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Z

No 2

Port Phillip 7 June 1837

Sir

I have the honor to report for the information of His Excellency Major General Sir Richard Bourke that the F.D.L. Government Schooner was here about a week ago for the purpose of procuring some of the aboriginal natives to accompany Mr Robinson, who came here in the Schooner, to some of the Islands in Bass Strait where it is said some women belonging to a tribe in this vicinity are living with white men who took them forcibly away some time ago, and it was thought that if the former husbands of these women were to accompany Mr Robinson it would give them confidence to return to their people, and although I had received no instructions from you I considered I should not err in so simple a matter and endeavored to get some of those connected with the women to go in the schooner but they refused, saying it was so long since they went away that they did not care about their return. The schooner therefore returned without the intended object being effected.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Yours &c

J. W.

The Honble

The Col. Secy

Sydney

No 1

Port Phillip 5 Jun 1837

Sir

I have the honor to inform you that finding it necessary to have some one to take charge of Tools and to see the men keep to the work which is set them, I have appointed one of the Sergeants of the Detachment, and intend estimating for one shilling a day for him from the first inst instead of the clerk at 2/6 until someone can be found to fill that situation, provided His Excellency the Governor sanctions the arrangement.

The Hon^{ble}The Col Sec^y

Sydney

I have the honor to be

Sir &c &c

Wm. Melville Esq.

No 3

Port Phillip 11 Jun 1837

Sir

I have the honor to forward a letter from W. Thomson resigning the Surgeoncy of this District from 1st inst, and to state from the information of His Excellency the Governor that I have appointed Mr. Collier to do the duty at the same rate of pay until someone shall be permanently appointed.

I have the honor to be

The Hon^{ble}The Col Sec^y Sydney

Sir &c &c

Wm. Melville Esq.

Copy

1st Jun 1837

Sir

I have the honor to thank you my resignation as Colonial Surgeon urgent business requiring my removal to England, and another Medical man being in the Settlement I trust you can sustain no inconvenience from my absence.

I have the honor to be

W. Melville Esq

Col. Maize

Sir

W. A. Thomson

Port Phillip 11 Jan 1837

Sir

I have the honor to forward a conviction against Mr Carr publican for breach of recognizance and request to be informed what is the usual custom when the recognizance has been a third time infringed, if the publican is allowed to sell after that and until his case has been decided by the quarter sessions and in what way he is to be dealt with should he commit further breaches of the recognizance, as it appears to me he cannot be dealt with by a bench after a second conviction.

I have the honor to be

I am Sir
 J. Jackson Esq
 Clerk of the Peace
 Sydney

Sir is in a

Warrantable P.M.

No 4

Port Phillip 11 Jan 1836

Sir

I have the honor to report for the information of His Excel^{ty} the Governor that I have been obliged to suspend District Constable Rob Day for being repeatedly drunk and beg he may be removed in doing so he has requested me to obtain permission for its appearing as a resignation in the Gazette.

I have also the honor to report that I have appointed Mr Henry Butman to do the duty of District Constable, and request you will be pleased to obtain His Excel^{ty} sanction to confirm the same appointment.

I have the honor to be

Sir is in a

Warrantable P.M.

The Hon^{ble}
 The Gov^r
 Sydney

and

No 5

Port Phillip 11 Jun 1837

Sir

Having experienced a difficulty in procuring a competent free person to appoint as clerk I have the honor to suggest that probably a prisoner of the crown might be found to do what is required in shewing up the various convictions committed & other business of a Police Office and if so to beg you will be pleased to obtain His Excellency the Governor's permission to allow him to be sent here.

I have the honor to be

Yr. Obedt. Servt

Sir

The Secy

Messrs. Clark & Co.

Yours and

Port Phillip 17 June 1837

Sir

I have the honor to forward you depositions taken on a charge against John Gunn for killing two sheep the property of Mr. Gilbrand and request you will be good enough to inform me if there is sufficient evidence to bring him to trial, in my own mind I have not the slightest doubt the crime was committed but as there is no actual proof that any sheep were stolen at that time I am in doubt on that account if the man should be committed. I have therefore released him on bail till I receive directions from you how I had better proceed. This is probably an irregular mode of acting but as it may be some time before I can receive an answer I thought it the best.

Gunn is a man of bad character and has kept an irregular house but from the inefficiency of my constables have not been able to bring a charge home to him. Some of the witnesses are also bad characters as must be evident from their evidence. The practice of false swearing is carried to a dreadful extent and were it

not from the difficulty consequent upon the distance I should be glad to make an example of any who are guilty of it.

I have the honor also to request I may be informed if it is necessary in taking cognizance of the conduct of servants & under the act of Council 9 Geo 4 n^o 0 that there should be a written engagement between master & servant or if a verbal one is alone sufficient.

I have the honor to be

Sir

L^d

L^d Plunkett Esq

Attorney General

Sydney

Merrett Esq

ans^d

N^o 6

Port Phillip 17 Jan

Sir

In reference to my letter of the 31 Ult^o reporting the conduct of Constable James Dwyer I have the honor to state the man named in the margin has since offered himself to fill the situation and as he bears a good character perhaps it would be more convenient to appoint him than to send one from Sydney, should no one have been already appointed

John Somers
Esq

I have the honor to be

Sir

Merrett Esq

Capt Bunnings The Hon^{ble} The Col Sec^y

Army Board Sydney

as in Sydney

ans^d

Post Office 1 Jan 1837

Sir

I have the honor to forward a requisition for a forge of the usual size as the portable one is found insufficient for many things that have been required and the tools that are with it are only such as are required for shoring. The bell wheel I have also required is much wanted to mark the working hours and to let the publicans know the hour having arrived when it is expected they will close their houses.

Capt Baines

I have the honor to be

Very truly &c

Sir

do do do

Sydney

Per Louis 31 Jan

Memorandum P.M.

207

Post Office 21 Jan 1837

Sir

I have the honor to state for the information of His Excellency the Governor that the Commodore of the Brigantine Swallow having been allowed ^{at Sydney} of land his cargo of provisions &c opposite Gillibrand's point I have undertaken to hire a small vessel to bring them to the settlement at a cost of £3.0.0 a trip rather than undergo the tedious business of bringing them over land and delaying the bullockings by taking off the men to drag them up the bullocks that were sent not being fit for work. It will take two or three trips to bring the stores up and as you will obtain the sanction of His Excellency to its being charged in the next quarterly contingent out.

I have the honor to be

The Hon. Secy

Sir

do do do

The Hon. Secy

do do do

Memorandum P.M.

Sydney

Per Louis 31 Jan

No 8

Port Philip 27 Jun 1837

Te.

In forwarding a return of an Assigned
servant Belonging to Mr Wright received from
Van D L I have the honor to request I may
be informed in the event of a master wishing
to take his servant back to Van Duijnens Land he
being himself about to return there he may be
allowed to do so

H. Hen

The Col Lect -
Sydney

Per Louis Laffay 31 Jan 1860

no 9

Port Phillip 27 June 1884

Li

I have the honor to report for the information
of His Ex^{ty} the Governor that the Brigue Swallow
arrived here on the 24th inst having on board
Mr Langhorne, whom I shall be delighted to
afford every assistance in my power, and in
compliance with your letter of the 9th ulto will
erect a house for him as soon as I possibly
can. but I fear it will not be very quickly
done from the want of more hands
particularly surveyors in the mean while he
has accepted what little accommodation I
have to offer, as many more buildings may
be required to enable him to carry his instructions
into effect than I had contemplated I shall
be glad if either another pair of surveyors may
be sent or that I may be allowed to purchase
some sawed stuff timber for those
purposes

I have the honor to be

Dr h Kusschuh p.m.

Per Louis Coffey
31 Jan

27
Port Phillip 27 Jan 1837

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt
of a Key of Tobacco free Burgees Swallow on sub
of Government

I have the honor to be

Sir to be in

J Nicholson Esq

Memorandum P.M.

Carbone Master

Johnes

Pa Lewis 31 Jan 1837

Port Phillip 28 Jan 1837

Sir

Enclosed is a copy of Subpoena requiring
your attendance in Sydney and I am directed
to desire you will proceed there at the first
opportunity to be in time for the trial

I am Sir

W Fred Taylor

Memorandum P.M.

Lovely Banks

Spring Hill

Van D L

The same to Mr Jas Stitt

Pa Lewis 31 Jan 1837

To the care of

Mr W L Goodwin

Lawrence

Port Phillip

29 January 1837

Sir

I have the honor to return the original Subpoena for the evidence in the case of John Whitehead and beg to inform you it has only been served upon Freestone, the other two Taylor & Platt having left this for San Francisco²⁰ but I have obtained their address and have forwarded the copies to them. Freestone leaves tomorrow for Sacramento which is the only conveyance likely to occur. In the event of there being a want of evidence from the absence of the above, I enclose a deposition which I did not before send thinking there was sufficient without it. The deponent together with a man named Will Emmott are at present in Sydney just and was both partly engaged in the affair.

I have the honor to be

Y^r Obedt Serv^t

Sir

in as is

Messrs. P. M.

Per Lewis toff
31 Jan

No. 11

Port Phillip 31 January 1837

Sir

I have the honor in reply to your Letter of the 29 ulto to state that I was furnished with a copy of Mr. Chambers' "Australian Magistrate" on leaving Sydney, but my application for a form of oath to be taken by constables was in consequence of its not being contained in that book, the only one I have for reference.

I have the honor to be

Y^r Obedt Serv^tThe Wth Sec^y

Sir

Sydney

in as is

Messrs. P. M.

Enclosure of Feb

N^o 10

Port Phillip 23 Jun 1837

29

Sir

I have the honor to report that in the month of Dec^r last two men named in the margin were brought to this place by Mess^{rs} Gardiner and Hawdon to assist them in bringing cattle from a distant part of the Colony, the Ticket of Leave man, Knight, had a pass from the Magistrate of his District, J. Hawdon Esq^r, and I was assured by Mr Gardiner that the necessary arrangements for his remaining here would be without delay provided. Henry Duggutt it appears was sent by his Master in charge of his son in Law Mr Gardiner, instructing hereafter to come himself but as I have received no permission for these men to remain in the district, I have to request instructions respecting them

Abraham Knight

I have the honor to be

Ticket of Leave for S^t Vincent

Sir

Wm. Gardiner Esq^r

Henry Duggutt

of Mr Eagle Panamatta Road.

The Hon^{ble} The Col Sec^y
Sydney

P^{ost} Office 9 Feb

Port Phillip 31 Jan 1837

Sir

The Prison at this place having been appointed one of the common jails of the Colony under your jurisdiction by the notice in the Government Gazette dated 20 December 1836. I have the honor to request instructions for its management and discipline, particularly as regards the treatment of the prisoners confined in it, their rations &c. having at present no regulations on the subject

Y^{rs} Obedient Serv^t
J. M. M. EsqI have the honor to be
SirJ. M. M. Esq
Gt. St. George

Messrs. P. & M.

Port Phillip 31 Jan 1837

Sir No 12

Having experienced a difficulty each time vessels have been sent here by Government Stores. In not knowing the agreement that the Masters have entered into, and the exact number of articles they have to deliver I have the honor to request a list of every thing to be delivered may be sent, as well as a copy of the Charter party. It may be necessary to explain that the list of Commissariat Stores have been regularly transmitted, but several packages have been sent from different places in Sydney of which no account has been forwarded, and if overlooked when the vessel discharges might be altogether lost

Y^{rs} Obedient Serv^t
J. M. M. EsqI have the honor to be
SirJ. M. M. Esq
Gt. St. George

Messrs. P. & M.

Enterprise 9 Feb

31
Port Phillip 31 Jan 1837

Sir

I have the honor to enclose first and second convictions against Oliver Adams a Licensed Publican in this District

I Jackson Esq
Clerk of the Peace

I have the honor to be
Sir

Yours &c

Dr

G. J. G. G.

Enclosure of Feb

Port Phillip 3 Feb 1837

N^o 13

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6 Dec 36 with its enclosure from Mr Jackson with directions to report upon the allegations contained therein which I will answer in detail

I never before understood Mr F executed a survey of Western Port and Port Phillip. I have communicated with some of the first settlers who are equally ignorant that such is the case and I should think if a work of the sort had been completed that it would have been published if it contained additional information to those already before the public as such a thing was much required. The vessel was doubtless purchased by him, and is a trader between this and Launceston

The site of the present settlement which Mr F alludes to, had been previously chosen by Mr Barran, but Mr F becoming aware of his plans hastened to commence operations there, and took Mr Barran by surprise whilst he was engaged in another part of the bay, but I believe he was a very short time without neighbours

A large tract of land I believe was appropriated by Mr Jackson

I cannot ascertain what was expected on the blacks by Mr F but I have no doubt he did so to some extent as did most others either from a feeling of humanity or to ensure their own safety by making friends with the blacks, and I believe he has a friendly feeling towards them. I do not perceive that the blacks are more domesticated by Mr F than in most other families there are commonly some who attach themselves to particular people and some appear to have done so with Mr F but I cannot perceive they are more useful than others.

I believe Mr F brought to P P horses & cattle enough to work a stage or cart but I have no means of knowing the amount of goods he may be in possession of.

A House was built by Mr F but I cannot make out that it contains more than half the number of rooms mentioned in the memorial. Upon leaving P P some time ago he let it & it is at present occupied as a Licensed Public house.

I believe about thirty acres of Land grain were sowed by Mr F which were afterwards let with the rest of his P P property.

There is a lad with Mr F who can speak something of the Native language and he took two of the blacks to V. D. L. in his Schooner & brought them back again since I have been here.

I am given to understand and heard of the circumstance before I read the Memorial that upon the first arrival of the white people at the site of the settlement they were in some danger from the blacks and that on one occasion they made an attack upon them in considerable numbers, which was repelled merely by a show of firmness & preparation on the part of the whites, but the heroism of the act I have heard attributed to another individual. I have not heard any thing of a coal mine having been discovered.

38

I believe the above to be as near the truth as it is possible to collect at this moment. As I was among the first who came to Port Phillip after the project was made known by members of the company, and I have no doubt endeavored to turn the speculation to the best account. in doing so he must no doubt have contributed to improve the country in common with other squatters.

I have the honor to be
Sir

The Colonial Sec^y
Sydney

Yours most obt. humble Serv^t

Merredeth Philipps

P.S. since 16 Feb

Port Phillip 16 Feb 1837

Sir

I have the honor to forward requisitions for clothing for the issue on the 1st May next to the Prisoners in my immediate charge and would beg to suggest if it would not be advisable to have a supply here to prevent delay from the uncertainty of communication between this and Sydney. if it should be approved of, the Com^d Clerk might take them in charge and issue them according to the Requisitions I should forward to head quarters.

I have the honor to be
Sir

B. Rogers Esq^r
Admiral's Storekeeper

Merredeth P.M.

Sydney

P.S. since 16 Feb

No. 14

Port Philip 4 Feb 1837

Sir

In reply to your letter of the 5 Dec last I have the honor to state I cannot get any fit person to appoint as Post Master for this District but until someone can be found Mr Webb has offered to do the duty.

I have the honor to be

The Hon^{ble}

Sir

The Hon^{ble}From Post Off^r to Port

Sydney.

Melbourne PM

Per Letter 16 Feb

Port Philip 4 Feb 1837

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of the 9 Dec last and in reply beg to state I cannot find any one to appoint to the office of Postmaster for the District who is fit to undertake it or who is willing to do so for the small remuneration which is attached to it. Mr Webb the principal officer of Customs having expressed himself willing to do the duty until someone is appointed I have handed him over the Instructions and papers received from you. The object of taking the out of office I therefore retain those papers until a person is appointed. The percentage on the postage received I suppose will be allowed him.

I have the honor to be

Sir

be be be

Jas Raymond Esq

Melbourne PM

Post Master Gen^l

Sydney

Per Letter 16 Feb

No 15

Port Phillip 4 Feb 1837

35

Sir

By your letter of the 19 Sept last I am directed to supply the convicts in Government employ with shoes twice in each year but in consequence of the men here having a good deal of hard work and often in wet ground, the shoes have worn out much before they will be again due and I should be glad if you would be pleased to obtain the sanction of His Ex^{ty} the Governor to allow an extra issue for the present year of one pair of shoes each. The trousers and jackets they may perhaps be able to repair.

I have the honor to be

Sir

The Hon^{ble}

The Col Secy

Sydney

Per Secy 16 Feb

Wharfedale 1837

No 16

Port Phillip 9 Feb 1837

Sir

By the copy of the instructions which I have received from Mr Langhorne's guidance I perceive he is authorized to draw from the stores food and clothing for the blacks. I have the honor in consequence to request the Asst Com^d General may be informed of the circumstance in order that supplies may be forwarded to meet the probable demand as at present the provisions are merely calculated to supply the military & convict establishments and there are no clothes except the remainder of those which were sent in the first instance as presents for the blacks and prisoners clothing.

I have the honor to be

The Hon^{ble}

The Col Secy

Sydney

Per Secy 16 Feb

Wharfedale 1837

Port Philip 9 Feb 1837

Sir I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16 Dec^r 1836 directing that fresh meat at the rate contracted for viz six pence half penny per pound might be continued to be issued until the end of December but in consequence of the authority coming too late to hand I had engaged with the contractor to issue until the end of the present month and have directed the commissariat clerk to call for tenders to commence from 1st March but I fear we shall not get it at so reasonable a rate in consequence of the instructions placed upon the next issue

A considerable proportion of biscuit has been hitherto supplied for use instead of flour but as we have the means of baking I have to request you will be good enough to obtain permission for flour only to be supplied in future, as the ration when composed of biscuit is by no means so good, and frequently a great portion of it is wasted when it is not quite good.

Capt Hunter

Adj. Genl Sec

Sydney

I have the honor to be

Sir

Yours

Wm. Mitchell

Rec^d Sec^y 16 Feb

No-17

Port Phillip 10 Feb 1837

37

Sir

I have the honor to state for the information of His Excellency the Governor that I have reason to believe there are some men here under conditional purchase belonging to V & Land and that they have come here in charge of masters who have entered into a bond for their safety, previously to my coming here, and I should be glad to know if His Excellency wishes any steps to be taken respecting them.

There are also many persons here, now free, but who were ~~more~~ formerly convicts in Van & Land, and I have the honor to request I may be informed if they will come under the provisions of the act of Convicts for the prevention of vagrancy 6 Will 4 N° 6 Sec 4 & 2.

I have the honor to be

The Hon^{ble}

Sir

In

2

2

The Hon^{ble} Sec^y

Sydney

Per Letter 16 Feb

Melbourne Police Mag^{ist}

No-18

Port Phillip 10 Feb 1837

Sir

I have the honor to state for the information of His Excellency the Governor that there have lately been some instances where residents here have been annoyed by cattle straying into their gardens and damaging them, and as I have not the power at present of giving redress, I have to request should it not be deemed expedient just now to establish a Pound that I may be enabled to carry the provisions of the 25th section of the Impounding act 4 Will 4 N° 3 into effect by having a rate of damages allowed, and authorised according to the Act, and as I have no precedent to guide me in fixing the rate I will thank you if you will be good enough to have the form filled up with such rate of damages as is usually allowed and Gazetted if approved of.

By the Governor

The term Petty Sessions is made use of in this act and I am not aware if this would operate to prevent its being enforced here

I have the honor to be

Sir &c &c

11th Nov^r 1862

Warrumbah P.M.

The Col Sec^y

Sydney

P^r Sec^y 16 Feb

Pat Philip 12 Feb 1867

Sir

I have the honor to enclose a supplementary Contingent Abstract of 31 Dec 1866 an account of Labour done by some of the Soldiers stationed here for Government purposes which I could not include in the original Abstract to that date as I was not aware how the charge was to be made not having received instruction on that head till lately. I have not had the receipt in the voucher completed as perhaps it will be the best way to let the Paymaster of the Regiment receive the amount and give credit to the several men for the sum due them.

The Authority for making the charge in this manner is by letter from the Adj^t Gen^l dated 10 Dec 36

I have the honor to be

Sir &c &c

Respectfully

Sydney

Warrumbah P.M.

P.M.

Port Philip 27 Feb 1837

Sir

I have the honor to enclose for a letter from
Aps Surveyor & Army reporting the loss of one of the
prisoners attached to his party, which I have
only received to day, the man has not been since
heard of, or any circumstances made known to
ascertain his fate. I have directed
notices to be circulated cautioning settlers
against employing him.

I have the honor to be

Sir L L L L

Wm. L. L. L. P.M.

St Principle Sup of Lemons
Sydney

Cafey

Sydney 11 Feb 1837

Sir I have the honor to report to you
that William Pittick per ship Medway
attached to me in surveying duty, has been absent
since 31 ulto on which day he was sent by me
from the Duck pond creek on the Sydney road
to the Neerity river to return the same
evening

I have the honor to be

Sir L L L L

L B. L. L.

To Capt Lonsdale
Police Mag^r

Aps Surveyor