

MEMORANDUMS OF A VOYAGE
TO VAN DIEMAN'S LAND

by Mr. P. Harrisson

1822



Journal
of Peter Harrison
1822

Presented to the Royal Society by Mrs Joan Bruford, 1949 ✓

PETER HARRISSON (c 1791-1869)

Memorandum of a voyage to Van Diemen's Land 1822

Peter Harrison arrived in V.D.L. via the 'Macclesfield' on 8.9. 1822. He received a grant of 2000 acres at Oatlands, lived at Grove House, Jericho, married Mary Lloyd Owen of Jericho and died on 20 July 1869 aged 78.

- 1 Journal or memorandum written by Peter Harrison concerning his voyage to V.D.L. and his arrival there and entitled: 'Memorandums of a voyage to Van Dieman's [sic] Land by Mr P. Harrison, commenced February 1st, and his arrival there September 8th, with such observations as may prove useful to future emigrants'.

The journal is written in the form of a letter to 'Charles' and contains lively memories of an uncomfortable voyage 'steerage', on which two passengers were arrested for debt (one at Dover and one at Cork, Ireland, by officers from Bow Street). In V.D.L., his 'general observations, Nov. 1822' include a favourable report of the weather, the fertility of the soil and prospects for agriculture, together with a note of prices of grants of land and specimens of the certificates necessary, also a note of costs of equipment and comments on types of sheep. Amongst other general advice he notes the necessity for bachelors to learn to cook and make bread. He also comments on the prospect of the establishment of a criminal court and supreme court and refers to life in Hobart, the appearance of aborigines, etc.

(quarto notebook, 94 pp)

RS.47/1

- 2 Typed copy of above, indexed.

RS.47/2

(a second copy of the typescript was presented to the University Library, and is in the Archives, ref.: H.14)

Memorandum of a Voyage to New Denmark
Land by Mr D Harrison Commenced Feb¹ 1822
and his arrival there Sept 8th 1822, with such
observations as may prove useful to future
Emigrants.

D^r Charles

With my views in proceeding as a
Settler, to this Colony you are well acquainted,
completely tired of trying various businesses, to gain
a comfortable livelihood in England, and finding
my means of future support daily diminishing,
without a reasonable chance of meeting with any
employ suited to my wishes, to recoup my finances,
and my principal reasons for quitting my native
land. I am now arrived at my destined spot, &
previously to giving you the information you
require of me, regarding the settlement and my
future prospects, I will give you a short account
of our Voyage, which has unfortunately been a
 tedious one to all parties, having been more
than Eight Months on the passage, and more
particularly to the Ladies, and my friend Hooker,
who had never before quitted their fair side,
and knew not the troubles of the Ocean, With
respect to myself who have often suffered the
hardest gales, as a Midshipman in the Navy, and
was to some comparative speaking of little consequence

any further than the loss of time, and ^{not} being able to
reach this place in time to purchase what I need for
sustaining, to save the first season. You are aware
of the difficulties I experienced in London, in shipping
my Merchandise, in not being able to get my
implements of Agriculture on board the Marchmont
with me, and I am happy to say in consequence
of our delay, the William Howard which your ship
left by two months after our departure, got here
a month before us, and we found every thing right.
When you left me in London, we immediately
sailed down to Gravesend, where we remained two
days, while the Ship every where paid their Wages
in advance, and the Passengers on board were
mustered by the proper Officers of the Customs, and
our names registered, and the quantity of provisions
ascertained to be equal to the consumption of the
number of Passengers going out, & of such quality as
to give satisfaction. These are good regulations
and if acted strictly up to, will at all times
prevent any great deficiency of Water & provisions
being found on board, and no every Ship is allowed
to take but a certain number of passengers,
according to her tonnage, it prevents the Ships being
so crowded as to make them liable to much
sickness. Unfortunately many of our passengers did
not ship themselves in London, but wishing to spin
out the last day with their friends, they came on
board here, you know how full the Ship was
crowded in the Dock, which obliged us to fill our
Cabin with Merchandise, & to leave some for the next
Ship. Judge then our confusion, and the dis-

those who expected to get their goods on board here,
some were left behind, & those that could be taken
on board, were stowed promiscuously in the Cabin, and
in any vacancy that could be discovered, which so
completely blocked up the passage to such things
as were find on board for the accommodation of the
passengers, that it was many days before even
Plates & Dishes, Shelves and Jars, could be got out.
As to my Passage in the Stowage Cabin, from
motives of economy (to save my money till my arrival
here, where I find that so I saved of great value to
me) we were not able to get any thing for our
comfort, until they were fully provided in the
Cabin, and I put in my Reposement where the Beef
and Potatoes used to be saved up in a bucket,
with plates on Shelves & jars to eat with. I was
more fortunate, as the Tin Dish and Plates, and
Shelves jars were &c., which we took in our Cabin,
were at that time great commodities, and I found
you myself & those who had seen such things before,
and had provided for the worst, enjoyed the life of
our companions expense, who would have had enough
to do to digest the Salt junk, had they been well
provided. We sailed in the greatest confusion from
Greenland, and the Wind blowing hard many began
with the motion of the Ship, to cast up their
Accounts, long before we arrived in the Downs, here
we were detained by a foul wind a fortnight, and
it blew so strong a Gale nearly all this time, that
we lost three Anchors, and a ship that came from
her Anchors, carried away our boats from the quarters,
and much injured our Vessel, to the great distress of

the "Duchess", in fact I never spent a worse fortnight
on the coast of England, & to those who never met
used to the Sea, it was a pretty sample of what
they might expect. My friend Gooden, & some others
were obliged to Land, being half dead with sickness
and fright. We had sixty Passengers on board, one of
them was a West Indian, who was going out to make
the most of his time, and the first week completely
find him out of conceit of his trip, & he would gladly
have remained at Sea, had not his passage money
been paid, & expended for provisions. One Gentleman
who had a Wife & Family on board, and a large
investment of property, was taken out of the Ship and
sent to Dover Goal by his Creditors, whom he was
endeavouring to defraud of their property. We left him
behind, but his Family pursued their Voyage, as soon
as the Weather permitted we sailed for Ireland, and
after 3 Weeks rough passage arrived there, where we
was to take on board Seventy Tons of Hops belonging
to Mr Cooper, a large Merchant in London, and we
had no sooner cast anchor in the Cove of Cork,
than Privateers and other Officers from Bowness came
on board, to search for Cooper, who it appeared had sent
the Hops from London, where he had purchased them
on Credit, for the Irish Market, but it being
suspected that he intended shipping them, & quitting
the Country. with them, the Officers came to seize them,
as well as the Hops, thus we lost another Passenger.
They likewise seized a large quantity of Merchandise
that was shipped in London, and intended upon unloading
the Ship to get rid of it, which they effected, and the
Goods were landed & supposed to be worth nearly Ten
Thousand Pounds, the circumstances were as follows,
This property was purchased, shipped and paid for, by a

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Gentleman who had his family on board, and a large
establishment of servants &c. He was clothed to a Merchant
who 12 months since went to New Holland, and did not
settle with any of his Creditors, whom he meant to swindle
out of their property, to do which he left his Cloth with
power to collect all his Book Debts, and to lay out the
money in Merchandise, and to pay for it & ship it in
his own name & on his own Credit. This he did and
unfortunately found the property on board the Man-of-war,
it was found that the Creditors did all in their power
to prevent it being taken out of the Country, and
as every thing was caught in this persons name,
and, for, Ship & consigned to himself, they could not
obtain it, and it was put on board again, as the
person who shipped it owed them nothing & they had
no proof that it was paid for with their money,
and they will no doubt get an order from the
Comptroller to send out & remove and send home the
principle, to account for the property to his Creditors,
and his plan being so well laid, he will in all
probability sell the goods immediately on their arrival,
and ship himself with the property for Spanish
America, or some place not under the British
authority. This you will see has much difficulty
and delay that requires have occasioned us, & this
will convince you that many who go to our Settlements
are not more honest, than those who are found out
in their iniquity, and transported. Our Companion the
11th of October could not proceed farther than Cuth, he
was so completely Sea Sick, & sick of the Sea, that
he was heavily glad to eat food on shore again, &
sail off for London without his passage money. I have no
doubt with many a good resolution to stick to his
board for the future, and let those go to their business who

like the sea better than himself, there you will allow
there are some white feathers in your Flock as
small as others. The delay occasioned to the Ship by
such unpleasant circumstances, made all parties much
complaining, and I have some reason for it. In consequence
of not having room in my Cabin to stow away the
Kangaroo, of which, you & my good friend Mr Coleman
was kind enough to furnish me with, I was obliged to
make it fast under our Main Table, where it was secure
while I was on board. But meeting with two old
friends who are Merchants here, and whose hospitality
often induced me to go on shore, in my absence the
Sailors & I suppose some of my shipmates, opened the
Kangaroo, & I suppose pleasantly regaled themselves with
a Bottle of my caprice, as I found the Wine reduced
to the last dregs, and the comfort of my Bottle in the
package which I had anticipated, was reduced to a
shadow, that I should not have much regretted, had
it not been a present from my friends, whose healths
would often be toasted with much pleasure, as every
land firework on the voyage, separated us further from
those whom we so much esteem. We continued at
Port six weeks before we could get the things on
board again, & get ready for sea, and it gave us
all pleasant once more to see the signal made
for Sailing. We weighed anchor, and soon lost sight
of old Ireland, the land of Whiskey, & liberal Hospitality,
I will not attempt a description of this Island, as it
would be to repeat what many have described so
fully, that I can do nothing more to its particulars,
suffice to say, the Inhabitants much pleased me,
liberal to Strangers without ostentation, they appear
to emulate each other, in doing which shall lend
with the greatest Hospitality, those whose chance, or
letters of their friends, may introduce to their Houses.

The only purchase I made in Sweden was some Flax,
I found this article so cheap, it induced me to buy out
some money on speculation, and find since my arrival
it will pay me 150 per Cent profit, We proceeded for
some weeks with pretty fair weather, until we had
passed Marazion, when we encountered some Gales of
Wind that made the old ship feel it very much,
long before we reached Sweden, the Ladies in the
Cabin who had left their Husbands behind, and
a Mrs. Duffield who was going out to join her
Husband, a Doctor at Helsingfors, found the
inconvenience of having on board an old sailor, who
was always well at the time they were most
unwell with the Motion of the Ship, and most
abused, and they looked for my opinion concerning
the Danger of the moment with some confidence,
and as I assure you I became a great favorite
with all parties, so that I occupied more time
in the Cabin than in the Stewage, and freely
partook of such good things, as the Ladies
always provided for a Voyage, as they are
generally good eaters when left to themselves.
We spent our time in reading, writing, cards,
Chips &c, and by the assistance of good company
we now enjoyed a little relief from our first
difficulties. One of the Ladies Mrs. Cant, whose
Husband was left at Dover, was safely confined
of a fine Girl, and both got on & have done
uncommonly well, we shall remember this Child
as the young Maidsfield for a long while, it
will puzzle her to tell what father she was
born in. I am sorry to say our Captain has long

placed himself on guard immediately, which added
not a little to the fears of the passengers, &
I am assured, I was not without my fears for our
ultimate safety, when I saw him affected with legions
when I blew a heavy gale, and as obstinate as a
mule, but my fears I said to myself, as I had
enough to do to quiet the apprehensions of others,
let it oblige me to be upon the alert, and to
keep regular watch, with the Mate, who was
the only good Sailor on board, such was the
irreconcilable temper of the Captⁿ, that I was the
only passenger who could keep upon fair terms
with him, as his great pleasure arose from
the quoy bottle, he was too anxious that I
should share his Glass, but being on my guard
I could not encourage him in excess, but did my
utmost to persuade him against it. In a Gale
off the Cape de Verde Islands, we unfortunately
sprung our Bowsprit, and Fore Mast, and
upon them being examined, the Captain declared
they were not sea worthy, & they gave way,
in consequence of the rigging being so decayed,
as not to be a proper support to them. We
could not set up fresh rigging & spars at Sea,
therefore was obliged to strengthen them as
well as we could, to make them last until we
could reach Rio Janeiro, which with great
difficulty we managed, but it is a great shame
to send a Ship so badly prepared for so long
a Voyage. Nothing particular occurred from this
time until we arrived at the Bonaville where

we anchored at the end of May. We were all much
gratified with the appearance of the Harbour of Rio,
it is I think without exception the finest Bay
in the World, & would hold all the Shipping of
the Globe, in perfect security. The Land is very
mountainous, and terminates abruptly in the Bay
with numerous rich valleys, cultivated, and
highly ornamented, for country seats, their aspect
from the Ankerage is beautiful. The Town
the Capital of this extensive country is large,
and the numerous Churches and Convents, with
the Monasteries have a pleasing effect, but the
Houses in general are not highly ornamented,
or built so as to afford much real comfort, and
are not very clean. The continual ringing
of the Church bells from day light until
night, has a curious effect, but the Portuguese
are very zealous in their religion, and attend
the Church service many times a day, in the
evening of their festivals which are very frequent,
they consume a large quantity of Fire Works,
which from the Capital had a novel effect,
their processions are grand in the extreme,
and the churches elegantly, and richly decorated
with Gold & Silver Plate, & good Pictures.
I was much gratified with what I saw of this
fine Country, and think it will never again
satisfy us, the Government of Portugal,
having once tasted the pleasures of independence
they will never again submit to the yoke
of dependence, unless conquered & so not hesitate

to say, the power of Portugal is not equal
to the Task. We remained at Rio São Paulo
to repair our damages, and before we sailed
I was highly gratified by the arrival of my
friend J. Hall & his Family, who left England
three Months after us, and have overtaken
us. I likewise met with several old friends
whom I knew in the Navy, that made my
time pass very agreeably. I am sorry to say
we have parted with our chief Mate the
best sailor on board, he was quite tired
out with the Capt^{ts} conduct to him. We took
on board another, who was discharged from
another ship for drunkenness, so that our
prospects are gloomy indeed for the
remainder of the Voyage. On the 26th of June
we quitted Rio Janeiro and proceeded in
company with St. Pauls Ship on our Voyage
together, but could not long keep company
as we outstriated them. We had not
left port long before it was discovered we
had not Candles enough left for a Months
consumption, & hardly any oil for the use of
the Ship, and a great deficiency of Provisions,
and all small articles for the Passengers
Table. When we got near the Cape of
Good Hope we then very singular Weather,
very boisterous for two or three Hours & then
quite calm, & so on alternately, which made

such a heavy swell of the Sea, that the Ship
rolled, every heavy gun & the Blanks opened so much
that the Powder cabinets could not be kept
water tight, and being badly frightened as well
as undismayed, some of them were often in
Raptures, and your humble servant had enough
to do to be at all hours at the call of the
Doctors, and a good many anxious nights have
I spent in paltrying their fears, when I had but
too much reason to fear for the vessel myself.
I never knew such a continuance of heavy Gale's
for Six Weeks, until we rounded the Cape, &
to add to our misfortunes, the Wind prevented
our going into the Cape for a supply of Powder,
and we were from this time obliged to spend
most of our evenings in the Deck, & I had
away our time until tea time. I had a little
oil left of my private stock, which sometimes
afforded a glimmer of comfort in emergencies, but
fearful the Ship would be left without oil
for the Campfires, I kept some in reserve
in case of danger. Thus we proceeded on
our voyage, and fortunately had better
weather & fair Winds from the Cape, which
soon shortened our distance, and on the first
of September gave us hopes of making the long
sought Land. To describe to you the anxiety
of all on board to catch the first glimpse of
the Mountains rising from the Water, is
impossible, every eye was extended in search of
the same object, and every Ear in expectation

that the Men at the Mast head, would every
Minute announce the welcome Tidings, after
many hours spent in anxious expectation, the
Men on the Deck and above, exclaimed, Land
Land upon the Starboard Bow, and which pleasing
sound, every eye flushed with joy, & (Richard
was himself again) we soon had the pleasure
of viewing it from the Deck. I cannot describe
the feelings of us all as we sailed along the
Land, there is something very fortifying in the
appearance of the Coast, the rocks are very
high & Bluff like Cliffs, but so dark, as to
present an uneasy prospect, and not a very
favourable view to those who expected at
first sight to see a paradise, as the line
extended between the Heads that form the
commencement of the Harbour, and entrance
to the River, showed, here the prospect
much improved as we advanced up the Tule,
and for 20 Miles presented to our view, a fine
Country, covered with stately Timber, and here
and there interspersed with Settlers habitations,
which increased as we advanced towards the
Town, before which we Anchored on the 8th of
September, glad enough once more to set foot
upon Terra Firma. The town is very well
represented by Mr Evans in your Book, who
has made a good view of it, but it has much
improved by the addition of some good Houses
since that period, thus finished the difficulties
of our Voyage, and I will now under the Head of
General Observations give what information I can.

The object of the writer of these observations, is to give his friends in England, and those who may be desirous of Emigrating from their native soil, a concise and clear Idea of the benefits that may accrue to themselves and children by going to our Settlements in New Holland, or Van Diemens Land, and at the same time to point out to them the difficulties and privations they will have to encounter, before they can place themselves in comfort & Independence. The various publications that describe these Colonies in such fascinating colours, must deceive those who can get no information from any other source, as they point out all the advantages that may, by possibility, arise to the Settler, without giving him a full description of the privations and many difficulties he must unavoidably encounter, before he can reach to independence, much more to affluence. With respect to the Climate I cannot be described in too favourable a light, Mild and Temperate in the Winter, the Snow never lays upon the land for many minutes, but confines itself to the summits of the Mountains far removed from the Tracks the Graziers or Agriculturists wish to occupy, as a convincing proof of the mildness of the Winter season it is only necessary to state that the Trees preserve their Foliage, and the Flowers blossom all thro' the year, and the Winter season when the labour of the husbandman is at rest in England, is the busy time for the Agriculturist in Van Diemens Land, and which gives a constant succession of showers enabling

the Settlers to plough and crop his Land, and the reward
for getting in his Corn is given to him ^{from August} from until
October. The Summer season is generally dry and
the heat of the atmosphere about 10 degrees
hotter than in England, but tempered with singular
Land & Sea breezes which succeed each other,
the one from the Morning till Noon, the other from
Noon until the Evening, which is generally cool, the
Climate ^{has} a strong resemblance
to the south of France, and for salubrity not to be
surpassed in the World, which the Health of the
Settlers will at all times testify.

The soil is generally good and very fertile, but the
Emigrant will find every variety as in other Countries,
and it will require some judgment to select the
best, but the proportion that is good is large, and it
will be many years before it can be exhausted or
granted away, so as to be obliged to cultivate the
inferior soil, unless there are peculiar advantages
of Water Carriage to the Market ^{any}, or other good
considerations which may induce the Emigrant to give
up the secondary soil in preference to seeking
that of better quality farther up the Country, but it
must be borne in mind that all who from this period
come to this Colony as Settlers, will be obliged to apply
for their grants of Land at least 20 Miles from Hobart
Town, or from George Town, the only two Towns of any
consequence in Van Diemens as market Towns, the
situations for several intermediate villages are fixed
upon by the Governor, but it will be some time
before they can be of sufficient importance to be looked
to as a market for the produce of the Interior. The
Country is so that now all the Land granted away
to the early Settlers, that lays within this distance
of the principle towns, and within 20 Miles of the Rivers

Derby & Tarns the only Rivers that are navigable
to the above Towns. Therefore the early settlers not
only have their Land within a moderate distance of
the best towns for the sale of their Corn, but many
of them have the great convenience of Water Carriage
for it, without any or but little Land carriage, which
is an advantage that future settlers cannot enjoy.
I have been obliged to take my grain 85 miles from
the seat of Government, and it has cost a distance
from a navigable River to be able to send my
produce to market, the distance by Land and the
want of good roads must be long. However the
Corn from being sent to Market, under these circum-
stances the attention of Settlers must be chiefly
directed to stocking their Land with Sheep & Bulls,
the increase of which is large, he may calculate
upon three fells of Lambs in two years in consequence
of the mildness of the Season, the stock generally
are very prolific, and as the riches of the Settlers
is general and almost dependant upon the
numbers of their Cattle, it is gratifying to see them
increase so quickly, Grazing must for some years
be the principal pursuit of those who reside far
from the towns, & if he cultivates a small portion
of his ground, it will not be more than will supply
himself & establishment with Corn, and some few
neighbouring Mechanics, with a portion to barter
with the ship-harpers for Sugar & Tea, a few shillings for
his Coward Labourers on any trifling things he may
require from his neighbours who may receive no
gain. In four or five years as Villages increase
there will be a Market for a larger portion, and
until that is the case he must be content to graze
the largest portion of his Land, which from the present

prices of Stock will pay him better than an extended
growth of Corn can possibly do, and during this time
the Land is grazed, the Settler will have time
to clear his tracks of Timber, or any thing that obstructs
his plough, and thus be prepared to pursue agriculture
as soon as it may answer his purpose better than
raising stock. Those who came to the Colony first
are men of affluence, and from their Land being
near to the Town they are fully reaping the benefits
of being early settlers, in the increase in the value
of their Estates, many of which are now worth from
six to twelve pounds per Acre, and Land can be bought
at every intermediate price down to eight shillings &
sixpence per Acre, which is the present value of
Land in the interior as soon as it is granted, the
purchaser having the option of taking it in any part
of the Colony he may please that is unoccupied. I
have sold my ground at that price to purchase
some nearer to Robarts Town, but Government will
not sell any, and according to the rules of the Governor,
no person is allowed to sell his ground until he
has been in possession of it for 5 years, but it is
sometimes sold under the Crown, the person who
wishes to sell or exchange gives the buyer a lease
of his Land for 4 years, with an agreement that the
soil shall be his at the expiration of the term.
Government are aware that the Settlers often evade
this obligation they enter into to get their grants
made to them, but hitherto it has been but
little noticed. Mr. Bingen in his report to the
House of Commons mentions it & recommends in
orders to prevent clandestine transfers of Land,
that every Title Deed and Conveyance of

Private property shall be registered and copied
at the Colonial Secretarys Office, and that all
transfers of Land not so registered shall be
unlawful, should this rule be adopted it will
effectually prevent all transfers of Estates
without the knowledge of the Governor.

Respecting the proportions of Land which it
has been customary for the Governors to grant
to Free Settlers, who arrive with orders for
Grants from the Secretary of the Colonies,
it has entirely depended upon the Money they
can show, themselves possessed of upon their
arrival in the Colony, the quantity being
left by Government entirely to the discretion
of the Governor, who has generally followed the
the indentmenters scale with but little
deviation. To a Settler who can show he has
in real Capital ready to invest in the soil

500	--	a grant of	500 Acres
750	--	D ^o	640 D ^o
1,000	--	D ^o	800 D ^o
1,500	--	D ^o	1000 D ^o
1,700	--	D ^o	1280 D ^o
2,000	--	D ^o	1500 D ^o
2,500	--	D ^o	1760 D ^o
3,000	--	D ^o	2000 D ^o

and it is now recommended by Mr Birge, that
any larger quantity that may be required by
a Settler, who has invested 3000 £ in the Cultivation
of Land or rearing stock, shall be allowed to
purchase of Government such quantity of Land as

he may require at 51 per Acre.
All Grants to free Settlers and French Estates,
subject only to a Quitrent of one shilling for
every 50 Acres per Year to the King, which does
not commence until after the fifth year of
possession, Government likewise reserves the right
to cut public Roads thro' the Estates, if at
any time required for the Public Service, and
that all Timber growing, or that may hereafter
grow on the Estates fit for Ship Building, or
Naval Purposes, shall belong to the Crown.
This right has been but very seldom claimed,
and as the Settlers have (to clear their Lands)
destroyed the principle part that was fit
for this purpose, Mr Bigge recommends that
the right to claim it shall be done away
in future grants.

It is necessary here to point out to those
who may be desirous to obtain Grants of Land
in either of these Colonies, the way in which
it is to be obtained, and at the same time
to state that Government will not give any
recommendation to any person possessing less
Capital than 500 L, which must be produced (in
Dollars, or such implements of Agriculture and
Furniture as are requisite for a Farming
Establishment) to the Governor with the Letters
of recommendation, or order for a Grant received
from the Secretary of the Colonial Department,
who leaves the quantity to be given to each Settler

entirely to the discretion of the Governors, who will
not grant Land to any body not possessed of ample
means to cultivate it. The order for a Grant it
is necessary every one should get, before they
leave England, to obtain which, it is necessary
that they obtain a Certificate signed by two
respectable & responsible Merchants as follows.

We hereby Certify
That A B of Lancashire who is desirous of
proceeding to New Discovery Land as a Free
Settler, is a person of good character, and
possesses a capital of at least 500 £ sterling.

We are respectfully Sir

To
Dr J Wilkes Esq^r Your Most Obed^t Servants
Secretary C. D. - Street London
Lawrence St^h E. F. & Co - Boultby L^d

This Certificate must be enclosed with the following
Petition to the Secretary of the Colonies, under
Cover to the unders Secretary as above.

To
The Rt Hon^{ble} East Bathurst

My Lord

Your Petitioner being desirous of
proceeding to New Discovery Land as a Free
Settler, and intending to embark on board the
Ship Fame now lying in the London Docks,
on or about the 1st of May, and being possessed of
property which he is desirous to invest in the
cultivation of Land there, humbly solicits your
Lordship to grant him a Letter of Recommendation

to the Governor of Van Diemens Land, that he
may receive a Grant of Land on his arrival
in the Colony, with due respect I have the
honour to subscribe myself Yours Lordships
Directed Most Obedient Humble Servant

To Earl Bathurst.

A B

N^o 19 John St London

and inclosed with the Certificate under cover to
his Secretary, Mr Wilmut.

In a Week or Two after application is made
the Petitioner will receive from the Secretaries
Office his Letter to the Governor, which is all
that is required, but application should always
be made at least a Month before the Ship
is expected to sail, that the Letter may be
procured before a Passage is taken, for fear
of any delay on unforeseen circumstance that may
occasion great loss or inconvenience when a
passage is agreed for, on goods ship's on board
before it is procured, as some people have in
such case been obliged to go without their Letter, on
forfeit the Money paid for their passage.

The Agent or owners of the Ship whom you agree
with for a passage, will expect the Money paid
down at the time of agreement, on such portion
of it as may be stipulated, and the remainder
when the Ship is ready to take her passengers
on board. It is always advisable to go by a
regular Trader of the first Class, which may be
ascertained at Lloyd's, and not by a Ship taken up

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for the conveyance of Passengers only, when Ships
are chartered for that purpose, and no freight is
shift by the Merchant, they are carelessly about
the state of the Ship, and will get her full of
Passengers, and generally have not stowage for
their Merchandise sufficient for all that go in
her, so much room being required for the stowage
of Water & Provisions for so many, that there
is little Tonnage room for goods. The actual
charge for a passage in the Cabin of a good
Ship is 80 Guineas, & they find fresh provisions &
Groceries, on 35 Guineas in the Steerage Cabin,
where they find your Ship's allowance only. Salt
Beef, Salt Pork, Beans & Flour, and you must
put up with the inconvenience of having a
companion to share your Cabin, as they find
two passengers in a Berth. But in the
Cabin each person has a berth to himself.
It is necessary to look well to the Ship before
you engage a passage & to have a regular
agreement with the owner or agent with respect
to the quantity of provisions & liquors that you
are to have on the Voyage, likewise of Water &
the use of the Fire & other conveniences, if
you agree for passage only as some do & find
themselves in provision, which may be the most
economical plan for a large family who can form
a separate Ship, but not for a single person
as there are many inconveniences attending it, &
the Captⁿ has no interest in your comforts, he
has it in his power to make it very unpleasant and on

the passage. Each passenger is allowed Tenage for his goods if they do not take up more than 80 feet Cube, or 2 Tons Measurement, all the room that may be required beyond the quantity allowed, they charge 6 £ per Ton of 40 ft³ Cubes, but you may stow as many goods in your Cabin as you please free of extra charge.

If a family provisions themselves or take any private Stock of provisions in reserve, in case of arriving to short allowance, which is not unfrequently the case if the Voyage prove longer than was at first anticipated, for stowage of Weather prevents the Ship touching at such intermediate places as the Passage was intended, to recruit the Stock, it is better to be prepared for the worst, by having in reserve some Sundry beef, Hams, Tongues, ^{Preserved} Suet, and ^{preserved} pickled meats in Tin Cases, which may be purchased at 2/6 per lb, without bone, and will prove cheaper than taking live stock, which eat so much on the passage, & reduce so much in weight, that they cost more per lb, when you want to kill them towards the end of the Voyage, than the preserved meats, & there is this great advantage if they are not required on the passage, these things will pay a freight, or be equally serviceable on Landing, and you have no trouble in attending to Stock on the passage, or risk of losing them which is no small consideration.

When a Letter arrives in the Colony and has secured his goods in a Warehouse he must wait upon the Governor & deliver his Letter received from

the Foreign Office, & prove the amount of Capital
you have ready to employ in Agriculture, when
a Grant will be ordered in proportion to the
means you possess, and you will have permission
to proceed into the interior & examine such Land
as you may please, & to fix upon the spot you
like best, when it will be measured off to you
by the Surveyors of Land, who will mark and
describe the boundaries in the Colonial Books,
from which your title Deed will be completed.
As soon as you have possession, Convicts in the
proportion of one to every 200 Acres are allowed
you, with regular rations for them from the
Government Store & for yourself for 6 months.
A Weekly Ration is 7 lbs of Meat & 7 lbs of Flour,
but it is found not to be sufficient for the Convicts,
and their masters supply the deficiency, which
is about the same quantity of Meat & Flour &
2 ounces of Tea. When Settlers are far from the
Town, the value of the weekly ration is much
reduced, as you must send a Cart &
two men for it every Week, which is so great
an inconvenience & expense, that many care but
little about it, if they can afford to provision their
men, as the Convicts always get drunk when
sent to the Town & it is difficult to get them home
without accidents which but too often occur on these journeys.
As soon as a Settler arrives at Van Diemens
full of hope & expectation, he begins to make
enquiry about the Soil, and is anxious to know in
what direction he is to seek his earthly paradise,

that he^l has traveled so many Thousands of Miles
to gain, but the first impressions he receives in
answer to his enquiries, generally throw a damp
upon his Spirits, as he then finds he has
more to encounter before he can get fixed upon
his Estate, or get any comforts around him than
he had suspected, and were it not for the great
distance & expense many would naturally dishearten,
but to most of those who go, to return is impossible
and as they see others who have encountered the
same privations before them, & have in a few
years surmounted every difficulty, and placed
themselves in independence upon their Frontiers,
they soon become reconciled to the necessity of
proceeding manfully to the task, and when they
have once embarked their little capital in
Stock &c., many anticipated difficulties vanish,
and ^{little} numerous others arise, still by perseverance
they are overcome, and a little time reconciles
you to every privation.

As soon as the Land is chosen and Purchase made
selected, the first care is to provide a Cart,
and yoke of Oxen to carry yourself, your Men,
some tools & implements, with a Weeks provisions
from the store, into the interior. If your Land
is as far as mine from the Town 25 Miles,
there is plenty of scope on the road to exercise
your patience in more ways than one, your
Oxen travel about 15 Miles a day, and as you
cannot expect to find any thing like a road
for more than half the distance, you will be

fortunate if ²⁵ you arrive at your destined spot
in a Week, as there are no public houses to ac-
commodate Travellers, you must at night pitch your
Tent (if you are fortunate enough to have brought
one from England with you, which nobody should
neglect) for yourself and Men, & if you have no
Tent which is the case of most settlers, you
must provide a Wrapper, and in that sleep
with your feet towards a good fire, with your
companions around you, or in reality surrounded
with Thieves, or characters that have been
transported for worse crimes, but as they are
aware that their future comforts depend upon
their conduct during the first difficulties &
being unwilling to be returned into Government
Service, they generally behave better than
could be expected. As soon as the journey draws
towards a close, you anticipate the pleasure
of Christianizing your Estate, and in order to make
merry on the occasion, every one is at the utmost
to surpass the Kangaroo, the only game in
the Island, which are numerous in the interior,
and generally form the first repast of the Settlers
& this party, when they pitch their Tent on the
Land you call your own. The first evening is spent
in feasting upon this delicacy, stored in its own
gravy, and served up in the Iron Pot, (the only
culinary article in the Camp) is generally much
enjoyed & highly spoken of by all who have under
such circumstances partaken of it, being confined to
salt meat on the journey, any change is considered

[illegible]

question. I have one of my Backing Cases for a Table,
& a Box to sit upon, the expense of conveyance added
to the first Cost prevents the use of Furniture, and
it is out of Character in a Log House. There is one
Comfort I still enjoy, and that is sleeping in my
Saw Cots at Night, this is a valuable Acquisition,
and all Settlers should be provided with one, and
Kammoses for his Men, who usually make up
their Beds on the floor, as a Kammosch takes
but little room they are most convenient and
much better for the Convicts. If a Settler is a
Batchelor, it is desirable that he should, even
he quits England, learn the best methods of
Cooking with the commonest materials, especially
that art of making good Bread without yeast,
and good Puddings without Sweet Butter &c, and
it will be some years before he will be able
to get any one to make them for him, unless
he learns & likes to make his servants do it,
and the above necessary ingredients are too dear
to use in common, & indeed are not to be had
in the interior. I make my Puddings, Cook for
myself, Wash my Clothes & sew such as require
it, and all who have not a Wife to do it must
from necessity do it themselves, or make their
men learn to do it for them, which is attended
with as much difficulty as doing it myself. The
small Oven I brought with me was useless, as
we saw yet no Coals to burn in it, & as it is
not adapted to heat with our only Fuel wood, I
sold it. My only Bread consists of Flour & Water
only, which I make into thin Cakes like the Scotch

cutten Cane, which I place ^{up} upon the Wood embers to
bake, & being covered with the, it is soon ready,
when I brush off the wood ashes and it is then
a substitute for bread, we call this a Dampier,
and such it proves to those who have not shaken
off their English nicety, and I must say at first
it proved so to me, but now I get used to it
do not mind it. One of your Scotch cane ovens
would be a usefull thing here. A few Pairs of
good Shoes, and some new, furried Stole Clothing
for my Convicts I should much like to have
sent out, with some Fustians for my own wear,
that is good & will stand the bush, as every
thing (have need) be usefull & not ornamental.
To be provided with such things as are actually
required for your Man and self is every thing that
can be expected, and although young Settlers
who may be in search of their Estates, or some
few Travellers, will sometimes call & solicit the
shelter of your roof, in preference to sleeping
in the bush, the best accommodation they expect
at the houses of those who have been settled for
some years, is a good fire hearth, or leave to
roll themselves in their Cloaks before it, or as
we used to say on board a man of War, to provide
for the softest plank to machine upon. A Bed
is very expensive & it is not expected that you
should accommodate strangers with what you
cannot afford for yourself, and as to Eating and
Drinking they must make a virtue of necessity, &
be thankful for such as your Pot can afford, &
think themselves fortunate if you have been so

long settled, as to be able to treat them, with
fresh provision, or a piece of Bontony, to make
up for their hard fare all night, which they seldom
feel much as age is second nature, & the fatigues
of the days journey, soon reconciles them to the
hardest exertions. Beer Wine or Spirits are not to
be used with all many of the Settlers houses, Tea
or Water is the general beverage, but I hope
after, I have been settled here a year or two,
to be able to make some Malt & brew some
Beer, and to procure some Milk and Butter,
from my Dairy, and eventually, Chase Bontony
Dicks & many little comforts, which I can now
only enjoy by anticipation. Our first care is to
encrease our stock of Dicks, Bontony, Sheep &c & it
is long before a Settler with moderate capital
can increase them sufficiently for his consumption,
and as the money they will produce at the
Market, is of much higher value to him, than
the articles of Luxury themselves, economical
motives oblige him to sell them and first, to
purchase Sheep & Swine to stock his farm with,
as the Settler who begins with him but 500 £
and from that to a Thousand, will find his money
expended without being able half to stock his
Land, but to give you an Idea of what things are
required to be purchased as settling professions of a
ground, and how necessary it is to be possessed of
a Thousand Pounds to be able to stock the Land
on your arrival in the Colony, I will state such
Items as I have paid for, by which you will form

and finally, I have much I have yet to purchase in
Stock, before I can have any Cash to spare for my
Buildings, or any other purpose. I have expended as
follows (viz)

Supplements of Agriculture brought from England	82. 8. 10
Warehouse Room & Expenses for 1st & 2d Term	5. 17. 6
A pair of Cast Chains & Yokes for Oxen	6. 15. -
Cost Duties on Landing the Supplements &c	7. 5. 6
A Veil for my Horse 1. 11. 6	April 2. 2. 10. 6
Files Stones & 2 Axes	1. 6. 6
Sacks 6. 15. - 2 Glazed Log House Windows 3. 11. -	10. 13. -
Licence for a Cart 15/	2. 16. -
2 Sets of Bloughs Green for Oxen	20. - - -
A House for Breeding and all works	145. - - -
2 Pairs of good working Oxen	87. - - -
2 Pairs of Dc	61. - - -
2 Pairs of Dc	58. - - -
2 Cows & Calves	31. - - -
2 Cows in Calf	24. 3. -
10 Yards & Lambs	12. 10. -
14 Geese	2. - - -
6 Ducks	1. 10. -
12 Fowls	3. - - -
A Chest of Tea	7. - - -
A Cask of Potatoes	5. 16. 6
One Cwt of Sugar	2. 13. 6
Carriage of my things to my farm	2. 10. -
2 Bovine Tools 2. 7. -	Pair of Scales & Weights 6. 17. -
Said Wheel & Rammer Barley & Potatoes	8. 8. 6
£ 500. 7. 10	

from the above statement of my present expenditure
you will observe how soon the money required by
the Colonial Department for each settler, to take and
live, to be entitled to a Grant, is expended & how much

a proportion of Stock, I have got together to begin with.
I should like more than half, but I am obliged to keep
in reserve 200 £ and I have in Cash, to pay for food,
Clothing Wages &c for my people and myself, as well
as all sundries required upon the Furrer until I
can get some returns from my Cow & Stock, to
provide for next years Expenses, as I am determined
if possible to keep clear of the Gulph that
swallows up the means of many Settlers, Before
they can work themselves round, they are obliged to
borrow money of the Merchants until their Crops
are ready, and are obliged to take goods on Credit
of them, for which they charge exorbitantly, and it
is next to impossible to get clear of them when
you have once commenced a Credit Ac^t, as it
is their Interest to keep you on their Books, being
well aware you cannot have goods of any body
else while you are their Debtor, & must pay them
any price they demand, this is the chief cause
that keeps so many poor, from shortness of Capital
in the first onset on from want of Providence, as
generally many get into this situation, until at last
the Merchant gets the Land & every thing into
his possession as security for his Ac^t, and reduces
his Tenant to a complete state of Dependence.
This is the case of nearly all the Settlers who have not
more than 500 £ on their arrival here, and those who
have left earned worth, thro' the difficulties that they
must encounter, unless they descend in the scale of
society, and cultivate that soil with their hands. Many
who cannot afford to purchase a Plough & Oxen work
their little land with the Hoe, but they are not far

from the field labourers, & subject to much
grievance, anxiety, but as Liberty is secured they prefer
this mode of life although a species of almost constant
sorrow. The Wages of four labourers are from 25 to 50
a Week, which would keep them much more comfortable
than they are, could they reconcile themselves to a
state of dependence, and their services being highly
valued by the Settlers who require British & Irishmen
their situations would always be respectable.

It is strongly recommended to have people in England
to go out with you, but it is not in the power
of many Settlers to do so, as their means are too
limited to allow them to pay the expense of
four labourers to the Colony, and until an act
of Parliament (now in progress thro' the House)
is passed, it will be very difficult to have them
indentured to serve you for a number of
years at a fixed rate of pay, the only way by
which a person can be repaid for an advance
of Capital to pay for his conveyance there, & his
expenses on landing until you can find him
labour on your Estate. It must be allowed his
services there cannot be valued too highly, and if
he has a Wife & 2 Boys about 14 years of Age
it will be so much the better. The whole of the
expenses of taking a single man would be about
Fifty Pounds, and about 120 £ for a family of four.
A trusty servant who could be depended upon to
look over the Convicts labour & learn them to
Plough &c. & make the most of their Labour, would
be worth some expense to get there & good Wages
when employed say 30/- a Week if his Wages were paid

according to the custom of the Colony in Merchandise
Clothing Tobacco &c, which would the Master 50 per
Cent profit, but if paid in Cash 25% would not be
considered high Wages, as it must and present be
a very dear country for poor men to reside in, the
necessaries of Life are 50 per Cent dearer than in
England and Clothing double the price. To a
person labouring but 500 £, valuable as such a man
would be to him, he would be purchased at too
great an expense, and his capital being small his
quantity of stock must be in proportion, and his
agricultural progress will be small, therefore he
will have the life reason to go to such an expense
and will be better able to confine himself to the
labours of his farm, and superintendence of his
Convicts if he keeps any, than a Settler who has the
means of buying a good Stock & Road, & who requires
five or six Convicts to do the labour of his estate
and as a means of property often requires to leave
his farm to attend the Markets, it is highly
reasonable he should have a trusty steward
in his absence, at home, not only to superintend
the Work but to give confidence to, or protect
his family if he has any, and to be an effectual
check to the Convicts, who cannot all at once
give up their propensity to steal, when soever
prevents the Master, from protecting himself
against petty thieves. For these reasons I
should advise none to take free labourers who
can command but 500 £, but any body who can
take with them 800 £ & upwards would do well to

take with him one man for every 300 L he can
command above that sum, and if his Capital exceed
2000 L as his ground will be large & his establishment
in proportion, he should bring a good Bailiff who
should have a Wife to look after the Dairy & some
boys to attend the Sheep, and good plain working
House Carpenters who is a good hand and rough
buildings and joiners, and likewise a Blacksmith
who will not object to turn his hand to any thing
when not married in the forge, would be found of
the greatest value, as the great inconvenience of
sending a long distance to the forge is much felt,
by those who have much new Land to break
up, the wear of the Ironworks is very great
the first two years, and in all newly settled
tracts unless you are fortunate in having a
neighbour who has a forge, you may have to
send many miles to one at a great expense &
much loss of time, therefore a person who can
afford to set up a Forge & improve his Town, will
always find plenty of neighbours glad to assist
in paying the expenses, by having their work
done by you, for which it is customary to pay
in Cash. The greatest proportion of all Labour,
Mechanic's work, & Shop goods, are paid for by
Barter, and some few things are always paid
for in Cash, such as Horses, Bullocks, Sheep &
all live animals, and such proportion of your Corn
Wages as they do not from choice take out in
Shop Clothing, Tobacco, Tea, Sugar, or any other extra
you may be able to furnish them with, as you
cannot compel them to take any thing but
Money unless they please. But as it is many years

before there were any country shops to supply their
 wants, they were generally glad to be supplied by
 their Neighbors. In the early period of these
 Settlements & indeed until within these last
 few years, the Settlers in the Interior were
 much awayed and alarmed by a species of
 free booters called Bush Thieves, who had deserted
 from the Government Gangs of Convicts, and had
 taken to the Woods & fastnesses in the Mountains
 and supported themselves by committing depre-
 dations on the property of the unprotected
 Colonists, and would often drive off whole herds
 of Cattle to the Mountains & slaughter them
 for the fat, which they bartered with some
 unprincipled assemblages for a supply of fire
 arms & powder, spirits, and any thing they
 required in the Woods, to such a pitch had
 they at one time got that they traveled thro'
 the Country in gangs of 8 or 10 & completely
 drove the Settlers into the Town for the
 security of their persons, & long prevented the
 time from settling on their grants, and ruined
 many who depended on their Herds. Such a
 state of things was for a short time tolerated
 from that want of energy in the Settlers to
 unite together to find them down, and from the
 Garrison not being sufficiently strong to spare
 parties of troops to scour the Woods in pursuit
 of them. The Governor finding it a growing calamity
 and a nuisance on their Herds, and declaring their
 outrages encouraged the Settlers to destroy them,
 and it seldom happens that one of them was

taken, until at last tired of their daring attacks upon the Government House at Port Dalrymple, the Governor declared the Island under Martial Law, and united the Settlers under arms for the mutual defense of themselves & property, and at the same time selected several New Company Officers and placed under their command chosen parties of men, who were sent into the Woods in different directions to scour the Country, and to destroy the Bush Man whenever they found them, from the hope of promotion and the high rewards paid by Government & the Settlers to the parties for every man that was apprehended, they succeeded in destroying many of them, being often led to their private haunts by the Natives who detested them as much as the Settlers for their continual attacks and cruelty to themselves & their Women. By these means the Colony has been cleared of these daring characters, and as the Population is now filling very fast with Settlers, anxious to assist each other in the protection of their property, and the Governor, having placed the Police of the Colony upon a more effective footing, the escape of the Convicts to the Woods is nearly prevented, and it is now a rare thing to hear of a free booter being in the Woods, and the Settlers now live upon their Land in comparative security. But there is still a class of men who much annoy the Settlers by stealing a great number of their Sheep, these are chiefly

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Convicts whose time of transportation is over, or who have had their sentences remitted & have had grants of Land given them. Many of this class are very respectable and numerous, but many of them from the want of means to buy sheep (and from a strong propensity to return to their early habits) often steal the Cattle of such settlers as leave it to wander unprotected and drive off 50 or 100 Sheep at a time, & being very expert at altering or obliterating any private marks upon the sheep, they succeed in incorporating them into their own flocks, and rendering it very difficult to bring home conviction to them. But many have been executed for it, and as we shall have a Criminal Court on this Island to which we can apply for satisfaction & redress, it will tend to prevent such base felonies, which have until now been encouraged by the difficulty & expense of prosecuting the guilty, the Criminal Court being at Sydney the expense of taking witnesses there and being absent from your Estate sometimes two months to attend the Trial, during which time your remaining property was at stake, often prevented the injured from seeking legal redress and many bloody felonies were committed, instead of being carried before a Court at Sydney. We have but one Court which only tries cases that do not exceed 50 £ in value, all who prosecute for larger sums are obliged to carry the Cause to Sydney, and it often happens when the deed

amount to nearly 100 £, the Creditor, however, to
relinquish nearly half his claim by reducing
his demand to 50 £, to enable him to remain in
the party cause, in preference to carrying his
claim into the Court of Sydney, & by doing so saves
his money & time, but at the same time suffers
a great loss, and the Debtor has a great incentive
to wear on his coat with impunity, these are the
evils which affect the trading community, and
have been forcibly pointed out to Mr Commissioner
Bigge, in consequence of whose report there
is now a Bill in progress thro' Parliament to
allow his Majesty to establish Criminal Courts
in this Island, with a separate jurisdiction from
the Sydney Courts, and independent of the Governor,
there, except in Capital Offences, and sentence
of Death, when the sentence must be
confirmed by the Governor before Execution can
take place. There is likewise to be a Supreme
Court held here to try all Civil Causes under
the Amount of 3000 £, and above this sum, but
when the amount is larger, the parties that
are interested if not satisfied with the decision,
may appeal to Parliament or his Majesty.
These are advantages that begin to prove the
interest that is excited for our welfare in old
England, and long may our mutual Interests
keep us united in the bonds of friendship,
May we ever look with feelings of sensibility and
brotherly affection towards the Land of Freedom,
the birth place of our Forefathers, and although

we may for some years be separated from those
whom we Love & highly, respect, still let us hope
while the same blood flows in our veins, that we
may never have cause to separate our Interests
from those of Old England, whose policy must be
mild towards us, & encouraging to its infant Colony,
when by anticipating our growing wants & interests
instead of taxing our Industry, she will cement
the friendly feeling that now exists & make us
feel happy in being dependant upon a liberal
Government, instead of cherishing thoughts of future
independence, the natural bent of human inclination
when not checked by self interest, or strong ties
of affection towards the Country from whence
he originated, the Land that gave us birth.
The next conception that will be expected
will be that of Trial by Jury, but at present
I agree with Mr Bigge the time is not yet
arrived to introduce among us this masterpiece
of English Jurisprudence. The number of Settlers
that could be called upon to form a Jury are
too small for it to just in practice, as the
emancipated convicts are not considered eligible
& to call upon the free Settlers in the interior
to sit upon a Jury 80 Miles from their home,
would be attended with more inconvenience than
the present Military Court puts us to, it
certainly has the appearance of a Court
Martial the members being composed of Officers
of the Army & Navy, but while we have justice
done us, it is of little real consequence what

class of men form the jury, and to me who hope
never to have occasion to appear before them it
would be a satisfaction to know they were generally
men of good education, superior in talent to the
generality of Settlers who could be selected for
a jury & from their situations free from every
prejudice that might exist, with those who
being locally situated might form a prejudice
that could not readily be removed, when they
had heard an explicit statement from either
party. Our Supreme Court is to be a Court
of Equity and in most cases has Ecclesiastical
Jurisdiction, its powers will be extensive & well
suited to the Colony. A Judge is sent up and to
preside in the several Courts, who will be vested with
every power necessary for our benefit. He will act as a
Chancellor, as far as regards the seeing & superintending
of the property of Lunatics, Infants &c, & many powers have
been much imagined, for the benefit of those interested, &
more particularly for their relations in England, who will
feel that the property of their relatives in this Country
who may die without a Will, must be secured to them
thru the medium of this court, to which they can at all
times apply for any information required. Although Trial
by Jury is for the present, not allowed in Criminal
Cases, in all Civil cases, if the prosecutor & defendant
agree to petition the Judge, a Jury must be chosen,
and by the Act in forenoon His Majesty has power
by the advice of His Council, to grant us the
privilege of Trial by Jury, at any time in Criminal
prosecutions, as soon as the Colony has made progress
sufficient to be entrusted with the privilege, and the
free population is sufficient in number to choose Jurors from.

them. We have lately granted to us the privilege to
Distill our own Spirits, which will much assist the Cause,
that but by considerably increasing the consumption.
You ask me the reason of my preferring to settle in
Van Diemens Land, instead of New South Wales, there
are very good reasons that the Trade of Emigration
should flow to this place, stronger than towards the
Barren Colony. In the first place the Climate is
more congenial to Britons Constitution, being about
10 Degrees cooler than at Sydney, and about the same
degree warmer than England, the natural consequence
of which is, that all European fruits & Vegetables,
attain a higher degree of perfection here, than at the
other Settlement, and indeed many fruits, such as Currants
Gooseberry's, Apples & Peas, are with much difficulty and
uncertainty raised there, while here we have them
nearly in perfection, it is true in the warmer
settlement, the Melon, Orange, Peach, & Nectarine, are
raised in the greatest abundance, with little care, &
the Pine Apple with the assistance of a Cucumbers
Frame, but these fruits must be considered among
the superfluities of life, while ours are nearly useful
and being our natural fruits are more congenial to
an Englishmans palate, which soon stops with the
richer productions of the Soil, another & perhaps a
more substantial reason is, that in consequence of
its being cooler, the natural grasses are much better
for Stock, and we are not subject to Droughts in
the Summer, that often destroy the prospects of the
Householder in the neighbourhood of Sydney, on the
contrary, when the country there has been parched
for months, & their crops nearly destroyed, this Island
has at the same time been visited with regular Showers

and our Corn has been very good, and found in such cases
a very good Market at Sydney, to supply their wants.
As this season near is 3 or 4 years there, it is a great
stimulus to agriculture here, as it affords an occasional
market for all our surplus grain & Potatoes. In the
settlements at Sydney, the best lands for the production
of Corn, are on the banks of the Rivers, which are subject
to occasional overflowing, which inundate the Farms,
and destroy the Corn, but here it is very rare that
any injury is sustained by the same cause, as our
Rivers are much larger, and stretch further into the
interior of the Island, thus giving the Settlers who
inhabit their banks, good Water Carriage for their
grain to Market, and the entrance to the two principal
Rivers, forms two of the finest Harbours for the
safety & convenience of Shipping in the World.
Another decided advantage is, our Grain & Cattle attract
a much greater weight, Wheat with an average
weight 6 lbs a Bushel more than the average weight
of New Holland produce, which ensures us a preference
in their Market of 6/ a quarter, which pays the freight
and expenses of sending there, thus giving us the
advantage of two Markets at all times, and in times of
scarcity, there, a very advantageous one, as they now
depend upon this Colony for supplies occasionally, that
they were obliged to send to India for, before this
Colony grew more than it consumed. They produce in
perfection our species of Grain the Maize, which we
usually raise with much certainty of produce, as it
likes a warmer Climate, this pays us best to bring
from Sydney, in exchange for our Wheat, and likewise
for our Barley & Beans, which are much finer here,
but it must be allowed the Maize is a valuable
Crop, as the quantity produced for use is double the
produce of any other grain, it is much used in the

Extends far ^{for} food, as well as the Stock Raising, & which, I
think upon it accordingly. Our Cattle of the same
Breed and Age, will weigh over their move than
those raised at Sydney, which is a great advantage,
that arises from the Climate being cooler, and the
grasses in consequence more nutritious, and not liable
to be scorched, to the great injury of the Cattle.
These are the principal reasons why the preference is
given to New Denmark Land by Agricultural Settlers,
and even the Mercantile class like to follow the
tide, as the immense numbers of respectable Settlers
that constantly arrive here with Capital, gives an
impulse to Trade equal at least to that caused by
the principal Government establishments being there. We
have an advantage in the Land likewise, as we have
a larger proportion of good soil in the country of
this Island, than has been found in the same space
in New South Wales, and our Land is much more
clear of Timber, a considerable portion of most Settlers
grants being sufficiently clear, to allow them to crop
sufficient ground with Corn the first season for
their next years consumption. Our Settlement at
Sydney is circumscribed in extent, being bounded by a
Chain of Mountains, which have upset within the
last few years, presenting an insurmountable barrier to the
Settlers progress towards the interior of this immense
Territory, which in extent is equal to the whole
of Europe, as soon as the Land was wanted away
that was fit for cultivation, the day within the
natural boundary of the Settlement, or between the
Blue Mountains and the Sea, some enterprising
Settlers penetrated into the Interior, by cutting a
passage thro' the Woods, and after much difficulty
found a place, where a road might be made to
descend the ^{mountain}, but it is so steep & rugged as to be almost

impossible for Carriages. This for a long while prevented
any Agricultural Settlers from fixing themselves in
the fertile plains of the Interior, but many Europeans
whose Flocks and Herds had increased far beyond the
capability of their Land to support, obtained permission
to range their Flocks there, and formed stock pens
for their protection, and sent their Shepherds for some
months in the year to follow them thro' the Hills,
and by this means extended their flocks & growth of
Wool at an amazing rate. Within the last two years
a new road has been discovered, by which a Road is
making that will lead to Bathurst, the principal
inland establishment, without crossing the Mountains,
this is a valuable discovery, and will be the cause of
numerous grazing settlers going into the Interior, but
in consequence of the great distance from Sydney, the
only Market for Wool, it will be long before any
considerable number of Agriculturalists, will be induced
to settle, where from the distance and difficulty of conveying
their produce to market, they will long labour under
great disadvantages, and as all the fertile land is
granted away that lies within the Mountains on the
Sydney side, all new settlers must go into the inland
Country, which makes many give the preference to
Settling in Van Diemens Land, another circumstance
that ^{not} always lessens the value of Land in the Interior,
is the want of all Water communication with the
Sea. Many attempts have been made by inland surveys
as well as by coast Surveys, to discover a River that
might communicate with the Interior, & form the
medium by which their produce might be conveyed
by Water to the Coast, but every attempt has yet
proved unsuccessful, and it is supposed although a
very singular circumstance in such an extensive
Country, that there are no Rivers that run into the

Interior beyond the Blue Mountains, a distance of not ⁴⁵
more than 60 Miles. Several fine Rivers have been met
with on the other side of the Mountains, that have their
origin from this chain, that supplies them with Water,
and for a considerable distance are very broad and fine
Rivers, and gave every hope to the discoverers that
they communicated with the Sea, and after following up
their course with the greatest difficulties, it has been
universally found, that they gradually diminish in size
as they advance inland, and after traversing from
5 to 800 Miles, they all empty themselves into a large
Lagoon, or inland Sea, the extent of which it is yet
impossible to ascertain, this is a singular circumstance
and has not its parallel in the World, and will tend
much to lessen the value of all Land in the Interior.
To those who can command a large Capital, and
intend to grow the Revised Wool as a large scale
it may be an object to settle, where they can have
a good extent of pasturage for their Stock to
run over, this is only to be found by keeping the
flocks so far inland, as to be utterly separated
from the stock of other People, for the good object
and inevitable difficulty, in an uninclosed country, is
to keep this breed of Sheep from intermingling with
other inferior wool Sheep of their way. But, that
likewise roam at large. You will observe by
the statement of my purchases, that I have
expended as much money as is found in the
purchase of Stock, but have only bought 10 Sheep.
As my principal object was to raise a good flock
as soon as I could, you will be surprised at my
commencing on so small a scale. The reason is
that I cannot afford to purchase largely, and at
the same time have three Farms of 2000 to 3000

my land forward for next years season. Tuesday
my success depends - upon having as much land
cleared of timber & ploughed, ready for next years
sowing as I can, as by the time my second crop
comes round, I shall have expended all my dollars,
and shall want some quantity of corn to pay my
current expenses, as well as straw to cover my
Buildings. Most settlers begin with a good team
of Irish Oxen, but they make but slow progress, as
they cannot break up more than half an acre
of new land in a day, & work from sunrise to sun
set, and as I have hired a farm of 800 Acres in
addition to my Ground of 700 Acres, I require all the
strength of Cattle I have got. I should much prefer
Horses for my ploughing, as they would do double
the work in less time, but they are too expensive,
a Team would come to 250 £, and I have no Docks
or Stabling for them, and the Land being uninclosed
they would stray from Home. As soon as I have
convenience of the Cash to spare, I will have
some, until then the Harnups I brought from
England will be useful to me, & they are so little
used I shall not be able to sell or barter it away
for Sheep. I can increase my Flock by taking
in one to keep for some of the Gentry, who have
more than they can graze on their Estates, the
custom with these is, not to pay any money for
keeps, but they send a flock of Cows, and agree with
a farmer that he shall keep them for a certain
term, say 3 years, for which he receives one third
of their produce of Lambs, and the proprietors of the
Sheep never all wish of life from Theft or other

success, which is no trifling wish to a young settler,
who may lose his all if he loses his flock. This
plan suits my pocket & inclination best, as I shall
soon get a good flock without expending my present
means. Good working Oxen being so dear, they run deep
into my Cash, but I care at any time sell half of
them, when I have broken up as much land as I find
it profitable to till, which I do not think will be
more than 150 Acres, out of the 1500 I own, but, as
I do not expect to find consumption for a larger
proportion of produce, I was not the Farmer. This
within a Days Carriage of the Market Town, I
should not plough so much, the remainder I shall
 devote to Grazing, and gradually clear it of such
timber, as may be in the way of the Plough,
when the consumption of the Colony increases &
I find it advantageous to break up a larger
proportion. The average expense of clearing the
Land of Trees, stumps & all impediments to the
Plough, if I find it out to be done by the Acre,
would be from 3 to 4 £ per Acre. Large Capitalists
may clear their Land in this way, but all who
have moderate Capitals, must go slow & sure to
work, and clear their lands gradually with their
Converts as quick as they can. We have no prospect
now can we expect soon to realize a fortune,
it is not to be got in a little time, but
requires much patient labour & perseverance, and
those who cannot make up their mind to
live on their goods, & give their whole time &
labour for a few years to their Land, will never
do any thing here. A man must be riveted to his

to his Farm for several Years, and by his example, and
encouragement his Convicts to labour, in clearing the Land.
I rise with them some time before the Year appears,
and furnish them breakfast, when I proceed with them
to the fields, and by strictly superintending their Labour,
and by assisting and encouraging them to learn the
different things necessary for a farm, they get on very
well, but as they have ever thing to learn, it is a
good way tedious to instruct, and those Settlers who
have no knowledge of Agricultural pursuits, or the
practical worth of a farm, but a poor figure of
their progress here as in other countries, must depend
more on their capability to superintend, and direct the
labour of their men to useful purposes, than on their
own exertions, at the same time those who are occasionally
guided the plough, when the falling Ox, and at their
business hours in wet weather, can handle a Carpenter
tool to advantage, will find they can add much to
their share of what few comforts can be procured, for
the first few years. Brought as our first specimen of
architecture was, and first efforts in the construction of
a Dog House, and the success that attends every exertion,
must have depended as much upon the talent of the
Master builder, as your superior exertions in London, &
those who can lead their Convicts in this work, will
be much more successful in keeping out the Wind and
Rain from their Cabins, than many of my neighbours
have been. Our first attempt is to make an Indian
Wigwam, to shelter us from the weather, which is done as
soon as we take possession of the Land, by setting up
some poles as you do your high poles in the Winter,
these are covered with long grass, or straw, with any
thing that can add the skin we procure, this makes
a fire is carried up and sometimes completed the first
day, and shelters the party from the Weather. Much will

is, not a few, as two openings, one in the Roof to allow the
smoke to escape, and another, in the side to admit the
Food of the soil and his chosen crew of handy fellows, are all
that is requisite. Thing Action in the midst of his height
of the main table, was not more in his glory, than in
an enterprising settler when he first gets a roof over
his head, of his own building, upon the land which is
to be his future field of industry, and although a few
clouds of Brain may occasionally descend the Chimney, to
warn us of the uncertainty of human life, we have still
the comfort to reflect, that the unobscured light can
be diverted from his course by the aid of a friendly
board, while the smoke can make its escape in
stately columns thro' the door way, thus you will sell
independence in a Wigwag. During our residence in
this novel nation, we were employed in cutting down small
timber, which are cut in 12 feet lengths, and only saw it
down the middle, these are stob'd up in regular files
in close order, and kept'd in line with Military skill,
until every one ranges in its proper place to form
an oblong square, they are placed in a trench about
three feet deep, which being fill'd in, leaves our wooden
troops presenting in all directions a good face to their
enemy (the Weather), upon these come the Roof
boards, and such rafters as are more remarkable
for their solidity than their beauty, but unless
the purpose intended, these are covered with Wood
Shingles which we sell for the purpose, and answers
as a good substitute for tiles, having so far, completed
our second water carrier, the interior decorations are
left to be completed at leisure, a Glass Window
is now considered necessary, but is not to be seen
in many of the early dwellings. Master and Man must
have their names the same way, and last 3 years, or

until the land and stock begins to make some return
to his persevering industry, when by degrees he collects
the material for a Cottage, and gets it forward ready
for the time, when he can employ a Mechanic to
assist in building it; which is generally in three or
four years. This is a period during which every Settler
who lives upon his ground, must find up with every
privation, but he is cheered as he proceeds by anticipating
the result of his labours, and the certainty of enjoying
the same comforts as those who have been settled in
few years before him. I have a charming prospect
in the progress of my friend Mr. Watson, whom you
know, and Mr. Deafly my neighbours, they embarked
in the same enterprise three years since, with about
the same pecuniary means as I brought with me, and
have undergone much privation, but are thus early
reaping the fruits of their application. They have
just completed a Cottage each, that will cost them
150 £ each, they are built on the ground floor to some
extent, but are very comfortable and substantial, but
you could erect the same buildings for half the price,
as the Mechanic's labour amounts to more than half
the expenditure, building is very expensive. Mr. Watson
has one great advantage over me in having a good
Wife to superintend his domestic affairs, she is indeed
a good helpmate, & many comforts they enjoy, I cannot
act as a Bachelor, and as to getting a Wife in
this country it is impossible, the few Women that are
sent here, are because they are too bad to be kept in
England, and they do not improve here even to be fit
for servants, and most of the respectable Settlers who
have families, prefer using one of their Converts, for all
domestic employments, in preference to such characters,
and when they are used to the manner, they are more
generally useful than Women, particularly when there

is a large Dairy of Cows. Our mutual friend DePauw is
a Surgeon, as well as a physician with Holborn and an
Agriculturist; he came here and worked the first
difficulties, and when he had settled himself, he sent for
his Wife, who came out in the same Ship with me,
and is a very pleasant Woman, the attention I paid her
in the passage has not been forgotten, and they are
very obliging neighbours to me. It is particularly
fortunate that I have been enabled to hire a tract
of Land in their immediate neighbourhood, and only 10
miles from Rochester Town. Mr Davis whom you
introduced me to in London, & who was to assist me
all in his power on my arrival in the Colony, was
unluckily killed, unfortunately lost his Life by the
erupting of a boat, in which he was proceeding down the
River to survey some Land he wished to purchase. He
was a Merchant so much respected, that the loss of
such a friend whom I found assisted on my arrival, is
a great misfortune to me, but what must it be to
his unfortunate Widow, whom he went to England to
visit, and had barely banded with her, when he
was snatched away, she is living at the surgeon's
General's House, until after, Mr. Assachusetts, I had
found good friends among his, who will take care of her.
It is fortunate for them he had established himself
in the town, before his departure for England, much
as I regret his loss, it is in one way fortunate
for me, as in consequence of knowing Mr. Butler, who
has the disposal of his property, & whose house we
met in London, and knowing a little of Mr. Davis,
I got the offer of this Town I am now clearing, which
is considered the second best tract of Land in the
Colony. I am to pay no Rent the first Year, but
50 £ a Year the two following Years, and then my Land

gradually increased to 150 £ a year, as the lease of
seven years expires. I am to enquire on Sundays 200 £
and should an opportunity offer, I should before the expiration
of the seven much like to be the purchaser of the Farm
I have named it Enner Farm, after the name of the
Estate your Mother was brought up upon, it is
situated close to Bangor, in the finest country in
the Colony. It is much more pleasant to me to pitch
my tent in a well settled neighbourhood, beside two
friends in whose society I can pass my time, than I
would have been to go upon my Ground 65 Miles farther
in the Interior. I have lately succeeded in selling my
Grant of 400 Acres, for 295 £, and have purchased a
tract of 400 Acres nearer to me by 25 Miles, & I think
better Land. I paid for it 170 £, therefore by the exchange
I have suited my convenience, and have got 125 £ Cash
into the bargain, which will be of great service upon
the farm I occupy. I shall send a Man to reside on this
Farm, and to look after some Sheep & Bulls, and as
opportunities offer I shall clear it of Timber, & prepare
it for my future residence, if at the expiration of my
Lease, I should wish to reside on it. By selling the
Glaze I bought in Ireland, I made a good profit, and I
was fortunate in my investments generally, they will on
the whole pay me better than the investments of most
farmers, who seldom get any thing by bringing out
Merchandise for Sale. I purchased some Tobacco and
Rio Janeiro for Sale, and for the use of my Cornets,
and I shall clear 50 £ profit by that, which not only
pays me well but I got 50 Acres more land than I
should have had in consequence of realizing the 50 £, in
addition to my Capital, as our friend Rogers who left
home with me with the same Capital as myself, got
but 640 Acres, as he would not wish the purchase of
any tobacco. In fact he has not realized our expectations

of him, and has shown a great want of spirit in all his
proceedings, since his arrival, which has made me glad
we did not go into partnership as intended. On our
arrival the accounts we heard of the difficulties we
must encounter, before we could get settled on our Grants,
made him like many others despair of success, and give
up the thoughts of trying. In consequence of this he
for the half of the Agricultural Implements we
bought together, and he has hired himself for 3 years
to look after Mr Thomas Thomas & Son, for which he
is to receive 100 £ a year, and he at once reports
his resignation, and well if he can get rid of his
engagement returns again to England, and his employers
will not give him up, and as he has been simple
enough to place his money in his hands, as well
as his person, he has not much chance of getting
off. He had no sooner taken this situation, than he
lost 90 of the Sheep, which were stolen, and as his
employers, has the means in his possession, he says
he shall pay for them, thus you will observe he
has got into great difficulties, by being in a hurry &
as I do not think he will get off from his agreement
without sacrificing much of his property, the
probability is that he will continue his 3 years,
and by that time may get reconciled to proceed to
his Grant, but if he should return, he must give
you a very unfavourable opinion of the Country, to
make a good excuse for returning. I cannot think
he will leave us, although I suspect he wants a
persevering spirit to fight these difficulties, as he
has been a practical Farmer in England, and was
very anxious to get home, I did not expect he would
be this first to despair, but am glad to see he begins
to recover a little & get more reconciled to his situation.

and agrees with me, that he has been too precipitate
in his arrangements. I allowed him 25⁰⁰ Cent profit on
the purchase price of his Supplements, but he is sorry
he parted with them, which makes me think he
will now set too ad it with a good will, as soon as he
can, where he sees how these worth there all difficulties,
he says he had one his Land in England & being a good
Farmer, I cannot think he will give it up. We had a
very tedious & rough Voyage, and as Cooper was all
all times ill with the least motion of the Ship, he was
completely tired of the Voyage, and when he landed he
received a very unfavourable impression, and never having
left his home before, it is not surprising if his
Spirits were a cup too low to embark with much
energy in the pursuit of further difficulties, this is
the case with many on their first arrival, but they
get the better of it in time & often make the most
persevering Settlers, when they set their minds to it.
If you purchase any more things in London for me, see
them packed yourself, as some things that I find were
never put in the Cases I now want, very much, especially
some Pewter Plates & utensils, that we paid for, but
they were not sent, the London yards are very apt to
have short memory, when they pack for exportation, but
their memory is good enough to receive the money for
them, whether packed or not. It is the same with our
Trimmings, we paid for three pit saws, but have their
memory failed, and they only put up two, at all events it
may be as well to tell the parties we had them of,
but we can get no redress, they will swear they were
sent & stated on the passage, at the same time could not
be proved. Farmers & those who are not used to
Travels, are subject to so many impressions in their
progress to these Colonies, as well as at their arrival
here, that I cannot recommend any body to bring merchandise

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but those who intend to open wharfs for the Sale of it, all
Settlers must go upon their Events immediately, which they
cannot go until they have sold their goods, and as they
can only sell them thro' their commission men, or Auctioneers,
they can never get a fair price for them. Let them
bring only such things as they must have for their use
at the Land, and the remainder of their Money in Gold
which pay them a fair profit, and as much or more
than most people made by Merchant's, after all the
trouble & risk of selling, and Merchant is too well
supplied to allow of such large profits as used to be
made by Settlers coming out, and as the encouragement
is done away, it is better to leave the risk to the
Merchant. But as some things are much required
by Agricultural Settlers, and will answer to bring
from England, I will manufacture such as I should
bring with me now I again embarking for this
Colony viz

2 Pair of Good seasoned Wheels & a Cart, and fitted
with good strong Iron Axle-trees, the Treaders
stand, and 2 1/2 Ticks & Hides without Rops for them.

2 Pair of good Flaxenets, or one pair and a spare
set, of Tines will answer.

A Cleaning Machine fitted with Sawes cutters for
Seeds of all Sorts, as well as Grain.

A small Threshing Machine is a good thing
and not actually required for 3 years, therefore
the Settler can please himself whether he take
one or not.

50 Sacks to hold and 1 Bushel's each, and some
Barn Tackel, such as Sawes & Pitchforks &c.
A set of Corn Measures.

Strong Chains to Yoke Bullocks to the Cart and
Plough, and some very strong Timber Chains, for the

Bullocks to draw the Timber, with, which is of large dimensions, and very heavy, they must be 25 feet each in length, with a wheel in the Centre, a Ring at one end for the Chain to pass thro, and a strong Hook at the other, that will hold in the Links, as few spare hooks would be useful, as they are apt to fly, and a good heavy fencecase Timber jack, and two Crow Bars. Pit Saws 9 feet long, and Cross Cut Saws 6 ft Long, as short ones will not cut such large Timber, with saw, setts, Files, Timber, Chisels, Compasses, Lines &c. A Steel Flour Mill to work by hand, with a set of Drums. Nine saws to shaven the flour, 2 Barren tubs, a pair of large sheeps, and a Scale Beam, & set of Weights. There will remain a Cask of Bones, or 5 End Weight. A small species of Sawtooth, Dish, and of Spoons, wooden Ewers &c. Two or three Iron Stoves and Saucepans, Frypan, and Gardener, and a Scotch Cake Oven, a small Coffee, with, found & Beans. A Tool Chest of small size, with Tools for Chain Work only. Some good Felling Axes. A Sea Chest & Bedding. and 3 Hammocks for the Convicts. A Tobacco Stand on small Mashie. A Musket, Blunderbuss and Fowling Piece. There with a few things I have before named, will be found very useful, and I should recommend as little as possible. Let every thing be packed in strong deal Cases, which may be made up into boxes in the first place, and when put together will form large Cases, and be useful there, and will not only protect the things but will enable you to save half the freight, by packing your goods in between the Spikes of the Wharf, and all spare places, attend particularly to the packing, and always bear in mind that every foot Cubed you can save by good packing, will save you three shillings in freight, as every thing is measured

and charged by the port for freight). The very heavy
goods that as I mentioned may be packed in such
Casks as will be useful on your return, to cut for
Tubs, or for small Casks, Brine Tubs, Pails &c.
As every package will be opened and searched by
the Officers of the Customs in the London Dock,
when shipped, be careful to keep an inventory of
every thing each package contains, that you
may clear the goods at the Customs House without
much trouble, and if you send any thing upon
which you are entitled to a Drawback, of the
Duty, they must be packed by themselves in
the presence of an Officer, who will seal the
Cask down. All goods when shipped are subject
to an ad valorem duty of 10% in the 100 £.
Value, except Provisions, Wearing Apparel, and
Instruments of Agriculture, therefore these things
that pay no duty, should not be packed in
the same packages, as those that pay a duty
on, receive a Drawback. A person unacquainted
with the Shipping process, had better enquire
who is the Overseer or Ship Agent, and consult
him, who for a small Commission will see every
thing shipped regularly on board, as the most
cautious man, who is unacquainted with the Laws
& Customs of the port of London, and the Excise
Laws, may commit errors that may prove serious
blunders, & cause him much delay & expense.
Take care that all your Goods on Ship on
board a Vessel before the Ship leaves the Dock,
that you may not be obliged as I was to ship some
of them by another Vessel. Many Passengers wait
until the Ship gets to Gravesend, and then go on

board with a large portion of their Luggage. Those
who have seen numerous passengers throwing on
board at the last minute, can only form an Idea
of the confusion it creates, the Bulk having
couple of hundred Casks in the Deck, there is no
room left for any thing, consequently the passengers
luggage is thrown into any hole or corner, some
put on the Deck, some thrust into the Cabins,
so as not to leave room for the passengers to sleep,
and it is several Weeks after the Ship leaves
the coast, before you can get a such things
as may be wanted for daily use. Every thing
that you may wish to have access to during
the passage, must be packed in small packages,
so that they can be taken in your cabin, the
same with any thing that may require cleaning
or airing on the Voyage, such as Leather Goods,
Fowling Pieces, Books, and many little things
that would clamour with the head of the Bed,
and may be preserved with a little care.
Some Rum and Lemon Juice are very necessary
on the Voyage, as Rum is a good companion
even on the most ship, & the Sailors will do many
things for you for a glass of good Rum, which
nothing else would tempt them to do, as they
love the Rum Bottle nearly as their Lives, and
are many fellows to deal with without it.
Another thing must be borne in mind, & that is
the God of the Ocean, is as fond of Grog as the
Sailors, and as he always visits Ships upon
their arrival at the Equator, it is well to be
prepared with a Gallon of Old Rum, which will
conciliate his Majesty, who is not well pleased

with those who trespass in his Dominions, and
are not prepared to pay him his accustomed
tribute. Those who are unwilling to part
with their Liberty, to purchase their Freedom of the
Sloop, are ordered by his Majesty to be chained,
and, before they enter the Southern Hemisphere,
which operation entitles them to their freedom, and
is performed without much ceremony. His Majesty
orders his Minions to fill the jolly boat with the
water of the Ocean, a board is then laid across
the Board, on which the delinquent is seated,
Neptune joins with him the Tars, Tubs, in which
has been prepared a couple of Lathers, which the
all-factory warms soon discover, is not a mixture
of the sweetest perfumes, with the brush they
afford him to the tub, he proceeds to cover the
face, and with a piece of old Iron Hoop to shave
as clean as his instrument will allow, when an
order is given to slip away the board, and a
good Ducking completes the ceremony, to the
no small amusement of the Ships company, and
passengers, who on this day dare not interfere,
the command of the Ship and crew devolves on
Neptune the God of the Ocean on this day by
immemorial Custom, and was to him who disputes
his Prerogative.

Lime Juice is an excellent thing in the warm
Latitudes, to mix as Lemonade the quench the
thirst, the Water being so flat as to be scarcely
drinkable, without being mixed with Acid or Spirits
to render it palatable. A small Distillate to
cleanse & purify the Water should be taken, if the
Captain is not provided with two large ones for the

use of the Passengers. I have now done my endeavor
to put you on any person who may Emigrate for
their horses, as much upon their guard as possible
and can only say as far as regards myself, I do not
neglect having crossed the Atlantic, nor do I see the
least prospect of success in my pursuits. I am
in the full expectation of meeting with many difficulties
but they are such as any persevering man may
overcome. I do not advise any who can get a
living in Old England to leave it, and those who can
get half a living I should advise to hesitate even
they encounter the privations of a new Colony, but
to those who are sinking their property without
prospect of regaining it in England, and can get
sufficient Money together, say 200 £, I should advise
to bring it home, if after reading this Journal
they can fully make up their minds to meet with
average every privation. I will now forward to
you some of the long list of questions you gave
me to reply to, for your information, and in doing
it if I am obliged to repeat some things I have
before noticed, you must excuse it, as I had better
state them twice than neglect to communicate
any thing you wish to know. The first four questions
are as follow, which I shall forward regularly with
your List. Question 1st. Will Sacks, Cowage, and Wood
of the Diamond Land. Question the Second.
What is the price of Double & Single Sacks there?
Question the Third. What is the price of Town
will it pay to export. Question the Fourth. What
Culinary implements are most required, & most valuable
& what Town Works should a Settler furnish himself with
for use, or for sale, does the Settler find his Town & get
water of the Forge, & if so, what is the charge for working it.

Answer to question the first & second,
Sacks Cordage and Wool Baling, will at this
time pay a profit of 50 per Cent, but they are
articles of uncertain demand & much affected by the
uncertainty of supplies, and being bulky are not a
very desirable investment, unless an Emigrant takes
a small quantity for his own use, in which case
single Sacks that hold but 2 Bushells are preferable
to likewise for Sale, being generally used by the
settlers. Sacks are brought from India & sell at $3\frac{1}{2}$ and
English single Sacks sell at $4\frac{1}{6}$ each.
 $3\frac{1}{2}$ & 4

Iron & Ironware goods are sold out in abundance
and are always in proportion, and as but few Culinary
Articles are required, it is as well to buy only what
is actually required for use, instead of Settlers taking
a large assortment which they generally sell again
and overstock the Market. The settlers buy their
Iron and get their farming implements forged at
an expense of 6 lbs for working it. Iron Rods Iron
being in general use for Casts, (the only Carriages used
some of them would be useful & good to send out &
some Cast Iron which must be $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, with
a few Cast Iron Boxes for Wheels. Wrought Iron Bars
have for Ploughs will answer, as cast Iron Ploughs
are only fit for Land quite abraded of roots, stumps
rocks &c, which break them in the Body and all
repairs have, as Bullocks are not so easily checked
as Horses when the Plough comes in contact with
any stubborn material. Bullock Yoke Chains about
as strong again as your Plough Chains, with Swivels
in them, and 9 ft Long, with Hooks. Strong Timber Chains
with Swivels and Hooks, and a Ring, about 25 ft Long are
very useful. The Timber being very large 6 in & 8 in
and 12 in should be long enough for use, 6 in Saws from 6 to 8 ft
All kinds of Shovel & Axes must be very strong & good.

What is the price of a Wagon by Cart if Town is found by the settlers, & how much are they complete?

Answer

Wagons are not much used, I have not yet seen one, they are too expensive as well as the Horses & Harnes for infant Colonies, and are no better suited to the means of the settlers than to the Roads. Cart Drays by Ocean are used by Settlers, some good Broad Tires, Wharfs complete with Cattlesties & Boxes are valuable as our Wood is ill suited for Wharfs, the Wood Work of a Cart will cost 30 £, the Townsley is made different from wharf is used in England, but I shall find wharf I had made in England useful on my Farm for other purposes, as I intend to have a forge on my Land. The Town Work for a Forge & Bellows pay very well.

Question 6

What Farming implements will from best to take out, or is it desirable to have every thing made in the Colony.

Answer

English hammers are better made and the tires pay to bring out, and plough shares, but all Wood and Frame work to the Olden's &c. had better be made here, as the Land differs so much in quality it is impossible to say what you are here, what description of implements may be actually required, as they must all be very strong it is best to have most things made here. You do to encumber yourself with a variety of useless articles, which pay a heavy freight & are uncertain of a sale and a proper complete plough may be purchased here for 8 £, & I have bought a second hand Cart for 25 £. A good Flour Mill is a valuable article & an expensive one to purchase here as all Settlers require one.

Question 7

Is good Seed Corn to be purchased of all sorts, and can good Seeds of all sorts be got if wanted, and what sort of Seed or Garden Seeds will answer, to send out.

Answers

All sorts of Seed Corns can be had, the samples very good. I should like to see some of the best Potatoes or Potatoe Plants if I could get them, Garden Seeds may be brought for use but not for sale, all Vegetables grow well & the English Grapes are valuable. I wish some of those Spanish Pears & Grapes Seeds very much, as it is better to destroy the native grapes to clear the island & lay it down with seeds, which do wonders the first year, it would take a long time to bring the native grapes which grows so strong to a good bottom & for enclosures, or Dairy Grazing, at the same stock that have an extensive range there well upon it, the lands are not much enclosed yet I wish they were, Settlers will not be at the expense of artificial grasses valuable as they may be, they can be got there of excellent quality of colonial growth, but at a high price, as but little is raised for Seed, but what is grown is exceedingly good.

Question 8

What Timber of European Growth has there been introduced, or transplanted to the Colony.

Answers

Not any, the English Oak, would thrive & be very valuable, we have no substitute for it, or for the Elm, the Fir or Pine resembling your fir in colour is our best Wood, but it is scarce & dear and grows in small quantities at particular spots. The Timber generally here is of large dimensions, but not good for general uses. The Willow & osier, would pay well to introduce for Basket Work. Walnuts Chesnuts & Filberts would be valuable if they can be transplanted. The Walter Tree answers the purpose for Sheep Gates or Hop Poles. The English Oak has been planted in New Holland and thrives well, but it is not to be seen in this Island.

Are there many people who breed the pure Merino
Sheep for their Wool, or is there any kind or Leicester
Flocks kept for Long Wool, of what description is the
Wool of the Colony generally. To whom do the Settlers
sell it, and at what price.

Answer

The best Merino Rams (some of Mr. Anthon's flock) just
arrived from Sydney, may be bought for 20 £, but very
few of the Settlers can afford to breed from them, the
Wool is generally short of the South kind, the longest
is from the Tasmanian breed, but will not pay to send
to England. I think the short Wool well selected
would pay, in barter for articles the Settlers stand
in need of, it is sold to the Shopkeepers at 1/6 lb. &
in exchange for goods by them to the Merchants in
the same way, there is nobody here who makes
a Trade of collecting it of the Growers. I have heard
of no kind or Leicester flocks, and think there is no
fine Combining Wool grown here. It is in general
Gross & badly managed, by the Settlers, the price
being low & the quantity produced by the Sheep
small, and the price of labour high, it will be
years before the quantity of the article will be
sufficiently improved to make the middle class of
Settlers interested in producing a fine fleece, or
having their Wool in good order. The Breeding of
Merino Sheep for their Wool to send to England, must
for some years be confined to old settlers men of
Capital, who have the pure Merino Tups to breed
from & who are now cautious how they part
with them to settlers, being well aware that they
may make a handsome property by selling their
Rams at 20 £ each, and still keep a monopoly of fine
Wool, as it will be some time before many good
Spanish Tups can be imported & without them the
mere Engls, will be a long time producing a fleece

Trade will pay the Colonists to send forth this Country.
The value of Wharvey is so great that all Settlers who
cannot command more than a Thousand Dollars, find
they have enough to do to purchase the Sheep of
the Colony, which sell at this time at 25/- a Head,
which is double what they fetched 3 years since, in
consequence of the great demand for sheep & yokes
of oxen, caused by the arrival of such an immense
number of free Settlers, who must stock their Grants.
Likewise in consequence of some Shipwrecks of live
sheep sent to the Spanish Archipelago for sale, or
barter with the Natives.

Question the 10

Are there any Tanners or Pelungeros, or what
becomes of the Hides, Skins and Fat of the
Animals slaughtered, will the Tallow soon become an
article of commerce?

Answer

Tanning is quite in its infancy, this branch of
husbandry is hardly established as a Trade, and
every Settler carries his own Hides & Skins, some
tan them, the Best is excellent, but from
want of experience the Leather for strong work
is not so good as English & much dearer, the
Spaniards make good upper Leather
for light Shoes, but such as the Settlers require
and the men they employ, are better made in
England, & pay to take out. With respect to the
Tallow, it will be many years before it can be
produced in sufficient quantity to be an export article,
at present such is the value of Stock, that the
Colony can with difficulty supply itself with Tallow
for the home consumption, and as the Bulls
are valuable to stock the new comers, the Colonists
do not slaughter more than can be avoided, so short
is the supply that Government who usually take a

stated portion of each Settlers Wheat into Stone and
a fixed price 10^{rs} a Bushel, which is 1/2 a Bushel
more than it generally brings at the Market, with
not receive the Corn without the Settler supplying
a portion of Beef for the use of the Store.

Question II

As Butter Cheese & Milk are so dear, the two
formerly considered as great luxuries, from what cause
does it proceed that in a Colony possessing an
unbounded range of Pasture, and strong natural
Grass, that they are not made in larger quantities
and Dairy Farming answered on a large scale.

Answer

There are many causes which tend to make butter
and Cheese scarce & high in price. In the first
place every Settler demands as much as he can on
the Agricultural part of his farm, to pay his
yearly expenses, and calculates his future riches
in the accumulating number of his Flock, consequently
he is so anxious to increase their numbers,
that the fattest calf is but seldom slaughtered
even to gratify the palate of the epicure, so that
Beef is a luxury, and while it is so Butter &
Cheese must be wanted with it, as the Settlers
will rather pay from 3 to 5^{rs} a lb for them &
receive their supplies from Ireland, than kill his
Calves, which feed with the old Stock, as in their
natural state. To have a good Dairy Farm would
pay very well, but as it is necessary to enclose the
Land, and go to much expense to provide an establish-
ment, but few of the Settlers can find Capital to
make it answer, and the Roads being bad the
difficulties of a regular communication with the
only Market at the nearest Town, will exclude those
who live at a distance from following it. Notwithstanding

these are some Settlers who from the exorbitant
prices they have obtained, have made it an easy
matter to supply the market as far as their limited
means would allow.

Question 12

Are there any Hops grown in the Colony, or
would they answer to send out. Is the Barley
good & fit for Malting.

Answer

There are a few Hops grown & but very few, as
the consumption of Beer will be long confined
to the principal towns, and even at Hobart
Town they are supplied from England & Sydney.
The Barley grown here is much superior to that
grown in New Holland & will malt well, but
Beer is too good a Luxury for Country Settlers
to think of, Tea & Water being their only beverage.
A Bottle of Wine or Spirits are not to be found
up the Country, as they would prove too strong an
inducement to the Convicts who live in the
same House (for some time) as their Master, to
withstand the temptation of stealing it, for the
same reason all who go into that Country to form
any establishments leave all useless articles at
Hobart Town, and bid adieu to all Luxuries &
Comforts, until some fortune (tho' precarious)
enables them after 3 years Labour, to emerge
from their Mud Cabins, to enjoy a humble
Cottage on the ground floor, a paradise compared
with their residence above, which is then left in quiet
possession of the Convict Labourers, who still for
sake of economy eat their Meat in their Master's House.
One or two Breweries have been established at Sydney
and the Beer is so bad in consequence of being
made from Malt & Lager instead of Malt & Hops, that
those who can afford it buy English Porter or Ale.

What is the price of Mechanic Labour, in general, and is it possible to procure your settlers to work for or to do the work of a Farmer.

Answer

Good Mechanics are much wanted, and can obtain high Wages, particularly the Carpenters, Blacksmiths, Wheelwrights and Masons, they get from 7 to 10 a Day. When the Government takes into the public employ all the best Mechanics, which will make them scarce to the Colonists until this system is done away with, as is particularly recommended in the late Commission report to Government. The principal expense of sustaining a Settling is the labour, as there is plenty of Land and good Cheap Earth. Free Servants are invaluable but too expensive.

Question 14

Would it be prudent in an Emigrant to take out Servants for his Farm and Household, and in what way should it be done to ensure their Service.

Answer

Free Servants are invaluable if you can attach them to your Interest, but as they are scarce, and every Settler knows their value, every inducement of Wages &c will be held out to them, and an inducement to leave your employ. The best way is to bind them by indenture for a term of Years, which obligation will be recognized here, but if they wish to leave you they will then behave so badly, as to make it difficult to find up with them, and as you must pay their higher Wages, feed them better, and incur a heavy expense for their freight, it is only those who possess 2000 £ Capital who can afford the Expense the settlers generally take the Convicts in preference to save expense, & put up with all the inconveniences attending them, sooner than lose their little Capitals by high wages. But to those who can afford it in Barbadoes or Shapland with his Wife & two Boys makes the invaluable

Can Convicts be procured sufficient to work a farm & on what terms can the Settlers obtain their services from Government.

Answer

When a new Colonist arrives and receives his grant of Land, he is allowed one Convict to 200 Acres, to be maintained upon his Estate, partly provisioned by the Government, & partly by his employer, about in equal portions, as the allowance is not sufficient from the General Store, being 4 lbs of Beef, & 4 lbs of Flour. Tobacco, my Convicts in addition 4 lbs of Pork, or 10 lbs of Mutton, 10 lbs of Flour, 1 lb of Sugar, & 2 Oz of Tea free, & in addition. and pay them 10 £ a Year Wages, which they take out in Shop Clothing, Shoes, or articles that pay the master 100 per Cent Profit, & a large portion of Mechanic Labour is paid for in the same way. If a Settler requires more Convicts than generally allowed he can obtain them, but in that case he must keep them at his own expense, and if the Convicts do not conduct themselves properly they may be returned into the Government Gaols, which they are always anxious to avoid. Women Convicts are with difficulty obtained, and as their Characters are generally very bad, they are not much desired by the Settlers, who make the Convicts do all the household work, and find them answer general purposes much better than you would expect. Every Colonist with his family is allowed 6 Months Portions of Provisions from the General Store, the same proportions as the Convicts, the Settler finds his Convicts necessary Clothes.

Question 16th

Can good Linn be procured from Chalk, or other Material, and if what Expense Can good Bricks be made on the Estates in the Interior.

Lime can be obtained for Building, but not from Chalk, or Lime stone, as there are no quarries, altho they are said to exist in New Holland. The Lime and Kibbarts Ferry is made from Oyster Shells, and sold at a Shilling per Bushel at the Kiln, but it is very expensive to the settlers in the interior, on account of the Carriage, and heavy tax at the Ferry over the River Derwent. Every yoke of 6 Oxen pay at the Ferry 3 Shillings and 6 pence for the goods they draw, British Earth can be procured near most of the Towns, but the Bricks are very expensive in consequence of the Settlers not taking time, or the proper season for turning up the mould, or burning them sufficiently. Brickmakers may be said to have 3 or 4 Barrels at a price per Thousand, the Lime will double its price at the Kiln for every 30 Miles it is conveyed in Carts.

Question 17th

Are Slates to be procured for Buildings, or will it answer to send them from this Country.

Answer

Slates are not to be had, nor are they particularly desirable, and such an expense as would be incurred to get them from England, every Settler can get good Wood Shingles split and upon his Estate, at a state price per Thousand, which keeps out the Weather, and answers the purpose so well, that they with Thatch will compose the covering of Houses & out Buildings for many years, there has been some slate & Lime stone discovered in the interior of New Holland, as well as Coals, but the stone is not yet worked, & the burning of Coals by the settlers, will not be allowed until the Country is more clear of Timber, if the expense of getting them did not effectually prevent the use of them in the Interior.

Question the 18th

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To Roman Canvas much required in the Town, as the freight would double the price, and in this County would be then pay a fair Price.

Answer,

The consumption here would for some years be small, and the chance of its getting injured on the passage so great, that I do not think I would pay for it.

Question the 19th

Would not Canvas & Irish Linens pay to send out as well as any thing.

Answer,

Canvas & Linens at present pay 25 per Cent profit, sometimes when the Market is nearly clear, they pay much better, but as the arrival of Ships and Settlers are numerous at this time, & likely to increase, the Market will be more regularly supplied & hence profits upon all articles of general use, must not be calculated upon, altho' it may & has often happened, that the most simple things when scarce fetch a high price. I saw Prussian Blue sold at 10 a Cask last Week, & a scrubbing brush that cost 10 sold by Auction at 14, such are the chances of Trade, but when the Markets are full, then the Merchants buy their goods at their own prices, and the Settlers who arrive with their Money invested in Merchandise, being obliged to convert it into Capital before they can leave the Town to seek for their grants of Land, (& to show the Governor the extent of their Capital) often sell their Merchandise by Auction, & thus force it on the Market to a great disadvantage, to save the heavy expense of Warehouse Obsolete, as well as the Expense of residing in the Town, which

would soon consume their property, when their
time & capital is required in the Country. The
Merchants aware of this necessity, then buy
their goods with every advantage, & should the
Emigrant have made a bad selection, of goods
not actually required in the Colony, his loss will
be great, & if his selection is good, as he sells
them under every disadvantage, the chances are
much against his making a large profit,
therefore Settlers that are unacquainted with
Merchants transactions, must be cautious how
they embark their property in uncertain
speculations. Spanish Dollars stand current in
the Colony at 5⁴ each, may at this time be
bought in England at 14¹/₂, which will yield
a certain profit after paying freight & insurance
of 10⁰ per Cent. and as Cash will go farther in the
purchase of every thing in the Colony than Goods, it is
not worth while for an Emigrant who intends to
immediately on his Land to take any Merchandise

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I remain now, giving you all the information I can, and
perfectly correct, that I think will be immediately
useful. I shall answer the remainder of your questions
as opportunity offers, and will ever endeavor to give you
my opinion of this Country, and the prospects it holds
out of answering the expectations of Settlers in looking
a few years forward. I have said, I have stated, you
will observe my opinion is, that no persons who have been
brought up with a good education, and used to the enjoyment
of comfort in England, and who do not wish to descend in
the scale of society, should emigrate hither, with a
Capital less than 800 L, with this sum they may
manage by great perseverance, and to work themselves
thru' every difficulty, and in my opinion, and from what
I see of the progress of those who have been here four or
five years, they will in that time place themselves
in independence, upon a farm of 800 Acres of Land, which
they may call their own, & should there be a fall in
the price of Corn and Cattle which could be expected,
as soon as the present demand for new settlers has
subsided, or more cattle is brought to Market to supply
three demands, still it must be morally impossible
that an industrious man, who has no Debt or Taxes
to pay, can fail to support his family upon such
an Estate. He may not yet rich in Cash, if the
value of produce should be much reduced, but he
must be rich in the accumulated numbers of his
Herd & flock, in the value of his labour that he
has bestowed upon the Soil, as it must always
be a charming affliction (and afflicts every Settler in
his progress) that every year that he is hindered by
his District or harvest, not only makes room to
procure a livelihood for the year ensuing, but lays
the foundation for your Children to live the same,
in the enjoyment of comfort arising from your provision

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This stimulates every man to act with vigour & passion
and to move it is no little source of gratification, to
know they are the first settlers in a Colony that
in all probability, sooner, and in every respect, power
to become an independent nation, and that he will be
the fountain from whence will flow a boundless sea to
perpetuate Britain's glory, who will look back with
pride to the foundation and feel a pleasure in
recounting the difficulties overcome by their forefathers
in settling a spot for their future children. This feeling
may arise from a little ambitious pride, but what is
it else that stimulates all men to great exertions, &
makes them patient under every privation, while they
are pursuing their favourite object. There is no doubt
in the soil to produce every thing to be desired for
the sustenance of man, and indeed every luxury that
ought to be imagined, and when it is considered how
large a space on the globe the Territory of New
Holland occupies, that it extends over 38 degrees of
latitude, it must be perceptible to every one that
every variety of Climate may be found in some parts
of its extensive coasts, from the intense heat of the
Tropics, to the general heat of this favoured Island, which
is a little cooler than the south of France, although
lying in the same latitude, but all countries that
approach to the southern Pole, are colder than the
countries that lay in the same region of latitude in
the Northern regions, nor can shipping fruitfully go
far towards the South Pole, as towards the North
on account of the insupportable quantity of Ice, that
arrests the progress of the Navigator, the quantity of
which is much larger in the Southern sea, in consequence
of their being but a small portion of Land, & the supplies
for the climates of the Islands being somewhat smaller,
and the Land of their Snows being better adapted to

and can be used than with you. I cannot look at this ⁷⁵
immense extent of coast, ~~figuring~~ ^{figuring} a fine soil, and
good harbours, with every variety of climate, without
contemplating the immensity of the future resources
of this fine Colony. Our Government is already beginning
to appreciate the value of these resources, and have
recently sent a Colony of Convicts and enterprising settlers
more to the Eastward, in a warlike situation, to
cultivate the Sugar Cane and Cotton, while they will
be supplied with Corn & Meat from the Southern
settlements, we shall derive our supplies of Sugar,
Coffee &c from them in exchange, to give encouragement
to the industry of both, and from the source of future
disturbances in other countries, for the Supplies of these
Spices well as the manure, as it is certain that all
the Land which lies between the Equator and the
Tropic of Capricorn may be made to produce almost
every article of Luxury, that England derives either from
the coast on the West Indies. It would be supposed
such an immense tract of Coast will long remain
unoccupied by some civilized Nation, who may see the
happy progress of this Colony, and much as it may
be desired that the whole may continue annexed to
the crown of Gt Britain, it cannot be expected that
the Dutch, and ~~and~~ those who claim a former right
of discovery, will give up their claim, if they see
the benefit which England may derive from the
annexation of such an immense territory, they, as well
as the people of England have been in the habit
of looking to these distant regions merely as a place
of banishment for our worst criminals, but our
Ministers already begin to set some value on the
Trade to this country, the amazing increase of which
within these 3 Years, surprises those even who had
been sanguine in their expectations. Since your

about Six^{ty} Ships annually, besides the convict ships, supply
the wants of these Settlements, and when I tell you at
least Twenty Ships have arrived here this year, the
whole of them freighted with Merchandise & full of
Settlers bringing with them property, you will be able
to form some idea of the growing consequence of these
Settlements to England. When I look around this little
Island and reflect that Twenty years ago here almost
no civilized man fixed himself as a Settlement in the
Island, I am amazed to see the progress that has been
made in so short a space, it is highly gratifying
to see the sons of Britain swarming over this fast little
Island, not confined as to a time, but dispersing
themselves over a surface of a thousand square Miles
and carrying with them into their native the Arts
and sciences, combined with Capital and a spirit of
enterprise not to be checked by the remotest distance
at the two extremities of this little Island 120 Miles
distant from each other, are two Towns which are situated
in beautiful harbours, and at many contain several
thousand inhabitants, who excelling in enterprise have
equipp'd Vessels, and carry on a Trade with China
and India, and with the numerous Islands in the
Indian Archipelago, with the native Chiefs of which
they barter English Manufactures, and the produce of
this Colony, as it is a pleasing fact to Agriculturalists
to see even their Live Stock taken on board ship, to see
a Merchant among those who never before knew the
value of them, & who are willing to give in exchange the
Sugar & general produce of their Islands, and that for the
European Market, and thus laying the foundation of
Trade, that may eventually prove a source of great
wealth to its inhabitants. It is true, but few Vessels
have yet embarked in Trade, but it is equally

surprising, that any should have been acquitted of a crime
of this kind, & is convincing of what British enterprise is
capable of, when guided by reason & the protection of a
liberal government. The inhabitants of Sydney have
already sent their ships to trade with the natives
of the South Sea Islands, and receive in exchange, for
their merchandise, Seal Skins, Beaver Skin & Oil, Tanned
Belly &c, and some are employed to New Zealand
in the whale fishing employment & for various
other trades & timber, thus proving that in a few
years this trade of the country, will strike out a
new field for British enterprise, among nations that
as yet hardly know the meaning of Trade, and will
soon be taught to appreciate the comforts to be
derived from a friendly intercourse with us. Government
is desirous to the Colony send to the East, and likewise
bring the foundation of two Colonies to the West of
Sydney, some time in Chile, where it is intended to
send the worst of the Convicts, to form the way for
settlers of better characters, but as they are to be
kept to hard labour, it will be some years before
any fine persons will be allowed to settle there, as
it will be considered a place of punishment, the
Convicts will be strictly watched, and all communication
with the other Settlements prevented. This will send
the present troops of all the worst Characters, and
the Convicts that arrive from England for the future
that are not fit for, or required by the Settlers, will
be sent there, and employed in clearing the Land, and
raising Corn, Tobacco, Hemp &c for the Government
store, as it is not considered the present mode of
punishment is sufficiently severe, to deter them from
returning to their old practices, and injuring the
rising generation by their example. In addition to this
improvement in the arrangement of the Convicts, We are

to have an institution, and great improvement in the
Police Establishment, the present although much
improvement of late, was and considered sufficiently active
to prevent the frequent robberies that are committed
or to detect the perpetrators of them. Government are
about to send out an active Magistrate of Police
who will have a Clerk and six messengers or Constables
with a liberal Salary, this will form the Principal
Establishment at Sydney, from which will emanate
many minor branches, and will extend to the Islands
and all the minor settlements. These measures combined
as they are with the improvement in our Courts
of Law, will much improve the situation of the
Settlement, & was every calculation was long in being
as secure in our prosperity as in England.
Any good working laborers, would find constant
employment here at good Wages, and might have a good
Garden & piece of Land to live upon, if they have a
family they will do so much the better, as the boys
and even Girls would be employed looking after the
sheep, & would answer the purpose to some of your
farmers that are distressed with frost, they could
find employment, and are a constant drain upon their
funds, to send some of them over here. Many more
would come if they were find under the
protection of a steady Farm, and their expenses in
by the French. I think 25 £ a man would pay their
expenses here, as they could work their way out and
are saying that did not require them to go off as
board the ship, & when well landed, they would find
immediate & constant employment, and such Wages as would
with economy after ten years, ensure them sufficient
to purchase Fifty Acres of Land.
Mechanics of good Talent would find this a good place
for them, they earn great Wages and are in a few years

able to set up in business for themselves, & those
of inferior talent, cannot do so well elsewhere, as any
man that can handle a Carpenters tool & finish,
or any rough work, may always get plenty of
employment at five or six shillings a day.

The settlers who have been here some years, and who
are now supplying the Maori's, and many other with
stock, are doing well, as they are selling their Beef
at 9 lb, and their Mutton the same, & their prices
they are fast multiplying, & prospering, but their increased
consumption here, as the fur and is an artificial
demand, caused by the arrival of numerous settlers,
who are obliged to give any price for their Lamb
Oven, and likewise double the money for sheep to
stock their Land, that they fetch at the European
markets since, as they have not that time sold
at less, as 12 months ago they, and some at 7- which
shows present prices cannot be calculated upon.

My opinion is that provisions of every description
will in a few years be very moderate here, which
opinion I derive from observing the increase
in the flock, and Herds, since they were first brought
to this Colony. When I inform you that according
to the last official return, there was Forty Eight
Thousand Head of Cattle in this Island, which is
about seven times as much more than when I first
settled here, when I tell you that the same
return made the number of Sheep amount to
One Hundred & Ninety Thousand, which is about
Twenty Seven times to each person above, you will
naturally conceive we are at this time in no fear
of suffering from want of provisions, and it will come
to you some Idea of the fertility of the Soil, when
you consider that an increase has taken place
in little more than Twenty Years, without the assistance

of artificial Grants, or Townships, but from the nature
granted only, when you add to these numbers the
quantity that must have been slaughtered, to supply
the population and the Government stores, with the
supplies as they have remained, it appears almost
inevitable that such an increase should be fixed
and is a proof how justified the Stock act, & how
suited the Colony is for the sustenance of Man.
Therefore I think no better proof that our
provisions must be very ahead, they increased as an
increasing infinitesimal, and whenever they come
more freely to market, the supply must be
increased. At present every Settler is anxious to
increase his number, and Government in order to increase
the number, have always taken a certain portion
of such settler, at a fixed price for 10 years, so as
to give encouragement to the Settlers, but this
privilege to the Emigrants, will soon be done
it being longer, was full to increase them, & when
that is the case, all the land for the use of the
convicts will be supplied by Contract, which will
soon reduce the price.

Government have likewise supported the price
of Wheat to give encouragement to the Growers, &
take it into store at 10/- Bushel, when the
market would afford but 8/- Any quantity of Corn can
be produced, if there is demand sufficient to induce
the Settlers to grow it, but the demand being very
uncertain, the Settlers do not grow a great deal.
The general system of Farming is very defective,
if a Settler wishes to raise 50 Acres of Corn, he
breaks up this quantity of fresh Land, and crops it
for many successive years, without giving it any
manure, and as soon as it will not produce the

quantity of Corn he wishes, he lays it down again, and ploughs up 50 Acres of fresh Land, and trusts that in the same way, that the system of Agriculture is very simple, and while Land is of so little value, there will not be much inducement to lay out any money on the soil. I hope some of our young, bustling farmers who have lately arrived, will set others a better example. These circumstances considered, I think, however, that prices must ere long come down materially, and future settlers must make their calculations accordingly. The only Taxes that are raised are amongst Taxes, paid by the importer, upon Spirits, Tobacco, Wines &c, we have no direct Taxes. therefore there is nothing to impede our industry, even the Roads that communicate from one end of the Colony to the other, are made at the expense of the Government, & chiefly by the Committee, surely under such circumstances there can be no fear of ultimate success, to all who are indefatigable in cultivating the Soil. Our Wool will soon be an article of very considerable value to us, and we must by attention to its quality, increase its value, to make up for the decrease in the value of the sheep. I hope soon to be able to send you a sample of mine. We are not at present, bound of much, that will produce as high a price as found here, but some have lately been sent to the Merchants at this price, and as the Whithers are now looking to the quantity of their Wool, and begin to appreciate its future value, I hope we shall have so much improved our flocks, as to be able to export in large proportions of the produce to England. I have been

lived & surrounded, but these Saltstons are but
few removed from Europe to enjoy any large portion
of Trade with America, or other nations to the North
of the Equator. But those who began this business, and
soon be abandoned, and will see English Merchants follow
this trade with satisfaction, and anxious to obtain
what little produce we perhaps get for the Indian Trade
in exchange, the principal difficulty is, to load the
Vessels back, & most of them procure for Europeans to the
East Indies, who would be glad to have sugar, but cannot
procure cargoes, this will be the case until our
Government remove that duty they have imposed upon
all goods imported into England by any body
except the South Sea Fishing Company. To soon as
it can be done with safety to their interests, the
duty will be removed, which will immediately open
to us our natural branch of commerce, & we shall
carry on extensively the Whale Fishery, & with
that oil freight back English Ships. We are much
checked by the prohibition of our Sail from your Markets
several vessels have been employed in this Fishery with
good success, as it is no uncommon thing to see the
Whales harried in our Harbours, & that the South Sea
Ships are labouring in their supplies, our Coast & down
with those fish, we already supply the Indian Markets
and good consumption to find any quantity could be
procured, & a much cheaper rate than your Markets
is supplied by the South Sea Fishery, who require
their vessels & an immense expense for such long
and tedious voyages, this is our natural branch of
Trade, which in little time will show us to us,
as it will not only greatly promote the wealth of the
country, but it is much the interest of England to
procure for us as valuable articles to exchange for her

manufactures, that nothing but the heavy weight in the
 Fisheries alone we have been able to procure this
 branch of business, and induce the Government to
 place such Duties on the Oil, and although it may
 cause great distress to the South Sea Fishery, its
 distress than Monopoly of this Trade, and it is
 still more necessary that it will be gradually
 done, in a short time, as it is the mutual
 interest of both countries that it should be the
 case, and it cannot be expected that the
 industry of this Country, can bear such regulations,
 that so sensibly affect our Fisheries, for the benefit
 of any Country in England. This is one branch of our
 Commerce with the whole of Europe, as well as the East
 and West Indies. We have sent some of our Wheat to
 supply the wants of the Colonists and the Empire of
 Spain, during their late Distresses, and we have to
 supply our occasional deficiencies, some wheat since
 fetched some Wheat from the Spanish Settlements
 in South America. We just look at the Countries
 that surround us, Spain, France, & America, and then
 ask yourself if we are not well situated for every
 branch of the most profitable Trade, as soon as
 our means will permit us to embrace the advantage
 of our situation. Not being so far removed from all
 the European Countries we consider an advantage, as
 we shall stand the better chance of meeting or
 friendly terms with all, and shall not interfere
 with any of them. Both of America and see the
 value of British Trade with that country, they are
 now an independent nation, consume more of your
 Manufactured goods than all the European Settlements
 put together, if why is it, because they are nearer to
 England, and carried with fewer difficulties, and they are

comparative they are in England, and as we are assured with
a colored although he may for his own interest for a
time, labor, himself from many of his former comforts,
he will still return to them as soon as his circumstances
will permit. For this reason a Colony of Ten Thousand
English born Subjects, is in a commercial point of
view of more value to the mother country than
half a Million of Indian born subjects, who know not
the value of solid English comfort, and whose consumption
is small in proportion. Look at America when our
establishment for Convicts there, had been formed about
Thirty Five Years, the same place these Settlers
have been used for the same purposes. That country
was but little known to the inhabitants of England,
and after that period, when the benefits to be derived
from Emigration there was fully ascertained, we have
the variable population of England, Scotland, & Ireland,
encompassed across the Atlantic, and even the inhabitants
of the more northern countries. In after ages it
will scarcely be credited, that not more than
Thirty Years elapsed from this period, before they
were enabled to set at defiance the whole power
of the British Empire & have now an Independent
flourishing Empire. What is there to prevent this
Country being the same, blessed with a much finer
Climate, with a Soil superior, and much more easily
cultivated, centrally situated to commerce in great Towns
God's Harbours & Waters for Ship Building, a rapidly
increasing population of enterprising English subjects
daily drawing the means of their future greatness from
the wealth of England. Each I have no doubt in
its several productions, what is there to prevent
this Country from becoming in a few years of the greatest
value to the English Crown, or in case of disunion,
a flourishing and Independent Country of the first class.

We have no mineralogists of any note, therefore the
 various Minerals contained in the Earth, have been
 but slightly examined. But it has been ascertained
 that there is an inexhaustible quantity of Iron
 Ore, in the Mountains at Lancaster in this Island,
 some of which have been sent to England to be
 analyzed, and has proved to contain 70 per Cent of pure
 Metal, in large proportions & of fine quality, than
 can be produced by the Mines in Europe, except
 those of Sweden, which yield about the same quantity
 of Iron, Stone, Sulphur, & Coals, are found in the
 Interior of New Holland, and there is no doubt
 but this country is rich in its mineral productions.
 I may be a little sanguine as to the future
 extension and prospects of these Colonies, but I cannot
 deny the extent of this Country, and at its
 resources, without flattering myself that should I live
 fifty years, I shall see it rising into importance
 in the political sphere, and if it continued under
 British Dominion, which I hope it may, it will
 become a second England. These are considerations
 that need affect Mercantile Men, and I should not
 indulge in them, were it not that I think the
 future advantages to be derived to our Colonies should
 be considered, as well as our own feelings upon
 Emancipation from our Native Soil.
 I have now done my endeavour, to show you
 every side of the question. I have pointed out
 every difficulty that a Settler will have to
 encounter with & think I have honestly shown
 rather the worst side of the picture, as I should
 be sorry that any one should come to this Country
 of my friends, & say I have deceived them, in their prospects

I think every person who reads this Journal, will possess some practical and really useful information, than I could find in any publication I have read with, as it is my wish that every one who may come here in consequence of my departure should upon his arrival be rather gratified than disappointed, which I think will be the case, the difficulties of settling here are really minor, since every thing useful or in favor can now be purchased here, which is an advantage easily settled and here, & as the improvements are made in the public Roads, and our properties every day rendered more secure by the late improvements in the Post I think are long many of our business difficulties will vanish, and even now they are nothing to be compared with what a Settler must expect to meet with, who goes into the Interior of North America. where he may employ all his life in having Timber and then not always sufficient to see his wood navigable house. We have extensive Forests here, but where they are thickly timbered is on the Mountains, in the low lands which settlers occupy, forest Land is but thinly covered with Timber, & most places in its natural state, the Land looks more like a Park with Timber planted for ornament, and thinly scattered than a Country in its natural state. We have many thousands of Acres that have not a Tree growing upon it, in the rich valleys, & I may say Hundreds of thousands that can be cultivated with little expense. Many who emigrated afford us here need time to grow the Timber for their first Crops, Cut it down and burn it, leaving about 3 or 4 feet of the stumps standing, which is quite sufficient to burn the Corn & as soon as the stumps get dry the following year, they light a fire

and things, & lower them out, this saves some labour
& expense, and does not look well, and when this is
done there is great difficulty in getting the plough to
work. I cannot consider the average crop of this
colony large, as equal to yours, although the Grain
is very fine, which as is seen the slavery mode
of Farming, and not assisting them, Land by
manuring, or Fallowing. They assume if they
were inclined manure much, and it would be
impossible, the Stock not being kept up in fences
wards, and there being but few Horses & Cattle
likewise used and the great, there is no possibility
of collecting any quantity of Manures, and it will
be long before a good system is commenced.
But while I am making such a poor show for the
that is generally given upon 75 Acres by good
management, I shall always feel inclined to count
that 30 Acres worth of employment, for the benefit of
my flock, and I have no doubt the same
system, and indeed a much improved system,
and if they cannot find consumption for Wheat, they
will by cultivating Turneps, Lucern, & Rape, & feed
them Bullocks & Sheep, and get them to market
much sooner than they now do.

When the Stock has increased beyond the wants of
the Colony we should be able to send to England
some Hides & Tallow, particularly from New South
Wales, where the Wild Cattle in the Interior are
fast increasing, and may in a few years afford us
the same means of Trade, as is carried on by the
Inhabitants of the Rio La Platte, with England, who
from the immense extent of their natural pastures
are enabled annually to supply your Market with a
large quantity of Hides and Tallow. Great is the

encouragement was given to the growth of Tobacco,
and our Climate is well suited for the growth of
and Hemp, which will be a considerable article of
Export. The principal thing we must improve
for particular attention, as our chief & most valuable
article of Export, is the Merino Wool, which is by
experience proved to be of equal quality to that
growing in Spain, and there is not a doubt but
we can continue to produce it of equal quality, and in
any quantity to supply the fine Wool Manufacturers
of England. The fine Wool last year imported in
England paid Duties of Four Hundred Thousand
Pounds, which duty being sixteen a pound, or there
that averages about four Shillings and Sixpence a lb
shows that quantity imported to be Sixteen Millions
of lbs, and amounting to upwards of Three Millions &
a half of Money. There is no reason why this
Colony should not supply the greater proportion
of this quantity, as it is allowed that there is no
Country where it can be grown at less expense
and the unbounded extent of Pasture in the
Interior of New Holland, affords every facility to the
greatest extension of our growth, and the freight
of Wool from hence to England at the present
period, is not more than three pence a lb, which
is not more than it costs the German & Spanish
Merchants to get it to London, as their principal
expense is the Land Carriage. This will be a
valuable article to exchange for the Manufacture
goods of England, and it is a measure to see the
quantity exported from hence rapidly increased.

and the quantity as fast improving. I intend to these
sensors to show you this Country is but just
beginning to show what it is capable of, and to
convince ^{you} that not many years will elapse,
before we shall possess the means of carrying
on a considerable Trade with England, as well
as with all the surrounding Nations. We are at
present but as Children feeling our way into the
World, and as we increase in numbers, and in
wealth, so shall we unfold to Europe, the
means we so largely possess, to supply their
markets, with a greater variety of valuable
productions, than any one Country can produce
on the face of the globe. I have yet given you
no account of the Nations of this Island, and I am
sensible I am giving none you I have not seen any
of them. Their numbers must be small, as they
confine themselves entirely to the high lands, and
hunt their Game in such unfrequented tracts, that
it is rare to meet with one. They are timid in the
extremes, and never await the approach of Settlers,
unless they are driven in party, and the settlers are
armed with fire arms, which seldom occurs in the
uninhabited parts of the Country, but we occasionally
hear of a person being exposed to death by them, but
it is but seldom it happens, & when it does it is
often to retaliate some great injury they may have
sustained, from the Bush Rangers, or from the Hards
Men, who do not hesitate to destroy them whenever an
opportunity offers, thus keeping up a degree of animosity,
that prevents all approach to confidence in each other,
which was completely destroyed on the first occupation of the
Island, by a young Officer, who commanded the Military Band.

A large party of the Natives came towards his place
where motions & gesticulations he did not comprehend, and
fearing from their numbers that they were hostilely
intended, and afraid to allow them to approach too near
he ordered his men to discharge a volley of musquet
at them, which did considerable execution, they retired
in good order, and their dread of fire arms to this day
remains so great, that a small party thus protected
may travel in safety thro' the Island. From their
inoffensive habits, and generally pleasant conduct, it is
supposed that they were formerly inclined to peace, but
their intentions being misinterpreted, has been the cause
of the greatest want of confidence between both parties
& it will be long before they forget the injury they
sustained, and have daily sustaining, by those Natives
servants whose grazing employs often brings in contact
with them. Some fear of them Women have at times
expressed on the part of their Husbands, associated them
and put themselves under the protection of some of our
fishing parties along the coast, & have proved very faithful
to their protectors, by whom they had children that are
now living, and may prove the future means of reconciliation
between the Aborigines and the Settlers. This race was
supposed to be a very interesting people, & some
of them being grown to manhood, they are spoken very highly
of by those who have seen them, the Women are handsome
and their which is more than can be said for the
Natives, who are generally represented as being very inferior
in stature, and much more filthy than the Aborigines of
New Holland, and very far behind them in the first steps
of Civilization. Their neighbours on the arrival of our
people on their Coast in 1787, were a warlike people, &
well versed in the arts of the Chase, of Fishing, the use
of Canoes, which the natives here never use. & many things
that showed them to be far advanced in civilization before

their King's houses, but off in wandering and restless habits, which
has never been subdued, and although a friendly intercourse
has always subsisted between the Tribes that border
upon our Settlements, and our People, they have never
been able by example or persuasion to induce them
to settle themselves among them, or to turn their
attention to Agricultural pursuits, which they have
universally deserted after a few weeks trial, and not
wishing to be debased their natural liberty, have
thrown off the Clothing that has been given them, &
have returned again to their natural Woods. But they
have considerable confidence in our people, so much so
that they send their Children to be educated at a
School, which has been established by the late Governor
Macquarrie for their improvement, where they continue
until they are 14 years of Age, clothed & supported
by the Colony. I think that will be the means of
civilizing the next generation. Some of the Tribes farther
removed from our Settlements, & with whom we have had no
communication, are represented as a warlike people, who
have occasionally attacked a Dutch Cove, when the Ships
have sent them on shore for Wood & Water, at such
places along the shore as have been but seldom visited
for this purpose, but upon the whole the Natives of this
extensive Country are peaceably inclined, and very
few in numbers compared with the immense extent of
their Country, but you will readily conceive that
but a very small portion of it has yet been trodden
upon by civilized man, & much remains to be discovered
on the Coasts, as well as in the Interior, as the greatest
extent that has been surveyed has not been more than
about 500 Miles, in a direct line from Sydney towards the
Interior which is no extent compared with the immense
surface of this Country which must be capable of subsisting
more than a Hundred Millions of Inhabitants, therefore you

19. would not have overstocking these Colonies with Tubercles

Memorandum of the terms upon which Land
will be granted to Settlers of the new Settlement
on the West Coast of New Holland at Swan River
Authorized by Government 1829

The Government to be at no expense in conveying
or supporting the Settlers or their Servants

No Cornets or other Officers are at any time
to be sent to the Colony

The Settlers are to protect from want any
Servants they may take and with them are
to receive for each an indemnification equal to $\frac{1}{5}$
or 200 Acres of Land

For every 3 L of Money employed in the enterprise
and proved to be ^{to} the satisfaction of the Lieut
Governor, Capt. Stirling in procuring Stock, Imple-
ments & necessaries (or in Cash to procure the
same) the Settlers may have granted to him
40 Acres of Land so that by an outlay of 600 L
may be obtained 2,400 Acres of Land estimated at
 $\frac{1}{6}$ per Acre for the Free Emigrant