importance of settlement.

Necessity for protection of seal fisheries.

Prospects of whaling.

Proposed shipment of convicts from England.

Sponge and bitumen.

Salt.

Mutton birds.

The Climate is exceedingly pleasant and entirely free from hot Winds; the Land Wind from North and North East being cool.

The importance of King George's Sound as a place necessary to occupy must strike every person acquainted with this Country. An Enemy holding it would with its cruisers completely cut off the trade, except by Convoys to Van Diemen's Land and Port Jackson, from Europe, the Cape, Isle of France and India.

Its present want of good Soil in the immediate Neighbourhood is only a temporary inconvenience, as from the report of the Sealing Gangs that the country around the Coast towards Geographe Bay and the Swan River is excellent in its Soil, which is confirmed by the recent Visit of Captain Stirling in His Majesty's Ship Success to those Parts.

I should recommend the attention of the Government to a most important and valuable branch of Trade, which, if some measures are not almost immediately resorted to, must be irreparably injured if not destroyed altogether. The Islands along the Southern Coast of this immense one are more or less frequented by the Black or Fur Seal, which by protection would not only afford a good Revenue to the Government, but would also prove a Nursery for Seamen. A Prohibition should be immediately given against any Individual taking the Seals or going at all to the Islands, the Government claiming them as part of the Territory and once in Three Years to Farm the Islands out for the Season from November to the end of April following, or such other Months as would be found not to interfere with their breeding or the time they shed their Fur.

The Coast also abounds with the Sperm Whale and have not as yet been molested from the Whale Ships not approaching so near the Land from the dread of the Coast, that, as far as I can learn from the Sealers who have been down here, with common care and prudence not the slightest danger is to be apprehended.

Should Government resolve on making King George's Sound a Penal establishment, it would be convenient as well as economical if Ships with Prisoners from England were directed to land such of them as would be intended for a Penal Settlement with a supply of Stores and Provisions as might be ordered for King George's Sound in their way to Port Jackson; and it would prevent the Colonial Government dispatching Vessels at unfavourable Seasons, or the chance of the settlement being run short of Provisions, and a Twelvemonths Stock should always be in store there.

April 2, 1827.

E. LOCKYER, Major, 57 Regt.

Great quantities of Sponge is found on the shores around the Harbours as well as on the Sea Coast, washed up, and by dredging for it pieces would be brought up that would prove a valuable Article of Trade. There is also washed up pieces of Bitumen or Pitch.

Salt can be made with little trouble at King George's Sound; the Rocks over which the Sea when rough dashes and fill the Holes in them, are found in a few days the Water evaporated and fine, pure, White Salt left in them.

The Islands on the Coast and Vicinity of King George's Sound are frequented by Penguins and Mutton Birds; the latter can be taken in any quantities that may be required, and are an excellent substitute for fresh Provision. In the Months of September and November, their Eggs, which are very good and as large as those of Ducks, are to be
had in great quantities; even in January, some, that we brought from the Eclipse Islands and of which I partook, were not at all inferior to Duck Eggs.

I beg leave to accompany this Report with a rough Sketch of the Sound and Harbour, with the Rivers, and Country marked where good, indifferent and bad.

ROUGH COPY OF JOURNAL of Major Lockyer.

(The original of this copy is preserved in the Mitchell library, Sydney.)

Monday, January 22nd.—Keeping all hands busily employed in forwarding the necessary erections. Dispatches closed for Sydney and delivered to Lieut. Festing of H.M. Ship Fly who intends sailing the first change of Wind. The Natives visit us every day and appear to be getting more confidence daily, though their increasing familiarity is attended with no small degree of inconvenience, from the disagreeable smell produced by their rubbing their Hair with Fish and Seal Oil of a rancid quality, and from their never using Water with their Toilette. Therm. 78.

Tuesday, 23rd.—This Morning the Wind still being Easterly and blowing fresh prevented the Brig from going out this day. Therm. 78.

Wednesday, 24th.—This Morning at Eight o'clock the Amity got under weigh and left the Harbour on her return to Sydney. The loss to our Society here is very great in the departure of Lieutenant Festing whose gentlemanly pleasant demeanour on all occasions will long be recollected and never forgotten by any one here, and we trust that the chances of service may bring us together again, and we sincerely hope he may have a pleasant and speedy passage to Sydney. The Natives soon ascertained that the Brig was gone and Eight or Ten visited us, amongst them Three Strangers to whom were made present of a Tomahawk and Blanket to each. Therm. 80 at Noon.

Thursday, 25th.—Getting ground ready for Maize for green Food for Cattle and others employed felling and bringing materials for the Buildings. At half past Nine o'Clock a number of Natives were reported to be seen on Mount Melville to the Westward, immediately over the settlement, and, on looking with the Glass, I saw Woods one of the Invalid overseers with three of the Prisoners and a number of Natives apparently in an affray; one of the Prisoners I saw with a bundle of spears in his hand and some of the Natives ran off and three detained by our people who appeared to be compelling them to come down the Hill, when they pushed through those they were in contact with and ran off, at the same instance I saw a Gun levelled by the other Woods the Invalid overseer and fired; there was immediate alarm and a party sent to endeavour to secure some of the Natives and I repaired to the Hill as quick as possible; on my arrival I learnt that Thirteen Natives were observed by Woods who was with a Party cutting Wood, to be creeping down the side of the Hill with their spears shipped in their throwing sticks to the spot where the Sawyers were at Work when he instantly gave the alarm to the other Woods who is with the Sawyers, at which they instantly threw their spears aside and pretended they were merely looking, and at the same time another was observed carrying a large bundle spears on his back; therefore there could be little doubt of their intentions and the Overseer very properly secured their spears and Throwing sticks and a scuffle took place in which one or two spears were thrown which did no harm, and the musquet discharged was also without effect, which I

* Note 105.
Rough copy of Journal of E. Lockyer.
Attack by natives on sawyers.

regretted, as it may give them a contemptible opinion of our fire arms; as their intentions were decidedly mischevious, it is a pity that one of them was not shot as it would be the probable means of preventing any future attack as also an act of humanity as on the next occasion it is impossible to foresee how many may forfeit their lives.

Friday, 26.—This day at Five O’Clock went on Mount Melville and examined the Bushes on it with Pidgeon the Sydney Native, and found two more Spears and a Womera, making in all thirteen Spears and six Womeras. The Native who carried a large Bundle was observed to keep a considerable distance in the Rear of the attacking Party and on the alarm being given he made off depositing his Store in the Bush. Pidgeon tracked them upwards of three Miles and brought Capt. Wakefield on Three of them within 15 yards, who instantly on seeing themselves pursued set up a hideous scream and scampered off; this may probably deter them from attempting another attack. I was very glad after breakfast to find that it was not a general plan, but the act of one Tribe who live in the neighbourhood of the Lakes to the Westward of Mount Melville; at half past Nine Six Natives from Oyster Harbour came in as usual, and on the matter being explained to them they pointed to the Lakes and shook their heads and disclaimed all knowledge of the Fact. Two old Men were of the Party today, one of them was upwards of Sixty, I should say near Seventy; presents were made to them and they left apparently pleased; as it appears that each Tribe acts independent of the others it will require great caution when it is found necessary to punish them for any act of aggression.

The buildings going on. Therm. at Noon.

Saturday, 27th.—At one o’clock to-day ordered the Bell to ring and the Convicts to leave off Work to enable them to wash their Clothes and a Party of Soldiers and Convicts to man the Boat for the purpose of hauling the Seine; went with them no one knowing how to do it except myself and though we started near three we returned at six with sufficient to fill three Wheelbarrows.

Sunday, 28th.—Overseer reported that Convicts refused to rise at Six agreeable to orders.

A Disposition to disobey and set at defiance all authority on the part of the Prisoners having manifested itself on many occasions lately from an Idea that they could not be punished for want of a Scourger, It was reported to me that their Beef that was issued to them yesterday for the Week ensuing was laying by the Scales in the Square, having been brought back by them and there left, and which I saw on going to the spot. I instantly ordered that it should be removed by them, when not the slightest inclination or attempt was to do it; when John Ryan, a sawyer, was passing and I asked him what the meaning of all this was, when he said that was not their allowance, and they would not take it. I then ordered that he would instantly take it up and carry it off, when he replied in the most insolent manner that he would not, nothing should make him. I ordered the Guard to turn out and seize him, and he accused one McGee, also a Convict, with having given short allowance in weight. I was satisfied as to the contrary as this Man never weighs or serves out any ration from the Stores but under the immediate inspection of the Storekeeper. As it was now absolutely necessary to make an immediate example of this John Ryan, I ordered him to be punished on the spot, and after he was tied up I ordered the Overseers to inflict
the Punishment, which they both refused to do and then a Prisoner, who said he could not, that I saw not the slightest chance of enforcing my authority but by the most summary act. I determined to inflict the punishment on him myself rather than submit to allow a Ruffian to get the upper hand, and after he had received Sixteen Lashes he promised to obey and remove the Beef and I then ordered him to be released and this appeared to have the effect of putting down this spirit.

I made an excursion after this to Seal Island and the Sound; on Seal Island would be excellent place for solitary confinement if fresh water was to be had on it, as at times it is very difficult landing except on Calm Days or the Wind is from the Westward; on it were the remains of the habitation of some Sealers and probably on it is fresh Water though we did not find it. No seal on it and a few Birds are the only present residents of this Rock. The Natives keep up a large smoke in the Country round us from Mount Gardner to West Cape Howe, and from the number of Fires, if we may be allowed to judge from that, the Country must be very numerous populated.

Therm.

Monday, 29th.—The Wind after 8 O'Clock came from the Eastward which was a considerable relief from the suffocating stillness of the Morning and was quite refreshing. No visit from the Natives who appear now to be quite doubtful of us and of our intention, which time alone can convince them of their mistake. Therm, at noon —.

Tuesday, 30th.—Went this Morning at Five O'Clock to look for shells to burn for Lime; returned at half past Eight with a Boat load; after Breakfast sent for another Boat load; these with the Oyster Shells I have collected from what has been taken for eating, I calculate that I shall not have short of a Hundred Bushells. Shells in any quantity can be collected on the South and West Shore of Princess Royal Harbour. Therm, at noon —. Sheep died.

Wednesday, 31st.—Thatching the two Officers' Quarters and burning the Lime. Cloudy Weather and Easterly. The Gardens require Rain.

Thursday, February 1st.—People employed as yesterday; towards Evening a little Rain.

Friday, 2nd.—As yesterday. The Potatoes first planted are up and only require Rain to make them shoot out.

Saturday, 3rd.—All employed in forwarding the Buildings, Garden, etc., until One o'clock.

Sunday, 4th.— Went to Oyster Harbour; the Land on the North side of the River which runs into the North West side is very good; plenty of Timber fit for any purpose and the soil fit for any sort of cultivation. Six Miles by land from the Settlement and about Seven by Water. Bricks can also be made there. Took the Seine with me, caught some excellent Mullet at the Mouth of Oyster Harbour, saw a great number of Wild Duck and a pair of Geese on Green Island.

The remains of the Native that was shot by the Sealers was much altered from my first visit; the Head with the Flesh and Skin which was nearly perfect was now bleached nearly White though the Legs were nearly the same from the thick cover of the Skin and the Sinews appear quite dried up.

Monday, 5th.—Recommenced operations at the Settlement in making all able employed variously.
Wednesday, 7th.—Rain much wanted, everything in the Gardens promising well and only requires moisture.

Thursday, 8th.—Visited the Sawyers at the Wood on the opposite Shore; most excellent clear spring of Water to be had there. On my return found that two Natives had been at the Settlement and are the first since 25th of last Month. Therm. at noon 73.

Friday, 9th.—The Weather unpleasant, very cold with Showers. Therm. at noon 57. Some Rain.

Saturday, 10th.—The Weather still unpleasant though the Barometer continues rising. Making preparations to make an excursion into the Interior. Therm. at Noon 74.

Sunday, 11th.—This Morning the Wind shifted to east and became pleasant; a Vessel reported in sight; all in expectation that she must be from Sydney; at last it is reported that she has passed Bald Head and is a Schooner consequently cannot be coming here.

Intending to quit this to-morrow Morning at Day Light.

Servant to Mr. Nind complained that he had been ill used and beaten by Smith, Prisoner of the Crown, without provocation and his Face bleeding from the blows he had received and that this Smith had before taken his Rations and eaten them whilst employed on his Master's Duty; the repeated squabbling and bad Language used amongst the Prisoners called for example. I assembled them and the Detach'd 39th Regt. and the Prisoners having refused to punish Offenders when necessary, I considered it important to order the first Soldier for Duty to do so, when Private Diggins, 39th Regt., though repeatedly ordered by me and exhorted by his Captain to obey, peremptorily refused and said he would not; it was not his Duty. The next, by name Forward, did with great reluctance; no alternative was left but to call to my aid the Military to enforce my authority and, though it may be an unpleasant Duty to the Soldier, the necessity I am satisfied justifies the proceeding. In consequence of his refusal, I have ordered him to be kept Prisoner until the matter is fully reported to His Excellency the Lieut. General.

Monday, 12th.—At five o'clock this morning having left the settlement in charge of Capt. Wakefield, I proceeded on my excursion passing the Sound to Oyster Harbour and landed on Green Island to Breakfast and to allow the Men to catch Mutton Birds; caught as many as they could eat and after breakfast proceeded to the French River, and, on going up several reaches for about Six Miles, a ridge of Rocks which lays across prevents Boats going further without being hauled over and then it is only navigable for a half Mile, when it meets the Fresh Water which is a continuation of long, still lagoons, the water running out of the end of one to the other; from the very level appearance of the Country, this River might easily be made navigable for Boats to a great distance; encamped on the left bank of the River for the Night, having previously walked about Four Miles above the ridge of Rocks on the right side; found excellent Timber, the Ground varies, some tolerable and would do well for Grazing Cattle and even Sheep in many places, though a great deal of it near the Banks is covered with Ironstone Gravel, which would defy all attempt to Plough; but for the purposes of raising Grain, plenty of good land to be found. The Timber chiefly is Iron Bark and a Tree I have not seen before, of the ash kind but on its branches it had lines like a Fir. Fine running Streams of excellent Water was met with and from the very little or no Rain we have had since our arrival.
and this being the driest time of the year is a pretty good proof that there is no scarcity of that most useful article of life.

On entering the River three of our acquaintances of the Oyster Bay Tribe called to us and we put in to the Shore to them and pointed where we were going, to prevent them having any suspicion that we intended them harm, showing how many days we should be away, all which they understood and we parted. Black Swans, Wild Ducks, Widgeon Geese, Pelicans, Curlew, Red Bills, and a variety of Water Fowl were to be seen on the Wing and Floating about this River. The Scenery at its entrance is beautiful and the Ground on its right side the best for commencing a Government Farming Establishment that I have as yet seen.

Tuesday, 13th.—Set out at 8 o’Clock having had breakfast, leaving a Soldier and one Man in charge of the Boat, having her anchored in the middle of the River. Made a course due North through the Country which I found chiefly Forest of Iron Bark and the Blood Tree; a great deal of the surface was covered with Iron Stone Gravel except between the Hills where it is Boggy or sand, with running streams of Water on every Hill. Plenty of Feed for Cattle; continued this course until One O’Clock, when having halted to rest the Party, I think we must have walked Ten Miles; having rested for about an hour, I set out to return, made a slight deviation to the East, therefore going nearly parallel to the line we came; saw nothing new, and very few marks of the Natives having been lately there, consequently they must be at this season all on Sea Shore. From the place we reached had a fine view of the Ridge of Hills distant about 20 Miles due North of us. Having ascertained that walking is not at all difficult through the Country, to-morrow I intend again to set out, taking provisions with us; a Road would be easily made from the Settlement to where I am now, about 25 Miles; arrived at the Boat at Five O’Clock quite ready for Dinner which was soon cooked and made arrangements for our excursion to the Hills, intending to set out next day.

Wednesday, 14th.—Early this Morning set out with four days’ provisions making nearly the same course as yesterday, which we continued until Twelve O’Clock, when, the Sky having become overcast, down came the Rain in Torrents; having reached a spot, in case it continued, to encamp and a hollow Tree to secure our Arms from Wet, a Fire was lighted and some Sheets of Bark procured; before however they could be of use, we were all wet to the Skin; our hopes of it ceasing were soon abandoned; it came down very heavy with much Thunder and Lightning; we were completely caught and obliged to fix ourselves for the Night which we did as well as our means would admit. One of Soldiers unfortunately was seized with a violent fit of Ague, which he informed me he was subjected to on getting wet; this was very unlucky as it was quite certain that, if it continued or weakened him, I could not proceed; the Rain poured in torrents until nine o’clock, when it ceased to our no small comfort. The next Morning, finding that Deane looked very ill from his Ague fit and two others with Lame Feet I gave up the Idea of proceeding as the Weather threatened more Wet.

Thursday, 14th.—Having decided that it would not be prudent for the Reasons stated to attempt to proceed further, we set out after Breakfast to return about Six O’Clock and reached the Boat about Half past Eleven; every appearance of more Rain. I considered it advisable to keep the Men in exercise and to proceed to the Settlement where they could get dry and assistance to the Man should he require
it; on entering the Harbour, observed the Isabella, Schooner, laying
at anchor off the Settlement, which I reached at Six O’Clock, having
come a distance by march and Boat not less than Thirty Five Miles.

Received numerous Letters from Sydney and learnt that this Vessel
was going with supplies to Melville Island and on her return to call
here with Mr. Tollemache, Storekeeper appointed to succeed my Son
who is now doing duty as Assit. Storekeeper, he being appointed to
an Ensigncy in the 39th Regt. and received directions from His Excel­
lency the Governor for my return to Sydney by a Vessel which is
coming here with H.M. Ship Success; learnt that the Sealers had been
alongside the Schooner and having been informed by some person
that a look out was kept for them they immediately left again and
got off, at which I was very vexed as they had the Woman in the
Boat with them that they had taken away from Oyster Harbour; also
found that George Thomas and Hobson, the two Seamen, had returned
from Middle Island.

Friday, 16.—Received application to order some repairs to be
effected for the Isabella.

Making preparations in collecting materials for an additional Store
to put the Cargo of the Vessel expected here. Showers this day and
rather cold.

Saturday, 17.—Getting on as yesterday. Isabella departs to-morrow,
provided that she can get out.

Sunday, 18.—Wind from the Eastward, blowing Fresh, prevents
the Isabella getting further than the entrance of the Harbour to the
Sound. Prayers read this Morning.

Monday, 19th.—This morning the Isabella left the Harbour; about
ten o’clock it came on to blow a Gale at S.W. and W. which con­
tinued all Day; the Pilot not returning, concluded that the Isabella
has anchored in the Sound.

Sent the Boat for Shells and the Men collecting Wood for building
the new Store Hut. Therm. at Noon 75.

Tuesday, 20th.—The Schooner at anchor in the Sound; blowing very
hard from the Westward; she was obliged to put back.

The Prisoners employed as yesterday.

Wednesday, 21st.—The Weather very cold and wet which makes
it very unpleasant. The Prisoners employed variously as most useful.
The Carpenters and Sawyer at their respective callings, the Gardner
with two Labourers at their Garden, Two Men assisting the Sawyer
in felling and getting the Logs on the Pit, Four Men with Pidgeon
the Sydney Native, bringing Shells in the Boat, others employed
cutting Wood to make a Kiln and others cutting Rafter.

The Natives again are constant Visitors but all that we have seen
before, no new Faces. The Schooner at anchor outside and the
Pilot George Thomas and Hobson with the other Seaman still on board
her. Therm. at Noon 74.

Thursday, 22nd.—The Prisoners employed as yesterday; this after­
noon the Pilot Boat returned from the Schooner, from the boisterous
weather could not quit her before; she starts as soon as the Wind
will admit. Therm. at noon 75.

Friday, 23rd.—This Morning went across the Harbour at 5 O’Clock
to visit the Sawyers; find I shall be obliged to remove them to some
other spot. The Breeze having set in Easterly the Schooner left the
Sound for her destination. The Prisoners employed as yesterday and
the Weather became again fine. Therm. at Noon 76.
Saturday, 24th.—This day the Prisoners employed as necessary; a Sick Hut was erected for a Soldier of the 39th Regt. who has been gradually declining in Health, and was always weakly, and from the nature of his disease it was necessary that he should be removed from the Barrack.

Sunday, 25th.—The Vessel being daily expected with the Stores and not having a place to deposit the same, I deemed it advisable not only that the supply should remain separate from what is now in the store but also, as a matter of precaution against accident of Fire, to keep it apart in another Store Hut and ordered the Prisoners to be employed on it today to prevent unnecessary delay in discharging the Vessel on her arrival.

The hut for the Sick Soldier finished.

Monday, 26th.—All busily employed on the New Store Hut which this Evening was completed in Frame, 35 Feet long and 20 Feet Broad and only requires Thatching to finish it. The Seine was hauled on Saturday last and an immense quantity of excellent Fish taken.

Tuesday, 27th.—Getting Thatch for the New Store and the Boat repaired being very slightly built. Therm. at Noon 75.

Wednesday, 28th.—This Morning the Seine was hauled and a good supply of Fish taken.

The Prisoners employed as yesterday. I would recommend to the Government the propriety of establishing two Fish days in the Week, when the Ration of Meat should be withheld and on those days in lieu of Meat to issue half pound of Flour extra with Suet and Raisins which would be fully equal to fresh provisions. Therm. at noon 68.

Thursday, March 1st.—The Wind being Easterly we are looking out for His Majesty's Ship Success and the Vessel with Stores which must be now very near. "The Prisoners employed as usual. Therm. 74.

Friday, 2nd.—The Weather being very favourable proceeded to the Breaksea Sound to visit the Breaksea Island which the appearance of being quite barren, nothing but bare Rock. I was surprised on landing on it to find on the Top and North East Side a large spot of good Soil which would be good for a Potatoe Crop; descending on the south side, on a Rock lay basking in the Sun a dozen Seals of the Fur kind. I shot three of them and the rest took to the water where they kept playing about for a considerable time, and the whole might have been shot but could not be got as they would sink. The Marks of Sealers having been on it, the ground around a Cave in a Sand Rock exhibited the Feathers and Pinions of the Mutton Bird as a proof great slaughter must be committed there occasionally.

Saturday, 3rd.—The Prisoners all employed except those in the General sick report which are only one or two and those of no serious complaint. The Medical Officer reports the want of Medicines, etc. The sawyers and their Assistants not doing their Work, I have ordered that their Indulgencies shall be withheld until they are inclined to do so. Therm. at noon.

Sunday, 4th.—This day Mustered the Prisoners and inspected them and Prayers read in the Square. Ordered every person to attend. Therm. at Noon —.

Monday, 5th.—Went to the opposite Shore to remove the Sawyers to another Wood where there is sufficient Timber to keep them at Work for the next Year, chiefly Blue Gum of good quality and size, for any purpose required at the Settlement. Several spots on this side fit for cultivation and a Plain of great extent where Cattle could.
graze in perfect security. Good Water and Sand Stone fit Building; the Shoals run so far off renders it less desirable than the other side. Returned to the Settlement at three o’clock. Therm. at noon —.

Tuesday, 6th.—Sent the Boat to the Saw Pit to bring such Plank and Stuff over as might be ready. On the return of the Boat Men they reported that a Vessel or Boat was outside. Sent Pidgeon to the Hill, he returned without seeing anything. The Wind being Easterly, Vessels expected are looked for. Strange Natives came to-day, five Man. Therm, at noon —.

Wednesday, 7th.—People employed on various duties of the Settlement.

This Morning Five Natives of a Tribe, we have not seen before, came to the Settlement, all stout, well made Men, measured one of them and he was Six Feet Two Inches in height. On looking at him I recognised him as one of the Four Men that had been taken off Michaelmas Island and there is no doubt he must have been one who speared Prisoner Dennis Dineen. I immediately pointed to the Island and he was quite astonished at being recognised and though I tried all I could to quiet his fears he slunk off evidently afraid that it was intended to retaliate on him. Therm, at Noon.

Friday, 9th.—The Prisoners employed as yesterday. Therm, at Noon.

Saturday, 10th.—The Weather this Morning indicated a very stormy Day and about Ten O’Clock it commenced blowing very hard from the E.S.E. with Heavy Rain, Thunder and Lightning, and continued without ceasing until about Six O’Clock when it broke up and Two boats were reported to be just landed and that it was the Sealers. I immediately ordered the guard down and made them Prisoners, and secured their Arms—Seven Fowling Pieces.

Ordered them to be placed in the Store Hut with a sentry over them until to-morrow Morning. Therm. at Noon.

Sunday, 11th.—This Morning Private Banks of the 39th was interred.

Sent for the Boat’s Crew individually and informed them that they were charged with Murder and would be sent to Sydney to answer for the same; they all protested their innocence of the Crime except John Sigsworth, who acknowledged he shot the Native but that it was in self defence as it did to save the lives of himself and those in the Boat with him, that Edward Edwards was knocked down by a Stone or Stick and was Bleeding in the Water, to all appearances dead before he fired; they all admitted being at Oyster Harbour at the time and of taking the Woman and placing the four Natives on Michaelmas Island, with the exception of John Sigsworth who was at Middle Island at this time, consequently has nothing to do with the matter. I cautioned them individually against saying anything that might tend to incriminate themselves, and they said they should be glad to have the matter investigated and had come here for the purpose
of giving themselves up, and also stated that they had been left bare
by their employers in a most shameful manner, having been here
Eighteen Months on the Coast with three Months' Provision only,
with a promise that a Vessel would be sent with supplies and to take
them off within eight Months of the time of their being left, since which
no Vessel or supplies has ever reached them and consequently obliged
to live on anything they could get, even a Dog; they have with them
one Hundred Fur Seal Skins and have about Seven Hundred on an
Island near Moundrain Island opposite the Main Land by Thistles
Cove and Lucky Bay. From these men's accounts of the Coast from
Middle Island down round Cape Lewen to Rottenest Island off the
Swan River, there are Boat harbours all the way at convenient
distances from 50 to 70 Miles and some less, and many of them a
Vessel of any size could find Shelter in good Anchorage, mostly Islands
along shore with deep Water between them and the Main; they
describe the Weather on the Coast as fine in general with variable
Winds seldom blowing the same way longer than four or five days
together and a Gale does not last more than Six or Eight Hours and
in their Coasting Voyages they have never been detained by bad
Weather or contrary winds longer than Three or Four Days at any
time of the Year; that last Winter the Weather was particularly fine
and mild. About Twenty five Miles to the Southward of the Swan
River one of the Boats entered a Bar River and went up about Twenty
or more Miles and at Six Miles from the entrance it forms a large
Sheet or Lake as large as Princess Royal Harbour or King George's
Sound; on crossing it you again enter the River which runs Eastward
into the Country. The Natives on its Bank were in great numbers
and appeared extremely hostile as they stood on the Banks and held
their Spears in a menacing attitude and were very clamorous, shouting
and making a great noise.
At Rottenest Island, immense numbers of the small kangaroo called
Wallaby are to be caught there, their skins make excellent Fur
Jackets or Rugs.
Observing in one of the Boats a new steer Oar made of Fir and
wondering how they could come by such, I asked where they had got
it and was answered that on the Shore they had picked up the Sprit
sail yard of some ship.
Fish caught to-day abundance. The Convicts employed as usual.
Tuesday, 13th.—The Vegetables that was sown in the Garden make
little or no progress; whether the Season is favourable or unfavour-
able or the Soil too sour before worked must remain for a time to be
ascertained. I judge the latter.
The Stock thrive, particularly the Pigs, who keep fat and in excel-
lent order by being turned out, and never get anything given them.
The Sheep have been very unfortunate; out of Ten the Ram and
three Ewes are only left, but those are doing well.
The Geese, Ducks, and Fowls impossible to do better, and will in-
crease rapidly.
Employed some of the Seamen to make a sail for the Government
Boat out of the Canvas sent for that purpose. Ordered them Four
Pounds of Tobacco for their trouble. Therm. at Noon —.
Wednesday, 14th.—The Prisoners employed as usual except three in
the Sick report.
Lime Juice has been recommended by the Surgeon to Seven of them.
Boat load of Shells brought and afterwards went across to the
Sawyers. Therm. at Noon —.
Thursday, 15th.—Prisoners all employed; the Vessel not arriving with the supply of Provisions as was expected will, if any accident has happened to her, render it necessary to take precautions accordingly, as sufficient time has elapsed and more for arriving, allowing she did not leave Sydney until the 20th or 23th January last, and the Wind has blown from the Eastward these several days past. Therm. at Noon —.

Friday, 16th.—This day went to the French River, accompanied by Capt. Wakefield to examine the Ground; on its Banks though by no means good, it is better than at the Settlement and on the arrival of Cattle and an - to the Establishment, the Farming and Agricultural concerns must be carried on there; returned about Seven O’Clock. Therm. at Noon —.

Saturday, 17th.—Ordered two Days’ Meat in the Week to be substituted by an issue of Rice in proportion, which will make the Meat hold out much longer as well as being beneficial to the People.

This Morning to the Westward of the Settlement on the Beach a great number of the Natives were discovered busily employed spearing Fish, and meeting some of the Prisoners at Work in the Wood near there came up to them and offered them their Spears in token that they were only Fishing and did not intend to molest any person; they were about Fifty or Sixty in number, besides Women and Children. The Boat being out Fishing with the Seine it soon attracted their Notice and Thirty of them came to the Settlement and assisted hauling the Net and expressed their satisfaction at the quantity of Fish taken by our method by shouting and making a great Noise, which must have made them think but poorly of their means of catching Fish. As there was an abundance, I took care that they should have a share for which they appeared much pleased, cooking some of it on the Spot and carrying the rest off to their Women and Children. Several within the last few Days have brought spears as presents to different individuals, looking about for the person whom they intended them for. I am in hopes that the good understanding which now subsists will be continued. I have no doubt, but am nearly certain that in a short time they could be very useful in a variety of ways; they can handle the Spade and dig as well as a European and are very strong; for small inducement, such as a little Flour, Meat or Fish to be given them, they might be induced to work, collect Shells for Lime, etc., etc.

About six o’clock this evening a most tremendous Thunder Storm came on with the very vivid flashes of Lightning, the Rain pouring down in torrents, which lasted nearly during the night. Therm. at Noon —.

Sunday, 18th.—This Morning was calm at first but about Eight O’Clock a violent Storm came on from the South ward and blew a perfect hurricane for nearly two Hours and afterwards a Gale until nearly four O’Clock in the Afternoon when it began to moderate. No going out this day anywhere, it being very cold and wet. Therm. at Noon 59.

Monday, 19th.—Entered in the fair copy.

Tuesday, 20th.— do.

Wednesday, 21st.— do.

Thursday, 22nd.—Wind East and has been in that Quarter these some days past which makes me anxious for the arrival of the supplies. Therm. at Noon —.

Friday, 23rd.—The Vessel not making her appearance, allowing that she did not leave Sydney until the First of February, sufficient time
has elapsed for her arrival, as my communications intimated that she was to leave in a few Days after the Isabella which latter Vessel left this now a Month since for Melville Island. It therefore becomes necessary to guard against the probable chances of any accident which may have befallen the Vessel with supplies. I have in consequence ordered all on the Stores to be placed on short allowance from the 25th inst. instead of one Pound of Meat to issue half pound until a supply arrives. If she does not turn up by the first of April, I shall give her up and adopt every plan against being run short; with management, the Stores can hold out four Months from this present time; a sow littered 5 Pigs. Therm. at Noon —.

Saturday, 24th.—The Seine was hauled and as much Fish taken as was required. People employed as usual. Therm. at Noon —.

Sunday, 25th.—Much Rain during the Night and until Twelve O’Clock at Noon and blowing hard from the S.E. very cold. Therm. at Noon —.

Monday, 26th.—The Weather more moderate though Cloudy and the Air from the Wind being South very keen. All employed in various ways; the Vessel anxiously looked for. Therm. at Noon 65.

Tuesday.—The Convicts employed variously. The Garden does answer to our expectations as every thing sown has come up at first well and afterwards dies off. Therm. at noon 67.

Wednesday, 28th.—Went out to the Sound and landed on the Breaksea Isle; returned in the afternoon. Limestone on both Island as also on the Main Land, but of that description would require a proper Kiln to be built to burn it in; a Sow littered, 6 Pigs. Therm, at Noon 72.

Thursday, 29th.—Prisoners all employed. Numbers of Natives are constantly about us and though we could dispense with their Visits, I am cautious not to give them any offence, as in case of a rupture, from their numbers the Stockkeepers could not venture out with the Pigs and Sheep. Therm at Noon 71.

Friday, 30th.—All the Prisoners employed as usual. Fine, pleasant Weather and all that is wanting here is good Vegetables and a little fresh Meat for the people; the Climate being as good as any in the World; the Natives appear quite free from any sort of disease and their Skins are perfectly clean without any irruption or blemish which is very extraordinary from the hard mode in which they live and constant exposure to the weather. Therm, at noon —.

MAJOR LOCKYER TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.*

Sir,

Sydney, 18th April, 1827.

In obedience to the Instructions given me I embarked on board the Government Colonial Brig Amity and proceeded in conjunction with Lieutenant Festing of His Majesty’s Ship Fly to King George’s Sound, and have now the honor to submit the following report for the Information of His Excellency the Governor of the Settlement formed at that place:—

Having sailed from Sydney on the 9th of November last, I arrived at King George’s Sound on the 25th of December a passage of Six Weeks and two days, the Weather, though the Season

* Note 106.
of the Year was considered most favourable for making the passage, proved very boisterous; passing in through the Sound, we entered Princess Royal Harbour by a narrow entrance half a Mile in width between the Heads, the Southern one being a large bare Mass of Granite about Eighty to one hundred feet high, with little or no vegetation on it; This Point being connected with the ridge of Hills which forms the Southern boundary of the Sound and Princess Royal Harbour from Bald Head and joined to them by an Ishmus of Sand Hills; The North point being part of the main land separating Princess Royal from Oyster Harbour; the former on entering it presents a very magnificent Sheet of Water, but does not afford except in a small space sufficient depth of Water for Ships of any considerable Tonnage. Lieutenant Festing having caused the Brig to be anchored as close to the Northern Shore as the depth of Water would admit and nearly as possible where Captain Flinders had anchored His Majesty's Ship Investigator* when at this place on discovery.

On examining the Shores of both Harbours as also the Sound, we could not find a more favourable Spot for the Site of the intended Settlement than that which was immediately opposite the Vessel on the North Shore in a pretty Situation, having the advantage of good Water and Fuel, being close to the Shores of the Harbour and no impediment to communication with the Interior, on a rising spot of ground about Five hundred Yards Square; at this place is the Settlement, which in honor of His Royal Highness the Duke of York I named Fredericks Town, and on a projecting Point below on the beach a Flag Staff is placed with a Platform with Two eighteen Pounders mounted, which is easily seen by a Ship crossing the Sound and opening Princess Royal Harbour.

The Sound itself is a fine Harbour, being nearly land locked as it is termed, being shut in from all winds or heavy Seas from the Ocean. The Land from Mount Gardner and Michaelmas with Break Sea Islands protecting it completely from any gale from the North East, and East Bald Head affording the same protection from South South East to South and South West. For large Ships the Sound is perfectly safe for all purposes of refitting, and the Inner Harbour need not be resorted except for the purpose of Heaving down or discharging Cargo.

Some time after our arrival, heavy breakers were observed between Breaksea Island and Bald Head nearly mid channel of the entrance to the Sound, and which proved to be a Rock previously unknown, Eight or Ten feet under Water, and does not break except when blowing fresh from the Southward.

* Note 100.
Oyster Harbour about Two Miles and half North East of
Princess Royal Harbour has a bar entrance, in which the
greatest depth is thirteen feet; further on between the Heads it
deepens from Five to Seven Fathoms for a short distance, when
it becomes much less, and the whole of the Harbour is nothing
but a Shoal of Sand with not more than Three feet of Water
over it except in the channel leading to the Two Rivers situated
in North part of it. One on the North West side of it is of no
importance being very small, the other on the North East side
being considerably larger as it is at least One Hundred and
Sixty Yards Broad for Six Miles up from its entrance, when a
Ridge of Rocks prevents Boats getting higher up. The River,
which is here fresh, becomes considerably narrower and full of
falls and rapids.

The Banks on both sides are covered with very large Timber
of various kinds but common about Port Jackson and the East
Coast, such as Blue Gum, Black butted Gum, Blood Wood,
Bastard Mohogany, Box Wood, with a variety of different sorts
of Honey Suckle. The Blue Gum was particularly good.

The Soil on the Banks of this River is very indifferent, being
chiefly very Sandy and some places Reddish earth covered with
Iron Stone Rubble and occasionally large pieces on its surface.
Small spots are met with where there is good alluvial Soil and
beautiful running Streams of Fresh Water as clear as Chrystal.

The ground between the Two Harbours is very rocky, chiefly
granite on the rising grounds but on the lower parts all Swamps.
On the Sea Shore near the Sound and between the Harbours,
there is a tolerable large fresh Water Lake of a Mile and half in
length and one quarter in breadth; the Water of this lake
though well tasted and very wholesome is discoloured and looks
when in a Tumbler like Brandy and Water; a Piece of Land
behind this Lake towards the Settlement is particularly good and
would be an excellent Spot for forming a Farming Establish­
ment and is only two Miles from the Settlement. With this
exception, I did not find any other spot that was capable of
immediate Cultivation; but with some little trouble and time the
Swamps, which would be easily drained, might be brought into
cultivation with every probability of success, being precisely
similar to those of Port Jackson.

That there must be good land in the Interior is certain and
not far distant, the Natives having all Kangaroo Mantles made
from the Skin of the larger Sort and which are always found
in rich grass and that only grows in good Soil. Having pene­
trated nearly forty Miles into the Interior direct North from

LOCKYER TO MACLEAY.

Oyster Harbour.

1847.
18 April.

Oyster Harbour.

French river.
1827.
18 April.

the Settlement, the Country passed through became better as I
proceeded inland; not being able to carry more than four or five
days' Provisions prevented my proceeding further, which could
have easily been done, the Country being all open thro' large
Forest Trees. A Ridge of mountains similar to the Blue Moun-
tains in the East and about the same distance inland, running
East and West, having been within fifteen to twenty Miles of
them, with a Spy glass I could plainly discern that the trees
were covered with most luxuriant green foliage, from which I
am confident the land there must be good.

The ground fixed on for a Garden at the Settlement did not
prove fortunate as it had failed in producing any Vegetables,
which I attribute as much to the Season not being favorable as
to the Soil not being good, the ground requiring a little manage-
ment previous to the Seeds being sown and which experience will
remedy. A small quantity of Maize was also planted but failed,
I think, from the Climate being too cold near the Sea Coast at
King George's Sound, it being much colder there than in the
same Latitude on the East Coast.

Fresh Water is to be had either on the Shores of the Sound or
Harbours in the greatest abundance and of good quality.

No want of Timber; Limestone abounds as also Shells for
making of Lime; Sand Stone and granite in variety; conse-
quently all the necessary materials are to be had for building.
Iron Stone is also Common.

Fish and Fish of every kind very good, and can be taken at any moment
they are wanted. The Oysters are very large and fine and are
very like those taken in Torical Bay on the French Coast
opposite Jersey. The Birds are very similar to those of Port
Jackson with the exception that, at King George's Sound, many
of them sing very prettily, but I did not observe any with
particularly handsome plumage.

The only Animal except the Kangaroo that was met with
was the Wild Native Dog; some of them were observed in a
tame state accompanying the Natives.

The Natives are numerous, and from appearance their condi-
tion being good they must have the means of a good Supply of
food; many of them are tall, above the middle size and well
made with good countenances, and many of them might be fairly
said to be good looking, their colour in general very dark; what
was very remarkable several of them had light hair. They are
shy and cautious how they venture near Strangers at first, but
are soon reconciled and become familiar on finding no harm is
intended them.
Their Weapons consist of the Spear, which is about Eleven feet long, thrown by a Stick called a Womera, a Stone Hatchet and a Knife of very rude construction, made of hard wood with pieces of Kangaroo Bone let in to form an edge.

I did not observe any disease amongst them; their skins were sleek without a blemish; neither did any of them present an unhealthy appearance. Two only had marks of spear wounds, whether caused by accident or War I could not learn.

The Climate is exceedingly pleasant and entirely free from Climate. Hot winds, that coming from North and North East over the land being quite cool.

The importance of King George's Sound as a place necessary to occupy must strike every person acquainted with this Country. An Enemy holding it would with its Cruizers completely intercept and greatly annoy the Trade except by Convoys to Van Dieman's Land and Port Jackson from Europe the Cape of Good Hope, Isle of France and India.

Its present want of good Soil in its immediate vicinity is only a temporary inconvenience, as from the accounts given to me by the Sealing Gangs who go along the Coast in open Whale Boats, that the Country along the Coast towards Geographe Bay and up the Swan River is excellent in its Soil, and which is confirmed by the recent visit of Captain Stirling in His Majesty's Ship Success to those parts.

I should recommend the attention of Government to a most important and valuable branch of Trade, which, if some measures are not almost immediately resorted to, must be irreparably injured if not altogether destroyed. The Islands along the Southern Coast of this immense one are more or less frequented by the Black or Fur Seal, which if protected would not only afford a good Revenue to the Government but would also prove a Nursery for Seamen; I would suggest that a prohibition should be immediately issued to prevent any Individuals taking the Seals or going at all to the Islands on pain of seizure, if found without a License.

Once in three years the Government should farm the Islands out for the Season from November to the end of April following, or such other Months as would be found not to interfere with their breeding or the Time they shed their fur, And a Severe Penalty to be attached for Killing Pups.

The Coast between middle Island and King George's Sound abound with Sperm Whale, and, I am informed, have not as yet been molested from the Whale Ships not approaching so near the Land from the dread of the Coast, but as far as I can learn
HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA.

1827.
18 April.

Return of E. Lockyer to Sydney.

from those persons who have been living down there going in open Boats actually from Kangaroo Island round Cape Leuwin to Swan River that there is not the least danger approaching, and there are several places where Ships of any Size can Anchor in Security.

Temporary Buildings for the Stores, Officers Troops and Provisions having been erected at the Settlement His Majesty’s Ship Success having called at King George’s Sound on her return from Swan River in obedience to a communication received, I returned by this opportunity to Head Quarters.

I have, &c.,

E. Lockyer, Major, 57th.

3 May.

Report on settlement.

GOVERNOR DARLING TO EARL BATHURST.

3rd May, 1827.

[A copy of this despatch, containing a report on the settlement, will be found on page 272 et seq., volume XIII, series I.]

RETURN OF TROOPS AT KING GEORGE’S SOUND.

5th May, 1827.

RETURN OF TROOPS AT KING GEORGE’S SOUND.

CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,

King George’s Sound, 21 May, 1827.

I have the honor to acquaint you that Major Lockyer sailed on the 3d of April for Sydney in H.M. Ship Success, leaving the charge of the Settlement to me. Since taking the command, my attention has been particularly directed towards erecting such buildings as were absolutely necessary for the health of those stationed here, and for the security of the Stores, those at first put up were so extremely temporary that they are unfit to be occupied. A Barrack 45 feet by 22, with a six feet mud wall, fitted up so as to sling the hammocks, boarded floor, fire place at the N. end, two glass windows in front, two blank ones in rear and one in front to admit a free circulation of air when necessary, has been built and is now occupied by the Military; it is a comfortable Barrack and will contain upwards of thirty men. I have also erected a Store and house for Engineer’s tools 28 feet by 18, which will be finished in about three days, and completed a house for the Storekeeper now occupied. They are firm and substantial, sufficiently so to continue for several years. The health of the people being of the first consequence, whatever is conducive to it shall be most strictly attended to. We have had a few slight cases of Scurvy. Of the numerous attacks of
Bowel Complaints, all have terminated favourably excepting one
(the Soldier who died on the 8th March). As the swampy ground
immediately around the settlement* is considered the chief cause
of this last complaint being so exceedingly prevalent, I have lost
no time in endeavouring to remedy the evil by draining, a step
also necessary to be taken before it can be brought into a state
of cultivation. Thro' the Centre of the Marsh to the West of
us, I have made a large drain about two hundred yards long and
four feet deep, which, with the assistance of a few about eighteen
inches deep, cut across to fall into the main one, will no doubt
prove effectual. From the extreme sterility of the soil, we have
completely failed in every endeavour to raise vegetables; this has
induced me to select and clear a spot of tolerably good land
for a Garden on the South side the harbour (where my Sawyers
are now employed), on a part of which is a crop of Turnips that
at present looks remarkably well. I think it would produce
excellent potatoes but am unable to procure any to plant. We
have in vain sought for the wild Spinage said to be so abundant
here. There is a great quantity of wild Celery; to gather and
pound it, the Convalescent are frequently employed; the juice is
administered by the Surgeon in symptoms of Scurvy, and has
proved beneficial to the few who have occasion to use it. We
have latterly been very unsuccessful with the Seine; since the
Scarcity of fish
weather has become colder and strong westerly winds have pre-
vailed, the fish keep more in deep water. Kangaroos are also so
extremely scarce that we can seldom meet with one. In order
to obtain fresh provisions, I occasionally send to an Island
about four leagues to the Eastward for Mutton birds; the boat
generally returns with two days' supply for the whole Settlement;
they are exceedingly numerous, easily caught in their
holes in the ground, and average about a pound each. Having
been so long on salt provisions, we find them very acceptable.
If we should be at all in want of meat, it is my intention to send
the empty casks and have them filled with these birds salted.
From the innumerable quantity, a sufficient supply of them and
their eggs may easily be taken to subsist the whole of us for
a considerable time. The Natives continue to visit us daily,
and do not appear at all hostile, but, from the strong disposition
they show for thieving, are become rather troublesome; a few
however are quite the reverse, live almost constantly among us,
and make themselves useful in collecting firewood. I will here
relate a remarkable instance of their honesty and attachment to
us. A short time ago, two Natives expressed a wish to sleep at
the cooking fire, which was allowed; early in the morning they
went away each taking an Axe. On the arrival of the few above

* Note 107.
1827.
21 May.

Intercourse with natives.

Arrival of brig Ann.

Site proposed for farm.

Request for shipment of goats.

Good conduct of prisoners.

mentioned, we made them understand what had taken place; they appeared very angry and promised immediately to restore them. Several disappeared for that purpose, and in a few days returned making signs that they had speared one of the thieves; shortly after, the other Native, who had slept by the fire, brought in the Axe he had stolen. Several attempts were made to spear him also; but, by the interference of some of my party, he was allowed to escape tho' not until a severe wound had been inflicted in his leg. The Brig Ann (Grimes Master) with horses from Timor for Sydney, last from Melville Island, anchored here on Thursday; she reports the Settlement to have been very short of provisions when the Issabella reached it. The Commandant there has employed that Vessel to Convey Cattle from Timor, and she may be expected here on her return to Sydney in about two Months. Mr. Grimes has given us a few Sickles, which were much wanted for cutting rushes for thatch, etc., and also several other things that will be very useful to the settlement.

I have been able to get from the Ship several boat loads of Stable Manure, which will ensure to us a few vegetables, and am gathering a quantity of sea weed for the same purpose; this is merely mentioned to assure you that no exertion on my part shall be wanting to establish a good garden. From the barrenness of the land here, I should conceive it absolutely necessary to form the farming establishment on the South Side the harbour, where the soil is much better. It is of a dark brown colour, and, at the depth of eighteen inches, lime stone appears. The Woods are small and not numerous, but the timber tolerably large. The plains are not very extensive, less swampy that about the Settlement, with but little herbage. It is very hilly and chiefly lime stone. Horned Cattle may thrive, Goats and Swine do remarkably well, but I fear sheep cannot succeed until Artificial grasses are introduced. I beg to suggest the sending down a quantity of Goats; their Milk would be of infinite service in case of sickness, and we should occasionally be able to have a ration of fresh meat. In justice to the prisoners, I cannot close my letter without acquainting you that they are remarkably orderly and well behaved.

I have, &c.,

J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt.

CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,

King George's Sound, 21 May, 1827.

I have the honor to report to you that the twelve Sealers and three Black Women (one a native of Kangaroo Island and the other two of Port Dalrymple, V. D. Land), who remained here when Major Lockyer left, and five others who arrived on
WAKEFIELD TO MACLEAY.

the 4 April in distress, have engaged themselves on board the Ann (Grimes, Master) and left the Settlement. They have been receiving Rations at the rate of One pound of Flour pr. day each, but were struck off the Stores on the 19th Inst. I have, however, been obliged to issue One Month's rations of flour for the Women during the passage. I beg you will be pleased to acquaint me how to act in similar cases in future. We have now a sufficient supply in store to give all hands full rations for five weeks; however we only draw half allowance of Meat.

I have, &c.,

J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt.

CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir, King George's Sound, 10th July, 1827.

I have the honor to transmit to you the required returns and also a rough plan of the Settlement. I am sorry to report the loss of prisoner John Brown, the Gardener, who died on 29 May. We were beginning to suffer much from Scurvy; but, by eating freely of the Mallows which grew abundantly on some of the Islands, all are now fast recovering. Our Gardens are certainly improving, but we shall not at present derive much benefit from them. The Stock thrives very well; a very great improvement has taken place in the Sheep since they were removed to the South side the harbour. I beg to mention to you that the casualties, which appear among the pigs, were all very young ones. Our preserved Meats being all issued, I have been under the necessity of killing a few young pigs for the sick, but have spared them as much as possible by rationing them frequently on Birds. A box of plants collected by Brown is forwarded by Shipment by the Isabella, also a box of dried specimens, the key of which is enclosed with the returns. I am happy to add that the Detach'd and prisoners continue to behave exceedingly well and are tolerably comfortable.

I have, &c.,

J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt., Com'd'g.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

RETURN of Population at the Settlement at King George's Sound on the 10th of July, 1827.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classes</th>
<th>Healthy</th>
<th>Sick</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Military:—Men</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil (if any)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convicts</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1827.  
Return of deaths; 

10 July.  

RETURN of Deaths at the Settlement at King George’s Sound between the 3 of April and the 10th of July, 1827.  

May 29th.—John Brown, Prisoner, Inflammation of the Liver, Arrived in Colony per Neptune (3).  

J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt., Com’d’t.  

[Enclosure No. 2.]  

RETURN of Live Stock at the Settlement at shewing the Increase and Diminution since the date of the last Return and the Remains on the 10th of July, 1827.  

On hand upon arrival or Remains as p. last Return 6 Sheep, 33 Pigs. Increase since last Return as per Particulars annexed 13 Pigs. Decrease since last Return as per Particulars annexed 1 Sheep, 25 Pigs. Remains on the 10 July, 1827, 5 Sheep, 18 Pigs.  

J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt., Com’d’t.  

[Enclosure No. 3.]  

PARTICULARS of Increase of Stock from 3rd of April to 10th of July, 1827.  

By Birth.—April 16, 6 Pigs; April 22nd, 8 Pigs; May 2nd, 1 Pig.  

PARTICULARS of Decrease of Stock from 3rd April to 10th July, 1827.  

By Casualty.—May 26th, 7 Pigs; Slaughtered June 5th, 9th, 13, 17, 28: 1 Pig (each day); Strayed April 28th, 1 Sheep.  

J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt., Com’d’t.  

[Enclosure No. 4.]  

RETURN of Land Cleared and in Cultivation at the Settlement at King George’s Sound on the 10th of July, 1827.  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Settlement</th>
<th>Land Cleared</th>
<th>Garden and Orchard</th>
<th>Total in Cultivation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>acres</td>
<td>acres</td>
<td>acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Settlement</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>About an Acre and an half.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. Side the Arbour</td>
<td>½</td>
<td>½</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Total.</td>
<td>1½</td>
<td>1½</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt., Com’d’t.  

[Enclosure No. 5.]  

RETURN of all Buildings Erected at the Settlement at King George’s Sound from the 3rd of April to the 10th of July, 1827.  

BARRACK 45 feet by 20 with a 6 feet mud wall; 2 Glass windows in front; the one in the Center and two in rear without Glass; chimney at the South and door at the North ends; fitted up inside with hammock Posts, etc., similar to the Barrack at Sydney.
RETURN of all Buildings Erected at the Settlement at King George's Sound, etc.—continued.

Description and Purposes of Buildings Erected.

STORE with door at the end opposite the Barrack door. One Window in front and rear with bars across. At the South end, an Engineer Store with a door to the front; togethet 30 feet by 18 with 5 feet Mud Wall; whould Contain 12 Months' Provisions, etc.

3 HOUSES For Married Soldiers each 21 feet by 12, a five feet Mud wall, and a Glass window Containing 4 Pannes in front, and without Glass in the rear.

The above are thatched with rushes, very Comfortable and Sufficiently substantial to last for several Years; finished 2 Houses, Commenced by Major Lockyer, Made the room, which Captn. Wakefield lives in, fit to be occupied.

Elevation transmitted. Marked in the plan f.

10 July. Return of buildings.

J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt., Com'd'g.

[The plan illustrated the buildings erected on a hill between two marshes; the hill extended in a north and south direction and the buildings were erected on the eastern and western slopes; from S. to N. on the western side the buildings were in order a, g, f, e and on the eastern side b, c, h, d.]

[Enclosure No. 6.]

ACCOUNT of Provisions of all kinds on hand at the Settlement at King George's Sound on the 10 July, 1827, shewing the time to which each kind is calculated to be sufficient for the consumption of the Settlement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Particulars of Provisions on hand</th>
<th>Quantities</th>
<th>Time to which calculated to be sufficient for the consumption of the Settlement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biscuit</td>
<td>200 pounds</td>
<td>about 4 days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt Beef</td>
<td>198 do.</td>
<td>19 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt Pork</td>
<td>128 do.</td>
<td>11 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flour</td>
<td>478 do.</td>
<td>365 days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt</td>
<td>523 do.</td>
<td>Not issued.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suet</td>
<td>671 do.</td>
<td>30 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raisins</td>
<td>472 do.</td>
<td>120 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oatmeal</td>
<td>476 do.</td>
<td>31 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tea</td>
<td>288 pounds</td>
<td>200 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
<td>308 do.</td>
<td>35 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wine</td>
<td>67 Bottles</td>
<td>issued only to the Sick.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>391 pounds</td>
<td>200 days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candles</td>
<td>288 do.</td>
<td>300 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>282 do.</td>
<td>24 do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soap</td>
<td>339 do.</td>
<td>200 do.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt., Com'd'g.
Despatch acknowledged.

CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

(Despatch No. 5.)

Sir, King George's Sound, 19th Augt., 1827.

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 19th May by the Brig Amity enclosing lists of Provisions, Stores, live Stock, Prisoners and Passengers, Copies of the Acts of Council, and Government Orders, issued by Sir Thos. Brisbane and by his present Excellency during the first half of 1826; Also Copies of the Regulations regarding Annual Surveys, and a letter on the same subject from the Colonial Auditor. I beg to report the inferior quality of Beef to you as so exceedingly bad, that I think it will soon be unfit to issue, and believe it must have been of very inferior quality when first put into the Cask. Of the live Stock, I have recd. a Bull and a Cow, seven Sheep and one Lamb. A Sheep and Lamb died immediately on landing; the rest appear likely to do well; but the Cow is so wild that I am fearful we shall find it difficult to keep her near us. Of the three Prisoners named in the list, two only have arrived, viz., Uzel Lovegrove and Zachariah Williams. The Blacksmith, Zachariah Trueman, it appears never embarked. We are much in want of a man of that trade. Agreeable to the instructions in the latter part of your letter, I have forwarded to His Excellency as well as to yourself the required returns. Returns dated 10th July were also sent you by the Isabella.

I have, &c.,
J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt.,
Comdg. K. G. Sound.

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CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

(Despatch No. 6.)

Sir, King George's Sound, 19th August, 1827.

I am happy in being able to make a more favourable report of this Settlement than has hitherto been transmitted to you. Our Sheep are thriving remarkably well, and the Pigs are in excellent Store Condition. In addition to the ten old pigs, I have been able to reserve some of the finest young ones, which I hope will soon add greatly to the increase of our Stock. When the Amity arrived, our flour and salt provisions had been exhausted some days, and we were upon half a pint of Oatmeal pr. day, which, with Mallows, Mutton Birds and fish, we managed tolerably well. By the free use of the above vegetable, Scurvy has almost entirely disappeared and thank God we are now all comfortable and in perfect health with the exception of a few who are triflingly indisposed. I am using every endeavour to
raise vegetables for the Settlement, and expect fully to succeed in about three months; according to the following calculation we shall be well supplied. I have been able to collect sufficient manure and rich soil to make one hundred holes for pumpkins. I consider each hole to grow three plants, each plant to produce five pumpkins averaging ten pounds, which, if issued at the rate of one pound each pr. day to Sixty persons the present strength of the Settlement, will be a supply for nine months.

Green Island, Oyster Harbour, has been planted with Cabbages, and lettuce seeds have been sown on it; the soil is shallow but very good, and they appear to grow tolerably well. There is no doubt Melons, Cucumbers and Pumpkins will thrive there, when the season for planting them arrives. We have a small garden the sixteenth of an Acre very productive. The Marsh, marked 3 a. 16 p. in the plan transmitted by the Isabella, is thoroughly drained and will make good land; but I regret not having sufficient strength to bring it into immediate cultivation. It is my intention to stock it up as soon as possible and burn a quantity of lime for it; during the summer time, fish are so exceedingly plentiful that a free use can be made of them to enrich it. I beg to mention to you that the Brig Amity made the Sound on Arrival of July the 22. I sent the Pilot on board to assist in bringing her into harbour, but the wind being contrary they let go the Anchor in the Sound. In consequence of the gross neglect of the Chief Mate, the cable was not secured to the Vessel so it ran completely out; a gale of wind came on; the Ship was driven to sea, and we saw no more of her for seventeen days. It has proved of serious loss to us, for the Whale boat belonging to the Settlement was carried away and a Cow and several Sheep died before her return. I consider it my duty also to state to you that we have neither Lime Juice, Vinegar, nor preserved Meat in the Store, so essentially necessary in scurvy. Our chief dependance as a preventive and cure is in Mallows, which, from the shallowness of the soil upon which it grows, will cease to be productive, should we have much hot dry weather. It has been mentioned to me by Sealers that there is a large River about fifty Miles to the Eastward of us. If it is the case, I should imagine it takes its rise among some very high hills bearing about N. b. E. forty four Miles from this Settlement. Should His Excellency permit me, I shall be happy to endeavour to ascertain the fact. I have forwarded a requisition for a few things and assure you that every care has been taken to insert only such as are considered absolutely necessary. I have by mistake omitted to put down maize. We have none, and it is at times much required. No communication having been received respecting
1827.
19 Aug.
G. Thomas to return to Sydney.

Conduct of pilots.

Clothing required.

the Acting Pilots, George Thomas and — Hobson, the former wishes to return to Sydney, he is therefore struck off the Stores from the 22 Inst. and will proceed by the Amity; his ideas are that he should not be required to do any duty excepting as a Pilot, which would be a life of perfect idleness and render him a nuisance to the Settlement. He has frequently conducted himself not at all to my satisfaction. The other Actg. Pilot (Hobson) is always ready, willing and perfectly sufficient for any duty that may be required of him.

I have, &c,
J. Wakefield, Capt., 39 Regt., Comdg.

P.S.—No clothing having arrived for the Prisoners, I am fearful they will be in a state of perfect nudity before a supply is received.

CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.
(Despatch No. 8.)

Sir,
King George's Sound, 22 October, 1827.

I had this day the honor of receiving your Circular No. 35, dated Colonial Secretaries Office, 28 Augt., 1827, requiring Witnesses to the signature of persons granting Acquittances or other similar papers in future;

Also your letter No. 7 of the 7th September last, enclosing an Extract of Minute 43/1827, dated 26 July, by His Excellency the Governor, both on the subject of Grain and other Articles raised at this Settlement being transferred to the Commissariat and accounted for by Monthly returns.

I have, &c,
J. Wakefield, Capt., 39 Regt.,
Com'dg K. G. Sound.

CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.
(Despatch No. 7.)

Sir,
King George's Sound, 23rd Octr., 1827.

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 6th September, pointing out the course to be observed in future in paying the Salaries of Civil Officers and persons in Government Employ at this station. Your letter of the 29 Augt., desiring the name of Col. Asst. Surgeon Mr. I. S. Nind to be inserted in the Pay List at Seven Six pence pr. day has been received.

I have, &c,
J. Wakefield, Capt., 39 Regt.,
Com'dg K. G. Sound.
Captain Wakefield to Colonial Secretary Macleay.

(Despatch No. 6.)

Sir, King George's Sound, 27th Octr., 1827.

I beg to acquaint you that I have rec'd a letter from Captain Burchell, stating that he had ordered the four Working Bullocks destined for this Settlement to be left at Western Port, as he considered them in too weak a state to proceed further. The four Cows have arrived, and also two of the prisoners, Joseph Whitehouse and John Smith alias Hicks; the other prisoner, named in the list viz. Nicholas Collins, was detained at Western Port to take charge of the sick Cattle above mentioned. I beg further to inform you that the following things mentioned in the Manifest have not arrived:—

Two Bales of Slops; One Bundle of Harness; Two Ploughs; Two Harrows; Two Scythes.

I have, &c.,

J. Wakefield, Capt., 39 Regt., Com'd'g.

CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

(Despatch No. 9.)

Sir, King George's Sound, 27th Octr., 1827.

Nothing particular having occurred since my last, I beg briefly to state that we are going on very well. A Garden of near an Acre promises a speedy and permanent supply of good vegetables. About an Acre of Maize is planted, and I shall use every endeavour to double that quantity before the Season is too far advanced. We continue on the same friendly terms with the Natives. I regret to say that we have lost several of our Sheep by Native Dogs, taken during the Night from the Sheep fold adjoining the Stockkeeper's hut, from which place they have been several times fired at. Several of the Pigs have also been destroyed; I have particularly enquired respecting them and cannot attach any blame to the Storekeepers. The Sheep and the Bull and Cow pr. Amity look very well, but the pigs have suffered much, since they have been driven off their original feeding ground by the wild dogs, for want of Maize.

I have, &c.,

J. Wakefield, Capt., 39 Regt.

Mr. G. Tallemach to Dep. Commissary Genl. Laidley.

Commissariat,

Sir, King George's Sound, 29 October, 1827.

I have the Honor to acknowledge the safe arrival of the Isabella with Provisions for this Establishment. Your
1827.
29 Oct.

Preserved meat and lime juice.

Instructions re accounts.

Local supply of provisions.

Inferiority of land.

Instructions received.

Increase of salary.

24 Dec.

Objections to settlement.

Instructions, relative to the Care, necessary to be paid to the Salt Meat, the Produce of the Colony, shall be strictly attended to.

I will not fail, by every opportunity that presents itself, to furnish you with the necessary Certificates of its weight, quality, and other particulars. The want of Preserved Meat and Lime Juice for use of the Sick has been much felt, and the present supply of this Article will last Nine Months.

The Directions, you have been pleased to forward for my Guidance in making up my Provision Accounts, shall for the future be adhered to not failing by every Opportunity to forward them to Sydney.

You having been pleased to require me to furnish You with our resources of Provisions, to be obtained about this Station, the Means and Extent of the Cultivation of Grain, etc.: The only Provisions of any kind to be procured in Cases of Emergency is Mutton Birds from the Islands; and, at the Time our Salt Beef was expended, we frequently at one Trip procured (300) Three Hundred Weight. From the present Period to end of May, the Harbour abounds with Fish, which is procured in large Quantities.

The Land, in the immediate Vicinity of the Settlement, is of the very worst description and it is a general Opinion that will never grow Grain of any Kind. About one Acre has been prepared for the purpose of growing Vegetables, the Soil obtained from the Islands, and it is very doubtful if ever it produces a Crop; about One Acre of Indian Corn is likewise planted, but looks very unpromising.

I beg leave respectfully to observe that I have read with attention your Circular No. 1, and that I will not fail to comply with the Directions, therein Contained.

Mr. Wemyss having been pleased to inform me that he submitted my Name to His Excellency the Governor for an Increase of pay, I shall, by attention to business, prove my Gratitude for this Kindness.

I have, &c.,

GEORGE TALLEMACH,
Storekeeper.

GOVERNOR DARLING TO VISCOUNT GODERICH.

24th December, 1827.

[A copy of this despatch, detailing objections to the settlement, will be found on page 667, volume XIII, series I.]
HUSKISSON TO DARLING.

CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,

King George's Sound, 15 Jany., 1828.

I have the honor to acquaint you that the Colonial Vessel Mermaid from Melville Island arrived here on the 9th Inst. in a most deplorable state, The Master and all on board with the exception of three or four in a very sickly state, and the Bowsprit much damaged. Immediately She came to Anchor, I sent Carpenters on board to repair her, and employed all the other prisoners I could to procure wood and water. The sick have had every attention and are in an improving state. The Vessel will be ready for Sea by 10 p.m. tomorrow, at which time if the wind permits she will proceed on her passage. As there are only two Sailors on board free from disease, I have ordered John Hobson, the Acting Pilot here, to go on board for the express purpose of assisting in working the Brig to Port Jackson. I consider it absolutely necessary, more especially as Mr. Dowsett the Master is in a very delicate state of health, and, should anything happen to him, not a man except Hobson could conduct the Vessel into Port. I beg here to mention that John Hobson conducts himself very satisfactorily. I am happy to say that this Settlement is extremely healthy, and the Natives as usual very friendly. We have had considerable loss of Pigs owing chiefly to the want of Maize. The Cows and Sheep improve. We have about thirty Acres of very good land within two Miles of the Settlement; several Acres are already cleared. I have also found excellent Clay; a Kiln of about twenty two thousand has been burnt; they appear extremely hard and of a dark colour. Our garden will turn out well. I planted a quantity of Pumpkins as likely to produce the most speedy supply; they thrive tolerably well and appear to grow very large. Green Island is also commencing to be of great service to us. The Maize Crop I fear will fail and chiefly owing to our not having had sufficient time to prepare the land previous to the seed being put in. Some few plants are sufficiently fine to convince me that tolerably good crops of it may be grown here. Potatoes do remarkably well and are of excellent quality. I hope John Hobson will be allowed to return to this Settlement.

J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt., Comdg.

RIGHT HON. W. HUSKISSON TO GOVERNOR DARLING.

30th January, 1828.

[The Proposed settlement will be found on pages 741 and 742, volume XIII, series I.]}
CERTIFICATE OF SURVEY.

We, the undersigned, having been ordered by Captain Wakefield of His Majesty's Thirty Ninth Regiment, Commanding Officer at this Settlement, to proceed on board His Majesty's Colonial Brig Amity and to examine the condition of 1 One Cow and 2 Two Bullocks, proceeding from Sydney to Port Raffles and to report to him whether we consider from their condition that they are in a fit state to proceed to the place of their destination.

We hereby Certify that we have done so and do not consider them in a fit state to proceed on their voyage.

Given under our hands at King George's Sound, this 12th day of February, 1828.

President:—ENSIGN REID, 39 Regt.
Members:—GEO. TALLEMACH, C.C.; R. S. WALKER, Master.

Approved To be landed at the Settlement.

J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39th Regt., Commanding Officer.

CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,
King George's Sound, 12th June, 1828.

I have the honor to request you will be pleased to apply to His Excellency for permission for me to return to Sydney by the next Vessel.

I have, &c.,

J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt.,
Com'd'g K. G. Sound.

CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,
King George's Sound, 14th June, 1828.

I have forwarded according to your direction four small boxes of soil numbered with lead coloured paint. No. 1 contains the soil of the Settlement; No. 2 from the banks of French River, Oyster Harbour, and about fourteen Miles from this Settlement; No. 3 from Mount Purringorep about 30 Miles N. b. E. of the Settlement; No. 4 from Mount Woolurope, N. of the Settlem't and about 8 Miles distant.

I have, &c.,

J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt.
CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,

King George's Sound, 14th June, 1828.

1. I have the honor to acquaint you that I have forwarded to Sydney by the present opportunity John Ryan, Prisoner of the Crown, who is an invalid and not likely to recover at this Station; also Joseph Whitehouse, whose period of transportation expired on the 31st of March last.

2. The Seine, which arrived by the Amity and advised as a double one, reached us only half one; the Meshes were so large and the Net itself only about forty fathoms, so that I have thought it right to return it as useless here. I have reported fully upon it to Dy. Asst. Comy. General Goodsr.

I have, &c.,

J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt.,
Comdg.

RETURN OF TROOPS AT KING GEORGE'S SOUND.

20th June, 1828.

[This return will be found on page 229, volume XIV, series I.]

CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,

King George's Sound, 30th June, 1828.

I have the honor to acquaint you that I have been a short excursion into the interior; the object in view was to ascertain the course of French River and then proceed to Mountains about 30 Miles N. b. E. of the Settlement, running from E. to W. and call'd by the Natives "Purrengorep," that I might be able to report on the nature of the Country within that distance. On the 17th March, Mr. Tallemache, myself, One Soldier, three Natives and four Prisoners, with five days' provisions, sailed in the Whale boat from this Settlement and proceeded up French River (Oyster Harbour), which we ascertained to be nothing more than an inlet running N. b. E. about six miles, where a very small brook joins it, so narrow that we could with ease step across and running from the N. and N. b. W. After landing, we continued along the banks of it for about four Miles, when we halted for the Night. On the morning of the 18th continued our march due N. and in the Evening halted about seven miles S. b. E. of Mount Purrengorep. On the following Morning about eleven o'clock, we reached the base of these Mountains and halted for the day. Mr. Tallemach, Myself, and One black immediately ascended them and observed a range beyond running nearly parallel, and which I considered to be distant about ten Miles. They and the Valley between them and us appeared
Exploring expedition to Mount Purrengorep.

Unknown country described by natives.

1828.
30 June.

1 Aug.
Indulgence granted to T. Woodward.

1828.

Sir,

In consequence of the good conduct of Thomas Woodward, prisoner of the Crown, and the very satisfactory manner he performs the several duties of Cook to the prisoners, Constable at the Prisoners' Barracks, Attendant upon the Sick, and Flogger, I have allowed him the small addition of half a pound of Flour to his daily ration, and trust His Excellency will be pleased to sanction a continuance of this trifling indulgence so long as his conduct may render him deserving.

I have, &c.,
J. Wakefield, Capt., 39 Regt.,
Com'dg K. G. Sound.
CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,
King George’s Sound, 4 Augt., 1828.

1. The Sydney Packet, Mr. Taylor Master, having arrived here in great distress, I have permitted a small portion of the Cargo to be landed and left here to enable her to proceed with safety to her destination. The quantity landed is ten casks of excellent salt Beef, — lbs. each cask. I herewith enclose to you the correspondence between Mr. Taylor and myself on the subject.

2. At the request of Mr. I. S. Nind, I beg to forward you his Resignation.

3. The Settlement is remarkably healthy and we are tolerably well supplied with Vegetables, chiefly from Green Island.

J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

MR. TAYLOR TO CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD.

Dear Sir, King George’s Sound, 1st Augt., 1828.

In consequence of the excessive bad weather which the Schooner Sydney Packet, now in this Harbour, has made during her passage from the Cape Good here, I find it absolutely necessary for the preservation of the whole to land a portion of the Cargo now on board, say ten casks of salt provision. Under the extreme peculiarity of the case, I am embolden thus to elicit your permission to do so, and, at the same time, your kind interposition in giving such orders or directions, as you may from time to time deem necessary to its protection during the time it may be here. Should the first Government vessel, touching here on its way to Sydney, have room for a part or the whole, your kindly forwarding it, accompanied by a letter which I will also take the liberty of leaving with you, will confer a lasting obligation. And any such Freight, that may be exacted by the Colonial Government, together with other unavoidable charges, will be cheerfully defrayed by Dr. Sir,

Yours, &c.,
DANL. TAYLOR.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO MR. TAYLOR.

Sir,
King George’s Sound, Monday, 4th Augt., 1828.

In answer to your letter of the 1st Inst., I beg to acquaint you that you are at liberty to land such part of your Cargo as will lighten the Vessel sufficiently to proceed with safety to your destination. What remains here I shall endeavour to have every care taken of, and will forward it to Sydney by the first Government Vessel that can conveniently take it. On its arrival at Sydney, it will be necessary, previous to your receiving it, to obtain an order to that effect from the Colonial Secretary. It will also be subject to the usual charges for Freight and other necessary expenses, should the Government require them.

I have, &c.,
J. WAKEFIELD, Comdt.
1828.
10 Dec.

Previous despatch.

Visit of H.M. ship Satellite to Raffles bay.

Cultivation at Raffles bay.

Transfer of command at Raffles bay to C. Barker.

Invalids from Raffles bay.

LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN* to COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,

King George's Sound, 10th December, 1828.

1. The very hasty Manner in which I was obliged to prepare my last Despatch† to forward by His Majesty's Ship Satellite on the 4th of September, together with the various returns which accompanied it, duplicates of some of which I beg to inclose, will I trust be considered by His Excellency the Governor as a sufficient excuse for its brevity.

2. The arrival of this Ship was as agreeable as it was unexpected, and during the short time She remained at Raffles Bay my time was much engaged with Captain Laws and his Officers, to the former of whom I gave all the verbal information in my power respecting the Settlement that he might have an opportunity of communicating the same to His Excellency the Governor on his arrival at Sydney.

3. My best efforts were unceasingly employed to complete the works then in progress, and in preparing the Garden for the reception of Seeds and the adjacent land for Maize (without having called any of the Military to public employ) from the period on which the Satellite left us on the fourth to the arrival of Captain Barker, 39th Regt. in H.M. Colonial Brig, Governor Philips, on the thirteenth of Septr. to succeed me in the Command; and I have the honor to state for His Excellency's information that I gave up charge of the Settlement to that Officer on the Morning of the fourteenth September, soon after which I transferred to him all the public letters, books, Documents, and other public property, and gave him every information in my power, on Subjects connected with the Settlement up to the period of my leaving it.

4. The Commissariat Stores were examined and An Account of them taken by a Board of Survey before they were transferred to the New Storekeeper; but the Engineer Stores were taken over by him without a formal examination, a Board of Survey having enumerated every Article in charge a short time before, the report of which Board was given to the Storekeeper.

5. To facilitate the Settlement of the public and Detachment Accounts with my successor, I made them up in advance to the Twenty fourth of Septr.; and, as I left Fort Wellington on the 22nd of that Month, the necessary Documents to Authenticate the disbursements will be transmitted by Captain Barker in his Own Name.

6. Ensign Reid's health having apparently suffered injury during the time he was at Raffles Bay, he procured a Certificate to that effect from Doctor Davis, which, with an Application from

* Note 108. † Note 109.
himself induced Captain Barker to allow him to return to Sydney. Four of the Crown Prisoners, whose constitutions are much injured, have also been permitted by him to return.

7. H.M. Colonial Brig "Governor Philips" having struck on a Sand bank off Melville Island, I deem it necessary to state the following circumstances connected with the accident for the information of His Excellency the Governor.

8. We left Raffles Bay on Monday Morning, the 22nd Septr., and got within fifteen Miles of the Outer Points of the River, leading to the Settlement at Melville Island, late on Tuesday Night; but, the water being Shallow and the passage intricate and dangerous, the vessel was Anchored until Wednesday Morning, when She was again got under weigh and proceeded towards the Settlement with a favorable tide, smooth water and fine weather. By injudiciously keeping too near to Point Brace (off which Point a large Sand Bank extends), She struck on it early in the Afternoon at about a Mile and half from the Shore, and, as the Tide ran with great velocity, every effort used to get her from the Sand proved unavailing. To remove her as soon as possible from this dangerous situation where She was exposed to the swell of the Ocean and to a rapid tide, it was my intention to have landed a part of the Cargo on the following Morning on Bathurst Island under the protection of the Military who were on board, to lighten the vessel, and by that means the more easily to get her clear; but, from the Swiftness of the Tide and the Sea occasioned by it, I considered it unsafe to do so with the Brig's boats alone before we got larger Ones from the Settlement, to which I sent a Message to the Commandant requesting assistance and at the same time representing our danger.

Major Hartly paid us a short visit on Thursday Night, having sent all the Boats he could collect to our aid, which were laden and sent to the nearest Shore before Daylight on Friday under charge of Ensign Reid and a party of Soldiers, soon after which, it being high water, the vessel was with difficulty got from the Sand into deep water and early on the same day reached the Settlement.

During the time She was on the Sand (two days and two nights), She struck with considerable violence against it at high water, which removed some Sheathing planks from her bottom and Made us suppose She had sustained serious injury, and at low water She was left nearly dry; but, as it was not practicable to examine her bottom at Melville Island without occasioning considerable delay, it was thought most prudent for us to call at Koepang on our voyage to King George's Sound, as the passage
to the former place would enable us to judge of the extent of injury she had actually received by the quantity of water she would make, and in the event of its being found unavoidable to have her repaired there. Before we reached Timor, however, we had the satisfaction of discovering that she leaked but very little more than she did before the accident happened, nor did she make much water during the voyage hither.

In consequence of the apparent want of energy and indifference of the master (Mr. Drysdale), Lieut. Ovens of the 57th Regt., after having named his intention to me, put him in arrest on Thursday Evening, which measure was confirmed soon afterwards by Major Hartly, who, on quitting the vessel, desired me to act in the affair as I thought proper; and feeling anxious to create union in such a critical situation I released him very soon after he had been under restraint.

From what I saw, I am of opinion that the accident of the vessels sticking on the sand was occasioned by want of judgment more than attention, as the master and his mates were on deck during the morning and a man was kept constantly employed in throwing the lead to ascertain the depth of the water; but the master was blameable in not exercising that authority over his crew, which is necessary for the maintenance of good order and regularity, and by neglecting which an intractable spirit prevailed.

9. We left Melville Island on the Sixth of October, reached Koepang on the Night of the fourteenth, from which we sailed (after having replenished our water) on the morning of the Eighteenth; and, after a protracted and tedious passage, reached this place on the 3rd of Decr., when I had the satisfaction of finding all those on the settlement in good health.

10. I have the honor to state, for the information of his excellency the governor, that Capt. Wakefield, 39th Regt., gave up charge of this settlement to me on Saturday, the Sixth of December, on which day he transferred to me all the public letters, books, and other property in his possession, and at the same time communicated every information connected with the settlement that I can require; and I further beg to state that, as long as it may please his excellency to favor me by keeping me in charge of it, I will use my best exertions and unceasing efforts to promote its interests in every way in my power.

I have, &c,

Geo. Sleeman,
Lieut., 39th Regt., Commandant.
LETTER

LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY. 1829.

Sir, King George's Sound, 25th March, 1829.

1. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your various letters by His Majesty's Colonial Vessels "Governor Phillips" and "Lucy Anne" from the sixth of May to the twenty-sixth of November, 1828; and to state that I have read them attentively for the purpose of conforming to the directions they contain.

2. The Lucy Anne arrived here on the 22nd of December, and, after landing the Stores which She brought for this Settlement, and receiving some repairs to stop a leak in her bow, which was discovered on her passage from Sydney hither, She sailed for Melville Island on the 28th of the same Month.

3. In compliance with the instructions of His Excellency the Botanical Governor conveyed in your letters of the 22nd and 26th of November, I had the best vacant Hut on the Settlement prepared for Mr. Baxter (Botanist) when he landed; and, in order to contribute to his personal comfort, as well as to enable him to proceed with more expedition in collecting and preserving the most valuable Seeds and Plants in this neighbourhood, I gave him the exclusive Services of one of the most useful of the Crown Prisoners, who attends him on all his botanizing perambulations. He has received a Military ration from the period of his arrival, and I have assured him of my desire to render him every assistance he may require. I shall be very careful to ascertain that every thing he collects shall, in the first instance, be sent to the Botanic Garden, Sydney.

4. The daily allowance of an extra half pound of Flour granted by Captain Wakefield to Crown Prisoner, Thomas Woodward, was discontinued in compliance with His Excellency's Commands from the 24th of December.

5. In conformity with your directions, I acquainted Mr. Nind, Colonial Assistant Surgeon, that, in consequence of the exigences of the public Service, his request to be relieved could not at present be complied with. As Mr. Nind and his Servant (a Crown Prisoner) were allowed to draw Military rations by Captain Wakefield, I have considered it most prudent to permit the same, until His Excellency's pleasure shall be known.

6. I beg to forward a letter which I received from Mr. Nind requesting my consent to his receiving Twenty Pounds of Flour Monthly from the Commissariat Stores at this Settlement, to be either paid for or replaced by him at Sydney as His Excellency the Governor shall direct, to enable him the better to provide for a Native black who has for many months past lived with him, and to state that, as the Native in question is almost always on
1829.  
25 March.  
Allowance of flour granted to I. S. Nind.

Adjustment of accounts at Raffles bay.

Returns transmitted.

Want of overseers for convicts.

Construction of stores.

the Settlement (though by no means wholly dependant on Mr. Nind for support), and as he has proved himself useful in many instances in communicating with his fellow Natives and in restoring things that have been taken away, I have for these reasons acceded to Mr. Nind's request, and hope to receive His Excellency's approval to my so doing. In compliance with the Sixth paragraph of the General Order, dated the 24th of last November, I have acquainted the Deputy Commissary General with the quantity of Flour he has drawn.

7. I have forwarded a Copy of the Colonial Auditor's letter to Captain Barker together with every information in my power to enable him to adjust the matters therein alluded to, as well as to obtain the signatures of such of the Men as are still at Raffles Bay of those, whom I employed at public labour when I had charge of that Settlement; but, as many of these persons returned to Sydney in the Governor Phillips, the Working Pay List required must necessarily remain incomplete before their Names are attached to it, to obtain which I must send it to some person at Sydney, who will, when completed, convey it to your Office. Triplicate receipts having been already transmitted from all those, who held permanent situations on the Settlement, they could be annexed (as the Colonial Auditor suggests) to "The Abstract and acquittances of Salaries," should any of them now be absent.

8. I have the honor to transmit herewith the different returns required from this Settlement as numbered in the Margin,* and to state, in reference to No. 2, that, as the two Veterans who acted as Overseers returned to Sydney with Captain Wakefield, not leaving anyone when I took charge to act in that capacity, I found it very difficult and troublesome for more than two Months to exact a proper discharge of public labour from Twenty Seven Prisoners, and I was therefore obliged to appoint the most competent Man amongst them Overseer, and, as an incentive to good conduct and exertion, with a Salary of Ten Pence per Diem from the 24th of February, Subject however to the approval and confirmation of His Excellency the Governor.

9. In consequence of the feeble and insecure State of the Commissariat and Engineer Stores, the Walls of which are made of wicker work covered on the Outside with a blackish clay, I have kept the only two Sawyers on the Settlement employed, before one of them was taken ill, in preparing Scantling and weather boards to build others more safe and Substantial, the frames of which are nearly put together, and only require weather boards to complete. They will be larger and stronger than the present, and will not require any materials but such as can be obtained

* Marginal note.—2, 3, 4, 5, 6.
on the Settlement. A small Hospital is also much wanted for the reception of the Sick, who, for the want of One, are now obliged to remain in the same Barracks with those that are well. As there are only two Sawyers and two Carpenters on the Settlement, and as one of each of them has been ill for a long time past, I have been prevented from beginning an Hospital, which, with the Brick and wood that can be procured in this neighbourhood, might easily be erected.

10. The Cattle and Sheep on the Settlement are healthy and in better condition than could be expected from the apparent want of Grass or esculent herbage. There was only one small Bull when I arrived, which from the barren state of most of the Cows I fear has been almost useless, and which I regret to state died of a lingering disease a short time ago. One of the Cows has also died of a similar disorder. I brought the Pony here with me which I purchased of Major Campbell, the price of which His Excellency has been kindly pleased to allow; but, from the want of his accustomed food, he died soon afterwards.

11. The Country within a Mile and a half of this Settlement, from being so sandy and rocky, is susceptible of but little improvement and produces scarcely anything that is useful; but, on the Sides of a small Hill at that distance where the Sheep and Cattle have been usually kept and where Captain Wakefield erected two weather boarded Huts, the Soil is considerably better. For the purpose of insuring a plentiful supply of vegetables for the use of those on the Settlement, as well as to avoid the necessity of sending a boat so often to the Island from whence we draw our present supplies, which is sometimes attended with danger, and always occasions an hinderance to the labour of the Prisoners, I have had the Trees completely rooted up and removed from about three Acres of this land, which promises to become an excellent Garden. Turnips for the Sheep and Cattle can also be grown here in abundance.

12. I regret to state the loss of the old Settlement boat, which however was feeble and almost useless. I sent five Men in her about two Months ago to procure some Seal Oil for the use of the Settlement; and, being tempted by success and a fair wind, they went further than I intended and landed on an Island called by the Sealers Friendly Island; but, as there was no water there, two of the Men were sent in the boat to the Main Land to get some, in endeavouring to do which the boat was wrecked by the Surf.

One of the three Men left on the Island Swam to the Main land (a distance of about a Mile and a quarter) and returned to the
1829.
25 March.

Settlement before the two who had landed in the boat, and I soon succeeded in getting the other Men back in safety and also all the Materials of the old boat.

13. The Natives continue to frequent the Settlement in the most friendly manner, and although they occasionally bring small presents, yet they are generally very importunate for Biscuit, of which they are extremely fond. Where Fish are so very plentiful, it is to be regretted we are without the Means of catching them, as with the aid of a Seine we could not only abundantly supply our Own wants but satisfy those of our black friends. Should His Excellency be pleased to permit One of the Seines at Raffles Bay to be brought here by the next vessel, it will be of most essential Service.

14. In consequence of the anxiety of Mr. Tallemach (late Storekeeper) to return to Sydney, and the uncertainty of the return of the Lucy Anne from Melville Island, I have consented to his paying Fifteen Pounds for his passage thither in the "Madeira Packet" (Sealer), which vessel will leave this Settlement today. And I also beg to state for the information of His Excellency the Governor that, on account of the inclosed application from the Master of the said vessel, I have directed him to receive one Cask of Salt Beef from the Commissariat Stores, of which I have acquainted the Deputy Commissary General.

15. I have much satisfaction in stating that the general health of the Settlement is good, and that the conduct of the Soldiers and Prisoners is correct and orderly.

I have, &c.,

Geo. Sleeman, Lieut., 39th Regt., Commandant.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

Assist. Surgeon Nind to Lieutenant Sleeman.

Sir,
15th January, 1829.

I beg leave most respectfully to request your permission to receive from the Commissariat Stores an additional Twenty pounds of Flour Monthly, to be either paid for or Returned by me at Sydney, as His Excellency the Governor shall be pleased to order.

My motive in making this application is to enable me the better to provide for Mawcarrie, a Native Black, who has now resided with me many months, my present Ration being inadequate.

I am, &c.,

I. S. Nind,

[Enclosure No. 8.]

Mr. McMeekun to Lieutenant Sleeman.

Sir,
King George's Sound, 24th March, 1828.

I have the honor to acquaint you that the Madeira Packet under my command is quite out of Salt Provisions, and I should feel obliged if you would allow me to have from the Commissariat Stores at your
Station a Cask of Salt Beef to enable me to pursue my passage to Sydney, and, on my arrival at Sydney, I will either return it in kind or pay the price fixed by Deputy Commissary General Laidley.

I am, &c.,

WM. MCMEIKUN, Master.

LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,

King George's Sound, 14th May, 1829.

1. I have the honor to transmit herewith a duplicate of my last Despatch, together with copies of the returns required from this Settlement as numbered in the margin,* the originals of which I forwarded by Mr. Tallemach late Storekeeper here, who embarked in the Madeira Packet (Sealer) to return to Sydney on the morning of the 20th of March.

2. The Madeira Packet remained in this Harbour from the Sixteenth of February to the day above Stated having detached her Boats during her Stay to different Islands along the Coast for Seals.

3. I have the honor to state for the information of His Excellency the Governor that an American Brig of upwards of two hundred Tons burthen, called the "Rob Roy," from Boston, which She left in December last bound to a newly discovered chain of Islands, called, after the name of the Vessel that discovered them, "Nimrod's Group," on a Sealing speculation, arrived here on the morning of the 10th of April, and after having taken on board a large Supply of wood and water sailed again on the Evening of the Seventeenth.

She had on board in addition to her Crew, the Master and some of the men of a Schooner, which belonged to the same Owners, but which Vessel they suppose to be lost in consequence of her not having called to take them from an Island, on which they had landed to procure Skins, and where they had been for some time before the Brig took them off on her passage hither. The Master of the "Rob Roy" (Mr. Isaac Percival) was here in 1803, when Captain King was surveying the Coast, and appears to be well acquainted with this Harbour, of which he spoke in such high terms as to induce me to believe that other Ships from his country on Similar speculations will call here to refit; indeed he expressed an intention of doing so in a few months in the event of his being successful.

Mr. Percival was very obliging in parting with any small Articles we required on the most reasonable terms, and his crew were so orderly and correct as never to give me the Slightest cause to complain.

In consequence of the accompanying application which I received from him for a small quantity of Spirits, I was induced

SER. III. VOL. VI—2 L  * Marginal note.—1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.
1829, 14 May.

Rum sold to I. Percival.

Refusal by I. S. Nind to act on board of survey.

Conduct of I. S. Nind.

to let him have Eight Gallons of Rum from the Commissariat Stores; and, not knowing what would be a remunerating price to Government, I charged him being a foreigner only one Dollar per Gallon. If I erred in charging too little, I beg to state my readiness to replace the same quantity into the Commissariat Stores at Sydney, should His Excellency the Governor be pleased so to direct.

4. It is with regret that I beg to submit for the information of His Excellency the Governor two letters which I received from Mr. Nind, Colonial Assistant Surgeon, declining to act on a Board of Survey appointed by me to ascertain the quantity of Spirits contained in the only Cask remaining in the Commissariat Stores, because Serjeant Hoop, 39th Regt., was a member, and also my answers to the same. Mr. Nind sent me his second letter at Ten Oclock at night when I declined to receive it from his Servant (a Prisoner) before the morning, knowing, from what I have seen and heard of his unhappy temper, that his intention was either to provoke a personal quarrel, or to embarrass by cavilling. In my answer to this letter, I declined any further correspondence unless on Subjects connected with duty; but, notwithstanding this expressed determination he sent me another letter in the afternoon containing further explanations, which I therefore returned to him with my compliments that it required no answer. Soon after he sent me a verbal message by a Prisoner that he should forward it to Sydney. I have been as brief as possible in Stating the facts as they occurred for His Excellency's information, being apprehensive, from the captious and Sullen opposition I have received from Mr. Nind, he may make a garbled Statement of the transaction to gratify his angry feelings.

I also beg to forward for His Excellency's information a letter which I received from Mr. Pritchett (Storekeeper) complaining of Mr. Nind's violent conduct to him, when in the discharge of his duty, together with a Statement of Lance Serjeant John Hoop, 39th Regt., by whom I sent three messages to Mr. Nind on the morning of the fifth of May with my compliments, requesting he would attend the punishment of a Prisoner for endeavouring to convert Government Tools to his use by defacing the marks on them, when he refused to attend; and I beg to add that I have been prevented from ordering a general muster of the Settlement, as I am directed occasionally to do, to read circular letters, or to communicate any other information, from the fear Mr. Nind would refuse to attend, and thereby not only show publicly a bad example, but compel me to resort to unpleasant measures which I have most carefully endeavoured to avoid.
I trust His Excellency will be pleased to consider the peculiarity of my Situation in not having Officers enough on the Settlement to form a Board of Survey without the Storekeeper, who was not eligible to act in an affair connected with the public Stores, which obliged me to name the Serjeant, and that nothing could have been more remote from my thoughts when I ordered the Board than the objection made by Mr. Nind to join with me in the investigation, because the Serjeant was present.

I trust His Excellency will also be pleased to consider the extreme irregularity and dangerous example, especially in a small Settlement like this consisting principally of Prisoners, of an Officer's publicly refusing to obey an order, or to discharge a duty because it did not accord with his wishes so to do.

The very unsociable terms, in which Mr. Nind lived with Captain Wakefield and Major Lockyer, the careless and reluctant manner in which he appears to discharge any duties however trifling, the sullen opposition he shows on all occasions, together with his having resigned his Colonial Appointment, have prevented me from forming any intimacy with him, though I have done all in my power for his comfort and accommodation.

5. Agreeably to the directions contained in the minute of His Excellency the Governor, dated the 15th of January, 1828, I attended and saw each of the Prisoners of the Crown on this Settlement supplied with a Suit of new Clothing on the first day of this Month.

6. I feel much satisfaction in stating for His Excellency's information that the Garden, which I had just completed at the Farm and which I had the honor to describe in my last Despatch, is in a very flourishing State, having more than three Thousand Cabbage and Broccoli Plants in it of a good Size, besides an abundance of Turnips, Potatoes, Carrots, Onions, Radishes, Parsley, etc., rapidly coming forward. I have had a road of between five and Six feet wide cut through the Bush from the Settlement to it, which is a distance of a Mile and half.

7. In consequence of the continued illness of one of the Sawyers and one of the Carpenters, I have been unable to complete the Commissariat and Engineer Stores, which however are in such a State of forwardness as only to require Weather boards to complete.

8. I have begun a convenient size Hospital, which, with the Bricks I have had made and the wood I have collected, I hope soon to complete.

9. The Cattle are in rather low condition in consequence of the late unusually dry season, but they are improving since the
wet weather begun. The death of the only Bull, we had on the Settlement, is a serious loss as I fear that only one of the Cows is with Calf.

10. I beg to transmit herewith a list of the Seeds collected by Mr. Baxter and forwarded to the Botanic Garden, Sydney, by the Lucy Anne. And in doing so I feel pleasure in stating that his exertions to get a good collection of seeds and plants have been unremitting.

11. I have the honor to forward some of the papers required by the Colonial Auditor in support of my Accounts from Raffles Bay; but the working pay lists I have sent to the Regt. for the purpose of their being signed by the Soldiers, immediately after which they will be conveyed to your Office. The signature of the Gardener (Michl. McCarthy holding a Ticket of leave) can be obtained when he returns to Sydney which he will do in the Amity. I have requested Mr. McLeod, late Storekeeper at Raffles Bay, to convey a receipt for the Maize I transferred to the Stores to your Office as soon as possible.

12. The Schooner Prince of Denmark Sealer arrived here on the 8th Instant, and is still in the Harbour repairing her foremast which was carried away a short time ago. Her Master, Mr. Forbes, who appears to be an intelligent man, has sent me an account of an inland lake which his men discovered on their passage hither, which I beg to transmit for the information of His Excellency the Governor.

13. Captain Barker has sent me a Seine and three logs of Wood from Raffles Bay but the Seine requires some repairs.

14. In consequence of the protracted illness of two of the Crown Prisoners and the very little probability there is of their ever becoming useful here, I have sent them to Sydney by the Lucy Anne. A third Prisoner whose time has expired accompanies them.

15. I am sorry to state that the present Settlement Boat is delicate and feeble and that a stronger and more substantial one would be desirable.

16. It is with sincere satisfaction I beg to state for the information of His Excellency the Governor that the general conduct of the Soldiers and Prisoners is correct and orderly and that good health prevails throughout the Settlement.

I have, &c.,
GEO. SLEEMAN, Lieut., 39th Regt., Commandant.

P.S.—I regret to state that the only two Sawyers on the Settlement will return to Sydney by this opportunity, the one being ill, and the other Free.

GEO. SLEEMAN, Lieut., 39th Regt., Comm. 
SLEEMAN TO MACLEAY.

[Enclosures Nos. 1 to 8.]
[Copies of these returns are not available.]

[Enclosure No. 9.]

ASSIST. SURGEON NIND TO LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN.
Sir, King George's Sound, 20th April, 1829.

A Settlement Order, of this date, having been forwarded to me, Refusal of Appointing a board of Survey for tomorrow in which I am named I. S. Nind to together with Serjt. Jno. Hoop, I beg leave to request that my attend- attend board ance may be dispensed with, altho' I should be most happy to afford every Assistance in my power, in the investigation in question, I should be unwilling in any transaction to be associated with a Non-Com­missioned Officer.

On the Subsequent Survey, I shall most willingly attend if required.

I am, &c,
I. S. NIND,

[Enclosure No. 10.]

ASSIST. SURGEON NIND TO LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN.
Sir, King George's Sound, 19th April, 1829.

I have the honour to reply to your Second letter of this date, Objections to this moment received, that I am perfectly aware no regular board of board of survey can be appointed here.

That, in consequence on a former occasion when Mr. Pritchett took over the Stores from the former Storekeeper Mr. Tallemache, and a board of Survey was appointed, I only sat as a Member, The Serjeant not being named; and I humbly conceive, if his attendance were absolutely necessary, it would not have been then dispensed with.

I would also state that, as the report of the Board of Survey must be made to yourself as Commandant, It is quite an anomaly for you to form a part of it.

I shall not reply, Sir, to your remarks on what you conceive the Spirit manifested by my refusal, farther than to state they are per­fectly uncalled for and had better been omitted.

I am, &c,
I. S. NIND,

[Enclosure No. 11.]

LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN TO ASSIST. SURGEON NIND.
Sir, King George's Sound, 19th April, 1829.

I have this moment received your letter declining to act as a Refusal of Member of a Board of Survey appointed by Settlement Order for to- I. S. Nind to morgen on account of being associated with a Non-Commissioned act on board of survey. If there had been a third Officer on the Settlement to have ° survey- formed a Board (Mr. Pritchett not being Eligible in an affair con­nected with the Stores) I would not have included Serjt. Hoop; but, as you know this is not the case, and as I form one of the Board, I think your objection Manifests a Spirit very opposed to that which ought to be shewn by every Officer employed by Government. I can only forward your objection to Sydney, with a Statement of my inability to form a Board of Survey in consequence.

I have, &c,
GEO. SLEEMAN,
Lieut., 39th Regt., Commandant.
HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA.

[Enclosure No. 12.]

LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN TO ASSIST. SURGEON NIND.

Sir, King George's Sound, 20th April, 1829.

I have just received your Second letter of yesterday's date, which you commence by stating what was not really the fact, namely, that you had received a Second letter from me.

With respect to the Boards of Survey of which you were appointed Member by a Settlement Order, their proceedings would have been transmitted to Sydney, one relating to the Blankets to Colonel Lindesay, and the other to ascertain the quantity of Spirits in a Cask just opened to Mr. Laidley; therefore there would have been nothing anomalous in my being on the boards. If the quantity of Spirits contained in the two Casks then in the Stores had been taken, when you were appointed to see the Articles transferred by Mr. Tallemach to the present Storekeeper, the necessity of this Board would have been avoided. Knowing your extreme desire to return to Sydney, and that you have resigned your Colonial Appointment, I shall be careful (should any exceptionable expedient be resorted to to accomplish your object) not to be drawn into any explanations unconnected with duty, and I beg that nothing whatever may pass between us but what is exclusively on that subject.

I have, &c.,
GEO. SLEEMAN,
Lieut., 39th Regt., Commandant.

[Enclosure No. 13.]

MR. J. R. PRITCHETT TO LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN.

Commissariat Office,
King George's Sound, 20th March, 1829.

Agreeably to the orders, I received from you, to issue Monthly to Coll. Assist. Surgeon Nind 20 lbs. Flour, commencing the 25th January, 1829, I have the honor to acquaint you that such quantity has been issued to him by me from the Stores at this Station, not at the end of each monthly period, but at the commencement of it until the present time.

I beg leave further to inform you that his Servant this morning came to the stores to draw the 20 lbs. of Flour, which, on my stating was not due, he went away, but almost immediately returned again attended by Mr. Nind; when the latter stated in a most insolent manner that the 20 lbs. of Flour "was due," and ordering me in the same tone immediately to issue it.

I beg leave to inform you that I then again stated it was not due until the 25th, that I had your order to Support it; and that your orders also were to issue nothing in advance to any person whatever; he told me it was not the fact, and going to his garden again ordered me in a most imperative manner to issue to his Servant the Flour, and his servant to wait for such; but, immediately on my having done the issuing at the Store, I locked the door, and send you a statement of the facts. 
SLEEMAN TO MACLEAY.

My motive principally in writing to you is to ask you whether I am to be ordered, when in the execution of my duty, by a Medical Officer, or by you, and have earnestly to request that you will be so kind for the future to put a stop to such annoying circumstances, and also that I may be protected by you in the discharge of my duty from any insult, otherwise I beg most earnestly to assure you that I would much rather resign my situation altogether.

In conclusion I have the honor to request to be informed whether I am to issue the 20 lbs. of Flour to Mr. Nind, in "advance" every monthly period or at the conclusion of it; so that I shall then know when is the proper period to issue it.

I have, &c.,
J. R. Pritchett, S.K.

[Enclosure No. 14.]

SERJEANT HOOP TO LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN.

Sir,
King George's Sound, 5th May, 1829.

In pursuance of orders received from you this morning, I warned Col. Asst. Surgeon Nind to attend as a Medical Officer the punishment of a "Crown prisoner"; after a pause of a few moments, his reply was that he declined meeting you, and that he would attend at home if you pleased; after which I left him.

On your sending me the second time to him to ask whether he should or not attend according to your order, his reply was I have sent my answer before, that is, that I decline meeting him until I have seen His Excellency, and tell him that, if he sends me written orders, I will attend to them and forward them to His Excellency the first opportunity.

When I was thirdly sent to him by you with these orders, namely, to know as a point of duty whether he would attend or not; to which he answered, I shall not send that impertinent answer, but tell him that I have declined meeting him until I have seen His Excellency and that I do not think myself used as a Gentleman by him.

In all duty, &c.,
John Hoop, Serjt., 39th Regt.

[Enclosure No. 15.]

SERJEANT HOOP TO LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN.

Sir,
King George's Sound, 10th May, 1829.

I beg leave to inform you that, on this morning's Parade, I was putting the Men through the Formation of three's to the rear, when Mr. Nind came up unperceived by me from his Garden, and said their backs are towards me, but never mind for I would as soon see their backs as their faces. He then asked me, if there was any thing the matter with any of the men, to which I answered no Sir.

In all duty, &c.,
John Hoop, Serjt., 39th Regt.

[Enclosure No. 16.]

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A historical record of Australia

List of seeds shipped to Sydney.

1829,
14 May.

List of seeds sent by the Lucy Ann, 1829.
SLEEMAN TO MACLEAY.

[Enclosure No. 18.]
[A copy of this paper is not available.]

[Enclosure No. 19.]

MR. D. FORBES TO LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN.

Schooner Prince of Denmark,
King George's Sound, 13th May, 1829.

Sir,

I beg to state to you for the information of His Majesty's Government that part of my sealing gangs, stationed at Kangaroo Island, have reported to me that, during their excursions into the interior of New Holland, they discovered a very large Lake* of fresh water; they describe it as being very deep and of great extent, as they could not discern the termination of it from the highest land; the banks abound with Kangaroo and the Lake with fish; they also say that the Natives are very friendly and have a number of canoes upon it, and the Land appears to be rich and fit for cultivation.

I regret my term did not permit me to examine it, but I propose doing so upon my return to the Eastward; the Latitude of the place the men started from is 35° 30', the Longitude 138° 40', and from their account one and a half days journey from the coast to the north-eastward. I do not implicitly rely altogether upon their report; but I am satisfied, from the plain tale they told and their wish to conduct me to it, that a very large Lake or sheet of water lies in the position just pointed out, and, if I may be allowed to hazard an opinion, making its way to the Gulph of St. Vincent as the people say it bends in that direction; should circumstances prevent my present intention of surveying it, any of the Government vessels going to King George's Sound might do it and set a question of so much interest to New South Wales (if it does exist which I have not the smallest doubt of) at rest.

I am, &c,

D. FORBES,
Master Prince of Denmark.

[Enclosure No. 20.]
[A copy of this paper is not available.]

[Enclosure No. 21.]

MR. I. PERCIVAL TO LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN.

American Brig Rob Roy,
King George's Sound, 14 April, 1829.

Sir,

Being obliged on account of my having run short of Wood and Water to bring my Vessel to an anchor in King George's Sound, where I understand you have a Government Establishment, I have taken the liberty of writing to you to request you will be so kind as to grant me permission to lay in a supply of those articles, which I shall be extremely obliged to you for; As I have on board my vessel for the use of my officers and crew a pretty large supply of provisions, I shall be very happy to accommodate any person on your establishment, should they stand in any need of supplies of any article that I may be able to spare at the cost price in America; being destitute of any description of spirits on board my vessel and being engaged in a long sealing voyage, should you be able to spare from your establishment a few Gallons of spirits for my own use, I will gladly pay any reasonable

* Note 110.
1829.
14 May.

Price you may pleas to charge for it, and feel extremely thankful to you for the obligation conferred on me. As my stay in your place will be but for two or three days only, you will gratefully oblige,

Sir, &c.,
ISAAC PERCIVAL.

Receipt for spirits.

Received from His Britannic Majesty's Magazines King George's Sound for the use of the American Brig "Rob Roy" Eight Gallons of Rum at one Dollar per Gallon.
April 17th, 1829.

ISAAC PERCIVAL.

LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

20 May.

Sir,

King George's Sound, 20th May, 1829.

1. I have the honor to state for the information of His Excellency the Governor that I prepared my Dispatches, public Letters, etc., two days after the arrival of the Lucy Anne at this Settlement, and sent them on board early in the Morning of the 14th Inst., since which time she has been detained in this Harbour by contrary winds.

2. I also beg to state for His Excellency's information that I received an application from Mr. Powditch, Commanding the Lucy Anne, on the Morning of the 19th Inst., requesting my interference and protection as Commandant of this Settlement to adjust a difference, which had taken place between him and Major Hartly, 57th Regt., when that Officer threatened to put him in arrest; and that, in consequence of this application, I went on board the Lucy Anne, where Major Hartly, in the presence of Mr. Powditch, most explicitly and positively denied having had any intention of placing him, Mr. Powditch, in arrest, or in any manner interfering with him in the discharge of his duty.

As I did not enter into a formal inquiry of the differences that had taken place between Major Hartly and Mr. Powditch any further than by hearing their individual representations, I will not venture to give an Opinion on a Subject which will be so fully explained at Sydney.

I must however state that it appeared to me, on a general view of the Subject, that Major Hartly's rank and Authority were quite disregarded.

I have the honor to inclose for His Excellency's information a letter I received from Major Hartly this Moment, and as it is so explanatory, and the vessel being on the point of proceeding on her voyage, I will not detain her by making any remarks on it.

I have the satisfaction of stating for His Excellency's information that the general health of those on the Settlement is good, and that the conduct of the Soldiers and Prisoners is most orderly and correct.

I have, &c.,

GEO. SLEEMAN, Lieut., 39th Regt., Commandant.
MAJOR HARTLEY TO LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN.

H.M.C. Barque Lucy Anne,

Sir, King George's Sound, 19th May, 1829.

Understanding that Mr. Powditch has transmitted to you a statement affirming that I threatened to place him under arrest, and professing his apprehensions of being subjected to personal constraint, I feel it incumbent on me to remove from your mind any impression which such representation may be calculated to create, and with this view I most positively and unequivocally disclaim all intention of placing Mr. Powditch under arrest, a measure, which however called for, would indeed under present circumstances be wholly impracticable without serious risk to the public service, since in my opinion the first mate is incompetent to take charge of or navigate the vessel, were Mr. Powditch suspended from the exercise of his command.

I have further the honor to observe that Mr. Powditch has openly and wantonly treated me with pointed disrespect and contumelious indignity, publicly disclaiming all subjection to my authority and finally treating an official order of mine (directing the issue of an additional pint of water per diem to Serjt. Ryan, 57th Regt., then seriously indisposed) with disregard and contumely in peremptorily refusing to obey it, and in personally telling me that the only notice he, Mr. Powditch, would take of such order, would be to transmit it to Head Quarters; further in unbecomingly observing (addressing me) that, in his private capacity, he regarded himself as quite my equal, and that I seemed to give myself much trouble in meddlesing in matters that in no wise concerned me; these and many other highly improper and disrespectful expressions, accompanied with a very arrogant and insolent demeanour and aggravated by an intemperate tone, drew from me (and I think naturally enough) the remark that, "had I followed the dictates of my judgment, I should have felt myself fully justified in placing him Mr. Powditch under arrest"; but no expression was uttered, nor act performed that implied or could rationally be construed to imply a contemplated design on my part of executing such a measure; and I even sent Mr. Powditch a message by his first mate assuring him that no molestation would be offered to his person, and no interruption opposed to the exercise of his duties as master of the ship; it would therefore seem that any fears as to personal constraint or molestation are rather counterfeit than real.

My principal object in soliciting your attention to transactions that have occurred within the pale of your official authority as Commandant, is in order to induce you to make such inquiry into Mr. Powditch's conduct as may enable you to represent the same faithfully to H.Qrs. as the ends of truth and the general interests of the public service require, and further with a view of affording you the means of judging whether I have assumed any power that does not legitimately belong to my station and whether I have not exercised such power with temperance, moderation and consistency.

As I write with pain and difficulty, I shall not needlessly prolong this already somewhat lengthened communication.

I have, &c.,

H. R. HARTLEY,
Major, 57th Regt., Commanding.
LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,

King George's Sound, 9th July, 1829.

1. I have the honor to forward herewith the different returns required from this Settlement as numbered in the margin,* together with a duplicate of my last Despatch sent by the Colonial Government Barque Lucy Anne on the 21st of May, since which period nothing particular has occurred.

2. I regret to state in reference to the Stock return No. 6 that the hopes I expressed of having an increase to our Cattle proved unfounded, as none of the Cows were with Calf. The death of the only Bull, we had on the Settlement, will therefore be the more severely felt as it will prevent any increase until the arrival of another.

The Cattle and sheep are in good condition and the latter are increasing fast.

3. Feeling very anxious to obtain all the information in my power of the Soil and capabilities of the surrounding country, I went in the Settlement boat soon after the Lucy Anne left to examine the land round French river, one part of which had frequently struck me as being very advantageously situated for the Site of a Settlement. I landed at this place, which is on the East side of the river a short way from the entrance, from which I walked on a gradual ascent until I attained the Summit of the Hill, a distance of about a mile; and I have the satisfaction of stating, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, that I found the Soil within a few hundred yards of the river of the best description consisting of a deep rich Vegetable Mould, the Grass soft and high with long thistles, the Trees large and in most parts thinly scattered, and the views extensive, diversified and beautiful. Not having gone farther than the top of the Hill and those parts of it facing French river and Oyster Harbour, I requested Mr. Baxter (Botanist) to examine the whole of it, and sent the Settlement boat with him thither for that purpose; After having examined it attentively, he is of opinion there are from two to three hundred Acres of good land well watered by a considerable Stream on the East and by large Lagoons that are apparently never dry on the North, and that the Trees are mostly straight and large and not so numerous as they are in the neighbourhood.

As this land is so close to the entrance of French river (a branch of Oyster Harbour), water communication might almost as easily be had with it as with the present Settlement, and the advantage of having such excellent pasturage for the Stock and rich land to cultivate would be incalculable. The water in Oyster Harbour is rather shallow; but, as the Island from which

*Marginal note.—1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.
we get our vegetables is situated near its entrance, any stores might be landed there in the first instance, should expedition be necessary, and afterwards conveyed to the river, and a person or two might be kept at this Settlement to communicate with vessels, should any enter Princess Royal Harbour.

4. Since I had the honor of forwarding my last Despatch, I have nearly completed a substantial and convenient house, having two good rooms in front and a Kitchen and Office immediately behind them all under one roof. The back part and gable ends are built of Stone and the front of brick, having a verandah. It is 35 feet long, 20 feet wide and 10 feet high, having four Windows and a Door in front with two Windows and a Door behind.

5. Mr. Baxter (Botanist) having expressed a desire to return to Sydney by the Prince of Denmark (Sealer), the Master of which Vessel being his acquaintance, has offered him a passage for nothing. I have made no objection to his doing so, as he states he has collected most of the seeds and plants that will be of any service to him in this neighbourhood. As this Vessel will call at several places on the Coast on her passage from hence to Sydney, it will afford him an opportunity, of which he feels anxious to avail himself, of making some valuable additions to his present collection.

I feel much satisfaction in stating that, during his stay at this Settlement, his exertions to accomplish the object for which he came here have been unremitting, and that his conduct in every respect has deserved my best recommendation.

Mr. Forbes (Master of the Prince of Denmark) has offered to convey the whole of his collection to Sydney free of expense, and, as he has assured me that every Article shall be taken the greatest care of and as I wish them to be under Mr. Baxter's management, I have had them shipped accordingly, and I have the honor to transmit herewith a list of the various Articles from Mr. Baxter together with a receipt for the Cases and Packages in which they are contained from Captain Forbes.

6. Mr. Forbes (Master of this Vessel) intends to examine the interior Lake* named in my last Despatch on his return to Sydney. As he was much in want of some thick plank to repair his boats, I allowed him to take a useless spar that was left here by the Lucy Anne to cut up for that purpose.

7. I beg to state for the information of His Excellency the Governor that the General health of those on the Settlement is good, though five of the Prisoners are now Sick, and that the conduct of the Troops and Prisoners is orderly and correct.

I have, &c.,

GEO. SLEEMAN, Lieut., 39th Regt., Commandant.

* Note 110.
CAPTAIN WAKEFIELD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.*
(Despatch No. 4.)
Sir, King George's Sound, 19th Augt., 1829.
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a Circular letter of the 19th March last, enclosing a copy of a letter addressed to the Civil Engineer, establishing a principle for framing estimates of Buildings, etc., to be transmitted before any work is begun. I have, &c.,
J. WAKEFIELD, Capt., 39 Regt.,
Com'd'g K. G. Sound.

LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.
Sir, King George's Sound, 7th September, 1829.
I have the honor to inclose for the information of His Excellency the Governor An Account of the Seal Skins and Oil, procured by the boat I sent to obtain a small supply of the latter Article for general purposes soon after my arrival here, describing the manner in which these Articles have been applied. Excepting the Fur skins, the others were comparatively but of little value. There were twelve Fur skins but only Eleven of them perfect, One of which I gave to the Serjeant at this place for his exertions in trying to get the Men from the Island; Another to Major Hartly; and four, with the defective one, I have used myself; the remaining five are now in my possession, which, with those I have used and given away, I will replace or allow for in my accounts, should His Excellency the Governor be pleased so to direct.
Some of the Articles, I brought with me to this Settlement, having been damaged on the passage hither obliged me to have a rough Chest of Drawers and wash hand stand made with my own materials for my convenience during my stay, which Articles, including a coarse book and Shell case, I have to Solicit His Excellency's permission to retain by allowing 2s. per diem for the Prisoner's labor during the time he was employed in making them; or I will include them with the other Government property in my charge, should His Excellency be pleased so to determine.
I have, &c.,
GEO. SLEEMAN, Lieut., 39th Regt., Commandant.

* Note 111.
[Enclosure.]

AN account of the Articles procured and brought to King George's Sound by the Settlement boat on the 16th February, 1829.

Seal Oil ........................................ Ten Gallons.
Seal Skins (Fur) ................................ Twelve.
Do. Do. (Hair) .................................. Eleven.
Pup Skins ........................................ Twenty Nine.

The Hair Skins were given to the Prisoners to make caps with; Eleven of the Pup Skins were nearly rotten; the rest were made into a Jacket and Trowsers; the former Article was given to a Native black, who generally lives on the Settlement; The Fur Skins were kept by Lieut. Sleeman.

Distribution of the Oil.

Lieut. Sleeman ................................. 1 Gallon. Distribution of oil.
Mr. Nind ......................................... 1 Do.
Mr. Pritchett ................................... ½ Do.
Mr. Baxter ....................................... ½ Do.
Serjt. Hoop ...................................... 1 Do.
Settlet. Blacksmith and Carpenter for different Government purposes. { ½ Do.
A Supply to the Guard and Military for various purposes. } 5½ Do.

Total ............................................ 10 Gallons.

GEO. SLEEMAN, Lieut., 39th Regt., Commandant.

JOHN SCOTT, Clerk and Overseer.

LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,

King George's Sound, 7th October, 1829.

1st. I have the honor to state for the information of His Excellency the Governor that the Government Brig Amity arrived at this Settlement on the 4th Instant from Raffles Bay and Swan River, having left the former place on the 24th of August and the latter on the 29th of September. In addition to our receiving some supplies by her, She brought us the intelligence of the loss of the Mermaid at Torres Straits; but the Despatches, which were forwarded by her for this Settlement, were saved, the receipt of which I beg to acknowledge.

2nd. Although Captain Barker recommends my detaining the Amity here until his Arrival* in the Governor Phillips, both in a Private and Public letter, the latter of which I beg to transmit (No. 8), yet, as the period when he will arrive is uncertain having to call at Timor and Swan River on his passage hither, and as the season is rapidly advancing for a change from Westerly to Easterly Winds, I consider it better to Despatch her with as little delay as possible, especially as the Governor

* Note 112.
Phillips will so soon follow, by which opportunity any Official Communications to Sydney may be made. Doctor Davis has relieved Mr. Nind by this opportunity.

3rd. I have detained five of the most useful prisoners at this Settlement, who came in the Amity, and have sent two from hence to Sydney on account of ill health, and by the recommendation of Doctor Davis and Mr. Nind.

4th. It is with sincere pain and regret I beg to refer to No. 4 paragraph of my despatch by the Lucy Anne, complaining of the Conduct of Mr. Nind (Colonial Assistant Surgeon), respecting whom I beg to forward a more detailed statement (No. 10), and I sincerely trust that after the Satisfactory explanations I have received from him and his late unhappy state of mind that my report will not in any way tend to his prejudice with His Excellency the Governor.

5th. I feel much satisfaction in stating for His Excellency's information that the Settlement has been well supplied with vegetables ever since the Lucy Anne left, and that, during the greater part of the intervening period, they have been regularly distributed twice a week.

6th. The second time the Seine was drawn, which Captain Barker sent us from Raffles Bay, we caught Twenty Salmon and Ninety nine other fish, and should have caught many more, if the Seine from being nearly rotten had not unfortunately given way, by which accident many escaped. During the summer, I think fish may be caught almost in any quantities with tackle.

7th. I regret to state that, notwithstanding the greatest care, we have lost an Ox and two Cows by death since my last despatch. There are now only two Cows remaining. The sheep are improving fast.

8th. I have the honor to transmit herewith the various returns required from this Settlement as numbered in the Margin, together with duplicates of the returns and Despatch I forwarded by the Prince of Denmark (Sealer), which Vessel left this place to return to Sydney on the 14th of July.

9th. It is satisfactory for me to state for His Excellency's information that the Conduct of the Soldiers and Prisoners has been almost unexceptionably good.

I have, &c.,

Geo. Sleeman, Lieut., 39th Regt., Commandant.

P.S.—In consequence of the very pressing request of Mr. Owen, Commanding the Brig Amity herewith transmitted, I have permitted him to receive 10 Gallons of Rum for his Crew to be paid for at Sydney should his Excellency the Governor be pleased so to direct.
SLEEMAN TO MACLEAY.

[The following enclosures only are available:—]

[Enclosure No. 8.]

CAPTAIN BARKER TO LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN.

Sir,
Fort Wellington, 22 August, 1829.

I regret having to inform you that the Mermaid, loaded with provisions for King George's Sound, was wrecked on the 13th June, cutter Mermaid. The Master brought the despatches here, which I now forward.

You will probably learn by this of the abandonment of this settlement and transfer of the stores to Swan River. The Brig now takes the greater part of this and nearly half our population. She is accompanied by the Amity, but which I hope will be despatched immediately with a supply of provisions that was probably given by Cptn. Laws, H.M.S. Satellite.

The Governor Phillip arrived on the 20th. In a few days I shall proceed in her with the remainder of the establishment, and bring a further supply which I hope will be fully sufficient until a vessel can reach you from Sydney.

I have to request you will if possible detain the Amity until my arrival.

I have, &c.,
C. BARKER, Capt., 39 Regt., Commandant.

[Enclosure No. 9.]

ASSIST. SURGEON NIND TO LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN.

Sir,

Having Inspected the Sick Prisoner conjointly with Doctor Proposed Davis, I beg leave to recommend the removal of Michl. Gile by the removal of Ship Archduke Charles, and of Dr. Kelly by the Ship Speke to Sydney, as they will probably be of no farther use on this Settlement.

I have, &c.,
I. S. NIND, Col. Asst. Surgn.

[Enclosure No. 11.]

MR. OWEN TO LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN.

Sir,
King George's Sound, 6th Octr., 1829.

I beg to state for your information that the Crew of His Majesty's Colonial Brig Amity under my Command has requested me to apply to you in favor of them for a Small portion of Spirits to the Amount of Ten Gallons, and for which they will render payment to His Majesty's Government, should His Excellency the Governor think it necessary to Make a Charge.

I beg to urge, in furtherance of their request, that the Majority of them are Suffering from Scourvy in Consequence of the long period which they have been Stationed on the North Coast.

I have, &c.,
WM. OWEN, Master, Brig Amity.

LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,
King George's Sound, 7th October, 1829.

It is with extreme regret I beg to state, for the information of His Excellency the Governor in reference to No. 4 paragraph of my despatch by the Government Barque Lucy Anne,
in which I complained of the Conduct of Mr. Nind (Colonial Assistant Surgeon), that, from circumstances which have subsequently taken place, I am of opinion that what I ascribed to opposition and Sullenness was really occasioned by extreme dejection of Spirits and a morbid state of mind bordering on derangement, probably increased by his long residence here, where he had so little to amuse or to divert his attention from dwelling on Subjects and events connected with his past life of rather a painful nature. On meeting Mr. Nind, as I occasionally did, I perceived an apparent dejection of Spirits and abstraction of thought; but I did not for an instant imagine that he really was in the state I found him in on the morning of the 12th of September, when he sent me the inclosed note.

I immediately sent to inquire what was the matter with him, and whether he desired to see me; he came to my house with the person who conveyed the message, and on taking my hand appeared greatly agitated and distressed, and in a fit of tears entered into a variety of explanations respecting his past Conduct, and Concluded by stating his health was bad, and by requesting I would Witness his will and allow it to remain in my hands, to which (in order to relieve his mind) I assented. On the following day (13th Sept.), he placed his will in my hands, after it had been witnessed by the Storekeeper, my Clerk and Myself; and, as he remained with me all the day, I perceived towards the Evening evident symptoms of insanity, which rapidly increased as the night advanced, until he was quite incoherent and in the most distracted state, Continually adverting to some circumstances connected with Mr. Tallemach (late Storekeeper) of whose proceedings he appeared to entertain the greatest apprehensions. I directed one man besides his Servant to remain up with him; but he got through his bed room Window unknown to them at about three o'clock in the morning, and ran to my room in his shirt in the most distracted state. I was obliged to take him to his room. Early the same morning, he again came to my room properly dressed, but was extremely agitated and incoherent, and in the course of the day went to the Soldiers' Barracks and began to speak of his private affairs, and said he was told by Captain Wakefield to throw himself on their protection. I then found it necessary to place him under restraint, and for that purpose kept three prisoners and one Soldier on watch in his house by night, and had his bed room windows secured, and every dangerous Article removed from his reach. He had before this destroyed some portion of his Medicines and scattered the bottles of his Medicine Chest in different places,
besides having removed many Articles from his room. When he was at all Calm, I had him to spend the day with me, and he has continued to dine with me ever since. He continued incoherent on Subjects connected with Capt. Wakefield and Mr. Tallernach for a considerable time, and is not yet quite clear. He has determined to leave Sydney by the first Vessel for England; and, as he has treated me with the utmost Confidence in all his private Affairs, I sincerely trust that the Complaint, I considered it my duty to make in my last despatch, will not tend to his disadvantage, as I should consider it one of the most painful events of my life (after what has occurred), if it should operate to his prejudice with His Excellency the Governor.

I have, &c.,

Geo. Sleeman, Lieut., 39th Regt., Commandant.

LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,

King George's Sound, 7th October, 1829.

I have the honor to state for your information that Mr. Bills given by Xind (Colonial Assistant Surgeon) has given me bills of exchange on you for Fifty Seven Pounds, three shillings and Six pence (£57 3s. 6d.), being the Amount he owes to different persons in this Settlement, to whom he has given orders on me for payment on my return to Sydney.

As Mr. Nind expresses an intention of leaving the Colony soon, I have taken the liberty of forwarding his Dft. on you to Capt. Durnford, Paymaster 39th Regt., to whom I will thank you to direct the Amount to be paid.

I have, &c.,

Geo. Sleeman, Lieut., 39th Regt., Commandant.

LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,

King George's Sound, 20th December, 1829.

1. I have the honor to report, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, that Captain Barker, 39th Regt., arrived here in H.M. Colonial Brig Governor Phillips on the 29th of Novr., and that, in compliance with the directions contained in your letter of the 23rd July, I gave over to him the command of this Settlement on the third of December, on which day I transferred to him all the public letters, books, Documents, and other public property in my possession, and gave him from time to time all the verbal information in my power on Subjects connected with the Settlement up to the present period.
2. I feel much satisfaction in stating for the information of His Excellency the Governor that the health of all those on the Settlement is good, and that the general conduct of both the Troops and Prisoners was correct during the period of my command.

I have, &c.,

Geo. Sleeman,
Lieut., 39th Regt.
OFFICIAL PAPERS

RELATING TO

THE SETTLEMENT AT SWAN RIVER,
WEST AUSTRALIA.

DECEMBER, 1826—JANUARY, 1830.
CAPTAIN STIRLING TO GOVERNOR DARLING.

His Majesty's Ship Success,
Sydney, New South Wales, 18th April, 1827.

In the accompanying Statement, I have the honor to communicate to Your Excellency the result of my Exploring visit to the Western Coast of New Holland.

I should have been glad if I could have rendered this report more valuable than it may appear, but two causes intervened to prevent it being so, the first arose from the very short time I could devote to this Service, the other from want of experience in Surveying on my own part and that of the Officers of His Majesty's Ship under my Command.

It is however owing to their cordial and zealous co-operation that I have been enabled to collect the details on which this report is formed.

I have, &c.,

JAMES STIRLING, Captain.

NARRATIVE OF OPERATIONS.

On the 17th of January, 1827, we quitted Port Jackson accompanied by the Cutter and Tender.† It soon became apparent that the inferiority of her Sailing qualities would occasion much delay, if I persisted in keeping company with her, and eventually on the 9th February off the S.W. Cape of Van Dieman's Land, finding it dangerous and impracticable to take her in tow from the boisterous Weather and heavy Seas we encountered, I sent the necessary Instructions to the Officer in charge of her, and proceeded alone to the Westward.

Had this resolution have been taken at an earlier period, we should have saved much time; but her value to us was too great to separate from her until it became absolutely necessary.

On the 4th of March, we saw the Land, and after an extremely stormy passage rounded Cape Leeuwin.
The first appearance of the Coast we were now to explore presented nothing attractive; the monotony of its outline and the dusky hue of the meagre vegetation, it supported, at once accounted for the sterile and hopeless character attributed by early navigators* to this Region.

The whole of the 4th, we continued to sail along the Shore at 5 Miles distance from it; and, being favored by a strong Southerly breeze, we made such rapid progress that the Sun’s Meridian altitude on the following day was observed within a Mile of the West point of Rottenest. Instead of anchoring there, I at once proceeded along the Northern Shore and stood over to the Main Land; but, the wind increasing to a strong breeze, and the Water at the same time lessoning to Six Fathoms, I found it prudent to return, and at 3 O’Clock anchored on the N.E. side of the Island about a Mile from the Beach. The rest of the afternoon was dedicated to an inspection of the Eastern Portion of the Island, and of a Bay situated between its Eastern and N.E. extremity.

The existence of a Safe anchorage on these Shores was a fact unknown, previous to our arrival, but to find such a place was of such importance to our ulterior operations here, that it engaged my earliest and earnest attention. On the following Morning, therefore, we were under way at daybreak, and again shaped our course to the Main Land in anxious pursuit of the great object abovementioned. The wind being contrary, the whole of the Forenoon was spent in beating to windward. At Noon we had attained to within half a Mile of the entrance to the River, and at One O’clock, the Sea breeze setting in with considerable force, and the appearance of the Water to windward indicating a Shoal, we anchored in 12 Fathoms, one Mile distant in a W.S.W. direction from the South Head.

In the course of this forenoon, we had found favorable opportunities to form a general idea of the Country; near the Sea the aspect upon the whole was agreeable, altho’ the barren downs immediately behind the Beach bore the marks of sterility; we had also opportunity to ease ourselves of the alarm excited on the previous day by the discolouration of the bottom of the Sea, which, whenever visible, presented dark spots, and which at first we took for Rocks. This forenoon however satisfied me on this point, for we ascertained that the colour proceeded from a Vegetable production on the bottom, over which there was an equal depth of Water with that on the surrounding patches of sand. I observed moreover that the Sea here was perfectly Smooth and free from the general Coast swell from the S.W.

* Note 115.
quarter, and that the Sea breeze, although strong, neither this
day or the one preceeding, produced the Slightest motion. I
was not at this time aware that a bank or continued Succession
of Reefs defends all this part of the Coast from the swell, which
continually beats against their Seaward Side.

From the anchorage we at this time occupied, I had a toler­
able view of the surrounding Coast, Islands, and Shoals; and,
resolving to seek a Port further Southward, I dispatched the
Master to look for a Channel in that direction. The Neigh­
bourhood of the River tempted me to reconnoitre it, and taking
Mr. Frazer* with me, I proceeded in the Gig for that purpose;
we crossed the bar and ascended the Stream for 5 or Six Miles.
In the course of the excursion he made several interesting acquisi­
tions, and I had the good fortune to kill three of those magni­
ficent Birds, which give a Name to the Stream we were
embarked upon. On my return at nine O'Clock, the Master
reported he had found a Bank even with the Water's edge, about
half a Mile from the Ship, a discovery which made me rejoice
exceedingly that we anchored where we did. He reported further
that, proceeding along the edge of the bank to the Westward, he
had traced it as far as certain rocks visible from the Ship four
Miles from us, and that there was a Channel near them of 3½
fathoms into deep Water. At Daybreak on the 7th we were
accordingly on our way to the rocks indicated, the Spit or Bank
being now to be crossed every precaution was adopted. An
Officer highly praiseworthy was sent a head in a Boat; good
leadsmen were in the Chains and the Ship's head directed
towards the expected Channel. The Water gradually shoaled to
4 then to 3 fathoms and ultimately to a quarter less than 3,
which was little enough for a Ship advancing 16 feet 6 inches;
our Boat however continued to advance, and, as I felt confident
the Officer in her would instantly return according to his In­
structions, if he found less than 3 fathoms by the Boat's lead,
which was equal to ½ less 3 by the Ship's, I determined to stand
on, and after half an hour's anxiety the depth increased and, as
soon as we reached 5½ Fathoms, I let go the Anchor.

I had no reason upon reflection to censure the Master for the
discrepancy, thus found between the actual depth and his report;
the fact was the Water had been raised by the Sea breeze to the
height he represented, and instead of finding nearly the same
depth on the following Morning at the same hour, as we should
have found it in regular Tides, we found considerably less; we
had not at that time discovered that the Tides are on this Coast
very much influenced by the existing winds.

* Note 116.
On a further examination into the nature of the Anchorage the Ship now occupied, I had reason to be satisfied as to its security; the bank we had passed extended from East to North, and would serve as a Breakwater against sea from that direction; the distant Land of the Main moreover was visible between these two points. At the Western extremity of the bank, there were rocks and breakers which continued in succession as far as Rottenest, in short all around us rocks, Breakers, or Land were visible in every point of the Compass; and, when I had moored the Ship half a Mile nearer to Pulobarnac, I was satisfied that she was in perfect safety.

The remainder of the 7th was dedicated to a visit to the Isle Beuach of the French charts*; and, on examination into the soundings and Bays on its Eastern side, I there found reason to admire a Magnificent Sound between that Island and the Main possessing great attractions for a Sailor in search of a Port; and, altho' we could not find an entrance into it, I saw the value of the position too strongly not to resolve upon its exploration as soon as circumstances would admit. In the mean time, being now free from anxiety respecting the Ship, I determined upon leaving her where she was, and immediately ordered preparations to be made for our journey into the interior.

The route obviously pointed out to us was the course of Swan River. On the Morning of the 8th, every necessary being embarked in the Cutter and Gig, we left the Ship and proceeded with a fair wind towards the Main. The two Boats contained in all Eighteen Persons, one part of which consisted of Lieutenant Belches, Mr. Surgeon Clause, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Garling, Mr. Heathcote and myself; the other of Eight Seamen and four Marines, the latter were provided abundantly with subsistance, Two Suits of Cloaths, one whereof was composed of Blanket Stuff, a Hammock for each, a tent for the whole, and Arms sufficient to repel any attack that mightbefall us.

At Noon we crossed the Bar and reached the entrance. It is flanked by two natural Piers or Heads, similar in the material of which they are composed but dissimilar in Size. The Southern or largest is 70 or 80 feet high and is connected with the Main Land by a Sandy isthmus bearing a Bay on each side. The Heads are composed of a Limestone Rock, which in those parts, that are subject to the action of the surge, is worn into Caverns, while in other places the action of the Sun and atmosphere has in part decomposed it, exhibiting various Specimens of organic remains, both of marine and of vegetable origin.

I must protest here against the term “River” as applied to the Estuary in which we were now entering. It is a misnomer

* Note 117.
STIRLING TO DARLING.

1827.
18 April.

which leads to confusion of Ideas; and I shall therefore designate the various ramifications of the Sea within the two heads just mentioned by the general name Melville Water, limiting the use of the name Swan River to that Stream, which joining the Sea at the Islands below Fraser’s Point concludes its career as a River. For the extent and direction of the various Arms of Melville Water, I refer to the Chart. I shall only state that the Shores near the Heads, altho’ not deficient in good Soil, present not a pleasant sort of Vegetation to the Eye; but, as the Stream is ascended, the banks become extremely beautiful and picturesque. Their beauty is enhanced by the lofty trees, which occasionally adorn them, and by the bright green pendulous foliage with which the Shrubbs are covered.

From the Heads to Point Belches, we proceeded prosperously before a favoring breeze, but we were there to encounter difficulties. The Boats took the Ground, and we sought in vain by Walking from Shore to Shore to find a Channel. The only alternative left was to drag the Boats over the Bank which was practised for a distance of two Miles, until night overtook us when the increasing tenacity of the mud obliged us to desist. It was too late then to find a way to firm dry ground, so we were forced to pass the night in the Boats, which was done without much inconvenience.

At Daylight of the 9th, the Gig was carried over the flats above the Islands, and breakfast prepared for the Party, who, from 5 O’Clock in the Morning till dark, were employed in fruitless exertions to advance the Cutter. At length despairing of getting her forward, I had her carried about half a Mile down with the intention of sending her back; but, having found a bank of sand just below her position, which altho’ dry afforded firm footing, I resolved upon attempting it the following Morning. As Night set in, the whole Party was collected and the Men being dressed out in their dry Blanket Suits sat down at 7 o’Clock to a comfortable Dinner after a day’s work, which, for unremitting exertions above their middles in Mud and Water, I never saw exceeded.

On the Morning of the 10th, we found the Sand bank more favorable to our wishes than the mud had been. At Noon, I had the satisfaction to see the Cutter once more afloat above the Shoals, and immediately after everything re-embarked for the prosecution of our Course. These obstructions had detained us two days, at or near frazer’s Point; our Water during such great exertions had suffered many inroads, and it became necessary either to find a Supply or return to the Ship. Happily
Mr. Frazer discovered a Fresh Water Lagoon, and I hit upon a Spring of delicious Water sufficient to supply all our wants.

The first day of our sojourn here was marked by a visit of three Armed Natives, who, seeing Mr. Frazer alone taking care of the Gig at about One hundred Yards from the Shore, came down and motioned him to be gone. It was in vain that he proffered all his Stock of amicable Signals; they seemed angry at our invasion of their Territory, and by their violent gesture gave him reason to rejoice at the Space of water, which divided them from the Boat; supposing however that he was beyond reach, they eventually retired, and these were the only Natives we seen in that Neighbourhood, altho' many traces existed of its being much frequented. If some of those traces or footsteps had been taken as the standard of size, a mistake sometimes made in Savage Countries, Gigantic indeed must have appeared the authors of those marks.

The Country at Frazer's Point differs in character from that which is nearer the Sea; above it, Sandy beaches and precipitous Limestone Cliffs are succeeded by flat rushy Shores, or rising banks of grass, and Woodland, but the Soil of the Hills is still sandy and the lowlands bear marks of Fresh Water inundations. The Water also at this point assumed the appearance of a River, and at four O'clock on the 10th we embarked upon it for the further prosecution of our Voyage. Our progress on that Evening was not great, nor could it be so, after a hard day's work; at dark we pulled in for a landing-place on the left shore, and in a few Minutes a blazing fire, with roasting Swans before it, shed cheerfulness on our resting place; our dominion here however was not undisputed for all places I have ever visited I think it contained the greatest number of Musquitoes. This phenomenon was easily accounted for when daylight shewed us that we had taken up our Quarters on a narrow ridge between the River and a Swamp.

The Regulations established for our movements were to breakfast at 4, start at 5, and row or sail till 11, to rest from that time till 3, and then to proceed till 6 in the Evening; at day light accordingly on the 11th, we were Sailing upwards through a beautiful reach of the River. On the left lay a level Country 15 or 20 feet above the water, covered with bronze grass and studded by a few green trees; On the right, higher banks and greater beauty of scenery but the Soil of inferior quality. The Plants, which inhabit sandy districts, were become rare, while those, which flourish in loamy Soils, were frequently appearing. Swans and Ducks, which at Frazer's Point were numerous, now became still more so, and of the first kind we killed with ease as many
as we wanted. Fish we saw in abundance, but had no time to spare for their Capture; at 7 O'Clock, we entered a very long reach; the last Sandy Hills we were to see lay on our left; the distant blue Mountains were before us; and the smoke from many fires was rising on different Points of view; at this place the river is not above 100 Yards wide, and the Channels not more than 7 or 8 feet deep; the Water is still brackish but no longer Salt. At the Head of this long reach, we found it drinkable, and running downward at the rate of a Mile an hour over a gravally bottom; here peeping at us from behind trees we discovered two Boys, presently others appeared and at last we saw a whole Tribe of about thirty Natives.

The rule I had laid down for my guidance in all communications with these People was neither to seek nor avoid an interview. I adopted this plan as the one best calculated to prevent hostilities, for to approach a savage or to retire before him I felt persuaded would both produce the same result, in the one case leading him from fear to strike the first blow, and in the other tempting him to make conquest of Enemies, who by retreating exhibit symptoms of weakness and fear; it was with this view that I resolved in the present case to let our new acquaintances seek or shun us as they best pleased. At first they displayed great reserve; but, as we made no attempt to approach them, the Warriors followed us along the bank, the Women and Children retreating out of sight. The Woods now resounded with their Shouts, to which replied our Bugle with equal loudness and with more than equal melody. At this point appearances wore a threatening aspect, for the Natives seemed much enraged, and I judged, from their violent gestures and great noise they made, that we should shortly have a shower of spears. The River was here only 60 Yards across, and, as they had the advantage of a bank 20 feet high, our situation put us much within reach of annoyance; we however pursued our course until the bank became nearly level with the Water, by which time they had assumed more confidence and began to mimic our various expressions of "How do you do"; and at last we held up a Swan, which seemed to amuse them, and, having cast it to them, they testified the greatest delight at the present; this led to an interview which proceeded upon amicable terms; we gave them various articles of Dress, a Corporal's Jacket and three Swans, and received in return all their Spears and Womeras; at length we were forced to tear ourselves away, and they retired astonished at their acquisitions, intimating that they would willingly accompany the Boats, but that a Creek a short distance further up prevented their doing so.
From our Parting with these People till Dinner time, we continued to penetrate through a rich and romantic Country. At Noon we halted and, while the necessary preparations were making for our repast, Parties Sallied forth in various directions to explore the neighbourhood; many traces of Natives and Kangaroos were seen, and indeed the latter animal had been observed in the course of the day's progress; but we were not sufficiently acquainted with that species of hunting to make prize of any of them; here were also traces of the Cassowary, and we found abundance of Ducks, Cocketoos, Swans, Redbill, Pigeon and Quail. The Country adjacent to this Spot is generally of an undulating character; occasionally sections of the higher grounds are seen on the Banks of the River, and by presenting Steep red, brown and yellow Cliffs, of one or two hundred feet high, add much to the variety of the Landscape. These Hills in general have an Iron Stone grit for their base, and good red loam for their surface. The holms or lower grounds, which probably occupy on an average four fifths of the surface of the Country, are composed of a deep dark coloured loam devoid of clay or sand, and are usually clothed with grass. The Stringy Bark and Apple Tree of New South Wales grow to an enormous size on the mounts, some of the latter sort being seen 25 feet in circumference.

On the Flats the Blue Gum Tree flourishes, but in a ratio of not more than 10 to an Acre, and they are generally unaccompanied by any other Tree or Shrub except a long leaved and beautiful Species of Acacia. At 2 O'Clock, we resumed our course, and, as the River had decreased in width to about 40 Yards, some of the Party advanced along the banks for the various purposes of preventing a Surprize, Shooting Game, and seeing the Country; its open forest-like character afforded no impediment to their march, indeed generally the lowlands resemble fields of grain, for the high grass had been turned yellow by the Sun; such with little variation was the Country we passed through for 15 Miles, until at 6 O'Clock we established our Quarters for the Night on one of those convenient and pleasant looking Flats.

This I thought was the first commodious sleeping-place we had encountered; we were now becoming accustomed to the business of rendering ourselves comfortable in the Forest; we had delicious Weather and abundance of every thing, including cheerfulness.

From the long reach to this Spot, we found not less than Eight feet Water in the Chanel of the River; the Water was perfectly
good and pleasant, but the tide still seemed to have an influence, for the height of the River was a foot less in the morning than at night.

At day light of the 13th, we were as usual in motion and observed little variation in the appearance of the Land as we ascended, except that the Hills on the Banks were higher and more frequent, and the Soil upon them of a coarser description. They are here composed of a red Sand Stone, red clay, and an ochry loam, varying in colour between red, brown, blue, and yellow; the Soil on the lowlands continued as good as ever. About an hour after starting, we had the misfortune to Stave the Cutter on a Sunken Tree; lead and fearnought however speedily effected a cure, and we continued to pursue our course amid increasing difficulties from similar obstructions and from the decreasing width of the Stream. The hills around us were high, and we ascended them with ease; but it was in vain that we sought a view of the Country; we were the more disappointed because its character was evidently changing; at length after several halts we reached, about 11 o’Clock, a Spot where the River takes an Eastern direction just above a considerable Creek on the left hand; we there found unsurmountable obstructions to our further progress, in fact we had reached the termination; for beyond this there was the Bed of a torrent, but no longer a River; nor even a continuation of Water, except in a succession of distant parts. Here then on a high bank we pitched our Tent; the richness of the Soil, the bright foliage of the Shrubs, the majesty of the surrounding Trees, the abrupt and red coloured banks of the River occasionally seen, and the view of the blue summits of the Mountains, from which we were not far distant, made the scenery around this Spot as beautiful as anything of the kind I had ever witnessed.

The hot Season of the day was fully occupied in the various operations of encamping, exploring and observing the latitude. When it became cool, I set off with a Party for the hills; but the distance was greater than we supposed, and the Sun was setting when we reached the summit. The height of the position we attained was probably 1,200 feet above the Plain; the Country to the Eastward was intercepted from our view by the Mountains in that direction, and the Sea was also rendered invisible either by distance or the ridge of Hills which skirts it; but, although our expectations were disappointed as to the two objects just mentioned, they were more than gratified by the view, which we contemplated beneath us. As far as the eye could carry Northward, Southward, and Westward lay extended an
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Exploration from camp by three parties.

immense plain covered in general with Forest and varied by occasional eminences and glimpses of the River winding through it.

It was already dark when we began to descend; we had Seven Miles to go through the Forest, but we were not unaccustomed to Steer by night, and after three hours smart walking our Signal Musket Shot was replied to by one in the neighbourhood of the Camp. Mr. Frazer had very kindly and considerately sent out Scouts, and we reached our Quarters about Nine O'Clock.

On the following Morning, the 14th, Mr. Frazer with a Party set out for the Hills to the Eastward, Messrs. Belches and Heathcote to those in a Northern direction, and Mr. Clause and myself explored the Country to the Westward of the Camp. The discoveries of the first party were many curious and interesting Botanical specimens and a lump of Granite from the ridge, they also saw an Emu but did not secure him; Mr. Belches found a considerable Lake of Fresh Water to the Northward near the foot of the Mountains; and the result of my expedition was the discovery of a Fresh Water Lagoon and a beautiful running brook watering several hundred Acres of natural Meadow, covered even at this Season of the Year with rich green herbaceous grass.

Neither of these Parties encountered any Natives, but we found several deserted encampments where their ajaupa or huts still remained; we had afterwards reason to believe that they frequent the high grounds only during winter, and that at this time they were still on the Coast engaged in Fishing.

The Evening was employed by us in making a Garden on the Tongue of Land, which intervenes between the River and the Creek; we found there, as indeed it was all around us, rich soil of great depth; the ground had been cleared by fire a few weeks before and was ready to receive Seed; we planted various Sorts and more particularly abundance of Potatoes and Peach Trees.

Return journey. On the following Morning, the time I had fixed for our departure arrived, and, I believe much to the sorrow of the Party generally, we commenced our descent. The Gig was stoved soon after starting but speedily cobbled up; we continued with the Stream and wind to descend rapidly; at 11 we stopped to Dinner, and being anxious to move forward resumed our Journey at 2. Mr. Belches found in the neighbourhood of this spot Two Lakes, one of Salt, the other Fresh Water; at 6 we passed the fires of our first Friends in the River, and a little after dark landed for the Night at Point Garling, having accomplished a great day's work. On the Morning of the 16th, we were at Point Frazer very early, and understanding now the nature of the Shoals we had both the Boats below them and reladen by Noon.
We then proceeded to Point Heathcote, which I had fixed upon for a resting place on our route; there I had discovered from the Top of a high Hill that the Branch, which the French named Entree Moreau and called it an Arm of the Sea, extended for 7 or 8 Miles to the S.S.E. I determined therefore to ascertain its nature, and I despatched Mr. Belches in the Gig to explore it; this he accordingly did, and on his return two days afterwards I learnt that, after tracing it for 20 Miles, he found it to be a fresh Water river, similar in every respect to the one we had just descended. It appears to collect the Streams from the Mountains to the Southward, and conveys them into Melville Water.

I Sailed in the Cutter from Point Heathcote in the evening and reached the Ship about Midnight. On our course, we observed several Natives on the banks fishing by torch light and had a great deal of unintelligible conversation with them, and had every reason to suppose that they were not maliciously inclined.

On my return to the Ship, I found my Instructions had been obeyed as to Soundings for a Channel to Beuache Island but unsuccessfully. I therefore resolved to leave her for the remainder of our stay here at her present Anchorage, and immediately commenced the Survey of the surrounding Islands and Banks.

As the history of these operations contains nothing interesting but the result, I shall briefly say that, after four days of exertion, we were enabled to consider the following Services executed:

- The discovery of a Channel of not less than 5 fathoms from Sea in to Cockburn Sound.
- A Channel of 3½ fathoms from the Ship’s Anchorage into Gages Roads.
- The Satisfactory exploration of those Two Anchorages.
- A Survey of the entrance to Melville Water.
- An exploration of the Coasts and Bays of Beuache Island and the Main opposite.
- A considerable Garden at Woodman’s Cove Beuache Island.
- Another Garden at Point Heathcote.
- The discovery of Fresh Water at both of those Places, and of a Mineral Spring near Arthur’s Heads.

The various duties effected on the 20th, we sent to Beuache Island a Cow, Two Ewes in Lamb, and Three Goats, where abundance of grass awaited them, and a large Pool of Water, which we had prepared for their use; on the 21st we unmoored,
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Examination of the coast north of Swan river; weighed and crossed the Bank to the Southward into Gage's Roads; on the 22nd at Noon, having finished all that the time allowed me to remain here would permit, we bore up with the Sea breeze and ran along the Coast to the Northward at a distance varying from 1 to 2½ Miles in 7 fathoms Water. The Land immediately on the Shore became more Sandy and sterile as we receded on this course from Swan River, but the interior, whenever it could be seen over the sand downs, presented a Woody and green aspect. At Sun Set we were 35 Miles from Rottenest, and could see the Coast 20 Miles further, and, as the bottom became Rocky and the Soundings irregular, I here hauled off Shore and at that point terminated my inspection of the West Coast to the Northward of Swan River.

On the 23rd in the afternoon, the Land in the neighbourhood of Cape Bouvard of the French was in sight; I had seen it from Beuache Island and here I resumed the inspection of the Coast; we stood in with a fresh Sea breeze and, when it became dark, being within 5 Miles of the Shore, the weather fine, the Soundings regular and the Water very Smooth, I anchored in 9 fathoms on a Sandy bottom.

At day light the view of the Coast was very pleasing, a high and regularly shaped conical mountain occupied the middle of the picture and was the most distant Land visible. Between us and it, there was a succession of descending ridges or rather a plain inclining to the Sea Shore, covered with Timber; the sand downs, which skirted the white Sand beach, were not bare nor devoid of verdure and beauty. The Sun rising behind the mountain shed every variety of colour over the scene before us; we were now under Sail and making the best of our way to the Southward with the declining breeze at 2 Miles from the Shore. At 2 O'Clock, we were close in with the entrance of Port Leschenault, and at Sun Set anchored 5 Miles to the Southward of it in 9 fathoms Water. The regularity of the Soundings on this part of the Coast is truly astonishing. At 30 Miles off, there is 30 fathoms Water, at 10 Miles 15, and at 2—6, and this gradation of depth seems to prevail in every line of approach towards the Coast. As the bottom is thus regulated with certainty and precision, so equally appear the Hours at which the winds commence and resign their reign, the Sea breeze setting in at 11 and the Land Wind coming off at 8.

On the Morning of the 24th, we were coasting along the Shore with a light breeze; as the Head of the Bay is approached, the distant Hills seem to retire backward; there are no longer Sand...
downs to be seen, but only a Sandy Beach. The Country seems flatter, but not very different from that portion of the great Plain immediately behind Swan River, and of which it is a continuation. At 8 O’Clock, we were near the River Vasse of the French and saw some Natives on the Shore; here the depth forbids a near approach to the Shore. At Nine we saw something like a small opening into a Lagoon, and presently after 20 Natives on the beach; they continued to follow our course along the Shore and seemed eager not to be too late. At 11 the Water Shoaling, I sent a Boat to proceed parallel with the Shore, keeping in 3 fathoms; and at Noon we had completed the circuit of the Eastern and Southern Shores of the Bay. Our attendants were here reinforced by another Tribe—or detachment of the same. The Women and Children retired into the Bush, and the Warriors kept up with our Boat. There were many fine specimens of Military tactics practised by them, all of which were visible to us from the Ship; but, as their gestures and actions did not seem hostile, the Boat continued her course not far from them; one at last, who seemed the general, left his Spears behind him and, advancing upon a projecting rock, stripped himself of his only garment a kangaroo Skin to shew he had no concealed Arms; he seemed so vehemently desirous of an interview that the Boat backed in and gave him a knife and two or three little presents. Shortly after we anchored and I sent Mr. Belches provided with many little articles to open a communication with them; in this he fully succeeded, and ultimately out of the 16 Natives brought two on board; we entertained them with Meat and Drink and Clothes, and they returned to their Tribe, astonished, delighted, and in perfect amity with us. As it was now the time of the Autumnal Equinox, we had reason to expect unsettled Weather. On the following day it blew a gale of wind from the S.S.W. with Thunder, Lightning and Rain, but we were sheltered from its force by the Land.

The 10th and 11th of March were given to the exploration of the Country at this place and the following results were obtained.

We ascertained that, on the Western Shore of this Bay, there is a ridge of Hills of a moderate elevation, whose base covers a surface of 7 or 8 Miles in breadth from East to West, and of 50 or 60 Miles in length from North to South, terminated by our neighbour Cape Naturalist on one hand, and on the other by Cape Leuwin.

Landward to the East a Plain or undulating Country stretches away until it meets the base of General Darling’s range, which at this point is distant 50 Miles probably from the Coast. This plain is covered with large Timber, and displays the rich and
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Anchorage for shipping.

lovely verdure of a Country frequently Watered by Showers. The Southern Shore of this Bay, and which bounds it on one side, is low, and I may venture to say, Swamps and Lagoons would be found behind the beach; the quantity of Metrasiders seen growing there indicates Water; but unlike the Mangrove it shews that Water to be fresh.

The Sea ridge occupied and interested us much; the Soil of its Valleys was exceedingly rich and even; the high lands were covered with a tolerable good sandy loam, but it was in its Geological structure and its mineral productions that we found the scene of its greatest attractions. As I shall examine it closely as to these points in another part of this Report, I shall not dilate upon them here.

The Western Shore of the Bay offers good Anchorage all along its Coast, and, in the Bays which indent it, security from all winds except those from N.N.W. and N.E. The ground is generally tenacious, varying between Sand and Clay and having occasionally towards the Shore lumps of Granite Rock. The latter may always be seen and avoided in any depth less than 10 fathoms. Wood is here abundant for the use of Ships, and whenever we sought we found Water. The Northern part of this range indeed is flowing with Streams, but some are Mineral, some saline, some chalybeate, and many pure fresh and agreeable; of the latter sort Mr. Belches found a source large enough to be called a River, gushing from the side of the Solid Lime-stone Rock and rushing to the Sea half a Mile distant with a considerable noise. At the same time, although there is abundance of fresh water, I am not at liberty to call it at present a convenient watering-place, although I do not doubt that it may hereafter become so.

Our Friends the Natives were constantly in attendance whenever we landed; they were harmless, lively, and extremely inquisitive into the fact of our white complexions; it was not until after repeated trials by rubbing and washing that they would be persuaded that our white colour was not a deception; their Physical character will be stated hereafter; their curiosity seemed insatiable, and to this I must attribute the only instance of Theft which fell within my knowledge. I had been among the Hills and found them near the Boat when I returned; while awaiting the rest of the Party, I stood at their fire which they had kindled to warm themselves during the rain; to amuse them I took out my Note Book and made a Sketch of a Man opposite, and returned the Book into my Pocket. No London adept
could have removed it more adroitly from thence than the Man we called the General did, and I should not have recovered it, had not my Coxswain perceived it under his Cloak.

On the 25th, the weather having moderated and having now extended my stay on this Coast to the very last day, which in reference to my Orders I could with propriety prolong it, we weighed from our Anchorage, and passing round the Cape, directed our course for Cape Leuwin; for several days we had sight of that point, and on the 2nd April Anchored in King George's Sound; on the day following, having been able to hear nothing of our Cutter, I concluded she had been unable to get to the Westward, and had returned to Port Jackson; to that place therefore we proceeded and re-entered it on the 15th April after an absence of three Months.

Observations on the Territory.

The only part of the Western Coast of New Holland visited by the “Success” is included within the four Southermost Degrees of Latitude, and it is that portion only which I shall now attempt to describe.

General Aspect.

From Cape Leuwin to Geographe Bay, the Coast line is formed by a range of Hills of uniform and moderate elevation. Their base is a fine grained granite Shooting up pinacles into the superincumbent strata. These appear in the usual order of succession observed among Rocks of primitive formation. The Granite is followed by Gneiss or a stratified rock nearly resembling it; above the Gneiss are Schistose strata, displaying great variety of colour, texture, and material; then follows Sand Stone or Toadstone of varying thickness, and over these latter, divided from them by an accurately drawn horizontal line, a bed of compact limestone, sections of which were seen 200 feet in depth; such was the order observed among the Cliffs Eastward from Cape Naturalist.

The Strata of Schistose have a general inclination or dip of about 20° and their Longitudinal line of bearing is from W.N.W. to E.S.E. These are traversed by considerable veins of Quartz, Mica and Felspar, some of which are highly Metalliferous; but I do not consider myself competent to apply a Name to any of the Metals they contain except to large Masses of Magnetic Iron Ore, so pure that a Common loadstone would take up in a crude state portions of it as large as a bean.

The disintegration of the Toadstone, mouldering away under the influence of the Atmosphere, has left under the limestone...
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15 April.

Geological description of coast.

Cliffs, many magnificent Caverns; some of these are remarkable for their extent and some for the beautiful stalactites and incrustations which they contain. Mineral and Saline Springs gush out at frequently occurring distances, and, in some of the caves, considerable deposits of Common Salt and Carbonate of Soda are found. The Toadstone contains many testaceous fossils, and the Limestone several of vegetable origin. The Soil in the upper part of this range is thin and sandy, but it supports a variety of the smaller and hardier Plants of these regions. The face of the Hills towards the West is however either bare rock or hopeless Sea Sand.

From Geographe Bay, as far Northward as we visited it, the Coast Line is formed by a Limestone ridge, varying in height from 20 to 600 feet, and extending onward from the Shore from 1 to 5 Miles; in some parts the Sand blown up from the beach by the Sea breeze has invaded these Hills and covered them, and this invariably where the Coast is not protected by exterior banks or Islands. In the deep part of Geographe Bay and behind the Islands near Rottenest, the Sand retains its place on the beach, and the Land behind it produces there a richer sort of vegetation. Behind this Limestone (whose occasional naked and barren appearance probably caused the early and continued prejudices against the fertility of this Coast) commences the great plain of "Quartania." This occupies a space of undetermined length from South to North, but varying in breadth from 20 to 50 Miles. At its Western termination, it skirts the base of an almost continued and abrupt chain of Mountains, which I have named General Darling's range; some of these Mountains attain considerable height; one whose elevation I had an opportunity of measuring was visible 55 Miles from us, and I cannot consider it less than 3,000 feet high; it is the highest of the Chain, although I have very strong reason to suppose that a range of much greater elevation exists at no great distance to the Eastward.

The average height of "General Darling's range" is between 12 and 1,500 feet; its base is granite, bare rocks of which are occasionally exposed to view at or near its summit. The Superior regions are rocky and rendered rugged by masses, which have been hurled from preoccupied positions. Lumps of Quartz and Limestone were found spread about, together with Nodules of Common Iron Stone. These Hills have to boast of little soil, but the Stringy Bark finds sustenance there, and that with a few other hardy plants are all their Vegetable wealth.

As the Hills are descended, the Soil improves, and, at about a Mile from their base, fragments of Rocks and large grained
Quartz or Sand give place to a red loamy Soil, which gradually passes into the general average Soil of the plain; for the qualities of that soil, I refer to the Report* of Mr. Frazer who is a much better judge than I am.

The geological Structure of this Country will be clearly perceived by the following recapitulation:

First, The Limestone ridge of an average breadth of 3 Miles on the Sea Shore, then the plain, an undulating Valley of an average breadth of 30 Miles, and lastly the mountain range rising abruptly from the plain to the height of 1,200 feet and extending North and South on a line parallel with the Coast and apparently co-extensive with it.

The temperature here takes wide ranges according to the Climate region and the time of day under consideration: On the Coast, the Thermometer on Ship Board during one Month's experience averaged 72°, its extremes being 84° and 59°, the first extreme occurring at Noon and the last usually about midnight. Immediately on the Shore the temperature is regulated by the Sun, the Wind, and the Sandy Soil; there the range is greater than on board Ship. On the plain also the temperature varies from the great heat of 84 at Noon to 59 at two hours after midnight. On the Mountains we found a very great difference, the Atmosphere there being 15° colder than that of the plain.

It is worthy of remark that the Sea breeze on this Coast isUsually at S.S.W. and is therefore charged with moisture and very cool; this moderates the action of the Sun in Summer, while at the same time, when condensed by the colder air of the Mountains behind the Coast, the vapor it conveys descends in showers.

It is also remarkable that the Land Wind, blowing from these mountains, is a cold wind, for it lowers the Thermometer to 59° even on the heated Plain; and from the alternate operation of these two winds, which seldom leave an intervening calm, the air, notwithstanding the Sun's great heat, is cool and agreeable except in spots, which are sheltered from the breeze or during calms. I observed that the coldest Land Winds were from E.N.E., and in that direction I expect to learn hereafter that Snowy Mountains are situated.

The hot Season of the day lasts but a few hours, as the heat even then is mitigated by Sea breezes, and at night by the Land wind. The ranges in temperature are neither sufficiently great nor long enough continued to injure the health of Man. In my

* Note 118.

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opinion the Climate considered with reference to health is highly salubrious, but I here beg leave to make an extract from a report made to me in this subject by the Surgeon of the "Success."

Sir,

H.M.S. Success at Sea, 31st March, 1827.

Having formed one of the party on your late Survey of Swan River, I beg to offer a few remarks on the state of the Climate. I am decided in my opinion that it is the most healthy part of the Globe I have visited, having proof positive from the state of my Sick List from our arrival off King George's Sound to our return, a lapse of a Month, during which time I had only slight cases of Colds, etc. I beg leave also to remark the extreme fatigue the whole of us underwent at different times, half naked and immersed up to our necks in water under the rays of a hot Sun; 2nd in Sleeping for nine successive nights in the open air, having our Hammocks merely slung from Tree to Tree, and at times in the immediate neighbourhood of Swampy Lands; 3rd from being under constant excitability from bodily exertion during the whole of the day, pulling in the Boats, and in this high state of perspiration drinking plentifully of cold Water alongside, which was almost impossible to prevent them from doing; yet from all these unfavorable circumstances, my Sick List has not been increased except a slight case of Rheumatism, which occurred about 8 or Ten days after our return. I beg leave also to state that the degree of heat was not oppressive, although the Quick Silver during the day generally ranged from about 80° to 84° degrees; when the Sea breeze prevailed, it would lower to about 78°; at Night the range would generally be from 60 to about 68°, depending entirely upon the Land wind which made it delightfully cool and refreshing.

I have, &c,

J. R. Clause, Surgeon.

Considered with respect to labour, the Climate is not so warm as to prevent Europeans from carrying on the operations of Agriculture. If the heat of the Summer days between 11 and 3 be avoided, I know of no Country which will admit of greater bodily exertion. The Mornings and Evenings are delightfully cool, and the nights almost invariably brilliant and clear.

After the representation, I have given of the prevailing winds and Weather, I need scarcely state that the Climate is favorable to Vegetation. The verdant appearance and almost innumerable variety of Grasses, Plants and Trees show that there is no deficiency in the three great sources of their Sustenance, Soil, Heat, or Moisture.
On the subject of the Botanical products of the Country, it is impossible for me to add anything to the report of Mr. Frazer hereunto appended. I beg leave however to offer here my testimony, as to the Zeal, Industry and perseverance with which he pursued the line of his duty.

The rains, which fall on this Coast Westward of General Darling’s range, flow downward to the Sea on that side. The River Vasse of the French, Port Leschenault, and Melville Water are Estuaries, which receive the several Streams descending from the Hills; and these at present are the only receptacles of any great extent known to exist. We found a great number of Creeks or Rivulets falling into Swan River, more particularly on the Eastern side; and I am inclined to think that the Country generally is much divided by such Water courses. Its Supply of Fresh Water from Springs and Lagoons is abundant, for we found such whenever we thought it necessary to ascertain their existence.

At Point Heathcote, we met with a remarkable instance, for there the beach of a narrow rocky promontory is a bed of springs, and by tracing the Finger along any part within 4 inches of the edge of the Salt Water pure cool fresh Water instantly occupied the trace; at Beuach Island also we found fresh Water by digging on the Shore; but, as I had some doubt whether it might not arise from the loss of Saline particles by the Salt Water filtering through the Sand, I had a well made 50 Yards from the Shore, and it was instantly filled by fresh Water. I then perceived that the Water issuing from Springs in the Limestone Rocks is held back by the greater gravity of the Sea Water, while at the same time it is prevented from evaporating by the Sand and Soil above it. It appears that fresh Water in such a Country may always be expected to be found near the point of Contact between Sea and Land, or at a height just above high Water mark. On the whole it may confidently be assumed that fresh Water is plentiful all over this Territory.

In this Territory as well as in all Countries of Limestone Mineral formation, mineral Springs are abundant. Within half a Mile of Arthur’s head a saline Spring exists, bubbling out at the base of the Solid Rock in a stream, whose transverse area is 6 or 7 feet, running at the rate of three feet a second. I shall not pretend to state its qualities or compound parts. It is however Thermal and pleasant, and some, who partook of it, attributed to it an aperient power.

In the Neighbourhood of Cape Naturalist also, we found several Mineral springs; and, in one instance in the interior far
1827.
18 April.

On concluding this view of the Country as regards its supply of Water, I cannot but suggest the probability there is of a great River being found Eastward of the mountain range, and flowing probably to the Northward.

No such River has its Embouchure on the South Coast, nor does such exist on the West Coast as far as examined by us; yet there must be an outlet to the rains which fall there, and which from the nature of the Weather must be considerable in Winter and frequent in all other Seasons.

In Physical endowments and qualities, the Native Inhabitants of this shore resemble closely the race of New South Wales. They have the same distinctive marks in the make of their persons, large Heads, spare Trunks, long and disproportional limbs. They are active and hardy in habit, and seem to possess the qualities usually springing from such habits; Bravery, Vivacity, and Quickness, and a Temper alternating between kindness and ferocity.

The intention I adopted on arriving here was to avoid by every possible means a quarrel with them, and the necessity consequent thereon of rendering hostile to future Settlers in revenge for the severe measures we should be obliged to take if put on our defence. I am happy to say that in this plan I was not disappointed, for, after many communications with them, we departed without any misunderstanding, and indeed on terms of amity with several Tribes. In general they wear Kangaroo Cloaks with the exception of which they were naked. Their Arms are the Spear and Womera, differing very little from those made use of on the East Coast. Their numbers are considerable when it is remembered that the sources which supply Food are so precarious. For this in Summer they frequent the Sea Coast, where their skill in spearing Fish is truly wonderful. In Winter they inhabit the higher grounds, where the Kangaroo, the Opossum, the Land Tortoise, several species of Birds and roots compose their sustenance.

They seem to have no idea of Navigation, not even of a raft. They fish either with the Spear or Weirs planted in Shoal places. They may easily be attached to the interest and Persons of Settlers, but care must be taken in all intercourse with them for they are capricious and revengeful and always ready to resort to offensive measures. It was evident to us that we were objects of new and excessive astonishment, and they were so to us in some
degree; but I was more particularly surprised at hearing them use the terms "Kangaroo," where we touched their Cloaks, "Wallebie" "Walle Walle" and "Wollamia," when we shewed them a particular kind of Fish; these are all Port Jackson terms.

Kangaroo, Opossum and Tortoise are the only Land Animals, whose existence we can answer for here; the Native Dog we heard occasionally at night but did not see him. Of Reptiles the Amount is short. Lizards and Guannas were seen, and one Snake only the whole time we were there; it was however the dry Season, during which it is probable they remain torpid in their retreats.

Of Birds the List is longer; there are found here the Emu, and in the greatest abundance Swans and several varieties of the Duck Tribe, Cockettoos white and Black; a new species of the first colour was seen in great beauty; Pigeons, Quails, and Parroquets were also numerous, and to the abovementioned may be added some Birds of very melodious Note, which were heard but not seen.

We saw many Seals on the Islands, but all of the hair or least valuable Species; it was not the Season for Whales but their wrecks strewed the Shore of Geographe Bay. Sharks were enormous and numerous, and Fish generally exist here in great abundance. The Bottom of the Sea is composed of a calcareous Sand, sometimes passing into marl or clay. On this there are endless varieties of Marine Plants, and these seem to form the sustenance of quantities of small fish.

When it is considered that the bank extends a hundred Miles from the Shore, and, whenever the bottom is seen, presents a moving picture of various Animals gliding over the green Surface of the bottom, it is not too much to look forward to the time when a valuable fishery may be established on these Shores. As it is now, a Boat with one or two Men in her might be filled in a few hours, and a luxurious addition be made at a Cheap rate to the food of Inhabitants.

Of Shells, there is the greatest abundance; they are thrown up on the Beach in beds of several feet in thickness.

The reported Sterility of Soil, the absence of fresh Water and the impossibility of finding safe anchorage on the West Coast of New Holland have been long looked upon as insurmountable objections to its being Settled; the first two of these objections are met and obviated by the facts stated in the preceding part of this Report, and I am now to shew to what extent the third objection is founded on fact.
Anchorage on the Coast under consideration, which afford protection from Southerly and S.W. winds, may be considered Safe except in Winter, the following are of this description:

The Bay nearest Cape Naturalist is objectionable as a permanent anchorage, for, being near the Cape, a heavy Swell rolls into it at all times and the bottom is not clear of Rocks. An Anchorage for temporary purposes however may be found in it in 4 fathoms, the Northern extremity bearing about N. by W. ½ W. The ore which is found in the Neighbouring Cliffs, the fresh Water Streams around it, or the curing of Fish on its Shores may render a more exact Survey of that part hereafter valuable.

The Second Bay is the one in which we anchored; the exterior Northern Point bore N.W. ½ W., having for bottom an extremely tenacious Stiff clay, from which it was difficult to extract the Anchor; we were then ¹⁄₂ of a Mile from the Beach in the middle of the Bay, near which were 4 fathoms and Smooth Water, the point then bearing N.W. b. N.

The third Bay, I understood from Mr. Belches report, offers shelter as far as N.N.W., and in his opinion is a preferable Anchorage to the one we occupied, there being no symptom on the Shore of any boisterous Sea ever having acted on it, while we found fresh Water Springs behind the Beach, good Soil in the Valley, and abundance of Wood.

Beyond the 3rd Bay, the Coast takes the direction of South for 2 or 2½ Miles, and small Vessels may Anchor all along it near the Shore, having the Northern extremity of the Land about N. ¾ W. or N. b. W. from them.

In that corner of Geographe Bay, there is not a great depth of Water; but the bottom seems clear of Rocks and the Beach is accessible. Indeed all along the Shore of Geographe Bay, from Cape Naturalist nearly as low down as Cape Bouvard, boats may land on the Beach and Vessels Anchor off it with Southerly Winds; and, as these and the Land breeze prevail for at least Nine Months, a Coasting Trade might derive benefit from such facility of communication.

The bar Harbours moreover at Port Lechenault and River Vasse offer asylum to small Vessels; upon the whole it may be said that Geographe Bay and its neighbourhood offer good Anchorage to Vessels in the proper seasons and the capability of Shipping or Landing Cargoes on an extent of Coast of 60 or 70 Miles.

Twenty Miles Northward of Cape Bouvard there is a Passage or narrow Strait about a Mile broad, between a projecting point.
of the Main Land and the South end of Buache Island; this passage, as reported to me by the Master of the Success, admits not the entry of Vessels drawing more than 6 feet; reefs extend from each Side, leaving a Channel between their extremities, but there is a Shoal Bank inside of them which blocks up the entrance. He found no Island in the Channel as marked on the French Charts, nor did I see any in the view I had of it from the Main Land. I saw the Sea breaking on the Rocks nearly all across, and I suppose the French mistook the point for an Island, not being near enough to observe the sandy ishmus behind it. I shall not attempt to describe in detail the various Rocks Islands and Banks, which extend Northerly from Cape Bouvard to the North side of Rottenest. The Chart will explain their relative positions. I advert however to the following Anchorages:

First.—On the N.E. side of Rottenest, there is very good temporary Anchorage with the usual Coast Winds and Weather.

Second.—Off the Mouth of the River and not far from it, there is an excellent Roadstead for Vessels of any Size, the Water is smooth, the bottom good, the depth from 3 to 12 fathoms, the communication with the Shore convenient, and the access easy as well by night as day. It is sheltered by Islands, or banks, or by the Main Land on every point except from N.N.W. to W.N.W. It is much Superior in security to Table Bay, as well as in its closeness to the Shore, and offering at all times facilities for landing or embarking. It has this further advantage that there a Vessel may lie in 4 or 5 fathoms within one Cable's length from the River's mouth or from the Beach in Gage's Bay.

Thirdly.—To the Southward of Arthur's Head, there is a Bay sheltered on all points, but the depth is not more than 2 fathoms, and it is only fit for small Vessels.

Fourthly.—Port Success is sheltered on all sides by the Main, or by Islands, Rocks or banks; it is not however convenient and, although secure, I cannot recommend it for general purposes.

Fifth.—The best Anchorage however on this Coast is in Cockburn Sound; there is a Channel into it from Sea with not less than 5 fathoms of Water in it. When a Ship is in the Sound, there are variable Soundings from 15 fathoms downward, and the holding ground good and clear except on the banks which are easily perceived.

Near the Island Side of the Sound, the only points, on which the land is not seen, are from North to N.E., but the Main Land at the distance of 20 or 30 Miles covers that Space, and moreover
the Sea, that might be raised by so long a reach, is prevented reaching the Sound by a triple barrier of Shoal Water banks, on the nearest of which there are only 1½ and 2 fathoms. I do not scruple to call it at all times perfectly Secure and available for Vessels of the greatest dimensions, as well as for any number of them.

Middle Bay in Isle Beuache has 7 fathoms Water close to its Beach; the Main Land also has a smooth and accessible Shore with deep Water all along it, except on the Shoal parts indicated on the Chart.

Although no objection to the Security of this Anchorage can exist, one may be made to its inconvenience for Merchant Ships who have Cargoes to deliver in Swan River, the distance to which is 6 or 7 Miles. To this I reply they need not occupy Cockburn Sound except in Seasons when N.W. gales may be expected; at other times Gage's Roads will be both safe and convenient.

The entrance to Melville Water between the Heads is over a bar; there is a Channel with 6 feet Water on it at low water. It is only practicable therefore for Boats. About a Mile inside the Heads the Water deepens, and then commences a succession of Natural Cliffs or Wharfs with 4, 5 and 6 fathoms close to their sides. For several Miles upward there are from 5 to 8 fathoms over a large expanse of Water.

The magnificent Basin there displayed would be the first Harbour in the World if it had an entrance; and such an entrance might be made without difficulty or great expense.

The Rivers here are tolerably convenient for Boat Navigation, and might be easily rendered sufficiently so to transport by Water Carriage the products of an immense extent of Country.

Such is the nature and description of the Ports and Anchorages existing on the part of the Coast I visited. Their value is not to be estimated solely by their own merits, but it is to be remembered that as yet no other is known to exist on the whole of the Western Coast except Sharks Bay, where the heat of the Climate and the Sterility of the Soil prevent the possibility of Settlement.

With respect to the Navigation of the Coast generally, the known alternations of Land and Sea breezes and the general Southerly Trade wind offer fair winds to Vessels, whichever way they may be bound. I cannot say what sort of weather the Winter brings, but in Summer it is generally clear and moderate; and the Soundings are so regular and procurable at such great distance from the Land that Navigators must be both safe and
easy in this Neighbourhood. I subjoin an estimate of the passages, which would probably be made by a fast Sailing Vessel between Cockburn Sound and various parts of the World.

From Cockburn Sound to—

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Distance</th>
<th>Winds</th>
<th>Time on passage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Timor</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>S.E.</td>
<td>12 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Java</td>
<td>1,700</td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>Madras</td>
<td>3,400</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isle France</td>
<td>3,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cape Good Hope</td>
<td>5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>England—This passage may be made in</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Van Dieman's Land</td>
<td>2,200</td>
<td>S.W.</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port Jackson</td>
<td>2,500</td>
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Capabilities.

Sources of Production.

Agriculture.—The Spontaneous products of this Country immediately available for Commercial or economical purposes are neither numerous nor very valuable; among such however the following Articles may be noticed:

- Natural Grasses in great abundance, and well adapted for the support of Cattle.
- Various Sorts of Gums.
- Timber capable of being converted to Ship Building, such as The Stringy Bark, The Blue and the Water Gum Trees, Banksia and Casuarina.
- There is also here the species of Eucalyptus called in New South Wales “Apple Tree” and usually applied to House Building.

This Country however is more valuable for that which it might produce, than for its actual productions. Situated in a Climate which admits of Labour, possessing great varieties of excellent Soil, well Watered by Springs, Creeks and refreshing Showers, and offering, under the influence of a powerful Sun, great ranges in temperature according to the height of position.
occupied, it appears to hold out every attraction that a Country
in a State of nature can possess.

It is unnecessary to particularize the Articles which might
here be raised. Its resemblance in all material points connected
with this portion of the Subject to the States of America, situ­
ated to the South of New York, will sufficiently explain its
agricultural resources. There are however certain advantages
which it possesses in a peculiar degree. There are the facilities
of communication with the Sea, the ease with which it appears
the Country may be penetrated without the necessity of com­
mencing immediately upon the arduous measure of Road
Making, and the open character of the Forest Land which would
enable a Settler at once to draw a large profit upon a small out­
lay of Capital or Labour.

Minerals.—There are several interesting points for considera­
tion suggested by the List of Minerals discovered in our hasty
inspection. I shall however allude to those only, of whose
nature and properties I am assured.

First.—Stone and Lime in abundance conveniently situated
for general purposes.

Clay of various qualities, such as Marl.

Decomposed Felspar of an uncommon kind which although
soft becomes as hard as rock by a week's exposure to Air.

Brick Clay.

Potters Clay.

Marble.

Calcareous Alabaster.

A beautiful Species of Applegreen Porphyry with large grains
of rock crystal interspersed in it.

Many varieties of granite for Ornamental Architecture.

The only ores, whose existence in any quantity I feel assured
of, are common Iron Stone in nodules and magnetic Iron ore
very rich and plentiful and close to the Sea.

Coal was not found, simply I believe because it was not par­
ticularly sought for. The general character of the Country is
such as to Warrant the belief that it might be found, for all
the concomitant Strata, or members of the Coal formation, are
exposed on different parts of the surface, below which I had no
opportunity to explore. Indeed the Carboniferous or metal­
liferous order of Rocks is that which is most frequently ex­
hibited throughout this Territory, and I have no doubt important
results would arise from a proper examination into its miner­
alogical resources.

A Bank of 20 or 30 Leagues in Breadth composed principally
of Lime, Clay and Sand fronts this Coast, and may be found a
good fishing Station. Whether the fish would prove capable of being cured for exportation, I cannot positively say. Whale fishing might be carried on with great profit by means of Boats on this Coast. Sealing would also be found profitable here to a certain extent.

Sharks' Fins, which are much in demand in China, might be procured in quantity, and from the report of Captain King a Trepang Fishery might be profitably established at and to the Northward of Sharks Bay.

There various marine productions would afford a profit to the Capital engaged in procuring them and employment to many seafaring Persons.

The Shortness of the Voyage between this Country and the Cape of Good Hope, the Mauritius, the Indian Peninsula, and the Indian Archipelago, would afford an easy and profitable interchange of productions between these Countries. With respect to the Malay Trade, it may be observed that Swan River is better situated than Melville Island or any other place in Torres Straits.

The China Ships outward bound through the Eastern passages might here find not only refreshments, but many Articles to make up a Cargo for the Chinese Market, while an anchorage, safe and easily approachable during the greater part of the Year, would make their arrival and departure Convenient. Ships from England bound to New South Wales might also touch here and perhaps find commodities suited to the wants of the Eastern Coast.

Considered with reference to its becoming a convalescent Station for those whose health may be injured in India, its Situation offers great and important attractions. It is not distant from those Shores; the passage between Short and easily made; its Climate cool, temperate and healthy, and among the various mineral Springs which it contains, perhaps some may be discovered favorable to the removal of Indian Complaints.

In this point of view, it becomes an object of great Interest to the East India Company and to their Servants, and many valuable lives may be preserved by its being adopted by the Company as the site of an extensive hospital establishment for Europeans in their Civil and Military Services.

Its central Situation and easy communication with Neighbouring Countries, as well as its refreshing and invigorating Climate, point it out as a valuable Naval and Military Station. The excellent Anchorage for Ships of War afforded by Cockburn Sound, and which I do not hesitate in representing as superior
in convenience to more than equal in safety to Spithead is
another recommendation it possesses; and it has this further
quality that Troops or Ships, while recovering there from the
effects of Service in India, would at the same time form the
Guard necessary for its protection.

It now only remains to state that, from Cape Leuwin to
Sharks Bay, the neighbourhood of Swan River is the only part
where a Port is known to exist. That Port therefore has a value
far beyond that which it might have in other circumstances, for
it is the Key of the whole intervening Coast.

I am therefore of opinion that it ought to be immediately
retained, for the French Nation have the shadow of a right
founded on discovery* to a portion of that Coast, which cannot be
too speedily extinguished by British occupation, particularly as
it will be impossible now to prevent the attractions of that
Country from being known.

It is also important to occupy Geographe Bay, its mineral
wealth and fertile Territory as well as its convenient Summer
Anchorage render it too attractive to be left unguarded. These
two places, with a Settlement on their Northern flank at or
near Sharks Bay, would probably be sufficient to exclude all
foreign intrusion. I also take the liberty to recommend the
adoption of a general name for the Western Coast of New Hol­
land. There are many conflicting pretensions to its first and
only exploration.† Parts of it are considered by particular
Nations as discoveries of their own, and names have been given
to such parts, but a general Name which by the way its peculiar
and distinct character Warrants would soon render such pre­
tensions forgotten.

The Name of “Hesperia,” indicating a Country looking
towards the Setting Sun, would be descriptive of the Situation
of the Country in question; it would not interfere with any
Name previously given, nor would it be subject to the imputation
of Nationality.

JAMES STIRLING, Captain, R.N.

[Enclosure No. 2.]  

Observations on the Soil, etc., etc., of the Banks of Swan
River.

The Soil on the South Head of the entrance of Swan River is a
Sterile white Sand, but producing a great variety of interesting
Plants.

The Soil on the South Bank, immediately inside the Head,
though apparently a barren sand on examination I found to con­
tain at least two thirds of a firm red loam capable of producing

* Note 120.    † Note 115.
Garden and other light crops, and throwing up immense quantities of Plants. This description applies not only to the Banks, as far as Pelican Point, but to the back Country as far as my observation led; the Soil is of very considerable depth.

I was astonished at the vivid green of the Eucalyptus and other Trees and Shrubs, so distinct from those of New South Wales; but, on digging the Soil to the depth of Two feet, I found the cause to arise apparently from the immense number of Springs with which this Country abounds, for, at the above depth, I found the Soil quite Moist though apparently at the latter end of an exceeding dry Season; and from the same cause must arise the great luxuriance of the herbaceous Plants on the Banks, which exceed anything I ever saw on the eastern Coast. They consist principally of Senicias and Souchous frequently attaining the height of nine feet.

Here I observed several moist spots, containing fresh water, which in humid Seasons are the evident channels of active Springs issuing from the Limestone Rocks, by which they are bounded.

The beauty of the Banks, which, considering its immediate vicinity to the Sea, surpasses anything on the East Coast, is greatly augmented by a beautiful species of Liptosherminon which in habit, and the situation it holds in the Botany of this Tract, resembles the Weeping Willow of Europe.

The Soil on the North Head is exactly the same as that on the South. Two hundred feet from the Beach it changes to a fine brown loam, improving in quality, as the Hills are ascended, into a fine Virgin earth, capable of forming the finest compost. The small Vallies are exceedingly fertile and capable of producing any crop.

The Country continues of the same description as far as Pelican Point, beyond which the character of the Hills was not ascertained; but I do not hesitate in pronouncing them to be equally fertile as far as my eye carries.

The Limestone, with which they are studded, render them admirably adapted to the culture of Vines, and their being destitute of Timber render them capable of immediate culture.

The few Trees and Shrubs observed on this Tract consist principally of stunted Eucalyptus, Calytrir and Liptosherminon.

The Country from Pelican Point to the entrance of the Morean is diversified into Hill and Dale, magnificently clothed with Trees of the richest green. Here Banksia Grandis appears in all its splendour, the Genus Eucalyptus forms the principal feature in the Botany. I observed on these Hills an arborescent species of Dryandra, Lamia, Spinalis, several Species of Hakea.
Grevilia, a magnificent Species of Ciinneria, which is here seen to associate with the Weeping Liptosherminon and forming one of the greatest bieuties of the Landscape; Anchocereis littorea is here found to attain the height of Ten feet.

To a Person accustomed to the Gverbrown of the Woods of Port Jackson, the magnificent scene from Pelican Point would be considered a great treat.

The summit of the above ranges approach nearer to the sandy Soil of Port Jackson than any hitherto seen on the River, but contains more loam. The Vallies and Headlands are fertile and throw up immense quantities of Herbaceous Plants.

The Beaches here produce Water in the greatest abundance for, on scraping up the Sand with our Fingers within two inches of the Salt Water, Fresh Water of the best quality was found. The Country from Point Heathcote to the Islands must improve from the vast quantity of herbage seen on its banks, beyond which our observation did not extend.

The Islands are formed of a rich deposit evidently brought down by the Floods; their Margins are thickly covered with Metrasideras and Casuarinas, and their centre with Submarine Suculent Plants.

It is worthy of remark that during our examination of the River, there was nothing seen of Mangroves, and that their Situation should be occupied by the genus Metrasideros.

At Point Frazer, the first flat is seen formed of a rich deposit but evidently flooded, marks of drift stuff having been seen five feet above the surface. Here are several extensive Salt marshes admirably adapted for the growth of cotton. The Hills are exceedingly barren, but producing an immense variety of Plants; here is seen a magnificent species of Angophera occupying the situation of Eucalyptus. Banksia Grandis was observed three feet in diameter. The brome or Kangaroo grass was here seen in great abundance.

One Mile East of Point Frazer was seen an extensive Lagoon of Fresh Water, covered in its centre with aborescent Metrasideros; its banks produce an amazing quantity of interesting Plants and, with an elevated flat immediately behind, might be cultivated with advantage. The magnificence of the Banksia and aborescent Lamia, which was here seen Thirty feet in height, added to the immense size of the Lantholea of this spot, impart to the forest a character truly tropical.

I was astonished at the facility with which water is obtained on this apparent sandy spot, for, on digging two or three feet, we found abundance of the finest Water I ever tasted.
Five Miles East of Clauses Creek, there is an evident change in the character of the Country. On the left is seen an extensive Plain of the richest description, consisting of an alluvial deposit equaling in fertility those of the banks of the River Hawksbury in New South Wales, and covered with the most luxuriant bromegrass. Here I first observed the Blue and Water Gums and stripes of Wattles.

Here the Casuarina disappears and is succeeded by a pendent species of Metrasideros, which continues to the source of the River.

From this point the Country resembles in every essential point that of the banks of Rivers falling West of the Blue Mountains, New South Wales, varying alternately, on each bank, from hilly promontories of the finest red loam and covered with stupendous Angopheras, to extensive flats of the finest description, studded with magnificent Blue and Water Gums and occasional stripes of Acacias and Tapileanaceous Shrubs, resembling the green Wattle in New South Wales.

As the River is ascended, the flats increase in breadth, extending for several Miles from the Banks, improving in quality, resembling in character those seen on the Banks of the Macquarie River, West of Wellington Valley; marks of floods were seen on the lower plains two feet above the surface, but the upper flats are evidently never flooded.

On further observations, these Plains were seen to extend to the base of the Mountains, interspersed with stripes of good forest Land, covered with a profusion of Plants and Stupendous Angopheras. Here I observed a quantity of Stringy Bark.

The base of the Mountains is covered with fragments of Quartz and Chalcedony, the Soil is red sandy loam. Further up the Mountains is seen Siennite in considerable beds. Here the Soil improves to a light loam, but from its very nature incapable of culture. The summit is covered with large masses of Iron Stone and enormous Trees of Angophera, but with the exception of a few stragling Plants of Hokea there is no underwood to be seen.

The view from the summit is very extensive, resembling in its outline that seen from Princess Charlotte's Crescent (but void of the Stationary Swamps) in 1817 vide Oxley's Journal.*

In giving my opinion of the Land seen on the Banks of Swan River, I hesitate not in pronouncing it superior to any I ever saw in New South Wales east of the Blue Mountains, not only in its local character but in the many existing advantages, which it holds out to Settlers; these advantages I consider to be.

First.—The evident superiority of Soil.

* Note 121.
Secondly.—The facility with which a Settler can bring his Farm into a state of immediate culture, resting upon the open state of the Country, a state which allows not a greater average than 10 trees to an Acre.

Thirdly.—The general abundance of Springs, producing water of the best quality, and the consequent permanent humidity of the Soil, two advantages not existing on the Eastern Coast, and

Fourthly.—The advantage of Water carriage to his Door, and the non-existence of impediments to land carriage.

The Island of Beuache is formed principally of low ridges of light sandy loam, traversing the Island from to , and terminating on the Shore in high banks of sand, the highest parts of which are thickly studded with Cypress, the surface towards the beach being considerably interrupted by Limestone Rocks.

The Soil, altho' light, appears to me, from the immense thickets of Salunum (lucinatum bar), which it produces (and which on the ridges is seen to attain the height of ten feet), to be capable of producing any description of light garden crops.

The interior of these ranges are singularly divided by transverse banks or dykes forming deep pits or hollows, which receive all the Water collected or falling from the ranges, the banks preventing its escape otherwise than by absorption; the surface of these hollows are covered by gigantic Salunums, and a beutiful Species of Brownonia. Fresh Water may be had in each of them by digging two feet deep.

The West Shore of the Island is in many places covered with thickets of an aborescent Species of Metrasideros. The Soil in those thickets is a rich brown loam, intermingled with blocks of lime stone, and susceptible of producing any description of crop.

The Coast towards Port Success is thickly covered with cypress, the beutiful green of which imparts to the scene an agreeable and elegant appearence. The soil here is very Sandy and in my opinion incapable of producing without artificial means any description of Crops. Here we found abundance of fresh Water not only on the Beach but in the cypress thickets beyond the influence of the Sea by digging a few feet.

My observations did not extend beyond Port Success, but, from the appearence of the Country, I doubt not its being of the same discription as that already described.

On proceeding along the Coast of Bay Geographe, the appearance of the Country is particularly interesting; the Shores are richly clothed with Timber, the foliage is of the finest green, and consisting principally of Eucalyptus; no traces of Banksia were seen.
STIRLING TO DARLING.

From the Shore the Country is seen to rise gradually into gentle undulating hills, separated apparently by Vallies of considerable magnitude, the whole terminated by a bold range of mountains of considerable elevation, thickly clothed with Timber of considerable magnitude and extending inland as far as the eye can carry.

On approaching Cape Naturalist the Shores become bold, presenting immense Masses of Granite projecting in many instances a considerable distance into the Sea. The Hills are bold and only partially covered with stunted Eucalyptus. They are divided by beautiful meandering Vallies formed of the richest soil imaginable. These Vallies are of considerable magnitude; as a proof of their fertility I need only instance the astonishing luxuriance of the Thistles and Ferns, some of which measured 11½ feet; each of them is furnished with a small Stream of Water. The Hills, altho' stony, are covered with rich soil to their summit. They are clothed with Banksia Grandis, and a new species of Zylomilam. The Rocks on the summit are Lime.

There appears no visible change in the Soil, or character of the Vallies, as far as Cape Naturalist; but, in the construction and composition of the Rocks, there is a vast difference; there they are seen to present immense Cliffs overhanging the Beach in Awful grandeur. The base of these Rocks are formed of immense beds of Granite and Schistose, passing ultimately into each other, observing in their dip an Angle of Inclination of Fifteen Degrees; they were seen to inclose in many instances large masses of an extraordinary aggregate containing petrefactions of bivalve and other marine Shells, every particle of which was thickly incrusted with minute Chrystalts.

Veins of Iron of considerable thickness were seen to traverse the Rocks in various directions, as well as immense beds of Felspar. The Granite is covered with a bed of Micaceous Schistose, in an advanced state of decomposition, over which are a number of Cavernous Apertures, in a bed of decomposed Pudding Stone, containing Nodules of Granite of various Colours. These Apertures were found to contain Rock Salt in large quantities, forming thick incrustations on every part of the surface, beautifully Chrystalized and penetrating into the most compact parts of the Rocks; the most remote parts of these Caverns have a beautiful appearance from the reflection of the Chrystalts; their height above the Sea I would pronounce to be Fifty feet. Large Nodules of Sand Stone were found in the bottom of each strongly impregnated with Salt. The summit of the Cliff was formed of Limestone.
The Northern extreme of the Cape is formed of magnificent cliffs of Limestone, two Hundred feet in height, presenting two magnificent ranges of Caverns; two of the lower range are superb; the roofs and sides being covered with beautiful Stalactytes of great magnitude and exceedingly brilliant; in one of them were found Stalagmites of extraordinary size, adhering to Nodules of Granite with which the base is covered. The outer or great Cavern is about Fifty feet wide and from forty five to fifty in height, its extreme length about one hundred feet.

The sides, roof and Stalactytes present an extraordinary assemblage of Colours, from the immense variety of Liverwort and minute Fungiae with which they are covered; some of the Stalactytes were observed to measure from Twelve to fifteen feet.

The Sea makes a breach into each of the lower range over blocks of Granite; the Scene is then truly grand. The upper range we could not inspect from the perpendicular nature of the Cliff, but from their exterior appearance there remains no doubt of their grandeur.

It is worthy of remark that the whole Coast of this Bay is a perfect source of Active Springs, discharging themselves on the Beach in rapid rills of considerable extent every Six or Seven Yards.

C. FRASER.

APPLICATION BY CAPTAIN JAMES STIRLING FOR COMMAND OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AT SWAN RIVER.

15th May, 1827.

[A copy of this letter to Earl Bathurst will be found on page 307, volume XIII, series I.]

UNDER SECRETARY STANLEY TO CAPTAIN STIRLING.

Sir,

Downing Street, 29 Novr., 1827.

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Huskisson to acquaint you, in reply to your letter of the 15th of May last, that, as it is not the intention of His Majesty's Government to form an Establishment on Swan River, it is not in his power to comply with your wishes in the manner to which you allude.

I am, &c.,

E. G. STANLEY.

RIGHT HON. W. HUSKISSON TO GOVERNOR DARLING.

28th January, 1828.

[A copy of this despatch, containing a decision against the formation of a settlement at Swan river, will be found on page 739, volume XIII, series I.]
CAPTAIN STIRLING TO UNDER SECRETARY HAY.

18 Baker Street, 30th July, 1828.

Sir,

I beg leave to lay before you the following observations relative to the Western Coast of New Holland, and the eligibility of a certain portion of it for the purposes of Settlement.

You will be pleased to recollect that the first discovery of the Region, comprehended between Shark's Bay and Cape Lewin, was effected by the Dutch.* The Report, which they gave of it, was in the highest degree unfavorable. They represented it as affording neither fresh Water, fertile Soil, nor Safe Anchorage.

The French under the Command of Monsieur Baudin, at the beginning of this Century, visited that Shore, And rendered an account of it more circumstantial, but equally unfavorable as that of the Dutch. The Report, which I had the honor to make last year to his Majesty's Government, differs so widely from that of the preceding Dutch and French Navigators, that it will scarcely be believed that we undertake to describe the same Country, for, while they report it as Sterile, forbidding and Inhospitable, I represent it as the Land which, of all that I have seen in various quarters of the World, possesses the greatest natural attractions.

Without entering upon the consideration of its prospective advantages or future Importance, I beg leave to state briefly that the Climate is equally healthy as that of the Cape and New South Wales; that it permits Europeans to labor throughout the day and in every Season of the Year; That, according to the Testimony of an experienced Person who accompanied me, the Soil is admirably calculated for every Species of Cultivation; That the Territory is abundantly supplied with fresh Water; And finally that, in the Neighbourhood of Swan River, there is Safe Anchorage, which may easily be converted into one of the finest Harbours in the World.

The above mentioned recommendations point it out as a spot so eligible for Settlement, that it cannot long remain unoccupied. It is not inferior in any natural essential quality to the Plain of Lombardy, and, as by its position it commands facilities for carrying on Trade with India and the Malay Archipelago, as well as with China, and as it is moreover favorably circumstanced for the Equipment of Cruizers for the annoyance of Trade in those Seas, Some foreign Power may see the Advantage of taking possession, should his Majesty's Government leave it unappropriated.

In the course of last year I had an opportunity of visiting the Settlements recently established at King George's Sound, Melville Island and Raffles Bay, And I cannot Consider any one of

* Note 115.
those places as in any way Calculated for the Reception of Convicts. As far as the Country had been explored in the Neighbourhood of King George's Sound, the Soil was such as to defy Cultivation, So that any Establishment there must be supported by Supplies from other Quarters; And, at the two latter Places, the Intense heat and the Unhealthiness of the Climate offer insuperable objections to the Employment of Convicts in Agricultural Labor. These inconveniences do not exist at Swan River, and I am not aware that there is any Part of New Holland better adapted for the Purpose of a Penal Settlement than the Country in its Vicinity.

With reference to the Plan I took the liberty of mentioning to you, as to the cheap and simple Mode of forming Settlements in that Country by the Employment of a Vessel of War there, and by placing every Individual Settler for a certain time under the control of Naval Discipline, I beg leave to state that many of the Inconveniences attending the Early Stage of all Settlements would thereby be obviated. By such a proceeding, Possession might be taken of the Country, Its locality might be explored, And all the necessary regulations enforced by the Authority of her Officers without the necessity of applying to Parliament for particular enactments. In this suggestion, I beg leave to disclaim any indirect view to my own Employment in such Service, and I have now to apologize for trespassing so long on your attention and I have, &c.,

JAMES STIRLING.

CAPTAIN STIRLING AND MAJOR MOODY TO UNDER SECRETARY HAY.

Sir,

23 Bolton Street, 21st Augt., 1828.

For reasons, which we have had the honor personally to mention, we presume to address you on matters connected with the Colonization of the Western part of new Holland.

We are persuaded that the occupation of that territory by British Subjects would prove to be a measure highly beneficial to the Individuals concerned in it, and important to the interests and future welfare of His Majesty's Possessions in that part of the World. But, as the expence of maintaining Settlements in that Quarter may be thought a reason sufficient to prevent their formation by Government, we venture to ask whether, in such case, any objection would be made to the unsupported employment of Private Capital and Enterprise in the occupation and improvement of that territory; and whether we may be permitted to form an Association, with a view to obtain a proprietary Charter, upon principles* similar to those formerly adopted in the settlement of Pensylvania and Georgia.

* Note 122.
From our personal experience in matters connected with Colonies, and from the local knowledge which one of us possesses relative to the Country in question, we confidently anticipate, from such an enterprize, advantages of a public as well as of a private nature; and, on these joint grounds, we respectfully recommend our present application to the notice of His Majesty's Secretary of State for War and Colonies.

We have, &c,

JAMES STIRLING, Captn., R.N.
THOMAS MOODY, Bt. Maj., Roy. Engineers.

COMMANDER GARDINER* TO SIR GEORGE MURRAY.

Sir,
7 Lower Crescent, Clifton, 31st Octr., 1828.

As it is understood that His Majesty's Government have determined upon forming a Settlement at Swan River on the Western side of New Holland, the surrounding territory to which is as yet unknown, I beg leave to offer my services to explore either the coast or any part of the interior, which may be thought beneficial to the interests of the new Settlement.

In the course of my profession, I have twice visited the Colony of New South Wales, in which I have made some long excursions into the interior, and feel no hesitation in offering myself to explore any part of that country, which, if thought advisable, I will endeavour to traverse from East to West, exploring the intermediate tract between Port Jackson and the proposed Settlement. My only request will be that the time so occupied may be regarded by the Admiralty as sea service; with such an assurance I am ready to embark at any time and by any route which His Majesty's Government may direct.

I remain, &c,

ALLEN F. GARDINER,
Commander, R.N.

SIR GEORGE MURRAY TO ADMIRALTY COMMISSIONERS.

5th November, 1828.

[A copy of this letter is not available.]

MR. J. BARROW TO UNDER SECRETARY TWISS.

7th November, 1828.

In reference to Secretary Sir George Murray's Letter of the 5th Instant signifying to my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty His Majesty's Pleasure that immediate Orders be given to the Officer commanding His Majesty's Naval Forces at the Cape of Good Hope to dispatch one of the Ships of War under his Command, without the smallest loss of time, to the

* Note 123.
Western Coast of New Holland, with directions to take formal possession of the Western side of New Holland in His Majesty's Name; I am commanded by their Lordships to acquaint you, for the information of Sir George Murray, that the Senior Officer at the Cape has been directed to send His Majesty's Ship Tweed to execute this Service.

I am, &c.,

JOHN BARROW.

[Under Secretary Twiss to Mr. J. Barrow.]

12th November, 1828.

[A copy of this letter is not available.]

Mr. J. Barrow to Under Secretary Twiss.

Admiralty Office, 13 Nov., 1828.

With reference to your letter of yesterday's date, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you for the information of Secretary Sir George Murray, that they have ordered the "Sulphur," Bomb Vessel at Chatham, to be brought forward with all dispatch for the Service of conveying Settlers to the Western Coast of New Holland.

I am, &c.,

JOHN BARROW.

Memorial from Mr. Thomas Peel,* Sir Francis Vincent and others.

To the Right Honourable Sir George Murray, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

14th November, 1828.

The undersigned respectfully beg leave to call the Attention of the Colonial Secretary to a Proposition, which has for its Object the Furtherance of the splendid Design of His Majesty's Government in colonizing that Part of Australia called Swan River, being in Latitude 34° S., Longitude 11° E., lately visited by Captain Stirling in His Majesty's Ship the Rainbow.

The Capabilities of this most important Possession to the British Interest are too numerous for the undersigned here to set forth, more especially as it is presumed the Vigilance of His Majesty's Government has put them in full Possession of the many great and peculiar Advantages this Part of that extensive Territory possesses, being in the Centre of the Eastern Trade, and forming a suitable Depot for Vessels navigating those Seas.

The undersigned beg leave to observe, that, in colonizing, there are more Difficulties to encounter than an abstract Description can set forth.

* Note 124.
They trust their Proposals will be looked at as coming from British Subjects who are willing to render their Fortunes and Lives in furthering His Majesty’s Views in making the Swan River a Colony, where the willing industry of His Majesty’s Subjects may find that Honesty and Obedience will secure the fostering Arm of Government to every Class of His Majesty’s People.

The undersigned propose to provide Shipping for the Purposes of taking out 10,000 of His Majesty’s Subjects from England, Ireland and Scotland, to the Settlement at Swan River, and to find them in Provisions and every other Necessary usually allowed to Emigrants.

That they will bring to the Settlement 1,000 Head of Bulls, Cows, Bullocks, and Calves for the Purpose of further Improvement, and have Three small Vessels running from Sydney to the Settlement, as Occasion may require.

They respectfully beg leave to call the attention of His Majesty’s Government to the present proposal, which they flatter themselves will stand unequalled, as they will have to take Ships to a Place where there is no Back Freight or Prospect of a Cargo.

It necessarily follows that the Expence of the Conveyance of Families from England to Swan River will be much higher than it is to Hobart Town or Sydney. These Considerations bring the undersigned to make a nominal Estimation that each Person will cost them £30.

They promise to complete within the Period of Four Years the taking over of the 10,000 Men, Women, and Children from England, Ireland and Scotland.

They do not ask His Majesty’s Government either to give or make a Loan for the Purpose of completing their Undertaking; but, as a Payment for the Outlay, they are willing to take Grants of Land there, at a Valuation of 1s. 6d. per Acre, to the full Quantity, as a Payment in the Value for their Trouble, estimating, as before stated, 10,000 Souls at £30 per Head, to be received by a free Grant, as before stated.

They respectfully submit that, should His Majesty’s Government be pleased to approve of this Arrangement, the undersigned shall, at their own Expence, provide proper Surveyors for the Purpose of locating to every Male not less than 200 Acres of Land from the Quantity they will have to receive, and that the respective Governors of the Settlements will sign the Grant as a Gift from the Crown.

The Wish of the undersigned in this Stage of the Arrangement is that they may have a Right to hold out the Promise of a
Grant, by the Government Authority, to such Persons as they may select for the Purpose of emigrating to the Settlement.

It may not be unnecessary for the undersigned to give a partial Statement of their Objects in wishing to have large Tracts of Land.

It is well known that the Soil of Swan River, from its moist State, is better adapted to the Cultivation of Tobacco and Cotton than any other Part of Australia.

Both of these Articles are intended to be cultivated upon a large Scale, as also Sugar and Flax, with various important Articles of Drugs that the Climate is peculiarly adapted to the Growth of.

The undersigned are satisfied that, should they succeed in sending Home to the Mother Country that Produce which at the Moment the Government are indebted to Powers which would be their Policy to suppress, were they in a Condition so to do, they will have forwarded not alone the views of His Majesty's Government, but effected a national Good, which neither Time nor Circumstances can erase from the Annals of British History.

Their grazing Operations will go very extensively into the rearing of Horses for the East India Trade, with the most important Establishment of large Herds of Cattle and Swine for the Purpose of supplying His Majesty's or other shipping with Salt Provisions, as the Proximity of Salt Mines of the best Description holds out a great Inducement towards its Success.

There may be various Matters on which His Majesty's Government may desire further Explanation; but it is the earnest Hope that the Proposal now made may receive that favourable Construction, which the undersigned trust the Fairness thereof entitles it.

THOS. PEEL.
FRANCIS VINCENT.
EDWARD W. H. SCHENLEY.
T. POTTER MACQUEEN.

SIR GEORGE MURRAY TO LORD HILL.

29th November, 1828.

[A copy of this despatch is not available.]

MR. THOMAS PEEL TO UNDER SECRETARY TWISS.

8 St. James's Square, 30th Nov., 1828.

Mr. Thos. Peel presents his Compliments to Mr. Twiss, and begs leave to inform him that, in consequence of his Assurance that the Proposal sent in to Sir George Murray by Messrs. Vincent, Macqueen, Peel, and Schenley was accepted, they have purchased the “Lady Nugent” of from 700 to 800 Tons, and are
preparing with every possible Speed to embark for the Swan River with Four hundred Souls (400), Horses and Cattle as many as may be accommodated, Agricultural Implements of every description for the Use of each Settler, etc., etc., along with (if it can be got ready) a Steam Engine for the purposes of sawing Wood, grinding Corn, etc., etc.

Provisions for One Year, accompanied with every other Requisite for the Comfort and Advantage of their Settlers.

They purpose employing their Vessel afterwards in bringing over to the Colony as many of the 10,000 Individuals, as she can accomplish within a given Time, and giving her the Assistance of other Vessels in forwarding their Project, at such Times and to what Extent it may be deemed most prudent to forward them within the Four Years.

The Commander of the Ship is bound to be at Spithead on the 1st of February, 1829, with the People and Cargo, provided it be possible.

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**MR. THOMAS PEEL TO UNDER SECRETARY TWISS.**

8 St. James's-square,

Dear Sir,

Tuesday, 2d December, 1828.

Last night I had the pleasure of making Captain Stirling acquainted with my friends, Sir Francis Vincent and Colonel Macqueen; but I regret to find that, in the course of their conversation, matters of doubt have arisen which place me in a very responsible situation touching our mutual affairs in the projected new Settlement.

Although no written acceptance of our proposal has hitherto been furnished by the Government, you are aware that a fortnight ago, when I took the liberty of making a request to this effect, you asked me, "What it was I wanted; every thing we asked would be granted, and what more did I wish?" Hereupon I took the liberty of observing that it was not for my own private satisfaction, but especially for those most closely connected with me that I pressed for a written document. Thereupon you will recollect stating, "That such written assurance should be furnished me in due course; but that the Government should demand security from us to prevent a return to England of our emigrants."

About eleven days after this interview, you were good enough to put into my hands a document, purporting to be the proposed terms for disposing of land to settlers in the new colony for my perusal, which conditions have since been altered in toto.

Now, as I understand that this very document has caused the alarm through Captain Stirling to my constituents, I beg leave
592 HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA.

1828.
2 Dec.

Claims of association to special indulgence.

It surely is asking nothing unfair when we solicit superior advantages to the Public, as a boon, for the very arduous and first attempt at colonization.

If we are to pave the way, and ensure the future comfort for those following us, there can be no unjustice in our seeking some indulgence beyond others who will have little or no difficulty to contend with. In fact, as I last night assured the gentlemen connected with me, I have ever had implicit confidence in your word; and, notwithstanding the difficulties now presented, I shall continue to look towards you with the same feeling, and I am satisfied that in so acting I am neither doing an injustice to my constituents, or giving you credit for a single feeling beyond your desert.

At the same time I must be permitted to observe that I have already, through the above assurances, led my constituents into a train of expenses above £20,000, from which we cannot now recede. I shall therefore now simply further solicit your early arrangement and adjustment of our claims, as, under the existing circumstances, it doubtless will appear to you imperious.

Yours, &c.,

THOMAS PEEL.

3 Dec.

Military detachment for Swan river.

LORD HILL TO SIR GEORGE MURRAY.

Sir,

Horse Guards, 3d December, 1828.

I have had the honor to receive your Letter of the 29th Ultimo requiring a Detachment of 60 Rank and File with a proper proportion of Officers and Non Commissioned Officers to be held in readiness for Embarkation to the Western Coast of New Holland, where His Majesty’s Government judge it advisable to establish a British Settlement; and, in acquainting you that I have ordered that this Detachment should be selected from the 63d Regt. and that as many of the married Men as possible shall compose it, attention being paid to the good Conduct of the Women, I have to observe that, as it will be necessary that I should write to Lt. General Darling upon the subject, and that the Officer Commanding the Detachment in question should have some Instructions for his guidance both as to the nature of the duties he may have to perform, under whose orders he is to consider himself, and to whom he should Report, I should be favoured with an outline of the orders to be given to the Individual who will have the charge of establishing the Settlement, As also a Copy of the directions to Lt. General Darling.
I am also anxious to know whether His Majesty's Government would approve of a Medical Officer being added to the Detachment with a Supply of Medicines, Medical Comforts and Stores, as also whether the Detachment should not be provided with a small proportion of Camp Equipage, etc. I have, &c.,

HILL.

P.S.—It will also be necessary that the Treasury should authorize the issue of Rations to the Women and Children, who will accompany this Detachment.

UNDER SECRETARY HAY TO MR. T. PEEL, SIR F. VINCENT, MR. T. P. MACQUEEN AND MR. E. W. H. SCHENLEY.

Gentlemen,

Downing Street, 6th December, 1828.

I am directed by Secretary Sir George Murray to acquaint you, in answer to your Memorial dated the Fourteenth of last Month, that the Terms upon which the free Grants of Land will be made in the proposed Settlement in Western Australia are those contained in the Paper, a Copy of which I enclose. His Majesty's Government, however, are desirous that the Experiment should not be made in the first Instance upon a very large Scale, on account of the extensive Distress which would be occasioned by a Failure in any of the Objects expected from the Undertaking, and they therefore consider it their Duty to limit the Grant, which you request, to a Maximum of One Million of Acres. Half a Million of these will be allotted to you as soon as possible after the Arrival of the first Vessel taken out by you, which may contain not less than 400 Persons of both Sexes, in the Proportions of not less than Five Female to Six Male Settlers; and if you shall have covered this Grant by Investments, in accordance with the enclosed Terms, before the Expiration of the Year 1840, the remaining Half Million will be allotted to you by Degrees, as fresh Importations of Settlers and Capital shall be made, in accordance to the Terms already mentioned. But, in order that you may suffer no ultimate Loss by any reasonable Retardation of your Investments, His Majesty's Government intend that the Allowance of Forty Acres for every £3 invested shall not be reduced on your Second Half Million of Acres, although your Claim to such Second Half Million may not arise before the Expiration of next Year, which is the Period limited to other Settlers applying for free Grants; but they will reserve your Claim at the original Rate of 1s. 6d. per Acre until the Expiration of the Year 1840, after which Time no Part of your Grant will be held binding, upon which the whole required Sum of 1s. 6d. per every Acre shall not have been actually
1828.
6 Dec.
Land to be reserved.

HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA.

Conditions for land grants at Swan River.

Colonial Office, 5th December, 1828.

ALTHOUGH it is the Intention of His Majesty's Government to form a Settlement on the Western Coast of Australia, the Government do not intend to incur any Expence in conveying Settlers or in supplying them with Necessaries after their Arrival.

Such Persons, however, as may be prepared to proceed to that Country at their own Cost before the End of the Year 1829, in Parties comprehending a Proportion of not less than Five Female to Six Male Settlers, will receive Grants of Land in Fee Simple (free of Quit Rent), proportioned to the Capital which they may invest upon public or private Objects in the Colony, to the Satisfaction of His Majesty's Government at Home, certified by the Superintendent or other Officer administering the Colonial Government, at the Rate of Forty Acres for every Sum of £3 so invested, provided they give previous Security; first, that all Supplies sent to the Colony, whether of Provisions, Stores or other Articles, which may be purchased by the Capitalists there, or which shall have been sent out for the Use of them or their Parties on the Requisition of the Secretary of State, if not paid for on Delivery in the Colony, shall be paid for at Home, each Capitalist being to be held liable in his Proportion; and, secondly, that, on the Event of the Establishment being broken up by the Governor or Superintendent, all Persons desirous of returning to the British Islands shall be conveyed to their own Home at the Expence of the Capitalist by whom they may have been taken out. The Passages of labouring Persons, whether paid for by themselves or others, and whether they be Male or Female, provided the Proportion of the Sexes before mentioned be preserved, will be considered as an Investment of Capital entitling the Party by whom any such Payment may have been made to an Allowance of Land at the Rate of £15, that is, of 200 Acres of Land for the Passage of every such labouring Person over and above any other Investment of Capital.
Any Land thus granted, which shall not have been brought into Cultivation, or otherwise improved or reclaimed from its wild State, to the Satisfaction of Government, within Twenty-one Years from the Date of the Grant, shall, at the End of the Twenty-one Years, revert absolutely to the Crown.

All these Conditions with respect to free Grants of Land, and all Contracts of labouring Persons and others, who shall have bound themselves for a stipulated Term of Service, will be strictly maintained.

It is not intended that any Convicts or other Description of Prisoners be sent to this new Settlement.

The Government will be administered by Captain Stirling of the Royal Navy, as Civil Superintendent of the Settlement, and a Bill* in the Nature of a Civil Charter will be submitted to Parliament in the Commencement of its next Session.

Mr. J. Stewart to Under Secretary Hay.

Sir,
Treasury Chambers, 11th December, 1828.

The Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury having had under their consideration a letter from Secretary Sir George Murray requesting that the Sum of Six Hundred Pounds may be issued to Captain Stirling, who has been appointed Civil Superintendent over the New Settlement at Swan River, to enable him to defray the expenses of his Passage and other Charges incident to that Office, I have it in command to acquaint you, for the information of Sir George Murray, that My Lords have directed Mr. Sargent to pay the said Sum to Captain Stirling as recommended.

I am, &c.,
J. STEWART.

Mr. L. Beauvais to Under Secretary Twiss.

Sir,
80 Great Portland St., 17 Decr., 1828.

Referring to my letter of the 19th July containing a proposal to produce the Extract of Mimosa Bark in large quantities for export from Van Diemen's Land, and requesting to be informed whether Government would give encouragement to such an undertaking, I have the honor now to request that you will submit to the Right Honble. Sir George Murray that I may be permitted, instead of proceeding to Van Diemen's Land, to avail myself of the advantages held out to Emigrants proceeding to Swan River.

I do not expect to obtain on my first establishment there any larger Grant than that to which my capital would otherwise entitle me, but I trust that, in addition thereto, I shall not be thought unreasonable in anticipating a favorable answer to the

* Note 125.
1828.
17 Dec.
Proposal to export extract of wattle bark from Swan river.

following proposal, vizt., That, after I shall have established myself at the New Settlement, and shall have exported Extract prepared upon my improved principle to the extent of two hundred Tons, I may receive a free Grant of twenty thousand Acres upon the same terms as those Settlers proceeding at the present time, although I may not be able to complete the quantity stipulated previous to the year 1830. I have, &c.,

L. BEAUVAIS.

18 Dec.
Request by association for priority in choice of land.

SIR F. VINCENT AND MESSRS. PEEL AND SCHENLEY TO UNDER SECRETARY HAY.

Sir, 8 St. James’s Square, 18th Dec., 1828.

We have the honour to acknowledge your letter of the 6th instant respecting the terms upon which our proposal to settle at the Swan River would be accepted, and to advert to an omission which we take the liberty of pointing out as early as possible, viz., as to our priority of choice in the selection of our lands before all other settlers whatsoever, after the reserve of 100,000 acres has been made to Captain Stirling. This point we distinctly understood to have been granted by Mr. Twiss, and we trust our present application for the confirmation thereof will not be deemed either unmerited or uncalled for.

We have, &c,

FRANCIS VINCENT.
THOMAS PEEL.
E. W. H. SCHENLEY.

The following Memorandum was made by Mr. Hay, with reference to the Subject of the above Letter:

23d December, 1828.

Sir F. Vincent, Mr. Thos. Peel and Mr. Schenley were requested by Mr. Hay to see Captain Stirling, and to arrange with him as to the Lands to be assigned to both Parties.

It was proposed that Captain Stirling should at once be requested to point out on the Map* the particular Quarter in which he wished his 100,000 Acres should be selected, and that it should then be competent to the associated Gentlemen to point out in the same way the Spot where Land to the Extent of 250,000 Acres should be reserved for them. A Copy of the Map on which the Choice should be made to be given to each of the Parties, and Captain Stirling, if his Arrival should precede that of the associated Gentlemen, to take immediate Steps for delivering over to their Surveyor, who will probably accompany Captain Stirling to Swan River, the Block of Land which has been selected by them.

* Note 126.
SOMERSET TO TWISS.

In other respects the associated Gentlemen will be placed on the Footing of other Settlers.

The Choice of the Land so selected to be communicated to Sir George Murray for his Approval.

MR. J. LACHLAN TO CAPTAIN STIRLING.

Sir, Great Aile Street, 23 December, 1828.

I beg leave to offer to you the Ship Parmelia 443 Tons to Tender of convey such Passengers, Stock, Stores, and Goods as you may think proper to embark in her from hence to Swan River on the West Coast of New Holland at £4 10s. 0d. per Ton Register, the owners to provide Water Casks for the Passengers not exceeding Eighty in number.

The Vessel to be in the Downs complete on the owner's part on the 4th January next, and to proceed thence to Portsmouth to embark the Passengers, and to call at the Cape of Good Hope and remain there 14 days if required. Thirty days, if required, to be allowed for landing the Cargo, etc., at Swan River (which is to be done with the Ship's Boats), after that Demurrage at the same Rate as that paid by the Navy Board.

The Freight to be paid, one third on the Vessel's sailing from England and the remainder on producing Certificates of the Completion of the Service.

I am, &c,

J. LACHLAN.

UNDER SECRETARY TWISS TO LORD FITZROY SOMERSET.

23rd December, 1828.

[A copy of this letter is not available.]

LORD FITZROY SOMERSET TO UNDER SECRETARY TWISS.

Sir, Horse Guards, 24 December, 1828.

Having submitted to The General Commanding in Chief your Letter of the 23d Inst., I am directed to acquaint you that immediate orders have been given to limit the Detachment of the 63d Regt. to One Hundred, and that accordingly it will consist of

One Captain; One Lieutenant; Two Ensigns; One Assistant Surgeon; Three Serjeants; Three Corporals; One Bugler; Fifty Six Privates; and Thirty two Women and Children.

As soon as you shall notify to me the day on which it is desired that the Troops shall embark, the necessary orders will be given.
1828.
24 Dec.
Officers of detachment.

The Names of the Officers are

Captain F. C. Irwin, Comg.; Lieut. William Pedder; Ensign Donald Hume Macleod; Ensign Robert Dale;

they have no Families requiring Accommodation; but the Medical Officer attached to the Detachment, Assistant Surgeon Tully Davy, has a Family consisting of five Ladies, for whom Passages should be found.

Fitzroy Somerset.

P.S.—By Information obtained from The Navy Office, it is understood that two or three Vessels are fitting out in the River for the New Settlement, in one or other of which Assistant Surgeon Daly and his Family might be allowed to take their Passage.

F.R.S.

26 Dec.
Land selected by J. Stirling.

In obedience to your Memorandum of the 23d Instant, I have conferred with the Gentlemen therein named on the Subject of a Grant of Land, which Sir George Murray has been graciously pleased to award me, and I do myself the Honour to state to you that I shall be happy to receive the Allotment* of Land herein-after described, if such Selection shall meet with your Approbation; videlicet,

Isle Buache, together with such Live Stock as may be found on it, the Produce of that which I left there in 1827. The Remainder of the Hundred thousand Acres, not contained in that Island, to be those which are situated nearest to Cape Naturalist in Geographe Bay; but, as the latter Portion must remain for a considerable Time unprotected, I submit respectfully that I may not be required to stock it, nor to pay to Government the Duty of Sixpence per Acre, until after a protecting Force be stationed in that Neighbourhood.

I have, &c.,

James Stirling.

CAPTAIN STIRLING TO UNDER SECRETARY HAY.

28 Dec.
New regulation re half pay of naval officers.

May I take the liberty to acquaint you before I leave town that, on the first day of the coming year, a new Regulation under authority of Parliament will take place, by which officers

* Note 126.
holding any Civil appointment will be deprived of their Half Pay unless they may have accepted such appointments previous to 31 December, 1828. Capt. Currie, Mr. Morgan and myself will therefore forfeit our half pay unless our appointments take place before the last of this month, although they may or may not be attended by any emolument. Such being the case, I submit for your consideration the eligibility of our respective appointments being given and accepted before the expiration of the year.

I beg to repeat my earnest request that you will reconsider the point of placing the new Settlement in the Situation of a Dependency on New South Wales. According as the New South Wales Charter† stands, I do not believe that it can be acted on for the trial of cases occurring beyond the limits of that Territory. No authority therefore can be given to me derivatively from it, and, a new Charter being therefore necessary, the following objections appear to me as opposed to their being incorporated under one Government.

1st. Their dissimilarity in population and commercial position.
2ndly. Their great distance from each other, which renders communication slow and uncertain, and puts mutual assistance and protection out of the question.
3rdly. The favorable anticipations which have been entertained of the new Settlement, because of its being independent of and unconnected with New So. Wales.
4thly. Because it would be necessary at such a remote distance to give to the local Government authority founded on a belief of its being independant and responsible only to His Majesty's Minister for the Colonies.

I hope you will pardon my presumption in addressing you on the preceding subject; but I feel it is important; and I beg further to suggest, if it is not finally decided that I am to be styled "Civil Superintendent," that my influence would be much increased in the opinion of those around me by altering that Style and naming me "Governor." There is a precedent in the case of Capt. Philip, who formed the Settlement on the other shore; and I should be much gratified by the alteration independent of the persuasion I entertain that my hands would be thereby strengthened.

I have, &c.

JAMES STIRLING.

NAVY COMMISSIONERS TO UNDER SECRETARY HAY.

Sir,
Navy Office, 29th December, 1828.

In addition to our Letter of the 27th instant, we acquaint you, for the Information of Secretary Sir George Murray, that we have engaged the Ship Parmelia, of 443 Tons, to convey

* Note 127. † Note 128.
HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA.

1828.  
29 Dec.  
Request for  
 particulars  
 re passengers.

Passengers and Stores to Swan River on the Western Side of New Holland; and we request to be furnished, as soon as possible, with the Names of the Persons composing the Families of the Civil Officers, etc., intended to proceed to the new Settlement, who are alluded to in your Letters of the 24th and 25th instant, and the ages of the Children, in order that the necessary accommodation may be prepared for them.  

We are, &c.,  
RT. SEPPINGS.  
H. LEGGE.  
C. BOYLE.

SIR GEORGE MURRAY TO CAPTAIN STIRLING.  
(Despatch No. 1.)

30 Dec.  
Sir,  
Downing Street, 30 Decr., 1828.

It having been resolved by His Majesty’s Govt. to occupy the Port on the Western Coast of New Holland at the mouth of the River called “Swan River” with the adjacent Territory for the purpose of forming a Settlement there, His Majesty has been pleased to approve the selection of yourself to have the command of the Expedition appointed for that Service and the superintendance of the proposed Settlement.

You will accordingly repair with all practicable despatch to the place of your destination on board the Vessel, which has been provided for that purpose.

As Swan River and the adjacent Territory are not within the limits* of any existing Colony, difficulties may easily be anticipated in the course of your proceedings from the absence of all Civil Institutions, Legislative, Judicial and financial.

Until provision can be made in due form of law for the government of the projected Colony, the difficulties, to which I refer, must be combated and will, I trust, be overcome by your own firmness and discretion.

You will assume the Title of Lieut. Governor, and in that character will correspond with this Department respecting your proceedings and the wants and prospects of the Settlement you are to form.

Amongst your earliest duties will be that of determining the most convenient site for a Town to be erected as the future Seat of Government.

You will be called upon to weigh maturely the advantages, which may arise from placing it on so secure a situation as may be afforded on various points of the Swan River, against those which may follow from establishing it on so fine a port for the reception of Shipping, as Cockburn Sound is represented to be;

* Note 129.
MURRAY TO STIRLING.

and more effectually to guard against the evils to be apprehended from an improvident disposal of the land in the immediate vicinity of the Town, you will take care that a square of three Miles (or 1,920 acres) is reserved for its future extension; and that the land within this space is not granted away (as in ordinary cases) but shall be held upon leases from the Crown for a term not exceeding 21 years. You will from the commencement of the undertaking be observant of the necessity of marking out and reserving for public purposes all those peculiar positions within or in the vicinity of the projected Town, which from natural advantages or otherwise will probably be essential to the future welfare of the Settlement. In laying the foundations of any such Town, care must be taken to proceed upon a regular plan, leaving all vacant spaces, which will in future times be required for thoroughfares and as the Sites of Churches, Cemeteries and other Public Works of utility and general convenience.

You will cause it to be understood that His Majesty has granted to you the power of making all necessary locations of land. For your guidance in this respect, ample instructions will at a future period be prepared. In the meantime, I enclose a copy of the Instructions of the Governor of New South Wales on this subject to which you will adhere as closely as circumstances will admit.

You will bear in mind that, in all locations of Territory, a due proportion must be reserved for the Crown, as well as for the maintenance of the Clergy, support of Establishments for the purposes of Religion and the Education of youth, concerning which objects, more particulars will be transmitted to you hereafter.

I think it necessary also to caution you thus early, as land on the Sea or River side will naturally be the first to be located, that you must be careful not to grant more than a due proportion of Sea or River Frontage to any Settler. The great advantage to be derived from an easy water communication will of course not escape your consideration, and this advantage should be divided amongst as many settlers as can conveniently benefit by their position in the vicinity.

In regard to the surveys and explications of the Country which you may think it right to set on foot, it is perhaps premature to give you any instructions upon a point, where so much must be left to your own discretion and the intelligence as to the nature of the soil and of the Country which you may obtain on the spot; looking however to the future prospects of the Settlement and to the advantages of its local position, I should be inclined to think that it will be expedient to make the Country
South of Swan River the scene of your labors rather than the tract of Country North of that Stream, and that you will do well to invite the Settlers to locate themselves according to this suggestion.

You will endeavour to settle with the consent of the parties concerned a Court of Arbitration for the decision of such questions of Civil right as may arise between the early Settlers and until a more regular form of administering Justice can be organized.

You will recommend by your Counsels and example the habitual observance of Sunday as a day of rest and Public Worship, as far as may be compatible with the circumstances in which you may be placed.

With these few and general instructions for your guidance, assisted by the oral and written communications which have taken place between yourself and this Department, you will I trust be able to surmount the difficulties to which you may be exposed at the outset, enhanced though they will be by the want of any regular Commission for administering the Government.

An instrument of that nature accompanied with all the requisite instructions will be transmitted to you as soon as the indispensible forms of proceeding in such cases will allow.

I am, &c.,

GEO. MURRAY

[Enclosure.]

[This comprised the clauses in the royal instructions to Governor Darling, respecting the division of the territory, grants of lands and clergy reserves, excepting those parts which related to convicts and the formation of a church corporation; see page 113 et seq., volume XII, series I.]

CAPTAIN STIRLING TO UNDER SECRETARY HAY.

Sir,


I have the honor to acknowledge the Receipt of your letter of the 30th Inst. acquainting me that I have been appointed to conduct the new Settlement about to be established in Western Australia with the Title of Lieutt. Governor.

I beg leave to inform you in reply thereto that I gratefully accept the nomination conferred upon me, and that I shall endeavour to discharge the duties of the Office with Zeal and Fidelity.

I have, &c.,

JAMES STIRLING.
HAY TO STIRLING.

UNDER SECRETARY HAY TO CAPTAIN STIRLING.

Sir,— Downing Street, 1st January, 1829.

I have laid before Sir George Murray your Letter of the 26th Ultimo, respecting the Grant of 100,000 Acres of Land, which you are permitted to select at Swan River, and submitting the following Propositions connected with that Service, viz.:

That the Isle Buache, together with such Live Stock as may be found on it, the Produce of that which you left there in 1827, should belong to you; that the Remainder of the 100,000 Acres, not contained in that Island, be those which are situated nearest to Cape Naturalist, in Geographe Bay; and that, as the latter Portion must remain for a considerable Time unprotected, you may not be required to stock it, nor to pay to Government the Duty of 6d. per Acre, until after a protecting Force be stationed in that Neighbourhood.

I am directed by Sir George Murray to acquaint you, in answer, that he will have no Objection to allow the Buache Island to be considered as Part of the Grant to which you will be entitled, in conformity with the original Understanding; but that it will be necessary to reserve for the Use of the Crown a certain Portion of Land along the North-eastern Side of the Island, in case it should hereafter be found expedient to erect any Buildings in that Quarter; and that any Points of Land which should appear adapted to the Erection of Works of Defence at some future Period, must also be reserved in a similar Manner.

In regard to the Arrangement proposed in your Letter for the Allotment of the Remainder of your Grant, Sir George Murray conceives that Inconvenience may arise from introducing the Precedent of granting Land without requiring from the Grantee a Compliance with the usual Conditions; but, as it is understood that you are desirous of waving your Claim to the Choice of any further Land in the Neighbourhood of Swan River, Sir George Murray can have no Difficulty in agreeing to your Proposal to wait until, in the course of Colonization, it becomes expedient to settle the Country in the Neighbourhood of Geographe Bay, when you will be at liberty to select, before others, Land to the Extent which may be required to make up to you, together with that granted at Buache Island, the full Quantity of 100,000 Acres to which you are entitled.

It is calculated that the Land on the Island above mentioned, which will be granted to you, will not exceed 8,000 or 9,000 Acres; but whatever may prove to be its Extent upon being surveyed, Sir George Murray agrees to give you the whole of the Island and the Cattle thereon, with the Limitation with regard

* Note 126.
HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA.

1829.

1 Jan.

to Crown Lands, the Reservation of Spots for the future Defence of the Island already alluded to. You will of course be subject to the same Obligation as ordinary Settlers, in regard to the Outlay of Capital on the Land, Cultivation, etc., etc.

I have, &c.,

R. W. HAY.

SIR GEORGE MURRAY TO GOVERNOR DARLING.

12th January, 1829.

[A copy of this despatch, relating to the formation of the settlement at Swan river, will be found on page 610, volume XIV, series I.]

REMARKS* ON SWAN RIVER BY MAJOR LOCKYER.

From the very little at present known respecting Swan River, the following may prove interesting to those about to proceed to that settlement:—

Swan River on the western coast of Australia, is in 32 Degrees south Latitude and East Longitude 115 Degs. 43.

In November, 1826, The Amity Government Colonial Brig was dispatched with a small detachment of His Majesty's 39th Regiment with some prisoners of the Crown, under the command of Major Lockyer of His Majesty's 57th Regiment to form a Settlement at King George's Sound, nearly to the South West side of Australia in 35 Degrees South Latitude and 117° 45' of East Longitude. Some reports were in circulation at this period of the probability that the French had anticipated us in forming a Settlement there, which however proved not to be the case, as, on the arrival of the expedition at the Sound on 25th December, it was ascertained that the French corvette Astrolabe, Captain D'Urville, had been there and surveyed the Harbour, his station poles were left standing, and had sailed for Sydney in November sometime; this information was obtained from the Crew of a sealing boat that came to the Sound from Middle Island, one of the groupe of the Archipelago of the Rechearch, Four Hundred Miles to the Eastward of the Sound and from them it was also learnt that these people frequented Swan River in their sealing excursions, which they described as being particularly fine country up the River, but that there was a Bar entrance, no vessel could get in; that the anchorage outside was bad, and the only shelter for a ship was at the north end of the Island of Rottenest; that on passing the Bar the Water deepens; that a ship of any size might lay there if a channel could be effected. About Six or Eight Miles from its entrance the River forms a large sheet of water or Harbour if vessels could get to it. These accounts

* Note 130.
induced the Commandant to endeavour to visit Swan River by walking overland from King George's Sound, it being distant one hundred and ninety miles; and he accordingly set out accompanied by three soldiers of the 39 and two Convicts, each individual carrying his Blanket and provisions; for some days after the party had left, it rained very heavy and by the arrival of the Isabella schooner from Sydney it was learnt that the Success Frigate, Captain Stirling, now Lieutenant Governor of Swan River, had gone there. A few days after this, the Commandant returned, not from any difficulty of making his way through the country, which he found to improve in soil and appearance as he proceeded, but from one of the soldiers falling sick.* The Isabella also brought accounts that the Cutter Currency Lass accompanied the Frigate, and that they might be expected every day at King George's Sound, which prevented the party from again setting out for Swan River. The Land about King George's Sound is on the whole very indifferent, being composed of Sand Hills and Rocks of graminnt and Limestone, patches of good soil with abundance of most excellent Water. Fish and fine Oysters to be had in any quantities. The settlement, Frederick's Town, is on the North side of Princess Royal Harbour, which with the Sound and Oyster Harbour is one of the Largest, and probably one of the finest Sea Ports in the World. Swan River, without King George's Sound, would not be worth attempting, for ultimately, should the colonizing of the country at the Swan River succeed, King George's Sound will become the great resort of ships, the open Roads of Rottenest Island being too Dangerous to load and unload cargoes or to refit; on the North side of Cape Lewen is the port of Lechenault, which is to shoal to admit vessels of any burden, and never can prove of use; therefore King George's Sound is the place to form a Depot and place of Government for colonizing the country contiguous to and on the banks of Swan River; the importance also of the Port of King George's Sound, as well political as commercial, need only to be referred to as to its position, relative to the former having the complete command of the passage to the Eastern side of Australia and Van Diemen's Land, and as to the latter commanding the best sealing ground on the southern coast as well the Whale Fishery, its position for Trade and communication to India, Java, Timor, China, Isle of France and the Cape of Good Hope.

As to the country about Swan River very little is known; but, from the great similarity of appearance in Soil, Woods, and Mountains between it and King George's Sound, there is no doubt it will be found to be pretty much the same as the country.

* Note 131.
about the Eastern coast of this immense Island. Whether the present Establishment will ultimately succeed is extremely Doubtful. The North American Colonies for years advanced but slowly from their commencement until forced labour was introduced. At Swan River, the Settlers will be left entirely on their own resources; they will find little time or opportunity at first for cultivation; the few Cattle and Sheep that will be introduced there will employ the settlers to watch them from the Natives, who are very numerous and fierce; no reliance can be placed on them and force will have to be used to drive them away and quit that part of the Coast.

It is generally supposed by persons, who by experience learn the difficulties of forming even a penal settlement, that the Swan River with all its local advantages will do nothing unless forced labour is introduced.

In the early state of this Settlement, it would be extremely Hazardous in any speculation being made from this Colony except in the article of provision, such as Flour, Beef, and Pork; good Bricks and Shingles, Weather Boards, Battens and Rafters all would find a ready sale, doors and Window Frames with the fittings complete, Shingle and Batten Nails, with nails of sizes, Farming Implements of this country make such as Ploughs, Harrows, Hoes, Spades and Shovels, a Few light Carts with Harness might find a ready sale.

The Climate at King George’s Sound is on the whole much cooler than in the same Latitude on the Eastern Coast, during the Summer Months and being free from hot Winds. The Winters are also much milder than on the East Coast.

REGULATIONS for the guidance of those who may propose to embark, as Settlers, for the new Settlement on the Western Coast of New Holland.

1°. His Majesty’s Government do not intend to incur any expense, in conveying Settlers to the new Colony on the Swan River, and will not feel bound to defray the expense (cost) of supplying them with Provisions, or other Necessaries, after their arrival there, nor to assist their removal to England, or elsewhere (to any other place), should they be desirous of quitting the Colony.

2°. Such persons as may arrive in that Settlement, before the end of the Year 1830, will receive, in the order of their arrival, Grants (Allotments) of Land, free of Quit Rent, proportioned to the Capital which they may be prepared to invest in the improvement of the Land, and of which Capital they may be able to produce satisfactory proofs to the Lieutenant Governor,
or other Officer Administering the Colonial Government, or to any two Officers of the local Government appointed by the Lieutenant Governor for that purpose, at the rate of 40 acres for every Sum of £3 which they may be prepared so to invest.

3°. Under the head of investment of Capital will be considered Stock of every description, all Implements of Husbandry, and other Articles, which may be applicable to the purposes of productive industry, or which may be necessary for the establishment of the Settler on the Land where he is to be located. The Amount of any Half Pay or Pension, which the applicant may receive from Government (and which he may be prepared to invest as before mentioned) will also be considered as so much Capital.

4°. Those, who may incur the expense of taking out laboring persons, will be entitled to an allowance (allotment) of Land, at the rate of £15, that is, of 200 Acres of Land for the passage of every such laboring person over and above any other investment of Capital. In the class of "laboring persons" are included Women, and Children above 10 years old (With respect to the Children of Laboring people under that Age, it is proposed to allow 40 Acres for every such Child, above 3 years old, 80 Acres for every such Child above 6 years old, and 120 for every such Child, above 9, and under 10 years old). Provision will be made by Law at the earliest opportunity for rendering those Capitalists, who may be engaged in taking out laboring persons to this Settlement, liable for the future maintenance of those persons, should they from infirmity or any other cause become unable to maintain themselves there.

5°. The License of Occupation of Land will be granted to the Settler (The Licence to Occupy will be given to the Settler) on satisfactory proof being exhibited to the Lieut. Governor, or other Officer administering the local Government, of the amount of property brought into the Colony (to be invested as above specified). The proofs required of such (this) property will be such satisfactory Vouchers of Expenses, as would be received in auditing Public Accounts. But the full Title to the Land will not be granted in fee simple, until the Settler has proved, to the satisfaction of the Lieutenant Governor, or other Officer administering the Local Government, that the Sum required by Article 2 of these Regulations, viz., 1s. 6d. per Acre, has been expended in the cultivation of the Land (that the Sum required by Article 2°, viz., 1s. 6d. per acre, has been actually expended in some investment of the nature specified in Article 3° or in the cultivation of the Land) or in solid improvements, such as Buildings, Roads, or other Works of the (that) kind.
6°. Any Grant of Land, thus allotted, of which a fair proportion, of at least one fourth, shall not have been brought into Cultivation, or otherwise improved or reclaimed from its wild state, to the extent of 1s. 6d. per Acre, to the satisfaction of the local Government, within three years from the date of the License of Occupation, shall, at the end of the three years, be liable to a (one further) payment of 6d. per Acre (for all the land not so cultivated or improved) into the Public Chest of the Settlement; and, at the expiration of seven years more, should the land still remain in an uncultivated or unimproved state, it will revert absolutely to the Crown (so much of the whole Grant as shall still remain in an uncultivated or unimproved state, will revert absolutely to the Crown. And in every Grant will be contained a Condition, that, at any time, within ten years from the date thereof, the Government may resume, without compensation, any land not then actually cultivated, or improved as before mentioned, which may be required for Roads, Canals, or Quays, or for the site of Public Buildings).

7°. After the Year 1830, Land will be disposed of, to those Settlers, who may resort to the Colony, on such Conditions as His Majesty’s Government shall see occasion to adopt (shall determine).

8°. It is not intended, that any Convicts, or other description of Prisoners, be transported to this new Settlement.

9°. The Government will be administered by Captain Stirling of the Royal Navy, as Lieutenant Governor of the Settlement, and it is proposed that a Bill* should be submitted to Parliament, in the course of the next Session, to make provision for the Civil Government of new Settlement (for its Civil and Judicial Administration).

(Colonial Office, 3rd February, 1829.)

Colonial Office, 13th January, 1829

[Note.—On 3d February, 1829, a revised set of Terms of Land Grants to Swan River settlers was issued by the Colonial Office. The words in italics were omitted and the words in parentheses inserted.]

Under Secretary Twiss to Sir F. Vincent and Messrs. Peel and Schenley.

Gentlemen,

Downing Street, 21st January, 1829.

Having communicated to Sir George Murray the substance of the conversation I had with you in the course of yesterday, upon the subject of the allowance which was to be made to you in land for each child which you might introduce into the New Settlement, I am directed to acquaint you that he is induced, under the circumstances which you have stated, to consent to

* Note 125.
that allowance being granted to you in the following proportions, viz., 40 acres for every child above three years old; 80 acres for every child above six years; and 120 for every child exceeding that age, until 10, when the usual allowance of 200 will commence. I beg to remind you that I have not yet received from you the answer upon the subject of the new line marked out on the Map* describing the Boundaries of your proposed grant.

I am, &c.,

H. TWISS.

SIR GEORGE MURRAY TO CAPTAIN STIRLING.

(Despatch No. 3.)

Sir,

Downing Street, 22d Jany., 1829.

With reference to the Instructions, which were conveyed to you by my letter of the 30th ulto., No. 1, I transmit to you herewith a copy of the Regulations, which have been issued for the guidance of those persons who may propose to embark as Settlers for the new Settlement on the Western Coast of New Holland; and I have to desire that you will observe the following rules in carrying those Regulations into effect.

1st. In estimating the value of the Investments of Capital, which may be produced by the Settler as a claim for land on his arrival in the Colony, you will make a reasonable allowance not exceeding 4th of their value for such live Stock as may have died on their passage and of the value and loss of which satisfactory proof shall have been brought forward by the claimant.

2. Any evasion of the principle of actual importation of Capital by re-exportation or otherwise will be held to vitiate the right of occupancy in respect to land, which may have been granted upon the faith of such importation of Capital; and, on proof being adduced before you of such malpractices, the land thus fraudulently obtained will revert to the Crown.

3. No sale of land will be held valid until the Crown has granted the title in full, the right of occupancy alone not conferring the privilege of so disposing of it.

4th. The Settler will not be entitled to receive any additional Grant of land, until his former grant shall have been cultivated and improved to the extent prescribed by the Regulations.

5. With reference to the reversion of land to the Crown on failure of the stipulations required, you will be at liberty to make an exception in certain peculiar cases, such for instance as the Grantee holding out the prospect of the early arrival of a fresh body of Settlers. In that case, a certain portion of it may be held by the Grantee in the nature of a Reserve and a limited extension of the period before its resumption by the Crown be allowed.
6. In order to guard against a capricious relinquishment of land by persons, who may have obtained a grant, you will take care that due notice be given that those, who shall quit the Colony without fulfilling the conditions prescribed, will endanger the loss of their Grant which will revert to the Crown.

7. Civil Servants will be allowed land upon the principle on which it is granted to other persons to the extent which they may require within reasonable bounds and provided the management of it does not interfere with their public duties.

8. No Fees are to be taken by any Public Officers for the performance of their duty in allotting land to Settlers or for any other similar duty.

9. You will reserve to the Colonial Govt. a right to construct Roads, Canals, Bridges, Churches and Schools on or through any allotted portion of land, as well as a right to Minerals and indigenous Timber necessary for such purposes; also a power to resume any points of land which may be necessary hereafter for the defences of the Settlement, on a fair compensation should Capital have been expended in Buildings on the land so required.

I have, &c.,

[Enclosure.]

G. Murray.

[These were the regulations dated 3rd February, 1829; see page 606 et seq.]

Sir Francis Vincent to Under Secretary Twiss.

Sir, 8 Grafton Street, 23rd January, 1829.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd instant, and in reply beg to state that I have forwarded it to Mr. Peel, having previously sent him a letter to notify my withdrawing from the Association, in consequence of the restrictions imposed by Government upon the original plan, and which determination I believe has been signified to the Colonial Office.

I have, &c.,

Francis Vincent.

Mr. Thomas Peel to Under Secretary Twiss.

Dear Sir,

8 St. James's Square, 28th January, 1829.

Agreeably to your Request, I forward Mr. Schenley's resignation as regards his Association in the projected Scheme of Emigration to the Swan River.

Sir Francis Vincent, I understand, having already relinquished his Share in the same by Letter to the Colonial Office, and Colonel Macqueen having withdrawn some Time ago, I now take the Liberty of stating that I am desirous of carrying on and completing the same Project by myself, as originally contemplated
TWISS TO PEEL.


Yours, &c.,

THOMAS PEEL.

[Enclosure.]

MR. E. W. H. SCHENLEY TO MR. T. PEEL.

My dear Sir,

8 St. James’s Square, 23d January, 1829.

Having attentively considered Mr. Twiss’s letter of the 22d instant, as connected with our interview of the 20th, with the deepest regret I feel myself obliged to come to the following resolution: —

That the Government modification of our first proposal renders it impossible for us to carry into execution the project first entertained by the Association, and for the fulfilment of which I would gladly have spent my last sixpence.

I cannot but think that the liberal and open view we have ever taken of the subject, and which we, at all moments, communicated to the Government, so far from forwarding have tended to raise jealousies respecting our intentions, which, from all that has passed, I suppose have been entertained to our prejudice in a quarter where we least supposed they would be received.

I am, &c.,

E. W. H. SCHENLEY.

UNDER SECRETARY TWISS TO MR. T. PEEL.

Sir,

Downing Street, 28th January, 1829.

With reference to your letter of this day’s date, acquainting me that the gentlemen who proposed to join you in the investment of capital on the coast of Western Australia have signified their intention to withdraw from the undertaking, and that you propose to carry it on and complete it by yourself, I am directed by Secretary Sir George Murray to acquaint you that His Majesty’s Government will have no objection to deal with you, individually, on the same terms on which they would have dealt with your party, had it continued its association.

I have laid before Sir George Murray, according to your desire, the reduced Map* of the Country adjoining to the Swan River, on which you have marked out the limits of a part of the tract of one million of acres, which you are desirous of possessing as a grant from the Crown; which part of the tract of one million is to be confined, in the first instance, to 250,000 acres, in consequence of the priority of choice which has been to that extent conceded to you. Had it been possible at once to forsee what ground might be required for the purposes of Government, Sir George Murray would have been disposed to confirm the choice which you have made of the district to be now assigned to you, subject of course to such corrections as may be necessary in consequence of the imperfect manner in which the country has been surveyed. But, as it is very possible that it may be expedient

* Note 126.
to fix the site of the New Town on Cockburn Sound rather than in a more inland situation, the Secretary of State thinks it necessary to extend the land reserved for the Crown somewhat further to the southward than you have proposed. This proposed extension of limits has been marked by a blue dotted line* in the copy of the reduced Map, which I enclose; but you will perceive, on inspection, that the tract of land, which you are desirous of possessing, will not suffer any material injury by the alteration, as a sufficient portion of the sea-shore in Cockburn Sound and of the coast adjoining will still be reserved for you. An accurate copy of the reduced Map will be given to Captain Stirling for his guidance, together with copies of all the correspondence which has passed between you and this Department.

The 250,000 acres, constituting the grant now proposed to be assigned to you, will be put into your possession by the Lieutenant Governor as soon as you will have landed at the Settlement the four hundred persons, as required in my letter of the 6th December, 1828. I am, &c,

H. Twiss.

P.S.—Although the new Regulations allow but ten years for bringing land into cultivation, etc., yet, as your terms were arranged during the existence of the old Regulations which allowed twenty-one years, no part of your land will be considered as reverting to the Crown for want of cultivation, which shall have been brought into cultivation or otherwise improved or reclaimed from its wild state to the satisfaction of the local government within twenty-one years from the date of the grant of such respective part.

H.T.

[Enclosure.]

[A copy of the map will be found in the volume of charts and plans.]

UNDER SECRETARY TWISS TO MR. T. PEEL.

Dear Sir,

Downing Street, 29th January, 1829.

I have been considering your request of postponing the embarkation of a part of your first four hundred settlers till May, instead of sending them all, as originally contemplated, in the present or in the next month; and as I find that the party to be sent out in May will probably arrive in August, or at the latest in September, I think there is no objection to allow you this extension of time. However, in order to afford you every possible accommodation, I have requested Captain Stirling to reserve your whole 250,000 acres till the 1st of November; if your entire number of 400 settlers are not in the Colony by that time, then, although you will not have fulfilled your contract, you shall

* Note 126.
still have as many acres of the tract, so reserved for you, as your actual number of settlers and amount of investment will cover at the rate of forty acres for every £3.

There is another point which it may be necessary for me to explain in this note, because I have just learnt that you are, or at least that you were, in some mistake respecting it. I am told your impression is that your stipulation was only to take out 400 souls, and that under that denomination you might include children of tender ages. If you will turn to the correspondence, you will find that my expression has always been not souls but persons, the object of the large grant to you being to secure persons capable of all the work necessary for a new settlement. The four hundred, therefore, whom you are to land, must be persons of more than ten years of age, although you will have an allowance for children below that age, according to the rate explained to you in my letter of the 21st of the present month.

I am, &c,

H. Twiss.

COMMODORE SCHOMBERG TO SECRETARY CROKER.

His Majesty's Ship Maidstone, Simon's Bay,

Sir, Cape of Good Hope, 20th March, 1829.

I beg leave to enclose, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of the orders given to Captain W. H. Freemantle* of His Majesty's Ship Challenger, conformably to their Lordships' directions; and which he sailed in execution of this day. Prior to his leaving this anchorage, I completed him to 168 days or Six months of all species of Provisions, the Beef and Pork I was necessitated to supply from the Maidstone, there being none in the Victualling Stores at this place, altho' Tenders for procuring some from the Merchants of this Colony have now been opened for some time.

I also enclose a report of Survey on seven Invalids belonging to that Ship; she sailed from hence, however, with only three short of complement, Captain Fremantle having raised several during his stay here. I have, &c,

C. M. SCHOMBERG, Commodore.

[Enclosure.]

ORDERS TO W. H. FREEMANTLE, CAPTAIN OF H.M. SHIP CHALLENGER.

By Commodore Charles Marsh Schomberg, C.B., etc., etc., Senior Officer of His Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the Cape of Good Hope Station.

In obedience to the commands of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty.

* Note 132.
You are hereby required and directed to proceed immediately, His Majesty's Ship under your command is in every respect ready for Sea, to the Swan River on the Western Coast of New South Wales, where you will on your arrival take formal possession of that part of the coast in the name of His Majesty, which possession is meant to be extended to the whole of the Western Coast.

You will remain with the Challenger in Cockburn Sound or some other safe Anchorage in that neighbourhood until you are in Receipt of further Orders, and in the mean time employ working Parties on shore in constructing Huts or other commodious Dwellings for reception of Troops, which may be weekly expected after your arrival there; You will endeavour to find Springs of Water as near to the River as may be, and instruct those under your Orders on shore to be constantly on the alert to prevent surprize from the natives, and especially to be very guarded with respect to the Women;

That you may be fully in possession of their Lordships' commands with respect to the Service on which you are proceeding, I enclose a Copy of the whole of the Instructions I have received from their Secretary on the Subject.

Given under my Hand on Board the Maidstone, Simons Bay, Cape of Good Hope, 14th March, 1829.

C. M. Schomberg, Commodore.

Governor Darling to Sir George Murray.

14th May, 1829.

[As copy of this despatch, reporting the transfer of live stock and stores from Raffles bay to Swan river, will be found on page 743, volume XIV, series I.]

Sir George Murray to Governor Darling.

11th August, 1830.

[As copy of this despatch, containing instructions for the control of the military in West Australia, will be found on page 677, volume XV, series I.]
Lieutenant-Governor Stirling to Sir George Murray.

Sir,  
Perth, Western Australia, 20th January, 1830.

On the 9th of September I had the honour to announce to you my arrival here, and the commencement of this Settlement; I now beg leave to lay before you the following Information relative to its progress since that period, its present condition and future prospects.

As soon as the difficulty attendant on landing and housing the establishment was surmounted, I caused an exploration of the country immediately in the neighbourhood of the port to be made, and two towns to be laid out; one, named Fremantle, at the entrance of Swan River; the other, Perth, about nine miles higher up, on its right or northern bank. Allotments in these towns were speedily occupied by the first settlers, who arrived in August, and the more diligent among them commenced the erection of temporary buildings. On the 1st of October, I found it necessary to open a district of country for location. In the first instance, I selected for that purpose the banks of the Swan River; and, being urged by further applications for land, on the 2d of November I threw open the country extending between the sea and the mountains fifty miles southward from Perth, including the district originally reserved for Mr. Thomas Peel. In these districts, the first comers found suitable locations, and, acting under the impulse of novelty, there were many who at once established themselves on their lands, regardless of danger from the natives and of the difficulty they encountered in removing their goods from the coast. This adventurous and laudable spirit, which it was politic to encourage, I am happy in saying met with no check; and single individuals have traversed the country freely, at great distances from the towns, hitherto without interruption or injury.

In the course of October, November and December, some ships and many settlers* came in. Their arrival before the country could be properly surveyed occasioned great inconvenience. Viewing no evil so great to the settler as delay in assigning to him his land, I was accordingly forced to grant locations on unsurveyed lands, and to determine on the sites of towns without experience of their merits. An evil still greater than these arose from the number of early arrivals on the coast, hitherto unsurveyed; in consequence, one merchant ship, the "Marquis of Anglesea," by anchoring in an exposed situation, got on shore; and latterly, His Majesty's ship "Success," in coming in without a pilot, struck on the rocks and has received damage, not irreparable I believe, but serious.

* Note 133.
The survey of Cockburn Sound is now, however, complete; and, having made arrangements for buoying the channel and establishing proper pilots, I hope we shall have no more accidents of that description.

Among the settlers who arrived, there were many indentured servants, who had been recommended to their employers by parish officers, and whose habits were of the loosest description. To control these and to protect their masters in their just rights, as well as to secure the safety of persons and property, I was obliged before the conclusion of the year to appoint a magistracy and a body of constables; the first, from among the most wealthy and prudent of the settlers; the latter, including the steady and most respectable part of the working class. To render the decisions of the magistrates more formal, I selected a gentleman bred to the law and of moderate temper to act as their chairman, and as adviser to the government in matters of law. Since these appointments, I am happy in saying there have been fewer irregularities; and as the population of the Settlement is now generally diffused over a large surface, and as part have commenced agricultural labour, drunkenness and similar evils will be less frequent than when the people congregated in one or two towns with little to do.

The erection of a decent place of worship, the regular performance of divine service, and the administration of the sacrament on Christmas-day were the last events of the year deserving of notice. To the zeal and energy of the venerable Archdeacon Scott, who is still here on his passage to England, I owe the furtherance of these great objects. As a conclusion to this summary of the progress of the Settlement, I submit for your consideration the following Abstract from the Returns, showing at one view the point it has attained. For the details I beg to refer to the accompanying documents:

**Abstract from the Returns.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ships arrived from the time the letter was written</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Persons resident</td>
<td>850</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Persons in the Settlement, not resident</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount of Commissioner to the Land</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acres allotted</td>
<td>525,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Localities actually effected</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>1,096</td>
<td>106</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The explorations, which have been effected at the instance of government and by private individuals, have put us in possession of knowledge relative to the coast to the extent of seventy miles northward from Rottenest, and ninety miles to the southward of
it. In that extent the only discoveries of note are six rivers of no great magnitude, and one bar harbour capable only of receiving boats. The land seen on the coast to the northward is represented as indifferent, while that to the south is reported to be good. With the country between the sea coast and the hills, ten leagues to the north and south of Perth, we are well acquainted; and three or four parties having severally penetrated the hilly district beyond the first range to the extent of twenty miles, we possess some information relative to its soil and products.

It is not necessary to transmit the several reports, which have been addressed to me on these points, and on the qualities of the soil and water or the value of indigenous productions; these will be best determined when they shall have been tried. The only document of this description, which I consider it necessary at present to lay before you, is the survey of Cockburn Sound by the Chief Surveyor, Mr. Roe; on its accuracy the most perfect reliance may be placed, as it has been effected and lately completed by the most unwearying and skilful application. I beg to suggest, for the convenience of ships coming here, that it should be made public. It will be extended shortly so as to include the adjoining coast, and I shall then forward full instructions for vessels navigating the seas in the neighbourhood.

In the meanwhile I am proceeding to have the passage into Cockburn Sound properly buoyed and beached; and I have arranged with a gentleman resident here to maintain a sufficient establishment of pilots and pilot-boats.

By the document No. 1, you will be enabled to estimate the number and quality of the persons who have come to this Settlement and the descriptions of property they have imported. Among the heads of families, there is a great majority of highly respectable and independent persons. In the working class there is a great variety; some masters have been careful in the selection of their servants and workmen, but the greater part have either engaged the outcasts of parishes, or have brought out men without reference to character; and the consequence is, great inconvenience to such masters and endless trouble to the authorities established here.

Permission to select land according to the land regulations, heretofore transmitted, has been granted to all whose property has been valued. Their names and the extent of their respective claims appear in the document No. 2; a note of such persons as have actually commenced cultivation is therein contained.

In the towns of Perth and Freemantle, regular buildings are succeeding to the early temporary structures. I contemplate the establishment of three other towns, one on the shore of Cockburn
Sound; one about ten miles higher than Perth on the Swan River; and a third on the Murray River, twenty-five miles to the southward. In fact, the mode of granting lands in such large allotments tends to spread a small community over a large surface, and to give existence to towns with few inhabitants.

Among so many settlers, there could not be a great number with minds and bodies suited to encounter the struggles and distresses of a new settlement; many, if not all, have accordingly been more or less disappointed on arrival, either with the state of things here or their own want of power to surmount the difficulties pressing around them. This has been experienced in the beginning by every new colony, and might have been expected to occur here as well as elsewhere. From this depression, however, the active and stout-hearted have now recovered, and ten or twelve of the leading men of the Settlement having occupied their grounds, and having declared themselves fully satisfied with the quality of the soil and the condition of their cattle, I consider the undertaking is now safe from the effects of a general despondency, which at one time threatened to defeat the views of His Majesty's Government in this quarter.

The live stock, which has been brought here, has been in several instances of the very best quality, and it will be seen by document (—) to be very considerable in quantity; with very few exceptions arising chiefly from neglect, all kinds have done well. We are now drawing to the close of the dry season, and yet the bullocks and sheep continue to fatten upon the natural grasses. Horses from England have not prospered so well, but have maintained themselves without any food but the native herbage.

The building of houses and boats, the examination of the country, the selection of land, and the transport of goods from the shore to their allotments have not left settlers much time to attend to any thing else. The season during the three last months, moreover, has been unfavourable to agriculture and gardening from the hard and dry state of the ground; but, the time for breaking it up being now arrived, I hope to see farming operations commence with vigour.

I am happy to say, with reference to grazing, that there is every reason to be satisfied with the result of our experience up to the present time.

Fishing has been much and successfully practised. The rivers and coasts abound in fish, and great supplies of food have been drawn from that source.

Many settlers have employed themselves in the construction of boats for the conveyance of their goods on the rivers. The
number in the Settlement is now very considerable, being not less than forty.

Such are the various points, by the exhibition of which I am desirous to acquaint you with the present condition of the Settlement. In offering them, I have confined myself to a representation of facts; but, as I now propose to consider the prospects of the country, I beg to premise that the following statements contain matters of speculation rather than of certainty:—

The qualities of the territory, to which the best informed persons attend in forming an opinion of its future prospects, are its Climate and Soil, its Position for Trade, and the Products of the Sea in its vicinity.

Our experience of its Climate extends throughout the circle of the year with the exception of the month of February. That it is favourable to health in an uncommon degree is the undoubted persuasion of every one with whom I have spoken. In the district we now inhabit, the workmen during the last two months have not been able to work in the sun between ten and three o'clock, but exertion at other times produces no consequent lassitude; and, with the exception of ten or eleven days, the summer heat has been tempered by southern breezes, and thereby rendered very agreeable. Since the first of November we have had no rain in the lower country; but I think rains have fallen occasionally in the hills during the last fortnight, and I expect a share of them on the coast before the middle of February. This drought of three or four months fortunately occurs at the season proper for harvest; it is, however, too long for the purposes of pasturage, particularly in this district, as the grasses and plants are much injured by the great and glowing heat of the sun. The colony may be extended three degrees to the southward, and I think the future arrangements will probably be that the best districts for pasturage and wheat tillage will be the more southerly; while maize, olives, vines and other similar products will be cultivated in this parallel.

With reference to the Soil of this territory, I cannot offer a sound opinion; we at present are acquainted with a very small portion of it; we still less know how far climate may modify the productive power of soils, and indeed have had as yet no experience of their qualities. The most skilful farmers from England profess themselves at a loss to form a judgment here; as processes in vegetation are going forward before their eyes, even on mere sands, which are wholly irreconcilable to their pre-existing notions and modes of judging. I think I am safe, however, in stating that the sandy soils on the coast produce a shrubby herbage on which horned cattle, horses and sheep have lived now...
throughout the greatest part of the year; that there is between
the hills and the sea a breadth of red loamy soil, on which grain
and grasses may be produced; that the banks of the rivers and
numerous streams offer the richest alluvial loam; and that the
hills themselves, although occasionally very rugged, are capable
of becoming good sheep pasture, as the soil on their sides, where
it exists at all, is invariably excellent, resting on granite and
whinstone. I am more cautious on this subject, because there
have been opinions given by individuals, who have seen only the
sea beach, and have stated broadly that there is no good soil. In
the estimate I have offered, I have therefore confined myself to
points undisputed by those who have examined the country.

Those persons in the Settlement, who direct their attention to
the Produce of the soil, may be divided into two classes, following
either pasturage or tillage. I cannot at present form an estimate
of the number of cattle, horses and sheep, which may be kept on
an average of any given extent of land. The country as it is
will certainly sustain a considerable number, as there is both
food and water at the present season, the driest and worst of the
year.

This fact is important in the highest degree; for the power of
supporting such animals without artificial food will secure not
only a profit to their owners, but a supply hereafter of necessary
food to the Settlement. We have already here several thorough
bred horses; the profit on these in the case of any one individual
will be more precarious than on sheep; of the latter, we have
small flocks from the well-known breeds of Messrs. Henty,
Trimmer and Tower, and to their increase and future profit I
think we may look with confidence, as their proprietors here are
fully satisfied with their progress heretofore. I consider pas­
turage as the source whence the greatest returns will be made,
particularly when the Colony shall extend itself two or three
degrees of latitude to the southward.

The views of those, who look to tillage, are as yet confined to
gardening and farming for their own consumption. I shall
follow the judicious and enlightened opinion of Mr. Archdeacon
Scott in attracting to this mode of production those only, who
have no capital or who cannot be employed in grazing; as the
cheapness with which grain is raised in the colonies around us
will prevent the production of it at a rate lower than it may be
imported at. There are, however, some articles on the produce
of which it is supposed great profits may be made, viz.:

Very superior flax and a species of hemp grow spontaneously,
and may be cultivated perhaps to advantage; timber is abundant,
and may be profitably sent to export; vines, olives, figs, opium
STIRLING TO MURRAY.

and tobacco are looked to as future sources of export; but these, as well as many more such articles, must await the time when the present subsistence and comfort of the settlers shall be provided for, and a stock of the necessaries of life accumulated.

The facilities which are offered here for curing fish for the Mauritius, and for carrying on a whale fishery, have not escaped the attention of some of the settlers; even thus early I have had applications from several parties, but, judging the time not arrived, I have not hastened by particular encouragement such establishments. It is believed that there is abundance of fish to make a fishery profitable, and the coast is visited between the months of May and November by a multitude of whales; it will be my object to foster these fisheries in boats and small vessels drawing their maintenance from these shores.

The position, which this Settlement occupies with reference to the Trade of these seas, has been in some measure shown by the arrival of ships from various parts of the world; some of these from England have landed all their cargo here, but the greater part have called without inconvenience, and have disposed of part of their passengers and cargo here, and have then proceeded on their routes; two vessels have gone from this to the Malay Islands, but only one has come thence. I understand there are four small vessels intended to be employed in that and other lines of trade, diverging from this as a centre; and it will then be determined whether the idea is correct, which supposes this a good position from which to dispose of British manufactures among the easternmost of the Malay Islands.

These are the prospects which engage the minds of those persons here, who have overcome the anxieties of their first establishment in a new land. But, in holding out to your notice these prospects, which are contemplated by those whose minds are in a healthy state, I must not lead you to believe that such a favourable view of things is entertained by all here. The greater part, incapable of succeeding in England, are not likely to prosper here to the extent of their groundless and inconsiderable expectations. Many of the settlers who have come should never have left a safe and tranquil state of life; and, if it be possible to discourage one set of people and to encourage another, I would earnestly request that for a few years the helpless and inefficient may be kept from the Settlement, while, to the active, industrious and intelligent, there may be assured with confidence a fair reward for their labours. This country may, at no distant period, absorb with advantage to Great Britain and herself an immense migration of persons; any great portion of which, if sent forward too soon, will ruin her prospects and their own.
Abstract from General Muster Book, showing the Amount and Description of Population at the end of the Year, with a Supplementary Notice of Persons actually in the Colony, but whose names had not been entered in the General Muster Book at the end of the Year.

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<th>No.</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Place of Birth</th>
<th>Married or Single</th>
<th>To what country subject</th>
<th>Profession or Calling</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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<td>June 8</td>
<td>Captain J. Stirling</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Lanarkshire</td>
<td>married</td>
<td>Great Britain</td>
<td>Lieutenant Governor</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Ellen Stirling</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Surry</td>
<td>his wife</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>Andrew Stirling</td>
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<td>At Sea</td>
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<td>Frederick H. Stirling</td>
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Abstract from General Muster Book—continued.

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Abstract from General Muster Book—continued.
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Perth, 15th January, 1830.

P. Brown,
Secretary to Government.
Supplementary List of Persons actually in the Colony, but whose Names had not been entered in the General Muster Book at the end of the Year.

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<th>Names</th>
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<tr>
<td>John Wade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Peel, esq., and one son</td>
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<tr>
<td>Captain Mears, late of 15th Hussars, wife, four sons and four daughters</td>
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<td>P. G. Mears, esq.</td>
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<td>C. Larkin</td>
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<td>J. Galanie</td>
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<td>W. N. Inglis</td>
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<td>A. Armstrong and six children</td>
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<tr>
<td>A. Adean</td>
<td>Agriculturists.</td>
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<tr>
<td>T. Brown, wife and three children</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Bailey, wife and three children</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. Barwell</td>
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<td>William Beadman</td>
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<td>John Crisp, wife and six children</td>
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<td>B. Crane, wife and three children</td>
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<td>— Cousins, wife and four children</td>
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<td>Benjamin Cook, wife and one child</td>
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<td>Arthur Clap</td>
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<td>Flaherty and six children</td>
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<td>Henry Jones</td>
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<td>William Jones and wife</td>
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<td>— Pettit, wife and seven children</td>
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<td>Smythe, wife and five children</td>
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</table>
SUPPLEMENTARY List of Persons not entered in the General Muster Book at the end of the Year—continued.

Since arrived, the Nancy from London, with 45 settlers, and the Norfolk from Sydney, with 4 ditto, and the Skerne from Liverpool, with 20 ditto. Also, 54 officers and men, 22 women, 19 children, comprising the detachment of the 63rd Regt.; 57 officers and men, 3 women, 2 children, belonging to His Majesty's ship Sulphur. 170 officers and men on board of His Majesty's ship Success.

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<td>John Wolman</td>
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P. Brown,
Perth, 15th Jan., 1830.
Secretary to Government.

List of Persons who have claimed land.

[Enclosure No. 2a.]

List of Persons who have claimed Land, including a Description of their Families, Servants, and Property imported into the Colony.

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P. Brown, Secretary to Government.
**HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA.**

[Enclosure No. 2b.]

1830.

30 Jan.

**Supplementary List of Persons having Property which has not been valued or determined.**

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P. Brown,

Perth, 17th January, 1830. Secretary to Government.
OFFICIAL PAPERS

RELATING TO

THE SETTLEMENT OF NORTH AUSTRALIA.

1826—1829.

Section A.—The settlement at Melville island.
Section B.—The settlement at Raffles bay.
MEMORANDUM of an Agreement entered into by and between John Ovens, Esquire, Acting Engineer for His Majesty's Colony of New South Wales, on behalf of His Majesty's Government of the said Colony of the one part, and Henry Feathers of Sydney in the said Colony, Bricklayer, of the other part.

Whereas, by a Government Public Notice,* dated the Seventh day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and twenty four and published in the Sydney Gazette, it is declared that Free Mechanics, desirous of proceeding to the Settlement about to be formed on the North West Coast of New Holland, will have Passages and Provisions found them by the Government, and be allowed Rations for six months after their arrival, provided for the half of that period they devote their Services to the Crown.

And whereas the said John Ovens, on behalf of His Majesty's said Government, hath, in pursuance of the said Public Notice, engaged that the said Henry Feathers shall have a free Passage from Sydney to the intended new Settlement on the North West Coast of New Holland, and that he shall be found Provisions by His Majesty's said Government during the Voyage, and allowed Rations for six months from and after his arrival at his said place of destination, provided that, for the Period of three months from and after the said Arrival, he shall devote his Services to the Crown. And the said John Ovens, on behalf of His Majesty's said Government, hath engaged that the said Henry Feathers, if he shall duly devote his Services to the Crown for the said period of three months from and after his arrival at the said New Settlement as aforesaid, shall, at the expiration of the said six months, have a free Passage back to Sydney in the first Government vessel that may sail from the said Settlement, and be found Provisions by His Majesty's said Government during the said last mentioned Voyage. Now therefore the Henry Feathers agrees to proceed to the said intended Settlement as aforesaid, and to devote his Services to the Crown for three months after his Arrival there. And the said John Ovens, on behalf of His Majesty's said Government, hereby

* Note 134.
1824.
23 Aug.

Agreement for free labourer at Melville Island.

engages that Rations for the Voyage to and for six months after the arrival of the Expedition at the said New Settlement and a free Passage to Sydney as aforesaid shall be provided for the said Henry Feathers at the charge of the Crown, Subject to the due performance of such Services as aforesaid. As Witness their Hands, this twenty third day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand, eight hundred and twenty four.

J. OVENS.

HENRY FEATHERS.

Witness to the Signing hereof by the said John Ovens and Henry Feathers:— JAMES AUGUSTUS WOOD,

Clerk to the Attorney General.

[Similar agreements were completed with William Potter, nailmaker and blacksmith, and Edward Chapman, sawyer.]

Sept.-Nov.

Meteorological Journal.

EXTRACT from a Meteorological Journal kept at Melville Island, N.W. Coast of New Holland, Lat. 11° 25' S. Long. 130° 27' E.

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HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA.
BARLOW TO OVENS.

CAPTAIN BARLOW TO MAJOR OVENS.

My dear Ovens,

Fort Dundas, Melville Island,

19th May, 1825.

I wrote a few line to you by the Dundas, which sailed from this port about ten days ago for the Isle of France; in that letter, I gave you an account how we were getting on here, and that the Scurvy had made its appearance with the North West Monsoon, by which disease we lost three of the prisoners, all men of colour, Kitts, Baptiste and Thompson; upwards of thirty were on the sick list some time ago, but, since the South East Monsoon has set in (in the latter end of April), they are getting well rapidly; about six are now suffering from the disorder. Dr. Turner is writing to Sydney and no doubt will enter fully into this subject. I believe the only articles necessary to keep the people in good health are fresh meat and vegetables; of the latter we have every prospect of having a plentiful supply in a short time; both the Soldiers and prisoners huts have gardens attached, in which they have a quantity of water melons, and the pumpkins are ripening fast; when Mr. Miller was at Timor, he made a collection (at my request) of whatever he thought might be of service to us; to him we are indebted for the Cocos, Mango, and Tamarind Trees, which are thriving very well; he also brought with him two Yams (all he could procure), which I thought not the least valuable part of the cargo. I cut them up; they have all thrown shoots; I will keep the produce for seed, by which means I entertain hopes of having a large crop next season; the Millet, I brought from Sydney, did very well. I have had one harvest from it, and expect another soon. I planted some cotton in January: it is nearly ripe. I wish I had an opportunity of sending you the Lady Nelson*. has been absent since the 19th of February; she sailed on that day for the neighbouring Islands in order to get a cargo of pigs, Sheep and goats. Johns told me he did think he would be away three weeks. A Schooner, the Stedcombe, arrived from England the latter end of December, belonging to Palmer, Wilson and Co., with a cargo suited for the Malay Market; she was commanded by a Mr. Barnes, who perhaps you may have seen in Sydney about two years since; he was master of the Minstrel. I have given him a piece of ground, on which he has built a house and a store for his goods. As the Brig was too small to supply the Settlement with fresh provisions, I made

* Note 134.
1825.

19 May.

Departure of schooner Stedcombe.

an agreement with Mr. Barnes to give Twenty five dollars for each Buffalo he landed weighing 250 lb.; his Schooner left the Cove four days after Johns's departure in charge of his Chief Mate; neither have returned since; I fear they either have been wrecked or fallen into the hands of Malay Pirates;* had they both returned with the stock I sent for, and if Mr. Barnes would have engaged to send his Schooner a second time on the same terms, I intended to dispatch the Lady Nelson to Sydney before the North West Monsoon had broken up, forwarding to you an account of our doings here and a request that you would represent to His Excellency the little Service that Brig was to the Settlement in procuring Stock, and urging the necessity of a vessel being stationed here of a sufficient tonnage for that purpose. You will see by the returns sent by Mr. Miller the scale of rations, I have directed to be issued, as also the small quantity of fresh meat turned into Store. I still have a Ram and two Ewes, I got from Timor, also a few pigs and three Buffaloes, which I will keep in hopes by their exertions to encrease our stock; the pigs, we brought from Sydney, are doing very well; both the sows have been in the straw; I hope you will send some more the first opportunity; they do better here than any thing else in that way; the Bull and two Cows received by the Admiral Cochrane are in good health. I am sorry I cannot say as much for the sheep; two of them died on the passage and only eleven of those landed are now alive; however they seem well and fortunately the Ram is among the survivors. Having so few prisoners in health during the rainy season, I have been obliged to employ some of the soldiers, whenever I could do so with advantage, giving them the usual Military allowance; fortunately there are three Sawyers and a Nailor among the Marines. I have kept them at constant work for some time past; one of my men, who is a brick maker, I have found particularly useful, as the only one sent with me has been ill for some time; it would be of great advantage to send as many Mechanics as possible in the next detach't, particularly Sawyers and Carpenters. You will see by the list enclosed that we are much in need of many articles from the Lumber yard, more particularly nails of every description, white paint, glass and iron. I have only one boat, the other I was obliged to let Johns take with him; his own was quite useless and past repairing; a whale boat would be of service as the country is intersected by creeks in every direction. I wish you would send instructions how I am to act, should Settlers arrive and make applications for land. I have allowed Mr. Barnes to occupy a piece of ground for his house, stores, garden, etc., with this proviso, that he is

* Note 134.
to give it up, should the person who may succeed me think it an eligible situation for Stores or any other purpose; it is close to the water's edge, which was the reason I reserved to Government a right to claim it at a future time. I also gave him two acres of land, which he wanted for wheat, etc., on the same conditions. I think it would be advisable that a duty should be fixed on Spirits landed here. Mr. Barnes has given me no little annoyance by paying the prisoners with rum for work done for him, although I told him on his arrival I had great objections to their receiving it, and requested he would pay them in Tobacco or slops, both which I knew he had; he assured me he would act as I desired, at the same time declaring he could never forget my kindness in affording him every assistance in my power to give him. I conclude his Memory was so much occupied in the remembrance of the favors, I had conferred on him, that he could not find room to treasure up the promise, he had so often made me; for, notwithstanding the many fine speeches I have been obliged to listen to, I found he had payed the men with spirits and still continues to do so; the only notice, I have taken of his breach of faith, was letting him know how much disappointed I felt at his conduct, and not allowing any prisoner to work for him in his leisure hours, who I found took spirits from him in payment. I suppose any of the prisoners, to whom I may give tickets of leave, will have a claim to a Town allotment; if such is the case, I do not know the quantity usually granted; for which reason, I have not given a permanent grant to the free Men, who came with me; neither have I marked out a Site for the Metropolis that is to be, nor do wish to do so, as in all probability the person who succeeds me will be a civil Commandant, and, should he not approve of the arrangements I might make, it would interfere with any plans he had formed for the good of the Settlement; now since I have told you what extraordinary powers I think it necessary that the Viceroy of this extensive territory should possess, I trust you will be convinced it is not from an inordinate ambition that they should be vested in my person, that I recommend such to be the case; the truth is I am very anxious to be relieved from the arduous duties attending my exalted situation and to retire once more into private life; joking apart, I find, by the accounts received from the Regt., that it is to move in a short time, and I wish to go to Sydney once more, instead of going direct to India; one good effect attending a short sojourn in your part of the world would be that in some measure I would attain a moderate degree of coolness, which I think would be of service to me after the grilling I have undergone here; will you, therefore, have the
kindness to interest yourself for me with the Governor, and request of him to relieve me as soon as possible; whoever may be sent to relieve me will find as good accommodation as could be expected in the time we have been here. I have found half of one of the houses sufficiently large for me; but, as my successor may be a married man, I will immediately commence erecting a Government house, which I have no doubt will be completed before you receive this letter.

24 May.

Since writing the above, I have been on a boating excursion with Captain Cooling; we left the Settlement early on Friday morning with the intention of going round Bathurst Island, returning by Apsley straits; he expected to make the circuit and get back at an early hour next morning; therefore, he only took provisions for Friday, all of which we very wisely demolished at one that day; from that time untill one o'clock yesterday (when we found our way back to the Settlement to our no small satisfaction) we did not taste food; fortunately we had abundance of water; we found two streams of it on Bathurst.

On my return, I learned that one of the Marines named Courtney lost his life during my absence. As the pits are a mile from the Settlement, the Sawyers take firelocks with them by my directions to protect themselves from the Natives, should they pay them a visit. Burton, one of the Marines, returned from his work at the pits at sunset on Saturday evening; on getting to his hut, Courtney, who was his comrade, made one or two passes at him with a stick; Burton brought his firelock to the charge, which was loaded with slugs; it went off and the contents of the piece were lodged in the unfortunate man's Side; he died in an hour afterwards declaring it was an accident. I send you the inquest, which was held on the body by order of Mr. Williamson during my absence. I am sorry to add that one of the prisoners, Rawlinson, who has been ill of Scurvy for some time past, died yesterday evening shortly after my return. I have just heard that the Cocburn will sail to-morrow morning; she is to touch at Timor, and I have given Mr. Miller directions to send proposals to the good people there to supply us with Buffaloes, Sheep, etc. I have spoke to Captain Hall on the subject; he has had the kindness to say he will do any thing in power to induce them to agree on the terms offered; he says he has no doubt they will; the only thing against a speedy supply is that, as the South East Monsoon is set in, they will have to beat the whole way to windward to reach us; however, I must hope for the best; he says, if he cannot succeed there, he will try what can be done in Batavia for us. Dr. Turner has shewn to me his official report. I have told him I think it is more
gloomy than I think there is any necessity for; he states in it there is not a supply of vegetables; it is true there is not enough for every day consumption, but they are coming in very fast; and we have every prospect of having them for the next Six Months, as the rains do not commence until the latter end of December; he also attributes the Scurvy among the prisoners in some measure to being exposed to wet; but they were never required to work in the open air when it rained, which accounts for the little I was able to get done during the last six months; besides I had the Soldiers employed at that period in building a Settlement Store, and in making an addition to the Commissariat to hold the wet provisions, so I do not think that cause could operate to any great degree. The Admiral Cockburn is to sail immediately, so I must close this despatch, which I would give a good deal was in your hand at this moment; but I fear it will be some time before you receive it, as it has to travel by such a circuitous route.

It gave me great pleasure to see you have got your brevet; I hope it is only a prelude to your being appointed to a Regimental Majority.

Remember me to any person, who recollects that I am in the land of the being.

I trust you will not forget the request I made you to procure my recall to Sydney. Dear Ovens, Yours truly,

Maurice Barlow.

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Dr. Turner to Major Ovens.

Sir,

Fort Dundas, Melville Island, 25th May, 1825.

As the quarters contained in the buildings at this settlement are insufficient to allow of my occupying more than one half of a Surgeon’s usual allowance, I beg to solicit the favor of His Excellency to grant me lodging money to enable me to accommodate myself by building an apartment, wherein I shall not be subject to the inconveniences, from which the nature of my duties should protect me.

As Captain Barlow does not feel authorized in making any allotment to build upon, may I further be allowed to request that I may be suffered a grant for this purpose.

According to His Excellency’s directions, I have kept a Meteorological Register, a copy of which I shall have the honor to transmit at the conclusion of the twelve months.

As Lime Juice is most valuable in this Colony, may I beg that we may be supplied with it, whenever an opportunity occurs. Cinchona Bark, Muriatic and Nitric Acid are also much required, as the original supply is exhausted.

MAURICE BARLOW.
Considering the time that must elapse before any answer from Sydney can be obtained in this distant settlement to an application to be relieved, the uncertainty of the arrangement that will be made by His Majesty's Govt. relative to my appointment, and the probability of being soon called upon full pay of the Artillery, induce me to request the favor that the Commandant may be instructed to allow me to quit the settlement provided a competent person can be found to relieve me.

I have, &c.,

CHARLES TURNER, M.D.,
Assist. Surgeon, Royal Artillery, H.P.

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DR. TURNER TO MAJOR OVENS.

Sir,

Fort Dundas, Melville Island, 25th May, 1825.

I have the honor to forward for His Excellency the Governor a return of the sick in this colony. I regret that its extent is much greater than could have been expected under usual circumstances, and I beg to state that the deprivation of nourishment in the supplies of the Colony has operated equally to cause the principal disease, Scurvy, as to retard and in some instances to prevent the cure of it. Exhaustion from labour in a Tropical Climate and exposure to damp during the rainy season have been of much injury under that privation, and acted as exciting causes of the Disease, to which the Military in consequence have been much less subject than the Prisoners.

No supplies of fresh meat, fish, turtle or kangaroo have been procured, and the growth of vegetables has been unproductive. With a few exceptions, this has the state of the detachment since it quitted New South Wales.

The supply of Lime juice was soon exhausted, as also the less efficacious remedies of mineral acids and Cinchona Bark. I have since used a solution of salt petre and vinegar with some good effect. I am happy to observe that sickness is much abated. Of the few men who remain in Hospital, the greater proportion are doing well; three or four inveterate cases of Scurvy I expect no favorable termination to; and, should the Colony not be able to obtain the necessary supplies, I apprehend most serious results from a Relapse of the Disease taking place with those men who have been discharged.

I considered it my duty to represent to the Commandant the state of the sick. The preserved meat was in consequence issued in the proportion of two pounds and a half weekly to each man and a daily allowance of Spirits to the prisoners, substituting farinaceous food for a proportion of the Salt Meat, when the
BARLOW TO OVENS.

preserved Meat had been used. Much benefit was derived from
these changes in the Rations and a good weather boarded Hos-
pital containing sixteen beds, which was finished in March.

Considering that nearly one half of the men in the Colony
were for some time on the sick list, the greater number afflicted
by a putrid disease, the principal cause of which was unin-
fluenced by locality and the privations that they are exposed to,
the absence of any Endemic Disease and the few casualties that
have occurred are proofs of a very healthy and salubrious
climate.

I beg leave to submit for the consideration of His Excellency
the importance of affording to this Colony the benefit of an
Assistant Medical Officer, as the duties are very responsible and
arduous. Should sickness or any other circumstance deprive the
Colony of the services of the Medical Officer, no means are
presented of replacing him but within a very long period. The
probable injury, that the Colony would sustain under such cir-
cumstances, cannot be easily estimated.

I trust that His Excellency will approve the execution of the
charge with which he Entrusted me. I have, &c,

CHARLES TURNER, M.D.,
Assist. Surgeon, Royal Artillery, H.P.

[Enclosures.]

[These were three returns of convicts, military and royal marines
respectively under treatment from the 1st of November, 1824, to the
30th of April, 1825. There were twenty four convicts, four soldiers
and four marines treated for scorbutus, and four convicts died from
the disease; one convict treated for tumor; five convicts and one
mariner for contusion; one convict for furunculi; one convict, two
soldiers and three marines for rheumatism; one convict for concussion
of the brain; two convicts, one soldier and one marine for synochus;
one convict for hernia; one convict, two soldiers and one marine for
minor wounds; two convicts, four soldiers and five marines for dysen-
tery; three convicts for vertigo; one convict, one soldier and two
marines for abscess; one convict each for vertigo and the bite of a
centipede; one convict and one soldier for colica; seven soldiers and
six marines for hemeralopia; six marines for ulcers; one marine each
for ophthalmia, fever, fracture of tibia and fibula, and asthma; and
two marines for ischemia. One soldier died from dysentery and one
mariner from tetanus after fracture of the leg.]

CAPTAIN BARLOW TO MAJOR OVENS.

Fort Dundas, Melville Island,

My dear Ovens,

The Lalla Rookh arrived here on Thursday. I am sorry
to say that the sheep, you sent, have been of no service to us.
Five of them died the same evening and the remainder the
next morning; they were in wretched condition; you may suppose they were not much in flesh, when you hear that on an average the carcases only weighed Twenty pounds. The Bull and Two Cows, you sent by the Cocburne, are in good health, and our pigs are increasing; so much for the Four footed population. I am very well pleased to be able to let you know that the Scurvy has almost disappeared; at present the Prisoners' ward in the Hospital is unoccupied, and there is only one patient in the Soldiers, one of the Marines. I attribute the great improvement in the health of the people to the small quantity of salt meat they consume. I expect a large supply of cattle from Timor or Batavia at the commencement of the North West Monsoon, as Captain Hall promised me he would let it be generally known at both these places the price, I would give for Buffaloes or pigs, which he said he did not doubt would induce some of the good people to pay us an early visit. The prisoners have behaved themselves so well that I will give them Tickets of leave* (with very few exceptions) the latter end of next month. I think they will accept of the terms, which were given to the free Men, by which means I shall have the benefit of their labour for the rest of this year; and, before it expires, I am in great hopes of hearing from you as to their future destination; you must be aware they will all be anxious to return to Sydney, unless they can get high wages here, which at present I see no possibility of their obtaining without some Settlers arrive soon. I wish you would send the first opportunity a few working Bullocks, as the time of the is taken up for half the week in dragging the timber into the Settlement from the sawpits, which are at the distance of Two Miles. I trust you have received ere this some of the many letters, I sent to you. I wrote by the Cocburne, Dundas and Slaney; by one of these vessels, I sent a list of the articles we wanted most, more particularly a Scine and a boat, both of which would be of much service, as also Iron. The Natives do not annoy us; they keep away from the Settlement altogether. Two of my Men lost their way in the bush some time ago, and were absent for Five days, during which time I sent out party to look for them, who gave an account of the country they had passed over; it seems the part they examined is very well watered, as they crossed several small Streams, but only Two small Kangaroos were seen in all their excursions. We have had no visits from the Malays. I think it would have been otherwise but for the loss of the Lady Nelson and Stedcombe; at least I conclude they are wrecked, as I have had no accounts of them since they sailed last February; a vessel like the Amity would be of great use to this Settlement;

* Note 135.
had we such a one, we would not require much beef or pork from you. Capt. Stewart has landed all the Stores and intends leaving us this evening or to-morrow morning. I give this letter in charge to Aspinal, who has promised to forward it from Batavia. I fear it will be some time before it will reach you; however, as I have no great prospect of a more direct channel of communication, I do not choose to neglect this one; yet it is likely you will have left Sydney before it gets there; should it be otherwise, remember me to any of the Buffs, who may be there; the greater part of the Regt. will be on the passage to Bombay, I suppose, in a short time. I dine on board, so must conclude in wishing you a pleasant voyage home. I envy you such a trip.

Yours most sincerely,

MAURICE BARLOW.

COLONEL DUMARESQ TO CAPTAIN BARLOW.

Sir, Engineer's Office, 28th November, 1825.

In consequence of the illness of Major Ovens, I have the honor to acquaint you that your several communications, dated in May last, have been duly received.

By the present opportunity, a Reinforcement is forwarded to you, consisting of 1 Serjt., 1 Corporal and 10 Rank and File of the 57th Regt., as likewise a Supply of Workmen, whose names and Trades are stated in the accompanying List. A Memorandum of the period, up to which they have received Clothing, is also transmitted.

Regular Indents descriptive of the Prisoners will be furnished you from the Colonial Secretary's office.

Returns of the Stock, Stores and Provisions, sent on board the Phillip Dundas, are herewith enclosed; and it is calculated that there will be a considerable Overplus of Hay and Corn, as it will be very important that the Animals should be partly fed on dry food for some time after their arrival.

Richardson, the Prisoner who proceeds in charge of the Plants and Seeds from the Botanical Garden, is to receive a Salary of £25 per Annum from the 16th instant, and £10 have been paid him in advance to enable him to procure the necessary Comforts for himself and family during the Voyage.

I have communicated to His Excellency Sir Thos. Brisbane your queries respecting concessions of Land to persons, desirous of settling on Melville Island, and likewise the point on which you require Instructions as regards the Town Allotments to Prisoners, who may obtain Tickets of Leave. His Excellency
directs that you will exercise your own discretion in the above Matters, and that you will make such Grants (subject to the Approval of this Government) as you may think proper.

Adverting to that part of your letter, in which you mention the circumstance of Mr. Barnes having landed Spirits, and allude to that Gentleman’s improper conduct and disobedience of your Orders in paying the Prisoners whom he employed with Rum, I am directed to acquaint you that, in the event of any want of attention to Local Regulations on the part of Persons, residing on the Island under the protection of your Authority, you will be justified in adopting the strongest coercive Measures to enforce a due regard to the Rules you may think it necessary to establish.

Respecting the duty which you recommend should be levied on Spirits, I have now the honor to transmit a Copy of a Proclamation fixing the duties to be levied on all Spirits made or imported in this Colony; and this will serve for your guidance until further instructions are forwarded.

In reference to the work which you state to have been performed by the soldiers of your Detachment, I am directed to inform you that, whenever you may employ them as Artificers or Labourers, the usual working Money will be allowed them.

In concluding this letter, I have to request that requisitions may be immediately forwarded for such Articles as you may still require, as likewise that you will report in the fullest manner on all points connected with the interest and Welfare of the Settlement under your Command.

It will be satisfactory to receive Specimens of the wood and the Material productions of the Island, together with any objects of curiosity you may think it worth while to send.

I have, &c.,
H. DUMARESQ, Actg. Ch. Engineer.

N.B.—A Copy of the invoice of Medicines is herewith enclosed, as likewise a list of Garden Seeds which are forwarded by this opportunity.—H.D.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

[This return of military is not available.]

[Enclosure No. 2.]

[This return detailed the names and sentences of sixteen convicts of the following trades:—four carpenters, three sawyers, one plasterer, two blacksmiths, one stonemason, one nailor, one quarryman, one brickmaker, one cooper and one shoemaker.]

[Enclosures Nos. 3 and 4.]

[The indents of the convicts and returns of stock, stores and provisions are not available.]
BARLOW TO MACLEAY.

[Enclosure No. 5.]

[This proclamation was dated 14th January, 1825; see page 492, volume XI, series I.]

[Enclosure No. 6.]

[This invoice of medicines has been omitted.]

[Enclosure No. 7.]

List of Seeds and Plants supplied from the Botanic Garden, Sydney, List of seeds for the Settlement at Melville Island, 28 Novr., 1825, to go per the and plants.

Phillip Dundas, etc.

Cabbage of sorts; Carrott; Parsnip; Melons of Sorts; Cucumbers of Sorts; Pumkins; Squash; Radishes; Cress of Sorts; Celery; Parsley and Mustard.

Plants of Pyne Apples; Bananas; Coffee; Sugar; Cochineal Cactus; Lemons; Oranges; Loquats; Prickly Pear; Thyme; Sago; Marjorum; Peppermint; Spearmint; Tansy; American Cress; Water Cress; Sarel, Broad French; Hyssop and Cactus for pickling; Capeea and Guinea Grass.

C. Fraser, Colonial Botanist.

CAPTAIN BARLOW TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir,

Melville Island, 28th February, 1826. 28 Feb.

I had the Honor of receiving your letter, dated in November by the "Philip Dundas," which arrived on the 22d Inst. Taking into consideration the length of time the Stock was on board, a greater number have been landed than I could have expected; unfortunately Two of the working bullocks died on the passage, which is a serious loss. Twelve Sheep died the night they were brought on shore, and Three more since; the rest appear well; they were placed in the Stock yard on landing and got nothing to eat but the Hay and Corn brought by the "Dundas." I feel great pleasure in being enabled to state that the people of the Settlement are in good health; on the arrival of the "Dundas," Dr. Turner had only Two men under his care; they had been slightly wounded by the Natives; he discharged them on Saturday; they have returned to their work. I enclose a list of the deaths which have taken place since the formation of the Settlement; it is copied from Dr. Turner's Sick reports. I beg to call your attention to the situation of the Prisoners* who arrived here in the year 1824; they were given to understand on leaving Sydney that a passage would be provided for any of them who wished to return at the expiration of a year; I was also authorized by His Excellency Sir T. Brisbane to grant Tickets of leave to those, who from their good conduct during that time merited such an indulgence. I gave Tickets to Twenty Seven, and according to my instructions offered them Six Months'

* Note 135.
Employment of ticket-of-leave men.

Rations for Three Months' work, which they accepted; that agreement was completed last month; I now give Two Shillings a day to those willing to work for that sum; many of them are anxious to return, as they could obtain higher wages at Sydney than they have any prospect of getting here.

The object for which this Settlement was established, "to carry on a trade with the Malays," has not hitherto answered the purpose intended; I attribute this in some measure to the loss of the Colonial Brig "Lady Nelson" and the Schooner "Stedcombe"; since their departure we have had no means of communicating with them, and in all probability they are ignorant that a British Settlement is fixed on this part of the Coast. They did not come here in the last North West Monsoon for the purpose of fishing, neither have they appeared during the present wet season. Since our arrival, I have not seen any "Tre pang" which is the object of their visits to these Shores. I think "Port Essington" is the place where they find that article in the greatest abundance; while the vessels lay there, some of it was brought up in the Seine, and the remains of Malay Huts were within a few hundred yards of the shore, where they had sunk wells, which were dry at that time.

Climate. The wet season is nearly over, which is the most unhealthy time of the year; yet there is not one person in the sick list, which is the best proof I can offer of the goodness of the Climate.

Water supply. As far as I have seen of this Island and Bathurst, they are well supplied with streams of fresh water. The country is intersected by numerous salt water creeks, which run a considerable distance into the interior; they would be of great importance to Settlers, as they are navigable by the largest boat through their whole course.

The Soil, I believe, is as good as is generally to be found in most Tropical climates. The timber (of which I send specimens, as also of the Nutmegs, etc., etc.) is much of the same description as that in New South Wales. The Natives are not numerous; I suppose they live principally on fish, as the Kangaroos are scarce and very small; they have given a good deal of annoyance to the men working in the bush by stealing their axes, which is the only article they seem to care for; they have wounded some of the Men but all of them slightly, with the exception of Corporal Gwillam of the Royal Marines, whose death I reported in the letters sent by the Lalla Rookh; they are very timid, and I am unwilling to retaliate on them, as I entertain hopes of establishing a friendly intercourse by treating them with kindness.
I think it would be of service to send some more working bullocks the first opportunity; we have only two, and, should any accident deprive us of either of them, the other would be of little service; the very liberal supply sent by the "Dundas," for the Commissariat and Settlement Stores renders any requisition at present unnecessary.

Maurice Barlow, Commandant.

Thomas Williams came to this Settlement with the first party of prisoners; in the list furnished to me from the Secretary's office, he was returned as a prisoner for life; on the 29th October, 1824, he told me the time for which he had received sentence had expired. I forwarded his statement to Sydney, and, on the 15th May, 1825, received a second list, in which Williams was returned as having been transported for seven years only; in consequence of the mistake in the first list he was detained here, and employed as a prisoner of the Crown nearly seven months after his sentence of transportation had expired.

His conduct has been very good during the time he has been on the Island.

Maurice Barlow, Commandant.

[The despatches and letters, dated 18th March to 30th August, 1826, both inclusive, will be found on pages 796-8, volume V, series III.]

Lieutenant Williamson to ———.

Port Cockburn, Melville Island,

Sir, 24th September, 1826. 24 Sept.

I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of instructions from Captain Bremer, directing me to take upon me the office and act as Engineer of this Settlement.

I have the honor also to acquaint you that I have this day tendered my resignation of the office to Major Campbell, Commandant, who has been pleased to accept of it.

I beg leave to state to you that I have not yet been made acquainted with the pleasure of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, or have received any directions from His Excellency the Governor of New South Wales.

I have, &c.,

C. C. Williamson, Lieutenant, Royal Marines.

[Enclosure.]

[This paper was similar to the enclosure printed on page 767, volume V, series III.]

Ser. III. Vol. VI—2 T
HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA.

ARTICLES FOR CREW OF CUTTER MERMAID.

30th September, 1826.

[These articles signed by J. Campbell and the members of the crew have been omitted.]

MAJOR CAMPBELL TO LIEUTENANT DE LA CONDAMINE.

(Despatch No. 1.)

Fort Dundas, Melville Island,

Sir, 6th October, 1826.

I have the honour to forward the enclosed letter, addressed to me by Lieut. Williamson of the Royal Marines, who, by appointment of Captain Bremer of the Royal Navy, has filled the situation of Engineer at this Settlement since its first formation.

I request you to submit the same to His Excellency the Lieut. General, and beg to acquaint him that I have thought it necessary to appoint Lieut. Bate to do the duties of the Engineer department until the pleasure of His Excellency is made known.

To enable me to fill up my Return of the Civil Establishment of this Settlement, and in which the different Salaries are stated, I beg to be informed what Allowance His Excellency may be pleased to grant to the Official, who does the duty of Engineer.

I have, &c.,

J. CAMPBELL, Major and Capt., 57th.

[Enclosure.]

LIEUTENANT WILLIAMSON TO MAJOR CAMPBELL.

Port Cockburn, Melville Island,

Sir, 24th September, 1826.

I beg leave to tender to you my resignation of the Office of Engineer of this Settlement, to which Captain Bremer, C.B., His Majesty’s Ship Tamar, did me the honor to appoint me.

I have, &c.,

C. C. WILLIAMSON, 2nd Lieut’t, Royal Marines.

MAJOR CAMPBELL* TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

(Despatch No. 1.)

Sir, Fort Dundas, Melville Island, 10th Oct., 1826.

I have the honor to report to you for the information of His Excellency the Governor that, in compliance with the Direction contained in your letter No. 1 dated 14th August, 1826, I Embarked on board the Isabella Colonial Schooner for the purpose of proceeding to assume the Command at Melville Island.

I have now to acquaint you that the Vessel arrived here on the 19th September having met with no accident and the Military and Crew in perfect Health.

* Note 136.
Having had a too limited supply of Water on Board, was 1826.
delayed one Day at Murray Island in Torres Straits for the pur-
pose of obtaining a supply, but could procure none, although we
saw many Wells; but, it being the Dry Season, there was not
above three Gallons in any of them; we searched for Water at
half Way Island and Wednesday Island (two anchoring places
in the Straits), but were there also disappointed. It will there­
fore be advisable for Vessels proceeding here not to depend on
finding Water in the Straits. On our Arrival off Luxmore Head
in Apsay Straits, we had only Seven or Eight Gallons of Water
on board.

I landed at Fort Dundas on the 20th Sept., and, agreeably
Command assumed by
His Excellencie's instructions, immediately assumed the
J. Campbell.
Command.

The Detachment was landed on the 21st, and were accom-
modated in a new Barrack which is nearly Completed.

This Settlement appears to me to be in a much more forward
State than I expected to have found it; and, from the appear­
ance of both the Military and the Prisoners and the statement
of the Medical Gentleman Mr. Turner, I must conclude it is by
no Means an unhealthy situation. The Casualties which occurred
by Deaths for the last Two Years (and which Capt. Barlow will
be able to furnish a return of) will enable His Excellency I
think to form a tolerably favorable opinion of the Salubrity of
the Climate, at least when compared with other situations under
the same parellel. I was happy to learn on my arrival that the
Ship, the Philip Dundass, "about which so much anxiety was
sustained," had arrived safe in the Month of Feby. and had
afforded the Settlement a most reasonable assistance in the way
of Supplies. She sailed for Timor on the 4th March and was to
have proceeded Via Batavia and the Mauriatus to Sydney; but,
by a report from Timor, and brought to us by the Master of the
Mermaid on the 20th Ultimo, The Philip Dundass had been
trafficking at the Portuguese Settlement of Delhi on the Island
of Timor about two Months ago. With respect to the Lady
Nelson which sailed from this in the Month of Feby. for the
purpose of procuring Supplies from some of the Islands, nothing
has been heard. The Schooner Stedcomb, Wm. Barns Master,
which sailed from this on the 23rd Feby., 1826 and was to return
with a Cargo of Buffalo, it is probable has been lost, or taken by
Pirates; the conclusion of her having been taken is drawn from
the following statement, which was circulated at Timor and
communicated to me by Mr. Doucett, the Master of the Mermaid,

* Note 134.
1826.
10 Oct.

**Report re schooner Stedcombe.**

**Voyage of cutter Mermaid.**

G. Miller sent to Coepang re supplies of live stock and provisions.

**Conclusion of engagement of crew of cutter Mermaid.**

on his arrival from Coepang with a Cargo of Buffalo on the 20th Ultimo.

The statement is as follows:—Monsieur Bechade, a French Merchant residing at Coepang, told him that a small vessel from Melville Island had been taken by the Malays near the Island of Tinomber, or Tinaniver, about six Months Back; that the Crew excepting one Small Boy had been massacred; that this Boy had been afterwards ransomed by the Dutch Government for Two Muskets and was carried to Batavia. This information came to Coepang by a Dutch Ship of War which touched there; and Mr. Bechade had learnt the same account at Java. The schooner had a boy on Board when she sailed from this, and the Lady Nelson had none.

The Mermaid arrived safe from Sydney on the 5th August, and has made one successful trip to Coepang; she was Absent 21 Days and returned with a Cargo of 19 Buffalo on the 20th Septr.

The Gardiner had been sent to Timor along with her by Order of Captn. Barlow, and brought back several plants and seeds from the Dutch Resident (Mr. Hanzard's) Garden at Timor.

Mr. Doucett represented to me that the Authorities there rendered him every assistance in procuring whatever Articles he required; and it is my intention, as long as we experience this Freindly disposition, and until our Live Stock becomes abundant, to continue a Constant intercourse with Coepang, and to Confine myself to sending there for supplies in preference to attempting any other Port or Island.

With a view to facilitating our purchases of Stock and proceeding on as Economical principles as Circumstances will permit, as also of Forming a General Estimate of the average Prices, Duties and Fees at Coepang, And ascertaining the extent of Supplies we can depend upon receiving from thence, I have thought it expedient to send Mr. Miller, the Commissary Clerk, along with the Mermaid to that Settlement, with instructions to make arrangements by which we may be regularly and expeditiously supplied, as well as to gain information on several points that may be useful and tend to the Welfare of the Settlement.

I beg leave to represent to His Excellency that, on account of the Crew of the Mermaid having been Articled and Engaged to serve up to the 30th Septr. last, many of them, finding their period had expired, applied to me for permission, Some to return to Sydney, others to be landed at the first Port at which the Mermaid should touch.
The whole of the Crew at the same time demanded their Wages to be paid here; and, in reference to a Letter addressed to Capt'n. Barlow by Mr. Nicholson the Master attendant, Dated Sydney, the 23rd May, 1826, which signifies that they were to receive their Wages every three Months, I agreed to pay them, provided I could complete an effective Crew to replace those whose engagement had expired.

I drew out fresh Articles, enrolling as many of them as were willing to continue in the Cutter, and only granting leave for so many to go to Sydney by the Isabella as could find Volunteers to exchange with them. The Crew of the Isabella had been settled with by Mr. Nicholson, the attendant at the Dock Yard, up to the 24th Septr. inclusive and were engaged for the Voyage Only. Two of that Vessel's Company Volunteered to enter on Board the Mermaid, and I have engaged two of those, which were discharged from the Mermaid, to serve in the Isabella on the same Terms with the rest of their Crew.

There is another Boy, a black native of New South Wales, who expressed a wish to return to Sydney; as he was reported to me as being of very little use as a Sailor, I have permitted him to work his passage back, receiving provisions only.

The 1st Mate of the Mermaid Robt. Hallam has also refused re-engaging, and I have permitted him to work his passage to Coepang, receiving Rations only during the passage.

A Sailor lately taken on board at Coepang by the Mermaid replaces him as an able Seaman; but the resignation of Robt. Hallam leaves the Cutter without a 1st Mate, and, as the 2nd Mate is very illiterate and of little use as a Navigator, I hope His Excellency will be pleased to order a capable person to be sent round by the first opportunity to fill that situation, as, in case of the Illness of Mr. Doucett, there is no one on board capable of navigating her.

To prevent a recurrence of a similar nature as re-engaging a fresh Crew at the expiration of so short a period as three Months before I can receive His Excellency's Commands, I have thought proper to engage the present Crew to serve for Six Months, but to be paid their Wages at the expiration of every three months, as was stipulated by Mr. Nicholson.

I have transmitted the Articles* of agreement along with the rest of my returns; they are marked No. 1.

Before dropping the subject of the Mermaid, I beg permission to state for the information of His Excellency that, in Consequence of her construction and small burthen, she cannot receive on board above Eighteen Head of Buffalo at a time; those Buffaloes average from 170 to 200 lbs. weight each when cut up

* Note 137.
for Issue, and consequently one Cargo will only insure us fresh provisions for four weeks; and, as we can only calculate on her making one trip in a month, or seven trips if fortunate in six months, she must constantly be kept plying between this and Coepang; also, from the smallness of her main hatch, it is almost impossible to keep a free circulation of air amongst the Animals in the Hold; and, if she experiences long calms, the loss by Deaths must be great, besides if she has long passages a sufficiency of Hay cannot be carried on board of her.

If His Excellency should be pleased to send a larger Vessel here, she might, after supplying the Settlement with a sufficiency of live Stock, be probably advantageously employed in Surveying the Southern Entrance of Apslay Straits, The whole circumference of Bathurst Island, and, by passing through Clarence Straits, be enabled in Crossing Van Dieman's Gulf to circumnavigate Melville Island, and ascertain a complete knowledge of the Coast, Bays and Rivers of this Island.

From the Rapidity of the current and the numerous shoals and Reefs around these two Islands, a vessel must proceed with great caution; and, from the variable wind and frequent calms in this Latitude, the probable time of a Vessel's absence from the Port at any time can be scarcely calculated, probably three or four weeks possibly less.

She might survey part of it and then return and take another trip as opportunity Offered.

If it met His Excellency's approbation and I found that I could quit the settlement for a short period without inconvenience to the service, I should accompany the Vessel myself.

I understand from Timor that the Macassar Prowes resort to the North West Coast of New Holland annually about the Months of October and November; they keep innumerous Fleets and rendezvous about Port Essington, The Caboargh Peninsula and Van Dieman's Gulf, where the Beche-la-mer or Tripang and Turtle I am told are very plentiful.

If we were well supplied with a roomy vessel of easy draught of water, well Armed and secured from boarding by Nets, and provided with some articles of Traffic, such as old muskets, Powder, some Red and Blue Turban, Cotten Handkerchiefs, and White Cloth, we might probably induce some of them to pay us a visit, if we could fall in with them in their fishing excursions.

But, under the present circumstances of our supplies and size of Vessel, I don't think it would be prudent to send the Mermaid this season into Vandieman's Gulf in order to ascertain whether the Malays realy resort there or not; however if I find opportunities, I shall do so.
Mr. Bechade, the Merchant before mentioned, has expressed a desire to supply this Settlement with Buffalo, Sheep, Goats, Pigs, India Corn, and whatever Articles of comfort we may require. His Tender is as follows:—

- Buffalo when landed at Melville Island: 25 Dollars pr. Head.
- Sheep: 3 Do. Do.
- Goats: 3 Do. Do.
- Pigs (per Ratty): 8 Pence.
- Indian Corn per pekul (about Two Bushels): 2½ Dollars.
- Pady or Rice: 4 Do.

The prices at Coepang at present are as follows:—

- Buffalo Per Head: 5 Dollars.
- Sheep: 1½ Do.
- Indian Corn (per pekul): 1½ Do.

In reply to Mr. Bechade's letter, I have directed Mr. Miller, who sailed on the 5th of this Month in the Mermaid for Coepang, to inform Mr. Bechade that, if he is inclined to come over here with a Cargo, I shall take the following Articles from him, at stated prices:—

- Buffalo pr. Head: 20 Dollars not exceeding 30 in Number.
- Sheep: 2½ Do. not exceeding 20 or 25 in Number.

My object in making this offer is in the first place to endeavour and attract the attention of Traders to this Infant and scarcely known Establishment, to secure the Means of obtaining supplies in the event of any accident occurring to the Mermaid, and, by laying in Nine or Ten Weeks' supply of fresh provisions, being enabled to employ the Mermaid for three or four weeks in such a Manner as may appear most desirable either for gaining information respecting the Tripang Fisheries or ascertaining the local advantages of different parts of the Island.

In making a report to His Excellency of the situation and advantages of the settlement, I shall briefly and systematically, as the limited Observations I have yet been able to Make, arrange them in such manner as to bear a reference to the returns which it is His Excellency's desires should be transmitted. As Captain Barlow will be better able from his long residence here to give His Excellency information on every subject connected with the Settlement, I shall confine myself to a more limited detail than under other circumstances would be justifiable.

As to the approach to Apslay Straits, and the local advantage of this settlement in comparison with Port Essington, Captain Barlow will give every information.
The limited means which Captain Barlow had in respect to Workmen has retarded the clearing of ground and bringing much of it under cultivation; but I am in hopes the produce of vegetables next season will be ample for the supply of the Settlement.

The soil appears to be good at a little distance from the water side, but close to the water it is very stony. In those places, from which the stones have been cleared (as in the Gardens), the mould is excellent and productive.

The Production of the Garden, and account of all the trees, plants and vegetables that are growing or on trial, I have marked E.E. in the return of land cleared marked E, No. 1.

In the same return will also be seen, in the column of remarks, in what manner the cleared ground is to be appropriated.

Samples of the Timber as yet discovered I have had collected and send specimens as follows:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lignum Vite, plentiful.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>A Black Wood, plentiful.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Teak Wood, scarce.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>White Swamp Wood, plentiful and easily worked, but does not hold nails well and soon decays from insects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Blood Wood, plentiful but extremely hard to work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>A yellow swamp wood, plentiful but not used for household purposes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>A Wood called Cotton Wood, from some fruit with a kind of Cotton in it growing upon it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>A Turpentine Wood, plentiful but has never been made use of.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are many Palms, such as Cabbage Palms, Grass Palms and Sago Palms; there is also a wild nutmeg which produces fruit twice a year, "Viz." In October and about April, and we are going to plant some this season which were brought over from Timor. I also intend trying a little Rice in some of the swampy ground; it grows at Timor I understand, and I hope will succeed here.
The population return Marked C, No. 1, I have accompanied with a list D.D. of the prisoners of the Crown, shewing the number of Men who have received Tickets of Leave* by orders of Sir Thomas Brisbane. These Men have all been employed in Government work under such wages and allowances, as were granted to free Men and Ticket of Leave Men who volunteered to come out with the original expedition. There engagement with Captain Barlow expired on the 30th Ultimo, and I have with very little alteration agreed to pay them to the same extent, but in a different manner. According to the original plan, they received Six months' rations for three months' work; Captain Barlow then paid them Two Shillings a day for the remaining three months that they did not receive rations, or else gave them rations and charged them one shilling a day for it.

I have drawn out a system of regulations for the prisoners and Ticket of leave Men, and now allow the Ticket of Leave Men a daily ration and one Shilling a day on working days; they receive Rations every day, as there is no other way of their getting subsistence, and I charge them one Shilling a day for rations, on the days they dont work. Having found no written regulations of any kind on my arrival here, I thought it advisable to draw out a few, but have only yet regulated those for the prisoners' work, and which I forward Marked M, No. 1.

With respect to Live Stock as per return D, No. 1, they are rather limited in Number, and the supply sent by the Isabella has not greatly increased them; although we took the greatest care of them during the voyage, we lost one Cow, Four Sheep and Four Pigs. Three cows calved on the passage, only one calf is now alive, and one cow has died since landing. The Sheep died from the heat of the weather, and the only one Ram sent with us died after landing. I therefore conceive it useless sending any more from Sydney. Two of the pigs died from Disease contracted before they embarked, and two from accident. They were very improperly and insecurely placed on the forecastle, and in bad weather were constantly washed out. Pigs thrive here in the wet season and the cattle, that survive a month after being landed, likewise do well. I must observe that both sheep and Cows fell off to mere skeletons on board the Isabella, in consequence of the very bad Hay that sent on board.

We are very much in want of Working Bullocks for the purpose of conveying stones for building, and timber to the saw pit. The oppressive heat of the weather and scarcity of hands occasions the Buildings and Carpenters' Work to get on very slow indeed. There are Saw Pits formed in the Woods, but it is dangerous

* Note 135.
1826.
10 Oct.

Muskets for use of workmen against natives.

Report on buildings.
Buildings proposed.

Report re W. Barns.

for the Workmen, as the Natives sometimes approach by surprise and have speared one or Two; the consequence is that the sawyers are supplied with Muskets to defend themselves; and the plan of trusting them with Fire Arms, I wish to do away with as much as possible in order to prevent any serious accident, which might occur from a man of hasty temper having Fire Arms in his hand; they are however only given out in cases of necessity, when a party goes into the wood or on the outskirts of the cleared ground; fortunately the Natives are very much afraid of Fire Arms, and they will not approach a party that has one amongst them.

The return of public buildings marked F, No. 1, with enclosed lists of materials employed, numbered from 1 to 7, will shew the exact state of the settlement with respect to accommodation; but, owing to there not being a good carpenter here, the buildings lately erected are not done in so substantial and workmanship a manner as should be; the consequence is that frequent repairs will be necessary. A couple of good house carpenters and joiners are much required, as also a Boat Builder; the one that is here at present has a very imperfect knowledge of constructing boats.

The buildings proposed by Captain Barlow were, a Settlement Store and Blacksmith's Forge, to be commenced when the Barrack was completely finished, as also a Verandah to the Quarters in the Fort. These I agree with him as being absolutely necessary; and, feeling confident this place will be retained in preference to Port Essington, I shall as soon as the Barrack is finished proceed in carrying on those two works. As This Barrack is about a quarter of a mile from the Fort, and as a quarter is required for the Store Keeper, Capt'n. Barlow had proposed building a Quarters for the Officers near the New Barrack, and accommodating the Store Keeper with one of quarters in the Fort. As the houses in the Fort are extremely small and uncomfortable, being only temporary and hasty erections, and it being for the health of those, who are sent here, to have an airy dwelling, I think a Quarter near the Barrack would be necessary for the accommodation of the Officers, and I shall send a plan by the first opportunity, both of the proposed Quarter, Settlement Store, Forge and any other building or works that may appear requisite.

The only private buildings as yet erected here (as in Return L, No. 1) belong to a Mr. Barns. This gentleman has been absent for several months, and I understand has been very troublesome to Capt'n. Barlow; he has enclosed an very extensive piece of ground round his house without any permission whatever, and
has occupied the very best place upon which a Wharf and Store Houses could be built in the Neighbourhood of the Cove; but, as he has unceremoniously taken possession, I shall dispossess him as soon as the ground is required for Government or other use.

Our provisions in the Commissary Store are stated in Return B, No. 1. I ordered a board of Survey upon them, which survey is included in this return. It will there be seen that we have only Flour for Ninety days. I have inserted in that return the number of Rations drawn daily, and inclosed in the same a scale of the Military and Civil rations, which I thought it advisable to issue, and which I have drawn up in concert with Mr. Miller the Commissary Clerk. From the present want of Vegetables, and a tendency in some cases to scurvy, I have reduced the quantity of salt meat to half a pound, and substituted raisins, suet and pickels instead.

I have forwarded three requisitions under the heads of Settlement Stores, Ordnance Stores, and Garden Plants and Seeds, and a fourth requisition for Ship Stores from the Master of the Mermaid.

I have made out and forwarded lists of all the Settlement or Engineer Stores which I received over from Captn. Barlow; they occupy four Lists Marked H, No. 1, and will be found to account for the stores in reserve as well as those in use.

The arrival and departure of Vessels, since 26th Sept., 1824, is contained in list G, No. 1.

The return of the Civil Establishment I have marked I, No. 1. In it I have entered Lieut. Williamson of the Royal Marines as Acting Civil Engineer; he was appointed by Captn. Bremer, Royal Navy, but, as his salary is not known, I have left a blank where the salary should be inserted. The Salary of the overseer of the prisoners (Walter Wilson) is likewise left blank; Captain Barlow tells me that Major Ovens in a letter, dated Sydney, 5th April, 1825, sanctioned him by the direction of Sir Thos. Brisbane to pay the usual allowance of an Overseer to the person appointed to that situation, but did not mention what the usual allowance was. The Overseer has received money on account of this allowance; but I cannot make up his accounts until such time as I receive His Excellency's Commands on the subject. I also request to know His Excellency's pleasure respecting the salary of Lieut. Williamson; that Officer has tendered his resignation of the situation of Engineer, and I have forwarded the same to Head Quarters.

I directed a Survey to be held on the public Money to ascertain the amount and different species of coin in the public chest.
as Mr. Miller the Commissary Clerk has informed me that at Coepang all Dollars did not pass at the same value, there being a considerable difference between the Dollars with pillars and those without, the pillar dollars being most valuable.

The proceedings of this Board I have forwarded for the information of His Excellency.

In Order to form an Idea of the average expenditure in this Settlement, I have made an Estimate for one quarter, showing the receipts and disbursements, which I also have the honor of forwarding. The survey is marked A, No. 1 and it encloses the Estimate C.C.

Accompanying my returns is one marked J, No. 1, containing the names of four Free Men and one Ticket of Leave Man, who requested permission to return to Sydney by the Isabella; As I found they were entitled to leave the Settlement when they thought proper, I have complied with their request and ordered them a passage.

The Engagement,* which Two of them, "Viz.": Feathers a Ticket of Leave Man and Chapman a Free Man, had entered into with the late Major Ovens accompanies the return and is marked AA.

A plan of the Settlement, taken before my arrival by order of Captn. Barlow, accompanies this dispatch, and I hope by some future opportunity to be able to send one embracing a more extensive circuit.

I have, &c.,

J. CAMPBELL, Major and Capt., 57th Regt.,
Commandant.

[Enclosure M, No. 1.]

PORT AND LOCAL REGULATIONS FOR MELVILLE ISLAND,
1ST OCT., 1826.

The following Regulations are to be duly observed and attended to by the Masters or Commanders of all Vessels arriving at Melville Island, and by all Merchants, Importers, Consignees, and others residing on Melville Island:

When Vessels arrive near Melville Island.

Article 1. All Ships or Vessels, on Arrival off or near to the Heads of Cape Vandiemans on Melville Island or Rocky Point on Bathurst Island, are to receive on Board, and to be given into the charge of one of the Port Pilots; and when between Point Brace and Point Piper are to be boarded by the Naval Officer or his Deputy, by whom the Master or Commander will be furnished for General guidance with a copy of Port Regulations (if necessary) or merely a perusal of them.

When boarded by the Naval Officer or his Deputy.

2. Masters or Commanders of Ships or Vessels are then to produce to and furnish the Naval Officer, or his Deputy, with all such proper

* Note 137.
documents and Ship Papers in respect of the goods and Cargo on Board, as may be duly required, and also, before the admission flag is hoisted on Board, with a Correct list of the Ship's Company; and are to afford and give all such General information as to the Voyage, incidents, etc., as may be required.

3. Public dispatches, letters, and packets, addressed to the Commandant or any other Public Officer of Government, and Post Office Letters and Bags are to be considered "on Service" and to be given in charge for immediate delivery to the Naval Officer or his Deputy, when the Ship is first boarded; And, if any such dispatches, letters or packets shall be kept back, the Masters or Commanders shall be mulcted in that respect, and liable to a fine of twenty pounds per day for every day the same shall so remain in their possession undelivered.

4. Masters or Commanders of all Ships or Vessels are to furnish the Naval Officer or his Deputy with the Ship's Register; Muster Roll of Ship's Company; list of Passengers; the Log book; the Manifest of the Cargo, and Goods on Board; The same of private Ventures belonging to Passengers or Ship's Officers; the clearance from the Port first sailed from, and all other intermediate ports touched at on the passage. And to furnish any or all such other documents and Ship papers, as may be necessary or required for ascertaining and determining the legality of the Voyage and Cargo then on board wheresoever taken in. And Masters and Commanders are also to report and duly make a return to the Naval Officer or his deputy, as to any and what goods, or part or parts of the Cargo of any kind on board (to whomsoever belonging) as may be for sale, reserved for other Ports, or the Ship's use, or how otherwise.

Securities required.

5. The Master or Commander of every Ship or Vessel, whether British or foreign, shall upon arrival give and join with two Sureties, whom the Naval Officer may deem sufficient in that respect; himself in Eight Hundred Pounds, and the said Sureties respectively in Two Hundred Pounds each, in a bond or bonds to the Naval Officer in the penal sum of Twelve Hundred Pounds, under condition not to ship or carry away from the Island any Settler, Convict, Free, Pardoned, Emancipated, or other person whatsoever, unless by and with the permission of the Commandant, as certified and approved by the name of such person or persons being found on the Muster Roll of the Ship's Company, Passengers, etc.; And also that the said Ship or Vessel shall not Sail or depart from the port, until duly and fully cleared in every respect according to and in pursuance of the said Port Regulations.

Landing Goods, Merchandise, etc.

6. If any goods, wares or merchandize shall be landed or unshipped, and delivered out, with intention to land from any Ship or Vessel within the Harbour, not contained, set forth, duly specified in the Manifest, and due entry of the Cargo with and to the Naval Officer, or his Deputy, the same shall and may be seized and taken as Smuggled, and the Ship or Vessel and goods so landed will become and be forfeited to the Crown for such Offence. Goods chargeable with Duties are to be weighed or gauged on landing and then deposited in a Warehouse provided by Government for that purpose.
7. Wine, Beer, Spirits, or any and all other strong Liquors, discharged, unshipped, or landed from any Ship or Vessel in the Harbour without a special and proper permission or License in that respect from the Commandant, Countersigned by the Naval Officer or his Deputy, shall be liable to be seized by any Constable or other Peace Officer, and afterwards condemned by order of the Magistrates as forfeited to the Crown; and the Master or Commander of the Ship or Vessel, from which the same shall have been so discharged, unshipped, or landed, shall on due conviction in Each and Every such case be fined and forfeit the Sum of Fifty Pounds.

8. All goods, packages, and Commodities whatsoever, brought and discharged from any Ship or Vessel in the Harbour, shall be landed at the King's Wharf, and at no other place whatsoever; or the same shall be liable to be seized and taken as Smuggled, and to forfeiture by Order of the Magistrate in that respect.

9. All boats employed in carrying and Smuggling on Shore Wine, Spirits, goods, or commodities of any sort or kind whatsoever, without a proper License and permit in that respect, shall be liable to seizure; and, upon due proof and conviction before the Magistrates, will be Subject to Condemnation, as forfeited to the Crown. N.B.—Further Regulations in respect to landing Cargos, etc., will be found in the Extra Local Regulations, dated 1st Oct., 1826.

Rules to be observed when at Anchor or in Harbour.

10. Any Seaman, Mariner, or other Person of or belonging to any Ship or Vessel in the Harbour, absconding or absenting himself from duty on Board, or found on Shore at improper hours, may and are to be apprehended by any of His Majesty's Officers or Non Commissioned Officers, Constable or other Peace Officer, and brought to and secured in the Guard House or Gaol, till duly brought before the Commandant or a Magistrate, who shall and are empowered, if sufficient cause in that respect be shewn, at the instance of the Master or Commander of the said Ship or Vessel, to order such Seaman, Mariner, or other Person to be kept and remain in custody (to be supplied, however, during all such time with the usual provisions in every respect as if on Board the said Ship), and, in cases of Contumacious disobedience and very disorderly conduct, to work at Government labour until the said Ship or Vessel is going to sail and depart from the Port. All Gaol fees and incidental Expenses, for and in respect of this Regulation, are to be chargeable to and to be satisfied by the Master or Commander of the said Ship or Vessel, who shall also be liable to and shall pay to the Gaoler and Chief Constable, each respectively, the sum of Two Shillings and Sixpence per night, for and in respect of all and every Sailor or Sailors so confined in the said Gaol.

11. Any Sailor, Mariner or other Person, who shall Desert from the Ship or Vessel on board of which he shall have arrived in Melville Island, and be found in any part of the Island after the departure of such Ship or Vessel, shall and may be apprehended by any of His Majesty's Officers, Non Commissioned Officers, or Private Soldiers, or by any Constable or other Peace Officer, so as to be brought before the Commandant or any Magistrate, to be by him on due proof Committed to Gaol, and put to Government Labour until such time as the Commandant shall authorize such Sailor, Mariner, or other person, to embark on board of and to depart on board some other Ship or Vessel.
12. Any Seaman, Mariner, or other person, whatsoever of or belonging to any Ship or Vessel in the Harbour, who shall knowingly purchase, receive, or other wise possers himself of Necessaries, Slops, Bedding, or other Article whatsoever issued from the Government Stores to the Troops or Convicts, such still remaining the property of the Crown, will be prosecuted and punished with rigour for the offence and high misdemeanour so done and Committed.

13. No Spirits, Wine, Beer, or other Lignor of like kind, is to be sold, or given, on any account or pretext, from on board, to any of the original Natives of the Country; and any personal injury, violence, or insult whatever offered or done to the Male or Female Natives, will expose to prosecution, and will be punished in like manner and degree as in the case of any European or any other of His Majesty's Subjects in like respect.

14. The Master or Commander of any Ship or Vessel, who shall knowingly or designedly, without the Commandant's permission, leave in any part of Melville or Bathurst Island any Seaman, Mariner, or other person, of or belonging to the Ship or Vessel under his command, will be held responsible for all expenses thereby occasioned, as well as be liable to prosecution for the misdemeanour in that respect, and to proceedings at Law upon and for Breach of the bond or bonds to insure and secure the due observance of these the said Port Regulations.

15. The Master or Commander or other inferior Officer of any Ship or Vessel in the harbour, Convicted by and before a bench of Magistrates of having hired and engaged any Sailor, Mariner, or other Person of or belonging to any other Ship or Vessel in the said harbour, and not duly discharged therefrom, shall on due conviction thereof be liable to suffer the Penalties as directed by Act 37 Geo. 3d, Chap. 73, before a bench of Magistrates, be fined, and pay in such and every case the penal Sum of Fifteen Pounds.

16. No Persons are to land in any part of Melville Island but at the King's Wharf, except from the Government or other boats belonging to the King's Ships or Vessels, or by and under the special permission and authority of the Commandant, on pain of prosecution for the misdemeanour in that respect, and forfeiture of the boat in such and every case.

17. The Corpses of Persons, dying on Board Ship in the Harbour, are to be put in Coffins and duly interred on Shore at the Public Burial ground.

18. The Master or Commander of Vessels lying in Port Cockburn are prohibited from allowing Balast, Stone, Gravel, Iron hoops or rubbish of any kind from being thrown overboard to the obstruction of Navigation, or laid down in any place or Situation on Shore below high water mark, under penalty on due proof thereof be fined by forfeiting the sum of Five Pounds for each and every offence in that respect.

**Rules to be observed previous to Sailing.**

19. No Ship or Vessel shall or is to unmoor or quit anchorage in the Harbour, till ready for Sea and, having reported the same to the Naval Officer, the proper clearance be duly obtained in that respect. The Naval Officer or his Deputy, previous to weighing anchor or when under way, will Muster the Crew, after which no boats are to be admitted along side. No Vessel having unmoored and made Sail is to Come to an Anchor again within the Heads of the entrance to
Apsley Straits unless by reason of Wind, Tide, or Weather, or other unforeseen casualty or accident; and, if having Anchored, are to proceed on their Voyage as soon as the cause of their detention is removed.

20. No boats shall be allowed to go or to keep alongside any Ship or Vessel when once under weigh to proceed from the Port (Government Boats and those with Officers excepted) under pain, on part of the Master or Commander of such Ship or Vessel, paying a fine of Fifty Pounds; as also forfeiture of the said boat, to whomsoever it may belong.

21. If suspicion arise that any Convicts, or other Person or Persons, be secreted, concealed, or unduly on Board any Ship or Vessel in the Harbour, the Naval Officer or his deputy is empowered and required, without the Let or Hindrance of, either by the Master or other Person in charge of the said Ship or Vessel, to cause the said Ship or Vessel to be Effectually Smoked, so as prevent all Clandestine Escape on Board Ships.

22. No Gunpowder is to be landed at Melville Island without a Special permission obtained from the Commandant.

The following are the Duties payable at Melville Island:

23. On all Spirits the produce and manufacture of the United Kingdom, or Rum the produce of His Majesty's Plantations in the West Indies, for every Gallon, Seven Shillings and Sixpence sterling.

On all other Spirits for every Gallon, Ten Shillings Sterling.

**EXTRA LOCAL REGULATIONS—FORT DUNDASS, 1ST OCTOBER, 1826.**

Relating to Vessels arriving at Melville Island.

No. 1. All Vessels on entering Apsley Straits are to be Boarded by the Guard Boat or Naval Officers Boat, and the Commanders are requested to fill up the Register of Arrivals agreeable to the prescribed form, and act in conformity with the 2nd Article of Port Regulations.

2. If there is no epedimic or infectious Illness or Fever on board, The Vessel may be brought up in King Cove, as is suitable to the Safety and Convenience of the Vessel.

3. If any Fever is on board, a yellow flag must be hoisted, and the Vessel must be brought up in Sandy Bay, to the Northward of Garden Point and remain in Quarantine.

4. No Boats are permitted to land (Except from His Majesty's Ships of War) at any other place than at the Wharf under Fort Dundass under the penalties specified in Articles 8, 9 and 16 of Port Regulations.

5. Should Masters of Vessels wish to send boats on Shore elsewhere than at the wharf, they are requested to state their wish and object in writing to the Commandant by nine O'Clock A.M.; and, on obtaining permission, they will cause such boats as go on shore to carry a small flag in the Bow, that the Sentry may distinguish them from boats having no permission.

6. No Boats are allowed to approach the shore between Eight o'clock at Night and Sun rise unless they have the Parole or Watchword.

7. All Boats are to quit the Wharf at 8 o'clock at Night, and any Sailors or others belonging to any Vessel in the Cove found on shore after that hour will be taken into custody and sent to hard labour.
agreable to Articles 10, 11, 12 and 13 of Port Regulations. N.B.—Masters of Vessels, who wish to remain on shore until a later hour, will signify their intention by entering it in a book at the Main Guard kept for that purpose.

8. Cargoes and Goods are only permitted to be landed after the Manifest and Documents have been produced agreable to Articles 2 and 3 of Port Regulations, and have been regularly registered at the Commandant’s Office; the hours for landing are from 6 A.M. until Eleven and from 3 until sunset. All goods, parcels, and packages are subject to an examination by the Police Serjeant or Constable at the Wharf before being removed; should it be considered necessary to discharge a Cargo between Eleven and Three O’Clock in the day, permission can be obtained on application to the Commandant.

The examination is for the purpose of preventing Spirits of any kind being landed without permission of the Commandant, and Masters of Vessels are hereby enjoined to prohibit, as far as lays in their power, any Spirits being introduced by their Crew into the Settlement as in the present State of the Establishment an introduction of Spirituous Liquors would be attended with consequences highly detrimental and injurious.

The laws respecting Spirits being introduced illicitly (as well as all other regulations respecting commerce having been entered to this place) will be most rigidly enforced, and the Offenders punished to the utmost rigour of the Law.

9th. Strangers are cautioned against Venturing into the Swamps or Woods in any part of Bathurst or Melville Island, as, owing to the Hostility and Treacherous cunning of the Natives, it would be highly imprudent to trust themselves among them unarmed or in small numbers. It is the wish of Government to cultivate their friendship if possible, and all chance of coming into collision with them is strictly forbidden; And any personal injury, violence or insult whatever, offered to the Natives, will expose to prosecution and be punished in like Manner and degree as in the case of Europeans or any other of His Majesty’s Subjects.

10th. The Masters of Vessels will be pleased to signify to the Commandant as early as possible the probable time of their departure and State to what Port they intend proceeding, as advantages may be taken of sending Dispatches and Letters.

11th. Should Water or Fuel be required for the use of any Vessel, The places where they can be obtained will be pointed out on application to the Engineer, Lieut. Bate.

N.B.—The Masters and Commanders of Vessels are required to sign their Name to these regulations when they have perused them.

J. CAMPBELL, Major, Commandant.

LOCAL REGULATIONS.

Regulations for Workmen.

1st. Working Hours.—The Prisoners are to work in dry weather from day light in the Morning ‘til 8 O’Clock; from half past 8 until 11; and from 3 until Sunset.

The public work is to be carried on every day except Sunday, on which day both Prisoners and Ticket of Leave Men are to attend Divine Service at 9 O’Clock in the Military Barracks. In Rainy weather, the work will be regulated by Circumstances.
Workmen's Wages.

2nd. Those Prisoners, who have Tickets of Leave, are to receive as follows, When employed for Government, "Viz."

One Ration and One Shilling a Day on the days they work. On Sundays or Idle days, and when Sick either in or out of Hospital, they will receive rations, but are to pay One Shilling per Deim for such Rations.

3rd. Ticket of Leave Men employed as Sawyers will be paid as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wood Type</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 Feet of Blood Wood</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 Feet of Teak or Yellow Wood</td>
<td>10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 Feet of White Swamp Wood</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When Government conveys the Timbers to the pit, Is. per 100 feet will be deducted.

They will receive daily rations for which they will be charged Is. per diem.

4th. Free Men employed as Sawyers to be paid in the same Manner as the Ticket of Leave Men.

5th. When a prisoner without a Ticket of Leave is employed in the Saw pit, he is required to saw as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wood Type</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200 Feet of Blood Wood</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>225 Feet of Teak Wood</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250 Feet of White Swamp Wood</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and will be paid in the same proportion as the other Sawyers for One half of whatever quantity of Timber may be turned out of the pit beyond,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wood Type</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>400 Feet of Blood Wood</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>450 Feet of Teak Wood</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 Feet of White Swamp Wood</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Money for all Timber beyond the prisoners' allotted quantity will be paid to the Free Men or ticket of Leave Men (as it may happen), who is to pay the prisoner the proportion to which he may be entitled, and to do so in the presence of the Acting Engineer, Lieut. Bate.

6th. Free Men are always to consider themselves engaged to work for Government from Week to Week, commencing on Monday; and, should they break off working at any time within the week, without permission obtained through the Engineer or some unavoidable cause (as Sickness), they shall immediately be deprived the privilege of drawing rations, as also forfeit the price of sawing whatever Timber may have been turned into Government Store for that week.

If Free Men are engaged in any other employment for Government, the same rules are to hold good in order to ensure their work.

7th. Ticket of Leave Men are to be engaged to work for Government from Three Months to Three Months at a time; and, if they give up work at any time within that period without permission obtained from the Commandant through the Acting Engineer, they will forfeit whatever balance of Money may be due them, either for work done or wages, at the time of such departure from their engagement, will be debarred receiving rations and run a risk of not being employed again (Sickness of course is an exception).

8th. In order to prevent confusion in the accounts of the Workmen as far as it is practicable, the same description of wood (or wood charged at the same rate) is to be sawed during the whole week, as was commenced on Monday. The Wood will be taken by Government from the sawyers to the place appointed to receive it, once a week at
furthest or oftner if required. But the Sawyers will take their own
logs to the Sawpit, or have is. per hundred feet deducted from their
work.

9th. No Trees to be cut down for private use without permission
previously obtained, and any Timber found in a Freeman's, Ticket of
Leave Man, or Prisoner's possession either in or out of doors, without
properly accounting for the same, will be seized and appropriated to
the public works.

10th. No Fire Arms to be carried by any prisoner, Ticket of Leave
or Free Men, unless they are provided with a written permission, or
directed by the overseer.

11th. Persons wishing Wood or Timber for any household or me­
chanical purpose must apply through the Actg. Engineer.

12th. No persons to be allowed to be out of quarters after 8 O'Clock
P.M. without a Ticket of permission Signed by the Commandant.

13th. When Tools, Utensils and Implements of any kind are supplied
to either Free Men, Ticket of Leave Men, or Prisoners, the individuals
so receiving them are held responsible and will be charged for any
loss or damage done them.

The Tools are to be deposited in the working tools house every
afternoon at sunset.

14th. The Tools and everything, issued for the public use from the
Engineer Stores, are to be collected every Saturday evening at the
Engineer Store, and ascertained whether they are correct or not; the
deficiencies, if not satisfactorily accounted for, are to be charged
against those in whose charge they were.

15th. The Trees left standing in any ground, that may be cleared,
are on no account to be cut down without an order to that effect.

16th. If any prisoner or Ticket of Leave Man reports himself sick
at turning out for work in the morning, he is to be taken for examina­
tion to Doctor Gold (at his quarters precisely at Six O'Clock), and,
if pronounced fit for work, is immediately to be sent to his appointed
occupation.

If any man reports himself sick at ½ past 8 or 3 O'Clock, he is
immediately to be taken to the Hospital and reported to Doctor Gold.

17th. The Overseer will see that every prisoner is in his quarters
every evening at 8 O'Clock, and report any absentees to the Acting
Engineer.

18th. The report of the distribution of work will be brought to the
Commandant every morning at Nine O'Clock by the overseer, this
report to be signed by the Acting Engineer.

19th. Whenever a prisoner or other workman has any complaint to
make it is to be made through the Overseer.

REGULATIONS FOR TASK WORK.

When it is necessary to allot tasks to the Workmen, those tasks will
be as follows:—

Splitting Slabs.—Each Two Men to split Sixty Slabs of 8 Feet long
pr. Day.

Morticing posts.—Each Man to cut Forty Mortices per day.

Fencing with ready prepared posts and Slabs.—Each Two Men to
put up Thirteen Pannel per Day.

Carrying posts and Slabs to form Fences.—Each Two Men must
carry One Hundred and forty Slabs and 37 Posts.

Conveying earth in Hand Carts.—Each Three men must fill and dis­
charge one hand cart full every half hour, if ½ of Mile distance from
the ground to which the earth is brought, if between \( \frac{1}{2} \) and \( \frac{1}{2} \) Mile 10 Minutes more will be allowed, and 10 Minutes for every additional \( \frac{1}{2} \) Mile.

Turning up Grounds.—The ground is always to be dug two Spades deep, and each man is required to turn up three Rods in length and one in depth.

**Regulations Respecting the Natives, and the Carrying of Fire Arms.**

1st. Those men, who may be entrusted with Arms for their personal protection when working at a distance from the settlement, are on no account to make use of those Arms unless they are actually assaulted by the Natives and firing at them becomes unavoidable for their personal safety.

2nd. One Man of every party employed in the Forest or at the saw pit is to be posted as Sentry, and, should the Natives be observed approaching in any number more numerous than the party, they will quit their work and leisurely return to the settlement and report what they have observed to the overseer.

3rd. A Minute investigation of every transaction or intercourse, that may at any time take place with the Natives, will be thoroughly examined into; and, should any unwarranted violence appear to have been offered to the Natives, or any unnecessary quitting of Work take place from false pretences, the offenders shall be punished either in a most summary manner, or, if the case is of an aggravated nature, the law of England with regard to similar offences against any of His Majesty's Subjects will be rigidly enforced.

4th. Every individual of this settlement is hereby to know that the Natives are to be treated in a friendly manner as far as is possible; and, when they approach the settlement, they are only to be communicated with in the open and clear ground, and none are to follow them into the standing Timber.

5th. The Arms served out for the protection of the workman are to be inspected every evening at sunset by the Acting Engineer, and then deposited in the Guard House. The Engineer will see that they are in good Order and observe whether they have been fired out of or not; each stand of Arms is accompanied by a Tin Cartridge box containing Two rounds of spare cartridge; this is also to be inspected and deposited with the Arms.

At day light, the Overseer will receive the Arms from the Guard House and issue them to the working parties as is necessary.

**Detachment Orders.**

Fort Dundass, Melville Island, 3rd Oct., 1826.

The Commandant, having learnt that some Soldiers and others entertain an Idea that the Huts, Buildings, Sheds and Pailings, erected by them for their convenience, are in consequence of some expense they have been at become their private property.

The Commandant is sorry that such an erroneous opinion should have introduced itself among the Troops, or any Individual on the Settlement, as many may have been deceived by it and made purchases under those erroneous impressions;

Therefore to clear up so great a mistake, takes this opportunity of informing every Individual, who harbours such an opinion, that no
Hut, Shed, Building, Pailing, Ground or enclosures whatever can be considered as private property (Crops and produce of Gardens are an exception, for they are removeable at pleasure), and, although Government has allowed the Commandants of out Stations to furnish individuals with Wood, Ground and other Materials to make their habitations as comfortable as possible, Yet it is by no means to be understood that such concessions are to be considered permanent, as they are only granted for the temporary convenience of the Occupant. It is one of the Laws of England that any Buildings, Premises, Tenements or Fixtures, erected on another person’s property, become the property of the owner of the Soil on the expiration of a Lease or removal of the occupant.

Consequently the Land and Wood on this Island being the property of the King of England cannot without a regular grant become the property of any private Individual and must be allowed to remain at the disposal of Government, or those diputed by authority.

J. CAMPBELL, Major, Commandant.

GOVERNOR DARLING TO EARL BATHURST.
18th December, 1826.
[This despatch is noted “not available” on page 705, volume V, Series III.]

MAJOR CAMPBELL TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.
(Despatch No. 2.)
[This despatch is noted “not available” on page 790, volume V, Series III.]

Sir,

Melville Island, 20th December, 1826.

By the opportunity offered by the return of the Merchant Brig Ann to Sydney via Timor, I do myself the honor of acquainting His Excellency that that Vessel arrived here from Port Jackson on the 31st October and brought a great many Articles, which were much wanted at this Settlement, and for which the Master of her met a very ready market. I purchased from her for the use of Government a Quantity of Indian Corn and some Rod Iron, also a Union Jack, as the old one left here by the Tamar, Sloop of War, was entirely blown away.

The Master of the Ann could not set a price upon the Union Jack. I therefore directed a Board of Survey to examine into its state and dimension, and have forwarded their Report to the Brigade Major, that the value may be decided by Competent Judges at Sydney. I have at the same time given Mr. Grimes the Master of the Ann a Receipt for the flag.

I have to inform His Excellency that circumstances, which I do myself the honor of explaining, rendered it necessary that I should employ the Ann in making a trip to Koepang for provisions. The Colonial Cutter Mermaid sailed from this on the 5th October for the purpose of procuring a Cargo of Buffalo from Timor and was accompanied by the Commissariat Clerk Mr.
Miller (as I have already had the honor of stating). On the arrival of the Ann and during her continuance here (a week), I entertained considerable anxiety respecting the Mermaid; She had been upwards of four weeks absent and our supply of fresh provisions had been expended since the 18th October. We were living on Salt provisions without any Vegetables, and Dysentery and other affections of the bowels with a few cases of Scurvy were the prevailing Complaint; the weather was excessively warm and the Westerly Monsoon had been protracted beyond the ordinary period, which I understand general occasions disease. I was also aware that, if the Mermaid had a protracted Voyage, she would bring back a very small supply of Buffalo. These reasons, combined with my desire not to run the risk of a serious want in the event either of a lengthened passage or of any accident having happened to the latter Vessel, induced me to Contract with Mr. Grimes for a Supply of Buffalo. I accordingly did so, and stipulated with him on as favourable terms for Government as circumstances would allow. A Copy of which tender I have now the honor to forward, and is marked No. 1.

By the Ann we received a very seasonable supply of Preserved Meat, and which I have found it necessary to issue occasionally to the whole Settlement.

This vessel sailed for Koepang on the 7th November and the Mermaid returned here on the 19th. She had a tedious passage of four weeks, and as I apprehended only brought us twelve Buffalo out of twenty purchased in Timor, Eight having died on the passage. It therefore appears to me that the Mermaid is not calculated to keep up a Supply of fresh provisions for this Settlement.

From the first arrival of this Vessel on the 5th of August up to the present period, she has only brought over Thirty one head of Cattle; this number, deducting death and losses after landing, has but afforded 3,855 pound weight of meat for the use of the Settlement.

Mr. Miller returned here by the Mermaid, and, as I have already in my Dispatch No. 1 had the honor stating to His Excellency my object in sending that gentleman to Koepang, I now forward a copy of his written communication to me for The Governor's perusal.

On the 25th November having examined into the state of our Commissariat supplies, I found that the articles of flour, rice and peas were so reduced in quantity that it became imperative to make such arrangement as would protract their duration beyond the period calculated upon in the Account of provisions forwarded by the Isabella. By reducing the Ration of flour from
one pound to half a pound, that article will last until the 24th of January; at which period we shall only have Rice sufficient for about three weeks. As we could not expect supplies from Sydney sooner than the end of February and possibly not before March or April, I determined on sending the Mermaid for a supply of flour and rice. It was too late in the Season to depend upon procuring a sufficiency of rice at Koepang. I therefore decided on sending to Sourabaya in the Island of Java, at which place I understand that all kinds of supplies are abundant; and, if not to be met with there, I have directed Mr. Doucett to go on to Batavia. The Mermaid sailed on the 27th of November, and, as the North-west Monsoon has not yet set in, I expect she will have a favorable passage.

His Excellency will perceive in the enclosures accompanying the Copy of Mr. Miller’s letter to me, that Mr. Bechade, a French Merchant at Timor, has agreed to come over here with a supply of Buffalo and Sheep in February. If I find that he does justice to his contract and we require his services, I shall continue employing him until such time as His Excellency’s pleasure is made known.

The Brig Ann came in on the 17th and supplied us with forty eight head of Buffalo. The Master of this vessel brought another Tender from Mr. Bechade, wherein he offers to engage and supply the Settlement for twelve months with Buffalo meat, turned into the Commissariat Store at the rate of Six pence per pound, provided he is allowed the private trade of the Settlement. If he means the exclusive private trade, that I conclude must be negatived; however he is not likely to meet with any competitors for some time, and I shall not give him a decisive answer until His Excellency is pleased to give me further directions. This gentleman with others at Koepang entertain a very favorable Commercial opinion of this place as a Commercial situation; they think the whole trade of Timor might easily be brought here; also that the Trepang fishers would be glad to have so near a market for the produce of their labour.

Our very limited means retards us very much in carrying on anything like improvement and almost prevent us doing what is requisite for our absolute want. A great deal of time has been employed in repairs, some of the buildings having been badly constructed or erected with unsubstantial materials. A range of Commissariat Sheds were knocked down during a Thunder Storm in October, and the New Store has lately partially given way.

As the health of the Settlement has been a primary object, I have removed many old huts that were near the swamps, and have planted the ground with yams and other vegetables as far as
1826.
20 Dec.

Enclosure proposed for cattle.

Vegetable garden.

Buildings proposed.

Proposed extension of wharf.

Hostility of natives.

we had seed. I have considerably increased the accommodations for Stock in order to secure us from losses which we could not afford.

A great many Cattle have been lost since the formation of this Settlement by wandering into the Swamp and thick brush, from which it is impossible to recover them. I am now going to construct an extensive fence within which our Cattle will have sufficient grazing. As it is necessary to have this done as expeditiously as possible, I am going to employ several of the Military to assist by paying them a Shilling a day; this expense will be counterbalanced by the safety of four or five Buffalo. I therefore trust that it will meet with His Excellency's sanction.

I have formed a Vegetable garden in the rear of the Military Barrack containing nearly an Acre of ground. The trees were cut down, the ground cleared and a substantial fence made round it by the unassisted and gratuitous labour of the Soldiers; I have now to submit whether His Excellency will be pleased to confirm this ground as a Military garden attached to the Barracks.

The buildings and works, which I think it necessary should be erected here, I have now the honor of submitting a Plan and Estimate of. At the bottom of some of the Plans I have attached my reason for proposing them, but there are others which I now take the liberty of stating.

The Hutts at present occupied by the Prisoners and Ticket of Leave men are inconvenient, comfortless, small, unwholesome and badly situated. The Cottages I propose would be for the Ticket of Leave men, the Overseer and Gardener. The two latter people I find extremely useful and attentive.

Six or eight Cottages containing four men each would be sufficient for our present numbers; they would be built uniformly and give some character to the Settlement.

I have proposed a Government Warehouse, in order that the first traders who venture here may find a place of safety in which to deposit their goods.

The present Warf is very insufficient, being overflowed at Spring tides and unapproachable by boats at low water; by being projected thirty feet further out and raised two, this evil would be remedied. I also am of opinion that a good Quay might be easily formed with Piles and Logs for a hundred or a hundred and forty feet on each side of this now narrow warf.

With respect to the Natives of these Islands, I regret to inform His Excellency that they continue very untractable, notwithstanding our utmost endeavours to increase their confidence and show them kindness.
We have been annoyed by a tribe of thirty of them for the last two months. They are a stout body of men and daring thieves, particularly when their object is to obtain a hatchet. We were tolerably familiar with them for a short time, and I entertained hopes that they would have remained harmless if not useful. We had no Axes (the only they value) to part with, and they therefore watched every opportunity of obtaining them by Artifice or force. On the 25th October, whilst familiarly communicating and even sawing timber with the Soldiers in their new garden, they suddenly snatched a hatchet out of the hand of one of them, and all running off a few yards turned round and threw their Waddies at the Soldiers, then rushed into the Swamps and escaped.

A few mornings afterwards they attacked two men who were out cutting grass, and I lament to tell His Excellency that they speared one of them to death. I caused a minute investigation to take place (of this outrage), the proceedings of which accompany this dispatch and will point out the particulars.

I have watched every opportunity of seizing some of that tribe since the Murder, but they are at present extremely shy and guarded. I certainly might have taken some of them by violent means since that time; but, as they are in a state of barbarous ignorance, I prefered endeavouring to seize one particular man, who appears to be their Chief and has been frequently observed directing them in some daring Acts of Violence, even previous to my arrival in this Island. I shall either secure this individual, or if opportunity offers get hold of a couple of young boys which sometime accompany them. By the latter plan, we might be enabled (by teaching them a little English) to acquaint them with our intentions towards them and convince those Islanders that every act of violence would be followed by severe retaliation.

The Hospital for the last ten weeks has been rather full, but I am happy to say that at present it is as clear as it would be in probably any other part of the world.

Two deaths have occurred in Hospital since my having landed, the one a Soldier of the Royal Marnies, the other a prisoner of the Crown.

I have, &c.,

J. CAMPBELL, B. Major, 57th Regt., Commandant.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF BUFFALO.

Fort Dundas, Melville Island, 3rd November, 1826.

I, JOHN GRIMES, Master of the Merchant Brig Ann, do engage to supply the Settlement at Melville Island with Seventy head of good Buffalo (such as are generally brought to the Island), landing them in good condition and in health and free from injury, receiving for the same in lieu of all expence at the rate of Twenty five Spanish Dollars per head. I do agree to allow three such persons, as the Commandant
Contract with J. Grimes for supply of buffalo.

1826.
20 Dec.

Report by G. Miller on visit to Coepang.

Prospects of procuring live stock and provisions.

Duties and fees at Coepang.

may chose to name, to examine the Buffalo either previous to or after being landed, and to give their opinion whether the Buffalo supplied by me are equal to those which have hitherto been imported, and are in every way in conformity with the condition herein specified.

Any Buffalo, that may appear inferior to those already imported and not being in every way equal to the terms specified in this agreement, are to be valued in proportion to their comparative size and condition with those decided as meeting the terms herein agreed and signed to.

The price of the Buffalo is to be paid either by an order on the Treasury, or upon Deputy Commissary General Wemyss at Sydney.

Given under my hand and Signature at Fort Dundas, Melville Island, this Third day of November, One Thousand, Eight Hundred and Twenty Six. JOHN GRIMES.

Approved:—J. CAMPBELL, Major, Commandant.
Witness:—WM. BATE, Lieut., 57th Regt.; C. C. WILLIAMSON, Lt., R.M.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

MR. G. MILLER TO MAJOR CAMPBELL.

Sir, Melville Island, 20th November, 1826.

Referring to your letter of 4th October in which you state that it is your wish to establish a regular communication with Coepang in the Island of Timor with the view of ensuring from thence a constant supply of fresh provisions, etc., and directing me to proceed there for the purpose of procuring information on this head and various other points, I have now the honor to state that, after two tedious passages to and from Timor, the latter taking up 24 days, I yesterday returned from thence, and I now proceed to lay before You the information obtained by me there in answer to Your Queries.

On the subject of procuring Supplies of fresh provisions, I enclose Copies of letters passed betwixt the Secretary of the Dutch Government there and myself; the price of Buffaloes varies according to their size, but those procurable at Five Spanish Dollors are in my opinion best suited for Conveyance by the Mermaid, and for consumption here, tho' to save delay it may be necessary, as in the present purchase, to take a few of the higher price. Indian Corn, and Paddy (that is rice in husk) or Rice are procurable there from June to November inclusive to an extent equal to any demands for the Settlement in its present state; the price of Indian Corn $1, Paddy $2, Rice $5 per pekul of One hundred and Thirty three pounds Avourdupois; during the other Months, these Articles are scarce and consequently higher in price. Vegetables can only be procured to a very small extent; indeed, if my information is correct, no export trade has ever been encouraged at Coepang; the Natives are in their habits much the same as when the place originally was taken possession of, satisfied with the natural productions of the Island, and but raising a sufficiency of Indian Corn and Paddy for their own Consumption, and exchanging Bees Wax, Sandal Wood and Cattle, the only exports, for what clothing, etc., they require. Timor from all Accounts is a garden uncultivated, or, as the Secretary of the Dutch Government expressed himself, a diamond uncut.

I did not learn that any permanent Port Regulations exist; the duties on the export of Cattle are mentioned in the Secretary's Letter; an additional charge of one Ruppee per Ton is chargeable as Anchorage on Merchant Vessels, but from which Government Vessels are excepted.
The Silver monies in circulation are Spanish Dollars and Dutch rupees, and the Copper Stivers and Dorts; their relative values are 11 Rupees equal 15 pillar'd Spanish Dollars, 30 Stivers or 60 Dorts one Rupee; there only measures of quantity are the Cotte and Pekul, one hundred Cotte being One pekul, and this weighing One hundred and thirty three pounds.

The Articles of foreign produce in request there are Bengal blue Clothes, bufets, Gurrahs, Calicoes, colored handkerchiefs, Muskets, Gun powder, Iron, Chintz and Prints; within the jurisdiction of the Dutch Government, Muskets and Gunpowder are prohibited Articles; but a small distance from Coepang this traffic is carried on; they procure these Articles from Surabayu and Batavia, the only ports they appear to have communication with, and from what I could learn they would be willing to procure them from Melville Island if to be had cheaper there.

The Malays from Macassar seldom visit Coepang, but they trade in their prows to many of the small Islands with the Articles above enumerated. The Macassar Men are the Trepang fishers, and the period they fish is from December to the return of the Easterly Monsoon in March or April. Their fishing Ground is all the bays and Creeks on the North Coast of New Holland; their prows are unarmed and fitted out solely for the occupation of fishing; their size about ten tons, and the number that sail annually from Macassar about 2 to 3 hundred prows; a Chinese Vessel calls annually at Macassar for the Trepang and pays in Chinese and Dollars; the Dollars are exchanged at Singapore or Batavia for European and Indian trade.

I was informed by Mr. Hazard, the Resident for the Dutch Government at Coepang, the regular exports of Slaves takes place from the Portuguese Settlement at Delhi in Timor, and that a French Brig had a few weeks before been there and procured as many as she could take; the following circumstance was also told me by him; A Vessel last year under Dutch Colours (understood now to have been an English Vessel) called at Flores, an Island under Dutch Government to the Westward of Timor, and informed one of the Rajahs (Cheifs) that he had been sent by the Governor General at Batavia with orders to procure from thence a full Cargo of Slaves for the Service of the Dutch Government, and, on the Rajah’s delay in procuring the requested number, he seized him and threatened to carry him to Batavia for punishment if the orders were not immediately complied with; the Rajah afterwards went to Coepang and expressed his surprise at this usage; by which means the circumstance became known. All these Slaving Vessels assume what flag is most convenient for the time.

I purchased as you wished for the use of the Settlement 20 Buffaloes live stock, 8 of which have died, 20 pekuls of Indian Corn, and 1 pekul of Yams; the latter are not grown at Coepang and the charge for them is high ($5); but, as You wished them for seed, I thought it best to procure them.

I informed Mr. Bechade that You would take from him a certain number of Buffalo and Sheep; and, upon his expressing a wish to have a written agreement, I desired him to write me a tender at Your price which I would accept. I have the honor to enclose copies of the letter. Mr. Bechade would enter into an agreement to supply the Settlement regularly with Buffaloes and Sheep, etc., at similar prices to those now agreed on.

I purchased as fresh provision for the Crew of the Mermaid 3 Sheep weighing each about 28 pounds at the price of $2 each, and would
1826.
20 Dec.

Fresh meat for crew of cutter Mermaid.

Request re supply of live stock; and re certificate for purchases.

Proposal by C. Bechade to ship live stock.

Agreement to purchase live stock.

HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA.

recommend that the Master be directed to purchase these Animals while at Coepang as the best manner of procuring an occasional supply of fresh provisions for the Ship's Company; their Weight on an average is more than 28 Pounds, which is two days' Meat for the Crew; but it is inferior and the over weight is trifling and would with difficulty be kept fresh as part of a third day's issue.

I have, &c.

Geo. Miller, Commissary Clerk.

[Sub-enclosure No. 1.]

Mr. G. Miller to Mr. J. M. Felman.

Sir,

Koepang, 20th October, 1826.

His Britannic Majesty's Government at Melville Island requiring for that place supplies of Buffaloes and Sheep and wishing to procure them from this place by a Vessel belonging to His Britannic Majesty, I do myself the honor to solicit you would be pleased to inform me, if at all times these Animals may be procured here their price and what duty is payable on Shipment.

I have also the honor to request you would inform me, if you would be so good at all times, when a Vessel of His Britannic Majesty's makes purchases here for the Settlement at Melville Island, to Certify in the accounts whether these purchases have been made at the lowest price these Articles are selling here at the period of purchase.

I take this opportunity of acknowledging the liberality of your Government in permitting H.B. Majesty's Vessels to remain here without any charge, Anchorage or Port Duties.

I have, &c.

George Miller, Commissary.

[Sub-enclosure No. 2.]

Mr. C. Bechade to Mr. G. Miller.

Timor, Koepang, 22nd Oct., 1826.

In consequence of the conversation I had the honor of holding with you these two days past, I have to let you know that I would be very willing to pay you a visit at Melville, as long as I would be certain that my voyage would not be entirely unprofitable; therefore, if you would be good enough to pass an agreement with me stating that you would take the Buffalo at such a rate, say 20 Dollars per head, Sheep and Goats 2 or 4 according to their Sizes, you may be assured to see me in a short time, and I dare say, when at Melville, we would come to an agreement both beneficial to your Government and myself; for, if you was certain to be constantly supplied from this place with Cattle and other fresh provisions, you would not be at the necessity of keeping always a Government Vessel in attendance for the mere purpose of buying Provisions when she might be better employed; I give this merely as my opinion and beg to be excused for I am far from being bold enough to Interfere with Goverment business.

I have, &c.,

Chas. Bechade.

[Sub-enclosure No. 3.]

Mr. G. Miller to Mr. C. Bechade.

Sir,

Timor, Koepang, 22nd Oct., 1826.

Referring to your letter of this date in which you propose to visit Melville Island with a Cargo of Buffaloe and Sheep, I beg now to inform you that, on the part of His Britannic Majesty's Government,
I engage to pay you for thirty Buffaloe landed at the Settlement in good condition Twenty Spanish Dollars each, and for Twenty five Sheep Two and one half Dollars and for Ten of the larger Sheep four Dollars each landed also in good condition.

It is to be understood your Vessel will visit Melville Island previous to the end of next February.

I have, &c.,
Geo. Miller, Comm. Clerk.

[Sub-enclosure No. 4.]
MR. J. M. Felman to Mr. G. Miller.

Sir, Coepang, 23rd October, 1826.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter Supply of live dated the 21st Instant; and, in reply to which, I have to state that, whenever any of H.B. Majesty’s Vessels touches here for Supplies of Buffaloes and Sheep that they can be supplied with them. The General Prices of Buffaloes here are from 5 to 10 Spanish Dollars, and the Sheep uncut are $1 and those that are cut $2. The duties for a Buffalo 1 Rupee a Head and the Sheep 1/4 of a Rupee, Pigs 1 Rupee.

Agreeable to your request, I shall with pleasure, when H.B. Majesty’s Vessels touches here for supplies, certify in the accounts that the purchases were made at the lowest price selling here at the time.

I feel grateful of your acknowledging the liberality of our Government in permitting H.B. Majesty’s Vessels to touch here without charges of Anchorage or Port Duties. I have to state for your information the present regulations of this place, that no Government Vessels pays Harbour Duties or Anchorage, but should there be a new Regulations H.B. Majesty’s Vessels Must abide by them.

I have, &c.,
J. M. Felman.

[Enclosure No. 3.]
MINUTES of an Examination taken this Twenty seventh day of October, Minutes of inquiry re One thousand eight hundred and twenty six in presence of John Campbell, Esquire, and John Gold, Esquire, two of His Majesty’s Justices of the Peace for the Colony of New South Wales and its dependencies, to investigate the particular circumstances attending the death of Julius Campbell, a Prisoner of the Crown who was killed by the Natives of Melville Island on the morning of Thursday, the Twenty sixth day of October, One thousand, eight hundred and twenty six.

1st Evidence. EDWARD LOWTHER, Prisoner of the Crown, being duly sworn, made the following statement:—

I went out from the settlement “Fort Dundas” at nine o’clock on Thursday morning, the Twenty sixth instant, in company with Julius Campbell (the deceased) for the purpose of cutting grass. Campbell carried a musket, I carried the hooks for cutting the grass. We had not got far distant from the settlement when we saw a number (I suppose twenty) of Natives painted in various parts of their bodies and armed with waddies. I asked Campbell, if we should go back again? he answered “No, they may go away.” We went on losing sight of the Natives until we came to a bridge which leads to a swamp about half a mile from the settlement. We passed over it, and had proceeded some paces when we again saw the Natives.
Minutes of inquiry re murder of J. Campbell by natives.

1826.  20 Dec.

myself instantly stopped, beckoning, and making other signs "which we usually made when we wished them to go away"; they did not however take any notice of them but approached us shaking their waddies and spears, and hallooing and jumping about in a threatening manner. As they came near, Campbell presented his musket at them and snapped twice, but the musket would not go off. We then ran away as fast as we could towards the bridge which we re-crossed closely pursued by the Natives. I ran faster than Campbell, several waddies fell near me, and one spear struck me on the thigh; but it did not hurt me. When some distance from the bridge, "I suppose about three hundred yards," I looked behind me and saw the Natives so close to Campbell, that they could strike him with a spear without letting it go out of their hands. On looking forward, I saw John Westwood coming quickly towards me from the direction of the settlement armed with a musket. I then stood still, and on looking round saw the Natives run away and Campbell fall. I directly went on to the settlement to call the Surgeon. I remember seeing two of the Natives that pursued us on Sunday morning "last" near the Barracks, the one, an old man, the other, a young one with a white feather stuck in his hair.

2nd Evidence. John Westwood, "Ticket of Leave Man," being duly sworn, made the following statement:—

I was near the Barracks on Thursday morning "the Twenty sixth instant" at about half-past nine o'clock, when I saw about Twenty Natives a short distance from me painted in different parts of their bodies and armed with waddies. I recollected having seen one of them "a young man with a white feather stuck in his hair" last Sunday morning. They shook their waddies about in a threatening manner, and I looked at my musket to see that it was in good condition; having found it to be so, I laid it down by my work (post-making). At this time, seven men going to fetch timber (with a carriage) passed behind the Natives towards a swamp in the direction of Garden Point, the last mentioned followed them. The deceased and Lowther, who had been looking at the Natives, then went off to a swamp in a contrary direction to Garden Point to cut some grass. I suppose they had been gone half an hour when I heard a shout which I thought came from the men with the Timber-carriage; but, on its being repeated, I was convinced it came from the place towards which Lowther and Campbell went. I immediately took up my musket and ran the way from which the shout appeared to come; I had not gone far before I met Lowther who said "run, run, Campbell is speared." I continued running until I came to Campbell, who was then standing; his head was leaning towards one side and as I looked at him he fell but never spoke. I passed Campbell a few paces after the Natives who were running away, but thinking it imprudent to follow them I went back to him and found him dead; he had three spears sticking in his body.

Taken before us upon oath, this Twenty seventh day of October, One thousand, eight hundred and twenty six.

J. Campbell, J.P.
John Gold, J.P.

[The despatches and returns dated 31st March to 8th April, 1827, both inclusive, will be found on pages 799-808, volume V, series III.]
LIST of Seeds furnished from the Botanic Garden at Sydney for the Settlement at Melville Island, 16th May, 1827.

Seeds.


C. FRASER, C. Botanist.

LIST OF FRUITS REQUIRED FROM MELVILLE ISLAND.

BREAD FRUIT, Mambutam, Jack Fruit, South Sea Bread Fruit, Mammeam, Jamboo, Langrap, Manne or uam Sap, Bunga Tonga, Safran.

C. FRASER, C. Botanist.

MAJOR CAMPBELL TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

(Despatch No. 5.)

Sir,

Melville Island, 7th June, 1827.

After my recent dispatches Nos. 3 and 4 transmitted by the Brig Anne, I have but little now in addition to convey to you for the information of His Excellency The Governor; but whatever of any moment has since come to my knowledge, I now hasten to do myself the honor of communicating.

The Mermaid, which I had sent to Koepang on the 23d of March for a Cargo of Rice, Maize and Buffalo, returned here on the 18th of April. She brought us a supply of Rice as also grain for the Live Stock. She embarked eight head of Cattle at Koepang, but lost two (died) on the passage. The grain afforded a most seasonable relief to the Government Stock, as they were rapidly reducing in numbers by deaths occasioned from absolute want of nourishment.

After the Mermaid had undergone some necessary repairs, I dispatched her to Port Essington to obtain some information respecting the Malays. Business requiring my personal attention here prevented me accompanying her, and Lieutenant Williamson having kindly offered his services embarked on board the Mermaid and sailed on the 15th Ulmo.; he returned here on the 30th and the Communication, which he made to me on his return, bearing very satisfactory Evidence of the Malays having been very recently at Port Essington, I have taken the liberty of transmitting a copy of marked No. 1. Lieut. Williamson represents that the land is much higher than on this Island and the Coast bold with a fine sandy beach; the entrance to the bay is open and
Reports on visit of cutter *Mermaid* to Port Essington.

Buffalo *per* schooner *Isabella*.

Mortality amongst live stock.

Assistance given to W. Bate at Timor.

Failure of first voyage *by* C. Bechade.

Contract with C. Bechade.

Free from danger and the anchorage ground firm and good. Although the bay is open to the North-west wind, yet the Master of the *Mermaid* thinks that Vessels might ride securely in it, as there are many small bays in Port Essington if properly sounded might afford Shelter. Three principal objects being now ascertained, which are that the Malays resort there, that water is to be found and the harbour tolerably safe and good, I think that, after Captain Stirling has completed his Survey,* there will be no difficulty in deciding as to the site for a future Settlement. I am in daily expectation of the arrival of the *Success,* but have yet heard nothing of her.

The *Isabella* returned from Koepang on the 29th Ultmo.; she was detained three weeks before the requisite number of Buffalo could be procured; and, after being drawn back once in consequence of strong gales from the East, she put to sea a second time on the 14th of May and reached this after a passage of Sixteen days. Thirty four Buffalo were embarked on the *Isabella*; but, owing to much Calm weather and the great heat, Eighteen of them died on the passage.

A fatality seems to attend all Animals either destined for or landed on this Island, as one half and sometimes more generally die. I am aware that the want of a sufficiently lofty and roomy vessel causes the deaths at Sea, but we cannot find out what causes so great a mortality after landing. We attribute it either to the Air or peculiar quality of the herbage.

Lieut. Bate, who went to Timor to purchase Stock and make other arrangements for our future supplies in case Mr. Bechade had failed in his Contract, states to me that the Resident Mr. Hazaart was particularly gratified by an Officer having been sent there, and that he, as well as all the authorities, not only shewed him most marked attention but afforded him every assistance that it was possible to wish for.

I am happy to state to His Excellency that the doubts I entertained regarding Mr. Bechade not having complied with his Contract are now satisfactorily removed. That gentleman embarked at the end of February with all the Articles of supply contained in his Contract, as also a large supply of fruit and vegetables. However to his loss and our disappointment and inconvenience, he experienced constant adverse winds for twenty days, and at length running short of water was obliged to return to Koepang, and unload his Cargo. Notwithstanding this unlucky commencement, Mr. Bechade has determined and agreed to make another trial. The present Contract now entered into (a Copy of which marked enclosure No. 2 I herewith forward) is on favorable terms as could be obtained or probably expected. Mr.

* Note 138.
Bechade, seeing the inconvenience of a small Vessel, has gone to Sourabaya for the purpose of purchasing a large and commodious one.

I shall now do myself the honor of briefly stating for His Excellency's information the substance of the observations made by Lieut. Bate when at Koepang, as far as it is connected with the objects of a Settlement in this part of the world.

The Captain of a Macassar Proa at Koepang stated that the Beche de mer fisheries were carried on annually to a great extent by Malays on the Coast and Bays of New Holland, and that the Beche de mer found there was of the best kind. The fishing season commenced with the height of the north west monsoon, and the Proas leave this Station and return home late in the South east monsoon. Their course from Timor is generally East and towards the Island and Gulf of Carpentaria. These Proas are mostly unarmed, and the Macassar Captain said they would never be induced to visit Melville Island from the known difficulties of the entrance and a dread, which the Malays have, of passing through narrow Straits; but he had no doubt but that the Malays would visit any British Settlement on the North Coast of New Holland or on any of the Islands near the Gulf of Carpentaria, provided they could meet with such articles of trade as they wished for. Many of the Chinese at Koepang said they would be glad to come over to a British Settlement; but all would wish their Slave property to be protected.

At the time Lieut. Bate was at Koepang, the Schooner Prince Regent arrived there; that vessel has been about three months in Endeavour Straits and about Cook's river; they found the Trepang very plentiful upon the reefs and caught and cured a considerable quantity, and had on board Ten ton of Trepang and about three Peculs of Tortoise Shell. The Trepang was seen by the Macassar men and pronounced to be of the best kind. The prices at Sincapore in December, 1826, were for Trepang value of One hundred dollars per Pecul and for Tortoise Shell a thousand dollars per Pecul.

The Captain of the Prince Regent reported having found the Natives very numerous and hostile, and were constantly on the watch to annoy them. Several Spears were thrown at the boats' crews, and thrown as in New South Wales with the Wamara. Near, or on the bank of Cook's river, several large Emues were seen, and approached very close to the Seamen when on Shore.

Lt. Bate tells me that he met with very little assistance from the Master of the Isabella either in embarking the Cattle or attention to them when on board.
Owing to the inattention of both this individual and his Mates, I have experienced a great deal of trouble. A quantity of Spirits contrary to my positive Orders was brought over on board the Isabella, and the drunkenness and insubordination on board both that vessel and the Mermaid for several days was disgraceful. It happened at the time I was endeavouring to Article a fresh Crew for the latter Vessel and occasioned me an immensity of trouble. I could only succeed in getting a Crew by engaging to send them to Sydney if they wish at the end of Six months. From the representation of Mr. Dowsett, as by his Report which I have forwarded marked enclosure No. 3, the Mermaid appears to require a complete repair. Since my arrival she has been constantly undergoing repairs, and I am well aware of her leaky condition. It may therefore be advisable to send her to Sydney in November or December. And this we may afford to do if Mr. Bechade succeeds in his next attempt to supply the Settlement.

I have despatched the Mermaid again to Timor for Supplies in hopes that she may return by the time that the Success arrives, and I shall request Captain Stirling to order a Survey upon her. From the disgraceful Conduct of Mr. Caldwell sent here as first Mate of the Mermaid, I have considered it necessary to discharge him from that Vessel. The Conduct can be judged of by His Excellency on perusal of the Reports marked enclosures 4 and 5. I have been obliged to place this William Caldwell in confinement until he enters into recognizance to keep the Peace for six months. The proceedings on his examination I have forwarded to the Attorney General.

With respect to the interior state of this Settlement, I am happy to say that we at present enjoy a tolerable degree of health, although we have constant cases of Dysentary and Hemoralopia;* the latter disease is very prevalent among the Soldiers, sometimes one third of the number on a guard are afflicted with it, and yet my limited force will not allow me to dispence with their night duties. If His Excellency intends to reduce the number of Troops on this Station below fifty, I fear we shall feel the loss seriously. Since my last report I have lost one Soldier, who died suddenly when out on duty with a party on Bathurst Island.

The gales at the beginning of April have completely destroyed our Crops of Maize and Millet and very much retarded the growth of Vegetables. The only thing that has not suffered are the Yams, which have produced plentifully in proportion to the quantity of seed planted.

With the assistance of Dr. Gold in examining the Trees reported to produce the Clove and Nutmeg, I can now state to

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* Note 139.
His Excellency that the Clove does not to our knowledge exist on the Island; that which was taken for the Clove was the Eucalyptus which bears a blossom resembling a Clove.

As to the nutmeg, it is produced here and partakes of the appearance and form of the two best kind of nutmeg, which are the Queen and Royal nutmeg; but, as they don't attain the full size and aromatic flavour, it may be owing to want of Cultivation. The Nutmeg tree grows here in swamp ground, and is choked up with other trees and runners of different kinds.

The Natives still continue troublesome, and, although seldom seen, yet they have continued to burn a quantity of hay and are constantly pulling down our enclosures; they have even speared some of our Pigs at night close to the huts. I post my Sentries in the most likely places to detect them in their depredations at night, but they are too cunning and wary for our vigilance.

William Daly, a Prisoner of the Crown by the Ship Earl St. Vincent (3), has applied to me for a ticket of leave, under the first Article of No. 1 Order dated 1st of January, 1827, transported for 7 years and convicted by his own account 15th Sept., 1821; John Pepper a prisoner for life (14 years by his own account) Sentenced 29th of March, 1819, Ship Malabar, also claims a ticket of leave. I have no account of their conduct previous to my arrival; but, since that period, they have conducted themselves correctly, and I now submit their claim to the decision of His Excellency.

Since my last report one prisoner has become free; his name is William Cox and he now proceeds to Sydney, Articled to serve for his Rations on board the Isabella.

Agreeable to the instruction contained in Letter No. 4, I have embarked a quantity of Lignum Vita logs on board of the Isabella. From a want of proper boats to convey logs from the Shore and having no Wharf from which to embark them, I have had the logs cut into short pieces in order to convey them in our light boats. As the Lignum Vita will be always useful in short pieces, and the other timbers would not, I have confined myself to shipping that wood only.

I have endeavoured to procure Working Buffalo from Timor, but none can be found. I beg therefore to suggest that four or six sent from Sydney would be a great relief to the Workmen in their arduous labour of drawing timber in this burning Climate.

I have endeavoured to hasten off the Isabella with as little delay as possible; but it seems she has required considerable repairs and caulking, and the master reported to me that he
Transmission of plan and chart.

1827.
7 June.

could not possibly be ready for Sea before the 8th. I have given him every assistance of Coopers and boatbuilders, but our limited Stores cannot supply a fourth of his wants. It appears to me he has left Sydney very badly supplied with materials necessary for replacing losses and repairing damages.

I have drawn a small plan of our Settlement and also constructed a Chart of the whole extent of Apsley Straits on such a scale as will shew its intricacies. This I have enclosed in the box containing my Return and Report and have now to offer it to His Excellency in case he may think it of any use in giving an idea of our local situation.

I have &c.

J. CAMPBELL, Major, Capt. 57 Regt.

[Enclosure No. 1.]

LIEUTENANT WILLIAMSON TO MAJOR CAMPBELL.

Sir,

Evidence re visit of Malays to Port Essington.

I have the honor to acquaint you that, notwithstanding every exertion made use of by Mr. Dowsett and the Crew of His Majesty's Colonial Cutter Mermaid, we were not enabled to reach Port Essington until the Evening of the 26th Inst, owing to the prevalence of strong easterly winds and a very heavy sea running.

We anchored about nine Miles up the Bay in five fathoms of Water, and, not observing any Malay fishing Proas, I proceeded, early on the morning of the 27th pursuant to your directions, to ascertain if there were any appearances on the Beach or shores of the Malays having resorted to that part of the coast recently, what those appearances were, and as to whether there were any streams of fresh Water.

Proceeding up the eastern side of the Bay about Three Miles, observed the Mouth of a fresh water stream on the sandy Beach, nearly thirty feet wide, traced it about a Quarter of a Mile, when it terminated in a Mangrove Swamp on which the water was from Three to six Inches deep, the greatest depth of the stream at low water is Three feet. I think it extremely doubtful whether the Swamp from whence it derives its source will be able to afford it a supply of Water during the whole of this Season, as some parts of it are now dry, which have apparently been overflowed in the Wet Monsoon.

Further up the Bay from between Two and Three Hundred Yards, fresh water was oozing out profusely from the Bases of the Cliffs, which are washed by the Tides at High Water.

Three Miles beyond the Fresh Water Stream, came to a spot of Ground adjoining the sandy beach, on which the Malays had evidently lately encamped; it is Fifty eight Paces by Twenty three, enclosed with Sticks placed perpendicularly, from one to two feet apart, and of unequal lengths, say from Ten to Fourteen Feet; a few have Sticks lashed across them by thin Strips of Bamboo. Inside the enclosure are six rows of Fire places, about Twenty feet long and running parallel to each other, and each capable of containing five pots, for boiling the Trepang; Hurdles are erected, apparently for the purpose of drying it upon; Outside are four or five holes not more than Three Feet deep and Two feet in diameter, whence they procure water. One of them is lined with split Bamboo to prevent the sand from falling into it.
The fresh appearance of the Materials used by the Malays in the Settlement, the Wood made up in Piles for fuel being green and sappy when broken, the recent cuts of the Axes on the trees, the beaten track contiguous to it, the Water being still Three or Four Inches in depth in one of the Wells, and the moisture at the bottom of the others, the few articles which I picked up and brought for your inspection, all conspire to convince me that the Malays have been on that part of the Coast at no very remote period.

On the western side of the Bay there are remains of a Malay Settlement, but it does not appear to have been occupied for a considerable length of time.

Mr. Dowsett has taken down the relative bearings of the different points and headlands and the Soundings of the Bay, which I have reason to believe are as correctly laid down as the shortness of our stay would admit of.

Not conceiving it any longer necessary to detain the Cutter at Port Essington, we left it on the 28th at 10 A.M. for this place.

I have, &c.,

C. C. Williamson,
Lieut., Royal Marines.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

MEMORANDUM of a Contract made this Second day of May, 1827, between William Bate, Lieutenant of His Majesty's 57th Regiment on the part of H.B.M. Government and Charles Bechade, Esquire, Merchant, residing at Koepang, for the supply of certain provisions herein after named to be landed at the Settlement of Melville Island by the said Charles Bechade, Esquire, for the use of the said Settlement.

The said Charles Bechade, Esquire, agrees and hereby contracts to supply the said Settlement at Melville Island with Buffaloe for the space of one Year at the rate of Twenty five Spanish dollars per head to be landed in good condition and to average when killed and ready to Issue from His Majesty's Commissariat Stores at the rate of not less than One hundred and fifty pounds each Buffaloe. The Number to be landed not to exceed Three Hundred Buffaloes in the said space of one Year commencing in September next ensuing.

And the said William Bate being empowered so to do, by Order from Major Campbell Commandant at the said Settlement at Melville Island, doth hereby approve and agree to the above recited contract and agreement.

Given under our hands at Koepang, this second day of May, 1827.

WM. BATE, Lieut., 57th Regt.

Witness:—George Tallemach.

[Enclosure No. 3.]

MR. S. DOWSETT TO MAJOR CAMPBELL.

Sir,

H.M. Colonial Cutter Mermaid,

Port Coburn, Melville Island, 5th June, 1827.

I have to inform you the scanty supply of stores furnished for the use of the above Cutter on her departure from Sydney induce me to solicit your assistance in causing the following stores to be sent down from head quarters, As the Vessel will not have any article fit for Sea Service at the expiration of Five Months, And would not be able to continue that space of time, had it not been from the small supply I have received from H.M. Schooner Isabella.
1827.  
7 June.  

Request for stores for cutter Mermaid.

The Stores requisite is as follows:—One suit of Sails Complete with Twine Canvas and Needles to repair the Old ones. A Sufficient quantity of Cordage for running rigging, as that which is in use will be completely unfit for Service at the expiration of the aforesaid time.

1 One five Inch Hauser; 4 Hand Leads and lines; 1 Deep Sea Lead and line; 1 Dozn. Log lines; 200 cwt. of Spun yarn, 2, 3 and 4 yarn; 500 Do. Do. Junk; Pitch Tar and Black Varnish; Paint and Paint Brushes with Oil and Turpentine; Lamp Oil; Tar Brushes; Scrubbing Brushes and scrapers.

A Chart of the Banda and Java Seas of A recent date as my charts are destroyed by Insects.

A Nautical Almanac for the Year 1828, with A Chronometer, as the Navigation of those Seas are very dangerous; A Small quantity of Bunting to repair the Caulers.

A Quantity of Blocks double and single from five to Ten Inch bushed.

The Hull of the Vessel being so much out of repair, I should consider it unsafe to proceed to Sea after the expiration of the aforesaid period, unless means are taken to repair her.

She is now in a leaky state so much so as to keep one pump constantly going in bad weather. I have, &c.,

SAML. DOWSETT, Master.

[Enclosure No. 4.]

LIEUTENANT BATE TO MAJOR CAMPBELL.

Sir, Fort Dundas, Melville Island, 29th May, 1827.

Misconduct of W. Caldwell.

I regret the necessity of reporting the conduct of Mr. Caldwell, first Mate of the Cutter Mermaid, who was then doing duty on board the Schooner Issabella on her voyage to Koepang.

The evening of my arrival at that Port I went on shore to the Secretary to report the object of my visit. On my return on board the Vessel, I found Mr. Caldwell very drunk in the Cabin and several persons with him. On his coming on deck, I remarked to him that his conduct was improper, when he assailed me with much abuse, and rushing aft to where I stood threatened to knock my two bloody eyes into one. He was only restrained from violence by the exertions of the Master and Mate.

I have, &c.,

WM. BATE, Lieut., 57 Regt.

[Enclosure No. 2.]

MR. S. DOWSETT TO MAJOR CAMPBELL.

H.M. Colonial Cutter Mermaid, Port Coburn, Melville Island, 1st June, 1827.

I feel it my duty to inform that Wm. Caldwell, the 1st Mate of the above Cutter, in my absence to report the arrival of the said vessel on the 30th May, gave liberty to part of the Crew to go on shore without my permission, and He Wm. Caldwell left the said Cutter without any Officer or Seaman in charge; the Men returned at 10 o'clock from H.M.C. Schooner Issabella.

The Boat went on board and was kept till the hour of 3 or 4 in the Morning of 31st, when the said Wm. Caldwell the second Mate and boat's crew returned all in A state of Drunkenness and disorder. At 8 o'clock, I remonstrated with said Wm. Caldwell and told such conduct was not becoming of an officer, and, unless such conduct be altered, I considered him unfit to hold his situation, when he made use of very unbecoming language.
Duty called me on shore, during which time he allowed the boat to go on board the Isabella for the purpose of purchasing spirits contrary to my most positive orders, in consequence of which the duty of the said Cutter was neglected the whole day, and at night said Wm. Caldwell went down into the Forecastle and drank spirits with the seamen and created much disorder and insubordination.

The said Wm. Caldwell I consider very unfit to the situation, and, if not removed, the duty of the said Cutter will constantly be impeded.

I have, &c

SAML. DOWSETT, Master.

MAJOR CAMPBELL TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

(Despatch No. 6.)

Sir,

Melville Island, 8th June, 1827.

By the Isabella I have forwarded duplicates of my reports and returns sent by the Ann on the 14th April, together with some requisitions and returns of work done to the 1st May.

With the enclosures which accompany my report No. 5 is a letter from the Master of the Mermaid containing a long list of wants, all of which I believe to be just. I request it not to be considered a requisition for it would be irregular. I forward it to show the state of that Vessel is in for want of supplies.

We received a very indifferent supply of sole leather by the Isabella, so that we are now without a single pound; and, as we have only four pairs of shoes in the Store either for the Prisoners or Ticket of leave men, I expect we shall be obliged to give up every kind of hard labour until a fresh supply is sent.

William Cox has obtained his freedom since my last reports, he now proceeds to Sydney as a Seaman in the Isabella. Williams also works his passage to Sydney; he could not find employment at Timor, and came back as a Sailor in the Cutter.

I am much in want of a proper person to assist or fill the situation of Overseer. The present one (Wilson) is a very hard working attentive man, but much addicted to liquor, which notwithstanding my utmost endeavours is sometimes introduced from on board vessels. He has frequently expressed a desire to give it up; but I am obliged to retain him as there is not a single person here I could trust to. His duties are very severe and it requires an active able man to perform them. I therefore solicit that someone capable of succeeding him may be sent down and whom I can appoint should it be necessary.

I have sent you two small boxes containing specimens of our timber, and accompanied with a list corresponding with their number, which are in pencil mark on each specimen. Many of them are of course misnamed from our want of Botanical knowledge; should any of them however be wished for, a reference to
the number will be a sufficient guide for me, and probably you may be able to ascertain the proper names of many of them. We have named a number of them from their external character, or local situations. I think we have a species of Cypress on the Island but I have not yet been able to bring any of it into the Settlement.

I send a small box containing the Nutmeg in its present state, with the leaf; they are in a bottle of Spirits and along with them you will find the Calyx of the Eucalyptus formerly taken for the Clove.

J. CAMPBELL, Major, Commandant.

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MAJOR CAMPBELL TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

(Despatch No. 7.)

Sir, Melville Island, 26th June, 1827.

By the Colonial Brig Amity which arrived here yesterday, I received a communication from Captain Stirling dated 20th June, stating his having landed the detachment* under Command of Captain Smyth, of the 39th Regiment, on the Eastern side of Raffles Bay, and that the British flag was hoisted at Fort Wellington (the name of the new Settlement).

Captain Stirling represents that a Colonial Vessel called the Mary Elizabeth, having Stores on board, had parted company on the passage from Sydney, and by her non arrival had occasioned difficulties from depriving Captain Smyth of many stores and tools absolutely necessary for forming the primary works of the establishment. And Captain Stirling has requested me to send down the Mermaid with such Stores as I could afford. The Mermaid is however at present absent at Koepang; but, as soon as she returns, I shall dispatch her to Raffles bay with orders to remain there as long as Captain Stirling and Capt. Smyth may consider it expedient to retain her.

By the Amity, I had the honor of receiving your letters Nos. 1 and 8 with the Regulations and Orders which accompanied them. I also received a List of your prisoners destined for this Settlement; but, from their not being forwarded from Raffles bay, I presume they are on board of the Mary Elizabeth.

The remainder of the articles applied for in my Requisition of the 1st October, 1826, have been sent here by the Amity. I now only want such as are enumerated in my Requisitions dated the 26th December, 1826, the 7th June and 26th of June, 1827. I am particularly in want of Shoes and Sole leather, as, for want of them, I am now obliged to issue wooden Clogs with upper leather nailed upon them.

* Note 140.
By the present opportunity, I forward a duplicate of my Report of the 7th June; and, as so short a time has elapsed since I had the honor of communicating on the localities of this Island and Port Essington, together with other subjects connected with the interest of an establishment in this part of the world, I am not enabled at present to communicate any thing further.

I certainly regret on account of government that this Settlement is still to be maintained, as I fear it will remain both an unprofitable and expensive incombrance. If, however, it is to be retained, I hope a more eligible site will be fixed upon some other part of the Island.

Under an impression that the Settlement will be ultimately changed, I shall only carry on such works as appear to me indispensable. And any buildings I may erect shall be constructed on such a principle as will allow of their being removed at pleasure. I shall be obliged to erect a Settlement Store house and a Blacksmith's forge. The old store house is completely rotten, being constructed with course slabs and cabbage Palms, and is overrun with White Ants. The forge is blown away; the estimate of the materials requisite for those works, I had the honor of transmitting in the Brig Anne on the 28th December, 1826, along with most others to be laid before His Excellency.

During the past months, I have employed the workmen in constructing a new Wharf to replace the old one, which was washed away by the Gale on the 2d of April. I have formed the new one of heavy logs and piles, and projected it thirty feet further out than the former one, by which plan Cargoes and Stores can be now landed at all periods of the tide.

The wife of Richardson, the Gardener, having applied to me for permission to return to Sydney on account of her health and having young children, I have permitted her to proceed on board of the Amity, and to receive rations during the passage, but with a provision that she should pay for the said rations on her arrival at Sydney, should it please His Excellency so to order it.

I am sorry to state that I have every reason to believe that Richardson has introduced and sold Spirits among the Prisoners and Soldiers at this Station; considerable drunkenness prevailed when the Isabella was here; and, although I repeatedly cautioned the Master of that vessel against allowing spirit to be introduced into his Ship or landed from her on any pretence whatever, And as I make it a general practice to keep people on the look out for the purpose of preventing spirit being landed, whenever any vessel is in the Cove, I was particularly annoyed at our vigilance being evaded either by the connivance or neglect of both the Master and Mates of the Isabella. Since her departure,
1827.
26 June.

I have received information that this Richardson, in partnership with a Soldier, purchased Spirits to the amount of One hundred and fifty dollars from the Isabella, and retailed the same at a hundred per Cent, profit. On the first appearance of drunkenness, I caused a general search, but without success. However it has either caused greater caution on the part of the Vendors or their supply is exhausted. This spirit was landed at night a mile or two from the Settlement by the boat of the Isabella. No person will yet publicly give information; consequently prevents me being able to punish the Offenders.

I herewith forward a monthly return of Work done and material used in building two boats.

J. Campbell, Major, Commandant.

MAJOR CAMPBELL TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.
(Despatch No. 8.)

28 June.

Sir,

Melville Island, 28th June, 1827.

Since the closing of my letter of yesterday, the conduct of Richardson the Gardener has been so extremely abusive to a Soldier of the Royal Marines, accusing him of being on the look out to prevent the illicit practices alluded to in my report, that I have withdrawn the indulgence of giving his Wife a passage to Sydney in a Government Vessel.

J. Campbell, Major, Commandant.

MAJOR CAMPBELL TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.
(Despatch No. 8.)

29 Sept.

Sir,

Melville Island, 29th September, 1827.

By the Brig Ann which arrived here on the 20th instant, I had the honor of receiving your communications in Letters Nos. 9, 10, 11 and 12. Four Mechanics arrived by the said Vessel to replace those whose period of service were about to expire, but one of those "John Faulkner," sent to replace William Spowage, our present Boat Builder, will be entitled to his freedom in March, 1828, just two months after Spowage will have been discharged.

2nd. The Mermaid has been of no use to the Settlement since the 18th July, when she returned in a very leaky state from Timor. A survey was held upon her by the Officers of His Majesty's Ship Success, when her hull and timbers were pronounced so very defective that a thorough repair became absolutely necessary. It was also recommended to alter her rigging from that
of a Cutter into a Ketch, and that it would be dangerous to send her to Sea in her then present state. Since the Survey which was held on the 28th of July, we have exerted every means in our power to get this vessel ready for Sea, and in four days from this I expect she will be prepared to sail for Port Raffles with the stores and live stock brought by the Ann, and upon her return I shall immediately dispatch her for Port Jackson.

3rd. The Ann not having found the New Settlement either at Croker's Island, or in Port Essington, came here and discharged her Cargo. I have therefore directed the supplies intended for Captain Smyth, Commandant, to be put on board the Mermaid. The Ann sails tomorrow on her return to Sydney by Delhi and Koepang.

4th. Mr. Miller, the Commissariat Clerk, being relieved by Deputy Assistant Commissary General Radford, proceeds on board of her to Head Quarters. He had applied to me for permission to take his Servant (a Prisoner of the Crown) along with him. As this man was Mr. Miller's assigned Servant previous to his leaving Sydney in 1824, I granted his request in the hope it will meet his Excellency's approval.

5th. The Success arrived here on the 26th July, and sailed for Penang on the 29th. Captain Stirling gave over to me two mark buoys; but, in compliance with his opinion and my own conviction, I have postponed laying them down until it is ascertained what ulterior arrangement Government intends making as regards this Island. Captain Stirling agreed with me in an opinion, that I formerly submitted, that more than two buoys would be requisite, and he also observed that it would be necessary to keep a Vessel constantly in attendance upon them, to prevent the danger that might arise from their shifting.

6th. In my dispatch of the 26 of June, I stated that the Mary Elizabeth had been missing; I am happy to inform His Excellency that that Vessel put into this Port on the 28th of July. The Master of her, having a rendezvous appointed, went into Port Essington, where he remained seven days, and then thought it advisable to come here for information. Lieutenant Hicks having received from us some necessary supplies sailed in two days afterwards, and had arrived in Raffles Bay previous to the departure of the Success. His Majesty's Ship Rainbow arrived here on the 27th of August; Captain Rous had looked into Port Essington but not Raffles Bay. This Ship sailed for Koepang on the 29th Ultimo. Lieutenant Williamson with part of his detachment of the Royal Marines embarked on board of the Success, and the remainder went on board the Rainbow.
7th. I am sorry to report that the Natives continue extremely troublesome and dangerous neighbours. They have committed some daring depredations both by day light and during the night; they have made several attempts to drive away the Cattle, and have succeeded in depriving us of a Bull and four Sheep the latter of which they speared. Six men have narrowly escaped being speared during this and last month. It requires such extraordinary vigilence to guard against the attacks of the Natives that the workmen are kept in a constant state of alarm, even close to the Settlement; and I am obliged to keep the Soldiers alert at all hours.

8th. A few days ago I intercepted a party of these audacious Blacks going to attack some Men sawing timber; one of them was made prisoner, and is now doing well in Hospital, where he was sent on account of some wounds he received by his Stubborn resistance when taken; I intend detaining him, and shall endeavour to make him of some use to us.

9th. Doctor Gold has had a difference of opinion with me respecting my power as Commandant in mitigating the sentence of corporal punishment and hard labour awarded prisoners of the Crown, who are brought before us when sitting together as Magistrates; and, although I have met his objection for the time being in order that business should not be interrupted until my doubts are decided by a reference to the Chief Justice, yet Doctor Gold has intimated his intention of submitting a correspondence he entered into on the subject to his Excellency. This measure appearing to me quite unnecessary as the question of legality can be ascertained without troubling His Excellency, I shall at present forbear from any further observation.

I have, &c.,

J. CAMPBELL, Commandant.

[Enclosure.]

S T R E E T  O F  C U T T E R  M E R M A I D.

Pursuant to an Order from James Stirling, Esq., Captain of H.M. Ship Success and Sen. Officer, etc., etc., etc.

We, the undersigned, have been on board the Mermaid Cutter and after a strict and careful Survey on her find as follows, viz.:—

That the said Vessel requires caulking and horning throughout, counterplanks and Rudder Lead bolting, a piece of plank on the larboard side, One Cathead, Eighteen Deck and two quarter Stantions, Thirty feet covering board, a Taffril rail, Four T. Peaks to secure the Channels, One hundred feet of Ceiling, Pumps and Mast Head defective, and, with the above Defects made good, we are of opinion the Mermaid will then be fit to answer any Service which may be required of her.
And we do declare that we have taken this Survey with such care and equity that we are ready, if required, to make oath to the correctness of our proceedings.

Given under our hands on board the Success, King Cove, Melville Island, this 28 July, 1827.

WM. PRESTON, 2nd Lieut. of H.M. Ship Success.
RICH. WHILLEY (?), Master of cutter Mermaid.
W. LEWIS, Carpenter

MAJOR CAMPBELL TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Melville Island, 9th November, 1827.

[Extracts from this despatch will be found on page 821 et seq., volume V, series III.]

[Enclosures.*]

MINUTES OF INQUIRY.

Melville Island, 3 November, 1827.

Minutes of an examination taken upon Oath (during the absence of Major Campbell, Commandant and Justice of the Peace) by William Bate, Lieutenant of His Majesty's 57th Regiment of Foot, and William Hicks, Lieutenant in His Majesty's Navy, Commanding the Colonial Brig Mary Elizabeth, touching the Murder John Gold, Esqr., J.P. and Colonial Assistant Surgeon, and of John Henry Green, Commissary Store Keeper at this Settlement.

1st Evidence. JOHN MONTGOMERY (Ticket Leave Man) sworn, deposes:—As I was returning home with the Cattle about Sun Set, as I approached the Settlement, I and my companions heard a cry of Murder; One of my Companions named William Henry said it was the cry of the Gentlemen. We threw away our cooking Kettles and ran towards the cry, and hallooing as we went along. We caught sight of the Natives, who were holding a person drest in white clothes, whom they were apparently leading along; I on seeing this fired, when the Natives ran off and the Person in white dropt to the ground. We then ran to the spot and found a body lying on the back; the face was too much bruised and covered with dirt and blood that we did not at first recognize it; but, upon examination, found it was the body of Mr. Green. We did not see anything of the Natives after this; I left the body and went after the Natives; several Soldiers had arrived at the spot, and who went with me in search of Doctor Gold, who I was informed had been in company with Mr. Green.

JOHN MONTGOMERY.

2nd Evidence. WILLIAM HENRY, Prisoner of the Crown, sworn, deposes:—As I was returning about Sun Set in company with Montgomery and Mathew Seller bringing home the Cattle, we were within a quarter of a Mile of the Settlement, I heard the noise of the Natives Cooing in the bush; I had scarcely made the remark to my Companions, when we heard a weak cry apparently "Murder," and immediately after a louder and more distinct cry of Murder. We ran toward the cries, and soon saw the Natives; I told my Companions that my Musket was not loaded; they ran on; I stopped and loaded my piece and then followed them, and came in sight of a person in white surrounded by Natives. I cannot swear if he was supported by the Natives or not, but on Montgomery's firing the person in white dropt, and the Natives giving a tremendous Yell ran off. We ran up to the

* Note 141.
Minutes of inquiry re murder of J. Gold and J. H. Green.

3rd Evidence. SERJEANT MALONY, 57th Regiment, sworn, deposes:—

Yesterday Evening about Sun Set, I had served out the oil to the Guard (at the Engineers' Stores) and was standing at the door talking to Private Childs, when we heard a cry from the bush. Pte. Childs remarked that the Natives were about. I replied, if they are about, that cry is the cry of some one they are killing. Pte. Childs then said he had seen Mr. Green and Doctor Gold walking down that way. I replied, if they are gone that way, they are both dead Men. I immediately got my fushee and ran to the Barracks, and took Pte. Foley; we ran in the direction of the cries, and met with the Stock Keepers, who cried out that Mr. Green was killed. I asked "where was the Doctor"; they said, they had not seen him. I went to the body of Mr. Green; he was lying on his back; I supposed him dead and went on without stopping in pursuit of the Doctor along with the Stock Keepers. A large party of the Military had now joined; we searched the swamp but without finding Doctor Gold, and it being dark we returned to the Settlement.

THOMAS MALONEY, Serjeant, 57 Regt.

4th Evidence. PTE. THOMAS FOLEY, 57th Regiment, sworn, deposes:—

About Sun Set I heard a shot in the bush; I was then in the Barracks; I immediately took my Musket and ran out. Serjt. Newbolt was at the door ordering the men to turn out immediately. I saw Serjeant Malony run past Serjeant Newbolt's door; I ran also in the same direction (towards the passway). I ran about a quarter of a mile as near as I can guess, when I came up with the Stock Keeper, who told me Mr. Green was dead. I ran forward (without examining the body, it was lying on the back) and toward the swamp in search of Doctor Gold, who had been seen in Company with Mr. Green. We searched the swamp, but it was now night and were unsuccessful in finding the Doctor, and returned into the Settlement.

THOMAS FOLEY.

5th Evidence. PTE. GEORGE FARNHAM, 57 Regt., sworn, deposes:—

I was walking towards the Camp from the Barracks, when I heard a shot in the bush; I turned round and heard Serjeant Newbolt turning out the Men in Barracks, and saw the Men running into the bush to the pathway road; I ran across and overtook Serjeant Malony and Private Foley in company with the Stock Keeper, who said that Mr. Green was lying dead; they ran on in search of the Doctor [Gold]. I remained with the body which was lying on the back, the Arms stretched out, as were the legs, and the half of a spear sticking in fore part of the throat. I felt the hands and feet, which were cold, the body; it was so disfigured with blood and dirt that at first we did not recognize it, but soon found it was Mr. Green; the head was greatly disfigured with various wounds, and a great quantity of blood about him, and the body was bleeding freely, but quite lifeless. We now hallooed to alarm the Barracks, and my Companion Seller fired a shot for that purpose. I told my Companions that I was sure Doctor Gold was along with Mr. Green; we therefore ran in the direction the Natives had taken, fearing they had taken off the Doctor; and We had not ran more than fifty yards, when we were overtaken by Serjeant Malony and a party of Military. We all went in Company and examined the swamp into which the Natives had retired, but found nothing, and after some time returned into the Settlement.

his WM. x HENRYS.
Arms were warm; the wounds about the head were still bleeding and his clothes were covered with blood. The body was perfectly lifeless. The body was carried into the Settlement.

6 Evidence. SERJEANT GEORGE NEWBOLT, 57th Regiment, sworn, deposes:—At the Evening of the 2nd November, about Sun Set, I heard a shot fired in the bush apparently at some distance in front of the barracks, and immediately after a shout of the Natives. I ordered the Men out of Barracks and ran towards the spot, where I heard the noise. I ran as near I can guess near a quarter of a Mile or more on the road to the passway, when I came upon the body of Mr. Green, lying on his back, the legs and arms stretched out; I learned from the person that were near the body that Doctor Gold had been in company with Mr. Green. I ordered that Mr. Green's body should be taken into the Settlement, and went in search of Dr. Gold, but could not find him. I then returned to the Settlement and made my reports to Lieutenant Bate, who ordered me to have a strong party at day light to go in search of the body of Doctor Gold. On the 3rd November at break of day in pursuance of my orders, I went out with a party, and had not got far from the Barracks, in the direction where the body of Mr. Green had been found, I halted my party and extended them to the right and left across the forest ground and gave orders for the Men to search well through the bushes, and, if any of them found the body, to fire a shot as a signal; I had not gone far before a shot was fired; I went to the spot, and there found the body of Doctor Gould lying on his back with several spears sticking in it. I then ordered the body to be taken up and brought into the Settlement and made my report to the Officer Command.

7th Evidence. WALTER WILSON, Ticket of leave Man and Overseer, sworn, deposes:—On the Evening of the 2nd November, I heard a Musquet fired about ten Minutes before sun down; I proceeded immediately toward the place where I heard the shot; when I got there, I found several of the Military standing over the body of Mr. Green: he was lying on his back; I stoop'd and putting my hand under it raised his head to see if there was any life in him, but found he was quite dead; I then assisted to carry him part of the way to the Settlement.

About near an hour after, I was ordered by Lieutenant Bate to take a party in search of Doctor Gold; I proceeded to the spot where Mr. Green's body had been found; we extended our party, and searched for about a quarter of a Mile all round where Mr. Green was found but were unsuccessful; we then proceeded across the forest ground near three Miles from the Settlement and entered the swamp, scoured it all the way to the Settlement, expecting to find them near their fires, and perhaps finding the Doctor a prisoner, but without success, as we neither saw or heard anything of the Natives and returned to the Settlement.

I was then ordered out with a party in company of Serjeant Newbolt on the morning of the 3rd Novr. in search of the body of Doctor Gold; we went out about a quarter of a Mile from the barracks; Serjeant Newbolt then halted the party and ordered us to extend our files; we did so, and had proceeded about fifty yards further when a Musquet was fired as a signal that the body was found. I then proceeded to the place where the Musquet was fired, and saw the body of Doctor Gold laying on his back, severely speared, several of which were sticking in his body, which Serjeant Newbolt removed. He was brought into the Settlement.

WALTER WILSON, Overseer.
8 Evidence. Thomas Swan, Prisoner of the Crown, sworn, deposes:—
At day light in the Morning I went out with a party of the Military under the orders of Serjeant Newbolt, and about half way between the Barracks and the pass the Serjeant divided the Men and I took the left of the road; and I think at about a hundred yards further on I suddenly caught sight of the body of Dr. Gold, which attracted me by the whiteness of his Shirt, and his Knee being drawn up; I hailed the Serjeant, and went to the body which was lying on the back, one hand on his breast, and his knee drawn up, the other leg stretched out. I saw the body brought into the Settlement.

THOMAS SWAN.

We, the undersigned, in the absence of a Justice of the Peace, considering it would be most satisfactory to furnish the Commandant Major Campbell with the most authentic evidence at which we can arrive as to the melancholy fate of John Gold, Esqr., J.P., and Colonial Assistant Surgeon, and Mr. John Henry Green, Commissary Store Keeper, as well also as for the information of His Excellency Lieutenant General Darling have therefore taken the whole of the foregoing evidence upon Oath.

WILLIAM BATE, Lieut., 57 Regt.
WILLIAM HICKS, Lieutenant, R.N.

STATEMENTS on Oath made before John Campbell, Esqr., Justice of the Peace for the Colony of New South Wales and its dependancies, relative to the Murder of John Gold, Esqr., Colonial Assistant Surgeon, and Mr. John Henry Green, Store Keeper at Melville Island.

Statement of Lieut. Bate, 57th Regt.

On the Evening of Friday, the 2nd of November about Sunset, Mr. Green and Mr. Gold left the Fort for the purpose of a walk; at 20 Minutes after, an alarm was given that the Gentlemen had been surrounded and Mr. Green Murdered, and, on a party bringing in the body of Mr. Green, it was stript and examined. The body of Mr. Gold was not found until the following Morning (the 3rd inst.) when it was brought to his quarters and examined.

The body of Mr. Green, on examination by me, presented the following appearance:—Three Spears had entered his throat; the wounds were of considerable depth; in one of these wounds a spear had been found sticking on the discovery of the body, One spear wound completely through the left Arm, immediately above the wrist. Ten spear wounds in front of the body from the breast to the groins, three wounds in the back, one of which had penetrated the Vertebre of the back.

There were two severe wounds on the head, one was about Six inches long, the lips of the cut about an inch apart shewing the skull dreadfully fractured, the brain Visible.

These wounds were apparently inflicted by blows with waddies.

The appearance of the face was calm and placid, and the total absence of distortion would indicate an instantaneous death. The Number of Wounds were Nineteen.

The Body of John Gold, Esqr., Colonial Assistant Surgeon, On examination was found to have thirty one wounds in different parts, of which some were superficial.
One spear had been thrust under the right eye deep into the head, another had entered the right ear and passed out at the left; Several spears had passed through the body; the head of a jagged spear was deeply inserted in the right groin and remaining in the wound, A spear wound through the right leg.

The countenance was extremely distorted, his left eye open, the pupil drawn upward; the right eye was swollen and closed. The muscles of the face were rigid, the mouth open and the lips distorted.

A double jagged spear was sticking in the body when found, and was given into my possession.

Statement of Lieut. Hicks, R.N.

November, 2nd, 1827. P.M. 6.15. The alarm was given that the natives had surrounded Mr. Green and Dr. Gold, who had walked out towards the pass; shortly afterwards the body of Mr. Green was brought dead in the Fort, and Lieut. Bates and myself attentively examined it and found the following wounds:

Mr. Green had received in all 17 wounds from spears, 3 were in his throat, 1 through his arm, 10 in front of his body and 3 in the back; he had also two severe cuts on the head; one was about six inches long, the lips above two inches deep, the skull laid open so that the brains could be distinctly seen.

November 3rd, 1827. A.M. 7. The body of Dr. Gold brought into the Fort by the party who had been sent in search of it, and had the following wounds on it, as were found upon strict examination of myself and Lieut. Bates:

On the body 31 spear wounds, in seven of which the heads were still sticking; several of the spears had gone through his body and head, and one appeared to have penetrated his bowels, several wounds were in his legs, and from every circumstance I should fear he had died very hard.

WILLIAM HICKS, Lieut., R.N.

The above and foregoing statement were made before me, duly sworn to and signed in my presence at Government House, Melville Island, this Seventh day of November, 1827.

J. CAMPBELL, J.P. and Commandant.
1827. 9 Nov.

Inventory of effects of
J. Gold.

Towels, 3 P. Sheets, 2 P. Braces, 4 Pillow Cases, 1 Bedstead, 1 Mattress, 1 P. Mosquito Curtains, 1 Counterpane, 1 Clothes bag, 1 Pillow, 1 Microscope (not complete), 4 Grocery Tins, 2 Tin Cannisters, 1 Candlestick, 1 P. Scissors, 2 Trunks, 2 Book cases, 5 Silk Handkerchiefs, 2 Table Cloths, 1 Desk, 1 Silver Watch and gold Key, 1 Watch ribbon, 6 Metal spoons, 1 Paper Knife, 3 Lancets, 1 Silver Box Do., 2 Rulers, 1 Eye Glass, 137 Spanish Dollars, 2 Shillings and Six Pence, 14 Paper Pens, 1 Stick slate Pencil, 2 Lead Pencils, 17 Parcels of Address Cards, 2 Cases Pocket Instruments, 1 P. Razors, 1 Tea Kettle, 2 Pr. Boots, 1 Sofa, 1 Copang Mat, 1 Leghorn Hat, 1 Hose, 1 Hair brush, 1 Small Tooth Comb, 1 Shaving Box, 3 Desert Forks, 5 Table Knives, 1 Do. Fork, 1 Bason and Ewer, 1 Butter Boat and stand, 1 Sugar Bason, 1 Vegetable Dish and cover, 2 Glass Salt Cellars, 4 Table Metal Spoons, 1 Dish, 6 Soup Plates, 5 Shallow Do., 2 Desert Do., 1 Tea Pot Queen Metal, 1 Milk Jug Do., 4 Iron Tea spoons, 5 Tea cups, 3 Saucers, 1 Slop bason, 1 Water Jug, 3 Tumblers, 3 Wine Glasses, 1 Decanter.

Books.

Shakespeare 1 Vol., French History of Medicine 1 Vol., Latin Testament, Private thoughts on religion 1 Vol., Mason's Self Knowledge 1 Vol., Stern Work of God 2 Vol., Physical Vade Mecum 1 Vol., Lock cases 3 Vol., Sacremental Devotions 1 Vol., Spersean on the Mind 1 Vol., Dryden's Virgil 3 Vol., Watts on Logic 1 Vol., British Assayist 5 Vol., Akenside's Poetical Works 1 Vol., Thompson's Poems 1 Vol., Green's Botanical Dictionary, 2 Vol., Turner's Geography 1 Vol., Bible 1, Root Bonain 1, Hudibras 2, Butler's Aniology 1, Milton's Works 3, Boldieu 2, Candid on Latin optimise 1, Law serious call 1, Clarke's Cornuillae Nepotes 1, London Dissector 1, Thompson's Conpectors 1, Conversation on Botany 1, Smith on Botany 1, Dr. Hall on Digonias 2, Dr. Boreaus' Dictionary 2, Dr. Buffon's Natural History 2, Dana on Midwifery 2, Bowan on Cataact 1, Conversation on Natural Philosophy, Familys of Plants 2, Chymistry 2, Majentys of Physiognomy 1, Horeiss's Edition 1, Jaceph's Morass 1, Johnson's Works 4, Cooper's Surgery 2, Burke's Enquiry 1, Detolme on Constitution 1, Johnson on Tropical Climates 1, Virgilius Delphinie 1, Elements of Philigany 1, Henry's on Chemistry 2, Latin Translation 1, London Pharmacopoeia 1, Boyer's Traits De Maladies 6, Brown's Classical Dictionary 1, Johnson Do. 1, Holy Bible 1, Nugeant's English Dictionary 1, Wendstrich's French Grammar 1, Key Do. 1, Prayer Book 1, Blair's Class Book 1, Medical Pocket Companion 1, Henry's Sermon 1, Age of Frivolities 1, Selecta Colloquidone 1, Fortinelo's Plurality of Worlds 1, Veronis Italian Mother 1, Cochee's Colloquidone Selecta 1, Thomas Practice of Physic 1, Hooper's Medical Dictionary 1, Cooper's Surgical Dictionary 1, Cicerio's Offices 1, Pernault's Arts and Sciences 1, Pharmaceutical Guide 1, Fables 1, Epitome English Grammar 1, French Cirtain 1, Do. Fables 1, History of Rome Bradleys 1, English Excercises 1, Morgan's Grammatical Excises 1, Mitchell's Latin Do. 1, Hidle's Examples 1, Parson's Dialogues 1, Eaton's Latin Grammar 1, Rudiments of Chemistry 1, Bell's Anatomy 1, Bell's Human Body 2, Clarke's introduction to the working of Lot, Berguin's Pt. chevais De les am Dis Ifona, Grammar of Geometry, Thompson's London Dispensatory, One Case of Amputating Instruments.

Wm. Bate, Lieut., 57th Regt.
J. Radford, D. C. Gl.
William Hicks, Lieut., R.N.
MAJOR CAMPBELL TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Dear Sir,

Melville Island, 11th November, 1827.

I hope you will excuse the liberty I now take of writing you a few lines out of the official way. Allow me to press upon your mind the distressing and unpleasant situation, in which I feel myself from the increased responsibility of my Command under the late melancholy occurrences.

For want of a medical attendant in this Climate, where we are subject to the most serious diseases and accidents that man can be exposed to, you will not be surprised at the great anxiety which exists amongst all here. This combined with our great distance from Sydney and the chance of accident arising at Sea to the Mermaid creates a general gloom, and I hope that no time will be lost in sending us relief.

I cannot state our want with respect to medicine; but I know our supply is limited, and I have often heard Doctor Gold say his supply of a very useful medicine (Castor Oil) was ridiculously small and much wanted.

The medical gentleman, who may be sent here, should bring a full supply of new medicine and a few hospital utensils.

I have sent the writing desk and some papers, which belonged to the late Doctor Gold, addressed to your care; and I understand he has a brother living in Sydney, but, in what part of it, I am uninformed.

I have had a complete surfeit of this Island and sincerely hope His Excellency will order me to be immediately relieved; my fatigues here are excessive, and I feel quite upset by the Climate.
and disagreeable duties imposed upon me. Being sent here has been a serious bar to my professional prospect, and I now anxiously look forward to being placed upon half pay, when I can no longer be detained here.

By the Isabella, I sent a small plan and Chart of Apsley Strait, and by its receipt not having been acknowledged I presume it was either overlooked or not worth noticing. If it arrived and is of no use, may I request of you to direct it being given to Colonel Shadforth, who will kindly take care of it and lay it aside, until I am released from this vile Island, for which I beg you will assist my wishes.

I remain, &c.,
J. CAMPBELL.

SETTLEMENT ORDER.

Melville Island, 20th Dec., 1827.

By the present arrangement of paying the Ticket of Leave Men in the Employment of Government, agreeable to the 2nd Clause of Local Regulations, it appears that this arrangement is not quite so advantageous to the Workman as that offered by Government on the original Establishment of the Settlement, whereby Ticket of Leave and Free Men employed by Government were to receive Six Months' Rations for Three Months' Work, and to be paid at the rate of Two Shillings a day for each day's work during the succeeding three Months. By that System, the workmen receive rations on Sundays free of Charge, And, by the existing Regulations, they now pay for the same; there is consequently a difference against them in their quarterly balance of Thirteen Shillings, being the average Number of Sundays in a quarter. This sum in twelve Months amounts to Two pounds, Twelve Shillings. In Order to make up this difference to the advantage of the Workmen employed agreeable to the Local Orders, and at the same time not to embarrass the Accounts, The Commandant is pleased to direct that their wages shall be two Shillings and Two pence per diem instead of Two Shillings; this, when multiplied by Seventy eight the number of working days in a quarter, will amount to Thirteen Shillings, being the difference equivalent to paying for Rations on as many Sundays, which payment of Rations of course will still remain as hitherto. The increased rate of wages of two Shillings and two pence will take place from the 25th September, 1827, and remain in force until such time as the pleasure of His Excellency the Governor is made known.

J. CAMPBELL, Commandant.

RETURN OF MECHANICS ON MELVILLE ISLAND.

24th December, 1827.
24th March, 1828.

[These returns detailed the names of forty-two and forty mechanics respectively.]
The following is an account of the distressing events that took place at Raffles Bay, Melville Island, and on the passage of the Mermaid from Melville Island:

On September 20th Arrived the Brig Ann from Sydney with Provisions and Cattle for A Settlement supposed to be formed at Port Essington or in its vicinity. The Brig Ann went to Croker's Island and Raffles Bay and fired Guns, which was heard at the Settlement, but before the boat could get out the Brig Ann left the Bay. She then proceeded to Port Essington, and not finding the Settlement there came to Melville Island, where she discharged her Cargo on board the Mermaid to be conveyed to Raffles Bay.

The Brig Ann Sailed on the 30th of September, and on the 3rd of October Arrived H.M.C. Brig Mary and Elizabeth with a quantity of American Beef for survey, which was condemned, and brought the unpleasant news† that Doctor Wood of the Settlement of Raffles Bay was despaired of, that the Major part of the People was in Hospital sick of Scurvy and other diseases.

On the 6th Octr., embarked Major Campbell and Commissary Radford; the same day Sailed for Raffles Bay; And, after a long and tedious passage of 21 day, arrived at the Settlement, when came on board Captain Smyth, Commandant, and brought the Melancholy news of the death of Doctor Wood and the sickly state of the Settlement, and said there was not over twelve Men on the Settlement free from Scurvy or other disease.

On the 1st day of Novr., embarked fourteen of the worst Cases to carry to Melville Island for Medical Assistance.

On the 2nd of Novr., Sailed, and on the 5th Arrived at Melville Island, when came Lieut. Hicks and told the affecting tale that, on Friday, his Wife died and was buried the same day; that Mr. Green, Store Keeper, Doctor Gold and others attended the funeral; that they returned at near Sunset, when Mr. Green and Doctor Gold went out to Walk, and had not proceeded far before lamentable Cries was heard, when numbers of the People from the Settlement ran to the place where the Voice proceeded from, and after some search found the Body of Mr. Green, who had been barbarously Murdered by the Natives with a spear through his throat, And several Spear Wounds in different parts of his Body; but Doctor Gold was not to be found. Many of the Military and other was in search the whole Night, and at six o'clock in the morning found the Body of the Doctor in A most horrid state, having received upwards of thirty Spear Wounds, Six of which remained in his body.
1528.
Departure of brig Mermaid for Sydney.

Arrival at Timor; at King George's sound; and at Western port.

1 April.
Health of settlement.

On the 6th Major Campbell gave me orders to prepare for Sydney, and on the eleventh embarked 11 Sick and 9 other passengers. The same day sailed. Before we was out of sight of the Island, died Thos. Power, private of 39th Regt., and on the 19th Thos. Upchurch, private of 39 Regt. The westerly Monsoon having set in, I was sixteen days beating to Timor, where I remained one day and filled up my water and sailed from that Port on the 27th Novr.

On the 8th day of Decr., Sprung the Vessels Bowsprit, and was not able to carry much sail untill my Arrival at King George's Sound on the 10th January, where I got the Bowsprit cut shorter and stepe again, filled up my water and provisions for twenty three days, and Sailed on the 10th; same day carried away our Jibboom. From the long duration of Easterly Winds, I was untill the 3rd of Feb. before I got in the Longitude of Western Port, having only five days' provisions remaining; thought it most prudent to touch for supply and, not knowing in what part of the Port the Settlement was formed, I was two days before I found it. On the 7th Feb. came on board three Men who was Sealing at Western Port, and Asked for Passage to Sydney, agreeing to find their own provisions and do duty as Seaman.

Considering the Sickly state of My Crews and the Public interest, gave them A Passage. I have, &c.,

SAML. DOWSETT.

MAJOR CAMPBELL TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.
(Despatch No. 10.)

Sir,
Melville Island, 1st April, 1828.

By the proposed return of the Brig Anne to Sydney, I do myself the honor of communicating for the information of His Excellency an account of the few events of any moment that may have taken place at this Settlement since the sailing of the Mermaid on the 12 of Novr. last. I am happy to report that we have been extremely fortunate as to health. We have had a few cases of fever and a great deal of Scurvy, but in general are doing tolerably well. Two men have died since November; one of which was a Seaman belonging to the Success Frigate, who had strayed into the woods at Raffles Bay and was taken by the Natives; he was afterwards given up and sent down here; this man died of Typhus fever; the other death was a Soldier of the 39th, whom I had brought from Raffles Bay; he died of a rapid decline. We have succeeded in preventing the Scurvey from arriving at any very alarming extent by the constant issue of fresh provisions and giving lime juice as far as our means allow
CAMPBELL TO MACLEAY.

1898.
1 April.

Buffalo sent by C. Béchade.

to the worst cases; the latter article I have procured a small although inadequate supply of from Koepang. At present our Sick State is one man in Hospital and seven out.

The Anne was unfortunate in her return voyage to Sydney with ponies and was obliged to put back to Koepang. It was a fortunate event for us, as Mr. Bechade has employed her in making two trips to this Island with Buffalo, and has enabled me to send a part of them to Raffles Bay.

In my dispatch of the 9th November, I stated my intention of sending the Mary Elizabeth to Koepang as soon as she was ready for Sea. She sailed on the 18th of the same month and returned on the 21st December, bringing over fifteen Buffalo and twenty Hogs. This supply I divided with Captain Smyth; but, as it would only afford twenty two days' rations for his Settlement and sixteen for this, I have found the quantity brought over by the Anne on two trips, amounting to One hundred and fifty one head, as a most acceptable relief from the apprehension I had entertained of our becoming deficient of fresh supplies.

The provision return, which I now forward, will show that our flour and rice is getting rather low, and the sugar expended; the consumption of the last article is very great indeed and the want of it would be severely felt.

The Master of the Anne has applied to me for some Salt provisions and flour for the use of his ship's company as his stores are exhausted. I have complied with this request and directed him to be supplied from our Magazine on his giving receipt and orders for the payment of said supplies on the form of Messrs. Raine and Ramsay, to whom the Anne belongs. I granted a similar request to Mr. Grimes when he was here in January, and on the same terms; both of which accommodations I hope His Excellency will approve of.

On the return of the Mary Elizabeth from Koepang in December, I was astonished at receiving a report from the Master of the Mermaid stating that he had put in there for water and alleging some trifling excuse about the wind. It appearing to me so flagrant a breach of the duty he owed to the Service in which he was employed, and particularly after the injunction he had received to use every practicable dispatch in repairing to Sydney with the account of the critical situation of these two Settlements, that I think it incumbent upon me to report such conduct for the information of the Governor. I have also to add that I have since learnt that Mr. Dowsett had previously determined on putting into Koepang on his voyage to Sydney for motives of private interest and traffic.
1828.
1 April.

Vessel expected from Sydney.

Departure of ship's carpenters.

Payment of crew of brig Mary Elizabeth.

Visit of J. Grimes to Port Essington.

Malay proas engaged in trepang fishing.

As I am in daily expectation of an arrival from Sydney either on account of the intelligence sent by the Mermaid or with the half yearly supply of Stores, I shall not at present send duplicates of my last dispatch or returns, as I think that the vessel which may arrive will return again to Port Jackson before the Anne.

I beg to mention that our two boat builders or Ship Carpenters (Spowage and Faulkner) have become free and are now embarked on board the Anne for Koepang; this circumstance leaves both this settlement and that at Raffles Bay without the means of building boats or repairing boats or ships; this is a want I long ago anticipated, and will now be attended with great inconvenience particularly as the Mary Elizabeth has no Carpenter.

I must mention that there appears a little remissness in sending the Crew of the Mary Elizabeth to this Station without either Articles of Agreement or any document of the period to which they were paid. Lieut. Hicks applied to me for a quarter's wages for himself and ship's company, alleging that the men might refuse to do their duty if not paid. I caused him to furnish me with a Certificate on oath stating the period to which his Crew were paid, as also their several rates, and on this Certificate I ordered them to be paid up to the 24th September, 1827.

Captain Smyth has since paid them to the 24th of December and writes me that, as soon as the Mary Elizabeth returns from her present voyage, "on which she has been now absent above two months," he will send here to be victualled and paid up to the 24th of March, his means being inadequate to accomplish either.

This will be an unexpected call upon our now reduced funds and stores, but I think we shall be able to meet this demand.

Mr. Grimes on his return from Raffles Bay put into Port Essington, as I had requested him, to land on a particular Point of it to ascertain whether it was flooded or wet at this period of the year or not. Mr. Grimes reports having found five Malay Proas of about twenty ton each anchored there; the crews amounting to one hundred and thirty persons had landed and erected a regular Trepang fishing establishment consisting of bamboo huts and boiling places; the establishment was surrounded by a fence of fourteen or sixteen feet high, constructed also of bamboo and as a protection against the Natives. They would not dispose of any of their Trepang to Mr. Grimes, telling him that their proprietor who resided at Maccassar would not sanction it, that they were merely employed to procure the Tripang and not to dispose of it.
They expressed much surprise on being told that the English were going to settle in Port Essington; said that The Maccassars had used it as a fishing place for many years; had given it a name (Limboo Mootiara) and that the English had certainly no business there.

In Captain Smyth's communication to me dated 17th March, he states that a Malay Proa had entered Raffles Bay being one of ten that had passed to the Eastward through Bowen's Straits. The Chief of this Proa informed him that the Dutch had cautioned them against going near Melville Island (Aimba Mootiara) representing that it was infested by Pirates. I have not heard of or seen any of these Pirates, unless the Dutch kindly designate us as such.

The Natives of this Island have not molested us since the unfortunate occurrence of the 2d of November; they have been seen at a distance but are very wary and shy. I shall however, when opportunity offers a chance of success, endeavour to shew them that so barbarous an act cannot remain unrevenged; this I hope will only be considered as doing justice and sanctioned as the sole means I have of chastizing Savages and convincing them that they cannot be allowed to commit murder with impunity.

I still interdict any act of violence on the part of individuals and strictly enforce my original regulations* as regards the treatment of the natives, and I verily believe there has as yet been no instance of any infringement of those orders.

I have, &c.,

J. CAMPBELL, Major, 57th Regt.

MAJOR CAMPBELL TO LIEUTENANT SLEEMAN.†

My dear Sir,

Melville Island, 30th April, 1828.

A most unprecedented occurrence having taken place with respect to the Master of the Amity, which Vessel was not for the use of this Settlement, induces me to request that you will place the Mary Elizabeth at the disposal of Captain Hartley‡ and allow her to return as soon as possible to this Settlement. Both these establishments are at present well supplied with Live Stock, and I dont think there will be any necessity for sending either of the two Government Vessels to Timor for supplies during five months to come. They must thus necessarily remain idle; and my intention was that, if your predecessor could have spared the Mary Elizabeth to have requested him to have sent her here for the purpose of employing her for the Public Service on a voyage to Sydney, and, during her absence, the Amity, which is a capacious Vessel, would be employed for the mutual benefit

* Note 144. † Note 108. ‡ Note 145.
1828.
30 April.

Request for use of brig Mary Elizabeth.

and want of both these Settlements. To enter into a detail of all my reasons for wishing the Mary Elizabeth to be sent here would occupy ten times more time than I am at present in the command of, and I feel satisfied that, could I lay them before you, that you would coincide in my opinion of the advantage the Public would derive from sending this Vessel under existing circumstances to Sydney.

In haste, &c.,

J. CAMPBELL, Commandant.

P.S.—My dear Sleeman,—I have risen from my bed to profit by the unexpected opportunity that offers of assuring the Commandant of Raffles Bay of the unaffected interest I feel in all that concerns him. Pray allow me to second Major Campbell’s wishes by such measure of influence as I can hope to exercise upon your measures. Always my dear Sleeman,

very faithfully yrs.,

H. R. HARTLEY.

ASSIST. SURGEON SHERWIN* TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.

Sir, Fort Dundass, Melville Island, 8th May, 1828.

I have the honor to request that you will have the goodness to submit the enclosed to the favorable consideration of His Excellency. I have also most respectfully to solicit your kind assistance towards the accomplishment of the object which I have in view.

You are, already, fully apprized of the unprotected situation of my sisters, which I hope will induce you to favor me with your assistance. I have, &c.,

WILLIAM SHERWIN.

[Enclosure.]

ASSIST. SURGEON SHERWIN TO GOVERNOR DARLING.

Sir, Fort Dundass, Melville Island, 8th May, 1828.

I beg most respectfully to solicit that your Excellency will have the goodness to direct that my sisters, Sarah and Eliza, be furnished with accommodations in the same vessel, on which my brother John is to proceed to this place; and that they may receive rations from the commissariat stores; and, also, that they may be permitted to bring with them a consigned Govt. servant and his wife, who have been in the employ of the Family for some years and are good characters.

Your Excellency will, I trust, take into consideration the anxiety of a brother for the welfare of his sisters, left unprotected in such a Colony as N. S. Wales, and, therefore, pardon my perhaps unprecedented request.

Your Excellency's compliance with these solicitations will be considered a very great indulgence and appreciated accordingly by,

Your Excellency’s Most obedient and very humble Servt.,

WILLIAM SHERWIN,
Surgeon at Melville Island.

* Note 146. 

8 May.
Transmission of letter.

Recommendation by H. R. Hartley.

Request by W. Sherwin for passages for sisters.
HARTLEY TO MACLEAY.

CAPTAIN HARTLEY TO COLONIAL SECRETARY MACLEAY.
(Despatch No. 1.)

Sir,
Melville Island, 12th May, 1828.

1. I have the honor to state for the information of His Excellency the Governor that we reached this Settlement on the 27th of April having kept company with the Brig Philip Dundas until the 12th April when we cleared Torres Straits (which owing to light and baffling winds we were obliged to enter by the passage of the Eastern Fields); both vessels then proceeded independently towards the Settlement of Raffles Bay, the Philip Dundas arriving there on the 16th, and the Governor Philip on the 17th April, 1828.

2. Our detention at Baffles Bay lasted until the 24th of April, the interim being occupied by Captain Smyth (Commandant) in transferring to Lieut. Sleeman, 39th Regt., the charge of the Settlement, in adjusting public accounts, and in making the necessary preliminary arrangements for the embarkation and removal of thirteen invalids, principally scorbutic cases of a bad character.

3. The worn out and emaciated condition of the Sick at Raffles Bay and the undue proportion, which their numbers bore to the numerical strength of the population of that Settlement, coupled with the generally sickly complexion and attenuated appearance of nearly all, afforded melancholy evidence of the malignant effects of the climate with which they had been contending and which, with the accumulated local disadvantages Raffles Bay labors under, appear to render it not only ineligible as a Settlement but moreover unfit for the residence of civilized man.

4. The present State of this Settlement and its apparently general improved condition furnish satisfactory testimony of Major Campbell’s zealous and well directed exertions, whilst exercising the functions of Commandant.

5. As the number of hospital cases now under treatment amounts only to two exclusive of out patients, I think the Settlement may be regarded as being in a comparatively healthy state; there are however several persons who, tho’ not immediately sick patients, are still affected in such a degree with scurvy as will for some time render care and attention in the regulation of their diet objects of paramount importance; but, as our present supply of Buffalo is abundant, and the season of the year (that which is considered as most) favorable, we may I think reasonably hope by a judicious application of our resources and
the aid of medical assistance to partake of as large a measure of health as can rationally or consistently be anticipated in a Settlement situate within the Tropics.

6. With regard to the present or prospective advantages of Melville Island in its relation of a colonial dependency and the prospect, which it offers (as far as ordinary sagacity and foresight are warranted in anticipating probable results) of ever yielding a return, commercial or otherwise in any degree commensurate to the weighty expense inseparable from its occupancy as a Government establishment, it would perhaps be more prudent and becoming on my part (entertaining as I profess to do a great distrust in the truth or accuracy of mere first impressions) to forbear at present from offering any fixed opinions on a subject involving so many and such weighty considerations, until time, enquiry and the lights derivable from observation and reflection shall enable me with more confidence to offer opinions upon the various points that demand attention in enabling the mind to arrive at a calm, impartial and comprehensive estimate of an infant Settlement.

7. There are, however, two points upon which an almost absolute opinion may be given without any hazard of being hereafter controverted, namely the great sterility and discouraging unproductiveness of the soil throughout Melville Island (as far as it is known), being for the most part a dry hungry sand, the surface of which is covered with an iron stone of a burnt appearance; the other or remaining point I allude to is the dangerous navigation in approaching the entrance or passage of Apsley Straits, which is so intricate and hazardous, so choked and encumbered with sunken shoals, reefs and other perilous obstructions (against which the best charts and most cautious navigation can only provide a partial and uncertain security), that it seems natural to believe and for my own part I am persuaded that nothing short of absolute necessity will ever induce shipping in any large amount to resort to a harbour so dangerously and in every respect objectionably circumstanced.

8. Pursuant to No. 7 paragraph of my instructions, directing me to forward to Head Qrs. a detailed report upon the subject of certain Buoys referred to in a former despatch* from Major Campbell, I beg here to submit for His Excellency's consideration the subjoined observations as the result of my reflections and enquiries upon this head. Two Buoys should be placed to mark the narrowest part of the Channel entering into St. Asaph's Bay in order to guard against the dangers of the Shoals situated

* Note 147.
off Piper's Head and Point Brace. In addition to these, three other Buoys would I think be requisite to facilitate the navigation between the western extremes of Mermaid Shoal and that of Point Brace Shoal, namely one at each extreme of a sand bank of about 4 or 5 miles in extent and forming the Western boundary of Mermaid Shoal; this sand bank which is but seldom uncovered not having been hitherto laid down in any published chart (but which Major Campbell informs me does exist), the said sand bank running in a direction about N.W. and S.E.

The last or 5th Buoy might be laid down on the outer Western extreme of Point Brace Shoal and distant from it about 5 mile W. and by N. of Point Brace.

9. Whilst at Raffles Bay, I discovered that some Malay Prows were in the neighbourhood of the Settlement; and, being aware of the desire of Government to cultivate and improve a friendly intercourse with these adventurers, I caused the interpreter (O'Dean) to communicate with and signify to them that, in the event of any of their countrymen visiting Melville Island, they would there meet with the kindest and most cordial treatment; but they informed him that, in the prosecution of the Trepang fishing, their excursions did not extend to that Settlement; it was out of their customary track, and they could not therefore touch there.

10. The loss in government Stock during our passage (occasioned by mortality) has proved somewhat serious; but such I apprehend will generally be the result where Cattle (and particularly sheep) are transported from mild to Tropical latitudes and exposed to the effects of close confinement and a very high temperature in a ship's hold, where ventilation can be but partially introduced. I would therefore in all such cases, where cattle are shipped for remote settlements, respectfully recommend the expediency of constructing pens of a sufficient size to contain 4 or 5 animals; such an arrangement would facilitate classification and enable the weak and sickly to be separate from the healthy and strong, and would protect the feeble animals from pressure and consequent suffocation in bad weather and heavy seas. Our total loss was as follows, viz.: 4 Cows, 13 Sheep including 12 ewes, also a Bull, which, tho’ landed alive, was afterwards slaughtered from necessity, he being past all recovery.

11. Agreeably to the discretionary powers vested in me by No. 10 paragraph of my instructions, I have detained the Stockkeeper Vanhammett, his services being much required at this Settlement; but, as Vanhammett informs me that he has received a promise of freedom from Government, to be granted in about
1828.
12 May.

Policy to be adopted re public works.

Necessity for carriages for carronades.

Necessity for assistance of clerk.

Request for legal text-book.

'twelve months' time from present date, I have to request you will be pleased to inform me whether such representation be founded in truth.

12. Until I shall have the honor of receiving further instructions from Government, significant of their final resolutions relative to the retention or abandonment of this Settlement, I propose as far as is practicable confining my undertakings to such works as may prove useful in either alternative to the public service; it is also my intention to collect a good supply of seasoned timber as a resource always valuable and useful; further it shall be my care to prevent the public works and buildings from falling into decay and to prosecute such works only as are already in progress or absolutely and indispensably necessary to the public service.

13. The eighteen pound carronades in Fort Dundas are at present useless owing to the want of proper carriages to mount them on; carronade carriages were duly applied for by Major Campbell on his arrival at this Settlement in Sept., 1826, but, from some unaccountable cause, instead of carronade carriages four long gun carriages were forwarded from Sydney per Amity and landed here on the 14th April, 1828.

14. The number of official returns required from this Settlement and the large measure of miscellaneous writing to be disposed of, are so considerable as to afford constant employment for a clerk, and unfortunately there is not an individual on the Settlement capable of filling such office. Major Campbell being about to take his clerk a soldier with him to Sydney will render me for some time dependant upon such assistance as I can occasionally receive from my serjeant or other casual aid. I have, therefore, to request you will be pleased to submit this serious want to the consideration of His Excellency, and further that you will solicit His Excellency to grant some allowance to meet the heavy expense of keeping a permanent Clerk, whom I respectfully entreat may as soon as possible be selected at Sydney and forwarded by the first vessel that shall be dispatched to this Settlement from Hd. Qrs.

15. The frequent occasions that occur in this Settlement of a nature demanding legal investigation, and the various questions that are constantly falling within the limits of magisterial cognizance and at the same time requiring immediate adjudication, Under the want of any approved law book or authority, a very serious desideratum and particularly to a military man, who, tho' he may not be unacquainted with the broad principles of
British jurisprudence, may still be (and in point of fact generally is) extremely ignorant of legal forms of procedure and other constantly recurring niceties. I have therefore earnestly to request you will be pleased to bring this subject under the consideration of His Excellency with a view to our being provided with a Copy of Burns' Justice or some other good modern authority.

16. With reference to a recent order No. 16 dated the 7th of September relative to Civil Salaries at detached government Stations, I beg leave very respectfully to submit that, if the observance of its provisions be insisted on and applied to a Settlement so remotely situated as that of Melville Island, it will be productive of considerable inconvenience, delay and probably even pecuniary loss to the several creditors or annuitants concerned; the order provides that a pay list containing the names of the several claimants with the Commandant's certificate affixed thereunto be transmitted in the first instance to Sydney, the said pay list is afterwards, when duly examined, to be returned to the Commandant at Melville Island with a warrant authorising him to draw for the amount; until the receipt of which, he cannot grant orders upon the Deputy Commissary General to the several parties to entitle them to draw for their respective salaries. You will be pleased to notice that the two tedious processes of sending forms and documents to Sydney and awaiting the return of the same at Melville Island, together with the various contingent and incidental delays inseparable from their transmission to and fro, will necessarily involve a total delay of many months (perhaps nearly a year), during which long interregnum the several civil servants must remain without and cannot touch their respective salaries. With a view therefore of obviating these many evils and inconveniences, I have very earnestly to request you will be pleased to submit this subject to the consideration of His Excellency, and solicit that I may henceforth be permitted to draw quarterly Bills in favor of those entitled to Civil salaries upon the public chest in this Settlement, transmitting at the same time to Sydney the customary pay list containing the signatures of the several parties affixed thereunto as a full and sufficient receipt and always attending scrupulously to the general accuracy and correctness of so important a voucher.

17. Major Campbell, having found it necessary to appoint a person as Settlement and engineer store-issuer in order to facilitate the arrangements of so complicated a department in taking charge of and personally attending to the daily issues, as well as
1828.
12 May.
Appointment of store-issuer.

Necessity for an overseer.

Wages for ticket-of-leave men.

Proposed departure of brig Governor Phillip.

preventing by incessant attention all articles of a perishable nature from becoming unserviceable from the joint effects arising from the dampness of the climate and the active and ruinous depredations of the white ants (which are here formidable beyond all description), has from the weight which all these considerations carry with them appointed Serjeant Day, 57th Regt., with a salary of 1s. (one shilling) per diem until such time as the pleasure of His Excellency can be made known. I have therefore to request you will be pleased to inform me whether such arrangement is to remain in force or otherwise.

18. I beg leave to observe that we are in extreme want of an active, steady and intelligent overseer, there being no individual on the Settlement competent to fill such office with advantage to the public service. I am further also of opinion that the duties of Overseer would be better performed by granting some reasonable remuneration to the person acting in that capacity.

19. Major Campbell has informed me that the prisoners bearing a ticket of leave on the island applied to him to be placed on the same terms as had been promised them on their originally volunteering* to embark for the establishment, and, as on reflection he found that the wages paid to labourers of 2s. (two shillings) per diem was not so advantageous to them as the former method of allowing two months' wages for one month's work, Major Campbell issued a settlement order† (a copy of which is now forwarded) and increased the wages to 2s. 2d. (two shillings and two pence) per diem commencing on the 25th Septr., 1827, and to remain in force until His Excell'y's pleasure should be signified to him. I have now to solicit information whether such arrangement is to be considered permanent or otherwise.

20. Tomorrow is appointed for the departure of the Brig Governor Phillip from this Settlement, and, tho' her detention has been somewhat tedious, yet we have been incessantly and unintermittingly occupied the whole time in public business which has been much increased by magisterial investigations.

I have, &c.,

H. R. Hartley, Commandant.

SIR GEORGE MURRAY TO GOVERNOR DARLING.

31st May, 1828.

[Note 135. † Note 148.]

Orders for removal of settlement.

31 May.

[Note 125.]

[A copy of this despatch, ordering the removal of the settlement from Melville island, will be found on page 214, volume XIV, series I.]