No 38/42 Survey Office, Melbourne
1 May 1838

Sir,

I enclose herewith a Copy of the Surveyor General's Circular No 38/101 and have to request your early compliance with the directions therein contained in order that I may be enabled to make the requisitions and returns that are required at Head Quarters.

I have the honor to be &c.
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

To forward returns of Equipment, Cattle &c.

Messrs Stapylton
Darke
Smythe

No 38/43. Survey Office, Melbourne
8th May 1838

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 38/173 dated 6th April and in reply beg leave to inform you that I have already given Instructions to Mr Smythe on the subject of the Town of Geelong to commence at the Bay towards Mr Fisher's hut. I herewith transmit the Plan and should have again visited that neighbourhood in order to mark out the necessary Reserves for a Church, Burial Ground, Burial Ground, Barracks &c.

As it is your wish the Police Magistrate there should act as an auxiliary in the Department it will be unnecessary for me for the present to proceed there.

I recommend Nos 1. 2 & 3 to be immediately put up for sale. As soon as I hear of your approval of the suburban allotments near the Town of Melbourne I shall give directions to Mr Smythe to mark out suburban allotments at Geelong.

I have the honor &c.
signed Rt Hoddle

Transmitting Plan of the Town of Geelong

Surveyor General
&c &c

No 38/44 Survey Office, Melbourne
8 May 1838

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 38/196 dated 16 April 1838 conveying the information that I made use of an expression on board the Revenue Cutter which is prejudicial to my character as a civil servant. I beg leave to assure you that I never made use of the low expressions imputed to me.

It is a malicious falsehood the motive of the author is best known to himself. I cannot therefore recal expressions I did not utter. I may have said that it had been better the Government had paid me the forage allowance of £45 per annum than incur the expense of £80 per annum as the half years account amounted to £40.

With respect to the non payment of the account for forage I am still of opinion that I am justly entitled either to 2/6 per day or forage in kind from the 1 July to the time the Commissariat supplied me with it.

I have the honor &c.
signed, Rt Hoddle, Surveyor

Mr Hoddle denying the expression imputed to him by Captain Fyans

The Surveyor General
&c &c

No 38/45. Survey Office, Melbourne
9 May 1838.

Sir,

I have to request you will be pleased to mark out the following Reserves in the proposed Town of Geelong and to apply for assistance to the Police Magistrate for the sites thereof

The

The three blocks, generally termed sections next the Bay, to be numbered 1. 2. and 3. On No 1 section, on the left side allotments No.s 6. 7. 8 and 9 to be reserved for the Customs. Allotments Nos 1. 2. 3 and 30 in section No 2 to be reserved for Government purposes opposite Mr. Ruckers Store.

To mark Reserves in the Township of Sorrento

Reserve for Public buildings. Hospital. Church, Parsonage, School, Market Place, Gaol and Court House to be reserved in the Town also one or two allotments for Watch houses equidistant from the centre of the Town marked near Mr. Fishers House

The Military barracks to be on commanding ground with a plight fall in front contiguous to the Town to contain ten acres and to be sufficiently near the Sea to afford the means of Sea bathing. The burial ground not to be nearer than a mile of the Town. I have transmitted your plans to the Surveyor General in its present incomplete state to enable the Government to offer for sale No.s 1. 2. and 3 Sections I send you a small sketch to enable you to number the sections as transmitted to Head Quarters.

I have the honor to be &c.

Assistant Surveyor Smythe

(signed) R.s Hoddle. Surveyor

No 38/46 Melbourne, 22d May 1838.

Sir.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Letter No 34/216 dated 27 April referring to Letter 38/96 dated 16th April and in reply beg leave to refer you to my Letter No 38/44 dated 8th May 1838 in which I deny having made use of an expression imputed to me on board the Revenue Cutter

Surveyor General.

I have &c. signed R.s Hoddle

No 38/47 Survey Office, Melbourne
23d May 1838.

Sir.

I enclose herewith two vouchers for forage which I have to request you will sign and return to me by the bearer in the course of the day.

Assistant Surveyor Stapylton. I have &c. signed R.s Hoddle.

Forwarding Receipts for goods sent from Depot

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 38/48. 23d May 1838

Sir.

In reply to your Letter of the 7 April, No 38/36 informing me of your having sent to Sydney for the purpose of being forwarded to Port Phillip, certain goods of which you enclose a receipt for my signature. I beg to state that the articles arrived here, per Sarah, for which I enclose you the receipt as required. I also enclose you a receipt for the articles sent by the same conveyance, for Mr. Butler as that gentleman is not at present in this quarter.

I have &c.

Percy Simpson Esq.r signed R.s Hoddle.

Survey Office, Melbourne
24 May 1838

No 38/49.

Sir.

As there are open plains and lands of considerable extent destitute of water, in that part of the Colony, that are not likely to be in demand for purchase, for years, I should feel obliged to you to inform me, at your earliest convenience whether in the marking the Parishes it is necessary to mark those Plains on the ground until the period they are likely

likely to be in demand. I shall be happy to know whether you approve of my method of having marked the sections in front of permanent water as shewn in my plan transmitted with my letter 38/16 dated 8 February. which I have not yet received an acknowledgement of its having reached Head Quarters.

I have the honor to be &c—

The Surveyor General. signed, R. Hoddle, Surveyor

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 38/50. 24 May 1838

Sir.

It being difficult to mark out lines of Roads when it is uncertain where Towns and Villages may be required and it having been expressed in your letter of Instructions No 38/358 of 31 July 1837 that I should describe roads to every purchased section I shall feel obliged to you to inform me at your earliest convenience, whether it would not be sufficient in making out descriptions for Deeds of Grant that it be inserted, that a right of Road can be claimed, wherever the Public will be most benefited. It also frequently occurs that where the land is perfectly level, and where a good Road may be formed in its natural state during the wet weather, from water lodging in hollows it is quite impassable in the direct line, This causes another obstacle in marking Roads, unless the Public would be obliged to make them, as soon as marked, which is quite impossible in a new Colony. This subject I bring before you in order that I may attend to the strict Letter of your Instructions where I am directed when in doubt and difficulty to submit it for your consideration.

Concerning the marking of Roads

The Surveyor General. I have &c signed R. Hoddle

No 38/57. Survey Office, Melbourne
39th May 1838

Sir.

I have to request you will be pleased to send me without loss of time the following particulars, of the men attached to you, for the information of the Police Magistrate, viz. Names of Men, Sentence, Country, Trade, Religion, Year of arrival, and Ship.

To furnish Return of the men of his party.

Assistant Surveyor Stapylton. I have &c signed R. Hoddle Surveyor

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No 38/58. Survey Office Melbourne
6 June 1838

Sir.

As there are frequent applications respecting the boundaries of Allotments in the Town and matters connected therewith in addition to the drawing, copying Plans and giving Instructions to the officers in the Department here. I should wish to be informed whether you consider it my duty to be constantly employing myself in the Field

Enquiring whether Surveyor in Charge is expected to be constantly employing himself in the field

At present my time if fully occupied in superintending the operations of the officers placed under my orders.

I have &c

The Surveyor General signed, R. Hoddle Surveyor

No 38/59 Survey Office Melbourne 19th June 1838

Sir.

I do myself the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letters, No 38/348, enclosing a tracing, and No 38/359, both dated 23d May, and to state that the instructions contained therein shall meet with my immediate attention.

I have &c

The Surveyor General. signed, Robt Hoddle, Surveyor

No 38/54. Survey Office 19th June 1838

Sir.

The Presbyterian Clergyman has informed me, by letter, that he has permission from His Excellency the Governor to select two and a half acres of land for the erection of a Church, Ministers Dwelling and a School House at Melbourne, on Section No 11.

The Allotments chosen are Nos 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, which I have noted on the Plan of the Town.

I have &c

The Surveyor General. signed, Robert Hoddle.

Notifying selection of Allotments by Presbyterian Minister.

Survey Office, Melbourne
3 July 1838

No 38/55.

Sir.

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No 38/311 dated 14 June 1838 I have the honor to inform you that I have already marked the allotments advertized for Sale at Sydney on the 12 September at Melbourne and Williams Town.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
signed, Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

Allotments for Sale

The Deputy Surveyors General &c &c &c

No 38/56. Survey Office 3 July 1838

Sir

In reference to letter No 38/103 dated 26th February 1838, informing me that two Assistant Surveyors were proceeding by land to Port Phillip and that each was to give an account of his own operations.

Messrs Stapylton and Batton arrived here on the 17th April 1838, the latter left the station immediately the former informed me he had orders to transmit his Plans

The Surveyor General &c &c &c

Notifying Batton and Stapylton's arrival.

Plans of the Route which would be ready for transmission to Head Quarters in a few days I accidentally observed that no Plans had been forwarded to you. As Mr Stapylton had no orders what his proceedings were to be at Port Phillip I directed him to proceed to survey and finish the Yarra Rivulet (a Branch of the Yarra Yarra) and a Range that will form a County boundary. I wish to be informed whether Mr Stapylton is to produce his plans for my Inspection previous to transmission to Head Quarters as I cannot be responsible for the performances of the duty of the Assistants placed under me.

I think it necessary that copies of all plans transmitted from this branch of the Department, should be left at the office, in the event of Plans not reaching Head Quarters.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

Survey Office 3 July 1838
Melbourne, Port Phillip

No 38/57

Sir.

Having urgent private business at Sydney and Hunter's River, that requires my presence I request the favor of Leave of absence for that purpose.

I beg leave to inform you that, with the exception of leave of absence for three months from ill health I have not been absent from my Public Duties since my Engagement in the Department.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
signed, Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

The Surveyor General.

Applying for Leave of absence.

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 37/38 13 July 1838.

Sir.

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 7th Instant accompanying a Plan of the Parish of Gheringhap and the Trace from Melbourne I have to request that, as it is necessary a copy of such Plan should be deposited in this office here, you will furnish me with a copy of the Plan above alluded to. It is not necessary that the same labor should be bestowed upon the copy as upon the one which is to be transmitted to Head Quarters.

Parish of Gheringhap

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedient servant
(signed) Robert Hoddle Surveyor.

Assistant Surveyor Smythe
Geelong

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 38/39 14 July 1838

Sir.

Your letter, dated 7 July 1838 requesting to be furnished with

A Cask of Beef;
Six Camel Hair Pencils,
and Six Sheets of Drawing Paper,

I have this day attended to and the above named articles are forwarded herewith.

Requisition complied with.

I have the honor to be
Sir.
Your obedient servant
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

Assistant Surveyor Smythe
Geelong

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 39/40. 14 July 1838.

Sir

In making out Descriptions for the future it will be necessary to write the lengths of lines in words as well as figures and the portions not to exceed

exceed 1179 acres, which you have marked in section No 6, in the Parish of Gheringhap as 1950 acres.

I have the honor to be
Sir.
Your obedient servant
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

Assistant Surveyor Smythe
Geelong

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 39/61. 16th July 1838.

Sir.

I have to request you will be pleased to return by the Beaver, Robert Haylock, the Boat which you borrowed for two days.

I regret you have caused me the trouble of sending for it and also to have obliged me to apply to the Police Magistrate for the man, Ashman whom you promised to send to me several days ago.

Boat. Boatman and

I have the honor to be
Sir.
Your obedient servant
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

Assistant Surveyor Stapylton
Mount Macedon

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 38/62. 17 July 1838

Sir.

I have to report for your information that from the period of Mr Stapylton's arrival on the 17 April 1838 up to the present period I have not received a single Plan or any assistance whatever from that office who has been almost constantly at and near the Settlement of Melbourne, where I consider his duties do not require him.

Stapylton has not sent the Plans received from Mr Stapylton.

I have received a very neat Plan of a whole Parish at Geelong from Mr Assistant Surveyor Smythe, which I shall transmit by the next Vessel for Sydney.

I have the honor to be &c
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

The Surveyor General.

No. 38/64.

Survey Office Melbourne
Port Phillip, 20th July 1838.

Sir.

I have to request you will be pleased to let the Section lines remain as marked by me and Mr. Assistant Surveyor Smythe, and confine yourself to the marking the subdivisions as pointed out, commencing two miles from Melbourne Reserve. The first sections to be subdivided into eights; the second into fourths and the third into halves, — Although I am aware there is some difference caused by the error in Instruments, it is better to let the present lines remain, than make alterations to accommodate them to your Survey.

You will be pleased to number on my corner Pegs; and to enable you to compute the areas, you must remeasure the outside lines as formerly marked by me.

You must endeavour to obliterate your marks and ascertain the error or difference of the Instruments to enable you to make an equal subdivision.

If you wish it, my instrument is at your service, and I have no doubt I shall be able to make use of yours.

I have the honor to be &c.
(Signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

To lay out Suburban Allotments Melbourne.

Assistant Surveyor Darke.

No. 38/65.

Survey Office Melbourne
Port Phillip 24 July 1838.

Sir.

I have to request you will be pleased, in your next Plan of a Parish, to put a Reference, as Required in the Surveyor General's Instructions No. 37/358 dated 31 July 1837, shewing the No. of portion, No. of acres, Names of Purchasers left blank which you omitted in your last Plan which is a very neat performance.

To put reference on plans of parishes.

When you have selected the sites for the Public Buildings &c., assisted by the Police Magistrate's advice, you will be pleased to send the same to me as early as possible shewing the connection of the Town and River Barabol on the usual scale of two inches to a mile.

To select sites for public buildings &c.

You will also be pleased to send me descriptions of the Allotments at Cowie's Beach as required by the Surveyor General.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obt. servt.
(Signed) Robert Hoddle, Surr.

Assistant Surveyor Smythe } Geelong

Survey Office, Melbourne
25th July 1838.

No. 38/66.

Sir.

I have the honor to transmit Mr. Smythe's Descriptions and Survey of the Parish of Ghourisghap about three miles from the proposed site of the Town of Geelong.

Forwarding Mr. Smythe's plan of the Parish of Ghourisghap.

I have written to that officer to give, for the future, the descriptions in words at length and figures, and not to describe, in one Portion a larger quantity than 1179 acres, which he has exceeded in Portion No. 6 (namely 1450 acres)

I have also directed him to shew the

the connection with the proposed Town at Corio as arranged from Geelong.

I am, especially employing myself, with Mr. Darke in subdividing the portions in the Parish of Jika Jika as directed by your Letter No 33/248, 25th May 1838.

The weather and occasional attendance at the office rather retards my operations.

I have, the honor, to be &c
signed, Robert Hoddle.

The Surveyor General.

No 38/97. Survey Office, Melbourne
Port Phillip 26 July 1838

Sir.

Herewith I transmit the whole of the Surveys as made by Mr. D'Arcy which is reported by Mr. Assistant Surveyor Smyth to be incorrect.

The Survey of the Harbour Mr. D'Arcy acknowledged to be so.

The whole is comprised on five sheets of paper, three of the Rivers Barwon, Moorabool, and Yarra-wee, two of the Harbour.

They may be serviceable for a general map but useless for computing areas of lands

I have the honor to be &c
signed Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

Transmitting Mr. D'Arcy's plans

The Surveyor General.

No 39/98. Survey Office, Melbourne
31 July 1838.

Sir.

I herewith transmit the Copies of two Letters from Messrs Webb and Rucker relative to Expenditure stated by Capt. Fyans to have been used by me, whilst at his House (not on board the Rangoon) by his invitation, a copy of which I also send

I

Transmitting Letters from Messrs Webb & Rucker

The Surveyor General
&c &c &c

I have not yet received Capt. Scott's answer which is the cause of my not taking further notice of the matter.

I cannot but express my regret that any expressions should be so much misstated to suit the malicious object of Capt. Fyans who might have been much more creditably employed than taking notes of his guests' dinner conversation

I have the honor to be &c
signed, Robert Hoddle.

Surveyor Office, Melbourne
No 33/31 Port Phillip 31 July 1838.

Sir.

I am directed by the Deputy Surveyor General to employ you to Survey a Township on the Goulburn River as he understands the Work at Geelong "ought to be finished by this time". You will therefore return here with your party which is to be strengthened by men who have been employed in that neighbourhood. The supplies that you may require for your party can be had by the same vessel that accompanies those for the Troops upon your procuring a sanction to that effect from the Commandant.

You are to proceed immediately by the Route taken by the Post Office to the Goulburn at the point where Major Mitchell's Road from Portland Bay joins the Melbourne and where there is a station established by Clarke and the Detachment of Troops above mentioned. You will there make a Survey of the ground on the banks of the river five miles above and as far below the point where the road crosses, and the same distance on the road on each side, noting every particular with respect to the stream, its banks and bed viz. the breadth and depth of the Water in its ordinary state and affected by floods, the nature of the soil,

To Survey the Township on Goulburn River.

Assistant Surveyor Smythe

67.

soil, whether rocky, sandy, gravelly, or composed of alluvial deposit, the nature of the Land and the degree of inclination of its approaches, whether any more eligible crossing place than that in use presents itself within the range of your operations whether its Branches be subject to inundation and to what extent, the extent of cultivable Land in the immediate neighbourhood of the crossing place. You must describe the features of the country respecting which the Surveyor's plan of the Road affords very little information.

The plan of your work must be made of a scale of 5 Inches to a mile. You must also furnish a plan of the spot selected for the site of a town on a scale of eight inches. You are not required to lay out the streets but merely to give a line of direction.

It appears to me that the Port Phillip side of the stream is the most eligible, as the right bank in the neighbourhood of the road seems to be interspersed with Lagoons and on that account unfit for building, but this is a point that can only be determined by a survey of the ground. I rely on your ability to carry this into effect. You will report to me as usual, in order to afford me an opportunity of forwarding the earliest information of your proceedings to Head Quarters.

I have &c. &c. &c.
signed, Robt Hoddle.

Surveyor Office, Melbourne
Port Phillip 1st August 1838.

No 33/31. A.

Sir.

I have to request you will be pleased to continue subdividing the sections into eights, quarters and halves as pointed out by me on the Plans in the

Assistant Surveyor Darke.

Parish of Jika Jika until the whole is completed & marking in figures at the North East and North West corner the different portions. You will compute the areas and furnish me with an outline Plan of the portions marked also descriptions of the same. Upon completion of this immediate duty you will furnish plotting any portion of your recent survey left undone in order to be transmitted to Head Quarters and endeavour to remove the stigma of the Department here which has been stated by several persons to His Excellency the Governor that the duties of this Department at Port Phillip are carried on in a "slothful and irregular manner."

To plot & survey portion of the Parish of Jika Jika

I have the honor to be &c.
signed, Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

Assistant Surveyor Darke.

Survey Office, Melbourne
1 August 1838

No 38/71 B.

Sir

I am directed by the Deputy Surveyor General to order you to trace Mount Macedon, Instructions of which you have already received & and Forbes Hill Range Eastward to Head the Yarra Yarra River, and from thence to the Coast, unless in the course of your Survey you should find that the direction of the principal Range diverges too much to the Northward to admit of an adherence to it as the boundary, in which case you may avail yourself of some tributary to the Yarra Yarra originating very near to the Crest of the range and follow that and any other natural feature running in an Easterly direction, on the Western side of the Country Surveyed as appear by Captain Stokes Survey that the range is sufficiently defined to within a short distance of Geelong, to some for description so that when the Northern boundary shall have been determined the whole may be proclaimed for general information and in order that persons

To trace out Mount Macedon & Forbes Hill Range Eastward

who

Assistant Surveyor Stapylton.

who are desirous of renting Crown Lands within the district may be enabled to describe their position.

As soon as you have completed it you will be pleased to furnish me with a Rough Plan as a References to this Office here, and also another Plan, drawn neatly, for the inspection of the Deputy Surveyor General.

I have the honor to be &c.
signed, Robert Hoddle.

No 38/72.

Survey Office, Melbourne.
4th August 1838.

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of Letters No 38/356 dated 5th July and No 38/369 of the same date directing me to instruct Mr. Assistant Surveyor Smythe to proceed immediately to the Southern River to mark out the Township which I have done accordingly although Mr. Smythe has not completed his duties at and near Geelong.

acknowledging receipt of Letters Nos 38/356 & 369.

I have also directed Mr. Stapylton to Survey the Ranges of Mount Macedon (Mount Macedon Range was directed to be surveyed by Instructions given by me on the 31st April last) and Forbes Hill Range as contained in your Instructions.

I have the honor to be &c.
signed, Richard Hoddle.

The Surveyor General.

Survey Office, Melbourne
4th August 1838.

No 38/73.

Sir.

In acknowledging the receipt of Letters No 38/357 dated 5th July 1838 I have the honor to inform you that I did not think it necessary to communicate my opinions to the Police Magistrate on the

Concerning the dam across the River Woo Yarra.

the subject of the Dam at Melbourne and I have no wish to interfere with his Engineer undertakings. If his knowledge on this subject is no greater than the Work carried on in the forming of the Streets at Melbourne, where no drains were made, and afterwards it was found necessary to dig up the Streets formed to make Drains and Cesspools.

I proposed the Work from feeling convinced of its Public utility and as soon as my Surveys are completed I will proceed to take Levels for the purpose. I do not profess to be an Engineer and therefore cannot afford you an estimate of the expense, which I think will be trifling in comparison of the great inconvenience and injury to the Health of the Inhabitants by being deprived of good Water.

I have the honor to be &c.

(signed) Robert Hoddle Surveyor

The Surveyor General.

No 38/74.

Survey Office, Melbourne
4th August 1838.

Sir,

As reference has been made to Captain King's plan on two occasions as an imputation on my character as a Surveyor for neglect in not furnishing you with information on this part of the Colony I have the honor to request your consideration of the subject. I am willing to give every credit to Captain King as a Surveyor, and for the short period he was in this part of the Colony was extremely indefatigable. His survey formed upon the basis of other Surveys was merely an outline of fixed points.

Mr Hoddle vindicating himself from the charge of slothfulness.

I presume the intention of my being sent here was to Survey the Country for the computation of areas of acres for sale which requires great care and must consequently take great time to perform. The Survey of Creeks, Rivers &c. for Parishes also takes considerable time, The non cooperation of my assistants has been a great cause of delay and I have taken every means in my power to urge the necessity of greater exertion. I totally acquit myself of slothfulness, it is quite at variance with my usual disposition. I have further to observe that if a General and running Survey is required it shall be done. It would afterwards have to be resurveyed for Lands for sale and cause the public an additional expense for Survey. There are considerable portions of this country destitute of Water and consist of Plains that will not at present be available for settlers. If this be omitted the Survey for General purposes will soon be completed.

I have the honor to be &c.

(signed) Robert Hoddle Surveyor

The Surveyor General

No 38/75.

Survey Office, Melbourne
4th August 1838.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you, for information, that there is a considerable portion of fine country about thirty miles North East from Melbourne on the Yarra Yarra River.

40,000 acres fit for cultivation and adapted for a Township 30 miles N. E. from Melbourne on Yarra Yarra River.

It is admirably adapted for a Township, there is excellent soil for cultivation and pasture, well adapted for small settlers. There is about 40,000 acres. The intermediate Country from Yarra Rivulet to it is barren being a continued Range of Stringy bark forest country. With your approbation I will continue the Survey of the Yarra Yarra River to it as soon as means are afforded by an increase of strength to this branch of the Department. From the appearance of the country in the same direction there is more Land fit for agricultural purposes but in rainy seasons the country is difficult of access.

I have the honor to be &c.

(signed) Robert Hoddle Surveyor

The Surveyor General.

Survey Office. Melbourne
7th August 1838.

No 37/76.

Sir.

I herewith enclose a Copy of Mr. Assistant Surveyor Stapylton's Instructions dated 21 April to convince you that I have not been unmindful of endeavouring to fix the boundaries of the County of Bourke. I had proposed the Werribee River to its source close to Mount Macedon Range for another boundary of this County which was to be traced by Mr. Assistant Surveyor Darke as soon as he had completed the duty I had directed him to perform.

Enclosing Mr. Stapylton's Instructions

I have the honor to be &c.
signed, Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

The Surveyor General.

74

75

Survey Office, Melbourne
11th August 1838

No 38/78.

Sir.

Referring to your Letter No 38/559 dated 5th July 1838 in which you directed me to remove Mr Smythe from Geelong to proceed to the Goulburn I have the honor to inform you that I have done so in compliance with your orders. I regret his removal from that quarter as his services were valuable there and the Surveys are left incomplete which will cause further delays to the Surveys to the Westward part of Port Phillip where there is much land that will be required for Grazing purposes.

Concerning Mr Smythe's removal from Geelong and the Survey of the Goulburn

In your Letter of instructions you omitted to mention the quantity of Land to be marked out and in an accidental conversation with the Police Magistrate Captain Lonsdale I was informed by him that he had received a Letter from the Colonial Secretary dated 11th June No 38/868 in which it is stated that not more than five or ten acres will be allotted to settlers on the Road from Yass to Port Phillip.

I have directed Mr Smythe to mark out some allotments of that quantity and not to be within four hundred yards of the Bank of the River. In order that he may execute the object of His Excellency the Governor's wishes I have also directed Mr Smythe to proceed to Violet Creek if practicable, for the same object.

I have the honor to be &c

To The Surveyor General.

signed, Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

Survey Office, Melbourne
11th August 1838.

No 38/80

Sir.

Healy Batman

I have the honor to inform you that a Chief Constable of the name of Henry Batman has

has been detected in receiving a Bribe and has been induced to resign his situation for so doing.

As this individual is a Commissioner of Crown Lands I must request the favor of your bringing this circumstance to the notice of His Excellency the Governor in order that his name may be erased from the List of Commissioners as it would be a stigma to the Survey Department to insist upon an officer acting in concert with an Individual so disgraced.

I have the honor to be &c.

The Surveyor General. (signed, Robert Hoddle Surveyor

Survey Office, Melbourne
18 August 1838.

No 38/81.

Sir.

I have the honor to enclose herewith two requisitions, one for drawing materials, the other for Articles of Equipment, to both of which I have to request your attention at your earliest convenience as I am without many of the articles specified.

I may here state that from the recent hostility displayed by the Aboriginal Natives of this part of the Colony towards many settlers it is necessary as a measure of self preservation that each man attached to a Surveying party should be supplied with a weapon of defence. At present there is not a musket in store, this has in some measure been caused by the accidental burning of the tent occupied by Mr Dark's men by which some fire arms were destroyed and those returned by Mr D'Arcy, which at first were not good, were so damaged as to be quite unserviceable.

The instruments and office furniture I have not yet received.

I have the honor to be &c.

The Surveyor General. (signed, Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

requisition for Equipment.

Survey Office, Melbourne
19 August 1838

No 38/82.

Sir.

I do myself the honor to request that you will be pleased to procure the usual gratuity for the prisoners named in the margin Walton has been employed as messenger, Office Keeper, and attendant on the Stores and Castles has had charge of the Horses and both have conducted themselves much to my satisfaction.

John Walton Lady Nugent
William Castles
Asia (9)

I have the honor to be &c.

The Surveyor General. (signed, Robert Hoddle Sur.

Survey Office, Melbourne
21 August 1838

No 38/83.

Sir.

I herewith enclose a plan of the town of Geelong shewing the situation of the purposed reserves and the Suburban allotments of about 25 acres each, to be marked as soon as you approve of the same.

I am informed by Mr Assistant Surveyor Smythe that you do not approve of the lanes from the corner Allotments into the back lanes. The plan was suggested by me in consequence of complaint of this omission being made at Melbourne.

I regret the removal of Mr Smythe from Geelong as he has left the Survey in a very unfinished state he informed me at his departure for the Goulburn River that in another week he would have completed another parish, and had also a considerable length of river surveyed, which he had not plotted.

Town of Geelong

I have the honor to be &c.

The Surveyor General. (signed, Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

Tracing of the work of the Surveyors

Survey Office, Melbourne.
24th August 1838

No 34/84.

Sir.

I herewith transmit a Tracing of the Reduced Survey of the different Surveyors work in order to afford His Excellency the Governor information of the present state of the Survey at Port Phillip. With the exception of the Lands principally surveyed by me, and the Towns of Melbourne and William, and by Mr Smythes at Geelong, it shews the whole that has been done.

I have the honor to be &c.

The Surveyor General. signed, Robert Hoddle.

---

refusing to comply with requisition.

Survey Offices, Melbourne
27 August 1838

No 34/85.

Sir.

With reference to your requisition for articles of equipment, of this days date. I beg to state that I must decline complying with it until I am furnished with a return of your equipment, cattle, and men, as requested by my letter No 88/42 dated 1 May 1838.

Your requisition for salt Beef and Pork shall be complied with.

I have the honor to be &c.

Assistant Surveyor Shapylton. signed, Robert Hoddle.

Survey Office, Melbourne.
4th September 1838.

No 34/87.

Sir.

I have to request you will be pleased to inform me when you think it possible I may expect the remainder of the Lands marked on the Parish of Jika Jika and what remains unfinished.

I have the honor to be &c.

Assistant Surveyor Darke. signed, Robert Hoddle.

Sketch of Allotments part of Jika Jika.

Survey Office, Melbourne
10th September 1838.

No 34/88.

Sir.

I herewith transmit a Plan, with Descriptions, of Eighty Eights Suburban Allotments, of about Twenty five Acres each near Melbourne in the parish of Jika Jika. I have preserved the original Lines as near as possible to prevent the confusion that might arise from a new arrangement, which makes the quantities vary from the original intention of making them Twenty five acres each portion.

The sections to be devided into eights, quarters and halves, will be transmitted with a Plan of the whole Parish as soon as Mr Assistant Surveyor Darke sends me the measurements.

I have the honor to be &c.

The Surveyor General. signed, Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

To Return to Melbourne on completing present Survey of Goulburn River.

Survey Office, Melbourne
11th September 1838.

No 37/89.

Sir.

In reference to your letter dated 6th September requesting to be informed how you are to dispose of yourself and party after completing your Survey of the Goulburn River and Violet Creek.

When you have fulfilled the Instructions which

A.

I gave you in Letters No 70 dated 31st July and No 79 dated 11th August you will be pleased to return here and make a plan of your Survey as directed. You will afterwards return to Geelong with the actual party and finish what you have commenced before proceeding on fresh Surveys.

I have the Honor to be &c

Assistant Surveyor Smythe. (Signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

Description of Town Allotments Geelong

Survey Office, Melbourne,
Port Phillip 11 September 1838

No 37/90.

Sir

I herewith Transmit Descriptions of a Block or Section of Twenty allotments in the Town of Geelong. The allotments containing Eighty perches each with the exception of the four corner allotments containing Sixty perches each in the back Streets and Lanes

The numbers and quantity are the same in each section which will enable those who make the Grants to describe any other Section by inserting the name of the Streets.

I have the honor to be &c

The Surveyor General. (Signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

Mr Stapylton's pay to be suspended until he furnishes plans

Survey Office, Melbourne.
12 September 1838

No 37/91.

Sir.

Herewith enclose you a Copy of a Letter which I have received from the Deputy Surveyor General, on the subject of your not affording me any assistance since you joined this district. Until I receive Plans from you and your Monthly reports I shall think it my duty to represent again to Head Quarters that I have received no Plans up to the present period.

I have the honor to be &c

Assistant Surveyor Stapylton (Signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

Survey Office, Melbourne
13 September 1838

No 37/92.

Sir.

In reference to your Letter No 37/468 dated 17 August informing me that Mr Stapylton's pay be suspended, until he produces a quantity of Work that will be satisfactory to you. I have sent a copy of your Letter to Mr Stapylton and have also informed him that unless he sends me his monthly reports of progress, which he has neglected to do, and his Plans, I shall again report him to you.

I again have to state that he has sent me no Plans

Also I have to report that Mr Assistant Surveyor Dawkins has not completed the subdivision of the sections in the Parish of Jika Jika which he has had ample time to finish.

I have received a Letter from Mr Assistant Surveyor Smythe informing me he has nearly completed the Surveys at the Goulburn River and proceeds immediately to Violet Creek for the same purpose

As soon as he completes a Plan it will be transmitted.

I have the honor to be &c

The Surveyor General. (Signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

Receipt for Stores

Survey Office, Melbourne
14 September 1838.

No 38/93.

Sir.

In returning to you the accompanying receipt for stores sent by the Paul Boy I beg to state that in consequence of the voucher not having been transmitted to me through the Surveyor General I have been put to the expence of postage and to request that you will in future obviate this by forwarding any communication for me through the regular channel as has been the custom heretofore.

I have the honor to be &c

E Simpson Esq. (Signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

To forward remaining portions of Sections in Allotments Jika Jika

Survey Office, Melbourne
No. 38/94. 17th September 1838

Sir.

In acknowledging the receipt of your Letter of 15th Instant I cannot but express my disappointment at not receiving the whole of the Sections divided into Eights, Quarters, and Halves as you have had ample time to have finished them.

I shall be very glad to receive any portion you may have completed to enable me to forward them for approval to the Surveyor General.

I have the honor to be &c.
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

Mr. Assistant Surveyor Darke.

To furnish reports of Progress

Survey Office, Melbourne
No. 38/95. 19 September 1838.

Sir.

You will be pleased to send me, at your earliest convenience, your Reports of Progress for the Months of May, June, and July, for the information of the Deputy Surveyor General.

I have the honor to be &c.
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

Mr. Assistant Surveyor Darke.

Mr. Darke's conduct.

Survey Office, Melbourne
No. 38/96. 21 September 1838.

Sir.

I have to request you will be pleased to lay before His Excellency the Governor the following statement respecting the conduct of Mr. Assistant Surveyor Darke in order to remove the responsibility incurred by me in not having the means to compel that officer to perform his duty with more diligence.

Mr. Darke was extremely slow in producing Plans previous to his leave of absence but as he represented he had bad indifferent health and promised greater exertion, I postponed making other reports to you except by stating on the 7th December 1837 and 27 March 1838 the

the quantity of work performed by Mr. Darke and his unnecessary visits to the Settlement.

Upon his arrival here on 31 March, immediately after I directed him to complete the Levels of the Streets of Melbourne which he promised to finish in a few days. With the exception of the Plan of a Drain, which might employ him three days, he has sent no Plan of Levels up to the present period.

He seemed anxious to go into the Bush and in about a month afterwards he stated he had Surveyed Sixty running miles. I have received no Plan of this stated measurement. The Plan of the Salt Water River he showed me which I reduced, but as he wished to complete the Plan I returned it to him, but he has forgot to return it to me finished as it ought to have been long before this time. Early in July I directed him verbally to subdivide Sections in the Parish of Jika Jika into Eights, Quarters, and Halves, but as I found he was making slow Progress I gave him written Instructions copies of which I enclose to enable you to judge whether he has not had ample time to complete the measurement.

The length of lines he has just sent me without the area.

I regret to be obliged to state that whenever I have employed Mr. Darke to act conjointly with me he has invariably hindered my progress. I should also observe he is constantly in the Settlement when he should have been at Work in the bush and at this present time he is encamped within my marked suburban allotments at a considerable distance from his work where to my knowledge he has been on the same spot a fortnight close to a sheep station where he must necessarily put the Government to an expense for Forage. His conduct is most extraordinary.

I have the honor to be &c.
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

The Surveyor General.

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 38/97. 22 September 1838

Sir

I have to request you will be pleased to send me with as little delay as possible a Survey of Moonee Moonee Chain of Ponds from the North West corner of No 142 to 91 as I find it impossible to compute the areas without. I presume it will not take long as you have informed me in your letter of 15th Instant that you have already surveyed it where the Sections divided by you into eighths extends.

I have the honor to be &c
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

To Assistant Surveyor Darke.

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 38/98. 24 September 1838

Sir

I herewith Enclose a Copy of a Letter which I shall send to the Deputy Surveyor General the first opportunity. I have also to inform you that your highly improper Letter to me on the 22nd September will be forwarded to His Excellency the Governor.

I have the honor to be &c
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

To Assistant Surveyor Darke.

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 38/100 27th September 1838.

Sir

Herewith I forward the undermentioned articles as applied for by your Requisitions dated the 24 August and 27th September viz one Cask of Beef, 40 lb Pork 3 Sheets Drawing Paper, 1 Pantiff and 6 pencils and I have to request that you will be as careful of the pencils as possible there being but a small supply at present on hand here.

I have &c
(signed) Robert Hoddle

Assistant Surveyor M'Crystlom

Requisition for Surveying Instruments.

Surveyor General

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 38/103. 4 October 1838

Sir,

I have to request you will have the goodness to let me have a Pentegraph and two good Circumferentors one to replace an Instrument that was stolen by the bushrangers from Mr Darke's Tent during his absence and another in exchange which is incorrect, the sights not being placed true to the plate

I should observe the instruments in the Department at Port Phillip require repairing viz. Two Circumferentors
one Theodolite

I have the honor to be &c
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

Expostulating & [illegible] that he should have applied to the Commissary [illegible] having been supplied [illegible]

Assistant Surveyor Stapylton

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 38/104. 5th October 1838

Sir,

I am much surprised to learn that you have applied to the Deputy Asst Commissary General Howard for Rations of Fresh Meat although you had obtained Salt Meat from the Store a few days ago I think it my duty to represent the circumstance to Head Quarters as you cannot possibly be ignorant that such a proceeding is irregular

I have the honor &c

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 38/105 A. 5th October 1838

Sir,

I have to request that you will be pleased to inform me without loss of time when I am to expect the plans of the levels you stated some time ago you had

Referring plan of levels of Street Melbourne.

Assistant Surveyor Darke.

taken as they are now required and also the plans of the Surveys which you made previous to the subdivisions in the Parish of Jika Jika

I have the honor to be &c
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

Reporting Mr Stapylton for having applied for an extra quantity of provisions

The Surveyor General.

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 38/105 B. 5th October 1838

Sir,

I have to report the following circumstance for your information I think such conduct should not pass unnoticed. Some time ago a quantity of Salt provisions was transferred from the Commissariat to this Department for its use. Mr Assistant Surveyor Stapylton applied to me for a quantity of Salt Pork and Beef (690 rations) which he had and he afterwards applied to D.A.C.G. Howard for full rations of fresh meat a portion of which he had received. Having made the discovery I wrote to the Commissary to request he would stop the additional issues.

I have the honor to be &c
(signed) Robert Hoddle Sur.

Respecting the suspension of Mr Stapylton's pay

The Surveyor General

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 38/106. 6th October 1838.

Sir,

In reference to your letter No 38/468 dated 17th August respecting the suspension of the pay of Mr Assistant Surveyor Stapylton until he produces a quantity of work that will be satisfactory to you I have the honor to inform you his name is inserted in the abstract

for pay ending the quarter to September made out by the Police Magistrate Captain Lonsdale who has received no authority to withdraw his name and I have no sanction to do so consequently that unless there is an order to the Colonial Treasurer his salary will be paid as heretofore

I have the honor to be &c
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 37/107 6th October 1838.

Sir.

I have to bring before your notice the following circumstance which occurred yesterday at noon at Melbourne.

Captain Lonsdale, Police Magistrate called at the office and requested I would walk with him to Mr Stapylton's Dray, where we found that officer lying under it along with two convict men in a state of inebreation a keg of Rum, nearly empty beside them.

Captain Lonsdale requested I would take charge of the Dray and its contents and the government men which I did, he also requested Mr Macarthur, Clerk of the Department to proceed to his Camp and bring back the whole of the equipment. At the request of Mr Stapylton I have lent him a Tent and the means of drawing plans of his recent surveys which he states he has made.

The disgraceful conduct of this Officer obliges me to sacrifice my feelings by an exposure which if passed unnoticed would be a stigma to the Department

I have the honor to be &c
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

Respecting Mr Stapylton

No 37/108 Survey Office, Melbourne
9 October 1838.

Sir.

I have to request the favor of your attention to the circumstances mentioned in my letter No 37/96 21 September 1838 respecting the plan of the Yarra and Salt Water Rivers, plans which have not been returned complete, and I think it is necessary that you suspend the pay of Mr Darke until he produces all plans of his work to be submitted for my inspection before transmission to you

I have the honor to be &c
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

The Surveyor General.

Respecting Mr Darke's pay

No 37/109. Survey Office, Melbourne
9th Octbr 1838.

Sir.

In reference to your letter No 37/4 83 dated 27th August respecting taking away the equipments of Messrs Stapylton and Darke I have the honor to refer you to my letter No 37/107 dated 6th Instant in which I have detailed the proceedings already taken by the Police Magistrate and my having returned to Mr Stapylton a portion of Equipment to enable him to draw plans that may enable him to pay.

With respect to taking away the equipment of Mr Darke I think such a proceeding would be no punishment as he would then have nothing to do, my wish is to oblige him to perform his work diligently in the field and not make such frequent visits to the Settlement to the great scandal of the reputation of the Department here

I have the honor to be &c
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

The Surveyor General

Respecting the appeal of Messrs Stapylton and Darke

No 25/110. Survey Office, Melbourne
9 October 1838.

Sir.

Mr. Assistant Surveyor Smythe has returned from tracing down the townships of Goulburn River and Kirkland Creek and will transmit plans with all possible despatch.

Mr. Smythe requests to be furnished with a new or serviceable circumferentor as he reports the one he has hitherto used to be imperfect and delays him in the quick performance of his duty.

I have the honor to be &c.
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

The Surveyor General.

Mr. Smythe

Survey Office Melbourne
No 37/112. 10th October 1838.

Sir.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter No 37/483 dated 27th August communicating the information that the Governor will dismiss any one who may be reported as being guilty of negligence or misconduct

Having performed my duty to remove if possible the stigma from the Department here by a correct report of proceedings I think it right to point out a method to insure the more speedy advancement of this Survey to the credit of the Government and advantage to the ministerious officers employed in may be employed.

In the present system the Idle receive the same pay and unless their conduct is of the most glowing nature pass unheeded for a considerable period of time, or merely incurs censure which is little regarded by those

Sending Instruments for Surveying Port Phillip District.

those whose pecuniabilities are not the most acute.

I submit these propositions for your serious consideration.

Every Officer should have his equipment of the best quality instead of the present badly made, heavy and nearly useless lumber.

The salaries might be reduced or remain as they are (for they are little enough for professional men) and in addition a certain sum should be given for every (supposing) mile surveyed.

But as Individuals might be found, who, content with their certain Salary, would waste their time, these officers should be dismissed for neglect of duty.

An officer of integrity and experience must of course perform the Surveys are carried on properly and as his time would be fully occupied by such duty he should at least receive a Salary equal to the Chief Draftsman £500 (per annum) who is generally considered to be subordinate to a Surveyor and of inferior grade.

I have no objection to undertake this arduous duty and should this proposition meet with your approval I must beg leave to request that I may be relieved from the responsibility for the duties performed by Assistant Surveyors at Port Phillip and that my own may be confined as a Surveyor.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedient servant
(signed) Robt Hoddle

The Surveyor General

To Assistant Surveyor Darke
Equipment &c.

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 38/114. 23d October 1838

I am informed by the Deputy Surveyor General that you are to be deprived of your Equipments and all advantages except your simple pay, the former is not to be restored until you evince a greater degree of activity than has hitherto been observed.

You will therefore be pleased to deliver over the equipment, Horses and Men in your charge.

I have the honor to be &c
(signed) Robert Hoddle

Assistant Surveyor Darke.

Plan of Suburban Allotments Geelong

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 38/115. 23d October 1838.

I herewith transmit a Plan of the Suburban allotments at Geelong which has been approved of by the Surveyor General. You will be pleased to mark upon the ground and number the allotments as shewn on the map.

You will be pleased to furnish me with Descriptions according to the usual practice calculating the area of each portion which contains in general about Twenty five acres as near as can be arranged

The Roads of one chain wide to be shewn on the Ground and stakes driven at the corners. You will also mark out the Reserves in the Town of Geelong and allotments near the River to enable the Government to effect for immediate Sale.

That Racecourse Ground to be marked.

Upon completion of this duty you will proceed to mark the Parishes on the Plain Barrawon and the County to the Westward of it when the Land is most likely to be required for Settlers.

Assistant Surveyor Smythe

Mitchells Town.

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 39/116. 26th October 1838.

Sir

I have just received your Plan of Mitchell Town which is already marked by Mr Smythe agreeably to Instructions which I gave him upon receipt of your Letter requiring his removal from Geelong.

Mr Smythe has also marked out the Town at Violet Creek a Plan of which will be immediately forwarded to you.

If you think it necessary to alter what has already been done I must request the favor of you giving Instructions for that purpose as I propose marking Parishes for Sale when I receive a reinforcement to my Party.

I have the honor to be &c
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

The Surveyor General.

Concerning Mr Assistant Surveyor Darke

No 39/117. Survey Office Melbourne
23d November 1838.

Sir

In reference to your Letter 37/114 dated 30th October informing me that you considered it unnecessary to lay my Letter No 38/96 before the Government respecting the want of diligence of Mr Darke as it would aggravate a more serious charge against that officer.

I have not the slightest wish to injure any one unnecessarily and should have passed over in silence your professed motives for leaving to the side of money but in justice to myself I must request the favor of your informing me what parts of my conduct

you

you allude to that has not been explained to His Excellency's satisfaction as I do not know to what any charge that may be preferred against me.

I have the honor to be &c.
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

The Surveyor General &c &c &c

Camp near the Source of Plenty Rivulet
No 38/118. 29th November 1838.

Sir.

In reference to your letter No 38/600 dated 24th October, informing me that the position of the Burial Ground is not marked upon any of the Maps received from me I have the honor to inform you that the position is marked out upon the Map of the Parish of Jika Jika. My authority for marking the ground was the verbal order of His Excellency Sir Richard Bourke.

The following explanation will I trust remove the impression that I have acted without authority. During the time I was engaged marking out the Site for the Town of Melbourne the Governor informed me he had shewn a spot to the Police Magistrate, Captain Lonsdale, for a Burial Ground and he described it in the position it was afterwards measured by me

Upon the arrival of the Bishops the Inhabitants of Melbourne requested the Ground might be consecrated by his Lordship on the site fixed by the Governor and whose there had been several bodies interred. As the Presbyterians objected to the bodies being mixed & marked a line between the Graves which might serve for a division of the sects and in equal quantities, two acres on each side the line

Burial Ground &c.

The

The Episcopalian side as shewn on the Map was consecrated accordingly.

I enclose you a description and Plan of each.

I have the honor to be &c.
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

The Surveyor General &c &c &c

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 38/119. 5 December 1838.

Sir.

With reference to your letter No 38/610 dated 29th October containing the allegations of Mr Assistant Surveyor Darke as a set off against his neglect of duty. His motives are too plain to require comment. I request that your own zeal for the purity of the Department should have given you a fit credence. I have the honor to inform you that the Oxen stated to be employed by me for my private advantage for the space of eleven months arrived last April consequently they could not be in my possession at Port Phillip more than for about six months and they were in the possession of Mr Assistant Surveyor Smyth for upwards of two months who has them now at Geelong. They were also sent to the Police Magistrate Captain Lonsdale for the use of the streets at Melbourne.

Mr Darke's charges referred to Mr Hoddle.

On a few occasions when a Dray would otherwise be despatched empty to the Settlement I sent some Cocks stones laying about the Paddock to lay upon the floor for a Stable and some were used for the foundations of a small Building

All

At the time I did not consider it a breach of any Government Order. Some slight fencing was also drawn to the Allotment on the Town.

My buildings, fencings &c. erected by a Contractor which has already cost me above £400 I have no doubt this property is a subject for envy.

I have lived on my Tents in a Paddock, when not Surveying at any great distance distances, which I have enclosed for the use of the Department which has been a great saving to the Public Service for Forage and which Mr Darke and the Assistant Surveyor might have availed themselves of if when idle in the Settlement and thereby not incurred useless expenses for Forage at a time there was plenty of Grass.

I am well aware that my removal from Port Phillip would be hailed with delight by those who pine for their ease to their active duties in the Field. If this explanation is not satisfactory I must request the favor of a regular investigation as I cannot submit to be the subject of unmerited censure.

I have the honor to be &c.
(signed) Robert Hoddle Surveyor

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 39/120 6th December 1838.

Sir.

In reference to your letter No 609 of 30th December respecting the conduct of Messrs Skaptylton and Darke I have the honor to inform you that it was the second occurrence of Mr Skaptylton's procuring double Rations of Meat, the last time I prevented him by writing to Deputy Asst. Com. Gen. Howard. With respect to returning the provision, one Cask was returned at the time I took away his Men and Equipment.

Mr Skaptylton promised me that he would produce some drawings of Surveys if I would give him the means. I was not aware that I should incur your displeasure by so doing.

As soon as my Party arrives here I shall send for the remainder of the Public Property in his charge.

With respect to the Pay Lists I know no controul I believe, the Police Magistrate has them made out and I believe certifies to their correctness.

I have the honor to be &c.
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

J. H. Perry Esqr
Deputy Surveyor General

Mr Skaptylton and Darke's conduct.

Survey Office, Melbourne
No 39/121 14 December 1838.

Sir.

I have the honor to transmit Plans and Descriptions of Lands surveyed on the Yarra Parallel in two Parishes which are named Yan Yean and Toorourong on each side the Parallel in Roman Letters X, XI and XII are shewn in the Parish of Yan Yean. Two Acres have been dedicated for a Road of one chain wide in each Portion and the general line is shewn. The whole of the Country on the Yarra Parallel is completed that is fit for Grazing and Agriculture, except the sections where there is no water that is not likely to meet with purchasers.

I have the honor to be &c.
(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

The Surveyor General &c &c &c

Transmitting Plans of the Parishes of Yan Yean and Toorourong

Survey Office, Melbourne
14th December 1838.

No 38/122.

Sir.

I request the favor of your informing me at your earliest convenience, for what period Mr Darke's pay is suspended as I presume by his independent conduct towards me he does not consider he is under my orders. I have received no plans from him and consequently am unable to give directions for any portion of Land being Surveyed that he may not have completed.

I am very anxious to receive full instructions on this subject as it appears my permitting Mr Stapylton to complete his Work by supplying him with the means, was irregular, although it proved of public advantage. I should wish to be furnished with reduced copies of Messrs Darke and Stapylton's Surveys if I am to be permitted to complete the County Map on a Scale of half an Inch to a Mile.

I have the honor to be &c.

(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

The Surveyor General.

Enquiring for what period Mr Darke's pay is to be suspended

Survey Office, Melbourne.
14th December 1838

No 38/123.

Sir.

In reference to your letter No 38/644 dated 20th November in which you express surprise at the Police Magistrate giving directions strictly professional. Captn Lonsdale I presume thought he had a right to interfere and the circumstance of his refusing to insert the names of Messrs Natt and Kemp in the Abstract for Pay without directions from the Governor, plainly shews that he considers himself responsible although I shewed him your Letter.

I requested, some time back to make out

out the Abstracts for Pay. and in your Letter No 38/537 you inform me if it is consistent with the convenience of the Police Magistrate.

Had this arrangement taken place, and you had furnished the Assistant Surveyors with the date they had received pay at Sydney their names would be inserted from that period.

Messrs Natt and Kemp joined me in the Bush whilst I was surveying at the Heads of Yarra Rivulet.

I regret that you could not send officers of experience to this part of the Colony. I do not consider they are competent to be sent with a Party.

I propose sending Mr Natt to assist Mr Smythe at Geelong who, no doubt, will endeavour to make him useful.

I shall take Mr Kemp to work under my Inspection. As soon as I consider them qualified to be appointed to a higher grade in the Department I shall have great pleasure in recommending them.

I have the honor to be &c.

(signed) Robert Hoddle Sur.

S.A. Perry Esqr
Depy Sur: General

Messrs Natt and Kemp.

Survey Office 14th December 1838.

No 38/124.

Sir.

You will be pleased to proceed to Geelong without loss of time and place yourself under the directions of Asst Sur Smythe to assist him in those duties that are required in that neighbourhood.

You will be furnished with a Horse and light Cart to carry your personal Baggage. You will be accompanied by three men, other assistance will be furnished by Mr Smythe who has more than the usual number of Horses.

You will furnished with rations to the end of this month.

I have the honor to be &c.

signed Robert Hoddle, Surveyor

Mr Natt
Draftsman

To proceed to Geelong and place himself under Mr Smythe

Survey Office, Melbourne
14th December 1838.

No 38/125:

Sir

I have directed Mr. Hutt to place himself under your directions to assist you in your Survey. The Deputy Surveyor General has informed me he has not been much accustomed to work in the Field you may therefore exercise a proper surveillance over him and afford him such facilities in the execution of the duties you may assign to him as may be consistent with the rules of the Service and conducive to the Public advantage taking care he renders you an account of Every Day's Work and you will be pleased to report to me the assistance that I have no doubt, Mr. Hutt will be anxious to afford you, in order to be able to recommend him to a higher grade. As you are furnished with more than the usual number of Horses you will be pleased to assist Mr. Hutt in the transport of provisions &c.

I have the honor to be &c.

Assistant Surveyor Smythe — signed. Robt Hoddle Surveyor

(Margin: Mr. Hutt to be placed under his charge.)

Surveyor General's Office
Melbourne 15th December 1838.

No 38/136

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No 38/246 dated 20th November, in which I am directed to lay out a fresh series of sections in conformity with the present plan of the Town of Melbourne in extension of the streets running North Westerly which will bring the Town into the form of a Square. I presume some error has occurred in copying the Letter as the Streets, extended in that direction would render it more oblong and further off the water side. There is room for sections to be marked on the South East side and extended on the opposite side of the River which would bring the Town nearly into the form of a Square. I will submit a Plan as soon as I have made a Survey of that side of the River to give you the information required in your letters Nos 357 and 647.

(Margin: Extension of Melbourne)

I must require the favor of being furnished with a Spirit Level and Levelling Staves which I made a Requisition for in my Letter No 38/13 dated 30th January 1838 and the remaining articles absolutely necessary

I have the honor to be &c.

S. A. Perry Esqr.
Depy. Sur. General

(signed) Robert Hoddle, Surveyor.

Survey Office, Melbourne
17th December 1839

No 38/127.

Sir

In reference to your letter No 38/519 dated 13 September respecting the men and Equipment to be received from Messrs. Stapylton and Darke I have the honor to inform you that Mr. Stapylton has stated he has given up all Equipment &c. which belong to Government. As Mr. Stapylton drew Stores independent of me from Sydney I cannot know what I should receive.

I directed Mr. Darke to send me his Field Equipment and Men. Upon the receipt of your Letter he however thought proper to retain one man to assist him in the erection of a house upon

(Margin: Messrs. Stapylton and Darke's equipment.)