

Donated by W. K. Grant 1972  
Access: Available for research

## JAMES & JOHN GRANT

James Grant (1786-1870) and John Grant (d. 1825) were sons of James and Margaret Grant of Nairn, Scotland. John arrived in V.D.L. in January 1823 as a merchant in partnership with Alexander B. Spark, who settled in Sydney. John acted as a merchant in Hobart in partnership with Bethune. James Grant sent from London introductions, consignments of harness, ale, printed cotton and other goods, advised his brother about the sale prices of hides, whale oil etc. in Liverpool and consulted him about other business possibilities, such as muskets to sell to the natives in New Zealand and other ideas. James and his wife Caroline (d. 1868) the daughter of John Neve of Tenterden, Kent, followed John and arrived in April 1824. James and his brother received grants of land in the Fingal Valley and James named his "Tullochgorum". However John became ill and took a trip to Sydney for his health and died there on 11 December 1825, leaving most of his property to James.

### CORRESPONDENCE

- G2/  
1-10
- James Grant to brother John 30 Nov. 1822 - 15 Oct. 1823  
James from London to brother John in V.D.L. about business prospects and settling in V.D.L.: thanks for letter from Madeira, sending newspapers and W. Scott novels, prices at Liverpool for hides, sperm oil, seal skins, wool; trouble in New Zealand and muskets going out to natives (possible profit?); sending consignment of harness for working horses and oxen on their joint account; McIntosh's ale; shipping of merinos, garden seeds, printed cottons etc., ? horses for saddle and draught; shipping; would there be any money in an exhibition in London of "handsome natives of Australasia . . . decorated with all their war-like habiliments"? (30 Nov. 1822); regards to Sandy [Alexander B. Spark]; son born 23 Jan. 1823 and christened James on 25 Feb. A. Knight proxy for John as godfather, Maria Neve godmother (31 Jan., 31 Mar. 1822); the old folks at Nairn; house sold and furniture packed for shipment (3 July 1823); introduction to Commissary Hull (31 Dec. 1822); Mr Gellibrand applying to be Solicitor of Crown in V.D.L. (3 July 1823); no chance of recovering his lost hearing in this country, severe winter trying (31 Jan. 1823); choice of land - grazing and near water for shipment and fishing - Mr Lord suggested between Macquarie and Relief rivers or St Pauls district, rent house in Hobart for family, Fraserburgh lad, Gray, engaged as cooper - friend Reid wanting him a berth (24 Mar. 1823)(24 Mar. 1823; chartered "Heroine" (320 tons, Captain Ostler) with James Hammond (brother of friend William Hammond the "Ironman" - not in good health and lately married without consulting family) and Thomas Knight, loaded with cargo, stores and 50 passengers (including J. Williamson and sister), bringing iron, saddlery, harness, cheese, butter, oil, paint, blankets, clothing, stationery, umbrellas, ladies' straw bonnets, prints [cotton] and Manchester goods, window glass, iron hurdles for sheep, rum, brandy, soap, 4 merino rams from Wiltshire and ewes (2 tooth), besides own furniture of considerable value, and servant maid (Sept. Oct. 1823); Maria Neve engaged to Thomas Hammond (brother of James and William) a surgeon of about 30 years.  
(10 docs.)
- 11-13 James Grant to John Grant Sept. - Oct. 1825  
From James Grant in Hobart to brother John in Sydney: John's passage, his state of health, "Andromeda" released from charter, "Medina" cargo, Kemp, "young Sorell was spliced today", Seccombe story a hoax, bushrangers Brady and McCabe, Brady robbed Clitherow who came out in "Andromeda", no waterside grant available - could he have John's wharf - needed water transport? he and Bethune needed news of markets. (Note: the first part of the letter of 20 Oct. 1825 has date "1826" in error).  
(3 letters)
- 14 Transcript of some of above letters  
(typescript)

- G2/  
15 John Grant to William Sinclair 4 Mar. 1824  
Hobart: W.S.'s services as accountant in Mr Laird's affairs discontinued owing to his drinking habits reported by Dr. Hood
- 16-17 Roderick O'Connor to John Grant June, July 1825  
Lake River: floods prevented drawing corn, wheat, barley, sale of ship "Ardent" by Mr Spark.  
(2 docs.)
- 18 Thomas Young to John Grant 11 July 1825  
Hobart: suit for debt v. Reid
- 19 William Wilkinson to John Grant 22 Sept. 1825  
London: business affairs, Percy's account, proceeds of whale bone sales, happy to hear of brother's success, remembrance to Mr Bethune.  
(original and contemporary copy)
- 20 Samuel Hood to John Grant 5 Oct. 1825  
John's departure for Sydney left house dull, anxious about John's health, Gilly case continuing.

## FINANCE

- 21-22 Bank Orders 1822, 1823  
Promise to pay £86 John Grant and A.B. Spark to Attwood & Smith; bank order William Wilkinson to John Grant £86.  
(2 copies of each)

## JOHN GRANT'S DEATH

- 23-28 Illness and death of John Grant 12 Nov. - 31 Dec. 1825  
Letters from A.B. Spark in Sydney to James and Caroline Grant: John Grant very ill, prospects grave, relative needed, J.G. died Sunday 11 December and was interred on the Tuesday, J.G.'s will; Caroline Grant to James Grant from Hobart: Spark's letter, business, case of umbrellas (1 Dec. 2 copies cross written - one addressed to James grant c/o John McLeod, Campbell Town, the other c/o Archibald Thomson, Launceston), from Sydney: arrived too late, John died, returning to James and the "little fellow", Dr Hood and Mr Bethune would be shocked at news, customary in England to send gloves to all friends of deceased - white as John single, Mr Sparks and Mr Bethune ought to be presented with mourning rings.  
(6 docs. & 1 typed copy)
- 29-30 Will of John Grant 10 Dec. 1825  
Copy of will of John Grant of the firm of Bethune & Grant of Hobart, merchants, leaving £50 pa. to parents James and Margaret Grant of Nairn, North Britain, all remaining property to brother James Grant who was to make provision for sisters Ann and Janet. Also bill for legal fees for probate due to George Cartwright 1826-7.  
(2 docs.)

INDEX OF NAMES G.2

NAME	AGE	DESCN	DATE	TOPIC	REF
BETHUNE,Walter Angus	1794-1885	mercht.	1825	partner John Grant	G2/13,27
BRADY,Matthew	1799-1826	bushranger	1825		G2/13
CLITHEROW		settler	1825	robbed by bushrangers	G2/13
Grant,Caroline	-1868	w.James.G	1822-5	family	G2/23-28,1-10
GRANT,James	1786-1870	pastlt,mrcht.	1822-5	business,property	G2/1-13,29-30
GRANT,John	-1825	mercht	1822-5	business,property,death	G2
HOOD,Samuel	-1844	med.practr.,agent	1825	business	G2/15,20
HULL,George	1786-1879	commissary	1823	intro.to	G2/3
O'CONNOR,Roderic	1784-1860	pastlt.	1825	mercht bus.,agric.	G2/16-17
SECCOMBE,William	1796-1864	surgeon	1825	hoax	G2/12
SORELL,William			1825	wedding	G2/12
SPARK,Alexander Brodie	1792-1856	mercht.	1825	Sydney	G2/21-28
YOUNG,Thomas		Hobart	1825	debt suit	G2/18

INDEX OF SUBJECTS G2

SUBJECT	TYPE	DATE	DESCN	REF
ABORIGINES	exhibition	1822		G2/1
BUSHRANGERS	Brady,McCabe	1825	robbery,capture	G2/13
Mourning	rings,gloves	1825	Grant refs	G2/27
WHALEBONE		1825	sales	G2/19