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Cultural and Historical Records of Queensland



Number 1
The Simpson Letterbook
transcribed by
Gerry Langevad

Front Cover The residence of Dr. Stephen Simpson, 'Wolston House',
built in 1852/3

Back Cover A sample of Dr. Stephen Simpson's handwriting

In preparation

Cultural and Historical Records of Queensland, Number 2 is a catalogue of Aboriginal artifacts held in the Anthropology Museum of the University of Queensland, the origins of which lie within the State of Queensland. This issue contains some 300 photographic reproductions and should serve as a reference book for identification of similar artifacts held by other institutions, societies and private homes.

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CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL
RECORDS
OF QUEENSLAND

NO. 1, 1979 (OCTOBER)

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EDITORIAL

When Lt. Henry Miller arrived in Moreton Bay to establish a penal settlement, Queensland became the new frontier of Australia. The year was 1824. After barely two decades the first free settlers arrived, and once the restraints of the penal aspect had disappeared, ever increasing sections of land were acquired by the settlers.

It is from this period that the earliest written accounts survive. To begin with, there are governmental despatches, requests and accounts, followed soon by records of land transactions and records of public affairs and concern. Christian missions, too, filed reports on their activities and experiences. Interspersed amongst such regularly occurring records are those of explorers, diaries and reminiscences of prominent public figures, as well as letters from private citizens.

References to the new settlement's Aboriginal population constitute a substantial part of such documents, and are today of invaluable importance.

Historians, anthropological museums, anthropologists and archaeologists have already utilized information from these resources, and more recently Australia's public at large has also shown much interest in this material.

The guardians of these records are the State's Archival Offices, the libraries, the museums, the societies, churches and individuals. It is the aim of this monograph series to produce from time to time transcripts of written records and artifact collections in strict adherence to the original texts and commentaries. By doing so it is anticipated that this vital and primary information may become more widely known and thus used.

So as not to interfere with the original text reproduced in this volume, an explanatory list of symbols has been included. Their use in the text becomes necessary for clarification of apparent mis-spelling in the original text and other inconsistencies. To facilitate the usefulness of the text an index has been prepared with reference to General Topics, Aborigines, Aboriginal Tribes, Place Names and Personal Names.

This volume presents a transcript of the letterbook of Dr. Stephen Simpson, the first Crown Lands Commissioner in Queensland. His letters span a ten year period of the early history of the settlement and cover a variety of topics which reflect Dr. Simpson's diverse duties and interests.

The Editor

FOREWORD

The letter-book of Doctor Stephen Simpson is the first part of a project that will hopefully result in many important primary sources being available to all researchers, quickly, accurately and easily. As the "located writings of Stephen Simpson" indicates, this letter-book represents only a very small part of his correspondence and it is hoped that in time it will be possible to reproduce the remainder and explain a number of the discrepancies in the various versions of the same letter.

Care has been taken in the preparation of this transcription, but some errors may have occurred, particularly in the reproduction of some names - Dr. Simpson was writing his own record, not a document necessarily written for others to read. Should the particular item be sufficiently important, readers are urged to consult the original -

THE LETTER-BOOK OF DR. STEPHEN SIMPSON 1842 to 1853
held by Queensland State Archives at Dutton Park, Brisbane -
their reference is A 20882

Microfilm copies are held by the Oxley Library, Brisbane and Main Library at the University of Queensland.

The author would appreciate advice of any errors located.

Notes to the biography

The very brief biography included in this publication is not intended to be a full one. The aim was to present a very brief indication of who Dr. Simpson was and since a lot of new information has become available to me, which conflicted with some published biographies, this has been included.

Acknowledgements

If I were to fully acknowledge all the help that I have received on the Simpson Project, the acknowledgment section would be longer than the publication itself. I feel that I have been busy on it, but when I realise how much help I received from others, I wonder what I have been doing. As far as possible in these acknowledgements I am trying to be general, but still know that I will miss people who gave vital assistance and to these I apologise in advance.

Sincere thanks must go firstly to the Queensland Government, particularly the Premier's Department and the Archives Authority of New South Wales for the helpful and speedy way in which they arranged a waiver of Crown copyright to enable this publication to be produced. Nothing but courteous assistance has been received from both these bodies.

Mr. Colin Sheehan of the Oxley Library and Mr. Alan Queale first 'introduced' me to Stephen Simpson and for this I thank them. The assistance I have received from the staff at Oxley Library, Queensland State Archives, Mitchell Library, Sydney, the Archives Authority of New South Wales and the University Libraries, I have found almost embarrassing and the debt I owe to these dedicated people is far beyond my powers to repay.

The notes to the biography give some indication of the help received overseas, but there are many not included in the notes that also gave help. People like Mr. Patrick Strong at Eton College did not have the information I sought, but took the time and effort to check for me and finally provided a valuable lead to another source, as did the University of Bologna. When information appeared to be impossible to obtain, Queensland's Agent General and his Mr. McCourt came to my rescue.

My greatest debt, however, is to students and staff of the University of Queensland, not only for direct help, but also for tolerance and encouragement. Naturally my greatest involvement has been in the Department of Anthropology and this is where my greatest help came from. Dr. Hall for starting me on this path and teaching me the value of original sources to Archaeologists. All the Anthropology staff from Professor Rigby down who have shown unbelievable patience and given me any help I requested. But the greatest single debt in this area must be to Dr. Peter Lauer and his very able staff, particularly his Secretary Miss Dulcie Benn. When I consider what they have done, I feel that the work was theirs and the credit mine - advising, typing, and indexing.

It was not, however, only the Anthropology Department that provided assistance, again, anyone asked gave willingly. Dr. George Shaw in the Department of History, Mr. Denis Brossnan in the Department of Classics and Ancient History, the Department of German and others.

There are also many private individuals, particularly those associated with the National Trust's Wolston House Committee, who warrant my sincere thanks for their helpful little tips.

Finally my thanks must go to my family who have long suffered and to Barbara in particular who apart from physical help also provided a few badly needed prods.

LOCATED WRITINGS OF DOCTOR STEPHEN SIMPSON

In his letter of 1 March, 1852, Simpson claimed that all his "correspondence with Government" was entered in his letter-book; however, as the following register of those of his letters that I have been able to locate shows, only a small percentage were in fact recorded therein.

The letter-book was not a carbon copy and at times there is considerable variation between the letter-book version and the letter actually sent. Many of these variations obviously result from the fact that the letter-book entry is merely an abstract, but others are inexplicable. In some cases apparently complete entries omit important information, while in others the letter-book contains vital information omitted from the letter that was sent to the Colonial Secretary.

The Archives Authority of New South Wales holds registers of correspondence for the Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands from 1856, but this register of Simpson's letters shows that much of his correspondence from at least 1850 was going to this officer rather than to the Colonial Secretary. Considerable effort by a number of people has failed to locate special bundles for the Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands prior to 1856 and if these bundles do in fact still exist, they could contain much additional valuable information.

The registered numbers quoted have largely been obtained from the Colonial Secretary's Register of Inwards Correspondence and if the originals still exist they should be in the Archives of New South Wales; but not all have in fact been located there, and it must be assumed that some are missing. The registered number quoted for letters in the Queensland State Archives are probably the numbers given by the Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands. There are some minor discrepancies in the dates shown on various versions of the letters and the date I have given is the one that appears the most likely.

No claim is made that all letters written by Commissioner Simpson have been located, and it is hoped that future research will yield much additional material.

It is also relevant to point out that in 1849 there was a second Commissioner Simpson: he was appointed to replace a Major St. John in the Port Phillip District (49/7350 - AONSW).

ABBREVIATIONS USED

AONSW	Archives of New South Wales
BPP	BRITISH PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS - COLONIES - AUSTRALIA - Irish University Press, Shannon (these are photographically produced facsimiles of the original papers)
H of C	HOUSE OF COMMONS PAPERS
HRA	HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA
LB	LETTER-BOOK OF DOCTOR STEPHEN SIMPSON the numbers correspond with the page numbers in this transcription. The original is held by the Queensland State Archives (ref. A 20882) and microfilms are held by the Main Library at the University of Queensland and the Oxley Library, Brisbane.
ML	Mitchell Library, Sydney
OL	Oxley Library, Brisbane - refers to the "A2" microfilm series, made from originals held by the Archives Authority of New South Wales
QSA	Queensland State Archives
UNI BONN	The Library of the University of Bonn, Germany, who kindly provided a photocopy of his original thesis

SIMPSON, S.

LOCATED WRITINGS

DATE	NO.	LOCATIONS	
1825		Uni. Bonn	"De Incubo" - Thesis, which includes his Curriculum Vitae. This thesis is published in Latin.
1836	?		<i>A PRACTICAL VIEW OF HOMOEOPATHY, BEING AN ADDRESS TO BRITISH PRACTITIONERS, ETC.</i> , London, J.B. Bailliere - this book is listed in the Library of Congress, <i>National Union Catalogue Pre-1956 imprints</i> , which also shows an Italian translation published in Naples in 1847
1841			
Apr 12	54/? *	AONSW OL A2-53:105 & 151 HRA 1:22, 336	Certificate in favour of John Ford - Simpson signed as Acting Colonial Surgeon
Sep 25	54/? *	AONSW OL A2-53:100 HRA 1:22, 335	Report on trial of John Ford - Simpson signed as M.D., but a marginal note (of unknown date) says "Now Commissioner for Crown Lands"
1842			
Apr 18	42/3484	AONSW OL A2-12:503	Enclosing memorial from W. Whyte to retain office
	27	42/3485 AONSW OL A2-12:508	Requests permission to occupy room as an office
May 13	42/3721	AONSW	Reporting lease of part of the Government Buildings at Moreton Bay
	14	42/3720 AONSW OL A2-12:509	Requesting information re allowances available to him
		42/3722 AONSW OL A2-12:741	Suggesting that storekeepers be permitted to sell wine and beer
	30	42/4284 AONSW OL A2-12:745 LB 1	Reporting return to Mr. Petrie from the Wide Bay area; reports from the runaways Davis and Bracewell; report on the poisoning of the blacks
		42/4285 AONSW OL A2-12:512	Distribution of clothing and provisions to the blacks
		42/4291 AONSW	Recommending lease of ferry over the Brisbane River
Jul 1	42/5059	AONSW OL A2-12:766	Report on attempts to reach Redbank by steamers
	2	42/5061 AONSW OL A2-12:514	Suggesting leasing of sawpits and bakehouse
	4	42/5058 AONSW OL A2-12:761	Report re clothing supplied to boat's crew
	13	42/5263 AONSW OL A2-12:769 LB 3	Murders by the blacks
		42/5264 AONSW OL A2-12:768	Report on Mr. Whyte's illness
		42/5321 AONSW OL A2-12:774	Further information on Mr. Whyte's illness
Aug 5	42/6113	AONSW OL A2-12:516	Forwarding George Thorn's application for a wine and beer licence

* The actual letter number is illegible, but the next number in the bundle is 54/4827

1842 (continued)

Aug 8	42/6111	AONSW OL A2-12:815 LB 3	Report from Balfour re blacks, with Simpson's comments
18	42/6263	AONSW OL A2-12:788	Appointment of clerk of the bench
22	42/6264	AONSW OL A2-12:520	Reason account of fines collected not sent
	42/6278	AONSW OL A2-12:572	Enclosing letters re John Williams application for a building licence
Sep 19	42/7014	AONSW OL A2-12:807	New whale-boat required
	42/7015	AONSW OL A2-12:810 LB 3	Re purchase of horses
20	42/7013	AONSW OL A2-12:806	Application for publican's licence from R. Rowlands forwarded
23	42/7016	AONSW OL A2-12:530	Residence for constables
Oct 24	42/8277	AONSW OL A2-12:528	Letting of rooms in prisoners' barracks
Nov 7	42/8275	AONSW OL A2-12:855	Pilot's salary
	42/8276	AONSW OL A2-12:858	Forwarding Mr. Whyte's petition
10	42/8789	AONSW OL A2-12:536 LB 3-4	Re Brickmaking licences and dispute with surveyor Wade
1843			
Jan 2	43/214	AONSW OL A2-13:134 LB 4 (shown as Jan 1/43)	Relative to his proceeding to the Bunya Country with the German Mission
	43/216	AONSW OL A2-13:608	Requesting information re building licences
	43/217	AONSW OL A2-13:333	Re Thomas Steele's application to rent Government Buildings at Dunwich
6	43/215	AONSW OL A2-13:332	Re equipment for journey to Bunya Country
20	43/627	AONSW BPP - 8, 297 H of C - CP 1844, (627) Vol XXXIV LB 5	Forwarding his address
	43/628	AONSW OL A2-13:345 BPP - 8, 298 H of C - CP 1844, (627) Vol XXXIV LB 5	Wm. Schmidt's comments on his report of the black's having been poisoned
Feb 12	43/1371	AONSW OL A2-17:339 LB 5	TO CAPTAIN WICKHAM - re squatters within 50 miles of Brisbane
	43/1369	AONSW OL A2-13:131 LB 5	Respecting his visit to the Bunya country and requesting leave of absence on his return

1843 (continued)

Feb 12	43/1370	AONSW OL A2-13:334	Respecting his report relative to the Aborigines
May 6	43/3944	AONSW OL A2-13:128 BPP - 8, 299 H of C - CP 1844, (627), Vol XXXIV HRA I:22, 499 * LB 5-6	Forwarding journal of excursion to the Bunya country - also report on proposed new site for the German Mission
	43/4515	AONSW BPP - 8, 298 H of C - CP 1844 (627), Vol XXXIV LB 11	Additional report on poisoning of Aborigines at Moreton Bay
12		LB 11	Reporting two bullocks purchased from Dep. Comm. Gen. for Bunya Country excursion
		LB 11	Explaining a charge for rations to convicts under his charge
Jun 14	43/4580	AONSW OL A2-13:116 LB 11	Applying for increase in salary
19	43/4579	AONSW OL A2-13:357	Respecting additional men required at his police station
22	43/4658	AONSW OL A2-13:400 LB 11	Return of establishment at Moreton Bay
	43/4659	AONSW OL A2-13:399 LB 11	Border police estimates for 1844
Jul 1	43/4921	AONSW OL A2-13:125	Report respecting bullocks supplied for excursion to Bunya Country
	43/5456	AONSW OL A2-13:175	Reporting death of a bullock
Aug 8	43/6118	AONSW OL A2-13:177 LB 11	Suggesting that forage be grown at his station
Oct 3	43/7448	AONSW OL A2-16:191 LB 12	Reporting aggressions by the blacks
26	43/8025	AONSW OL A2-13:149,767 LB 12	Return of Francis Branken to Government and supplying his place by Aboriginal Toby Toby
Dec 31	44/654	AONSW OL A2-14:405 BPP 8, 274 H of C - CP 1844, (627) Vol XXXIV	Annual report on the state of the Aborigines
1844			
Jan 5	44/108	AONSW OL A2-14:397 LB 13-14	Relative to addition of 2 men & horses to Moreton Bay Border Police
20	44/528	AONSW	Applying for 2 prisoners in lieu of those entitled to their ticket of leave

* HRA contains only Sir George Gipps covering letter, not the report.

1844 (continued)

Jan 21		HRA I:23, 499	GIPPS TO STANLEY - enclosing reports and papers relating to poisoning of Aborigines at Moreton Bay
Mar 5	44/2307	AONSW OL A2-14:395 LB 14 (shown as May 6/54)	Estimates for 1845
Apr 6	44/3049	AONSW OL A2-13:761 OL A2-14:418	Recommending sale of allotments at Ipswich and enclosing quarterly report of police
May 6	44/4019	AONSW NSW&P 1844, 647 H of C - CP 1845, (372) Vol XXXII LB 14	Report on the proposed changes in the regulations for the occupation of crown lands beyond the boundaries
May 25	44/4018	AONSW OL A2-17:389 LB 15 (shown as May 6/44)	Respecting application from German Mission for licence to occupy land
	44/4309	AONSW	Return of stations in his district
Jun 25	44/5104	AONSW OL A2-14:54	Transmitting itinerary
Jul 1	44/5565	AONSW OL A2-14:386	Border Police returns
Jul 26	44/6593	AONSW LB 15 (shown as Jun 26/44)	Reporting "Docto", an Aborigine poisoned by Charles Seller
Aug 1	44/6594	AONSW OL A2-14:453 LB 15-16	Reporting change in police force - depredations by Blacks etc.
Sep 19	44/7587	AONSW OL A2-14:461 LB 16	Reporting appointment of freemen to Border Police
Sep 20	44/7588	AONSW	Reporting no pound as yet established in his District
Oct 10	44/7957	AONSW OL A2-13:751	Returns of employment and conduct of the Border Police
Dec 24	44/9572	AONSW OL A2-15:166	John Kershaw, Sydney. Re ill-usage received from mounted police at Moreton Bay
1845			
Jan 6	45/327	AONSW OL A2-13:747	Return re Border Police
Jan 10	45/669	AONSW HRA 24/258 LB 16 (shown as Dec 31/44)	Annual report on Aborigines 1844
Jan 10		LB 17	Through Capt Wickham - reply to John Kershaw's Statement
Jan 31		LB 17	Border Police estimates
Feb 10	45/1143	AONSW	Return re Border Police
Mar 1	45/1850	AONSW	Monthly return of Border Police
Mar 1	45/1851	AONSW X818	Itinerary
Mar 20	45/2911	AONSW OL A2-14:830	Estimates for 1846

1845 (continued)

May 15	45/3932	AONSW	Returns of Border Police
Jul 5	45/5176	AONSW OL A2-13:743	Border Police returns
Jul 15	45/5530	AONSW OL A2-15:101	Reporting J.P. Robinson's letter respecting aggressions by Aborigines
Jul 15	45/5531	AONSW OL A2-15:108	Applying for Government Gazette
Jul 18	45/5532	AONSW	Requesting map of his district from the Surveyor General
Aug 1	45/5938	AONSW	Return of Border Police
Aug 1	45/5939	AONSW OL A2-15:12	Re alterations in Tenders for Colonial Service 1845
Aug 25	45/6352	AONSW NSW&P 1845, 667	Re squatting regulations
Sep 25		LB 17	Report on Tenthill incident and Coolies
Sep 30		LB 17-18	Report re punishment of James Keogh
Oct 10	45/7293	AONSW OL A2-16:765	Re complaints against Mr. Sandemann and others by Coolies
Oct 24	45/7819	AONSW OL A2-16:759	Attorney General - relative to 7293
Nov 25	45/9187	AONSW OL A2-15:120	Recommending addition of a Sergeant to his Police Force
Nov 25	45/9188	AONSW OL A2-15:121 LB 18	Reports increase in settlement to the North and Reporting intention to proceed to Bunya Country
Nov 20	45/9189	AONSW LB 18	Re J. Stephen's unauthorised occupation of Crown Land
Dec 26	46/270	AONSW OL A2-15:562	Applying for Census Forms
Dec 31	46/286	AONSW OL A2-15:312 HRA I: 25, 2 LB 19	Report on Aborigines Moreton Bay for 1845
1846			
Jan 1	46/264	AONSW OL A2-15:323 LB 18 (Shown as Dec 20/45)	Respecting Station occupied by Henry Manning
Jan 8	46/756	AONSW	Report on Border Police
	46/757	AONSW OL A2-15:350 LB 20	Reporting death of a horse
	46/758	AONSW OL A2-15:334 LB 19-20	Respecting issue of Building licences
	46/759	AONSW OL A2-15:386 LB 19	Respecting the murder of John Uhr
Feb 26	46/1926	AONSW OL A2-15:506	Rest of Census Forms

1846 (continued)

Feb 26	46/1927	AONSW OL A2-15:648 LB 20 (shown as Mar 1/46)	Estimate for 1847
	46/1928	AONSW LB 20	Enclosing Tender for supply of horses for Border Police
Apr 6		LB 20	Re unusual circumstances surrounding ticket of leave to Thomas Connor
May 9	46/2842	AONSW OL A2-13:733	Report on Border Police
	46/2843	AONSW	Itinerary
May 17	46/3531	AONSW	Monthly Report on Border Police
May 20		LB 20	To Col. Treasurer - re outstanding licence fees in his District
May 25	46/4486	AONSW	Transmitting Census forms
Jun 1	46/4487	AONSW	Return of Border Police
Jun 22	46/4543	AONSW OL A2-17:271	DEPT COMM GENERAL - submitting a copy of a letter from Kent relative to purchase of 50 wethers from Government stock by Commissioner Simpson for Border Police
Jul 10	46/5376	AONSW OL A2-13:729 A2-15:373 LB 23	Return of Border Police and reporting retention of part of his police
Aug 26	46/6331	AONSW OL A2-15:391	Respecting tenders for supplies
Sep 12		LB 23	Aggressions by Aborigines at Coutt's and reporting probable death of "Jemmy" Campbell and two or three other Aborigines wounded
Sep 18	46/6817	AONSW OL A2-15:571	AUDITOR GENERAL - submitting accounts for supplies to Border Police Moreton Bay and McLeay River
Sep 28	46/7120	AONSW OL A2-15:396	Reporting aggressions by Blacks and requesting authority to retain Harrigan in addition to his present party
Sep 20	46/7125	AONSW OL A2-15:746 LB 23	Respecting establishment of Petty Session in the Moreton Bay District
Oct 25	46/8610	AONSW OL A2-15:501 LB 23	Reporting murder of Mr. A. Gregor by the Blacks
Nov 12	46/7357	AONSW OL A2-16:710	GORDON SANDEMANN (27 May) - complaint against Commissioner Simpson
	46/8609	AONSW OL A2-16:662 LB 21/22 (shown as June 20/46)	Reporting on complaint from Mr. Sandemann
	46/8611	AONSW OL A2-15:501	Applying for a carpenter - bullock driver in lieu of men who have obtained tickets of leave
Dec 30		HRA I, 25:571 LB 23 (shown as Dec 31/46)	Report of the state of the Aborigines in the District of Moreton Bay for the year ending on the 31st December 1846
Dec 31	47/209	AONSW OL A2-16:344 LB 23 (shown as Dec 30/46)	Reporting death of a horse

1846 (continued)			
Dec 31	47/210	AONSW OL A2-13:732	Half-yearly return of horses
1847			
Feb 4	47/1614	AONSW OL A2-16:345	Return of horses
Feb 12		LB 24	Reporting number of horses fit to be transferred to newly formed Benches at Ipswich and Cressbrook
Feb 20	47/2589	AONSW LB 24	Report on alleged outrages on the Aborigines
Feb 26		LB 25	Reporting magistrates likely to attend at each of the Benches of petty Sessions lately erected in his District
Mar 16	47/2591	AONSW OL A2-16:359	Recommending that the different Benches in the District call for tenders for supplies
Mar 20	47/2590	AONSW	Submitting tenders for supplies
Mar 31	47/2995	AONSW OL A2-16:381 LB 25	Estimates for 1848
May 31		LB 25-26	Special report on the Aborigines in the Moreton Bay District
Jun 30	47/5810	AONSW	Recommending Mr. Smith for position of Chief Constable
Aug 24	47/7741	AONSW	FERRITER and UHR - submitting copies of correspondence with Commissioner Simpson relative to a certain cattle station
Aug 31	47/7730	AONSW OL A2-16:453	In reply to annual contract notice
Sep 20	47/7731	AONSW OL A2-17:694	Reporting that the horse delivered to the Police was perfectly sound when transferred
	47/7732	AONSW	Return of the stations in his District
Oct 25	47/8828	AONSW OL A2-16:426 LB 26	Requesting instructions as to the operation of the Crown Lands Act with reference to sawyers
Nov 10	47/9200	AONSW LB 26	Report on trespass by J.P. Robinson of Government run at Dunlop Plains
	47/9201	AONSW LB 26	Re application by Ferriter and Uhr for a certain cattle property
Dec 20	47/10232	AONSW LB 26	Submitting J. Smith's letter respecting his contract Transfers of licences of Thomas Dowse (Gimboomba) and John Ross (Rose Vale)
Dec 31	48/974	AONSW OL A2-17:644 HRA I, 26:390 LB 26-27	Annual Report on the state of the Aborigines
1848			
Jan 3		LB 27	Recommending sale of Police buildings at Cressbrook (see also 48/2295)
Feb 10	48/2295	AONSW OL A2-20:458	Reporting land in the neighbourhood of Cressbrook to be useless
	48/2296	AONSW	That he will lose no time in furnishing assessment return
Mar 1	48/3499	QSA CLO/17	Change name of lessee of Rose Vale to John Brewster from John Ross

1848 (continued)

Mar 11	48/3493	AONSW	Assessment return and return of livestock
	48/3509	AONSW LB 27	In reply to a circular respecting forfeited runs
?	48/3574	QSA CLO/17	Transfer of Fesofern to William Kent from John Cameron
Apr 6		LB 27	With reference to building licences
Apr 20	48/5699	AONSW	Reporting on tenders for new runs
Apr 21		LB 27-28	Reporting on sundry tenders for the Government run
May 15		LB 28	Reporting results of warrant of distress against J.C. Pearce
May 18	48/6640	AONSW	Reporting that the run occupied by Messrs. Joyner and Mason is within the County of Stanley
		LB 28	Reporting sale of Cressbrook Police house
		LB 28	Report on arrears due by Messrs. Balfour and Irvine
Jun 15		LB 28	J. Glennie's tender for Mount Lindsay
Jun 30		LB 28	With reference to the Cressbrook Police stores
Jul 20	48/8856	AONSW	Reply to circular re money allowance to troopers in lieu of rations
Jul 31	48/8855	AONSW	Annual contract notice
Aug 1	48/5241	AONSW	That he has not received Mr. George Thorn's tender
Aug 10		LB 28	Transfer of Brommelton
		LB 28	Transfer of Whiteside
Aug 20	48/10121	AONSW LB 28 (shown as Aug 30/48)	Reporting that no persons in his District are occupying land without authority
Sep 20		LB 28	Transfer of Telamon and Melcombe
Sep 25		LB 28	Transfer of Djuandjuan
Nov 8	48/12732	AONSW LB 28-29	Reporting on letter from Rice Julian complaining that Mr. T. Coutts is in unauthorised occupation of Crown lands
Nov 18	48/12782	AONSW	AUDITOR GENERAL - reporting that Commissioner Simpson has forwarded return of licence fees to June 1849
Nov 20	48/13456	AONSW	Requesting instructions respecting assessment with reference to recent proclamation of his District
Dec 5	49/1093	QSA CLO/17 LB 29	Transfer of Cooya
Dec 9	48/14091	AONSW	Stating that return of fees has been forwarded to the Auditor General
	48/14092	AONSW	Acknowledging letter defining the boundaries of his District
Dec 13		AONSW X818	Itinerary 13 December 1848 to 2 March 1849
Dec 20		LB 29	Report on Turner's tender for Glenorchy No. 1
Dec 31	49/1166	AONSW LB 29	Report on the Aborigines
1849			
Jan 10	49/1165	AONSW LB 29-30	Pointing out localities for reserves for Aborigines

1849 (continued)

Jan 15	49/1167	AONSW	Applying for compensation for improvements effected by him at his headquarters
Jan 20	49/1577	AONSW	Estimates for 1850
Jan 25	49/1568	AONSW OL A2-18:396	Recommending appointment of Messrs. W. Wilson and T.L.M. Prior to the Magistracy
Feb 16	49/2204	AONSW	As to whether he can act as Commissioner of Crown Lands in the County of Stanley
		LB 30	Why are the Aborigines to have blankets etc.?
Mar 1	49/1201	QSA LAN/17 LB 30	Transfer of Mount Esk
Mar 22	49/1271	QSA CLO/17 LB 30	Transfer of Wivenhoe
	49/1209	QSA LAN/17 LB 30	Transfer of Grantham
	49/1270	QSA LAN/17 LB 30	Transfer of Dalhenty Plains
Mar 31		LB 30	Compensation for buildings at Woogaroo
Apr 5		LB 30	Referring to the new counties of Ward and Canning
Apr 20		LB 30	Recommending transfer of Kilcoy
	49/4429	AONSW	Respecting the unauthorised occupation within the settled districts
Apr 28	49/4130	AONSW	COL. TREASURER - relative to compensation paid to Commissioner Simpson for Woogaroo buildings
Apr 1		LB 30	General reports on the runs in his District
May 10	49/2087	QSA CLO/17 LB 30	Recommending transfer of Beau Desert
May 30		LB 31	Reporting on distress warrants - J.C. Pearce, A.G. Scott, Messrs. Burgoyne, Francis Clarke and one unnamed
Jun 12		LB 31	General reports on runs
	49/2753	QSA CLO/17 LB 31	Transfer of Moogerah
Jun 12	49/2754	QSA CLO/17 LB 31	Approved transfer of Crows Nest
Jun 21		LB 31	Remitting Pearce's arrears
Jul 1	49/2708	QSA CLO/13 LB 31	Approved transfer of Wivenhoe
		LB 31	Approved transfer of Whiteside
Jul 5	49/7262	AONSW	J.C. PEARCE - complaining re Commissioner Simpson
Jul 7	49/6806	AONSW	COL. TREASURER - applying for deeds in favour of S. Simpson
Jul 16		LB 31	Charles Cameron's arrears
Jul 19	49/9295	AONSW	CHIEF COMMISSIONER - submitting Commissioner Simpson's observations on J.C. Pearce's complaint against him as a magistrate
Jul 25		LB 31-32	On the various classes of runs
Aug 1		LB 32	General report on runs

1849			
Aug 27		LB 32	Report on tenders for heads of the Cressbrook
Sep 6		LB 32	On J. Canning Pearce's magisterial grievances
Sep 20	49/5058	QSA CLO/17 LB 32	Approved transfer of Crows Nest
	49/4057	QSA CLO/17 LB 32	Approved transfer of Laidley Plains and Beau Desert
Sep 30		LB 33	Burgoyne's arrears
Oct 5	49/4601	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Beau Desert
Oct 6	49/4394	QSA CLO/17 LB 33	Approved transfer of Tarampa
Oct 11		LB 33	General report on runs
Oct 25		LB 33	Tender for the head of Sandy Creek
		LB 33	Tender of Mort and Laidley for Rosewood Scrub station
Oct 30		LB 33	Police buildings at Cressbrook
Nov 5		LB 33	Transfer of Beau Desert
Nov 20	49/11164	AONSW	CHIEF COMMISSIONER - submitting Commissioner Simpson's observations on police buildings at Cressbrook
Dec 31	50/915	AONSW LB 33	CHIEF COMMISSIONER - Commissioner Simpson's report on the Aborigines
1850			
Feb 12		LB 33	Sale of Cressbrook Police buildings
		LB 33-34	Report of the above sale
Feb 28		LB 34	McGrath's tender for Caboolture
Apr 4		LB 34	Tender to supply forage
Apr 24	50/4130	AONSW	CHIEF COMMISSIONER - respecting supply of forage for horses of troopers attached to Commissioner Simpson's establishment
May 10		LB 34	Troop horse unfit for service
May 23	50/5113	AONSW	CHIEF COMMISSIONER recommending that authority be given to Commissioner Simpson to replace a troop horse
May 25	50/2168	QSA CLO/17 LB 34	Approved transfer of Dalhunny Plains
May 27	50/5201	AONSW	AUDITOR GENERAL - submitting account of D. Young for forage supplied to Commissioner Simpson
Jul 1		LB 34-35	On lease of Crows Nest run
Jul 1		LB 35	Tender for Perseverance by Pearce
		LB 35	Pearce's tender for Gillian
		LB 35	Pearce's tender for Everton
Jul 12	50/2821	QSA CLO/17 LB 35	Approved transfer of Dugandan
		LB 35	Report on building licences
Sep 9		LB 35	Hodgson and Davidson tender - Eton Vale
Sep 15		LB 35	On village reserves on run

1850 (continued)

Sep 15		LB 35-36	T.S. Mort's tender for East Haldon
Oct 11		LB 36	The stations affected by the new Counties of Ward and Canning
Oct 28		LB 36-37	On Pearce's claim to Perseverance, Crows Nest run
Oct 31		LB 37	Verification of boundaries of runs
		LB 37	Collins' claim to the south branch of the Logan
Nov 5	50/10424	AONSW OL A2-19:439	Recommending appointment of Henry Mort and John Rankin to Commissioners of the Peace
Nov 26	50/4863	QSA CLO/17	Transfer of Crows Nest
		LB 37	On Pearce's trespass on Crows Nest
Nov 28		LB 37	Explaining his return of building licences
		LB 37-38	Explaining the land tendered for by Mort at Rosewood
Dec 1		LB 38	Reporting boundaries of runs
Dec 16	50/12260	AONSW	Respecting threat of legal proceedings against himself and Mr. Dorsey at the suit of James Brilley
Dec 20		LB 38	Referring to the land claimed by Mr. Collins
Dec 31	51/2171	AONSW LB 38	CHIEF COMMISSIONER - Simpson's report on the Aborigines
1851			
Jan 8		LB 38	On Wants' statement in Pearce's case
Mar 6	51/1057	QSA CLO/17 LB 38-39	Transfer of Cressbrook
		LB 38-39	Transfer of Beau Desert
Mar 16		LB 39	Reports on boundaries and capabilities
		LB 39	Practicability of the road to Wide Bay and the Clarence
		LB 39 (shown as Mar 18/51)	Aboriginal reserves
Mar 24	51/3199	AONSW	CHIEF COMMISSIONER - transmitting letter re range separating his District and Wide Bay
Mar 25	51/3200	AONSW	CHIEF COMMISSIONER - transmitting letter re Aboriginal reserves
Apr 15		LB 39	McArthur's tender for Glenrock
Apr 18		LB 39	Remitting assessment for J. Reeve and S. Owens
May 20		LB 39	Medical attendance for the Aborigines
Jun 4	51/2786	QSA CLO/17 LB 39	Transfer of Dalhenty Plains
Jun 9		LB 39-40	On the reputed County of Stanley
Jun 17	51/6081	AONSW	CHIEF COMMISSIONER - submitting letter from S. Simpson re medical aid available to Aborigines
Aug 1		LB 40	Owen's application to purchase 160 acres at the Old Man waterhole
Aug 10	51/3435	QSA CLO/17 LB 40 (shown as Aug 9/51)	Transfer of Laidley Plains

1851 (continued)

Aug 10	51/3436	QSA CLO/17 LB 40 (shown as Aug 9/51) LB 40 (shown as Aug 9/51)	Transfer of Esk Vale run Collins' tender for south branch of the Logan
Aug 14	51/8534	AOWSW OL A2-21:493 LB 40 (shown as Aug 9/51)	Acknowledging receipt of a writ to return a Member for Moreton, Wide Bay, Burnett and Maranoa and stating that he has handed it over to J.S. Ferriter Simon Scott's tender for Coonawany
Aug 20	51/3961	QSA CLO/17 LB 40-41 LB 41	On the transfer of Tenthill Mr. Wilson's application to purchase 160 acres at Mount Flinders
Sep 20	51/4205	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Colinton
Sep 30		LB 41 LB 41	W.D. White's tenders for Mulgul, Irkingaba, Cumbouba and Tubber J. Sheriff's tender for Ooroonin
Nov 6		LB 41 LB 42 LB 42 LB 42	Leslie's application to purchase 160 acres at Dalhunny Plains A.W. Compigne's tender for Merry Jerry and Dungogie C.J. Clarke's tender for Sarabah Requesting to know whether a description of the boundaries and estimated areas of the runs or portions of runs brought within the settled districts is required
Dec 1		LB 42	T. Sheriff's tender for Wanga
Dec 16		LB 42 LB 42 (shown as Dec 2/51)	Reporting runs marked and assessed Transfer of Buaraba
Dec 24		LB 42	Transfer of Kerry
Dec 30	52/202	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Beauraba
1852			
Jan 5		LB 43	Report on the state of the Aborigines of the Moreton District for the year ending 31 December 1851
Jan 10		LB 43	Report on the Neurum Neurum goldfield
Jan 30	52/817	QSA CLO/17 LB 43	On the proposed transfer of Buaraba
Mar 1		LB 43 LB 43-44	On the state of the records in my office On the forfeited run, Caboolture
	52/1007	QSA CLO/17 LB 44	Approved transfer of Taroom
	52/1014	QSA CLO/17 LB 44	Approved transfer of Cimboomba

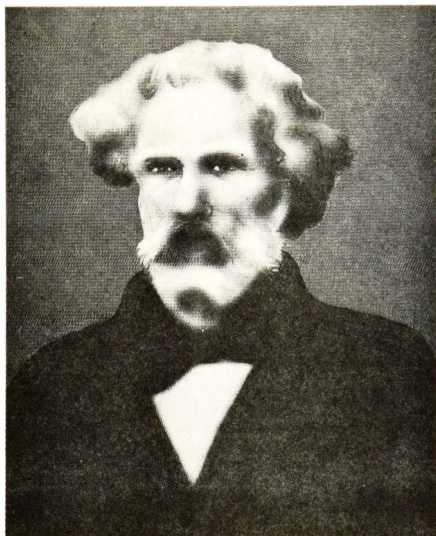
1852 (continued)

Mar 12		LB 44-49	Amended description of runs outside the settled District of the reputed County of Stanley RUN DESCRIPTIONS FOLLOW
Mar 30		LB 49-50	Reporting on the assessment to be refunded to squatters within the settled Districts
May 31	52/2024	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Colinton
Jun 16	52/5379	AONSW	Urging issue of deeds
Jun 28		LB 51	On the forfeiture of East Haldon
Jul 6		LB 51	Approved transfer of Colinton
Aug 1	52/2598	QSA CLO/17 LB 51	Approved transfer of Dungogie and Nerry Jerry runs
Aug 2		LB 51	Reporting on the postal communications
Aug 12	52/2908	QSA CLO/17 LB 51	Approved transfer of Melcomba
Aug 29	52/2898	QSA CLO/17 LB 51	Approved transfer of Grantham
		LB 51	On assessment fees claimed by F.A. Forbes
Dec 6		LB 51	On Fisher's building licence at Gatton
Dec 31		LB 51-52	Report on the state of the Aborigines for 1852
1853			
Apr 15	53/1662	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Mogerah
May 10	53/4451	AONSW	CHIEF COMMISSIONER - transmitting return of stores handed by Commissioner Rolleston to Commissioner Simpson
Jun 12	53/2551	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Caboolture or Gregor's run
Jun 28	53/2546	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Colinton
Aug 20	53/3539	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Tabragalba
Sep 20	53/3345	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Tambourine
Sep 28	53/3347	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Broomelton
Oct 19	53/9306	AONSW	Forwarding a letter from Commissioner Simpson recommending Dr. Jonathan Labatt as surgeon to the Aborigines of Darling Downs District
Dec 2	53/4059	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Rosewood
1854			
Jan 10	54/370	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Kilcoy
Feb 18	54/785	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Caboolture
Mar 5	54/1242	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Sarabah
Apr 24	54/1626	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Sarabah
May 1	54/3825	AONSW	Notifying issue of writ to swear in Stephen Simpson as Police Magistrate
May 6	54/1977	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Rosewood
Jun 9	54/5062	AONSW OL A2-29:394	CHIEF COMMISSIONER - forwarding letter from Commissioner Simpson relative to the wants of magistrates at the Wambo Bench
Jun 20	54/2661	QSA CLO/17	Approved transfer of Dalhenty Plains

1855			
Jan 8	55/676	AONSW	With respect to certain charges brought by F.D. Vignola against Joshua J. Whiting
Jul 24	55/8091	AONSW	CHIEF COMMISSIONER - forwarding letter from Commissioner Simpson in respect to his undertaking the duties of Police Magistrate at Warwick
Nov 17	55/12093	AONSW	TREASURER - applications for deeds by S. Simpson
	55/12095	AONSW	TREASURER - applications for deeds by S. Simpson
1856			
Apr 23	56/4115	AONSW	CHIEF COMMISSIONER - submitting request from S. Simpson for a living allowance
May 16	56/4751	AONSW	CHIEF COMMISSIONER - respecting Dr. Simpson being allowed to occupy a station during remainder of his life
Aug 1	56/6563	AONSW	CHIEF COMMISSIONER - respecting Dr. Simpson's claim to salary as Commissioner
1857			
Jul 6	57/2727	AONSW	GOVERNMENT RESIDENT, MORETON BAY - forwarding resignation of S. Simpson as Returning Officer for Stanley

LETTERS RELATING TO DR. SIMPSON, THOUGH NOT WRITTEN BY HIM

1839			
Sep 10		ML Deas Thomson Papers	DAVID INGLIS - Letter to introduction for Dr. and Mrs. Simpson
1842			
Jan 30	42/3486	AONSW OL A2-12:450	COMMANDANT MORETON BAY - Requesting approval to include Simpson in pay abstract when replacing Dr. Ballow
May 5	42/3410	AONSW OL A2-	SURVEYOR GENERAL - defining the district under the control of Crown Lands Commissioner Simpson
Sep 24	42/7063	AONSW OL A2-12:464	AUDITOR GENERAL - submitting accounts from Dr. Simpson
1843			
Jan 24	43/653	AONSW OL A2-13:133	DEPUTY COMMISSARY GENERAL - relative to his supplying oxen to Comm. Simpson
May 27	43/3998	AONSW OL A2-13:126	DEPUTY COMMISSARY GENERAL - applying for amount for 2 draft oxen supplied to Comm. Simpson for use of the Border Police
Nov 15		HRA I, 23:218	GIPPS TO STANLEY - reports that Simpson is Commissioner of Crown Lands and supplies detailed establishment at Moreton Bay
Dec 6	43/8892	AONSW	CRIMINAL CROWN SOLICITOR - respecting issue of subpoena to Commissioner Simpson
Dec 7	43/8922	AONSW OL A2-13:275	CRIMINAL CROWN SOLICITOR - respecting Dr. Simpson being subpoenaed to Sydney



Dr. Stephen Simpson

THE AUTHOR - STEPHEN SIMPSON

In July of 1840 an English doctor, Stephen Simpson, arrived at an obscure, redundant prison of dread repute, the Moreton Bay settlement. A mere 20 years later (May 1860) Simpson took his seat as a life member of the Legislative Council of the new colony of Queensland. The transformation of the Moreton Bay settlement was remarkable, and was largely due to pastoral expansion, much of it under the guidance of Stephen Simpson. As befits one of the founding fathers of Queensland, Dr. Simpson has been the subject of a number of biographies, which unfortunately show little unanimity. A biography can only be as good as the references it cites, and in this one the references are provided in full to allow readers to make their own evaluation.

Stephen Simpson 1792-1869: soldier, doctor, civil servant, and Legislative Councillor

Born on 2 October, 1792, Stephen Simpson was the son of Thomas Gravenor Simpson of Coventry and Mary Simpson, née Bunning. He was baptised at St. Margaret's Church of England, Wolston, Warwickshire on 29 July, 1793.¹ His early education, which was to High School standard, was obtained locally, probably in Coventry.² Simpson's military career indicated that the family enjoyed a social position that at least allowed financial independence. On 3 July, 1813 Stephen Simpson enlisted in the 6th (or the 1st) Warwickshire Regiment of Foot as an Ensign. Eleven months later on 11 May, 1814 he was promoted to Cornet in the 1st (or Royal) Regiment of Dragoons. His transfer to the 14th (or Duchess of York's Own) Regiment of Light Dragoons was accompanied by promotion to Lieutenant. His name appears on the Resignations or Retirements lists for 1817; this means that he resigned his commission some time between 15 February, 1816 and 10 March, 1817,³ with the intention, as Simpson himself put it, to "satisfy a desire to travel and immerse myself in literature".⁴

In 1820 Simpson enrolled as a first-year medical student at the University of Bologna for the year 1820-21. He was introduced by a member of the University staff, Domenico Facci, and was not required to sit an entrance examination.⁵ In the year 1823-24 Simpson furthered his medical studies at the University of Edinburgh,⁶ and finally graduated from the University of Bonn in 1825. He submitted a thesis for his degree at Bonn entitled "*De Insubo*", which was the forerunner of his further interest in homeopathy.⁷ After he had graduated, it appears that Simpson travelled extensively, acting as physician to prominent European families.⁸ In 1836 his book, "*A Practical View of Homeopathy, being an address to British Practitioners, etc.*" was published in London. This book was later translated into Italian and re-published in Naples in 1847.⁹

In 1839 he emigrated to Australia, being introduced to the Colonial Secretary Edward Deas Thomson by an old friend, David Inglis of London, and recommended to Governor George Gipps by Lord John Russell.¹⁰ He arrived in Sydney in the *Wilmut* in January 1840.¹¹ Shortly after their arrival, his wife was delivered of their first child, but both she and their daughter died within a few days.¹² Possibly as a conscious effort to recover from this tragedy, he obtained permission from Governor Sir George Gipps for himself and a friend, Henry Wiseman (who was later to become Crown Lands Commissioner for the Burnett District), to proceed in the *Speculator* to Moreton Bay, and there they remained.¹³

Simpson performed useful medical service when he was appointed acting Colonial Surgeon in the absence of Dr. D.K. Ballou, but his real role in the development of the Moreton Bay Settlement, and later the Colony of Queensland, began in May, 1842, when he was appointed a Magistrate and Commissioner of Crown Lands, and Protector of Aborigines, for the newly created Moreton Bay District.¹⁴ With the departure of the last Commandant, Owen Gorman, at the same time, Simpson became the senior Government official in the District until the arrival of John Clements Wickham in January, 1843.¹⁵ Simpson's letter-book and the correspondence listed in it provide a lively picture of the District up to 1852, and the details of his activities can best be gleaned from these sources. The picture that emerges is of a man conscientiously performing his duties with a firm knowledge of the dignity of his office. Simpson appears to have been a man who was very sensitive to criticism and also capable of taking positive action when required. The correspondence reveals, too, some of the difficulties faced by "government" in the administration of the District.

Moreton Bay under Simpson's administration became a settled district and his duties as Crown Lands Commissioner were slowly reduced. When the Crown Lands Commissioner for the Darling Downs, Christopher Rolleston, was granted leave Simpson was able to relieve him and still perform his duties at Moreton Bay, including those of Magistrate.¹⁶ Appropriately, as a man of medicine, Simpson was also one of the founders of the Brisbane Hospital.¹⁷ When Governor Bowen was faced with the task of selecting members of the new Legislative Council for the Colony of Queensland he originally intended to appoint young active men, but found that many of the suitable ones preferred to seek election to the Legislative Assembly. Rather than appoint men of lower calibre, he selected some older men of proven ability; included among them was Stephen Simpson, then aged 69.¹⁸

Soon after his appointment Simpson returned to England, but was granted leave of absence from the Legislative Council.¹⁹

Stephen Simpson was never again to see the Colony of Queensland, in the development of which he had played such an important role: he died in London on 11 March, 1869, after a prolonged illness.²⁰

Wolston House

The most attractive monument to Simpson is his former home, Wolston House, now preserved by the National Trust of Queensland (and featured on the front cover of this publication). Its tranquil setting and well kept grounds make it a very popular attraction, particularly for family visits, and this underscores the great tragedy of Simpson's life. After the death of his wife and infant daughter Simpson focused his affections on his niece's son, John Ommamey, and clearly intended him to inherit his estate at Wolston. During the 1840s a nearby mountain was named Mount Ommamey. On 13 March, 1856 Simpson's dream was shattered. John Ommamey set out from Wolston on a horse and failed to return. A search was started, and the unconscious boy was found where he had been thrown from his horse. Despite Simpson's medical attentions, he died.²¹

NOTES

- 1 Details of Simpson's birth are contained in the Curriculum Vitae with his thesis, "*De Inoubo*", 1825, Bonn, Peter Neusseri, a copy of which was provided by the University of Bonn and translated from the original Latin by Mr. Dennis Brosnan of the Department of Classics at the University of Queensland. These details are in part supported by the entry in A.D.P. Callisen's *Medicinisches Schriftsteller-Lexicon*, xviii, Copenhagen, 1834, supplied by the Edinburgh University Library and translated by the Department of German in the University of Queensland.

In his letter of 20 February, 1979, Mr. M.W. Farr, the Warwickshire County Archivist, enclosed a photocopy of the relevant page from the Parish register of St. Margaret's Wolston. The entry relating to Simpson is not in the correct chronological place and is in a different handwriting from the other entries. Mr. Farr feels that it indicates that the parents lived in Coventry, but Stephen was baptised in Wolston. The entry reads: "4 July 29 Stephen Simpson Son of ----- Simpson of Coventry". This is the last entry for the year 1793 and the writing is different from that used up to 29 December, 1793, but appears similar to the first entries for 1794. The register is ruled off for the year after the Simpson entry.

In his Curriculum Vitae, Simpson claims Wolston as his birthplace. Dr. J.T.D. Hall, Keeper of Special Collections, Edinburgh University (pers. comm. 23 January, 1979) advised that their records simply show his birthplace as Warwickshire. Callisen shows Wolston.

- 2 Details of Simpson's education are included in his Curriculum Vitae (*op. cit.*): "I learnt the basic elements of my education at a school in the same shire and on the completion of my Gymnasium-level studies I entered military service". Again, I am indebted to Mr. Farr who advised that at that time Wolston was a small rural village some five miles east of Coventry; since the details of the family in his baptismal entry indicate a domicile in Coventry it seems likely that this was where he attended school. His C.V. was written for a German audience and "Gymnasium-level" corresponds with High School (see also note 5 which indicates matriculation).
- 3 Details of Simpson's military service were obtained for me from the Army list held by the

British Public Record Office by Queensland's Agent General, Sir Wallace Rae and his Legal Officer, Mr. Tom McCourt.

- 4 Simpson's C.V.; see note 1
- 5 Pers. comm., the Director of the Italian State Archives, Bologna, 5 June, 1979, and translated by Mr. G. Ettore of the Commonwealth Bank's Migrant Information Service, Brisbane.
- 6 Pers. comm. Dr. J.T.D. Hall; see note 1
- 7 Simpson's thesis, "*De Incubo*"; see note 1

A.D.P. Callisen; see note 1

"Homeopathy" is defined by the *Shorter Oxford Dictionary* as follows: "A system of medical practice founded by Hahnemann of Leipzig about 1796, according to which diseases are treated by administration (usually in very small doses) of drugs which would produce in a healthy person symptoms like those of the disease treated. The principle is expressed in the Latin adage '*Similia similibus curantur*'."

- 8 J. Iltis, in *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Vol. 2, p. 448, Melbourne University Press, 1966.
- 9 Dr. J.T.D. Hall; see note 1

These books are listed in the Library of Congress *National Union Catalogue Pre-1956 imprints*

- 10 Letter from David Inglis to E. Deas Thomson held by the Mitchell Library, Sydney in the E. Deas Thomson Papers.

Sir George Gipps to Lord Stanley, 31 December, 1842 in *Historical Records of Australia*, Vol. 22, p448, Sydney, Library Committee of the Commonwealth Parliament.

This despatch also indicates that in making the recommendation, Lord John Russell was acting on a request of the Duke of Sutherland or a member of his family, which supports note 8

- 11 *Sydney Morning Herald* 27 January, 1840
- 12 *Sydney Morning Herald* 13 May, 1840
The Courier, Brisbane 22 May, 1869
- 13 E. Deas Thomson to the Commandant, Moreton Bay, 22 July, 1840 in *The Moreton Bay Letter Book* held by the Mitchell Library, Sydney and on Oxley Library Brisbane Microfilm A 117, page 366
- 14 Commandant Moreton Bay to the Colonial Secretary, 30 January, 1842 - Archives of New South Wales 42/3486 and on Oxley Library, Brisbane Microfilm A2-12:450
New South Wales Government Gazette 1842, p 509
- 15 E. Deas Thomson to Lieutenant Gorman, 3 May, 1842 in the *Moreton Bay Letter Book* held by Mitchell Library, Sydney and on Oxley Library Brisbane Microfilm A 117, p 476 (first section)
The Courier, Brisbane 22 May, 1869
- 16 *New South Wales Government Gazette* 1853, p 1736
- 17 Queensland State Archives - the Moreton Bay Hospital Letter-Book
Ref QSA HOS/1
- 18 Queensland State Archives - Governor's Office, Letterbook of Despatches to the Secretary of State for the Colonies 18 November, 1859 to 23 September, 1861 - Ref. QSA GOV/22 pp 225
- 19 Journals of the Queensland Legislative Council, 1861, p 5
- 20 Queensland State Archives - the Will of Stephen Simpson - Ref QSA SC T/P14 - ECC 568
- 21 The name 'Mt. Ommaney' - Moreton Bay Courier - 8 August, 1846

Details of John Ommaney and his death - The Register of deaths held by the Queensland Register-General's Office, Brisbane

LETTER-BOOK A.D. 1842

May 30/42 - To the Colonial Secretary

In my communication of May 13/42 I had the honour to inform you that Mr. Petrie accompanied by M/srs. Wriotsley, Russell & Joliffe was absent on a boat excursion to the Northward. I am now happy to state for the information of his Excellency that they returned on the 22nd Inst. after an absence of 20 days, bringing with them from the neighbourhood of Wide Bay, two Runaways David Bracewell & James Davis : they gave themselves up, upon Mr. Petrie promising they should not be punished : indeed the whole party speak of their conduct in the highest terms. I have examined them at some length, & beg to transmit for his Excellency's consideration three Reports, viz:

- 1 "A Narrative of the Runaways -
- 2 Remark on the Bunya Scrub District -
- 3 On the supposed poisoning of the Aborigines -

With regard to the latter occurrence there has for sometime past been a very extraordinary statement current at the Settlement; first brought here by the Limestone Blacks & since repeated on all hands. I first heard of it when his Excellency was at Brisbane & from the remarkable minutia with which the symptoms were described by the Aborigines, thought it my duty to name it to his Excellency. It now presents itself in a more serious aspect & I believe the general feeling here, is that something of the kind has really occurred, but whether by design or accident it is difficult to determine. It is well known that Arsenic has been extensively used at some of the Stations in the North for the cure of the Scab & it is a question how far the carcasses of Sheep dying under the treatment, if eaten by the Blacks, may be capable of inducing the symptoms named, which are certainly those of Arsenic -

Mr. Petrie & his party speak in very favourable terms of Wide Bay as affording an excellent & well sheltered harbour for large ships with a good entrance through the South Passage : The River itself is navigable but a short way up & from fear of the natives they were unable to see anything of the interior of the Country : they have brought with them a new specimen of Pine : a variety probably of the [Dammer] pine or New Zealand [Cowie] Pine -

- Report 1st Narrative of the Runaways, David Bracewell & James Davis. David Bracewell, Layton No. 519 was in the service of the Survey Department July 21/39 when he took the Bush and proceeded in the direction of the Glass House Mountains : He first fell in with some Natives, the Toombra Tribe, 80 strong on the beach near the [Murrucudora] R. about 60 miles from Brisbane : * they stripped him to his shirt but gave him some food. The next day he continued his journey along the Coast & after going about 40 miles fell in with the Uwen Mundi Tribe, 120 strong, occupying a headland : with these he remained a month & was kindly treated though they took his shirt. Upon leaving them he proceeded in the same direction along the beach - after remaining three nights with the [Poombarah] tribe, 30 strong, he soon after fell in with the Doombarah Tribe, 160 strong who were encamped at the entrance of the South Passage to Wide Bay, where he remained about 2 months & was well treated : The distance from Uwen Mundi's tribe cannot be above 30 miles : the coast forming a headland [Carah] at this place. He next crossed from this headland in a Canoe to another part of the mainland to the West, where he joined the Noombarah Tribe, 100 strong, & after living with them for 3 weeks on the coast, accompanied them into the interior, after the 2 & a half days journey they encamped on the banks of the Wide Bay River & remained there for 10 weeks. Bracewell describes the country from Uwen Mundi's Station to the [Murrucudora] as scrubby and swampy inland but open and good within three or four miles from the coast, though the Creeks and Rivers would render it impracticable for drays : from Uwen Mundi's headland to the Wide Bay River, the Scrubs and mountains gradually recede to the Westward, leaving between them & the beach a fine level open Country thinly wooded from 20 to 30 miles in breadth. About this time a party of Aborigines from the N.W. said they had seen some White men cutting wood & building huts where they came from : in consequence of this information Bracewell determined to proceed in that direction & set out alone, but travelling three days, without meeting any Natives, he came to a salt water River, abounding with Oysters, Crabs & Mullett & followed it down to the beach where he fell in with some Natives from an Island ([Doooliwa]) in Wide Bay, where the Tribe, the [Doomburrah] are very numerous (1000) - Hearing nothing further of the White men, he gave up his journey, but was told that a white man, called Yellowman by the Blacks, was living with a Tribe of Natives, 60 miles further to the North. Beyond the Wide Bay River, Bracewell describes the Country as quite open to the N.W. & to the W., the Bunya Scrubs and Mountains quite disappearing; it is abundantly watered, but lightly timbered, with luxuriant grass & abounding in Kangaroo. He now accompanied these Blacks to their Island, [Doooliwa] in Wide Bay, lying between the main land & Fraser's Island, where he remained a month & then passed over in a Canoe to Fraser's Island, called Carina by the Blacks. The Tribes here, who go by the general appellation of the [Baltelus] are very numerous, thousands he thinks, for he states at their great fights he has seen them covering the Beach * for four miles in length. The Island itself * shuts in Wide Bay to the Eastward & may be from 50 to 60 miles long, but formed principally of sand hills like Moreton Island, but well watered : There is also abundance of fish, crabs, turtle, seahogs, kangaroo & opossum, also the Honeyeuckle & a kind of nut growing on a shrub, which is rendered eatable by being pounded & washed in a running stream. After passing about a twelve month among the Island Tribes, he returned to the Doombarah Tribe on the main land to the South of the Wide Bay River & soon after leaving these for the Southward finally joined the Carburrahs, a tribe 70 strong, residing on a Salt water lake about 40 miles S. of Wide Bay River, 8 miles from the Sea & about the same distance from Uwenmundi's Tribe : There are two or three similar Lakes further to the Southward. By this tribe he was welcomed as a black man come to life again & was received into the family of his supposed relatives, where he remained till Mr. Petrie & his party discovered him on the 6th of May 1842

James Davis, Norfolk No. 1682, was doing duty as Assistant to the Blacksmith in the Lumber Yard on March 30th 1829, being then only 17 years of Age, when he absconded. He directed his course to the Northward & after travelling about 100 miles fell in with the [Doongalburah] Tribe of Blacks, 130

strong, near the Wide Bay River, called Noomoomoolloo by the Natives : they stripped him but otherwise treated him kindly & claimed him as a Relation. Here he heard of the death of four Runaways, John Lawson, James Murphy, Edward Tracy & John Chapman, Murdered by the Blacks in these parts - He staid 12 months with this Tribe, when hearing of other Runaways coming on from the Settlement he went on to the North about 60 miles along the Beach, passing in his passage four Rivers all opening into Wide Bay at interval of from 8 to 10 miles between them - The first being the Noomoomoolloo & the last according to the Natives the Condamine. He describes the Country to the North of the Wide Bay River as a fine open, rich Country, plentifully watered & lightly timbered, with intervening grassy plains, even close to the beach & abounding in Kangaroo. No Bunya Scrubs or even Mountains of any description to be seen to the North or N.W. Some six or eight miles beyond the supposed Condamine the country rises into a sandy ridge, which extends for many miles & beyond that the Natives Speak of a large River, probably the Boyne. Having proceeded for some Miles along the ridge he at length returned to the supposed Condamine & following it up for about 50 miles into the interior fell in with the Giggabarrah Tribe, 150 strong & was claimed as a son by one of the fighting men & has remained with them ever since. A few days previous to the arrival of the Boat party, they had come down to a fight on * Wide Bay River, when Mr. Petrie heard of him and by the assistance of Bracewell succeeded in bringing him off on the 13th May 1842.

Report 2nd. Additional Remarks on the Bunya District and its Natives.

It would appear from the Statement of Bracewell & Davis that the Bunya Scrubs constitute the central part of the North of this District & may be considered for the most part as forming a continuation of D Aguillar's Range to the Northward ; commencing a short day's journey from the Stations of Me/srs. Mackenzie & Archer, near the head of the Murrucidora River, where smaller Scrubs, containing only a few Trees approach the Coast within 12 or 15 miles & thence extending to the N.W. a little South of the Wide Bay River & rather to the head of that River where they do not come within 30 miles of the coast. The great Bunya Scrub, called Boorum by the Natives, from an open space in the middle of it, where they hold their great meetings, extends in a direction from S.E. to N.W., perhaps for 50 miles in length. Here the Bunya are very plentiful & in the month of January the Blacks assemble for hundred of miles round to partake of the fruit & often dispute the possession of particular spots with great acrimony. It does not appear that the Bunya tree is met with anywhere of (out) of the locality, either on the Dividing Range or to the North of Wide Bay River - The Natives of this District are extremely numerous and often very mischievous : they are decided Cannibals ; each tribe eating their own friends killed in battle or who die otherwise in good condition : They have a great relish for the flesh of young children & their fighting men monopolize them all : They skin and joint their bodies with the precision of butchers and afterwards roast them, reserving the choice morsels for themselves & giving the remains to their women & children. Bracewell and Davis repeatedly witnessed these feasts but could never be induced to partake of them : The Blacks deny that they ever eat white men, supposing that they have already eaten them before, they are no longer fit for it : Bracewell & Davis however doubt the fact. They are extremely revengeful & will seek retaliation for an injury for years after. The most serious feuds arise among men of the same tribe and often in the same family when the most horrid masacres take place without regard to friends or relatives. Polygamy is also prevalent, the fighting men, who are generally only 15 to 20 to the 100 individuals, taking as many as they please, whilst the more feeble have none at all : they also exchange women with the fighting men of other tribes so as to increase their connexions. The women have rarely more than two or three children & often none & are treated in every way as abject slaves. They appear not to have the slightest idea of a Supreme Being the author of good, but have some superstitious notion of an evil spirit who can do them harm ; and they seem to have a belief that White men are black men who have died & come to life again : it is remarkable that this belief seems to be equally prevalent among * the Tribes to the North, who have had little opportunity of seeing White Men. Finally their Arms are similar to those of the more southern Tribes & their fights are carried on in like manner. The language of all these Tribes differs only in the "Twang" and both Bracewell & Davis speak it with the greatest fluency -

Report 3rd. On the supposed poisoning of Blacks by White Men -

About a week before the arrival of Mr. Petrie & his party at Wide Bay, Bracewell states that there was a great meeting of the Native Tribes, 13 or 14 in number, called a Toor, (Ring) by the blacks, from the circumstance of a great circular ditch being dug out by the Women for that ceremony. These meetings may be called by any Tribe, the messengers being despatched in every direction, and are held for the purpose of settling any differences which may arise amongst them. To this meeting a party of blacks from the S.W., the District of the Bunya, called the Inwarrarahs & the Tombarahs made mention of a great number of blacks, at least 30 in number, belonging to different Tribes but principally the Wooganbarahs having died in consequence of food given to them by white men, at a Station, where there were Sheep, horses & a tent : they described the symptoms, swelling of the head, foaming at the mouth, violent retching & thirst - trembling of the members & sudden prostration. These Tribes vowed vengeance & said they had had some already but would have more. The Blacks at the Toor were much infuriated at this report & there is little doubt would have recked their vengeance on Mr. Petrie & his party, had it not been for the judicious management of Bracewell & Davis.

The statement of Davis fully confirms that of Bracewell with regards to this poisoning & symptoms : he says however he heard of the circumstance before he came to the Toor as some of his own Tribe were at the White Man's Station & that three of his adopted brothers actually died in consequence of the food they eat there. He was given to understand that it was Mutton & that the Blacks having assembled near the Station in numbers, were told by the white men to remain at their camp & that they would bring them some food, which was done. Nine or Ten Tribes suffered more or less - one the Wooganbarah very severely, so that they were unable to come to the meeting. The white man's Station lies to the S.W. among the mountains. He recovered a watch from one of the Blacks : it is now in my possession & proves

to belong to a Shepherd of Mr. Mackenzie's, who with another man was murdered by the Natives about 3 months since out of revenge, as Davis says, for the loss of their poisoned friends. When the Blacks first saw the two white men sent by Mr. Petrie with Bracewell to seek for him, they proposed to kill them & asked whether they belonged to the White men who had poisoned their friends. He answered No ! as they came by water & obtained permission to go with them to the boat upon promising to return. He did so and passed the night in * their camp, using his best endeavours to pacify & intimidate them by turns, in which he succeeded for the time, though they repeatedly proposed to him to sally out & surround the Boat. In the morning at day break he returned to Mr. Petrie accompanied by his adopted Father & advised Mr. Petrie and his party to lose no time in getting off.

S.S.

July 13/42 - To the Colonial Secretary

I have the honour to state for the information of his Excellency that the Stations to the North of the Brisbane are suffering considerably from the hostile proceedings of the Aborigines, who appear to be carrying out their vengeance in a very insidious manner by attacking any defenceless individual that may fall in their way. A Hutkeeper of Mr. Bigge was murdered a few weeks since & within these few days another of Mr. Balfour's ; besides several other individuals have been attacked on their way from one station to another. In fact plunder does not appear to be so much their object as the destruction of life, which they effect by proceeding in small bodies without giving the least warning of their approach. In an attempt to take three of the most desperate characters, supposed to be the murderers of Mr. Bigge's man, at Mr. McConnells Station, a black named Commandant was killed & two others escaped wounded. I hope by the next Steamer to forward the depositions taken in regard to this affair to the Attorney-General.

S.S.

Augt. 8/42 - To the Colonial Secretary.

I think it my duty to submit the enclosed Letter from Mr. J. Balfour for his Excellency's consideration. It contains an account of a series of aggressions committed by the Aborigines at his Station. The consequence of this state of insecurity to the Squatters are very serious, as independently of the loss of Stock, it is almost impossible for them to get Servants at any price ; as there is a general indisposition on the part of the free men to engage for the duty of Shepherd, & Stockman ; and they who are already engaged take the earliest opportunity of leaving their employers & will sooner earn a scanty existence near the Settlement than expose themselves to the dangers of the bush. To remedy this state of insecurity the squatters themselves are ready to make any sacrifice & should it meet with his Excellency's approbation, would be willing to furnish a man mounted and armed at every Station to accompany the Commissioner, when called upon in cases of emergency : these with the assistance of the Police might suffice to keep them in check.

S.S.

*7 *

Sep. 19/42 - To the Colonial Secretary -

Mr. Patrick Leslie of Darling Downs tenders four strong Horses for the Police standing at least 15.2 from four to six years old for Thirty five Pounds each.

S.S.

Nov. 10/42 - To the Colonial Secretary -

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 1st Oct communicating his Excellency's Instructions as to the granting of Licences for Brick-making & enclosing a Letter from Surveyor Wade to the Surveyor General relating to my conduct in that & other matters connected with my duties as Commr. of Cr. Lands, upon which I beg to make a few remarks for the Information of his Excellency.

In the first place with regard to Brickmaking Licences, but one only has been granted by me : namely to Capt. Chambers of the Edwards, who brought with him from Sydney two men for that purpose : these and a labourer are the only individuals I have ever seen working and the whole quantity of bricks excavated is about 50,000, the excavations therefore are far from "being extensive". The circumstances under which this Licence was granted are briefly these : At the time of Chambers' application the Country was suffering severely from the effects of long continued drought, so that after the men had searched the neighbourhood of the Town for some days for a locality suited to their purpose, they informed me they could no where meet with one but at the spot in question. This statement was confirmed by Mr. Petrie. In justification of my subsequent proceeding I must beg leave to recall to his Excellency's recollection the nature of the locality in question ; for Mr. Wade's tracing gave no idea whatever of the merits of the question by omitting to show that the site marked A is situated in a Gully running up between the steepest part of Windmill Hill & the hill at the rear of the Prisoner's Barracks & Hospital & is in the immediate vicinity of a large Waterhole formed almost entirely by Convict-labour : at this spot there is always an abundant supply of water from a Watercourse coming down the hollow lying between the Windmill Hill & the high grounds on the bank of the River. The whole of this hollow is extremely liable to inundation & particularly the site in question & is therefore absolutely worthless as building ground ; the water hole itself, from its vicinity to the Town, yet in a manner out of it, is invaluable & will no doubt some day require to be enlarged ; being the one from which * not only all the horses & cattle about the Settlement are supplied in time of drought, but the greater part of the population & even the ships fetch their water from this source : the water itself is excellent in quality & has never yet been exhausted : This Waterhole therefore & the ground in its vicinity, though they appear on the tracing to be in Anne Street, must necessarily

be reserved for public accommodation. Such being the case I considered it would rather be a benefit than otherwise to the Town to allow Capt. Chambers to excavate in the vicinity of the waterhole with the view of ultimately enlarging it. Such were my reasons, approved of, I thought by every person in the Settlement, for Mr. Wade never condescended to inform me of his objections & I have every reason to doubt his apparent zeal for the public service, seeing that he did not even report the circumstances to the Surveyor General, till about the time the Brickmakers themselves had actually given me notice themselves of their wish to remove further from the Town on account of the difficulty of getting fuel. It is indeed possible that Mr. Wade himself by his unwarrantable interference with parties acting under my authority, may have induced the men to abandon their excavation in this hollow & if so I am still of opinion an injury has been done to the Public. The statement therefore that Brick-making has been "extensively carried on in parts the most valuable and central portions of the Town" is utterly false : for in the first place 50,000 bricks only have been excavated by two men & a labourer ; secondly so far from being the most central & valuable part of the Town, it is not I believe visible from any house in it & is utterly valueless for any purposes but a reservoir : finally if Anne Street is in danger of inundation - it is only that part which is traced across the gully & even this the enlargement of the waterhole in question would have a tendency rather to diminish than increase -

Secondly in respect to the statement that Mr. Sinclair had abandoned his allotment in South Brisbane on account of a shifting excavation made by Mr. Williams I believe it to be altogether unfounded, as I saw a good deal of Mr. Sinclair when at Brisbane & never heard him hint at anything of the kind : he seemed disappointed at not being able to dispose of his allotments at a high profit & thought he had paid too much for them. Mr. Williams however occupied the allotment in question & made the excavation in the time of the penal Settlement & though he had no Licence, he had a special permission from his Excellency to be allowed to erect a Store at Brisbane. I had therefore nothing *9 whatever to do with Mr. Williams or the hole in * in question, which was made before my time -

Finally with regard to the concluding paragraph of Mr. Wade's letter relating to the serious encroachment on Russel Street, it is not of the slightest moment, as the building in question is a mere slab hut, which in a few hours might be removed to another spot, and indeed upon Mr. Wade's speaking to [Mr. Liddard] very roughly upon the subject, he offered to remove it if I thought proper. As he is however a poor man with a family I did not think it right to put him to the inconvenience, especially as he is only waiting for an opportunity of buying an Allotment to remove it altogether & it is not of the slightest inconvenience to the public -

In reference to the date of Mr. Wade's letter I think it right to mention that it was about the 1st of September that I first heard of Mr. Wade drawing forage improperly & I then declared my intention of reporting the circumstances unless a Police Magistrate should arrive on the next Steamer. On the 19th of the same month Mr. Wade forwarded me an official note by Mr. Marriott, quite uncalled for on my part, stating in the most positive terms that he had never reported any circumstances connected with my duties as Comm. of Cr. Lds., whereas it appears that the Letter I have now considered was written on the 7th, twelve days before. I leave his Excellency to draw the inference -

I trust that the above explanation will satisfy his Excellency that I have neither been remiss nor inconsiderate in the discharge of my office - I cannot however, avoid stating that my duties as Commissioner will be irksome in the extreme if I am to be subjected to the surveillance of a person of Mr. Wade's character and he is to be allowed to make private reports as to my conduct, without using the common courtesies usual among Officers acting in the same District, of even giving a notice of his intention, to say nothing of his gross neglect of duty in not communicating to me officially at the time any objections he may have to my proceedings -

Lastly in justice to myself as well as to other Officers of the District whom he is doing all in his power to injure & annoy, I think it my duty to state that since Mr. Wade's arrival in the District, his want of all the common courtesies usual amongst Gentlemen has placed him in a position of almost total seclusion from Society. He commenced his career by threatening to call out Dr. Ballow, after behaving most rudely to his Sister, while she was kindly attending his wife in her confinement. He *10 next exchanged shots with Mr. Kent, who was at the * time was engaged to Miss Ballow, for interfering in the matter & expressing his regret that he had not killed him, was seen the following morning practising Pistol firing at a mark. He subsequently threatened personal violence to the young Officer commanding the detachment & also to myself had I not been a Magistrate ! ! after grossly insulting conduct to me in my own house. And yet I have avoided all personal altercation with him & as everyone knows have made the greatest sacrifice of my personal feelings to keep the peace with him, as in duty bound ; & it was only at the last extremity that I felt myself compelled to declare that I would have no further communication with him except officially, feeling that every man has a right to choose his own society.

I deeply regret being obliged to trouble his Excellency with what may be considered personalities, but perceiving that Mr. Wade has commenced a series of aggressions he has long threatened & holding the responsible situation which his Excellency has done me the honour to confer upon me, I think it right to state these few particulars, which are of public notoriety, that his Excellency may be enabled to form a correct estimate of Mr. Wade's conduct.

S.S.

Jan'y 1/43 - To the Colonial Secretary

Acknowledging the receipt of his Excellency's Instructions to proceed to Wide Bay after the arrival of the Police Magistrate & applying for equipment for the intended expedition.

Applying for permission to form my Border Police Station at Woogaroo & be allowed right of preemption, putting up the whole of the building, at my own expense -

S.S.

Jan'y 20/43 - To the Colonial Secretary -

I have the honour to transmit the enclosed statement of the Revd. Wm. Schmidt, (Missionary) in reference to your letter of the 21st Dec. last - Agreeable to his Excellency's instructions I have also conferred with him upon the subject, but cannot discover that he had any other foundation for his previous statement than that it is currently believed by the Northern Tribes - He states that not being Protector of the Aborigines, he did not consider himself bound to go out of his way to investigate the report - to which I objected that though not paid Protector, surely as a Christian Missionary, supported by voluntary subscription, it was imperious his duty not only to teach but protect them & more especially to bring the author of such atrocious acts as the one in question to *11 consign punishment, - * his disinclination to follow up this investigation has no doubt arisen from his fear of offending the Squatters generally -

S.S.

The Revd. Wm. [Smith] states : that on his return from Sydney in March 1842 he learnt

1st From the Revd. Mr. Eipper that a rumour was spreading that a considerable number of blacks had been poisoned in the Northern part of the District -

2nd From the Lay Missionaries Nique & Rode, who returned from an excursion in April to Umpi boong, that Natives of different Tribes had related the same to them as a fact

3rd From the Runaways, Davis & Bracewell, who stated that there was not the least doubt but such a deed had been done - Davis also stated the number of persons poisoned from 50 to 60 - and considered it unsafe for the Missionaries to make an excursion to the Bunya Country -

4th From the Natives who carried our provisions up to Mr. Archer's Station & gave the statement as a reason why they would not accompany us any further in the Bunya Country -
Jan'y 14/43

Signed Wm. Schmidt, Miss.

FEBY 12/43 - To Captain Wickham, Pol. Mag.

With reference to your communication of yesterday respecting the location of Squatters within 50 miles of Brisbane I beg to state that when his Excellency, the Governor, visited the District in March 42, I thought it my duty to mention the circumstances to his Excellency, as even at that period several of the principal Stockholders, namely Me/srs. Bigge, Eales, Bell, Jones, Goodwin & others were considerably within that limit & were consequently most anxious to have a decision upon the point in question. His Excellency in consequence authorized me to issue the Licences, warning the holders of runs within that limit that they would be liable to sold out at an early period, which I also communicated to them - As this limit of 50 miles round Brisbane is, however, a matter of considerable importance to the welfare of the District, I would wish to call your attention to the circumstance that if laid down on Mr. Dixon's Map it would exclude the Squatters from almost the only parts of the District which is really available for pasturage as the country between it & the Dividing Ranges is so scrubby & mountainous as to be of little value - in fact it would not suffice for one-third of the stock actually in the District - If therefore the 50 mile limit is to be enforced the Squatters will *12 have no alternative but to go beyond the Bunya Range, which would be a heavy blow for the * Settlement - The approximation of the Squatters to the Settlement is however, rather apparent than real, as from the mountainous character of the District though a Station may be within 30 or 40 miles of the Settlement in a direct line, they have often 40 or 50 miles of bad country to traverse to reach it -

I am not aware that there is any one trespassing at present upon the Government Run either licensed or unlicensed, though some time since, Mr. R. Jones' Superintendent drove a mob of sheep from Darling Downs, close up to the Government Station beyond Limestone without any authority from me, I however ordered them to move off & he did so -

S.S.

Feb'y 12/43 - To the Colonial Secretary

Reporting that my intended departure for the Bunya Country has been delayed by the heavy rains - Also asking permission on my return to visit Sydney for a short period.

S.S.

May 6/43 - To the Colonial Secretary

I have the honour to transmit the enclosed Journal of my excursion to the Bunya Country - In regard to the object of my journey, namely to find a site adapted for the future residence of the German Mission I beg leave to submit the following remarks for his Excellency's consideration -

For the successful working of the Mission, it would appear to be essential :

1st That a locality should be chosen in a District, where the Aborigines are the most numerous & most permanently located.

2nd That the site should be removed as far as possible from the walks of civilized life & particularly from the neighbourhood of the Squatters -

3rd That the land should be sufficiently good to grow produce for the support of the Missionary establishment & for the Aborigines who may frequent it.

4th That the access should be easy, not only to facilitate the removal of the Mission, now very numerous, but for their future protection & support.

Keeping these objects in view I am sorry I cannot report favourably of the Bunya Country - Referring to my Journal it will be seen that on the 14th day we reached the heart of the great Bunya Country & that Dungle flat would as respects the nature of the soil & its remoteness from civilized life be admirably adapted for the purposes of the Mission - it appears, however, that there are but few Aborigines permanently resident in the Bunya Country, as the Tribes who visit it usually come from a distance & after the Bunya season, which is rarely abundant more than once in three years, return to their accustomed beats - the locality in question is however very difficult of access & it would be

*13 necessary to move the whole Mission by sea to Wide Bay, whence they would have about 7 days' journey to Dungle Flat - As regards the little Bunya Country, mentioned in my 24th days' journey, being situated on this side of the Wide Bay Range & only about 7 days journey from the present residence of the Mission, it has the advantage of easy access - it is also within reach of the Coast Blacks, who are very numerous in these parts, nor is it likely to be further encroached upon by Squatters - its vicinity however to Mr. Archer's & McKenzie's Stations is a great drawback, as the Aborigines, I fear, would prefer [probing] for what they can get about the Sheep Stations to working with the Mission for their mutual support - The Mission, therefore, would ultimately degenerate into a mere farm for their own support - It is right however, to state that Mr. Archer is very favourably inclined to the Mission & would do every thing in his power to forward their views - Seeing therefore the difficulties that are likely to attend the removal of the Mission to either of these localities I have been induced to direct my enquiries, particularly to Fraser's Island which seems admirably adapted for Missionary purposes - here the Aborigines are infinitely more numerous & more permanently resident, the means of existence being more abundant, than anywhere on the mainland - The Runaway Racewell, was nearly three years on the Island & neighbouring Coast, & reports that the Island is literally covered with Tribes, who are in general much better disposed than those on the mainland - his statement has been confirmed to me by the Master of the Edward & other persons who have visited it - Though like other Islands on the Coast it is principally formed of Sand-hills, yet according to Racewell there are good patches of land in the interior for cultivation - its vicinity to Brisbane, too, being only about 2 days sail; would seem still further to recommend it as the Mission might be embarked at Eagle Farm & at once transported to their destination - It in fact appears to unite all the great requisites for a Missionary Establishment -

Finally under any circumstances the removal of the German Mission will always prove a serious undertaking as it consists at present of 9 families or 36 souls, about 60 head of Cattle & 80 Sheep & they themselves are destitute of all means of conveyance & hence will be entirely dependent on Government for assistance -

S.S.

JOURNAL OF AN EXPEDITION TO WIDE BAY - 1843

March 10th Set out from Woogaroo about 4 p.m. & reached Ipswich at 7 in the Evening: the Party consisting of myself, the Rev. Mr. Eiper, four mounted Troopers, six Prisoners of the Crown with a

*14 dray & ten Oxen & rations to the 15th April - *

March 11. Remained at Ipswich to get the horses shod & make some extra chains & iron work for the Dray -

March 12. Started at 8 A.M. - direction about N.W. - after passing the Bremer about 2 miles from Ipswich we traversed about 8 miles of tolerably fertile ridges, but indifferently watered - for the next five miles to Mr. C. Balfour's cattle Station, the country becomes more level, the grass luxuriant & is well watered by Coake's Waterholes & two creeks falling into the Brisbane - we encamped at the head Station about a mile from the right bank of the Brisbane - Dist. 15 -

March 13. Started at 7 A.M. & proceeding for about 4 miles over a flat but in places sandy country we crossed to the L.B. of the Brisbane: The flats for about 3 miles now become most luxuriant & thinly timbered & are succeeded for about two miles by fertile but sandy ridges when we again crossed the River to the R.B. with great difficulty - the country now becomes more hilly but fertile, till within about two miles of Mr. Eales' Old Station where we traversed a fine Appletree flat & encamped near some fine Waterholes about 5 P.M. - Direction N.W. - 16 miles -

March 14. Set out at 7 A.M. & after proceeding for 2 miles in a Westerly direction crossed to the L.B. of the Brisbane. We now took a N.N.E. direction, passing [seven] deep but dry creeks & a ridgy but fertile Country, but indifferently watered except near the River & at Mr. Bigge's Head Station where we halted about 3 P.M. Distance 18 miles N.N.E.

March 15 Set out at 7 A.M. & crossing Reedy Creek twice in a fertile valley ascended some sandy ridges & again crossed the Brisbane to the R.B. about 6 m from Mr. Bigge's - Thence to Mr. Mackenzie's Station the country is very indifferent till within four miles of the Head Station, when we passed some fine grassy gullies well watered by a creek & two Lagoons - Direction N.N.W. - 18 miles -

March 16. Being showery all day we halted to refresh the Oxen before attempting the passage of the Wide Bay Range -

March 17. Started at 7 A.M. in a direction varying from N.E. to S.E. on the road leading to Mr. Archer's Station & N. Brisbane. Having gone about 6 miles we crossed Sandy Creek, when the road to Wide Bay takes to the North over a fine grassy country, thinly timbered, but swampy in the hollows & sandy on the ridges. We followed up Sandy creek, crossing it several times to the foot of mountains about 5 miles & halted for the night, the Oxen being much fatigued from the boggy state of the country - Dist. 11 miles -

*15 March 18. Set out about 8 A.M. & soon after began to ascend the Range by a Spur leading nearly due N. - The Range itself appears to extend from the S.W. to the N.E. forming a Crescent which we entered by its concavity - The ascent at first is moderate but soon becomes very steep at intervals - the first pinch being * very long & notwithstanding we had 18 Oxen, it required great exertions to overcome it - after passing the fourth pinch we reached the summit of the mountain capped with granite, where the direction changes to the E. leading over a dangerous razorback ridge & several awkward slants - We now sent back Mr. Mackenzie's team, which had assisted us thus far & veering to the N. over a very difficult country, halted at 2 P.M. on a Creek running to the Southward, according to Davis, Sandy Creek, one of the heads of the Brisbane, which we had crossed repeatedly the preceding day. Viewed from the Summit we appear to be in the centre of a circle of Mountains - The crescent to the Northwards, still extending before us & being shut in to the Southward by the P'Aguliar & Brisbane Ranges - Indeed the Wide Bay Range apparently extends from near the Coast to the Great Dividing Range & would form an excellent natural boundary for the County of Stanley to the North - The aspect of the country is open forest land with good grass even on the summit of the mountains with fine timber particularly black butt & iron bark - Distance from the foot of the Range to the Summit 2 miles & about two more to our camping place -

March 19. Started at 8 A.M. & descended the mountains - traversing at a slow rate a very difficult country, being all mountains & gully, in 3 hours we reached the bottom, having been capized going down a precipice - Here in a fine grassy valley we fell in with the westerly branch of the Wide Bay River or Numabulla, very similar to Sandy Creek which we had left on the other side of the Range - We crossed to the R.B. of the River & about a mile further on to the L.B. - proceeding about a mile further in a N.E. direction we found the River much larger, being greatly increased by a branch coming from the Eastward - The Country too gradually opens out into some luxuriant appletree flats & a small plain nearly clear of timber; but still no bunya trees but magnificent black butt, stringy bark with fine Cedar & Chestnut on the banks of the River - We halted about 3 P.M. having come about 5 m from the foot of the Range & encamped on a fertile Ridge overlooking a pretty flat on the banks of the River - Dir N.E. Dist. 7 m -

March 20. Started at 8 A.M. & was occupied the whole day crossing from Appletree flats & ridges - The Appletree in some parts presenting the appearance of a forest and very fine : The grass most luxuriant, but the ground often swampy - we passed three considerable Creeks coming from the Westward & fell in with the River at about 9 miles from our last camping ground & crossed it for the 3rd time to the R.B. halting about 2 m beyond at some good waterholes - The country still shut in by mountains & Scrubs & the water in the River sufficiently deep to wet the things in the dray - Dist. 11 miles Dir. N.W. to

*16 N. *

March 21. Set out at 8 A.M. & proceeding over some steep & stoney ridges for about a mile crossed the River for the fourth time to the left Bank - The country again improves with fine grassy ridges & appletree-flats, in some places almost clear of timber, particularly after the 5th crossing place, about 10 miles further when we came to [Hinia] Booma flats on the R.B. of the River. The Bunya tree now first makes its appearance about 5 m to the W of us - proceeding about 4 m further, through a fine country but inferior to that of yesterday we encamped on a fine Creek - Dist. 15 m - Direct from N.W. to N.E.

March 22. Started at 7 A.M. & traversing a stony & mountainous Country when about 3 m on the road we had a fine view of the Bunya Range, from 3 to 5 m to the W. of us & in front due N. saw a remarkable mountain, a truncated cone, some 20 m off - proceeding about 4 m further we came to some waterholes in a grassy flat & soon after passed Rotten Creek - we now again ascended some steep mountains leading to a road through a bunya Scrub, when after passing another mountain we reached a fine plain which we crossed & encamped on the R.B. of the River about 3 P.M. - The Plains here including the bunya Scrubs are called Howah by the Natives - Dist 10 m - Direction very variable from N. to N.E. -

March 23. Set out at 7 A.M. & took one hour in crossing the River for the 6th time to the L.B. - the bank being very steep on the opposite side we were obliged to go along the bed of the River for some 50 yards to get out - leaving the River we were obliged to pass through a quarter of a mile of Scrub, containing some noble trees Bunya, Cedar and Chestnut & then found ourselves on a beautiful plain called Dungall by the Natives, about 4 miles in length & two in breadth, well watered by a fine Creek, which we crossed about midway & again upon leaving it - there are also some fine waterholes & on the borders of the plain fertile ridges of open forest-land & behind them scrubs in almost every direction but in front - The 2nd crossing place was accomplished with difficulty & having been obliged to unload the dray, we halted for the night - Dist. 4 miles - Dir. N.E.

March 24. The Oxen being regularly nipped & their nicks very sore, we deferred our departure - Exploring the neighbourhood we find we are hemmed in by Scrubs, in which a species of wild Lime is very abundant -

March 25. Started at 8 A.M. & traversed numerous small ridges Separated by fertile little valleys, enclosed on all sides by Scrubs & thickly timbered forest land - when two miles on the road we saw the truncated cone-shaped Mountain bearing about 10 miles due E. : Bracewell says it is only 15 miles from

the Coast & that the Bunya Scrubs extend beyond it - About 4 m further on, having first passed a
 *17 considerable Creek we again came to the River & crossed it for the 7th time to the * R.B. - to effect
 which we were obliged to unload the dray, the water being so deep as to take the Oxen off their legs
 for a few yards. Leaving the bed of the River we passed through a Scrub on the R.B. - & traversing
 about two miles of stoney but fertile Ridges we passed through another Scrub & thence over a few
 thickly timbered Ridges to a fine grassy flat near some waterholes, where we encamped for the night.
 The appearance of the Country is daily becoming less promising, assuming a whitish clayey aspect with
 more scanty herbage - The Bunya Trees have disappeared from our path & with them we have left the
 richest Country behind - Distance 10 miles, Direction about N.W. but very variable -

March 26 Rainy night & morning, but clearing up about 10 A.M. we set out & occupied the whole
 day in traversing a very mountainous country - from the summit of the highest, Dulang, about four
 miles on the road we had once more a fine view of the Bunya Range, which apparently extends from
 near the Coast, to the N.E. of our Position to the S. & thence far away to the N.W. according to
 Bracewell & Davis for 50 miles in that direction - immediately in front of us is the [Moopiwa] Range,
 extending from the S.E. to the N.W. & lying between us and the Wide Bay River, which since we last
 crossed it seems to have taken a N.W. direction to turn the Range before us - To the S.E. are seen
 several peculiar mountains, the highest [Carruga] & to the S.W. [Tickur] one of the Bunya Range -
 Toom is also to be seen to the N.W. between the Moopiwa Range & the River - Descending the mountains
 about 2 m. further on we came to a bad Creek which detained us 2 hours - we again ascended fresh ridges
 & traversing 4 m. of uninteresting country encamped on a fertile flat, Woondaloo, near some Waterholes
 in a Creek - Distance 10 m - Direction varying from N.W. to N.E. -

March 27 Set out at 8 A.M. & for the first 6 m passed over a tolerably fertile but hilly country -
 we here passed a deep creek & through a Scrub called [Battirro] by the Natives, when the country
 becomes barren & thickly timbered & very mountainous - descending the mountains we traversed a fertile
 valley called Goodiny & well supplied by a fine chain of waterholes, where we encamped - For the last
 3 days the aspect of the Country has been most monotonous - the gullies & flats are everywhere covered
 by a whitish clay the debris of a clay-slate which is the principal constituent of the mountains &
 ridges on lower part of the Range - For the first time this day we met with an Aborigine, [Woorumbilly]
 of the Dallambarah Tribe, an old acquaintance of Davis, the only white man he had ever seen - it was
 with difficulty we got him to approach us & seem much surprised at seeing the Oxen & horses eat grass -
 he came with us to the camp & staid the night & promised to bring us some Bunya Nuts on our Return &
 *18 come with his Tribe - Distance 12 miles Direction very variable from N. to E. & occasionally W. *

March 28 Started at 7 A.M. & after passing a few sandy Ridges, came to some extensive flats called
 Toon, upon which we lost ourselves for some time, but at length about 12 o'clock made Mr. Eales' 1st
 Station on Robinson's Lagoons about 3 miles from the S.B. of the River & near the Mountains of the same
 name & about 8 miles from our last camp - We halted for an hour & then started for the Head Station
 about 30 miles down the River or perhaps 20 in a direct line - we traversed some extensive but not
 luxuriant flats with the Toon hills & thick Scrubs between us and the River & on our right coming from
 the S.W. a low range of hills called Carnega which terminate in mount Boopal about 4 miles to the S of
 Mr. Eales' Head Station. At four P.M. we halted on a deep Creek (Slaty Creek) about 7 miles from the
 1st Station, the rain falling heavily - Dist. 15 miles - Direct. W of North -

March 29 Set out at 8 A.M. & having crossed the Creek, in the bed of which are numerous strata of
 various coloured slate & iron stone with a kind of black shale almost resembling coal, we traversed at
 first a rocky & barren but afterwards a more fertile country well watered by Lagoons & Creeks, but
 better adapted for cattle than sheep, being for the most part boggy even on the ridges & thickly
 timbered - having proceeded about 8 miles we fell in with another Sheep Station & in 10 miles further
 encamped at a third one on the bank of the River, the country varying little in character - Dist 18 m -
 Dir. N.N.W. & N.N.E.

March 30 Started at 10 A.M., having lost the Oxen - After crossing a bad Creek & sundry barren
 ridges, we came to a fine grassy but swampy flat which led us to Mr. Eales' Head Station, situated on
 the side of a hill overlooking some fine lagoons - Mount Boopal or Double Mountain lying about 4 miles
 S.S.W. of the Station & the River a mile to the N. - Here we learned that the Schooner, Edward was
 lying at anchor in Banco or Joliffe's Creek about 28 miles from the Station - Dist. 5 miles - Dir. N.E.-

March 31 Halted to refresh both man & beast after a most fatiguing journey - heavy showers both
 day & night -

April 1 Set out at 8 A.M. accompanied by Mr. Eiper & 2 Policemen to visit Banco Creek - the real
 direction about N.E. & probably not more than 20 miles in a direct course, though by the dray track
 26 at least - For the first 2 m the road leads over a very swampy uneven flat - it then becomes hilly &
 sandy for the next 10 m with tolerable pasturage for sheep, but little water away from the River - the
 rest of the journey is over a flat Country, grass scanty except in spots & so thickly timbered with
 dwarf gums & tea-tree, that it is scarcely fit for any purpose till within two miles of the Creek, when
 there is a gentle rise of the Country towards it & the River well adapted for a Settlement - water too
 *19 might probably be obtained from some holes about a mile off - * the land, too, here seems to be of a
 better quality for agricultural purposes - The bank in the immediate vicinity of the River & Creek is
 evidently overflowed at Spring tides for the space of 30 or 40 yards & is covered with Tea-tree - the
 bank then suddenly rises & is covered by an ordinary scrub for 30 yards more, leading to the high land
 before mentioned - The Creek is sufficiently wide and deep for ordinary Coasting vessels & the River
 perhaps 200 yards wide - the tide rising in ordinary time from 6 to 8 feet & at Spring from 10 to 12 -
 The Captain of the Schooner informs me he no where got less than 2 fathome sounding in the River & that
 the Creek is probably navigable 6 miles up - there is no Sand bar at the entrance of the River, but a

reef of rocks may be seen at low water running nearly across, leaving, however, a good channel for Vessels - Mount Boopal is seen in a S.W. direction from the mouth of the River & is probably 50 off in a direct line - There is little doubt but that the Schooner might have gone much further up the River - namely to the Rocks, some five miles from Mr. Eales' Head Station - there however the navigation must cease as massive rocks occupy nearly the whole bed of the River - the tide however flows over these some 5 miles further up - at this time the water in the River is fresh some 10 miles below Banco Creek - The banks of the River as far as the tide flows are generally scrubby & an ordinary reddish Pine is very common, but the wood very brittle when dry - a broad leaved Pine of a superior description is found lower down & as also fine Cedar on the Creeks & Upper Mumabulla but no Bunya is to be seen in these parts - The North bank of the River seems in general to be more level though mountains are seen to the N.W. - Every where I fear there is a substratum of clay on the flats adjoining the River & the vegetation does not appear very flourishing - Dist. 26 m -

April 2 Having slept on board the Schooner, we returned to the Head Station, the Schooner's boat being unfortunately absent, so going further was out of the question - miles 26 -

April 3 Halted at the Head Station, frequent showers during the day - John Rice died suddenly of Angina Pectoris -

April 4 Buried Rice & afterwards set out at 10 A.M. & reached the 2nd Sheep Station on a Creek & encamped for the night - Dist. 14 miles -

April 5 Lost the Bullocks till 12 o'clock, when we started, notwithstanding the rain & encamped at Slaty Creek at Sundown, having been bogged twice - Dist. 8 m -

April 6 Bullocks off again & not found till 12 O'clock, when we set out in the rain & reached Eales' Sheep Station on Robinson's Lagoons at 4 O'clock & encamped. The Dallambarah Tribe met us here
*20 according to promise, bringing some Bunya Nuts - Dist. 8 miles - *

April 7 Started at 9 A.M. Weather still showery & roads boggy, so that we were obliged to keep to the ridges ; six of the Aborigines undertook to show us a good road, apparently however very tortuous, as we have been 6 hours coming 8 miles & halted at 3 pm in Gooding Valley - Dist. 8 miles

April 8 The weather being very squally we deferred our departure - Two Aborigines have come in with some Bunya Plants & state that there is a fresh in the River, a bad prospect as our provisions are getting short.

April 9 Started at 8 A.M. with heavy squalls from the S.E. - after traversing 6 miles of barren uninteresting country we reached Balirro Creek, which we found so deep we were obliged to unload the dray - proceeding 6 miles further over a better Country we halted on our old ground at Woondaloo - Dist. 12 miles.

April 10 Heavy rain night & day so that we were obliged to halt - on reconnoitring the River found a flood of 14 feet, running like a Mill-pond, so that there is little chance of our being able to cross the next Creek, much less the River

April 11 Anxious to know the worst, we started at 9 A.M. weather still bad & reached the Creek at 11 O'clock, but found it impassable & encamped. We fortunately killed a Kangaroo, a great relief in the present state of the larder. The Aborigines all decamped this day - the Creek & neighbouring mountains are called Dulang by the Natives - Dist. 4 miles -

April 12 The Creek having subsided 2 feet in the night, we succeeded in getting the things over on the men's heads & about 9 A.M. we commenced the ascent of the mountains - About noon we reach our old camping ground on the clayey flat but pushed on for the River & encamped close up to the Scrub about 3 P.M. - but found the River flooded - Dist 10 miles -

April 13 The River has fallen one foot during the night so we hope to be able to pass it tomorrow - In the mean time we reconnoitred our position by ascending a spur leading about S.E. from our Camp to a mountain that commands an extensive view of the Country, particularly towards the Coast - Hence we saw Mount Boopal nearly N. or N. & by W. and to the Eastward, nearly parallel with the Coast & at the distance of 10 or 12 miles from it a mountain range - immediately behind which we observed E by N Cooula, a peaked mountain, due E. Carruga, bluff shaped, E by S Connug, cone Shaped aslant ; E S E, [Busita] a peaked mountain ; & finally S.E. a high mountain with truncated top - all these mountains bear a strong resemblance to the Glass-house Mountains & are no doubt of the same origin - Between us & the Coast Range there appears to be a more open Country leading N to Boopal ; & S.E. also for some 20 miles. It appears probable therefore that by keeping a little more to the Eastward, the two next
*21 crossings of the River might be avoided & a more level road found to Boopal - N *

April 14th Alarmed last night by a cry that the Natives were rushing a party of Mr. Eales' men, who were following us for protection - & had encamped a short distance from us - Allowed them to join us & divided the men into 3 watches for the night - made the 7th crossing place of the Mumabulla at 9 A.M. after great exertion, which took us 2 hours - We now made the best of our way to the next crossing, which we reached about sundown & encamped at Howah ; deferring the passage of the River till the morning - A party of the Cuccumbaruh Tribe joined our camp, the sentries having orders to watch them closely - Dist. 10 M - between 6th & 7th Crossings 10 miles -

April 15th Accomplished the 6th Crossing this morning after great labour & with the assistance of

the Aborigines, having to cut a new road through the Scrub, which occupied us till near 11 o'clock, when we got clear of it & proceeding about 4 miles with bright prospects came to Rotten Creek, when they were quickly put an end to, by bullock, dray & all slipping into the Creek - we got all out in 2 hours & proceeding about 4 miles further encamped in a narrow valley on some waterholes - when opening big baggage I found every thing spoiled - sugar all melted & flour made into dough - Dist. 8 miles -

April 16 After spending great part of the night in drying our effects & making dampers of the flour we started about 9 A.M. & having gone about 8 miles & passed a fine Creek, made the 5th Crossing of the River, already much diminished in size, at Hinka Booma Flats - leaving the flats we were much delayed by some steep hills but reached the bank of the River again by Sundown & encamped - Dist 12 - between 5th & 6th Crossing 16 miles -

April 17 Started at 8 A.M. & in an hour made the 4th Crossing and thence passing over some high ridges for about 3 miles made the 3rd passage of the River - We subsequently passed three Creeks & about Sundown found ourselves at our old camping ground at Parson's Vale - Dist. 12 - Between the 4 & 5 Crossing 10 miles, between the 3rd & 4th, three miles -

April 18. Set out at 8 A.M. & having gone about 4 miles over very heavy ground made the 2nd Crossing of the River & about one mile further on the 1st Crossing, which brought us to the foot of the Range - Having pushed on for about half a mile we came to the steep part of it, which the Oxen absolutely refused to face - we were compelled therefore to carry everything up & in the course of the Afternoon even drag up the dray, the Oxen still refusing to move it - We encamped on the top of the pinch (Rocky Point) about Sundown - Dist 6 miles - Between 2 & 3 Crossing 13 m & Between 1 & 2, one mile.

April 19. Renewed our efforts to reach the Summit at 8 A.M. - but in half a mile were again obliged to unload & carry up the baggage - * Having rested an hour we at length reached the summit about 2 miles further - We now pushed down the mountain in high spirits at the prospect of soon getting some wholesome food, having had nothing but mouldy Damper for some days past, & encamped about Sunset at the 3rd Crossing place on Sandy Creek, one of the heads of the Brisbane - Dist 7 miles -

April 20. Set out at 8 A.M. & proceeding about 3 miles through the Bush, fell in with the road leading to Mr. Archer's Station, where we halted about 3 P.M. - Dist.

April 22 Having reposed a day I set out with Mr. Archer & Mr. Eiper to visit the little Bunya Country. Having proceeded for 24 hours in a N.E. direction & crossed one of the heads of the Brisbane about a mile from Mr. Archers & sundry swampy flats, grassy but thickly timbered, we reached the foot of the Range, the one leading to Wide Bay - here we found a fine flat of 4 or 500 Acres nearly clear of timber with some fine lagoons & dry ridges, Mr. Archer's Creek too running just under the range - this site is shut in to the North & partly to the West by rugged & scrubby mountains part of the Bunya Range & to the E. by Scrubs & swampy flats, which render the Coast almost inaccessible & to the E & W by Mr. Archer's Run, being about 8 miles from his Head Station & perhaps 4 or 5 miles to the Mount Birwah, one of the Glasshouse Mountains - we returned to Mr. Archer's by 3 P.M. - Dist 18 m

April 23 Set out at 7 A.M. & halted at Me/srs. Mackenzie's Station - Dist 13 m

April 24 Started at 8 A.M. & reached Me/srs. Bigge's at 4 P.M. - Dist 18 m -

April 25 Started at 8 A.M. & encamped at Eales' Old Station - dist. 18 m -

April 26 Started at 8 A.M. & halted at C. Balfour's at 3 P.M. - Dist. 18 m -

April 27 Set out at 7 A.M. & reached Limestone to Dinner & in the evening found myself safely housed at Woogaroo -

RESUMÉ OF DISTANCES

From	Woongaroo to the Foot of Wide Bay Range	about 80 miles
"	Foot of Wide Bay Range to 1st Crossing of the Numabulla	5 "
"	1st Crossing of the Numabulla to the 2nd "	1 "
"	2nd " " " to the 3rd " " "	13 "
"	3rd " " " to the 4th " " "	3 "
"	4th " " " to the 5th " " "	10 "
"	5th " " " to the 6th " " "	16 "
"	6th " " " to the 7th " " "	10 "
"	7th " " " to Robinson's Lagoons (1st sheep Station)	34 "
"	Robinson's Lagoons to Eales' Head Station (Boopal)	30 "
"	Eales' Head Station to Banco Creek	26 "

S.S.

*23 *

May 6/43 - To the Colonial Secretary

I have the honour to report for the information of his Excellency that during my excursion in the Bunya Country I have taken every opportunity of instituting enquiries as to the truth of the alleged poisoning of the Aborigines at a Sheep Station in the North of this District - A report of the kind certainly exists among the two Tribes I met with - The Dallamburah & Coccombarah - but as neither of them were present at the time they could give me no circumstantial information on the subject - the Giggbarah Tribe the one said to have suffered I was not able to meet with - upon enquiry at the Stations to the North of this District I could learn nothing further than that they had been using Arsenic very extensively for the cure of the Scab ; in which operation Sheep are occasionally destroyed by some of the fluid getting down their throats & as the carcasses are frequently left unburied, it is very possible that the Aborigines may have eaten of them, particularly the Entrails which they are very fond of - hence the Report in question -

S.S.

May 12/43 - To the Colonial Secretary

Reporting two Bullocks bought of Deputy Assistant Commissary General Kent for my excursion to the Bunya Country, a team of eight not being sufficient - in answer to a charge of Dep. Com. Gen. Muller for payment.

S.S.

May 12/43 - To the Col. Secretary -

Explaining a charge for Rations supplied to Convicts under my Orders from the 1st Jan to the 6th of March 1843, & paid by the Commissariat - being a Road Party turned over to me by Dep. As. Com. Kent on the breaking up of the Agricultural Department of the Convict Establishment

S.S.

Jun 14/43 - The Col. Secretary -

Applying to his Excellency for the usual rate of pay given to Commissioners, namely 20/- per diem, having hitherto received only £300 per Ann - also the Arrears due at the increased Rate £61 -

S.S.

Jun 22/43 - The Colonial Secretary -

Return of the Border Police for 1844 & Estimates

Six Troopers
Six Labourers
Six Horses -

*24 *

Estimate of the probable Expenses for the Border Police for 1844 -

Commissioner	366. 0. 0	
Provisions for 12 men	237.18. 0	
Forage of 6 Horses	384. 6. 0	
Clothing	167.13. 6	
Incidental Expenses	7. 6. 0	797. 3. 6
	<u>£ 1,163. 3. 6</u>	

Supplementary Estimate of the probable Expenses for 1843.

Commissioner	365. 0. 0	
Provisions for 10 men & forage for 4 horses	510.16. 0	
Cost of 4 horses £140 & of 10 Bullocks £70	210. 0. 0	
Clothing, Arms & equipment	249.18. 0	
Dray, Utensils & Incidental Expenses	<u>80.13. 6</u>	1,053. 7. 6
	<u>£ 1,418. 7. 6</u>	

S.S.

Augt. 8/43 - The Colonial Secretary -

Being anxious to reduce the expenses of the Border Police under my Orders as far as possible I have the honour to propose for his Excellency's consideration the growing of Forage for the supply of the Horses on the Station - which at the present Rate will be a saving of from £120 to 150 £ per Ann & the horses will be better provided for - this I will undertake to effect by the first of January next, retaining my present compliment of men & without putting the Government to any further Expense.

S.S.

Oct. 3/43 - The Col. Secretary -

I have the honour to state for the information of his Excellency that various Reports having reached me that the Aborigines were committing great aggressions on the Stations in the vicinity of the Dividing Range & particularly on the high road to the Darling Downs I hastened to the spot with the view of ascertaining the truth of the Reports - The following appears to be a summary of their proceedings :

On the 1st September they attacked Mr. Jones' Station on Laidley Cr. & took away about 150 sheep & injured many more -

On the 5th they again attacked the same Station but were driven off with the loss of one Sheep only -

On the 6th they came in a large body to the Shepherd at the same Station & would have murdered him but for the timely aid of a party of Horesemen -

*25 On the 7th they attacked a shepherd of Mr. Brown and took part of * his flock - the man however escaped from the barking of his dog at one of the Aborigines who were in the act of Spearing him -

On the 8th they killed a horse, a Cow & two bullocks belonging to Mr. Uhr at Tenthill -

On the 9th they attacked Mr. Hicks & Mr. Campbell on the high Road to Darling Downs & speared the former Gentleman's horse -

On the 10th they killed a Shepherd in the employ of Mr. Pearce of Hellidon & another had a narrow escape for his life -

On the 11th they attacked another flock at Hellidon, but were driven off -

On the 12th they stopped three Bullock-Drays on the Road to the Downs & carried off a large amount of property - having driven off fourteen men sent to protect them & speared one of the bullocks - A party of Squatters having proceeded to the rescue of the drays the Aborigines took up a strong position on a hill in the vicinity & actually repulsed them, two of the party being wounded by pieces of Rock rolled down on them -

By an intelligent Aborigine, named Toby, recently attached to my Party I am informed that the Range Blacks have a plan of intercepting all communication by the Road to Darling Downs - for this purpose, upon going over the Range, I found they had actually attempted to barricade the Road by cutting down trees & throwing them across the Road at a point where it traverses a Scrub & is not above 8 feet wide - here they lie in wait & a shower of spears is the first indication of their presence -

Conceiving it my duty at any rate to afford protection to persons & property crossing the Range & being unable to do anything effectively with my small Police Force, I hastened to the Settlement to require the assistance of a party of Military stationed there & returned with an Officer & twelve men to Hellidon the nearest Station to the foot of the Range where I have left them with directions to afford every protection in their power till his Excellency's pleasure shall be known upon the matter

From the great number of the Mountain Tribes, extending nearly all round the District, & the uncertainty of their movement, I consider it highly advisable that a military Post should be permanently established at the foot of the Range, as their mere presence will, I have no doubt prevent further Aggressions on the high road & render the inconvenient assemblage of large bodies of Squatters in forays against the Aborigines unnecessary -

S.S.

*26 *

To the Colonial Secretary - Oct 26/43

Reporting the dismissal of Francis Branken from the Police Force & requesting his Excellency's approval of two Aborigines, Toby & [Jimmy Fains] being taken into the service -

Also requesting that my establishment may be increased in January next to six mounted Troopers - the income derived from the Crown Lands in the Moreton Bay District being quite equal to meet the increased expenditure -

No further aggressions on the high Road to the Downs since the military have been posted at Hellidon - but numerous depredations in other quarters & no less than three men speared since my last report

S.S.

The Colonial Secretary - Dec 31/43

Annual Report on the State of the Aborigines in the Moreton Bay District for the year ending December 1843

In a District so recently settled it would be in vain to attempt to enumerate the numerous Tribes of Aborigines which are scattered over its surface occupying the whole country between the Dividing Range & the Sea from Point Danger on the South to Frasers Island on the North - for the purpose however of a rough estimate they may be divided into three Classes - as Inhabitants of the Sea-coast, of the

Mountain Ranges, or of the Inland Creeks & Rivers -

The inhabitants of the Sea-Coast are no doubt the most numerous, a distinct Tribe occupying every Island or Inlet of the Sea from the River Tweed to Wide Bay - they are probably not overrated at 3000 - upon the whole their condition is superior to that of the Inland Blacks, having more ample means of existence in the abundance of fish on the Sea-coast - they are consequently less migratory in their habits & in general more mild & humane in their disposition, cannibalism, I am told, being held in abhorrence by them - The Stradbrook Island Blacks & those of Brebis Island & Eagle Farm are the only Tribes who have made any progress in civilization; the former from their constant intercourse with the Pilots Station & the latter from their connection with the Settlement & the German Mission - their condition however, can scarcely be said to be ameliorated, as with the exception of one or two employed in the pilots' boat & in occasional work in the gardens, they pursue their usual occupations - nor am I aware that any have been converted to Christianity - From the report of a Runaway - Fraser's Island is the most thickly inhabited - he lived with them for a Twelve month & from the favourable

*27 account he gives of the Natives, I should * think it the most favourable spot for Missionary exertions -

The next most numerous Class of Aborigines are those inhabiting the Dividing Range & the eastern branch of it which divides the Waters of the Brisbane from those of the Numabulla or Wide Bay River - these are in every sense of the word wild Blacks, rarely or never visiting the Stations in the vicinity of the Ranges but for the purposes of pillage & often bloodshed - not less probably than ten individuals have fallen a sacrifice to their predatory habits during the last year - They are very numerous, perhaps not less than 1500, & are divided into small Tribes, occupying principally the heads of the Creeks & Rivers, where they direct their predatory incursions against the sheep & cattle Stations in their vicinity - during the last year they have plundered several Drays on the high Road to Darling Downs, but the formation of a military post at the foot of the Range has for the present checked their Aggressions - One or two of these Tribes have shown particular ferocity, I am not however inclined to consider this as any peculiar characteristic of these Tribes but rather of their Leaders, who urge with threats their less warlike brethren to the committal of their depredations -

Finally the third Class, or those occupying the banks of the Creeks, & Rivers in the Interior - these tribes are not so numerous & may be said to be serving an apprenticeship to civilization - they are in general named after the locality they inhabit & for the most part frequent the Stations in the vicinity of their hunting grounds & if properly managed render some little service - the Settlement blacks about 200 in number, the Limestone about 150 & the Woogaroo Tribe about 40 have for some years past been in close contact with the Penal Settlement Establishment and are occasionally employed in domestic services - I fear, however, upon the whole with little advantage to their moral condition -

The whole number of Aborigines in this District cannot be much under 5000 - their condition for the most part, that of untamed savages, without the knowledge & of even a Supreme Being; though they entertain a superstitious dread of an Evil Spirit - they seem also to have an indefinite notion of a return to life again in this World, as even among the Aborigines to the North they believe White Men to be Black men returned to life again; a notion which has saved the life of many a white man - for upon entering the Camp of one of the Tribe, should anyone claim him as a relative, he is treated as one of them - It is also remarkable, that though Cannibalism of the worst description, eating their own

*28 children, is prevalent amongst them, they rarely eat the bodies of white men, which was * fully proved at a late unfortunate occurrence at Wide Bay - where four Shepherds of Mr. Eale's Establishment were killed by the Aborigines & the sheep carried off - Upon being pursued they were surprised at their fires, when to the astonishment of the Party pursuing them, they found they were employed in roasting parts of the bodies of some of the Aborigines who were killed in this melee - the sheep being close at hand & three of the bodies of the murdered shepherds picked up untouched - there is little doubt, however, that Cannibalism in general owes its origin to the extreme difficulty at times of obtaining the means of existence in their barren wilds, for though the fighting men are in general well nourished the women & children are in a horrid state of starvation -

Notwithstanding the numerous atrocities they have committed in the District, I consider them upon the whole a good natured humorous Race of Savages, by no means deficient in intelligence, but having few wants, they consider increased comforts dearly purchased by increased toil & the abandonment of that merry, jovial life they lead in the Wilds of Australia - hence though when pinched by hunger they may occasional consent to labour to supply their immediate wants they are no sooner satisfied than they return to their usual habits, with perseverance however & kinde/s something may perhaps be done to ameliorate their condition, more especially as regards the rising generation - and the Commissioner of Crown Land s Station if properly organized for this purpose, might be rendered available for that object -

S.S.

Jan'y 5/44 - The Col. Secretary -

Reporting Mr. Wilson's tender to supply two horses for the Border Police at £20.0.0 each -

Also showing that the mounted Troopers being increased to six, the entire expenses of the District will not exceed the Revenue in conformity with his Excellency's Instructions as per Col. Sec. Letter of Nov 6/43 No. 43/62

Rations for 12 men at 8½	155. 2. 6
Annual Clothing	171. 0. 8
Two Horses	40. 0. 0
Saddlery, Arms & Accoutrements	40. 0. 0
Incidental Expenses	<u>50. 0. 0</u>
	£ 456. 3. 2

S.S.

*29 *

May 6/44 - The Colonial Secretary -

Report on the proposed changes in the Regulations for the occupation of Crown Lands beyond the Boundaries in conformity with the Col. Secretary's Letter (Circ) Dec 12/43) -

1. To Assimilate the Licences to Leases in a greater degree than they are at present assimilated - I do not consider it advisable to give mere occupiers of Crown Lands a more secure tenure than they enjoy at present as the sale of Cr Lds might be much impeded by such a proceeding - I would therefore make it a condition for obtaining a Lease of a Run that the Licensed Occupier should purchase a portion of it - thus for example the first occupation of Cr Lds as at present a Licence only should be granted with the proviso that at any time after a definite period (say three years) should the Licensed Occupier be able to show that he had expended a certain Capital in the improvement of his Run & sufficiently stocked it, he should be allowed on the certificate of the Commissioner to that effect, to purchase a Portion of it & obtain a Lease for the remainder - such a regulation would encourage the improvement the improvement of Cr Lds, do away with the mere speculation in Runs & change the Squatter into a Proprietor of the Soil -

2. To limit the Quantity of Land occupied under one Licence to what may be sufficient under ordinary circumstances to depasture a given number of Sheep or Cattle - say 500 Cattle & 5000 Sheep - The proportion of Cattle to Sheep mentioned in this paragraph would appear to be much too small, especially in this District - indeed I believe 1000 cattle to 5000 would be equally well provided for on a Run of 25 Sq. Miles - The Income derivable from a Cattle Run for 500 Head of Cattle is by no means equivalent to that derived from 5000 Sheep & is consequently of much less value -

3. To make each Occupier take out a separate Licence for each Run he may occupy - The principle that each Occupier should pay Rent in proportion to the extent of his Run is palpable so just that it ought to be enforced throughout the Country - Supposing the first Licence for 25 Sq or 5000 Sheep to be £10, I consider it would be advisable to charge each additional 5 sq. ml. or 1000 Sheep at the Rate of £2 - as such an arrangement would be very convenient for the better adjustment of the natural boundaries of Runs & obviate the inconvenience attending a sudden rise in Rent from £10 to 20£, when the Sheep are more than 5000, which may tempt parties to make false Returns - as the quality of the Run will also have
*30 great influence in * determining its value, the quantity of Sheep or Cattle it is capable of carrying in average Seasons must be taken into consideration -

4. To encourage the improvement & cultivation of Cr. Lds by giving the Licensed Occupier a right to purchase a portion of his Run (or otherwise secure possession of it for a term of years say for 5 or 7 - I have already observed that the indulgence of a Lease for a term of years should be granted only to the purchaser of a portion of his Run which I conceive would be a sufficient encouragement for the improvement & cultivation of Cr. Lds - thus the Licensed Occupier of three years standing who shall have expended a certain Capital in the formation of his Station, may be entitled to purchase a portion of his Run (say one Section or more) at the upset price & obtain a Lease for 14 or 21 years of the remainder - without purchase however I do not think it advisable to give Leases for a term of years - I have stated three years in Licensed Occupation as a title to purchase at the upset price as from my own knowledge the great outlay on Runs is completed in that time & I am satisfied that the sooner the Licensed Occupier becomes a Proprietor the better for himself & the Government - A regulation of this kind giving to bona fide Licensed Occupiers of Cr. Lds. a right of pre-emption would be highly acceptable & tend to raise the character of the mere Squatters - it should be extended to all persons occupying and improving Cr. Lds. of whatever authorised denomination -

5. To prevent the irregular transfer of Stations, which now takes place without the sanction & even without the knowledge of Government - All licences to be declared void unless the Stations licensed are occupied within Six Months - all transfers or Sales of Stations to be declared illegal without the sanction of Government & after payment of any arrears that may be due by the last occupier - Arrears to be recovered where there is no stock by the sale of the Station -

S.S.

May 6/54 - Estimates for the Year 1845.

Commissioner of Crown Lands	365. 0. 0
Provisions for 12 men	182.10. 0
Clothing "	167.13. 6
Incidental Expenses	<u>100. 0. 0</u>
	£ 805. 3. 6

*31 *

May 6/44 - The Col. Secretary -

Having received an application from the German Mission for a Licence to occupy a small tract of Country in the vicinity of the Sea-coast for Missionary purposes I set out with two of the Mission to visit the locality in question - I found it situated about 30 miles from North Brisbane on the Noonga Creek about 3 miles from the Sea to the North of the Settlement - the extent of available land about 4 Sq. Mils with a few indifferent ridges in the vicinity which may suffice for depasturing a few Cattle or Sheep - it appears, however, to be well adapted for the purposes of the Mission ; as it is very isolated, being surrounded by scrubby and swampy flats of no value & at least 10 miles to the eastward of the main road to the Glasshouse Mountains & Tourbal point - the Coast Blacks too are very numerous at this part of the Coast & as the Missionaries are already well known to them I think it would be difficult to select a site better adapted for their experiment, which is as follows : The Mission having recently been reinforced by an accession of 4 new Members, who have brought with them funds to the Amount of £ 300 with the promise of a yearly remittance the Missionary body at present consists of nearly 40 souls, men, women & children - they have also 80 head of Cattle & 100 sheep of their own ; besides which friends of the Mission have given them on favourable terms 300 head of Cattle & 1200 Sheep - Under these circumstances the Mission are desirous of farming in the immediate vicinity of the coast an agricultural & grazing Establishment to be carried on entirely by themselves & their Aborigines - they do not however intend abandoning their present Station near Eagle Farm, where they have for some time past been going on most prosperously by exerting themselves in their various crafts & supplying the Settlement with various commodities, but propose merely dividing themselves into two bodies, working for the same object - I have thought it therefore my duty to submit the proposal for his Excellency's consideration & feel no hesitation in recommending it, as should the Mission fail in its honest endeavours to Christianize the Aborigines they will at least lay the foundation for a future community of honest and industrious Colonists in a part of the District which would otherwise remain long unoccupied -

S.S.

Jun 26/44 - The Col. Secretary -

Reporting the death of an Aborigine named Docto & the illness of several of his comrades from taking food (particularly Tea) given to them by a man named Charley Seller at the Plough Station - the *32 depositions forwarded * to the Attorney-General & the Stomach & c by Dr. Ballow to Dr. Arneith for analysis - also recommending that should the evidence adduced not suffice to convict Seller, who is a prisoner of the Crown that he may be removed from the District -

S.S.

May 26/44 - The Col. Secretary

Information relating to the Holders of Cr. Lands in the Moreton Bay District in conformity with the Col. Sec. Letter (Circ.) of the 30th of April 1844 -

1. Names of the four largest Occupiers of Cr. Lds. in the District

Richard Jones	194 Sq M	one licence
John Eales	216 Sq M	"
J.C. Brown	264 Sq M	"
D.C. McConnel	104 Sq M	"

2. Names of the four largest Stockholder in the District

Richard Jones	20000 Sheep	700 Cattle	4 Horses
John Eales	25000 "	36 "	4 "
D.C. McConnel	8000 "	1400 "	18 "
J & R Balfour	10000 "	500 "	5 "

3. Names of the four smallest Occupiers of Cr. Lands in the District

Francis Griffin	28 Sq M	one licence
Graham & Ivory	24 "	"
Balfour & Irvine	24 "	"
Wm. Barker	36 "	"

4. Names of the four smallest Stockholders in the District

Francis Griffin	1400 Sheep	8 cattle	3 Horses
Graham & Ivory	3750 "	8 "	5 "
Balfour & Irvine	- "	200 "	30 "
Wm. Barker	3000 "	7 "	1 "

It is also necessary to remark that R. Jones also holds a Run in the Darling D. District, for which he probably pays no licence -

S.S.

Aug 1/44 - The Col. Secretary -

I have the honour to report for the information of his Excellency that the Aborigines have recently

been very troublesome to the North of this District - commencing with Messrs. Graham & Ivory's Station, the most distant at the head of the western branch of the Brisbane, where they killed a Shepherd, they successively rushed every Station on that branch of the River, spearing & carrying off a considerable number of Sheep & Cattle - since the last fortnight they have * taken up a position in the Rosewood Scrub & robbed several drays on the high road about 15 miles from Limestone - by means of patrols the Road has however been again cleared of them - they are I believe the same tribes who were recently so troublesome under the Dividing Range - but that locality has not [altered - altered?] since the military have been posted there - I fear however should they be removed that they will renew their depredations -

S.S.

Sept 19/44 - The Col. Secretary -

Reporting the engagement of two free men (Smith & Watson) for the Police at 1/ per diem - A party of Bushrangers having commenced depredations in the District it becomes absolutely necessary to strengthen the Police by an infusion of free men; more especially as the vicinity of the Government Stations to Limestone & the high road afford an easy means of concealment - till such time as a regular Constable is appointed for Limestone, Smith will take up his quarters there, as the complaints are great of the insecurity of property at that place -

S.S.

Dec 31/44 - The Col. Secretary -

Report on the State of the Aborigines for the year ending Dec 1844 -

Having last year fully reported upon the State of the Aborigines in this District I shall now proceed to a brief survey of their general conduct during the past year -

The Aborigines of Brisbane, Stradbroke Island & Ipswich have now for years been within reach of civilized man - a favourable result however could scarcely be expected as they have mixed with few besides the convict population - as might therefore be expected they are as lazy & indolent as ever & with few exceptions prefer the joyous life of the bush to earning a scanty existence by daily labour - they have however acquired a knowledge of the uses of money, & as their wants are gradually increasing may ultimately learn something of the uses of labour - the influence of the German Mission has been almost nil as their wives and families require all their exertions to supply their wants - they have, however, commenced their operations on Nooga Cr. but as yet there is little to report favourably of - I have lately learnt with regret that there are internal dissensions among the members of the Mission, which materially interferes with its progress - sent out from Berlin without any Rules for their guidance, they refuse to acknowledge any superiority amongst the Members - I feel satisfied, however, *34 that without ample means to supply the wants of the Aborigines no mission has any chance * of succe/s - A school has been repeatedly tried, but the children speedily return to their usual life in the Bush - indeed there is little hope with any but the rising generation & they must be first fed & then taught if any good is to be effected - with the exception of occasional pilfering in the Gardens of the Mission I have heard of few complaints of them during the past year -

To the North of the District I am sorry to say that the Wide Bay Blacks, have recently made an eruption amongst Mr. Archers cattle - it speaks well however for the system of kindness which Mr. Archer has uniformly adopted towards the Aborigines that his own Tribe first gave him information of the Attack & assisted him in repelling it - the next Station, Me/srs. Mackenzie's and all of them on the main branch of the Brisbane, McConnell's, Balfour's, Graham & Ivory's & Scott's had to defend themselves from repeated attacks, without however any considerable loss, beyond the dispersion of the cattle - one man however was killed at Graham & Ivory's and another had his arm broken at Me/srs. Mackenzie's -

Further to the westward & Southward on Lockyer's Cr. & in the vicinity of the great Rosewood Scrub, they have been extremely troublesome, repeatedly attacking & dispersing the cattle of Mr. Wingate during the Winter - it is not however of the loss of the few cattle they kill but of the injury done to the breeding & fattening of stock that the proprietors complain - Under the Dividing Range no material aggressions have occurred since the formation of the Military Post at Hellidon - indeed at the present moment all is quiet, the summer season affording them plenty of resources without pillage -

Finally as regards the Aborigines in the Southern part of the District their conduct has been most peaceable - whether the result of a different mode of treatment on the part of the Squatters I will not undertake to determine -

S.S.

Return of White Men killed by the Aborigines in the M.B. District -

- 1841 - Th. Coyle (Jones') Wm. Bradley (Moculta's)
- 1842 - Ph. Murray & M. Bond (Me/srs. McKenzie's) B. Goldrich (Bigge's) J. Robertson (Balfour's)
- 1843 - W. Worthington & J. Flannigan (Pearce's) J. Maynard (Me/srs. McKenzie's) P. Marsh, M. Noonan, J. Cummins, G. McKin (Eale's) Th. Early (Jones)
- 1844 - G. Sinclair (Graham & Ivory's)

Return of White Men wounded by Aborigines in the M.B. District

- 1841 - P. Piggot & C. Campbell (Moculta's)
- 1842 - W. Nowland (McConnell's)

1843 - M. Welsh & D. Sinclair (Jones') Mauritius Black (McDougal's) Wm Vant (Archers')
 J. Sussex (Eales')
 1844 - M. Foggarty (Pearce's)

*35 *

S.S.

Jan 10/45 - The Col. Secretary - through Captain Wickham

With reference to the Statement of John Kershaw as communicated in the Col. Secretary's Letter of the 27 December 1844 I have the honour to report as follows.

A warrant was forwarded to me by J. Balfour J.P. for his Apprehension on the charge of disobedience of Orders & threatening his Overseer - Kershaw being at Ipswich Corporal Morrisson went to apprehend him on the 9th of November - he returned in the next Evening & reported that Kershaw was in a state of insensibility from a blow of his carbine received when rushing at him to seize his arms - the prisoner was soon after brought into the Station on a dray, when I examined him & considering him more drunk than hurt, ordered him to be put to bed - he awoke in the night & asked for a drink & the next morning was walking about, merely complaining of weakness, no doubt occasioned by being bled copiously in Ipswich immediately after the accident - I went over to Ipswich the following day & ascertained that Morrisson had taken Kershaw into custody on the evening of the ninth & very improperly allowed him to get drunk - the following morning he handcuffed him & left him asleep under a dray - having saddled his horse Morrisson went for him, but had great difficulty to arouse him - at length he got up, very drunk & rushed at Morrisson who struck him with his carbine - a Bullock-driver of Mr. Graham drew a sword on Morrisson & I took him in custody to the Station - Mr. Mackenzie & Mr. Thorn did not think Morrisson was drunk, though he had been drinking - On my return to the Station I sent Sergeant Smith to ascertain whether Kershaw had any charge to bring against Morrisson - he said he had not & as Mr. Graham's Bullock-driver had committed no actual violence I dismissed him - there is no doubt that Kershaw has again taken up the matter with the view of extorting money from Morrisson - Kershaw is no doubt a most violent character & was dismissed from the Sydney Police for bad conduct - Under all the circumstances of the case therefore I thought it sufficient to reprimand Morrisson for his improper conduct for allowing Kershaw to get drunk after he had him in custody & to warn the Police generally of the impropriety of striking a drunken man in handcuffs -

S.S.

Jan 31/45

Estimates for the Border Police for the Year 1846.

Commissioner of Crown Lands	300. 0. 0
Six Policemen at 1/ per Diem each	109.10. 0
Provisions for Ten men @ 9d	136.17. 6
Forage for six horses @ 3/	27. 7. 6
Annual Clothing	158.17. 4
Incidental Expenses	50. 0. 0

*36 *

S.S.

Sept 25/45 - The Col. Secretary -

I have the honour to submit for his Excellency's consideration the following occurrence in this District - A Mr. Phillip Friele from Calcutta recently purchased from the Trustees of Richard Jones about 4000 Sheep with the right to the Tenthill Run in this District - In May last a Mr. Gordon Sandeman arrived at Moreton Bay to take possession of the purchase, bringing with him 25 Coolies, including 19 men, 3 women & 2 children also 11 English Boys, apprenticed to Mr. Friele from the Orphan Asylum in Calcutta & one half-caste engaged for 3 years as Interpreter - After settling some little complaints of the Coolies on their first landing, they proceeded to the Station & I heard nothing more of them till Monday 23rd Inst, when the whole of the Coolies came down in a body to my Station with very serious complaints against Mr. Sandeman & the Superintendent a Mr. Ayerit for non-payment of wages, deficient Rations & Clothing & repeated beatings with sticks and whips - they also brought a Note from one of the apprentice Boys stating "he flogs the boys mostly every day on their bare backs, about 1 1/2 dozen every time" - As Mr. Friele & Mr. Sandeman were both absent from the District I issued a Summons for Mr. Ayerit & Mr. Philoff, the interpreter - On their arrival the following day, Capt. Wickham and myself proceeded to the investigation of the charges which with two or three exceptions include Assaults - the result of this enquiry into three of the cases, particularly that of Mr. Jameson Balbader & a woman named Cowlie leave no doubt that great maltreatment has been practised - though the great grievance of the Coolies is the non-payment of wages monthly - As the circumstances are peculiar the Bench has forwarded the depositions to the Attorney General for his Advice in the matter - we have also sent a Copy of the Original Agreement entered into in Calcutta & a subsequent one made at Port Macquarie, containing some material alterations, though the Coolies themselves deny ever having knowingly abandoned any part of the original Stipulations & we learn from the Interpreter that were desirous only of having the original Agreement ratified before a Magistrate in this Country - Waiting the Attorney-General's Instructions we shall endeavour to get the Coolies to return to the Station & I shall proceed there myself to investigate the charges of the Boys -

S.S.

Sept 30/45

Acknowledging the receipt of the Col. Sec. Letter of the 21st Inst enclosing one from the Principal

Superintendent of Convicts, referring to the punishment of James Keogh in March 1844 - On the 15th March 1844 about 9 O'clock in the evening a great disturbance took place at the Inn near my Station - upon going there I found J. Keogh very drunk & ordered him to be taken to the Lockup - he became very
 *37 violent & said he would not do a stroke more work if I punished him - the man was locked up, but became so riotous, having knocked out two of the Slabs, I ordered him to be handcuffed - he however resisted when I seized him by the throat & held him while he was secured - whether he was chained or not to the Ring in the Lockup, I am not aware but I am sure he ought to have been - for this I ordered him to be confined 7 days in the Lockup, after receiving 50 lashes for his drunken & mutinous conduct to me - I convicted him in fact on view & drew up a conviction & forwarded it on with the Prisoner to Brisbane for execution - The man not being my personal Assigned Servant, I presumed as Commissioner, I could hold a Court for his trial anywhere & as to evidence I myself heard and saw all that happened - I should at once have turned him into Hyde Park Barracks ~~at once~~ or have handed him over to the Police Magistrate at Brisbane, but this was no doubt what he wanted & would have been an encouragement for other worthless felons to behave ill -

S.S.

Decemb 20/45 - The Col. Secretary

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 9th December last enclosing a Sydney Morning Herald of the 1st Instant - There can be no doubt the Station advertised, though in very exaggerated terms is that of Henry Manning (Xerry), situated on the Albert River about 50 miles from Brisbane by the road - last Return of Stock 4000 Sheep, extent of Run 36 Sq Miles - In July last Mr. Manning returned his Run as containing only 12½ Sq. Miles, which I objected to - he also returned only 400 Sheep, which I was certain was an error or a wilful false Return - I assessed him therefore for 4000, nearly 1000 more than he had - which he paid without appealing - The Station itself was first licensed to Mes/rs E & W Finch in 1842 immediately after my appointment as Commissioner - In March, 1842; when his Excellency was in Brisbane I called his attention to the fact that several of the Stations were not more than from 20 to 30 miles from the Settlement & received his Excellency's Instructions to licence them with the warning that if they settle down so near Brisbane they must expect to be sold out at an early period - This I communicated to the Squatters, then assembled at Brisbane in considerable numbers & anxious to know their fate; as there was a general impression that the 50 mile Boundary line mentioned in the Order sent to Mr. Gorman in 1840 only applied to Moreton Bay as a Penal Settlement - I myself never saw the Order & Mr. Gorman found it impossible to carry it into execution & indeed at the present time the Stations nearest the Settlement were occupied in the time of the Penal Settlement - I, indeed, have constantly made it a rule to refuse Licences for any land in the vicinity of Navigation &
 *38 at this moment * every patch of land really available for agriculture is open for Settlers - Finally I beg to call his Excellency's Attention to the fact that if the 50 mile Limit had been carried out the Moreton Bay District would have been a Desert as there would have been room for only five Squatting Stations, all to the N.W. of the District - On the other hand within what is understood to be the future (Limits) of the County of Stanley there will be only five Stations on [positions stated] & they small ones -

S.S.

Nov 20/45 - The Col. Secretary

Referring to your letter of the 3rd Instant, requesting an explanation of Mr. Steven's Occupation of Cr. Lands near Woogaroo I beg to State for his Excellency's information that a house of accommodation being very much wanted near my Station a building licence was granted to John Chambers in 1843 & also a Publicans General Licence by the Bench at Brisbane - the Licences were both subsequently transferred to Mr. Stevens the present occupier - who since applied to me to be allowed to purchase the land & I consented - Surveyor Burnett surveyed the Land before the Building Licence had expired & as I understood it would be put up the next land-sale I refused to renew, so that at the present moment Mr. Stevens is in illegal occupation but by no fault of his -

S.S.

Nov 25/45 - The Col. Secretary

As it is probable there will be a great influx of Stock to the North after Shearing I beg to submit the following facts for his Excellency's consideration -

Mr. G. Wyndan from the Clarence has applied for Permission to occupy Mr. Eales' late Station at Wide Bay - also Mr. J.M. Robinson's superintendent to take up a Country for 100000 Sheep in the same direction - Two parties Messrs. Farquason & Fairholme and Mes/rs Borthwick & Oliver have recently traversed the Boyne Country, from Darling Downs to Mr. Balfour's Station on the head of the Brisbane by a very practical Country - the so called Boyne Country is a sort of Table Land with the principal Waters running to the N.E. & from the general lay of the mountains will probably be found to fall into Wide Bay - these parties have also put in two applications for Runs but I have refused to sanction them - Soon after January I propose visiting the Country myself to ascertain the relation to the Bunya Scrubs which when at Wide Bay appeared to extend in that direction - Too much importance has no doubt been attached to the Bunya, as an article of food for the Aborigines the crop being very uncertain - the occupation of any Country fit for Sheep-farming cannot in any way interfere with the use the Aborigines make of these
 *39 Scrubs - in fact the Bunya is found in the vicinity of several of the Stations in this District * without giving rise to any troubles with the Natives on that account - & it is in general too far off to be used for domestic purposes & too inaccessible by water for exportation -

S.S.

December 31/45 - To the Colonial Secretary -

Report on the State of the Aborigines of the District of Moreton Bay for the year ending the 31st "Dec" 1845 -

The Aborigines of this District during the past year have been in a state of comparative quietude - whether it is the result of a more friendly feeling between them and the Squatters or of the difficulty they encounter in carrying on their depredations in a droughty season I cannot say - in former years the frequent floods rendered it more difficult to protect their flocks & herds & the Aborigines knew well how to take advantage of the occasion - they no longer adopt a system of open war, but visiting the Stations in small mobs in the guise of friends they allow no opportunity to escape them of pilfering the huts or destroying any Stray Cattle they may meet with - Great complaints are also made by the Settlers engaged in Agriculture in the vicinity of Brisbane of their marauding properties & indeed at my own Station where they are well supplied with provisions they have during the passed year stolen full 7 tons of Sweet Potatoes, grown principally for their use in the Winter - they effect their pilferings with so much cunning that it is in vain to prosecute them - till the evidence of an Aborigine is received in Court for what it is worth - The German Mission who had commenced their operations at Noonga Creek have been ejected by the Coast Blacks, their hut pillaged & one of them severely injured - Besides several trifling assaults, three men have been killed by them during the passed year ; one of them a worthy/fellon named Brown, who had carried off one of their Gins on the Coast, in some measure merited his fate - another, a shepherd, proceeding to Mr. Archer's Station was also murdered by four of the Coast Tribe - we subsequently found his bones & obtained the names of the murderers, but there is no evidence but that of the Aborigines - finally within these few days a Mr. J. Uhr has been murdered on the Brisbane, where he was residing as Hutkeeper at a Sheep Station of Me/srs. Ferriter & Uhrs - the Shepherd escaped by swimming the River & obtaining assistance at Major Norths ; they subsequently found Mr. Uhr's body in the River upon which an Enquiry was held which I have forwarded to the Attorney-General - the River being flooded at the present moment it is impossible to get to Mr. Uhr's, but as soon as it is passable I shall proceed to Mr. Uhr's, make a full enquiry into the matter -

S.S.

Jan 8/46 - To the Col. Secretary -

Reporting my excursion to Wivenhoe on the 27th of December last on occasion of the murder of Mr. John Uhr by the Aborigines -

It appears that the deceased with a single Shepherd with 800 Sheep was living at a hut in a remote and lonely corner of the Wivenhoe Run, between a Scrub at the foot of the D'Aguilar Range & the River & had with him an unusually large Supply of Stores -

From the report of the Shepherd who escaped, a small party of Aborigines visited the Station the day before the murder & promised to return & get some bush for them - the following day the shepherd took out his flock, but on his return in the evening found that the hut had been plundered & he could see nothing of his Master - he camped for the night in the midst of his Sheep & in the morning at daylight set out to search for him - some Aborigines soon made their appearance when he enquired of them what had become of his master - they told him he was dead in the River, but upon them attempting to surround him he fled to the hut, secured another gun & keeping them at bay, managed to get to the River which was unfortunately flooded - after remaining some hours in this perilous position, his cries brought Major North's people on the opposite bank to his assistance & they rescued him - the body of Mr. Uhr was subsequently picked up in the River & an enquiry held on it by Major North - the tracks of the Aborigines being run down to their camp in an Adjoining Scrub, some articles stolen from the hut & the remains of the sheep they had been devouring were found & of course absolved the Shepherd from all suspicion. Finally I have to state that in consequence of a requisition from Mr. Ferriter, accompanied by a primary letter from Mr. R. Jones, who with his family is residing at Mr. Ferriters, Lieut. Seymour of the 99th has sent up a Corporal & eight men to remain on the Head Station for a few days till the panic has subsided - I certainly do not myself see any necessity for their presence beyond calming the fears of the inmates, including a large proportion of women & children ; as I know that the aggressive party has crossed the D'Aguilar Range & is actually now engaged in spearing Me/s. Joyner & Mason's cattle -

S.S.

Jan'y 8/46 - The Col. Secretary -

In reply to your letter of the 27 "Ult" requesting to know on what authority Building Licences have been issued in this District I submit the following facts for the information of his Excellency :

On the 28th March 1842 his Excellency being at Brisbane appointed me Com. of Cr. Lds. & gave me certain written instructions for my immediate guidance - the one relating to Building Licences is as follows :

- *41 "persons wishing to put up Temporary Buildings on Cr. Lds. will be permitted to do so, on obtaining a Licence fr the Com. of Cr. Lds - on which Licence a fee * of £10 per Ann will be charged - It is to be however, distinctly understood that any Land occupied will be resumed by the Crown at one months notice, wherever it may be wanted for any purpose of Government or for sale - & that though the parties will be allowed to remove their buildings, they will receive no compensation whatever for any loss they may sustain - the fee on the first years Licence to be in every case paid in advance - Signed G.G. Brisbane March 28/42 -

His Excellency was pleased further to explain that the object of Building Licences was to afford

accommodation to the Public till such time as land could be put up for sale, as had been extensively practised at Port Phillip & warned me in no case to allow a bark hut to be put up without a licence - for Houses of Entertainment I was also directed to select such sites as might be hereafter available for Townships on the Main Roads - The number of building licences actually held in the District is only five - namely : 1st at South Brisbane in the Government Paddock, being granted with the condition of keeping the fence in repair - 2nd At Woogaroo for a House of entertainment ; this however I have refused to renew, as the land is about to be sold - 3rd at the Old Man's Waterhole on a branch of the Western Creek, near the Rosewood Scrub - 4th At the Junction of Black Fellow's & Lockyer's Creek - 5th At the Junction of Reynold's & Yarril Crs - the three last are all for Houses of Entertainment & hold the General Publicans Licence, being on the main Roads to Darling Downs & the Clarence Districts - as regards Mr. Steven's case I beg to state that beyond sanctioning his application to purchase & referring him to the Surveyor-General I had no knowledge whatever of the circumstances, presuming that the quantity & price of the land would be determined in Sydney ; I think it however right to state that for any purposes but a house of accommodation for Travellers on the Road, the site is absolutely worthless -

S.S.

Jan 8/46 - To the Col. Secretary -

Reporting the death of Trooper Smith's horse, Jack, which died on the 3rd January of over-exertion during the great heat we experienced on our excursion up the Brisbane on occasion of the murder of John Uhr by the Aborigines -

S.S.

Feb 26/46 - To the Col. Secretary

Enclosing Major North's Tender to supply three horses for the Police under my orders for £48. 0. 0 - namely Waterloo, Blucher & Jack - the latter is a pack-horse being estimated at £13. 8. 6 -

S.S.

*42 *

March 1/46 - Estimates for the Border Police for 1847

Commissioner at 300 £ per Ann	300. 0. 0
One Sergeant at 2½ per diem	45.12. 6
One Corporal at 1½ "	27. 7. 6
Six Troopers at 1½ "	109.10. 0
Provisions for 12 men at 9d per diem ea	164. 5. 0
Maize Ration for 8 Troop horses at 9d	109.10. 0
Forage for one horse for Commissioner	45.12. 6
Annual Clothing for 8 Mounted Troopers	188. 6. 8
ditto for two convicts and	13. 4. 3
one Aborigine	
Incidental Expenses	50. 0. 0

S.S.

April 6/46 - To the Principal Superintendent of Convicts

Reporting Thomas Connor, assigned as rough Carpenter, having obtained his Ticket of Leave in an unusual manner & notifying my intention to detain him till his Excellency's pleasure shall be made known to me - Eight months since I forwarded his petition to the Governor for a Ticket of Leave, with a certificate in his favour - this was returned endorsed "to apply again in March 46" - I returned the Petition to Connor, but about a month ago asked him for it, when he told me it was destroyed - this however, is a falsehood, as I find he has forwarded the original Petition with my Certificate sometime in Feb & obtained his Ticket with extraordinary dispatch on the 11th of March last - As his conduct has been very indifferent during the last 8 months, it is probable Connor thought I should refuse to renew my recommendation & may therefore have altered my original certificate so as to include the last 8 months - Under all the circumstances of the case & in justice to more deserving men I recommend that his Ticket may be detained till such time as his conduct shall merit it - Since writing the above Connor has absconded & upon enquiry among his comrades, they state that he is probably gone to apprise the Catholic Priest of the circumstance, as it was by his means that the Ticket has been obtained -

S.S.

May 20/46 - To the Colonial Treasurer

*43

With reference to your letter of the 29th April last containing a Statement of the Licences in Arrears in this District I beg to submit the following remarks : Thomas Taylor (July 42 to June 43) never occupied a Station in this District - his Agent Abel Smith applied for a Run for him, but as he never took it up Wm. Barker was allowed to occupy it - J.B. Bettington's Arrears for Melcombe will be paid by Robert Campbell tert., who been recommended for this year - * Thomas Adams & subsequently Adams & Campbell succeeded James Wingate in the occupation of Tarampa ; the arrears of which have all been paid according to the Treas. Receipt in my Office - Andrew (Gidion) Scott was gazetted on the 18th of October 44 as having paid his licence for the 1st July 44 - Hunter & Fyfe, licence for the 1st July 44 was paid by Mr. Kent as per Treas. Letter of the 27 Nov 44 - Adams & Campbell's licence for Tarampa for the 1st July 45 has I presume been paid as I have received the Treas. Receipt for the Assessment for the subsequent half-year - finally with reference to the arrears of Me/srs, Balfour & Irvine, they should have been paid by Sir E. McKenzie to whom the Station was transferred by my recommendation in December 1844.

S.S.

June 20/46 - To the Colonial Secretary -

With reference to your communication of the 15th October last, enclosing a Letter from Mr. Gordon Sandeman & other documents relating to certain charges he has thought proper to prefer against me I have the honour to submit the following observations for the information of his Excellency -

As regards the first part of his charge "my not sending back the Coolies to Tenthill when they came to my Station in September 1845 to prefer charges of ill-treatment by Mr. Friell's Agent" it is scarcely necessary to observe that Commissioners are not invested with any such arbitrary powers & consequently I had no alternative but to forward them to the Police Court at Brisbane, where their complaints might be investigated by the Bench, which of course is alone responsible for the subsequent proceedings - as Mr. Friell however, the employer of Mr. Sandeman never made any complaint either to Capt. Wickham or myself of those proceedings, though he and not Mr. Sandeman attended the Court, I cannot but express my astonishment that his Agent should have preferred his personal complaint against me by going into the Coolie-Case which was settled amicably with the entire concurrence of his Employer, the proprietor of the Tenthill Station - it has been done, however, there is no doubt with the view of bringing forward his own paltry complaint, which might otherwise have been thought scarcely worthy of his Excellency's Notice - As Mr. Sandeman has thought proper to agitate the matter, apparently too without his Employer's Instructions, I shall proceed to lay before his Excellency a brief Statement of the Coolie-Case, which at the time I thought of so much importance as to make a special Report of it to the Colonial Secretary in my Letter of the 25th Sept 1845 -

- *44 The Coolies, some 23 or 24 in number, men, women & children, came * down to my Station in a body on the 23rd of September 1845 & though they had no Interpreter with them, soon made me understand that they complained of breach of Agreement, namely : non-payment of Wages, deficient Rations & Clothing & some of beatings - Having seen them on their first arrival in the District only a few Months before I was much struck with their altered appearance, which from whatever cause, bore the stamp of Starvation and misery - Not being a Slave-driver had I had the power, I should not have had the courage to drive them back to their den of misery, as the humane Mr. Sandeman suggests - on the contrary I thought it my duty to have their complaints fully investigated by the Bench & sent them on to Brisbane, where there was a Native of Calcutta residing who might serve as Interpreter - I issued a Summons for Mr. Ayerit, the Superintendent of Tenthill to meet the charges as in duty bound to do ; but it is untrue that he came down on the Summons as Mr. Sandeman insinuates ; for both he and the Interpreter followed down the Coolies, my Policemen having passed them on the Road - The day following Mr. Ayerit's arrival the Bench proceeded to investigate the charges on Oath & were of Opinion that a positive breach of agreement had been committed in every case as regards the non-payment of Wages & deficient Rations & Clothing - aggravated in two or three cases by Assaults - An objection however, was raised to our jurisdiction, seeing that the Assaults were committed about three months previously & that as the Agreements were for five years, the amount of wages, together with the expense of bringing the Coolies out & sending them home again would considerably exceed the \$30 limit of Summary Jurisdiction under the Master & Servants Act - The Bench, therefore, decided to adjourn the trial and as the Steamer was proceeding to Sydney the following day, transmitted the depositions & the form of Agreement to the Attorney-General for his opinion on the subject - Mr. Friell was at the same time advised by his Attorney - This no doubt was the most advisable course for all parties, as there was at the time a very general feeling of indignation at the treatment the Coolies had received - As to the alleged detention of the Coolies by me it is false - they were detained by no one - had it, however, been practical legally & without violence, which it was not, to send them back to the Station, it was not advisable, seeing that they would have to return as soon as they reached it - the Bench, therefore, to prevent them being thrown upon the Towns-people for support, who were very charitably disposed towards them, thought it better for Mr. Friell's interests, to give them shelter in a Government Building & ordered the Contractor to supply them with a certain quantity of Flour & Meat, for which the Bench have since paid \$3.6.0 out of their own pockets, which neither Mr. Friell or his Agent have either had the honour or the honesty to refund - On the return of the Steamer we again held Court, *45 but Mr. Friell's Attorney having received information of the speedy arrival * of Mr. Friell & his Agent, wished for a further Adjournment, which was granted - After the lapse of a few days Mr. Friell & his Agent arrived, when the latter, on the Evening preceding the Sitting of the Court, called at Capt. Wickham's where I was staying & requested us to see Mr. Friell, who would initiate us into the mysteries of Coolie Treatment in India - this Gentleman being I believe, a Native of that Country - to this we objected ; as the object of Mr. Friell's Agent was too obvious & we had already some experience of his dealing with the Coolies on their first landing at Brisbane - not satisfied with this rebuke, the Agent proceeded to express his surprise at the occurrences which had taken place, as he was not aware of any dissatisfaction among them when he went to Sydney - At this statement I expressed my astonishment & reminded him of his conversation with me at Woogaroo on his way to Sydney ; in which he not only told me of the complaints of the Coolies, but upon my observing to him that I had nothing to do with such matters, till they came before me officially, he took his departure saying that he had called merely to mention them in case I should hear of them in his absence, or words to that effect - in fact only a few days after I was at Brisbane & related to Capt. Wickham the substance of this conversation - I may here remark that his visit to me could have no object but to prepare me for some such event, as soon took place ; as whatever may be my infirmities, to which Mr. Sandeman is pleased to allude, I have not the infirmity to know him out of my Office - To this Statement of a matter of fact Mr. Sandeman replied with much vehemence "I deny it" which if I have any knowledge of the force of language implied that I had stated a falsehood - I consequently resented it indignantly by retorting that "he told an Untruth" - this had the effect of bringing him to his senses & he went away like one conscious of his "Infirmity" - Now that he was knowingly stating a falsehood in denying any knowledge of the Coolie grievances before he went to Sydney is quite clear from the evidence adduced in Court - every offence even the Assaults having been committed while he was residing on the Station and no doubt with his knowledge & even participation, for the Interpreter, Mr. Sheriff swore that on one occasion he saw Mr. Sandeman beat Dubber Sing severely

with the handle of a Whip - in fact the Superintendent Mr. Ayerit & the Interpreter always regarded Mr. Sandeman as a joint proprietor in the concern & I am satisfied do nothing that is not first approved of by him - the Coolie-grievances, indeed, were in everybody's mouth in his vicinity long before he left the Station & he was very angry with his neighbours for repeating them - the Clergyman of the District too can testify that on visiting the Station, the whole of the Coolies came to him in a body to ask for redress, but he did not think it his duty to * put them in the way of obtaining it - So much for the Agent's veracity, whose object no doubt was to throw the odium and responsibility on the Superintendent Mr. Ayerit and the source of his malevolence to me my having exposed him -

*46 The day after this altercation, which did not last three minutes, though it has filled so many sheets of foolscap - the Bench proceeded with the case, Mr. Friell & not his Agent appearing in Court, a wise precaution on his part, as no doubt his examination on Oath might have proved disagreeable to him - This Gentleman admitted that there had been great mismanagement & expressed a most anxious desire to conform to what ever conditions the Court might determine for the amicable adjustment of the "difference" - though a perfect stranger to the Bench, we gave him credit for honourable intentions & as he himself was in no way personally implicated in the charges of ill-treatment we thought it advisable to listen to his proposition, more especially as the Attorney-General had given us no clear instructions in the matter, excusing himself on account of the pressure of business - We proceeded, therefore to an amicable adjustment of the differences : increasing the quantity of Rations & Clothing & insisting upon the immediate payment of the Arrears of Wages & that in future they should be paid monthly according to the terms of their agreement - Mr. Friell fully agreed to all these conditions & the Coolies were ordered back to the Station - they however refused to go & it depended on him & not on the Magistrates as his Agent falsely asserts to put them all in prison - he himself objected to such a proceeding, for knowing his Countrymen, he assured us that unless put in solitary confinement, which we declined as illegal, they would lie & rot in prison sooner than give in - Two only therefore, the most influential, were committed at Mr. Friell's request - No doubt Mr. Friell acted judiciously in this matter, as the combination soon broke up & two of them volunteered to go up with me the following day - I took them to my Station furnished them with Rations out of my own Store at Mr. Friell's Request & sent them on to Tenthill, without so much as thanks for my extra-official civility - the remainder of the Coolies soon followed, the Agent accompanying them - now it will scarcely be believed that this person came to my Station in my absence & even after the terrible insult he had received, had the baseness to borrow a quantity of Rations from my Store, though there was a Public House close at hand, for which, it now appears he never meant to pay nor yet return them - thus perpetrating an act of dishonesty to avenge himself of a personal insult & exhibiting another of the "infirmities" of his Nature - I might now close my defence but compassion for the Coolies impels me to add some further particulars respecting them - Some doubts have been raised as to the validity of their contracts with Mr. Friell & the Attorney-General some time since requested Capt. Wickham to make some enquiries into the matter - I consequently sent to the Station in this District to require the attendance of one of the *47 Coolies at * the Police Office, but received for answer that they had been removed to the Boyne - that is out of the boundaries of the Squatting District & consequently out of the reach of the protection of the Police - whether such a proceeding is consistent with the engagement with Mr. Friell I will not undertake to determine - if it is, it is to be regretted - some of them, I believe, deny the validity of their Contracts on the plea that they did not sign them or know their contents - it is certainly a remarkable fact that the very characteristic mark attached by some of them to the receipt of their Wages is not that attached to the Contract - As a sample of the nature of these documents it is only necessary to notice the Ration-list, which contains a goodly Bill of Fare of the choice things of a Hindoo's diet, which no doubt the poor fellow thinks he is to get ; but this is nullified by an insignificant clause, perhaps never observed, stating that in lieu of this abundant & here expensive Ration, he is to put up with a pound of Flour & a pound of Meat, when the former good things run short - now it is quite certain that Mr. Friell's Agent, having passed many years in the Colony, was perfectly aware that the Coolie in the Bush, must live like other people & hence practised a deception upon them - not satisfied, however, with having reduced them to less than felon's diet & clothed them in felon's Slops he determined to torture them still further & being all Hindoos but two he very humanely offers them beef instead of mutton, well knowing the Hindoos' horror of eating his God ! ! - the outcry is great & Mr. Friell's Agent disposes of his split peas in Store & very generously gives them $\frac{1}{2}$ a pound of Split peas & $\frac{1}{4}$ lb of Mutton instead of a pound of beef - No commentary is necessary on such conduct & I have only to add that I heard the details with unmitigated disgust, which must be participated in by every honourable mind - Having thus, I trust satisfactorily disposed of Mr. Sandman's direct charges & exposed his "infirmities" it is scarcely necessary to call his Excellency's attention to the glaring fact that they were not brought forward at an earlier period & that the Coolie-case has been brought forward without Mr. Friell's sanction - indeed he treats this matter throughout as proprietor & though he is pleased to designate himself in his present Letter as Mr. Friell's Agent, I have never known him as such in any official communication with me for the Returns of the Station are always signed by Samuel Ayerit as Superintendent - These incidents sufficiently prove the malicious Animus of the man, especially as he has found time to canvass every Squatter in the District, with the view of raising a party against me - he was too well known to be trusted & his proposition with one exception, spurned with contempt - & that exception his old Schoolmate, Sir. E. Mackenzie, who without enquiry was pleased to become his Abettor - The plea that *48 his numerous * duties as Mr. Friell's Agent occasioned the delay is equally futile ; as Mr. Friell's Stock even at the present moment does not exceed 10000 Sheep, over which there are at least three Superintendents - spread it is true over an immense extent of Country, occupying as it does four Runs ; two within the Squatting Boundaries & two outside on the Boyne - making Mr. Friell probably in proportion to his Stock, though quite a new hand, the most extensive occupier of Crown Lands in these parts, if not in the Colony -

It now only remains for me to advert to the concluding paragraph of Mr. Sandeman's Letter, in which he is pleased to prefer general charges, of a disgraceful nature which can be substantiated, & to

solicit his Excellency's gracious permission to submit the original Letter of Mr. Sandeman with my reply for Counsel's Opinion as to the propriety of instituting legal proceedings against the Author for a false & malicious libel -

S.S.

July 10/46 - The Hon the Col. Secretary -

With reference to your Circular of the 20th of June last I have the honour to recommend that a Sergeant & two Troopers shall be retained for the service of this District for the following reasons: - The District being recently formed, collisions with the Aborigines are necessarily more frequent - 2nd Within the last six months the Aborigines have been spearing Cattle on almost every Run in the District, particularly at Me/srs. Joyner's & Mason, Major North & Mr. Dowse's Station - also about ten head of Government Cattle - several of the Aborigines have been identified & six Warrant's have been issued for their apprehension - 3rd The Military post under the Main Range having been called in, fresh outrages may be expected in that Quarter -

S.S.

Sept 12/46 - To the Col. Secretary -

Reporting the Attack of the Aborigines on Mr. Coutt's Station on Lockyer's Creek & the probable death of the notorious Jimmy Campbell & two or three Aborigines wounded -

S.S.

Sept. 20/46 - To the Colonial Secretary -

Reporting on the Localities best adapted for holding Courts of Petty Sessions beyond the Boundaries in answer to his Circular of the 25 Ultimo No. 46/56 -

The Town of Brisbane, where Petty Sessions are at present held is situated rather too far to the Eastwood - a half circle to Westward with a 50 mile radius from Brisbane would include every head Station in the District but three to the N.W. - the great majority of the Population therefore lies to the N.W., West & S.W. of Brisbane & would be greatly benefited by a Court of P. Sessions more to the Westward * there is however no locality really outside the Boundaries conveniently situated for the purpose, I would therefore beg to suggest the Ipswich, 25 miles further to the Westward than Brisbane & only three miles within the County Boundary, would answer every purpose - it is in a fact almost in the centre of the District & would be a saving of 50 miles to the great majority of Squatters frequenting the Court - it has also other recommendations being at the head of the Navigation & the great thoroughfare of the District - it will soon want a Petty Sessions for its own Population - there is also already a District Constable & Assistant on the spot & when the Government Stock is removed, the Buildings now occupied by the Overseer might be used as a Court House & Lock up - the addition therefore of a Clerk of the Bench & Lockup-keeper is all that is immediately required to carry on the business of a Petty Sessions at Ipswich -

S.S.

Oct 25/46 - To the Col. Secretary -

Reporting the particulars of the murder of Mr. Gregor & his Servant woman by the Aborigines - On the 18th Instant the Aborigines assembled in great numbers at the Station, when Mr. Gregor being somewhat alarmed, commissioned four of them to cut him some bark & ordered the others away - they retired to a neighbouring Scrub, but the party employed to cut the bark soon returned & put the bark down in the Stockyard, calling Mr. Gregor to come & see it - he went with two of them & while examining the Bark they struck him on the back of the head & killed him instantly - the other two did the same by the Woman who had gone out of the hut to get a broom - the party in the Scrub then returned & a general pillage took place - The Woman's husband having gone to the Creek with a gun in his hand, hearing the uproar made his escape with some difficulty & fortunately fell in with Mr. Haly on his way home - he returned to Mr. Griffin's Station & gave the alarm, when a party of four set out & came upon two of the marauders who were still plundering the Station, but they effected their escape to the Scrub - The woman has left 3 little Girls, the eldest only 5 years old - they witnessed the whole transaction & were in no way molested - as did also an Aboriginal boy who was on horse back tending Cattle on the other side of the Creek - Immediately on receipt of the intelligence I proceeded to the Station, but finding that the Aborigines had dispersed in various directions, went on to Mr. Archer's Station at Durundur, where I arrested an Aborigine said to have been at the murder & brought him to Brisbane -

*50 *

S.S.

Decemb. 30/46 - To the Colonial Secretary -

Reporting the death of the Police-Horse Albert - drowned in crossing the 7 mile Creek on the 7th of the Month - Trooper Derby saved with difficulty by some Bullock-drivers camped near the Crossing-place waiting for the subsidence of the flood -

Decemb. 31/46 - To the Colonial Secretary - Report on the State of the Aborigines for the Year ending this day -

I have the honour to report for the information of his Excellency that during the past year the Aborigines have been guilty of sundry excesses - besides spearing Cattle which I am sorry to say has been carried on to a great extent in various parts of the District, without almost the possibility of detection they have in two instances attacked Stations - namely Rosewood, Mr. Coutt's on Lockyer's Creek,

where they were fortunately repulsed without effecting their object, & again on the North Pine, where they murdered the Proprietor Mr. Gregor & his Servant - Maid - they spared however the three children & the husband being fortunately absent at the time escaped & gave information to the next Station & a party of Squatters reached the Station in time to prevent the full accomplishment of their plundering intentions - The want of ordinary precaution on the part of Mr. Gregor seems to have been the real cause of the catastrophe - where there is an accumulation of Stores there is no safety from attack but in the presence of a sufficient force to protect them & two men at least are indispensable for this purpose - I had some time previously warned Mr. Gregor of the danger, having found the Station in charge of a single hutkeeper - No means at the disposal of Government can prevent these atrocities, particularly in a District, like this, so thickly timbered & intersected in every direction by Scrubs & Mountains that it is impossible for a Policeman to follow a marauder for fifty yards, without dismounting - fortunately the Aborigines of these parts are by no means of sanguinary habits, or the loss of life would be much greater, as the Stockmen & Shepherds are every where exposed to their isolated attacks - they rarely therefore commit murder unless for the purposes of plunder - In their marauding habits the other more civilized Blacks in the vicinity of Brisbane & Ipswich are worse than their wilder brethren in other parts of the District & the small Settlers in the vicinity of the Towns are constantly suffering from their thievish properties - this necessarily produces frequent collisions, the results of which it is difficult to ascertain -

- *51 As regards their moral condition absolutely nothing has been done for * them, as both the German Missionaries at Eagle Farm & the Catholic Mission on Stradbroke Island have given up the task as hopeless - this however, is not to be wondered at as they never have had the means necessary to induce the Aborigines to live permanently at their Stations - The first and most important requisite in every attempt to improve their condition is an abundant supply of food, so as to retain a good number of them together or they soon get disgusted & take to the Bush - Missionaries usually commence their labours at the wrong end by endeavouring to improve their moral condition, leaving them to supply their physical wants how they best can - Were a different plan pursued more satisfactory results might be obtained but this cannot be expected from Missionaries or private individuals, the cost of keeping them far exceeding the produce of their labour -

S.S.

Feb 12/47 - To the Colonial Secretary -

Reporting the number of Border Police Horses fit to be transferred for mounting the ordinary Constabulary attached to the newly formed Benches at Ipswich & Cre/sbrook, namely : Four, Silver Main, Bobby, Rajah & Jack - & three remaining in my Service -

S.S.

Feb. 20/47 - To the Colonial Secretary -

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 7th Ultimo stating "That it having been represented to Government that the most unjustifiable proceedings had recently been resorted to against the Aborigines inhabiting the District of Moreton Bay, under the plea or pretext of apprehending the Murderers of the late Mr. Gregor" - Had I been favoured with the name of the individual making the charges I should have called upon him to prove his assertion ; the only satisfactory way of proceeding in such cases - but as that is not the case I have only to state for his Excellency's information that if the representation relates to the Squatting part of the District under my charge, I believe it to be utterly false - My Station is much frequented by the Aborigines from different parts, and if any thing of the nature of an indiscriminate attack on the Aborigines had been made by the Squatters I must have heard of it - I was myself at Mr. Gregor's Station immediately after the murder & took one of the depredators without firing a Shot & can positively assert that there was not so much as a party formed by the Squatters to pursue the murderers - indeed the futility of

*52 such proceedings in a thickly timbered & mountainous Country became so manifest * on the first occupation of the District, that of late nothing of the kind has been attempted & the Squatters confine themselves to a strictly legitimate defence of their property, allowing the Aborigines free intercourse with their Stations as long as they conduct themselves with propriety - that collisions must occasionally take place cannot surprise any one seeing that the Aborigines are particularly numerous in the District & frequently sufficiently daring to stop people on the high road & like sturdy beggars ask for pipes & tobacco & if not given them take them by force - That considerable excitement took place at Brisbane on the murder of Mr. Gregor is not to be wondered at, his brother being the resident Clergyman of the District & this again was no doubt heightened by the offer of a Government reward for the apprehension of the murderers - as the Police Magistrate however is occupied in an enquiry into the facts which occurred, it is unnecessary for me to enter into the subject - I cannot however avoid expressing my opinion that too much weight has been given to the reports of the Aborigines by persons who have no practical knowledge of the Aboriginal character & language - my experience teaches me that nothing is more difficult than getting at the truth by questioning an Aborigine - even those well acquainted with their language - as by leading questions the most contradictory statements may be elicited - in fact an Aborigine will say anything he thinks will get him a belly-full - there is also another source of misapprehension for persons little cognizant of the habits of Bushmen, namely : the absurd boasting by young hands of their hair-breadth escapes & desperate encounters with the Aborigines - all of which is taken at its real value by men of experience in these matters, who well know that a wild Black is more feared than followed in the Bush & that the use of Spurs is much oftener had recourse to than any other weapon -

S.S.

Febry 26/47 - To the Colonial Secretary

With reference to your Circular of the 1st of January last requiring me to ascertain & inform you whether there are Magistrates likely to attend at each of the Benches of Petty Sessions lately erected in this District, who will receive & act upon the communications addressed to them " I have the honour to submit the following observations for the information of his Excellency -

*53 In my Letter of the 20th of September 46 on the subject of Petty Sessions I recommended the formation of one Bench only at Ipswich, feeling assured that neither the number of Magistrates nor the Extent of the District would bear another - Under the present arrangement therefore as I anticipated some * difficulty will arise in working the Ipswich Bench, having under the arrangement I proposed looked to the Magistrates of the North for their cooperation - presuming that the jurisdiction of each Bench will be limited by the Distance, the Magistrates for each Bench will nearly be as follows -

Brisbane will take the Logan, the Albert & the Pine River Squatters & having a Police Magistrate, the Regimental Ln & Mr. Kinchela, will of course have an efficient Bench -

Ipswich will have the lower Brisbane, the Teviot, the Bremer & Lockyer's Creek with all the Stations under the Main Range ; the Town too being at the head of Navigation will no doubt ere long add considerably to the labours of the Bench - the Magistrates will be myself often absent on other duty ; Mr. Dorsey resident, but being a Medical Practitioner not to be depended upon, & Major North living about 15 miles off & too advanced in age to render probably much assistance - there is also Mr. Uhr some 25 miles off who will occasionally assist - this Bench therefore, the most important of the whole, is indifferently provided with Magistrates & I fear will get on indifferently -

Finally the Bench at Cressbrook consists of Me/srs. Bigge (2) Balfour, Atkinson, & Ferriter, forming in fact the strongest Bench in the District with the most limited Jurisdiction, being confined to a few Stations on the Upper Brisbane & its Tributaries - they will have little to do but answer the Government Correspondence -

S.S.

March 31/47 - Estimate of the Expenses of the Establishment for the year 1848 -

Commissioner	366. 0. 0
Two Troopers at 1/6 each per diem	54.18. 0
Rations, Clothing & Forage	232.17. 0
Stores & Ammunition	7. 3. 3
Special Items & Aborigines	28. 0. 0

S.S.

May 31/47 - To the Colonial Secretary - Special Report on the Aborigines -

1. The number of the Aborigines in this District is probably not far short of 4000 souls, one fourth of which are fighting men - about two females to three males & few females have more than two children - there is probably little alteration in their numbers during the last five years -

*54 2. Their actual condition is that of savages who live by hunting * fishing & collecting the fruits of the earth - their ordinary means of existence is little changed or if they have lost something by their hunting grounds being occupied by Squatters they are amply compensated by what they receive or steal from the Stations -

3. Blankets have been distributed by me during the present year & about three years back by the Missionaries - they seem very desirous of obtaining them but I believe are soon made away with - often no doubt for Tobacco - instead of Blankets a woollen Shirt with waistband would be preferable -

4. I am not aware of any Aborigine ever having been refused medical or Hospital Treatment if required -

5. A very small proportion of them, particularly those least able to find their food in the Bush are occasionally employed in manual offices, for which they get a little food -

6. Their habits are those of an indolent, merry-making people in general quite incapable of regular employment -

7. I have known but 2 or 3 half-castes in this District & they were living with their white parents - if left with the Aborigines they probably would have been destroyed

8. There is no disposition whatever of the white labouring population to amalgamate with the Aborigines -

9. At present the Aborigines are on a very friendly footing with the Settlers of the District - there were sundry collisions brought on I believe by the Squatters in the first instance - the loss of life by the Whites may have been from 20 to 25 in killed & wounded ; but if report is to be believed that of the Aborigines must have been much more considerable -

10. The destruction of property has by no means been so considerable as might be expected - indeed after one of the most serious attacks on a herd of 1500 head of Cattle during the Winter before last, only about 25 were found missing -

11. The Aborigines of this District are by no means a blood-thirsty race & their quarrels are sorted out with little effusion of blood - indeed their conflicts are more like Tournaments - their numbers therefore are little affected by them -

12. I do not believe that infanticide is usual amongst them as they show a great affection for their children - but eat them notwithstanding if they die from natural causes -

13. All efforts to civilize & settle down the full grown Aborigines will I'm satisfied prove abortive - their life in the bush has too many charms to allow them to abandon it for that of civilized man - something however may perhaps be effected with the rising generation, were there a place of rendezvous in ^A each district where they could at all times find food, raiment & Tobacco, with little work - the first step to civilization is to keep their bellies is constantly full - for I find on my own Station that as long as we are able to stuff them with Sweet Potatoes, Corn & Tobacco they are most anxious in their visits - but when the store is exhausted they speedily take their departure -

S.S.

Oct 25/47 - To the Colonial Secretary -

On the New Crown Lands Act as regards Sawyers

Some doubt being entertained as to the operation of the new Crown Lands Act proclaimed on the 24th April last, as regards Sawyers, I have the honour to request information on the following points -

1. In Section IV of the new Act does the word "Clearing" apply to all persons not only cutting but removing timber dead or alive upon Crown Lands & subject them to the penalty -

2. By the third Section can other than a Commissioner lay the information in writing & take out a Summons for Parties transgressing - as there is no power given to arrest persons found in the Act, I fear there will be much difficulty in bringing parties to justice

S.S.

Nov 10/47 - To the Colonial Secretary -

On Wiggins' Trespass on the Government Runs -

With reference to your Letter of the 26th of October last with three enclosures from Dep. Comm. General Kent, relating to the alleged trespass on the Government Runs at Dunlop Plains by the flocks of J.P. Robinson I have the honour to report :

1. That Mr. Kent made a verbal communication to me on the subject in Oct. last, when I recommended him to serve Mr. Robinson's Superintendent with a Notice of Trespass & afterwards proceed in the usual way for damages -

2. Mr. Kent did so, when the Trespass was abated & has not since been renewed - should any further encroachment take place I shall take the necessary Steps for its removal in conformity with his Excellency's instructions -

S.S.

Nov 10/47 To the Colonial Secretary -

On Ferriter & Uhr's application for a Run near the Heads of the Brisbane or Burnett -

Application refused on the ground that the land is out of the Limits of Protection & Control - being on the Burnett or so called Boyne - in conformity with the Col. Sec. Letter of the 27th December 45, prohibiting me Licensing any fresh Stations to the North of those already formed - at least applications for 20 Stations on the Burnett & Mary have been refused -

S.S.

Dec. 20/47 - To the Colonial Treasurer - Recommending :

1. Transfer of Thomas Dowse's Licence for Gimboomba to Robert Rowland

2. Transfer of John Ross' Licence for Rose Vale to John Brewster -

Enclosed my cheque for £2.

S.S.

Dec 31/47 - To the Colonial Secretary -

Aboriginal Report for 1847 -

In my last Report I was under the painful necessity of enumerating sundry Atrocities committed by the Aborigines in various parts of the District - it is therefore with much satisfaction that I now have the honour of reporting for his Excellency's information that with the exception of two or three Stations in the vicinity of the Coast, the Squatters have no where been molested - indeed at all the Stations I have every where found the Aborigines received upon a friendly footing - experience has no doubt taught them that the occupation of their ground by the Whites so far from curtailing their means of existence has

rather augmented them - in some few instances I have found them entrusted with flocks of Sheep & am informed that when they can be prevailed upon to engage in this vocation of Shepherds they acquit themselves in a very satisfactory manner - The Aborigines of the Coast are le/s tractable & the German Mission & the three Stations nearest to the Coast have all more or less suffered from their marauding properties - only one man however has lost his life & another severely wounded - they however were Sawyers, a class of men too apt to give provocation - On the other hand the Aborigines of Moreton Island in saving the lives of the persons thrown on the Shore by the melancholy loss of the Sovereign Steamer fully bear me out in the opinion I have always had of them, that they are not naturally a blood-thirsty Race -

*57 *

S.S.

Jan 3 - 11/48 - To the Colonial Secretary -

Recommending the Sale of the Police Buildings at Cre/sbrook without delay -

With reference to your Letter of the 11th of January last on my taking charge of the Police Buildings at Cre/sbrook till they can be sold with the Land - I have the honour to state that there is not the slightest chance of any one bidding more for the Land & Buildings together than for the Buildings alone with the view of removing them - the site is perfectly worthless in every respect - being several miles from the Main Road, with very indifferent soil for agricultural purposes & a very bad supply of water - there will too be great danger of the buildings being burnt down in the months of October & November if not inhabited - I recommend therefore that they be immediately sold -

S.S.

March 11/48 - To the Colonial Secretary - reporting Forfeited Runs in the Moreton District -

I have the honour to state that the only Run in this District that comes under the Class mentioned in the 3rd Paragraph of the Notice in the Government Gazette of the 4th of Feb last is the one formerly occupied by Mr. Andrew Gregor situated on the Caboolture River - Mr. Gregor took up his Licence in July 1845 & was still in occupation to the time of his murder by the Aborigines in Oct 1846 - Upon his Brother the Revd. John Gregor taking possession of the Stock & Station I wrote to him to pay up the Arrears due by his Brother, but he neglected to do so - finding that the Run had subsequently been vacated & the Stock sold I again applied to him but with no better success - the Revd. John Gregor has since met with an untimely end, having been drowned about 2 months & I believe intestate -

S.S.

April 6/48 - To the Colonial Treasurer - With reference to Building Licences -

With reference to your Letter of the 15th Ultimo I have the honour to state that the only three Building Licences in this District were recommended separately in my Letter of the 20th of Augt last & the fees £30 remitted at the same time, of which I hold the receipts -

S.S.

April 21/48 - To the Colonial Secretary - Reporting on sundry Tenders (Robinson, Wickham, North & Thorn) for the Government Runs -

*58

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 21st Feb including a Tender from J.M. Robinson - also another of the 16th of March last enclosing Tenders from J.C. Wickham, Major North & G. Thorn - as the whole of their Tenders relate to the same portion of the Government Runs, referred to in your Letter of the 14th Ultimo, in which I am informed that the Government Runs were to be considered as New Runs, properly described & advertised for Public * competition, I shall proceed at once to a description of the same - & beg leave to enclose a rough sketch of the boundaries for reference -

2. The parties tendering have evidently not been aware of the extent to which the Ten-Mile Boundary-Line round Ipswich has cut up the Runs in question - the Run applied for by Mr. Robinson under the name Rosewood (Rosewood Scrub Station) without other description is within the above boundary line for the most part - The portion outside may be described as follows : It is bounded on the N.W. by the Rosewood Scrub & Range ; on the N.E. by the 10-Mile Boundary Line ; to the S.W. by a straight line from Mr. Forbes through the Old Man's Waterhole to the Rosewood Scrub & Range & to the S.E. & E. by Mr. Forbes Range & a marked Tree line to Yarrill Cr & thence to the 10 mile boundary line - the extent of the Run may be taken at about 3 miles by 9 in length or 27 Sq. Miles -

3. With reference to reserves for public purposes I have the honour to recommend that a considerable portion should be reserved at the Old Man's Waterhole for a Township - the site being well adapted for agricultural purposes on the main Road to Darling Downs & only 17 miles from Ipswich - I would recommend that a line should be drawn due E & W about 2 miles south of Owen's Inn from the 10 mile boundary line to the Little Liverpool Range, which would include a fine lagoon - reserving all between it & Rosewood Scrub -

4. Should the proposed Reserve be approved of, there will be but about 5 square miles of the Run to be disposed of, which can be of no value to anyone but J.M. Robinson, the licensed occupant of Laidley Plains & might be added to complete the boundary of his Run & give him compensation for what he will lose by the Reserve indicated -

5. With regards to Mr. Thorn's claim to the Dunlop Plains portion, I beg to state that the original boundary of Rosebrook, namely Mr. Forbes' Range, included the portion in question ; the

original Licensee, John Ross, however, retired further up the Creek to make room for the Government Sheep - no doubt with the understanding, that upon the Government Sheep being sold, he should regain possession -

S.S.

May 15/48 - To the Colonial Treasurer - Reporting Result of Warrant of Distress against J.C. Pearce -

I have the honour to enclose a Letter from J.C. Pearce informing me that his Agents Montifiore & Graham, will pay the Amount £18.17. 1 into the Treasury - if not already effected, no doubt they will do so on presentation of the enclosed Letter -

*59 *

S.S.

May 18/48 - To the Colonial Treasurer - Reporting Sale of Cressbrook Police House - Remitted \$9.19.6 being the amount realized by the sale of a House, lately belonging to Cressbrook Bench - the sale having been authorized by Col. Sec. Letter of 13 March 48 No. 48/92 - enclosed Douse's bill of sale -

S.S.

May 18/48 - To the Colonial Treasurer - Arrears due by Me/srs. Balfour & Irvine - Reporting that Mr. John Balfour had directed Me/srs. Montifiore & Graham to pay the Arrears £1.9.6 Me/srs. Balfour & Irvine having long left the Dist.

S.S.

June 15/48 - To the Colonial Secretary - J. Glennie's Tender for Mt. Lindsay No. 3 of May 1848 -

1. The Tender does not include any land under Lease or Licence & applied for in any other Tender -

2. The Public-Interests do not require any portion should be reserved - & the description of its boundaries sufficiently indicate the land tendered for & its size & form are governed by natural features, being situated in a very remote & broken Country - Extent 13,440 Acres - Graz Cap. 640 Cattle -

Description : Situated on the Head of the Logan near Mt. Lindsay - bounded on the S. by Mt. Lindsay & Capt Pike's Cattle Station - on the West by Mt. Barney - On the N & N.E. by Campbell's Sheep Station & Run - & on the E. by broken & Scrubby Ranges - watered by Creeks forming the Logan River by their confluence & about 7 miles long by 3 broad -

S.S.

June 30/48 - To the Colonial Secretary - with reference to Cressbrook Police Stores -

Reporting that the Stores had been directed to be forwarded to the Clerk of the Bench at Ipswich - but delayed for want of conveyance - will be forwarded per next Steamer to Col. Storekeeper -

Reported Police House (Cressbrook) sold & proceeds \$9.19.6 paid into the Treasury -

S.S.

Augt 10/48 - Recommended transfer of Broomelton - Col. Treasurer -

Recommended transfer of Broomelton to Th. Lodge Murray Prior by Me/srs. Aitkman & Prior - C.J. Mackenzie as Aitkman's Attorney -

S.S.

Augt 10/48 - Col. Treasurer - Transfer of Whiteside -

Recommended Transfer of Whiteside to John Hosking of Sydney by G. & T. Griffin licensed occupants -

S.S.

*60 *

Aug 30/48 - To Col. Secretary - Unlicensed Occupants of Cr Lds -

In reply to your Circular of the 8th Instant I have the honour to state that there are no parties in my District in occupation of Cr Lds, without authority -

S.S.

Sept 20/48 - To Col. Treasurer - Transfer of Telamon & Melcombe -

Recommended transfer of Telamon & Melcombe to Thomas Collins by Robt. Campbell tert. -

S.S.

Sept 25/48 - To Col. Treasurer - Transfer of Djuandjuan -

Approved Transfer of Djuandjuan to F.A. Forbes of Ipswich by Thomas Archer -

S.S.

Nov 8/48 - To the Col. Secretary - Respecting Courtts' alleged Trespass -

Referring to Rice Julians Letter charging "Thomas Courtts with being in unauthorised occupation of Cr. Land 24 miles from Ipswich". I have the honour to State that I have been unable to find Rice Julian

as he absconded Fr. the service of Donald Coutts about the time he wrote the Letter -

The facts are that some Sheep of Th. Coutts are running on Donald Coutts' Rosewood Run in this District - but as the Run is surrounded by Licensed Stations there is no unoccupied Cr. Lands for them to run upon - the charge therefore is no doubt malicious & unfounded -

S.S.

Dec 5/48 - To the Col. Treasurer - Transfer of Cooya -

Approved Transfer of Cooya to Me/srs Hope & Ramsay by Me/srs. David Archer & Co.

S.S.

Dec 20/48 - To the Col. Secretary -

Report on Turner's Tender for Glenorchy - No. 1 Nov. 48 -

1. The land tendered for is a patch of land on the Dividing Range, watered by Eastern Waters & consequently in the District of Moreton Bay - On referring to the Government Gazette of Augt 2/48 this portion of country is included by Me/srs. Crawford & Hodgson as part of their Eton Vale Run in the Darling D. District - I am not aware how long they have laid claim to this country - if since the Government Regulation of the 2nd Apr. 1844, directing a separate Licence to be taken out for every New Run even in the same District they can have no claim to it - There is no other opposing claim -

2. The Public Interests do not require that any portion of the Land tendered for should be reserved from Lease -

*61 3. The Description given sufficiently indicates the land tendered for - the Main Range * dividing the Waters of ~~Bou~~ Creek (Western Waters) from those of Sandy Creek (Eastern W) being the Boundary of the Two Districts -

Description : All the Country throwing Waters into Sandy Creek from the Main Range down to an unpassable Scrub & mountains dividing it from Tenthill Run, having the Main Range to the West, Flagstone Creek belonging to Hellidon to the North & Blackfellows Creek to the South -

S.S.

Dec 31/48 - The Col. Secretary -

Report on the Aborigines for the Year ended Dec 1848 -

Since my last years Report I am happy to say that with the exception of two Burglaries committed on outstations, I have received no serious complaints of the conduct of the Aborigines in this District - in one of these cases I regret to say they murdered the Hutkeeper of Mr. Balfour & carried off the Rations which appears to have been more considerable than it is either usual or safe to keep at an Outstation - In the other they broke into a Hut of Mr. Thomms but being surprised in the midst of their depredations by the return of the Hutkeeper, whom they attempted to spear but made a precipitate retreat up the discharge of his Gun, by which one of the Aborigines was either killed or wounded, but as they carried the body off a subsequent enquiry led to no other result than to show the depredations they had committed - They occasionally no doubt carry on their usual aggressions against Cattle, though not with their former daring - but for this there is no remedy but watchfulness on the part of the owner -

Since the cessation of the labours of the German Mission there has been no institution of any kind in the District for the advancement of the civilization of the Aborigines ; it is only therefore by their general conduct that an opinion can be formed of their progress - Upon the whole I believe I may venture to assert that the Aborigines of this District are gradually succumbing to the influences of civilization & that the fearful atrocities which seem to be the inevitable consequences of a first Settlement among savages are beginning to cease under the influence of a more just appreciation of the advantages to be derived from a mutual good understanding between the Aboriginal Inhabitants & the New Comers -

S.S.

*62 *
1849

January 10 - 1/49 - To the Chief Commissioner -

Reserves for the Aborigines - (Circular Sept 16/48)

1. The principal Reserve should be at Mt. Zion, the residence of the German Mission who no doubt would be of material service in carrying out the intentions of Government The locality is within six Miles of Brisbane & is much frequented by the Coast Blacks - undoubtedly the most numerous & most troublesome in the District -

2. A Reserve on the Bremer near Ipswich, where the Aborigines of the Brisbane & Logan Rivers congregate in great numbers from the great facility of obtaining food during the boiling down Season - there being four Establishments on the spot -

3. A Third Reserve might be formed on the Franklin Vale Creek, near the Old man's Hole (water) better named the Village of Rosewood, in the immediate neighbourhood of the great Rosewood Scrub, which

is the great Rendesvous of the Aborigines of the Dividing Range - the land here is of a superior description & only 17 miles from the head of Navigation -

Finally, from an eight years experience of the character & habits of the Aborigines, I must pronounce them a lazy, good-natured people, who will probably under the best management never succeed in growing sufficient food for their own consumption - still they have never yet been placed in a position to make the experiment - perhaps something might be effected on a Government farm in the vicinity of the German Mission where the rising generation might be clothed & fed & trained to the simplest Agricultural operations & instructed in the rudiments of education - it is quite true the German Mission failed altogether in their educational course, but this is not to be wondered at, as they wanted the essentials of civilization, namely the means to satisfy the mere cravings of Nature - S.S.

Feb 16/49 - The Chief Commissioner -

Why are the Aborigines to have Blankets & - (Jan 27/49) -

It has been usual to distribute Blankets & on the approach of Winter but there are no special circumstances now rendering it necessary unless the cultivation of a mutual good feeling between the Aborigines & Government should be thought a sufficient reason for the distribution - S.S.

March 1/49 - 3/49 - The Chief Comm. of Cr Lds

Transfer of Mt. Esk -

Recommended transfer of Mt. Esk to Me/srs. F.W. & T.E. Bigge by Gideon A. Scott - S.S.

March 22/49 - 4/49 - The Ch. Comm. of Cr Lds -

Transfer of Wivenhoe & Grantham -

Recommended transfer of Wivenhoe to Edmund Uhr by Me/srs. Ferriter & Uhr - S.S.

March 22/49 - 5/49 -

Recommended transfer of Grantham to John Black by C.W. Pitts - S.S.

*63 *

March 22/49 - 6/49 - To the Chief Commissioner - Transfer of Dalhunny Plains -

Recommended transfer of Dalhunny Plains to J.L. Montifiore by G.S. & S.H. Bourgoyne - S.S.

March 31/49 - 8/49 - The Ch. Commissioner - The compensation for Buildings at Woogaroo -

Acknowledging receipt of letter of March 19/49 notifying the allowance of Two Hundred Pounds as compensation for improvement at Woogaroo - S.S.

April 5/49 - 9/49 - The Ch. Commissioner - Referring to the New Counties of Ward & Canning - (March 7/49) -

Returning Tracing of the New Counties - observing that the County of Canning is not down - sufficient data in my Office to determine the matter - S.S.

Apr. 20/49 - 10/49 - To the Ch. Commissioner - Transfer of Kilcoy - Beau Desert -

Recommending transfer of Kilcoy to C. Bernard Atherton by C.J. Mackenzie - S.S.

May 10/49 - 11/49 -

Recommending Transfer of Beau Desert to W. Sprott Boyd by J.M. Robinson - S.S.

April 1/49 - 7/49 - To Ch. Commissioner -

General Reports on the Runs - -

Enclosing Reports on all the Stations on the Logan & its two Tributaries the Albert & Teviot Brook - in conformity with the Instructions of the Col. Sec. Letter of the 21st December last & including all the Runs from No. 1 - 13 advertised in the Government Gazette of

Mem. See special Reports on all these Runs.

S.S.

June 12/49 - 12/49 - To Ch. Commissioner -
General Reports on Runs -

Enclosing Reports from No. 14-29 inclusive on all the Runs on the Brisbane and its Tributaries - on all the Runs on the Brisbane and its Tributaries - on the Runs advertised in the Government Gazette of the 11th May 1848 -

Mem. See Special Report on all these Runs

S.S.

May 30/49 - To the Col. Treasurer -

Reporting on Distress Warrants -

With reference to your Letter of the 1st of May last enclosing 5 Warrants of Distress I have to report -

James Canning Pearce is in Sydney & I have warned him to pay the amount into the Treasury -

Andrew Gideon Scott - the Amount will be paid into the Treasury by Me/srs. Bigges who have purchased this Run - Retd Warrant July 12/49 -

*64 Me/srs. Burgoyne - their Agents Me/srs. Montiefiore & Co will pay this Amount into the Treasury - *

Francis Clarke - Enclosed John Hosking's Check No. 616 on the Union Bank together with the Warrant - #10.3.3. -

No. 3 Warrant will be satisfied by return of the Steamer

S.S.

June 12/49 - 13/49 - To Ch. Commissioner - Transfer of Moogerah & Crows Nest -

Approved Transfer of Moogerah to Me/srs. Pickering & Melville by John Richardson -

S.S.

June 12/49 - 14/49 -

Approved Transfer of Crows Nest to J.L. Montiefiore by J. Canning Pearce -

S.S.

June 21/49 - To the Col. Treasurer - Remitting Pearce's Arrears -

Remitted Graham ; Order on Montiefiore for #32.2.2. & Warrant

S.S.

July 1/49 - 15/49 - To Ch. Commissioner - Transfers of Wivenhoe & Whiteside -

Approved Transfer of Wivenhoe to Joseph, Francis & Wm. North Junr. by Edm. Uhr.

S.S.

16/49 - To the Col. Treasurer - Charles Cameron's Arrears -

Remitted Montiefiore & Co. Check for #13.3.7 in satisfaction of the Warrant to distrain No. 3 of the 1st May/49 -

S.S.

July 25/49 - 17/49 - To Ch. Commissioner - On the various Classes of Runs -

With reference to your Circular of the 29th of May last I have the honour to report :

1. That the Boundaries of the Moreton Bay District being formed by great Mountain Ranges & the Sea Coast render any Error in the Description of Runs in this District in reference to the adjoining Districts almost impossible & upon considering the Descriptions in the Gazette find them sufficiently accurately indicated -

2. The following Runs lying between the 27th & 28th Parallels of South Latitude & outside the Settled Districts of the County of Stanley & the Ten-Mile Boundary Line round Ipswich or inside the Counties of Ward : & Canning are altogether intermediate : Buaraba - Cressbrook - Crows Nest - Caboolture - Djuandjuan - Durundur - Dugandan - Eskdale - East Haldon - Fasofern - Fairnie Lane - Grantham - Gimboomba - Helliidon - Kilcoy - Laidley Plains - Mt. Brisbane - Mt. Esk - Mt. Flinders - Moondoolum - Rosevale - Rosewood - Rosebrook - Tamrookum - Telamon - Tambourine - Tenthill - Tarampa - Wivenhoe - Whiteside & Samson Vale - Portions of Mt. Brisbane, Farnie Lane, Wivenhoe & Mt. Flinders have already been brought within the Settled Districts & the remaining portions have been accurately *65 described in the G. Gazette - To these may also be added the following Runs intersected by * these Parallels : Broomelton - Beaudesert - Kerry - Nindoombah - Tabragalba - Taroom - but both portions are intermediate, the portions cut off being in the County of Ward -

3. It remains therefore for me to consider the portions of the District situated in the N. West & S. West corners of the District, outside the 27th & 28th Parallels & the Boundary Lines of the New Counties of Ward & Canning - but in the absence of any data to enable me to determine in what points

the Parallels of Latitude will cut the Runs, it is impossible for me to say which portions of the following Runs will be entitled to a fourteen or what to an eight year lease : Colinton - Tandy - Cooya - Taroom - Moogerah - Dulhunty Plains - of these Probably Tandy, Moogerah & Dulhunty Plains will be altogether entitled to a 14 years lease - The Assistance of a Surveyor will therefore be absolutely necessary to determine this point -

S.S.

Augt 1/49 - 18/49 - To the Ch. Commissioner - General Report on Runs -

Enclosing Reports from 30-37 inclusive of the Runs in this District - being the Supplementary List of Claims published in the G. Gazette of the 20th of June last & transmitted in your Letter of the 27th of the same Month

Mem: See special Reports on all these Runs :

S.S.

Augt 27/49 - 19/49 - The Ch. Commissioner - Report on Tenders for Heads of the Cressbrook -

No. 5 & 6 of the 2nd of July 49 by McConnell & Scott -

1. The Tenders do not include any Land under Lease or Licence - but the land tendered for in No. 5 is identical with that tendered for in No. 6 -

2. The Public Interests do not require that any portion of it should be reserved for public purposes -

3. The description given sufficiently indicates the land tendered for - being a portion of land situated on Cressbrook Creek - between Cressbrook Run on the N. East & Crows Nest to the S. West -

4. The extent of the Run is very limited & its shape is altogether determined by natural boundaries - being in the reputed County of Stanley it will be entitled to an eight year lease -

Description of Heads of the Cressbrook (McConnell) or Harden (Scott) Bounded on N.W. by Ranges dividing the Water falling into Cressbrook Cr fr. those of Andirramba Cr. On the South by a marked tree Line - East by Cressbrook Run - & West from Crows Nest by marked Tree Line -

Estimated Ext - 16,000 Acres - Graz. Capabilities 4000 -

S.S.

*66 *

Sept 6/49 - 19/49 - The Ch. Commissioner - On J. Canning Pearce's Magisterial Grievances - (Augt 7/49)

1. On Wedn. the 4th of July last a Petty Sessions was held at Ipswich for the adjudication of Small Debts - there were 19 cases besides 4 on the Police Sheet - in one of the former Mr. Pearce was a party but as it was last on the List, it was ended only a little before Sundown - Mr. Pearce as is usual with him experienced great dissatisfaction with the judgment of the Bench, indeed conducted himself in a most discourteous manner - I rose from the Bench & was about to go away, when Mr. Pearce saw a Shepherd of his, who had come down to take out a Summons against him for wages - he requested the Court to hear the Case, but I objected having ten miles to ride & Mr. Pearce had expressed himself in such uncourteous language on our former judgment as to leave considerable irritation on the minds of the Bench - however on being assured that the case would occupy only a few minutes I consented - The deposition of his Overseer was taken down in writing & the Shepherd was called upon for his defence & made a Statement which was not taken down & called a witne/s named Bollon - seeing now that the evidence of these men was very material I considered it absolutely necessary that it also should be taken down - but as this could not be done without sending for lights, I did not think it necessary to protract the sitting after the arduous day we had had of it - it is true Dr. Dorsey, who was on the Bench said he was ready to give judgment & it is possible that he may have told Mr. Pearce, who is a friend of his, what his judgment was - but if so I consider such a proceeding highly irregular & fully justifying me in refusing to adjudicate without further investigation -

2. That I abruptly left the Bench is very probable as I had 10 miles to ride on a very dark night & was anxious to profit by the glimmer of twilight, but notwithstanding lost the road & did not reach home till 10 at Night, when I found my men were out searching for me - that I said I wanted my Dinner is false as the Court was adjourned for half an hour & I dined in Ipswich - it is also false that I murmured any offensive expressions on leaving the Court, but in reply to a threat of Mr. Pearce that he would never again trouble the Court, I told him aloud "so much the better" & in this I am sure every Magistrate of the District will join me, for a more intemperate & scurrilous man than this said J.C. Pearce never appeared before a Bench of Justices -

S.S.

Sept 20/49 - 20/49 - The Ch Commissioner - Transfer of Crows Nest Laidley Plains & Beau Desert -

Approved transfer of Crows Nest to John Reeve by J.L. Montifiore -

S.S.

Sept 20/49 - 21/49 -

Approved transfer of Laidley Plains & Beau Desert to Th. S. Mort by Wm. Sprout Boyd -

S.S.

Sept 30/49 - The Col. Treasurer - Burgoyne's Arrears -

Remitted Leslie's Check for \$26.14.11 in satisfaction of Distress Warrant -

S.S.

*67 *

Oct 6/49 - 22/49 - The Ch. Commissioner - Transfer of Tarampa -

Approved transfer of Tarampa to Me/srs. Montifiore & Co. by Charles Cameron -

S.S.

Oct 11/49 - 23/49 - The Ch. Commissioner - General Reports on Runs

Enclosed Reports 38 & 39 of Runs in this District, being the supplementary List of Claims published in the G. Gazette of the 18 Augt 1849 & trans. in your Letter of the 23 of Augt last -

Mem. See special Reports of these Runs

S.S.

Oct 25/49 - 24/49 - The Chief Commissioner - Tender for the Head of Sandy Creek - No. 42 of Sept. 49 -

The land tendered for it already occupied under Licence, being a portion of the Laidley Plains Run - by Mort & Laidley -

S.S.

Oct 25/49 - The Chief Commissioner - Tender of Mort & Laidley for Rosewood Scrub St. - No. 43 of Sept. 49 -

1. The tender does not include any Land under Lease or Licence, except the Inn at the Oldman's Waterhole under a Building Licence

2. The Public Interest requires that a portion of the Land should be reserved for a Township at the Oldman's Waterhole -

3. The description does not sufficiently indicate the Land tendered for, which is a small triangular piece of the Old Government Run & should be as follows : North by the Village Reserve at the Old Man's Waterhole - East by the Ten Mile Boundary Line round Ipswich & a Range dividing it from Dunlop Plains -

Extent about 5 Square Miles - Graz. C. 4000 -

S.S.

Oct 30/49 - The Colonial Secretary - Police Buildings at Cre/sbrook -

Recommended the Buildings to be sold for what they will fetch as the Site is perfectly worthless for a Township & there is a great danger of fire should they remain unoccupied -

S.S.

Nov 5/49 - 27/49 - The Ch. Commissioner - Transfer of Beau Desert -

Approved the Transfer of Beau Desert to R. Campbell tert. & Michael Egan Murnin by M.S. Mort -

S.S.

Dec 31/49 - The Chief Commissioner - Report on the Aborigines for 1849 -

I have much satisfaction in being able to report that during the past year the Aborigines of this District have given little cause for complaint - they are in fact gradually accommodating themselves to the change of circumstances & I have little * doubt will speedily settle down into a harmless Race of Vagrants but beyond that I have no hope of them - All attempts to ameliorate their condition or impart education have absolutely failed either as regards the Adult savage or the rising generation - I have tried it repeatedly with boys of every age & have invariably met with the same result - an insufferable repugnance to submit to the habits of civilized life - Their services however in tracking Cattle or acting occasionally as Shepherds are generally admired & would be very valuable could they be depended upon as other hired servants - Since the cessation of the German Mission there have been no Schools or public Institutions of any kind for the amelioration of their condition & I have therefore nothing further to report -

S.S.

*69 *

1850

Feb 12/50 - 1/50 - The Colonial Treasurer - Sale of Cre/sbrook Police Buildings -

Remitting my Check for \$6 being the highest tender made for the Police Buildings at Cressbrook by Me/srs. F.W. & N.E. Bigge - sold by Ord. of the Comm. 29 Nov. 49 -

S.S.

Feb 12/50 - 1/50 - To the Chief Commissioner - Report the above Sale -

Reported the Sale to Me/srs. Bigge for six pounds Sterling being in excess of Me/srs. McConnel by

one Pound - the white Ant in the Buildings.

S.S.

Feb 28/50 - 2/50 - The Chief Commissioner - McGrath's Tender for Caboolture - No. 18 of Jan'y 50 -

1. The Tender does not contain any Land under Lease or Licence - it includes, however all the Land formerly in the Licenced occupation of Andrew Gregor on the Fougie Run - which however since Gregor's murder by the Aborigines in 1846 has not been licenced - a portion of the Run too is in the County of Stanley -

2. Besides the portion of the Run in the County, a breadth of from 6 to 8 miles along the Coast should be reserved from Lease -

3. The description given in the Tender therefore ought to be altered as follows : Bounded on the South by the Caboolture River being the boundary of the County of Stanley - On the West also by that river to its source in the D'Aguillar Range - and on the North by the Glass House Range - & from thence by a Line due South to the junction of Waraba Creek with the Caboolture River -

4. The shape & extent of the Run is determined by natural boundaries & cannot contain more than 25 sq miles of available country being broken & Scrubby -

Grazing capabilities 4000 Sheep -

S.S.

The Chief Commissioner -

Apr 4/50 - 3/50 - My Tender to supply Forage -

For nine Months there has been one Contractor for the supply of Forage in the District - I offer therefore to supply my two Troop Horses at the Rate of 1/6 per Ration & from the difficulty of obtaining Tenders in a New District, submit for his Excellency's consideration that it is the only economical way of supplying the Station -

S.S.

May 10/50 - 4/50 - The Chief Commissioner - Troop Horse unfit for service -

Reporting Troop Horse - Silver Main - unfit for Service - & requesting he may be immediately sold & another bought at an expense for 15 or 16 £ -

S.S.

May 25/50 - 4/50 - The Chief Commissioner - Transfer of Dalhunny Plains -

Approved Transfer of Dalhunny Plains to Walter & George Leslie by G.L. Montifiore -

S.S.

*70 *

July 1/50 - 5/50 - The Ch. Commissioner - On the Lease of Crows Nest Run -

1. The Run applied for was transferred on the 5th of September 49 by Jacob L. Montifiore to John Reece the present licensed occupant - presuming therefore that the application made by Mr. Montifiore is in his favour I shall report fully on the subject as it is a matter of considerable importance to Mr. Reece, as Mr. Pearce the original licensee in 1847 has located himself on the principal Creek belonging to the Run and after nearly twelve months illegal occupation put in two Tenders (for Perseverance & Everton) portions of the Run he has already sold under the name of Crows Nest -

2. The description given in the Application does not sufficiently indicate the boundaries of Crows as Mr. Pearce took up the Run under the old regulations & on the 2nd of October 1847 deposited the following description of the boundaries in my Office :

"Bounded on the South by a Range separating it from the Waters running into Lockyer's Creek - On the North by a broken Country - On the West by the Darling Downs - and on the East by a very broken country apparently impassable" - the extent is estimated at eight miles long & six broad, which as usual with Squatter's estimates is much under the mark -

These are all natural boundaries that it is impossible to mistake & include all waters running into Cressbrook Creek from the Tableland down to a very broken Country extending from the Sugarloaf Mountains to the junction of Crows Nest Creek with the main branch of the Cressbrook Creek, called Perseverance by Mr. Pearce - I enclose a Sketch of the Run to elucidate the matter -

For the purposes of the Lease the description may be amended as follows :

"Bounded on the North by Ranges Dividing the Waters of the Adirrhambi & Ebu Creeks from those falling into Cressbrook Cr. - & separating it from Djundjuran & Eskdale Runs - On the North East by a very broken country from the junction of Crows Nest Creek with Cressbrook Cr. to the Sugarloaf Mountains separating it from the Heads of the Cressbrook Run - On the East & South by the Range dividing the Waters of the Cressbrook from those of Lockyer's Creek - separating it from Buaraba, Grantham & Helliott Runs - And on the S.W. & West by the Main Range dividing the Eastern from the Western Waters of the Moreton Bay from the Darling D. District -

The average length may be about 14 miles & its breadth 8 miles or 112 Sq. Miles of which fully one half is unavailable being thickly timbered, broken & scrubby Country - Mr. Pearce advertised the Station as capable of carrying 20,000 Sheep but I think 12,000, including the whole would be nearer its grazing capabilities -

3. The Public Interests do not require that any portion of the Run should be reserved from Lease, for any of the purposes specified in her Majesty's Order in Council -

S.S.

*71 *

July 1/50 - 6/50 - Ch. Commissioner - Tender for Perseverance by Pearce - No. 6 Feb 50 -

1. The Tender is for a Portion of the Crows Nest Run in licensed occupation of Mr. J. Reeve & must therefore be rejected - see my Report No. 5/50 -

S.S.

July 1/50 - 7/50 - Ch. Commissioner - Pearce's Tender for Gillian - No. 7 Feb. 50 -

1. The land Tendered for is altogether under Licence, being partly within the boundaries of Crows Nest & the remainder in Messrs. McConnel's Run, Heads of the Cre/sbrook - & must consequently be rejected -

S.S.

July 1/50 - 8/50 - Ch. Commissioner - Pearce's Tender for Everton - No. 11 April 50 -

1. The land tendered for is altogether under Licence, being a portion of the Crows Nest Run & must consequently be rejected -

July 12/50 - Ch. Commissioner - Transfer of Dugandan -

Approved Transfer of Dugandan to McQuarie McDonald by McQuarie & Campbell McDonald -

S.S.

July 12/50 - 9/50 - Ch. Commissioner - Report on Building Licences

Return of Parties holding Licences for other than Pastoral Purposes & -

Henry Fisher - Halfway - House, Inn - Junction of Blackfellows & Lockers Crs - 66 Miles

Samuel Owens - Woolpack Inn - Junct of Western & Franklin V. Creeks - 42 Miles to Brisbane

John Perryman - Bush Inn - Junct of Yarrel & Reynolds Creeks - 55 Miles to Brisbane.

The Above Parties occupy under ordinary building Licences for the purpose of Houses of Accommodation & therefore at most can only claim as much land as may be required for the accommodation of Travellers -

S.S.

Sept 9/50 - 10/50 - Ch. Commissioner - Hodgson & Davidson Tender - No. 9 of July 50 -

1. The land tendered for was included in Me/srs. Crawford & Hodgson's Application for a Lease of the Eton Vale Run in the Darling Downs District - An extension into my District having been authorised, as it is alleged, by Com. Rolleston about the year 1844 - Me/srs. Hodgson & Davidson, object therefore is to obtain a separate Lease for it - the Run in the Darling Downs being entitled to a fourteen years Lease & that in this District only to an eight years Lease - being in the reputed County of Stanley - the Application is otherwise unobjectionable -

2. The Public Interest requires no Reserve & the description is sufficiently accurate to indicate the land tendered for - Extent about 25000 Acres - & the whole is situated between the 27th & 28 Parallel of S. Latitude & is intermediate -

S.S.

*72 *

Sept 15/50 - 11/50 - The Ch. Commissioner - On Village Reserves on Runs -

1. Requesting information as to the estimation of the Grazing capabilities of Runs containing Reserves for Public purposes - enclosing a tracing of the Laidley Plains Run with the Reserves recommended by me

S.S.

Sept 15/50 - 12/50 - The Chief Commissioner - Th. S. Mort's Tender for East Maldon - No. 9 June 50 -

1. The Tender does not include any land under Lease or Licence & is in all respects unobjectionable -

2. The Public Interest does not require any portion to be reserved for Public Purposes, being situated on the Main Range -

3. The description sufficiently indicates the Land tendered for - and being situated between the

27th & 28th Parallels of S. Latitude is in the Intermediate Reputed Co. of Stanley

4. The size & Shape are determined by natural Boundaries - being a patch of Table Land containing about 25 Sq Miles

Description : A Patch of Table Land capable of carrying about 4000 Sheep - running from the Head of Haldon Station to the Tenthill Scrub - Bounded on the West by the Main Range Separating it from Maldon St in the Darling Downs District -

S.S.

Oct 11/50 - 13/50 - The Ch. Commissioner - The Station effected by the New Counties of Ward & Canning -

With reference to your Letter of the 31st of August last No. 49/635 I have the honour to report :

1. The New Counties of Ward & Canning include the whole of the following Stations : Dalhunny Plains - Melecombe - Telamon - Kerry - Tamrookun & Durandur -

2. The New Counties also include a portion of the following Runs - but the remaining portions being in the Reputed County of Stanley, the whole of the runs will be intermediate & entitled to an eight year Lease - Kilcoy - Dugandan - Beau Desert - Nindoomba - Tabragalba -

3. The following two Runs are probably situated partly in the New Counties, partly in the Reputed County of Stanley & partly in the unsettled District - Cressbrook & Colinton - it is impossible however without the assistance of a Surveyor to determine where the 27th & 28th Parallels of S. Latitude will cut the Runs in this District.

S.S.

Oct 28/50 - 14/50 - The Ch. Commissioner - On Pearce's claim to Perseverance, Crows Nest Run -

1. Mr. Pearce made a written application to me on the 4th October 1847 for a Licence to occupy Crows Nest & consequently occupied under the old Regulations - at the same time he sent me a written description of the Boundaries - a Copy of which & a sketch of the Run were transmitted to you in my Report on Mr. J. Reeve's application for a Lease of Crows Nest - as the boundaries there mentioned are all natural boundaries, particularly the fall of the Waters between Cressbrook Cr. (Perseverance by Mr. *73 Pearce) Lockyer Cr., there was no * necessity for marked Trees & no marked Trees were even mentioned -

2. Mr. Pearce's subsequent Tenders for Perseverance & Everton having been soon followed by Mr. Reeve's application for a Lease of Crows Nest I determined to verify the boundaries as I felt satisfied both from Report & my own knowledge that Perseverance Creek could be no other than the head of the Cressbrook & in that case must be a portion of the Crows Nest Run - To effect this without laying my efforts open to the interpretation of personal motives, which Mr. Pearce insinuates, I engaged Mr. Pettigrew an experienced Surveyor to accompany me to Crows Nest & make a sketch of the Country, the result of which I had the honour to transmit with my report on Mr. Reeve's Application for a Lease -

It is quite true we did not visit Mr. Pearce's Station only Perseverance, there being no occasion for it as we had to determine the boundaries of Crows Nest, to effect which we proceeded with Mr. Tincombe, Mr. Reeve's Superintendent to the ridge dividing the waters of Crows Nest Cr. from those of Cressbrook Cr. (Perseverance) & were surprised to find that after traversing only four miles & a half of Country from Crows Nest Head Station we were actually in view of two of Mr. Pearce's Sheep Stations in a Valley below on the main branch of Cressbrook Cr (Perseverance) & the impassable Range dividing the Waters of Cressbrook Cr from those of Lockyer's Cr right in front of us & so accurately described in Mr. Pearce's original description of Crows Nest as not for a moment to allow us to doubt that the person who gave the original description must have seen it from the same point of view - but we could no more find "the impenetrable Scrubby Ranges & impassable mountains" given by him as the boundary between Crows Nest Cr & Perseverance Cr - as we found no difficulty in passing it where we pleased - The following Morning we again crossed the said "impassable mountains" higher up the Creek & about 7 miles from Crows Nest, & continued to trace the Range dividing the waters of Cressbrook Cr (Perseverance) from those of Lockyer's Cr. to its junction with the Main Range - having not a doubt in our minds that the whole of Cressbrook Cr was included in Mr. Pearce's original description of the Crows Nest Run - On this "impassable" Range we also fell in with a flock of Mr. Pearce's Sheep about two miles from his Head Station, Perseverance, but I still declined to visit his Residence, as from his former insulting conduct towards me & his known violence of Character I thought it advisable not to risk a breach of the Peace, which in all probability would have occurred, had he known my opinion of his conduct in this transaction -

3. Mr. Pearce's assertion that he did not discover the Valley of the Cressbrook (Perseverance) for 18 months after the occupation of Crows, though scarcely credible, is of little avail ; for admitting the fact, his including it in the application for Crows Nest under the old regulations was nothing *74 extraordinary - for it has been the usual practice * in this District which is very mountainous, to take up Runs by this description of the fall of the Waters, without at the time exploring all the Watercourses to their Sources - & what is more probable than that Mr. Pearce following up Lockyer's Cr. where he had a Station for several years to the Waters of Cressbrook Cr. on the other side of the Range, should at once claim that Range as his Boundary - at all events he has long occupied the land in dispute under his Licence for Crows Nest -

4. With regard to the Assessment I have to state that in January last Mr. Pearce sent me his Return of Stock at Perseverance - having no knowledge of any such Run & scarcely believing it possible he could have taken up a portion of the Run he had sold, I presumed he was lower down the Creek on some

land recently tendered for by Mr. McConnel & assessed him accordingly, which however he did not pay till a Warrant of Distress was issued -

5. It is scarcely necessary to advert to the declarations of Kenny & Tassay, old Servants of Mr. Pearce, whose evidence unless supported by more trustworthy witnesses is little worth - indeed notwithstanding Mr. Pearce's assertion that he could find 50 other individuals to prove his assertions I much doubt whether he could produce a single respectable person to confirm his statement -

6. Finally, I feel it my duty to add certain circumstances, the truth of which may be verified on oath in a Court of Justice if necessary, that I think will at once settle the question as to Mr. Pearce's Assertions - It appears that after the Station was purchased by Mr. Reeve, Mr. King as his Agent came up with Mr. Tingcombe as Superintendent to take possession of the Run - On their arrival at Crows Nest Mr. Pearce undertook to show them over the Run, but declined to give them a written description of it - instead, however, of showing them the side of Perseverance, he occupied their time by a rambling excursion on the side of Darling Downs & Eskdale & they actually never made out where Mr. Pearce had located himself - A circumstance too occurred a few days after that ought at once to have opened the Superintendent's eyes - a rather stormy discussion took place between Mr. Pearce & a Female, some distant Mrs. Pearce, who demanded that the Tender for Perseverance should be put in her name - this Mr. Pearce absolutely refused, when the female, a most active and intelligent woman, told him in the presence of Mr. Tingcombe "That if everybody had their Right, perseverance belonged to Crows Nest" S.S.

Oct 31/50 - 15/50 - The Chief Commissioner - Verification of Boundaries of Runs -

Reporting Progress - Runs on the Logan & Albert River completed - also those on the Lockyer Cr & the Bremer or waited their estimating of the grazing Capabilities -

S.S.

Oct 31/50 - 16/50 - The Ch. Commissioner - Collins Claim to the Sth Branch of the Logan - (Sept 25/50) -

I beg to state as regards Mr. Collins claim to the block of Land on the head of the S. Branch of the Logan, advertised as a forfeited Run :

*75 *

1. That in June 1843 Mr. O'Grady Haly, Superintendent for Mr. Bellington, applied for a Licence to occupy the Western Branch of the Logan (Melcombe) - he subsequently applied to me verbally for an extension for the S. Branch - I requested him to send in a written application - this he neglected to do, but in 1845 the Run was transferred to Mr. Rankin -

2. Being much annoyed by the Aborigines Mr. Rankin transferred his claim to the owner of Telamon & it is only very recently that they have put in their claim to the S. Branch - to support which there is no written document in my Office & I referred them to Headquarters for a decision -

3. The land in question is rather a large block occupying the gorges of Mt. Lindsay & Mt. Barney - but so hemmed in & intersected by mountains as to render the available Country not equal to carry more than 6000 Sheep - it is bounded on one side by Telamon & on another by Melcombe both in the occupation of Mr. Collins & has no doubt been occasionally occupied by him - indeed he has a sheep St on it - his claim however at best is only an equitable claim -

S.S.

Nov 26/50 - 17/50 - The Ch. Commissioner - On Pearce's Trespass on Crows Nest - (Oct 4/50)

With reference to Mr. Pearce's Trespass on Crows Nest I have some difficulty in calling the case one of "naked Intrusion" - it is in fact a gross case of overholding a portion of the Run he had sold to Mr. Reeve - At the same time much blame is to be attached to Mr. Reeve's Agents in taking over Crows Nest without informing themselves of the Boundaries of the Run & the whereabouts of Mr. Pearce who had sat down about 5 miles from the Head Station - had they warned Mr. Pearce off last October twelve months, I have little doubt he would have vacated it - but having been allowed to remain so long without any notice of his trespass, he is now determined to hold on if possible - One flock of Sheep impounded at Drayton would have settled the matter in a few days -

Finally it is no case of disputed boundaries as the right of Mr. Reeve to the boundary laid down in my Report on Crows Nest has been confirmed by Government & Mr. Pearce has never moved his Sheep outside that boundary & above all holds no Licence whatever for any Run in this District -

S.S.

Nov 28/50 - 18/50 - The Ch. Commissioner - Explaining my Return of Building Licences -

The names of Samuel Owens, John Perryman & Samuel Fisher were inserted in my Annual Return of persons holding Building Licences in this District as I supposed they had paid up their licences, having heard nothing to the contrary from the Colonial Treasurer - the Houses in question are houses of accommodation mostly & built under Licence about the year 1843 -

S.S.

*76 *

Nov 28/50 - 19/50 - The Ch. Commissioner - Explaining the Land tendered for by Mort at Rosewood (Nov 15/50) -

The Land tendered for by Mr. Mort includes only a small portion of the Land formerly tendered for

by Me/srs. Wickham, North & Thorn, as these Tenders included a considerable portion of what is Settled District within the 10 Mile-Boundary-Line round Ipswich & also the Reserve for a Township & for the Aborigines at the Oldman's Waterhole -

Presuming that the Reputed County of Stanley includes all land within the 27th & 28th Parallels of S. Latitude, the portion tendered for is in that County & so is also the whole of Mr. Mort's Run, named Laidley Plains -

S.S.

Dec 1/50 - 20/50 - Ch. Commissioner - Reporting Boundaries of Runs & -

Enclosed are Special Reports (10) on the Boundaries & Grazing capabilities of the following Runs on the Albert & Logan Rivers : Gimboomba - Beau Desert - Broomelton - Tamrookum - Telamon - Nindoomba - Tabragalba - Moondoolum & Tambourine - There remains therefore only to Report on Melcombe in this part of the District, which I have deferred till Mr. Collins claim to an extension of that Run is settled -

Mem. See amended Report of all Runs outside the Reputed County of Stanley, now considered Settled District at

S.S.

Dec 20/50 - 21/50 - The Chief Commissioner - Referring to the Land claimed by Mr. Collins - (Nov 28/50)

In reply to your Letter I beg to state that the Land claimed by Mr. Collins as an extension of the Melcombe Run never was included by me in any Return of the Area of the Melcombe Run, never having granted permission to Mr. Collins or his predecessors to occupy the Land in question -

S.S.

Dec 31/50 - 22/50 - The Colonial Secretary - Aboriginal Report for 1850 -

The State of the Aborigines in this District as far as their general demeanour is concerned, is becoming daily more satisfactory - a Hutkeeper of Mr. Balfours has been murdered at an outstation by Aborigines of the Wide Bay District & the Native Police are out in search of them - in fact nothing new but the old and absurd over again, which I am heartily tired of -

S.S.

*77 *

1851

Jany 8/51 - 1/51 - The Ch. Commissioner - On Wants' Statement in Pearce's Case - (Dec 20/50) -

With reference to Mr. Want's Statement in defence of Mr. Pearce's occupation of Perseverance on a portion of the Crows Nest Run I have the honour to report -

1. It is scarcely necessary for me to advert to the various inaccuracies contained in that Statement as they have already been exposed in my former reports - I shall therefore at once proceed to show that Mr. Pearce actually occupied Perseverance whilst in licensed occupation of Crows Nest, namely in March 1849, whereas it appears his first tender for Perseverance and Gillam was opened in Feb 1850 - that is after he had been nearly one year in actual occupation & six months before it was transferred to Mr. Reeve. For proof of this statement I herewith enclose the declarations by two men formerly in the service of Mr. Pearce, who first occupied the Station & put up the huts - The above evidence is materially confirmed by the following statement of Mr. D.C. McConnel Jn, licensed occupant of Cressbrook : viz : that in Sept 1849, he and his brother set out from Cressbrook for the purpose of exploring Cressbrook Cr. up to its source - but after proceeding some 26 miles they fell in with a Sheep Station named Everton, which they were informed belonged to Mr. Pearce & that he had another Station further up the Creek named Perseverance - presuming that Mr. Pearce was in legal occupation they went no further -

2. That the boundaries of Crows Nest given in by Mr. Pearce in Oct 1847, under which he was licensed, so accurately & clearly define the Run, that it is impossible for any one who has visited the Run with the description in hand to believe that the person who wrote it had not seen the mountain Ranges he so well describes - For my own part I have no doubt upon the subject & if any one had tendered for the Portions named Perseverance & Everton during Mr. Pearce's occupation I should at once have rejected them as belonging to Crows Nest -

3. Mr. Pearce advertised Crows Nest as capable of holding 20,000 Sheep, whereas by a recent estimate of the grazing capabilities of the Portion in actual possession of Mr. Reeve's representative, it is considered capable of carrying only 5,000 - Mr. Pearce in fact holding 2/3 of the original Run to the great injury of the rightful owner -

Lastly. If the accurately written description of a Run deposited in my Office & licensed under the old Regulations is not to be considered sufficient to entitle the Licensee to a legal occupancy, without actually building Huts & running Stock on every portion of it, one half of the Runs taken up in this District will be liable to intruders, who may please to tender for the unoccupied portion of them - for Runs were formerly taken up with a view to future increase & such was the case with Mr. Pearce, who in Jan 1848 had only about 7000 Sheep and consequently at first occupied only remote parts of the Run -

S.S.

*78 *

March 6/51 - 2/51 - The Ch. Commissioner - Transfer of Beadesert & Cressbrook -

Approved Transfer of Beau Desert to Wm. Duckett White & George Robinson by Robert Campbell Tert &

M.E. Marion -

Approved Transfer of Cre/sbrook to D.C. & J. McConnel by David Cannon McConnel -

S.S.

March 16 - 3/51 - The Ch. Commissioner - Reports on Boundaries & Capabilities -

Enclosed descriptions of the boundaries & grazing capabilities of Nineteen Runs in the Moreton Bay District - in conformity with the Instructions in your Circular of 22 Jan'y 51 No. 98 -

Mem. See Special Reports on all the Runs or Portions of Runs outside the Settled District in conformity with recent Instructions as to the Settled District -

S.S.

March 16 - 4/51 - The Ch. Commissioner - Practicability of the Roads to Wide Bay & the Clarence - (Feb 24/51)

1. As regards the Wide Bay District the only road actually in use is by the Main Road to the Burnett District - whence there are two or three branch Roads to Maryborough. In the year 1843 I myself passed the Wide Bay Range with a Bullock Team from Kilcoy Station up Sandy Creek - & reached the site of the present Township with much difficulty. Mr. Eales' Superintendent with 20,000 Sheep & several Drays also passed & repassed the same Road a few months before & after - There is said to be a better Pass up Kilcoy Cr. a little to the westward of the former & another to the Eastward nearer the Coast, frequented by the Native Police -

2. Hitherto Wool-drays from the Clarence pass the Mountain Range between Mt. Wilson & Mt. Clunie from the head of the Clarence to the head of the Teviot a branch of the Logan - To the Eastward of this there is also a road for horsemen under Mt. Lindsay - & more recently I am informed a good practicable Road has been found to the Eastward of Mt. Lindsay & Mt. Barney coming down on Telamon St, situated on the Logan -

S.S.

March 18 - 5/51 - The Ch. Commissioner - Aboriginal Reserves -

Reporting that the Aboriginal Reserves : Mount Zion - Ipswich (vicinity) - Rosewood - have been hitherto altogether unfrequented by the Aborigines.

S.S.

April 15 - 6/51 - The Ch. Commissioner - McArthur's Tender for Glenrock - No. 27 of Sept 50 -

1. The Tender does not include any Land under Lease or Licence -
2. The Public Interests do not require any portion to be reserved -
3. The description is sufficient, the size & form determined by natural boundaries -
4. The Land being situated in the Reputed County of Stanley between 27° & 28° S. is Intermediate -

S.S.

April 18 - The Colonial Treasurer - Remitting Assessment for J. Reeve & S. Owens -

Remitted my Cheque for £15.14.2 on the 17th Ult & 4/3 this day in postage Stamps to pay the Assessment for John Reeve £8.7.2 & Sam Owens £7.11.3. = 15.18.5 -

S.S.

May 20 - 7/51 - The Ch. Commissioner - Medical Attendance for the Aborigines - (Feb 27/51)

1. There is no Medical Practitioner residing outside Settled Districts - & there is no want of one for the Aborigines - as the Brisbane Hospital is central in the District & east of acce/s & under the 11th Paragraph of your Circular Feb 16/50 the Aborigines may be admitted into it -

S.S.

June 4th - The Ch. Commissioner - Transfer of Dunhnty Plains -

Approved Transfer of Dulhnty Plains to George F. Leslie by Walter & G.F. Leslie -

S.S.

June 9th - 8/51 - The Commissioner Chief - On the Reputed County of Stanley - (May 16/51) -

MY reasons for considering the Reputed County of Stanley Intermediate are:

1. That a Map of the Moreton Bay District was forwarded me on the 29th July 48 from the Col. Secretaries Office without a word of explanation - in this Map not only the Reputed County of Stanley was notified for the purpose of the Census on the 5th Dec 45 was laid down in coloured lines, but also the boundaries of the County of Stanley in [latter] colour, as actually surveyed & laid down by the Chief Surveyor in this District, & which has invariably been considered in this District as the County of Stanley indicated in the Orders in Council - otherwise what could be the object of limiting the

Settled District to the Westward to 10 miles round Ipswich, which is also notified in the said Orders in Council - further the said 10 miles Boundary line has been actually surveyed & marked on the ground & I have constantly noticed it in reporting upon Runs in its vicinity -

2. The Settled District as proclaimed in the Orders in Council being thus clearly defined & the boundaries actually surveyed & marked on the Ground - being too altogether within the Reputed County of Stanley as notified for the purpose of the Census in 1845 - I presumed that the remaining portions within the 27th & 28th Parallels of S. Latitude, from the Sea to the Darling Downs Range were to be considered Intermediate - the Settled District being fixed by the Orders in Council it never occurred to me that their extent could be altered in this Colony -

3. Had I entertained any doubts as to the limits of the Settled District it would have been removed by the fact that no notice whatsoever was taken by Government of my two general Reports upon the Runs in this District, July 25/49 & Oct 10/50 in which I distinctly affirmed the Reputed County to be
*80 Intermediate & recognised * the Settled District of the Orders in Council - Again in my special Reports on Runs in the South of the District, the same assertion is repeatedly made - see Dec 1/50 - March 16/51 & -

4. Finally in determining the portions of Runs brought within the Settled District by the Orders in Council it has been the constant practice of myself & the holders of the Runs affected to apply to the Surveyor in Charge at Brisbane for tracings in of Sections they required to lease - which too has always been done without the suggestion of a doubt as to the limit of the Settled - in fact I believe I may affirm that not a Government officer here of any description entertained any doubt upon the subject - S.S.

Augt 1st - 9/51 - The Ch. Commissioner - Owen's Application to purchase 160 Acres at the Old Man's Waterhole (May 9/51)

1. Samuel Owens, the applicant to purchase 160 acres of Land at the Old Man's Waterhole on his pre-emption Right, was first licenced in Jan'y 43 to put up a House of Accommodation on the site in question, which is about 17 miles from Ipswich in the Reputed County of Stanley but outside the 10 mile boundary line round Ipswich - the premises, which were erected under a Building Licence only, are situated on the boundary line between Laidley Plains & the late Government Run of the Rosewood Scrub St. -

2. The public Interest require that a Village Reserve should be laid out either here or about three further up the Western Cr. where there is another house of accommodation erected on & under the authority of the licenced occupants of the Laidley Plains Run. The land is of a superior description for Agriculture & there is a good supply of Water in the vicinity of Owen's Woolpack Inn - S.S.

Augt 9 - The Ch. Commissioner - Transfer of Laidley Plains & Eskdale -

Approved the transfer of Laidley Plains Run to Me/srs. Mort & Laidley by Thomas Sutcliffe Mort - S.S.

Approved the Transfer of Eskdale to James Ivory by Me/srs. Graham & Ivory - S.S.

Augt 9th - 10/51 - The Chief Commissioner - Collins' Tender for S. Branch of the Logan

1. It is a block of land situated on the S. Branch of the Logan River & Advertised in the Government Gazette of May 28/50 as a forfeited Run

2. The public Interest does not require any portion to be reserved -

3. The description given sufficiently indicates the Land tendered for

4. The size & shape are determined by natural boundaries - being very narrow Valleys in the Gorges of Mt. Barney & Mt. Lindsay it is difficult to give the extent, but certainly not more than sufficient for 4000 - 5000 Sheep -

5. It is in the Intermediate County of Ward - S.S.

*81 *

Augt 9 - 11/51 - The Ch. Commissioner - Simon Scott's Tender for Coonawany - No. 25 April 51 -

The land tendered for is already occupied under Licence by John Vaughan & known as the Caboolture Run -

S.S.

Augt 20 - 12/51 - The Ch. Commissioner - On the Transfer of Tenthill to C.W. Pitts - (July 31/51)

With reference to my reasons for refusing to transfer Tenthill to Mr. Pitts :

1. I beg to state that Mr. Friell's Letter transferring the Run to Mr. Pitt contained a description of the Run I could not sanction - being the same he had given in to Government when applying

for a Lease of Tenthill & which would include some 150 Sq. Miles of Country to which he had not the slightest title - I requested therefore that Mr. Friell would cancel the description of the Run & I would approve of the simple Transfer of Tenthill to Mr. Pitt -

2. To show the absurdity of the Claim I beg to state that Tenthill was occupied by Mr. Jones' Superintendent, Somerville in 1841 - on my appointment as Commissioner in 1842 I requested Mr. Somerville to furnish me with a description of his boundaries - this he never did, but returned his Run as 9 miles by four on Lockyers Creek - about two years after being transferred to Messrs. Ferriter & Uhr, they returned it as 20 Square Miles & since then Mr. Friell has returned it the same -

3. To show the matter more clearly I enclose a tracing of the Run from my Map of the District - To the Southward of Tenthill it will be seen there is an extensive Scrub on the sides of the Main Range & separating the Tenthill Run from an extensive tract of Tableland between the Scrub & the Darling Downs District - for which no less than four Tenders have recently been sent it - this country is included in Mr. Friell's description, though it was not known for years after the occupation of Tenthill & it can only be approached from the Darling Downs side - Mr. McArthur's Tender for Glenrock Cr. includes a portion of this Country -

4. The whole of this Country as well as the Adjoining Runs is in the Reputed County of Stanley or Settled District -

S.S.

Augt 20 - 13/51 - Chief Commissioner - Mr. Wilson's Appl. to purch 160 Acres at Mt. Flinders - July 23/51

1. The Land tendered for is a portion of Mr. Wa. Wilson's Run, Mt. Flinders in this District - it includes the Improvements at the Head St. & consequently is in his licensed Occupation & has been for some years past -

2. The Public Interest might require a Reserve for an Agricultural Village somewhere in this neighbourhood - the Land being good & the main Road to Cunningham Gap passing near the Station & only 15 miles fr. the head of Navigation -

3. There is no dispute as to the right of occupancy, but the whole Run is in the Reputed County of Stanley or Settled D -

S.S.

*82 *

1851

Sept 30/51 - 14/51 - The Ch. Commissioner - W.D. White's Tender for Mulgul - No. 61 of May 51 -

The Land tendered for being situated between the 27th & 28th Parallels of S. Latitude is in the Reputed County of Stanley or Settled District -

S.S.

15/51 - The Ch. Commiss - W.D. Whites Tender for Irkingaba - No. 62 of May 51 -

Being in the Reputed County of Stanley or Settled District, the same report as above -

S.S.

16/51 - The Ch. Commiss - W.D. White's Tender for Cumbouba - No. 63 of May 51 -

Being situated in the Reputed County of Stanley or Settled District - the same Report as for the above -

S.S.

17/51 - The Ch. Commiss - W.D. White's Tender for Tubber - No. 64 of May 51 -

Being situated in the Reputed County of Stanley or Settled District, the same Report as for the above -

S.S.

Sept 30/51 - 18/51 - The Ch. Commiss - J. Sheriff's Tender for Ooroonin - No. 27. April 51 -

The land tendered for being situated between the 27th & 28th Parallels of S. Latitude, is situated in the Reputed County of Stanley or Settled District - the Tender must therefore be rejected -

S.S.

Nov 6/51 - 19/51 - The Ch. Commissioner - G.F. Leslie's application to purchase 160 Acres at Dalhunny Plns - Oct 14/51

1. The land applied for forms a portion of the Dalhunny Plains Run in this District of which, G. F. Leslie is the licensed Occupant - nor does it form the subject of any unsettled dispute -

2. The Run in question is altogether in the Intermediate District being situated in the County of Ward -

3. The Public Interests do not require that any portion of it should be reserved for public purposes -

S.S.

Nov 6/51 - 20/51 - The Chief Commiss - A.W. Compigne's Tender for Merry Jerry - No. 60 May 51 -

1. The Tender does not include any Land under Lease or Licence
2. The description given sufficiently indicated the Land tendered for -
3. The publick Interests do not require that any portion of the land tendered for should be reserved -
4. The size & shape are conformable to the Regulations -
5. The land is in the Intermediate Dist. being in the County of Ward -

S.S.

83 *

Nov 6/51 - 21/51 - The Chief Commiss - A.W. Compigne's Tender for Dungogie - No. 28 June 51 -

1. The Tender does not include any Land under lease or Licence & -
2. The Public Interests do not require any Reserve -
3. The description given sufficiently indicates the land tendered for -
4. The Size & Shape are conformable to the Regulations -
5. The Land tendered for is in the Intermediate County of Ward -

S.S.

Nov 6/51 - 22/51 - The Ch. Commiss - C.J. Clarke's Tender for Sarabah - No. 16 of Sept. 51 -

1. The Tender does not comprise any land under Lease or Licence & -
2. The Public Interests require no Reserve -
3. The description sufficiently indicates the land tendered for -
4. The Size & Shape are conformable to the Regulations -
5. The Land tendered for is in the Intermediate County of Ward -

S.S.

Nov 6/51 - 23/51 - The Chief Commissioner - Requesting to know whether a Description of the Boundaries & estimated Areas of the Runs or Portions of Runs, brought within the Settled Districts is required -

S.S.

Nov 6/51 - 24/51 - The Chief Commissioner - Requesting to know whether the Portions of Runs cut off by the 27th & 28th Parallels of S.L. & consequently still in the Unsettled or Intermediate Districts are to be subjected to the levy of Assessment, the other portions not being liable -

S.S.

Dec 1/51 - 25/51 - The Ch. Commiss : - T. Sheriff's Tender for Wanga - No. 8 Oct 51 -

The Land tendered for is situated between the 27th & 28th Parallels of S. Latitude & consequently in the Reputed County of Stanley or Settled Districts

S.S.

Dec 16/51 - The Chief Commiss : - Reporting Runs marked & Assessed - (Nov. 18/51)

The Runs have all been marked & Assessed, but the recent decision as to the Boundaries of the Settled Districts, has out of 46 Runs, brought 21 altogether within the Reputed County of Stanley - 11 will be divided into two portions by the 27th & 28th Parallels - & 14 left altogether outside, being either in the Unsettled or Intermediate Counties - It remains therefore for me to amend the descriptions & assess the grazing capabilities of the Portions outside -

S.S.

Dec 2/51 - The Chief Commissioner - Transfer of Buaraba -

Approved transfer of Buaraba to Mr. A. Campbell by James Atkinson -

S.S.

*84 *

1851

Dec. 24 - 28/51 - The Chief Commissioner - Transfer of Kerry -

Approved Transfer of the Kerry Run in the Moreton District to Alfred Wm Compigne by John Black
Oct 20/51 -

S.S.

85 *

A. D. 1 8 5 2

Jany 5 - 1/52

Report on the State of the Aborigines of the Moreton Districts for the Year ending the 31st December 1851. - Chief Commissioner -

Sir - Since my Report of last Year I am happy to state that I have received no complaints whatever of any aggressions by the Aborigines in this District - Upon the whole, therefore, I may venture to assert that the Aborigines of the Moreton District are quickly succumbing to the influences of civilization - I regret however to add that both in their moral & physical qualities they are undergoing a rapid deterioration - they are becoming daily more indolent & dissipated - congregating in the vicinity of Ipswich & Brisbane in great numbers, they chiefly subsist by begging & thieving & can scarcely be induced to work for their living & as a natural consequence they are rapidly diminishing in numbers ; so that in a few years there is every probability that this Race will be nearly extinguished -

As there are neither Schools nor other public institutions for the Aborigines in this District I have nothing Special to report on that hand -

S.S.

Jany 10 - 2/52 - The Chief Commissioner - On the Neurum Neurum Gold Field -

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 1st Ultimo referring to an alleged workable Gold Field recently discovered at Neurum Neurum Creek in this District -

2. In reply I beg to say that the Report of the discovery is premature - as yet no workable Gold Field has been discovered -

3. The Report in question no doubt arose from the circumstance of the Inhabitants of Brisbane & Ipswich having offered a reward to the first discoverer, a Storekeeper of Me/srs. Bigges, named Delaney prospecting like many others, thought he had discovered one on the Neurum Neurum Creek & hastened to Brisbane to put in his claim to the reward - A Committee was appointed to accompany him to the Spot & the moment I heard of it I sent up a person to watch the proceedings - which however after much labour resulted in the discovery of a few minute particles of Gold, so insignificant in quantity that the party returned reporting a failure -

4. The only fact therefore established is that Gold has been found in this District but in such minute quantity as to render it unavailable for labour -

S.S.

*86 *

Jan' 30 - 3/50 - The Chief Commissioner - On the proposed Transfer of Buaraba - by A. Campbell to Me/srs. J. Smith & F.A. Forbes of Ipswich -

I have received a Letter from Mr. A. Campbell requesting me to sanction the Transfer of Buaraba in this District to Me/srs. J. Smith & F.A. Forbes of Ipswich, application, as I am informed, have been made to the Ch. Comm for that purpose -

2. I have no objection to the Transfer, but beg to state that the Run is altogether in the Reputed County of Stanley & that as yet I have no Notice of the Transfer from J. Atkinson, the present Licensed Occupant, to Mr. A. Campbell having been approved of by Government as recommended in my Letter of the 2nd of December last -

S.S.

March 1 - 4/52 - The Chief Commissioner - On the State of the Records in my Office -

Sir - I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 16th of January last, requesting me to report on the state of the Records in my office -

1. A Letter Book in which all correspondence with Government is entered.

2. All Government Letters are duly classified according to year & date & marked outside, so that they can be readily referred to - the Series is quite complete

3. All original Documents with regard to the taking up & the boundaries of Runs are carefully preserved -

Finally I have never found any inconvenience from my present arrangement & since I have been in Office I have never found any document missing

S.S.

March 1 - 5/52 - The Chief Commissioner - On the forfeited Run Caboolture -

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 3rd of Feby last No. 52/213 reporting the forfeiture of Mr. Vaughan's right to the Lease of Caboolture Run in this District -

2. The recent decision as to the boundaries of the Settled Districts have brought 3/4 of the above

Run within the Limits - the remainder about six Square Miles will therefore be scarcely worth putting up as a forfeited Run

S.S.

*87 *

March 1 - 6/52 - 7/52 - The Chief Commissioner - Sanctioning the Transfer of Taroom & Gimboomba Runs -

Approved Transfer of Taroom to Wm. Kent Junr by Richard Watson -

S.S.

Approved Transfer of Gimboomba to Andrew Inglis Henderson by Robert Rowland -

S.S.

March 12 - 8/52 - The Chief Commissioner - Amended description of Runs outside the Settled District of the Reputed County of Stanley -

Sir - I have the honour to enclose amended Reports of the Boundaries & Grazing Capabilities of all the Runs & Portions of Runs which in conformity with the recent decision as to the Boundaries of the Settled District, will now be outside the Limits & entitled to fourteen or eight years Lease -

1. The following Runs or Portions of Runs are all situated to the North of the 27th Parallel of South Latitude -

1. Durandur - Intermediate being in the County of Canning -
2. Portion of Cooyar - Unsettled District - Colinton is divided in two Portions:
3. 1. Portion in the Unsettled Districts -
4. 2. Portion - Intermediate being in the County of Canning -
5. Kilcoy - Intermediate being in the County of Canning -
6. Tandary - Unsettled Districts -

2. The following Runs or Portions of Runs are situated to the South of the 28th Parallel of South Latitude & will therefore be entitled to 14 or 8 years Leases

7. Portion of Broomelton - Intermediate - County of Ward -
8. Portion of Nindoomba - Intermediate - County of Ward -
9. Portion of Tabragalba - Intermediate - County of Ward -
10. Portion of Beau Desert - Intermediate - County of Ward -
11. Kerry - Intermediate - County of Ward -
12. Tamrookum - Intermediate - County of Ward -
13. Telamon - Intermediate - County of Ward -
14. Melcombe - Intermediate - County of Ward -
15. Dalhunny Plains - Intermediate - County of Ward -
16. Moogerah - Unsettled Districts -
17. Portion of Taroom - Unsettled Districts -

*88 Finally the above are all the Runs or Portions of Runs outside the Settled Districts actually entitled to Leases - there remains, however, Two forfeited Runs : Mount Lindsay & Caboolture - S.S.

Descriptions of Runs

Durandur No. 2. Gazette - Moreton District
Name of Run - Durandur - Intermediate County of Canning -
Licensed Occupant - D.C. & J. McConnell -
Estimated Area - 128,000 Acres - 1/3rd unavailable
Grazing Capabilities - 2000 Cattle -
Assessors : John Balfour & S. Simpson

Bounded on the West, commencing at a point where the Stanley River is intersected by the 27th Parallel of S. Latitude, by that River upwards to the junction of Scrubby Creek - thence by that Creek to its source & by a spur to the Wide Bay Range - separating it from Kilcoy Run -

On the North by the Wide Bay Range till it meets the D'Aguillar Range - separating it from the Wide Bay District

On the East by the D'Aguillar Range, dividing the Waters that fall directly into the Bay from those that fall into the Brisbane River, southerly till the Range is intersected by the 27th Parallel of S. Latitude, separating it from unoccupied Cr. Lands & the Caboolture Run -

On the South by that Parallel West to the point of commencement at Stanley Creek - separating it from the Reputed County of Stanley -

S.S.

Cooyar No. 3. Gazette - Moreton District -
Name of Run - Portion of Cooyar -
Licensed Occupant - Hope & Ramsay -
Estimated Area - 51,000 Acres - 1/2 unavailable
Grazing Capabilities - 4000 Sheep -

Bounded on the North, commencing at a Tree marked T on one side & C on the other in a Gully on Cooyar Cr. about two miles below the junction of Yeramin Cr, by that Gully to its source in the Range separating the Waters of Oaky Cr from those of Yeramin Cr & then by that Range to the Burnett Range - separating it from Tandary Run -

On the North West by the Burnett Range to the Main Range - separating it from the Burnett District -

*89 * On the West by the Main Range southerly till it is intersected by the 27th Parallel of S.L. - separating it from the Darling Downs District -

On the South by that Parallel East till it intersects the Black Butt Range - separating it from the Portion of Cooyar Run in the County of Stanley

On the South East by the Black Butt Range to its junction with a spur bearing nearly north & dividing the Waters falling into Tandary & Boobur Crs from those falling into Cooyar Cr - separating it from Djuan Djuan Run -

On the East by that Spur to the source of a small Gully terminating in Cooyar Cr at a Gum Tree marked C - thence by that Gully downwards to Cooyar Cr & down that Creek to the point of commencement - Separating it from Tandary Run -

Assessors - John Borthwick & S. Simpson -

S.S.

Colinton No. 5. Gazette - Moreton District -
Name of Run - Portion of Colinton - Intermediate County of Canning
Licensed Occupant - John & Robert Balfour -
Estimated Area - 160,000 - 1/3 unavailable -
Grazing Capabilities - 14,000 Sheep -
Assessors - F.E. Bigge & S. Simpson -

Bounded on the North, commencing at the Head of the Brisbane River, going East by the Wide Bay Range to a point on the Range at the Head of Kilcoy Sheep Station Cr - separating it from the Wide Bay District -

On the East from the aforesaid Point by a Range going South to the head of Gregors Cr & dividing the Waters falling into the Brisbane from those that fall into Stanley Cr - separating it from Kilcoy Station -

On the South by Gregor's Cr down to its confluence with the Brisbane River - separating it from Cressbrook Run -

On the South-West & West from the confluence of Gregors Creek with the Brisbane by the Brisbane River upwards to the point of commencement - separating it from the Portion of Colinton in the Unsettled Districts -

S.S.

Colinton Name of Run - Portion of Colinton - Unsettled Districts -
Licensed Occupant - John & Robt. Balfour
Estimated Area - 140,800 Acres - 1/3 unavailable
Grazing Capabilities - 14,000 Sheep -
Assessors - F.E. Bigge & S. Simpson -

*90 Bounded on the South by the Andurramba Cr, commencing at its junction with the Brisbane R & going upwards till the Creek is intersected by the 27th Parallel of S. Latitude ; thence by that Parallel West till it intersects Emu Cr near to the confluence of Googagooga Cr - thence by Emu Cr to the termination of a Spur immediately below the junction of Googagooga Cr - separating Colinton from Cressbrook Run & Eskdale Run -

On the West by the last named Spur to the black Butt Range & thence by that Range northerly to marked Gum Tree on Cooyar Cr, about a mile below its confluence with Tandary Cr - thence by Cooyar Cr upwards to a spur immediately opposite to the last mentioned confluence - & thence by that spur to the Burnett Range - separating it from Djuan Djuan & Tandary Runs -

On the North-West by the Burnett Range to the Head of the Brisbane River - separating it from the Burnett District -

On the East from the Head of the Brisbane R. downward to its junction with Andarramba Cr. on point of commencement - separating this Portion of Colinton from that in the County of Canning
S.S.

Kilcoy No. 20 Gazette - Moreton District -
Name of Run - Kilcoy - Intermediate County of Canning
Licensed Occupant - A.C. Atherton
Estimated Area - 179,200 Acres - 1/3 unavailable -
Grazing Capabilities - 12000 Sheep & 1000 Cattle -
Assessors : E.F. Bigge & S. Simpson -

Bounded on the North, commencing at a point on the Wide Bay Range at the Head of Kilcoy Sheep Station Cr, by the said Range easterly till it meets a Range going South & dividing the Waters falling into Sandy Cr from those that fall into the head of Stanley Cr - separating it from the Wide Bay District -

On the East by the last mentioned Range to the Head of Scrubby Cr - thence by that Creek downwards to its confluence with Stanley Cr - thence by the Stanley Creek downwards till it is intersected by the 27th Parallel of S.L. - separating it from Durandur Run -

On the South by that Parallel West to the Range that divides the Waters that fall into the Brisbane River from those that fall into Stanley Creek - separating it from the Reputed County of Stanley -

On the West by the last mentioned Range northerly to the point of commencement on the Wide Bay Range, at the Head of the Kilcoy Sheep Station Creek - separating it from the Colinton Run - S.S.

*91 *

Tandary

No 37. Gazette - Moreton District -
Name of Run - Tandary - Unsettled District -
Licensed Occupant - Simon Scott -
Estimated Area - 67,200 Acres - 1/3 unavailable -
Grazing capabilities - 8,000 Sheep
Assessors - John Balfour & S. Simpson -

Bounded on the North East & East, commencing at the Burnett Range by a Spur from that Range terminating on Cooyar Cr immediately opposite to its junction with Tandary Cr - thence by Cooyar Cr downwards for about a mile to a marked Gum Tree on the Creek at the Commencement of the Black Butt Range - thence in a southerly direction by the Black Butt Range - separating it from the Colinton Run -

On the South by a continuation of the said Range in a south westerly direction to where a spur runs North into Cooyar Cr - separating it from Djuan Djuan Run -

On the West by the aforesaid Spur and a small Gully terminating in Cooyar Cr at a Gum Tree marked C - thence by that Creek downwards to a Gully with a Tree marked T on the North side & C on the South side - thence by that Gully to its source & a Spur to the Burnett Range - separating it from Cooyar Run -

On the N. West, from the aforesaid Spur by the Burnett Range to the point of commencement - separating it from the Burnett District - S.S.

Broomelton

No. 1. Gazette - Moreton District -
Name of Run - Portion of Broomelton, Intern. County of Ward -
Licensed Occupant - Thom. Lodge Murray Prior -
Estimated Area - 19,200 Acres -
Grazing Capabilities - 4000 Sheep -
Assessors - H. Harpur & S. Simpson -

Bounded on the North, commencing at a point where the 28th Parallel of S. Latitude crosses the Logan River, by that Parallel west to the Range that divides the Waters falling into the Taviot Brook from those that fall into Crows & Allans Creeks - separating it from the Portion of Broomelton in the Reputed County of Stanley -

*92

On the N. West by that Range south westerly to where it meets the Range dividing the waters falling into Crows & Allans Creeks & Swamp Creek from those falling into Cannon & Sandy Crs - separating it * from the Dugandan Run -

On the South-east by the last mentioned Range to where the Road to Brisbane from Tamrookum crosses it - thence by that Creek to the Logan River - separating it from Tamrookum Run -

On the East by the Logan River downwards to the point of commencement - separating it from Beau Desert Run - S.S.

Nindoomba

No. 13. Gazette - Moreton District -
Name of Run - Portion of Nindoomba - County of Ward - Intermediate
Licensed Occupant - Alfred Wm Compigne -
Estimated Area - 12,800 Acres -
Grazing Capabilities - 4000 Sheep -
Assessors - C.J. Clarke & S. Simpson -

Bounded on the East, commencing at the point where the Albert River is intersected by the 28th Parallel of S. Lat. by that River upwards to a Scrub under the Jimbrockin Range - separating it from the Tabragalba & Kerry Runs -

On the South by the aforesaid Scrub to the Jimbrockin Range - separating it from unoccupied Crown Lands -

On the West by the last mentioned Range northerly till it is intersected by the 28th Parallel of S. Latitude - separating it from Telamon & Beau Desert Runs

On the North By the Parallel east to the point of commencement - separating it from the Portion of Nindoobah Run in the Reputed County of Stanley -

S.S.

Tabragalba No. 19 Gazette - Moreton District -
Name of Run - Tabragalba - Intermediate County of Ward
Licensed Occupant - Dugald Graham -
Estimated Area - 6400 Acres.
Estimated Grazing Capabilities - 4,000 Sheep.
Assessors - C.J. Clarke & S. Simpson -

Bounded on the West, commencing at a point on the Albert River intersected by the 28th Parallel of S. Lat. and by that River upwards to the Junction of Cainbul Creek - separating it from the Nindoomba Run -

On the South by a line due West from that junction to Canangra Cr - separating it from the Kerry Run & unoccupied Cr. Lands -

On the East by Canangra Cr downwards till it is intersected by the 28th Parallel of S.L. - separating it from unoccupied Cr Lands -

*93 On the North by that Parallel west to the point of commencement on the * Albert River - separating it from the portion of Tabragalba Run in the Reputed County of Stanley -

S.S.

Beau Desert No. 24 Gazette - Moreton District -
Name of Run - Portion of Beau Desert Run - Intern. C. of Ward
Licensed Occupant - Wm Duckett White & G. Robinson -
Estimated Area - 16000 Acres -
Grazing Capabilities - 4000 Sheep -
Assessors : A.W. Compigne & S. Simpson -

Bounded on the South, commencing at the junction of Christmas Creek with the Logan River, by a line due East from that junction to the Jimbroken Range - separating it from Telamon Run -

On the East by that Range northerly till it is intersected by the 28th Parallel of S. Lat. - separating it from Nindoomba Run -

On the North by that Parallel west till it intersects the Logan River - separating it from the Portion of Beau Desert in the Reputed County of Stanley -

On the West by that River upwards to the point of commencement at the junction of Christmas Cr with the Logan River - separating it from Broomelton & Tamrookun Runs -

S.S.

Kerry No. 12 Gazette - Moreton District -
Name of Run - Kerry - Intermediate County of Ward
Licensed Occupant - John Black -
Estimated Area - 26,240 Acres -
Grazing capabilities - 6,000
Assessors : Alfred Wm Compigne & S. Simpson

Bounded on the North by a line due East from the junction of of Cainbanel Cr with the Albert River to the Range that divides the waters that fall into the Albert River from those that fall into Canangra Cr - separating it from Tabragalba Run -

On the East by that Range south to a Scrub under a broken, mountainous Country - separating it from unoccupied Cr Lands -

On the South by that Scrub west to the Albert River - separating it from unoccupied Cr Lands & Telamon Run -

On the West by the Albert River to the point of commencement - separating it from Nindoomba Run -

S.S.

94 *

Tamrookum No. 6 Gazette May 11/48 - Moreton District
Name of Run - Tamrookum - Intermediate County of Ward
Licensed Occupant - William Barker
Estimated Area - 64,000 Acres - 1/3 unavailable -
Estimated grazing Capabilities - 10,000 Sheep -
Assessors : H. Harpur & S. Simpson -

Bounded on the North-west, commencing at the junction of Sandy Cr with the Logan River, by that

Creek upwards to the old Bridge on the Road to Brisbane - thence by that Road to the Range dividing the Waters falling into Sandy & Cannon Creeks, from those that fall into Swamp & Allans Creeks - thence by that Range to the Range dividing the waters of Cannon Creek from those falling into Teviot Brook - separating it from Broomelton Run -

On the West by the Range dividing the waters that fall into Cannon Cr from those that fall into the Teviot Brook - separating it from Dalhenty Plains Run -

On the South by the Range dividing the waters that fall into Canning Cr from those that fall into Burnett's Cr to a high Scrubby Range & thence by a Spur running south to the Logan River - separating it from Melcombe Run -

On the South-east & East by the Logan River downwards to the point of commencement - separating it from Telamon Run -

S.S.

Telamon No. 10 Gazette May 11/48 - Moreton District -
Name of Run - Telamon. Intermediate County of Ward
Licensed Occupant - Thomas Collins
Estimated Area - 89,600 Acres - much unavailable
Grazing Capabilities - 12,000 Sheep & 1800 Cattle
Assessors : Wm. Barker & S. Simpson -

Bounded on the North by a Line running East from the junction of Christmas Cr with the Logan River to the crest of the Jimbroken Range - separating it from Beau Desert Run -

On the East by that Range to the Scrub on the McPherson Range - separating it from unoccupied Cr. Lands -

On the South by that Scrub to the Range that divides the waters that fall into New Years Cr from those that fall into Palen Cr - separating it from the Clarence District -

On the West by that Range to the junction of New Years Cr with the Logan River & thence by that River downwards to its junction with Christmas Creek at the point of commencement - separating it from Tamrookum Run -

S.S.

*95 *

Melcombe No. 11 Gazette - Moreton District -
Name of Run - Melcombe - Intermediate County of Ward
Licensed Occupant - Thomas Collins -
Area estimated - 70,400 Acres - $\frac{1}{2}$ unavailable -
Grazing Capabilities - 4,000 Sheep -
Assessors : Wm Barker & S. Simpson -

Bounded on the North East beginning at the Range dividing the waters of the Teviot Brook from the other waters of the Logan & going in a south-east direction by the Range dividing the waters that fall into Cannon Cr from those that fall into Burnett Cr & the Logan River, to a high scrubby range & thence by a Spur running South to the Logan River - separating it from Tamrookum Run -

On the South-east by the Logan River up to its junction with Burnett Cr. - thence by the Range separating the waters that fall into the Logan from those that fall into Burnetts Cr - separating it from unoccupied Cr Lands

On the South by the Range which separates the waters that fall into Burnetts Cr from those that fall into the Richmond & Clarence Rivers - separating it from the Clarence District -

On the South-west by the Range that divides the waters that fall into Teviott Brook from those that fall into Burnetts Cr, at the point of commencement - separating it from Dalhenty Plains Run -

S.S.

Dalhenty Plains No. 7 Gazette - Moreton District
Name of Run - Dalhenty Plains - Interm. C of Ward -
Licensed Occupant - Walter & George Leslie
Estimated Area - 86,400 Acres -
Grazing Capabilities - 6,000 and 1500 Cattle -
Assessors : Arth. H. McArthur & S. Simpson

Bounded on the South-east, beginning at Mt. Wilson, by the Range dividing the Waters that fall into Burnetts & Cannon Crs from those that fall into the Teviott Brook - separating it from Melcombe & Tamrookum Runs -

On the North-west by a spur from the last mentioned Range going in a northerly direction to the Teviott Brook & terminating about 300 yards below where the road from Dugandun crosses the said Brook - thence by a marked Tree Line in a north-westerly direction to the point of a Scrubby Spur to the Mt. French's Range - separating it Dugandun Run -

*96 *

On the North-west & West by the Range that divides the Waters that fall into Reynolds Cr from

those that fall into the Teviott Brook - & thence by the Main Range to Wilson's Peak, the point of commencement - separating it from Fasofern & Moogerah Runs -

S.S.

No 36. Gazette - Moreton District -
Moogerah Name of Run - Moogerah - Unsettled District -
Licensed Occupants - Pickering & Melville -
Estimated Area - 48,000 - ½ mountain & Scrub -
Grazing Capabilities - 4000 Sheep
Assessors : Wm Kent Junr & S. Simpson -

Bounded on the North by a Line due East from Mt. Edwards to the Range that divides the waters falling into the Teviott Brook from those that fall into Reynolds Cr - separating it from Fasofern Run -

On the East by that Range South to the Main Range - separating it from Dalhunny Plains Run -

On the South-west by the Main Range - separating it from the Darling Downs District -

On the North-west by the Range that divides the waters that fall into Warril Creek from those falling into Reynold's Creek, to the point of commencement - separating it from Taroom Run -
S.S.

No. 39 Gazette - Moreton District -
Taroom Name of Run - Portion of Taroom - Unsettled District
Licensed Occupant - Wm Kent Junr - or Richard Watson bef. Transfer
Estimated Area - 22,400 Acres - 1/3 unavailable -
Grazing Capabilities - 4000 Sheep
Assessors : Wm. Kent & S. Simpson -

Bounded on the South East, commencing at Spicers Peak, by the Range [therefore] separating the Waters falling into Reynolds Cr from those that fall into Warrill Cr, till it is intersected by the 28th Parallel of S. Lat. - separating it from Moogerah Run -

On the North by that Parallel to the Main Range - separating it from the portion of Taroom in the Reputed County of Stanley -

On the South west by the Main Range south-easterly to Spicers Peak the point of commencement - separating it from Darling Downs District

S.S.

#97 *

1852
March 30 - 9/52 - The Chief Commissioner - Reporting on the Assessment to be refunded to Squatters within the Settled Districts -

Sir - I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 27th of Febr last No. 381 - 52, requesting me to report on the Assessment levied on certain Squatters whose Runs are situated within the Limits of the Reputed County of Stanley -

2. I beg to enclose a list of the Assessment levied on all Squatters whose Runs or Portions of Runs are in the Reputed County of Stanley from the 1st of Jany 1848 to the 1st of Jany 1851 inclusive -

3. I have begun with Jany 1848 as it was the first levy of assessment under the present Act - at the same time I must observe that it was levied upon all Squatters within the present Limits of the County, including those whose Runs or portions of Runs were within the Surveyed County of Stanley & the Ten Mile boundary Line round Ipswich - namely two small Runs named Whiteside & Sampson Vale & three portions of Runs, Mt. Brisbane, Fairnie Law and Wivenhoe - as their Licences of July 1847 did not expire till July 1848, they only took up their Runs or portions of Runs in Sections in conformity with the new regulation at the expiration of the year - and I am not aware that any portion of the Assessment-money was refunded to them - under these circumstances in conformity with his Excellency, the Governor General's Minute I presume that either the present memorialists will have no claim to the Assessment money of that year, 1848 being refunded or that the parties above indicated will be entitled to a similar indulgence -

4. With reference to the accompanying List I have to observe that the first series includes all Runs entirely within the Reputed County of Stanley, they will therefore be entitled to have the whole of the Assessment refunded - but with respect to the second series there will be some difficulty as they are only portions of larger Runs intersected by the 27th & 28th Parallels of S. Lat - & hence partly in & partly out of the County - as some guide I have stated as near as possible the proportion of the Run actually within the Limits of the Reputed County of Stanley, for which they will be entitled to have the Assessment refunded

Finally I may also observe that some parties seem to think that, as Government have recognised the County proclaimed for Election Purposes in 1843 as a legally constituted County, the Squatters are entitled to have the whole of the Assessment levied since that period refunded to them.

S.S.

RUN	LICENSEE	1848	1849	1850	1851
Buaraba	E.C. Atkinson.....	14. 1. 3	15. 2. 10	17.14. 1	19. 3. 10
Cressbrook	D.C. McConnel.....	53.11. 8	37. 7. 8	40.14. 8	39.14. 3
Crows Nest	J.C. Pearce.....16.8.2 H. Cress..	15.14. 3	27.11.10	9.11. 2	- - -
trans to	John Reeve.....26.11.1 Pearce.....	- - -	- - -	- - -	8. 7. 2
Djuandjuan	Thom. Archer.....	14.13. 2	8.19. 2	14.14. 8	- - -
trans to	F.A. Forbes.....	- - -	- - -	- - -	15.17. 2
Dugandun	M & C McDonald.....	2.15. 3	15.17. 9	10.17. 9	11. - 8
Eskdale	Graham & Ivory.....	12. 5. 9	22. 2. 6	25. 8. 4	14. 4. 7
Fairnie Law	North Wm Jn & Burnett Deb.....	8.18. -	4. - 7	2.12. 6	1. 8. 9
Fesofern	Cameron John.....	14.12. 2	- - -	- - -	- - -
trans to	Wm Kent Junr.....	- - -	11. 1. 7	15.16. 1	13. 2. 1
Gimboomba	Thom. Dowse.....	3.11. 1	- - -	- - -	- - -
trans to	Robt. Rowland.....	- - -	3.14. 2	7.11. 2	9. 4. 3
Grantham	C.W. Pitts.....	10. 4.11	9.15. 3	9.18. 7	- - -
trans to	J & M Black.....	- - -	- - -	- - -	11.18. 2
Hellidon	Wm Turner.....	8.13. 9	15. - 11	16. 8. 4	20. - -
Laidley Pls.	J. Ph Robinson.....	44. 5. 3	47.14. 9	44.18.10	- - -
trans to	Th. Sutcliffe Mort.....	- - -	- - -	- - -	39. 2. 1
Mt. Brisbane	F.W. & F.E. Bigge.....	28. 7. -	5. - -	4.11. 8	- - -
Mt. Esk	Andr. Gld. Scott.....	22. 1.10	31. 8. 3	- - -	- - -
Transf to	F.W. & F.E. Bigge.....	- - -	- - -	32. 1. 6	20. 9. 6
Mt. Flinders	Wm Wilson.....	29. 9. 1	39. 6. 4	30.11. 4	31. 4. 8
Moondoolun	John Collins.....	3.19. 2	4.11. 9	5. 7. -	6.19. 5
Rosebrook	George Thors.....	9.18. 4	19. 4. 9	21. - 8	29. 2. 2
Rosevale	John Koss.....	7.16. 5	- - -	- - -	- - -
transf to	John Brewster.....	- - -	9.18. 4	14.16. 8	17. - 10
Rosewood	Donald Coutts.....	21. 7. -	46. 8. 4	21.14. 2	28.18. 7
Tarampa	Charles Cameron.....	11.18.11	11. 3.10	22.17. -	- - -
trans to	Montifiore, Graham & Co.....	- - -	- - -	- - -	30. 9. -
Tambourine	Donald Coutts.....	4. 8. 3	5.13. -	5.13. 3	7.12. 6
Tenthill	Philip Friell.....	4.16. 1	4.13. 5	3.17. 4	12.15. 5
Broomelton	Th L. Murray Prior.....	5. 3. 9	13. 2. 9	*13.16. 6	22. 4. 8
Beau Desert	J. Ph. Robinson.....	14.11. 1	13.14. 9	24.14. 5	- - -
trans to	Th. Sutcliffe Mort.....	- - -	- - -	- - -	18. 5. 2
Cooya	D. Archer & Co.....	28. 4. 9	23.16. 4	- - -	- - -
trans to	Hope & Ramsay.....	- - -	- - -	30. 5. 2	23.11. 4
Nindoomba	Alf. Wm. Compigne.....	7. 1. 4	7. 6. 2	7.12. 2	8.12. 4
Tabragalba	Dugald Graham.....	6. 5. 4	6.15. 1	9. 2. 1	11.18.10
Taroome	Richard Watson.....	9.16. 2	11.16. -	9.19. 3	11. 1. 7
Wivenhoe	Ferrier & Uhr.....	6.18.10	- 14. 6	5. 4. 2	- - -
trans to	Joseph, Francis & Wm. North Jnr....	- - -	- - -	- - -	19. 1. 2

Remarks

In addition to the Assessment paid in 1850 & 1851 on Crows Nest there was also in 1850 - £16. 8. 2 on in 1851 - £26.11. 1 - levied on a Run named Perseverance by Mr. Pearce but not licensed - In 1850 this was supposed to be a portion of the Heads of the Cressbrook Run & assessed as being on that Run - but on visiting the Station I subsequently found this Perseverance was actually a portion of the Crows Nest Run & Mr. Pearce was merely a trespasser against the will of the Licensee - it was therefore returned as Perseverance -

A portion of Fairnie Lawn }
 A do Mt. Brisbane } in the Surv C & taken up in Sections in
 A do Wivenhoe } 1848 but the Ass. not returned

Samson Vale }
 White side } entirely in the Surv. C. & tc

About 3/4 of Broomelton in the Settled District
 About 2/3 of Beaudesert do
 About 1/4 of Cooyar do
 About 1/2 of Nindoomba do
 About 2/3 of Tabragalba do
 About 1/2 of Taroome do

*100 *

June 28 - 10/52 - The Chief Commissioner - On the forfeiture of East Haldon -

With reference to your Letter of the 21st of May last informing me that Mr. Joshua John Whiting has forfeited his right to a Lease of East Haldon in this District, I have the honour to report :

2. That the Run in question is in the Reputed County of Stanley & being the only Run in the County leased under the new Regulations it of course cannot be put up for competition as a forfeited Run -
S.S.

July 6th - 11/52 -

Approved Transfer of Collinton to John Balfour by Messrs. John & Robt Balfour - May 31/52 -
S.S.

Augt 1st - 12/52 -

Approved Transfer of Dungogie & Merry Jerry Runs to Wm. Duckett White by Alfred Wm Compigne -
July 31/52
S.S.

Augt 2nd - 13/52 - Chief Commissioner - Reporting on the Postal Communication -

In reply to your Circular of the 25th of June last requiring a monthly Report on the general arrangement of the Post Offices & of the Carriages & Horses employed in the conveyance of Mails in this District I have the honour to report :

2. That there is really no Post-Office outside the Reputed County of Stanley in this District, nor even a Village - the only line of Postal communication outside the County is the one to the Burnett, recently established, which as far as Moreton District is concerned, consists of one Relay - namely one Horse kept at Simon Scott's Station, named Tandary - the service is well performed -

3. Under these circumstances I presume it will scarcely be necessary for me to make a monthly Report on this subject
S.S.

Augt 12 - 14/52 -

Approved Transfer of Melcomba in this District to James Carden Collins by Thomas Collins -
S.S.

Aug 29 - 15/52

Approved Transfer of Grantham to C.W. Pitts by John Black of the Bank of N.S.W.
S.S.

Augt 29 - 16/52 - The Chief Commissioner - On Assessment Fees claimed by F.A. Forbes -

F.A. Forbes did not hold the Licence for Beauaraba before Jan 3 1850, consequently cannot claim before that date
S.S.

Dec 6 - 17/52 - The Chief Commissioner - On Fishers Building Licence at Gatton -

*101

In reply to your Letter of the 24th Oct last enclosing an Application * for Lease for one year of a portion of Land on Lockyers Creek in this District I have the honour to report :

2. That the Licence referred to is a Building Licence only, having been originally granted to Walter Smith in Sept. 1843 for the purpose of a House of Accommodation at the foot of the Main Range on the road to Darling Downs - it was subsequently transferred to Messrs. Sibley & King & since then to the present Applicant Henry Fisher -

3. The premises are still used merely as a licensed House of Accommodation for Travellers on the Main Road to Darling Downs and is situated on a portion of the Tenthill Run - the site is known to Travellers by the name of Gatton & ought to be reserved for a Village, being on the principal Thoroughfare to the Downs -
S.S.

Dec 31 - 18/52 - The Chief Commissioner - Report on the State of the Aborigines for 1852 -

Sir - I have the honour to report that during the past year I have received no notice of any misconduct on the part of the Aborigines at any of the Stations outside the Settled District, with the exception of the murder of a Chinaman at Colinton on the upper Brisbane, which, however, there is no doubt was perpetrated by some strange Blacks from Wide Bay - the Native Police are in pursuete of them, but hitherto without succe/s - In the Southern & Western portions of the District their conduct has been uniformly peaceable -

2. In the vicinity of Brisbane & the Sea-coast on the other hand they have been more than usually

troublesome during the past year & the Native Police have rendered considerable service in checking their depredations, which have been principally confined to pillaging defenceless Settlers within the Limits of the County - as these outrages are never reported to me but to the Police Magistrate in Brisbane I know nothing of the particulars -

3. It is scarcely necessary for me to repeat what I have already so often stated that the contact of these savages with the outposts of Civilization, have but one result - the deterioration of their moral & physical qualities, which I have no doubt in a few years will terminate in the almost total extinction of their Tribes, whatever efforts may be made to protect them -

S.S.

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4 Copies of the Annual Report of Lincoln & of the Amendment -
Book 2 - are duly presented -

Finally I have now found my wayward from my former
arrangement & since I have been in office I have now found
my document missing

Y.

March 1
5/52

The Chief Commissioner - In the forepart of the Calendar -

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter
of the 3rd of Feb^y last at 12/2/52 reporting the forepart of the Calendar
right to the hands of the Calendar man in the District -

2. The recent lesson as to the forepart of the Calendar is that
the forepart 3/4th of the above has been taken to the District - the record
about the forepart has been made before he started with taking
up as a forepart man

Y.