The Memorial of
George Fordyce Skipper, Doctor
in Medicine, late Colonial
Assistant Surgeon in Van
Diemens Land

Respectfully Sheweth

That the Memorialist
emigrated to Van Diemens Land in
1820, arriving towards the end of the year,
and was appointed by Lieutenant
Governor (now Sir George) Arthur
District Assistant Surgeon to Groot
Swam Port in April 1829.

That from the District being
very remote, lately opened, and the few
inhabitants, from the peculiar features
of the District, widely separated, the hope
of adding by Private Practice to the
small allowance of a District Assistant Surgeon was out of the question, and therefore as an inducement to the medical officer to accept the appointment, the Commandant Horse of Wauchope Point was placed under his charge, first as Commandant Stockkeeper and subsequently as Commandant Field, until January 1834 when the office was abolished.

That the District, for some years, was infested with a very hostile tribe of Aborigines, who were frequently committing acts of violence upon the Inhabitants and so dangerous was travelling considered that a гаррион Order prohibited a Soldier proceeding on Route alone.

That in attending upon the Military Convoy, who suffered from the attacks of the Aborigines, the medical officer encountered much arduous and hazardous duty, from the length of the journeys, the difficulty of following in many cases the almost imperceptible paths (there being no Roads) the danger from the
The Memorial of George Torriss Story
Doctor in Medicine, Retired Lieutenant Surgeon in Van Diemen's Land
Respectfully Shewn

That Memorialist emigrated
to Van Diemen's Land in 1828 arriving towards the end
of the year & was appointed
by Lieutenant Governor (now Sir George) Arthur
District Surgeon
to first term, 1st April 1829.

That from the District being very
remote, hostile tribes, & the few indians &
from the peculiar features of the District,
failed to attract the hope of rising by
Private Practice, or to the small allowances
of a District Surgeon was out of the question
& therefore as an inducement to Memorialist
to accept the Appointment, Captain
at Waterloo Castle were placed under his charge
the Company's Stores

first as Company's Steward & subsequently
as Company's Clerk

was abolished

on January 1834 when the Office

That the District of Great Swan

was a very extensive one stretching along
the coast of Tasmania for more than 10
60 miles, but from a fear of hostile tribes running nearly parallel to the coast, and at no great distance from it, necessarily narrow except in two or three places which lead to other settlements.

That the district was deserted for some years, with a very hostile tribe of Aborigines who were frequently committing acts of violence upon the inhabitants and so dangerous was travelling considered that a Garrison Order prohibited a soldier proceeding a road alone.

That in attending upon his military duties, he suffered from the attacks of the Aborigines encountered, much arduous and hazardous duty from the great length of the journeys and the difficulty of following in many cases the almost imperceptible
unperceptible foot tracks (there being no roads,) the danger from the Aborigines lurking amongst the trees (Memorials having mostly to travel alone) and the crossing of the various rivers swollen by

\[ \text{Rains} \]

That after the Removal of the Aborigines from the Island, other duties arose, in the attendance of Road Parties in the Papuan Mountains which led to other settlements, entailing much labour and provision upon Memorials parties as they were mostly situated in places that were difficult of access.

That so great was the extent of the District of Great Swan that it was considered necessary in 1835 to form it into two Districts yet from the new District that of "Spring Bay" District Memorials was being mostly without a Surgeon, Memorials was called upon to attend to Government duties there, the attendance of the Division by an equally rich

\[ \text{allowance} \]
That in 1839 a Party of Men were placed on the Rocky Hill to form a Road across a portion of the River where the practises of the Baa prevented communication by Vehicles. On his arrival joined with one

William Blackman on the 6th August 1809. He was for a time

Governor remained under the medical charge of Memorialist until the appointment of Colonial Asst. Surgeon.

Sir, I wish in November 184,

That Memorialist had from time to time represented to the various Principal Medical Officers under whom he served the inadequacy of his pay as Assistant Surgeon to the duties which he had to perform and the answers received were that no increase of pay could be allowed, the matter having been referred to the Home Government and refused.

That in May 1841, Memorialist wrote to the Secretary of State expressing his wishes to resign and that if he did so he would return to New South Wales.
Vertical length of Sierra under the
"Constitutional Agreement of 1846."

Medical Department. I have the honor to
acquaint you that your name has been
included in a Return of Medical Officers
whose services have been dispensed with,
and whose cases are to be brought under
the notice of the Secretary of State.

I submit for your information an
instruct.

J. Morey
[Signature]
[Handwritten text not legible]
to turn his attention to agricultural business which was in a state of stagnation. Hence it was impossible, obtaining those things in the vicinity, affording entrance to his return, although he was then attending at the Collegiate School of the Society in addition to his District duties.

It was therefore no great delay in obtaining a medical man to occupy this place. Memorialists that in August A wrote to say that he was willing to remain provided he be paid at an increased rate, which was agreed to. He and another no earlier than in November he was superseded by Dr. Lewis who was appointed District Assistant Surgeon with a salary of £50 per annum. The regulations of the establishment it was found that for the regulations were not consistent with the duties of District Assistant Surgeon could not be most adequately to and ... Memorialists appointed his successor obliged Memorialists to relinquish his intention of devoting himself to agricultural busi-
was again appointed Surgeon to the 25th District in June 1842.

But he considered in again accepting the office of Dr. & Surgeon his service would have ceased from the date of his first appointment as he had never known such a regulation to exist more particularly.

But he continued as Dr. & Surgeon until 31st March 1844 when a Regulation ordered all the Drs. & Surgeons being thus thrown out of office he represented his case to the Lieutenant Governor for Special Thurs. No. situation being thus vacant in the Medical Department by the interest of the Secret Memorialist Governor was appointed Secretary to the Royal Society of Arts. For Botany the advancement of Science by the aid of prizes in November 1845 from the above which sum he was tempted to resign & in December following was appointed Colonial.
Assistant Surgeon John Broadmeare Pride at the Rocky Hills that in May 1848 he received an intimation from the Principal Medical Officer that in consequence of the

recent indications of the health of the Station and the necessity of fresh medical officers from Sydney being to be provided for, that there was no longer a need for further employment in the Medical Department, and that his services would accordingly cease on the 30th June 1848.

That Memorialist having detailed his services for a period of more than nineteen years, wrote to have to remark that the loss of these

employments of

The Commissioner's appointment was very great

and quite out of his control, that he had to continue in his Department to the present time, his

length of service alone would have placed him in very different circumstances at any rate would have been entitled to half

pay had he been retired, nor was the loss of his Medical pay not by

compensation for by any increase of Privilege.
Practice as from the peculiar circumstances of the district, the inhabitants were widely separated and even had the population that in the performance of his duties as District Surgeon as before detailed was often exposed to great danger, the latter

were

both from the actions of such as could not

from the 1st of April 1825 the amount of the population of the district and the remote situation

sent

were taken upon him many

arduous journeys. But he undertook the duties at Rocky Hill of the Probation Station until 1825

without any remuneration for his services whereas his successor was immediately placed upon the allowance of Colonial "4th" Surgeon

that other divisions of turning his attention to agriculture he was unable to avoid himself of an idleness which offered from the duty in returning him filling up the appointment while being in the capacity of District Surgeon.

Subsequently when he would have withdrawn his resignation that the Principal Medical Officer consented to an increase of salary 1825.
and that my joy has always been + more
gratifying
for the one in that it is in the last unhappy
stroke to republican distress must not
prove how to much that this
is would subject him other sensible to
exert himself + treats

That Memorialist having thus endeavored
to depict an outline of the peculiar
circumstances of his case would beg leave
to say that he has throughout the whole year
be conducted himself as to merit the
appointment of the late Mr. V. P. His illness was
when he was practicing... he not having
sent a message through the Secretary
of State for the colonies may meet with
the favorable consideration

Geo. T. Hay
To Dr. Dear Sir,
Philadelphia, Dec. 17. 1780
I beg leave to return you thanks for the favor
offering to forward a memorial to me to the late B. J. &
and you advise me as to the best whether it should be
sent to the Senate of the State for the
colonies but perhaps some will agree in
referring it to the former address as an object to
be in town in a few days. I shall make upon this
and can be added to be prompt for the subject.